

Mid-East Prophecy Update – December 30th, 2018

- For today's prophecy update I want to apprise you of what I believe we'll be looking at and talking about more in the year 2019.
- Namely, the fast moving developments concerning Russia, Iran, Turkey, et al, subsequent to US troops withdrawal from Syria.
- Meanwhile, here in the U.S., there are also fast moving developments as it relates to what some believe will happen in January.

- You'll forgive the analogy, but it's as if both sides are preparing their attack against their enemy, anticipating an imminent war.
- This as the partial government shutdown and with it showdown, continues with what some experts are saying, no end in sight.
- As such the jury is still out, as it were, as we await the verdict as to what will happen when the Democrats control the house.

- The reason I'm factoring in the geopolitical dynamics here in the U.S. is because of the specific details in two Bible prophecies.
- First, in Isaiah 17:1, we're told that Damascus, Syria, will become a ruinous heap, so much so that it will become uninhabitable.
- It's believed that after this, or in concert with this, the Ezekiel 38 prophecy will be fulfilled, without the America defending Israel.

Ezekiel 38:23 - Thus I will magnify Myself and sanctify Myself, and I will be known in the eyes of many nations. Then they shall know that I am the LORD.”'

- The question we need to be asking and answering is are we on the cusp of the U.S. becoming inconsequential in the Mid East.
- If so, then we may also very well be on the cusp of the Russia, Iran, Turkey alliance of nations invading Israel, vis-à-vis Syria.
- What follows, is what I would argue is the alignment of these nations, simultaneously with the systematic dismantling of the US.

Let's start with this interesting Times of Israel article in which they quote President Trump as saying, "I told Bibi... "We're going to take good care of Israel. Israel is going to be good. But we give Israel \$4.5 billion a year. And we give them, frankly, a lot more money than that, if you look at the books — a lot more money than that. And they've been doing a very good job for themselves," he added.
https://www.timesofisrael.com/trump-we-give-israel-billions-it-can-defend-itself-in-syria/?utm_source=dvr.it&utm_medium=twitter

It seems the absence of the US in Syria has strengthened Netanyahu's resolve concerning Iran in. The Times of Israel reported that Netanyahu is vowing to continue hitting Iran in Syria and is quoted as saying "We stand firmly on our red lines." According to the Times, the Prime Minister is saying that the US military pullout from Syria will not alter Israel's policy of preventing Iranian military from entrenchment in Syria. ...He was also quoted as saying, "We are taking action against it aggressively and powerfully, including in these very days."
<https://www.timesofisrael.com/netanyahu-vows-to-keep-hitting-iran-in-syria-we-stand-firmly-on-our-red-lines/>

As you might imagine, Israel's aggressive and powerful airstrikes attacking Iranian-linked targets in Syria was met with Russia's condemnation. Arutz Sheva reported that Russia had accused Israel of a gross violation of Syrian sovereignty in an alleged Israeli airstrike on Hezbollah leaders in Damascus. However, "Israel has not confirmed or denied that it is behind the airstrike."
<http://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/256739?fbclid=IwAR0Dp1tejCHiITUpJvalIWUhs8defQ5N8lRbnbvF6tKXqM9L5EaDhwf6NgwY>

Perhaps this also explains why, according to YNet News, Russia expects the Syrian government to take over the areas where the US troops are currently deployed following their withdrawal.
<https://www.ynetnews.com/articles/0,7340,L-5433973,00.html>

I believe Russia has no intentions of allowing Syria to control anything, as Russia wants to control everything, and it's evidenced by this Al Jazeera report about Putin hailing the successful test of Russia's new hypersonic missile, which will enter service next year... When first presenting it, the Russian president said the new missile system has an intercontinental range and can fly in the atmosphere at 20 times the speed of sound, bypassing the enemy's missile defense. He emphasized that no other country currently has hypersonic weapons.
<https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2018/12/putin-hails-successful-test-russia-hypersonic-missile-181227021622587.html>

The timing of this should come as no surprise given this report from Arab News about Russia's plan to host a Putin-Erdogan-Rouhani summit in early 2019. It should be noted that the last meeting between Russia's Vladimir Putin, Iran's Hassan Rouhani and Turkey's Recep Tayyip Erdogan took place in Iran in September.
<http://www.arabnews.com/node/1427006/middle-east>

Some suggest Trump's announcement of the troop withdrawal was because of his much-anticipated "Ultimate Deal." What's interesting is now it may be again put on the back burner until the summer due to Israel's "snap elections" on April 9th. According to The Times of Israel, Israel's early election will significantly delay the publication of the US administration's much-awaited proposal for Israeli-Palestinian peace, as the White House keeps the plan on the back-burner for fear of influencing the vote.
<https://www.timesofisrael.com/snap-elections-may-put-trumps-peace-plan-on-back-burner-until-summer/>

- Suffice it to say, 2019 is going to be very interesting as we watch all of these developments of profound prophetic significance.
- It's my prayer that doing the updates continues to be of great encouragement and hope as our redemption draws ever so nigh.
- It's also my hope that many will come to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ by way of the gospel of salvation in Jesus Christ.

- It's for this reason that we end our weekly prophecy updates with the Gospel of Jesus Christ and the simple ABC's of Salvation.
- The Gospel, or good news is that Jesus was crucified, buried, rose again on the third day, and is coming back for us one day.
- That's the Gospel, and the ABC's of Salvation is a simple childlike explanation of how to respond to the Gospel and be saved.

The ABC's of Salvation - The A is for Admit you're a sinner and your need for the Savior, (Romans 3:10, 23 – 6:23).

- The B is for Believe in your heart that Jesus is Lord and God raised Him from the dead, (Romans 10:9-10).

- The C is for Call upon the name of the Lord and confess with your mouth that Jesus Christ is Lord, (Romans 10:9-10, 13).