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WINDING THE PROPHETIC CLOCK

Arguably the most important political relationship on the planet today is that between Washington & Jerusalem; - between the administration of President Barack Obama and the government of Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu. You see, there is coming a time in the not too distant future it seems, when we will enter the 70th Week of Daniel; - the time of the Tribulation. We know that we are near the Time of the End because we have seen the reestablishment of Israel as a nation. Jeremiah tells us, **“For behold, the days are coming,” says the LORD, “that I will bring back from captivity My people Israel and Judah,” says the LORD. “And I will cause them to return to the land that I gave to their fathers, and they shall possess it.”** We are witnesses to this amazing return to the land after 18 centuries and the reestablishment of Israel as a nation in 1948. Soon there is coming a time of unparalleled trouble, **“of trembling, Of fear, and not of peace...Alas! For that day is great, So that none is like it’ And it is the time of Jacob’s trouble, But he shall be saved out of it.”** (Jeremiah 30:3, 5, 7) As Rapture Ready’s Terry James points out, the US, (as well as the international community), is ratcheting up the pressure on Israel to agree to a settlement that will produce a Palestinian State. It will lead to the giveaway of large swaths of Israeli territory to the terrorist entity that a Palestinian State has in the past, - and will again prove to be. At some point in time, the **“prince who is to come”** will ratify, or **“confirm a covenant with many for one week”**, (Daniel 9:26 & 27) - 7 years, - to honor the peace that was set up. Daniel goes on to tell us that he will break that **“covenant”** after three and one-half years, when he will **“exalt himself above all that is called God or that is worshiped, so that he sits as God, in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God”**. (2Thessalonians 2:4) Such are the stakes!¹

Now the pressure from the President has been unrelenting. Obama’s Special Envoy, George Mitchell toured the Middle East to get “endorsements” for the 2-state solution.² The Palestinians are doing their part, with the always-feuding factions, Fatah and Hamas agreeing to cooperate in the set up of a “Central Palestinian Government”.³ Neither group will recognize Israel as a Jewish state, - a seemingly reasonable pre-condition put forth by Israeli PM Netanyahu to get talks going.⁴ And why should they? The fix is seemingly ‘in’! According to World Net Daily, America has let the Palestinians know that a Palestinian state will be set up “more quickly than anybody could imagine”. Obama’s Chief of Staff, Rahm Emmanuel told a Jewish leader ““In the next four years, there will be a final status agreement between Israel and the Palestinians, based on “two states for two peoples,” and we couldn’t care less who the Prime Minister is...””.⁵ Still it is a wonder that ‘peace’ can be seriously considered considering the attitude of the Palestinians toward the existence of Israel. Earlier this month, one Muslim cleric, broadcasting on Al Aqsa TV, dubbed Israel a “cancer” and called for the extermination of the Jews.⁶ Yet even the generally hawkish Netanyahu told Mitchell that peace could be achieved with Syria if that country would just end its ties with Iran and Palestinian terror. Neither of those conditions however are likely to occur. But the most troubling development, is the embrace by President Obama of what is referred to as the Saudi Initiative, first put forward by King Abdullah in 2002. Under that plan, Israel would have to give up Gaza, the West Bank, the Golan to Syria and all of East Jerusalem, - including the Temple Mount.⁷

Sound like a dead deal? Well one solution for the East Jerusalem thing could involve an internationalizing of the Old City, East Jerusalem under Vatican control. Beginning in the early 1990's, Rome concluded a series of agreements with various elements within the Israeli government to establish their claims to the Holy Sites. In 1993 there was a Declaration of Principles with PA Chief Yasser Arafat that envisioned Jerusalem as the "second Vatican" with the Catholic Church administering East Jerusalem and the Temple Mount as an area to be shared by Christians, Jews and Muslims. Rome believes that it is "essential that religious leaders, not politicians, control the holy sites". In 2000, it called for a "special guaranteed international status" for the city. And for Rome it is essential, because Israeli control would validate a literal interpretation of Scripture; - that control of Israel and Jerusalem, - would just as God said, - one day again, reside with the Jews. That would deny centuries of Catholic theology which teaches that the Catholic Church is the 'New Israel', - something called Replacement Theology; - a heresy of the first order.⁸ Now according to a House of Theosophy Seminar, the New Age plan is to have some future pope visit this internationally controlled part of the city and declare all religions one, while assuming control of a One World Religion.⁹ While there is still a ways to go for this prophetic fulfillment, the stage is steadily being set.

In the meantime, Israel struggles to define itself in light of its new strategic reality. The US is not the friend it once was. Both the Bush and Obama administrations have refused American cooperation with any strike on the Iranian nuclear plants, - despite the fact that Tehran will likely become an existential threat to Israel's existence within the next couple of years. Under Obama, the US seems to be seeking a sort of friendly understanding with the Iranians. The President seems willing to live with a nuclear Iran. It's not worth the trouble to stop it, it seems. In pursuit of this 'more forgiving' agenda, the administration has reached out to the radical leadership in Tehran, to the Syrians and the Palestinians. Mr Obama has touted the contributions of Islam to the fabric of America. President Obama even extended his hand to Venezuela's Hugo Chavez, what DEBKA calls, "the co-architect of the joint Russian-Iranian campaign to displace American influence in the southern hemisphere". But a nuclear Iran would be a nightmare for Israel. There would be added pressure for Israel to give the Golan Heights back to Syria, and more territory to a Palestinian terror entity. Hezbollah could operate from Lebanon under an Iranian nuclear umbrella. But the policy may backfire when it comes to controlling Israel. Faced with a threat to their very survival, Jerusalem may feel forced to act against the Iranian nuclear sites.¹⁰

Thus Israel has let it be known that under Bibi Netanyahu, their forces will be ready to strike with just a few days or hours notice. It's a signal to Tehran to cease and desist. The Israeli Air Force attack against the convoys in Sudan was done for much the same reason, - and to actually practice long-range operations. The country is conducting unprecedented civilian missile defense drills and military exercises with the US testing a multi-tiered missile defense system.¹¹ Jerusalem seems to be getting serious. One Defence Ministry official "made it clear" that they "will not tolerate" a nuclear Iran. He gave the time line of two years. Then Israel "will have no choice to strike - with or without America".^{12 13} For their part, Tehran shows no signs of backing away from their nuclear ambitions. It gets worse! Global terror expert Walid Phares has briefed the Pentagon on the fact that Iran's advances in missile technology will allow them to target the US with ICBMs within 5 years.¹⁴ While threats and preparation seem to be having little effect on the Iranians, others in the area are taking all the smoke for a sign that there may indeed be fire. The Saudis, Kuwait, Qatar Bahrain the UAE are all in a state of preparation for the aftermath of an Israeli bombing run. The expectation is that Iran will strike out, - both to close the Gulf and against Saudi and other regional oil facilities; - all to damage America and the West. Egypt's actions to round up 49 Iranian sponsored agents, - (with the help of Israel and

the US) can be seen in that same light. Both Iran and Venezuela were operating in the Egyptian Sinai. So to return to our theme: The coming test of wills between Netanyahu and Obama is of critical importance to our global future. Israel's Foreign Minister warned that Israel may be gearing up to go it on its own ...to a degree. Avigdor Lieberman declared that "we are no longer bound by the previous government's undertakings for the negotiation of a Palestinian state".^{15 16} Lines are being drawn. The question is: Who will blink first!

GLASS HALF-FULL OR EMPTY ?

President Obama is talking a good story, -putting a rosy spin on things, - just as presidents are wont to do. But what's the reality of the thing? Are we coming out of our economic tailspin? Mr Obama would have us think so. After all, Wall Street has been in a rally that has lasted over a month. Throw enough money at something and the number values will go up – recovering about 25% of its losses. It took about \$13 trillion in money we don't have to trigger that rally. But one economist calls this a 'faked recovery', fed and sustained only by stimulus money. And someday soon, that too shall pass.¹⁷ You see, the fact is that the fundamentals are down on almost every front. Housing is down about 19% over last year, auto sales are plummeting, consumer spending is way down. It makes the recovery in stock prices appear to be an unsustainable bubble. Industrial production is down over 13% in the last year or so. There is little to nothing sustaining these fainting glimpses of recovery – or even a halt in the slide.¹⁸ A study by 2 economic historians points out that when we look at key indicators; - housing, production, foreign trade, capital flows, consumer confidence, housing and even stocks, - we are sliding faster than even the 1930's.¹⁹ Even the IMF is warning of "worrisome parallels" to the Great Depression.²⁰

Which brings me to the next point; - the latest report from our friends at LEAP 20/20, - that Euro think tank that so accurately predicted the conditions and timing of the onset of this crisis as well as many others, going as far back as the fall of the Soviet Union. The boys at LEAP see the next stage of the crisis being driven by the resolve of the Chinese to get out of the dollars market. They are looking to unload our T-Bills, - those treasury bonds that finance our government debt and keep our economy running so that they we can keep buying Chinese goods. Well the Chi-Coms are starting to dump dollar denominated assets and coincidentally start to concentrate on developing their own domestic markets. That's what's behind the move to unseat the dollar as the world's currency by a combination of China, Russia, India and Brazil. The Yankees and the Brits are fighting a holding action to stave off what looks like the inevitable and the Europeans are sitting on the fence. But the report sees a collapse of the present system as inevitable...and imminent. The Chinese seem determined to "escape the dollar trap by the end of summer 2009". US government expenses have risen by 41% while revenues are down by 28%. That's something that just won't work in the long haul. That same pattern is reflected in state, county and municipal governments. It's no wonder that futurists like Gerald Celente are predicting social unrest and an economic unraveling. The Chinese hold about \$1.4 trillion in dollar denominated assets. With those numbers in mind, LEAP sees a globalized "geopolitical dislocation" caused by a US government default. They believe that the real cost of printing money will result in the collapse of Washington's ability to float its loans and hence pay their debts.²¹

Still the administration continues to spend and design new spending programs. All the while they are advancing their goals. President Obama is marching ahead with his agenda with every passing day. Washington is extending its control over greater and greater aspects of the American economy. It is a trend that is reflected around the world, though somewhat more surprising in America, with its traditionally strong

current of individualism. However despite the robust showing of the Tea Party Movement, that tradition has already died among perhaps a majority; - among that class of people that is dependent on government handouts of one sort or another. The government has showed its true colors in their determination to control the auto industry, - including salaries and product. It has an iron grip on the banks, and is not allowing some to pay back the bailout money that was forced on them at the beginning of the crisis. The administration likes that control. On the domestic front, the Department of Homeland Security has issued a warning to the nation's law enforcement agencies to be on the lookout for domestic terrorists. These can be identified as people who are against illegal immigration, for the 2nd Amendment (right to bear arms), oppose free trade or same sex marriage or abortion or one world government – or just be returning American veterans, - or believe in End Time's prophecies.²² (Sounds like patriotic Americans to me!) Meanwhile Congress is considering bills that would assert federal control over our entire food supply, - including home gardens and farmers markets, - and open the door for mandatory mental health testing for all new moms.^{23 24} This brave new world is the face of American fascism; - a phenomenon of nationalized control over all aspects of the life of a nation. This is a global trend.

The other major trend fed by this global financial crisis is creeping internationalism. The drive toward a new global economic order has picked up considerable steam since last September. Possibly the most visible outworking of this new globalism can be found in the revival of the International Monetary Fund. The IMF came out of the latest G20 meetings with a new critical role in the management of the world economy. To get it started, Washington has proposed giving the IMF a \$100 billion loan with which to exercise its' "emerging powers".²⁵ Those "emerging powers" would include the authority to act as the world's banker. There would be an expanded role for the upcoming powers of China, India and Brazil. It could effectively print its own money, and "inject liquidity into global markets". In that it would supersede the role of central banks like the Federal Reserve. Increasingly they will assume the role of "monitoring" nationally based stimulus plans and even regulating financial institutions. While at first the real power of the IMF will be somewhat limited, - what is happening is that the architecture is being put in place for a fully-controlled global economy.²⁶

Is this all conspiracy, - or just the outworking of natural forces? Let me say just this. If you had wanted to design a plan to destroy the dollar and create the opportunity to impose regional or worldwide currencies such as the amero, you could not have done better than the government and the Fed is doing now. By creating money out of whole cloth, you are destroying its value, creating a vacuum that has to be filled. Add to that the fact that the Central Banks, - fed by the international banking families that control such banks have been buying gold since last fall, and you have all the pieces in place for a total reordering of the global order.

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