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ON THE VERGE OF A PALESTINIAN STATE ?!!

“They shall call its nobles to proclaim the kingdom, but nothing shall be there, and all its princes shall be no more.” (Isaiah 34:12)

As this letter was going to press Y-Net News broke the story that Israeli PM Netanyahu and Defense Minister Barak were heading to Washington to meet with Obama administration officials to draw up a solid offer to be presented to Fatah / the Palestinian Authority for the establishment of a “viable Palestinian state” that would see “the end of Israeli authority in Judea and Samaria”.¹ The West is getting ready to announce the formation of the long-sought-after Palestinian state. It all may be part of a deal that would see US approval or participation in an attack against Iran’s nuclear facilities. In return Israel would have to surrender a good deal of strategic territory for the establishment of an Arab terrorist entity dedicated to the eradication of the Jewish presence anywhere in the Land. Yet that’s the price that seems to be demanded of Israel by the US for its cooperation against Tehran. *Such a deal!*

With just limited space available, here’s a summary of the possible prophetic implications. The next war on the prophetic horizon is what I’ve referred to in my latest book – **THE HISTORY OF THE FUTURE** – as the Psalms 83 War – fought against the inner ring of Israel’s Arab enemies. The establishment of the Palestinian state would set the stage for that conflict. Its outcome will be catastrophic for Israel’s enemies. Scripture tells us of the Palestinians that **“no survivor shall remain of the house of Esau”**. (Obadiah 1:18) The passage of Isaiah quoted above reveals that neither the **“princes”** nor the **“kingdom”** itself will survive. The destruction of Damascus described in Isaiah 17:1 seems to occur during this war. And out of it may come a much wider conflict – afflicting much of the globe – ultimately leading to the chaos that would bring about a general cry for **“peace and security”** – and the accession of that false man of peace – the Antichrist. 1Thessalonians 5:3 completes the passage by telling us this will lead to **“sudden destruction”**. (ESV) With the details being worked out, we may just have seen the signal that the dance is well begun!

IRAN, ISRAEL & THE NEXT PROPHETIC WAR – Part III

Though many are still looking for an all out tussle with Iran, prophecies tell us that another war is likely to be fought before the Gog / Magog invasion referenced in Ezekiel 38, - in which Persia (Iran) will play such a great part. We’ll refer to this next coming fight as the Psalms 83 War – featuring Israel and the inner ring of Islamic-Arab states. It’s all set to go.

Setting Up The Next Prophetic War

The Bible tells us clearly that the nation of Israel faces a tough road in the last days. From Scripture it appears that there are two prophetic wars facing the Jewish nation before the return of Messiah Jesus. Most are aware of the famous Gog-Magog prophecies found in Ezekiel, chapters 38 & 39. The players are clear, even after about 2,600 years; Russia / Turkey, Iran, some of the former Islamic Soviet Republics. However, Syria, Egypt and the Palestinians are pointedly missing! Yet we know from Micah 5, Isaiah 19, Ezekiel 31 and Obadiah that these nations will suffer devastating defeat after they come against God’s people in the end times. Many prophecy scholars have concluded that there will be a prior war in which Israel will be facing this inner-ring of Arab / Islamic nations: Syria, Egypt, Jordan and the Palestinians. After that, there will be a time of peace, after which Israel will face the infamous Gog-Magog invasion.

“Come,” they say, “let us destroy them as a nation, that the name of Israel be remembered no more.” With one mind they plot together; they form an alliance against you- the tents of Edom and the Ishmaelites, of Moab and the Hagarites, Gebal, Ammon and Amalek, Philistia, with the people of Tyre. Even Assyria has joined them to lend strength to the descendants of Lot. Selah” (Psalm 83:4-8) Thus has been the battle cry of the Arab nations that surround the State of Israel ever since its modern inception in 1948. **“Let us destroy them as a nation”**, sounds very much like Iran’s October 2005 call to “wipe Israel from the face of the earth”, or the clause in the Palestinian Charter that denies Israel its existence. The Scripture is very specific. Edom refers to Jordan. The **Ishmaelites** are Saudi Arabia and Egypt. **“Moab** again is Jordan. The **Hagarites”** refers to the Egyptians and possibly other North African peoples. **Ammon** yet once more refers to Jordan, **Philistia** is the Palestinians, **Tyre** is in Lebanon. Finally, **Assyria** takes in part of the areas of Syria, Iraq and Iran. Who can deny this is the purpose of these Arab / Muslim nations? Certainly not they! Arab maps today always show the Middle East without the nation of Israel.

So we know it is the purpose of Arab / Islam to drive Israel into the sea. Three wars have proved it. But who will be involved in the next round of fighting? Let’s look at some of the usual suspects. Syria has been arming itself and modernizing, holding itself in readiness for a conflict with Israel. Russia has been equipping the Syrians with advanced weapons systems.² Damascus is the HQ of several terrorist

organizations dedicated to the destruction of Israel. The Syrians have been encouraging the insurgency in Iraq and aiding terrorist operations in Israel. Since the mid-90s, plans for the next Arab war against Israel have been well known. Going back to 1996, The U.S. House of Representatives' Task Force On Terrorism And Unconventional Warfare compiled a report revealing those plans. In short, they call for a Palestinian "uprising" to begin the festivities. Once the IDF is fully engaged internally against Palestinian Security Forces, Syrian and Egyptian forces would cross the border to finish the job.³ Terrorism expert Joseph Bodansky has detailed how this scenario nearly played out several times during the Clinton and early Bush administrations.⁴

The Syrian situation remains inherently unstable making war an imminent possibility. Terrorist organizations headquartered in Damascus, have in crisis past, scrambled unsuccessfully to find a new home.⁵ Their actions against Israel could draw Syria into a major conflict at the same time. Add to this the Iranian sponsored terrorists of Hezbollah, with their thousands of modernized rockets, always poised to strike. Prophecy scholar Glenn Allen describes God's judgment on Syria for her next attempt to destroy God's People. Syria has waged war against Israel three times since the re-birth of that nation: 1948, 1967 and 1973. The next war would be the fourth in the series. Amos 1:3-5 says. **"Thus says the LORD: "For three transgressions of Damascus, and for four, I will not turn away its punishment, Because they have threshed Gilead with implements of iron. But I will send a fire into the house of Hazael, Which shall devour the palaces of Ben-Hadad. I will also break the gate bar of Damascus"**". Allen contends that the next war will be that fourth and final war between Syria and Israel. But space has made this installment just a tease. Next time we'll look at some of the details of that coming war as revealed by Scripture.

ISLAM, DECEPTION & THE ANTICHRIST – PART VIII

How crazy is this? Is it even possible to know the identity of the Antichrist? We can only know what the Scriptures reveal. In all of this we must remember however, that it is not the Antichrist we look for but the return of Our Savior. Luke 21:28 tells the believer, "look up and lift up your heads, because your redemption draws near"

The Man Who Would Be King !

"Surely the Lord GOD does nothing, Unless He reveals His secret to His servants the prophets." (Amos 3:7)

Ponder for a moment the words of the prophet Amos quoted above. If we take the Bible seriously, we must allow for at least the possibility that we may know in advance the identity of the Antichrist. Now I make no ironclad claims here; - however I will present the evidence as it was presented at the 2006 International Prophecy Conference by Dr Joe Van Koevering. He was supported in his conclusions by another great expositor of the prophetic Scriptures: Perry Stone.

Prince = King = Man of Sin

First a little Biblical housekeeping. Dr Van Koevering points out that many Bible scholars are mistaken about one of the attributes of the Antichrist. It has long been taught that the False Messiah will be Jewish, - because the Bible tells us that he will be 'accepted' by the Jews. Daniel 11:37 tells us that **"He should regard neither the God of his fathers..."**. This has been taken to mean that the Antichrist will be a Jew that rejects Yaweh. But the word used for 'God' is Elohim, and therefore could refer to any deity, any 'god' true or false. In fact, looking at all the Scriptural evidence, it becomes apparent that the 'Man of Sin' must indeed be a Gentile, concluding as it were the **"times of the Gentiles"** called for in Luke 21:24.⁶

Previously we established that the Islamic Messiah, the Mahdi, - uniquely qualifies to serve simultaneously as the Biblical Antichrist. We know that Islam explicitly denies the rightful role of Jesus the Christ. 1John 4:1-3 reads, **"many false prophets have gone out into the world. By this you know the Spirit of God: Every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is of God, and every spirit that does not confess that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is not of God. And this is the spirit of the Antichrist, which you have heard was coming"**. Nothing could be clearer. In addition, Van Koevering points out 3 essential Scriptural tests that someone must meet to indeed be: 'The Man of Sin'.

- 1) **He must be Assyrian.** - Isaiah 10:24, in a clear reference to the End Times, - points that out.
- 2) **He must be a Prince** - Daniel 9:26 refers to him as **"the prince who is to come"**.
- 3) **He must be the King of Babylon** - Confirmed in Isaiah 14:4.

Dr Van Koevering makes a convincing argument that there is one man in the world today that meets all of these criteria. He is again, His Royal Highness Prince El Hassan of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan.⁷ Let's look at how Prince El Hassan fulfills these requirements....one at a time.

1) **He must be Assyrian** -

- **Prince Hassan is genetically 'Syrian'**. Dr Elias of the California School of Medicine states "The closest genetic relationships of the Assyrians are with the native populations of Jordan and Iraq". [The paper goes on to document the "extremely close affinity" of Jewish, Arab and other Middle Eastern populations, supporting the notion of a "common Middle Eastern origin" going back about 4,000 years. This would be directly in line with the Biblical account and timing of the origin of these peoples as offspring of Abraham.]⁸

- He is allied with the Assyrian cause. – The official website of the Assyrian Liberation Party hails the Prince as “an eloquent supporter of our position ... for an Assyrian Province”.⁹ Many Assyrians are Christian and as such are persecuted by their Islamic ethnic cousins. The Prince’s support of the Assyrian cause would of course lend credence to the claim of him coming as a ‘man of peace’.
 - He has royal connections to ancient Assyria. – The Hashemite family has ruled extensively in the region; including Arabia, Jordan (currently) and Iraq. We found that he was put forward as a candidate to resume the throne in Iraq both by his own doing, - as well as by some Western interests.¹⁰
- 2) He must be a ‘Prince’ –
- Daniel 9:26 describes the Antichrist as the “**prince who is to come**”.
 - El Hassan was the Crown Prince of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan until just before the death of his brother, King Hussein. In a letter written just before his death, the King removed him but wrote cryptically of a world-wide venue that would be his. He does however, remain a Prince of Jordan.
- 3) He must be King of Babylon -
- Referring to the time of the end, when God “**will set them in their own land**”, Isaiah refers to this all-powerful Antichrist figure as; - “**the king of Babylon**”. (Isaiah 14:1,4)
 - Babylon is located in modern day Iraq. Located about 50 miles south of Baghdad, the city was part of a revival project begun by Saddam Hussein as a monument to his own power.
 - Prince El Hassan has, as we have seen, actively lobbied for the royal throne of Iraq.
 - The Hashemite family has not relinquished its royal claim to Baghdad.¹¹

Checking The Scriptures

Let’s see what else the Bible has to say. “**And the people of the prince who is to come shall destroy the city and the sanctuary. Its end shall come with a flood, and to the end there shall be war. Desolations are decreed. And he shall make a strong covenant with many for one week, and for half of the week he shall put an end to sacrifice and offering. And on the wing of abominations shall come one who makes desolate, until the decreed end is poured out on the desolator.**” (Daniel 9:26-27)

First, let’s look at that phrase “**the people of the prince who is to come**”. Many scholars see this as a reference to a Roman prince. They see a ‘Revived Roman Empire’ as being the seat of the Antichrist’s power. So how does an Arab-Hashemite fit in? First of all, in Daniel’s interpretation of Nebuchadnezzar’s dream, the final empire, was portrayed by the legs of the statue. This is Rome, of course, divided between Western and Eastern branches. The Eastern branch, centered in Constantinople, (Istanbul), was comprised primarily of the lands that later fell to the Prophet Mohammed’s conquering sword. So there’s one possibility for the Roman connection. The other lies in the fact that Prince El Hassan is the elected President of the Club of Rome, possibly the foremost proponent of a New World Order, or One World Government.

“**He shall make a strong covenant for one week**”. Other translations have it that he shall “**confirm a covenant**”. That is an interesting passage. The Prince has already proposed a treaty between Israel and the Arabs that would need to last about 7 years for peace to ‘take’. The idea of ‘confirming’ a covenant is interesting too. It would suggest that something is already in place. Perhaps it is. Remember, El Hassan was the behind-the-scenes architect of the Oslo Accords. A confirmation of that agreement may be all that is necessary to bring a false peace into existence.¹² Looking farther into the career of the Antichrist we find that he shall come as a man of peace, and later, as Daniel 8:25 tells us, “**by peace shall destroy many**”. Revelation tells us that the reign of the man of sin will involve a One World Government animated and supported by a One World Religion. Prince El Hassan is possibly the biggest promoter of religious unity. Besides acting as President of the Club of Rome, he is involved with the UN Commission on Refugees, the Foundation for Interreligious and Intercultural Research and Dialogue, the Council on Foreign Relations and he is the President of the Center for Peace Studies.¹³

In fact the Prince’s entire message is peace and tolerance. According to El Hassan, what is needed is “an ethic of human solidarity and a new international order”.¹⁴ His overriding goal is “interfaith dialogue” that will repair the rift between the three great monotheistic, Abrahamic religions: Judaism, Christianity and Islam. [Remember that through his family ties to both the Sunni and Shiite factions, he is ideally placed to serve as a peacemaker within Islam.] Viewing himself as a key cog in the peacemaking process, and his destiny as being somehow tied in to Jerusalem: Prince El Hassan has come out in favor of that Holy City coming under international joint control by representatives of the three Faiths.¹⁵

Now Daniel 9:27, tells us the Antichrist will put an end to the daily sacrifices. That must mean they will have been reinstated first. Jewish tradition tells us that the Temple will be rebuilt when Messiah comes. There are organizations in Israel right now preparing the artifacts for a rebuilt Temple. They expect the soon coming of Messiah. The Antichrist will be instrumental in reestablishing the Judaic religious system. Notably the Hashemite family regained “religious authority” over the Temple Mount back in 2004. The agreement between Israel and Jordan states: “Israel respects the present special role of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan in Muslim holy shrines in Jerusalem”.¹⁶ That means a candidate from the Hashemite family, - is uniquely placed to broker peace between Palestinians and Jews. He will be just as uniquely qualified to set up and put an end the sacrifice (Daniel 9:27) and “**sitteth in the temple of God**” as God. (2 Thessalonians 2:4)

SUMMING UP

Now we've developed several threads of evidence that point to the possibility that Prince El Hassan is uniquely qualified to assume the role of Antichrist / Mahdi. He fulfills the prophetic requirements. To do so he must be:

- A Gentile Muslim – He is
- An Assyrian – He is.
- King of Babylon – Has ties to the former Iraqi throne
- Man of Peace – He is a promoter of peace between religions
- Peacemaker With Israel – He penned the Oslo Agreement
- Promoter of Religious Unity – He is.
- Has claims to Jerusalem – Through Hashemite Royal Family.
- Known as the Mahdi – He qualifies.

As Van Koevering points out, only Prince El Hassan of Jordan fulfills all of these prophetic requirements. The Prince remains an interesting possibility – a candidate. And that's where we'll leave it. We've shown the accumulated evidence that the Biblical Antichrist may just be the same as the Islamic messiah, the Mahdi. And in we've identified a *possible* candidate.

THE ECONOMIC HORIZON – Part IV

Last time we saw how the current economic crisis is altering the architecture of the financial world order. Today we'll start looking at the forces that may be driving that change.

Pulling The Strings

Shade's of fascism! This is not your grandfather's economy. In a show force the administration demonstrated the power of the new order by ordering pay cuts for the top execs at those companies that had taken government bailouts.¹⁷ Like the word or not, that's fascism not capitalism at work. That's the government asserting control over private enterprise, and it's a growing phenomena of our day. But there are other forces at work behind the scenes. In another show of force, there is evidence that Bush administration regulators "threatened to remove top Bank of America executives" if they did not go through with a deal to take over Merrill Lynch back during the Fall of 2008.¹⁸ All of this is just evidence that the road to some form of socialism, - [tending toward nationalistic fascism or with a more international socialist / communist bent] – was marching forward under both the current and last administrations. The strings were being pulled by the powers behind the thrones, - the international banking cartels as they cultivated their own interests and remade the economy to their liking.

Consider this. Rolling Stone Magazine reports on some curious developments regarding the collapse of Bear Stearns back in March of 2008. On the 11th of that month, what article author Matt Taibbi calls a "mystery figure" bought \$1.7 million worth of options to sell Bear Stearns stock in the \$30 to \$25 range, - by the 20th of March. It was selling at \$63 per share at the time. And I know you wouldn't believe this, - but the stock went into freefall the very next day. Imagine the coincidence! Within less than a week the Federal Reserve and Bush's Treasury Department had forced Bear Stearns to sell itself to JP Morgan for \$2 a share. Taibbi calculates that the mystery (insider) investor reaped 1,590% return on his investment in just a few days. Fast forward to the autumn of that year and we find that the Fed & the Treasury again was shuffling countless billions into the formerly capitalist system, - in effect buying the rights to dictate terms to the firms that were receiving money.¹⁹ And look at just who gained in the process. JP Morgan Chase is a banking entity that emerged, - first after long years of struggle between JP Morgan and the Illuminist Rothschilds, that resulted in the latter controlling the Morgan bank. Later, the Morgan Bank merged with Chase Manhattan, uniting Rockefellers and Rothschilds, with the Rothschilds seemingly playing the part of the senior partner. That international banking family also exercises control over many of Wall Street's investment powerhouses – such as Morgan Stanley and probably Goldman Sachs – as well as having an incredible amount of influence and control of the policies of both the Fed and the Department of the Treasury. Goldman Sachs it seems, is the training ground for Secretaries of the Treasury.²⁰ So the likes of the Fed – which for all intents and purposes speaks for the Rothschilds & Rockefellers - as does the Treasury, - and in so doing is able to craft policies for their own benefits. With that cover they are able to absorb billions in wealth, purchase assets at pennies on the dollar and transfer real control of real assets to their accounts at the expense of taxpayers – and consumers, - (through the means of paying off liabilities with severely deflated dollars.) The question then becomes: Just who is controlling whom?

One problem with the whole program of propping up the national economy with trillions of dollars of debt spending and printed money is that it makes your creditors nervous – and at the same time gives them a degree of control of your economy. That's just where the Chinese are now, as they curtail their purchases of US Treasuries and increase their investments in real assets and alternative currencies. To many the unfolding situation is starting to look eerily familiar to that which existed after World War II. Up to the outbreak of the war, London was the financial center and the British pound was the standard of exchange. After the War the Brits were broke and came begging to Washington for \$3 billion in grants and \$5 billion in loans. Yet not impressed by sacrificial war efforts, Irwin Stelzer tells us in the Times of London, "President Harry Truman, advised by communist spies such as Harry Dexter White, insisted on terms so onerous that the pound was supplanted by the dollar and Britain was, in the view of some, expelled from the first rank of economic powers for decades". Now the US may be in the position that Britain was in, - only vis-à-vis China. The Chinese are worried that by unleashing the printing presses, the US will attempt to settle its debts with "wildly depreciated dollars". An insistence by Peking of calling in their chits would not only hobble the debt-driven American economy but sap military strength and international influence "for years to come".²¹ All this said, just what then is driving the

America to mortgage its future in such a wildly irresponsible way? Well perhaps there is more to it. Perhaps it serves the very interests of some to see a changing in the world's way of doing business. We'll examine that in our next installment.

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