

## Mid-East Prophecy Update – July 8<sup>th</sup>, 2018

- For today's prophecy update I want to talk about what I would argue is the greatest threat of an impending attack against Israel.
- While there are kite bombs over Israel, and earthquakes in Israel, it's the Syrian border with Israel, that's a great threat to Israel.
- I've long held to the belief that the specificity of prophecies in the Bible point to Damascus Syria being a trigger and a catalyst.

Isaiah 17:1 - A prophecy against Damascus: "See, Damascus will no longer be a city but will become a heap of ruins.

- One need look no further than to a Middle East map to see the strategic and even prophetic location of the Israel-Syria border.
- I would submit that it's only a matter of time before the aforementioned prophecy against Damascus in Isaiah 17:1 is fulfilled.
- When, not if it is, I believe it will set in motion the prophecy in Ezekiel 38 concerning the Russian Iranian led attack on Israel.

This because, Russia and Iran have no intentions of going anywhere other than into and against Israel vis-à-vis Syria as evidenced by this Times of Israel report about the Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov saying that it would be "absolutely unrealistic" to expect Iran to completely withdraw from Syria.

<https://www.timesofisrael.com/russia-complete-iranian-withdrawal-from-syria-is-absolutely-unrealistic/>

To make matters worse, this comes at a time when the 1974 Separation of Forces Agreement between Israel and Syria may be in danger of collapsing. According to YNet News Syria announced its intention to return military forces to the town of Quneitra, located three kilometers from the Israeli border. On Wednesday, ... Israel's IDF Chief of Staff ...visited ...the eastern Golan Heights in order to assess the situation and the possible scenarios that could erupt as a result. The IDF is preparing for the possibility that the Syrians will not respect the 1974 agreement, which could lead to a military conflict with Israel.

<https://www.ynetnews.com/articles/0,7340,L-5304538,00.html>

As you might imagine, Israel will not sit idly by, which explains this Jerusalem Post report about how the IDF is beefing up its troops on the Golan Heights near Syria. ..."The IDF attaches great importance to maintaining the 1974 disengagement agreement between Israel and Syria," read the army statement, adding that while the IDF will continue to maintain the principle of non-involvement in the Syrian civil war, it will continue its "policy of reacting firmly to cases in which Israeli sovereignty is harmed and Israeli civilians are threatened." ...In early June, Maj.-Gen. Tamir Heyman warned at a closed-door conference that Tehran is trying to increase its efforts and capabilities to launch rockets and establish terror cells that can penetrate into Israel and harm communities on Israel's Golan Heights. Displaying a map showing where Iranian forces are based in Syria, Heyman told the crowd at the conference: "You probably think, well this is because they are trying to help the Assad regime to fight terror... but there is no threat to [Syrian President Bashar] Assad, so why do they stay? If they came in order to only assist the regime so then thank you and goodbye."

<https://www.jpost.com/printarticle.aspx?id=561258>

Thankfully, Israel knows the real reason Iran is seeking to entrench themselves on the Syria-Israel border, and to his credit, Benjamin Netanyahu has made it explicitly clear in no uncertain terms that they will destroy any Iranian, Hezbollah, or militia's that take up positions on its Golan Heights border. According to Breaking Israel News, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu is due to meet Russian President Vladimir Putin next week to discuss this very thing.

<https://www.breakingisraelnews.com/110504/netanyahu-to-meet-putin-again/>

- The question becomes one of what does all of this mean, especially to those caught up with the cares and affairs of this world.
- The reason I say that in that way is because of the apathy and disinterest that has taken up residence within the church today.
- I suppose we shouldn't be surprised given that Jesus spoke to this by way of a letter to another church in the city of Laodicea.

Revelation 3:14–22 - 14 "And to the angel of the church of the Laodiceans write, 'These things says the Amen, the Faithful and True Witness, the Beginning of the creation of God: 15 "I know your works, that you are neither cold nor hot. I could wish you were cold or hot. 16 So then, because you are lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will vomit you out of My mouth. 17 Because you say, 'I am rich, have become wealthy, and have need of nothing'—and do not know that you are wretched, miserable, poor, blind, and naked—18 I counsel you to buy from Me gold refined in the fire, that you may be rich; and white garments, that you may be clothed, that the shame of your nakedness may not be revealed; and anoint your eyes with eye salve, that you may see. 19 As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten. Therefore be zealous and repent. 20 Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and dine with him, and he with Me. 21 To him who overcomes I will grant to sit with Me on My throne, as I also overcame and sat down with My Father on His throne. 22 "He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches." ' ' "

- It's important to understand that this was to the lukewarm Christians within the church, not to those who weren't yet Christians.
- That message is different, such that it's the message of the good news of salvation in Jesus Christ, also known as the gospel.
- The gospel of Jesus Christ is that Jesus died for our sins, was buried, rose again on the third day, and is coming again one day.

The ABC's of Salvation – The A is for Admit you're a sinner, (Romans 3:23).

The B is for Believe, (Romans 10:9-10). The C is for Call, (Romans 10:9-10 13).