

Mid-East Prophecy Update - October 26th, 2008

- Every week, we set aside a few minutes on Sunday mornings to look at Bible prophecy
- The reason for this is because the Bible predicts certain events that will take place in the last days before the Lord returns.
- We believe that what's happening in the world today is a fulfillment of those Bible Prophecies.

- We look primarily at events in the Middle East, specifically related to Israel because, as it's been said; "Israel is God's prophetic clock."
- For today's Mid-East Prophecy Update, I would like to revisit a much talked about, as of late, Muslim Messiah who is to save the world.
- The Muslim's believe that a "savior" is coming to bring harmony and peace to the world and will rule the world for a period of "7" years.

- The religious writings of Islam have prophecies that foretell the coming of this hidden "Imam" or "Mahdi," as he's known to Muslims.
- One such writing comes from a book called the "Hadith." It is a collection of the words and deeds of the Islamic prophet Muhammad.

Prophecies about the coming of the "Imam" from the Hadith:

1. He will be a descendant of Muhammad and the son of Fatima
2. He will return just before the end of the world
3. He will eradicate all tyranny and oppression bringing harmony and total peace
4. He will lead a prayer in Mekkah with Jesus at his side following him
5. He will rule over the world for 7 years

- Other Islamic writings echo this prophecy and even mention how this Muslim messiah will rule the world for "7" years from Jerusalem.

"... There will come forth a man from my nation who will talk according to my Sunnah. God will send upon him rain from heaven, and the earth will sprout forth for him its blessing. The earth will be filled through him with equity and justice, as it has been filled with injustice and crime. He will direct the affairs of this nation for seven years, and he will settle in Jerusalem."

Ibn Khaldun "al-Muqqadima"

- Interestingly, the Bible also has explicit prophecies about the coming of a false messiah who will rule from Jerusalem for "7" years.

Daniel 9:27 He will confirm a covenant with many for one 'seven.' In the middle of the 'seven' he will put an end to sacrifice and offering. And on a wing [of the temple] he will set up an abomination that causes desolation, until the end that is decreed is poured out on him." NIV

- So, if this is true, and it is, how close are we the revelation of this false messiah? Consider the following article from just last month:

His Finger on Armageddon - by J. D. Longstreet – September 28th, 2008 - On the off chance that you have not noticed... there is a religious fanatic in charge of Iran. The even more troubling problem is... he has his finger on the button, which could trigger Armageddon. I speak, of course, of Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, President of Iran. I should say the "Islamic Republic" of Iran. ... Ahmadinejad apparently believes it is his duty in life to prepare the way for the 12th Imam. ...it is necessary to understand, at least a little, about what he believes. ... in **Christianity** we have the return of Christ, ...In Shi'ite Islam they have the return of the 12th Imam. Ahmadinejad has said, openly, the 12th Imam will return within two years. ... Rumours abound of Ahmadinejad's devotion to the 12th Imam, and last year it was reported that he had persuaded his **cabinet** to sign a "contract" pledging themselves to work for his return. ...It is also believed the "Mahdi" will have a deputy, something of a forerunner (remember **John the Baptist**), who will prepare the world for the "Mahdi's" return. Suppose someone thought himself to be that deputy and desired to bring about the chaos needed for the Mahdi's return and... suppose, further, the self-described deputy had nuclear weapons to assist him in his **quest** for chaos.

<http://newsbyus.com/index.php/article/1651>

- While no man knows the day or the hour, we can know that we are getting ever so close to the day and the hour. Are you ready?