

## Mid-East Prophecy Update – December 4<sup>th</sup>, 2016

- Before we get to today's prophecy update, I would like to briefly mention a few things since there was no update for two weeks.
- First, I want to thank everyone who prayed for my son he's doing much better now after being in the hospital over Thanksgiving.
- Last week, we met with Elias' Neurologist, and once again; the Lord's hand was evident in leading us to this particular doctor.

I posted on Face Book and Twitter that, "As the Lord would have it, Elias' neurologist, Dr. Kore Liow of Hawaii Pacific Neuroscience who is a strong Christian, was at the right place at the exact right time and at our appointment he led Elias and I in prayer as we thanked God that he had responded to the anti-seizure medication, and that he's able to go back to work. As such, I will be back in the pulpit this Sunday for 2 Corinthians, the Bible Prophecy Update, and Communion.

- The second thing I want to quickly mention is that my family did not go on a cruise these last two weeks as some had thought.
- That's not to say that we won't take my friend up on his offer yet future to go on an all expense paid cruise for a family vacation.
- Please know I don't like being out of the pulpit for extended periods of time, especially with geopolitical situation prophetically.

- The third thing that I want to mention is that a number of people have been asking about the Billy Crone rapture documentary.
- It is now available as both a book and DVD set, and you can obtain them at [getlifemedia.com](http://getlifemedia.com) where they can be purchased.
- This is a much-needed resource in a day when the sound doctrine of the pre-tribulation rapture is under an increasing attack.

- For today's prophecy update I will borrow the legal metaphor of the jury being out and the imminence of the verdict coming in.
- The world today eerily resembles a deliberating jury, such that, no one knows the day or the hour in which a verdict is reached.
- The prophetic evidence is being examined and it's only a matter of time before the verdict is reached and judgment is rendered.

- It's for this reason that I would like to present a closing argument of sorts as it relates to all the evidence pointing to said verdict.
- I believe the evidence prophetically and forensically proves beyond any reasonable doubt that the jury will reach a guilty verdict.
- Subsequent to this guilty verdict, the judgment of God will ensue, which in turn will commence with the seven-year tribulation.

- You'll pardon the pun, but I'll begin with the GOP Elephant in the room, with the Republican presidency, the House and Senate.
- It's the first time the Republican Party had clinched the largest majority since the year 1928, which was eighty-eight years ago.
- I'm keenly aware of those who believe we now have more time; I'll respectfully disagree, and suggest that the opposite is true.

One of the reasons I believe this is because of Trump's potential cabinet picks, as evidenced by this Times of Israel article about one of Trump's leading candidates for secretary of defense, Retired Marine Corps general James Mattis. If this is any indication of what's coming, then it may very well be that Trump's administration will spark a huge prophetic firestorm. I say this because of a statement by the aforementioned Mattis in which he said that Israel's settlement project could turn the country into an apartheid state and that the United States would pay a price for its support of Israel. Of Mattis's resume The Times writes that it includes over two years heading the United States Central Command (CENTCOM) under President Barack Obama from August 2010 to March 2013 ...In July 2013, ...Mattis said the current situation in Israel was "unsustainable" and that settlements were obstructing the possibility of a two-state outcome between Israelis and Palestinians, comments that seem to fly in the face of Trump's position as reported by his Israel advisers. <http://www.timesofisrael.com/trumps-top-pentagon-pick-said-settlements-were-creating-apartheid/#>

In all fairness to the president elect, Trump did sign a document on November 2<sup>nd</sup> in which he would implement what's known as the Jerusalem Embassy Act of 1995, which to me would be a game-changer in every sense of the word. This because, it would mean that the U.S. Embassy in Israel would be relocated from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem. The reason I say this is a game-changer is that it would sort of force the United States to recognize Jerusalem as the capital of Israel, which in turn could have profound prophetic implications chiefly as it relates to the rebuilding of the Temple as well as the prophecy found in Zechariah 12:1-3.

Zechariah 12:1-3 (NKJV) — 1 The burden of the word of the LORD against Israel. Thus says the LORD, who stretches out the heavens, lays the foundation of the earth, and forms the spirit of man within him: 2 "Behold, I will make Jerusalem a cup of drunkenness to all the surrounding peoples, when they lay siege against Judah and Jerusalem. 3 And it shall happen in that day that I will make Jerusalem a very heavy stone for all peoples; all who would heave it away will surely be cut in pieces, though all nations of the earth are gathered against it.

I found it rather interesting that the anti-Israel former president Jimmy Carter would urge the equally anti-Israel current president, Barak Obama to divide Jerusalem. The New York Times ran the Op-Ed piece titled, Jimmy Carter: America Must Recognize Palestine. In it, Carter, who's credited for brokering peace between Egypt and Israel, has called on Obama to do this before he leaves office in January. Furthermore Carter urged Obama to support a UN Security Council resolution that would set forth parameters for resolving the Israeli Palestinian conflict stating, and I quote, "The Security Council should ...reaffirm the illegality of all Israeli settlements beyond the 1967 borders, while leaving open the possibility that the parties could negotiate modifications. Security guarantees for both Israel and Palestine are imperative, and the resolution must acknowledge the right of both the states of Israel and Palestine to live in peace and security. Perhaps it goes without saying but there are a number of serious problems with this, not the least of which is that it would divide East Jerusalem, giving it to the Palestinians as the capital of their illegitimate state. Should this materialize, I'm personally of the belief that it could in effect fulfill the Apostle Paul's prophecy to the church in Thessalonica. [http://www.nytimes.com/2016/11/28/opinion/jimmy-carter-america-must-recognize-palestine.html?\\_r=1](http://www.nytimes.com/2016/11/28/opinion/jimmy-carter-america-must-recognize-palestine.html?_r=1)

1 Thessalonians 5:3 While people are saying, "Peace and security," destruction will come on them suddenly, as labor pains on a pregnant woman, and they will not escape.

If you were to ask me which way I thought this may go, I would have to answer that we may not have to wait until after inauguration day for the verdict, as the jury is still out on what Obama will do prior to leaving office. Last Saturday, The Jerusalem Post, published an article with the headline, as a question asking, Is the Obama administration at a boiling point with Israel? Quoting the Post, Speculation has been rife for some time that President Barack Obama will use the presidential interregnum to make a legacy statement on Israel-Palestine. On the cards are a presidential speech that would lay out a suggested framework for a two-state solution, or, in what would be a diplomatic bombshell: using the UN Security Council to push a resolution that would either condemn settlements or even lay down guidelines and a timetable for a final-status agreement between Israel and the Palestinians. <http://www.jpost.com/printarticle.aspx?id=472488>

- The reason I'm beating this Jerusalem prophecy drum, is because of its paramount importance regardless of who is president.
- In other words, everything centers on Jerusalem as the eternal capital of Israel, the city that God has literally put his name on.
- I suppose we need look no further for the reason as to why Muslims are seeking to literally burn Israel by starting massive fires.

The Washington Post reported that Israeli police said Friday that at least 12 people were in custody on suspicion of starting huge fires that have forced thousands of people to evacuate their homes and left widespread damage across the country. Officials and politicians said that at least half of the fires, which raged from the Jerusalem area to the north of the country, had been started intentionally. They were quick to label the fires a new form of terrorism, but police have not made public the identities of the people arrested. Speaking to reporters, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said Israel was dealing with a new form of attack, pyro-terrorism. He said there was proof that at least some of the fires were started intentionally, indicating that those most likely to blame were Palestinians with nationalist hostilities against Israel. [https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/israel-arrests-12-people-on-suspicion-of-arson-in-connection-with-massive-fires/2016/11/25/53dc9112-b2f5-11e6-840f-e3ebab6bcd3\\_story.html?utm\\_term=.4eafd41bed44](https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/israel-arrests-12-people-on-suspicion-of-arson-in-connection-with-massive-fires/2016/11/25/53dc9112-b2f5-11e6-840f-e3ebab6bcd3_story.html?utm_term=.4eafd41bed44)

For those who may doubt that this is deliberate, I would submit that the jury is no longer out as evidenced by this Breaking Israel News report from last Sunday, with the headline, #IsraellsBurning: Arab Social Media Jubilant Over Israel Fires. Quoting the report, "The fires raging across Israel, about half of which are believed to be arson, have spurred a flurry of celebratory and inciting social media posts among Palestinians and the broader Arab world. One post on Twitter and other social media platforms stated that "the Jews are praying for rain to put out the fires that are destroying the homes that they built on the sacred lands of occupied Palestine, and we are praying that 95 benzene will drop from the sky and make the fire stronger." ...Social media user Saif Bilal, from the United Arab Emirates, shared photos of the fires and wrote, "...now Israel's cities are burning. Israeli citizens will sleep in the streets tonight. May Allah burn all the cities in Israel."

[https://www.breakingisraelnews.com/79187/arab-social-media-jubilant-israel-fires-start-hashtag-israelisburning/?utm\\_source=Breaking+Israel+News&utm\\_campaign...](https://www.breakingisraelnews.com/79187/arab-social-media-jubilant-israel-fires-start-hashtag-israelisburning/?utm_source=Breaking+Israel+News&utm_campaign...)

- I'll end the way I began with the metaphor of the imminence of a verdict being reached once the jury has begun deliberating.
- Just as everyone waits and watches, not knowing the day or the hour when the verdict is reached, so too do we wait and watch.
- However, the masses are seemly oblivious to the impending verdict and as such don't realize that it's a matter of life and death.
- Whether one realizes it or not, every one of us will be found guilty of transgressing God's law, which carries the death penalty.

Romans 3:10 As it is written: "There is no one righteous, not even one;

Romans 3:23 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God

Romans 6:23a For the wages of sin is death...

- That's the bad news, now for the good news, also known as the Gospel, namely that of Jesus entered the courtroom for us.
- Once we've been sentenced to death, Jesus offers to pay in full our death penalty by Him going to the cross to be crucified.
- Not only does Jesus pay in full our death penalty, he defeated death when He was resurrected from the grave 3-days later.

Romans 6:23b ...but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Ephesians 2:8-9 - 8 For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—9 not by works, so that no one can boast.

Romans 10:9-10 ...if you confess with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. 10 For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved.

Romans 10:13 for, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."