

Bible Prophecy Update – October 13th, 2019

- For today's prophecy update, I want to talk with you about the prophetic significance of the developments concerning Syria.
- Namely, that of Turkey's invasion of Syria subsequent to President Trump's controversial decision to withdraw our US troops.
- While students of Bible prophecy should not be surprised, what is a little surprising is the swiftness with which it's happening.

- What I find interesting is the reaction of those who support the President arguing that he hasn't abandoned the Kurds or Israel.
- Conversely, there are other Trump supporters who are very concerned and they suggest this was and is a very big mistake.
- Of particular interest are the evangelical leaders that have always been staunch supporters of the President voicing concern.

I'll begin with this Haaretz report about the "rare rebuke on the part of Evangelical leaders who they say are slamming President Trump over the Turkish assault on Syria's Kurds. Pat Robertson said 'the president, who allowed Khashoggi to be cut in pieces without any repercussions whatsoever, is now allowing the Christians and the Kurds to be massacred by the Turks'. The report goes on to quote other leaders one of which was Franklin Graham who took to Twitter voicing his concern and asking for prayer.

<https://www.haaretz.com/us-news/trump-syria-evangelical-turkey-1.7964376>

In the first of two Tweets, Graham posted, "TODAY I ask that you join me in praying for the lives affected by the White House decision to pull US troops out of northern Syria. Both Democrat & Republican leaders are deeply concerned bc this would be, in essence, abandoning our closest allies there—the Kurdish people."

The second Tweet read, "The Kurds are the ones who have been leading the fight against ISIS in Syria. Also pray for the Christians who the Kurds have been protecting. They could be annihilated. Would you pray w/me that Pres. @realDonaldTrump will reconsider? Thousands of lives hang in the balance."

It wasn't just the evangelical leaders in the US that reacted to the President's decision, it was the Israeli leaders, in particular Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu who were quick to respond as well. On Thursday, Arutz Sheva published a report in which they quote Netanyahu at a memorial service for the soldiers killed in the Yom Kippur War. Here's what he said, "We don't aspire to be 'a people who dwells alone,' but that's how we were forced to stand at the beginning of the Yom Kippur War - that only nearing the end of which did American aid arrive. As in 1973, we still greatly appreciate U.S. support, which has increased greatly in recent years, as well as the tremendous economic pressure the U.S. is exerting on Iran" "However, we always remember and apply the basic rule that guides us: Israel will defend itself, on its own, in the face of every threat. The IDF is ready to preempt every threat, employing defense and attack, with its overwhelming power. Weapon power, and power of spirit. This is the great spirit that the Yom Kippur War generation has bestowed upon us," the Prime Minister emphasized.

<http://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/269973>

- You'll forgive the bluntness with which I say this, but it really doesn't matter what anyone has to say, it's what God has to say.
- Actually, He's already said it, in that He told us in His Word that what we're seeing take place is exactly as He said it would be.
- Specifically, that of an alliance of nations invading Israel from the North, vis-à-vis Syria, after the city of Damascus is destroyed.

Isaiah 17:1 - A prophecy against Damascus: "See, Damascus will no longer be a city but will become a heap of ruins.

The reason we know that Isaiah 17:1 will likely take place prior to the detailed prophecy in Ezekiel 38 is because of the conspicuous absence of Syria in the list of nations that are allied. There are other details in the Ezekiel 38 prophecy that I would argue are an indicator of just how close we are to its fulfillment, chief of which is that Saudi Arabia only protests the allied invasion as it relates to what most believe is the oil in Israel. Another detail in this prophecy is found at the end in verse 23, and it's that of no nation coming to Israel's defense in order that all will know it was the God of Israel.

Ezekiel 38:23 - Thus I will magnify Myself and sanctify Myself, and I will be known in the eyes of many nations. Then they shall know that I am the LORD."'

- I would submit that the recent developments taking place just in the last week point to the lateness of the hour in which we live.
- 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).