

## How can I understand Ezekiel's description of Gog's pursuits (38:10-16)?

In this section of Ezekiel's prophecy concerning Gog and Magog, God describes to Ezekiel what is going on in the mind of Gog as he considers entering into the land of Israel.

1. What do we know about the mind of Gog?

Ezekiel **38:10**

Isaiah **14:12-15**

James **4:13-17**

Jeremiah **17:9**

Philippians **2:5-8**

2 Corinthians **11:13-15**

We are told the the mind of Gog is evil. It is the unredeemed mind that can only pursue after evil and wicked minds. Gog has the same mindset that Satan had and continues to have. As the children of God, we ought to have a different mind. We ought to have the mind of Christ and while we may plan, we need to ultimately submit our plans and the events of life to the will and acts of God in our midst.

2. What does Gog think he is going to accomplish?

Ezekiel **38:11-13**

John **16:1-3**

Romans **8:31-34**

Romans **1:20-23**

Psalm **2:1-4**

Romans **8:35-39**

Gog is convinced that he will simply and easily enter into the land of Israel and decimate it. To Gog the conquest of Israel is an easy thing and it is essentially already complete. He will have no problems in conquering and taking everything that is in the city of Jerusalem and claiming it as his own. He even sees the surrounding lands of commerce in alignment with his expectations and views. Just like the rest of the world who are committed enemies of God, Gog believes that he truly does have the upper hand and that the people of God do not stand a chance against him. Yet in his self professed wisdom against God and the things of God, he only confesses that he is foolish and knows nothing. As children of God, we are forever in the loving arms of God and have no reason to fear the thoughts and actions of the unbelieving world and the enemies of God.

3. What do we know about the mind of Israel?

Ezekiel **38:11, 14**

1 Timothy **6:17-19**

Revelation **2:4-5**

Jeremiah **7:3-7**

Romans **11:18-21**

The nation of Israel believed that they were very much protected and incapable of being harmed by Gog. Although they did not have much of a military presence nor did they have secure walls and borders, they believe that God would completely protect them from any harm that could come. As Christians, we can also become "over confident" in our relationship with the Lord and claim to trust in Him but in reality be trusting in ourselves. We need to remember that our salvation does not depend on ourselves but upon Christ who died for us and made us acceptable in His eyes. We are to be His servants and honor Him.

4. How does the mind of Israel to the mind of Gog?

Ezekiel **38:15-16**

2 Chronicles **7:14**

Galatians **6:1-3**

1 Thessalonians **4:1-5**

When the people of God cease to truly depend on God and feign dependence, God will remind them that they need to return to Him and lean upon Him. We do that by submitting ourselves to the teaching and the preaching of the Word of God not just in our words but also in our thoughts and deeds.