

Mid-East Prophecy Update - The Perfect Prophetic Storm, Part 10 – August 23rd, 2009

- 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."

- This is part 10 of a study titled; "The Perfect Prophetic Storm!" The world stage is being set and it's coming together to form this storm.

1. Iran's Islamic Eschatology

- In part one we looked at what the re-election of Iranian president Mahmoud Ahmadinejad means related to Islam's role in the last days.

2. The North Korea Factor

- Then in part two we looked at, "The North Korea Factor," and how they provide Iran with data, while Iran provides them with money.

3. A Global Quest for "Peace and Security"

- The 3rd condition leading to this "Perfect Prophetic Storm" is the global cry and international quest for "peace and security," in the world.

4. The "Two-State Solution"

- The 4th condition is what's being called the "Two-State Solution," with Israel and Palestine living together in "Peace and Security."

5. A Rebuilt Babylon in Iraq

- The 5th condition is the fulfilling of a prophecy about Babylon which will ultimately be destroyed. I believe this is a literal Babylon in Iraq.

6. The China Connection

- The 6th one that's coming together is how China and the nations in the East connect with and fit into the End-Times prophetic program.

7. The Fall of the United States of America

- The 7th condition for this perfect prophetic storm is the ever increasing likelihood that we'll see the unthinkable fall of the United States.

8. The World's Readiness for a World Leader

- The 8th condition that is even now coming together to form this perfect storm prophetically, is the world's readiness for a world leader.
- In today's world we are facing serious problems, the likes of which have never been seen in such complexity, intensity and enormity.
- It's for this reason, that for years now, the world has been steadily and readily prepared for a world leader to solve the world's problems.

- In Bible prophecy, this world leader is called and known by many names, not the least of which is the most familiar; the "Anti-Christ."
- The scriptures are replete with prophecies foretelling his global acceptance as ruler of a one-world government, religion, and economy.
- Perhaps one of the most descriptive passages as it relates to this man; is found in the Apostle Paul's 2nd letter to the Thessalonians.

2 Thessalonians 2:3-4 3 Don't let anyone deceive you in any way, for that day will not come until the rebellion occurs and the man of lawlessness is revealed, the man doomed to destruction. 4 He will oppose and will exalt himself over everything that is called God or is worshiped, so that he sets himself up in God's temple, proclaiming himself to be God. NIV

- This man of lawlessness will be seen as man's savior, man's messiah, exalting himself and proclaiming himself to actually be God.
- It's only a matter of time, given the world's problems, that this man will proclaim himself to be the solution to all the world's problems.

Consider what the famed British historian Arnold Toynbee (1889-1975) said; "The nations are ready to give the kingdoms of the world to any one man who will offer us a solution to our world's problems."

The United Nations General Assembly's first president, Paul-Henri Spaak, who was also a prime minister of Belgium, one of the early planners of the European Common Market, and a secretary-general of NATO, said the following; "We do not want another committee, we have too many already. What we want is a man of sufficient stature to hold the allegiance of all the people and to lift us up out of the economic morass into which we are sinking. Send us such a man, and whether he be God or devil, we will receive him."

- It's no wonder that the whole world will wonder after him. They will worship him and say; "who is like him and who can war against him."

Revelation 13:4 Men worshiped the dragon because he had given authority to the beast, and they also worshiped the beast and asked, "Who is like the beast? Who can make war against him?" NIV

- There's another recent development that has just come to the forefront as it relates to the world's readiness for a messiah, or savior.
- As we've seen in our first condition that's coming together to form this storm, Islam's eschatology teaches about a coming savior.

Monday, August 17th, 2009 – Al Arabiya News Channel - Spokesman says Iran's supreme leader represents Mahdi Muslims must unite for Islam's savior: Iran - Ali Saeedi called on Muslim countries to prepare for the coming of the redeemer - The spokesman of Iran's Supreme Leader called on neighboring countries to mobilize their forces in preparation for the coming of the savior of Islam and to unite with the Islamic Republic in paving the way for his arrival, an Iranian news agency reported Sunday. ...Ayatollah Ali Khamenei's spokesman, Ali Saeedi, said countries like Turkey, Iraq, Lebanon, Pakistan and Afghanistan should gather together all their forces in order to make drastic changes to prepare for the coming of al-Mahdi al-Montazar, Arabic for "the awaited guided one." We have to train honest forces that can stop the obstacles that may hinder the coming of the Mahdi like the United States and Israel," Saeedi said in statement posted by the Iranian Labor News Agency (ILNA). ...Saeedi also said that the supreme leader of Iran is the direct representative of the Mahdi and that obeying him is like obeying the "guided one," who is the prophesized savior of Islam. ...The Mahdi is believed by Muslims to be arriving before Judgment Day to rid the world of injustice. Although present in both major Islamic schools of thought, the Mahdi is more prominent in the Shiite doctrine than the Sunni one.

<http://www.alarabiya.net/articles/2009/08/17/82081.html>

Joel Rosenberg's Weblog – Friday, August 21st, 2009 - "This story, ...is striking for three reasons. First, it is noteworthy because it is the Supreme Leader — not Ahmadinejad — who has suddenly taken the lead in talking to the Muslim world directly about the coming of the Mahdi. Until now, Khamenei has been very low-key about his eschatological views, though as I describe in Inside The Revolution, there has been sufficient evidence before now to believe that he and Ahmadinejad shared the same End Times theology. Second, Khamenei is claiming to be the direct representative of the Twelfth Imam, and that his commands — particularly when it comes to military matters — must be obeyed as if they were coming directly from the Islamic "savior" himself. Third, the message from Iran's leader directly threatening the U.S. and Israel comes immediately after Khamenei and Ahmadinejad consolidated and held on to the reins of power in Iran after a tumultuous political summer in Iran, and on the eve of the September deadline that the Obama administration and the leaders of the G8 have given for Iran to accept full negotiations over halting its pursuit of nuclear weapons.

<http://flashtrafficblog.wordpress.com/2009/08/21/irans-supreme-leader-urges-muslims-to-mobilize-against-u-s-and-israel-to-prepare-for-messiahs-arrival/>

- That being said, it would seem as though it is all coming together prophetically to form this storm perfectly, as God said that it would.
- Perhaps you wondering if there is anything that you can do. Quite simply, you can get right with the Lord and get ready for the Lord.

Luke 21:28 When these things begin to take place, stand up and lift up your heads, because your redemption is drawing near." NIV

- Be prepared to give to every man an answer for the hope that you have in Jesus Christ and His soon return for His bride at the rapture.

- For the pre-believers, I say this; "God didn't have all of these prophecies recorded so pastors like me can have good sermon material!"
- He tells us what's going to happen before it happens so when it happens we'll know that He is Who He said He was and believe in Him.

John 14:29 "And now I have told you before it comes, that when it does come to pass, you may believe. NKJV