



“Death, and The Second Coming of Jesus Christ” Part I (Heb.9:27-28)

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Intro: On one of our trips to Israel, we bumped into several people very influential in the world of Christianity. The first was Chuck Swindoll...the next was one of my college professors, Dr. Ed Hindson...and the third was Dr. Tim LaHaye. I spoke with Dr. LaHaye at Beit She'an and told him that by the end of the week I wouldn't be surprised to see Elvis. He didn't laugh. Instead he said, "We ought to be looking for the Lord." I felt pretty convicted at that point, and quickly ended our conversation!

Are you looking for the Lord, anticipating His return?

How do we know He will come again?

1. Bible prophecy
2. Significant Bible prophecies that have been fulfilled
 - Daniel prophecies of kingdoms of Babylon, Medo-Persia, Greece, and Rome (and a yet future revived Roman Empire (Daniel chapters 2 & 7)
 - Jeremiah's prophecy of Babylonian captivity (Jer.25:11-12; 29:10; Isa.44:26, 28; 45:1-4, 13; Dan.9:2)
 - Time of Jesus' coming/the cross (Dan.9:26)
 - Birthplace of Jesus (Micah 5:2)
 - Judas betraying Jesus for thirty pieces of silver (Zech.11:12-13; Matt.27:3-7)
 - Jesus' crucifixion (Isa.53:5; Psalm 22:16)
 - Jesus' grave (Isa.53:9; Matt.27:57-59)
 - Soldier's gambling for Jesus' clothing (John 19:23-24; Psalm 22:18)
 - Jesus' words from the cross (Psalm 22:1)

- The crowd mocking Jesus on the cross (Psalm 22:6-7; Matthew 27:39-44)
- Jesus' resurrection (Psalm 16:10; Acts 2:27, 31; 13:35)

3. Prophecies of His return

- Acts 1:11; Zech. 14:4; Daniel 7:13; Matt.26:64

How will He return?

1. Bodily, physically (Acts 1:6-11; Zech 14:4; Matt.26:62-64; Daniel 7:13)
2. Suddenly, like lightning (Luke 17:24; I Thess.5:1-2)

When will he return?

1. In the middle of the day (Matt.24:40)
2. In the middle of the night (Luke 17:34)
3. At an hour we do not expect Him (Matthew 24:36-44)
4. Soon (Rev.22:7, 12, 20)

Signs that tell us we could be very close

1. Modern military (Joel 2:4-5; Rev.9:17-19; Rev.6:4, 8)
 2. Increased knowledge (Daniel 12:4)
 3. Technology for the mark of the beast (Rev.13:16-17)
 4. Ability for world to view slain witnesses of Rev.11:7-10
 5. Temple Institute and readiness to reinstate OT temple worship
 6. Only one Matthew 24 sign left to be fulfilled ("abomination of desolation")
 7. Rebirth of Israel as a nation (Ezekiel 38:8)
 8. Potential of national allegiance against Israel (see Ezekiel 38:1-8)
- A study of ancient Hebrew, ancient history and modern-day geography pretty much concludes that Ezek.38:2 refers to Russia, Moscow, and Tobolsk (Siberia). Rosh and Magog refer to Russia and the lands and people of the former Soviet Union. See Ezekiel

- 38:5,15; 39:2 ("far north"). In Ezekiel 38:5, the first country named as part of the alliance with Russia against Israel is Persia. Until March 21, 1935, Persia was the official name of the country we today know as Iran. NEVER in the last 2500 plus years (since these prophecies were given) has Russia and Iran had a military alliance. Many used this as an attempt to disprove the Bible. In December 2004 Putin became the first Russian leader to ever visit modern Turkey. He said, "Russia and Turkey are moving toward cooperation and the flourishing it will bring with it." In April of 2008 Putin signed an arms deal with Libya.

From Joel Rosenberg:

- **Libya:** The new leaders of Libya are Radical Islamists – members or allies of the Muslim Brotherhood. They are committed to creating an Islamic republic and imposing Sharia law on the people of Libya as part of the Islamic caliphate. They have a deep hatred for Israel and the United States. Recently, Islamic militants attacked the American consulate in the city of Benghazi. They murdered U.S. Ambassador Christopher Stevens. They murdered three other U.S. diplomatic staff. The Libyan government did precious little to defend the lives of Americans.
- **Egypt:** The new President of Egypt – Mohammed Morsi – is a senior leader of the Muslim Brotherhood. He hates Israel, despises the United States, is committed to holy war against all infidels, and has stated clearly he's going to turn Egypt into an Islamic republic under Sharia law. Morsi gave a speech at Cairo University in May: "The Qur'an is our constitution, the Prophet is our leader, jihad is our path, and death in the name of Allah is our goal." Last month, Morsi became the first Egyptian leader in a generation to visit Iran and begin rebuilding ties to the radical mullahs in Tehran. Recently, some 2,000 radical Muslim militants stormed the U.S. embassy grounds, tore down the American flag, and raised the flag of Islam. The Egyptian security forces did precious little to stop them. This is a country to which the U.S. provides \$1.5 billion in foreign aid annually.
- **Syria:** As of December 2011, some 3,500 Syrians had been killed in the revolution. Today, more than 25,000 Syrian Arabs have been killed. A number of those are Syrian military forces. But most are civilians, many of whom have been massacred – slaughtered, even – by the Assad regime.
- **Iran:** If Iran acquires nuclear warheads and the high-speed ballistic missiles to deliver them, they could do in about six minutes what it took Adolf Hitler six years to do - kill six million Jews. The most dangerous corridor on the planet right now is the corridor between Tel Aviv and Tehran. Everyone who lives in this corridor is currently in grave danger. Iran does not seem to be taking seriously the prospect of an Israeli preemptive strike. Israel's Security Cabinet recently had a 10-hour meeting to discuss the latest intelligence on the Iran nuclear threat and consider Israel's military options. The Jerusalem Post noted that this was the first time the full Security Cabinet has met for such an in-depth discussion of Iran in several months. A senior advisor to Prime Minister Netanyahu said last week: "We are entering the most fateful 50 days Israel has faced since, perhaps, the similarly fateful days prior to the Yom Kippur War."

Relations between the U.S. and Israel are deteriorating rapidly. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton publicly announced the U.S. is “not setting deadlines” for Iran to stop illegally enriching uranium in violation of U.N. Security Council resolutions, and to stop developing nuclear weapons. The President has turned down requests by Prime Minister Netanyahu to meet either in New York City during the opening of the U.N. General Assembly, or in Washington. The White House said there simply wasn’t time on the President’s busy schedule. The President did, however, make time to appear on “The Late Show” with David Letterman while he was in NYC. The President should always make time for an ally facing the growing threat of a nuclear holocaust. A Wall Street Journal editorial recently said the White House message to Israel seems to be, “You’re on your own, pal.” Netanyahu’s response: “The world tells Israel: ‘Wait. There’s still time.’ And I say, ‘Wait for what? Wait until when?’ Those in the international community who refuse to put red lines before Iran don’t have a moral right to place a red light before Israel.”

- **Note:** Israel will not be destroyed by a nuclear bomb. The Bible makes this perfectly clear. But the heightened tension between Israel, Iran, and other nations not friendly toward Israel is a sign that we are quickly approaching a united coalition against Israel, one that the Bible predicted would take place.