



Prophecy in Perspective

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An Email Newsletter

Our Times - Prophecy in current events

"Then he shall confirm a covenant with many for one week..."
(Daniel 9:27)

In our last issue of *Prophecy in Perspective* we saw how the Obama administration deliberately leaked vital strategic information about Israel's plans to strike Iran's nuclear weapons facilities in the interest of their own survival. This past week, Mr. Obama again demonstrated that Israel cannot trust him. And again, this time, even the weather signals God's displeasure with our nation.

Students of prophecy should be aware of these events because, I believe, God is showing us latter day patterns and indications of the fulfillment of Bible prophecy. One day, perhaps soon, after the rapture of the church, there will arise one whom Daniel predicts will make a seven year covenant with Israel and will break it half way through (Daniel 9:27). This future man of sin, the Antichrist, will have great appeal to the masses at first, but through much division and conflict, as well as, back door dealings, he will betray and persecute Israel and believers in Jesus Christ. Somehow, he will know that he will have to win enough support, through deception, to make it half way through the tribulation period. Islam, at least among the Shiites, may well receive him as their 12th Imam. After the first three and a half years, then he will make his move and declare that he is the long promised messiah and that he is to be worshiped (Matthew 24:15). He will be granted almost unlimited power to kill the righteous (Revelation 13:7). But the Lord will overcome him by sending judgments upon the earth. Then, after the second three and a half years, the Lord will return.

I believe the present day pattern of presidential promises to Israel, then betraying them, followed by outbreaks of harsh climactic, geological, as well as political and economic upheavals are "dress rehearsals" of things to come.

Just a few days ago, April 14-15, 136 tornadoes, large hail, wind and rain storms struck over a five state area including Iowa, Kansas, Nebraska, and Oklahoma. Reports are that tornado activity is considerably higher than the past 10 year average. Little wonder when we consider political events unfolding at this same time through behind the scenes dealings of the Obama administration with Iran, all behind the backs of Israel.

According to DEBKAfile, Benjamin Netanyahu's close officials "accused the president of renegeing on the US-Israeli understanding reached ahead of the Istanbul talks between the six powers and Iran on April 14. Behind the show biz of Istanbul, they charged, the US and Iran had reached secret agreements in clandestine bilateral contacts channeled through Paris and Vienna."

This secret deal was to give Iran at least five more weeks, as far as Israel feels is the case, for continuing to develop their nuclear weapons so that they can announce their intention to destroy Israel. On Sunday, April 14, Netanyahu said, "the US and world powers, by agreeing to hold more talks in Baghdad next month, had given Tehran a 'freebie' of five more weeks to continue enriching uranium without restrictions. By singling out the US, the prime minister aimed his comment directly at the president."

Once again, it looks like Israel cannot trust the US. But what other choice does Netanyahu have, but to continue to try and persuade an American President who says one thing, that he stands with Israel, and does another, meets secretly



with the Iranians to attempt to buy time. But what time is Mr. Obama really buying time for? Is it for Israel's safety, which they certainly do not think it is. Or is he buying time until November? Mr. Obama already covertly sought to persuade the Russian President to allow him time until after the next elections. He tried to do this while the camera was on him and the microphone was live. Who's side is Mr. Obama on? According to reports from many sources, including Wall Builders, Mr. Obama is not on the side of the Christian Religion, nor of Israel, but seems to highly favor Islam.

According to David Barton of Wall Builders, Barack Obama is America's most Biblically-Hostile U.S. President. Mr. Obama has made many efforts which demonstrate hostility toward Bible oriented religion and practice. In the words of David Barton of Wall Builders, the President has shown "preferential deference for Islam's activities and positions including letting his Islamic advisors guide and influence his hostility toward people of Biblical faith." David Barton offers a listing of many of these. I have done some editing of these in the interest of space, but I encourage you to see the entire list at the site shown at the end of this section. Be sure you pass this along to your friends for them to be in prayer about these issues.

1. Acts of hostility toward people of Biblical faith:

- April 2008 – Obama speaks disrespectfully of Christians, saying they “cling to guns or religion” and have an “antipathy to people who aren't like them.” ¹
- April 2009 – When speaking at Georgetown University, Obama orders that a monogram symbolizing Jesus' name be covered when he is making his speech. ²
- May 2009 – Obama declines to host services for the National Prayer Day (a day established by federal law) at the White House. ³
- April 2009 – In a deliberate act of disrespect, Obama nominated three pro-abortion ambassadors to the Vatican; of course, the pro-life Vatican rejected all three. ⁴
- October 19, 2010 – Obama begins deliberately omitting the phrase about “the Creator” when quoting the Declaration of Independence – an omission he has made on no less than seven occasions. ⁵
- February 2011 – Although he filled posts in the State Department, for more than two years Obama did not fill the post of religious freedom ambassador, an official that works against religious persecution across the world; he filled it only after heavy pressure from the public and from Congress. ⁶
- April 2011 – For the first time in American history, Obama urges passage of a non-discrimination law that does not contain hiring protections for religious groups, forcing religious organizations to hire according to federal mandates without regard to the dictates of their own faith, thus eliminating conscience protection in hiring. ¹⁰

2. Acts of hostility from the Obama-led military toward people of Biblical faith:

- June 2011 – The Department of Veterans Affairs forbids references to God and Jesus during burial ceremonies at Houston National Cemetery. ¹⁷
- September 2011 – The Army issues guidelines for Walter Reed Medical Center stipulating that “No religious items (i.e. Bibles, reading materials and/or facts) are allowed to be given away or used during a visit.” ²⁰
- November 2011 – The Air Force Academy rescinds support for Operation Christmas Child, a program to send holiday gifts to impoverished children across the world, because the program is run by a Christian charity. ²¹
- November 2011 – The Air Force Academy pays \$80,000 to add a Stonehenge-like worship center for pagans, druids, witches and Wiccans. ²²

3. Acts of hostility toward Biblical values:

- March 2009 – The Obama administration shut out pro-life groups from attending a White House-sponsored health care summit. ²⁸
- March 2009 – Obama orders taxpayer funding of embryonic stem cell research. ²⁹
- July 2009 – The Obama administration illegally extends federal benefits to same-sex partners of Foreign Service and Executive Branch employees, in direct violation of the federal Defense of Marriage Act. ³⁴
- September 16, 2009 – The Obama administration appoints as EEOC Commissioner Chai Feldblum, who asserts that society should “not tolerate” any “private beliefs,” including religious beliefs, if they may negatively affect homosexual “equality.” ³⁵
- July 2010 – The Obama administration uses federal funds in violation of federal law to get Kenya to change its constitution to include abortion. ³⁶
- February 2011 – Obama directs the Justice Department to stop defending the federal Defense of Marriage Act. ³⁹
- March 2011 – The Obama administration refuses to investigate videos showing Planned Parenthood helping alleged sex traffickers get abortions for victimized underage girls. ⁴⁰
- July 2011 – Obama allows homosexuals to serve openly in the military, reversing a policy originally instituted by George Washington in March 1778. ⁴¹
- September 2011 – The Pentagon directs that military chaplains may perform same-sex marriages at military facilities in violation of the federal Defense of Marriage Act. ⁴²

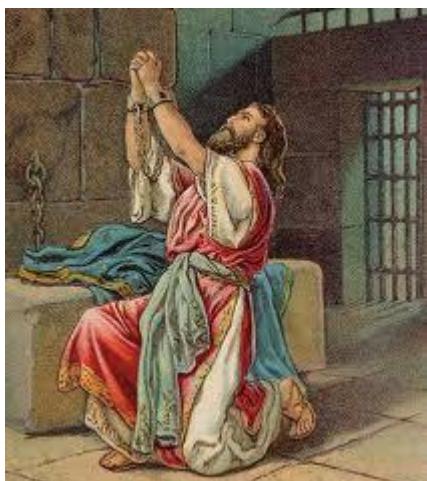
4. Acts of preferentialism for Islam:

- May 2009 – While Obama does not host any National Day of Prayer event at the White House, he does host White House Iftar dinners in honor of Ramadan. ⁴⁴
- April 2010 – Christian leader Franklin Graham is disinvited from the Pentagon’s National Day of Prayer Event because of complaints from the Muslim community. ⁴⁵
- August 2010 – Obama speaks with great praise of Islam and condescendingly of Christianity. ⁴⁷
- 2010 – While every White House traditionally issues hundreds of official proclamations and statements on numerous occasions, this White House avoids traditional Biblical holidays and events but regularly recognizes major Muslim holidays, as evidenced by its 2010 statements on Ramadan, Eid-ul-Fitr, Hajj, and Eid-ul-Adha. ⁴⁹
- October 2011 – Obama’s Muslim advisers block Middle Eastern Christians’ access to the White House. ⁵⁰
- February 2012 – The Obama administration makes effulgent apologies for Korans being burned by the U. S. military, ⁵¹ but when Bibles were burned by the military, numerous reasons were offered why it was the right thing to do. ⁵²

Many of these actions are literally unprecedented – this is the first time they have happened in four centuries of American history. The hostility of President Obama toward Biblical faith and values is without equal from any previous American president. (See, www.wallbuilders.com, "America's Most Biblically-Hostile U.S. President," by David Barton, 2/29/2012).

The Church Today - Doctrine and Prophecy

Of the kings who reigned in Jerusalem, there was none more wicked than Manasseh. The Bible says that he "**did that which was evil in the sight of the Lord**" (**2 Chronicles 33:2**). He established policy that all of the true altars of Hezekiah, his father, were to be broken down and the altars for Baal were to be built up (verse 3). Manasseh did all he could to establish a non-Jewish, and false religious environment in Jerusalem (verses 4-5). He even demonstrated contempt for children: "**He caused his children to pass through the fire (to be burned alive) in the valley of the son of Hinnom**" (**verse 6a**). Manasseh sought to do all he could to subvert and pervert the true faith of the living God in Israel. "**He used enchantments, and used witchcraft, and dealt with a familiar spirit, and with wizards. He wrought much evil in the sight of the Lord, to provoke Him to anger**" (**verse 6b**). It was as though Manasseh tried to bring Israel to the place where God Himself would reject them: "**So Manasseh made Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem to err, and to do worse than the heathen, whom the Lord had destroyed before the children of Israel**" (**verse 9**). But, the Lord desired Manasseh's conversion, the Scripture says: "**And the Lord spoke to Manasseh, and to his people, but they would not hearken**" (**verse 10**).



After the Lord delivered him to his enemies, Manasseh repented and sought the Lord.

The techniques that Manasseh used in ancient Israel still work today if it is one's desire to overthrow belief in the Bible. Today, removing freedom for Christians and Jews to worship and express their views in the public arena; overthrowing and redefining the family; destroying children; compromising our ability to have and maintain a stable government and economy by deliberately over taxing an already overburdened populace; betraying God's people, the Jews, through systematic and deliberate disregarding of their need for solid support; all of these things and more are warnings to the United States, and to the believers in Jesus Christ, the churches, that it is time to pray and to take a stand for truth in what we say, and how we live. The Bible says that, eventually, when Manasseh was brought into affliction by the Lord who delivered Manasseh into the captivity of his enemies, "**he besought the Lord his God, and humbled himself greatly before the God of his fathers, and prayed unto him, and he was entreated of him, and heard his supplication**" (**verses 12-13**).

Manasseh's repentance and restoration to the throne brought revival among the people of Israel. Nations will be blessed if America comes to the Lord and repents

of its compromises and sins. Ranked high among the sins of America is its growing lust for a government that gives the people everything they want. We as a nation need to trust God and not man. Believers and churches need to stop trying to combine Christianity with other religions, such as "Chrislam," and cease seeking leaders, many among the ranks of preachers today, who support sodomy, abortion, and a polytheistic culture. If we see and hear preachers doing this, as there are growing numbers of them today leading many young people astray, we need to abandon them to the Lord as quickly and as vocally as possible. Captivity to sin and to our nation's enemies is God's way of seeking to call us to come to Him in repentance. As Christians, we are to witness for God's truth, live for His truth through Jesus Christ and pray for leaders who will uphold the integrity of God's Word, the Bible.

If we have leaders who will not do this, then it is important that we pray for their conversion, or their peaceful removal from office and their replacement by those more sound in the faith. God has given us the prophetic Word so that we would not be in the dark about the times we are living in today. We should be faithful to pray, study, get under the teachings of those who believe and teach a Biblical World-View and prophetic truth. There is no time to waste! Let's be faithful as watchful believers to do what the Lord calls us to do in these darkening days when the coming of the Lord draws near (Luke 21:28).

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(Note: If you would like to interact with Dr. Downing concerning this newsletter, views, etc. you can "blog" with him at prophecyinperspective.com. If you would like to subscribe to this newsletter at no charge, please send your email address to: sgdowning@bellsouth.net. Also, you can purchase his latest book, "Good News From a Far Country", a study in the book of Daniel [\$15] by contacting him.)