

## Mid-East Prophecy Update – January 27<sup>th</sup>, 2019

- For today's prophecy update I want to argue the case that the world is ready like never before for first peace that leads to war.
- In order to see this on the horizon, one need look no further than to the geopolitical landscape, particularly in the Middle East.
- I'll begin with two prophecies in the Bible, one of which is in the Old Testament and the other, which is in the New Testament.

1 Thessalonians 5:3 - While people are saying, "Peace and safety," destruction will come on them suddenly, as labor pains on a pregnant woman, and they will not escape.

Daniel 8:25 - And through his policy also he shall cause craft to prosper in his hand; and he shall magnify himself in his heart, and by peace shall destroy many: he shall also stand up against the Prince of princes; but he shall be broken without hand.

- The common denominator between both of these prophecies is they speak to how the ensuing destruction, comes by peace.
- In other words, there will first be this pseudo peace, as it were, which will ultimately lead to the sudden destruction in the end.
- It's my belief that we have been, and are now seeing this begin to come to pass, which means it is now just a matter of time.

Let's start with this Arutz Sheva report about US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo saying that President Donald Trump's long-awaited Middle East peace plan efforts will begin "immediately" following the Israeli elections this April. While this is not necessarily breaking news, what's interesting is Pompeo said, "Ultimately, the Israelis and the Palestinians will have to come to an agreement. <http://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/258015?fbclid=IwAR1SItNcOqgEf3rP5bsq5aRoGJgggMD2FL5sq9D5pBQHfYF3RlWlqNUgV75w>

It seems the pressure on the Trump administration is mounting as evidenced by this Jerusalem Post article about how Jared Kushner is planning Trump's peace push before the heat of the 2020 presidential race. According to the Post, Jared Kushner, Trump's son-in-law who is leading the peace team, will be a public face of the effort while also leading the private push for a resumption of talks. He then reportedly plans on being involved in Trump's reelection bid once the general campaign enters full swing in the spring of 2020. <https://www.jpost.com/printarticle.aspx?id=578296>

The jury may be out on when the peace plan is unveiled and whether or not it will be successful, but the verdict is in concerning the threat of war from Iran in Syria. According to Al Arabiya, The commander of Iran's air force, Brigadier Aziz Nasirzadeh, said that Iran will "eliminate Israel from the Earth..." This comes after Israel's military said on Monday it struck Iranian Quds targets inside Syria and warned Syrian forces not to attack Israeli territory or forces. <https://english.alarabiya.net/en/News/middle-east/2019/01/21/Iran-air-force-chief-threatens-to-make-Israel-vanish-from-earth-.html>

As you might imagine, Israel will not sit idly by amidst any threat, especially when it comes to Iran. Al Arabia published another report about how Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said Israel's air strikes on Syria on Monday had mainly targeted military positions set up by Iran, which he warned would face consequences for threatening to destroy Israel. "We are operating both against Iran and against the Syrian forces that are abetting the Iranian aggression," Netanyahu said in a speech. "We will strike at anyone who tried to harm us. Whoever threatens to eliminate us, bears full responsibility," he said. <https://english.alarabiya.net/en/News/middle-east/2019/01/26/Bandar-bin-Sultan-Obama-took-region-back-due-to-his-Middle-East-policies.html>

It seems, according to YNet News that whoever threatens Israel may bring with it a three front war in 2019. Israel could face military conflicts on three different fronts—Syria, Lebanon and the Gaza Strip—at the same time in 2019, according to an annual assessment of security challenges done by the Institute for National Security Studies (INSS), a national security think-tank. <https://www.ynetnews.com/articles/0,7340,L-5450323,00.html>

This brings us to this Times of Israel article about information warfare, along with global warming and the danger of nuclear war, bringing us as close to destroying the planet as ever, as the symbolic Doomsday Clock stayed at two minutes to midnight. The Times quotes the "Bulletin of Atomic Scientists" as saying that "Humanity now faces two simultaneous existential threats, either of which would be cause for extreme concern and immediate attention..." It was what the article ended with that really caught my attention. "Jerry Brown, executive chair of the Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists and former governor of California, said world leaders are not doing enough to scale back the threat of nuclear weapons. "The blindness and stupidity of the politicians and their consultants is truly shocking in the face of nuclear catastrophe and danger," Brown said. "We are almost like travelers on the Titanic, not seeing the iceberg up ahead but enjoying the elegant dining and music." Brown also took issue with journalists who report on every word the US president utters on social media. "Journalists, yes, you love Trump's tweets. You love the news of the day. You love the leads that get the clicks but the final click could be a nuclear accident, or mistake, and that is what we all have to be worried about." <https://www.timesofisrael.com/fake-news-among-threats-keeping-doomsday-clock-at-two-minutes-to-midnight/>

- Dare I say that the world is only one click away from the fulfillment of Bible prophecy, which means our redemption draws near.
- This is why we do these weekly prophecy updates and end 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.

### **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).