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http://img.constantcontact.com/letters/images/1101116784221/PM_NPN_TopShadowRight.png | | | | http://img.constantcontact.com/letters/images/1101116784221/PM_NPN_TopBarRight.png | | | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | http://img.constantcontact.com/letters/images/1101116784221/PM_NPN_ShadowLB1.png | http://img.constantcontact.com/letters/images/1101116784221/PM_NPN_ShadowLB2.png | http://img.constantcontact.com/letters/images/1101116784221/PM_NPN_ShadowLB3.png | http://img.constantcontact.com/letters/images/1101116784221/PM_NPN_ShadowLB4.png | http://img.constantcontact.com/letters/images/1101116784221/PM_NPN_ShadowLB5.png | http://img.constantcontact.com/letters/images/1101116784221/PM_NPN_ShadowLB6.png | http://img.constantcontact.com/letters/images/1101116784221/PM_NPN_ShadowLB7.png | http://img.constantcontact.com/letters/images/1101116784221/PM_NPN_ShadowLB8.png | http://img.constantcontact.com/letters/images/1101116784221/PM_NPN_ShadowLB9.png | http://img.constantcontact.com/letters/images/1101116784221/PM_NPN_ShadowLB10.png | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  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http://img.constantcontact.com/letters/images/1101116784221/S.gif | |  |  | | --- | | HEADLINES IN PARTNERSHIP WITH****TRACKING BIBLE PROPHECY****[http://www.trackingbibleprophecy.org/birthpangs.php](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001EivcWDzHu8um5UvRyEX6TbZQp1sd7uaRHNPmeSihlc3tLIbIG5rRJvXJ2FkGxTUyWPi67mTeEN--HxSNohZUiP4zgufq72cfope1K8inD6CKyWd5fXegt43M8fQlU1bzSSt--MKHN5GU2saBC-kJ3azV2aSDnXUwC4KVwHrjppTYGme3MpUT44NAC_dSPvMSDu7Nu8_eNvt1qGYecAQu_Q==&c=QEmJDUcrhpbDzbbOoZ4pJusrL-V9FdRNdd8PqnjQ0GPRiuSb30XYjQ==&ch=9KGT-IjpEPD3as1pwQSEzo9lJC40LBax8vMtQ2K-5cz86NnG4JtAvw==)  * [Talk Grows About Who Will Succeed Palestinians' Fading Mahmoud Abbas](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001EivcWDzHu8um5UvRyEX6TbZQp1sd7uaRHNPmeSihlc3tLIbIG5rRJgVAdxhqu5uLuurqtLlabcQcaIeXcE8X1Iml76rJe0Q29tuvq1kzaHrO9RrVrbEFa9HaS3x2Aj6PPPL2uGDCccWwKEreSyEp86YIAANr3YKCD12JTKTLIRkuaQSqZBzSTyVSZFliR9Fd7ViF_MsYS6vp3zi7qSjQKaVzmz1889oDwFYGauE9MHO7-vvYbq6A0MFYkrJ8OUnkfZPkaGatAJCG5Rd8WHgWUexzX1q59fWgkCV84X_CPDHAPKNHZh5vOWR1gwL6HjPP&c=QEmJDUcrhpbDzbbOoZ4pJusrL-V9FdRNdd8PqnjQ0GPRiuSb30XYjQ==&ch=9KGT-IjpEPD3as1pwQSEzo9lJC40LBax8vMtQ2K-5cz86NnG4JtAvw==) * [Barack Obama's reckless foreign policy has put Israel in dire jeopardy](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001EivcWDzHu8um5UvRyEX6TbZQp1sd7uaRHNPmeSihlc3tLIbIG5rRJgVAdxhqu5uLJdfXlhZg1ORVZjCo2FAszNwXLD7u3oi-sx6JzZpGiaGBxfkKMeNBfw8md-qrYnaFJns3wUz_1nmna4VaZupjLDl1v7PxnVO3VJ0WqOX6PiSVL1yly5aTm5n9qiyxb4YrfaMKIvMxqCFFz8Ndk4WLjYFlTQr2FyjJQlp3AD4-Z3M6zYOL2bBvtKRHJAxxA-3j6NA3Zw4ZtNgXKimS8Vy2JOExdlJ9TniAqdyjyY4jwQ4=&c=QEmJDUcrhpbDzbbOoZ4pJusrL-V9FdRNdd8PqnjQ0GPRiuSb30XYjQ==&ch=9KGT-IjpEPD3as1pwQSEzo9lJC40LBax8vMtQ2K-5cz86NnG4JtAvw==) * [Opinion: Obama's Potential Third Term Undermining of Israel](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001EivcWDzHu8um5UvRyEX6TbZQp1sd7uaRHNPmeSihlc3tLIbIG5rRJgVAdxhqu5uLqX-gaG1AN_sSlduFLKJlhehOTTZShzfFwgcB0fnD9z9tTahfdgGElw6Fzw3b1gqT0-V424zHnwOxUR9Aqkm0ZhvlVafp8fUBlwcXn9dncXAdgC-uUkWCWvzT_MKv0X8n9tBBWeg5WWis4QMVwZg-baE3UNprsve95tu4kWlgnxdVh0Nj1pNvnyjR4pSb0uWLAEDiJUpdQsmFmnsQ_8F2w0JQxaXpXEMl4dDzfa8Ktx0=&c=QEmJDUcrhpbDzbbOoZ4pJusrL-V9FdRNdd8PqnjQ0GPRiuSb30XYjQ==&ch=9KGT-IjpEPD3as1pwQSEzo9lJC40LBax8vMtQ2K-5cz86NnG4JtAvw==) * [Dichter: Seaport in Hamas hands is bigger threat than tunnels](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001EivcWDzHu8um5UvRyEX6TbZQp1sd7uaRHNPmeSihlc3tLIbIG5rRJgVAdxhqu5uLwhqV_zKi6-ftrr3HS5N93ssZNY9Rsnd0z9szz1W5fivXaW6YdYjhNhfYgudfbzXTHIMELi9zhRyJ1aaaUuERLfiqQdV42THxv94C58rLkJXFQYqR79DDt-OZWe7WWZw0F4zRVBKYR4VnKQmiRHy-bRuqLgZXwSfVUV-zOLC0X2dGpxJzcAld15QbSOVJCvMceNvIjNvjTdo=&c=QEmJDUcrhpbDzbbOoZ4pJusrL-V9FdRNdd8PqnjQ0GPRiuSb30XYjQ==&ch=9KGT-IjpEPD3as1pwQSEzo9lJC40LBax8vMtQ2K-5cz86NnG4JtAvw==) * [Report: At least five Hamas men trapped in Gaza tunnel collapse](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001EivcWDzHu8um5UvRyEX6TbZQp1sd7uaRHNPmeSihlc3tLIbIG5rRJgVAdxhqu5uLfSnd59Qb3jvJqOxye_jjvjKNo31RXF6TaLdMLcI-X7G_BAuxdz2j8JTTqy1dWvehyr03Eih72fMBUWNxEeqHlk3bhZ05uYVdaznTAjPAxs3zEt9p_wkOBtNLrKHxufSx-sERRCwmGt7LhSkXWC6EkELhHeWnkUU0WoBpBTumDMU__jyaJhvZo2e8snU8K6aTzbey8xlMPGEAJIp2c09_s6nBpWuA1EfpvTDFfHCkCb4=&c=QEmJDUcrhpbDzbbOoZ4pJusrL-V9FdRNdd8PqnjQ0GPRiuSb30XYjQ==&ch=9KGT-IjpEPD3as1pwQSEzo9lJC40LBax8vMtQ2K-5cz86NnG4JtAvw==) * [Expelling terrorists' families to Gaza 'illegal': Attorney General](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001EivcWDzHu8um5UvRyEX6TbZQp1sd7uaRHNPmeSihlc3tLIbIG5rRJgVAdxhqu5uL-1_AbBGzOm_HCPxeIwM03L0KQWKMaQU4tjou3WUK2BCGSpZVKKhQa1ZPGW4tXF1PrRre8HT-ZZORmwK6j3AtWM4l98GFKni3To_DgbdQ2FT4t22gGtbCwW0iyX9kmXICupLEoAJtl7qo-B50x-BhBKmWzJ07IYZcI-nZRS4nQpcMwyrNfOlP_R0cIiWNp1zTnWHw6zVMS80ks-ExqP4SuDXutVhFZPTSM29SGgCxGko=&c=QEmJDUcrhpbDzbbOoZ4pJusrL-V9FdRNdd8PqnjQ0GPRiuSb30XYjQ==&ch=9KGT-IjpEPD3as1pwQSEzo9lJC40LBax8vMtQ2K-5cz86NnG4JtAvw==) * [Ax-wielding Palestinian terrorist attacks security guard](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001EivcWDzHu8um5UvRyEX6TbZQp1sd7uaRHNPmeSihlc3tLIbIG5rRJgVAdxhqu5uL-fjUlaoeJ2gcMHeD7iyqQHjtS0L2avcfY0IzkuHnr64JjNVVcCW6-nWU4dGJeAf2T2fe7r_xAibX0EkCC0eZTGaI7WKu8eaqU2oT9AJH6OLUi8zEd0-Wwmtq9t-INmtk88YSF29CPTOdYtL0Ph6mRFQ9UibGTZi0ZWMOV3QfcXJ-bru9YUQ1Bbyaq8FCr0J_TT1i0PKaND6KYH-_3JXm1w==&c=QEmJDUcrhpbDzbbOoZ4pJusrL-V9FdRNdd8PqnjQ0GPRiuSb30XYjQ==&ch=9KGT-IjpEPD3as1pwQSEzo9lJC40LBax8vMtQ2K-5cz86NnG4JtAvw==) * [Egyptian MPs demand sanctions for MP who met Israeli envoy](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001EivcWDzHu8um5UvRyEX6TbZQp1sd7uaRHNPmeSihlc3tLIbIG5rRJgVAdxhqu5uLg94sMc1Qo63Y-AQyqC4AWmzmlQud2YBTN4miWNaKueN1JbQPnjyVRJJ5iGm3p6bSKEBA9rvVVhEABYVOvC3UF4AISfyB5FXvMO2pMAjkmlwDwMZBMMPwT9ali1nxJB2EIaYeB0QqFU23HfQcvbwqHWhDtCTdJFyP4DoukXN8Wx-BSDKFDKl1Qg==&c=QEmJDUcrhpbDzbbOoZ4pJusrL-V9FdRNdd8PqnjQ0GPRiuSb30XYjQ==&ch=9KGT-IjpEPD3as1pwQSEzo9lJC40LBax8vMtQ2K-5cz86NnG4JtAvw==) * [Egyptian MP: Netanyahu mediated between Obama and Sisi following the 2013 military coup](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001EivcWDzHu8um5UvRyEX6TbZQp1sd7uaRHNPmeSihlc3tLIbIG5rRJgVAdxhqu5uLs35VJQjwsjGYLLdRGl1AdvLqfIkF0eF_NQLYUET7WlulxY16xRzExd0fx5uB39wyNEVmGz_qVYdCWtcvU2Jr1NzL_VDFUfQfUdqnY8HMpuiJb0fXrBpG499-pFB0f6q3puSeiQCzlc26Qs-OwleJJsxF-le-5Wi_KXch8gPLdmVPZzf1xSQthuupXMcYd315H-HzPdOG0vXOwcaR2jGw4g8WHp0vZyj6ztXVl4-JWHdyMglxdGRZ8Q==&c=QEmJDUcrhpbDzbbOoZ4pJusrL-V9FdRNdd8PqnjQ0GPRiuSb30XYjQ==&ch=9KGT-IjpEPD3as1pwQSEzo9lJC40LBax8vMtQ2K-5cz86NnG4JtAvw==) * [New Sanders adviser speculated that Israel gassed Syria rebels](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001EivcWDzHu8um5UvRyEX6TbZQp1sd7uaRHNPmeSihlc3tLIbIG5rRJgVAdxhqu5uL3z_t3Uyjfm4-1KGxraCF-P3-aX3g7_aeAIiZE8_DajXMtPBE4t-MFOi9sexXydN_Wy1zQbUENM9evPJy1DgIBBpiQ-A2l9rZm4LRJWmaBhP7CUgsg2QTCFTCxXSyhukqvr16AWf0-2gVK2pEqGd24FhbBmzJflq2i0nR4EOQqlDRHi-xKOddc3OvWvONiwApPkNgdq5Im6o=&c=QEmJDUcrhpbDzbbOoZ4pJusrL-V9FdRNdd8PqnjQ0GPRiuSb30XYjQ==&ch=9KGT-IjpEPD3as1pwQSEzo9lJC40LBax8vMtQ2K-5cz86NnG4JtAvw==) * [As ceasefire mostly holds in Syria, Netanyahu says Israel won't tolerate terror front on Golan](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001EivcWDzHu8um5UvRyEX6TbZQp1sd7uaRHNPmeSihlc3tLIbIG5rRJgVAdxhqu5uLm8g9sNGBxwXyItLA1g0Uup6PJwU4R44OuzJkpCKy1WTnPwzeTUYb5RwHQ7Fb45l96XyyN0FxXRqo8k0Odoxda_BH1n5Vdf1IDuFXop5d5eqFDMpdgQjgnA7GJ18AUGQ-kxt0e6YMDK3OsA67zPzlgOIYAfrgrX-LkN17NSlKkvpWrnSUkDWY92t-VvfsCacr-LPVsNsJldZ-8_r9Av6WFSMQCgb3bZAHWbRxvcDnJ75DSTSxNiUF2AGIUd2LzkA3Heux8qOCfuStA7u3C5bYTlx4lkJ7uMAX&c=QEmJDUcrhpbDzbbOoZ4pJusrL-V9FdRNdd8PqnjQ0GPRiuSb30XYjQ==&ch=9KGT-IjpEPD3as1pwQSEzo9lJC40LBax8vMtQ2K-5cz86NnG4JtAvw==) * [Russia suspends airstrikes in some Syrian areas as truce goes into effect](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001EivcWDzHu8um5UvRyEX6TbZQp1sd7uaRHNPmeSihlc3tLIbIG5rRJgVAdxhqu5uLKF_6OH0EWbXzmWIvDRPIDtkaZ3ymSbIYMpB8SSqlVUGSO6EQtxQ4uEer3_cLuqPwwFpSGOI2hA2pQ8NjhsboXTaRR__oltdi71c7KH1rUREe1zZJ1QN8ymWIVd8Nja786bSvPykQPqZK3n6BuDdK04uwch1_X3DRmaO2l6o1myg=&c=QEmJDUcrhpbDzbbOoZ4pJusrL-V9FdRNdd8PqnjQ0GPRiuSb30XYjQ==&ch=9KGT-IjpEPD3as1pwQSEzo9lJC40LBax8vMtQ2K-5cz86NnG4JtAvw==) * [The Russia-Armenia alliance is threatening Turkey, a critical U.S. ally](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001EivcWDzHu8um5UvRyEX6TbZQp1sd7uaRHNPmeSihlc3tLIbIG5rRJgVAdxhqu5uL4Tiah1Np79ipHO6-of5D4hvJyZYEuOh_va7wCm3w3Ud0N5T0RKr63B_YMjMM2yEKKHHfiEH41TqX0lhCF0XN3VbFMiKeDDeOhvRSQyZ7dZ2WdrvRcIadNpyZPIschqlOuDq-CjB_4GgyQHn21g1azNjUbQRPBj34V_2P3jpCWk7xMix8lV_vDp19vSZcINq-U7HS2PGw7p_mE_mjWuGD4XTOQdcOB1gM60gF3JfsI2tEiPwBecc487Ys1E2hzTNh0PDu0ymXFm_M4O6K0eBMtR3r3sIucVynHk_0wYwZsgMLz-RQxk2FNg==&c=QEmJDUcrhpbDzbbOoZ4pJusrL-V9FdRNdd8PqnjQ0GPRiuSb30XYjQ==&ch=9KGT-IjpEPD3as1pwQSEzo9lJC40LBax8vMtQ2K-5cz86NnG4JtAvw==) * [Yemeni Civilians Killed by Airstrike on Market, Witnesses Say](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001EivcWDzHu8um5UvRyEX6TbZQp1sd7uaRHNPmeSihlc3tLIbIG5rRJgVAdxhqu5uLRG_gZ1l4cIUEh-812gp5DqvR6RwkUYhV2EdrtjKaXFQZULNK8q78QuGtpTGsAT1Hbevm0qv8nEp-WVur9FzITrIVBr5J_FlCKAuAo58MtRtLMymw4lz1Q8EyYkhP5-AP0oWpawvYY-if7dZMp4ihLiObSgAWm-A9vBybWpfvRNY7NdJyMg3XNJhuCmYr9B4o8WDpBCF9zBr61bMpAScrLVD0qHZAFwbgJPf2xhlSKy5HP5kB0w3_RT-RzHxmPhNm&c=QEmJDUcrhpbDzbbOoZ4pJusrL-V9FdRNdd8PqnjQ0GPRiuSb30XYjQ==&ch=9KGT-IjpEPD3as1pwQSEzo9lJC40LBax8vMtQ2K-5cz86NnG4JtAvw==) * [Dozens killed, wounded in Afghanistan suicide attacks](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001EivcWDzHu8um5UvRyEX6TbZQp1sd7uaRHNPmeSihlc3tLIbIG5rRJgVAdxhqu5uL3afbYbc6h7i_6k-V6iTPWG_LUZaXB0qqwakrvLhJKj1lyOPikj8kYQUStcgKo4SbyuRkmW7NabWRtfgEf7A9IXS76ZVil9VvxEDegyKFuMzECzUK1vgw_17LZXqGeqPSZYCm21hjNSKVTPRoQZh8Ten64yDyockO2ox8Y7fGpTmKLy5T4MFvDKwLnmsTz0gz&c=QEmJDUcrhpbDzbbOoZ4pJusrL-V9FdRNdd8PqnjQ0GPRiuSb30XYjQ==&ch=9KGT-IjpEPD3as1pwQSEzo9lJC40LBax8vMtQ2K-5cz86NnG4JtAvw==) * [Iran's pragmatic Rouhani cheers election wins, says gov't stronger](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001EivcWDzHu8um5UvRyEX6TbZQp1sd7uaRHNPmeSihlc3tLIbIG5rRJgVAdxhqu5uLnLsKlhRTVRdYaB1xEsdaACf3wiWNdyCAYcNkbgePNJFTT4vNbSn2vHeLv79R9oWplPegdquYEdkJuMZRhGIb3efGgWl_9fco0p2f1bamtVkdzph93gMgtQtYyJgyw7PCjeswZF-J7yFghvb_slYFcsmnWQryIpaEMGlvm6h6wkE=&c=QEmJDUcrhpbDzbbOoZ4pJusrL-V9FdRNdd8PqnjQ0GPRiuSb30XYjQ==&ch=9KGT-IjpEPD3as1pwQSEzo9lJC40LBax8vMtQ2K-5cz86NnG4JtAvw==) * [Sanctions lifted, Tehran looks to boost financial ties with Swiss](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001EivcWDzHu8um5UvRyEX6TbZQp1sd7uaRHNPmeSihlc3tLIbIG5rRJgVAdxhqu5uLS25XpVS3y8Gg1ViCeGQXksBhOPpmEMEI2XtGXWhPfxoqPGd2E-HsIgBuVYW4MSC076ySdoRD6UoqnCcoFmKnHKrBU4q8ToUDpilhrZDsRR7s_oDafM4VWRe3yThGEwsx3YESbA-O2lzgWURC3vBH6_u_F2fUf6D_QXzvF8t2WxW4l9MWhooduxgyVr75g5LV&c=QEmJDUcrhpbDzbbOoZ4pJusrL-V9FdRNdd8PqnjQ0GPRiuSb30XYjQ==&ch=9KGT-IjpEPD3as1pwQSEzo9lJC40LBax8vMtQ2K-5cz86NnG4JtAvw==) * [Deepening default fears cast shadow over Venezuela's oil 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growth](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001EivcWDzHu8um5UvRyEX6TbZQp1sd7uaRHNPmeSihlc3tLIbIG5rRJgVAdxhqu5uL-oR_ez0zSjN888M986wqgJbeUZ--0FAijaT2pgnbjzsaapDSFAUlQWC-hQgCmRJeqiYeU4F13SYamsWZGEQ48fAPwmErwVoxWWHMaCFRh6efcHw0-W5u9LySdPIye44KMbnz6lVkCXwEllBJKtsdCMM_58pSNCrcKvgjq5WzVzEtPGl7FKbe0aSzN43Yok5EKDkZzOJvpyA=&c=QEmJDUcrhpbDzbbOoZ4pJusrL-V9FdRNdd8PqnjQ0GPRiuSb30XYjQ==&ch=9KGT-IjpEPD3as1pwQSEzo9lJC40LBax8vMtQ2K-5cz86NnG4JtAvw==) * [Wall Street Sees Weekly Gains as Gloom and Doom Subsides](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001EivcWDzHu8um5UvRyEX6TbZQp1sd7uaRHNPmeSihlc3tLIbIG5rRJgVAdxhqu5uLdFs1wCNtSJiF7kTn8W5urp2RCe8gJKRePalOOBhehdlD7_7cJedgvJityCkN_r31GxhAzSSSM_yLUnpwNVQX7xzz6k6-Nvv0nIjbAyKA2OdWGyBMwYKw3iOu9i_HmwQsBI0EuB4FhGzuyMOWkS6M43d9kDto5ncGNNGXYDrOnU9p3jOjN945Ztc6kp02UbgmjxBXKffdQJxaYKUeZ76iimLZ8AzYhwaw_DDjPBNjZLw=&c=QEmJDUcrhpbDzbbOoZ4pJusrL-V9FdRNdd8PqnjQ0GPRiuSb30XYjQ==&ch=9KGT-IjpEPD3as1pwQSEzo9lJC40LBax8vMtQ2K-5cz86NnG4JtAvw==) * [Mortgage rates suddenly plunge, shocking industry experts](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001EivcWDzHu8um5UvRyEX6TbZQp1sd7uaRHNPmeSihlc3tLIbIG5rRJgVAdxhqu5uLwUNTwd-v60DnMrOz4JnPdLqzfpQt3T98SF779azWBTbaiwV8gKjGWu1SKuO6IkWzGtZ_xz72n_zZzhA3-HuNNVSY3RMebPW80vpDH1Zof6tJ6vcNisH_6noHdKnijNpZ1K0uNtpZji-82LYRAGuGDX0VImL3JWmCZOrI1p8K0wCBhxHN7dboTwOEHT9Lt60xYDh065wpGDWj8ceArNLm3w==&c=QEmJDUcrhpbDzbbOoZ4pJusrL-V9FdRNdd8PqnjQ0GPRiuSb30XYjQ==&ch=9KGT-IjpEPD3as1pwQSEzo9lJC40LBax8vMtQ2K-5cz86NnG4JtAvw==) * [Apple's tech allies oppose the FBI, but still want your data](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001EivcWDzHu8um5UvRyEX6TbZQp1sd7uaRHNPmeSihlc3tLIbIG5rRJgVAdxhqu5uLrQFyvAAvVYc6YWK-Gl3-DKliBFdhB8-WTT6b-ivYFMK2SGbVBx2PEHJw6expnx4LNRQhGsx9LfT6uz-XS3tLPUWb4ySmj5KsCu3mmmaPQydl3LQPn16HsM3YmNjPuMurKA9qamb4ZA_x6ur__VbFEPtGnudpmYHa5Is5iJUI1drJZIUsF1VWnlz9nTI4KacFS_y8NIbm9Fhlc0AiHWgNyQ==&c=QEmJDUcrhpbDzbbOoZ4pJusrL-V9FdRNdd8PqnjQ0GPRiuSb30XYjQ==&ch=9KGT-IjpEPD3as1pwQSEzo9lJC40LBax8vMtQ2K-5cz86NnG4JtAvw==) * [Data breach affects 80,000 UC Berkeley faculty, students and alumni](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001EivcWDzHu8um5UvRyEX6TbZQp1sd7uaRHNPmeSihlc3tLIbIG5rRJgVAdxhqu5uL2ZKmiaoIAg56s7vNSP07mlSQReOsAwGO-Ey8duWkA4F6AeM8eRduUg4pY0BIRa6A8-xFrVL5npo1h3TFB30XvC0Ds3WUH7QVphBNuu_9FijA3v2kNNaQpjVVNDbsIrLNV4qAi4_0rcL9y93WELZrLyDSxyinik6xFMNFgFZlBnr4FaJ3XAtYv3ee7ewxiBK7zpCrqyPLPmHwndJYwMdUQSuoFuVlorNNYOZgemU7b441lBxSO-MbDdEzMks2Pevi&c=QEmJDUcrhpbDzbbOoZ4pJusrL-V9FdRNdd8PqnjQ0GPRiuSb30XYjQ==&ch=9KGT-IjpEPD3as1pwQSEzo9lJC40LBax8vMtQ2K-5cz86NnG4JtAvw==) * [At least 1,818 Clinton emails contain classified material](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001EivcWDzHu8um5UvRyEX6TbZQp1sd7uaRHNPmeSihlc3tLIbIG5rRJgVAdxhqu5uLPTMBcwc_UN9tNIG_Q4V8jsyDlpMy-nk-I8OvnJfZN_bml8DT-XHxiJ1rL76Z_8TitI_z8rRFCqlPqQu-d68TFWio0RKI3pr6HU6VZbZLkovH3rvBiQz6hdo80DdDjqwALljkgDu_nLtTFbFZut7J2ot-tztd_wq6anmC3f57p_C_I4bygyajgBU7AbP00Pi1&c=QEmJDUcrhpbDzbbOoZ4pJusrL-V9FdRNdd8PqnjQ0GPRiuSb30XYjQ==&ch=9KGT-IjpEPD3as1pwQSEzo9lJC40LBax8vMtQ2K-5cz86NnG4JtAvw==) * [Clinton sweeps South Carolina primary as 'Super Tuesday' looms](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001EivcWDzHu8um5UvRyEX6TbZQp1sd7uaRHNPmeSihlc3tLIbIG5rRJgVAdxhqu5uL_NpIUFtTwet0r_o-pCOW13FxAwebR1m0__wIUNdP_rRO1o5pmeusGOpLd7dhVwubHGIT8X9UbTyF2dMWUh6kxXg41uH_OckimYta8bvfDGOJlQoxvlTZA2hwGgE_cbm8mwwmtYW9tF93dN_lW1sR7hY0YuEvbrjx0b_gcp4pIrRK1_8rlEKzmafXMtrDh0meu6ptMfsLRaQ=&c=QEmJDUcrhpbDzbbOoZ4pJusrL-V9FdRNdd8PqnjQ0GPRiuSb30XYjQ==&ch=9KGT-IjpEPD3as1pwQSEzo9lJC40LBax8vMtQ2K-5cz86NnG4JtAvw==) * [Super Tuesday turnout set to smash records](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001EivcWDzHu8um5UvRyEX6TbZQp1sd7uaRHNPmeSihlc3tLIbIG5rRJgVAdxhqu5uLhno69q47V9J2BkR80UCS1EvsuDYte3_B3Fwr_zJfk5HubLg0km8fIfOm8wQINK7j2gCULFZogDeEqEIRvQgqlZ66jCfDIB9lpIhCXjGOyEDvjbmrW76LOyjTKKWFV5KA9Bm_lSRDkpJyXcXB5aqcrO3_hKFSlgo2DLK95aHQUSisDnLZbIztUg==&c=QEmJDUcrhpbDzbbOoZ4pJusrL-V9FdRNdd8PqnjQ0GPRiuSb30XYjQ==&ch=9KGT-IjpEPD3as1pwQSEzo9lJC40LBax8vMtQ2K-5cz86NnG4JtAvw==) * [Hillary: 'We Don't Need to Make America Great,' 'Instead of Building Walls, We Need To Be Tearing Down Barriers'](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001EivcWDzHu8um5UvRyEX6TbZQp1sd7uaRHNPmeSihlc3tLIbIG5rRJgVAdxhqu5uLvneYQg2BUbFjaIHqxKXCZKm0etQFfN2j1V1dYxKK-EmNrQ19mgSQ-I4HNTZaelqo-WjM1Seu8Dn9-MTyFgcMZ-vp4xGgat6sR4F9YnUy_3ZcTVP9j9E2k21aoy6ztpb9iiQVOlTBx794WOajqdFD2OROtgfVca4RmYytCI0DMI1L79_oFsQH6FhvZxjjMiUK8g5tTVP5Tk-y_nlN_h-BosmhGWSQnK8uCLpzOjWLLtRPPXlSfe4QKWRbsA_98bKZfECTn1FDqJOzI8FwP8WIRQ==&c=QEmJDUcrhpbDzbbOoZ4pJusrL-V9FdRNdd8PqnjQ0GPRiuSb30XYjQ==&ch=9KGT-IjpEPD3as1pwQSEzo9lJC40LBax8vMtQ2K-5cz86NnG4JtAvw==) * [Inside the Republican Party's Desperate Mission to Stop Donald Trump](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001EivcWDzHu8um5UvRyEX6TbZQp1sd7uaRHNPmeSihlc3tLIbIG5rRJgVAdxhqu5uL14LthnMgJ9RA07DW7lGsNwzTmEYhn0vLcAfxflCf5umP09BIP4KNOofnYU2n3l0dm3EqEDCkv4BE27SOIn0bi158Yd05jRABnlCJGZDJM637cisWYBnjI8rxO8bQ6h6xu92XVDHKD3KljiBYFVha-P5VnjD3an6vyYMuX1Z75C88Dv0AIyJgAmpzx_Yr_tSJqwj19zSI0qk=&c=QEmJDUcrhpbDzbbOoZ4pJusrL-V9FdRNdd8PqnjQ0GPRiuSb30XYjQ==&ch=9KGT-IjpEPD3as1pwQSEzo9lJC40LBax8vMtQ2K-5cz86NnG4JtAvw==) * [Kasich on GOP insults: 'Enough of this trash'](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001EivcWDzHu8um5UvRyEX6TbZQp1sd7uaRHNPmeSihlc3tLIbIG5rRJgVAdxhqu5uL1jOa2VI-9J_cwIN11sb4L4pqpYOeHd14GTjADkgpiKq1YuurBlhIxPEkRzygy1D6PLDuykT-gMwe8SgHPzMB530EWnfS4cDoAoMkQDkpQZB3Zno61ZWqRVfGhy1BhjQTzqq4wysYHVOWRccGW2jzck3IFfOWjUJd-3c2P2TaTPL4uRcy61CDrQSx7y6mROklME_8tGuuR-4i3wkEnHvelGIeisTDrnQvRg59pQfiVU0NVZG92caAjA==&c=QEmJDUcrhpbDzbbOoZ4pJusrL-V9FdRNdd8PqnjQ0GPRiuSb30XYjQ==&ch=9KGT-IjpEPD3as1pwQSEzo9lJC40LBax8vMtQ2K-5cz86NnG4JtAvw==) * [Trump wants to weaken libel laws amid feuds with reporters](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001EivcWDzHu8um5UvRyEX6TbZQp1sd7uaRHNPmeSihlc3tLIbIG5rRJgVAdxhqu5uLUtn-p259Op_zZRNDCqujtTKrAThDPFmF4MLsPtvU6-EbWRFN9YmgKMsR0WxrWTbnFBHJyHHq3eb5jtSJBmCXcd5hlTLuwUi00dSt77Tlzn-LW3qzcARgLqpNSRtQwGcr7R8uojpeT-Q1Oa47hhwuLYcOXlWtNXwOLYO1dYzw8_rfDHg5uoqiAK2zPjKSRQmHFipbVtWR4Doaqrssef2cnhs04Ics9g-adovLFtD9TeY=&c=QEmJDUcrhpbDzbbOoZ4pJusrL-V9FdRNdd8PqnjQ0GPRiuSb30XYjQ==&ch=9KGT-IjpEPD3as1pwQSEzo9lJC40LBax8vMtQ2K-5cz86NnG4JtAvw==) * [NBC Poll: 67% of Trump voters have negative view of US Muslims](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001EivcWDzHu8um5UvRyEX6TbZQp1sd7uaRHNPmeSihlc3tLIbIG5rRJgVAdxhqu5uLkGDZhVaj_D4Q5KjeXY6Ps-WuX_uoB0mCvmXElJfpsUKO_0tY7jlE3zV8wdRz9mpgo11V5n4eN8YHLQNSDeTSOGH4I8NV9Ky_cdhGfWqAvh4s_85y3rboAQQkOEvwmLnRAlvt1EZGpG1k70AXxOYE4eiFSBzgzlyLwujFxTIjL4lje9TOkmiDrIga18-e3kdz073WA4_f3V21hTk1evHMAPXEy12HmgNu&c=QEmJDUcrhpbDzbbOoZ4pJusrL-V9FdRNdd8PqnjQ0GPRiuSb30XYjQ==&ch=9KGT-IjpEPD3as1pwQSEzo9lJC40LBax8vMtQ2K-5cz86NnG4JtAvw==) * ['Greece is panicking as Europe slams door on refugees'](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001EivcWDzHu8um5UvRyEX6TbZQp1sd7uaRHNPmeSihlc3tLIbIG5rRJgVAdxhqu5uLaTJmUBS6VhhbaEpLIdLdces7NA5UcFYDuGVm5zEv27QvkOoaffNHSc-utgAzoESQXNrVnKxvGxsgTyMPaSRtn_DrDVbzFGCEMST1PDbR41z8862QDDdU8MFxHK0ANPUQrpRLQGU4cn9HJBffIxofTC2EEEI1QkZdKlTbslAtwfo=&c=QEmJDUcrhpbDzbbOoZ4pJusrL-V9FdRNdd8PqnjQ0GPRiuSb30XYjQ==&ch=9KGT-IjpEPD3as1pwQSEzo9lJC40LBax8vMtQ2K-5cz86NnG4JtAvw==) * [Tony Blair accused of conspiracy over mass immigration](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001EivcWDzHu8um5UvRyEX6TbZQp1sd7uaRHNPmeSihlc3tLIbIG5rRJgVAdxhqu5uLGUkfBT1YmMDOC4svpnK-X-sgQY-BdwFrRSK3u3j3ww0jrUe05RJgQxXIbFibKfBPp_d_yg139WTxQLQZhjpYHXoAbHB9BnMEB5u2TSc0jH83i1w_FsWQ1NW63xIhi3WYpDKGZ-Vi0oMF2LMWeZjQl5to1CXFGFZzQi4o55_VuERBaUTaYfkVCUM0bb3dXf99IgatxYdq85hV_gvHbluTPkfoJ7MDKc3rx1vWkQJPKszKHDwoOsoVdQ==&c=QEmJDUcrhpbDzbbOoZ4pJusrL-V9FdRNdd8PqnjQ0GPRiuSb30XYjQ==&ch=9KGT-IjpEPD3as1pwQSEzo9lJC40LBax8vMtQ2K-5cz86NnG4JtAvw==) * [Canby man shows off RFID microchip implant](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001EivcWDzHu8um5UvRyEX6TbZQp1sd7uaRHNPmeSihlc3tLIbIG5rRJgVAdxhqu5uLCqrcAJSnz1OaTo9hKdVdjltWgP4IquTYZ3_LM-qXFdtjQsC21plnBCeG2OkfPoFTy0R2o_YryEHhA-7d380pW5KJVLxMMwTyTp0QUh0vCHEj9w7aLIpdlBdf_-p6cuRjb9wfFQdwd-4g9QWV5feDM5AQfJ_J0G1XspinoanatY_aP38vh6srYBFfOAK9YBObEmP7N_yXQzYr4RuXAXEk3w==&c=QEmJDUcrhpbDzbbOoZ4pJusrL-V9FdRNdd8PqnjQ0GPRiuSb30XYjQ==&ch=9KGT-IjpEPD3as1pwQSEzo9lJC40LBax8vMtQ2K-5cz86NnG4JtAvw==) * [Scientists create energy-efficient biological supercomputer](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001EivcWDzHu8um5UvRyEX6TbZQp1sd7uaRHNPmeSihlc3tLIbIG5rRJgVAdxhqu5uLgNdV4SkM8W6vFm8TLSyrQ5YHbQM8ioeqlAKsjgkv8k6YUiG11RzH-kWajs4RXjR29_N7MnR1UjojuHVlWJHzGNB-phh7NAvTNQBAxNfIrIx_qx-uP2Nj46OBjeiOd9rF_5xfq1y45txUUC5ey5XzHjYkLEoUg8mCgygHQOGN1_RJxJNB-fkCIXXy9FAKECvxQ6ljMtFuRXe3TcIE2Zpo3g==&c=QEmJDUcrhpbDzbbOoZ4pJusrL-V9FdRNdd8PqnjQ0GPRiuSb30XYjQ==&ch=9KGT-IjpEPD3as1pwQSEzo9lJC40LBax8vMtQ2K-5cz86NnG4JtAvw==) * [US DARPA successfully collects data from animals using 'brain modem'](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001EivcWDzHu8um5UvRyEX6TbZQp1sd7uaRHNPmeSihlc3tLIbIG5rRJgVAdxhqu5uLY3ERdlnV5eEN2dcU6-uIjOPtGrQ9Np6xm7QXQPPVm8L6Tl1ThC8VnBEIwO6LL-N0Fg8eMc9cQNxvyxij-D12kBL91YktlZlYUL8qvEGBRuqLsnv9F5SrMpzOi3RVjdLqCjS5sHNE-ZrkT1sA_6LIg0Kq6gQlMLqDvJUvnMErYI1gRj8HuhVuD78Spew-E3sy8ny7UmLKF5vpoj_zr21OKWWjlWW6EqowyUv-zuFeGpo=&c=QEmJDUcrhpbDzbbOoZ4pJusrL-V9FdRNdd8PqnjQ0GPRiuSb30XYjQ==&ch=9KGT-IjpEPD3as1pwQSEzo9lJC40LBax8vMtQ2K-5cz86NnG4JtAvw==) * [5.9 magnitude earthquake hits the Western Indian-Antarctic Ridge](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001EivcWDzHu8um5UvRyEX6TbZQp1sd7uaRHNPmeSihlc3tLIbIG5rRJgVAdxhqu5uL_dO9TRYBuKPnT5vrfN8YFdNgo12xUHvFzjcR8At8qXo0DKbJUfbTv7lmQRsTOw4fF5tUHTAI2jQ_fZ6VDwEMWCh-_Jxy2PkjdmxZtzpUvPatz4tKQC88Fw9QuZoOUWoQ4cE26bZM56xKnGB50PDYkGWsSeYWMgzklVWM-qG7jI-cifmOHEBkJA==&c=QEmJDUcrhpbDzbbOoZ4pJusrL-V9FdRNdd8PqnjQ0GPRiuSb30XYjQ==&ch=9KGT-IjpEPD3as1pwQSEzo9lJC40LBax8vMtQ2K-5cz86NnG4JtAvw==) * [5.4 magnitude earthquake hits near Sarangani, 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20,000ft](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001EivcWDzHu8um5UvRyEX6TbZQp1sd7uaRHNPmeSihlc3tLIbIG5rRJgVAdxhqu5uLNL2YV7j7eLqBQh1BQpwtAW-_CBgP9YC-i3YsYx4GV9QQklBvDMR_iKU4O20RMRv6cTWG-rwqmRI0HxnorQ--SrAz2J53I3Av68l6FXN4N9Y4PjkHdJnPws5K3s7TdNh8xA5sM4VXOPSz6zQ3hG7SpLAwDH6eH9Ae&c=QEmJDUcrhpbDzbbOoZ4pJusrL-V9FdRNdd8PqnjQ0GPRiuSb30XYjQ==&ch=9KGT-IjpEPD3as1pwQSEzo9lJC40LBax8vMtQ2K-5cz86NnG4JtAvw==) * [Sheveluch volcano on Kamchakta, Russia erupts to 20,000ft](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001EivcWDzHu8um5UvRyEX6TbZQp1sd7uaRHNPmeSihlc3tLIbIG5rRJgVAdxhqu5uL2JN9QfzwylU7oaWSQpPWAjumwSzAPK1-Pj1cjhVSHG1wehPfPF-tnQe9zuiQbjN_94iIuCCA8Vwi1W5QVR3ww1RxfWCp2S6CyMzY6oiZrM7jeqwtUcS4LHY3_aKfoVyqXy2gB8Z6CnTiWuVn3OURSO3R15j-prBGxFLn9EWxBpM1fBLMTZa0ymOsTdKwKtTRYZd5APuhsHQ=&c=QEmJDUcrhpbDzbbOoZ4pJusrL-V9FdRNdd8PqnjQ0GPRiuSb30XYjQ==&ch=9KGT-IjpEPD3as1pwQSEzo9lJC40LBax8vMtQ2K-5cz86NnG4JtAvw==) * [Colima volcano in Mexico erupts to 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critically](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001EivcWDzHu8um5UvRyEX6TbZQp1sd7uaRHNPmeSihlc3tLIbIG5rRJgVAdxhqu5uLkVkOxEjQdAohrrSNHsMLwrQl5ViznedoGcR21-Ax0XwRmCeKV6VnfjYY_Z6RBZ_vxrYVRsH7ADYiMaFjnTwkTds-D57xT4AbInwsnT16L-sf5bMl_0O74KH4mPBYKIodT7_0nQu_E773Lpb-nFpGwQfEHz36BKHoeYcTdLjCxTGY7OXa0G1LPNJIY9tBEsIPFEQ0RMJqm-MOfAyC9i4uvw==&c=QEmJDUcrhpbDzbbOoZ4pJusrL-V9FdRNdd8PqnjQ0GPRiuSb30XYjQ==&ch=9KGT-IjpEPD3as1pwQSEzo9lJC40LBax8vMtQ2K-5cz86NnG4JtAvw==) |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | http://img.constantcontact.com/letters/images/1101116784221/S.gif | |  |  | | --- | | **PROPHECY UPDATE NEWSLETTER**  **STAY INFORMED, GET EQUIPPED, BE ENCOURAGED**  **Pre-Millennium - Pre-Tribulation - PrePARED**  **\*If you missed an issue or did not receive your daily copy - All Newsletters are archived at:**  [**http://www.prophecyupdate.com/newsletter-archives.html**](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001EivcWDzHu8um5UvRyEX6TbZQp1sd7uaRHNPmeSihlc3tLIbIG5rRJmpSoWdbfo_SO-5kO1sMEtH5-qGmkQmF6YRMOoHWBSab-j5dyKesqirFp64nWQFjTrwVKNYSALkIeFckJ17s3UhHwiFCyCL94u0tWxWasonlWmTY-lg0y52eH_gScPeIsaU3lD0ZVPHTbzpsCGRaFQLRbOLaawsSDZ7EbL6zzdzL&c=QEmJDUcrhpbDzbbOoZ4pJusrL-V9FdRNdd8PqnjQ0GPRiuSb30XYjQ==&ch=9KGT-IjpEPD3as1pwQSEzo9lJC40LBax8vMtQ2K-5cz86NnG4JtAvw==) |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | http://img.constantcontact.com/letters/images/1101116784221/S.gif | |  |  | | --- | | **IN TODAY'S NEWSLETTER...**   * [Featured Article: Matthew 24 And The Pre-Trib Rapture](#featured) * [Iran uses Syrian truce to deploy hundreds of Palestinian terrorists on Golan border](#a1) * [Shaping Israel's Military Nuclear Doctrine](#a2) * [EU's Tower of Babel may fall while leaders distracted](#a3) * [Sweden: New surgical microchips the key to the future](#b1) * [Economic Recovery? 13 Of The Biggest Retailers in America Are Closing Down Stores](#b2) * [Bee Extinction Is Threatening the World's Food Supply, UN Warns](#b3) * [Yes, God can use you to spread the Gospel](#b4) |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | http://img.constantcontact.com/letters/images/1101116784221/S.gif | |  |  | | --- | | featured  **Matthew 24 And The Pre-Trib Rapture** - A Bible Study by Jack Kelley -  [https://gracethrufaith.com/end-times-prophecy/matt-24-pre-trib-rapture/](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001EivcWDzHu8um5UvRyEX6TbZQp1sd7uaRHNPmeSihlc3tLIbIG5rRJgVAdxhqu5uLqDgKKkw1HvOJYUUQQ9_z1nJuWT6XfKR54VtjI1k96CaRe0IMQCECEpB3QAe3thYUbrhCtYAvNukVQ4pCWGw7byNKU3nEQEFPTvmmOKAU72yokjzf_A5GiPrtSuSl7EzCQ66xw1nrIFr3FWReUFjJw___iFb8QClgniVhfsYHpfLOgC2_AhIwnQ==&c=QEmJDUcrhpbDzbbOoZ4pJusrL-V9FdRNdd8PqnjQ0GPRiuSb30XYjQ==&ch=9KGT-IjpEPD3as1pwQSEzo9lJC40LBax8vMtQ2K-5cz86NnG4JtAvw==)    Lately I've been receiving questions again about various rapture positions.  Several of these questions have to do with the claim that in the Olivet Discourse (Matt. 24-25) Jesus in effect said the Church will have to endure all of the seven years of Daniel's 70th Week including the Great Tribulation. In this study I will attempt to show why He could not have done so.    This won't be a verse by verse study of the Olivet Discourse, but rather a look at the verses within the passage that people use to support something other than a pre-trib view. If you want a verse by verse study you can go to my four part series entitled "The End times According To Jesus."    It's important to begin any study of this nature with a review of the overall context of the Olivet Discourse because it's the most important factor in understanding what Jesus was really saying and to whom He was saying it. It will also help us see what was going on in the disciples' minds.    It was just a couple of days before the crucifixion. Jesus and His disciples were walking over the Mt. of Olives toward Bethany where they were staying at the home of Mary, Martha, and Lazarus. The sun was getting low in the late afternoon sky, casting a soft golden light on the white Temple and its surrounding buildings. It was such a beautiful sight the disciples called it to the Lord's attention.    In reply, Jesus said, "Do you see all these things? I tell you the truth, not one stone here will be left on another; every one will be thrown down." (Matt. 24:2).    It was the second time they had heard Jesus say this. The first time was a couple of days earlier on what we now call Palm Sunday when He had told the people that because they didn't recognize the time of His coming, the city would be destroyed (Luke 19:41-44).    He was holding the nation accountable for their failure to understand Daniel 9:24-27 where nearly 6 centuries earlier the angel Gabriel had told Daniel of a 490 year period that would begin when they received permission to rebuild Jerusalem and culminate in the end of the age. Gabriel told Daniel that the Messiah would come 483 years into that period (Daniel 9:25). Sure enough, here He was standing in their midst right on time.    There's no indication from the Biblical record that Jesus ever spoke to the disciples about the fact that the coming Church Age would interrupt Daniel's prophecy and delay its completion by about 2,000 years. In fact from Acts 1:6 we learn that 40 days after the crucifixion they expected Him to restore the Kingdom to Israel at that time.    It wasn't until James explained things to them some 20 years later that they understood how Israel was being set aside while the Lord took a people for Himself from among the Gentiles (Acts 15:13-18). A word study on this passage will reveal a hint of the rapture, and shortly thereafter Paul became the first person on Earth to present a clear teaching on the doctrine of the rapture (1 Cor. 15:51-53, 1 Thes. 4:16-17), saying He was revealing a secret in doing so (1 Cor. 15:51).    Therefore, on that afternoon on the Mt. Of Olives all the disciples could have known for sure was that 483 years of the 490 year prophecy of Daniel had passed, there were only 7 years left and Jesus had just told them that the Temple, all of its buildings and indeed all of Jerusalem were going to be destroyed. It must have been quite a shock to hear this, and it prompted four of them (Peter, James, John and Andrew) to come to Him privately for clarification.    Comparing Daniel's prophecy with what the Lord Himself had repeatedly told them, they were beginning to understand that Jesus was about to die, and so the questions they asked Him had to do with when the Temple and the city would be destroyed, what would be the sign of His (second) coming, and of the end of the age, by which I believe they meant the fulfillment of Daniel's prophecy (Matt. 24:3)    These were Jewish men speaking with the Jewish Messiah about the future of Israel and in His 2 chapter answer Jesus referred to Israel repeatedly, but never said a single word about the largely Gentile Church or the amount of time that would pass before the final seven years were completed.    After some general observations about things that would happen, Jesus gave them this summary of the future.    "Then you will be handed over to be persecuted and put to death, and you will be hated by all nations because of me.  At that time many will turn away from the faith and will betray and hate each other, and many false prophets will appear and deceive many people.  Because of the increase of wickedness, the love of most will grow cold,  but the one who stands firm to the end will be saved.  And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come" (Matt. 24:9-14).    Not only is there no mention of the Church in this summary, several of the things He said are not even relevant to the church. They were intended for Israel. For example, it's Israel that has always been hated by all nations because of Him, it's Israel that has experienced many turning away from the Jewish faith, it's Israel that has to remain faithful to the end to be saved, and it's Israel that has been promised a Kingdom on Earth as a testimony to all nations.    **What Will Be The Sign Of Your Coming?**    Beginning in Matt. 24:15, Jesus gave the first specific sign of His coming and once again it concerned Israel. The abomination of desolation He spoke of requires a Temple, indicating a national presence for Israel in the promised land with people adhering to their Old Covenant relationship with God. We now know that hasn't been possible for nearly 2,000 years but the disciples had no idea.    The people Jesus told to flee when they see the abomination would be living in Judea, historically the area around Jerusalem. They were told to pray their flight won't take place in the winter, when the weather in Jerusalem can be bad, or on the Sabbath, because covenant keeping Jews are uniquely forbidden from traveling on the Sabbath (Matt. 24:15-20).    Jesus said the abomination of desolation will be the sign that the Great Tribulation is beginning (Matt. 24:21). This is a time when Jeremiah 30:1-11 tells us two things will happen; all the nations among which the Jews have been scattered will be destroyed, and Israel will be purified in preparation for the promised Kingdom (Jere. 30:11).    Jeremiah called this the time of Jacob's trouble (Jere. 30:7), which is the Old Testament name for the Great Tribulation, and said it will result in David becoming their king (Jere. 30:9) something that hasn't happened yet.    The Church is nowhere in view here and in fact both Paul (Romans 5:9, 1 Thes. 1:10) and Jesus (Rev. 3:10) promised that the Church will not be present for this.    "Then will appear the sign of the Son of Man in heaven. And then all the peoples of the earth will mourn when they see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven, with power and great glory. And he will send his angels with a loud trumpet call, and they will gather his elect from the four winds, from one end of the heavens to the other" (Matt. 24:30-31).    Some claim this is a description of the rapture but if that's true it violates the Jewish context of the passage without any explanation or justification. It's based on the fact that the Greek word for trumpet appears both here and in 1 Cor. 15: 52.  But that is not an acceptable reason to tie these verses together, because there are other factors that make them obviously different.  One is that in 1 Thes. 4:16-17 the only angel mentioned is "the archangel" not some unknown number of angels scouring the heavens.  Another is that it turns the rapture from a signless, secret event into one that can't happen until there is a sign for all the world to see, and until the second coming is already in progress. It would mean that while all the world is standing there watching Jesus descend from heaven in power and glory, He will suddenly scoop up the Church and return to heaven without completing His trip to earth.    It would also violate His promise, made personally and through Paul, that He will keep us from the hour of trial that's coming upon the whole world, delivering us from the time and place of God's wrath.    Those who see the rapture here claim that the Church is "the elect" the Lord was talking about. But I disagree. Throughout the Old Testament, Israel was called God's elect and since Israel was the topic of their discussion, it's much more likely that's who the Lord had in mind. Also, according to Daniel 12:2-3 Israel's resurrection will take place at the Second coming making it possible that Matt. 24:31 is referring to Old Testament saints being rounded up to receive their resurrection bodies.    Finally, there's no mention of the Church being "the elect" in the gospels. In the only times the Lord mentioned the Church at all (Matt. 16:18 and Matt. 18:17) He did not use any form of the Greek word for "elect". The first clear description of the Church as the elect did not happen until Romans 8:33 which Paul wrote over 20 years later. In my opinion, to think that the disciples would have understood the Lord to be referring to the Church in Matt. 24:22 and Matt. 24:31 is an unwarranted assumption.    So far in His answer to the disciples the Lord has given us an overview of the end times (Matt. 24:3-14) and then a more detailed chronological order; abomination of desolation, the Great Tribulation, and the Second Coming (Matt. 24:15-31).    **And Of The End Of the Age?**    Beginning in Matt. 24:36 He turned His attention to things that will happen after He returns. These will signal that the end of the age has come, and they provide His  answer their final question. We know this because of the specific way in which He identified the day of His coming as "that day and hour" (Matt. 24:36) and "at the coming of the Son of Man" (Matt. 24.36, 39). He was speaking of the day of His return.    Some people say that no one will be eating and drinking, or marrying and giving in marriage before the Second Coming like they were in the days of Noah. They say the terrible effects of the Great Tribulation will have made that impossible. Therefore Matt. 24:36-39 has to be referring to the rapture. But I think they're missing the point. First of all, people have found a way to socialize and get married in the worst of times. But more importantly I think the Lord's point here was that just as people had no idea the world was about to end in the days leading up to the flood, no one will know the world is about to end in the days leading up to the second coming.    And notice how the Lord compared "the days before the flood" in Noah's time to "at the coming" of the Son of Man rather than the days before His coming. The worst time ever to come upon mankind will have just ended. Man's natural tendency after any catastrophe is to believe things will return to normal, but when they actually see the Son of Man coming on the clouds with power and great glory they will finally know things will never be the same again. That's why they will mourn when they see him coming (Matt. 24:30).    Two men will be in the field; one will be taken and the other left. Two women will be grinding with a hand mill; one will be taken and the other left (Matt. 24:40-41).    These verses are often used to support a rapture after the Great Tribulation. Aside from the fact that seeing them this way violates the context and chronology of the Lord's message, as well as His promise to the Church, there's a translation problem here. The Greek word translated "taken" means to "receive unto oneself" and a form of this word provides the clue of the rapture I mentioned in Acts 15:13-18 where it's translated "take for himself" (Acts 15:14). It literally means "to take for the purpose of carrying away." Before the Lord turns back to Israel to fulfill the missing 7 years of Daniel's prophecy, He will take for Himself a people from among the Gentiles and carry us away.    So the word "taken" in Matt. 24:40-41 is not a problem, but the word translated "left" means to "put away" and was often used in the context of a divorce.    Rather than being a description of the rapture, where Paul's definitive teachings never even mention unbelievers, let alone their disposition, these two verses are a summary of the Sheep and Goat judgment (Matt. 25:31-46). Both take place after the Second Coming and both involve the final destiny of believers and unbelievers who will survive the Great Tribulation and live to see the Lord's return.  Believers will be received into the kingdom but unbelievers will be put away into a place of eternal punishment.    The Lord finished his explanation of things that will mark the end of the age with several parables that describe the judgments He will conduct after He returns. I devoted an entire study to the subject of these parables that you can read in my two part posting, "Understanding the Olivet discourse Parables." For the purpose of this study let's just review the clues as to their timing to help you see they cannot be meant for the church.    Matt. 24:29 begins "Immediately after the distress of those days" and refers to the end of the Great Tribulation. Matt. 24:30 signals the Second Coming, with more detail contained in Matt. 24:36-44 including the first warnings that people on Earth will not know the exact day or hour of the Second Coming in advance. I believe this is due to the fact that both the Sun and Moon will have gone dark (Matt. 24:29) and it will be difficult to keep track of time.    Matt. 24:45-51 contains the parable of the faithful and wicked servants and describes how the Lord will deal with them "when He returns". It ends with another warning that people won't know the day or hour of His return in advance (Matt. 24:50).    Matt. 25:1-13 is the parable of the Ten virgins (bridesmaids). The opening sentence begins with "at that time". Everything from Matt. 24:30 forward has been about the Second Coming, so the phrase "at that time" refers to the time following the Second Coming. There are many other reasons why this parable can not be about the Church that are detailed in the study I referenced above. Like the others, this parable ends with a similar warning about the unknown day and hour of the Second Coming (Matt. 25:13).    Matt. 25:14-30 is the Parable of the Talents. By the opening word "again" we know that the Lord was referring to the same time as the previous ones.    And in Matt. 25:31-46  the Parable of the Sheep and Goats gives us the clearest indication of timing yet. It begins with, "When the son of Man comes in all His glory, and all the angels with Him ...". As I pointed out earlier it's the judgment of tribulation survivors, some of whom will be believers and will be welcomed into the Millennial Kingdom, while the others will be taken away to eternal punishment (Matt. 25:46).    The Church is the Bride of Christ, the most highly regarded group in the history of humankind, and the one with whom Jesus is closest. Failing to mention us even once in His signature discussion of the end times can only be explained by the fact that throughout the Olivet Discourse the Lord was focused on Israel and not the Church.  Therefore any attempt to use this passage in reference to the rapture of the Church requires taking portions of it out of context, and in some cases a reinterpretation of the text is necessary as well.  The Pre-Trib Rapture of the Church remains the only position that is consistent with a literal interpretation of the Scriptures. You can almost hear the footsteps of the Messiah. |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | http://img.constantcontact.com/letters/images/1101116784221/S.gif | | http://img.constantcontact.com/letters/images/1101116784221/S.gif | | http://img.constantcontact.com/letters/images/1101116784221/S.gif | |  |  | | --- | | a1  **Iran uses Syrian truce to deploy hundreds of Palestinian terrorists on Golan border** - [http://www.debka.com/article/25264/Iran-uses-Syrian-truce-to-deploy-hundreds-of-Palestinian-terrorists-on-Golan-border-](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001EivcWDzHu8um5UvRyEX6TbZQp1sd7uaRHNPmeSihlc3tLIbIG5rRJgVAdxhqu5uLQYg8yqGpEtu4R3oLWw-4mFM4Nh0rml_eC39LFgfUTgFgX4Kgad3bL47AzDnQmQaEd0X3LLOFKRhnuXj5lSQJA0QgTcx0E83EtGokgerUuFEQjSjmgUp97sihd_jwPk0XRX11kWfqPvNUaDOMKFyZpfNYlfFIaBqmsU-vJM_rywtJYfWyldyw-ny0RBtP4-d5mIbbqMGNyAiwRYedQyNh-kvc_iib8INfLXY0tvNERd8uUP6opf7jxQ==&c=QEmJDUcrhpbDzbbOoZ4pJusrL-V9FdRNdd8PqnjQ0GPRiuSb30XYjQ==&ch=9KGT-IjpEPD3as1pwQSEzo9lJC40LBax8vMtQ2K-5cz86NnG4JtAvw==)    Under cover of the Syrian ceasefire that went into effect Saturday, Feb. 27, and the Russian air umbrella, Iran's Revolutionary Guards Corps finally managed to secretly install hundreds of armed Palestinian terrorists on the Syrian-Israeli border face-to-face with the IDF's Golan positions.    This is reported exclusively by debkafile's military and intelligence sources.    These Palestinians belong to Al-Sabirin, a new terrorist organization the Iranian Guards and Hezbollah are building in the refugee camps of Lebanon and the Gaza Strip. Their agents clandestinely recruited the new terrorists from among young Palestinians who fled the Yarmouk refugee camp outside Damascus and sought refuge in Lebanon. Hezbollah organized their return to Syria through south Lebanon - but not before training and arming them for penetration deep inside Israel to carry out mass-casualty assaults on IDF positions, highways and civilians.    So Iran and Hezbollah have finally been able to achieve one of the most cherished goals of their integration in the Syria civil war, namely, to bring a loyal terrorist force right up to Israel's border.     Israel's military planners went to extreme lengths to prevent this happening. Last December, Samir Quntar, after being assigned by Tehran and Hezbollah to establish a Palestinian-Druze terror network on the Golan, was assassinated in Damascus.     Twelve months before that, on Jan. 18, an Israeli air strike hit an Iranian-Syrian military party surveying the Golan in search of jumping-off locations for Hezbollah terror squads to strike across the border against Israeli targets. The two senior officers in the party, Iranian General Allah-Dadi and Hizballah's Jihad Mughniyeh, were killed.     The hubbub in the run-up to the Syrian truce, coupled with Russia's protective military presence, finally gave the Islamic Republic and its Lebanese proxy the chance to outfox Israeli intelligence and secretly bring forward a terrorist force to striking range against Israel    This discovery was one of the causes of Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu's urgent phone call to President Vladimir Putin Wednesday, Feb. 24, two days before the ceasefire went into effect. He reminded the Russian leader of the understandings they had reached regarding the deployment of pro-Iranian terrorists on the Syrian-Israeli border. He also sent emissaries to Moscow to intercede with Russian officials.     Putin's answers to Israel's demarches were vague and evasive, on the lines of a promise to look into their complaints.     He also tried to fob Netanyahu off by inviting President Reuven Rivlin for a state visit to Russia. Putin promised to use that occasion for a solemn Russian pledge of commitment to upholding Israel's security in a tone that would leave Tehran in no doubt of Moscow support for the Jewish state.     The Rivlin visit has been scheduled for March 16.    But it is clear that the prime minister and defense minister Moshe Ya'alon were too slow to pick up on the new terrorist menace Iran had parked on Israel's border. Now their hands are tied, say debkafile's sources. An IDF operation to evict the pro-Iranian Palestinian Al-Sabirin network from the Syrian Golan, before it digs in, would lay Israel open to the charge of jeopardizing, or even sabotaging, the inherently fragile Syrian ceasefire initiated jointly by the US and Russia. |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | http://img.constantcontact.com/letters/images/1101116784221/S.gif | | http://img.constantcontact.com/letters/images/1101116784221/S.gif | | http://img.constantcontact.com/letters/images/1101116784221/S.gif | |  |  | | --- | | a2  **Shaping Israel's Military Nuclear Doctrine** - By Louis Rene Beres - [http://www.breakingisraelnews.com/62369/shaping-israels-military-nuclear-doctrine-opinion/#3qibpjtlEv732lvg.97](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001EivcWDzHu8um5UvRyEX6TbZQp1sd7uaRHNPmeSihlc3tLIbIG5rRJgVAdxhqu5uL4cAkEOi0IKCrRDQ7J4VAPHJ_kHjMrREcJMFN9ZltCF4UIUwLuvMz-QV3bjMv_LzcFkRXzCYqfI_JYagY5mMYu4h1ViX5cllXvMw2btbRWRuW9z8vxL8pT9RYhMPjCCHMDroqP2ZHayYIDomBHYjZJp2Tlee3R18lehYQ0xkl0pOZ_FxJdahDmCy4QqrjqdmZgpHb9ZscVdlNVKZAgxY4FIexTmeDFQhGNg8jKAiT58o=&c=QEmJDUcrhpbDzbbOoZ4pJusrL-V9FdRNdd8PqnjQ0GPRiuSb30XYjQ==&ch=9KGT-IjpEPD3as1pwQSEzo9lJC40LBax8vMtQ2K-5cz86NnG4JtAvw==)    Notwithstanding the July 2015 P5+1 Vienna diplomatic agreement with Iran, Israel will soon need to forge a more comprehensive and conspicuous strategic nuclear doctrine, one wherein rapt attention is directed toward all still-plausible nuclear enemies. Irrespective of precisely which national and/ or sub-national nuclear adversaries Jerusalem may sometime have to face, this indispensable doctrine will need to satisfy at least two intersecting criteria. In principle, therefore, it will need a) to identify and consider all available strategic options (deterrence, preemption, active defense, strategic targeting, nuclear war fighting); and b) to correctly correlate all of these overlapping alternatives with imperative survival goals.    "Everything is very simple in war," says Carl von Clausewitz, in his 19th-century classic, On War, "but the simplest thing is still difficult." By "difficulty," Clausewitz means (among other things) complexity.    In this connection, Israel's now systematically- configured doctrine will need to take close account of: c) certain possible interactions between assorted strategic options; and d) certain determinable synergies that could possibly obtain between enemy attacks. By focusing on synergies, or on what military planners more typically call "force multipliers," Israeli planners could acknowledge that in certain crucial matters of war and peace, the adversarial "whole" could become much more dangerous than the simple sum of its "parts."    Significantly, calculating these particular interactions and synergies will present Israel with a computational task of the highest order of intellectual difficulty. It follows, going forward, that the progressive refinement of Israel's nuclear deterrent must always be viewed as a primarily intellectual requirement, and not as a merely operational task or narrowly political expectation.    To begin its pertinent calculations, Jerusalem must first identify the basic goals of any Israeli nuclear deterrence posture, here with special reference to required enemy perceptions of both ability and willingness. Before a rational adversary of Israel could be suitably deterred by any Israeli nuclear deterrent, that enemy would first need to believe that Israel had both the capacity to launch appropriate nuclear reprisals for certain forms of aggression, and the will to undertake such a launch. In matters involving a prospectively irrational nuclear enemy of Israel, successful deterrence would then need to be based upon certain threats to enemy values other than national survival, and/ or would need to be complemented or supplanted altogether by strategies of preemption.    In law, such strategies are known as expressions of "anticipatory self-defense."    In some circumstances, it could conceivably help Israel to feign irrationality itself (defense minister Moshe Dayan stated: "Israel must be seen as a mad dog, too dangerous to bother"), but any actual Israeli resort to pretended irrationality could turn out to be a double-edged sword. Here, the principal danger posed would be a nuclear enemy that responds to Israel's apparent irrationality with its own "defensive" first strike. In such cases, the logic behind the "rationality of pretended irrationality" strategy would backfire upon Israel, perhaps even incentivizing an enemy to "preempt" an expected Israeli preemption.    Once again, everything here might seem simple, but could in fact be exceedingly difficult.    All things considered, Israeli planners would do best to remain focused on maintaining more recognizably secure and penetration- capable nuclear retaliatory forces, and also on deploying appropriately layered or multi-tiered systems of active defense.    In meeting the perceived ability criterion of successful nuclear deterrence, Israel will first need to demonstrate, inter alia, the substantial invulnerability of its own nuclear retaliatory forces to enemy first strikes. Like the United States, Jerusalem is increasingly likely to depend upon some form or other of strategic triad deployments.    Already, it is very likely that Israel has begun to embark upon serious sea-basing of a portion of the country's still-undeclared nuclear forces.    Looking ahead, it is plain that it will be in Israel's long-term survival interests to more fully commit to certain submarine- basing nuclear options. Israel is a tiny country, and its land-based strategic forces could sometime present to enemies as too vulnerable. In part, whether or not Israel should proceed to more explicit submarine- basing of its presumed nuclear retaliatory forces, it could still acquire meaningful deterrence benefits from a nuanced and incremental end to "deliberate nuclear ambiguity," or the "bomb in the basement."    Although somewhat counter-intuitive, Israel will soon have to clarify that at least certain specific sectors of its presumptive nuclear retaliatory forces are not only survivable, but also "usable."    Ironically, this could mean forces that would not appear, prima facie, as "too destructive" for operational military use.    From the early days of prime minister David Ben-Gurion, Israel has understood the overriding need to rely upon a "great equalizer," that is, on nuclear weapons and corresponding strategy. There are, of course, a great many circumstances in which any nuclear option would be unsuited - most obviously, in any plausible forms of regional counter-terrorism - but, in the end, there can be no viable substitute for such a residual option. Doctrinally, Israel has already rejected any notions of theater nuclear deterrence, and/or nuclear war-fighting; nonetheless, there are still some identifiable circumstances wherein a nuclear exchange might simply not be preventable.    On this point, Pakistan, in another prominent theater of assorted military nuclear risks, last year accepted a strategy of theater or tactical nuclear deterrence.    Among other things, this explicit acceptance signaled a dramatic shift away from classic Cold War patterns of "mutual assured destruction" (MAD) toward what Kennedy-era Americans used to call "flexible response" or (more recently) "nuclear utilization theory." Speaking of the Cold War, it is clear that we are now entering into a "Cold War II," and that Israel's military nuclear doctrine should already begin to factor this re-emerging polarity into its wider security-policy decisions.    In the end, some forms of nuclear war-fighting between Israel and particular enemies might not be avoidable. Such failure could take place so long as: 1) enemy state first-strikes launched against Israel would not destroy Israel's second-strike nuclear capability; 2) enemy state retaliations for an Israeli conventional preemption would not destroy Israel's nuclear counter-retaliatory capability; 3) conventional Israeli preemptive strikes would not destroy enemy state second-strike nuclear capability; and 4) Israeli retaliations for enemy state conventional first strikes would not destroy enemy state nuclear counter-retaliatory capability.    What this means, for Israeli security, is that Jerusalem must take appropriate steps to ensure the plausibility of 1) and 2) above, and, simultaneously, the implausibility of 3) and 4).    Submarine deployments could prove helpful or even indispensable to Israel's nuclear deterrence posture. Submarines, after all, still represent the ultimate stealth weapon, and a submarine force could essentially guarantee the ability to unleash a catastrophic retaliatory strike.    Because of Israel's irremediable lack of strategic depth, the small country's developing submarine force represents an "ace in the hole" element of strategic deterrence.    Already, Israel is upgrading its Dolphin I submarines purchases from Germany with additional Dolphin II submarines.    These boats are diesel powered, and unlike the US nuclear submarines are more or less limited by the length of time they can remain submerged. The INS Rahav, Israel's newest submarine from Germany, arrived in Haifa on December 17, 2015, and joined the INS Tanin, Tekuma, Leviathan, and Dolphin.    A sixth submarine has been ordered from Germany.    Israel's submarines have been designed and built to meet very specific Israeli requirements, and are larger than the original German boats. The Rahav is over 220 feet (67 meters) long, and weighs more than 2,000 tons. One must assume that this larger size is intended primarily to accommodate nuclear missiles. In essence, a complex sea-basing capability will be critical to maintaining Israel's nuclear deterrent.    In the seventeenth century, English philosopher Thomas Hobbes, in his literary (not nautical) Leviathan, soberly intoned that "Covenants without the sword are but words." Today, there is nothing about the 2015 Vienna Agreement that will in any way meaningfully curtail Iran's steady policy of military nuclearization. On the contrary, it may already be prompting the reciprocal nuclearization of certain Sunni Arab rivals in the region, most evidently Egypt and/or Saudi Arabia.    Looking ahead, Israel will need to rely increasingly on a multi-faceted doctrine of nuclear deterrence; moreover, certain elements of this "simple but difficult" doctrine will soon need to be rendered less "ambiguous." This will imply, in turn, an even more determinedly "synergistic" Israeli focus on prospectively rational and irrational enemies, including both national and sub-national foes.    Let it finally be known. Thomas Hobbes' Leviathan bears a direct intellectual connection to Israel's submarine of the same name. Diplomatic agreements can never save Israel. Israel's nuclear forces and associated doctrine can offer Israel relevant existential assurances, but only through a corollary policy of intelligent and calculated "non-use." In this apparently paradoxical relationship, Jerusalem can find counsel in the ancient strategic wisdom of Sun-Tzu. Says the oft-quoted Chinese strategist in The Art of War: "Subjugating the enemy's army without fighting is the true pinnacle of excellence."    This timeless advice on "deterrence" is even more compelling in today's nuclear world, more compelling than even Sun- Tzu himself could ever have imagined. |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | http://img.constantcontact.com/letters/images/1101116784221/S.gif | | http://img.constantcontact.com/letters/images/1101116784221/S.gif | | http://img.constantcontact.com/letters/images/1101116784221/S.gif | |  |  | | --- | | a3  **EU's Tower of Babel may fall while leaders distracted** - By Paul Taylor - [http://www.reuters.com/article/us-europe-migrants-babel-analysis-idUSKCN0W10AQ](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001EivcWDzHu8um5UvRyEX6TbZQp1sd7uaRHNPmeSihlc3tLIbIG5rRJgVAdxhqu5uLXv_o6O6z7u2-KQAJ1JIfNhnH6BWdxRmogHJDEXY-OWEVxWDrPjSqeG2S74NuxEpiChHaea2ePvwZh1sT4KD_x9AC3Kp514gs7z5sRT88yhg9lG-Fe_doB8HH7P7xUKw3LmjxmyLw5JoQNz3oOXDhp5cxbb3svfGv7fKgz_hg1wRaHFZsPStEcA==&c=QEmJDUcrhpbDzbbOoZ4pJusrL-V9FdRNdd8PqnjQ0GPRiuSb30XYjQ==&ch=9KGT-IjpEPD3as1pwQSEzo9lJC40LBax8vMtQ2K-5cz86NnG4JtAvw==)    It's little wonder the European Union can't find common solutions to Europe's urgent problems when its main members are having such different national conversations.    Like the biblical Tower of Babel, Europe's ambitious construction is in danger of toppling because its peoples are not speaking the same political language.    Tune in to Germany and the fierce debate is all about how to cope with an influx of a million migrants, whether to limit the numbers and, in some quarters, how to stop them coming.    Switch to France and you're listening to a nation that thinks it is at war, still living under a state of emergency and in shock after last November's attacks by Islamist militants that killed 130 people in Paris.    Flip to Britain and the talk is all of national sovereignty and a possible Brexit in the build-up to a June referendum that might end the country's schizophrenic membership of the EU.    Look east to Poland and people are arguing over the new government's moves to curb the media and the constitutional court, over who may have been a Communist informer 40 years ago, and over the perceived Russian threat to eastern Europe today.    Around central Europe the discussion is about how to resist German pressure to take in a share of refugees.    Turn south and the Italians and Portuguese are engrossed in domestically focused debates about how to revive economic growth despite the EU's budgetary corset while cleaning up legacy bank problems. Spain meanwhile is preoccupied by Catalan separatism, political paralysis and the risk of a breakup of the country.    When those countries' leaders come to Brussels, they often cannot even agree what they should be discussing.    For the last two EU summits, Britain wanted the focus to be on its demands for a renegotiation of its membership terms to give Prime Minister David Cameron a "new settlement" he can sell in a June 23 referendum on whether to stay in the bloc.    He secured a deal on Feb. 19, but many fellow leaders were frustrated at having to spend time on what they see as side issues and rhetorical formulations when their house is on fire.    "Everyone in the room and corridors was rather irritated that here we are dealing with some rather obscure issues of child benefits indexation, while we have real problems in Syria, member states closing borders, major issues we should really be on instead of this," a diplomat involved in the talks said.    German Chancellor Angela Merkel, fighting for her political life against domestic critics of her open door for refugees, wanted the EU to concentrate on urgent measures to secure Europe's external borders, register migrants, send home rejected asylum seekers and share out refugees among EU states.    Desperate to find a common "European solution" to the migration crisis, she has forced yet another European summit on March 7 with Turkey, days before three German regional elections in which anti-immigration rightists could make big gains.    French President Francois Hollande, for his part, goes to Brussels seeking more cooperation against terrorism and support for military action against Islamic State in Syria and Libya.    His prime minister, Manuel Valls, irked German officials by using a trip to the Munich Security Conference to criticize Merkel's welcome for refugees and declare that Europe could not take any more migrants.      **WANING AUTHORITY**    Unlike many past European crises, where disagreements could be postponed or salami-sliced into gradual steps that turned a political dispute into a technocratic process, there is no obvious way to delay or defuse the migration issue.    Events on the ground are moving faster than the EU's ability to manage them. Governments along the main Western Balkans migration route, under pressure from populist forces, are resorting to beggar-thy-neighbor solutions.    Austria, a key transit country, unilaterally imposed daily caps on migrant entries and asylum applications in mid-February.    In a sign of the waning authority of Brussels and Berlin, Austria brought together 10 central European and Balkan states last week - meeting without Germany, the EU authorities or Greece, the main arrival point for migrants - to coordinate national measures to choke off the northward flow of migrants.    As boatloads of migrants defy winter seas daily to cross from Turkey, that lockdown is rapidly turning Greece, the EU's most economically enfeebled state, into a giant refugee camp.    Prime Minister Alexis Tsipras has warned his country will not become "a warehouse of souls" and said he will hold up other European business if Athens' partners do not share the burden.    EU countries have largely ignored the quotas of refugees they agreed last year to take in, and Hungary is now planning a referendum on whether it should have to accept any.    Britain and France are keeping their heads down rather than helping Merkel, Europe's most experienced and respected leader.    Cameron won't take any refugees already in Europe for fear that public hostility to migration could cost him the referendum. Hollande too fears fuelling support for far-right populist Marine Le Pen if he offers Berlin more assistance.    Barring an improbable halt to arrivals from Turkey in the coming weeks, the most likely next step is that Europe's 26-nation Schengen zone of passport-free travel will be officially suspended for two years to pre-empt a disorderly collapse.    A major achievement of EU cooperation on a continent scarred for centuries by wars will be put into an induced coma to prevent it dying immediately. The result will likely be long lines at borders that had all but disappeared two decades ago.    At that point, Germany, with or without Merkel, will probably have to impose its own curbs on new migrants.    While Europe's weak and divided leaders remain distracted by internal debates, the union that provided the framework for post-World War Two prosperity will start to unravel. |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | http://img.constantcontact.com/letters/images/1101116784221/S.gif | |  |  | | --- | | http://files.ctctcdn.com/61c7cfcb201/a8ea3f9f-101b-4e99-bbad-21635a2740fe.jpg  **NOW BOTH DVDs FOR ONLY $29.95**  **NOW SHIPPING!!!**  **MAGOG RISING**  More than 2,500 years ago, God gave the prophet Ezekiel an astonishing prophecy to give to the world, one that would be fulfilled in "the latter days." Many Bible scholars feel that the prophesied events, found in Ezekiel 38 and 39, could be fulfilled in the near future, and that we might already be witnessing the stage being set and the actors being moved into place, in light of current events happening in the Middle East, right now.    In Ezekiel 38, Russia, Iran, and an alliance of Muslim nations invade Israel due to a "hook placed in the mouth of Russia" to bring Russia down to invade Israel. That hook could very well be the natural-gas fields discovered off the coast of Israel or the more recent finding of massive oil deposits in the Golan Heights.    With Russian and Iranian military forces now cooperating  and engaging in combat in Syria, just miles north of the border of Israel, people are asking if these events are setting the stage for the fulfillment of what Bible scholars call the "War of Gog & Magog" that is supposed to take place in the End of Days?    Join us in this exciting new DVD as we examine Ezekiel 38 & 39 and the infamous war of Gog & Magog, and compare it to today's headlines and current events in the Middle East.  **The Fate of Damascus and the Psalm 83 War**   About the time of the end the biblical prophet Ezekiel tells of a future invasion of Israel by a vast coalition of nations, known as the battle of Gog and Magog, we find this in Ezekiel chapters 38 and 39. As we read the headlines in the newspapers of today, and witness the conflicts in the Middle East, it's not hard to imagine that this invasion prophesied over 2600 years ago, could be fulfilled in the immediate future.  Ezekiel 36-37 predicts a gathering of the Jews to the nation of Israel, which will be followed by this massive invasion.  For 19 centuries, the Jewish people were scattered throughout the world, and until May 14, 1948, there was no nation of Israel to invade.  With the nation of Israel now a reality, the stage seems set for the war that will usher in the tribulation and the rise of the Antichrist; a war that will end with the destruction of Israel's enemies by God Himself, and lead to the signing of a peace treaty with the Antichrist.    As you read Ezekiel 38 and 39, it isn't just the creation of the nation of Israel that makes this prophecy seem likely to be fulfilled in the near future.  The nations that God tells us will form this coalition against Israel seem more likely now than perhaps ever before to form just such an alliance." The leaders of this coalition will be Russia and Iran, and currently both of these nations are right on Israel's doorstep, under the pretense of battling ISIS in Syria. I believe that there are a couple of unfulfilled prophecies that will lead-up to this massive invasion of Israel, and as we read today's headlines, we find that the fulfillment of these two prophesied events, could happen very soon!    **The Fate of Damascus and the Psalm 83 War**    [**TO ORDER THIS NEW DVDS - CLICK HERE**](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001EivcWDzHu8um5UvRyEX6TbZQp1sd7uaRHNPmeSihlc3tLIbIG5rRJk8EFtmjGXwtY3ARl9qmjTK6KfyOPRFL6cwVoPJl5VTDkgs6Qo97D0AlxJ36dKZbXGa8Yl0zwhNVHOgmAkncqZBfJAJlBll_Z0p5RrsfxqmcCYBF94_ZH1ahpwjK19dKOStiTiCZwccGrU1l30iqQOdADawYc78uUD90_Yfmqunu&c=QEmJDUcrhpbDzbbOoZ4pJusrL-V9FdRNdd8PqnjQ0GPRiuSb30XYjQ==&ch=9KGT-IjpEPD3as1pwQSEzo9lJC40LBax8vMtQ2K-5cz86NnG4JtAvw==) |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | http://img.constantcontact.com/letters/images/1101116784221/S.gif | | http://img.constantcontact.com/letters/images/1101116784221/S.gif | | http://img.constantcontact.com/letters/images/1101116784221/S.gif | |  |  | | --- | | http://files.ctctcdn.com/61c7cfcb201/9299b7a9-a78f-4f2e-ad95-00cc8133853e.jpg  **For every "Convergence" DVD that you purchase, you will receive a second one for FREE to out hand out or give away. For example, if you buy 5 DVDs, you will receive 10.  "CONVERGENCE of the End Time Signs" -**Bible Prophecy fulfillment is in a period of acceleration, a time of Quickening, the world is racing towards Armageddon, now more than ever we must be ready! We are about to enter a time like no other time, a time that no man has ever seen, a time like no other time in the history of this world, as a matter of fact we are about to enter the end times. Since the dawn of mankind, there have always been wars and rumors of wars, earthquakes, famines, pestilences, disease, strange-weather and false Christ's just as Jesus predicted. Fast forward nearly 2,000 years since Jesus made this prediction, and you have today's headlines lining up exactly with the Word of God. The big thing isn't that these events are happening today, is that they are all happening at the very same time! Bible prophecy is being fulfilled right before our very eyes.  Fulfilled prophecy is increasing in frequency and intensity just like birth pains, and Jesus said when you see these know that I am near, even at the door.   All the signs of the last days are converging at the same time. Bible Prophecy is happening right before our eyes and like birth pains,  the predicted events are happening more frequently and more intently. Never, in the history throughout the world have so many forces, including economic, scientific, techno-logic, ecologic, cultural, geopolitical, moral, spiritual and religion, converged together to bring this world that's already teetering over the edge into the abyss, to a point of no return. "CONVERGENCE" brings it all together and will clearly show where all this heading and what people need to do!  [**To Order this Video on DVD Click Here!**](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001EivcWDzHu8um5UvRyEX6TbZQp1sd7uaRHNPmeSihlc3tLIbIG5rRJlRGVWpIbe62jm8kwxBWsjopFx56xwjl11iLyE2wNaZ1gyHhZju8bTiKkhDsqv6GkRa8eADZoZXMLlhAWkW3rlJe5f22V14pw8_I2FLNI2sBpfsnEUb2lmoAXvyugq-qXnGQC6fh1IHQ&c=QEmJDUcrhpbDzbbOoZ4pJusrL-V9FdRNdd8PqnjQ0GPRiuSb30XYjQ==&ch=9KGT-IjpEPD3as1pwQSEzo9lJC40LBax8vMtQ2K-5cz86NnG4JtAvw==) |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | http://img.constantcontact.com/letters/images/1101116784221/S.gif | |  |  | | --- | | b1  **Sweden: New surgical microchips the key to the future** - Meaghan Bitters - [http://www.vsuspectator.com/2016/02/26/new-surgical-microchips-the-key-to-the-future/](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001EivcWDzHu8um5UvRyEX6TbZQp1sd7uaRHNPmeSihlc3tLIbIG5rRJgVAdxhqu5uLopjOPB_z0nvBCPcjExMCgTKaeA9V7JxpLsnlWvtXEz5lrm7dA2KT-lBFkkENwxCZGyChVwLF4XN3AvexyBN0oOlwuitkBGIwTvMek099Urdsd8IjmYh-gfwr7rZs9e6FtGeIPDcm7J-tvQMdeW9VZofka3X9vJM9sinvPElUMjNHqBSpX8GYAwq9eTdNjOWiWWT_S0M_1EE=&c=QEmJDUcrhpbDzbbOoZ4pJusrL-V9FdRNdd8PqnjQ0GPRiuSb30XYjQ==&ch=9KGT-IjpEPD3as1pwQSEzo9lJC40LBax8vMtQ2K-5cz86NnG4JtAvw==)    *Also it causes all, both small and great, both rich and poor, both free and slave, to be marked on the right hand or the forehead, so that no one can buy or sell unless he has the mark, that is, the name of the beast or the number of its name. This calls for wisdom: let the one who has understanding calculate the number of the beast, for it is the number of a man, and his number is 666. - Revelation 13:16-18*    Imagine a world where people can enter buildings and turn on machines using a tiny microchip in their hands. Well, that future-at least for Sweden-isn't too far out.    A few office workers in Sweden are being injected with a microchip the size of a grain of rice "that will open doors, turn on machines and serve as a business card," according to Q13 Fox.    The Swedish company plans to eventually have the chip allow workers to pay for their meals at the office café as well. Epicenter is a high-tech office complex in Sweden. The point of this product is to test the efficiency of the technology.    "We want to be able to understand this technology before big corporates and big government come to us and say everyone should get chipped - the tax authority chip, the Google or Facebook chip," Hannes Sjoblad, chief disruption officer of Epicenter, said.    Government microchips are already a concern in America. NBC has reported their prediction of all Americans being micro-chipped by 2017. According to the recently passed H.R. 4872 bill, the implantable radiofrequency transponder system is intended to enable access to patient identification and health information. The bill also states that manufacturers of the microchips have to complete certain government testing requirements and submit a premarket notification before putting them on the market.    Such testing includes: biocompatibility, information security, software validation, migration testing of implanted responder, performance testing of implanted transponder, performance testing of inserter, performance testing and hazard analysis of electronic scanner, electromagnetic compatibility, electrical safety performance testing, sterility, magnetic resonance imaging compatibility, and labeling for any precautions for packaging and sterility.    Accusations of the government chipping all Americans and being able to locate people by their chip cannot be confirmed. As of now, the only information that can be confirmed is that the FDA has approved radiofrequency identification devices that enable access to patient identification and provide corresponding health information. Basically, these chips would be able to confirm the person to be who they say they are; an implanted social security, or health insurance card. More advanced chips that serve as a debit card are likely to be created in the future. |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | http://img.constantcontact.com/letters/images/1101116784221/S.gif | | http://img.constantcontact.com/letters/images/1101116784221/S.gif | | http://img.constantcontact.com/letters/images/1101116784221/S.gif | |  |  | | --- | | b2  **Economic Recovery? 13 Of The Biggest Retailers in America Are Closing Down Stores** - By Michael Snyder -  [http://theeconomiccollapseblog.com/archives/economic-recovery-13-of-the-biggest-retailers-in-america-are-closing-down-stores](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001EivcWDzHu8um5UvRyEX6TbZQp1sd7uaRHNPmeSihlc3tLIbIG5rRJgVAdxhqu5uL2ZPKGv2LrMZmEbGOeyfgTL5HiPcguCXHkGl5d1DG1k-qkz7110ujM3boRLJDLSN8iS7YcjrBSVwfkezCO4wJiYPPDjTs-plXmYvjoNT3yKFQyU9TeNFOYgzTbT1Cwg3JIO7vyrzBsDHoEFSP5YBuuqRVuf3LFkyGWjRKupODfzst8fPTYcYgPcXTuvhVdKReh90pizj-uoHLEVIaCqY6m3r0cq_6e5xVZTmb1-jwM86lME_f5aRWOA==&c=QEmJDUcrhpbDzbbOoZ4pJusrL-V9FdRNdd8PqnjQ0GPRiuSb30XYjQ==&ch=9KGT-IjpEPD3as1pwQSEzo9lJC40LBax8vMtQ2K-5cz86NnG4JtAvw==)    Barack Obama recently stated that anyone that is claiming that America's economy is in decline is "peddling fiction".  Well, if the economy is in such great shape, why are major retailers shutting down hundreds of stores all over the country?  Last month, I wrote about the "retail apocalypse" that is sweeping the nation, but since then it has gotten even worse.  Closing stores has become the "hot new trend" in the retail world, and "space available" signs are going up in mall windows all over the United States.  Barack Obama can continue huffing and puffing about how well the middle class is doing all he wants, but the truth is that the cold, hard numbers that retailers are reporting tell an entirely different story.    Earlier today, Sears Chairman Eddie Lampert released a letter to shareholders that was filled with all kinds of bad news.  In this letter, he blamed the horrible results that Sears has been experiencing lately on "tectonic shifts" in consumer spending...    In a letter to shareholders on Thursday, Lampert said the impact of "tectonic shifts" in consumer spending has spread more broadly in the last year to retailers "that had previously proven to be relatively immune to such shifts."    "Walmart, Nordstrom, Macy's, Staples, Whole Foods and many others have felt the impact of disruptive changes from online competition and new business models," Lampert wrote.    And it is very true - Sears is doing horribly, but they are far from alone.  The following are 13 major retailers that are closing down stores...    **#1** Sears lost 580 million dollars in the fourth quarter of 2015 alone, and they are scheduled to close at least 50 more "unprofitable stores" by the end of this year.    **#2** It is being reported that Sports Authority will file for bankruptcy in March.  Some news reports have indicated that around 200 stores may close, but at this point it is not known how many of their 450 stores will be able to stay open.    **#3** For decades, Kohl's has been growing aggressively, but now it plans to shutter 18 stores in 2016.    **#4** Target has just finished closing 13 stores in the United States.    **#5** Best Buy closed 30 stores last year, and it says that more store closings are likely in the months to come.    **#6** Office Depot plans to close a total of 400 stores by the end of 2016.    The next seven examples come from one of my previous articles...    **#7** Wal-Mart is closing 269 stores, including 154 inside the United States.    **#8** K-Mart is closing down more than two dozen stores over the next several months.    **#9** J.C. Penney will be permanently shutting down 47 more stores after closing a total of 40 stores in 2015.    **#10** Macy's has decided that it needs to shutter 36 stores and lay off approximately 2,500 employees.    **#11** The Gap is in the process of closing 175 stores in North America.    **#12** Aeropostale is in the process of closing 84 stores all across America.    **#13** Finish Line has announced that 150 stores will be shutting down over the next few years.    These store closings can be particularly cruel for small towns.  Just consider the impact that Wal-Mart has had on the little town of Oriental, North Carolina...    The Town'n Country grocery in Oriental, North Carolina, a local fixture for 44 years, closed its doors in October after a Wal-Mart store opened for business. Now, three months later - and less than two years after Wal-Mart arrived - the retail giant is pulling up stakes, leaving the community with no grocery store and no pharmacy.    Though mom-and-pop stores have steadily disappeared across the American landscape over the past three decades as the mega chain methodically expanded, there was at least always a Wal-Mart left behind to replace them. Now the Wal-Marts are disappearing, too.    Of course there are many factors involved in this ongoing retail apocalypse.  Competition from online retailers is becoming more intense, and consumer spending patterns are rapidly changing.    But in the end, the truth is that you can't get blood out of a rock.  The middle class in America is shrinking, and there just isn't as much discretionary spending going on as there used to be.    And now that we have entered a new economic downturn, many retailers are finding that there are some local communities that can no longer support their stores.  The following comes from CNBC...    Though the shift to online shopping is no doubt playing a role in lighter foot traffic at malls, there's more to their changing economics than the rise of Amazon. Changing demographics in a town are another reason a shopping center could struggle or fail - for example, if massive layoffs in a particular industry cause people to move away to find employment.    "A lot of people want to try and tie it to the Internet or 'that's not cool,' or teens don't like it," Jesse Tron, a spokesman for industry trade group International Council of Shopping Centers, told CNBC last year. "It's hard to support large-format retail in those suburban areas when people are trying to just pay their mortgage."    In order to have a thriving middle class, we need good paying middle class jobs.  Unfortunately, our economy has been bleeding those kinds of jobs quite rapidly.  For example, Halliburton just announced that it is eliminating 5,000 more jobs after getting rid of 4,000 workers at the end of last year.    During the Obama years, good paying middle class jobs have been getting replaced by low paying service jobs.  At this point, 51 percent of all American workers make less than $30,000 a year.    And there is no way that you can support a middle class family with children on $30,000 a year.    We have an economy that is in the process of failing.  We can see it in the explosion of subprime auto loans that are going bad, we can see it in the hundreds of retail stores that are shutting down, and we can see it in the tens of thousands of good paying energy jobs that are being lost.    During the Obama years, interest rates have been pushed to the floor, the Federal Reserve has created trillions of dollars out of thin air, and the size of our national debt is getting close to doubling.  Despite all of those desperate measures, our economy continues to crumble.    We stole from the future to try to paper over our failures and it didn't work.  Now an economic downturn that will ultimately turn out to be even worse than the "Great Recession" of 2008 and 2009 has begun, and our leaders have absolutely no idea how to fix things. |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | http://img.constantcontact.com/letters/images/1101116784221/S.gif | | http://img.constantcontact.com/letters/images/1101116784221/S.gif | | http://img.constantcontact.com/letters/images/1101116784221/S.gif | |  |  | | --- | | b3  **Bee Extinction Is Threatening the World's Food Supply, UN Warns** - Daniel Oberhaus - [http://motherboard.vice.com/en\_uk/read/bee-extinction-is-threatening-the-worlds-food-supply-un-warns](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001EivcWDzHu8um5UvRyEX6TbZQp1sd7uaRHNPmeSihlc3tLIbIG5rRJgVAdxhqu5uLS1YCgG1S0KYaD2MywsMVeDVq2l4aVosT5rG3kKEaBZS-_3aENIo9VmVZKwjfIEPWo3DYbahhYp6YO92oqZ5ZZdNu8sbJvX5KQv68IUYMdcTWuxDFucR9p83ZhGjMamaXXq3Rlkq0IWWGT33JfGoZQuC1vlWScocW2fh80tq3sAUDTnj6ebisPVhk4B3eFX4dB3mP6e-dYAFqBWFTlm9NIQ==&c=QEmJDUcrhpbDzbbOoZ4pJusrL-V9FdRNdd8PqnjQ0GPRiuSb30XYjQ==&ch=9KGT-IjpEPD3as1pwQSEzo9lJC40LBax8vMtQ2K-5cz86NnG4JtAvw==)    **Foreshadows** -  *And when he had opened the third seal, I heard the third beast say, Come and see. And I beheld, and lo a black horse; and he that sat on him had a pair of balances in his hand. And I heard a voice in the midst of the four beasts say, A measure of wheat for a penny, and three measures of barley for a penny; and see thou hurt not the oil and the wine. Revelation 6:5-6*    Last Monday, members of nearly 100 national governments met in the Malaysian capital Kuala Lumpur for a weeklong conference to discuss the threats facing animal pollinators such as bees, butterflies, and birds. According to delegates of the conference, these pollinators are increasingly threatened with extinction, a bleak reality that could have devastating consequences for human food supply in the near future.    The meeting was held at the behest of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES), an independent working group comprised of 124 UN member nations. It marks the first time world leaders have convened on this scale to discuss the threat to the bees, birds, bats, beetles, butterflies, and other animals which transport the pollen necessary for the reproduction of over 75 percent of the world's leading food crops and 90 percent of wild flowering plant species.    "Without pollinators, many of us would not be able to enjoy chocolate, coffee and vanilla ice cream, or healthy foods like blueberries and brazil nuts," Lynn Dicks, a research fellow at Cambridge University's Department of Zoology and one of the 77 scientists to contribute to the report, said in press release. "The value of pollinators goes way beyond this. People's livelihoods and culture are intimately linked with pollinators around the world. All the major world religions have sacred passages that mention bees."    "We are in a period of decline and there are going to be increasing consequences."    The meeting precedes the release of a "mega-report" two years in the making which details the extent of the threat of pollinator extinction. It is the first assessment issued by the IPBES (which was formed in 2012) and although it will contain no new research, the report will offer an exhaustive overview of relevant scientific studies in tandem with indigenous and local knowledge.    The report, to be released to the public on February 29, was adopted by the IPBES delegates on Friday.    As detailed in the forthcoming report, human dependence on these pollinators, particularly bees, has only increased in recent decades. The volume of pollinator dependent crops (which range from cocoa to avocados) has increased by 300 percent in the last 50 years, and such crops account for approximately 35 percent of all agricultural land. While not all of these crops are solely reliant on animal pollination (some can take advantage of wind-pollination, for instance), the scientists involved with the report estimate that between 5 and 8 percent of all crop production is directly attributed to animal pollination.    Yet despite humanity's increasing reliance on animal pollinators for our food supply, the animal pollinators themselves are seeing significant declines in both wild and managed populations. Of particular concern among the pollinators are bees, which the scientists described as "dominant" pollinators because they visit about 90 percent of the leading global crop types.    Understanding the extent of the problem has proven difficult due to lack of data about pollinator populations. North America and Europe keep the best data, and the latter has found that at least 37 percent of bee species and 31 percent of butterfly species are seeing declining populations. There are about 20,000 recognized species of pollinators, and according to the scientists 2 in 5 species of invertebrate pollinators (such as bees and butterflies) and 1 in 6 vertebrate pollinators (such as bats and hummingbirds) are on the path to extinction globally.    Due to the lack of sufficient data from Asia, Africa and Latin America, the number of threatened species may be much higher. Yet even without this data, it is clear that animal pollinators are increasingly threatened by human activity, which may have far reaching consequences for human food supply.    "We are in a period of decline and there are going to be increasing consequences," Simon Potts, report lead author and director of the Centre for Agri-Environmental Research at the University of Reading, told the Associated Press.    One of the major problems in mitigating the threat of extinction faced by many animal pollinators is pinpointing the cause. This trend toward mass extinction cannot be reduced to a single cause, although the report singles out a number of leading culprits, such as: dedicating large swathes of farmland to a single crop (thereby destroying the diversity that allows pollinators to thrive); the use of certain pesticides (particularly neonicotinoid, which attacks bees' nervous system); habitat loss due to human development; and global warming.    Fortunately, however, many of these problems can be rectified through local action, particularly when it comes to changing the way farmland is used. In addition to the dedication of large tracts of agricultural land to just one crop, the destruction of grassland (which is particularly conducive to thriving pollinator populations) has proceeded at an unprecedented rate-take Europe for instance, which has seen the destruction of 97 percent of its grasslands since World War II. The key is to develop local solutions to such problems, a good example being Britain, which now pays farmers to plant wildflower hedges for bees on their land.    Although the plight faced by animal pollinators-and by extension the humans which depend on their activities-is a dire one, the IPBES report is an important step in beginning to address the problem. This sentiment was neatly summed up by Dennis van Engelsdorp, a University of Maryland bee expert, who highlighted the urgency of taking action to the Associated Press.    "Everything falls apart if you take pollinators out of the game," van Engelsdorp said. "If we want to say we can feed the world in 2050, pollinators are going to be part of that." |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | http://img.constantcontact.com/letters/images/1101116784221/S.gif | | http://img.constantcontact.com/letters/images/1101116784221/S.gif | | http://img.constantcontact.com/letters/images/1101116784221/S.gif | |  |  | | --- | | b4  **Yes, God can use you to spread the Gospe**l - Greg Laurie - [http://www.wnd.com/2016/02/yes-god-can-use-you-to-spread-the-gospel/](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001EivcWDzHu8um5UvRyEX6TbZQp1sd7uaRHNPmeSihlc3tLIbIG5rRJgVAdxhqu5uL7qWFYtLvq_T_M8FEM_-k7OcaGXLKL2VXaS7kWuLvyvG6WeBI9QbmoxYN1yzZyFo4OOkq7otCzML-WY4vYiVgZdo5AcHMSMGzaE7IGU35Hvtpjnm_n1o51F3K64fjDJaR-6R9KSRKkrEyRFkwtGn5HtN2g_CNhjSX6LuLen2UjfKaxt1C09tjZw==&c=QEmJDUcrhpbDzbbOoZ4pJusrL-V9FdRNdd8PqnjQ0GPRiuSb30XYjQ==&ch=9KGT-IjpEPD3as1pwQSEzo9lJC40LBax8vMtQ2K-5cz86NnG4JtAvw==)    Pastor Greg Laurie asserts, 'the happiest Christians are the evangelistic ones'    Let's imagine you are out for a walk one night around your neighborhood when you suddenly hear people screaming. Startled, you look over your shoulder and see a house with flames leaping from the windows and roof. Someone out front of the house cries out, "There's someone in there!" Let me ask you, if you were to just keep on walking without giving a passing thought to those in such terrible danger, would that be wrong? At the very least, wouldn't you pull out your phone and dial 9-1-1? Even more, wouldn't you try to find a way into that burning house to rescue that person inside? To do nothing would be outright criminal.    In the same way, however, we walk by people - men and women we know or total strangers - who are without Christ and don't do a thing to help them. We don't even try to initiate a conversation about our faith. We just keep walking. And to be blunt, a fate even worse than a house fire awaits those who reject the offer of forgiveness through Jesus Christ. It is eternal fire. Eternal separation from God.    The last thing God wants is to send any man or woman - deeply loved by Him and made in His very image - to this place called Hell. That's why He sent Jesus to live a perfect life, to die a perfect death on the cross for our sins, and then to rise from the dead.    You might protest, "God could never use someone like me!" Actually, He can and He will if you will let Him. It could even happen today - before this day is over. He won't force you to share your faith, but He may very well prompt you. And when you take that step of faith, He will empower and use you. Yes, you.    I want you to discover the adventure of being used by God, especially in this area of telling others about Jesus. God says that He is looking for people He can "show Himself strong on behalf of" (2 Chronicles 16:9, NKJV). He is searching for someone who will simply say, "Use me, Lord!" Would you be that person? If so, a wonderful adventure awaits you.    I want to let you in on a little surprise: Sharing your faith can be both exciting and - believe it or not - fun! As Psalm 126:6 reminds us, "Those who go out weeping, carrying seed to sow, will return with songs of joy, carrying sheaves with them" (NIV). Jesus told us there is joy in Heaven over every sinner who comes to repentance (see Luke 15:7). So if there is joy in Heaven upon hearing the news of a conversion, there certainly should be joy in having a role in it.    Next to personally knowing Jesus Christ as my Savior and Lord, the greatest joy I know of is leading others to Christ and watching them grow spiritually. And you can do that, too. It should be a joyful, happy thing to tell others about your relationship with God and explain how they can have one, too. I have found that the happiest Christians are the evangelistic ones.    Yes, there is a happiness we are missing out on if we are not sharing our faith. The apostle John wrote that his personal joy was made complete by sharing the message of Christ (see 1 John 1:4). The believers I know who make a habit of sharing the Gospel are truly happy people.    So here's the bottom line: What's your excuse for not sharing? Clearly, God could reach people without us. He could send angels down every street in the world with megaphones, declaring the Gospel. Instead, however, He has chosen to work through us. In fact, He almost seems to go out of His way to find the most unlikely candidates to accomplish His divine purposes.    You might say, "I'm not qualified. I'm not gifted or talented." Do you want to know a little secret? You are just the person God is looking for. He delights to use people who aren't necessarily self-confident. Why? Because when God does something amazing through them, He is the one who gets the glory, as He should. No, you may not feel qualified or "ready." But God isn't looking for ability as much as He is availability. God doesn't call the qualified, He qualifies the called!    There have been so many times when I have felt drained and exhausted, both physically and mentally. I have even felt like my spiritual gas tank was close to empty. But then, when I started to share the Gospel with someone, or stopped thinking about myself and focused on another's needs and shared some truth from God's Word, I was replenished in every way. I started on empty and ended on full. Proverbs 11:25 tells us that "those who refresh others will themselves be refreshed" (NLT).    You may be asking, "But where do I start?" As a matter of fact, there is an excellent opportunity coming up just a few days from right now. Harvest America is an annual live nationwide event, streamed to thousands of host locations including churches, theaters and living rooms. This is more than just a webcast. It is the body of Christ banding together to proclaim the Gospel live across the nation. The next Harvest America will be held on March 6, 2016, at 5:30 p.m. Central time, streamed live from AT&T Stadium in Dallas, Texas.    The event will feature top Christian artists including Chris Tomlin, Lecrae, Switchfoot and MercyMe, and I will be on hand to offer a clear Gospel message. To find a location near you, simply go to our website, harvestamerica.com.    This may be the opportunity - the open door - you've been waiting for to introduce your loved one, friend, or neighbor to the Lord Jesus. And all you have to do is invite them to come along with you for the event. Yes, they might say, "No." But who knows? They might also say yes - and walk right into the biggest decision of their lives. |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | http://img.constantcontact.com/letters/images/1101116784221/S.gif | |  |  | | --- | | **FROM THE HEART**  **http://files.ctctcdn.com/61c7cfcb201/1966c7fd-05e4-4647-8075-0a43806d1b6d.jpg**  **IF YOU HAVE BEEN BLESSED THROUGH THIS MINISTRY, THEN WE ASK THAT YOU WOULD PLEASE REMEMBER PROPHECY UPDATE IN YOUR GIVING - WE ARE TRULY, TRULY, THANKFUL FOR YOUR SUPPORT**   Prophecy Update has no corporate sponsors. This ministry is paid for and prayed for by readers and supporters. Without your support, there would be no Prophecy Update, Please pray about becoming a monthly supporter - thanks!  http://files.ctctcdn.com/61c7cfcb201/821fca8a-c4df-4570-b7d8-49f6a838fbb3.jpg  **If ever there was a time to invest in God's Kingdom, it's now!**  **What on earth are you doing for Heaven's Sake?**  **"Share in the Blessings and Rewards that will last Forever!"**  "Folks, it's all beginning to unravel. America is in more danger of falling than at any time in its history. But I believe Bible prophecy predicts this very decline. From this point on, we believers have to get serious. We are going to face discouragement, disillusionment and, most certainly, persecution in the time between now and the Rapture. But don't be discouraged or disillusioned. The coming turmoil will provide us unrivaled opportunities to share the good news of the Gospel. So be ready to share your faith and your hope with those who need Christ. We still have time to reap a great harvest of souls for God's kingdom!" - Hal Lindsey  **1) We need your prayers!**- We proclaim the Truth of the Word of God and we are under constant spiritual and sometimes even physical attack.  **2) We need your encouragement!**- We need to hear from you, let us know how the Lord is blessing you through this ministry so that we can share it with others.  **3) We need your input! -** If you have a prophetic article or story or if there is a news related item we missed, let us know.  **4) We need your financial support!**- To put it quite simply, without your support, there would be no Prophecy Update.  I ask that you would prayerfully consider partnering with us to get the Word out and keep the world informed. Remember, your gift, no matter how small, does make a difference! You will be helping to touch lives, around the world, 24 hours a day, seven days a week, thanks to the internet your generosity carries a global impact! - Thanks!  **Our Prayer for You**- "Now he who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will also supply and increase your store of seed and will enlarge the harvest of your righteousness. You will be made rich in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God. This service that you perform is not only supplying the needs of God's people but is also overflowing in many expressions of thanks to God. Because of the service by which you have proved yourselves, men will praise God for the obedience that accompanies your confession of the gospel of Christ, and for your generosity in sharing with them and with everyone else." 2 Corinthians 9:10-13  Prophecy Update is a **501 (c) (3) tax exempt** - non-profit organization, and all your donations are tax deductible.  If you have been blessed by Prophecy Update and would like to help support this ministry financially. 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