

## Special Prophecy Update – September 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2017

- After seeking the Lord this last week, I sensed that the Holy Spirit was leading me to do a special prophecy update for today.
- This for a number of reasons, one of which is that I'll be gone next week, and will have Mac filling in for me Sunday, the 10<sup>th</sup>.
- Another reason is that I wanted to share something that the Lord had laid upon my heart and I didn't want to rush communion.

- If you're anything like me and I suspect you are, this unspeakable devastation from Hurricane Harvey has been heartbreaking.
- One of the things that struck me about this was the peculiarity of how sudden this storm developed and how destructive it was.
- It seems Harvey will go down in the record books as being the most destructive hurricane in the history of the United States.

- For those wishing to support the relief effort I want to refer you to both Samaritan's Purse and the Calvary Chapel Association.
- Samaritan's Purse already has teams on the ground and you can donate or get involved by going to [www.samaritanspurse.org](http://www.samaritanspurse.org).
- The Calvary Chapel Association also now has boots on the ground and their website is, [www.calvarychapelassociation.com](http://www.calvarychapelassociation.com).

- I want to talk about two aspects of this storm first as it relates to the prophetic implication and second the personal application.
- Actually, both sort of tie in together as it relates to what this catastrophic event means to us though not in the area that was hit.
- I suppose you could say that this epic, historic and even prophetic storm has and should have the affect of waking people up.

- Last week I commented that we didn't have major disasters under Obama and that I was suspect of connecting this to Israel.
- I also made the comment that I was open to correction, and suffice it to say that I was on the receiving end of said correction.
- After reaching out to Bill Koenig through a mutual friend, I want to go on the record and say that I receive the correction in love.

I want to recommend the expanded version of Koenig's book "Eye to Eye – Facing the Consequences of Dividing Israel," which will be available this Thursday, September 7<sup>th</sup>. It will have a total of 576 pages and 60 percent new content. The replacement theology chapter has been updated. The catastrophes and/or events that occurred during President George W. Bush's final four-year term, President Barack Obama's two four-year terms and the first six months of President Trump's first term are documented. There is also a new chapter on Benjamin Netanyahu. Also Koenig notes that there have been 126 catastrophes and/or events from October 1991, the time of the Madrid Land for Peace Conference (which was the beginning of the peace process), to July 1, 2017.

As for connecting the prophetic dots of Harvey Koenig provided the following, "To say the least, the timing of White House senior advisor Jared Kushner, Middle East envoy Jason Greenblatt, and Deputy National Security Adviser Dina Powell meetings in Saudi Arabia, Qatar, UAE, Jordan, Egypt and Israel and the rapid reformation of Harvey when it looked like it was finished as a tropical threat was awe-inspiring. On Wednesday, August 23, the day that Jared Kushner, Jason Greenblatt and Dina Powell arrived in Jerusalem, after three and a half days of non-activity Harvey quickly became a tropical storm and within 48 hours a major record-setting Category 4 hurricane. Much of Jared Kushner and his team's schedule the week of August 20-24, especially the meetings in Saudi Arabia, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates (UAE), were somewhat secretive. I had to review some of the Arab news websites to establish the schedule. The bottom line, Kushner's week was focused on the Israeli-Palestinian peace process. It was a serious effort on behalf of President Donald Trump. Meanwhile, Hurricane Harvey became a major record-setting Category 4 hurricane that pummeled southern Texas, Friday, August 25 ...and into the early hours Saturday morning. It continued to produce record rain totals through the southern and eastern parts of Texas and western Louisiana for five days. Harvey was the first major hurricane to hit the U.S. since Hurricane Wilma in 2005. It is said to be a "once-in-500-years-storm."

Koenig isn't alone in his belief that this was a result the US pressuring Israel to acquiesce to what I call the "Palestinian lie." On Thursday, Breaking Israel News published an article titled, "Hurricane Katrina, Harvey, and the Israeli-Palestinian Peace Process." Here's some of what the writer had to say, "No sooner than the Trump trio, of White House Senior Adviser Jared Kushner, Special Envoy Jason Greenblatt and Deputy National Security Adviser for Strategy Dina Habib Powell (born in Egypt and living in Texas), came to the Middle East, meeting with Israeli and Palestinian officials, then shuttling to meetings with leaders of Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, Egypt and Jordan, to try and restart the Israeli-Palestinian "Peace Process," Hurricane Harvey began to hit Texas, with its G-D given power of destruction. Now, exactly twelve years later, Louisiana is being hit again too. In my September 2005 article, "Israel to America, I Warned You..." I wrote, "Well, it's begun; less than a week after the Israeli army expelled thousands of Jews from their homes in Gaza and Northern Samaria, uprooting 25 communities, American troops were "evacuating" people from their homes in Louisiana and Mississippi. The greatest "natural" disaster has happened in American history. The Hand of G-D is written all over this one." ...He goes on to explain that in his "June 2005 article, "Israel, Tell America the cold, hard truth," that he warned, "America, your country is in danger. The G-D of Israel, who has brought His people (the Jews) home after 2,000 years, is watching your every move. Stop pushing Israel into suicidal concessions (giving away parts of its homeland to a non-existent group, the so-called Palestinians), before it's too late, and your fate is sealed." As I said then, "The redemption of the Jewish People and their return to the Holy Land (Israel) is an unstoppable divine process...the "Palestinians" won't stop it, the Europeans won't stop it, and America won't stop it. If America continues to promote the "rights" of the "Palestinians" (what the Bible calls "a non-people" – Deut. 32:21), know that you are going against the G-D of History and Jewish destiny. Beware!"

The writer goes on to argue that “the Trump administration is continuing to work, to sacrifice Israel, on the Altar of “Middle East Peace,” to gain support of a Sunni coalition of states against Shiite Iran. ...The Saudi Ambassador to Washington, Khaled bin Salman, cited by the Washington Post, noted that his older brother, Mohammed bin Salman, the Crown Prince of Saudi Arabia, was “optimistic in light of the commitment of Donald Trump to achieve a just and lasting peace between Israel and the Palestinians.” ... America’s support for the expulsion of Jews from Gush Katif in Gaza ran counter to G-D’s Plan, and it’s clear that His “payback time” came swift and furious, as Hurricane Katrina uprooted whole communities along America’s Gulf Coast. So too now, America’s new attempts to promote “Peace,” with the threat of throwing Jews out of their homes from Judea and Samaria, has brought the catastrophe that is Hurricane Harvey, to Texas and Louisiana. Just as Jews were made refugees from Gush Katif, so were Americans. Just as Jews lost homes and property, so did Americans...And now again with Hurricane Harvey!

<https://www.breakingisraelnews.com/94044/hurricane-katrina-harvey-israeli-palestinian-peace-process-opinion/#0F8sZrcOXQ1effKM.97>

- This brings me to the personal application, which again, sort of ties into the prophetic implication, this for two important reasons.
- First, it speaks to how disasters like Hurricane Harvey have the affect of waking people up to the times in which we are living.
- Say what you will about the aforementioned connecting of the prophetic dots, but you can’t say that this isn’t a sign of the times.

Matthew 24:3–8 — 3 As Jesus was sitting on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to him privately. “Tell us,” they said, “when will this happen, and what will be the sign of your coming and of the end of the age?” 4 Jesus answered: “Watch out that no one deceives you. 5 For many will come in my name, claiming, ‘I am the Messiah,’ and will deceive many. 6 You will hear of wars and rumors of wars, but see to it that you are not alarmed. Such things must happen, but the end is still to come. 7 Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be famines and earthquakes in various places. 8 All these are the beginning of birth pains.

- The second important reason related to the personal application is how disasters like this speaking to the problem of suffering.
- Specifically that of why is there pain and suffering in the world, and the question of why do bad things happen to good people.
- I’m hoping you’ll kindly indulge me for the remainder of our time together as I attempt to address this from a Biblical worldview.

- Please know that what follows is not exhaustive, rather, it’s an attempt to better understand the problem of pain and suffering.
- For those interested in a more in-depth study on this topic, I did a three part series titled “The Problem of Christian Suffering.”
- It was six years ago back in June of 2011, and you should be able to locate it either on our website or our YouTube channel.

- First, let me address the question of “why do bad things happen to good people,” by saying that this question is the wrong one.
- The question should be asked, “Why do good things happen to bad people;” this because, there’s no one righteous or good.
- Second, let me hasten to say we live in a fallen world, and bad things happen to the godly as well as those who are ungodly.

- But God, as only He can, takes the bad and makes it good for those who love Him and are called according to His purpose.
- It’s for this reason, that the question should now become what is God’s purpose in allowing us to experience pain and suffering.
- I would suggest that there are numerous reasons that God permits painful trials into the lives of His people, and here are a few.

1. God may be trying to get my attention – Ecclesiastes 7:14
2. God may be protecting me from a greater trial – Matthew 14:22-32
3. God may be preparing me for what He’s preparing for me – Genesis 50:20
4. God may be humbling me so I’m completely dependent upon Him – 2 Corinthians 12:7-10
5. God may be using my pain and suffering to comfort others – 2 Corinthians 1:3-7
6. God may be maturing me spiritually so I can develop perseverance – James 1:2-8
7. God may be showing me my helplessness so I cry out to Him for help – 2 Chronicles 20:5-23

- Often times, God allows disaster to strike because that’s what it takes to bring someone to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ.
- I’m personally of the belief that Hurricane Harvey, like the disasters before it, will be that which turns many to the Lord Jesus.
- Perhaps God has allowed a catastrophic storm into your life for this very purpose, which is that of calling on the name of Jesus.

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.

Luke 22:14-20 - 14 When the hour had come, He sat down, and the twelve apostles with Him. 15 Then He said to them, “With fervent desire I have desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer; 16 for I say to you, I will no longer eat of it until it is fulfilled in the kingdom of God.” 17 Then He took the cup, and gave thanks, and said, “Take this and divide it among yourselves; 18 for I say to you, I will not drink of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes.” 19 And He took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to them, saying, “This is My body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of Me.” 20 Likewise He also took the cup after supper, saying, “This cup is the new covenant in My blood, which is shed for you.