

Ezekiel 39:1

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

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:

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

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Psalms 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

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

וְאַתָּה ה	בֶּן	אָדָם	הַנָּבִיא א	עַל			
H859				H5921			
	Therefore thou son	of man	prophesy				
	H1121	H120	H5012				
	ג וג	אָמַר	כֹּה	אָמַר	אֲדֹנָי	יְהוָה	
			H3541				
Behold I am against thee O Gog	Thus saith	Thus saith	the Lord	GOD			
H1463	H559	H559	H136	H3069			
הַנָּבִיא	אֵל יִבְ	ג וג	נָשׁ יא	ר אש	מֶשֶׁחַ		
H2005	H413						
	Behold I am against thee O Gog	prince	the chief	of Meshech			
	H1463	H5387	H7218	H4902			
וְתוּבַל:							
and Tubal							
H8422							

Additional Cross-References

Ezekiel 35:3 (References God): And say unto it, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, O mount Seir, I am against thee, and I will stretch out mine hand against thee, and I will make thee most desolate.

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