



**Operation Sha'agat HaAri  
What does the Roar of Lion Mean Prophetically  
Jeremiah 49:34-39  
Ezekiel 38:8, 10-13**

**Scripture quotations are taken from the following translations:**

**ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.**

**Scripture quotations taken from the New American Standard Bible® (NASB),  
Copyright © 1960, 1962, 1963, 1968, 1971, 1972, 1973,  
1975, 1977, 1995, 2020 by The Lockman Foundation  
Used by permission. [www.Lockman.org](http://www.Lockman.org)**

**Scripture quoted by permission. Quotations designated (NET) are from the NET Bible® copyright ©1996, 2019 by Biblical Studies Press, L.L.C. <http://netbible.com> All rights reserved.**

**Scripture quotations marked (NLT) are taken from the Holy Bible, New Living Translation, copyright © 1996, 2004, 2015 by Tyndale House Foundation. Used by permission of Tyndale House Publishers, Inc., Carol Stream, Illinois 60188. All rights reserved.**

**The Good News Translation Bible (GNB) text used in this product is being used by permission. Copyright © American Bible Society, 1966, 1971, 1976, 1992**

**Scripture taken from the Holy Bible: International Standard Version® Release 2.0. (ISV) Copyright © 1996–2011 by the ISV Foundation. Used by permission of Davidson Press, LLC. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED INTERNATIONALLY**

**Scripture quotations contained herein are from the New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition Bible (NRSVue), Copyright © 2021, National Council of Churches of Christ in the U.S.A., used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide**

**Scripture taken from the New King James Version (NKJV).  
Copyright 1979, 1980, 1982 by Thomas Nelson, Inc.**

**Scripture taken from The Holy Bible: The Contemporary English Version (CEV).  
©1995 by The American Bible Society, Thomas Nelson, Nashville TN.**

**Scripture quotations marked (CSB) have been taken from the Christian Standard Bible®, Copyright © 2017 by Holman Bible Publishers. Used by permission. Christian Standard Bible® and CSB® are federally registered trademarks of Holman Bible Publishers.**

**Taken from the Complete Jewish Bible (CJB) by David H. Stern. Copyright © 1998. All rights reserved. Used by permission of Messianic Jewish Publishers, 6120 Day Long Lane, Clarksville, MD 21029. [www.messianicjewish.net](http://www.messianicjewish.net)**

One of the joys of doing a prophecy update is realizing that at any given moment, everything you just did, now needs to be totally rewritten thanks to real world events that have a prophetic impact.

Yesterday morning, at 9:44 am in Tehran, "red alert sirens sounded across the State of Israel. Seconds later, mobile phones buzzed with a Home Front Command directive: stay near protected spaces. Within



minutes, Israeli Defense Minister Israel Katz signed a special emergency order under the Civil Defense Law, imposing a nationwide state of emergency. The reason was straightforward. Israel and the United States had just launched a preemptive military campaign against the Islamic Republic of Iran. (Roman 2026)

Yes, several prophecies are in play. No God, has not made changes to our preconceived notions about Ezekiel 38 and there are many moving parts to this.

First, let's level set as I do not want to engage in newspaper prophecy interpretation.

Something for us to remember as we continue looking at prophecy and where we are on the over all timeline. Everyone wants to know where the United States is in prophecy and as a result, they tend to interpret prophecy with a western lens. Prophecy in the Bible is not to be understood with a western lens, but with a Jewish lens. Notice the focus of YAHWEH here in Deuteronomy.

Deuteronomy 32:8–9

“When the Most High gave to the nations their inheritance, when he divided mankind, he fixed the borders of the peoples according to the number of the sons of God. **But the LORD’s portion is his people, Jacob his allotted heritage.**” (ESV)

The true determination of where history is moving prophetically is not how world events affect the United States or really, any other nation other than the nation of Israel. Israel is God’s timepiece and when Israel returned to the land in 1948, not only was that fulfilled prophecy, but it also points us to where we are, the end of the age. Here is a guiding principle for us.

Prophecy must first be determined from the Scriptures and then applied to current events, rather than current events being taken and forced into some kind of scriptural passage. (Fruchtenbaum 2003, 92)

And, unfortunately, you will hear, over the next few days, those who will try and do exactly what Dr. Fruchtenbaum just warned against.

This method of misinterpretation is not new. It is centuries old. The King of the Northern Kingdom of Israel had multiple “paid” prophets to ensure he would only receive good news and not bad (2 Chronicles 18:14-17).

Today, they sell books, make podcasts and do You Tube videos.

Because we believe what the Bible says and take seriously what Christ commands, Calvary Chapel would be correctly classified as a church that supports Christian Zionism. The roots of that are in Genesis 12:3 if anyone is interested and I prefer being on the blessing side rather than the curse side.

Yes, it is indeed tied to the fact that we believe the Jews will return to Israel, just like the Bible prophesied in Ezekiel 20, but first in unbelief. The Jews being in the land is a necessary requirement for the Second Coming of Jesus Christ. But again, there are “Christians” who do not agree and twist it into something bad.

On January 17, 2026, the Patriarchs and the heads of the Churches in the Holy Land published a statement criticizing those who “advance damaging ideologies, such as Christian Zionism, mislead the public, sow confusion, and harm the unity of our flock.” (Pottella 2026)

The amazing thing, these so-called Christian leaders take scripture totally out of context to support their view. Yes, this too is Satanically inspired deception. From their letter we see the following:



Recent activities undertaken by local individuals who advance damaging ideologies, such as Christian Zionism, mislead the public, sow confusion, and harm the unity of our flock. These undertakings have found favor among certain political actors in Israel and beyond who seek to push a political agenda which may harm the Christian presence in the Holy Land and the wider Middle East. Holy Scripture teaches us that “we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another” (Romans 12:5). To claim authority outside the communion of the Church is to wound the unity of the faithful and burden the pastoral mission entrusted to the historic churches in the very land where our Lord lived, taught, suffered, and rose from the dead. (The Patriarchs and Heads of the Churches in Jerusalem 2026)

But their relied upon proof text, ripped totally out of the context of scripture, is actually talking about spiritual gifts within the body of Christ and has nothing to do with how they have misused it.

Romans 12:3–8

“For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. **For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another. Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, in proportion to our faith; if service, in our serving; the one who teaches, in his teaching; the one who exhorts, in his exhortation; the one who contributes, in generosity; the one who leads, with zeal; the one who does acts of mercy, with cheerfulness.**” (ESV)

One more warning for us. The Christians who are that in name only, have also decided that they not only want to redefine what the gospel is, they want to convince others to climb onboard with them on that. So, there is now a letter being circulated. I will not be signing it.

There is now a letter being floated by progressive and liberal “Christians.” “Hundreds of Christians, including some left-leaning Evangelical leaders and scholars, have signed their names to an open letter calling on American Christians to “speak out” against what they described as an increasingly tyrannical government under President Donald Trump.

“We are facing a cruel and oppressive government,” began the letter, which is titled “A Call to Christians in a Crisis of Faith and Democracy” and was first published on Ash Wednesday. (Brown 2026)

Reading through the letter, (A Call to Christians 2026) it leans heavily on a redefinition of social justice as the gospel and begins by misstating what the gospel is and the true calling of Jesus Christ to the church is. By redefining terms, this allows them to make some of the strange pronouncements that they feel the task of reaching the world for Jesus Christ been replaced by.

By the way, this is also the same group that is training people to literally, break the law and doing so under the guise of social justice being redefined as the gospel of Jesus Christ. It is all a finally crafted lie intended to further the cause of Satan, not Jesus.

Deception was indeed and is an ongoing problem for us today. The Islamic Republic of Iran has been a purveyor of that deception globally for decades now as they practice their own form of taqiyya which allows for deception.

Taqiyya (dissimulation or concealment) allows deception in order to save face or honour or the reputation of Islam especially in times of religious persecution. Hamid Enayat, a Muslim historian who was a fellow of St Antony’s College, Oxford, stated, ‘[Taqiyya has] in practice become the norm of public behavior among all Muslims—both Sunni and Shi’a—whenever there is a conflict between faith and expediency.’ This means that although ‘truth’ is considered very important to Islam and its religion, as revealed in the



Quran, non-Muslims often face 'false or exaggerated statements introduced in order to make Islam appear in a better light'. 'Islamization of knowledge' is 'part and parcel' of Muslim evangelization, and the Quran seems to justify this: 'And make not your own hands contribute to (Your) destruction but do good' (Sura 2:195). (McNaughton 2019, 72)

So, about the attack on Iran and one of the major targets, missiles.

A US official told Reuters the administration planned a "multiday operation." A person briefed on the campaign told NPR that Israel's military focus centered on Iran's missile program, with broader strikes against regime command infrastructure executed in coordination with American forces. (Roman 2026)

The Bible talks about this target choice.

Jeremiah 49:34–39

"This message concerning Elam came to the prophet Jeremiah from the LORD at the beginning of the reign of King Zedekiah of Judah. This is what the LORD of Heaven's Armies says: **"I will destroy the archers of Elam—the best of their forces. I will bring enemies from all directions, and I will scatter the people of Elam to the four winds. They will be exiled to countries around the world. I myself will go with Elam's enemies to shatter it. In my fierce anger, I will bring great disaster upon the people of Elam," says the LORD.** "Their enemies will chase them with the sword until I have destroyed them completely. I will set my throne in Elam," says the LORD, "and I will destroy its king and officials. But I will restore the fortunes of Elam in days to come. I, the LORD, have spoken!" (NLT)

There is disagreement about this prophecy. Did it happen in the past with just verse 39 to be fulfilled, did it partially take place with the diaspora of the Iranians when the current regime took power, or is it in the process of being fulfilled right now as the "bow," the launching devices for the arrows (missiles) were targeted.

Literally, I don't know. We continue to watch and see.

Are there some in the region who are concerned about the rather careless manner in which Iran has run their nuclear program? Absolutely. Bushehr in Iran is directly across the Gulf from Kuwait, around 30 miles away and because of that, the Kuwaitis routinely measure radiation. For now, "the Sheikh Salem Al-Ali Center for Chemical Defense and Radiation Monitoring has not detected any increase in radiation levels in Kuwaiti airspace and waters, according to Kuwaiti National Guard. "The centre is carrying out its duties in cooperation with various state agencies and confirms that the situation is normal," the Kuwaiti National Guard said." (Paul 2026)

Looking from the outside in at this point, the IRGC has been damaged to the point that they are making serious strategic errors in judgment. Attacking Saudi, and other nations close by was a huge mistake. Kuwait has been neutral in all of this since the Iraq war, they are no longer since they intercepted incoming missiles aimed towards Ali al Salem Airbase. From the Kuwait Times.

"In an official statement, the Cabinet affirmed Kuwait's full and inherent right to self-defense under Article 51 of the UN Charter, stressing that all necessary measures will be taken to protect the country's territory, citizens, and residents, in accordance with the scale of the attack and international law. The statement confirmed that Kuwait's defense systems successfully intercepted the attack following established operational procedures and rules of engagement, emphasizing that the continuation of such aggressive military actions in the region threatens regional security and stability. (Kuwait Times 2026)

And from Saudi Arabia, in discussions with the UAE, Jordan and Kuwait, The crown prince affirmed the Kingdom's full solidarity with, and support for, their nations and stressed "Saudi Arabia's readiness to



mobilize all its resources to assist them in responding to the brutal Iranian attacks they suffered, which undermine the region's security and stability," (Arab News 2026)

In other words, the games are over, the nations surrounding Israel are tired of the tit for tat and are ready to engage and assist ending it. Something to watch.

But there are those who say, this will delay the rapture and the end of the age. To those who say that I say, stop it. Again, what does the word say about preconditions for Ezekiel 38?

After telling us all of the nations who will be involved in this invasion, which does indeed include Iran, we see this about the conditions in Israel at the time of the invasion.

Ezekiel 38:7–8

"Get ready; be prepared! Keep all the armies around you mobilized, and take command of them. A long time from now you will be called into action. In the distant future you will swoop down on **the land of Israel, which will be enjoying peace after recovering from war and after its people have returned from many lands to the mountains of Israel.**" (NLT)

Has Israel enjoyed any peace since 1948?

Ezekiel 38:10–13

"This is what the Sovereign LORD says: At that time evil thoughts will come to your mind, and you will devise a wicked scheme. **You will say, 'Israel is an unprotected land filled with unwalled villages! I will march against her and destroy these people who live in such confidence! I will go to those formerly desolate cities that are now filled with people who have returned from exile in many nations. I will capture vast amounts of plunder, for the people are rich with livestock and other possessions now. They think the whole world revolves around them!'** But Sheba and Dedan and the merchants of Tarshish will ask, 'Do you really think the armies you have gathered can rob them of silver and gold? Do you think you can drive away their livestock and seize their goods and carry off plunder?'" (NLT)

First, Sheba and Dedan, all of those nations Iran has just attacked with the exclusion of Jordan and Syria, that is Sheba and Dedan. The UAE, Saudi Arabia, and Kuwait.

And once again, the conditions in the land of Israel.

Unwalled villages – not right now. There are walls between Israel and Lebanon as well as Gaza and then Samaria has issues as well.

At rest and living securely – not exactly a reality at this point. The West Bank Barrier would indicate otherwise.

Living without bars and gates - The separation barrier in the West Bank is a complex physical and logistical structure primarily built by Israel starting in 2002. Its purpose is to prevent unauthorized crossings and reduce the number of attacks against Israeli targets. The barrier consists of fences, walls, and checkpoints, varying in design across different sections. The main sections include a separation wall with concrete slabs and barbed wire, complemented by patrol roads and monitoring systems. The barrier stretches over approximately 700 kilometers, covering key population centers and strategic areas. (Armistia Team 2024)

In other words, the requisite conditions for Ezekiel 38 to take place are not quite in place just yet. But if Iran changes regimes and it is not one that is hard right IRGC led, then there would be a massive



redeployment of resources to rebuild the nation and that would mean an end to the adventures with the Houthi, Hamas, Islamic Jihad, Hezbollah and others.

The trend for antisemitism worldwide is growing as reported in 2025 with “nearly half of all people worldwide hold elevated levels of antisemitic attitudes, according to the latest Global 100 survey conducted by ADL (the Anti-Defamation League) and coordinated with Ipsos and other research partners.” (ADL 2025)

This means the ground is laid or being laid to encourage those of His people still not living in the land, to return to the land. Gathered from the nations, yes and no.

Antisemitism may serve as a powerful push for individual Jews. But without a personal pull, the majority will stay put in the Diaspora.

According to the Knesset Research and Information Center’s 2025 report, Israel lost a net 145,900 people between 2020 and 2024. Yes, during this period, more Israelis left for long-term stays abroad than returned from living overseas. (Blum 2025)

But with peace, real peace, then conditions change. We do not know if that will be the result of regime change in Iran or because of a seven-year deal signed with some to be named leader in the future kicking off the Tribulation. Unfortunately, there are no dates given in the scriptures.

Here is the major point we must remember, Israel is in the land.

The number one indicator of where we are in the end times is Israel. They are a people and in the land.

Let’s pray.

### Works Cited

- A Call to Christians. 2026. "A Call to Christians in a Crisis of Faith and Democracy." *A Call to Christians*. Accessed February 28, 2026. <https://acalltochristians.org/>.
- ADL. 2025. "46% of Adults Worldwide Hold Significant Antisemitic Beliefs, ADL Poll Finds." *ADL*. January 14. Accessed February 28, 2026. <https://www.adl.org/resources/press-release/46-adults-worldwide-hold-significant-antisemitic-beliefs-adl-poll-finds>.
- Arab News. 2026. "Crown prince speaks with regional leaders about Iranian aggression." *Arab News*. February 28. Accessed February 28, 2026. <https://www.arabnews.com/node/2634786/saudi-arabia>.
- Armistia Team. 2024. "An In-Depth ANalysis of Israeli Defense Barriers and Walls in Military History." *Armistia*. October 19. Accessed February 28, 2026. <https://armistia.com/israeli-defense-barriers-and-walls/>.
- Blum, Ruthie. 2025. "The fantasy of mass aliyah meets the reality of human nature." *Israel Today*. December 2. Accessed February 28, 2026. <https://www.israeltoday.co.il/read/the-fantasy-of-mass-aliyah-meets-the-reality-of-human-nature/>.
- Brown, Jon. 2026. "Liberal Christian leaders condemn 'cruel and oppressive' US gov't; warn of 'white Christian nationalism'." *The Christian Post*. February 26. Accessed February 28, 2026. <https://www.christianpost.com/news/liberal-christian-leaders-condemn-cruel-and-oppressive-us-govt.html>.
- Fruchtenbaum, Arnold G. 2003. *The Footsteps of the Messiah: A Study of the Sequence of Prophetic Events*. Revised Edition. Tustin, CA: Ariel Ministries.



- Kuwait Times. 2026. "Kuwait Cabinet condemns Iranian attack, affirms full readiness to defend sovereignty." *Kuwait Times*. February 28. Accessed February 28, 2026. <https://kuwaittimes.com/article/40340/kuwait/kuwait-cabinet-condemns-iranian-attack-affirms-full-readiness-to-defend-sovereignty/>.
- McNaughton, Ian S. 2019. *Engaging with Islam: An Evangelical Doctrinal Perspective, Truth for All Time*. Leominster: Day One.
- Paul, Ajanta. 2026. "Radiation levels remain normal in Kuwait after Iranian missile interceptions." *Khaleej Times*. February 28. Accessed February 26, 2026. <https://www.khaleejtimes.com/world/gulf/kuwait-radiation-levels-normal-air-space-waters-iran-attack>.
- Pottella, Fr. Mario Alexis. 2026. "The Precariousness of Christian Zionism." *Crisis Magazine*. February 24. Accessed February 28, 2026. <https://crisismagazine.com/opinion/the-preciousness-of-christian-zionism>.
- Roman, Gregg. 2026. "The Night the Axis Broke: The Opening Hours of the US-Israel Campaign Against Iran." *Middle East Forum*. February 28. Accessed February 28, 2026. <https://www.meforum.org/mef-online/the-night-the-axis-broke>.
- The Patriarchs and Heads of the Churches in Jerusalem. 2026. "A Statement from the Patriarchs and Heads of the Churches in Jerusalem on Unity and Representation of the Christian Communities in the Holy Land." *Jerusalem Patriarchate Official Website*. January 17. Accessed February 28, 2026. <https://en.jerusalem-patriarchate.info/announcements/a-statement-from-the-patriarchs-and-heads-of-the-churches-in-jerusalem-on-unity-and-representation-of-the-christian-communities-in-the-holy-land/>.