**An In Depth Look at the Modern Equivalent to Biblical Names in Ezek. 38**

A Bible Study by Jack Kelley

Many of the nations we hear about in today's news existed in ancient times but under different names. By using the ancient names for the countries He prophesied about, the Lord made possible the use of scripture to interpret scripture. Much of the information below can be gained by referencing **Genesis 10,** the so-called Table of Nations, in a good study Bible. Learning the modern names of the nations whose founding families are listed there really helps connect Bible prophecy to current events.

Ezekiel 38 & 39 Background Study <http://www.ltradio.org/articles/?admin=linkto&link=190&&quick=y>

Gog

I believe that Gog is a supernatural being (showing up in the battle of Ezekiel 38 and the final battle at the end of the Millennium) perhaps Satan's counter part to Michael the Arkangel. There is an obscure reference in the Septuagint translation of the **Book of Amos in 7:1** to a Gog, King of the Locusts, for what that's worth. You won't find any hint of this in translations rendered into English from Hebrew. You can only get there from the Greek (Septuagint) translation. But with no connection to any physical territory or people as there is with Magog and the others named in Ezekiel 38, and with Biblical appearances so far apart in time, there's good reason to believe that Gog is a non-human character, one of Satan's own.

Magog

In contrast, there are over 130 historical references tying Magog to the ancient Scythians (they defeated Saul at the battle of Beth Shean and nailed his body to the gate of the city). The Great Wall of China was known as the "Ramparts of Magog" in ancient times and was built to protect China from Magog. Some see a striking similarity between what's known about the Scythians and the Mongol Hordes of Genghis Kahn. Magog was a son of Japeth and inhabited central Asia. His children, the Scythians, are the ancestors of today's Russian people.

Meshech and TubalThese two were brothers of Magog and are linked to the same general area, but more likely with the Turkic people. Josephus associated Meshech with Cappodocia, home of the ancient Hittite Empire in Eastern Turkey.

Persia

This one's easier because the name changed to Iran in our memory.

Cush and Put

These two were sons of Ham and brothers to Mizraim (which means "two Egypts") and Canaan. Narrowly they are called Ethiopia (Cush) and Lybia (Put) but both were in possession of much larger territory in the past. The word Cush has a Hebrew root meaning black, and can be representative of the black races of Africa, while Put can represent the north part of the continent; Algeria, Tunisia, Morocco, Mauritania, etc. Note that all are sons of Ham and therefore not Semitic. The common denominator among African nations is religion (Islam) not race (Arab).

Gomer

Another son of Japeth and brother to Magog, Gomer inhabited the Rhine and Danube valleys, and can be associated with Eastern Europe of today.

Second, Gomer was a son of Japeth and brother to Magog.  He inhabited the Rhine and Danube valleys, and can be associated with Eastern Europe of today. As you know there is a substantial Moslem population in that region and this is what I think Ezekiel was referring to. The common denominator of the coalition against Israel is their religion, Islam. Gomer’s son Ashkenaz is most likely the father of the German people. In Israel, Jews from Germany are called the Ashkenazi. <http://gracethrufaith.com/ask-a-bible-teacher/does-gomer-refer-to-germany-in-ezekiel-38/>

Gomer Son of Japheth

Who is Gomer?

Gomer, the eldest among [Japheth](http://amazingbibletimeline.com/blog/japheth/)’s seven sons was referred to as “standing for the whole family” by the Jewish Encyclopedia and the warlike supporter from the north of Chief Gog of[Magog](http://amazingbibletimeline.com/blog/magog/) on his quest to destroy Israel by the Bible.  The name means complete or finish.  He appears on the [Timeline of the Bible](http://amazingbibletimeline.com/timeline_online/) after [the Flood](http://amazingbibletimeline.com/blog/universal-flood/) around 2300 BC.

<http://amazingbibletimeline.com/blog/gomer/>

Torah

He has three sons, namely; Ashkenaz, Riphath, and Togarmah. In Islamic legends, Gomer is said to have reached the age of 1000, the oldest and unmatched age of a person in Torah.

The tractate Yoma referred to him as the ancestor of the Gomermians, the present day Germans who assaulted Assyria in the late 7th century BC. The Germans, from which the majority of the Western Europe nations such as the French, Spanish, and the Celtic people are descended, are said to have started from Gomer.

Gomer, a Hebrew name is commonly connected by the Assyrians to the migrant Gimirru or Kimmerians for the Greeks, who lived in the Eurasian Steppes.

**Gomer and the Cimmerians**

Gomer is said to be the father of ancient Cimmerians. Kimmerians or Cimmerians were warlike tribes of [Aryans](http://amazingbibletimeline.com/blog/persia-a-branch-of-aryan-where-mentioned-in-the-bible/)that fought against the nations in the northwest Asia during 670 to 570 BC.

They left their home found at the north of the Black Sea, the present day Ukraine of southern Russia, in the 7th century BC when they were expelled by the Scythians. They then transferred to the Caucasus and to Armenia and Asia Minor of Western Asia putting great pressure on the Assyrians and other countries. They battled with [Lydia](http://amazingbibletimeline.com/blog/lydia-and-mycenae-ancient-greece/)and put the temple of Diana of Ephesus on fire. A portion of them went eastward to Media while some went westward and invaded Cappadocia then dwelt in it. Gamir, the Armenian term for Cappadocia has its roots in these people. Yet, they were forced out of these areas afterwards.

They then reoccurred during the Roman times as the Cimbri of Cimbrie Chersonese, the country we now know as Denmark. Afterwards, they travelled across the British Isles and became the forefathers of the present day Gael of Ireland and Scotland and of the Cymry of Wales. Accordingly, the whole Celtic tribe that includes the Galatians are thought to have descended from Gomer.

**The Country of Gomer**

The Bible states Gomer was a country found in the north. It stretched from the Taurus and Amanus Mountains of the Asia Minor up to the River Tanais and expanded towards Europe up to the Cadiz of Spain.

The descendants of his son, Togarmah, were depicted as dwelling in the “recesses” of the north. And they multiplied across the whole north up to Asia during the time of Ezekiel. They are believed to have occupied the lands to the north and west of Israel.

The Armenians, a nation found in eastern Turkey have long claimed that they are of the House of Togarmah. Armenians are dwellers in the Caucasus and the Armenian Highland. Caucasus is located at the boundaries of Europe and Asia. Whereas, Armenian Highland is mistakenly regarded as Eastern Anatolia or Eastern Asia Minor and is referred to as the Aryan Highland or the “Fatherland of Aryan Peoples”.

**Gomer, the son of Japheth in the Bible**

Genesis 10:2, 1 Chronicles 1:5. Gomer as the eldest of Japheth’s descendants.

Genesis 10:3, 1 Chronicles 1:6. The three sons of Gomer.

Ezekiel 38:6. The armies of Gomer associated to Beth Togarmah.

- See more at: http://amazingbibletimeline.com/blog/gomer/#sthash.tDq86DYb.dpuf

Beth Togarmah

Beth means house in Hebrew. Togarmah was a son of Gomer. The Armenians of today call themselves the House of Togarmah. The Turks (but not the Kurds, who are the ancient Medes of Media-Persia fame) are also included.

Sheba and Dedan

These two are first mentioned as grandsons of Cush in **Genesis 10:7.** Later, in **Genesis 25:3**, we read of two grandsons of Abraham's named Sheba and Dedan as well, born to Jokshan, a son of Abraham and his 2nd wife, Keturah. It's not clear which pair of grandsons is being referenced, but commentaries none-the-less identify these two as probably representing the nations of the Arabian Penninsula, notably Saudi Arabia.

According to archaeologists W. F. Albright and Wendell Phillips, Sheba was on the southwestern edge of the Arabian Peninsula across the Red Sea from present-day Ethiopia. The Queen of Sheba visited Israel in the time of Solomon. Sheba is also known in history as Saba. The Sabeans conducted trade in spices with the other peoples of the ancient world.

Dedan was probably the habitat of the Arabs on the northern part of the Arabian Desert, which is modern-day Saudi Arabia. The ancient capital of Saudi Arabia is still called Dedan on many maps today.

Tarshish

Tarshish was a son of Javan, who settled the area of Southern Greece. There are three schools of thought where Tarshish is concerned. One view locates Tarshish to the East, accessible from Solomon's great seaport at Ezion Geber on the Red Sea. Since Javan and his family traveled north and west from Babel at the confusion of tongues, it seems unlikely. Large sea going vessels were often nicknamed "Ships of Tarshish" and more likely this is how Tarshish came to be linked with Ezion Geber, since both Solomon and Hezekiah built such vessels there. Others see this as a reference to ancient Tartessus, a seaport in southern Spain, near Gibraltar. Still others recall the sea going navies of the Phoenicians, who operated Ships of Tarshish out of nearby Cadiz and sailed as far north as England for tin, a metal used in the making of bronze and other alloys, which they mined in Cornwall. Some believe that the name Britannia is actually derived from a Phoenician word meaning "source of tin." If so, since the ships of Tarshish brought tin to the ancient world, this reference could be to Great Britain making the "lions" (KJV) or "villages"(NIV) of Tarshish Great Britain's colonies, of which the US is most prominent today. The fact that the lion is a symbol of the British Empire lends support to this view. 

Summary

Again, it's instructive to view the common motivator as religion, not race. Some years ago, an editorial in the Jerusalem Post outlined the "Arab" plan as being composed of two phases. Phase one was to gain as much as possible through the inexpensive negotiating process while simultaneously weakening Israel and strengthening the Moslem coalition. Phase two, after no more negotiated gain can be made, is to go to war for the rest.

KNOW

Eze\_38:14 Therefore, son of man, prophesy and say unto Gog, Thus saith the Lord GOD; In that day when my people of Israel dwelleth safely, shalt thou not know *it?*

Eze\_38:16 And thou shalt come up against my people of Israel, as a cloud to cover the land; it shall be in the latter days, and I will bring thee against my land, that the heathen may know me, when I shall be sanctified in thee, O Gog, before their eyes.

Eze\_38:23 Thus will I magnify myself, and sanctify myself; and I will be known in the eyes of many nations, and they shall know that I *am* the LORD.

Eze\_39:6 And I will send a fire on Magog, and among them that dwell carelessly in the isles: and they shall know that I *am* the LORD.

Eze\_39:7 So will I make my holy name known in the midst of my people Israel; and I will not *let them* pollute my holy name any more: and the heathen shall know that I *am* the LORD, the Holy One in Israel.

Eze\_39:22 So the house of Israel shall know that I *am* the LORD their God from that day and forward.

Eze\_39:23 And the heathen shall know that the house of Israel went into captivity for their iniquity: because they trespassed against me, therefore hid I my face from them, and gave them into the hand of their enemies: so fell they all by the sword.

Eze\_39:28 Then shall they know that I *am* the LORD their God, which caused them to be led into captivity among the heathen: but I have gathered them unto their own land, and have left none of them any more there.

NORTH

Eze\_38:6 Gomer, and all his bands; the house of Togarmah of the north quarters, and all his bands: *and* many people with thee.

Eze\_38:15 And thou shalt come from thy place out of the north parts, thou, and many people with thee, all of them riding upon horses, a great company, and a mighty army:

Eze\_39:2 And I will turn thee back, and leave but the sixth part of thee, and will cause thee to come up from the north parts, and will bring thee upon the mountains of Israel:

LORD

Eze\_39:1 Therefore, thou son of man, prophesy against Gog, and say, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, I *am* against thee, O Gog, the chief prince of Meshech and Tubal:

Eze\_39:5 Thou shalt fall upon the open field: for I have spoken *it,* saith the Lord GOD.

Eze\_39:6 And I will send a fire on Magog, and among them that dwell carelessly in the isles: and they shall know that I *am* the LORD.

Eze\_39:7 So will I make my holy name known in the midst of my people Israel; and I will not *let them* pollute my holy name any more: and the heathen shall know that I *am* the LORD, the Holy One in Israel.

Eze\_39:8 Behold, it is come, and it is done, saith the Lord GOD; this *is* the day whereof I have spoken.

Eze\_39:10 So that they shall take no wood out of the field, neither cut down *any* out of the forests; for they shall burn the weapons with fire: and they shall spoil those that spoiled them, and rob those that robbed them, saith the Lord GOD.

Eze\_39:13 Yea, all the people of the land shall bury *them;* and it shall be to them a renown the day that I shall be glorified, saith the Lord GOD.

Eze\_39:17 And, thou son of man, thus saith the Lord GOD; Speak unto every feathered fowl, and to every beast of the field, Assemble yourselves, and come; gather yourselves on every side to my sacrifice that I do sacrifice for you, *even* a great sacrifice upon the mountains of Israel, that ye may eat flesh, and drink blood.

Eze\_39:20 Thus ye shall be filled at my table with horses and chariots, with mighty men, and with all men of war, saith the Lord GOD.

Eze\_39:22 So the house of Israel shall know that I *am* the LORD their God from that day and forward.

Eze\_39:25 Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD; Now will I bring again the captivity of Jacob, and have mercy upon the whole house of Israel, and will be jealous for my holy name;

Eze\_39:28 Then shall they know that I *am* the LORD their God, which caused them to be led into captivity among the heathen: but I have gathered them unto their own land, and have left none of them any more there.

Eze\_39:29 Neither will I hide my face any more from them: for I have poured out my spirit upon the house of Israel, saith the Lord GOD.

GOG

1Ch\_5:4 The sons of Joel; Shemaiah his son, Gog his son, Shimei his son,

Eze\_38:2 Son of man, set thy face against Gog, the land of Magog, the chief prince of Meshech and Tubal, and prophesy against him,

Eze\_38:3 And say, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, I *am* against thee, O Gog, the chief prince of Meshech and Tubal:

Eze\_38:14 Therefore, son of man, prophesy and say unto Gog, Thus saith the Lord GOD; In that day when my people of Israel dwelleth safely, shalt thou not know *it?*

Eze\_38:16 And thou shalt come up against my people of Israel, as a cloud to cover the land; it shall be in the latter days, and I will bring thee against my land, that the heathen may know me, when I shall be sanctified in thee, O Gog, before their eyes.

Eze\_38:18 And it shall come to pass at the same time when Gog shall come against the land of Israel, saith the Lord GOD, *that* my fury shall come up in my face.

Eze\_39:1 Therefore, thou son of man, prophesy against Gog, and say, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, I *am* against thee, O Gog, the chief prince of Meshech and Tubal:

Eze\_39:11 And it shall come to pass in that day, *that* I will give unto Gog a place there of graves in Israel, the valley of the passengers on the east of the sea: and it shall stop the *noses* of the passengers: and there shall they bury Gog and all his multitude: and they shall call *it* The valley of Hamongog.

Rev\_20:8 And shall go out to deceive the nations which are in the four quarters of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them together to battle: the number of whom *is* as the sand of the sea.