

PEACE AND SAFETY

Perhaps the single most elusive endeavor in this world, next to grasping the incredible complexity of creation, is to secure peace in the Middle East. There have been countless efforts over the years of many Presidents, Prime Ministers, Kings, and Princes to establish a treaty in which Israel and her enemies would agree to proposed terms and demands of the other in order to establish peace in that region. Unfortunately, there has been very little peace and no agreement reached by any party despite all these efforts. There have been many treaties drafted, many pacts written up, and many contracts negotiated by countless high powered officials, yet there has never been comprehensive resolution, consequently, Israel and surrounding nations have continued to build up their aggression and violence toward each other as a result of these multiple failed negotiations.

Currently, there is a global effort on the part of the major superpowers of the world, including the United States, to establish this elusive comprehensive peace between Israel and the surrounding nations/enemies. To be quite honest, this “peace process” appears to have all the major ingredients and components that will make it far more likely to find agreement than perhaps any of the other draft treaties.

The United States, through the initiative of President Bush and Condoleeza Rice, is strongly demanding a two-state solution (Israel and Palestine) as a major component to their peace plan. A peace summit has been tentatively scheduled for the end of November 2007 in Annapolis, Maryland, and as of this writing, there will be a significant number of attendees, and even more shocking, there is a requirement that a “joint declaration” be reached between Israel and other negotiating parties (Palestinian Authority or the PA) BEFORE the peace summit and that this joint declaration have consensus going into the summit (a). The United States is essentially requiring that all core issues between Israel and the PA be agreed upon before the summit, and they include issues related to: Jerusalem, refugees and permanent borders.

These issues sound rather benign to the casual observer, however, they are profoundly significant because there have been multiple reports that Israel’s Prime Minister , Ehud Olmert is quite willing and eager to concede to unbelievable demands of both the US and the PA in an effort to achieve peace. First, Olmert is willing to allow the PA to establish their own state within the borders of Israel and allow them to exist side by side in Gaza and the West Bank (b). This is incredibly significant because the Holy Bible speaks very clearly to the land of Israel, which God has granted to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob and their descendants. Gaza and the West Bank are a part of this covenant, and God has spoken about this land division very clearly in scripture. *Joel 3:1 For, behold, in those days, and in that time, when I shall bring again the captivity of Judah and Jerusalem. 2: I will also gather all nations, and will bring them down into the valley of Jehoshaphat, and will plead with them there for my people and for my heritage Israel, whom they have scattered among the nations, and parted my land.*

Secondly, in these serious negotiations and Israeli concessions already made public, Prime Minister Olmert is all but confirming that Jerusalem, the capital of Israel, will be divided to ensure that the Palestinians will have East Jerusalem as their capital, while Israel maintains West Jerusalem as their capital (c). The division of Jerusalem clearly violates God’s plan and will, and will invite significant consequences if and when the division of this Holy City is realized. *Zechariah 12:3 And in that day will I make Jerusalem a burdensome stone for all people: all that burden themselves with it shall be cut in pieces, though all the people of the earth be gathered together against it.*

There are multiple articles that speak directly to this prophecy in TODAY’S news. Please understand that when Jerusalem becomes a significant problem (which it clearly is in these negotiations) and develops into a “burdensome stone” for ALL people (it may be one of the major sticking points in the peace negotiations in which virtually the entire world is participating in that creates a significant problem in the establishment of this peace treaty), chances are that it is this very process that the bible is speaking of which will lead to the fulfillment of these scriptures. This is a headline in a very recent news article written about this peace process and the role that Jerusalem is taking on as things unfold: *“Jerusalem Emerges as Stumbling Block in Mideast Peace Talks”* (d). Coincidence? Perhaps. Perhaps not.

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This current peace process is incredibly interesting to watch, and there is no doubt that these efforts will very likely dissolve into nothing more than a photo op for major world leaders trying to add to their list of accomplishments. In fact the bible makes it very clear that there will only be one successful moment of achieving “comprehensive peace” between Israel and her enemies, and that will only be accomplished through savvy efforts of one man who will rise up on the world stage at some point and establish peace in the region. This man will be the person who “confirms” a covenant between Israel and many nations for 7 years (this passage says “one week” which in its translation for this purpose is referring to 7 years; 7 days or “one week” = 7 years) *Daniel 9:27 Then he shall confirm a covenant with many for one week; But in the middle of the week He shall bring an end to sacrifice and offering. And on the wing of abominations shall be one who makes desolate.* The bible is also very clear that this “covenant” will appear to achieve peace and safety in the region, however, it will be a false peace and will actually be the onset of unprecedented global horror and agony in the history of human existence. *1Thessalonians 5:3 For when they say, "Peace and safety!" then sudden destruction comes upon them, as labor pains upon a pregnant woman. And they shall not escape.*

So why is 7 year peace covenant, or any significant peace process even of any interest. As stated before, it is likely that this peace summit tentatively scheduled for November will likely dissolve into nothing, however, there is a possibility, considering the times in which we are living as well as the core issues (Jerusalem, border issues/land division) that it may be the very process that develops into the biblical 7 year covenant mentioned in Daniel 9:27. Ehud Olmert appears to be incredibly desperate to achieve “peace” at any cost for Israel, and according to multiple credible sources (see credit page for just a few) he is willing to do the unthinkable: 1. divide the land of Israel and give the West Bank to the PA (who happen to be significant enemies of Israel and do not recognize Israel’s existence as a sovereign nation). This would mean that the PA would have two portions of Israel, Gaza Strip and the West Bank. These concessions would likely take Israel back to the pre-1967 borders in which they fought to reclaim in the 6-day war. 2. divide Jerusalem so that East Jerusalem would be recognized as the capital of Palestine and West Jerusalem would be recognized as the capital of Israel. This is an astonishing development because clearly the bible speaks to Jerusalem as becoming a burdensome stone in the last days and it also speaks to it ultimately being divided. *Zechariah 14:2 For I will gather all the nations against Jerusalem to battle, and the city will be captured, the houses plundered, the women ravished and half of the city exiled, but the rest of the people will not be cut off from the city. 3 Then the LORD will go forth and fight against those nations, as when He fights on a day of battle. 4 In that day His feet will stand on the Mount of Olives, which is in front of Jerusalem on the east; and the Mount of Olives will be split in its middle from east to west by a very large valley, so that half of the mountain will move toward the north and the other half toward the south.*

When examining this prophecy, it appears that HALF of the city of Jerusalem is exiled. It makes you wonder why only half the city would be exiled. If you read up on the true intentions of any radical Muslim nation surrounding Israel, you will understand that they do not want to simply co-exist, they want Israel completely gone and they want it destroyed. I cannot say with certainty that Zechariah 14:2 is saying that Jerusalem will definitely be divided, however, it appears as though it may very well be, and having studied end-times prophecy, this passage is directly speaking to the 2nd coming of the Lord, which will occur at the end of the 7 year “peace” covenant. If half the city of Jerusalem is exiled as described in Zechariah, that may mean that the division of the city of Jerusalem and the sovereignty granted to Palestine as a result, would have been sufficient to create some sort of overwhelming terror in “West Jerusalem” which forced the Jewish people to flee (or be exiled). I do not know for sure, but I am aware that Jesus tells us that in the end times, *Matthew 24:16-18 Then let them which be in Judaea flee into the mountains: Let him which is on the housetop not come down to take any thing out of his house: Neither let him which is in the field return back to take his clothes.* According to Wikipedia, Judaea refers to a large southern section of Israel and the West Bank, or in the combined term Judea and Samaria to refer specifically to the West Bank area south of Jerusalem. Is this exactly what these scriptures are saying? I don’t know, however, at minimum, it is very interesting.

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Finally, one other interesting development of this peace process is that there is significant discussion and appears to be on and off agreement that the Holy Site of the Jewish Temple Mount will be given custody to Jordan (e). It is astonishing that this is even on the table for discussion, however, it appears that Olmert is willing to do whatever necessary to establish “peace” for Israel, and this bit of news may be the most telling of just how close we are to seeing the fulfillment of all the end-times prophecies.

Jesus tells us that there will be a man (the same man who confirms the 7 year covenant) who will sit in the Temple Mount *Mathew 24:15: When ye therefore shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, stand in the holy place, (whoso readeth, let him understand:)* and will claim to be Christ himself in the middle of the 7 year tribulation (discussed in another writing), so it certainly makes sense that the Temple Mount would have to be given up in order for this person to defile this Holy Site and claim to be Christ.

This man is referred to as the Anti-Christ, and will be the person who “confirms the covenant” (the 7 year peace treaty) and will also be the man who is responsible for the abomination of desolation of the Holy Place (Temple Mount). Again, I am not saying that the transfer of custody of the Temple Mount to Jordan will be the reason why the abomination of desolation takes place, however, it is an interesting development, and it is definitely worth watching to see how this issue unfolds.

When considering what seems to be significant concessions on the part of Prime Minister Olmert in the following areas:

1. Dividing the land of Israel in agreement with the 2-state solution (Palestine and Israel) with Israel giving up the West Bank to reverse back to pre-1967 borders.
2. Dividing Jerusalem into East Jerusalem (to serve as capitol of Palestine) and West Jerusalem (to serve as capital of Israel).
3. Potentially transferring custody of the Temple Mount, (the Jewish people’s most Holy site) to Jordan.
4. Securing all these “core issues” in a joint declaration already agreed upon BEFORE the summit tentatively scheduled for the end of November

These items may become an astonishingly good representative of what may in fact lock the 7 year peace treaty into place, because clearly these resolved “core issues” will give Palestinians what they want (short-term anyway) and will provide the “peace and safety” that Israel is so desperate to achieve.

There is no way of knowing if this will indeed produce “the covenant” that is spoken of in Daniel, and I have my doubts as to whether it will, however, I simply do not know. However, I do happen to believe that the negotiable items of this peace process will at some point in the near future be a part of that 7 year peace treaty, and if you look closely enough, the bible says that all the Anti-Christ has to do, is CONFIRM the covenant, which implies that he strengthens an already existing draft of some sort. If this is the process that will produce “the covenant”, we are very, very close to the onset of the 7 year tribulation (or Daniel’s 70th week), which, if you understand what this period will entail, you will not want to be unprepared. There is only one way to be prepared for that period of time that will, without question, come upon all of humanity at some point in the future. Please see next page for details on how to prepare.

I urge you to do your own research and examine these things for yourself. Please do not take my word for it, and do not hold my writings as “the truth” because I do not know a lot and I do not profess to be a prophecy scholar. It is very reasonable that I am in error on some things, and that my theology may not be completely correct, so I urge you to research this independently so that you can arrive at your own conclusions.

One thing is a fact, and that is that Jesus will come again. He told us to watch for Him and to be ready at all times because He will come like a thief in the night and when we are least expecting Him. It will happen.

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Matthew 24:33 So likewise ye, when ye shall see all these things, know that it is near, [even] at the doors.

Matthew 24:36 But of that day and hour knoweth no [man], no, not the angels of heaven, but my Father only.

Matthew 24:42 Watch therefore: for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come

Matthew 24:44 Therefore be ye also ready: for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh.

There is only one way to be saved and to be right with God. There are NOT several paths to the Lord, nor are there several paths to heaven. If you hear this from anyone, know that it is not true. Many people think they get to heaven by being a “good person”. Please do not believe that. Getting to heaven has NOTHING to do with what you have done in the past, no matter how noble or good it is. It has nothing to do with how well you have lived your life or how many good deeds you have done. The only way to know God and to have a relationship with Him is through His son Jesus Christ. You must pray to invite Him into your life. God is not oppressive. He is not coercive. He allows all of us to make the choice whether to accept Him or not. He will not force His way into your life. So, you must invite Him in. How? Pray this prayer:

Lord,

I have sinned. I am a sinner and I recognize this and I humbly come before you to ask you for your forgiveness. You said that Your Son Jesus died for us and to pay the price of our sins. I believe you sent Him for this purpose, and I believe that He died and rose again on the third day. Please cleanse me of all my sins and come into my heart. I accept you into my life and I humbly ask for your forgiveness. In Jesus name, Amen.

Please know that we are all sinners and that we ALL fall short of the glory of God. He has one free gift for EVERYONE who will choose to accept it, and that is to believe in His son so that we may have eternal life with Him.

Please feel free to send these on to your email list, give them to family/friends or whatever you would like to do with them. The most important thing is knowing you are in relationship with God, and the rest is less important. Again, I do not profess to have all the answers, but I have studied a lot and I see so many things happening that are aligning with biblical prophecy, I simply cannot hold on to this information and keep it to myself. I have not gone off the deep end (yet! Ha!) and I have not read the “Left Behind” series so you can rest assured I have not jumped on some sensational bandwagon. I never imagined myself writing one thing about prophecy just 18 months ago, and here I am. So, I chalk it up to a “calling” and I want to share what little has been revealed to me so that you can research and examine things for yourself.

Feel free to email me if you have questions.

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Credits

(a)

Last update - 07:30 18/10/2007

Source: Joint Israel-PA statement to address 'all core issues'

By [Barak Ravid](#) and Avi Issacharoff, Haaretz correspondents and news agencies

Israel is prepared to make a joint declaration with the Palestinians at the international peace conference scheduled to take place next month in Annapolis that will address the core issues of Jerusalem, refugees and permanent borders, a senior government official told Haaretz Wednesday. Palestinian officials demanded Israel commit to a timetable for negotiations.

<http://haaretz.com/hasen/spages/914119.html>

(b)

Rice presses for 'two-state solution'

Associated Press

October 25, 2007

Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice said yesterday that a "two-state solution" in the Middle East was in jeopardy and described a narrow window of opportunity to push Israel and the Palestinians toward peace.

In a House hearing interrupted by anti-war protesters, Rice said a coming peace conference in Annapolis is needed to give hope to moderate Palestinian forces.

Israel's prime minister, Ehud Olmert, told parliament that he hoped the U.S.-sponsored conference would mark the beginning of the end of his country's conflict with the Palestinians.

"I don't know if the time of peace is yet ripe," Olmert said in Jerusalem. "But I know that it is my duty as the prime minister of Israel to do everything in order to promote that time and at least try and bring it closer."

<http://www.baltimoresun.com/news/nation/bal-te.rice25oct25,0,2849088.story>

(c)

MK Steinitz: Olmert Will Divide Jerusalem

27 Elul 5767, September 10, '07

(IsraelINN.com) MK Yuval Steinitz (Likud) expressed concern on Monday over ongoing talks between Prime Minister Ehud Olmert and Palestinian Authority Chairman Mahmoud Abbas. "The government will give everything, while endangering the state," Steinitz said, "and will not receive a thing."

While Olmert once promised to protect unified Jerusalem as Israel's capital, Steinitz said, today he is willing to split the city, as was former Prime Minister (and current Defense Minister) Ehud Barak. Such a move would lead to an Iranian presence in the heart of Israel, he said. Steinitz said that Olmert was willing to offer everything to Abbas because "he is willing to do everything" in order to remain in power. Olmert hopes that making concessions to the PA will earn him support from the political left, Steinitz said.

<http://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/Flash.aspx/133080>

(d)

Jerusalem Emerges as Stumbling Block in Mideast Peace Talks

By Robert Berger

Jerusalem

11 October 2007

Jerusalem is emerging as a major stumbling block in new peace negotiations between Israel and the Palestinians. As Robert Berger reports from VOA's Jerusalem bureau, both Jews and Muslims are claiming the city's holy sites as their own.

A senior Palestinian official has thrown a wrench into peace talks by saying that the Western Wall in Jerusalem's Old City, the holiest place in Judaism, belongs to Islam and the Palestinians.

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CREDITS CONTINUED

(e)

November Mideast Summit to Transfer Temple Mount to Jordanian Control

Kim Garrison, 888-CLASS-71 (888-252-7771)

TORONTO, Ontario, Oct. 15 /[Christian Newswire](#)/ -- Next month, November 2007, a US-sponsored Mideast summit aims to produce a joint declaration between Israel and the Palestinian Authority. Israeli Prime Minister, Ehud Olmert, has stated his willingness to consider turning over half of Jerusalem to the PA, a concession that has Jews as well as Christians around the world tremendously alarmed. There are also reports that a controversial and secret agreement has been reached that will transfer the Temple Mount to Jordanian custody.

[PMO denies report that Jordan will have custody of Temple Mt.](#)

<http://www.jpost.com/servlet/Satellite?cid=1191257248078&pagename=JPost%2FJPArticle%2FShowFull> ^ | 10-08-07 | J POST

STAFF

Posted on 10/08/2007 4:44:40 AM

Prime Minister Ehud Olmert's office on Monday morning denied the report in Al-Quds al-Arabi that he and Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas had agreed to transfer the Temple Mount's holy sites to Jordanian custody.

According to the report in the London-based newspaper, Olmert and Abbas had agreed that the Temple Mount sites would be under Jordanian jurisdiction in a final peace deal, and Jordanian citizenship would be granted to 90,000 east Jerusalem residents.

The report also said it was likely that a supreme supervisory commission would be established, which would include representatives from the UN, Egypt, Jordan, Israel and the PA.

The report drew strong criticism from the right-wing.