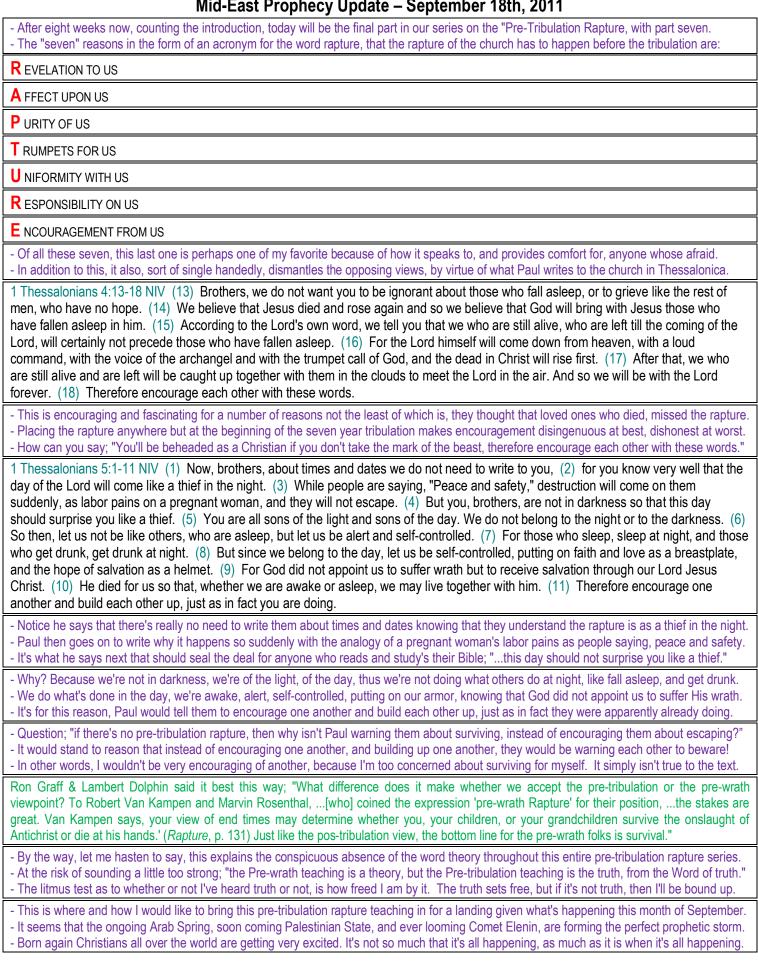
## Mid-East Prophecy Update – September 18th, 2011



Everything seems to point to the end of this month of September, 2011 on what appears to be a three day window basically from the 27<sup>th</sup> - 29<sup>th</sup>.
Back in July, I suggested that all of these events that we're now seeing, are not cosmic coincidence, rather, I believe they are God's providence.
Then, when I encouraged you to be like the Bereans and search the scriptures for yourself, and not just take my word for it, you actually did it.
Talk of the alignment of these events has gone viral, and has resulted in many people believing we're on the cusp of the rapture of the church.
Perhaps you'll indulge me for a moment as I share with you candidly; while the rapture taking place this month excites me, it also concerns me.
My concern is that if the rapture does not happen, many people will be unspeakably devastated, and could fall away from the Lord because of it.
Not only do we not know the day or the hour that He comes, the scriptures are very clear in telling us that we need to occupy until He comes.
If the truth be known, we have absolutely nothing to lose being ready for the rapture now, and being ready if it's several more years from now.
By being that ready, we can always be encouraged, and, in so doing, we can be an encouragement to others to always be ready for the rapture.
This of course pre-supposes that you're encouraging of others, as opposed to surviving for yourself. Does this mean we shouldn't be prepared?
Absolutely not! There's nothing wrong with being prepared and prudent, but don't be paranoid. Here's a telling question all of us should ask:
Do I have preparations, or do the preparations have me? If I'm being prudent, I'll have preparations, but if I'm being paranoid, they'll have me.

One final thought; while a September 2011 rapture may be deemed possible by some, and probable by others, we need to be ready either way.
I would rather say this to you from the pulpit, and have the rapture not happen, as opposed to not say this, and then have the rapture happen.
Either way, it's incumbent upon us to both occupy until He comes, and be ready for when He does actually come, because He will come!