

Mid-East Prophecy Update – February 19th, 2017

- For today's prophecy update I want to talk about another very busy week, chiefly surrounding the Netanyahu Trump meeting.
- I have to say that I was both blessed and even impressed with the Whitehouse greeting that Bibi and his wife Sara received.
- The reason I mention this is because when Netanyahu met with Obama he made him enter from the side only to wait for hours.

The Jerusalem Post of this wrote, "It has been a long time since an Israeli prime minister was received at the White House the way Benjamin Netanyahu was greeted on Wednesday. In 2010, for example, Netanyahu entered the White House through a side entrance for a private meeting with president Barack Obama. There was no press conference, no photo-op and not even a concluding press statement. It was as if the visit didn't take place. ... In 2009, Obama was pictured speaking on the phone with Netanyahu with his feet up on his desk, interpreted as a blatant sign of disrespect for the Israeli leader. On Wednesday, no one was looking at feet. It was all about the hands, the hugs, the pats on the backs, the kisses on the cheek and the affection Trump and his wife showered on the Netanyahu's.

<http://www.jpost.com/printarticle.aspx?id=481676>

I'll begin with the press conference on Wednesday, and the stunning news that ensued as a result. After their opening statements, both Trump and Netanyahu fielded questions from reporters, and in so doing made news right out of the chute when Trump first called on David Brody of the Christian Broadcasting Network, who instead of lobbing him a softball, asked him about the Iran Nuclear deal, and the resignation of Michael Flynn as his national security adviser. Then, as the press conference continued, Trump, true to form turns to Netanyahu and says, "...I'd like to see you hold back on settlements for a little bit. We'll work something out. But I would like to see a deal be made, I think a deal will be made. ...Bibi and I have known each other a long time. Smart man, great negotiator, and I think we're going to make a deal. It might be a bigger and better deal than people in this room even understand. That's a possibility so let's see what we do." -- Then, Netanyahu responded with what sounded like, it's going to be hard, to which Trump replied, "Doesn't sound too optimistic but... good negotiator." Netanyahu, matching Trump's spontaneous wit said, "That's the art of the deal." -- It then got even more interesting when both leaders were asked about the "two-state solution," and the promise to move the U.S. embassy to Jerusalem. Trump's response was, "...I'm looking at two-state and one-state and I like the one that both parties like. ...I can live with either one. I thought for a while the two-state looked like it may be the easier of the two but honestly, ... if Israel and the Palestinians are happy, I'm happy with the one they like the best. As far as the embassy moving to Jerusalem, I'd love to see that happen. We're looking at it very, very strongly. We're looking at it with great care, great care, believe me. And we'll see what happens. OK?" Netanyahu then chimed in saying, "...I read yesterday that an American official said that if you ask five people what two states would look like, you'd get eight different answers. Mr. President, if you ask five Israelis, you'd get twelve different answers. But rather than deal with labels, I want to deal with substance. It's something I've hoped to do for years in a world that's absolutely fixated on labels and not on substance. So here's the substance. There are two prerequisites for peace that I laid out two — several years ago and they haven't changed. First, the Palestinians must recognize the Jewish state. ... they continue to call for Israel's destruction inside their schools, inside their mosques, inside the textbooks. You have to read it to believe it. They ...they even deny, ...our historical connection to our homeland. And I suppose you have to ask yourself, ... why are Jews called Jews? Well, the Chinese are called Chinese because they come from China. The Japanese are called Japanese because they come from Japan. Well, Jews are called Jews because they come from Judea. This is our ancestral homeland. Jews are not foreign colonialists in Judea." Then, what happened next really caught my attention, when Trump of the aforementioned peace deal said, "...it's actually a much bigger deal, ...It would take in many, many countries and would cover a very large territory." He then turns to Netanyahu and says, "So, I didn't know you were going to be mentioning that, but ...now that you did. I think it's a terrific thing..."

<http://www.timesofisrael.com/full-transcript-trump-netanyahu-talk-of-regional-approach-to-peace-at-white-house-press-conference/#>

As you might imagine, the media was abuzz concerning this unprecedented press conference. On Thursday, the headline on Haaretz read, "Trump Declines to Endorse Two-state Solution, Calls on Netanyahu to Hold Back on Settlements." -- "Trump said that he can live with either a two-state or one-state solution, adding that it's up to both the Israelis and the Palestinians."

<http://www.haaretz.com/israel-news/LIVE-1.771849>

To me, it was this Times of Israel article that said it best, "Netanyahu's 'betrayal,' Trump's 'one state, two state' rile Israeli press." "It's the Trump and Netanyahu show in the Hebrew papers on Thursday morning after the prime minister and the US president met for the first time since the Donald took office last month. From Israel Hayom on the right to Haaretz on the left, the commander-in-chief's remarks about the two-state solution are at the top of the docket. ... It might be frigid in Washington and Jerusalem this time of year, but Israeli pundits are churning out enough hot air to make DC feel like Florida.

<http://www.timesofisrael.com/netanyahus-betrayal-trumps-one-state-two-state-rile-israeli-press/>

Then there was also this Times of Israel report on Trump telling Netanyahu to 'hold back' on construction. Quoting the times, "the two "discussed the issue of Israeli settlement construction," the White House said, and "agreed to continue those discussions and to work out an approach that is consistent with the goal of advancing peace and security. ... Trump upended two decades of American foreign policy by not expressing a firm commitment to the two state-solution."

<http://www.timesofisrael.com/trump-netanyahu-to-continue-discussions-on-israeli-settlements/#>

Caroline Glick, had an interesting take on what appears to be the abandoning of a "two state solution." -- "The most significant development to come out of the Trump-Netanyahu press conference was their refusal to endorse the two-state policy doctrine. This was a necessary move. The only way to build a working alliance between the US and Israel ...is for both leaders to abandon the two-state paradigm for policy- making. She goes on to make her case stating that ...the two-state formula dooms its adherents to strategic myopia and defeatism while holding their strategic and national interests hostage to the PLO.

<http://carolineglick.com/the-trump-netanyahu-alliance/>

On Friday, Arutz Sheva reported on Fox News' Sean Hannity interview with Netanyahu, in which he made a most interesting statement. Speaking of his meeting with President Trump, Netanyahu said, "I think it was a historical meeting," .. "It was a meeting of the minds and a meeting of the hearts." ... "I feel we have now, as the president said, an even stronger alliance - a 'new day', he called it, maybe a new age."

<http://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/225178>

I actually recorded Hannity's interview with Netanyahu and watched it twice because I was struck with the headline that came out of it on Fox News. "Netanyahu: US, Israel have 'grand mission' to confront Iran threat." Listen to what Netanyahu told Hannity, "Since the signing of the deal," ...Iran has become more aggressive, more deadly, sponsoring more terrorism ... with more money, a lot more money. ...It's dangerous for America, dangerous for Israel, dangerous for the Arabs. Everybody now understands it and there's an American president who understands it and we're talking about what to do about this common threat." Then Netanyahu went on to tell Hannity that the good that's actually come out of this Iran deal is that they have alliances with several of the Arab nations, which to a nation is not involved in the list of nations in the prophecy in Ezekiel 38.

<http://www.foxnews.com/politics/2017/02/17/netanyahu-us-israel-have-grand-mission-to-confront-iran-threat.html>

- Yesterday, as I was preparing this and pondering this, the Lord ministered to me about something that's heavy on my heart.
- I'm hoping you'll kindly indulge me for the remainder of our time together today, as I share with you a word of encouragement.
- It comes by way of our current Bible study in the book of 2nd Chronicles, and it has to do with a good king by the name of Joash.

- However, we first need to know a little of the backstory concerning a woman named Athaliah the daughter of Ahab and Jezebel.
- This woman actually murders her own grandchildren so as to stay in power, which is right out of Ahab and Jezebel's playbook.
- Enter Jehosheba who takes Joash, who's about one year old and hides him for what we're told ends up being a total of 6-years.

- What Jehosheba does here is interesting for a couple of reasons, as it relates to why she hides this one son in the first place.
- First, Joash as the son of the King of Judah was the only remaining descendant of King David, which is the line of the Messiah.
- In other words, were she to have somehow killed Joash then God's promise to David would have been broken, which can't be.

- The second reason has to do with what would have seemed like the Word of God not being found true for a period of six years.
- More specifically, that of God's promise to David seeming like it failed by virtue of Athaliah killing every one of the royal heirs.
- Here's what I'm thinking, for six thousand years, it may seem like God's Word is not true in keeping His promise of His coming.

- That is until the seventh year, which 2 Chronicles 23 tells us is when Jehoiada the priest moves to reveal the son of King David.
- The point being is for six thousand years it may seem that evil has prevailed unchecked, but God, will reveal the Son of David.
- Just as Joash was revealed after six years of evil reign, so too is our greater than king Joash, the King of kings about to return.

- In closing, let me say, 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.