

It Might Be Today

I Dream of Genies

Bible prophecies are coming true before our very eyes. That's why 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.

During the future seven-year Great Tribulation there will be considerable occult activity. For example:

Revelation 9:21 And they did not repent of their murders or their **sorceries** or their sexual immorality or their thefts.

Revelation 18:23 ... For your merchants were the great men of the earth, for by your **sorcery** all the nations were deceived.

Both those verses specifically mention "sorcery." And they both indicate it will be something that affects the ruling of "nations."

Thus I was fascinated by an article that was e-mailed to me. Apparently Iranian president Mahmoud Ahmadinejad has surrounded himself with sorcerers!

On Thursday May 5 Guardian.Co.UK posted an article on their website titled, *Ahmadinejad allies charged with sorcery*.¹

Excerpts:

Close allies of Iran's president... have been accused of using supernatural powers to further his policies amid an increasingly bitter power struggle between him and the country's supreme leader, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei.

Several people said to be close to the president and his chief of staff... have been arrested in recent days and charged with being "magicians" and invoking djinns (spirits).

¹ <http://www.guardian.co.uk/world/2011/may/05/ahmadinejad-allies-charged-with-sorcery>

...an Iranian news website, described one of the arrested men, Abbas Ghaffari, as "a man with special skills in metaphysics and connections with the unknown worlds".

"Mr. Ghaffari was effectively accused by conservative websites of being someone who called up spirits, who dabbled in the black arts... One [source] said that the interrogator of Ghaffari had suffered a heart attack because of Ghaffari's skill in the black arts."²

Another article said,

Abbas Amirifar, the head of Ahmadinejad's cultural office, got into trouble over his praise for the documentary film, *The Appearance Is Imminent*, which discusses the return of the 12th and final imam, Muḥammad al-Mahdī, one of Shi'a Islam's holiest figures. Muḥammad al-Mahdī, who was born in 868, is said to have never died. Rather, he has been hidden by God, and will return to defeat evil before the Last Judgment.³

The accusations of consulting "magicians" and having "special skills in metaphysics" are even more significant because of two other things surrounding Iran:

1. Iran is listed by the prophet Ezekiel in chapter thirty-eight of his book as one of the key nations that will be involved in a confederation of nations that will attack Israel in the last days. In the Ezekiel passage Iran is called by its former name, Persia - which it was called up until very modern times.
2. Mahmoud Ahmadinejad is insistent that the return of the 12th Imam is imminent.

These are all things you would expect from a literal reading of Bible prophecy - sorceries, false messiah's, and the rise of Persia as a formidable power in the Middle East.

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.rferl.org/content/ahmadinejad_weakened_by_attacks_on_subordinates/24093844.html

³ http://www.allgov.com/Unusual_News/ViewNews/Iranian_Dictators_Arrest_Ahmadinejad_Allies_for_Using_Sorcery_110508

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