

Mid-East Prophecy Update – February 25th, 2018

- For today's prophecy update, I would like for us to redirect the focus of our attention back to the Middle East, specifically Israel.
- This as the United States, as we know it, is rapidly becoming the "Divided States" and as such seems to now be sealing its fate.
- Lest one think I've given up hope for this great country, let me hasten to say that my hope is not in this world, but it's in the next.

- In order to proceed, I need to do so with the presupposition that you're apprised of key Bible prophecies that today are in play.
- More specifically, Isaiah 17 concerning Syria, Ezekiel 38 concerning Russia and Iran, and Zechariah 12, concerning Jerusalem.
- The reason being is the world continues moving faster than ever toward these and other prophecies beginning to come to pass.

I'll begin with this report published in Haaretz about how Netanyahu threatened to act against Iran and not just against its proxies. "Netanyahu held up a piece of an Iranian drone Israel shot down last week after it infiltrated its territory. Holding the wreckage, Netanyahu asked Iranian Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif, who was sitting in the crowd: 'Do you recognize it? You should, it's yours. Don't test us.'" <https://www.haaretz.com/israel-news/holding-iranian-drone-netanyahu-says-iran-greatest-world-threat-1.5826267>

On Tuesday, Breaking Israel News published a report on the response from Iran in which they quote an Iranian official who threatened to "level" Israel to the Ground. – A senior Iranian official threatened to "level" Israel to the ground on Monday in an interview with the Arabic languages news outlet, al-Manar. "About Netanyahu's unwise words, I should say that if they carry out the slightest unwise move against Iran, we will level Tel Aviv to the ground and will not give any opportunity to Netanyahu to flee," Fars News quoted Secretary of Iran's Expediency Council Mohsen Rezayee as telling al-Manar. ...Rezayee also downplayed the efforts of Israel and the United States (US) under President Donald Trump to rein in Iranian aggression in the region. "The US and Israeli leaders don't know Iran and don't understand the power of resistance and therefore, they continuously face defeat," he claimed. "Today, the situation of the US and Israel indicates their fear of the Zionist regime's collapse and the US decline." <https://www.breakingisraelnews.com/103009/iranian-official-threatens-level-israel-ground/#3Qck2ehsHctclQGt.99>

To me, these kinds of threats can only go on for so long before a war has to ultimately break out, and according to this analysis in Arutz Sheva, it seems that it's really only a matter of time now. The commander of IDF Operations said in an interview on Monday, that, "We will probably witness a major war between Israel and the Iranian axis this year," saying that, "the year 2018 has the potential for escalation, not necessarily because either side wants to initiate it, but because of a gradual deterioration. This has led us to raise the level of preparedness..." He added that his assessment was based on what is currently happening in Syria where the Russian and Iranian-backed pro-Assad axis is in the process of eliminating the last pockets of resistance. ...The seriousness of the situation has been underlined by a recent statement of the Iranian general overseeing the Iran's preparations for a war with Israel. <http://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/242327>

Speaking of the propensity for a war this year, in May of this year, the Trump administration will officially relocate the US embassy in Israel from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem and it will be timed with Israel's 70th Independence Day, a State Department official confirmed to The Jerusalem Post on Friday. <http://www.jpost.com/printarticle.aspx?id=543467>

The Jerusalem Post is also reporting that according to Nikki Haley, Trump's Middle East peace plan is nearly ready. She "...addressed a number of issues, ...among them the likelihood that the US would push for a Palestinian state. ...These comments came two days after Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas made a speech to the UN Security Council in which he requested the UN find an alternative to solely US-mediated negotiations. <http://www.jpost.com/printarticle.aspx?id=543451>

According to Ynet News, Nikki Haley is also saying that said peace plan "won't be loved by either side." Quoting Ynet, US envoy to the UN Nikki Haley announces in Chicago she thinks the Trump administration is 'finishing up' a draft Mideast peace proposal which also 'won't be hated by either side;' remains vague on whether it centers on a two-state solution, but says it's a matter for Israel and the Palestinians to decide. <https://www.ynetnews.com/articles/0,7340,L-5127424,00.html>

On Tuesday, Arutz Sheva published an article in which they quote Mahmoud Abbas as saying that Palestinians are direct the descendants of the Canaanites, claiming that 'Palestine' made significant contributions to humanity prior to the 1917 Balfour Declaration. <https://www.israelnationalnews.com/Generic/Generic/SendPrint?print=1&type=0&item=242203>

- I suppose the question that needs to be asked in light of these fast moving developments is, "what does all of it mean to us?"
- The answer to that question is this, "it means that the time is at hand, and the Lord's return is closer than any of us might think."
- It's for this reason it's incumbent upon every one of us to be like the men of Issachar who understood the times they were in.

1 Chronicles 12:32 (NKJV) — 32 of the sons of Issachar who had understanding of the times, to know what Israel ought to do, their chiefs were two hundred; and all their brethren were at their command;

Romans 13:11–14 - 11 And do this, understanding the present time: The hour has already come for you to wake up from your slumber, because our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed. 12 The night is nearly over; the day is almost here. So let us put aside the deeds of darkness and put on the armor of light. 13 Let us behave decently, as in the daytime, not in carousing and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and debauchery, not in dissension and jealousy. 14 Rather, clothe yourselves with the Lord Jesus Christ, and do not think about how to gratify the desires of the flesh.