

Bible Prophecy Update – June 16th, 2019

- For today's prophecy update I want to talk about the Iranian attack on two oil tankers on route through the Straits of Hormuz.
- In so doing, I would like to revisit a prophetic scenario as it relates to sudden destruction being simultaneous with the rapture.
- You'll forgive the simplicity with which I say this but I believe it's possible we'll go up when the sudden destruction goes down.

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

I'll begin with this Breaking Israel News report about US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo blaming Iran for the attack against two oil tankers ...in the Sea of Oman as part of their plan to cut off the vital oil-shipping route through the Straits of Hormuz. ... It is the assessment of the U.S. government that Iran is responsible for today's attacks in the Gulf of Oman. These attacks are a threat to international peace and security, a blatant assault on the freedom of navigation, and an unacceptable escalation of tension by Iran. <https://www.breakingisraelnews.com/131536/us-blames-iran-for-attack-on-two-oil-tankers-in-sea-of-oman-in-potentially-explosive-situation-watch/>

On Friday, The Times of Israel published a report about Iran's foreign minister, Mohammad Javad Zarif accusing the US, Israel and Saudi Arabia of a plot to "sabotage diplomacy" after attacks on two tankers in the Persian Gulf, and appeared to insinuate that those countries were behind the assaults. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/after-tanker-attacks-iran-claims-us-israel-plotting-to-sabotage-diplomacy/>

If this weren't bad enough, according to Ynet News, Rouhani, Iranian's President is saying that Iran will hit back with "a crushing response" if it is attacked. <https://www.ynetnews.com/articles/0,7340,L-5524376,00.html>

In response to Iran denying the attack and threatening to attack, President Trump is making it clear in no uncertain terms that Iran, a 'nation of terror,' was behind the attack. Al Arabiya published a report Trump saying that Iran's culpability was "exposed" by the United States. While calling into Fox News Channel's "Fox & Friends," he said of the Thursday attacks, "Iran did do it." ...While Iran has denied being involved in the attacks, US Central Command released footage it said shows Iran's Revolutionary Guard removing an unexploded limpet mine from the Japanese-owned tanker Kokuka Courageous. ... Trump warned Iran not to close off the Strait of Hormuz, saying if it is closed it won't be closed for long.

<https://english.alarabiya.net/en/News/middle-east/2019/06/14/Boat-images-show-iran-did-do-tanker-explosions-Trump.html>

- This brings us to the aforementioned scenario of the rapture of the church happening simultaneously with sudden destruction.
- To me, this scenario is very plausible by virtue of the fact they will not escape, but we who are alive and remain will escape.
- The reason I make that connection is because of the Apostle Paul's delineation between "we" and "they" in 1 Thessalonians 4.

1 Thessalonians 4:15–18 - 15 According to the Lord's word, we tell you that we who are still alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will certainly not precede those who have fallen asleep. 16 For the Lord himself will come down from heaven, with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet call of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. 17 After that, we who are still alive and are left will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And so we will be with the Lord forever. 18 Therefore encourage one another with these words.

- The question we need to ask is this, because they're saying "peace and security," shouldn't we be ready for what's coming?
- 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).