

Prophecy Update
At the Finish Line of Bible Prophecy
J.D. Farag

I want to talk with you about how it is that the world today is now at the proverbial "finish line" prophetically. And by that, I mean in terms of Bible prophecy we've reached the end and are about to cross this finish line. Can I say it like this: pre-tribulation rapture finish line? And here's why.

Bible prophecy is swiftly careening forward, which points to the rapture and commencement of the 7-year tribulation. I want to begin by drawing your attention to two significant developments that took place just this last week concerning Israel. You're already – shall we just close in prayer?

You guys already know exactly where I'm going and for good reason. Now, it is interesting because these significant developments are concerning Israel, which I guess it could be said that Israel and the prophecies concerning Israel have seemingly taken a back seat over the last two-plus years.

But here's the thing. The prophecies in the Bible concerning Israel, of which there are many, they may have taken a back seat, but they're still in the same fast-moving vehicle. In other words, it wasn't put on pause. There have been significant developments. Actually, it could be argued that they've even accelerated as they speed forward toward their prophesied end according to the Bible.

Now, I'm going to have to ask you to do something that you might remember a school teacher asking you when you were young. I need you to put your thinking cap on. I used to hate that when the teacher would say that to me. Because I want to go over several prophecies.

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Actually there's a number of them here, and it might seem voluminous, like there's a lot of these, but you guys can do it. And every single one of the prophecies that I want us to look at all connect, and let me say it this way, even intersect, and specifically as it relates to how they speak to the geopolitical positioning of the nations that invade Israel, and not only invade Israel, but also divide Jerusalem.

And here's what I mean by connect and intersect. The common denominator with all of these prophecies that we're going to go over, they tie into this final global government, global religion, and global economy.

So you ready?

[Let's do it]

Ezekiel – I love you guys. *Ezekiel 38*, very well known. I'd like to read *verses 1-6*. This is a well-known prophecy concerning a yet-future invasion of Israel. And we're told, verse 1,

"The Word of the Lord came to me: 'Son of man, set your face against Gog, of the land of Magog, the chief prince of Meshech and Tubal; prophesy against him and say: 'This is what the Sovereign Lord says: I am against you, Gog, chief prince of Meshech and Tubal.

I will turn you around and put hooks in your jaws and bring you out with your whole army – your horses, your horsemen, fully armed, and a great horde with large and small shields, all of them brandishing their swords."

Now, *verse 5*, for the benefit of those who are relatively new to Bible prophecy, we have a,

I'll call it a grocery list of nations that are named by their ancient names, starting with

"Persia," which we know today to be modern-day Iran. "Cush" and "Put;" this would be the region of Ethiopia, etc. and **"will be with them, all with shields and helmets, also Gomer**

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with all its troops, and Beth Togarmah [That's actually the Arabic] [Bayt means House of Togarmah, or Beth Togarmah] "from the far north with all its troops – and the many nations with you."

So I wanted to stop at verse 6, but don't leave that yet because I want to draw your attention to verse 13 in a moment, but I need to kind of set the stage here. So we have this list of nations. And for the purpose of our Update today, let's just talk about the main three that are at the helm of this allied invasion of Israel. It is Russia, Iran, and Turkey.

Now, there are other nations involved and it is believed, and present company included, that all of the nations that are listed in this prophecy are already at the ready, particularly in Syria, which we're going to talk about in a moment.

So the first 6 verses provide us now with the 'who,' but let's talk about the 'what' and the 'why'. That's *verse 13*. After listing the nations that will invade Israel, verse 13 tells us who will not be invading. And it is interesting, not just the nations that are listed in this prophecy that are part of this allied invasion, but those that are conspicuously absent completely from the prophecy, i.e. Egypt, no mention. Jordan, no mention.

How about this one?

Syria. You would think; Syria's right there. We'll come back to Syria, but they're not included in this.

What about the Arabian Peninsula?

We know it today as Saudi Arabia. The reason it's Saudi Arabia and not Wahhabi Arabia – This isn't in my notes, so... But I already opened up the can, so let me explain this.

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It went to the House of Saud, not the Wahhabis, but the Saudis. When that area we know as the Arabian Peninsula was given to Beit Saud, Ibn Saud, the family, the House of Saud, hence the name Saudi Arabia.

Now, in *verse 13*, we're told what their ancient name was before it was Saudi Arabia. And it's very key, and it's, in fact, germane to our understanding of this prophecy, which is a key prophecy, and it's Sheba and Dedan. This is the area we know today as the Gulf area, Saudi Arabia, those Gulf states, those oil-rich states, as they're referred to.

Well, we're told about them in *verse 13*, **"And the merchants of Tarshish."**

I know there's a lot of debate and speculation. Time doesn't permit, nor do we need to necessarily go there.

"And all her villages will say to you, [now, this is the 'why' behind the 'what' of this invasion.] 'Have you come to plunder? Have you gathered your hordes to loot, to carry off silver and gold, to take away livestock and goods, and to seize much plunder?'"

Answer: Yes.

It's not in the text, but that's exactly what they're doing, which presupposes a couple of things first, chief of which is that Israel has to be a nation in order for *Ezekiel 38* to be fulfilled.

Well, that happened May 14th, 1948. So we can check that box.

Another thing has to happen once Israel was reborn as a nation, which was another huge prophecy that really started the ball rolling, the clock ticking. You can choose whatever metaphor you want on that one.

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But it also presupposes that once Israel is back in the land, they are prospering and rich and wealthy and they have silver, gold, livestock, goods. They have all of this plunder to seize, and they do. So we can check that box too.

Now, why is verse 13 so germane to our understanding of Ezekiel's prophecy? Because, and stay with me.

If you've got Russia, Iran, Turkey, et Al., all in Syria, as we speak, at the ready to fulfill exactly what we're told in this prophecy in Ezekiel that was written some 2500-plus years ago, and you've got Saudi Arabia who all of a sudden, it would appear, is kind of chummy with Israel.

Well, that's what it says. They're protesting this invasion. They're questioning this alliance of nations. What are you doing? Why are you doing this? Are you going to take what Israel has?

It almost sounds like Saudi Arabia and Kuwait and oh, some of these other countries that currently have wonderful foreign relations with Israel as we speak, again, are not going to be part of this because they are on Israel's side of the table, if I can say it like that. So hang on to that.

Let's talk about Syria. You know this one well. *Isaiah 17:1*; it's also in *Jeremiah 49*. But it's a prophecy against Damascus. What's the prophecy?

"See, [behold] Damascus will no longer be a city but will become a heap of ruins."

So here's what I'm thinking. This invasion from the north, *Ezekiel 38*, comes vis-à-vis Syria.

And the fulfillment of *Isaiah 17:1* explains the conspicuous absence of Syria being involved in this alliance of nations that invades Israel.

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We already have verse *13 of Ezekiel 38* explaining to us where Saudi Arabia and those nations are in this equation in prophecy. But we really haven't had an explanation until *Isaiah 17:1* as to why it is – I mean it would stand to reason that Syria would certainly be involved, right? Well, if it's destroyed, then that would explain why Syria is not involved. I know that might seem like a firm grasp of the obvious, but it seems like the target is not just Israel, but Jerusalem.

So let's talk about *Zachariah Chapter 12:1-3*. **"The burden of the Word of the Lord for Israel, saith the Lord, which stretcheth forth the heavens, and layeth the foundation of the earth, and formeth the spirit of man within him. Behold, I will make Jerusalem a cup of trembling unto all the people round about, when they shall be in the siege both against Judah and Jerusalem.**

[And then Verse 3] And in that day I will make Jerusalem a burdensome stone [boundary stone, heavy stone] for all people:

All that burden themselves [Try to move the boundary stones, try to cut up Jerusalem, divide Jerusalem] All that burden themselves with it shall be cut in pieces, though all the people of the earth be gathered together against it."

At the risk of an oversimplification, this is, again, a well-known prophecy that speaks to how the entire world will have this intoxicating obsession with dividing Jerusalem into two-states with Jews and Palestinians, so-called, no such thing, Jews and Palestinians living side-by-side together in, quote, "peace and security."

I want to come back to that. And again, I know you know where I'm going with that.

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So the focus now is not just on Israel, but really the target where the goal posts are is Jerusalem and the dividing of Jerusalem. And then there's another prophecy in *Joel Chapter 3*, I want to read *verses 1-2*. **"For behold in those days and at that time, when I restore the fortunes of Judah and Jerusalem, I will gather all the nations and bring them down to the valley of Jehoshaphat. Then I will enter into judgment with them there on behalf of My people and My inheritance, Israel, whom they have scattered among the nations; and [listen] they have divided up [key word] My land."**

Oh, oops. No, that's My land. My name is on it, literally, by the way, we've talked about that prior. God literally put His name on Jerusalem. That's My land.

Jerusalem: that's Mine, and you're trying to divide it up? (Frustrated sounds) You don't want to do that, because in that day I will judge those that divide My land.

Now, *1 Thessalonians 5:3*, again, very well known. You'll usually, I want to venture to say, and I'll just put a percentage on it, probably in the high nineties in terms of a percentage, and that's maybe conservative. But when you hear these two words, "peace and security," over 90% of the time it's in the context of the aforementioned two-state solution. \

Now, I've been studying Bible prophecy for many, many years, and I actually have in my archives files from, I know this is going to date me, but back in the late '80s. I was only five. But I have archived files of world leaders saying these two exact words, "peace and security" within the context of a two-state solution, which I believe is Hitler's "Final Solution" repackaged.

And the reason I say that is because when one, Yasser Arafat was still alive... You remember him? You're trying to forget him? (Chuckling)

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Well, when he was still alive and he would come to the U.S., he would say, we want peace with Israel. No, you don't. Because then he'd go right back to Ramallah and in Arabic say, "Peace" for us means the destruction of Israel.

And it's no wonder, because it's in the Koran, with Muhammad before and then Saladin after. The whole point of Islam is to make peace with your enemy, then destroy them.

Enter *1 Thessalonians 5:3*. This is going to change the whole complexion of this prophecy

"For when they say, "Peace and security" then sudden destruction comes upon [And I like this word a lot] them. [I'm not a "them"] them, as labor pains upon a pregnant woman. [And here's another word I like, similar] And they [they] shall not escape."

This is in the context of the Apostle Paul, by the Holy Spirit, writing about the rapture, and he delineates between 'they' and 'we,' 'them' and 'us.'

They will not escape, but we who are alive and remain will be caught up, raptured up, "harpazo" in the Greek, the Latin, "raptures." That's where you get the word "rapture."

We! So if you hear nothing else that I say today, hear this: Be a We.

Okay, good. We're good.

Let's talk about *Daniel 9:27*.

Now this is, again, very well-known, very important prophecy. They're all important, but I'm tying stuff together and I hope it'll all fit here in a moment. This prophecy provides us with specificity because we're told here that he, speaking of the Antichrist, will confirm a covenant.

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Now, I think I would be remiss if I didn't explain the meaning of this word "confirm," which has been the subject of much in the way of debate and conversation among Bible students and Bible prophecy teachers.

In the Hebrew, it's the same word as it is in my native tongue of Arabic, it's the Arabic and Hebrew, Higbir (Speaking Arabic) which means superior, spectacular, stronger, greater.

This is a – in other words, there's something already on the table. It just needs to be confirmed, made bigger, greater, enforced perhaps. It's kind of hard because when you talk about other translations in other languages, it's that textbook case of it gets lost in the translation, and this is one of those cases.

There's not really an English word to really describe what this word means in the original. It is a word that implies that this is a covenant, a peace agreement that will be made great, strong. It will be implemented. It will be enforced. It will be finally signed, and you'll forgive the word, but for lack of a better one, executed. I should have chosen a different word than that.

"He will confirm a covenant with many for one, 'seven' [That's seven years] in the middle of the 'seven.'"

Now we're talking about the 7-year tribulation. And by the way, parenthetically, let me say that it is not the rapture that starts the 7-year tribulation.

It's the fulfillment specifically of *Daniel 9:27* that starts the 7-year tribulation. Once *Daniel 9:27* is fulfilled, the 7-year tribulation starts.

And **"In the middle of the 'seven' he will put an end to sacrifice and offering. And at the temple."**

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[Stop right there]

This infers obviously that at some point at the beginning of, maybe even prior to, that temple's going to get rebuilt. Because at the three-and-a-half-year mark, it's already not only fully built, it's fully functioning and they're offering sacrifices.

And so we're told that **"He will set up an abomination that causes desolation, until the end that is decreed is poured out on him."**

And then lastly, *2 Thessalonians 2:4*. This comports with *Daniel 9:27*. The Apostle Paul, writing the Thessalonians in the context of the rapture prior to the 7-year tribulation, says, **"He, [Speaking of the Antichrist] opposes and exalts himself above every so-called god or object of worship, so that he takes his seat in the temple of God, declaring himself to be God."**

When does he do that?

Well, we just got done reading *Daniel 9:27*, at the midpoint.

And it's believed that it's at this point when Israel realizes, wait a minute, this is not our Messiah. This is the false messiah that's just committed this abomination that causes desolation. He declares himself to be God.

Again, much in the way of speculation on the part of Bible students of Bible prophecy and Bible prophecy teachers, but it is believed that he will commit this abomination and it will cause desolation, and Israel will realize this is the false Christ. And that will be what brings them to their true Christ, Jesus Christ. And they will flee for the last three-and-a-half years of the 7-year tribulation and be protected by God Himself.

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Many believe, present company included again, that this will be in the ancient city of Petra, which is in modern-day Jordan.

Actually, just little side note, it's believed that that's where Job lived, was actually in Petra. I've only been there once, my wife and I.

This was B.C., before children. (Chuckle)

And I just want to clarify that. It was in the '90s. And actually my cousin took us there because I have family there in Jordan, and man, you need to take several days to see this entire – It is just breathtaking. It is just stunning.

It is an impenetrable rock fortress that Israel will flee Jerusalem and Israel from to get to, to be protected for the last three-and-a-half years of the 7-year tribulation.

Okay, let's try to connect some of these prophetic dots here. So we've got prophecies that describe in some detail that at the time of the end, there's going to be this man, this Antichrist figure, which, by the way, doesn't just mean against Christ, but in the place of Christ, because apparently, he sets himself up as God in the Temple of God declaring Himself to be God.

So this man will then, once he does this, it seems, will also be the one that says, Hey, if you'll sign right here, I'll throw in the temple, no extra charge, *Daniel 9:27*. So that's what enforces and strengthens makes hignbir this 7-year covenant.

And once that happens, then the seven years begins. And that's the last seven years of human history, as we know human history to be presently.

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But we're also told that there's going to be an invasion of Israel, that there's going to be this an intoxicating obsession with the dividing of Jerusalem.

And it would stand to reason that if these prophecies, which again, all intersect and connect, it would stand to reason that you would start seeing some of it beginning to come to pass.

In other words, you would start seeing some political maneuvering, geopolitical repositioning of the nations that are in these prophecies, right?

So the question is: Are we?

The answer is: You better believe it.

On Tuesday, *The Times of Israel* published a report – You know, sometimes – you'll forgive me for my – you know, God's got a sense of humor. So that's my story and I'm sticking with it. I know my humor isn't always appreciated, but sometimes I just, I just wonder, do these people get up in the morning and go on their newsfeed and then go to *Ezekiel 38* (Chuckling) and go, Man, we better get this show on the road.

Get Putin, get him on the phone. Get Erdogan; he's in there, and Raisi. We got an invasion scheduled.

Okay, again, that's my humor, so whatever.

So this was Tuesday. Here's the headline: "In Tehran, Putin, Raisi and Erdogan vow to continue Syria cooperation."

Well, they must have included *Isaiah 17:1* in their briefing too, apparently. Here's a couple of quotes: "Russian President Vladimir Putin, Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi, and Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan held a trilateral meeting in Tehran on Tuesday.

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...The three leaders agreed to continue consultations and cooperation to, [quote] 'eliminate terrorists' in Syria, in a statement following their meeting.

The three countries 'reaffirmed their determination to continue their ongoing cooperation in order to ultimately eliminate terrorist individuals, groups, undertakings, and entities, while ensuring [I'm sorry for my chuckling] the protection of the civilians and civilian infrastructure in accordance with international humanitarian law,' the statement read.

I'm just going to leave that one there.

Also from the *Times of Israel*, this is on Saturday, comes this report concerning Saudi Arabia and Israel, remember? They're going to be together on this against this allied invasion with Russia, Iran, and Turkey at the helm.

So at some point, Saudi Arabia and Israel have to have something in place. Well they do.

And they will.

Here's what the headline read: "Saudi minister: Peace with Israel 'strategic option' but not before 2- state solution."

Okay. (Chuckling) That's *Ezekiel 38*. That's *Zechariah 12:1-3* That's *Isaiah 17:1*. That's *Joel 3:1-2*, *1 Thessalonians 5:3*, *Daniel 9:27*, and *2 Thessalonians 2:4* all wrapped up into one nice, tidy, neat little package.

Would you agree that's exactly as we were told? Every single one of these nations are doing exactly what we're told they would do at the time of the end.

So let me just quote this article real quick.

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In it they say, "A senior Saudi minister described normalizing ties with Israel [Saudi Arabia normalizing ties with Israel.] as a 'strategic option,' while clarifying that a two-state solution between Israel and the Palestinians was a 'requirement' before Riyadh would formalize ties with Jerusalem."

It's almost like, where do you sign? They're just, they're already ready. Is that even a proper sentence structure? Probably isn't.

They're already ready. They're just waiting for the green light. And I think that green light's coming.

Now here's how I'm going with this. The common denominator with all of this is that there's one man, the man of perdition, a.k.a. the Antichrist, who will be at the helm of all of this. In other words, he will control the world, a one-world government, a one-world religion, and a one-world economy, in and during the 7-year tribulation.

Now here's a question: How?

How is it plausible and conceivable that this man of sin, as he's also known, is going to actually gain control of the entire world in this way?

He will be worshiped. He will be the one man that will be seen as the savior of the world, for the world, to solve all of the problems in the world.

How is that even going to be possible?

Well, it's going to be possible because Satan will possess this man. He will be the personification of Satan himself. And thankfully the Word of God provides us with the answer, which is what I want to now address for the remainder of our time.

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But to do so, we'll end the Facebook and YouTube livestream at this time. The truth of the matter is, and I believe this with all of my heart, and we've talked about it before, it's not hyperbole, that the Antichrist is already on the scene, behind the scene, and he's at the ready.

And there's nothing in Scripture, you will not find Bible prophecy anywhere describe the Antichrist as setting anything up.

What we instead see in Bible prophecy is the Antichrist, all he does is he just flicks the switch. Everything has already been prepared, set up. All the wiring has been completed. It's just a matter of him being revealed, coming on the scene and again, flicking the switch.

What switch?

Well, this switch for a global religion, a switch for a global government, and a switch for a global economy.

Now, stay with me and hear me out on this. If you were to ask me why it is that I'm so convinced we are at the finish line of Bible prophecy, my answer would be in a word, Covid. And here's why.

Prior to 2020, wouldn't you agree that it was somewhat inconceivable to imagine the world coming together and uniting in lockstep globally like it did?

I'll never forget one day I'm sitting in my office and I'm looking up on the screen and the Ayatollah Khomeini is wearing a mask. I'm like, you got to be kidding me. The whole world was doing the same thing, under the same control. We had never seen anything like it before in human history.

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I mean, if you want to really think it through, you'd be really hard-pressed to find anything in the history books that would even come close to what we saw at the beginning of 2020.

And oh, by the way, isn't it interesting? Hmm. Things that make you go, hmm.

That this came on the heels of, actually, arguably in concert with the long anticipated, quote, unquote, "Deal of the Century"? Hmm...right on schedule. Right on schedule. Everything is going perfectly according to God's prophetic plan.

And the whole world was on board in lockstep, in lockdown like we talked about last week. Inconceivable prior to 2020.

Come on, let's be honest. Let's say, let's just rewind the clock of time and let's just say the year is 2017, and you're here. Good morning and welcome, so glad you're here, 2017. Had a little more hair back in 2017.

But I'm up here and I'm talking about Bible prophecy, and you're listening to the Prophecy Update, and I say something to this effect: We're not too far away from a day when the whole world will be in lockdown.

You would look at me like, you lost it. We saw it coming. He's completely lost it. There's no – That's impossible. That's not going to happen.

Oh, no, it's going to happen.

Let's go back to 2018. Let's go back to 2019. I remember a couple of those Updates from 2019. In fact, I had a sense I'm not trying to say I knew anything was coming, but I just had a sense that, man - in fact, I even told friends of mine that, hey, I'm going to hunker down and

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I'm not going to go speak and I'm not going to – I need to, I just need to be here, and I need to be here for my church that I'm so privileged to pastor.

This is the end of 2019.

Last time I went to Israel, 2018, I was reminded of this. I told the group, I said, I think this is the last time I'll ever be in Israel. And I didn't know at the time. It was just a sense that I had that this is the last time. I just had this sense that something was coming, and boy, did it.

And the world changed, never to go back again in the year 2020.

So what's your point, Pastor?

Here's my point. Prior to 2020, it was inconceivable.

Would you agree?

It was really, it would have been really hard to wrap your mind around how the whole world would come together globally, globally, doing the same thing in lockstep, inconceivable.

Well, now, not so much.

So here's my point. It's not too far of a stretch to get from that to these prophecies that I just read because the ball's already in motion, as it were. What if I told you that everything now beginning to come to pass as we near the finish line, the global government, the global religion, and the global economy are all prophesied in one chapter in the Book of *Revelation Chapter 13*.

Let's start with the global religion, *Revelation 13:4*. **"So [Pardon me] they worshiped the dragon who gave authority to the beast; and they worshiped the beast, saying, 'Who is like the beast? Who is able to make war with him?'"**

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This is a global worship, inconceivable prior to 2020. Now, I can see it. I can see it.

Global Government. *Verse 7, Revelation 13.* **"It was granted to him to make war with the Saints and to overcome them."**

Notice, God is in control of everything. The Devil can't do anything unless God allows him to. And God will never allow the enemy to do anything unless it ultimately fulfills His plan.

And you might be here today or watching online and you're going through the trial of your life. I want to encourage you, and here's why, God has allowed the enemy to, as the Apostle Paul would say, torment you. Here's this thorn in the flesh, if you prefer.

And you pleaded with God. You begged with God. You've cried out to God, "God, remove this," and God says, "No, My grace is sufficient for you."

But why are you allowing Satan to torment me? This is a messenger of Satan sent to torment. Why are you allowing Satan to torment me? Why are you allowing the enemy to do this to me?

Because it's in the end for My glory and your good. If you knew what I knew, you would not want Me to. That could be a song.

See, God is all-knowing, right? He knows the end from the beginning. And we don't know His ways, we don't know His whys.

Maybe this is for somebody here, and I know I'm kind of going off and maybe this is the Holy Spirit, but maybe this is a word for you to encourage you. God's allowing the enemy – See, you can ask Job about this, not that we're going to ask anybody anything when we get to heaven. We're just going to be like. (In shock and awe)

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You know, all those questions we have: When I get to heaven, I'm going to...

No you're not, no you're not. You're going to be before the throne. Worthy, worthy, worthy. (bowing)

But Satan could not do anything to Job unless God gave him permission to. And God only gives permission to the enemy to do anything to us if in the end it's for our good and His glory.

Something that has really helped me in my walk with Jesus over the years is that I know that God is answering all of my prayers the same exact way I would answer my own prayers if I knew what He knew.

Let me say the same thing in a different way. He's all-knowing, right?

And we pray and we cry out, Oh, God, remove this trial, this thorn, this tormenting, and some of you are thinking boss, roommate, neighbor. Don't do that.

Remove this!

No, I'm using this. You have no idea. If you knew what I knew, you would not ask me to remove that. In fact, if you knew what I knew, you'd be thanking Me for allowing this because I know the end from the beginning.

I know again, I digress, but I just really want to encourage you, those of you that are going through trials and difficulty and struggles.

And believe you me, I know. I know. I understand. It's getting pretty tough, isn't it, especially as we near the finish line? The title of today's Prophecy Update.

The closer we get, the harder it's going to get. You know that, right?

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You just be encouraged. God knows what He's doing. You don't know what God is doing. He knows what He's doing. Let Him do it. Just stay out of His way. Don't try to help Him out. I know you don't do that. I'll speak for myself. I'm always trying to help God out.

God's like, you want to help Me?

Don't help me because you're making it worse. I know what I'm doing. Just let Me do it.

I think of that hymn of old... This is the last thing and then we'll get back to our Prophecy Update already in progress. But I think of that classic hymn, I love it so much.

In fact, my mom not only made me, but paid me to learn to play this on the piano. It was hymn number 272 in our hymn book at the time. I had an upright piano. And it's the classic timeless hymn, 'Have Thine Own Way, Lord.'

♪ Have Thine own way Lord. ♪

♪ Have Thine own way. ♪

♪ Thou art the potter, I am the clay. ♪

♪ Mold me and make me after Thy will, ♪

[And this is the hard part]

♪ While I am waiting, yielded and still. ♪

Ouch! Can I rewrite that last verse on that last line before the...? While I'm waiting? I hate to wait! While I am yielding? No!

And how about, "Be still and know that I am God," *Psalm 46:10*.

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At the Finish Line of Bible Prophecy

J.D. Farag

Have you ever had those times in those trials where God's just saying, You just sit still? Be still, do nothing. This is My battle. You're not going to have to fight this battle, like He said to Jehoshaphat in the *2 Chronicles 20*. The battle belongs to Me.

All I'm going to have you do is just stand there and behold the salvation of the Lord.

And oh, by the way, send your praise and worship team out and just thank Me in advance. I was thinking about this. I know I said this is – (Chuckling)

We'll get back. Don't worry. And don't look at your watches either.

I always think about the Israelites at the Red Sea. And they got the Egyptians right here and the Red Sea right here, and they start complaining; we're going to be talking about this in James, Second Service, a little bit about the complaining part.

Now you have to show up because now you know what it's about.

So they were complaining and murmuring, and I mean, it's bad. They're like, "Were there are not enough graves in Egypt that God had to bring us out here to kill us?"

And of course, you know what God did. He parts the Red Sea, they walk on dry ground, and then when the Egyptians follow in hot pursuit, the sea closes and the enemy is defeated, and He delivers them out of the hand of the Egyptians.

Now, where I come from, they call it a miracle. And it's pretty clear, right? I like to refer to that account as Red Sea clear, because you've got to know that when the sea was parted and the ground was dry, that's pretty clear God wants us to go. I think this is God's will, pretty clear.

Ya think?

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I wish that all of those times when you want to know the will of God that he would make it Red Sea clear.

But you know what they did?

So afterwards, of course, Miriam and they're praising the Lord, they're singing and they're worshiping and they're thanking God for the miracle He just performed. It's not long after they start complaining again.

Are you kidding me?

Unless we be too hard on them, we would have done the same thing.

Here's where I was going with that. Try this: Try singing and praising and thanking Him before the sea is parted.

What do you mean?

I had a situation couple weeks ago. It played out over a period of about a day, maybe a day-and-a-half. And I just started thanking God in advance. Lord, I know You're going to part this Red Sea. I know You're going to do this because You promised Me in Your Word, You're going to do this, and You can't break Your Word. You can't break Your promise, so I'm going to thank You now. I'll thank You after too.

Because see, when they started praising the Lord, it was not in faith, it was in relief. Well, I want to do this by faith being the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not yet seen. I haven't seen the sea parted yet, but You said You're going to part it. So thank You, Lord.

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And I started playing worship music and singing and praising and thanking God. And by the way, oh, it'll do a heart good, especially for those of you that are relatively close to my age.

The old Maranatha music. (Sighing)

I mean, it's just, I'm just praising and thanking God. Day-and-a-half goes by, boom, there's that Red Sea parted, there's that dry ground.

You should have seen me. I didn't walk; I ran, I ran. And then I turned around; I wanted to see the enemy defeated. Is that too much?

Okay, so we've got our global religion. They're going to worship. We've got our global government, *Revelation 13:7*. And God is controlling all of it and it says, **"That it was granted to him to make war with the saints and to overcome them, and of authority was given him over every tribe, tongue and nation."**

That is the world's governments. And then lastly, the Global Economy. And you know this one well. *Verses 16-17*, actually take *18* in there too. All three are in *Revelation 13*. **"He causes all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and slave, to receive a mark on their right hand or on their foreheads, and that no one may buy or sell except one who has the mark or the name of the beast, or the number of his name."**

Do you see how this all ties together? It's all under the authority of one who has been given the authority to control the entire world globally, a global religion, a global government, and a global economy.

Can I just ask you real quick, lastly, do you see this starting to take shape?

Here's the bottom line. The world today has already witnessed firsthand the plausibility of all of this happening since back in 2020.

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Now, it's not too far of a stretch to get to what we're told will happen during the 7-year tribulation. From where we're at now, with everything that's happened heretofore, we're at the end.

And while I realize and I'm keenly aware that I am saying basically the same thing every week in a different way, I'm going to keep saying the same thing every week in a different way because it's true. We're at the end. This is the end.

And here's the good news. Jesus Christ provides a way out of this world. There's no hope for this world. Our only hope, our blessed hope is in the person of Jesus Christ and salvation found in the person of Jesus Christ.

And it's really simple, it's so simple. In fact, in some ways, it's maybe too simple.

The Gospel of Jesus Christ, which is that He came, and He died, and He was buried, and He rose again on the third day, and He's coming back again one day.

Why is that good news?

Because He died in my place, and He defeated death. And he made me a promise that He goes to prepare a place for me in His Father's house where there are many dwelling places.

And if He goes, He's going to come back and take me and you to that place that He's prepared for me and you. And if it were not so, He would not have told us.

That is the word of a bridegroom to his bride saying, We're engaged now and I'm going to come and as a thief in the night and abduct you as my bride and take you to a wedding, a bridal chamber.

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And we're going to celebrate and consummate for a period of seven, by the way, our marriage together. And then after the seven, we're going to come out from that bridal chamber, that place that I've been preparing, and we're going to have a huge wedding feast, as was the custom in that day and as is the custom even today.

That's the gospel. The word "gospel" means "good news." Your debt has been paid; you're free to go.

Now, the ABCs of salvation, again, is just a simple explanation of salvation. It's not a hard-and-fast formula. It just is a tool that you can use. And the A is for admit or acknowledge that you sinned because until and unless you acknowledge that you're a sinner, you would not have any interest in a Savior.

Romans 3:10 says, "**There is no one righteous, not even one.**"

And *Romans 3:23* tells us why. It's because "**All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.**"

We were all born sinners, which is why we must be born-again, Jesus says, spiritually, in order to enter the kingdom of Heaven.

So how does that work and what does that mean?

Well, *Romans 6:23* interestingly, packages first the bad news with the good news. See, we've all been sentenced to death because "**the wages of sin is death.**"

We all are born sinners and have the death penalty hanging over our head. That's the bad news.

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The good news is that Jesus says, I'll go to your death in your stead. I'll die for you. You've been sentenced to death. I'll carry out the death sentence for you instead of you.

And then when I do, I will purchase and pay in full and then I will offer you the gift that I paid for on the cross in My death for you.

I will offer you a gift that I purchased and paid for in full. And that gift is the gift of eternal life in Christ Jesus, our Lord.

The B, very central, very simple, is for believe in your heart that Jesus Christ is Lord.

Romans 10:9-10 says, **"If you believe in your heart that God raised Jesus from the dead, you will be saved."**

The most famous, well-known quoted verse in all of the Bible, *John 3:16*, **"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son that whosoever would believe in Him would not perish but have everlasting life."**

And the C, lastly, is for call upon the name of the Lord. Or as *Romans 10:9-10* also says, **"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. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved."**

And *Romans 10:13* lastly, says, **"All who call upon the name of the Lord will be saved."**

That's just so simple. And it's a simple tool you can use to share the gospel with someone.

Easy to remember.

Well I'd like to end with the "But God" testimony for today which comes from Teresa Morris, who writes, "Our 'But God' testimony: My husband's journey with Covid pneumonia started

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January 27th, 2022, when he was taken by ambulance to the hospital. First thing they wanted to do was put him on a ventilator.

We knew what was happening to people on ventilators, besides the drug usually given to them. We made it clear we didn't want him given the drug. They kept telling us he was dying. Two days in, they insisted to ventilate him, or he'll die. We had no choice. My daughter emailed you for prayer, specifically for a miracle.

[And we prayed, by the way.]

We never stopped believing. God knew how desperate we were not to want to be a victim of this satanic agenda with Covid and hospitals.

The first hospital gave us no hope. We saw people of various ages dying around us. The hospital staff weren't happy that I and one of our children were there every day by his side watching everything they were doing.

When he had a decent evening, we'd come back the next morning and he'd be worse. Or I'd get a call in the middle of the night telling me he needed a blood transfusion. When the neighboring room's alarm went off and no one showed up for quite some time, then all of a sudden, everyone came, and I heard a nurse scold another that she didn't want to see that happen again; and two days later, that patient was dead.

I brought up to the administrator what I heard, and next thing I know, they are sending my husband to an acute care hospital. He was there eight days and was sent to a third hospital because of internal bleeding. He was in the ICU for a couple more months.

That hospital staff gave no hope and suggested that if his heart would stop, it would be dangerous to try to revive him since he has a mechanical heart valve.

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We told them that God can do miracles. He's the great physician. They didn't think much of that. They just continued to fill him with antibiotics, which caused other health problems, and mind-altering drugs which affected his breathing and personality.

Our granddaughter and I visited him one morning to find they had his head, hands, and feet tied down, the side bed rails were padded, and he was naked. I was livid. I know it was those horrible drugs. I demanded they get him off of them immediately. I forgot to mention that they had also put a trach in at the first hospital.

When they took him off those drugs, he was in his right mind and didn't have any signs of withdrawals. He was still having issues with bleeding, which they couldn't find out where or what was causing it.

On Resurrection Sunday, the hospital chaplain came in, and we asked him for prayer because of the bleeding. He prayed with us that God would show a miracle and heal the bleeding. He never had an issue after that. He was sent to a regular room for about a week or two more and then transported to the second hospital which had a rehabilitation area.

My husband was improving. They removed the trach and the feeding tube. He was able to eat. My husband wasn't the healthiest person prior to becoming sick. He has a heart valve, heart failure, Parkinson's, and neuropathy from the knees down.

But God.

He was able to come home June 8th. He'll be on oxygen for a while, but he's alive and with his family, and we thank and praise God for this miracle! Thank you all [That's you, by the way,] for praying. God is still doing miracles. Don't ever doubt what God is able to do. My husband is proof.”

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Praise the Lord! Kaponno, come on up.

[Applause]

Why don't you stand; we'll pray and close in song. I appreciate your patience today.

Loving Heavenly Father, we cannot thank You enough, that You are the great physician, that we can come to You at any time with anything and ask of You for anything, and that You will always hear from on high and hearken unto the voice of our cry.

Lord, I want to pray for any that are hurting today and really struggling and actually even being given over to despair, not knowing how it's even going to be possible to get out of the situation they're in.

You know. You can do it, and You will do it because You promised to do it.

Lord, we want to praise You on this side of the Red Sea and thank You in advance. And lastly, Lord, for anyone who might be here or watching online that has never put their faith in you, believed in You, called upon You, trusted in You, Lord, I pray that today would be the day of their salvation. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

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Update Links

- Times of Israel article, "In Tehran, Putin, Raisi and Erdogan vow to continue Syria cooperation"

<https://www.timesofisrael.com/in-tehran-putin-raisi-and-erdogan-vow-to-continue-syria-cooperation/>

- Times of Israel article, "Saudi minister: Peace with Israel 'strategic option' but not before 2-state solution"

<https://www.timesofisrael.com/saudi-official-peace-with-israel-strategic-option-but-not-before-2-state-solution/>