

## Mid-East Prophecy Update – July 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2017

- For today's prophecy update I'd like to share with you what the Lord has been ministering to me over the last couple of weeks.
- As many of you know, I took my family to New York for my 10-year old daughter, Sabia, to audition for the U.S. Tennis Open.
- It was my daughters first time off the island since she was born, and my first time leaving in two years since Israel back in 2015.

- While there we visited The Brooklyn Tabernacle, which was on my bucket list, as God has used Jim Cymbala mightily in my life.
- Not just me, but my 19-year old son, Elias, who met pastor Cymbala and took the time to lay hands on him, and pray for him.
- This after he met Sabia and asked her to sing at their Tuesday night prayer meeting, which she did singing "Kanaka Wai Wai."

- The reason I wanted to begin by sharing this with you is because this particular trip had a powerful and profound impact on me.
- From the conversations with the Muslims in New York, to the fellowship with believers in Brooklyn, and everything in between.
- I have to say that it was rather eye opening in the sense that I now have a much better understanding related to Bible prophecy.

- I'm hoping you'll kindly indulge me for the remainder of our time together today, as I expound on this eye opening experience.
- As I was observing the thousands of people in Times Square, I was struck with how they have no idea about what's coming.
- This really shed new light on how the Lord's return will be as a thief in the night, when Jesus comes at an hour they expect not.

Luke 12:39–40 (NKJV) — 39 But know this, that if the master of the house had known what hour the thief would come, he would have watched and not allowed his house to be broken into. 40 Therefore you also be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect."

Matthew 16:2–3 (NKJV) — 2 He answered and said to them, "When it is evening you say, 'It will be fair weather, for the sky is red'; 3 and in the morning, 'It will be foul weather today, for the sky is red and threatening.' Hypocrites! You know how to discern the face of the sky, but you cannot discern the signs of the times.

- Here's where I'm headed with all of this, those massive lit signs blanketing buildings, were there to get people coming to them.
- Yet, if you were to look past all those signs, what you'll see is they point to Jesus Christ returning and instead coming to get us.
- What follows are specific signs I would argue point to prophecies in the Bible all of which are an indication of how close we are.

I'll begin with what I hope is a well-known prophecy in Isaiah 17 concerning Damascus, Syria becoming a ruinous heap, so much so, it's uninhabitable, and I do so by drawing your attention to several articles, the first of which is this one in YNet News. It seems that Russia is accusing and even threatening the US for "preparing a provocation in Syria." A Russian Foreign Ministry spokeswoman said that Moscow has received information that Syrian rebels have already fabricated video material to accuse Damascus of a chemical attack. She did not elaborate. The White House has said Assad is preparing for another chemical attack and warned that the Syrian ruler will "pay a heavy price" if he unleashes it. <http://www.ynetnews.com/articles/0,7340,L-4982562,00.html>

Suffice it to say this recent development is making Israel extremely nervous as evidenced by this Jerusalem Post article in which Israel told Russia, "We're concerned your tensions with the US might endanger our border." In an interview with The Jerusalem Post on how Israel maintains warm ties with Russia despite disagreements on Syria, Knesset Speaker Yuli Edelstein speaking with Russia's Foreign Minister said, "Israel has its own redlines, and it's not a secret that we can't tolerate the shooting from the Syrian side into the Israeli territory, and we definitely cannot tolerate the presence of Hezbollah or Iran.

<http://www.jpost.com/printarticle.aspx?id=498286>

In addition to Israel warning Russia, Syria is also warning Israel that further attacks will have serious repercussions. According to The Jerusalem Post, the Syrian military threatened Israel that should it launch any further attacks on Syrian army targets, Israel will have to take the responsibility for repercussions that can ensue... This threat comes after the IDF struck targets belonging to forces loyal to Syrian President Bashar Assad's regime in response to the errant fire that hit northern Israel earlier in the day. ...Last Sunday was the second day in a row that the Israeli-Syrian border has been effected by a spillover from the ongoing conflict in Syria.

<http://www.jpost.com/printarticle.aspx?id=497912>

Oh by the way, on the very same day, The Jerusalem Post published another report that Netanyahu warned Iran over Syria's involvement after the aforementioned Golan exchange. A day after the spillover from Syria, which prompted a retaliatory IDF strike, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu stressed that Israel will not allow the Islamic Republic of Iran to establish a permanent presence on the Golan border.

<http://www.jpost.com/printarticle.aspx?id=497840>

Again, this was last Sunday then, three days later; the Post publishes another article about Iran's flag on Israel's border sending the message, 'We are coming.' There is now a visible presence of Iran just a stone's throw from Israel. It's not the only Iranian symbol here. On a hill overlooking houses being constructed in Metulla is another huge poster with a photo of the Dome of the Rock. The face of Ayatollah Khomeini glowers down over the dome and Hezbollah has written: "We are coming" in Hebrew and Arabic. They've put a giant Palestinian flag next to the poster. The message is clear, and disconcerting.

<http://www.jpost.com/printarticle.aspx?id=498122>

- This further reinforces my belief that the Isaiah 17 prophecy concerning Syria will be the catalyst for the Ezekiel 38 prophecy.
- In other words, when, not if, Damascus Syria becomes a ruinous and uninhabitable heap, Russia, Iran, et al, will attack Israel.
- I would submit with the wars and threats of wars happening now, the fulfillment of these prophecies can happen anytime now.

- It's for this reason that I would implore anyone who has never called upon the name of the Lord to be saved, to do this today.
- If you'll hear me out for just a few more minutes before we partake together of communion, I would like to explain how to you.
- I do so by way of the ABC's of salvation, which is a childlike simple presentation of the good news of salvation in Jesus Christ.

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.