

# Ezekiel 38:14

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

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?

## Analysis

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This prophetic word demonstrates God's sovereign control over history and nations. Even pagan empires and hostile coalitions serve God's purposes while remaining morally accountable for their actions. This Reformed understanding of providence affirms that nothing occurs outside God's decree, yet human agents bear full responsibility for their choices. The prophecy serves pastoral purposes: assuring God's people of His protection, warning enemies of certain judgment, and demonstrating that history moves toward God's appointed end. These prophecies find layered fulfillment—immediate historical, ongoing spiritual, and ultimate eschatological.

## Historical Context

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This passage was delivered during the Babylonian exile (c. 586-571 BCE) after Jerusalem's destruction. The exiled community grappled with theological and practical questions: Why had judgment come? Would restoration occur? How should they live in exile? The historical context of ancient Near Eastern covenant patterns, conquest and exile practices, and prophetic literature provides essential background. Archaeological discoveries from this period illuminate the exile's realities and the return's historical fulfillment. Yet Ezekiel's prophecies extend beyond immediate historical context to find fuller realization in Christ and the church, with ultimate consummation in the new creation.

## Related Passages

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**1 John 4:8** — God is love

**John 15:13** — Greatest form of love

## Study Questions

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1. How does this verse deepen your understanding of God's character, purposes, or ways of working in history?
2. What specific application does this passage call you to make in your current circumstances or spiritual life?
3. How does this Old Testament passage illuminate New Testament teaching about Christ, salvation, or the church?

## Interlinear Text

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אָמַר כִּי לְכָה הַפָּבָב אֵלֶיךָ בְּנֵי אָדָם אָמַר אָמַר לְגַזְגַּז אָמַר כִּי הַפָּבָב אֵלֶיךָ  
H3651 prophesy H5012 Therefore son H1121 of man H120 Thus saith H559 unto Gog H1463 Thus saith H3541 H559

עַתָּה אָדָן בְּשַׁבָּת בְּנֵי יִהְיֶה הַיּוֹם כֹּל וְאֵין יְהִי כֵּן וְאֵין יְהִי כֵּן  
the Lord H136 GOD H3069 In that day H3808 H3117 H1931 dwelleth H3427 when my people H5971

לֹא תַּעֲדִעַ לְבָטָח יְשַׁבָּא לְ  
of Israel H3478 safely H983 shalt thou not know H3045

## Additional Cross-References

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**Zechariah 2:5** (References Lord): For I, saith the LORD, will be unto her a wall of fire round about, and will be the glory in the midst of her.

**Ezekiel 38:8** (References Israel): After many days thou shalt be visited: in the latter years thou shalt come into the land that is brought back from the sword, and

is gathered out of many people, against the mountains of Israel, which have been always waste: but it is brought forth out of the nations, and they shall dwell safely all of them.

**Jeremiah 23:6** (References Lord): In his days Judah shall be saved, and Israel shall dwell safely: and this is his name whereby he shall be called, THE LORD OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS.

**Ezekiel 38:11** (Parallel theme): And thou shalt say, I will go up to the land of unwalled villages; I will go to them that are at rest, that dwell safely, all of them dwelling without walls, and having neither bars nor gates,

**Zechariah 2:8** (References Lord): For thus saith the LORD of hosts; After the glory hath he sent me unto the nations which spoiled you: for he that toucheth you toucheth the apple of his eye.

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