

Mid-East Prophecy Update – January 28th, 2018

- For today's prophecy update, I'm once again going to kindly ask that you bear with me as we sort through all that's happened.
- This because, we had one of those super busy weeks in terms of the developments concerning Bible prophecy coming to pass.
- Specifically as it relates to Jerusalem, which, now, more than ever, has become, and is, continuing to be the world's obsession.

Zechariah 12:1-3 -- 1 A prophecy: The word of the LORD concerning Israel. The LORD, who stretches out the heavens, who lays the foundation of the earth, and who forms the human spirit within a person, declares: 2 "I am going to make Jerusalem a cup that sends all the surrounding peoples reeling. Judah will be besieged as well as Jerusalem. 3 On that day, when all the nations of the earth are gathered against her, I will make Jerusalem an immovable rock for all the nations. All who try to move it will injure themselves.

- Before I proceed, I think it's incumbent upon me to address not only that a two-state solution is evil but more importantly, "why."
- The reason why is that the so-called two-state solution is Hitler's "final solution," of annihilating the Jewish people, repackaged.
- The fact of the matter is the so-called Palestinians do not want peace with Israel; rather they seek only the destruction of Israel.

- It's for this reason I take the posture that I do when it comes to any push by anyone in this direction, especially the President.
- While I applaud and thank God for Trump's pro-Israel and pro-Christian policies, I'm concerned with where this may be leading.
- Namely, convincing Israel to acquiesce, under the banner of achieving what's been an insatiable quest for the "ultimate deal."

The propensity for Israel to acquiesce is evidenced by this Times of Israel report about how Jordan's King Abdullah II said that the US now faces the challenge of getting Israel to make a significant concession in exchange for its recognition of Jerusalem as Israel's capital in order to get the peace process back on track. ...Abdullah stated this after being asked whether Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu truly believed in a two-state solution. He "had his skepticism," he said, but would reserve judgment until after US President Donald Trump presented his peace plan.

<https://www.timesofisrael.com/abdullah-us-must-get-a-major-israeli-concession-after-jerusalem-recognition/>

On Friday, Breaking Israel News published a report in which they quote Trump speaking to the media at the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland on Friday, as saying that unless the Palestinian Authority shows that it wants to make peace, the US will "not have anything to do with them any longer."

<https://www.breakingisraelnews.com/101609/trump-threatens-sever-connections-pa-unless-work-towards-peace/#pr1K18Q0P6S4qDY8.99>

The Jerusalem Post also reported on this adding that Trump did not hide his anger toward the Palestinians for snubbing Vice President Mike Pence during his visit here this week, saying the US will withhold aid funds to them until they return to negotiations. The Palestinians, he said, "disrespected us" by not "allowing our great vice president to see them, and we give them hundreds of millions of dollars in aid support." That money, Trump said, will not go to the Palestinians "unless they sit down and negotiate peace."

<http://www.jpost.com/printarticle.aspx?id=539831>

Speaking of the Vice President, Ynet News posted an article about how Palestinian Christians are slamming Pence's pro-Israel faith. ...Palestinian Christians say US Vice President Mike Pence's brand of evangelical Christianity, with its fervent embrace of modern-day Israel as fulfillment of biblical prophecy, lacks their faith's compassion and justice. ...The vice president—by his own definition "a Christian, a conservative, a Republican, in that order"—has cited his religious beliefs as the source of his unwavering support of Israel. He has been embraced by so-called Christian Zionists who believe the establishment of the state of Israel is proof of God keeping his promises and a step toward the second coming of Christ. ...Pence on Monday said the recognition of Jerusalem as Israel's capital as the "only true foundation for a just and lasting peace." He also said that he supports a two-state solution, once a pillar of US, Mideast policy, saying President Donald Trump is in favor "if both sides agree."

<https://www.ynetnews.com/articles/0,7340,L-5074816,00.html>

On Wednesday, Jews News published an article in which they quote Israel's Science and Technology Minister as saying that the presidency of Donald Trump is a "miracle" for Israel. ...He also spoke about the speech US Vice President Mike Pence delivered in the Knesset Monday, the raising of the idea of the two-state solution during the speech, and compared the Trump Administration's treatment of Israel to the previous Obama Administration's. He stated that ..."The vice president's speech is the greatest Zionist speech ever delivered by a guest in the Knesset plenum. This is a high point in the relations between Israel and the US since 1948, not only because of the moving announcement about the transfer of the embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem, but also because of the [acknowledgement of the] historical ties and connection between the people of Israel and the Land of Israel, which the Vice President did impressively.

<https://www.jewsnews.co.il/2018/01/24/trumps-administration-is-a-miracle-for-the-jewish-people.html>

It seems that not only is the Trump presidency a miracle for Israel but it's also the end of the world for Evangelicals. At least according to Newsweek it is anyway. Someone emailed me this article last week, and I want to share some interesting quotes from it. "Evangelical Christians overwhelmingly support President Donald Trump because they believe he'll cause the world to end. ...Neil J. Young, a religion historian, told Newsweek ...Christians believe that events in Israel are fundamental to bringing about the end times," Young continued. "At this point, Trump's decision to recognize Jerusalem as the capital of Israel is the only concrete thing that his evangelical supporters can point to as part of fulfilling biblical prophecy to bring about the second coming

of Christ." Meanwhile, the evangelical belief in the end times also includes the eventual conversion to Christianity of the Jewish people. The scenario begins when Christ comes to Earth to take the living Christians who believe in him to heaven and resurrect the dead who were true Christians, an event called the rapture. Afterward, it is believed that the Antichrist will reign on earth during the seven-year period of tribulation. "In this period, many Jews will recognize the Antichrist is a false God and will turn to Jesus. At the end of the seven years, Christ will return to earth with an army of angels and defeat the Antichrist," Young told Newsweek.

<http://www.newsweek.com/trump-will-bring-about-end-worldevangelicals-end-times-779643>

I would suggest that this perception of Trump speeding up the fulfillment of Bible prophecy, might in some measure explain this very encouraging report published in The Christian Journal. It's about a recent study that found progressive and liberal U.S. churches are shrinking while fundamental and nondenominational American Christians are growing. Here are a couple of excerpts from this must read article. "Christians are tired of hearing watered down teachings, instead, according to a recently published study, people of America are turning to Churches that stand on the Word of God. ...it would appear as though, mainstream churches are losing more members than ever before, which explains the original interpretation that Christianity is on the decline. However, the study displays that just because people are leaving a church, it doesn't mean that they are leaving the faith. <https://christianjournal.net/turning-point/culture/study-progressive-and-liberal-churches-are-shrinking-fundamental-and-nondenominational-churches-are-booming/>

- I'd like to close with both an explanation and illustration of what it means to be in the faith, as a Christian in these the last days.
- I'll begin with an illustration of what it means for one to put their faith in Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of sins using your chair.
- Just as you put your faith in that chair to keep you from falling down, so too do you put your faith in Christ to save you from hell.

The ABC's of Salvation - A is for Admit you're a sinner – Romans 3:23 says that all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. The B is for Believe. Romans 10:9-10 says if you believe in your heart that God raised Jesus from the dead, you will be saved. The C is for Call. Romans 10:9-10 also says 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 says that all who call upon the name of the Lord will be saved.