

Mid-East Prophecy Update – February 5th, 2017

- For today's prophecy update I'll kindly ask that you be patient with me so we can cover as much prophetic ground as possible.
- So much is happening so fast and it's due in large part to Trump actually doing what he promised he would do as the President.
- This is why I've argued a Trump presidency has increased the speed with which Bible prophecy is beginning to come to pass.

- As of today, Trump has been in office for 17-days, and it's becoming increasingly difficult to keep up with all that has happened.
- Specifically as it relates to Russia and Iran, the US Supreme Court nomination, religious freedom, and the "two-state solution."
- Add to this the U.S. Travel Ban and the violent protests that have ensued and what you have is a very volatile situation globally.

Let's start with this YNet News article on Thursday, in which they report on a tweet from President Trump who warned that Iran is 'playing with fire' and that they don't appreciate how 'kind' President Obama was to them. Then he says, "Not me!"

<http://www.ynetnews.com/articles/0,7340,L-4917218,00.html>

According to The Jerusalem Post, Iran's response was that of mocking Trump's warning over its continued ballistic missile testing saying that the new US president is a ranting extremist that no one takes seriously. A senior adviser to Iran's supreme leader said the Islamic Republic would proceed "vigorously" with its missile program, despite the threat from US National Security Adviser Michael Flynn that Iran was officially being put "on notice" over its recent activities. Senior Trump officials later in the day said the administration is considering a "whole range of options" on how to proceed should Iran continue with its missile testing.

<http://www.jpost.com/printarticle.aspx?id=480372>

It seems that Iran has every intention of continuing with its missile testing as evidenced by this Times of Israel report about Iran's defiance when they held "massive" missile drills the day after the US sanctions. Quoting the Times, Relations between Washington and Tehran have deteriorated sharply since Donald Trump took office last month promising a tough line on what he sees as Iranian belligerency towards US interests and allies. Hours after the new US sanctions were announced, Pentagon chief James Mattis charged that Iran was "the single biggest state sponsor of terrorism in the world."

<http://www.timesofisrael.com/defiant-iran-in-missile-exercise-day-after-us-sanctions/>

While I applaud Trump's warning to Iran, I have to say that I'm deeply concerned about Trump's warning to Israel. On Thursday, The Washington Post published a report about how Trump had "gently" warned Israel that new or expanded settlements in the West Bank "may not be helpful" in achieving a Middle East peace, while insisting it has no "official position on settlement activity." ...The administration has also pulled back somewhat on a pledge to quickly move the U.S. Embassy in Israel from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem, which the Palestinians also claim as their capital.

https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/trump-warns-israel-that-new-settlements-may-not-help-achieve-middle-east-peace/2017/02/02/69ff84a4-e9a5-11e6-b82f-687d6e6a3e7c_story.html?utm_term=.ac7af6ccb587

This brings us to the U.S. travel ban and religious freedom. On Thursday, Reuters published a report about Trump defending his order to temporarily bar entry to people from seven majority-Muslim nations, which has come under intense criticism at home and abroad, saying it was crucial to ensuring religious freedom and tolerance in America. Again, I have to say, to Trump's credit, he has done exactly what he promised to do especially when it comes to his pro-Christian policies, one of which is "The Free Speech Fairness Act," which is a measure that would amend the Johnson Amendment of 1954.

<https://www.yahoo.com/news/trump-says-tough-phone-calls-needed-because-world-145056187.html>

- Perhaps you'll indulge me for the remainder of our time together today as I share with you the prophetic significance of all this.
- First, the aforementioned threat from and to Iran, we know that Ezekiel 38 speaks to Russian Iranian nuclear attack on Israel.
- Second, we know that Zechariah 12, Daniel 9:27, and even 1 Thessalonians 5:3 speak to Jerusalem and the two-state solution.
- It's this third one that I really want to address and it has to do with the collective response from Christians on Trump's travel ban.
- The response is, shouldn't Christians love and accept the refugees from Syria instead of banning them from the United States?
- Often times this response comes under the banner of the Parable Jesus taught about the Good Samaritan helping out a Jew.

Luke 10:25-37 - 25 And behold, a certain lawyer stood up and tested Him, saying, "Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?" 26 He said to him, "What is written in the law? What is your reading of it?" 27 So he answered and said, " 'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength, and with all your mind,' [a] and 'your neighbor as yourself.'" 28 And He said to him, "You have answered rightly; do this and you will live." 29 But he, wanting to justify himself, said to Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?" 30 Then Jesus answered and said: "A certain man went down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell among thieves, who stripped him of his clothing, wounded him, and departed, leaving him half dead. 31 Now by chance a certain priest came down that road. And when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. 32 Likewise a Levite, when he arrived at the place, came and looked, and passed by on the other side. 33 But a certain Samaritan, as he journeyed, came where he was. And when he saw him, he had compassion. 34 So he went to him and bandaged his wounds, pouring on oil and wine; and he set him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him. 35 On the next day, when he departed, [c] he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said to him, 'Take care of him; and whatever more you spend, when I come again, I will repay you.' 36 So which of these three do you think was neighbor to him who fell among the thieves?" 37 And he said, "He who showed mercy on him." Then Jesus said to him, "Go and do likewise."

- There are two main reasons the Good Samaritan parable doesn't justify giving all the refugees unfettered access to America.
 - First, the Good Samaritan did not jeopardize his family's safety by allowing him into his home; rather, he paid his bill at the Inn.
 - Second, the Good Samaritan helped him out of his own volition, such that, it was not forced on anyone else against their will.
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- The question every Christian should ask them selves is why don't the other Muslim nations care for and take in these refugees.
 - Also, if America is so evil, and Muslims hate the US so much, then why is it that they want to come to America in the first place?
 - I would suggest that the reason is for infiltration and subjugation, which is the stated goal of Islam in its domination of the world.
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- Here's the bottom line in closing everything on the calendar of Bible prophecy is moving forward exactly on schedule as it were.
 - As such, we would all do well to be watchful in the days and weeks ahead, as we see the Lord's return drawing ever so near.
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- 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.