

Where are the Edomites today?



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Introduction

The story of the peoples of Turkey originates in Genesis Chapter twenty-five with the birth of Edom (Esau), son of Isaac. Edom inherited a great number of descendants and blessings (Genesis 36), but due to his rejection of the birthright (Genesis 25:23-24), his birthright was passed over to Jacob – this has led to ongoing antagonism between the two lines.¹

Edom married two Ishmaelites: Mahalath, a daughter of Ishmael (Genesis 28:9) and Bashemath (Genesis 36:17). Ishmael was himself half Egyptian, and having married an Egyptianite, his offspring were three-quarters Egyptian. Edom also married Canaanites: three Hittites and one Hivite (Genesis 26:34; 36:2,12,14 – unless the Bashemath of Gen 26:34 is the same as Adah of Genesis 36:2,12). This meant that Edom's offspring were part White, Canaanite and Ishmaelite, though predominantly swarthy.



The Bible clearly shows that some of the Edomites inhabited the region of Petra and Mount Seir (Genesis 32:3) and contains the first recorded history of Petra (John Whiting, "Petra, Ancient Caravan Stronghold," *National Geographic*, Vol. 67, No. 2, February 1935, p. 129). The Egyptian Execration Texts (c1800BC) mention the Edomites as chiefs of clans and

¹ *The International Bible Encyclopedia*, article "Esau" states:

"The birth narrative that mentioned the second child grasping the heel of the first foreshadowed the subordinate relationship of the Edomites to the offspring of Jacob (cf. Jer 49:8; Ob. 6; Rom 9:10-13) ... Archaeological discoveries from Nuzi have shown that disposing of the birthright among members of the same family was not unknown.

Esau's apparent indifference to such valued possessions as the birthright was reflected in his marriage to two local women who were not of Abrahamic stock. This was a matter of great regret to Isaac and Rebekah (Gen. 26:35), and doubtless prompted the latter to instruct Jacob in ways of obtaining the patriarchal blessing that properly belonged to Esau (ch. 27)."

itinerant pastoralists, but overall, what is recorded of them may be found in a very few texts. The pattern of tent-dwelling nomadic lifestyle appears to have continued to about the 7th century BC.

Some of them moved westwards and became Hellenised and Judaized. As a result they became known as Idumaeans. Herod the Great was an Idumaeen. Probably in the 7th century BC, the Nabataeans, a nomadic Arabic tribe appear in the land of the Edomites, replacing them or displacing in some, yet unspecified way not yet clear to historians. The sedentary state of the Edomites had practically ceased under the lax rule of the Persians and the Edomites must have migrated out of southern Jordan: "of these early migrations we know nothing." (Peter Parr, "The Capital of The Nabataeans," *Scientific American*, Special Issue, Vol. 5, No. 1, 1994, p. 32).

These Arabic tribes may have intermarried with some of the Edomites and pushed the rest of them out of their homeland and into Hebron (Charles Pfeiffer, *The Biblical World: A Dictionary of Biblical Archaeology*, p. 299). When Nebuchadnezzar invaded the region, he took them into captivity with the result that many of them disappeared from history for hundreds of years. Where did they go to? What became of a whole nation of people? Did they simply 'disappear' from view permanently, or may they be found as a nation or nations today?

Origin of the Doctrine

It is clear that this doctrine found its way into the Radio/Worldwide Church of God via Herbert W Armstrong. Given that he was reading the materials produced by British-Israel authors in the late 1920s, it follows he would have picked up on this teaching.

When it made its first appearance in the Church is another question as this could have been done verbally. However, a scan of 1930s and 1940s *Plain Truth* articles may be revealing. In the **Appendix. Old Church of God Citations**, extracts containing Edom-Turkey linkages can be found in the Church's literature dating from 1948-1985 though it was no doubt believed earlier.

Below are quotes from old British-Israel publications that draw a similar conclusion. It is not possible to include quotes from every book on the subject which originates in the late 19th century, but a number are referred to below.

"They [Israel] were to possess and rule over the heathen. In the latter days they were to possess Edom and Esau—that is, Turkey—and so come in possession of their own land, Palestine."

"To understand the prophets when forecasting the future, we must keep in mind that in speaking of a nation's destiny in the future, they would speak of it by the name it had at that time, if such a nation had

an existence at that time. But in course of time, such nations would change their name, and sometimes locality; in such a case they must be found. For instance, if one desires to know the destiny of Turkey, he will find it set forth by the prophets under the name of Edom and Esau." (Joseph Wild, *The Lost Ten Tribes, and 1882*, 1880, pp. 148, 153)

"I have given mount Seir unto Esau for a possession." Seir is the same root as Shar (the gate), now Constantinople, and Edom is Turkey. The Sultan is the chief of the Mohammedan religion." (J. Bell, *British-Israel Bible Notes*, 1903, p. 52)

The British have "entered upon the northern boundary, for by the occupation of Basra (or Bussorah), the old Edomite capital, the gate or strategic position at the mouth of the Euphrates, and by the occupation, too, of Kurnah, at the junction of the Tigris and Euphrates, we practically control the waters of the Euphrates district. Nearly one-half of the Promised land is now ours, and we must, perforce, go on until the iniquitous Turk is done away, when the time of the Gentile dominion of the Holy places will be ended, and Israel (or Britain) will be in full possession of the vast territory promised to their forefathers, and take back with them their brethren the Jews." (E. Dixon, *The Divine Plan in the Government of the World*, 1915, pp. 13-14. See George Lancaster, *The British Empire, The War, and the Promised Land*, 1915).

"We have reading of the Balkan unrest and dangers for the last half century, but the interest centring in and around the Balkans has always been and now is important from the relation of the Balkan States to Turkey. And Turkey has been of special importance because of her relations to the promised land and her connection with Edom ... Edom-Turkey is going through an awful process, but will not now be destroyed." (p. 208)

"Then Ephraim, the bull, and Judah, the lion, will be heard roaring and bellowing in fiercest and most deadly conflict. Let all who read these words know that Edom is Turkey." (p. 209)

"Even if so, there will still be another war which will destroy Edom finally. This will be the end of Turkey." (Edward Odium, *God's Covenant Man: British-Israel*, 1916, p. 228. He states again the Edom-Turkey connection on pp. 231, 247)

"Ezekiel...prophesied concerning Edom and said: "And I will lay My vengeance upon Edom by the hand of My people Israel: and they shall do in Edom according to Mine anger and according to My fury; and they shall know My vengeance, saith the Lord." (Ezek. 25: 14) While Nebuchadnezzar was used of God to bring about the fulfillment of

judgment upon Edom in his day, the prophecy itself as given by Ezekiel looks to the distant future for its complete fulfillment. Students of prophecy have believed this prediction of Ezekiel's became history when Israel-Britain advanced from Egypt against the Turks (Edom), driving them from Palestine and taking the city of Jerusalem in 1917 A.D. This conclusion is born out by Jeremiah's prophecy in which he indicated the line of march as the British forces come up from the south: "Behold, he shall come up like a lion from the swelling of Jordan against the habitation of the strong: but I will suddenly make him (the Edomite Turk) run away from her (Palestine)." (Jer. 49: 19) The Turks did suddenly run away from the British forces and Jerusalem fell to General Allenby without the city being demolished by an attack. Jeremiah predicted: "Behold, he shall come up and fly as the eagle, and spread his wings over Bozrah: and at that day shall the heart of the mighty men of Edom be as the heart of a woman in her pangs." (Jer. 49: 22) As the eagle flies, so the airplanes appeared over Bozrah, causing the Turks to flee. Thus, the prophecy was fulfilled that the mighty men of Edom would be in great fear." (Howard Rand, *Study in Jeremiah*, 1947, pp. 258-59)

In addition, John Wilson, *The Title Deeds to the Holy Land, and Identification of the Heir* (1873) and his *The True Solution of the Eastern Question: England's Duty in Relation to the Christians of Turkey* (1876), make reference to this.²

Finally, one observer of the British-Israelite movement who wrote a PhD thesis about the history of it in relation to the British Empire, noted:

"British-Israelism was, therefore, doubly interested in the role and progress of Britain in the Near East. As an imperial issue, the Eastern Question struck to the heart of the Identity's message of empire and as a situation in which Britain's relations with both Russia and Palestine were pivotal, it fit almost faultlessly within Biblical prophecy. Turkey's place in the whole matter, furthermore, was important but not a issue of great concern. Being an Islamic state, of course, made it an enemy of Christian Israel. **John Wilson, the founder of the Identity, had petitioned the government in 1844 to end its support for the Ottoman Empire and to step in to protect Balkan Christians against Turkish persecution. This, he argued, was the responsibility of the Anglo-Saxon race since, as Israel, they were to be the defenders of Christ's kingdom.** But Islamic Turkey was not the real enemy in the area. It would eventually crumble, despite British aid, out of its own internal weaknesses and in fulfillment of the Scriptures. Turkey had simply been allowed to possess the Holy Land for a period of time until Israel was

² In his book *Lectures on our Israelitish Origin* (1876) he refers to Turkey and Edom but does not connect the two.

made ready to receive its inheritance.” (Eric Reisenauer, *British-Israel: Racial Identity in Imperial Britain, 1870-1920*, p. 381)³ [emphasis mine]

Other British-Israelites taught similarly.

Some day all will come to see these truths when the Messiah returns. In the mean time most of humanity remains ignorant or dubious of it.

The Descendants of Teman

It is difficult to trace each son of Edom, but Teman a grandson via Eliphaz (whose mother was Adah, the Hittite) became pre-eminent among his brethren, the leading tribe.

One of the kings of Temani was Husham. He is the King Hushan or Hushang of ancient history. His native land was in Persia, indicating that even at such an early time the Edomites were migrating out of Palestine and surrounding districts. Many of the Edomites dwelt in northern Persia at this time. This is the culture which historians refer to as Sialk I and Sialk II (Chashmah Aly) which is connected to Turkestan according to studies in pottery (Vere Childe, *New Light on the Most Ancient East*, p. 193).



Turkish national flag

A descendant of Husham was Alphidun who had two sons, firstly Tur, who ruled over the Edomites in Central Asia. This may be the origin of the name Turkestan, Turk or Turanian. The second son was Irege. Irege's son Manouger was surnamed Phirouz, the "Perses" of Greek legend. Persia may be named after him (Herman Hoeh, *Compendium of World History*, Vol. 2, p. 159). It is interesting that some of the Turks claim descent from an individual named Turk, but some 19th century historians suppose him to be a grandson of Japheth or Togarmah⁴ (*The Ottoman Empire. The Sultans, the Territory and the People*, p. 2). Another clue may be the *Hor Turks* which recalls the name of the Horites who were

³ Wilson is regarded as a 'heretic' by some groups. See Charles Coulombe, "Heretic of the Week: John Wilson," *Catholic Herald*, 9 April 2020.

⁴ One thought is that *Togarmah* and *Agag* have some similar sounds, perhaps predictive of their dwelling adjacent to each other?

associated with the Edomites in Genesis 36. Historians often mistake these Horites for the Hurrians.⁵

The Edomites named the rocky Persian and Turkestan plateaus the 'land of Temani'. Historians pick up the story tracing the Turkic peoples. Many of the Turkic tribes, known as the Oghuz, poured out of Central Asia and Turkestan and into Asia Minor in the 11th century (prior to them were the Hunnish hordes led by Attila in the 5th century, the Avars in the 6th, 7th and 8th centuries; the Bulgars in the 7th century, the Magyars in the 9th century. The Golden Hordes or Mongols did not invade until the 13th century). Their tribal ancestors, known as the *Ertoghrul* (Stanley Lane-Poole, *Turkey*, p. 6), carved out the Seljuk and Ottoman empires. Many of their tribe remain in Turkestan or Turkmenia to this day (Olaf Caroe, *Soviet Empire*, p. 37).

Perhaps the name *Temani* was carried into modern history in the form of the Ottoman Empire (Herman Hoeh, "Truth About the Race Question," *The Plain Truth*, July 1957, p. 5) (note "*O Temani*" or *O-Thmani* in Obadiah 9 which may be a reference to *Ottoman*). Here dwell most of Temani's descendants. Prophecy predicted that they would control the Dardanelles (Ob 14).⁶ The Khazars even called the Byzantine Emperor, "King of Edom"! Some may have found their way into southern Europe where Rabbinic tradition associates Rome with Edom. According to researcher Yair Davidi:

"Alexander the Great ... claimed descent from the Temenidae, descendants of Temenus ... king of Greece. The Temenidae came to Macedon in ca. 650 BC. Amongst the Thracian and Anatolian peoples were the Edoni and Odomants." (Yair Davidi, *Ephraim*, p. 184)

Many Edomites stayed behind in the Middle East, including the region of Turkey. But others had migrated to what the Persians called Turan – the area that stretches from Bactria south of the Aral Sea eastward into parts of China.

One of the tribes of the Kokturk's of Central Asia was the Oguz Turks which migrated via Persia and settled in Turkey – note their name *Oguz*.

⁵ A descendant of Esau includes Ithran (Gen 36:26; IChron 1:41) – is this where the word *Turanian* originated? Perhaps that is a bit of a stretch, but worth a thought.

⁶ "Uthman (Arabic: عثمان; Transliteration: Othman, Osman, Usman, Ozman) is a male Arabic given name meaning "the chosen one amongst the tribe of brave and noble people", "honest", "caring", "sincere", "genuine", and "attractive".

Also:

The male name Othman \o-th-man\ is of Old German origin, and its meaning is "wealthy man."

Othman I - the conqueror of Turkey who founded the Ottoman Empire and the Ottoman dynasty that ruled Turkey after the 13th century; conquered most of Asia Minor and assumed the title of emir in 1299 (1259-1326)" (www.urbandictionary.com/define.php?term=Othman, by mcothmane, 3 February 2010)

"Turk Usmani.

They claim to have Turk ancestry and are found mainly in North-West India and Pakistan. They include the descendants of Karlugh Turks who came with Taimur in 1398-1399. They live in Hazara region and Kashmir regions of Pakistan." Usmani, <https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Osmani&oldid=927480191>)



Current distribution of the Oğuz languages

See Ugur Hodoğlugil, “Turkish population structure and genetic ancestry reveal relatedness among Eurasian populations,” *Annals of Human Genetics*, March 2012, Vol. 76, No. 2, pp. 128-41.

“Starting in the 10th century, they spread away from their homeland in Central Asia ... began to admix with local inhabitants, and established the Anatolian Seljuk Empire (10th-13th centuries). After the collapse of this Turkish Empire by Mongol invasion, another Turkish empire the Ottomans ruled (13th-20th centuries) the Anatolian peninsula, the Middle East, and stretching to southeastern Europe and southwestern Asia.” (p. 17)

It reminds one of the ‘primary and reflux’ movements of peoples (ie many (not all) move away from their homeland and then after a period, a number return).

“With the demise of the Seljuq Sultanate of Rum (c 1300), Turkish Anatolia was divided into a patchwork of independent states, the so-called Ghazi emirates. By 1300 a weakened Byzantine Empire had lost most of the Anatolian provinces to ten Ghazi principalities. One of the Ghazi emirates was led by Osman I (from which the name Ottoman is derived), son of Ertugrul, around Eskisehir in western Anatolia. Osman I extended the frontiers of Ottoman settlement toward the edge of the Byzantine Empire...

Another group of historians led by the Turkish historian M. Fuat Koprulu championed the “gazi thesis” that saw the Ottoman state as a continuation of the nomadic Turkic tribes on a much larger scale, and argued that the most important influences on the Ottoman state came from Persia...”

“The Crimean War caused an exodus of the Crimean Tartars. From the total Tartar population of 300,000 in the Tauride Province, about 200,000 Crimean Tartars moved to the Ottoman Empire in continuing waves of emigration ... Since the 19th century, the exodus to present-day

Turkey by the large portion of Muslim peoples from the Balkans, Caucasus, Crimea and Crete, had great influence in molding the country's fundamental features...By the time the Turkish empire came to an end in 1922, half of the urban population of Turkey was descended from Muslim refugees from Russia. Crimean Tartar refugees in the late 19th century played an especially notable role in seeking to modernize Turkish education." ("Ottoman Empire" at http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ottoman_Empire)⁷ [emphasis mine]

Now, it is to modern Turkey that the Central Asian Turks look to for leadership and as an example for modernization (G. Church, "Across the Great Divide," *Time*, Oct, 1992, pp. 48-53). WOE to the West should these people ever unite under a strong leader ever again and confederate as a Gog in collusion with Meshech, Tubal and Magog! In World War One, had the Central Powers together with Turkey been successful, their intentions for Central Asia were as follows:

"Thirty to forty millions of Turks will become independent, and together with the ten millions of Ottoman Turks, will form a nation of fifty millions, which may perhaps be compared with that of Germany in that it will have the strength and energy to rise even higher." (Maria Czaplicka, *The Turks of Central Asia*, pp. 15-16)⁸

Historians admit that the origin of the Turks is shrouded in mystery (Luc Kwanten, *Imperial Nomads: A History of Central Asia 500-1500*, p. 29). The Chinese called them T'u-chueh, apparently derived from the name *Turket*, which means to be strong or forceful, ie a warrior people. The Chinese annals reveal that the Turks were originally a branch of the Hsiung-nu (Huns – the Hsiung-nu of the Chinese annals) which included other peoples in a confederation) and indeed, the *T'u-chueh* claimed descent from the Huns. Their homeland was in the Altai mountains in Outer Mongolia, but whether they came circuitously via the Zagros Mountains, where a tribe was known as the Turukkaeans, cannot be ascertained at this stage (Gernot Wilhelm, *The Hurrians*, p. 14).

They were more mobile than earlier nomads, having given up cattle breeding and were skillful archers, mounted on horseback, slaying their opponents quickly, giving them speedy consecutive victories. Their attacks upon northern China stimulated the building of the Great Wall in the third century BC by the Ch'in (or Qin) Dynasty. They were eventually defeated and the eastern part absorbed and placed under the control of China. The western hordes invaded Europe, overcoming the Alans in 370AD, followed by the Ostrogoths, Visigoths and extended their influence into Germany and the Balkans. Under Attila the Hun they invaded Italy and when he died, followed by a major defeat, they withdrew and the empire crumbled.

⁷ Are the Tartars descendants of Tur?

⁸ Will the modern-day descendants of Edom ally themselves, at least temporarily, with the Assyrians (Germans) and their European allies? See Daniel 11:41 and Psalm 83:1-8.

In any event, the Turks were subject for many years to the Juan-Juan (possibly descendants of Javan) until 552AD when they overthrew their yoke - from this time forth they grew in stature and strength until they forged their own empire. But when they were overthrown by their Mongol neighbours in 744AD, they migrated again to the west and south coming into contact with the Islamics. The Ottoman Turks came over to Islam in the 10th century. This religion was very attractive for a number of reasons: it was intrinsically suitable to a warrior people; and it had wonderful rewards, particularly for fighting-men who die in war 'in the Path of Allah' (Geoffrey Lewis, *Turkey*, p. 21). The Turks have remained overwhelmingly Islamic ever since. Also, all the Central Asian republics are Islamic. The national composition of these Turkic states are as follows:

- **Kazakhstan** - 19 million population - 67% Kazakhs, 20% Russian, 13% others
- **Kirghizia** - 7 million population - 73% Kirghiz, 6% Russian, 14% Uzbeks, 7% others
- **Tadjikistan** - 10 million population - 85% Tadjiks, Uzbeks 12%, 3% others
- **Turkmenia** – 6.5 million population - 85% Turkmen, Uzbeks 6%, 5% Russians, 4% others
- **Uzbekistan** - 33 million population - 84% Uzbeks, 5%Tadjiks, 3% Kazakhs, 3% Russian, 5% others.

Thus, the vast majority of the peoples of Central Asia are Turkic by language and Islamic by religion. Still many others, though in the minority, dwell within Xinjiang province in China (the Uygur - 12 millions – Kevin Sindair, *The Forgotten Tribes of China*, p. 67), northern Afghanistan, parts of north-west Iran and are basically pastoralists (numbering millions), Russia, Mongolia and even Armenia. The majority of Azerbaijanis are racial Turks. Some show a mixture with Caucasoids or Mongoloids. Others appear to have fair hair which reflects admixture with the Kurds (Francis Huxley, *Peoples of the World in Colour*, p. 157). Only the Tatar, alone of all the Turkic groups, are not provided with a homeland, although their numbers almost equal that of the Khirgiz (Edward Allworth, *Central Asia*, p. 65); they are scattered across all of the Central Asian republics and Russia.

No wonder Edom is identified with Meschech and Tubal (Russia) in Ezekiel 32:26-29.

Hundreds of thousands of Turks dwell in south-east Europe to this day, remnants of the hordes which invaded Europe centuries ago. They approached Europe from the south of the Caspian Sea and crossed the Euphrates in 1063AD and occupied Asia minor 21 years later; Jerusalem itself was conquered in 1071AD. After two centuries, the Ottoman Turks advanced into Phrygia and into the Balkan Peninsula: Macedonia was overrun in 1373AD, Sophia in 1385AD, Constantinople in 1453AD and Hungary from 1552AD to 1687AD. To this day, the memories of invading Huns, Turks and Mongols have seared deeply the consciousness of Europe and they have great fears of invasions from the East.

The Kazakhs, Turkmenians and Uzbeks are Turks by race, but many of the latter group have an admixture of Mongoloid and Tadjik blood (John Gaisford, *Atlas of Man*, p. 183). The

Uzbeks and a close relative, the Nogai tribe, descend from the ancient Kipchak and Kazak clans (Olaf Caroe, *Soviet Empire*, p. 37). The Kazaks often rebelled against authority and preferred a rover's life to submission. Kazak is an old Turkish word which means vagabond. Some white Russians who were later also applied this name, were so called as they wished to live a similar life (ie Cossacks). The Tadhiks or Tajiks are not Turks by race but are culturally and religiously identified with them (Grolier Society's *Lands and Peoples*, Vol. 3, p. 169). However, they claim to be of Arab descent via Persia and border on that country. Many of their ethnic group dwell across the border in Afghanistan. Historians and anthropologists classify them as Persians ethnically. Some believe that the name derives from the Arabic Taz or Taj, which was the general label given to mixed descendants of Arabs who conquered much of southern Persia.

One should digress slightly here to briefly make mention of the ethnic diversity of Afghanistan. The country is made up of some twenty distinct ethnic peoples, the most prominent being the Pashtuns in the south, and the Turkoman, Tajiks, Uzbeks, Nuristanis, Aimaqs and Hazaras in the northern, western and central regions. The Pathans are considered to be true Afghans. Upon scientific analysis of their physical characteristics given modern anthropological and human biological methodologies, they are of the Turko-Iranian type with a considerable mixture of Indian within their eastern clans. One story ascribes them to Israelitish origin, the Beni Israel, descended via Qais from King Saul. But, except for some minor aspects such as a number of Biblical names and certain facial features to bolster such a story, there is nothing substantial to support the theory. Also, their language has not the remotest generic relationship to Hebrew or Aramaic. Like other cultural, religious and linguistic similarities amongst certain African tribes, American Indians, Japanese and Maoris, some have gone outside genetic reality and ascribed Israelitish origins to these people – based on trading and cultural contacts and not on genetics.

“The Afghans adopted the literary traditions of the Israelites and adjusted it to their own folklore” writes one historian (Jos Gommans, *The Rise of the Indo-Afghan Empire c1710-1780*, p. 164).

Some few Pathans (who dominated the northern alliance of tribes that fought the Taliban) reflect clear Nordic, Dinaric and even some Mongoloid influences. There are those researchers who believe that the Pathans were originally descended from the Indo-Europeans, but over time mixed with other races to barely resemble the original type whatsoever. They occupy the south, inner west and a few are the ruling landed elite in the north. Many of their number dwell across the border in Pakistan. Should a civil war, based on the traditional north/south conflicts, ever tear the country apart, the various ethnic groups will probably be reunited with their relatives across the border and the Pathans with their Pashtun brothers in north-eastern Pakistan.

The Ghilzais are of Turkish origin and descended from the Khalaj tribe, a part of the larger Qarluq or Khallak confederacy. They migrated across the Oxus, perhaps with the Ephthalites into Afghanistan. Major subdivisions consist of Turan and Buran with the clans of Tokhi,

Hotak, Andar and Taraki. To the north of the Hindu Kush a considerable number of the tribes are clearly Turkish, the most numerous being the Uzbeks; others are the Turkmen, Kirghiz, Kazaks, Qarluq and Chagatai. A few Mongoloids, the Hazaraks were brought into the land by Chenghiz Khan or another later Mongol ruler. Unlike the other tribes which border with relatives in other countries, the Hazaraks have ended up in the very centre of the country, cut off from their kinsmen. And, unlike most of the country, they are Shiite Moslems (ie the Islam of neighbouring Iran). Because of their Shi'a faith and Mongolian origins, they have suffered immense persecution, slavery or neglect at the hands of the Pathan/Sunni ruling class.

There are also some tribes in Afghanistan resembling the dark Dravidians of southern India. Afghanistan therefore suffers an enormous complexity of ethnic groups representing an impossible national unity.

Let us return to the story flow. The Kirghiz in particular were known to be rather savage. Bordering on China, they are Mongoloid peoples (Magog) in the main. They regard themselves as the most beautiful of all races for, according to their aesthetic views, God made them with bones prominent like the horse, an animal which was the crowning work of creation, in their eyes (Robert Brown, *The Races of Mankind*, p. 233). Their name has an interesting origin: *Kir* means field and *gis* or *gez* is the root of the word *gizmelt* (wander); in other words their name in Turkish means that they are wanderers in the field – nomads (Brown, *ibid*). Their homeland is so vast that it is roughly one third the size of the United States.

Various place-names which may assist in identifying Edom, Amalek, and Teman are:

- Amalik city in central Asia
- Tarim River once called the Yumalak-Darya
- Town of Edomka in Siberia
- Toman Agha in Afghanistan
- Odomantes tribe in Greece and the Odomantis region of Armenia identified by Strabo (c63BC-24AD) in *Geography*, Book 11, Chapter 14, Section 6. Herodotus (c484– 425BC) calls them Siro-Painones, which may derive from Seir (*Histories*, Book 5, Chapter 15). While Ptolemy refers to the province of Odomantica and town of Idomene in Macedonia and Idymus in Lydia (Ptolemy, *Tetrabiblos*, Book 3, Chapter 12).

The Turkic Tribes of Central Asia

The Turkic tribes were defeated and ruled by the Chinese for a century in the 7th century AD. In 751AD the Arabs, entering Turkestan by way of Persia defeated the Chinese and ruled until the 13th century, after which the land of Turkestan has been ruled by Turks and Mongols until the Great Russian conquests (Carlton Coon, *The Races of Europe*, p. 634). The

Mongol conquests beginning early 13th century under Genghiz Khan were especially cruel and bloody. For instance, in 1220AD the Mongol hordes entered and sacked the major Turkic cities of Bukhara, Samarkand and Merv - the population was systematically murdered, raped and enslaved. Almost the entire populations of these cities were massacred, although the artisans were spared but horribly enslaved. Also, the famous irrigation dams were inexplicably destroyed.

The Turkomen character was famous for its fierceness and marauding activities

“given from remote times to internecine warfare, and living mainly on the ‘loot’ brought back from plundering raids ... All feeble or useless captives were slaughtered, the rest chained in gangs ... and either sold as slaves ... or else kept in bondage till ransomed by their friends.”

writes Sir Harry Johnston in his famous and comprehensive study on *The Living Races of Mankind* (Vol. 1, p. 250). Robert Brown in his masterly work *The Races of Mankind* recorded that their

“... slaves are treated very cruelly - so cruelly, indeed, that even the pilgrim hadjis who are so hospitably entertained in the Turkoman’s tents that they are during their stay virtually masters, get disgusted with the inhumanity they see practiced.” (p. 237).

The greatest Turkic empire was established by Tamerlane (Timur i Leng or Timur the Lame which is Aksak Temur in Turkish), who was renowned and feared having conquered foreign lands and peoples from India to the Mediterranean and having built a fantastic capital at Samarkand in Uzbekistan. He was proclaimed the sovereign of Bakhara in 1370AD and after many a conflict with other rivals, mounted the throne in the capital. He defeated the Golden Horde in 1395AD and formed his own oppressive empire. Cruelty and ruthlessness followed his armies wherever they invaded: whole populations were slaughtered, towns razed to the ground and slaves and treasure were brought from afar to build up his capital (Samarkand) and native town (Shahr-i-Sabz).

His terrible plundering hordes he led to the Persian Gulf, the Hellespont and even to the Ganges River! He was on his way to invade China when he was overtaken in death. We can only speculate what incredible manpower this Gog leader would have had at his disposal to eventually invade Europe should he have had marshalled the hordes of the Far East. The Elizabethan poet Christopher Marlowe is famous for the drama *Tamburlaine* in which Tamerlane is portrayed as an insane monster. Yet, like so many power driven and even demon-led dictators, he is less well known for the encouragement he gave to science and the arts as well as to the construction of vast public works. After his death, as is so often the case when a strong political or religious leader dies, his empire is divided. Group after group set up khanates and petty kingdoms (eg Bukhara and *Khiva* in Uzbekistan; perhaps the latter may be a derivative of the *Hivites* with whom Edom intermarried).

Edom's sons, Zepho, Gatam and Kenaz are difficult to specify exactly to which of the Turkic nations they apply but they are probably scattered throughout Central Asia and the Arab world today. Another son of Teman is Omar. Is there any connection between him and the name of the Mosque of Omar? So, Edomites are located in Central Asia but are also found throughout the Middle East, in parts of Iran with others perhaps resident *among* the Iraqis, Saudi Arabians and Yemenis (Yemen is perhaps named after Timna, Eliphaz's concubine). This may include the Palestinians.

Togarmah of the North Quarters (Ezek 38:6)

It is apt that at this juncture, that reference to Togarmah, son of Gomer and grandson of Japheth be made. The reason being is that the Edomites (Gog) dwelt next to them and there would have been synergies and some intermarriage.

The above is from a famous prophecy found in the book of Ezekiel. Wherever Togarmah is to be found today, it is to the north of the Middle East. Hundreds of years after the flood of Noah. The Assyrians called them the *Til-garimmu* (*Tegarama* in Hittite) who lived on the border with *Tabal* (James Douglas (ed), *New Bible Dictionary*, p. 1285). Other names for this people were *Tegaram a Tilgarimma*, *Trocmi* and *Trogmades*.

The Tegarma or Tegarama migrated from Cappadocia into Armenia (Ethelbert Bullinger, *Companion Bible*, p. 1144), and may have given their name to that district (the Armenians even claimed descent from them and undoubtedly are in part). From there they moved into Turcoman territory (Turkistan) a possible derivation of Tegarama. In Turkistan, among the tablelands of Pamir, rose a great mount, *Tagharma*. The Septuagint form is *Thorgama*. Milner discusses the trip to the deserts of Turkistan by Dr. Joseph Woolf, a missionary. Woolf recorded his experience in *Travels and Adventures*. He mentions how he came among a people claiming to be descendants of Japheth and calling themselves Togarmah. These were the Mongoloid peoples of the eastern division of the Turkic peoples of central Asia (Walter Milner, *The Russian Chapters of Ezekiel*, p. 46).

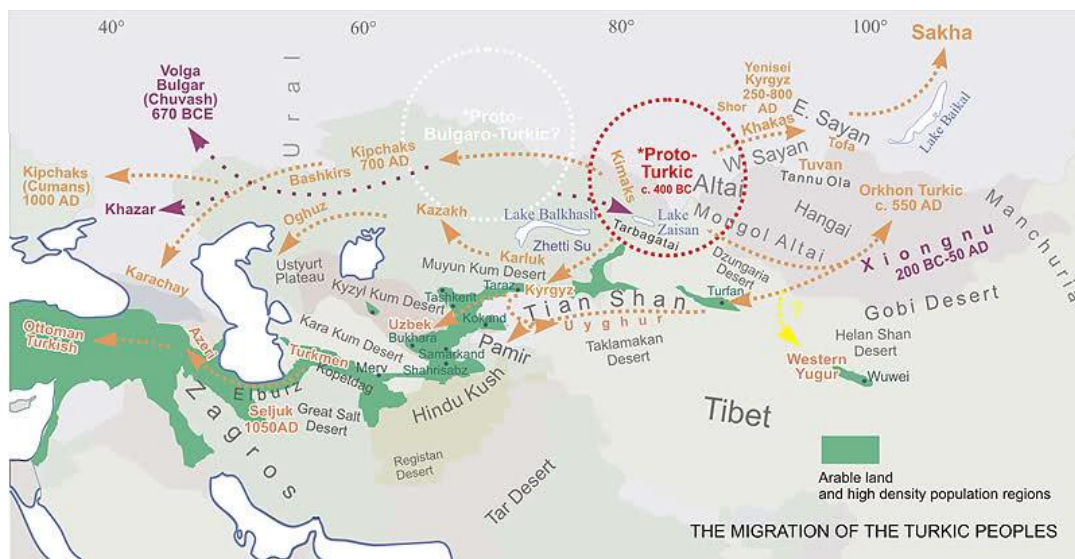
A book containing old Hebrew traditions, the *Book of Jasher*, lists Bulgar, Tarki and Ongal amongst the descendants of Togarmah.

Amongst the sign-posts indicating where Togarmah settled we find:

- Tagarchi in eastern Turkestan
- Tigranoama in eastern Turkey
- Tagarma mountains in eastern Turkestan
- the city of Tagarma in western China
- Taganrog, Tigeretsk Mountain, Togur town, Turgai province and Turgins, a town in Siberia

- many Uighur peoples may be a derivative of Togarmah

Tradition speaks in terms of a certain son of Japheth known as Tork. He in turn had a son Taunak Chan. He was in turn succeeded by Jelza Khan, Dibbakui Khan, Kajuk Khan and Ilinge Khan. Ilinge Khan in turn had two sons: Tatar Khan - progenitor of the Tartars; and Mongul Khan - progenitor of some of the Mongols or Moghuls (Victor Kachur, *The Trans-Caucasian Migration of the Rusi Tribes*, pp. 9-10). This is of course tradition, and whether it represents knowledge of a son of Japheth not recorded in scripture or is another name for Togarmah, one cannot be certain. Yet it would be a good guess to accept the second idea as the most appropriate and obvious given that it fits neatly into the overall anthropological and historical schema.



One should realise that some of the Turks derive from Togarmah (those in the east) and some from Edom (those in the west). There has, however, been some mixing between the descendants of Edom and Togarmah in Central Asia which is quite easy to perceive.

Moses of Chorene, who wrote the history of the Armenians c450AD, claimed that their progenitor was none other than Thargamas and they called themselves the “House of Thorgom”. It may be that the name Armenia derives from Togarmah. So, some of the descendants of Togarmah dwell in Armenia to this very day.

The golden-skinned Mongols of Mongolia and Inner Mongolia, mixed to a degree, with the descendants of Togarmah and Edom (some Turks actually claim literal descent from Togarmah – see Arthur Koestler, *The Thirteenth Tribe*, p. 160). A few others appear to be in Siberia including the Dolgans and the Yakuts (refer to Vladimir Jochelson, *Peoples of Asiatic Russia*, map “Ethnographic map of Asiatic Russia”). But very few dwell in modern-day Turkey.

Togarmah, along with other peoples, are named as rebels against the Messiah and Israel

(after the Second Exodus and dwelling safely in the Holy Land) in Ezekiel 38:1-6. Their identity is listed below and further information about this prophecy can be found in the article [When do the Armies of Ezekiel 38 and 39 Invade Israel?](#)

Ancient names (Genesis 10 & Ezekiel 38)	Modern locations
Ethiopia (Cush)	Western group in East Africa. Eastern group in India and Asian sub-continent
Gog (Amalek/Edom)	Turkic peoples of central Asia
Gomer	South-east Asia (Vietnam, Cambodia, Laos etc)
Libya (Phut)	Black Africans
Magog	China, Mongolia, Korea
Meschech	Great Russians
Persia (Paras)	Northwest Ukraine, though some are still extant in Iran, mixed with the locals ⁹
Rosh	Byelorussians ¹⁰
Togarmah	Central Asia
Tubal	Great Russians

Mysterious Gog

Gog is indeed a mystery. Ezekiel places him on an equal footing with Magog, yet he is not mentioned as being a descendant of Japheth in the Table of Nations nor anywhere else in Scripture. However, in history there is a king Gyges of Lydia, called *Gugu* by the Assyrians (James Douglas (ed), *New Bible Dictionary*, p. 480; Archibald Sayce, *Races of the Old Testament*, p. 73). He was ruler of a branch of the Cimmerian peoples (Donald Wiseman, *Peoples of Old Testament Times*, p. 165). Also, the Arabs referred to the 'Yajuj and Majuj' (ie Gog and Magog) as living in North-east Asia beyond the Tatars and Sclavonians (Herman Hoeh, "Truth About the Race Question," *The Plain Truth*, July 1957, p. 17).

Certain scriptures refer to an Og (Deut 3:1-13; Num 21:33) and Agag (Num 24:7; 1Sam 15:8-9; Est 3:1; 8:3; 9:24);¹¹ these are not Japhethites, but Amalekites descendants of Edom¹². The Samaritan *Pentateuch* for Agag reads as Agog and the *Septuagint* reads it as Gog (Ethelbert Bullinger, *Companion Bible*, p. 1161).¹³

⁹ Refer to the article [Who are the Peoples of Rosh?](#)

¹⁰ Refer to the article [Who are the Peoples of Rosh?](#)

¹¹ Interestingly, the Turkic kings deified themselves like so many other kings across cultures around the world. They became the representatives of *Gok Tengri*, bringing in reminiscence the name of *Gog* (see *Tengri*, <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tengri>)

¹² Haman the Agagite mentioned in Esther 3:1 is called an Amalekite by Josephus in *Antiquities* 11:6:1

¹³ One wonders if the Ogygus of Greek mythology could be a distant recollection of Og?

What does Gog actually mean?

"Gog - it is a long o both in the Hebrew and in the Greek - is made from the old-world-root 'GG', which in the early languages implied something 'g-i-g-antic'. Russia has this long time been the colossus of the north'.

A potentate of bible history and prophecy was 'Agog'. That name, or rather, its title, comes from the same root. He was (in his own estimation), a, Aleph, + GG = No. 1 - GREAT ! The Agagites, we are told in *Young's Analytical Concordance*, were an 'Amalekite tribe' and Agog, was 'a poetic name of Amalek, derived from a particular dynasty ...'.

Of course, it is always on the cards that some great military dictator [in Russian Central Asia] may arise - he would be the personal Gog." (Walter Milner, *The Russian Chapters of Ezekiel*, pp. 9-10)¹⁴

Gog is apparently both a people and a particular leader of many eastern nations of Asia.

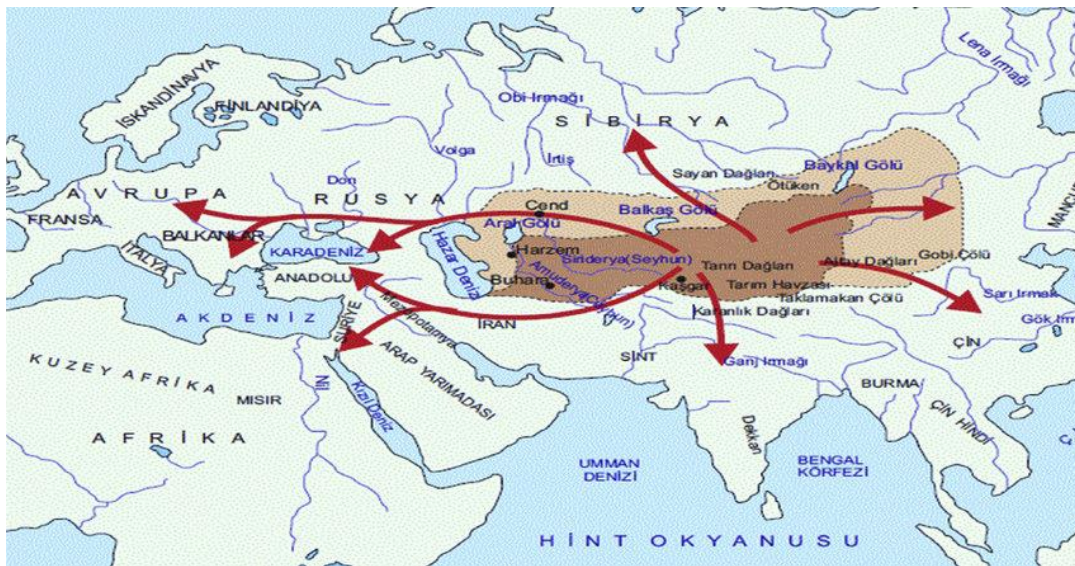
Amalek, the most infamous of the sons of Edom, also migrated into Turkestan naming a city there "Amalek" after themselves according to Paul Herrmann's *Sieben vorbei und Acht Verweht* (p. 451. quoted in Herman Hoeh, "Truth About the Race Question," *The Plain Truth*, July 1957, p. 5). Amalek was borne from a union between Eliphaz and Timna, a Horite (Genesis 36:12, 22). The Egyptians called the Amalekites "Amu". In Turkestan the River Amu was probably named after them (the Oxus of the ancient Greeks); *Amu* is a Persian name (Olaf Caroe, *Soviet Empire*, p. 14). But that is not all. The Edomites inhabited Mount Seir anciently, as has already been mentioned. In Turkestan the *Syr Dary* river may be named after them as the meaning is "the river of Seir"! There can be no doubt about it, a branch of the Amalekites dwell to this day in Central Asia, Turkestan to be exact. Here then is the end-time Gog! We should expect a strong leader to emerge from this region in the future years and decades. Gog is not Russia and the Western peoples of the former Soviet Union as many speculate, but the peoples of central Asia, seeking independence from Russia.

We should perhaps note that the Assyrian texts refer to the King of Lydia (in western Turkey) as Gugu and there was also a mention of Gugians in the area of Mitanni (Edwin Yamuachi, *Foes from the Northern Frontier*, p. 23). However, whether there is any connection to the Amalekites cannot be ascertained at this point in time although it could be pointed out that the kings of Amalek were sometimes named Agag (Numbers 24:7; 1Samuel 15:8). Josephus also sees Agag as a synonym for Amalek (Flavius Josephus, *Antiquities* VI.7.2,3). We know

¹⁴ Jedi Simon, *Turanians – Turania – Turan* in www.jedisimon.com/articles/TURANIANS.htm states: "Ancient Turkic peoples had strong beliefs in their shamanic gods and cosmic beliefs. The qaghans (same as Khakhans, Supreme Khans) of Turkish peoples believed that their qaghanship (kingship) was given to them by their gods, [IK, p.37-46]. Even some **Turkish qaghans deified themselves as the representative of the Gok Tengri** and other subsidiary gods on earth and used the names of these gods as part of their official titles. This belief was a tradition which had its roots in the Altaic shamanism and cosmic beliefs that lasted thousands of years in the past." [emphasis mine]

from the scriptures that one evil man Haman, tried to exterminate the Judahites in Persia. In the book of Esther Haman was called an Agagite (3:1,10; 8:3,5;9:24); Josephus, in fact explicitly calls Haman an Amalekite: “Now there was one Haman, the son of Amedatha, by birth an Amalekite, that used to go in to the king” (Flavius Josephus, *Antiquities* XI.6.5). All this positively indicates that many of the Edomites were migrating slowly toward Central Asia even at this time, though many remained in the Middle East. The *International Standard Bible Encyclopedia* reveals that Haman’s home was in an area adjacent to Media known as Agazi in the *Annals of Sargon* (Vol. 2, p. 602) a name possibly associated with or derived from Agag or Gog.

Another son of Edom, Reuel, unlike his grandsons Amalek and Teman, is very difficult to trace specifically. As Reuel’s mother was Bashemath, the Ishmaelites, he may be among the Arabs, Ruwaleh specifically. Conversely, Jehush, Jaalam and Korah were borne by Aholibamah who was daughter of Anah and granddaughter of Zibeon the Hivite, one of Esau’s wives. They might well be among the Turkic tribes of Central Asia along with Amalek as a result. Korah may have given his name to the Karakum Desert, Karakul lake, Karatau mountains, the Kirghiz and Khorasan in Turkestan. One division of the Kirghiz is known as the Kara.



Migration route of the Turkic peoples into Turkey¹⁵

¹⁵ Source: “Immigration maps of Turks from east to west throughout history. (1) The main homeland of Turks was in Central Asia with the Khingan Mountains in the east, the Caspian Sea in the west, Siberia in the north, and the Himalayas in the south. (2) Turks have been migrating for thousands of years and have spread out from the mainland to various parts of the world. (3) Migrations of Hun and Oghuz Turks in particular have been made by overcoming long distances. (4) It is not easy for people in a nation to leave the land they lived in. However, owing to economic, political pressure (by China and Mongol), climate, and ecological reasons, they migrated to regions with warmer climates. (5) One of the places they settled in, most importantly, was Anatolia (now Turkey).” (Batu Heywem, “Historical Background of Turkish Gastronomy from ancient times until today,” *Journal of Ethnic Foods*, Vol. 5, No. 2, May.)

The name of Hivite may have lived on in the city of Khiva of Central Asia, which was the capital of the province of Khiva of the Turks (Robert Brown, *The Races of Mankind*, p. 223; Grolier Society's *Lands and Peoples*, Vol. 3, p. 179).

The Edomites were also known as *Idumaeans*, probably due to some intermarriage between Edomites and Dumah, the descendant of Ishmael. In Turkey we find the areas of Duman, Duman Dagh mountain and Dumanli Dagh mountains. And in India the town of Dumagudiem and Duma mountains.

Another point to note is that a city of Sepharad is identified with Edom:

““Sepharad” (v.20) is not definitely identified but may refer to Sardis in distant Lydia (near modern Izmir, Turkey) ...” (Frank Gaebelein, *The Expositor's Bible Commentary*, Vol. 7, “Obadiah,”).

Clue upon clue adds to more proofs in identifying the modern locations of these people.

Modern-day Descendants of Edom		
• Eliphaz:		
	Temam	Ottoman Turks
	Omar	Central Asia?
	Zepho	Central Asia?
	Gatam	Central Asia?
	Kenaz	Central Asia?
	Amalek	Gog in Central Asia
• Reuel:		
	Nahath	Middle East?
	Zerah	Middle East?
	Shammah	Middle East?
	Mizzah	Middle East?
• Jehush	Central Asia?	
• Jaalam	Central Asia?	
• Korah	Kirghiz (Central Asia)	

The Turkic Peoples in Prophecy?

Dozens of prophecies concerning Turkey fill the pages of God's Word. Everywhere you read Edom, Esau, Seir, Idumea or Bozrah in the prophets, it is referring to these people, particularly to Turkey, a nation of some 85 million. The entire prophecy of Obadiah is a blistering message of warning to the Turkic peoples today! It had its historical fulfilment, but a future fulfilment awaits.

Notice that the Day of the Lord is mentioned in the book (verse 15) giving it an end-time context.

Why will Turkey escape the wrath of the future fascistic Europe, at least initially? The following Scripture indicates that they will be closely allied with the United States of Europe in the End Time (for a while at least):

“In the day that thou stoodest on the other side [i.e. with the enemy], in the day that the strangers carried away captive his forces, and foreigners entered into his gates, and cast lots upon Jerusalem, even thou wast as one of them.” (Obadiah 11)

This identifies them as an end-time enemy of the House of Israel. See Jeremiah 49:19 and 50:44 which seems to link both Babylon (Europe) and Edom (Turk etc) with a similar fate.

After all, historically the Edomites have been enemies to Israel. See Genesis 27:41; Exodus 17:8, 14-16; Numbers 20:14-21; 24:15-19; Deuteronomy 25:17; ISamuel 14:47; 15:1-3, 9, 23; IISamuel 8:13-14; IKings 11:14-22; IIKings 8:220-22; IIChronicles 20:1-25; Psalm 137:7).¹⁶

When the future fascistic United States of Europe invades the Middle East,

“these shall escape out of his hand even Edom and Moab and the chief of the children of Ammon.” (Daniel 11:41)

From these inspired scriptures we can see that Turkey will be allied to Europe against the House of Israel and Judah!

“Therefore thus saith the Lord God: ‘I will stretch out Mine hand upon Edom, and will cut off man and beast from it; and I will make it desolate from Teman; and they of Dedan shall fall by the sword’.” (Ezekiel 25:13. See also 35:1-15 and Jeremiah 49:7-22)

Who will God use to execute such destruction? Earlier in the chapter He mentions men of the east – probably Russia and the 200 million strong army from the Orient (Revelation 9:16-18)! And of Amalek (Gog), God thunders:

“Amalek was the first of the nations [against Israel]; but his latter end shall be that he perish for ever.” (Numbers 24:20)

A comprehensive list of prophecies dealing with Turkey may be found in the footnotes¹⁷.

¹⁶ Refer to Jacob Wright, *Edom as Israel's Other. Part I - Refugee Memories: Negotiating Relations and Borders with Neighboring States*. Published online by Cambridge University Press: 27 July 2020.

¹⁷ Is 11:14; 34:6; 63:1, 6; Jer 9:26; 25:21; 49:7-10, 17-24; Lam 4:21-22; Ezek 25:12-14; 35:1-15; 36:5; Joel 3:19; Amos 1:6-12; 2:1; 9:12; Obadiah (entire book); Mic 1:12; Mal 1:2-4.

Conclusions

Despite criticisms, this doctrine lives on and I hope that I have been able to provide some additional proofs to bolster it

Here is one such criticism:

“Here he [Herbert W Armstrong] makes the amazing claim that the inhabitants of Turkey are the Edomites, and that the prophecies relating to Edom are therefore in reference to the Turkish nation. There is, of course, no real evidence for this point of view ...” (R. Ellison, “Errors in the Current Teaching of Herbert W. Armstrong,” *Australasian Record*, 14 January 1980, p. 12)

Although I had my handwritten notes on this matter and hundreds of pages on the origin of nations and other doctrines in the late 1970s and into the 1980s, I didn't get to have them typed up for several years. Eventually I published an article based on these writings in *Origin of Nations* periodical, Jan-Feb 2000, pp. 1-3, 11-15. If Mr Ellison (and others) had seen my notes and article, perhaps he (they) would have had other thoughts.

Today, this doctrine continues with a number of groups still teaching it, such as the United Church of God, Living Church of God, Church of the Eternal God etc and also many British-Israelites to this day.¹⁸

Long may it live!

NB: This author has additional information for this doctrine, but these papers are currently in storage and difficult to access. Some day they will be used to updated this article.

¹⁸ Eg Tom Robinson, *Introduction to Obadiah. United Church of God Bible Commentary* <https://bible.ucg.org/bible-commentary/Obadiah/Judgment-on-Edom;-Final-triumph-of-Israel/>; and *What Does the Bible say about the Future of Turkey?* www.eternalgod.org/q-a-10415/ 1 July 2011; and *Esau, Edom and Amalek*, www.christianbiblicalchurchofgod.org/prophecy/esau-edom-and-amalek.html

Appendix. Old Church of God Citations

The Worldwide Church of God published some information on the subject. Below are quotes from publication identifying Edom with Turkey 1948-1985.

"Thus Turkey is referred to in prophecy as Esau or Edom, because the Turks are the descendants of Esau." (Herbert W Armstrong, *The United States and Britain in Prophecy*, 1948 edition)

"Thus Turkey is referred to in prophecy as Esau or Edom, because the Turks are the descendants of Esau. In like manner, the Arabs are spoken of as Ishmael, the Russians are Magog." (Herbert W Armstrong, *The United States and the British Commonwealth in Prophecy*, 1954 edition, p. 2)

"We took a boat trip up the Bosphorus to a point within sight of the Black Sea, the north shore of which forms the south boundary of Russia. We saw the mines all across the Bosphorus, to keep out Russian naval ships and subs. This, too, is a spot to figure very soon in prophecy. **This is the spot where Turkey will double-cross Britain and America**, and many thousands of our boys will be killed as a result — but probably by the European Fascist "BEAST" and not by the Russians." (Herbert W Armstrong, *Coworker Letter*, 18 June 1956) [emphasis mine]

"... U.S. bases ringed around Russia are being threatened—now uncertain in Korea; under real pressure in Okinawa; condition WEAK in the Philippines; threatened in Pakistan on both sides of northern India; UNSTABLE in Turkey (and Biblical prophecy says **Turkey will, later, cause us a major defeat by double-crossing Britain and the U.S.**); CUT BACK in Libya; CLOSING DOWN in Morocco; REDUCED in France; GONE in Iceland." (Herbert W Armstrong, *Coworker Letter*, 5 July 1960) [emphasis mine]

"Turkey can be identified by research in encyclopedias, or history books dealing with the subject, as the descendants of Esau..."

One of the grandsons of Esau was Teman (verse 11). Teman became a great leader among the peoples who followed in that area to the south and east of the Dead Sea. As the Edomites began to expand, inhabiting all the rocky clefts and the high mountainous peaks to the east of the River Jordan, portions of the land began to bear the name of Teman, being called the "Land of Temani."...

"Much of the area, later including the rocky Anatolian, Persian and Turkestan plateaus became known as "the Land of Temani." You will see this proved by turning to Genesis 36: 34. "And Jobab died, and Husham of the land of Temani reigned in his stead." Is it any wonder, then, that the indelible stamp of Teman, one of the leading dukes of ancient Edom, was carried down into modern history in the form of the "Ottoman" Empire? Now notice some of the prophecies concerning modern Turkey" (Garner Ted Armstrong, "Turkey in Prophecy," *Plain Truth*, June 1966, pp. 4, 6)

"Prophecy for Turkey

The sparse records of history, with other proofs, show that many of the descendants of Esau became known as Turks.

Therefore we must remember that all prophecies pertaining to the latter days, referring to Edom, or Esau, refer generally to the Turkish nation.

In Isaac's dying prophecy, he foretold that Esau's descendants would come to a time when they should have dominion, and then break the yoke of the Israelites from off their necks.

That has happened. The children of Israel, through sin, were driven out of the promised land that belonged with the Birthright. The Turks came to power and dominion, and for many centuries possessed that land.

Those descendants, the Turkish people, occupied Palestine 400 years before Britain took it in 1917. Esau's descendants always have lusted for that land, central promise of the Birthright! The Turks have truly lived by the sword!" (Herbert W Armstrong, *The United States and the British Commonwealth in Prophecy*, 1967 edition, p. 44)

"The Turks are descended from Esau. The Jordanians from Lot, the nephew of Abraham. And the other Arabs from Ishmael, the son of Abraham...

The Turks wanted it — and for over 600 years did possess most of the Holy Land! They are the children of Esau, who sold that birthright to Jacob. The Jews are descended from Jacob." (Herbert W Armstrong, *Coworker Letter*, 21 June 1967)

"Prophecy for Turkey

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Palestine 400 years before Britain took it in 1917. Esau's descendants always have lusted for that land, central promise of the birthright! The Turks have truly lived by the sword!" (Herbert W Armstrong, *United States and Britain in Prophecy*, 1980 edition, p. 47)

"So, when it comes to translating a certain prophesied date recorded in the Hebrew calendar (in this case the 24th day of the 9th month- see Haggai 2:20-22) to a date in 191 according to the Roman calendar, it takes some effort to figure. I found the Hebrew date corresponded to December 9, 1917, which was 2,520 years from the time Nebuchadnezzar accepted the formal surrender of the Jews in 604 B.C.

I looked and found that the Turks, who are gentiles even though they, in part, descend from Esau, Jacob's brother, possessed Palestine in 1917. Esau, remember, anciently possessed the birthright from Abraham through Isaac, but sold it for a bowl of red soup when he was hungry. The Turks surrendered Palestine to the British, on, what date? I had heard, and it had been published that the date was December 11, 1917. December 11, 1917, I found, on

further investigation, was merely the date on which General Allenby and his army made their triumphal march into the city of Jerusalem.

But it was two days before, on December 9, that the Turks made the surrender. That prophecy was fulfilled down to the very day, December 9. And it was on the equivalent date, in 604 B.C., 2,520 years before, six centuries before the birth of Christ, that the Jews formally surrendered Jerusalem and Palestine to the gentiles from Babylon. God Almighty has been able to keep His prophecies." (Herbert W Armstrong, *The Bible. SUPERSTITION OR AUTHORITY? ... and can YOU prove it?* 1985, pp. 10-12)

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