

Mid-East Prophecy Update – October 22nd, 2017

- For today's prophecy update, I want to begin by sharing with you what God did while I was on the mainland the last two weeks.
- First, I was honored to speak at Jan Markell's Understanding the Times conference in Eden Prairie, Minnesota on October 7th.
- I have to say that this was the highlight of my entire trip to the mainland, chiefly because of Jan's 40-year ministry celebration.

- In addition to this, I was privileged to meet literally hundreds of on-line members, who were amongst over 6,000 in attendance.
- To say God moved mightily in and through this conference would be a gross understatement, as it was off the charts blessed.
- I would really encourage you to visit Jan's website and get a copy of the 5 messages on DVD or CD at www.olivetreeviews.org.

- As far as I'm concerned the rapture could have happened after Jan's conference, but it didn't so off to Liberty University I went.
- However, getting Lynchburg Virginia was not going to be easy, by virtue of hurricane Nate, which resulted in 3 cancelled flights.
- Let's just say that I spent the entire day at the airport in Charlotte North Carolina as I waited on the Lord to get me to Virginia.

- Enter our online church, namely, Larry and Kathy Potts, who live in Lynchburg, and as God would have it, got me to Lynchburg.
- Larry had texted me while I was in Charlotte, and offered to drive me from Roanoke Virginia if I could get a flight there instead.
- As I was on the phone with Larry, I was told at the service counter that every flight was booked, but God, opened up one seat!!!

- Little did I know this was God's way of reminding me to give the Holy Spirit elbowroom in order that He might move in this way.
- Actually, that's exactly what He did while I was at Liberty University, where I had the privilege of Dr. Ed Hindson, among others.
- Lord willing, I'm hoping to have Dr. Hindson come and speak here at our church, while he's in Hawaii next year in July of 2018.

- In addition to meeting and talking with Dr. Ed Hindson, I also had the privilege of meeting and talking with Dr. Randall Price.
- He took us on a fascinating tour of the Biblical Museum there at Liberty University, and we had lunch together with he and Amir.
- Also, I was so blessed to meet Keith Jennings, and his father David who as online members showed us wonderful hospitality.

- The highlight of this leg of the trip was the panel that I was really looking forward to attending with Dr. Hindson, Price and Amir.
- But God, as He's always so faithful to, had me take Dr. Hindson's place and instead of attending the panel, I was on the panel.
- For those who wish to view this video, you can go to Amir's Behold Israel, Stand For Israel, or my Facebook where it's posted.

- After Liberty University, I was back on a plane to Norman Oklahoma for the First Annual "Blessed Hope" Prophecy Conference.
- This conference was live streamed, and from what I understand, you can still register to view it or if not you can get the DVD's.
- You can do so by visiting prophecywatchers.com, where you'll find links to the archived videos and or purchasing the DVD's.

- I had really been looking forward to meeting, both, Gary Stearman and Bob Ulrich, as well as many of the thirty-one speakers.
- Chief amongst them was Dr. Andy Woods, and his lovely wife Anne, who I was able to spend time together with over dinner.
- We both learned that we were on another panel together with Dr. Thomas Ice and Pastor Billy Crone, who is here next month.

- Be that as it may, the highlight of this conference was seeing Woody and Nancy Williams, who drove from Texas to be there.
- It was such a blessing to be able to see them and spend some time with them. By the way, they'll be visiting also next month.
- Woody & Nancy have the distinction of being both local members and now online members and are truly and sorely missed.

- While it was such an honor to be asked to speak on the mainland, in the end, I'm the one who was so very blessed above all.
- Specifically, by the hundreds of people that I met and talked with, all of whom we're so thankful for our online YouTube ministry.
- It seems that to a person they all expressed the same thing, which was that of not having a church that teaches Bible prophecy.

Yesterday, as I was preparing today's update, Jan Markell emailed me a Christianity Today article from last year that she refers to often about how only one-third of Pastor's talk about "End Times Theology." I have to confess that I was taken back by some of the findings cited in the report. Here's just a sampling. "Among pastors, 1 in 4 say the rapture is not literal. Almost 1 in 5 think the rapture happens after the tribulation (18%). A few believe the rapture already happened (1%), or that it will occur during the tribulation (4%), or before the wrath of God is poured out on the earth (4%). Others don't agree with any of these views (8%), or aren't sure what will happen (4%)." If this weren't bad enough, consider these findings, "Education and age also play a role in how pastors view the rapture. Pastors with a master's degree (33%) or a doctorate (29%) are more likely to say the rapture isn't literal than those with no degree (6%) or a bachelor's (16%). Sixty percent of pastors with no college degree believe in a pretribulation rapture. By contrast, 26 percent of pastors with a master's hold that view. Pastors under 45 are least likely to believe in a pretribulation rapture (28%), compared to their older peers. They're also most likely (23%) to believe in a posttribulation rapture."

<http://www.christianitytoday.com/news/2016/april/sorry-left-behind-pastors-end-times-rapture-antichrist.html>

- You'll forgive the bluntness with which I say this, but people play church in the pew because of the pastor is silent in the pulpit.
- The reason being is that teaching Bible prophecy has the affect of loosening our grip on this world and readying us for the next.
- In other words, when I have the anticipation of the Lord's soon return, it will result in my getting serious about the things of God.

1 John 3:2-3 — 2 Dear friends, now we are children of God, and what we will be has not yet been made known. But we know that when Christ appears, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is. 3 All who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

- It's for this reason we do the prophecy updates on a weekly basis. Simply put, it's to ready and steady the bride for His return.
- It's also why we focus our attention on Israel, as God's prophetic clock, so as to know the lateness of the hour in the last days.
- Please permit me to very quickly apprise you of a significant prophetic development concerning the situation in Syria and Israel.

I'll start with this Arutz Sheva report on Wednesday about how Iran is cooperating with Syria, and I'll add, in Syria, for the purpose of destroying 'the Zionist enemy.' According to the report, Iran's Chief of Staff declared on Wednesday, and I quote, that "We arrived in Damascus in order to coordinate and cooperate to confront our common enemies: the Zionists and the terrorists,"
<http://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/236870>

As you might imagine, the Israeli Prime Minister, Benjamin Netanyahu is not sitting idly by as evidenced by this Times of Israel report about he and Putin addressing the Syria tensions as Iran threatens from Damascus. According to The Times, "The two leaders also discussed the Iran nuclear deal and Iraqi Kurdistan, according to Moscow."
<https://www.timesofisrael.com/netanyahu-discusses-syria-conflict-with-putin-amid-rising-border-tensions/>

It's important to note that all of this is happening with the backdrop of US President, Donald Trump, to his credit, refusing to recertify Obama's Iran deal. I suppose it should come as no surprise that, according to Ynet News, Moscow would tell Tehran that Russia remains committed to the Iran nuclear deal.
<https://www.ynetnews.com/articles/0,7340,L-5030916,00.html>

- Suffice it to say, this is exactly what we're told would happen at the time of the end, vis-à-vis prophecies like Isaiah and Ezekiel.
- Specifically as it relates to the destruction of Damascus in Isaiah 17 and the subsequent nuclear attack on Israel in Ezekiel 38.
- If you've never called upon the name of the Lord to be saved, I would implore you today to do so and not put this off any longer.

The ABC's of Salvation - A is for Admit you're a sinner – Romans 3:23 says that all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. The B is for Believe. Romans 10:9-10 says if you believe in your heart that God raised Jesus from the dead, you will be saved. The C is for Call. Romans 10:9-10 also says if you confess with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. 10 For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved. Romans 10:13 says that all who call upon the name of the Lord will be saved.