

# Ezekiel 38:8

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

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.

## Analysis

---

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

---

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**

---

**Matthew 25:31** — Final judgment

**Romans 2:1** — Judging others

## **Study Questions**

---

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

---

מִמָּוֶת יָמִים	רַב־יָמִים	תִּפְקֹד	בְּאַחֲרֵי יָת	הַשָּׁנִים יָמִים
days	After many	thou shalt be visited	in the latter	years
H3117	H7227	H6485	H319	H8141
תָּבֹא וְאֵל	אֶרֶץ	אֶרֶץ	מְשׁוּבָּה בֵּית	מִיַּד חֶרֶב
thou shalt come	H413	into the land	that is brought back	from the sword
H935		H776	H7725	H2719
וְקִבְּצָהּ	מֵעַמֵּי יָמִים	רַב־יָמִים	עַל	בְּרֵי יְהוֹיָאֵל
and is gathered	out of the nations	After many	H5921	against the mountains
H6908	H5971	H7227		H2022
לְיִשְׂרָאֵל	אֲשֶׁר וְהִיא	לְחֶרֶב הַיָּם	תָּמִיד	וְהִיא
of Israel	H834	H1961	which have been always	H1931
H3478		waste	H8548	
		H2723		
מֵעַמֵּי יָמִים	הוּצָאָהּ	וְיָשְׁבוּ	לְבָרְטָנָה	כָּלֵם:
out of the nations	but it is brought forth	and they shall dwell	safely	H3605
H5971	H3318	H3427	H983	

## Additional Cross-References

---

**Isaiah 24:22** (Parallel theme): And they shall be gathered together, as prisoners are gathered in the pit, and shall be shut up in the prison, and after many days shall they be visited.

**Ezekiel 38:16** (References Israel): 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.

**Jeremiah 23:6** (References Israel): 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 34:13** (References Israel): And I will bring them out from the people, and gather them from the countries, and will bring them to their own land, and feed them upon the mountains of Israel by the rivers, and in all the inhabited places of the country.

---

From KJV Study • [kjevstudy.org](http://kjevstudy.org)