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Where are the Voices of Warning?

“When I say unto the wicked, Thou [shall] surely die; and thou [give] him not warning, nor [speak] to warn the wicked... his blood will I require at [thy] hand.” Ezekiel 3:18

By Mike Wingfield

What Will 2026 Bring? In light of rapidly unfolding global events, those who carefully study the prophetic Scriptures cannot ignore the signs before us. The pace of change is accelerating, and our world appears to be drawing ever nearer to the threshold of the tumultuous period the Bible calls the Tribulation. This seven-year period of great upheaval will climax with the physical return of our Lord with His saints from heaven. This dark period begins with the Rapture of the church seven years earlier. As we enter 2026, we should take heed to the words of Jesus when He warned His disciples that when the end comes, it would be horrific. He said, **“For then shall be great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be”** ([Matthew 24:21](#)). Several decades later, the Holy Spirit directed the Apostle Paul to write about this time of divine judgment, **“This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come”** ([2 Timothy 3:1](#)).



Perilous times are here!

Today, only a few pastors and churches are truly living in expectation of the imminent Rapture of the church. Yet one must ask, have they stopped seriously to reckon with what comes next? Once the Church is removed, the world will be thrust into the most horrific and unprecedented period in all human history. This sobering reality should awaken us to the urgency of the hour and compel us to faithful watchfulness and bold proclamation while time remains. The overwhelming majority of the world's population will perish violently during the Tribulation. After seven years of unimaginable judgments, the earth itself will be utterly devastated. Since the Rapture is truly imminent, then these terrifying judgments are also swiftly approaching. Where, then, is the Church? Where are the watchmen sounding the alarm, the shepherds warning their flocks, and the believers boldly proclaiming the truth of the gospel while time still remains?

When God judged the world in the days of Noah, the Bible says, ***“By faith Noah, being warned of God of things not seen yet, moved with fear, prepared an ark to the saving of his house; by the which he condemned the world” (Hebrews 11:7).*** Noah warned the world by his preaching, and his diligence in building the ark to demonstrate the calamity that was approaching.

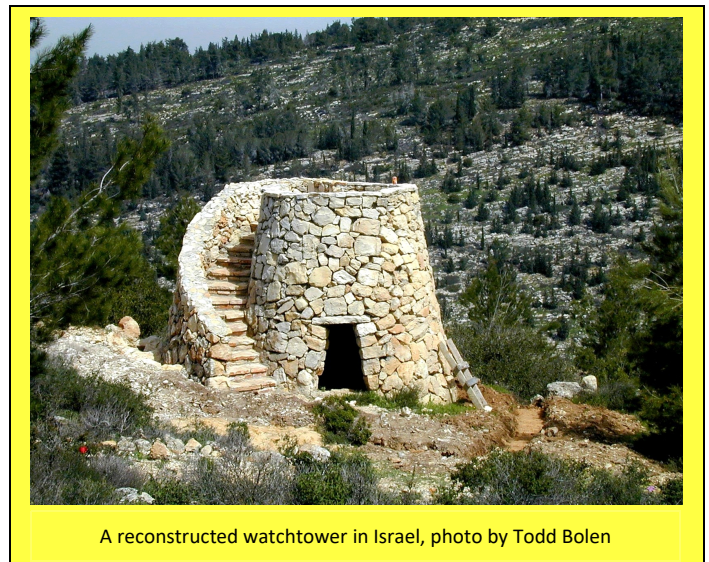
In my opinion, the prophetic Scriptures warn we are living in very dangerous times. It is only a matter of time before a horrific event or a series of events will materialize and change our modern way of life. The clock is ticking and there are several things that could trigger a global catastrophe in just a few hours. We seem to be on the verge of a global economic meltdown that could trigger political uprisings that destroy our ability to provide the security that we have enjoyed for many decades. These revolutions could alter our world and balance of power. History demonstrates that these kinds of uprisings lead to revolutions that usually produce evil, brutal tyrants. This would perfectly set the stage for the entrance of the Antichrist, and his Islamic kingdom, beginning of the Tribulation Period.

This year, our world will continue to experience swarms of natural disasters – like earthquakes, volcanoes, tsunamis, hurricanes, droughts, floods and dangerous solar flares. These cataclysmic events could interfere with the electrical grid or our commercial agricultural systems. These systems are already being stretched to provide enough food for a mushrooming global population.

As we look at the global horizon, it seems only a matter of time before something drastic happens. Where is the leadership of the church as our world spirals out of

control? When the dark clouds of apostasy and judgment loom on the horizon, the Lord has always called His servants to sound the alarm. When we look back in Biblical history, we have clear examples that the Lord always raised up godly messengers to warn His people and call them to salvation and repentance. Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, Daniel, Amos, Micah, Nahum and Habakkuk are among men who heeded such a call.

To illustrate, let's examine the life and ministry of the prophet Ezekiel. This Old Testament prophet provides us with some practical insights into what God's servants ought to do when their people are facing divine judgment. The Lord uniquely called Ezekiel at a very crucial time in the history of his nation, Judah. As a result of Judah's rebellion and disobedience to the Lord, the Babylonians successfully launched two military campaigns against Judah. In the process, the Babylonians carried Jewish captives to Babylon. Ezekiel was among the second group of captives carried to Babylon in 597 B.C. In 593 B.C., Ezekiel reached the age of 30. Being of the priestly tribe, as was the custom, he began his public ministry as a prophet-priest. The Lord called Ezekiel to become a street preacher in Babylon, warning his Jewish brethren of the coming judgment of God. We know from history that only five years after he began issuing his warnings, the final Babylonian invasion of Judah took place. In 586 B.C. the Babylonians captured Jerusalem and destroyed the beautiful temple built by King Solomon.



A reconstructed watchtower in Israel, photo by Todd Bolen

The Lord made Ezekiel's assignment very clear: ***“Son of man, I have made thee a watchman unto the house of Israel: therefore hear the word at my mouth, and give them warning from me” (Ezekiel 3:17).*** Ezekiel knew exactly what the Lord was asking him to do. In Biblical days, each village or city had a watchtower. It was usually

located at the highest point in the community. During daylight hours, a watchman was appointed to be in the watchtower to scan the horizon, looking for any sign of a threat to his people. Should he see a potential threat, he was to sound a trumpet to call the people to flee inside of the walls of the city for their own protection. If he failed to warn the people and some of them died, he was held accountable and paid with his own life (**Ezekiel 3:20**). However, if he gave the people ample warning and they failed to heed it, they were responsible for their own demise, and no harm came to the watchman (**Ezekiel 3:19**).

Drawing from this cultural analogy, Ezekiel's ministry was two-fold. He was to warn the nation of the judgment of God, calling the people to repentance. He also was to call them individually to salvation and repentance to avoid personal eternal damnation. As we examine the ministry of warning, for our own understanding and application, let us examine four Biblical realities.

Warning Flows out of God's Nature.

Notice that in **Ezekiel 3:17** the Lord said, ***"give them warning from me."*** Biblical warnings concerning the eternal consequences of sin and judgment flow out of the heart of God. They are a part of His divine nature. He is a God of love, mercy, and grace. He is ***"longsuffering ... not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance"*** (**2 Peter 3:9**).

When men of God sound out His warning to their generation, they are pleasing to God and are held in high esteem. They prove their ministry is not aimed at pleasing men, but pleasing God. Such a man was John the Baptist. The forerunner of Jesus' first coming was called to be a voice of one crying in the wilderness of Judea, ***"who hath warned you to flee from the wrath to come"*** (**Matthew 3:7**). Jesus' evaluation of John was expressed when He stated, ***"Among them that are born of women there hath not risen a greater than John the Baptist"*** (**Matthew 11:11**).

When we sound out Biblical warnings in the power of the Holy Spirit, we are acting like God. We are identifying with His heart. Consequently, when danger is approaching it is the ethical and moral obligation of those who know and care to warn those in danger! People who do not join the Lord in warning people of the imminent and eternal dangers of sin either do not believe what the Lord has said about these dangers and judgments. Or they may be preoccupied with self and sin and are numb to the things of God. Furthermore, it is evident they do not really care about people.

Warning is a Crucial Part of God's Revelation.

The Holy Spirit is the author of God's written revelation – the Bible (**2 Peter 1:21**). The Bible proclaims it is the written Word of God. It is ***"inspired"*** (**2 Timothy 3:16**). This word means "God-breathed." The Bible is the very breath of God. It is a book filled with blessings and warnings. God's Word will bring life or death (**Deuteronomy 30:19**). The Spirit has recorded many passages that sound out divine warnings that were given to the nation of Israel concerning the imminent judgment of God due to its departure from Him. We should note that these warnings have been recorded and preserved for our admonition. In **1 Corinthians 10**, the Apostle Paul reminded the church at Corinth that the history of Israel, and the revelation about them, are an example for us. ***"Now all these things happened unto them for [examples]: and they are written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the world are come"*** (**1 Corinthians 10:11**). The Old Testament servants of the Lord were in tune with the Lord's character and divine plan. Because of this, they were able to see the rebellion and wickedness of their generation. Knowing the nature of God and His warning of judgment, the prophets faithfully warned their people of the consequences of their sin, both personally and nationally.

As the Lord commissioned Ezekiel to his ministry of warning, He said: ***"hear the word at my mouth"*** (**Ezekiel 3:17**). Warnings appear throughout the Bible and are a crucial part of God's redemptive revelation. The first

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warning is in **Genesis 2:16-17**. On Adam and Eve's first day on earth the Lord warned them: ***"Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat: But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou [eat] thereof thou shalt surely die"*** (**Genesis 2:16-17**). In the very last chapter of the Bible, the Lord warned man to not add to or take away from His revelation. If they do, He will ***"add unto him the plagues that are written in [the] book [of Revelation.] [And the Lord will] "take away his part out of the book of life, and out of the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book"*** (**Revelation 22:18-19**).

At the heart of the Holy Spirit's work in us is the ministry of repentance. The message of repentance carries a message of warning (**John 16:8-11**). The Holy Spirit works in the consciences of men, praising them when they move toward that which is righteous and acceptable to

God. However, He also warns and shames them concerning sin, with a goal to turn them away from it. A vital part of this warning is the reminder of the judgment to come. This was at the heart of the apostles' ministry, and it should be the aim of the church and its people to sound out God's warning to turn sinners to righteousness ([Acts 24:25](#)).

Warning is a Critical Part of the Ministry of God's Servants.

The Lord told Ezekiel: **"Son of man, I have made thee a watchman unto the house of Israel"** ([Ezekiel 3:17](#)). The Lord reminded this priest and prophet that he was made by Him for a divine appointment. The Lord shapes the lives of His servants for the task He has for each of them. In other words, when God commands, He enables. We see another example of this when the Lord reminded Jeremiah that He shaped him for His divine calling while he was in his mother's womb ([Jeremiah 1:5](#)). Ezekiel was very much aware that **"the hand of the LORD was ... upon him"** ([Ezekiel 1:3](#); see [3:14](#), [22](#); [8:1](#); [33:22](#); [37:1](#); [40:1](#)).

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Ezekiel had been raised up by the Lord at a very critical time in the history of the Jewish people. The people were out of touch with the Lord and His divine plan. They were spiritually blind and numb to the imminent judgment of God, even though it was evident all around them. [Does that sound familiar?] To awaken them by sounding the alarm, the Lord called Ezekiel to warn them.

As previously mentioned, there is a pattern in God's Word that must not be ignored. The Lord causes His servants, when they are in tune with Him and the ministry of the Holy Spirit, to deliver divine warning in times of apostasy and judgment. While speaking about Ezekiel's role as a watchman unto the house of Israel, the late Dr. Charles Lee Feinberg, a Jewish American Biblical scholar and professor of Semitics and Old Testament, comments, "His function as a watchman over the city was preeminently to warn of impending disaster; the prophet as a watchman was to call to repentance and faith. ... It is comparable, perhaps, to the Christian pastoral office which is responsible for the care and cure of souls" (Feinberg, [The Prophecy of Ezekiel](#), p. 29).

As I listen to church leadership across America, it seems to me very few are sounding out any warning. Their

silence ignores the fact that God's judgment is about to fall upon the world during the Tribulation Period. Even more shocking, many pastors remain silent concerning the eternal damnation that awaits all who reject the redemptive work of the Lord Jesus. Please join me in examining seven observations from [Ezekiel 2-3](#) about what it means to be a watchman for God.

1. Gods' watchmen know who they are.

(2:1)

In this book, the Lord called Ezekiel **"son of man"** 90 times. The watchman of the Lord will always know that his life, talents, and time are not his own. He realizes he is a mere man while the Lord is God! This sounds very simplistic and elementary. However, our sin nature tends to cause us to forget this. It appears that most Christians are acting like the Lord Jesus is their servant. They follow Him to get what they want. They have a bad case of spiritual entitlement. They think God owes them. They believe they deserve God's richest blessings.

The true servant of God realizes he has not been called to a life of comfort and riches. He realizes God owes him nothing and his salvation and life are a testimony to the grace of God. He also knows that all believers have been called to a position of servitude and sacrifice for the One who gave His all for them ([Luke 14:26-27](#); [Galatians 2:20](#)). The life of the cross is not an easy life. There is a high cost to following Jesus Christ!

2. God's Servants know God called them.

(2:1-3a)

It is evident from divine revelation that Ezekiel recorded that he knew he had been called by the Lord to be a watchman. He was aware the Lord had His hand upon him and spoke to him. Ezekiel was obedient. He stood up for the Lord and God sent him to the children of Israel.

Each believer should know they have been **"fearfully and wonderfully made"** ([Psalm 139:14](#)). It is very humbling and gratifying to know the Lord has saved us. His hand has been upon us from the moment we were conceived in our mother's womb. He has fashioned us physically, mentally, emotionally and spiritually. He has equipped each believer with unique gifts to serve Him ([1 Corinthians 12](#)). He saved and called each one of us to serve Him. **"For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them"** ([Ephesians 2:10](#)).

All believers have been called to proclaim the gospel to the world ([Mark 16:15](#); [Matthew 28:19-20](#)). At the heart

of each gospel presentation should be the message of warning to those who refuse to heed God's counsel concerning the consequences of sin and the judgment to come.

It is evident that the Lord calls certain servants to unique ministries. He calls some to a special ministry of warning. Such were Noah, Elijah, Ezekiel, John the Baptist and all the prophets and apostles of the Lord Jesus Christ.

3. They do not allow people to distract them. (2:3b-7)

The Lord warned Ezekiel to not allow the rebellious spirit of his own people to distract him from being a watchman. He told His servant that they would not listen to him. However, he was to be faithful to deliver God's message so people would **"know that there hath been a prophet among them"** (2:5). Our message is not to tell people what they want to hear, but what they need to hear.

In the Western church, most leaders have been conditioned to use only the methods and message that aims to bring numerical growth. Leaders listen to the church growth experts, who have large congregations. These experts masterfully market the church and treat people as consumers. In essence, they attempt to give people what they want, instead of what God wants and the people need. If you listen carefully, you will discover that these so-called church growth experts fail to preach about sin and the judgment to come. They don't want to offend people or confront them with their sin and make them feel uncomfortable. They also avoid the subject of Bible prophecy.

In my opinion, most of the leadership in the Western church is out of touch with reality. They are like the religious leadership of Israel that Jesus confronted. Jesus rebuked those leaders because they were more interested in the weather and their own agendas, rather than the plan of God (Matthew 16:1-3). They are so busy building their own religious kingdom, or attempting to identify with the godless culture, that they are unaware of the imminent dangers that are facing their nation and world. Their messages and ministry prove they are out of touch with the God of the Bible and the true spiritual condition of our world. They want God to join them in their plans. However, they fail to notice that we need to surrender our plans for His plan. We need to join Him, rather than asking Him to join us!

The proof of all of this is the lack of interest in Biblical prophecy. **Biblical prophecy is the eternal plan of God!** It is what He has purposed, and it will come to pass

(Isaiah 14:24, 26-27). Notice that when Jesus taught His disciples to pray, that He taught them to make the plan and will of God the heart of their prayer requests. The first item to pray for is, **"Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven"** (Matthew 6:10). Real prayer is not the effort of the human heart. It is the work of the Holy Spirit through the heart of the believer. Jesus said, **"If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you"** (John 15:7). When the believer is walking in the Spirit, he will pray in the Spirit. Thus, he prays as the Holy Spirit directs him. A Spirit-filled believer will be saturated with the Word of God. Consequently, he will pray for God's will and Word to come to pass. In the last chapter of the Bible, the church is directed by the Spirit to pray **"Even, so, come, Lord Jesus."** (Revelation 22:20). Spirit-filled believers will be focused upon the imminent return of Jesus Christ and the results of living in a world that is marching toward Armageddon. Like Daniel in the Old Testament, they will refuse to let people or their culture distract them from the big picture of Biblical reality. It will shape and color their worldview.

As our world faces another divine global judgment, where are the godly voices of warning like Noah?

4. They feast upon God's Word. (2:8-3:3)

In these verses, the Lord instructed Ezekiel to digest the Word of God, allowing it to become part of him. At the heart of Ezekiel's commission were these words, **"hear the word at my mouth, and give them warning from me"** (Ezekiel 3:17). A person who has been used of the Lord knows he must saturate his life with the Word of God. It must be a daily part of his regimen. The Word of God feeds and satisfies his soul. It convicts and leads a person to confession and correction, bringing about a lifestyle of daily repentance. The Word of God gives hope and provides a person with wisdom and authority to instruct others in the way of life. Read **Psalm 19:7-11**. Note **verse 11**, **"Moreover by them [the Word of God] is thy servant warned: and in keeping of them there is great reward."**

A true servant of God must sound out the Lord's warning when it becomes rooted in his heart. This is a powerful testimony that he believes God and loves those around him. All of this was displayed in the life of Noah. God spoke directly to Noah about the approaching divine judgment. Noah believed God and loved those around him. He sounded the alarm and built an ark – a colossal project that took him 120 years to complete. Noah did

“according to all that God commanded him” (Genesis 6:22; 7:5). As our world faces another divine global judgment, where are the godly voices of warning like Noah?

5. They have God's strength.

It is incredible to learn that names in the Bible reflect the character or divine call of a person. It is worth noting that the Hebrew name “Ezekiel” means “God strengthens.” Ezekiel was totally dependent upon the power of God to complete his mission. This is a good example for us all. We desperately need to be reminded of our total dependence upon God. When we think we can do it without Him, we are doomed to fail. Jesus said, **“Without me ye can do nothing” (John 15:5).**

A divine mission requires divine strength. When we do God's work, we are confronting the principalities of hell (**Ephesians 6:12**). We are no match for demonic forces and those who are living in open rebellion against the Lord. When we fight the good fight, we overcome evil **“because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world” (1 John 4:4).**

6. They know their duty as God's watchman. (3:17)

In ancient Israel it was the duty of the watchman to scan the horizon from his lofty position in the watchtower. He must not be distracted from his assignment. It required his full attention and focus. A watchman's duty was two-fold. He must scan the horizon for danger and sound the warning. Ezekiel saw the desperate spiritual plight of his people and the gravity of the impending judgment of God. The Lord showed him his present situation and the prophetic events of the last days.

Today, the messenger of warning must see the imminent dangers and those that are coming in eternity. From his lofty position through the telescope of the prophetic Scriptures, he must faithfully and truthfully warn his people of things which are coming upon this earth. In our day, these judgments may not be as far off as some have assumed.

7. There are consequences of their failure. (3:18-21)

True servants of the Lord are acutely aware they are not infallible. They realize and admit they are prone to failure.

We all sin every day (**1 John 1:8-10**)! There are painful consequences to our sins and failures as an ambassador of Christ (**2 Corinthians 5:20**). Lives are at stake. What we do has eternal consequences!

This sobering reality is quite evident in the book of Ezekiel. The Lord told Ezekiel that he held him accountable to sound out God's warning to his fellow countrymen. The Lord informed His prophet that he was not responsible for the reception or rejection of his warning. However, if he failed to warn the wicked, he would bear some level of responsibility for their lost condition (**Ezekiel 3:18-21**).

Warning is a Central Part of God's Eternal Plan

The Bible is divine revelation about the glorious attributes of the triune God and His eternal purposes. It is evident from the volume of prophetic Scriptures, which account for about 30 percent of the Bible, that the Lord wants His people to have a grasp of Who He is, how He is at work and what He will do in the future. The Bible is a book of God's progressive revelation to man. The fact that the book of Revelation is the final book in this progressive revelation should indicate the value and importance of Bible prophecy in general. Furthermore, the book of Revelation further illustrates the importance and the application of God's ministry of warning. God's revelation of the ultimate and final rebellion of man against Him is intended to be a tool of warning and evangelism. The study of the prophetic Scriptures displays the sovereignty

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and the holiness of God. The message is loud and clear – the Lord will not always tolerate the rebellion of man. He will ultimately bring it all to a divine conclusion that will glorify Him. Furthermore, He will honor and bless those who submit to His Lordship and worship Him as their Creator, Sustainer, Savior, Judge and coming King. The final generations of mankind that rebel against the Lord are destined to come under the judgment of His holy vengeance on this earth. All who reject the Son of God will spend eternity in total separation from the Lord and His heaven.

The book of Revelation, and all other prophetic Scriptures, have a practical goal of warning all men they have a personal choice to make. In this book, man is confronted with a holy God, His hatred of sin, and His ultimate judgment against all sin, sinners and effects of sin. As a warning and invitation, this is brought to a final practical

application in the closing verses of the Bible. **“Let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely” (Revelation 22:17).**

It is no wonder that the godly prophets of Israel were consumed with the coming of the Messiah. Remember the early church was 100 percent Jewish. All the apostles were Jewish. The passion for the coming of the Messiah and His eternal plans continued in the early days of the church as a vital focus in their personal lives. It served as a motive for all their worship, edification, and evangelistic effort! Furthermore, their understanding of the context of the last days gave them practical wisdom for living. Even so, today godly people can find practical wisdom for living as they develop a proper worldview in the light of God’s eternal plan. Like the children of Issachar, **“which were men that had understanding of the times, to know what Israel ought to do” (1 Chronicles 12:32)**, we can share with our world God’s message of warning about the dangerous times in which we live.

Our Lord has called us to serve Him in these last days. We must conclude that He has called all of us to a ministry of warning. As God’s servants, we must be faithful to Him. The world will call us a failure, but God will call us faithful! God has called us to be faithful and obedient, not successful and disobedient (**1 Corinthians 4:2-5**).

In recent days, I have been personally moved by the Scriptures as the Holy Spirit has reminded me that our Lord is determined that His eternal plans will come to pass. Consider **Isaiah 9:7**, **“The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this.”** Look at **Isaiah 62:1, 6-7**- **“For Zion’s sake will I not hold my peace, and for Jerusalem’s sake I will not rest, until the righteousness thereof go forth as brightness, and the salvation thereof as a lamp that burneth. ... I have set watchmen upon thy walls, O Jerusalem, which shall never hold their peace day nor night: ye that make mention of the LORD, keep not silence, And give him no rest, till he establish, and till he make Jerusalem a praise in the earth.”**

I must confess that I have a fire burning in my bones all day long. I believe God! I believe all that He has said in His Word! I believe the judgment of God upon America and our world is imminent. I do not know if we have hours, days, months or a few years before that judgment comes.

But I do believe those who love Him and are in tune with Him will not be afraid to lovingly and mercifully warn those around them. Oh, that we could be consumed with a zeal to be faithful to Him as we long for His coming!

Be ready for the shout that will take us out!

Islam the Greatest Threat

Just a few weeks ago, the U.S. National Intelligence Director, Tulsi Gabbard, stated, “The greatest threat facing the United States and the world as a whole is Islamism” (**World Israel News**, December 17, 2025). The statement is in agreement with the prophetic Scriptures.

In next month’s newsletter, we will examine “The War for the Kingdom of God.” This study will reveal the central role of Islam in the global opposition to the coming Jewish Messiah and His Jewish government that will rule the world from Jerusalem, Israel.

Israel and Iran at War Again

Israeli intelligence reports that Iran is preparing to overpower Israel with cluster bombs and the latest most powerful ballistic missiles. Israelis believe this attack is imminent. This was one of the reasons for the Israeli Prime Minister’s most recent meeting with President Trump on December 29, 2025. Before Netanyahu’s visit, President Trump opposed Israel’s plan for a pre-emptive Israeli strike against Iranian military positions. However, after the conference with Netanyahu, President Trump gave his blessing and support for Israel to defend itself against the dangerous Iranian aggression.

At this same time, the Israeli defense system has announced that it is now manufacturing and deploying Israel’s first combat-ready Iron Beam laser interception system. This high-power aerial defense system uses laser beams to successfully intercept and destroy rockets, mortars and drones. Israeli Defense Minister Israel Katz said the system marks “the first time in the world that a high-power laser interception system has reached operational maturity,” adding that it “changes the rules of the game and sends a clear message to all our enemies... do not test us.”

