

NEWSBYTES

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"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

Prophetic Partners - The Russian/Turkey Alliance Deepens



Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan is trying to get the most from Turkey's theoretical Western allies while in reality allying with Russian President Vladimir Putin - like sort of a Muslim Fidel Castro.

In an article published last month, this author suggested:

"Once again, Western optimists are misreading Erdoğan, that he is 'rekindling fraught relations with the West.' He just needs Western money, a few pats on the shoulder and legitimacy for his sultanship."

The New York Times, in an editorial, woke up and agreed:

"Just two months ago, many in the West thought they had seen indications that President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan of Turkey was shifting away from what they saw as his overly chummy relationship with President Vladimir V. Putin of Russia."

"Turkey allowed a group of celebrated Ukrainian fighters to return to the battlefield, prompting Russia to accuse it of violating an agreement. And Mr. Erdoğan finally dropped his resistance to allowing Sweden to join NATO, strengthening the military alliance aimed at countering Russia."

"But any sense of a significant change in Mr. Erdoğan's balancing act between Russia and the West appeared to evaporate on Monday, when he and Mr. Putin stood side by side after a meeting in the Russian resort town of Sochi and spoke of expanding cooperation."

Back in July, the West wanted to maintain its comfortable sleep over bitter facts when Erdoğan unexpectedly green-lit Sweden's bid to join NATO. This move provoked a degree of celebration and praise that individual leaders rarely get at a summit. U.S. President Joe Biden applauded Erdoğan's "courage, leadership, and diplomacy." "This is a historic day," NATO Secretary-General Jens Stoltenberg said. Erdoğan could not have been read more mistakenly.

At the Sochi summit on September 4, Erdoğan, speaking as if he were Putin's spokesman, suggested that "Ukraine should soften its position on the grain corridor deal," referring to the UN-brokered Black Sea Grain Corridor Agreement, from which Russia had withdrawn on July 17. Having taken orders from the boss, Erdoğan returned home with an agenda to convince Western parties to the deal on whatever terms Moscow insists should be in any new agreement.

Erdoğan needs Western money to prevent Turkey's economic suicide. He needs U.S.-made fighter jets to maintain a delicate power balance over the Aegean skies. He needs Western pats on the shoulder to win legitimacy for his undemocratic one-man rule. But he wants all of these cookies without having to give up Russia. Over the past years, Erdoğan has made Turkey addicted to Russia, like a junkie to a dealer.

Russia is building -- and will own -- Turkey's first nuclear power plant in Akkuyu on the Mediterranean coast. In Sochi, Erdoğan and Putin agreed to build a second Russian nuclear power plant, planned for Sinop on the Black Sea coast.

In 2022, Russian exports to Turkey reached \$60 billion, making the country the biggest source of Turkey's imports. In 2021, Russia ranked second after China, with exports worth \$29 billion to Turkey. Turkey's crude oil imports from Russia rose from 10 million tons in 2021 to 19 million tons in 2022.

This means Russia supplied 41% of Turkey's total oil imports in 2022. Turkey's energy watchdog said that in May-June of 2023, Russia's share of oil imports reached 50%. Also in 2022, Russia also supplied 39% of Turkey's natural gas. Russia is Turkey's top energy supplier.

Five million Russian tourists visited Turkey in 2022. The head of Turkish construction companies' union, Erdal Eren, said that Turkish companies hold \$18 billion to \$20 billion in their Russian construction portfolio.

Against this backdrop, it was appalling to hear an EU ambassador in Ankara tell me that he was appalled that Erdoğan said that a) he trusts Russia as much as he trusts the West, and that b) Ankara could "part ways" with the European Union if necessary. Erdoğan's

ultranationalist ally, Devlet Bahçeli, immediately endorsed the cheap bluff: "We're done with the EU."

That is the way Erdoğan does horse trading. Sadly, each time, the gullible West gets cheated.

Erdoğan's Turkey is one of the countries continually breaking Western sanctions on Russia. Earlier in September, the US State Department imposed sanctions on five Turkish shipping and trade companies for repairing Russian Defense Ministry vessels, transporting Russian military goods, and helping Russia to evade sanctions.

So why should you care that Vladimir Putin has been recently meeting with both Iranian and Turkish leaders?

You should care because more than 2,600 years ago, the prophet Ezekiel warned of a future time when a vast coalition of nations will attack Israel. The leader of this coalition is a man known as Gog, the ruler of Magog (Ezekiel 38:1). This is why the invading force is known as the Gog of Magog coalition.

According to Ezekiel this alliance will send an overwhelming force to invade Israel in the last days. And today, for the first time in human history, we see this alliance forming.

The Invading Nations

Which nations does Ezekiel describe? He identifies the invading nations as "Magog, Rosh, Meschech, Tubal, Persia, Cush, Put, Gomer, and Beth-togarmah" (Ezekiel 38:1-6). If you look on a 2023 map of the globe, you won't find any of these nations. So how can I say this alliance is forming?

Because these are the ancient biblical names of these nations, and while their names have changed over the years, we can still locate them on a map today. Below is a list of each nation, followed by its modern day name:

Rosh = Russia

Magog = Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, and Afghanistan

Persia = Iran

Cush = Sudan

Put = Libya

Meshech, Tubal, Gomer, and Beth-togarmah = Turkey

It's been centuries since Ezekiel first recorded these prophecies. Yet, this alliance has never existed. It certainly hasn't invaded Israel. But now? Today, we see it coming closer each day.

-Prophecy News Watch

Some Things Don't Need To Be Sensationalized, And Biblical Prophecy Is One Of Those Things

September 25, 2023



I have been part of the prophecy movement for a long time. We've had our ups and downs, but for the most part, prophecy teachers have been faithful watchmen on the wall. We have warned, enlightened, kept the focus on Jesus, and helped remind people to be watching for His return. These are important things.

A healthy Church discerns the times. Jesus scolded the Pharisees and Sadducees because they could forecast the weather, but they did not grasp the larger issues. They knew “how to discern the appearance of the sky, but cannot discern the signs of the times” (Matthew 16:3).

Titus 2:13 instructs us to be “looking for the blessed hope and the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Christ Jesus.” 2 Timothy 4:8 says, “There is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day; and not only to me, but also to all who have loved His appearing.”

Followers of Christ should always be “looking for the blessed hope,” and love “His appearing.” Good prophecy teaching helps with both.

The 1951 sci-fi movie, “The Thing From Another World,” ends with these dramatic lines about a possible alien invasion. “Every one of you listening to my voice. Tell the world. Tell this to everybody wherever they are. Watch the skies. Everywhere. Keep looking. Keep watching the skies!”

I’m not looking for aliens, but my head is lifted up. I hope yours is, too, and that I and my fellow prophecy teachers have helped you see life on earth in its true context.

However, I am concerned that many in today’s prophecy movement are competing — not to get out God’s word, but to gain attention for themselves. They buy and sell conspiracy theories like soda pop, always looking for one with a lot of sugar and fizz. But friends, some things don’t need to be sensationalized, and the Second Coming of Christ is one of those things.

In today’s marketplace of ideas, it’s easy to feel the need for continual hype. “Gotta get those clicks!” I especially worry when ministers of the Gospel push conspiracy theories that were originated by Jew-hating extremists. Prophecy teachers who purport to love Israel and the Jewish people, too often let their agendas be set by radical conspiracy theorists who are antisemitic to the core.

Why? Because those groups have some real doozies of conspiracy theories — the kind that get clicks. Before you teach a conspiracy theory, look at its source. Examine it closely. Don’t believe something just because it backs up your political ideas, vilifies people you don’t like, or reads like the latest thriller. Never repeat a conspiracy theory just to build or hold your audience. A lot of prophecy teachers feel like they’re running down a hill on a railroad track with a train of their own making, chasing them every step of the way. You made your brand by reporting the latest amazing story, and now you have to keep on giving them jaw-droppers to keep them coming.

If you are my fellow prophecy teacher, take a step back. The world right now needs you, but not your hype. They need the truth that you know. God’s message is more sensational than your hype. Pray for discernment. Be humble enough to receive correction. Never lie on behalf the One who calls “lying lips... an abomination.” Examine your sources. Ask questions. Don’t add to His word. Don’t fulfill prophecy by becoming a “malicious gossip,” or one who scratches itching ears.

Focus on Jesus. He’s sensational enough.

How Much Longer Can It Be?

By Jonathan Brentner

We most assuredly live in biblical times. The convergence of signs is like that of the grand finale of a fireworks show that noisily illuminates the sky with its bright display of colors. Yet sadly, many believers and pastors turn their heads and walk away from the spectacle, telling themselves and others, "There's nothing to see here."

I also believe the words of Proverbs 1:20 apply here:

"Wisdom cries aloud in the street; in the markets she raises her voice."

The myriad of signs, along with the voices of many students of Bible prophecy, sound the alarm regarding the nearness of the Tribulation. Wisdom continues to cry out with the message that Jesus is coming soon, but so few are paying attention.

A few months ago, I wrote about the blindness of our day in ***How Can You Not See?*** I still wonder how those who know Scripture can remain asleep and unaware of the signs that point to the nearness of Jesus' appearing.

Now my question has progressed to: "How much longer can it be before Jesus catches us up to meet Him in the air?"

Below are several reasons that cause me to ask this question.

The Rush to Divide Israel

When I look at Israel on a world map, I need to put on my reading glasses, and even then, it's difficult to discern the nation's boundaries. Most countries this small receive little or no attention on the world stage. However, almost all the world leaders are now focused on both Israel and Jerusalem.

The Bible predicted this would happen at the time of the end (Zechariah 12:1-3). The U.S. and other nations have become preoccupied with settling the Palestinian matter, believing this will magically bring peace to the entire region.

During his speech at the UN, President Biden called for a two-state solution as the path toward peace in the region. When he met with the Israeli Prime Minister, Benjamin Netanyahu seemed willing to go along with it to a limited degree, perhaps as part of the deal with Saudi Arabia that Netanyahu now predicts will become a reality sometime in early 2024.

The rush to divide Israel tells us that the Tribulation period is ever so near because it will be during this time that the Lord will judge the nations that cut up His Land (Joel 3:1-3). Those with a passion to provide a state for the Palestinians are fulfilling biblical prophecy; God said this would happen at the time of the end.

The Push for Digital Currencies

Another telling sign that speaks to the nearness of the Tribulation is the push for digital currencies.

During the September 2023 meeting of the G-20 nations in New Delhi, India, the leaders: “agreed to a plan to eventually impose digital currencies and digital IDs on their respective populations, amid concern that governments might use them to monitor their people’s spending and crush dissent.” This pact includes a pledge “to build the necessary infrastructure to implement digital currencies and IDs.” [1]

The antichrist needs such a system in place by the midpoint of the Tribulation in order to control buying and selling throughout the world (Revelation 13:16-18). He won’t be able to do this if it’s possible for people to use cash or write checks for their purchases.

In America, the Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC) is coming by way of the Federal Reserve’s FedNow, which has gone live. Many major banks are now participating in the program, which makes the transferring of money immediate.

David Bowen, in his article, ***FedNow Goes Live, Paving The Way To A Central Bank Digital Currency*** on the Harbingers Daily website, wrote this about the matter:

The Federal Reserve claims this is the alternative to a CBDC — a Central Bank Digital Currency. But really, this is a stepping stone to a CBDC. Once the public gets more comfortable with the speed of FedNow and the system is accepted as the standard procedure, you’ll get a Central Bank Digital Currency.

The inevitable collapse of the economy in the U.S. will speed up the path to a CBDC in America, which will quickly become a unified worldwide currency during the Tribulation, if not before it starts.

The Threat of War

After we are in glory with Jesus, He will open seven seals on what I believe is His title deed to all the kingdoms of this world (Revelation 6:1-8). The text tells us that war will be a factor in the killing of one-fourth of the earth’s population.

Do we see such a deadly conflict on the horizon? Yes, we do.

Michael Snyder recently wrote this on his blog concerning this threat:

Most Americans have absolutely no idea how close we are to the unthinkable. Even though leaders all over the globe have developed a really bad case of war fever, the vast majority of us here in the United States are entirely convinced that everything will be okay somehow. Most of us believe the talking heads on television when they assure us that our politicians have everything under control and that it is extremely unlikely that a nuclear conflict will happen. But on the other side of the globe, they see things very differently. On Tuesday, Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy told the United Nations that the world is being pushed to the brink of the “final war “...[2]

Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov recently stated “that the U.S. is conducting a ‘war’ against Russia” with its support of Ukraine.[3] In the past several weeks, I have read many accounts of Russian officials warning the U.S. of a nuclear attack because of its support of Ukraine’s war effort.

Gatestone Institute senior fellow and China expert Gordon Chang said this regarding the possibility of a war between the U.S. and China:

We’re much closer to a nuclear exchange than Americans think. China is preparing to go to war.... China is surveying the United States for nuclear weapons strikes, so we’ve got to realize the

gravity of this. The problems inside the Chinese regime right now indicate that Xi Jinping in the rocket force, which controls almost all of China's nuclear weapons, he's now installing officers who will obey his orders to push the button when he gives it. [4]

It's remarkable that Biden's support of Ukraine has not yet boiled over into a Russian attack on America. Just this week, we heard news of U.S. Abram Tanks heading to Ukraine and Biden's plan to supply the nation with long-range missiles. Unless Vladimir Putin has the patience of Job, these things will lead to a direct attack on America.

UFOs and Aliens

This may seem like an unusual sign of the end times; however, the wide acceptance of extraterrestrial life, along with many governments acknowledging their existence, demonstrates the increased activity of Satan to explain our sudden disappearance.

I have watched a few prophecy updates from Pastor Brandon Holthaus on this matter; his insights demonstrate the progress that the devil has already made in perpetuating this deception. In one of his videos, he quoted a U.S. Navy pilot as saying that "UFO sightings are an everyday occurrence."

A short clip of an interview I heard on **Twitter** last week confirms the wide acceptance of alien life among the elite of our day, or more likely, their willingness to perpetuate the deception. Yuval Noah Harari, bestselling author and confidant of Klaus Schwab from the World Economic Forum (WEF), predicted the end of human-dominated history because of an upcoming alien invasion. "History will continue with somebody else in control," he said.

Why has Harari changed from advocating Artificial Intelligence (AI) and transhumanism as the future of mankind to that of one dominated by extraterrestrials? Does this surprising turn in his thinking not show just how far the Luciferian globalists are willing to go in preparing the world for our disappearance at the time of the Rapture?

Did you also notice that Harari, like so many others, naturally assumes that the aliens are far more advanced than humans in both intelligence and technology? *They must create this illusion so that people believe they are capable of making tens of millions instantly disappear.*

The Seven-Year Commitment

On September 18-19, 2023, a majority of member nations at the UN committed to a seven-year plan of accelerated growth to implement the 17 Strategic Development Goals (SDGs) of Agenda 2030. Although significant, let me quickly point out that this is NOT the covenant that the antichrist will make with Israel as prophesied in Daniel 9:27.

What this demonstrates is the determination of the world's leaders to set up a one-world government that controls the lives of those it will enslave. It's very clear that both the WEF and UN long for this totalitarian regime and want it in place by 2030.

It also tells us that things are going as well as the globalists would like. Although they achieved some progress through the COVID-19 scare and are seeking to make climate change a factor in bringing the nations together, things are not progressing as well as they had hoped.

On the fifth page of the document, we are told that there is an "urgent need to take the actions necessary to reverse declines and accelerate progress to achieve the 2030 Agenda and implement the SDGs." [5]

Author and friend Terry James addressed this shortfall in his excellent article, *The Crisis*. He credited the Lord's resistance with stalling the elite's objectives to achieve their desired dominance. The calamity they need will come via the Rapture, which will happen according to God's timing, not theirs. The disappearance of so many people will give the globalists the emergency they crave. As the alien deception takes hold after the Rapture, the nations will readily join together to fight what they regard as a common enemy. In his interview, Harari stated that a united world would have a much better chance of resisting an extraterrestrial invasion.

The following quote from the UN's SDGs meeting seems to say that an emergency such as caused by the Rapture would lead to greater control by the UN:

On that page, the UN openly admits that one of the purposes of "the Summit of the Future" is to "put in place a stronger international response playbook for complex global shocks, maximizing the use of the Secretary-General's convening power in the form of an Emergency Platform." [6]

There's a sense of urgency in the statements coming from the UN. Is it because they are falling behind on their goals? Or do they know a great crisis looms in the future?

Days of Lot and Noah

The Lord predicted that end times would resemble the days of Noah (Matthew 24:36-39) and of Lot (Luke 17:28-29), and that is precisely what we see.

The Bible doesn't provide us with details of the violence in Noah's day, which was one of the factors that led to the flood (Genesis 6:13). However, I believe that the abortions, sex trafficking, and sacrificing of young children in satanic rituals in the U.S. must at least rival the violence prevalent in the world before the flood. These things also tell us that the wickedness of our day far exceeds that of Sodom and Gomorrah. It's not even close.

I believe the U.S., in particular, is dangling by a very thin thread over a pit of destruction; we have long passed the day where we as a nation should have collapsed economically or ignited a deadly war with Russia or China. The Lord is sovereignly holding back these things until the time is right for His judgment.

There's coming a day when all of us who trust Jesus as our Savior will instantly vanish, and not long after that, all of God's current restraints will suddenly evaporate, and sudden destruction will fall upon the earth (1 Thessalonians 5:1-10).

How much longer can it be before we appear in glory with our Savior (Colossians 3:4)? I believe it's very close.

On the other hand, I don't know for sure how much longer it will be until Jesus takes us home to glory. Perhaps we will face increasing affliction in the coming months or during 2024.

However, we must also avoid thinking that the Rapture cannot happen today or in the very near future. Such is the new date-setting error of so many Christians today who assume that it won't happen in their lifetime.

Maranatha! Perhaps today!