

# PROPHECY UPDATE 2006

A LOOK AT THE CURRENT EVENTS OF THE MIDDLE EAST  
IN LIGHT OF BIBLE PROPHECY

A TOPICAL STUDY

REGARDING THIS CURRENT CRISIS AND OUR BEING PREPARED FOR  
THE EVIL DAYS AHEAD OF US.

SUNDAY AUGUST 13, 2006

Message # JHX177

THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

## MIDDLE EAST CRISIS UPDATE: WHAT CHRISTIANS NEED TO KNOW

*UNDERSTANDING THE TIMES AND KNOWING WHAT TO DO TO GOD'S GLORY*

SUBJECT TOPICALLY REFERENCED UNDER:

***Prophecy, Middle East, War, Faithfulness, Being Ready***

**Introduction to the Text: 1-Thessalonians 4:13-5:9**

Well, It's Only Been One Week, Seven Days Since we Gathered Last  
and I must say that no one in their right mind could have predicted  
what would take place in these past seven days...

IN THE WORDS OF FOX NEWS' SHEPARD SMITH

"There Has Been More News, Big News, to Report On, In One Week  
Than This Reporter has Seen in His Life - And It's not Even Friday Yet"

**2Corinthians 11:2**

For I am jealous for you with godly jealousy. For I have betrothed you to one husband,  
that I may present *you* as a chaste virgin to Christ. :3 But I fear, lest somehow, as the  
serpent deceived Eve by his craftiness, so your minds may be corrupted from the  
simplicity that is in Christ.

From The **Simplicity** of **Christ**  
and The **Clarity** of the **Scriptures**

**But That is Not All...**

***1 Thessalonians 4:13-5:9***

## Turn in Your Bible's To 1Thessalonians 4:13-5:9

But I do not want you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning those who have fallen asleep, lest you sorrow as others who have no hope. :14 For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so God will bring with Him those who sleep in Jesus. :15 For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive *and* remain until the coming of the Lord will by no means precede those who are asleep. :16 For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. :17 Then we who are alive *and* remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord. :18 Therefore comfort one another with these words. :5-1 But concerning the times and the seasons, brethren, you have no need that I should write to you. :2 For you yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so comes as a thief in the night. :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. :4 But you, brethren, are not in darkness, so that this Day should overtake you as a thief. :5 You are all sons of light and sons of the day. We are not of the night nor of darkness. :6 Therefore let us not sleep, as others *do*, but let us watch and be sober. :7 For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk are drunk at night. :8 But let us who are of the day be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love, and as a helmet the hope of salvation. :9 For God did not appoint us to wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ,

## At Times Like This

### What Does a Christian Need to Know When...

What we're seeing, and what we are soon to see; has never happened before.

1. Escalating war in the Middle east
2. The rise of a Muslim, nuclear state in Iran
3. A brewing instability in Mexico over it's recent election
4. A nuclear threat from North Korea
5. The Chinese Iranian, and Russian Iranian connection to trade arms for oil.
6. Vladimir Putins' Defense Agreement with Iran
7. August 16<sup>th</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup> (FBI - "possibility of crippling the U.S. before August 22")
8. Al Queda's Airline Bombings

## WHAT CHRISTIANS NEED TO KNOW:

1.) **Is that the God of the Bible is on His Throne**

**1a.) Because that's true - we see from God's perspective**

**Psalm 2:1-5**

Why do the nations rage, And the people plot a vain thing? :2 The kings of the earth set themselves, And the rulers take counsel together, Against the LORD and against His Anointed, saying, :3 "Let us break Their bonds in pieces And cast away Their cords from us." :4 **He who sits in the heavens shall laugh**; The LORD shall hold them in derision. :5 Then He shall speak to them in His wrath, And distress them in His deep displeasure:

**1b.) Because that's true - we know what's coming up**

**Amos 3:7**

Surely the Lord GOD does nothing, Unless He reveals His secret to His servants the prophets.

**John 16:4**

But these things I have told you, that when the time comes, you may remember that I told you of them.

The Scriptures are Filled with Exhortations to Know the **Times** and **Seasons**,

To be Alert to What's Happening Around You, and To Know What's About to Happen, - - in a word, **WATCH!**

The enemies of Israel are the same enemies of Christianity and they have stated their mission, **but the Lord holds the future.**

And in all the world, there's one thing that shall never fail, - it's what God has said!

The bible is God's covenant with the nation of Israel and with the gentile believers in the world.

**1c.) Because that's true - we understand who we are in Christ**

The Bible Says....

**Colossians 3:3-4**

For you died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. :4 When Christ *who is our life* appears, then you also will appear with Him in glory.

**WHAT CHRISTIANS NEED TO KNOW:**

**2.) *Is that we have a real physical enemy***

**2a.) *They want you converted***

**Matthew 24:11**

And many false prophets shall rise, and shall deceive many.

**The Bible Says;**

Anyone, or anything, any teaching that comes contradicting the Scriptures is not of God and is in fact a satanic teaching and a doctrine of demons.

**1John 4:1-3**

Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits, whether they are of God; because many false prophets have gone out into the world. :2 By this you know the Spirit of God: Every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is of God, :3 and every spirit that does not confess that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is not of God. And this is the *spirit* of the Antichrist, which you have heard was coming, and is now already in the world.

**2b.) *They seek to change your government***

**2c.) *They mean to kill those who believe differently***

**Matthew 5:10-12**

Blessed *are* those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, For theirs is the kingdom of heaven. :11 "Blessed are you when they revile and persecute you, and say all kinds of evil against you falsely for My sake. :12 Rejoice and be exceedingly glad, for great *is* your reward in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

**Matthew 24:8-10**

All these are the beginning of sorrows. :9 Then shall they deliver you up to be afflicted, and shall kill you: and ye shall be hated of all nations for my name's sake. :10 And then shall many be offended, and shall betray one another, and shall hate one another.

**WHAT CHRISTIANS NEED TO KNOW:**

**3.) *Is that your prayer life will be your power source***

**3a.) *Christian, by now you have developed an ear for God***

You have been reading His word daily, because of that,

You are more attune to His instruction.

**3b.) Christian, by now you who have *learned to calm* yourself**

By taking hold of His promises

**Colossians 1:10-11**

That you may walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing *Him*, being fruitful in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God; **:11** strengthened with all might, according to His glorious power, for all patience and longsuffering with joy;

**3c.) Christian, by now you who have *determined to stand***

**John 6:68-69**

Then Simon Peter answered him, Lord, to whom shall we go? thou hast the words of eternal life. **:69** And we believe and are sure that thou art that Christ, the Son of the living God.

**Matthew 10:26-28**

Therefore do not fear them. For there is nothing covered that will not be revealed, and hidden that will not be known. **:27** Whatever I tell you in the dark, speak in the light; and what you hear in the ear, preach on the housetops. **:28** And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. But rather fear Him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.

## WHAT CHRISTIANS NEED TO KNOW:

**4.) *Is that* your Bible knowledge will be your greatest asset**

**2 Timothy 2:15**

Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.

**1 Peter 3:15**

sanctify the Lord God in your hearts, and always *be* ready to *give* a defense to everyone who asks you, a reason for the hope that is in you, with meekness and respect;

**4a.) You will find *your Faith* greater than the moment**

**4b.) You will experience *the Hope* that transcends this life**

**4c.) You will have *His Love* that keeps you strong to the end**

**Matthew 28:18-20**

And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. :19 Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, :20 teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Amen.

**Matthew 24:32-34**

"Now learn this parable from the fig tree: When its branch has already become tender and puts forth leaves, you know that summer *is* near. :33 So you also, when you see all these things, know that it is near—at the doors! :34 Assuredly, I say to you, this generation will by no means pass away till all these things take place.

**WHAT CHRISTIANS NEED TO KNOW:**

**5.) *Is that the world is moving toward a climax of events***

**5a.) *It's moving towards a global rejection of God***

**With all That's Happening in the World Right Now**

wouldn't it be great if there could be peace in Middle East?

If someone could just get these terrorist nations to live with Israel side by side and smooth out the world's problems?

The world will embrace a super charismatic individual and it will gladly accept this human icon of hope and peace...

**5b.) *It's moving towards a global destabilization***

**Expect national governments to be challenged**

1. **Afghanistan** is deteriorating
2. **Iraq** is heading toward a Muslim Civil War
3. The Southern Regions of **Russia** are now terrorist regions
4. **Russia** sees it's future in a list of new friends
5. Globally, it's no longer an asset to be aligned with the **United States** politically
6. So it will not be wise to be aligned with the **United States** economically
7. **Europe** and it's lack of direction

8. The **United Nations** and it's Pro Arab agenda
9. **South and Central America** as it moves toward unrest, corruption and terrorism

The CIA has Listed 25 nations of the world that pose a direct or indirect threat to democracy & U.S.A.

**Luke 21:25b**

...on the earth distress of nations, with perplexity, the sea and the waves roaring; :26 men's hearts failing them from fear and the expectation of those things which are coming on the earth,

**5c.) It's moving towards greater anti Semitic actions**

The Bible Says That as We Approach The End Time Scenario there would be an increasing hostility toward the Jewish people and the nation of Israel.

Look at World History and What do you See?

**Israel** Attacked and taken under **Egyptian** Rule

**Israel** Attacked and taken under **Babylonian** Rule

**Israel** Attacked and taken under the **Medo-Persian** Rule

**Israel** Attacked and taken under **Grecian** Rule

**Israel** Attacked and taken under **Roman** Rule

**The Jews** were Singled Out and Persecuted by **Josef Stalin** Regime

**The Jews** were Singled Out and Persecuted by **Adolph Hitler's** Reich

But Now, This Time it's Different from All The Rest  
The Jews are being Singled Out by The Muslims Worldwide  
and The Nation of Israel is Being Targeted for Nuclear Annihilation in the Name of Allah

**Genesis 12:2-3**

I will make you a great nation; I will bless you And make your name great; And you shall be a blessing. :3 I will bless those who bless you,  
And I will curse him who curses you;

**Matthew 24:21-22**

For then there will be great tribulation, such as has not been since the beginning of the world until this time, no, nor ever shall be. :22 And unless those days were shortened, no flesh would be saved; but for the elect's sake those days will be shortened.

**Zechariah 12:2-3**

Behold, I will make Jerusalem a cup of trembling unto all the people round about, when they shall be in the siege both against Judah and against Jerusalem. :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.

## WHAT CHRISTIANS NEED TO KNOW:

**6.) *Is that your Christian fellowship will be your life line***

**I am excited to have been called to be a Christian and a Pastor** at this time in human history, but I can only take you so far, and then it's up to you.

My reason for living is to point you to the Lord.  
In ten thousand different ways

**6a.) *Love you wife just like Jesus said to***

**6b.) *Honor your husband the way the Bible says to***

Tell him the good that he does  
Tell him what you like about him  
Open you eyes to what the Lord sees in him

**6c.) *Provide for your family with all of your life***

### **1 Timothy 5:8**

But if anyone refuses to provide for his own, and especially for those of his own household, he has denied the faith, and is worse than a nonbeliever.

To Create Peace, To Show Love, To Be a Spiritual Leadership,  
Be Caring of Others...

**AND TO PROTECT AND DEFEND THEM AGAINST EVIL, AGAINST DANGER, AND  
AGAINST THOSE  
WHO WOULD HARM THEM.**

## WHAT CHRISTIANS NEED TO KNOW:

**7.) *Is that the Bible has the answers so read the following***

**7a.) *Read Ezekiel chapters 36,37,38,39***



7b.) Read Isaiah chapter 17:1-4

7c.) Read Zechariah chapters 12,13,14

7d.) Read 1-Thessalonians chapters 1,2,3,4,5

### WHAT CHRISTIANS NEED TO KNOW:

8.) *Is that God is waiting to hear from us*

To grant revival, and boldness, and victory...

8a.) He has been *waiting* to hear from you

Jeremiah 33:3

"Call to Me, and I will answer you, and show you great and mighty things, which you do not know."

8b.) He is *desiring* to answer your cry for help

8c.) He will never *disappoint* you when you call out to Him

### WHAT CHRISTIANS NEED TO KNOW:

9.) *Is that it's time to be prepared for the coming days*

**We Must Never Place Anything Before The Imminent Return of Jesus Christ,**

Just be Wise That at this current rate of global destabilization, you and I as Christians

### THE AIRPLANE CHECK-LIST

**before you get up and stay up  
you first have to put up with  
a checklist**

9a.) My *Faith's* in Jesus Christ - nothing else - Check !

9b.) *All known sin removed from my life - Check !*

9c.) *My heart is set on things above - Check !*

9d.) *Taking in Bible - more and more bible - Check !*

9e.) *Sharing my faith in Jesus with others - Check !*

9f.) *Helping my church reach the world for God - Check !*

9g.) *Praying for those I know - Check !*

9h.) *Serving others in Jesus' name - Check !*

9i.) *Rehearsing my worship to God - Check !*

9j.) *Waiting to meet Jesus here, there, or in the air - Check !*

#### **Matthew 25:1-13**

“Then the kingdom of heaven shall be likened to ten virgins who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom. :2 Now five of them were wise, and five *were* foolish. :3 Those who *were* foolish took their lamps and took no oil with them :4 but the wise took oil in their vessels with their lamps. :5 But while the bridegroom was delayed, they all slumbered and slept. :6 ¶ “And at midnight a cry was *heard*: ‘Behold, the bridegroom is coming; go out to meet him!’ :7 Then all those virgins arose and trimmed their lamps. :8 And the foolish said to the wise, ‘Give us *some* of your oil, for our lamps are going out.’ :9 But the wise answered, saying, ‘No, lest there should not be enough for us and you; but go rather to those who sell, and buy for yourselves.’ :10 And while they went to buy, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went in with him to the wedding; and the door was shut. :11 “Afterward the other virgins came also, saying, ‘Lord, Lord, open to us!’ :12 But he answered and said, ‘Assuredly, I say to you, I do not know you.’ :13 “Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour in which the Son of Man is coming.

### **WHAT CHRISTIANS NEED TO KNOW:**

10.) *Is that it's time to be ready like never before*

**Ready** to be re-commissioned // **Ready** to re-commit your life once and for all // **Ready** to cut off the sin that entangles you. **Ready** to meet the Lord Jesus Christ. //

Ready !!!

**10a.) Christian, I my life, I have never seen days like these**

**1 Thessalonians 5:1-5**

But concerning the times and the seasons, brethren, you have no need that I should write to you. :2 For you yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so comes as a thief in the night... *cont.*

...: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. :4 But you, brethren, are not in darkness, so that this Day should overtake you as a thief. :5 You are all sons of light and sons of the day. We are not of the night nor of darkness.

**10b.) Christian, What's happening is on a global scale**

In The Prophetic Teachings of Jesus Christ and The Prophets,  
The last and final prophecies spoke of the events coming to be on global, worldwide

**10c.) Christian, please get your life in order before God**

**Luke 21:33-36**

Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will by no means pass away. :34 "But take heed to yourselves, lest your hearts be weighed down with carousing, drunkenness, and cares of this life, and that Day come on you unexpectedly. :35 For it will come as a snare on all those who dwell on the face of the whole earth. :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."

\_\_\_\_\_ *End of Study* \_\_\_\_\_