

Mid-East Prophecy Update – May 19th, 2019

- For today's prophecy update, I want to address what some are calling the "beating of war drums" as Iranian tensions escalate.
- In so doing, I hope to answer the question of the prophetic significance regardless of whether or not this leads to full-scale war.
- By that I mean, how does this recent escalation fit into the Bible prophecy puzzle with all the other pieces that today are in play.

I'll begin with this Ynet News report about Energy Minister Yuval Steinitz, a member of Netanyahu's security cabinet warning, and I quote, "If there's some sort of conflagration between Iran and the United States, between Iran and its neighbors, I'm not ruling out that they will activate Hezbollah (in Lebanon) and Islamic Jihad from Gaza, or even that they will try to fire missiles from Iran at the State of Israel..."
<https://www.ynetnews.com/articles/0,7340,L-5507717,00.html>

This warning of a proxy war is not without merit by virtue of this Times of Israel report that top Iranian general Qassem Soleimani has met with Iran-linked Iraqi militias in Baghdad, telling them to "prepare for proxy war," amid rapidly rising tensions between the Washington and Tehran. According to a senior intelligence source, "It wasn't a call to arms, but it wasn't far off." ... Tensions between Washington and Tehran have soared in recent weeks with a war of words between American and Iranian leaderships, allegations of sabotage attacks targeting oil tankers off the coast of the United Arab Emirates, a drone attack on a Saudi oil pipeline claimed by Yemen's Iranian-allied rebels, and the dispatch of US warships and bombers to the region.

<https://www.timesofisrael.com/top-iranian-general-tells-militias-to-prepare-for-proxy-war-report/>

According to The Jerusalem Post the tensions are so high that the US State Department has ordered the departure of "non-emergency US government employees" from Iraq. ...The statement urged those affected to "avoid US facilities within Iraq" and "depart by commercial transportation as soon as possible." The statement came after US Central Command (CENTCOM) raised the threat level in Iraq and Syria on Tuesday, issuing a statement saying that American troops stationed there were on high alert against a possible "imminent" attack by Iran and its proxies.

<https://www.jpost.com/printarticle.aspx?id=589737>

I'll spare you the back and forth rhetoric given that it doesn't seem anyone is backing down anytime soon despite the general consensus being that of no one wanting a war. However, according to Al Arabiya, there's also no indication that there will be any bilateral talks especially on the part of Iran who's foreign minister said that there is "no possibility" of negotiations with the United States to reduce spiraling tensions.

<https://english.alarabiya.net/en/News/middle-east/2019/05/16/Iran-s-Zarif-says-no-possibility-of-talks-with-US.html>

- This brings us to the question of the prophetic significance of this development regardless of whether or not this leads to war.
- I am personally of the belief that because the tensions are so high and the momentum is building something will have to give.
- Whether or not this is all just political posturing, prophecy in the Bible describes exactly what we're seeing take place even now.

- Dare I say that specific prophecies in Isaiah 17 and Ezekiel 38 in concert with many others are now beginning to come to pass.
- It's for this reason we need to ask ourselves the question of isn't it better to be ready and have it not happen than visa-versa.
- I would argue the convergence of all prophecies coming together simultaneously is statistically impossible to be coincidence.

- 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).