

Victory Is Coming!

Encouragement for Battle-Wearied Christians

Chapter One



Ezekiel 38-39

The Bible is full of stories of frail people who achieved the impossible, not because they were perfect, but because in weakness, they chose to rely on God. Consider this paradox from Ezekiel. God instructs the prophet to foretell that a mighty army will be gathered from many nations to attack Israel. Enemy troops would advance “like a storm” (Ezekiel 38:9 NIV) to attack peaceful and unsuspecting people.

What stalks you? Is it a financial shortfall? Or health issues? Maybe family rifts tear the fabric of your identity and security. You might feel helpless against the evil intent to plunder and loot your peace of mind. A great horde advances upon you. You fend off one adversity, only to see two more problems coming straight at you with sharpened lances pointed at your heart. Sometimes, even believers shake in their boots and let their hands hang useless in terror.

Just when you want to give up and flee the scene, you notice confusion in the enemy ranks. When you didn’t have a chance, God intervenes. He will strike the bows from the attackers’ left hand and make their arrows drop harmlessly (Ezekiel 39:3 NIV).

God defeats the enemy right in front of you. “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” (Ezekiel 39:7 NIV).

For reflection

“No weapon forged against you will prevail, and you will refute every tongue that accuses you. This is the heritage of the servants of the Lord, and this is their vindication from me,” declares the Lord (Isaiah 54:17 NIV)