

Essay from the bald pastor

#136 - Russia Heads South -

With red stars looking magnificent on their silver wings, dozens of Russia's strategic bombers leisurely hover over the now Russian-occupied Crimean Peninsula. "Nobody expected Russia to take military actions." The EU ministerial meeting held in March was gloomy. We're now facing the New Cold War. In April, the US revealed their plan to send ground troops to Poland as a measure to strengthen collective defense. They're also considering sending them to Baltic countries in the future. The US Secretary of Defense, Chuck Hagel, warned NATO members by saying, "Russia's actions shatter that myth (that the end of the Cold War has eased the risk of conflict among nations) and usher in bracing new realities."

As you may recall, Russia spent roughly fifty billion dollars, the highest cost in the Olympic history, on the Sochi Olympics and mobilized 70,000 troops, twice the number of troops in the London Olympics, to keep terrorists at bay. On February 24, the day after "the Putin's Olympics" opened, the images of him looking proud holding a champagne glass next to the IOC president, Thomas Bach, went worldwide. Russian newspapers claimed that they "hosted the best winter Olympics," and Russians praised themselves by saying "we won the Olympics" after earning the highest number of medals totaling 33 including 13 gold medals. They had never won that many, not even during the former Soviet Union. Crimean Crisis occurred around that time. Soon after Western countries ousted Ukraine's pro-Russian president Yanukovich, Russian military headed south and easily annexed Crimea.

"Son of man, set your face against Gog, of the land of Magog, the chief prince of Meshech and Tubal; prophesy against him and say: 'This is what the Sovereign Lord says: I am against you, O Gog, chief prince of Meshech and Tubal. 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. 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.'"

Ezekiel 38:2-3, 15-16

Seeing what's going on with Russia, Christians all over the world must have remembered this Bible prophecy written 2,600 years ago. Actually, the New Standard American Bible uses the word "the prince of Rosh." Based on the fact that "Rosh" means a head/chief in Hebrew and the mentioning of "a mighty army from the far north," many have wondered whether this chapter is referring to Russia since long time ago. "In days to come" refers to the end of the world and thus a certain period of time. Moreover, this event is very similar to the situation 78 years ago, in which Nazis Germany marched into Germany Rhineland and took control of it in the name of German protection. Once again, Western countries didn't think Hitler would take military actions. The fall of Russia is written in the Bible, and Nazis did fall. Bible is definitely not a fiction. It contains the ongoing history that lasts into the future, and therefore it is His(God) Story= History. Yet, there's no need to be afraid. When the world is on the verge of downfall, Jesus Christ the Savior will return and bring peace to the earth. We shall believe in Him and prepare for "the end of the world."

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