

Newsbytes

The First Watch

September 4, 2019

No. 937

Since 2001

Newzbytes is a ministry of Calvary Chapel of Appleton

www.ccapleton.org

“Let us be alert to the season in which we are living. It is the season of the Blessed Hope, calling for us to cut our ties with the world and build ourselves on this One who will soon appear. He is our hope—a Blessed Hope enabling us to rise above our times and fix our gaze upon Him.” Tozer

Netanyahu To Make Pro-3rd Temple Politician Top Official

By David Sidman/BIN August 30, 2019



It has been confirmed that Zehut (Identity) party leader Moshe Feiglin will order his party, Zehut, to step down in the current election to join Netanyahu's Likud party who will make him a "high ranking official" in the PM's next government.

Moshe Feiglin's Zehut was the only party head in the current elections who openly calls for building the third Temple and has placed it on his party's platform. The catch was that Feiglin's Zehut party had to drop out of the race.

IMAGE: <http://www.prophecynewswatch.com/images/recent/templejan202016.jpg>

The idea is that since Zehut is not predicted to pass the minimum threshold of 4 seats, they are 'wasting' right-wing votes that could otherwise spill over to another right-wing party that can pass the minimum threshold sealing Netanyahu's coalition for the 22nd Knesset (parliament).

Reports have been circulating that Netanyahu offered Feiglin the task of health ministry although those reports are unconfirmed.

However, that would be a logical position for Feiglin since besides advocating for the construction of the Third Temple, Feiglin is a proponent of legalizing marijuana and has fought in the past as a Knesset member to loosen access to medical marijuana for cancer patients.

Feiglin is a free market capitalist who focuses much of his campaign on loosening regulations and lowering taxes.

Regarding his meeting with Netanyahu, Feiglin didn't reveal much information however he did say: "We are ready to enter negotiations with the Prime Minister. We sat for many hours and I am happy to announce that we have made tremendous progress as well as other important issues in Zehut's platform. There is still no agreement but the progress is very significant.

Either way, we will bring the agreement if it is signed, as a referendum to party members, something that no other party would even consider doing in this type of situation.

And I need to reiterate and clarify one thing: Zehut is alive and kicking and is affecting reality and will continue to affect reality more than any other party. It seems as though this time it will be from within the government and not just the Knesset but we will see."

Scanning Fearful Future Still on Track

by Terry James

Madness that assaults the senses every waking moment continues to expose the lateness of the prophetic hour. This generation is deeply into reprobate mindset the Apostle Paul forewarned will ultimately afflict any person or any generation of people who turn their backs on the God of Heaven.

Not intending to make myself out to have a word of knowledge or other strange wind of supernatural soothsaying ability, I nonetheless must recount a matter that constantly dominates my spiritual senses these days. It involves how the Lord spoke to those senses years ago about things that have proven to be insight with ongoing, unfolding validation.

My series of commentaries I called "Scanning a Fearful Future" covered the emails filled with panic I was at the time receiving on a regular basis. Pundits, including well-known Bible prophecy teachers and TV hosts, were saying that Christians in America faced imminent danger from dynamics taking place within ever-darkening governmental efforts to completely change the nation in deleterious ways. We would, these pundits proclaimed, wake up one morning and find that the America as founded was now a more or less totalitarian regime. Christians would soon be marching off to gulag. At the very least, we would no longer be able to teach and preach or even talk about Bible truth in public.

Just as ominously, these pundits were saying, the economy would completely collapse and we would return to times almost like those before electricity—at least that's how the dystopian warnings sounded to yours truly. Indeed, the presidential administration then in power seemed to be moving America in the dire direction that was being forecast.

All of this was taking place during the latter part of 2010 and the first part of 2011.

The emails kept coming. Would the United States soon collapse and Christians in America be marched off to FEMA camps for internment? Or worse, would Christians suffer martyrdom as did believers in Christ during the time of the Roman Coliseum spectacles?

Again, even prophecy teachers of renown were intimating that this might be the case. Certainly, many secular pundits were almost in unison in predicting that the American and world economies were on the verge of collapse.

So, in light of the large number of emails I received from those who read our articles—all worried about future prospects—I undertook to write a series of ten commentaries. While writing these, the Holy Spirit, I'm convicted in my own spirit, imparted through those articles the answer to give these worried brothers and sisters.

I've written a number of times over the years since that time about the thoughts I believe the Lord gave through that series. The bottom line was and is that there would be no sudden collapse of the United States economy—there would be no incarceration and martyrdom of Christian Americans. I cautioned that

there was indeed such incarceration and martyrdom of Christians all over the globe at that very moment. There continues to be this horrendous treatment around the world as I write this.

America, I wrote back then, deserves no special dispensation from such collapse. Christians in America are not, in our own righteousness, immune from the kind of torture and martyrdom being foisted upon Christians who live within evil regimes around the world. Any and all such dispensation is by the grace of God, and that alone. He determines who is born when and where. He, alone, will have mercy upon whom He will have mercy. And this does not mean He favors anyone in particular in the general sense of dealing with mankind.

In the case of America, God has obviously determined that the nation is on the planet and at this time for very specific purposes. We have gone over many times that it is believed those purposes are 1) to be a primary instrument of spreading the gospel around the world, and 2) to act first as midwife for Israel's rebirth into modernity, then to act as military protector. The Lord can do that Himself, but He has chosen the US, it is obvious to me, at least, to be his human agency in providing that protection over His chosen nation.

In that regard, America is undeniably the apex nation of the world so far as earthly riches are concerned. America is the most materially blessed country of history. It has been among the most spiritually blessed as well.

As I stated in that series, the US has, sadly and tragically, become one of the most wicked nations of all times, as well. The evil stretches from pornography to the abortion of more than sixty million babies. So, our "goodness" as Alexis de Toqueville ascribed to this nation is more than overshadowed by the evil among us. As Ruth Graham is accredited with saying (and I paraphrase): "If God doesn't hold America accountable for her wickedness, He will have to apologize to Sodom and Gomorrah."

How true this is now more than even when she uttered that thought. We have watched the absolute debauching of society and culture through the LGBTQ and all forms of perversion involving sexuality. We now watch reports of transvestites or drag queens assigned to libraries to teach small children their perverted ways and perversions beyond theirs. We see the Vogue teen magazine instructing, in explicit detail, teenage girls and younger how to indulge in sodomy as a pleasurable means of avoiding sexual interaction that impregnates. We are barraged hour by hour with reports of every sort of inculcation that tries to destroy the institution God the Creator designed involving one man and one woman as husband and wife.

Yet, with all this, including our largest cities becoming infested with filth and lasciviousness that is the antithesis of all god intended, America is still here and not only still here, but far outpacing all other nations of the world in most every area of culture—except for turning back to God to a great extent. There are nations that are seemingly seeking God's face much more than is our beloved America.

This will, ultimately, bring that judgment, Mrs. Graham forewarned those years ago.

America, as I think the Lord showed me, is, however, going to be here for His specific purposes until He calls His Church to be with Christ in the Rapture. This is based on Jesus' own prophecy found in Matthew 24: 36-42 and Luke 17: 26-30. He has put his man of the hour into the office of president of the United States in a miraculous way. Donald J. Trump defied all political odds and defeated the woman who the political world believed to be a sure thing as candidate for the presidency in 2016.

Mr. Trump is a builder perhaps unparalleled in modern history. He is a businessman with acumen few can in truth deny. He is a friend of Israel like no other president. He has accomplished things in Israel no other president has come close to attempting. Some Israelis even are calling him their "king."

I don't agree with the Israelis bestowing that nomenclature or the thought, but I put it here just to show the importance of this man who is not a godly one, but who is most definitely God's man for this crucial hour at the end of the Church Age. No matter what Satan's globalist hordes try against Trump, he prevails and even thrives. It is astonishing to behold. And, it is at least in part attributable to God's people invoking the prayer of 2 Chronicles 7:14, I have no doubt.

The "Scanning a Fearful Future" series concluded by saying it is all in fulfillment of Christ's prophecy as listed in the "days of Noah, days of Lot" Scriptures above. We are in an unprecedented time of economic upturn—of building, selling and buying in this nation, even while the rest of the world is struggling. Thus, also, even though the signals abound that all could come crashing down. And many economic experts say it will do so at any moment. This is what they were saying, remember, back in 2010 and 2011.

But God holds all in His omnipotent, omniscient, and omnipresent hand.

Just like Jesus said, I believe that it will be just like in the days of Lot when Christ next catastrophically intervenes into the affairs of rebellious mankind. That evil generation was buying, selling, and building. Business was great. But the day Lot and his family went out of Sodom, God's judgment fell and destroyed the rebellious inhabitants.

As stated near the end of that series, Christians need not fear that coming judgment and wrath. It will be not a fearful future, but a fantastic future we will face when the glorious event we call the Rapture occurs and we are suddenly in the presence of our Lord and Savior.

As I view it, all is still on track to unfold exactly as I believe I was impressed to write those nine years ago.

Attacks Blamed on Israel Ratchet up Tensions

By Liz Sly and James McAuley Washington Post

BEIRUT — Attacks against Iranian-allied forces in three countries, all blamed on Israel, escalated tensions across the Middle East on Sunday, drawing threats of retaliation and intensifying fears that a bigger conflict could erupt.

The attacks Saturday and Sunday targeted Iranian forces and their proxies in Lebanon, Syria and Iraq, in what appeared to be a significant escalation of Israeli efforts to contain the expansion of Iranian influence in the region that could jeopardize the continued presence of U.S. troops in Iraq and draw Lebanon into a new war.

All of the attacks were shrouded in the mystery that engulfs much of the shadowy conflict between Israel and Iran. Israel confirmed that it was responsible only for the first attack, in which its warplanes struck overnight Saturday on what military officials said was an Iranian-operated base in Syria preparing to launch a major drone attack against Israel. At least two members of the Lebanese Hezbollah militia were killed, Hezbollah said.

Hours later, a drone armed with explosives hit a building housing a Hezbollah media center in the southern suburbs of Beirut. Hezbollah accused Israel in what would be the first Israeli attack in Lebanon since the 2006 war and said it would respond by shooting down Israeli drones in Lebanon. Israel did not confirm or deny responsibility.

Later Sunday a commander with an Iranian-backed militia in Iraq was killed by a drone strike in the western Iraqi town of al-Qaim, compounding tensions raised by a recent series of strikes apparently conducted by

Israel against Iranian-backed militias in Iraq.

Any one of these incidents would have marked an escalation in a steadily intensifying confrontation between Israel and the Iranian-backed militias that have expanded their reach across the Middle East in recent years. Taken together, they signal a “new era” in Israel’s attempt to roll back Iran’s presence in the region, said Hilal Khashan, a professor of political science at the American University of Beirut.

“The Israelis are telling everyone that they are expanding the scope of their attacks against Iran and its allies,” Khashan said. “The fact that these attacks occurred ushers in a new stage in the confrontation between Israel on the one hand and Iran and its allies on the other. Israel is showing it is determined to prevent Iran from expanding its influence in the Middle East.”

[Iran-backed militias in Iraq threaten foreign aircraft, adding to speculation Israel is bombing Iraq]
In an angry speech on Sunday night, Hezbollah leader Hasan Nasrallah called the drone strike on the media center “a very, very dangerous violation” and said Hezbollah would strike back from Lebanon in retaliation for that attack in Beirut and the deaths of Hezbollah members in Syria.

Hezbollah will also try to down any of the Israeli drones that routinely fly over Lebanon, he said. He warned Israelis living in northern Israel to brace for Hezbollah attacks on Israeli territory.

“This is a new phase imposed by the enemy, and we are up for it,” he said in the speech delivered by video to crowds of cheering Hezbollah supporters in eastern Lebanon’s Bekaa Valley. “What happened last night will not happen without response.”

The Israeli claims suggested Iran already might be contemplating retaliation for recent attacks on weapons storage facilities in Iraq.

The Israeli strikes overnight Saturday targeted the town of Aqraba, southeast of Damascus, where the Israeli Defense Forces said the Iranian Quds Force and allied militias were readying a “large-scale attack of multiple killer drones on Israel.”

Syrian state media said Syrian air defenses were activated to intercept the strike and brought down most of the Israeli missiles. Videos posted on social media showed a huge blaze raging and anti-air missiles streaking through the night sky.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu hailed what he called “a major operational effort.”
“Iran has no immunity anywhere,” he tweeted. “If someone rises up to kill you, kill him first.”

Israel has struck hundreds of targets in Syria over the last seven years, most of them Iranian forces or Iran’s efforts to deliver sophisticated weaponry to Hezbollah in Lebanon via Syria.

This is the first time, however, that Israel has accused Iran of attempting such a large-scale attack on Israeli territory. Had such an attack taken place, it could have triggered an all-out war.

Hundreds of Islamic State militants are slipping back into Iraq. Their fight isn’t over.
It was impossible to confirm whether such an attack was planned. Iran’s Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps, which commands the Quds Force, denied that any Iranian targets had been struck in Syria.

“This is a lie and not true,” Maj. Gen. Mohsen Rezaei said, according to the Iranian news agency ILNA. “Israel and the United States do not have the power to attack Iran’s various centers and our advisory centers have not been harmed.”

Israel placed its military on high alert against possible retaliation, a military spokesman said. Over the past month, Israel has expanded its strikes to Iraq, hitting four Iranian-backed militia bases where weapons were being stored in what are suspected to be drone strikes. Officially, Israel has only hinted that it was responsible, but U.S. and Israeli officials have told news outlets that Israel did carry out the attacks, Israel's first on Iraq since 1981.

The killing later Sunday of a commander with Kataeb Hezbollah, one of Iran's staunchest allies in Iraq, was also a first. The drone strike in the western Iraqi town of al-Qaim was instantly blamed on Israel and prompted a call from one of the most powerful blocs in the Iraqi parliament for U.S. troops to withdraw from Iraq.

The killing "represents a dangerous turning point," the Iran-allied Fatah coalition said in a statement. The coalition cited widespread suspicions in Iraq that the United States is aiding the Israeli attacks and said it believes "there is no need for the American presence."

An Israeli spokesman did not confirm or deny responsibility. The U.S. military has responded to allegations of involvement by pointing out that it is in Iraq at the invitation of the Iraqi government and only to fight the Islamic State terrorist group.

Israel also declined to confirm or deny that it was behind the blast at a Hezbollah office in Beirut. Initial reports from Hezbollah suggested the drone had exploded accidentally in the air, but Nasrallah said in his speech that a drone armed with explosives had deliberately crashed into the building housing Hezbollah's media office.

About an hour later, he said, a smaller drone hovered in the vicinity of the building and crashed after local residents threw stones. Hezbollah's account could not be independently confirmed, but videos taken at the scene showed shattered windows and damage to furniture at the Hezbollah office.

Mustafa Salim in Baghdad and Suzan Haidamous in Beirut contributed to this report.