

Mid-East Prophecy Update – January 15th, 2017

- For today's prophecy update, I need to kindly ask you to bear with me as I sort through a very busy week in terms of prophecy.
- However, first, I think that it's incumbent upon me to offer both a clarification and an apology concerning last week's update.
- Thanks to the Bereans here locally and our online church globally, I posted the following on Twitter, Facebook, and YouTube.

By way of a clarification and an apology concerning Obama chairing the UN Security Council, I misspoke and should have said that he "was" (in 2009) and not "will become" (in 2017) the first president in history to do so.

Also by way of a follow up, I wanted to quickly mention that on Tuesday, the so-called Paris Peace Summit concerning a Palestinian State and the dividing of Jerusalem seems to have been inconsequential, at least for now anyway, and it came by way of the UK, who in the end would not back a final communiqué, citing their reservations about advancing peace between parties that are not involved in the process just days before a new American President takes office.

According to The Jerusalem Post, Prime Minister Theresa May sent neither her foreign minister, Boris Johnson, nor her envoy to France to the parlay. Britain instead had observer status at the conference. "We have particular reservations about an international conference intended to advance peace between the parties that does not involve them— indeed, which is taking place against the wishes of the Israelis— and which is taking place just days before the transition to a new American President when the US will be the ultimate guarantor of any agreement," a Foreign Office statement read. ...while most countries in attendance signed on to a communiqué urging the two parties to recommit to a two-state solution, and to cease "unilateral steps" that entrench the conflict, London demurred, ultimately choosing not to back the document. <http://www.jpost.com/printarticle.aspx?id=478511>

On Tuesday, YNet News, published an Op-ed piece by Former Israeli Ambassador to the UN, Ron Prosor, who I had the privilege meeting, as some of you did, when he spoke here in Hawaii. I realize I may be partial to his perspective, because of this, I would like to share a little of what he had to say about the Paris peace conference being the wrong message, at the wrong time, and in the wrong place. " - ...Only several weeks ago, the French and Brits raised their hands in favor of an anti-Israel resolution at the Security Council, and on Sunday they convened the world's countries in Paris for another march of folly aimed at enforcing the resolution's content under the misleading title of a conference promoting peace. ...Beyond the etiquette, the fireworks and the crispy croissants, this conference lacks any real content. International conferences are intended to serve as an envelope in which the sides work to reach an agreement while they hold direct negotiations. That's the way it was in Madrid, Oslo and Camp David. The international community's job is to **provide incentives to both sides** in order for them to sit down at the negotiating table and make it clear to them that without negotiations they both stand to lose, but it appears to be doing everything apart from that. ...The Paris conference [took place] ... just days before the new American administration is sworn in and on the background of the upcoming elections in France. A cold and tasteless dessert brought to Israel courtesy of the Obama administration, accompanied by improvised hors d'oeuvres from the French kitchen, served a moment before the chef is replaced. The problem is that the chef prefers to continue to meddle in the affairs of others, completely ignoring the other pots – like the genocide in Syria, the internal European terror and the immigration problems – which are boiling over in light of the intensity of the fire below them. ...It's time for the international community to realize that the Palestinian leadership does not need an American-French prom, **but someone who will know how to shake it and bring it back to the negotiating table.**

<http://www.ynetnews.com/articles/0,7340,L-4907728,00.html>

Enter the new President and according to The Times of Israel, the "new era" that Israel is hailing in anticipation of a new relationship and alliance between the US and Israel. Quoting the Times, Israel welcomed the inauguration of President Donald Trump after eight, often tense, years with the Obama administration, vowing to make the alliance between Israel and the US "greater than ever" and heralding the start of "a new era." ...Israel's Ambassador to the United Nations Danny Danon said this would herald a sea-change, particularly at the United Nations, where Israel recently suffered one of its worst reverses in recent years, when President Obama refused to use the US veto in a resolution that condemned Israeli settlements. "A true friend of Israel will enter the White House today," said Danon in a statement. "Thank you President Trump for your unequivocal support, we look forward to welcoming you to our capital of Jerusalem." The article goes on to talk about some possible concerns with the new US President, which include, Trump's propensity for a chummy relationship with Putin, who has close ties with Iran particularly as it relates to Syria. Furthermore, there are concerns in Israel for Israel, as it relates to the enemies of Israel, were Trump to make good on his promise to relocate the Embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem.

<http://www.timesofisrael.com/israel-hails-new-era-of-relations-with-president-trump/>

Add to this the stunning announcement that Trump has tapped his son-in-law, Jared Kushner, who he's appointed as a senior White House adviser, to "broker a Middle East peace deal." According to The Jerusalem Post, Trump said, in an interview with the Times of London that Kushner, Ivanka Trump's husband, would take on the task of negotiating peace between Israelis and Palestinians— an appointment Trump has previously floated due to the fact that Kushner "knows the region, knows the people, knows the players," Trump described in a previous interview. ... Kushner and his wife, who converted upon their marriage in 2009, are Orthodox Jews.

<http://www.jpost.com/printarticle.aspx?id=478554>

- Here's where I'm going with all of this, it would seem that a President Trump will give Christians what's being called a reprieve.
- While a reprieve of sorts is certainly plausible, I would argue that it might in fact be the exact opposite that's true for Christians.
- I say this for a number of reasons, not the least of which is well nigh one million Christians were martyred in the last 10-years.

On Monday, The Christian Post published a report in which they estimate that over 900,000 Christians were martyred for their Faith in Last 10 Years. ...Although the study was released this month, they found that 90,000 Christians — or one Christian every six minutes — were killed in 2016.

www.christianpost.com/news/over-900000-christians-martyred-for-their-faith-in-last-10-years-report-173045/#.WH41ZkabhWA.facebook#4Wflg9ERmtCT6Vv.99

- Another reason I say this is because of the swiftness with which Israel has hailed a “new era” vis-à-vis the new US President.
- Namely, new “incentives” via a new “someone” who will know how to bring back to the negotiating table Jews and Palestinians.
- I would suggest that everything that's on the table of Bible prophecy concerning Israel has the potential of moving even faster.

- The Bible prophecies I'm speaking of are the very ones we've looked at in recent updates, such that they are all in play today.
- From Isaiah 17, to Daniel 9:27 and everything in between, a Trump presidency may actually speed up the fulfillment of them.
- Let me hasten to say that I in no way believe that Trump or his Orthodox Jewish son-in-law is the antichrist, as some suggest.

Yesterday, as I was preparing today's update, I received two emails back to back and I think I would be grossly remiss were I not to address the implications of them, as it has to do with Donald Trump being placed in the highest office in the land as God's Trumpet. If you're anything like me, and I suspect that you are, you've heard of this prophecy and the many others with it, all of which point to Trump being God's man, for such a time as this. Please know that while I don't want to be dismissing of this, I do have to be discerning of this. This because, there were many prophecies about Barack Obama being the last US President. As such, we must be so very careful when it comes to prophecies like this. One of the things I'm learning about Bible prophecy is that when you don't know, you stay with what you do know, and what you do know is that God's Word always has the final word.

2 Peter 1:19–21 (NKJV) — 19 And so we have the prophetic word confirmed, which you do well to heed as a light that shines in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts; 20 knowing this first, that no prophecy of Scripture is of any private interpretation, 21 for prophecy never came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit.

1 John 4:1–3 (NKJV) — 1 Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits, whether they are of God; because many false prophets have gone out into the world. 2 By this you know the Spirit of God: Every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is of God, 3 and every spirit that does not confess that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is not of God. And this is the spirit of the Antichrist, which you have heard was coming, and is now already in the world.

Deuteronomy 18:21–22 (NKJV) — 21 And if you say in your heart, 'How shall we know the word which the LORD has not spoken?'—22 when a prophet speaks in the name of the LORD, if the thing does not happen or come to pass, that is the thing which the LORD has not spoken; the prophet has spoken it presumptuously; you shall not be afraid of him.

- I'll bring today's update to a close by simply saying that we will know soon and very soon if all that has been spoken is of God.
- Moreover, we will also know soon and very soon that God's more sure Word of prophecy is today beginning to come to pass.
- One need look no further than to what's happening with Israel, in Israel, and perhaps more importantly against Israel even now.

- Lastly, let me say that if you've never called upon the name of the Lord Jesus to be saved, I would implore you to do so today.
- I'll explain how, by sharing with you what one has called the ABC's of Salvation. The A is for Admit. Admit that you're a sinner.
- The B is for Believe. Believe in your heart that Jesus is Lord. The C is for Call. Call upon the name of the Lord; you'll be saved.