

Mid-East Prophecy Update – April 14th, 2019

- For today's prophecy update, I want to talk to you about two significant developments that took place in just the last few days.
- First, the election of Benjamin Netanyahu as the Prime Minister of Israel and the unveiling of Trump's peace plan that ensues.
- Second, the developing situation in Syria as it relates to Russia, Turkey, Iran and what's now happening in Sudan and Libya.

- For the benefit of those to whom Bible prophecy is new, Ezekiel 38 lists the aforementioned nations in an allied attack on Israel.
- Also Isaiah 17 is a detailed description of the total and even sudden destruction of Damascus Syria when the invasion happens.
- I am personally of the belief that we are on the cusp of these specific prophecies coming to pass, under the banner of "peace."

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.

I'll begin with this Arutz Sheva report about how aides to President Donald Trump expect him to release his peace plan for Israel and the PA once Netanyahu forms a coalition. ...Officials said that despite criticism of the administration's moves to date, the plan will demand compromises from both sides. The contents of the peace plan, authored by President Trump's advisers Jared Kushner and Jason Greenblatt, have remained a secret thus far. ...Cloaked in secrecy is whether the plan will propose outright the creation of a Palestinian state. On Wednesday, Secretary of State Mike Pompeo said the plan would be presented before too long but, when asked, declined to say whether the administration favored a two-state solution. On Tuesday, when asked about the two-state by a Senate subcommittee, Pompeo would only say, "Ultimately the Israelis and Palestinians will decide how to resolve this." http://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/261685?fbclid=IwAR1M_DG69TXxj6MJ6HnP1IYaAA2hW1-F6GXQSI-nHglOBAxwfmGlzcbBUI

That was Wednesday, on Thursday, The Jerusalem Post published what seems to be a conflicting report suggesting President Trump is unlikely to roll out his Mideast peace plan now, citing religious holy days. Outgoing Kulanu MK Michael Oren, a former ambassador to the US, said Israelis must be "mindful that it is not only Israel's electoral timetable that is to be considered, but also America's." Oren pointed out that starting in November, right after the High Holy Days, America will go into full presidential election mode, "which narrows the window" of when the plan might be presented. Trump is widely believed to not want to wait until the presidential election campaign begins to present the plan since, because of the expected concession demands to be made of Israel, this is something that could be opposed by those in his Evangelical base, who are opposed to any territorial concessions. US special envoys Jason Greenblatt and Jared Kushner's team, however, has been silent on the matter of the plan's release. No decision has been made as to the best time to roll out the plan, even though Israel's election is over. The common wisdom in Washington is that it won't happen before mid-June. Jews will celebrate Passover right after the elections, from April 19-26; and the Muslim month of Ramadan will take place May 5-June 4. Right after that, between June 8-9, Jews will celebrate Shavuot. Revealing the plan before or in between these holidays could make the plan lose momentum on Day One.

<https://www.jpost.com/printarticle.aspx?id=586589>

This brings us to the developments in Syria and this Haaretz report that lawmakers from Russia, Iran and Turkey are calling for Syria's territorial integrity to be preserved as remarks from Israel and the United States have renewed long-standing land disputes. This after President Trump had recognized Israeli sovereignty over the Golan Heights. The significance of this has to do with the timing of this being in concert with the protests in Sudan calling for the removal of President Omar al-Bashir, who was forced from power by the military, and the Russian support for the regime that has now begun to attract international interest.

<https://www.haaretz.com/middle-east-news/russia-turkey-iran-call-for-syrian-territorial-integrity-after-golan-recognition-1.7108918>

Add to this, the developments in Libya, which some believe is on the brink of an all-out civil war that threatens to upend years of diplomatic efforts to reconcile two rival armed political factions. Enter Russia and this Al Arabiya report that Russia is warning against any foreign meddling in Libya. <https://english.alarabiya.net/en/News/north-africa/2019/04/06/Russia-warns-against-foreign-meddling-in-Libya-.html>

- As I was preparing today's prophecy update, the Lord very powerfully ministered to me one of my devotionals this last week.
- It had to do with the prophet Micah who became discouraged seeing the evil around him, knowing God's judgment was coming.
- Instead of giving into despair, he turned to the Lord, putting his trust in the Lord, as he watched and waited in hope for the Lord.

Micah 7:7 - "But as for me, I watch in hope for the Lord, I wait for God my Savior; my God will hear me."

- If you're anything like me, and I suspect that you are, the hardships of this life are increasing, as the Lord's return is nearing.
- It's for this reason that talking about Bible prophecy and the Lord's return can be so encouraging as we near the blessed hope.
- Prophecy isn't for our information it's for our transformation and our motivation to godliness personally, and evangelism boldly.

- 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).