

Israel News Desk

With David Hoyle

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As a year ends & a new one begins we can only say that the world is falling apart & we do not know what the future holds from an earthly standpoint. What we do know is that everything points to the coming of the lord, the only hope for the world & the only One able to sort out the mess man has made. In Matthew 16v1-3 we are exhorted to "*discern the times*" & if we do there is only one possible conclusion that Christ is coming soon. Maranatha!

TURKEY It is reported that Israel & Turkey have reached an understanding that could lead to the restoration of ties between the former allies. Relations broke down in 2010 after the Israelis raided a Gaza bound flotilla led by the Mavi Marmara that resulted in the death of 9 Turks. Following this incident Turkey became one of Israel's strongest critics.

The deal they have agreed would mean Israel paying compensation to the families of the dead Turks & Turkey waiving legal claims against Israel. Diplomatic ties would then return to normal with the exchange of ambassadors. A leader of Hamas based in Turkey will be banned from operating there. Also, talks would begin to lay a pipeline to take natural gas from Israel to Turkey. This agreement comes as Turkey is in bitter dispute with Russia over the downing of a Russian plane. Turkey is also in conflict with most of its neighbours & is coming under criticism for its troop movement in Iraq & its trade in Islamic state oil!

writing in the Jewish Telegraph Ruthie Blum states, "*this is Netanyahu's deal with the devil.*" The devil in question Recep Erdogan.

Erdogan's timing is because this Ankara Islamist has become a pariah in the Muslim world he dreamed of ruling as Caliph whilst President Putin is ready, willing & able to pummel him into oblivion.. He is anti Iran, anti Assad & also claims to be anti IS. Mr Erdogan has turned a previously moderate & democratic Muslim country into an authoritarian Islamic state. He is virulently anti-Israel & wants millions of dollars compensation for the dead activists families. He also demands the lifting of the Gaza blockade to enable Hamas terrorists to roam freely in Israel. Netanyahu could not agree to much of that & Turkey is not called to do anything!

It remains to be seen what the ultimate outcome will be. It seems however that Turkey's need for natural gas supplies are of paramount consideration! It should be noted that the Ezekiel 38/9 war unquestionably has Russia linked to Turkey! As is often the case speculation is superfluous in Biblical prophecy. God has His plans & it will duly unfold, we will know then..... if we are still here!! These & other events are signs of the 2nd advent to the Mount of Olives as the Jewish Messiah, not signs of the former event, the Rapture of the Church.

REFUGEES As Europe is flooded with refugees, mostly Muslim, Mr Erdogan demands billion of dollars from the European Community as the price for keeping them in Turkey (where they have no wish to stay). He also wants & has been promised by Mrs Merkel a fast track for joining the European Community.

This movement of mainly Muslims has been described as an attempt to speed up the Islamic takeover of Europe. This statement was made by an Iman in Turkey who said the Islamisation of Europe was not moving quickly enough. Either our leaders are blind or this is just part of the globalist agenda? Rather God is working out His purposes in His way!

It is noticeable that in the Old Testament God punished His people through their enemies. Having turned our back on God are the West now under judgement?

ISIS Have "*turned*" an elite arab soldier of the Israeli army who has just joined Islamic State. He was a member of the elite brigade, the Givati Brigade often deployed in Gaza. The soldier's family said that he was estranged from them. The arab community are exempt from conscription except for the Druze sect. Fewer than 200 Christian & Muslim Israelis volunteer for army service.

Last week in nazareth 5 Israeli arabs were charged with setting up an ISIS cell.

Mr netanyahu has asked his Attorney General to revoke the citizenship of anyone who joined ISIS. In last years Gaza war the Givati was Israel's most decorated unit.

TERRORISM Stabbings & rammings continue on a day to day basis. Café's & restaurants in Jerusalem are suffering as people stay at home. In one incident last week an 18 month old toddler was injured when his parents car was rammed into a bus stop. The attacker jumped out of the car & was shot dead. He had an axe in the car. There have 100 attacks in 2 months.

The toddler is in a Jerusalem hospital as doctors tried save his foot but it was subsequently amputated. Today (30/12/15) there were 3 stabbings in Jerusalem. Two Palestinian knife men lashed out at Israeli pedestrians close to the Old City. Else where in Ra'anane 3 Israelis were stabbed, one of them is in hospitable with stab wounds to his stomach.

At the weekend there was a shooting at a café in Tel Aviv where 2 Israelis were killed & 7 injured. The gunman is still being hunted.

DAMASCUS The Hezbollah leader Samir Kuntar was killed by an Israeli air strike, 8 others died with him. This man committed appalling atrocities including beating a 4 year old girl to death with his rifle butt. When his mother heard of his death she said, *"His death was a historic justice."*

GAS Israel & America have signed a deal to develop Israel's enormous gas deposits. The Leviathan field will ultimately supply billions of dollars worth of gas to Egypt & Jordan apart from meeting Israel's needs. Isaiah chapter 13 onwards give interesting information about the Middle East in the last days & warrant careful study.

MAHMOUD ABBAS Continues to incite hatred of Israel at the UN, the world court & in Mosques in the so called West Bank (Judea & Samaria) & in Gaza. Tzipi Hatovely, Israel's Deputy Foreign Minister states, *"Instead of ending incitement & funding of terrorism Mr Abbas goes on a twisted plot that will lead nowhere."*

BRAZIL Has refused to accept Dani Dayon as Israel's new ambassador because he previously led a group that represented "West Bank" settlements.

CZECH REPUBLIC Parliament has called on the government to reject European guidelines on labelling products from Israeli settlements.

JEREMY CORBYN Managed to speak for 10 minutes to a pro-Israel group within the Labour Party without using the word Israel! Someone at the back of the room shouted *"say the word Israel, say the word Israel."* He also failed to acknowledge the presence of an Israeli Knesset member & also the Charge d'affaires at Israel's London embassy.

IDF An Israeli officer was held for questioning at Heathrow for 4 hours on allegations of war crimes in Gaza! The Foreign Office instructed that he should be released. His name was on a list prepared by pro-Palestinian groups of IDF soldiers.

What kind of country are we? How about a list of those taking part in terrorism abroad & returning to this country being available at the airport?

The time is fast approaching when any Israeli who has served in the army will be liable to arrest on arrival in the UK. We are soft on Islam but Israel can do nothing right. What a ghastly government & a spineless Prime Minister. God have mercy upon us.

SETTLEMENTS Following intense pressure from Obama Mr Netanyahu says *"Let's wait to build settlements until Obama steps down & we have a new US President."*

Mr Netanyahu has also made plans to hand 1000 hectares (2471 acres of land) to Palestinian rule. An opposition leader states *"If he does we will topple the government."* With a majority of one Mr Netanyahu can hardly act in any way without some consensus.

There is considerable evidence of illegal settlement building by the Palestinians, the response in Washington & Brussels is silence. Let Jews dare to announce plans to build on their Biblical homeland & there is International uproar.

As never before we need to pray for Israel & for people to turn to their Messiah & for this country whose government is bent on an anti Christian agenda & and increasing prejudice against Israel despite all our leaders weasel words. Multi faith is leading us to acceptance of pagan false religions. We need to *"hold fast to what we have"* Revelation 3 & to love the Jewish people & bless them as they are driven into a corner by a godless world.

David Hoyle