

## DANIEL AND TURKEY UPDATE

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We last had a prophecy update about a year ago.

There have been some very recent developments ... particularly for Turkey. It is worth an update ... just in case things start moving.

Much of prophecy involves some speculation ... and our track record has not been very good!

So we need to be cautious about reading too much into world events ... but nonetheless it's good to remain alert and watchful ... because things are happening.

As I've said in the past:

- We should be familiar with the text or scripture ... the narrative
- We should be careful and responsible in how we interpret the text
- We should recognise that we're often speculating when we look at how world conditions are (allegedly) fulfilling prophecy.

Jesus certainly implied we should be watchful of world conditions!

### **Matthew 16:1-4 (NKJV)**

1 Then the Pharisees and Sadducees came, and testing Him asked that He would show them a sign from heaven.

2 He answered and said to them, "When it is evening you say, 'It will be fair weather, for the sky is red';

3 and in the morning, 'It will be foul weather today, for the sky is red and threatening.' Hypocrites! **You know how to discern the face of the sky, but you cannot discern the signs of the times.**

4 A wicked and adulterous generation seeks after a sign, and no sign shall be given to it except the sign of the prophet Jonah." And He left them and departed.

We should be able to discern the signs of the times. Do we know if we are in the end-time or how far we are through it?

**Matthew 24:15-18 (NKJV)**

15 **“Therefore when you see the abomination of desolation,’ spoken of by Daniel the prophet, standing in the holy place”** (whoever reads, let him understand),

16 “then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains.

17 Let him who is on the housetop not go down to take anything out of his house.

18 And let him who is in the field not go back to get his clothes.

“When you see” ... what’s in prophecy! You have to be watchful ... alert ... to see it! (Because you are watching).

Now ... over the years ... most of us and many others ... have watched Europe ... the Vatican ... looking for 10 nations to unite ... led by Germany. Not just the WCG and other churches of God. The “Roman View” is very popular with prophecy enthusiasts.

However ... as I’ve explained over the past couple of years ... I believe that view is wrong.

If we’re looking at Europe ... Rome and the Papacy ... we’re looking in the wrong place!

Without going into all of the detail ... let me just go over a couple of the key points ... as to why I believe we should be focusing our attention more on Iran and Turkey ... not Europe.

Today will just be an abbreviated message.

So ... where did the “Roman Idea” come from in the first place? How did it start?

**Daniel 2:36-44 (NKJV)**

36 **“This is the dream.** Now we will tell the interpretation of it before the king.

37 **You, O king, are a king of kings. For the God of heaven has given you a kingdom, power, strength, and glory;**

38 and wherever the children of men dwell, or the beasts of the field and the birds of the heaven, He has given them into your hand, **and has made you ruler over them all—****you are this head of gold.** (Gold = Babylon = Iraq)

39 But **after you shall arise another kingdom inferior to yours;** (*Silver = Persia*) **then another, a third kingdom of bronze,** which shall rule over all the earth. (*Bronze = Greece*)

40 **And the fourth kingdom shall be as strong as iron,** inasmuch as iron breaks in pieces and shatters everything; and like iron that crushes, **that kingdom will break in pieces and crush all the others.** (*Iron = ?? Rome??*)

41 Whereas you saw the feet and toes, partly of potter's clay and partly of iron, the kingdom shall be divided; yet the strength of the iron shall be in it, just as you saw the iron mixed with ceramic clay.

42 And as the toes of the feet were partly of iron and partly of clay, so the kingdom shall be partly strong and partly fragile.

43 As you saw iron mixed with ceramic clay, they will mingle with the seed of men; but they will not adhere to one another, just as iron does not mix with clay.

44 **And in the days of these kings the God of heaven will set up a kingdom which shall never be destroyed; and the kingdom shall not be left to other people; it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand forever.** (*Talking of Jesus' return ... God's Kingdom*)

GOLD = BABYLON (IRAQ)

SILVER = PERSIA (IRAN)

BRONZE = GREECE

IRON = ?? ROME?

The idea that the 4<sup>th</sup> ... Iron ... Empire was Rome probably started with Hippolytus around 200 AD. Jerome in 408 AD stated in his commentary on the Book of Daniel ... "Now the 4<sup>th</sup> Empire which clearly refers to the Romans".

These views have been passed down ever since. In fact ... the Amplified Bible even inserts Rome!

It can't be Rome. It fails the scriptural test!

#### **Daniel 2:40 (NKJV)**

40 And the fourth kingdom shall be as strong as iron, inasmuch as **iron breaks in pieces and shatters everything;** and like **iron that crushes, that kingdom will break in pieces and crush all the others.** (*"Break in pieces [Deqaq] and crushes*)

The Iron Empire must break in pieces (other translations: Shatter ... Smash ... Pulverise). Here's the problem: ROME NEVER DID THIS! ROME FAILS THE BIBLE TEST!

Rome defeated Greece militarily (c146 BC) ... but absolutely did not crush or pulverise it. Romans had high regard and admiration for Greek culture ... art ... architecture ... literature ... philosophy ... even the Greek religion. Also the Greek language remained as the Lingua Franca (even the New Testament was written in Greek) ... during the Roman Empire Days and Rome never conquered Persia!

So. Rome fails the Daniel 2:40 test (or see "Deqaq" in Daniel 2:44 also!).

Additionally ... look at a map. The Roman Empire was in the West. Different area to Babylon ... Persia and Greece ... they are to the East.

So if it wasn't Rome ... what was the 4<sup>th</sup> Empire?

The Islamic Empire ... starting in the 600s AD and over the centuries taking over more and more of the Middle East ... North Africa ... even into parts of Europe.

Includes territories of Babylon (Iraq) ... Persia (Iran) and Asia Minor (Turkey and the countries around that). And it PULVERISED ... culture ... language (even alphabet ... to Arabic) ... law and religion ... to Mohammed and Allah.

What happened to the Christian Middle East? To Christian North Africa? To the area of the 7 churches of Revelation? Islam steamrolled them all

How many Jews did Hitler kill? Everybody knows.

Some estimates place the number of people killed by Islamic Jihad at around 270 million.

Today ... 25% of the world is Islamic ... by population ... or land mass ... or the sovereign countries.

The Islamic Empire ran for about 1,400 years ... up to just after WW1. The last 600 of those years it was the Ottoman Empire — Modern-Day Turkey ... that was in charge.

There is much more information on the earlier messages I have given. I don't want to cover again.

Ottoman Empire officially ended in 1922. The office of the Caliph (supreme leader of Islam) closed 1923/4.

There is reason to believe that was the deadly wound to the Beast of Revelation chapter 13.

So. Where are we today in prophecy? What's happening recently?

### **Daniel 8:3-8 (NKJV)**

3 Then I lifted my eyes and saw, and there, standing beside the river, was a ram which had two horns, and the two horns were high; but one was higher than the other, and the higher one came up last.

4 I saw the ram pushing westward, northward, and southward, so that no animal could withstand him; nor was there any that could deliver from his hand, but he did according to his will and became great.

5 And as I was considering, suddenly a male goat came from the west, across the surface of the whole earth, without touching the ground; and the goat had a notable horn between his eyes.

6 Then he came to the ram that had two horns, which I had seen standing beside the river, and ran at him with furious power.

7 And I saw him confronting the ram; he was moved with rage against him, attacked the ram, and broke his two horns. There was no power in the ram to withstand him, but he cast him down to the ground and trampled him; and there was no one that could deliver the ram from his hand.

8 Therefore the male goat grew very great; but when he became strong, the large horn was broken, and in place of it four notable ones came up toward the four winds of heaven.

The Ram and the He-goat battle. When does this take place? At the time of the end. See the following scriptures.

### **Daniel 8:17 (NKJV)**

17 So he came near where I stood, and when he came I was afraid and fell on my face; but he said to me, "**Understand, son of man, that the vision refers to the time of the end.**"

#### **Daniel 8:19 (NKJV)**

19 And he said, "**Look, I am making known to you what shall happen in the latter time of the indignation; for at the appointed time the end shall be.**

#### **Daniel 8:26 (NKJV)**

26 "**And the vision of the evenings and mornings Which was told is true; Therefore seal up the vision, For it refers to many days in the future.**"

(Remember Jesus' warning in Matthew Chapter 24 —The Abomination of Desolation leading into the final Great Tribulation).

Who are the Ram and the He-Goat?

#### **Daniel 8:20 (NKJV)**

20 **The ram which you saw, having the two horns—they are the kings of Media and Persia. (Persia — Iran)**

#### **Daniel 8:21 (NKJV)**

21 **And the male goat is the kingdom of Greece.** The large horn that is between its eyes is the first king. *(Greece is translated from the Hebrew "Javan" — Asia Minor = modern-day Turkey)*

So ... in the Time of the End ... Iran goes on the warpath across the Middle East? Later ... Turkey counter-attacks ... and ends up being the dominant nation.

Battle for supremacy ... religion (Shia vs Sunni) and Nationalism involved as well.

It will have a massive impact on the Persian Gulf area ... oil supplies ... and kill off the economies of many nations ... including USA ... Canada ... UK ... even as

far away as Australia ... Japan (who are totally dependant on imported oil) ... Korea.

So ... worldwide economic chaos!

That's what scripture tells us? Daniel Chapter 8.

But what do we see if we look at these 2 nations? Any evidence?

Turkey is where there have been very significant developments in the last 2 weeks.

Turkey is an Islamic country. Ruled as the Islamic Ottoman Empire for about 600 years ending in 1922/23 . Since then ... it has been set up as a secular nation (individuals are largely Muslim ... but State and government to be kept strictly secular). The constitution established the military to intervene any time religious leaders sought to change it.

In the past few years there have been very very significant changes.

The military has been out-manoevred ... many jailed. The country is moving rapidly back towards a RELIGIOUS ISLAMIC NATION ... with an ISLAMIC GOVERNMENT.

Its current leader is Recep Erdogan ... a devout Muslim. He has ambitions to restore the Ottoman Empire with Turkey as its leading nation. To regain lost territory and influence.

You may remember the attempted military coup in July 2016? It lasted a few hours and hopelessly failed!

It gave Erdogan ...as Prime Minster ... justification to clear out everybody who was opposed to him.

Over 113,000 were arrested. 10,000's of police ... judges ... soldiers ... teachers ... academics ... journalists ... were dismissed ... or silenced or jailed. Anyone who opposed him.

A State of Emergency was introduced and is still in place (renewed 6 times already).

Mr Erdogan: "Democracy is like a streetcar. You ride it till you get to your stop and then you get off".

A means to an end! Dictatorship? Caliph?

I have mentioned before ... a poem he wrote:

"The Mosques are our barracks, the Domes our helmets, the Minarets our bayonets and the believers are our soldiers. This Holy Army guards my religion. Almighty, our journey is our destiny. The end is martyrdom".

It seems that all of the major changes in Turkey are down to just one man — Mr Erdogan. He has the vision ... the ambition ... the personal charisma.

On a personal level ... he had a palace built 4 years ago ... costing £500m. It has 1,100 rooms ... a floor space of 1.6 square miles (30 times the floor space of the White House).

The biggest residential palace in the world. The carpets alone cost more than £7m. Silk wallpaper more than £2,000 per roll.

Over 250 rooms are just for the president and his family.

SUPER-OPULENT! What does it reveal about the man? (He has at least 2 other palaces in Turkey).

In our last update 12 months ago ... we discussed an important referendum that had just taken place in Turkey. Easter 2017. To agree to important changes to the Turkish constitution ... giving the president (Mr Erdogan) ... far greater personal power.

I won't repeat the actual changes in the constitution ... check out last year's update.

Erdogan won the referendum (although with only 51%).

The referendum said that the President was to take up his new powers at the next general election ... in November 2019.

One commentator said: “No single man since the days of the Sultans leading the Ottoman Empire, will have had such a concentration of power”.

The President will be unique ... with so much power.

Daniel Chapter 8 says the He-Goat has a notable horn ... Erdogan seems to fit the bill?

The Daily Express newspaper in March:

“Just the month before, a key Turkish newspaper which speaks for Erdogan and his ruling party called for an Islamic army to attack Israel. It called for 57 Islamic States to form a joint army and attack Israel from all sides simultaneously”.

“They claim they would have 5.2 million active soldiers and a defence budget of \$175 billion! The first attack against Israel would involve 250,000 soldiers”.

The Express states:

**“Erdogan has on several occasions said he would like to resurrect the Ottoman Empire.** The tyrant has established military bases in Qatar, Somalia and Sudan. He has threatened to invade the Greek Islands in the Mediterranean and has recently invaded Syria under the pretext of fighting terrorism”.

The Express called that article: WORLD WAR 3.

Almost too much happening within Turkey to easily follow!

There is a suspicion that Erdogan has his ambitions on something special for 2023 ... the 100 year anniversary of the fall of the Ottoman Empire. It seems very likely that he wants to restore the greatness of Islam — with perhaps himself as the number 1?

Political posters in Istanbul often talk of “Resurrection again”.

So ... hopefully we’re keeping an eye on Mr Erdogan. He’s not going away!  
What is he up to?

Well — this month he’s probably shown his hand again!

Remember ... he “won” the referendum at Easter 2019 ... giving the President in 2019 great new powers?

Guess what? He’s brought forward that election from November 2019 ... to June 24 this year! Just 8 weeks away!

It looks like he’s accelerating his plans. Maybe economic concerns — but the net effect ... if he wins ... he becomes legally and officially the supreme leader of Turkey ... a DICTATOR! THIS YEAR!

I don’t suppose that anyone can say how quickly he’ll move thereafter. Years? Months?

But 2023 is a very important anniversary ... so it wouldn’t be a huge surprise if he has something special planned.

And NOBODY around who can stop him!

Yesterday’s London Times has an editorial. (See below ... end of this note)

We’ve talked quite a lot over the past couple of years about Daniel Chapter 8 and Turkey and Iran. As far as I am concerned ... Turkey is STILL ON TARGET! Possibly even picking up speed.

WE NEED TO WATCH!

Turkey is in the top 10 military nations. Number 2 in NATO. Its land army is one of the biggest.

### **Revelation 13:1-3 (NKJV)**

1 Then I stood on the sand of the sea. And **I saw a beast rising up out of the sea, having seven heads and ten horns, and on his horns ten crowns, and on his heads a blasphemous name.** *(Islamic Empire of 10 nations)*

2 Now **the beast which I saw was like a leopard, his feet were like the feet of a bear, and his mouth like the mouth of a lion.** **The dragon gave him his power, his throne, and great authority.**

3 And **I saw one of his heads as if it had been mortally wounded, and his deadly wound was healed.** **And all the world marveled and followed**

**the beast. (One head mortally wounded — 1923. Islamic Empires of the end particularly the Ottoman Empire. To be resurrected — healed — maybe 2023?)**

Developments in Turkey seem quite clear ... the He-Goat of Daniel Chapter 8. That's what I wanted to concentrate on today — especially the election of June and the new dictator-type powers Erdogan will gain then.

I don't have time to say much about Iran/Persia — the Ram of Daniel Chapter 8. It goes on the attack first.

But plenty happening in Iran. It's also making rapid strides.

I will read a couple of very recent comments.

The Guardian newspaper last Sunday — talking about Israel's 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations:

“ ... the storm now gathering around Israel's borders potentially surpasses in severity anything the country has faced so far”. “ ... at its heart, connecting all the geographical scrabble pieces, is one four-letter word: IRAN”.

“In Syria beyond the Golan Heights, in Lebanon to the north, in Gaza to the south, in Iraq, and possibly even in Jordan to the east, Israel's leaders are watching with growing alarm as Iran's physical and ideological presence and influence steadily spread”.

It's spreading little by little now ... but prophecy tells us one day soon ... it will spread violently.

Christian Science Monitor last December:

“Iran has emerged from ... battle fields in Iraq, Syria and beyond as an unrivalled regional superpower, with more hard and soft-power capacity to shape events in the Middle East than it has ever before experienced”.

“Iran has emerged as the DOMINANT POWER IN THE REGION”.

And even its Arab neighbours are worried.

Saudi Arabia's young new leader ... Crown Prince Mohammed Bin Salman ... interviewed on "60 Minutes" last month ... called Iran's spiritual leader — "The new Hitler of the Middle East". The reason: "Because he wants to expand".

Have a look around the internet. There is plenty of information about Iran and its ambitions of growing influence.

It looks like all of the ducks are lining up?

All we need now is for something to spark the Middle East ... the trigger.

When that happens ... hold on tight ... we're all in for a white-knuckle ride!! It could be sooner than we think.

