

## Mid-East Prophecy Update – December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2017

- For today's prophecy update, I want to talk about how 2017 was arguably the most significant year in history, prophetically.
- At the beginning of the year, I made the assertion that the Trump presidency would; "rev up" the fulfillment of Bible prophecy.
- Now, well nigh a year later it does seem that this is beginning to come to pass, which has profound implications for and in 2018.

- In the interest of time, I've condensed it down to four of, what I see as, the most significant prophetic developments of the year.
- Please know that there were many more, but what follows are to me, the top four, all of which both interconnect and intersect.
- By that I mean, with all Bible prophecies, there's a connection in the sense that one prophecy leads to other related prophecies.

### 1. The unprecedented "Natural Disasters" with increasing frequency and intensity

- If anything could be said of 2017, it would be that the unprecedented "Natural Disasters" increased in frequency and intensity.
- While it's true we've always had earthquakes and natural disasters, it's the likes of which we've never seen before in history.
- I'm of the belief that the size and scope of what we're witnessing, like birth pains, won't just stop, they'll continue to intensify.

Tuesday, December 26<sup>th</sup> – CNBC - 2017 - a year of disaster – 2017 was a devastating year with natural disasters such as catastrophic floods, wildfires and earthquakes affecting millions across the globe. Sigma recently estimated that disasters this year caused an estimated \$306 billion in total economic losses. <https://www.cnbc.com/2017/12/26/2017--a-year-of-disaster.html>

Matthew 24:4–8 — 4 Jesus answered: "Watch out that no one deceives you. 5 For many will come in my name, claiming, 'I am the Messiah,' and will deceive many. 6 You will hear of wars and rumors of wars, but see to it that you are not alarmed. Such things must happen, but the end is still to come. 7 Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be famines and earthquakes in various places. 8 All these are the beginning of birth pains.

### 2. The geopolitical developments concerning Damascus, Syria

- This actually ties into the second one, which are the geopolitical developments during the year, concerning Damascus, Syria.
- 2017 certainly brought about a massive shift as it relates to who is in Syria, and perhaps more importantly why they're in Syria.
- If you were to ask me which Bible prophecy I thought was on the cusp of being fulfilled, it would have to be that of Isaiah 17.

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

Saturday, December 30<sup>th</sup>, Al Arabiya - Russian President Vladimir Putin told his Syrian counterpart Bashar al-Assad in a new year's greeting that Russia will continue supporting Syria's efforts to defend its sovereignty, the Kremlin said on Saturday.

<http://english.alarabiya.net/en/News/world/2017/12/30/Putin-tells-Assad-Russia-will-help-defend-Syrian-sovereignty.html>

### 3. The prophetic alignment of nations with Russia, Iran, Turkey and especially Saudi Arabia

- Again, this ties into the third one, which is that of the prophetic alignment of nations with Russia, Iran, Turkey and Saudi Arabia.
- In November of this year, we witnessed what some have dubbed a tectonic shift with Putin's so-called victory summit in Russia.
- It's for this reason that I truly believe we are witnessing the prophecy found in Ezekiel 38 and 39 beginning to come to pass.

Ezekiel 38:1–6, 13 — 1 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, and Libya are with them, all of them with shield and helmet; 6 Gomer and all its troops; the house of Togarmah from the far north and all its troops—many people are with you. ... 13 Sheba, Dedan, the merchants of Tarshish, and all their young lions 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?' " "

- I would submit every nation to a nation is now lining up like never before, exactly as recorded in Ezekiel over 2,500 years ago.
- Namely, Russia, Iran, Turkey, et al, who are all at the ready to attack Israel vis-à-vis Syria, which they have taken control over.

Monday, December 25<sup>th</sup> – The Jerusalem Post - Israel's future looks bright save for the rising Iranian threat - The movement of Saudi Arabia under the young Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman toward Israel is a major positive factor for Israel in facing Iran. It also brings along the United Arab Emirates and small Arab states in the Arabian Gulf toward Israel and away from Iran. ...Economically, the future looks bright. Israel's GDP/capita has soared from \$3,000 in 1948 to almost \$39,000 in 2017. Israel's foreign exchange reserves have soared from less than \$1b. in 1960 to \$100b. today. Its exports are an impressive \$100b. Its hi-tech industry, in the top five in the world, is home to the R&D work of over 300 foreign companies. One company, Mobileye, was sold to Intel for \$15b. ...Israel's military is the most powerful in the Middle East and among the top 10 in the world. It is reported to have nuclear weapons, ultra modern missile-defense systems, and first-class airplanes and pilots. Its intelligence forces are also among the best in the world. ...Overall, then, the future seems bright, save for the Iranian threat to some day use nuclear weapons against a country that has only some 20,000 square kilometers, 58% of which is desert. But then Israel has multiple strengths and Iran has serious problems at home and increasingly abroad. There is hope for a bright future.

<http://www.jpost.com/printarticle.aspx?id=520017>

#### **4. The intoxicating obsession with Jerusalem and the insatiable quest for “peace and security”**

- This brings us to the fourth and final one, which is the intoxicating obsession with dividing Jerusalem for a two state solution.
- This because of intoxicating obsession globally for Jews and so-called Palestinians to live side by side in peace and security.

1 Thessalonians 5:3 For while they are saying, “Peace and security!” sudden destruction comes upon them, as labor pains upon a pregnant woman. And they shall not escape.

- I'll bring it to a close with a question, as we begin the countdown to 2018, and say goodbye to a very interesting year in 2017.
- If so much has happened, so fast in 2017, wouldn't it stand to reason that more will happen and it will be even faster in 2018?
- If you've never called upon the name of the Lord to be saved, I would like to share the good news of Salvation in Jesus Christ.

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.