

It Might Be Today

Israel: God's Timepiece

We like every week to bring what we call a Prophecy Update. We show how news and trends in the world are corroborating centuries-old prophecies found in the Bible.

This week I want to talk about something the Bible predicts that once again seems to be occurring **right before our very eyes**. Over two thousand years ago the prophet Zechariah wrote these words:

Zechariah 12:2-3: "I am going to make Jerusalem a cup that sends all the surrounding peoples reeling. Judah will be besieged as well as Jerusalem. On that day, when all the nations of the earth are gathered against her, I will make Jerusalem an immovable rock for all the nations. All who try to move it will injure themselves."

We would expect from reading this prophecy that the nations of the world would be growing increasingly hostile to Israel. That they would "be gathered against her." We would expect that, **and that is exactly what we see in the news**.

A July 11 article posted on the Jerusalem Post website was titled, *Israel's Status Worst Since 1970's*.¹

Excerpts:

Israel's current standing in the United Nations is the worst it has been in nearly forty years, said Israel's Ambassador to the United Nations, Gabriela Shalev, in an interview with Army Radio on Sunday.

"Our situation in recent months can be compared to the 1970s, when Zionism was being called racism," said Shalev.

Back on June 20th the Washington Examiner reported,

¹ <http://www.jpost.com/International/Article.aspx?id=181055>

Syrian President Bashar Assad said Israel's attack on the Gaza aid flotilla has increased the chances of war in the Middle East... Assad said that Syria was working to prevent a regional war but he added that there was no chance of a peace deal with the current Israeli administration, which he called a "pyromaniac government."²

Another news outlet cited a report in a Jordanian newspaper,

...suggesting the Palestinians want to see an international force deployed along the borders of any future Palestinian state... The newspaper... quoted Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas as saying that he will enter direct peace talks with Israel if the Israelis accept in principle the deployment of foreign troops around the borders of what are presently referred to by the international community as the occupied territories.³

We've also been telling you about the radical change in the nation of Turkey from an ally of Israel's to anti-Israel. The same Washington Examiner article stated,

Turkey seems to have finally rejected the west and put to rest its desire to be a part of it. Although it retains NATO membership, it appears to have no further interest in the EU. Turkey also appears to be again casting its eyes in the direction of its past glory – the Ottoman Empire. Certainly it isn't pretending it would again rule over all of its former territories, but Turkey seems to feel it could be a major if not the major influence in the area of the Middle East. One sure way to work toward that goal is to take on Israel. While it publicly claims it is still a secular nation ruled by secular institutions, this latest situation with Israel and Turkey's reaction are all Islamic and designed to appeal to the Islamic world in general and the people of the Middle East specifically.

As always we are not predicting anything; we are just reporting the news. But this is exactly the kind of news you'd expect if we were trending towards the fulfillment of Bible prophecy. You'd see the nations of the world starting to stack-up in their hostility towards Israel - even former allies turning into enemies.

I remind you that although we follow the fulfillment of Bible prophecy, we are not waiting for any prophecy to be fulfilled. Jesus promised to return to resurrect and rapture the church as an imminent event. By that we mean the certainty that He may come at any moment and the fact that no prophesied event stands between the believer and that hour.

² <http://www.washingtonexaminer.com/opinion/blogs/Examiner-Opinion-Zone/Why-Turkeys-change-of-attitude-toward-Israel-is-important-and-ominous-96723114.html>

³ http://news.xinhuanet.com/english2010/world/2010-07/19/c_13405160.htm

Nothing needs to be fulfilled before the Lord can return for us. We are only waiting for Him - and His coming is always imminent.

Are you rapture-ready? If not, get ready, stay ready, and keep looking up.
Ready or not, Jesus is coming!