

THE GET READY SERIES

A REVIEW OF CURRENT EVENTS THROUGH THE LENS OF BIBLICAL PROPHECY

MEDIA REFERENCE NUMBER – JHX326

Sunday August 19, 2012

THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

WHAT'S REALLY HAPPENING IN THE MIDDLE EAST

A Challenge to Consider The Biblical Relevance of Current Events
In the Light of Bible Prophecy

2 Peter 1:19

And so we have **the prophetic word confirmed, which you do well to heed** (why) as a light that shines in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts.

WHAT'S REALLY HAPPENING IN THE MIDDLE EAST?

THE RISE OF THE ARAB SPRING AND ITS ATTACK ON ISRAEL

1.) What does the Bible say about these things ?

Matthew 24:1-8

Then Jesus went out and departed from the temple, and His disciples came up to show Him the buildings of the temple. :2 And Jesus said to them, “Do you not see all these things? Assuredly, I say to you, not **one stone shall be left here upon another, that shall not be thrown down.**” :3 Now as He sat on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to Him privately, saying, “Tell us, when will these things be? And what *will be* the sign of Your coming, and of the end of the age?” :4 And Jesus answered and said to them: “**Take heed that no one deceives you.** :5 **For many will come in My name, saying, ‘I am the Christ,’ and will deceive many.** :6 **And you will hear of wars and rumors of wars. See that you are not troubled; for all *these things* must come to pass, but the end is not yet.** :7 **For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. And there will be famines, pestilences, and earthquakes in various places.** :8 **All these *are* the beginning of sorrows.**

Ezekiel 38:1-16

Now the word of the LORD came to me, saying, :2 “Son of man, set your face against **Gog**, of the land of **Magog**, the prince of **Rosh, Meshech, and Tubal**, and prophesy against him, :3 and say, “Thus says the Lord GOD: ‘Behold, I *am* against you, O **Gog**, the prince of **Rosh, Meshech, and Tubal**. :4 ***I will turn you around, put hooks into your jaws, and lead you out***, with all your army, horses, and horsemen, all splendidly clothed, a great company *with* bucklers and shields, all of them handling swords. :5 Persia, Ethiopia, *(ancient Ethiopia included northern sudan)* and Libya are with them, all of them *with* shield and helmet; :6 *Gomer (black sea region- Islamic today)* and all its troops; the house of Togarmah *(Turkey)* from the far north and all its troops—many people *are* with you. :7 “Prepare yourself and be ready, you and all your companies that are gathered about you; and be a guard for them. :8 After many days you will be visited. In the latter years you will come into the land of those brought back from the sword *and* gathered from many people on the mountains of Israel, which had long been desolate; they were brought out of the nations, and now all of them dwell safely. :9 You will ascend, coming like a storm, covering the land like a cloud, you and all your troops and many peoples with you.” :10 “Thus says the Lord GOD: ‘On that day it shall come to pass *that* thoughts will arise in your mind, and you will make an evil plan: :11 You will say, “I will go up against a land of unwalled villages; I will go to a peaceful people, who dwell safely, all of them dwelling without walls, and having neither bars nor gates’ - - :12 to take plunder and to take booty, to stretch out your hand against the waste places *that are again* inhabited, and against a people gathered from the nations, who have acquired livestock and goods, who dwell in the midst of the land. :13 Sheba, Dedan, *(today’s Saudi Arabia)* the merchants of Tarshish, *(today’s europe)* and all their young lions *(western born nations)* will say to you, “Have you come to take plunder? Have you gathered your army to take booty, to carry away silver and gold, to take away livestock and goods, to take great plunder?’ ” :14 “Therefore, son of man, prophesy and say to Gog, “Thus says the Lord GOD: ‘On that day when My people Israel dwell safely, will you not know *it?* :15 Then you will come from your place out of the far north, you and many peoples with you, all of them riding on horses, a great company and a mighty army. :16 You will come up against My people Israel like a cloud, to cover the land. It will be in the latter days that I will bring you against My land, so that the nations may know Me, when I am hallowed in you, O Gog, before their eyes.”

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2.) Why isn't the Arab Spring working?

Ah but it is working

Psalms 83:2-4

:2 For behold, Your enemies make a tumult; And those who hate You have lifted up their head. :3 They have taken crafty counsel against Your people, And consulted together against Your sheltered ones. :4 They have said, ***“Come, and let us cut them off from being a nation, That the name of Israel may be remembered no more***

New York Times – August 19, 2012

“The popular uprisings that have swept the region of the Middle East since [Mr. Obama’s speech in Cairo](#) have fueled an authoritarian order that was largely congenial to the United States. While they may have brought Muslim nations closer than ever to the fulfillment of self-determination (sharia) they have also (1) imperiled crucial American allies, (2) empowered antagonistic Islamists, and (3) unleashed sectarian animosities that threaten to drag the entire region into chaos.”

By DAVID D. KIRKPATRICK

<http://www.thenewamerican.com/world-news/africa/item/12476-after-arab-spring-fears-of-islamist-tyranny-grow-in-egypt>

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3.) Why aren't the most powerful nations involved ?

CUTS TO MILITARIES

<http://www.defense-aerospace.com/article-view/feature/134469/financial-crisis-cuts-world-military-spending.html>

Ezekiel 38:13

Sheba, Dedan, (*today's Saudi Arabia*) the merchants of Tarshish, (*today's europe*) and all their young lions (*western born nations*) will say to you, "Have you come to take plunder? Have you gathered your army to take booty, to carry away silver and gold, to take away livestock and goods, to take great plunder?"

COLLAPSING CURRENCIES

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/finance/financialcrisis/8812260/World-facing-worst-financial-crisis-in-history-Bank-of-England-Governor-says.html>

USA Says to Israel – We Can't Help You

<http://www.timesofisrael.com/us-message-to-israel-dont-rely-on-us-to-finish-the-job-in-iran/>

Russia Fears Islam

<http://www.al-monitor.com/pulse/originals/2012/al-monitor/russias-muslim-problem-is-preven.html>

PERSIA NO LONGER VIEWS THE USA AS THREAT

<http://www.timesofisrael.com/iran-is-simply-not-afraid-of-the-united-states-says-israels-former-military-intelligence-chief-amos-yadlin/>

The USA fears a rush of border insurgents from Mexico and Canada in the same manner as seen in the Middle East.

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/debate/article-2189192/How-British-jihadists-causing-mayhem-Syria.html#ixzz23klrNddL>

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4.) Why should we as Christians care?

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5.) Why aren't Christians getting this?

1. *The word faith movement – ran out of faith*
2. *The death of Mainstream Denominations – let 'em die*
3. *The failure of the emergent church movement – let it submerge*
4. *The relevant movement – it's irrelevant*
5. *The prosperity movement – is going broke*
6. *The church planting movement – but what is being planted*

**Because of false teachers and false shepherds
that have influenced the church today – apathy grows.**

Acts 20:25-31

“And indeed, now I know that you all, among whom I have gone preaching the kingdom of God, will see my face no more. **:26** Therefore I testify to you this day that I *am* innocent of the blood of all *men*. **:27** For I have not shunned to declare to you the whole counsel of God. **:28** Therefore take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God which He purchased with His own blood. **:29** For I know this, that after my departure savage wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock. **:30** Also from among yourselves men will rise up, speaking perverse things, to draw away the disciples after themselves. **:31** Therefore watch, and remember that for three years I did not cease to warn everyone night and day with tears.

Chrislam

(Which hold to a pro-Muslim, anti-Israel Middle East)

Christian Palestinianism

(Which hold to a pro-Muslim, anti-Israel Middle East)

The Sabeel Conference & Christ at the Check-Point

Ecumenical Unification

(Which hold to a pro-Muslim, anti-Israel Middle East)

The World Council of Churches

(Which hold to a pro-Muslim, anti-Israel Middle East)

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6.) What are we as Christians to be doing ?

- #1 - Be informed of what's going on
- #2 - Be devoted to God more than ever
- #3 - Be serious about our Christianity
- #4 - Be ready to answer others about why we're Christians
- #5 - Be prepared to suffer for knowing Jesus Christ

**WE'RE TO BE ON GOD'S SIDE.
ISRAEL AND THE NATIONS OF HISTORY**

Amos 9:14-15

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.

Regarding Israel...

Isaiah 40:1-2

“Comfort, yes, comfort My people!” Says your God. :2 “Speak comfort to Jerusalem, and cry out to her, That her warfare is ended,

Psalm 122:6

Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: “May they prosper who love you.

Genesis 12:2-3

I will make you a great nation; I will bless you And make your name great; And you shall be a blessing. :3 I will bless those who bless you, And I will curse him who curses you;

We are to separate our action and deeds from those who don't know, and love them out of this world. Witness to them. Share Jesus with them. Use these days as a catalyst for dialogue with your non-Christian acquaintances.

1 Peter 3:15

But **sanctify** the Lord God in your hearts, and **always be ready** to give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for **the hope** that is in you, with meekness and fear;

End of Study

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