

Ezekiel 39:11

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

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 Hamon-gog.

Analysis

I will give unto Gog a place there of graves in Israel, the valley of the passengers on the east of the sea—The Hebrew maqom sham qever (מָקוֹם שָׁם קֶבֶר) literally means "a place there, a grave," emphasizing the ironic destiny of Gog. Instead of conquering Israel, Gog receives only burial ground. **The valley of the passengers** (gey ha-overim, גֵּי הָעוֹבְרִים) refers to a major thoroughfare, likely the valley between the Dead Sea and Sea of Galilee, where travelers would pass.

The name **Hamon-gog** (הַמּוֹן גּוֹג) means "multitude of Gog" or "horde of Gog," memorializing the magnitude of this eschatological defeat. The phrase **it shall stop the noses of the passengers** graphically depicts the stench of unburied corpses blocking the route—the Hebrew chosemes (חֹסֶמֶס) means "stopping up" or "obstructing." This vivid imagery emphasizes the totality of divine judgment against those who assault God's covenant people.

Historical Context

Ezekiel prophesied this during the Babylonian exile (593-571 BCE), addressing both immediate concerns about Israel's enemies and eschatological themes of final judgment. The "valley of the passengers" likely refers to major trade routes

through Israel connecting Egypt, Mesopotamia, and Arabia. In ancient Near Eastern warfare, unburied corpses were considered both a military disgrace and ritual defilement (Deuteronomy 21:23).

The seven-month burial period and the valley's renaming demonstrate that this prophecy concerns an unprecedented event. Many Reformed interpreters see this as unfulfilled eschatology pointing to Revelation 19-20's final battle, though some apply it symbolically to God's ongoing protection of the church against worldly powers.

Related Passages

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Study Questions

1. How does God transform Gog's intended conquest into a monument of divine judgment?
2. What does the detailed burial account teach about God's concern for both justice and ritual purity?

Interlinear Text

וְהָיָה הַ	בַּיּוֹם	וְהָיָה וְאֶת	אֶת יְהוָה	גֹּג
H1961		H1931	H5414	H1463
And it shall come to pass in that day that I will give Gog				
מְקוֹם	שָׁם	קִבְרֵי	בְּיִשְׂרָאֵל	יַגִּי
H4725	H8033	H6913	H3478	H1516
a place	there of graves	in Israel	it The valley	of the passengers
קִדְמָה	הַיָּם	וְחָסָה מֵת	אֶת הַיָּם	הַעֲבָרִים
H6926	H3220	H2629	H1931	H853
on the east	of the sea	and it shall stop		of the passengers
וְקָבְרוּ	אֶת שָׁם	גֹּג	וְאֶת	כָּל
H6912	H8033	H853	H853	H3605
and there shall they bury		Gog		and all his multitude
וְקָרָאוּ	יַגִּי	הַמִּוֹנֵה	גֹּג:	
H7121	H1516	H0	H1996	
and they shall call	it The valley		of Hamongog	