

Mid-East Prophecy Update – December 15th, 2013

- For today's update, I'd like to talk about the ongoing peace accord, as it's being called, in order to achieve the illusive "Two-State Solution."
- More specifically, the peace agreement on the table that brings together the Jews and the Palestinians, side by side, in peace and security.
- In the interest of time and because we address it all the time I won't take the time to get into the peace and security prophecy in 1 Thes 5:3.

- Be that as it may, I will take the time, to address what has now become the ninth trip to Israel by the U.S. Secretary of State, John Kerry.

In order to do that I'll quote excerpts from The Times of Israel, article last Thursday, December 12th, with the headline, "Kerry returns to Israel in new push for 'framework' peace accord." Here's what they had to report, "US Secretary of State John Kerry, continuing a furious pace of shuttle diplomacy aimed at securing an elusive Israeli-Palestinian peace deal by the spring, landed in Israel on Thursday in an effort to get the two sides to forge a "framework agreement," which would outline particulars of a permanent status accord. The snowstorm that hit Israel affected Kerry's schedule, with a planned meeting with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu late Thursday postponed, and the secretary meeting first with Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas in Ramallah. (By the way, parenthetically let me say, that this unprecedented snow storm slamming and burying, not just the US mainland, but also the Holy Land, is at best conspicuous in its timing.) ...Kerry said last week that the two sides were closer to peace "than we have been in years." ...Since the US-backed talks began in July, negotiators for the two sides have met more than 20 times. ... When announcing the resumption of direct talks in late July, Kerry had said he believed the sides could strike a deal within what he set as a nine-month negotiating period. ...Kerry's latest visit is his ninth trip of the year.

<http://www.timesofisrael.com/kerry-due-back-in-israel-in-new-push-for-framework-peace-accord/>

- It's for this reason that I'm of the belief that we're on the cusp of that which was foretold by the prophets of old, coming to pass, in real time.

Joel 3:1-2 NKJV "For behold, in those days and at that time, When I bring back the captives of Judah and Jerusalem, (2) I will also gather all nations, And bring them down to the Valley of Jehoshaphat; And I will enter into judgment with them there On account of My people, My heritage Israel, Whom they have scattered among the nations; They have also divided up My land.

Zechariah 12:1-3 NKJV 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.

- The prophet Joel and Zechariah are in good company with others like Ezekiel and the well-known prophecy in chapter thirty-eight and nine.
- As an interesting aside, one has counted some 260 references to Jerusalem in the Bible. (Jerusalem isn't mentioned once in the Qur'an.)
- Be that as it may, it's important to understand, the stage of Jerusalem's prophetic significance had already been set over sixty years ago.

- It was on May 14th, 1948, after the UN voted to recognize the State of Israel, that David Ben-Gurion then declared Israel a sovereign state.

However, on December 9th, 1949, there was subsequently, this UN General Assembly resolution #303 titled; "Palestine: Question of an international regime for the Jerusalem area and the protection of the Holy Places," which reiterated the UN commitment to internationalization of Jerusalem, and designated it a "*corpus separatum*" - separate body. Under the original partition plan of 1947 (GA resolution 181), Jerusalem was to have been administered under UN sovereignty as an international city. ... the UN has never ceased to officially regard Jerusalem as a "*corpus separatum*." The United States does not recognize any part of Jerusalem as part of Israel, despite congressional resolutions. Both the United States and Great Britain, among others, consider that the status of Jerusalem is to be resolved by the parties to the dispute in final settlement negotiations, and in practice, ignore the UN *corpus separatum* resolutions.

- Fast-forward to today, December 15th, 2013, sixty-four years almost to the day. Are we now witnessing these final settlement negotiations?
- Personally, I'm becoming increasingly convinced beyond a reasonable doubt we are, and as such the prophetic implications are perilous.
- Let me explain, when Islam sits at the negotiating table, they're not really saying they want peace with Israel, but the destruction of Israel.

Ramon Bennett in his book; "Philistine - The Great Deception," writes; "Arafat, like most Moslem Arabs, [was] a keen admirer of Hitler. His military and propaganda strategy is a copy of Hitler's, but Arafat's peace strategy [was] copied from Islamic history. Arabs hold to a strong belief in the proverb that they can "remedy the present only with the remedies of the past." Arafat looks to the past - not just Hitler, but also to the two most famous figures in Islam's long history of warfare, Mohammed and Saladin - in order to remedy the present. And Arafat's concept of peace [was] the same as Mohammed and Saladin a coin one must pay to achieve something else: "Peace for us means the destruction of Israel."

- I submit; Islam's destruction of Israel, that for them comes vis-à-vis a peace agreement with Israel, comes as sudden destruction. (1 Th 5:3)
- You'll forgive the abrupt close, but we'll pick this up Lord willing after Christmas in what ends up being our last prophecy update of the year.
- If we're this close to the 7-year peace agreement (Daniel 9:27), finally happening, and the rapture needs to happen first, how close are we?