

Bible Prophecy Update – June 23rd, 2019

- I need to preface today's prophecy update by sharing an observation and subsequent conclusion concerning Iranian tensions.
- Namely that of the response on the part of many to not take this seriously when in fact the situation warrants urgent attention.
- By that I mean, what's currently taking place in the Middle East, has the propensity to now fulfill specific prophecies in the Bible.

- While I realize saying this might cause consternation and trepidation, the fact of the matter is, America isn't in Bible prophecy.
- The reason I mention this is that God has an everlasting covenant with only one nation and that nation is Israel not America.
- In other words, were there to be an attack on the United States, we do not have the same promise from God that Israel has.

Amos 9:14–15 - 14 I will bring back the captives of My people Israel; They shall build the waste cities and inhabit them; They shall plant vineyards and drink wine from them; They shall also make gardens and eat fruit from them. 15 I will plant them in their land, And no longer shall they be pulled up From the land I have given them," Says the LORD your God.

- If you'll kindly allow me to, I would like to present the argument that the escalating tensions with Iran are to be taken seriously.
- Please know that I in no way wish to provoke a spirit of fear, rather, it is my hope that what I share will lead to an awakening.
- Specifically, related to our proclivity to get too comfortable with what seems to be a pseudo peace and prosperity in America.

I'll start with this Fox News report about the US Navy drone shot down by an Iranian missile over the Strait of Hormuz in what central command is saying was an 'unprovoked attack.' ...The downing of the drone, via surface-to-air missile, is only the most recent Iranian provocation in the region, coming on the heels of a disputed attack on a pair of oil tankers in the Gulf of Oman last week. U.S. officials say Iran was behind the tanker attacks, however, the Islamic Republic has not claimed responsibility and even suggested American involvement in the plot. ...Revolutionary Guard commander Gen. Hossein Salami said ..."We do not have any intention for war with any country, but we are fully ready for war."

<https://www.foxnews.com/world/us-navy-drone-shot-down-by-iranian-missile-over-strait-of-hormuz-source>

That was on Thursday, but on Tuesday, prior to Iran shooting down the US drone, Al Arabiya published a report quoting Secretary of State Mike Pompeo as saying that the United States must have the capability to respond to any Iranian attack on US interests. This a day after the US said it was sending another 1,000 troops to the region in response to what it called hostile behavior by Tehran.

<https://english.alarabiya.net/en/News/middle-east/2019/06/18/Pompeo-US-must-be-able-to-respond-to-any-Iranian-attack-html>

According to this Times of Israel live blog; Russia is warning the US against bolstering its troop presence in the Middle East, accusing Washington of trying to spark a war against Iran. The Russian Deputy Foreign Minister also condemned the US for what he calls the use of "the language of direct threats," against Iran.

<https://www.timesofisrael.com/liveblog-june-18-2019/>

Breaking Israel News published an interesting article in which they ask the question, is "War on the Way?" In it they quote Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman who warned that Saudi Arabia "will not hesitate to deal with any threat," after accusing Iran of responsibility for attacks on two oil tankers near the strategic Strait of Hormuz on Thursday, amid growing tensions between Iran and the United States."

<https://www.breakingisraelnews.com/131607/war-on-the-way-saudi-prince-blames-iran-for-tanker-attacks/>

It's my belief said warning of war should be taken seriously and it's evidenced by President Trump approving a retaliatory military strike against Iran, only to call it off 10-minutes before the launch. Arutz Sheva is reporting that as late as 7:00 p.m. Thursday, military and diplomatic officials were expecting a strike, after intense discussions and debate at the White House among the president's top national security officials and congressional leaders. ...The operation was underway in its early stages when it was called off, a senior administration official said. It was not clear whether Trump simply changed his mind on the strikes or whether the administration altered course because of logistics or strategy.

<http://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/264903>

- Lest I be accused of being alarmist, I would much rather warn and have nothing happen than not and have something happen.
- I say that because I cannot imagine a scenario in which someone would have wished that they were not ready and prepared.
- Let me hasten to also say that it's incumbent upon me to do so because I will stand before God one day and give an account.

Ezekiel 33:7–9 - 7 "So you, son of man: I have made you a watchman for the house of Israel; therefore you shall hear a word from My mouth and warn them for Me. 8 When I say to the wicked, 'O wicked man, you shall surely die!' and you do not speak to warn the wicked from his way, that wicked man shall die in his iniquity; but his blood I will require at your hand. 9 Nevertheless if you warn the wicked to turn from his way, and he does not turn from his way, he shall die in his iniquity; but you have delivered your soul.

- For those who are believers this is a warning of that which is coming, and for those who are not it's a warning to turn to Christ.
- 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).