

Mid-East Prophecy Update – February 21st, 2016

- For today's prophecy update I would like for us to draw our attention to some recent developments taking place in the Mid East.
 - Sadly, much of that which is happening both against Israel and in Israel has gone largely un-noticed here in the United States.
 - This because, the presidential election has "trumped," pun intended, numerous geopolitical events of prophetic significance.
- I'll begin with the presupposition we all agree that Israel is God's prophetic clock, as it were, to know the lateness of the hour.
- In other words, if you really want to know what time it is on the clock of Bible prophecy, you need look no further than to Israel.
 - If and when you do, it's not long before you realize that the world today is in the last seconds of human history, as we know it.
- I see Jerusalem as the second hand on this prophetic clock, by virtue of the fact that the whole world will be intoxicated with it.
- Moreover, it will be the dividing of Jerusalem under the banner of a two state solution that brings the whole world against Israel.
 - We know this from a rather detailed prophecy concerning Jerusalem recorded over 2,500 years ago by the prophet Zechariah.
- I found it interesting that on Sunday, February 7th, The Times of Israel would report that Netanyahu was worried that Obama may go against Israel as his term expires. The reason I find it interesting is I think Netanyahu is intelligent enough to know that Obama has in fact already gone against Israel. <http://www.timesofisrael.com/netanyahu-said-worried-obama-may-go-against-israel-as-term-expires/>
- The truth of the matter is the whole world is either now turning against Israel, or has already turned against Israel, which they see as the blame for all the problems in the Middle-East, chief of which is the so-called "Palestinian" problem. It's evidenced by this Jerusalem Post article last Thursday in which even the Catholic Church is blaming Israel for the current Palestinian violence. <http://www.jpost.com/printarticle.aspx?id=445375>
- If this weren't bad enough last Sunday, Arutz Sheva quoted the Hamas leader who said they'll remove the Jews from their land. <http://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/207972#.VsE2l-bKvTh>
- Add to this, The Times of Israel published on Monday, in which they reported the Palestinian Authority stated the Palestinians would "never" again negotiate directly with Israel. <http://www.timesofisrael.com/pa-says-palestinians-will-never-negotiate-directly-with-israel-again/>
- To me this sounds like it could lead to the fulfillment of the Daniel 9:27 prophecy when the 7-year peace agreement is enforced.
 - What's clear from Daniel 9:27 is it will commence the 7-year tribulation, however, what's not very clear is what will happen first.
 - Namely, the much talked about prophecy in Ezekiel 38, along with another well-known prophecy concerning Syria in Isaiah 17.
- I would suggest that Isaiah 17 could very well be fulfilled prior to Daniel 9:27, and this for a number of reasons not the least of which is this Jerusalem Post article on Monday reporting that according to the Syrian rebel group: Bashar Al Assad has built a secret underground base below Damascus. <http://www.jpost.com/printarticle.aspx?id=444978>
- It's important to understand that Syria is the nexus for the Russian Iranian led alliance to attack Israel as prophesied in Ezekiel 38, which is why it should come as no surprise both Russia and Iran would make threats as it relates to Saudi Arabia. On Sunday, The Times of Israel published two separate reports, the first of which was that Iran had issued a warning against Saudi Arabia's intervention in Syria. <http://www.timesofisrael.com/iran-warns-against-saudi-intervention-in-syria/>
- The second report was that Russia and Saudi Arabia were on a collision course in Syria. (It should be noted that Saudi Arabia is mentioned in Ezekiel 38:13.) <http://www.timesofisrael.com/russia-and-saudi-arabia-on-course-to-collision-in-syria/>
- Some suggest that the "young lions of Tarshish" is a reference to America while others suggest the US isn't in prophecy at all.
 - Whether or not this is a reference to America, the fact remains that at best, all that America does with Saudi Arabia is protest.
 - The reason I point this out is either way, it would seem to indicate that something happens to America namely, God's judgment.
- I happened upon a very interesting Op-ed piece, titled, "Justice Antonin Scalia's Death: Is America Under God's Judgment?" It was written by Susan Stamper Brown, who is a guest contributor for The Christian Post. – Kindly allow me to quote from this must read Op-ed. "...The train has left the station and is obviously running on schedule, given you believe Old and New Testament prophesies describing how things will only get worse until God's judgment falls. ...Scalia's death gives reason for pause, given his death could allow the Supreme Court wiggle room to make some very big decisions, which could radically change America. Should that happen, what was once moving in the slow lane will have switched to the fast track. Some on social media ask if Scalia's death is part of "God's judgment on America." While only God can answer that question, students of history and Bible prophecy understand that God repeatedly raised up leaders to judge his people for abandoning him. ...Whatever the case, one thing's for sure: God has zero obligation to bless any nation that fails to bless him. While I am not a theologian, I'd dare say it might be time to strap on our seatbelts as we pray, folks. We might be in for a wild ride. <http://www.christianpost.com/news/justice-antonin-scalia-death-america-god-judgment-157703/#7db2fdv6FIKLdbzk.99>
- I'll conclude by making three observations in light of what I would argue is a textbook case of the handwriting being on the wall.
1. We know from God's Word that all of this would happen, (John 13:19, John 14:29).
 2. We know its God Who allows all of this to happen.
 3. We know that God will not allow all of this to continue to happen.
- The question becomes one of being ready, and or sharing the gospel with others so they too can be ready for the Lord's return.