

Mid-East Prophecy Update – October 16th, 2016

- For today's prophecy update I would like for us to zero in on the breaking news this last week concerning the UN and Israel.
- Please know that I do so amidst the backdrop of even more stunning developments as it relates to Russia, and now Yemen.
- While we've looked at these developments in recent weeks through the lens of Ezekiel 38, today we'll focus on Zechariah 12.

Zechariah 12:1–10 - 1 The burden of the word of the LORD against Israel. Thus says the LORD, who stretches out the heavens, lays the foundation of the earth, and forms the spirit of man within him: 2 "Behold, I will make Jerusalem a cup of drunkenness to all the surrounding peoples, when they lay siege against Judah and Jerusalem. 3 And it shall happen in that day that I will make Jerusalem a very heavy stone for all peoples; all who would heave it away will surely be cut in pieces, though all nations of the earth are gathered against it. 4 In that day," says the LORD, "I will strike every horse with confusion, and its rider with madness; I will open My eyes on the house of Judah, and will strike every horse of the peoples with blindness. 5 And the governors of Judah shall say in their heart, 'The inhabitants of Jerusalem are my strength in the LORD of hosts, their God.' 6 In that day I will make the governors of Judah like a firepan in the woodpile, and like a fiery torch in the sheaves; they shall devour all the surrounding peoples on the right hand and on the left, but Jerusalem shall be inhabited again in her own place—Jerusalem. 7 "The LORD will save the tents of Judah first, so that the glory of the house of David and the glory of the inhabitants of Jerusalem shall not become greater than that of Judah. 8 In that day the LORD will defend the inhabitants of Jerusalem; the one who is feeble among them in that day shall be like David, and the house of David shall be like God, like the Angel of the LORD before them. 9 It shall be in that day that I will seek to destroy all the nations that come against Jerusalem. 10 "And I will pour on the house of David and on the inhabitants of Jerusalem the Spirit of grace and supplication; then they will look on Me whom they pierced. Yes, they will mourn for Him as one mourns for his only son, and grieve for Him as one grieves for a firstborn.

It's with this understanding of Zechariah's prophecy that I'll be with an Arutz Sheva article from Thursday, in which they reported that UNESCO says the Jews have no connection to Temple Mount. According to the report, the UN passed a resolution Thursday denying the Jewish connection to the Temple Mount and the Western Wall. The resolution was supported by 24 states, including Russia and China. 6 countries opposed and 26 abstained. The resolution maintains that the Western Wall and Temple Mount will be referred to by their Arabic names and the Hebrew terms for the sites will only appear in quotation marks in UN references. Earlier Israel had tried to prevent the decision, even asking the Vatican to help prevent the resolution. The Vatican enjoys observer status in UNESCO. <http://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/218940>

That was Thursday, then, on Friday, Fox News reported that Israel had suspended cooperation with UNESCO over the aforementioned Jerusalem resolution. Quoting the report, "Israel suspended cooperation with UNESCO on Friday, a day after the U.N. cultural agency adopted a draft resolution that Israel says denies the deep, historic Jewish connection to holy sites in Jerusalem. UNESCO's draft resolution, sponsored by several Arab countries, uses only the Islamic name for a hilltop compound sacred to both Jews and Muslims, which includes the Western Wall, a remnant of the biblical temple and the holiest site where Jews can pray. <http://www.foxnews.com/world/2016/10/14/israel-suspends-cooperation-with-unesco-over-jerusalem-resolution.html?intcmp=latestnews>

- It's important to understand that all three of the world's main religions lay claims to Jerusalem, however, only two are legitimate.
- I'm speaking of course about Judaism and Christianity both of which are legitimate, which makes Islam claim totally illegitimate.
- The fact of the matter is Jerusalem isn't mentioned even once in the Qur'an despite attempts by Muslims to interpret otherwise.

- While the Qur'an doesn't mention Jerusalem one time, the Bible mentions Jerusalem 806 times, 660-Old Testament, 146-New.
- The question that needs to be asked is why. Why is this movement to disenfranchise the Jews from Jerusalem gaining traction?
- To answer this why question, we need look no further than to the pages of Holy Writ where we find that God put His name on it.

- I hope you'll kindly indulge me for the remainder of our time as I share how God has put His name of ownership on Jerusalem.
- God not only put His name of ownership on Jerusalem literally, He has also put His name of ownership on His people eternally.
- One of the highest blessings you can place on someone in the Middle East, is to pronounce and declare God's name on you.

Numbers 6:22-27 - 22 And the LORD spoke to Moses, saying: 23 "Speak to Aaron and his sons, saying, 'This is the way you shall bless the children of Israel. Say to them: 24 "The LORD bless you and keep you; 25 The LORD make His face shine upon you, And be gracious to you; 26 The LORD lift up His countenance upon you, And give you peace." 27 "So they shall put My name on the children of Israel, and I will bless them."

- In addition to God putting His name on the children of Israel, He's also put His name on Jerusalem, the eternal capital of Israel.

2 Chronicles 6:6a But I have chosen Jerusalem, that my name might be there;

2 Chronicles 12:13b ...he (Rehoboam) reigned seventeen years in Jerusalem, the city which the LORD had chosen out of all the tribes of Israel, to put his name there.

2 Chronicles 33:7b ... in Jerusalem, which I have chosen before all the tribes of Israel, will I put my name for ever:

2 Kings 21:4b ... In Jerusalem will I put my name.

- Now, the question becomes, what is God's name. In other words, we know that "God" is His title, but what is the name of God.

One commentator of this wrote; "It is generally accepted that Job is the oldest book in the Bible. It is commonly accepted that Job lived during the patriarchal age, and possibly even predated Abraham. For Job a common name for God was 'El Shaddai.'"

Adam Clarke in his commentary wrote: "El Shaddai, I am God all-sufficient; from shadah, to shed, to pour out. I am that God who pours out blessings, who gives them richly, abundantly, continually."

Pastor J. Mark Martin of a Calvary Chapel in Phoenix Arizona had this to say; "The Hebrew letter "Shin" is used by the Jews as the abbreviation for the name "El Shaddai". The "Old City of Jerusalem" resembles the shape of the "Shin" making it possible that God Almighty literally put His name in Jerusalem.

- I would submit that this Shin as the abbreviation for the name of God, which is El Shaddai, is in fact, on Jerusalem as God said.
- Consider these images of the Old City of Jerusalem as outlined by the city walls, as we superimpose the name of God on it.



- Simply put, this alone should shatter any myth that Jerusalem belongs to anyone other than Israel, whom God has given it to.
- Keep in mind, that this is just one piece of the prophecy puzzle that today is coming together in its fulfillment like never before.
- Lastly, if you've never called upon the name of the Lord to be saved I would like to share the gospel of Salvation in Jesus Christ

Romans 3:10 As it is written: "There is no one righteous, not even one;

Romans 3:23 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God

Romans 5:12 Therefore, just as sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin, and in this way death came to all men, because all sinned-

Romans 6:23 For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Romans 5:8 But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Romans 10:9-10 ...if you confess with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. 10 For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved.

Romans 10:13 for, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."