

## Mid-East Prophecy Update – April 9<sup>th</sup>, 2017

- For today's prophecy update I want to talk about what I believe to be one of the most significant events taking place in months.
- What I'm speaking of is the use of chemical weapons in Syria this last Tuesday, and the response to it particularly from the U.S.
- While I'm keenly aware saying this might sound sensational, I truly do not believe most have any idea about how serious this is.

- For the benefit of those who weren't able to follow last week's events, I think it would be good if I provided you with a timeline.
- On Tuesday, there was a chemical weapons attack on the Syrian people, which led to the US launching 59 missiles into Syria.
- That was on Thursday, which in turn led to the condemnation from the likes of Russia, who is propping up one Bashar al Assad.

- Some suggest that this is a false flag such that it wasn't the Assad regime that did this, while others know for a fact that he did.
- Namely, Amir Tsarfati who went to Facebook live on Thursday and in so doing even mentioned the name of the pilot who did it.
- By the way, speaking of Amir, we have been overwhelmed by the interest in our upcoming trip to Israel in November of 2018.

Anyone who is interested can email Donalee, who is Amir's Tour Coordinator, as she is keeping a list of those who want to sign up and the order in which they asked. Her email address is [donalee@beholdisrael.org](mailto:donalee@beholdisrael.org).

- Be that as it may, I would argue that the situation in Syria has the propensity to escalate past the proverbial point of no return.
- By that I mean, if Vladimir Putin's Russia makes good on it's threats of war, then it's very likely that world war three is upon us.
- One need look no further than to the response on the part of the so-called international community, to see where this is headed.

On Friday, The Jerusalem Post, published a report about how Nikki Haley, aka Haley's Comet, told the UN Security Counsel that the US is "prepared to do more" in Syria. Quoting the Post, The days of letting Bashar Assad use chemical weapons in Syria without any consequences are over, US Ambassador to the United Nations Nikki Haley told the Security Council on Friday morning, a few hours after the US military struck a Syrian airbase in response to a sarin gas attack on civilians earlier last week. ..."Assad did this because he thought he could get away with it," Haley said. "He thought he could get away with it, because he knew Russia would have his back." The ambassador stated that, along with Iran, the Russian government bears considerable responsibility for the deaths, having used its veto at the UN Security Council seven times to shield the Syrian regime from hostile resolutions. ...In a 17-minute speech, Russian envoy Vladimir Safronkov called the US airstrike a "flagrant violation of international law and an act of aggression," adding that the consequences of this action for regional and international stability could be extremely serious. He also stated that Russia supports an investigation into the chemical attack instead of unilateral military action. According to him, the Syrian regime should be presumed innocent until proven guilty.

<http://www.jpost.com/printarticle.aspx?id=486455>

According to Fox News, Russia is doing more than supporting an investigation into said chemical attack, by sending a warship toward our two U.S. Navy destroyers that launched the missile strikes into Syria. ...The ship that was near the Black Sea straits, left on a voyage after stopping ...for supplies and taking part in a joint exercise with Turkish ships in the Black Sea.

<http://www.foxnews.com/world/2017/04/07/russian-warship-steam-toward-us-destroyers-that-launched-syria-strikes.print.html>

Speaking of Fox News, we actually have an online member that works at Fox News in New York and has become a friend of mine since she visited us here in Hawaii. I mention this because she has given me permission to share with you some of the information that she's been keeping me apprised of. She sent me what's known as a "Travel Pool Report," which came from a pro-Israel friend of hers, who as it turns out is now the press secretary for the aforementioned Nikki Haley. Here's some of what the report had to say concerning Syria, Secretary of State, Rex Tillerson said future actions would be guided by their response to the strike. He conceded that the runway was still in use but said that was not a specific target because of its structure. He said the strikes were successful and that they took out 20 Percent of the 7th wing of the Syrian air force. Tillerson said, "I don't have any information that would be appropriate to share with at this point" on the question of Russia's possible role in Syrian gas attack. Tillerson said Trump told China's President personally about the air strikes toward the end of the dinner, about 8:40 p.m. The president told him how many missiles launched and the rationale behind the strike. Tillerson said he heard that China's president understood that such a response was necessary when people were killing children. But he said that official response had also come through public statements from the Chinese.

Yesterday, she also sent me this release from The White House Office of the Press Secretary, which was a read out of the President Trump's call with King Salman bin Abd al-Aziz, Al Saud of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. Quoting the read out, "President Donald J. Trump spoke yesterday with Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, King Salman bin Abd al-Aziz Al Saud of Saudi Arabia. The King reaffirmed strong Saudi support for the United States' military strike against the Sayrat Airfield in Syria and thanked the President for his courageous action, which both agreed was a necessary response to the horrible chemical weapons attack on innocent civilians. Both leaders underscored their personal commitment to strengthening the longstanding relationship between their two countries and committed to remain in close contact on a range of regional and bilateral issues.

- I suppose the question that needs to be answered in all this is that of what is likely to happen in the days ahead in light of this.
- In other words, where is this heading as lines are being drawn and red lines are being crossed now with no impunity as before.
- I'm hope you'll kindly indulge me for the remainder of our time as I try to answer this question as it relates to Bible prophecy.

- What follows I would argue is evidence that proves beyond a reasonable doubt that Isaiah 17 will be the catalyst for Ezekiel 38.
- First, it's important to understand that Syria has Iraq's weapons of mass destruction hid underground in of all places Damascus.
- This is why Israel has launched its own attacks on targets in Damascus, chiefly to preempt ISIS from getting to those weapons.

I find it rather interesting that in Isaiah 17:1 the King James says, the burden of Damascus. Behold, Damascus is taken away from being a city, and it shall be a ruinous heap. The reason I point this out is because it suggests that the weapons in Damascus are taken away and as such, the city itself will cease from being a city and become a ruinous heap. It's for this reason that Russia is doing everything it can to keep Assad in control of Damascus. This because God has put hooks in their jaws to take Israel's natural gas, without which Putin's Russia will collapse.

Ezekiel 38:1–23 (NKJV) — 1 Now the word of the LORD came to me, saying, 2 “Son of man, set your face against Gog, of the land of Magog, the prince of Rosh, Meshech, and Tubal, and prophesy against him, 3 and say, ‘Thus says the Lord GOD: “Behold, I am against you, O Gog, the prince of Rosh, Meshech, and Tubal. 4 I will turn you around, put hooks into your jaws, and lead you out, with all your army, horses, and horsemen, all splendidly clothed, a great company with bucklers and shields, all of them handling swords. 5 Persia, Ethiopia, and Libya are with them, all of them with shield and helmet; 6 Gomer and all its troops; the house of Togarmah from the far north and all its troops—many people are with you. 7 “Prepare yourself and be ready, you and all your companies that are gathered about you; and be a guard for them. 8 After many days you will be visited. In the latter years you will come into the land of those brought back from the sword and gathered from many people on the mountains of Israel, which had long been desolate; they were brought out of the nations, and now all of them dwell safely. 9 You will ascend, coming like a storm, covering the land like a cloud, you and all your troops and many peoples with you.” 10 ‘Thus says the Lord GOD: “On that day it shall come to pass that thoughts will arise in your mind, and you will make an evil plan: 11 You will say, ‘I will go up against a land of unwalled villages; I will go to a peaceful people, who dwell safely, all of them dwelling without walls, and having neither bars nor gates’—12 to take plunder and to take booty, to stretch out your hand against the waste places that are again inhabited, and against a people gathered from the nations, who have acquired livestock and goods, who dwell in the midst of the land. 13 Sheba, Dedan, the merchants of Tarshish, and all their young lions will say to you, ‘Have you come to take plunder? Have you gathered your army to take booty, to carry away silver and gold, to take away livestock and goods, to take great plunder?’ ” ’

- I've long held to the belief that once Isaiah 17 is fulfilled it becomes the trigger that brings about the fulfillment of Ezekiel 38-39.
- Perhaps it goes without saying, but the US strikes in response to the chemical weapons attack, brings Russia to the forefront.
- That's not to say that it's happening now, however, conversely, that's also not to say that it's not happening now in light of this.

- Here are three reasons that what happened last week may in fact be the beginning of the Isaiah 17 and Ezekiel 38 fulfillment.
- Reason #1 - Damascus is seemingly on the cusp of becoming a ruinous heap vis-à-vis the Russian threat to the United States.
- Reason #2 - Syria, Lebanon, Egypt, Jordan, Iraq, and Saudi Arabia are not mentioned in Ezekiel 38 as attacking Israel
- Reason #3 - The nations that are mentioned in Ezekiel 38 are today at the ready in their alliance to attack Israel via Syria

- In conclusion, I'd like to ask a question that I think we would all do well to ponder and think about in the coming days ahead.
- Were Russia to respond to the US missile strikes in Syria, wouldn't it stand to reason the fate of Damascus has been sealed?
- I truly believe with all my heart we are on the verge of that which we are told in the Word of God would come to pass at the end.

- 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.