

## Mid-East Prophecy Update – October 26<sup>th</sup>, 2014

- For today's prophecy update, I want to take a little different approach and sort of travel through time, as it were, back to the present day.
- What's interesting is about two weeks ago I sensed the Lord would have me talk about why I believe the rapture can happen any day now.
- My approach was going to be there are prophecies in play today that were not in play as recently as just ten years ago, i.e. Turkey/Israel.

Then, on Friday, I happened upon a most interesting article published by Charisma News that basically took the words out of my mouth. Allow me to first quote from the article, then, what I'd like to do is go a little more in depth as to what I believe the Lord has put on my heart to share with you today. The title of the article is, "15 'Signs of the Times' Indicating Judgment." - ...If you fell asleep like a Rip Van Winkle for 30 years and awoke today, imagine how shocked you would be at what happened to America. 1. Divorce: Increased from 4% to 51% in one generation. 2. Cohabitation: 65% of "altar-bound" singles live together, a euphemism for lifestyle fornication. 3. Abortion: 57 million unborn babies aborted, some with taxpayer funding and now part of socialized medicine. 4. Marijuana: Being legalized in several states. 5. Euthanasia and Infanticide: Being legalized under camouflage names. 6. Pornography: Rampant, graphic, just a "click away" on hand-held devices. 7. Homosexuality, lesbian and transgender lifestyles: Promoted even by our president along with gay marriage and homosexual ordinations. 8. Movies and music: Standards almost nonexistent with graphic nudity, profanity and blasphemy commonplace. 9. Out-of-wedlock births: 1st time in U.S history – more than 50%. 10. Sexually transmitted diseases: Over 110 million in our population infected. 11. Economic insanity: \$18 trillion national debt; millions unemployed deriving benefits; \$60 billion in annual Medicare fraud and waste. 12. Illegal immigration: Over 11 million and politicians pushing open borders and amnesty. 13. Political leaders: Corruption, incompetence and deception at all levels. 14. Islam: Exploding in regions of the world with an increasingly vulnerable America dismantling militarily and docile politicians calling it a "peaceful religion." 15. Should we add illiteracy... crime... catastrophic fatherlessness... human trafficking... adultery... profane comedians...an ignorant and low information populace? How about the ongoing erosion of our religious freedoms and secularism taking over society? And last but not least, how about a Laodicean, apostate church compromising and lacking the courage to address the defining issues of our day with clarity and conviction while defining success in terms of happy sermons, attendance, offerings, number of staff, programs and square footage? Do we see the "handwriting on the wall" that we are at an unprecedented tipping point?

<http://www.charismanews.com/opinion/heres-the-deal/45851-15-signs-of-the-times-indicating-judgment>

- We need look no further than to the events of just this last week to realize that we are indeed at this unprecedented tipping point as it were.
- Monday brought us the report that Christian Chapel Owners were threatened with jail time and fines for refusing to perform gay marriages.
- Tuesday we were met with the news of a Canadian Muslim attacking soldiers and killing one in the name of Allah, near Montreal Canada.

- Wednesday, it was reported that unchurched Americans are more resistant to outreach efforts by the church and friends than 20 years ago.
- Wednesday was also the day that a Muslim killed a Canadian soldier at the National War Memorial in central Ottawa in the name of Allah.

- Thursday was another busy day with the breaking news about a Muslim in New York attempted to behead two policemen with a hatchet.
- Also in New York on the same day, the first case of Ebola was confirmed after a doctor had come into contact with a number of people.

- Friday we awoke to the news that there was yet another school shooting, this time in Marysville Washington, where there were two deaths.
- Time doesn't permit me to talk about the inconsequential US air strikes against the Islamic State, nor the renewed threats against Israel.
- The common denominator with these news events, and the list in the aforementioned article is, years ago, this would've been unthinkable.

- Actually, this shouldn't come as any surprise given that the scriptures are replete with detailed descriptions of what it will be like at the end.
- I would suggest God's purpose in recording these detailed last day's prophecies in the pages of Holy Writ was so we'd connect the dots.
- More specifically, God tells us what's going to happen, before it happens, so when we see it begin to happen, we'll believe in Jesus Christ.

John 14:29 NIV I have told you now before it happens, so that when it does happen you will believe.

John 13:19 NIV "I am telling you now before it happens, so that when it does happen you will believe that I am He.

Luke 21:28 NKJV Now when these things begin to happen, look up and lift up your heads, because your redemption draws near."

- I suppose the question becomes what specifically are those things that Jesus tells us will happen before it happens so we can be watching.
- Consider this passage in 2 Timothy 3:1-5 where the Apostle Paul with specificity in writing to Timothy tells him what will mark the last days:

2 Timothy 3:1-5 - 1 But mark this: There will be terrible times in the last days. 2 People will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boastful, proud, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy, 3 without love, unforgiving, slanderous, without self-control, brutal, not lovers of the good, 4 treacherous, rash, conceited, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God—5 having a form of godliness but denying its power. Have nothing to do with such people.

- In 2 Timothy 4:1-4, the very next chapter, Paul takes it a step further and describes how bad it will be even in the Church in the last days.

2 Timothy 4:1-4 - 1 In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who will judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I give you this charge: 2 Preach the word; be prepared in season and out of season; correct, rebuke and encourage—with great patience and careful instruction. 3 For the time will come when people will not put up with sound doctrine. Instead, to suit their own desires, they will gather around them a great number of teachers to say what their itching ears want to hear. 4 They will turn their ears away from the truth and turn aside to myths.

- I'll bring today's update to a close by sharing a passage of scripture in Isaiah 46:9-10, in which God makes it very clear that it will happen.

Isaiah 46:9–10 9 Remember the former things, those of long ago; I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is none like me. 10 I make known the end from the beginning, from ancient times, what is still to come. I say, 'My purpose will stand, and I will do all that I please.'