

1. God Stands Against Gog (Ezekiel 39:1–6)

“And you, son of man, prophesy against Gog, and say, ‘Thus says the Lord God: ‘Behold, I am against you, O Gog, the prince of Rosh, Meshech, and Tubal; and I will turn you around and lead you on, bringing you up from the far north, and bring you against the mountains of Israel.’”—Ezekiel 39:1–2 (NKJV)

God tells Ezekiel to speak directly against Gog, a leader of a powerful northern coalition. [The modern-day identity of the names mentioned in this chapter is beyond the scope of this devotional. For an in-depth study of Ezekiel 38 and 39 read my study entitled *The Magog Invasion*. The focus of this devotional is on God, Himself, confronting arrogant human power.]

“Then I will knock the bow out of your left hand, and cause the arrows to fall out of your right hand. You shall fall upon the mountains of Israel, you and all your troops and the peoples who are with you...”—Ezekiel 39:3–4 (NKJV)

Gog’s strength collapses in a moment. The weapons that looked so intimidating are useless when God says, “Enough.” The troops fall in the land they planned to conquer. Their defeat is so decisive that God calls the birds and wild animals to feast on the dead (verses 4–5). It is gruesome, but it is also a sobering picture of how thoroughly God can bring down proud, violent powers.

“And I will send fire on Magog and on those who live in security in the coastlands. Then they shall know that I am the Lord.”—Ezekiel 39:6 (NKJV)

Wherever Gog’s people and allies may be—whether near or far, secure or unprepared—God’s judgment reaches them. The result is not random destruction; the result is revelation: *“Then they shall know that I am the Lord.”*

2. God Makes His Name Known (Ezekiel 39:7–10)

“So I will make My holy name known in the midst of My people Israel, and I will not let them profane My holy name anymore. Then the nations shall know that I am the Lord, the Holy One in Israel.”—Ezekiel 39:7 (NKJV)

God’s goal is not simply to defeat an army; His goal is to **reveal His holy name** among His people and before the nations. Israel had profaned His name in the past by their sins and idolatry, but here God promises a turning point: *“I will not let them profane My holy name anymore.”*

“Surely it is coming, and it shall be done,” says the Lord God. “This is the day of which I have spoken.”—Ezekiel 39:8 (NKJV)

God underlines the certainty of His word. He does not speak in probabilities or guesses. When He declares a day of judgment and deliverance, it will come.

After this great defeat of Gog, the people of Israel use the enemy’s weapons as fuel. The imagery in verses 9–10 shows how completely God reverses the situation: those who came to plunder Israel end up supplying Israel’s needs. The aggressors become the unwitting source of provision for the people they tried to destroy.

3. Cleansing the Land: The Seriousness of Sin (Ezekiel 39:11–16)

“It will come to pass in that day that I will give Gog a burial place there in Israel... there they will bury Gog and all his multitude... For seven months the house of Israel will be burying them, in order to cleanse the land.”—Ezekiel 39:11–12 (NKJV)

The defeat is so massive that it takes seven months to bury the dead. Men are assigned to this work full time. As travelers pass through the land, if they see a bone, they mark the spot and leave the burial work to those appointed (verses 14–15).

The emphasis is on cleansing. After such violence and death, the land is to be purified. This is not just a sanitary concern; it is a spiritual picture: sin, pride, and rebellion leave deep defilement. God does not treat sin lightly, and He will not allow it to remain.

This is a sober reminder: our choices affect more than just ourselves. Sin always leaves a trail—of brokenness, pain, and ruin. And only God can truly cleanse and restore.

4. The Great Supper of Judgment (Ezekiel 39:17–22)

“And as for you, son of man, thus says the Lord God, ‘Speak to every sort of bird and to every beast of the field: ‘Assemble yourselves and come; gather together from all sides to My sacrificial meal... that you may eat flesh and drink blood.’”—Ezekiel 39:17 (NKJV)

This is striking and uncomfortable language. God calls the scavenger animals and birds to a “sacrificial meal” of fallen warriors. It is a reversal of expectations: Gog and his allies thought they were coming to triumph; instead, they become the “sacrifice.”

The Bible later uses similar imagery in Revelation, where the downfall of arrogant world powers is described in stark terms. It reminds us that God’s justice is not sentimental. He is patient and merciful, but when proud nations harden their hearts and refuse to turn, He eventually acts in a way that no one can ignore.

“So I will set My glory among the nations; all the nations shall see My judgment which I have executed, and My hand which I have laid on them. So the house of Israel shall know that I am the Lord their God from that day forward.”—Ezekiel 39:21–22 (NKJV)

This is the turning point: through this act of judgment, both Israel and the nations see God’s glory. Israel, who had often doubted and wandered, will “know that I am the Lord their God from that day forward.” The nations will see that Israel’s story is not random history—it is God’s work of judgment and mercy.

5. Why Israel Was Scattered—and Why God Restores Them (Ezekiel 39:23–24)

“The nations shall know that the house of Israel went into captivity for their iniquity; because they were unfaithful to Me, therefore I hid My face from them...” Ezekiel 39:23 (NKJV)

God is very clear: Israel's scattering among the nations was not an accident, nor was it due to God's weakness. It was discipline for their iniquity. God "hid His face" from them and allowed them to fall into the hands of their enemies.

This keeps us from two extremes:

- On one side: the idea that Israel was punished because God is cruel or arbitrary. No—God punished them "because they were unfaithful."
- On the other side: the idea that Israel's suffering has no moral or spiritual context. God Himself explains why it happened.

The same is true for us: when we experience the consequences of sin, we should not blame God. Instead, we should return to Him in repentance and trust.

6. Mercy, Restoration, and the Outpouring of the Spirit (Ezekiel 39:25–29)

"Therefore thus says the Lord God: 'Now I will bring back the captives of Jacob, and have mercy on the whole house of Israel; and I will be jealous for My holy name.'" Ezekiel 39:25 (NKJV)

Judgment is not God's final word. He speaks of mercy, not on a select few, but on "the whole house of Israel." They have borne their shame and their unfaithfulness, but God now acts to restore them.

"When I have brought them back from the peoples and gathered them out of their enemies' lands, and I am hallowed in them in the sight of many nations, then they shall know that I am the Lord their God..."—Ezekiel 39:27–28 (NKJV)

God gathers them, restores them, and reveals Himself through them. This is not because they were righteous, but because God is faithful. He made promises, and He keeps them.

"And I will not hide My face from them anymore; for I shall have poured out My Spirit on the house of Israel," says the Lord God.—Ezekiel 39:29 (NKJV)

Here is the ultimate hope: not just land, not just safety, but God's presence and Spirit. The hiding of His face is replaced by the pouring out of His Spirit. Their deepest need is not military security; it is spiritual renewal.

And that is our deepest need as well.

Practical Application for Believers

1. God opposes proud rebellion.

Gog represents more than one ancient leader; he embodies human pride that exalts itself against God. That same spirit can live in our hearts, too. Whenever we insist on our own way against God's will, we are acting in the spirit of Gog. God calls us to humble ourselves, not to resist Him.

2. Sin defiles; God cleanses.

The long work of burying the dead and cleansing the land shows how serious sin's aftermath

is. In our lives, sin always leaves damage—shame, broken relationships, and wounded hearts. But through Jesus, God not only forgives; He cleanses.

“The blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin.” 1 John 1:7 (NKJV)

3. God’s discipline aims at restoration.

Israel’s scattering was due to their unfaithfulness, yet God’s purpose was not to destroy them forever, but to bring them to repentance and restoration. In your life, when God allows painful consequences, it is not because He delights in your suffering, but because He desires your return and healing.

4. God will make His name known.

Whether through mercy or judgment, God’s name will not remain hidden. Our calling as believers is to honor His name now, willingly and joyfully, rather than resisting His work and being corrected the hard way.

A Challenge for Believers

Ezekiel 39 reminds us that God’s purposes will stand, with or without our cooperation. The question for us is:

- Are we living in a way that honors God’s holy name?
- Do people see in us a God who is holy, just, and merciful?
- Or do our attitudes, words, and choices cause others to doubt God’s goodness?

If God were to display His glory through your life this week, would it be through your obedience or through correcting your disobedience?

Let this chapter stir you to:

- Turn from hidden sin,
- Release bitterness and pride,
- Surrender your plans to God’s will,
- And walk in the fullness of the Holy Spirit.

An Invitation to Non-Believers

Ezekiel 39 is heavy. It speaks of armies falling, land defiled, and God’s judgment revealed. But behind all this is a God who longs to restore, to pour out His Spirit, to bring people into a real relationship with Himself.

The greatest judgment God ever poured out was not on a foreign army, but on His own Son at the cross.

- Jesus willingly took our sins on Himself.
- He shed His blood so that we could be forgiven.
- He endured the judgment we deserve.
- And God raised Him from the dead, proving that Jesus is God, Savior, and Lord.

“For Christ also suffered once for sins, the just for the unjust, that He might bring us to God...”

1 Peter 3:18 (NKJV)

You do not have to face God’s judgment alone. You can be reconciled to God today through Jesus Christ.

If you will turn from your sin and trust in Him—

if you will call on His name—

He will forgive you, cleanse you, and give you new life.

“For whoever calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.” Romans 10:13 (NKJV)

You can speak to Him right now, in your own words, something like:

“Lord Jesus, I believe You died for my sins and rose again. I know I have sinned against You. Please forgive me, cleanse me, and make me Yours. I surrender my life to You. Be my Savior and my Lord. Amen.”