In chapter thirty-eight and thirty-nine of the Book of Ezekiel we find one of the longest records on war in the entire Bible. This war is commonly referred to as the *War of Gog and Magog* in theological circles.

Before we go any further, students are often troubled by Ezekiel's usage of ancient weaponry to describe a battle of modern times. But when studying the Bible, we must remember that God communicated His message to the Apostles and Prophets using terms and descriptions that they were familiar with and would understand.

That settled, the term *Gog and Magog* has also been the subject of much discussion. Since the phrase appears again in the New Testament Book of Revelation, some expositors have given it a spiritual application. They see it as a reference to the ungodly world powers that come from the four corners of the Earth to wage war against God's People at the end of the age.

However, this Scripture makes it clear that Gog is an individual rather than a world power or nation, because God explicitly refers to him as the "chief prince of Meshech and Tubal," and of coming from "the land of Magog."

Concerning those who interpret this prophecy literally, the debate centres around whether it has a historic or futuristic fulfilment. The latter describes it as an invasion of the nation of Israel in the last days, comprised of a coalition of Islamic nations from Africa and the Middle East, led by Russia and Iran.

The former teaches the War of Gog and Magog already had its fulfilment with the rebirth of the State of Israel in 1948. This view makes the idea of Israel being a victim under future threat of invasion to be the complete opposite! It would mean it is the Israeli political leaders themselves who are the invaders, the very Army of Gog and the fulfilment of Ezekiel's prophecy!
In light of current events, this interpretation appears more accurate. But whatever the case may be, what's important to remember about Ezekiel's War Prophecy is that it not only describes the invasion of Gog and Magog, but their utter defeat too, and that Almighty God is behind both!