

Mid-East Prophecy Update – March 17th, 2019

- I have to confess I was overwhelmed preparing today's prophecy update for what I think would be deemed obvious reasons.
- Namely, the volume of prophetically significant developments in the Middle East, and in particular here in the United States.
- As I was seeking the Lord and sorting through everything, I was given a supernatural peace concerning all that is happening.

John 14:27–30 - 27 Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid. 28 You have heard Me say to you, 'I am going away and coming back to you.' If you loved Me, you would rejoice because I said, 'I am going to the Father,' for My Father is greater than I. 29 "And now I have told you before it comes, that when it does come to pass, you may believe. 30 I will no longer talk much with you, for the ruler of this world is coming, and he has nothing in Me.

- I sensed that the Holy Spirit was prompting me to start off in this way so as to provide all of us with a much-needed perspective.
- This because, that which has happened, is now happening, and is yet to happen can lead to a troubled heart, that's full of fear.
- Thankfully, this need not be for the believer in and follower of Jesus by virtue of how this ever-darkening world is not our home.

- I'm hoping you'll kindly indulge me as I share with you specifically how it is God settled my heart in spite of all that's happening.
- More specifically, how it is that God by the Holy Spirit enabled me to view the unsettling events through the lens of prophecy.
- In the interest of time, I've selected what I would argue are the most significant events that took place from just this last week.

I'll start with this Times of Israel report about the rockets fired into Tel Aviv for the first time in 5-years, back in 2014. According to The Times, the growing assumption among Israeli army officials is that Thursday's rockets were fired from Gaza toward Tel Aviv by mistake... Shortly after the strikes began, the Israel Defense Forces issued a statement saying the " Hamas terror group carried out the rocket fire." Hamas has denied it was behind the move, but Hazem Qassim, a spokesman for the terror group, said that the people of Gaza would "continue its fight." The missile launches came less than a month before the April 9 Knesset elections. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/9-rockets-fired-at-border-towns-idf-assesses-tel-aviv-rocket-attack-was-mistake/>

Perhaps it goes without saying but the timing of this is very interesting, given that President Trump's peace plan will be unveiled subsequent to the April 9th elections, now only 23-days away. Joel Rosenberg had an interesting article in the Jerusalem Post addressing the many critics who are suggesting that it will be "dead on arrival." Here's some of what he had to say, "Critics aren't waiting to read the actual text. They've already declared the effort doomed from the start. Yet such cynicism could very well prove wildly off the mark. ...DESPITE SUCH a barrage of criticism, there are, however, two reasons why such conventional wisdom may prove entirely wrong. First, the Trump team could stun everyone by including provisions in its plan that the Palestinians would find far too attractive to dismiss, drawing them back to the negotiating table despite all their trash talk. ... There is, however, a second and potentially more compelling reason why the conventional wisdom could be wrong. The Trump team may not be worried in the slightest that the Palestinian leadership will reject its plan. Indeed, it may actually be counting on it and hoping that one Gulf Arab state after another will become so fed up with perennial Palestinian rejectionism that they will decide to finally take bold steps toward full peace with Israel. <https://www.jpost.com/printarticle.aspx?id=583054>

This brings us to this Fox News report about the Christchurch New Zealand Mosque shootings and how Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez slammed those expressing thoughts and prayers tweeting, "What good are your thoughts & prayers when they don't even keep the pews safe?" <https://www.foxnews.com/politics/aoc-draws-ire-ripping-your-thoughts-and-prayers-after-christchurch-mosque-shootings>

- Here's where I'm going with this, absent the understanding of Bible prophecy, one can become hopeless and give in to despair.
- Let me explain, when I know that God's Word says these things are going to happen at the time of the end, it all makes sense.
- So much so that instead of being horrified by what's happening against Israel, and to America, I can actually be very excited.

Luke 21:28 – "Now when these things begin to happen, look up and lift up your heads, because your redemption draws near."

- This of course presupposes you're right with the Lord and ready for the Lord, as this hope is only for those who are born again.
- 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).