
LAST DAYS PROPHECY SEMINAR

LESSON TEN: “The Young Lions are Rallying”

1. INTRODUCTION: God’s judgment on Babylon continues.

- A. In Lesson 2 of this seminar we learned that God’s sword was in the land.
- 1) It began with the 9/11 attacks on the USA.
 - 2) Zephaniah 1:14-18 talks about an attack against the fortified cities and against the high towers.
- B. We also learned that we are in the time of Jacob’s Trouble.
- 1) What is Jacob/Israel’s Trouble?
 - a. It is when God begins to remove the Gentile Babylonian system of confusion that has engulfed the entire world and oppressed His people.
- C. Because of the 9/11 attacks, the USA-led coalition attacked Iraq—the original site of ancient Babylon—in fulfillment of Isaiah 13,14.
- D. We also stressed that while God started His outpouring of judgment on Babylon in Iraq after 9/11, His plan was to continue throughout the whole earth.
- 1) Isaiah 14:26, ***“This is the purpose that is purposed upon the whole earth: and this is the hand that is stretched out upon all the nations.”***
- E. We are now seeing the continuation of His ultimate plan.

2. The unrest in the Middle East which started in December, 2010.

- A. One would have to be blind not to recognize the major unrest that has suddenly engulfed the Arab Nations. This revolution has uprooted longstanding governments and thrown the entire region into turmoil.
- 1) **TUNISIA** (Two-nee-sha)
 - Tunisia’s dictator, President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali, was ousted on December 15, 2010 after 23 years in power.
 - The uprising has been referred to as the “people’s revolution.”
 - Islam is the official state religion and 98% of Tunisians are Muslims.
 - There are 10 million people in Tunisia.
 - 2) **EGYPT**
 - Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak resigned on February 11, 2011 after 30 years in power.
 - The revolution has been dubbed the “Democracy Movement” or the “Arab Reform Wave.”
 - There are 85 million people in Egypt and 90% are Muslims.
 - It took years to topple Saddam’s government in Iraq and yet Egypt’s government fell after 18 days of mass protests.
 - **ARTICLE: “Labor unrest, protests grow after Egypt’s revolt”** (Ocala Star-Banner, February 15, 2011).

*“CAIRO – Thousands of state employees, from ambulance drivers to police and bank workers, **protested on Monday demanding better pay**, in a growing wave of labor unrest rekindled by the democracy*

uprising that ousted Hosni Mubarak's regime.”

3) YEMEN

- Yemen President Ali Abdullah Saleh has ruled for 32 years.
- Yemen is one of the poorest and least developed countries in the Arab world.
- **ARTICLE: “Time Ripe for Yemeni Revolution”** (March 13, 2011, www.presstv.ir)
“Thirty-two million people earn under two dollars a day in Yemen and only a half a million people earn reasonable income.”
- Yemen’s population is 98% Muslim.

4) LIBYA

- Dictator Colonel Moammar Gadhafi has ruled since 1969.
- **ARTICLE: “Dozens are killed in Libya”** (Ocala Star-Banner, February 19, 2011).
“Libya is rich in oil, but the gap between the haves and have-nots is wide. The protests have flared hardest in the more-impooverished eastern parts of the country, the site of anti-regime agitation in the past.”
- Libya has 6.4 million people which are 97% Muslim.
- Libya has a 21% unemployment rate.
- Gadhafi was killed on October 20, 2011 after he was found hiding in a sewer drainage pipe.

3. What is the common denominator shared by these uprising and revolutions throughout the various Arab nations?

A. The people are taking to the streets and demanding a better standard of living including the right to choose their own governments.

1) The Bible prophesied that this would happen.



B. The next event to watch for on the world stage is the failure of a peace treaty involving Arab Nations and Israel resulting in the First Battle of Gog and Magog (described in Ezekiel 38,39). This battle happens when a group of Arab Nations attack the mountains of Israel from the north.

- 1) However, before the battle actually takes place, the Scriptures tell us that God will allow evil thoughts to arise in the minds of a named group of Arab Nations.
- 2) We find this account in Ezekiel 38:8-15.

C. Ezekiel 38:8-15a

[8] *“After many days you will be visited. In the latter years you will come into the land of those brought back from the sword and gathered from many people on the mountains of Israel, which had long been desolate; **they were brought out of the nations, and now all of them dwell safely.***

- **Remember this prophecy takes place after Israel has been returned to their homeland and are dwelling in safety. This is happening today for the first time in thousands of years.**

[9] *“You will ascend, coming like a storm, covering the land like a cloud, you and all your troops and many peoples with you.”*

[10] *‘Thus says the Lord God: **“On that day it shall come to pass that thoughts will arise in your mind, and you will make an evil plan:***

- **The Bible says that in the Last Days a group of countries will make an evil plan against Israel.**

[11] *“you will say, ‘I will go up against a land of unwalled villages; I will go to a peaceful people, who dwell safely, all of them dwelling without walls, and having neither bars nor gates’–*

[12] ***“to take plunder and to take booty,** to stretch out your hand against the waste places that are again inhabited, and against a people gathered from the nations, who have acquired livestock and goods, who dwell in the midst of the land.*

- **What is that evil plan? To attack Israel for her riches.**

[13] *“Sheba, Dedan, the merchants of Tarshish, and all their young lions will say to you, **‘Have you gathered your army to take booty, to carry away silver and gold, to take away livestock and goods, to take great plunder?’***

- **Q: Who will make this evil plan?**
- **A: Gog.**

[14] *“Therefore, son of man, prophesy and say to Gog, ‘Thus says the Lord GOD: “On that day when My people Israel dwell safely, will you not know it?”*

[15] ***“Then** you will come from your place out of the far north...”*

- **While they have devised an evil plan, it does not come to fruition right away.**

4. While the Arab Nations are revolting and demanding a higher standard of living, Israel is one of the most prosperous nations in the region.

A. **ARTICLE: “Affordable Housing”** (*The Jerusalem Report*, January 31, 2011).
“Average family income in Israel is \$2,429 a month, or \$29,148 a year.”

- 1) While the people in Yemen are barely existing on \$2 a day, the average daily

wage in Israel is approximately \$80.

- B. The unemployment rate in Israel is 6.2%-6.5% (as of January, 2011).
- C. **ARTICLE: "Israel's Natural-Gas Find is Biggest in 10 Years"** (by Nick McMaster, Newser Staff, December 30, 2010, www.newser.com).

"Discovery of a massive field of natural gas off the coast of Israel could transform the Jewish state's economy and even alter the balance of power in the Middle East, the Wall Street Journal reports. Houston-based Noble Energy confirmed yesterday that the so-called Leviathan field has 16 trillion cubic feet of gas, making it the biggest deepwater discovery in a decade. That has the potential to allow Israel to stop being dependent on other nations for energy and become a "net-energy exporter," writes the Journal. With the nation already an economic power thanks to a powerful technology industry, the additional boost of natural resources could give Jerusalem added financial advantage over its rivals—and add fresh tension to the region. Lebanon, which now eyes its own waters with new interest, and Israel have already threatened one another over potential gas poaching."

- D. Uzi Landau, Israel's Infrastructure Minister, said in a statement:

"The large reserves of natural gas will enable Israel's citizens to enjoy the benefit of clean and inexpensive electricity, as well as the expected profits for the state." *The find means that Israel, with a long history of dependence on foreign energy and hostility and boycotts from many of the biggest energy powers, could find itself in a much more advantageous position in the coming decade."*

5. What we are seeing now is the "young lions" starting to rally.

- A. Why are they rallying?
- 1) Because God has allowed evil thoughts to come into their minds.
 - 2) Ezekiel 38:10, **"Thus says the Lord GOD: "On that day *it shall come to pass that thoughts will arise in your mind*, and you will make an evil plan."**
 - 3) You may say, "Did God do that?" If He prophesied it would happen over 2,500 years ago, then who is making it happen today?
- B. While they may be starting to conjure their evil plan, the Bible tells us by prophecy that the attack will come from the north. We are not at the start of the First Battle of Gog and Magog yet; however, the events that will bring about the attack are coming into focus.

6. The Bible prophesies about an uprising among the Islamic people.

- A. The Church has already identified the 7th Beast of Revelation 17:10 to be the Islamic Empire.
- B. Revelation 17:11 tells us that the 8th Beast will come from the 7th Beast.
- C. Revelation 13:1, **"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."**
- 1) The beast rising out the sea represents Satan's plan of confusion which originated before the Garden of Eden when he drew one-third of the angels

out of heaven until the Last Days when he presents his champion: The AntiChrist.

2) Note that the beast rises out of the “sea”. What does the “sea” represent?

D. The “sea” represents people.

1) Revelation 17:15, “*Then he said to me, “**The water which you saw, where the harlot sits, are peoples, multitudes, nations, and tongues.**”*”

2) In other words, the Bible prophecies that we can expect to see an uprising of Islamic people in the Last Days. Is that not what is happening today?

E. It’s very interesting to note that the uprisings that we have witnessed taking place in primarily Arab Nations has been called the “people’s revolution.”

1) There are no coincidences in God’s Word. God prophesied that the people would rise up.

2) Why? To begin to eye Israel’s wealth and to devise a plan to attack Israel and take her resources for themselves.

7. The “Arab Spring” is now being called the “Islamic Spring.”

A. QUOTES:

1) “*The head of the Palestinian Islamic Council in Lebanon said that the popular uprisings across the Arab World are inspired by Islam and the 1979 Islamic Revolution in Iran. He said he prefers to call them “Islamic Revolutions” rather than the “Arab Spring,” **as there is a large religious component to these uprisings.**” (“The Islamic Spring”, May 26, 2011, www.iraniumthemovie.com)*”

2) “*Radical Islamic elements are a strong force behind the Spring revolution. But it is not freedom and democracy these elements seek. Freedom and democracy, the foundation of the western world, is what Radical Islam would like to abolish. **The ultimate goal of radical Islamic movements in a global Islamic regime and the implementation of Sharia law for all.**” (“The Arab Spring: Change in Small Doses is Promising Swift and Radical Change is Deadly,” October 5, 2011, <http://bigpeace.com>)*”

3) “*Moderate Islamists claimed victory Monday in Tunisia’s first democratic election, **sending a message to other states in the region that long-sidelined Islamists are challenging for power** after the “Arab Spring”.... “No one can doubt this result. This result shows very clearly that the Tunisian people is a people attached to its Islamic identity...In a slick and well-funded campaign, the party tapped into a desire among ordinary Tunisians to be able to express their faith freely after years of aggressively enforced secularism.” (“Tunisia Islamists claim election win ahead of official results,” October 25, 2011, www.dailystar.com)*”

4) “*As far as Islamic Iran is concerned, the point of the Arab Spring is neither democracy nor human rights. **Rather, it is about creating Islamic states like Iran on the one hand,** and securing Middle East energy resources—a strategy that Iran argues will not succeed—on the other.” (“Tehran: Arab Spring is Islamic revolution coming into bloom,” May 23, 2011,*

www.dailystar.com)

- 5) *“Tunisia is where the Arab Spring revolt began. It is also the first country to go through elections post its Arab revolution. **And who is about to win a landslide victory in this election? The Islamist party of course.**”* (“Tunisia Vote A Test to Arab Spring Revolutions,” October 23, 2011, <http://bigpeace.com>)

8. The Ships of Tarshish.

- A. Ezekiel 38:13 identifies Sheba, Dedan, and the merchants of Tarshish as the ones devising an evil plan.
- B. It’s interesting to note that on February 22, 2011, two Iranian naval vessels sailed through the Suez canal en route to Syria.
- 1) **ARTICLE: “Iranian Naval Vessels Enter Suez Canal”** (*Associated Press, February 22, 2011*).
*“CAIRO – Two Iranian navel vessels entered the Suez Canal on Tuesday en route to Syria officials said, **the first time in three decades that Tehran has sent military ships through the strategic waterway...**The Iranian ships are headed for a training mission in Syria, a close ally of Iran’s hard-line Islamic rulers and an arch foe of Israel. In Syria, officials at the Iranian embassy said it would mark the first time in years that Iranian warship dock in a Syrian port.”*
- C. What type of “mission” do you suppose an Iranian warship is training for together with Syria? How about an attack on Israel?
- 1) Israeli Foreign Minister Avigdor Lieberman called the Iranian warships trek a “provocation” against Israel while citing that the action *“proves that the self-confidence andchutzpah of the Iranians are growing from day to day.”* (ARTICLE: “Israel Official Says Iran Ship Is ‘Provocation’” (by Richard Boudreaux, online.wsj.com.)
- D. Israel has a right to be concerned about ships sailing from Syria. On March 15, 2011, the Israeli navy seized a cargo ship, the *Victoria*, which left Syria en route to Egypt. The Prime Minister said that weapons found aboard included anti-ship missiles, which originated in Iran, and some 2,500 mortar shells which also came from Iran.

9. Wars and rumors of wars.

- A. In Matthew 24, Jesus tells us what to watch for as signs of the Last Days.
- 1) Matthew 24:6,7,8, Jesus speaking...
- [6] ***“And you will hear of wars and rumors of wars. See that you are not troubled; for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet.***
- [7] ***“For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. And there will be famines, pestilences, and earthquakes in various places.***

[8] **"All these are the beginning of sorrows."**

- B. On Friday, March 11, 2011, Japan experienced a major 9.0 magnitude earthquake and a resulting 23-foot tsunami that killed thousands.
1) One commentator referred to it as a "once-in-a-thousand-year tsunami."
- C. Isn't it interesting that this assault came "out of the sea"?
- D. Within the past year the Lord spoke to Presiding Bishop Samuel Kramer and told him, *"It's time for the beast of Revelation 13:1 to rise up out of the sea."*

10. CONCLUSION

The Last Days are here and time is drawing nigh for the return of Christ. Right now we are witnessing the beginning of sorrows with wars and revolutions raging around the globe. We are also watching the earth spouting forth one disaster of epic proportions after another.

The uprising that we are watching unfold in the Arab Nations is none other than the "young lions" of Ezekiel 38:13 beginning to rally. The Islamic "people's revolution" is in fulfillment of Revelation 13:1 when the beast—the Islamic Empire—begins to rise up.

What are we to do? Jesus tells us in Luke 21:36, *"Watch therefore, and pray always that you may be counted worthy to escape all these things that will come to pass, and to stand before the Son of Man."* Let's be vigilant!