

# Absolute Truth & Prophecy

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NEWSLETTER

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## ZEW'S NEWS REVIEW

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## FAITH WARS – PART I

*"Righteousness exalteth a nation: but sin is a reproach to any people." (Proverbs 14:34)*

*America is a nation that has lost its way. Once founded on Christian principles and dedicated to Christ Jesus our Messiah, we have fallen away. We have embraced sin and sacrificed tens of millions of our children on the altar of convenience called choice. We now tolerate and even celebrate actions that God Himself calls "abomination." We chase after foreign gods. And now we've begun to target and persecute those that hold to the old ways; the way of Christ and the Bible. In all of this we have become no better than the Israelites who honored foreign deities rather than the One True God who delivered them from Egypt and established their hold. There is little distinction between us and those apostate Jews who burned their own children on the altars of Molech and Baal. In this series we will survey that fall....and call for our nation's return....before it is too late.*

### ONE NATION UNDER ALLAH ?

Friday, November 14<sup>th</sup>, was marked by a signal event in our nation's capital. The National Cathedral in Washington DC hosted an hour of Muslim prayer. This is the church which has hosted so many of our state funerals and official prayer services. It is officially considered our 'National House of Prayer'. But on that day, it became in effect a mosque. Meredith Sommers of the *Washington Times* saw nothing wrong in the event, characterizing it as "*a major step toward uniting American-Muslims and Christians in an effort to combat religious extremism and stereotypes.*" The *Times* reported: "*Director of the District office of the Muslim Public Affairs Council Br. Haris Tarin said those in attendance should remind anyone curious about the day's event that 'there is nothing more Christian, nothing more Muslim, nothing more American than praying together.'*"<sup>1</sup> But it is much more than that!

This is a deeply symbolic event; one that marks a sort of dedication of the US to the purposes of Allah. *Investors Business Daily* reasoned now that Muslim leaders were making the statement that "*Islam's infiltration into the highest levels of traditional American life knows no bounds.*"<sup>2</sup> To drive the point home it seems, while this was going on the Speaker of the House John Boehner allowed Imam Hamad Chebli of the Islamic Center of Central Jersey praise Allah on the House floor as the supreme god of the universe.<sup>3</sup> Interestingly, *Investors.com* reports that its organizers came from "*Muslim Brotherhood front groups, including the Council on American-Islamic Relations and the Islamic Society of North America (ISNA). The Justice Department has identified both as belonging to the Hamas wing of the radical Brotherhood. It's also implicated them in a Hamas conspiracy to raise millions for Palestinian suicide bombers. These co-sponsors of the National Cathedral jumuah ("for invited guests only") remain unindicted co-conspirators in a major terror case.*"<sup>4</sup>



It is notable that prayer rugs were put down in the sanctuary and the Muslim participants were facing away from the Cross as they prayed. [After all, that most-important symbol of Christianity is absolutely rejected by the adherents of Islam.] The hundreds of praying Muslims heard their imam intone: “*god has no son, that Jesus Christ cannot be his son, and that there is no god like Allah.*” (This, in the halls of a church ostensibly dedicated to the worship of Jesus Christ.) Israel Today reports that a chant broke out among the worshipers of the moon god, Allah. “*There is only one god, he begets not and I bear witness that Muhammad is His only servant and Apostle.*”<sup>5</sup> One lone protester recognized the significance of what was going on. Believing she was called by God to do so, one middle-aged woman drove hundreds of miles to raise her voice as the prayer service was in session. “*Jesus Christ died on that cross over there! He is the reason why we are to worship only Him. Jesus Christ is our lord and savior! We have built, and allowed you here in mosques across this country. Why can't you worship in your mosque, and leave our churches alone?*” She of course was escorted out of the cathedral. [We can’t have that kind of radical talk in a church, after all.] Jesus Christ Himself gave clear instructions on the matter of compromising with other – false – religions. “**I am the way, the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.**” (John 14:6) Exodus 20:3 puts it even more succinctly. “**Thou shalt have no other gods before me.**”

But all of this is not something new. Both through official actions of government – at every level – as well as the actions of our cultural institutions, Islam is being promoted – while Christianity is being demeaned. Obama’s White House cancelled its participation in the National Day of Prayer – but continues to host iftar dinners during the Muslim holy month of Ramadan. And the administration has been all about cleansing government documents of language that may offend Islam. Phrases like jihadist, terrorist and radical Islam are being yanked. And the clear example of Islamic-inspired terror at Fort Hood has been characterized as “*workplace violence.*” This, while President Obama himself caricatured Christians as people who “*cling to guns or religion or antipathy to people who aren't like them.*”

Then there are the actions of our educational institutions. The *Citizens for National Security* have discovered a pattern of promoting Islam in 80 common textbooks. A Colorado high school led students in an Arab version of the Pledge of Allegiance in which “*students pledged their allegiance to one nation under Allah.*” A Holiday program in Indiana had students sing a song that included the phrase: “*Allah is God.*” One Texas teacher instructed students to refer to the 9/11 hijackers as “*freedom fighters.*”<sup>6</sup> And while Christianity is being swept off the public stage, “*universities across the nation are spending thousands of dollars to install foot baths so Muslim students can wash their feet before their five-times-a-day prayers.*”<sup>7</sup> All of this goes on while Christian prayer is forbidden in schools and Bibles are taken away from students.

America is turning from the God of our Founders. We can turn to the book of Deuteronomy for a parallel in Israel’s history. It was a time when the Israelites had become a “**perverse and crooked generation.**” (Deuteronomy 32:5) God gave his judgement on her actions. There should be a lesson here too for America. Read the words of both the indictment and the sentence of judgment.

“**Then he forsook God who made him, And scornfully esteemed the Rock of his salvation. They provoked Him to jealousy with foreign gods; With abominations they provoked Him to anger. They sacrificed to demons, not to God, To gods they did not know, To new gods, new arrivals That your fathers did not fear....“And when the Lord saw it, He spurned them, Because of the provocation of His sons and His daughters. And He said: ‘I will hide My face from them, I will see what their end will be, For they are a perverse generation, Children in whom is no faith. They have provoked Me to jealousy by what is not God; They have moved Me to anger by their foolish idols. But I will provoke them to jealousy by those who are not a nation; I will move them to anger by a foolish nation. For a fire is kindled in My anger, And shall burn to the lowest hell; It shall consume the earth with her increase, And set on fire the foundations of the mountains. ‘I will heap disasters on them; I will spend My arrows on them....The sword shall destroy outside; There shall be terror within....“For they are a nation void of counsel, Nor is there any understanding in them. Oh, that they were wise, that they understood this, That they would consider their latter end!”** (Deuteronomy 32:15-17, 19-23, 25, 28-29) If the shoe fits....IT IS TIME TO REPENT !!

# **THE FUTURE – PART VIII**

*So far in this series we've identified and defined the dangerous world in which we live, on the very edge of transformational chaos. We've seen how the Word of God has given us a template to understand these times in which we live that is more relevant and comprehensive than any man-made explanation so far offered. The Scriptures have laid out some very specific prophecies and promises. We've begun to trace how so many of these prophecies have now come to pass and are already historical facts. We've observed further how forces and nations are aligning according to what the Bible says will happen. We can see that we are on the edge of historical changes the like of which the world has never seen before or will ever see again. We've set the stage. But what will follow? What is 'The history of the future'?*

## **GOD'S PLAN – I**

Know this: It is God's history; - a part of his plan that He's already laid out. Since we've seen His Word so exactly fulfilled we can be confident that it will be exactly fulfilled in the future. Still, when it comes to the prophetic, we cannot always see what form that fulfillment will take. It is often in hindsight that we come to understand what He has done. God often uses the prophetic to confirm what He has already done, - so that we may recognize it when it comes. And of course there are other things that God just didn't tell us, - or that we not fully understand. Yet we'll try to sketch out just what we may expect in the near future, - as God's plan for the End Times and the return of His Son approaches.

The scenario presented here is certainly not perfect, however it is much more than a guess. It is taken from the Word of God, fleshed out some by the history of the world so far, - and colored to a degree by the plans of men. It's not that men's plans can ever trump the pronouncements of God, - but sometimes by looking at human efforts we can see prophetic fulfillment in the making. So we'll be brief here and make it our business to just lay out a possible / likely scenario.

- **THE RAPTURE OF THE CHURCH** – Let's start by stating this: I believe in a pre-tribulation rapture, - but I guess I could be wrong. That being said, we know that we can't know whether the rapture will occur before the next event; - the conflict described in Psalm 83. That seems to be the first of at least three major wars that will punctuate the End Times. Jack Kelly, a scholar we've quoted in the past, sees "*no connection between Psalm 83 and the rapture.*" Both events, however appear to be imminent. Bill Salus, the author of *Israelstine*, concurs that it is hard to pinpoint the relative placement of the two events, yet makes the case that "*the Church may not be here for the fulfillment*" of that prophecy.<sup>8 9</sup>

The rapture of course is when Christ comes for His bride, the Church, "**that we who are alive and remain until the coming of the Lord will by no means precede those who are asleep. For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord**". (1Thessalonians 4:15-18) So here's the short of it. The rapture is coming and probably pretty soon. But we can't be sure whether or not we'll be here to see the next event in our list.

- **THE WAR OF PSALM 83** – The inner ring of Arab nations and peoples will fight a war against Israel. They have one motivation. The total destruction of the Jewish state. It's what's on the mind of every Arab / Muslim movement in the Middle East today. Here's how Psalm 83:4 puts it: "**Come, and let us cut them off from being a nation, That the name of Israel may be remembered no more**". Using the ancient names, the Scripture says the lineup of that confederacy will include the Palestinians, Jordan, the people of Tyre in southern Lebanon where Hezbollah is in control, the Syrians and even the Egyptians. It is a coalition of the radicalized Arab nations on Israel's border and their terrorist cousins. Going all the way back to 1996, a Congressional 'Task Force on Terrorism' had found evidence that preparations were under way for a "*final, devastating war of annihilation against Israel.*" Besides the direct military threat, the Arab coalition had plans to use the Palestinians as a fifth

column within Israel, operating much as the Underground did in Nazi occupied Europe, going after the nation's infrastructure while the more militarized units take on the IDF in the field.<sup>10</sup> While the developing strategic situation may have altered the operational plans, the goal of Israel's annihilation has remained constant.

The Israeli armed forces will win a devastating victory in this war, driving them "**like the whirling dust, like the chaff before the wind**". (Psalm 83:13) It is also likely that this is the time for the destruction of Damascus. Israel has already warned Syria that it would be held responsible for major strikes, - even by its terrorist toadies like Hezbollah. Isaiah 17:1 foretells the event. "**Behold, Damascus will cease from being a city and will be a ruinous heap.**" Verses 13 & 14 of the same chapter detail the swiftness of that war and the completeness of the victory. "**The nations will rush like the rushing of many waters; But God will rebuke them and they will flee far away, And be chased like the chaff of the mountains before the wind, Like a rolling thing before the whirlwind. Then behold, at eventide, trouble! And before the morning, he is no more. This is the portion of those who plunder us, And the lot of those who rob us.**"

It is at this time too, that Edom, - the Palestinians, - takes a fatal blow, - "**for violence against your brother Jacob**" (Israel). God's judgment is severe and complete against those that come against His Chosen People. The Arab Confederacy may start that conflict, "**But on Mount Zion there shall be deliverance, And there shall be holiness; The house of Jacob shall possess their possessions. The house of Jacob shall be a fire, And the house of Joseph a flame; But the house of Esau shall be stubble; They shall kindle them and devour them, And no survivor shall remain of the house of Esau**" (Obadiah 10, 17-18) Isaiah 25:14 makes it clear that this shall be carried out by the Israeli Military. "**I will lay My vengeance on Edom by the hand of My people Israel, that they may do to Edom according to My anger**". It may at this time that Israel will actually fulfill the command of God to take the rest of Canaan, that he promised them, "**as far as the great river, the River Euphrates**"...and "**go in and possess the land which the LORD swore to your fathers—to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob—to give to them and their descendants after them**". (Deuteronomy 1:7-8)

In any case, it is after this war that Israel will expand greatly, beginning to occupy finally the boundaries that God ordained for His people. Bill Salus tells us, "*It is through military means rather than politically brokered Real Estate deals, such as the 'Roadmap Plan,'*" that will bring the Jews to their point of triumph.<sup>11</sup> "**Therefore behold, the days are coming,' says the LORD, 'That I will cause to be heard an alarm of war In Rabbah of the Ammonites; [that's Jordan], It shall be a desolate mound, And her villages shall be burned with fire. Then Israel shall take possession of his inheritance,' says the LORD.**" (Jeremiah 49:2) The Prophet Obadiah goes on to describe Israel gathering up Arab lands, including Samaria, the home of today's Palestinians.

- **AN INTERLUDE OF PEACE** – What follows, for however long, is a time of peace for Israel and the Jews. The Palestinian question has been solved. The security barrier / fence comes down. This is "**a land of unwalled villages**", - of an "**unsuspecting people – all of them living without walls and without gates and bars**". This is a wealthy Israel "**rich in livestock and goods**". (Ezekiel 38:11-12)
- **GOG OF MAGOG COMETH** – What follows after an indeterminate time is an invasion by a new confederacy, led by Persia and either Turkey or Russia. (We've reviewed that argument previously.) Joining them in this epic struggle are many of the nations that make up Russia's former Islamic Soviet Republics, as well as Libya and likely Sudan. The invading force is overwhelming. The West only makes a protest, allowing events to follow their course. Israel has no chance against this alliance. And then God acts. It is the LORD Almighty that engineers the victory for His people against what seem like impossible odds. "**"I will execute judgment upon him with plague and bloodshed; I will pour down torrents of rain, hailstones and burning sulfur on him and on his troops and on the many nations with him. And so I will show my greatness and my holiness, and I will make myself known in the sight of many nations. Then they will know that I am the LORD."**" (Ezekiel 38:22-23) [It is here that the order gets a little dicey, - but we shall proceed. So we'll pick this up again next time.]

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- <sup>1</sup> Meredith Somers, Washington National Cathedral hosts first-ever Muslim prayer service, Washington Times, November 14, 2014
- <sup>2</sup> Muslim Brotherhood Hijacks National Cathedral, Investors Business Daily, November 11, 2014
- <sup>3</sup> Teresa Monroe-Hamilton, The Subjugation Of Christianity And America To The Muslim Brotherhood And Allah, The Noisy Room, November 15, 2014
- <sup>4</sup> Muslim Brotherhood Hijacks National Cathedral, Investors Business Daily, November 11, 2014
- <sup>5</sup> Muslims Chant to Remove Jesus at Washington's National Cathedral, Israel Today, November 20, 2014
- <sup>6</sup> Tom Robinson, One Nation Under Allah, The Good News Magazine, November-December 2014, pg 17
- <sup>7</sup> Todd Starnes, Godless America, Frontline, 2014, pg 26
- <sup>8</sup> Jack Kelly, answering the question, How Close is Psalm 83?, on his website, Grace Through Faith, monitored November 4, 2008
- <sup>9</sup> Bill Salus, The Psalm 83 E-Chat-ologists, Israelstine, August 8, 2008
- <sup>10</sup> This information I got from David Bay, The Next Arab Israeli War As Planned By The Arabs, Update #1056, Cutting Edge Ministries, where he quoted from: The Next Arab-Israeli War, Emanuel A. Winston, The Jewish Press, January 31, 1997
- <sup>11</sup> Bill Salus, Which is the Next Middle East News Headline?, Rapture Ready, April 21, 2008