



# EZEKIEL





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**KNOW THAT I AM THE LORD**



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Gog, of the land of Magog

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**Eze 38:2** "Son of man, set your face against **Gog, of the land of Magog**, the chief prince of Meshech and Tubal; prophesy against him



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**Eze 38:8a** After many days you will be called to arms. In future years you will invade a land that has recovered from war...

The distant future

But who is Gog, of the land of Magog?



# EZEKIEL

## KNOW THAT I AM THE LORD

Remember Ezekiel 25-32

The LORD spoke to Gentile nations

- Amonites, Moab, Seir, Edom, Philistines, Tyre, Egypt
- Clearly identified, easily recognized
- Contemporaries and neighbors of Israel
- Prophecy fulfilled soon afterward



# EZEKIEL

## KNOW THAT I AM THE LORD

Ezekiel 38-39

The LORD spoke to Gog and Magog

- Events to be fulfilled farther in the future
- Vague, apocalyptic language
- Who was he talking about?
- How was that relevant to the exiles in Babylon?
- How is that relevant to us?



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## KNOW THAT I AM THE LORD

Apocalyptic Language



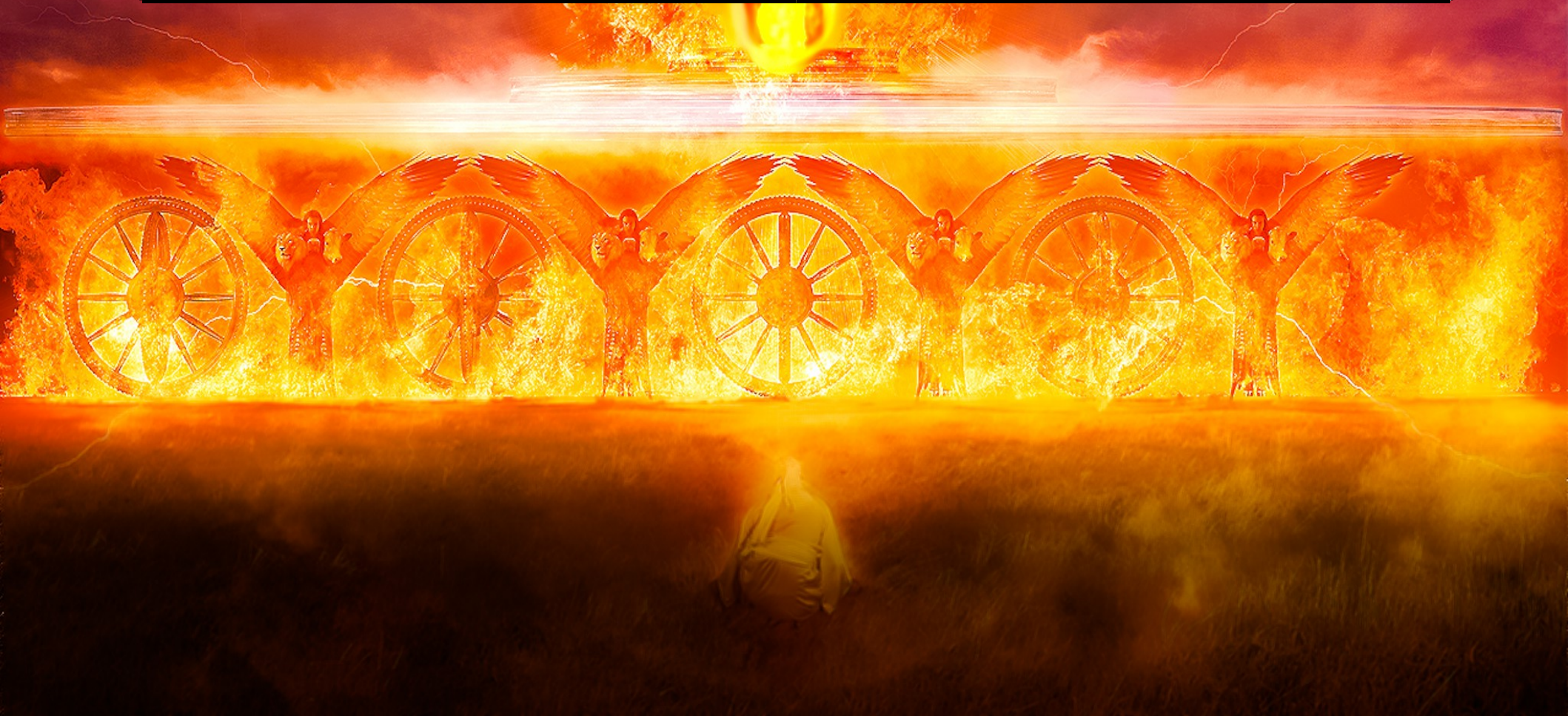


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ἀποκαλυψις (apokalupsis) – that which unveils or discloses





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Apocalyptic language in scripture

- OT: Daniel, Ezekiel, Zechariah
- NT: Revelation



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Apocalyptic language in scripture

- OT: Daniel, Ezekiel, Zechariah
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**Dan 12:8** I heard, but I did not understand. So I asked, "My lord, what will the outcome of all this be?"

**Dan 12:9** He replied, "Go your way, Daniel, because the words are closed up and sealed until the time of the end."



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“Who, then is or was this mysterious *Gog, of the land of Magog*? The honest answer is that nobody really knows, but not for want of trying... As the centuries of the Christian era passed, different generations have identified Gog with whatever fearsome foe of the day seemed to fit”  
– Christopher J. H. Wright, *The Message of Ezekiel*



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Gog, of the land of Magog

A few theories of the past:

- Goths invading Rome (Augustine)
- Turks / Ottoman empire expansion (Martin Luther)
- The Soviet Union (20<sup>th</sup> Century fundamentalists)





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Cited by premillennialists to support their end-time theories



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Many believe it concerns the invasion by Antiochus IV Epiphanes (ruled 175-164 BC) as recorded in 1 Maccabees and by Josephus in Antiquities



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Playground for the imagination





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Apocalyptic passages leave unanswered questions

- People like to fill in the gaps with their theories
- But the gaps are deliberate.





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Instead, base your understanding on the clearer passages



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Playground for the imagination

Apocalyptic passages leave unanswered questions

- People like to fill in the gaps with their theories
- But the gaps are deliberate.

Instead, base your understanding on the clearer passages

Then use the apocalyptic passages for their intended purpose.



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But the name Gog had not appeared previously in scripture.



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But the name Gog had not appeared previously in scripture.

Prior references must have used a different name.



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## KNOW THAT I AM THE LORD

Other references to Gog and Magog





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Other references to Gog and Magog

**Gen 10:1** This is the account of Shem, Ham and Japheth, Noah's sons, who themselves had sons after the flood.

**Gen 10:2** The sons of Japheth: Gomer, **Magog**, Madai, Javan, Tubal, Meshech and Tiras.





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**Rev 20:7** When the thousand years are over, Satan will be released from his prison

**Rev 20:8** and will go out to deceive the nations in the four corners of the earth—**Gog** and **Magog**—to gather them for battle. In number they are like the sand on the seashore.



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Magog spans the Bible from Genesis to Revelation



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Is Gog one of the spiritual forces of evil?

**Eph 6:12** For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.





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Is Gog one of the spiritual forces of evil?

**Eph 6:12** For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.

**Dan 10:12** Then he continued, "Do not be afraid, Daniel. Since the first day that you set your mind to gain understanding and to humble yourself before your God, your words were heard, and I have come in response to them.

**Dan 10:13** But the prince of the Persian kingdom resisted me twenty-one days. Then Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me, because I was detained there with the king of Persia.



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### The Land of Magog

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prophecy against him





**Europe**

**ASIA**

**Table of Nations  
Genesis 10**

Magog

Gomer

Meshech

Caspian Sea

Tiras

Black Sea

Tubal

Javan

Lud

Asshur

Madai

Mediterranean Sea

Canaan

Arphaxad

Elam

Lud

Aram

Cush

Phut

**Africa**

Arabia

Hindustan

Mizarim

Indian Ocean

Cush



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Summary of Ezekiel's Prophecy of Gog and Magog





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**Eze 38:8** ... In future years you will invade a land that has recovered from war, whose people were gathered from many nations to the mountains of Israel...





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**Eze 38:8** ... In future years you will invade a land that has recovered from war, whose people were gathered from many nations to the mountains of Israel...

**Eze 39:21** "I will display my glory among the nations, and all the nations will see the punishment I inflict and the hand I lay upon them.

**Eze 39:22** From that day forward the house of Israel will know that I am the LORD their God.



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**Eze 39:22** From that day forward the house of Israel will know that I am the LORD their God.

The LORD would display his glory by defending Israel



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## KNOW THAT I AM THE LORD

Main message of Ezekiel 38-39

**Eze 39:25** "Therefore this is what the Sovereign LORD says: I will now bring Jacob back from captivity and will have compassion on all the people of Israel, and I will be zealous for my holy name.

**Eze 39:26** They will forget their shame and all the unfaithfulness they showed toward me when they lived in safety in their land with no one to make them afraid.



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Compassion and safety from the LORD



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Compassion and safety from the LORD

The LORD will show himself holy



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## KNOW THAT I AM THE LORD

Timing of Ezekiel's Events on Gog and Magog





# EZEKIEL

## KNOW THAT I AM THE LORD

Timing of Ezekiel's Events on Gog and Magog

**Eze 38:4** I will turn you around, put hooks in your jaws and bring you out with your whole army—your **horses**, your horsemen fully armed, and a great horde with large and small **shields**, all of them brandishing their **swords**.





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**Eze 38:15** You will come from your place in the far north, you and many nations with you, **all of them riding on horses**, a great horde, a mighty army.



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This doesn't sound like an army in modern times.



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This doesn't sound like an army in modern times.

But remember this is apocalyptic scripture.



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Timing of Ezekiel's Events on Gog and Magog





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Timing of Ezekiel's Events on Gog and Magog

**Eze 39:27** When I have brought them back from the nations and have gathered them from the countries of their enemies, I will show myself holy through them in the sight of many nations.

**Eze 39:28** Then they will know that I am the LORD their God, for though I sent them into exile among the nations, I will gather them to their own land, not leaving any behind.

**Eze 39:29** I will no longer hide my face from them, for I will pour out my Spirit on the house of Israel, declares the Sovereign LORD."



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After exiles return but before God pours out his Spirit



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### Ezekiel's Prophecy of Gog and Magog

**Eze 38:1** The word of the LORD came to me:

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**Eze 38:3** and say: 'This is what the Sovereign LORD says: **I am against you, O Gog**, chief prince of Meshech and Tubal.

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The LORD is against Gog



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Ezekiel's Prophecy of Gog and Magog

**Eze 38:5** Persia, Cush and Put will be with them, all with shields and helmets,

**Eze 38:6** also Gomer with all its troops, and Beth Togarmah from the far north with all its troops—the many nations with you.



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Nations from the east, south, north



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**Eze 38:7** "Get ready; be prepared, you and all the hordes gathered about you, and take command of them.

**Eze 38:8** After many days you will be called to arms. In future years you will invade **a land that has recovered from war**, whose people were gathered from many nations to the **mountains of Israel**, which had long been desolate. They had been brought out from the nations, and now all of them **live in safety**.

**Eze 38:9** You and all your troops and the many nations with you will go up, advancing like a storm; you will be like a cloud covering the land.



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Gog would invade Israel



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### Ezekiel's Prophecy of Gog and Magog

**Eze 38:10** "This is what the Sovereign LORD says: On that day thoughts will come into your mind and you will devise an **evil scheme**.

**Eze 38:11** You will say, "**I will invade a land of unwalled villages**; I will attack a **peaceful and unsuspecting** people—all of them living without walls and without gates and bars.

**Eze 38:12** **I will plunder and loot** and turn my hand against the resettled ruins and the people gathered from the nations, rich in livestock and goods, living at the center of the land."



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Gog would try to plunder and loot Israel



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Ezekiel's Prophecy of Gog and Magog

**Eze 38:15** You will come from your place in the far north, you and many nations with you, all of them riding on horses, a great horde, a mighty army.

**Eze 38:16** You will advance against my people Israel like a cloud that covers the land. In days to come, O Gog, **I will bring you against my land, so that the nations may know me when I show myself holy through you before their eyes.**



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The LORD will bring Gog against Israel



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The LORD will bring Gog against Israel

He will show himself holy before their eyes



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**Eze 38:18** This is what will happen in that day: When Gog attacks the land of Israel, my **hot anger will be aroused**, declares the Sovereign LORD.

**Eze 38:19** In my zeal and fiery wrath I declare that at that time there shall be a great earthquake in the land of Israel.

**Eze 38:20** The fish of the sea, the birds of the air, the beasts of the field, every creature that moves along the ground, and all the people on the face of the earth will tremble at my presence. The mountains will be overturned, the cliffs will crumble and every wall will fall to the ground.



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### Ezekiel's Prophecy of Gog and Magog

**Eze 38:21** I will summon a sword against Gog on all my mountains, declares the Sovereign LORD. Every man's sword will be against his brother.

**Eze 38:22** I will execute judgment upon him with plague and bloodshed; I will pour down torrents of rain, hailstones and burning sulfur on him and on his troops and on the many nations with him.

**Eze 38:23** And so I will show my greatness and my holiness, and I will make myself known in the sight of many nations. Then they will know that I am the LORD.'



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### Ezekiel's Prophecy of Gog and Magog

**Eze 39:1** "Son of man, prophesy against Gog and say: "This is what the Sovereign LORD says: I am against you, O Gog, chief prince of Meshech and Tubal.

**Eze 39:2** I will turn you around and drag you along. I will bring you from the far north and send you against the mountains of Israel.

**Eze 39:3** Then I will strike your bow from your left hand and make your arrows drop from your right hand.

**Eze 39:4** On the mountains of Israel you will fall, you and all your troops and the nations with you. I will give you as food to all kinds of carrion birds and to the wild animals.



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The LORD will fight for Israel



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### Ezekiel's Prophecy of Gog and Magog

**Eze 39:5** You will fall in the open field, for I have spoken, declares the Sovereign LORD.

**Eze 39:6** I will send fire on Magog and on those who live in safety in the coastlands, and they will know that I am the LORD.

**Eze 39:7** "I will make known my holy name among my people Israel. I will no longer let my holy name be profaned, and **the nations will know that I the LORD am the Holy One in Israel.**



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Israel will plunder the defeated army

**Eze 39:8** It is coming! It will surely take place, declares the Sovereign LORD. This is the day I have spoken of.

**Eze 39:9** "Then those who live in the towns of Israel will go out and **use the weapons for fuel** and burn them up—the small and large shields, the bows and arrows, the war clubs and spears. For seven years they will use them for fuel.

**Eze 39:10** They will not need to gather wood from the fields or cut it from the forests, because they will use the weapons for fuel. And they will **plunder those who plundered them** and loot those who looted them, declares the Sovereign LORD.



# EZEKIEL

## KNOW THAT I AM THE LORD

Burying the dead of Gog's army

**Eze 39:11** "On that day I will give Gog a burial place in Israel, in the valley of those who travel east toward the Sea. It will block the way of travelers, because Gog and all his hordes will be buried there. So it will be called the Valley of Hamon Gog.

**Eze 39:12** "For seven months the house of Israel will be burying them in order to cleanse the land.

**Eze 39:13** All the people of the land will bury them, and the day I am glorified will be a memorable day for them, declares the Sovereign LORD.



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## KNOW THAT I AM THE LORD

Burying the dead of Gog's army

**Eze 39:14** "Men will be regularly employed to cleanse the land. Some will go throughout the land and, in addition to them, others will bury those that remain on the ground. At the end of the seven months they will begin their search.

**Eze 39:15** As they go through the land and one of them sees a human bone, he will set up a marker beside it until the gravediggers have buried it in the Valley of Hamon Gog.

**Eze 39:16** (Also a town called Hamonah will be there.) And so they will cleanse the land.'



# EZEKIEL

## KNOW THAT I AM THE LORD

Wild animals feast on the dead of Gog's army

**Eze 39:17** "Son of man, this is what the Sovereign LORD says: Call out to every kind of bird and all the wild animals: 'Assemble and come together from all around to the sacrifice I am preparing for you, the great sacrifice on the mountains of Israel. There you will eat flesh and drink blood.'



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## KNOW THAT I AM THE LORD

The LORD will be glorified

**Eze 39:21** "I will display my glory among the nations, and all the nations will see the punishment I inflict and the hand I lay upon them.

**Eze 39:22** From that day forward the house of Israel will know that I am the LORD their God.



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## KNOW THAT I AM THE LORD

The LORD is glorified by the restoration of Israel

**Eze 39:27** When I have brought them back from the nations and have gathered them from the countries of their enemies, I will show myself holy through them in the sight of many nations.

**Eze 39:28** Then they will know that I am the LORD their God, for though I sent them into exile among the nations, I will gather them to their own land, not leaving any behind.

**Eze 39:29** I will no longer hide my face from them, for I will pour out my Spirit on the house of Israel, declares the Sovereign LORD."





# EZEKIEL

**KNOW THAT I AM THE LORD**