

# This Week's Developments

February 27 – March 5, 2021

- Russia-Ukraine war: Putin lays waste to cities
- Putin puts Russia's nuclear force on high alert
- US weapons promised to Ukraine February- delivered
- Sanctions crippling the economy of 'Fortress Russia'
- Can Israel become Europe's gas supplier?
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# Russia-Ukraine war: Putin lays waste to cities

The Times, March 2, 2022

## EVENT

Bombardment pulverises schools and hospitals as civilian deaths 'pass 2,000' amid claims Kherson has fallen. Russian forces shelled schools, hospitals and homes across Ukraine yesterday as President Putin's invasion threatened to escalate into a long war of attrition. Moscow inflicted sustained rocket attacks on the city of Kharkiv after Ukrainian forces halted the advance of troops in a sign of what awaits other cities that defy the invasion. The port city of Mariupol came under heavy and indiscriminate shelling, with hospitals overflowing with dead and wounded. "Kharkiv today is the Stalingrad of the 21st century," said Oleksiy Arestovich, an adviser to President Zelensky, who remained in the capital, Kyiv, to lead his country's defence. Zelensky said of the Russians: "They don't know a thing about Kyiv, about our history. But they all have orders to erase our history, erase our country, erase us all." He had earlier decried the attacks on crowded cities as "frank, undisguised terror" and a war crime.

## COMMENT

The world has changed almost overnight. Everyone is horrified at the shocking destruction (led by one man – Vladimir Putin) against Ukraine. But as NATO's Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg said yesterday, "the worst is still to come." The Russian army is bogged down in certain areas of Ukraine with poor supply lines and low food and fuel supplies. Many soldiers only had enough food for 3 days, leading military analysts to conclude that Putin thought this would be a short conflict. But Putin will win this war. He will not back down. He will resort to ever increasing violence to get what he wants. The Bible says of Putin that he will "cause a shocking amount of destruction" and also "he will destroy many without warning." This is what he is doing...

## BIBLE QUOTE

He will cause a shocking amount of destruction and succeed in everything he does. He will destroy powerful leaders and devastate the holy people. He will be a master of deception and will become arrogant; he will destroy many without warning. These verses describe a latter day Antiochus Epiphanes [ancient king of the north] who lives at the time of the end. (Daniel 8:24-25 NLT)

# Putin puts Russia's nuclear force on high alert

The Times, February 28, 2022



**EVENT** President Putin has ordered Russia's nuclear deterrent forces on to high alert, greatly escalating tensions even as President Zelensky of Ukraine agreed to peace talks. In a televised meeting with his defence minister and chief of staff, Putin placed the nuclear deterrent forces into a "special regime of combat duty", citing Nato's "aggressive statements" about his invasion of Ukraine. Fierce fighting was entering a fifth day as Kyiv, the Ukrainian capital, lifted a weekend curfew and defence forces searched for infiltrators who are believed to have entered the city to assassinate Zelensky and prepare for a Russian ground force. President Lukashenko of Belarus, an ally of President Putin, said that sanctions imposed by the West could lead to a global war. "Russia is being pushed towards a Third World War. We should be very reserved and steer clear of it. Because nuclear war is the end of everything," he said, according to the Russian news agency TASS.

**COMMENT** Suddenly there is a lot of talk about the possibility of nuclear war driven by Putin's statement this week that he has put his nuclear forces on high alert. There is also talk about a third world war. Many fear that Putin could use what are called "tactical" nuclear weapons which are much smaller than "strategic" nuclear weapons. Russia has around 2000 tactical nukes. A tactical nuke could destroy a football stadium whereas a strategic nuke could destroy a city. If Ukraine does not surrender Putin could use these tactical weapons to achieve victory. Surely only a madman would use a nuclear weapon? Many are now seeing a kind of madness in Putin's speech and demeanour. Amazingly Antiochus Epiphanes was referred to by many as Epimanes meaning "the Madman"!

**BIBLE QUOTE** "The king will do as he pleases. He will exalt and magnify himself above every god and will say unheard-of things against the God of gods. He will be successful until the time of wrath is completed, for what has been determined must take place. The king described in verse 36-39 is speaking of Gog \ Putin himself. He will succeed until God's wrath comes on him (Daniel 11:36)

# Majority of US weapons promised to Ukraine in February delivered

Reuters, March 4, 2022



## EVENT

The United States has already delivered more than two thirds of the arms it promised in late February to Ukraine, whose forces are "effectively" using them to push back the Russians, a Pentagon official said Friday. On February 26, Washington authorized \$350 million of military equipment -- the largest such package in US history -- to bolster Kyiv against the Russian invasion, which began last week. An official with the US State Department's Bureau of Political-Military Affairs told Congress this week that the package aimed to "provide urgently needed ammunition, Javelin anti-tank missiles and the Stinger man portable air defense systems to Ukraine." Her testimony officially confirmed for the first time America's delivery of the high-tech Stingers, which can be used to shoot down low-flying aircraft. The Pentagon official told reporters that out of the \$350 million, "we have already delivered to the Ukrainians \$240 million-worth of that package, including some of the most needed capabilities like anti-armour capabilities."

## COMMENT

Having identified the king of Daniel 11 v 36-39 as Gog – the ruler of the Russian people – the king of the north - we can now see that the king of the south will “push” at him. The king of the south is US / UK predominately - as mentioned in Ezekiel 38 the parallel passage to Daniel 11:36 to the end. The push from the king of the south against Gog is a provocation – something painful. The word “push” is the Hebrew word to “gore” as in an animal with a horn attacking. A goat or bull goring you would be very painful although not life threatening in most cases. In this sense we are looking for a direct military provocation against Gog. Gog was originally a real and historical person and ruled the Magogites. These people lived in Southern Russia. Notice how the article says that US weapons are being used to “PUSH” back the Russians....

## BIBLE QUOTE

And at the time of the end shall the king of the south push at him: KEY POINT – notice the colon at the end of “push at him:” The colon in the original text denotes a time gap. Russia doesn’t instantly come down into Israel. The inner ring war happens in this short gap of time (Daniel 11:40)

# Sanctions are crippling the economy of 'Fortress Russia'

Daily Telegraph, March 4, 2022



## EVENT

A shuttered stock market, close to default, business boycotts and a rush to the cash machines: the **Russia economy is on its knees** just eight days into the **invasion**. The scale of the looming economic collapse has clearly alarmed Russia's business elite following a tidal wave of Western sanctions with oligarchs close to Vladimir Putin breaking cover to criticise the invasion. JPMorgan warned on Friday that the country is facing a hit as great as **Russia's 1998 financial crisis, predicting an 11pc peak-to-trough GDP plunge**. The Centre for Economics and Business Research expects **a 14pc hit in lost output** in Russia over two years. Oil and gas is still flowing from Russia to Europe, keeping a vital revenue source for its economy and the Kremlin intact. But shoppers and industries, including banking, shipping, aviation and retail, are already feeling the heat as the West severs economic ties and **turn Russia into a pariah state**.

## COMMENT

In just over a week Russia has suffered an economic meltdown. And worse is to come. The Economist said this week that the sanctions introduced by the US / UK / EU on the 26<sup>th</sup> February are causing "financial mayhem" in Russia causing Putin to increase Russia's nuclear alert level. With incredible foresight, Brother John Thomas wrote these words in 1848, **"Let the Russian treasury be as empty as it is said to be, and its expenditure exceed its revenue by double the alleged deficit, it will only operate as a pressure from within, causing her autocrat [Gog], to enter into countries, and to overflow and pass over, and to enrich himself with the spoil of those he is destined to subdue."**

## BIBLE QUOTE

And I will turn thee back, **and put hooks into thy jaws**, and I will bring thee forth, and all thine army, horses and horsemen, all of them clothed with all sorts of armour, even a great company with bucklers and shields, all of them handling swords: **The hook in the jaws is the lure of spoil in Israel (gas/oil) required by Gog to replace lost revenues in Europe...** (Ezekiel 38:4)

# Can Israel become Europe's gas supplier?

The Jerusalem Post, February 28, 2022



## EVENT

Israel could make moves to position itself as a central gas exporter in the Middle East, as tensions surrounding the war in Ukraine have led to discussion about alternatives to Russia's gas exports. While it is already supplying gas to Jordan and Egypt, if the right steps are taken, Israel has the potential to become a natural gas source for Europe, as well. "Europe is completely hysterical that it sits in the hands of Putin," said Dr. Alexander Coman, from the Faculty of Management at Tel Aviv University. "The idea that Putin is sitting with his hand on the faucet and can, at will, open or close gas supply to Europe – this is a terrible scenario for them." It is, however, a brilliant opportunity for Israel: in its current position, Europe would do much to find alternative sources to its fuel supply needs. "One of the ways is an alternative pipeline that will bring gas – or perhaps electricity – from Egypt, Israel and [perhaps] Saudi Arabia to Europe, through Cyprus," explained Coman.

## COMMENT

Even though the 11-billion dollar Nord Stream 2 pipeline linking Russia to Germany under the Baltic Sea is completed and ready to start operation, experts were unanimous this week that the project has no future. In their words "it is dead forever." Therefore the EU needs to quickly find new gas energy supplies. Israel could be one of those suppliers. Israel became a key supplier of natural gas to energy-thirsty Egypt in January 2020 after starting production from its Tamar and Leviathan offshore gas fields. If Israel does talk to the EU this will raise Russia's ire. The Bible says that Gog will come down to take a spoil from Israel. That spoil could be gas. An article in a daily Jewish magazine said "Russia's Next Target for Intimidation Could Be Israel." It will...

## BIBLE QUOTE

Thus saith the Lord GOD; It shall also come to pass, that at the same time shall things come into thy mind, and thou [Gog] shalt think an evil thought: And thou shalt say, I will go up to the land of unwalled villages; I will go to them that are at rest, that dwell safely, all of them dwelling without walls, and having neither bars nor gates, To take a spoil (Ezekiel 38;10-12)

# Russia's Next Target for Intimidation Could Be Israel

Tablet (Daily Jewish Magazine in Israel), March 2, 2022



## EVENT

As Russia pounds Ukrainian cities and flaunts its nuclear weapons, there is little doubt that the implications of the war between Russia and the West will be felt globally. As war clouds gathered over Ukraine, Israel became worried. Since the beginning of Russia's military involvement in Syria, Israel has been walking on thin ice, trying to balance its own security needs with the necessity of making nice with the Russians who now controlled the Syrian skies. So what might be the repercussions for Israel of its public anti-Russian stance, however mild? There is no doubt that Russia is looking to flex its muscles in Syria, where it's built an impressive military presence. **As Russia slides into a pariah status in the international arena, it will want to upgrade ties with its closest allies in the region: Syria and Iran.** On the military front, signs of Russia's new regional posture are already visible.

## COMMENT

The Ukraine war will be won by Putin before he descends down to Israel. It is highly unlikely he would run 2 conflicts at the same time. In between the conflict with Ukraine and the invasion of Israel by Russia will be the inner ring war. This war will involve Israel's immediate neighbours and result in the total destruction of Damascus. All this could happen soon. The Iran deal is close to being signed off. But this we know we will be a treacherous deal according to Isaiah 21. Israel might act against Iran and Iran could activate its proxy armies around Israel. Russia will come down into the void left by this war - partly pushed by the US/UK over Ukraine and partly pulled down by the lure of spoil. The push and the pull are both required to bring Russia down.

## BIBLE QUOTE

Woe to the multitude of many people, which make a noise like the noise of the seas; and to the rushing of nations, that make a rushing like the rushing of mighty waters! The nations shall rush like the rushing of many waters: **This describes Ezekiel 38 conflict – the nations rush in AFTER Damascus is destroyed – see verse 1 of this chapter.** (Isaiah 17:12-13)

## ADDITIONAL AND SUPPORTING ARTICLES

**DebkaFile Review** (world events through the bi-focals of Israeli military intelligence)    **TV-7 Israel News**    **Watchman Newscast**

2022-03-05 **Israeli PM meets Putin in Moscow, then speaks with Zelenskiy by phone** - Reuters

2022-03-04 **Ukraine War - Are we heading towards World War III** - Gravitass - 9.23 min - YouTube

2022-03-03 **Ukraine invasion - Has Russia lost China's support** - Gravitass- 4.31 min - YouTube

2022-03-03 **After Russia & Ukraine - NEW Iran Nuclear Deal Next Global Crisis** - Watchman Newscast - 9.51 min - YouTube

2022-03-01 **Russia's Economy is in crisis - Here's why** - Gravitass - 5.17 min - YouTube

2022-03-01 **How Israel is THREATENED by Russia's Ukraine Invasion** - Watchman Newscast - 9.47 min - YouTube

2022-02-28 **Putin shunned by world as his hopes of quick victory evaporate** - Vladimir Putin - The Guardian

2022-02-25 Sanctioning Vladimir Putin and Russia's billionaire oligarchs - CBC - 6.37 min - YouTube

2022-02-25 Russia SLAMS Israel's Control of the Golan Heights; Trouble Ahead - Watchman Newscast - 10.01 min - YouTube

2022-02-24 Russia INVADES Ukraine; More Wars on Horizon - Watchman Newscast - 9.04 min - YouTube

2022-02-23 Israeli Strategic Analyst Breaks Down Russia's Move Into Ukraine - Watchman Newscast - 15.14 min - YouTube

2022-02-22 Inside Vladimir Putin's mind - Gravitass - 5.59 min - YouTube

2022-02-20 Fareed Zakaria says the US has made a strategic error with Russia - CNN - 6.2 min - YouTube

2022-02-11 Iran Assassination Plot Thwarted; Russia Tells Israel to END Syria Airstrikes - Watchman - 11.06 - YouTube

2022-02-10 Ukraine Direct- How has Putin surrounded Ukraine - Gravitass - 3.42 min - YouTube

2022-02-10 Iran unveils ballistic missile called Kheibar buster as nuclear talks resume in Vienna - English News - 4.35 min- YouTube

2022-02-10 Drone Attack Targets Civilians at Saudi Airport; Iran-Backed Houthis Responsible - Watchman - 7.15 min YouTube

2022-02-08 Ukraine Direct- Putin hints at nuclear response if NATO attacks - Gravitass 4.20 min - YouTube







BELARUS

RUSSIA

Rivne

Defunct Chernobyl  
Nuclear Power Plant  
captured by Russia

Khmelnytskyi

U K R A I N E

South Ukraine

Zaporizhzhia seized by  
Russian forces

MOLDOVA

ROMANIA