The Muslim World in Ferment

Egypt and the Muslim World in Bible Prophecy

Millions protest and riot in the streets of Cairo and Alexandria. Egypt is in turmoil – President Hosni Mubarak is in exile. And the military has taken over. Dramatic changes Are occurring throughout the Middle East. Could Saudi Arabia fall to extremist forces? What is the future of Egypt? What does Bible prophecy foretell?.

William F. Dankenbring

Aaron Kline of the *World Net Daily* writes: "Islamists, in particular the anti-Western Muslim Brotherhood, seem poised to take power throughout the Middle East as a result of riots that have already toppled one Arab regime and are threatening others, in what some are calling only the latest wave of an Islamic 'tsunami' sweeping the globe.".

The White House has been championing the protests, especially those in Egypt, calling for a transition to a Democratic rule in Egypt. How little they know about what is really going to happen. Egypt will not become a pro-Western democracy. It will go the way of the Shah of Iran and be replaced with a clerical caliphate Muslim power seeking a world conquest and will destroy the west which they call the Great Satan (U.S.).

Kline continues. "The Obama administration's support for the unrest is strikingly reminiscent of Jimmy Carter's support of the Islamic revolution in Iran in 1979 which marked the first of modern Islamic expansionism that is now seemingly sweeping the Middle East. In fact some Muslim clerics are already calling the riots in Egypt simply an extension of 1979's Islamic conquest." Hamaad Saheed, leader of Jordan's Muslim Brotherhood, warned that the unrest in Egypt will spread across the Middle East until Arabs succeed in toppling all leaders allied with the United States. This is just the beginning of the reconfiguration of the Middle East

into an alliance against Israel, America and the west. The Muslim people want to impose Sharia law on the entire world. It is the doctrine of the Koran and Mohammed that "the Muslims must conquer" (Aaron Klein, Worldnet Daily, Jan.30, 2011).

The west is deliberately blinding their eyes to this tactic strategy and goal of the Islamic religion. The Islamic religion is really a political front totally entwined with religion. To its' believers there is no such thing as separation of church and state, as thought by Americans to be unviable. Americans go contrary to the church in order to keep out of the affairs of the state.

That is not what the founding fathers ever said. The early American Congress and forefathers used to advocate Bible reading and teaching in school. Our Universities taught the languages of Hebrew and Greek. They sponsored the giving of Bibles to the Indian tribes to teach them the Christian religion. Later, the idea of separation between church and state emerged as Satan's tactic to destroy America. We read in Proverbs 14:34—"righteousness exalts a nation, but sin is a reproach to any people."

Aaron Kline continues. "The White House itself has been almost openly championing the unrest in Egypt." Secretary Hilary Clinton called for an orderly transition to democracy in Egypt. Egyptian officials suspect that the U.S. State Department has been involved in coordinating elements of the uprising in Egypt.

David Rubin, former mayor of the Israeli town of Shiloh, said, "There is a plan to take over western civilization, and we need to recognize it for what it is.' He went on, "Confronting the growing threat to Western civilization first involves admitting the problem exists, something President Obama not only refuses to do but strongly denies." (*ibid.*).

When democracy was championed in Iran, the Ayatollah took charge. Evil forces can take charge with popular vote when there is popular unrest. There are no organized democratic forces in Egypt, but the Muslim Brotherhood is organized. There are only two organized forces in Egypt, the military and the Muslim Brotherhood. Right now the military has taken charge.

Mubarak himself had harsh words for the U.S. in what he described as its misguided quest for democracy in the Middle East. He said to Ben-Eliezer, former Israeli cabinet minister and a friend, "We see the democracy the United States spearheaded and with Hamas, in Gaza, and that's the fate of the Middle East." "They may be talking about democracy but they don't know what they're talking about and the result is extremism and radical Islam." Mubarak predicted even more dramatic changes and upheavals in the future.

America Behind the Uprising

Says the *Daily Telegraph*, "The American Embassy in Cairo helped a young dissident attend a US-sponsored summit for activists in New York, while working to keep his identity secret from Egyptian state police. On his return to Cairo in December 2008, the activist told US diplomats that an alliance of opposition groups had drawn up a plan to overthrow President Hosni Mubarak and install a democratic government in 2011.

'He has already been arrested by Egyptian security in connection with the demonstrations and his identity is being protected by The Daily Telegraph. The crisis in Egypt follows the toppling of Tunisian president Zine al-Abedine Ben Ali, who fled the country after widespread protests forced him from office' ("Egypt Protests: America's Secret Backing for Rebel Leaders Behind Uprising," *The Telegraph*, Jan.24, 2011).

Barry Chamish, noted investigative journalist, declared in a leading email, "The U.S. Is Behind the Fall of Mubarak." He interviewed Eldad Pressman, editor of a major Israeli political website, who told him the Daily Telegraph had "dug into Wikileaks documents and pieced together a report that convincingly proves the US was behind the violent Egyptian protests."

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"The disclosures, contained in previously secret US diplomatic dispatches released by the *WikiLeaks* website, show American officials pressed the Egyptian government to release other dissidents who had been detained by the police." E-Mail, Feb.2, 2011).

This explosive revelation shows there is far more to the story than a simple protest caused by popular dissent and dissatisfaction with jobs, food prices, and anger toward the Mubarak regime. Foreign interference and manipulation, especially that of the U.S. State Department and C.I.A., were fundamental factors in creating the unrest, climate of change, and actual protest movement itself which soon swelled into a massive revolt and revolution igniting throughout the Middle East, as the flames of fiery revolution spread throughout the Arab world.

How far will it go? Will it temporarily lead to a new climate of peace and understanding in the Middle East? Or fiery and chaotic World War III? As Ogden Nash quipped, "The best laid plans of mice and men aft gang agley."

The King of Saudi Arabia

Hosni Mubarak is out as president, and a transitional military government is in. Millions of Egyptians are celebrating in the streets throughout the country. Mubarak has helped maintain stability in the Middle East for the past 30 years, but sudden change is in the offing. What will the new Egypt's relationship be with the U.S., and the West? What happens to the peace treaty with Israel? What role will the Muslim Brotherhood play in Egypt's near future?

The announcement was delivered by Egypt's vice president, Omar Suleiman, in a brief statement on state television. Mubarak delegated control of the country's affairs to Egypt's army, Mr. Suleiman said, "Because of the current circumstances in the country the president, Hosni

Mubarak, has decided to step down, and the higher command of the army is taking control of the country."

The conversation between President Barack Obama and Saudi King Abdullah early Thursday, Feb. 10, was the most acerbic the US president has ever had with an Arab ruler, DEBKAfile's sources report. Their falling out on the Egyptian crisis so enraged the king that some US and Middle East sources reported he suffered a sudden heart attack. Rumors of his death rocked world financial and oil markets that morning and were denied by an adviser to the ruling family.

The king condemned Obama's treatment of Egypt and its president Hosni Mubarak a disaster that would generate instability in the region and imperil all the moderate pro-US Arab rulers and regimes. He pledged to make up the losses to Egypt if Washington cuts off military and economic aid to force Mubarak to resign. He also ordered the level of diplomatic relations with Tehran raised.

Israel's View

President Barack Obama's response to the crisis in Egypt is drawing fierce criticism in Israel, where many view the U.S. leader as a political naif whose pressure on a stalwart ally to hand over power is liable to backfire.

Critics in Israel, including senior Israeli officials who have shied from saying so publicly say Obama is repeating the same mistakes of predecessors whose calls for human rights and democracy in the Middle East have often backfired by bringing anti-West regimes to power.

Reports Amy Tiebel, "Israeli officials, while refraining from open criticism of Obama, have made no secret of their view that shunning Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak and pushing for swift elections in Egypt could bring unintended results. 'I don't think the Americans understand yet the disaster they have pushed the Middle East into,' said lawmaker Binyamin Ben-Eliezer, who until recently was a Cabinet minister and who is a longtime friend of Mubarak.

"'If there are elections like the Americans want, I wouldn't be surprised if the Muslim Brotherhood didn't win a majority, it would win half of the seats in parliament,' he told Army Radio. It will be a new Middle East, extremist radical Islam.'

"Three decades ago, President Jimmy Carter urged another staunch American ally – the shah of Iran – to loosen his grip on power, only to see his autocratic regime replaced by the Islamic Republic. More recently, U.S.-supported elections have strengthened such groups as Hezbollah in Lebanon, Hamas in the Palestinian territories and anti-American radicals in Iran.

"'Jimmy Carter will go down in American history as 'the president who lost Iran,' the analyst Aluf Benn wrote in the daily Haaretz this week. 'Barack Obama will be remembered as the president who 'lost' Turkey, Lebanon and Egypt, and during whose tenure America's alliances in the Middle East crumbled,' Benn wrote."

Will Egypt's next leader continue to honor the peace agreement with Israel?

Egyptians, fed up with deepening poverty, corruption and 30 years of Mubarak's autocratic rule, have massed by hundreds of thousands to demand his ouster. In the course of the turmoil, the Obama administration has repeatedly recalibrated its posture, initially expressing confidence in Egypt's government, later threatening to withhold U.S. aid, and lastly, pressing Mubarak to loosen his grip on power immediately.

So far, no unified opposition leadership or clear program for change has emerged in Egypt. Historically the leading opposition in Egypt has been the Muslim Brotherhood, a group that favors Islamic rule and has been repressed by Mubarak.

The calls for democracy inside Egypt have put the U.S. in an awkward position of having to balance its defense for human rights with its longtime ties to an authoritarian regime that has been a crucial Arab ally. In Israel, critics say the U.S. has suffered a credibility loss by shaking off Mubarak when his regime started crumbling.

"The Israeli concept is that the U.S. rushed to stab Mubarak in the back," declared Eytan Gilboa, an expert on the U.S. at Bar-Ilan University. (APNews, Amy Tiebel, 2-3-11, "US Response to Egypt Draws Criticism in Israel").

Whither Egypt?

Where is Egypt going from here? Where is the "revolution" leading?

59 percent of Egyptians want democracy and 95 percent want Islam to play a large part in politics. (As Egypt has approximately 5 percent of Christians that means 100 percent of Muslims want Islam to play a large part in politics.) 84 percent believe apostates should face the death penalty.

That is what Egyptian democracy will look like. A unanimous majority that wants an Islamic state and a bare majority that wants democracy. Which one do you think will win out? A democratic majority of the country supports murdering people in the name of Islam. Mubarak's government does not execute apostates or adulterers. But a democratic Egypt will. Why? Because it's the will of the people

Says Daniel Greenfield, ("Egypt, Is It the People's Fault?", Daniel Greenfield, 2-8-11, Israel National news). "Handing out democracy like candy does not fix existing cultural problems. It does not end bigotry, free women or stop murder in the name of Allah. Open elections are only as good as the people participating in them. And the 84 percent of Egyptians who want to murder apostates have issues that democracy will not solve. The problem with Egypt is not Mubarak – but the Egyptians.

"Let's take another example. In Jordan, the next target on the freedom tour, King Hussein passed a bill to criminalize the honor killings of women. And their democratically elected

parliament voted 60 to 25 to strike the bill down. It took them only 3 minutes. That's what democracy would mean for the Jordanian girls murdered by their husbands, brothers and fathers. The right of the people and their duly elected representatives to legalize the murder of women.

"The Hitler Paradigm says that all you have to do is take away the dictator and his staffers to usher in democracy, freedom and mutual amity. But what if the dictator is not the problem, but the symptom of a larger cultural problem?"

The Muslim Brotherhood

One of the greatest beneficiaries of the unrest in Egypt has been the Muslim Brotherhood. Banned but tolerated for decades by successive Egyptian regimes, the Islamist movement is now emerging as a central player in the country's resurgent opposition.

A translation released Tuesday of a 1995 book by the movement's fifth official leader sheds light on just how Egypt's Brotherhood views itself and its mission. Jihad is the Way is the last of a five-volume work, The Laws of Da'wa by Mustafa Mashhur, who headed the Muslim Brotherhood in Egypt from 1996-2002.

Excerpts of the text, compiled by Palestinian Media Watch founder Itamar Marcus and analyst Nan Jacques Zilberdik. They detail the Brotherhood's objectives of advancing the global conquest of Islam and reestablishing the Islamic Caliphate, the public and private duties of jihad and the struggle Muslims must wage against Israel.

"The Islamic ummah," it says, referring to the supranational community of Muslims, "can regain its power and be liberated and assume its rightful position which was intended by Allah, as the most exalted nation among men, as the leaders of humanity."

Elsewhere, it exhorts Muslims, "Know your status, and believe firmly that you are the masters of the world, even if your enemies desire your degradation."

Passages in the text that urge Muslims to wage jihad only when circumstances are ripe. "The Brotherhood is not rushed by youth's enthusiasm into immature and unplanned action which will not alter the bad reality and may even harm the Islamic activity, and will benefit the people of falsehood," Mashhur wrote.

"One should know that it is not necessary that the Muslims repel every attack or damage caused by the enemies of Allah immediately, but [only] when ability and the circumstances are fit to it."

Jihad is the Way explicitly endorses the reinstatement of a worldwide Islamic regime. "It should be known that jihad and preparation towards jihad are not only for the purpose of fending off assaults and attacks of Allah's enemies from Muslims, but are also for the purpose of realizing the great task of establishing an Islamic state and strengthening the religion and spreading it around the world."

"Jihad for Allah," Mashhur wrote, "is not limited to the specific region of the Islamic countries, since the Muslim homeland is one and is not divided, and the banner of Jihad has already been raised in some of its parts, and shall continue to be raised, with the help of Allah, until every inch of the land of Islam will be liberated, and the State of Islam established." (See Oren Kessler, Jerusalem Post, 2-08-11, "Muslim Brotherhood Text Reveals Scope of Radical Creed").

A New Look at Egypt

Egypt is the most populous and influential nation in all of Africa. It lies at the hub of Africa. Its population is approximately 85,000,000. It has the largest army in the continent of Africa. It has the strongest military of any nation in Africa, largely because of American military aid. It is the traditional leader of the nations of northern Africa.

Will the land of Egypt play a significant role in world affairs in the immediate future? Does the nation of Egypt figure prominently in Bible prophecy? Will Egypt play a vital role in the prophecies pertaining to the "Day of the Lord" -- the time of God's intervention in world affairs to stop mankind's hellish rush toward nuclear oblivion?

The astonishing answer is *yes!* Few realize it, but the nation of Egypt is destined to play a very important role in world affairs during the next few years -- and its role is definitely mentioned, time and time again in Bible prophecy!

Anciently, there were several primary great super Gentile world powers that dealt with ancient Israel over the centuries. These were Babylon, Persia, Greece, and Rome, in the north and east. But in the south was the land of Egypt!

Could Bible prophecy ignore the people of Egypt? What crucial role will they play in Bible prophecy in the "Last Days" in which we are living?

According to the Word of God, Egypt will play a DECISIVE and VITAL role in unfolding future world events – a role which will stagger the world! Why have millions overlooked the significance of Egypt in prophecy in the "last days?"

Egypt in Prophecy

The Word of God declares of Egypt, "The burden against Egypt. . . I will set Egyptians against Egyptians; everyone will fight against his brother, and everyone against his neighbor city against city, kingdom against kingdom. The spirit of Egypt will fail in its midst. . . . And the Egyptians I will give into the hand of a cruel master, and a fierce king will rule over them" (Isaiah 19:1-4).

With rioting and revolution, that prophecy is seemingly now beginning to come to pass.

God continues, "The LORD has mingled a perverse spirit in her midst and they have

caused Egypt to err in all her work, as a drunken man staggers in his vomit. Neither will there be any work for Egypt, which the head or tail, palm branch or bulrush will do. In that day Egypt will be like women, and will be afraid and fear because of the waving of the hand of the LORD of hosts, which He waves over it" (Isa.19:14-16).

Jeremiah wrote about the future of Egypt in a prophecy which was dual in nature, with an ancient fulfillment and a modern one. "Against Egypt, against the army of Pharaoh-necho king of Egypt, which was by the river Euphrates in Carchemish, which Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon *smote*" (Jer. 46:2).

Read this entire chapter. It describes the coming fate of the armies of the King of the South! Jeremiah records: "Who is this coming up like a flood, whose waters move like the rivers? Egypt rises up like a flood, and its waters move like the rivers; and he says, 'I will go up and cover the earth . . . Come up, O horses, and rage O chariots! And let the mighty men come forth . . . For this is the day of the Lord GOD of hosts, a day of vengeance . . . The sword shall devour; it shall be satiated and made drunk with their blood; for the Lord God of hosts has a sacrifice in the north country by the River Euphrates" (Jer.46:7-10).

What is the time frame of this prophecy? Notice it!

Verse 10 – "For this is the DAY OF THE LORD GOD OF, HOSTS [the coming "Day of the Lord" in Bible prophecy!], a day of vengeance, that he may avenge Himself on His adversaries."

How will this play out in the future? Will Egypt, leading the Sunni Muslim nations, strike northward, against the end-time nations of "Babylon" – the nations of Europe and North America – in an end-time conflict over control of the Oil of the Middle East?\

The "King of the North"

We read in the book of Daniel: "He [that is, the "king of the north"] shall enter also into the glorious land [the land of Israel], and many countries shall be overthrown: but these shall escape out of his hand, even Edom, and Moab, and the chief of the children of Ammon. He shall stretch forth his hand also upon the countries: and the land of Egypt shall not escape. But he shall have power over the treasures of gold and of silver, and over all the precious things of Egypt: and the Libyans and the Ethiopians shall be at his steps. But tidings out of the east and out of the north shall trouble him: therefore he shall go forth with great fury to destroy, and utterly to make away many. And he shall plant the tabernacles of his palace between the seas in the glorious holy mountain; yet he shall come to his end, and none shall help him" (Dan.11:41-45).

This whole passage is talking about the FUTURE – the END TIME! In verse 40 it clearly states, ""And at the *time of the end*. . ." The time of the end means NOW, not 50, 100, or 1000 years in the past! During the time immediately ahead of us, a southern "empire" is going to "push" – that is, *strike* – at a "northern empire. "And the northern empire will counterattack, and come like a whirlwind, and occupy many nations."

Where does this prophecy take place? All geographical locations mentioned in Bible prophecy are given from the standpoint of the land of Israel, or the city of Jerusalem. A "king of the north" would have to be north of Jerusalem; a "king of the south" would have to be toward the south from Jerusalem. North of Jerusalem or Israel lies Europe, and south of Israel lies Africa.

In ancient times, Babylon was considered the kingdom of the north. It attacked Israel from the north. Babylon also attacked and conquered the city-state of Tyre. Ezekiel records, "For thus saith the Lord God; Behold, I will bring upon Tyrus [Tyre] Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon, a king of kings, *from the north*..." (Ezek. 26:7).

In the prophecy of Daniel 11, the northern kingdom referred to the people of Syria. When Alexander the Great died, his great world empire was divided up between his four generals. Ptolemy Soter ruled Egypt, part of Syria, and Palestine. Seleucus Nicator ruled Syria, Babylonia and territory east to India. Lysimachus ruled Asia Minor, and Cassander ruled Greece and Macedonia. At that time, the kingdom of Seleucus became the kingdom of the "north," and that of Ptolemy became the kingdom of the "south."

The "king of the north," then, referred anciently to Babylon, and its northern descendants. Later, however, the kingdoms of Greece, Syria, Asia Minor and Babylonia were all swallowed up by the growing Roman Empire. During the centuries many of the ancient Chaldeans from Babylon actually migrated to Rome and established themselves there. The Chaldean Mystery Religion also migrated westward to Rome.

The kingdom of the north, then, eventually became centered in the Roman Empire, and occupied most of the continent of Europe! Today, the "king" or "kingdom" of the north would include Europe and America, and the countries of the "NATO" alliance!

But what about the ""king of the south"?

The King of the "South"

Throughout the history of Daniel 11, *the Ptolemies of Egypt* were always regarded as the "king of the south."

Among the rulers of *Egypt* who fulfilled the role of 'king of the south" in Daniel's 11th chapter were the following: Ptolemy Soter, Ptolemy Philadelphus, Ptolemy Euergetes, Ptolemy Philopater, Ptolemy Epiphanes, Ptolemy Philometor -- every one of them was a king of *Egypt!*

The Roman Empire broke up (or "fell") about 476 A.D. When Rome fell, its various provinces regained their independence. Egypt once again became a free state, independent of foreign rule. However, it was later ruled by the Byzantine Empire. In A.D. 642 Muslim troops captured Alexandria and for 200 years Egypt was part of a new Arab Empire. Most Egyptians at that time converted from Coptic Christianity to Islam and began speaking Arabic.

By the mid-800's, the Muslim rulers in Baghdad (in present day Iraq) began losing control of their sprawling empire. Rulership over Egypt changed hands once again. In 969 A.D. the Fatimites from Tunisia conquered Egypt. They claimed descent from Muhammad, the founder of Islam. Cairo became their capital, and soon became one of the most important cities in the Muslim world.

In 1169 a Syrian army officer in the Caliph's service, the famous Saladin, seized the throne of Egypt and became the sultan of Egypt. The Ayyubid dynasty, founded by Saladin, ruled Egypt until 1250. That year the Mamelukes, who had been Turkish and Circassian slaves and who had become the sultan's body guard, revolted and seized control of Egypt. Mameluke sultans conquered far and wide, as far as Cyprus, Syria and Asia Minor.

In 1517 the Turks conquered Egypt and added it to the Ottoman Empire. The Turkish-appointed governors, called pashas, had little real power, however, and the real control of government remained in the hands of the Mamelukes, until 1798 when Napoleon invaded Egypt to gain control of the land route to the British colony of India. In 1801, however, British and Ottoman troops drove the French out of Egypt.

Muhammad Ali seized control in 1805 and began to modernize Egypt's army and navy, and won military victories in Arabia, Greece, the Sudan, and Syria. Egypt became an independent state again, under his reign, and grew and prospered. However, in 1875 the Egyptian government faced bankruptcy because of wild spending. In 1881 a revolt broke out to free the government from non-Egyptian control. After bloody rioting in Alexandria in 1882, the British occupied Egypt.

Until 1914 Egypt was still actually part of the Ottoman Empire, but when Turkey sided with Germany in World War 1, Britain made Egypt a protectorate. Strong nationalist sentiment prevailed in Egypt, and in 1922 Britain gave Egypt its independence. That year, says the *World Book Encyclopedia*, "Egypt became a *kingdom*."

Notice the word "kingdom.' It is very significant! In 1945 Egypt joined the United Nations. That same year Egypt and six other Arab nations formed the Arab League.

In 1951-52 the Egyptians rioted because of the failure to crush Israel, newly established in 1948, and against corruption in the Egyptian government. The British occupied the Suez Canal Zone. On July 23, 1952, a group of army officers seized control of Egypt, forcing King Farouk to give up the throne. On June 18, 1953, the Revolutionary Council ended Egypt's royal government and created a republic. Gamal Abdel Nasser soon became both prime minister and president.

Upon Nasser's sudden death in 1971, Anwar al-Sadat succeeded to the presidency. He ruled until his assassination. Since then, until the present, Hosni Mubarak has been the ruler of Egypt, maintaining stability. But now the doors have been thrown open to a virulent form of Muslim nationalism and prophecy states that Egypt will once again become an enemy of Israel and the Western Alliance!

Egypt is the most populous Arab state. It is at the forefront of Arab unity. It is geographically positioned to integrate and formulate and play a major role in a future Arab Empire! Militarily, it is by far the most powerful *Arab* nation – or any nation – that lies to the ""south" of Jerusalem, or Israel! It is the logical candidate to lead and organize the *Sunni* Arab Muslim nations into a modern-day "Caliphate" or "Empire"!

All the evidence, therefore, points at only one nation which could fulfill the role of "king of the south." And that nation is Egypt!

Daniel's Prophecy

So let's pick up the threads of Daniel's prophecy again. Notice! The prophet Daniel declares of this conflict, "At the time of the END the king of the South will ATTACK him' – the King of the North, or end-time "Babylon," Europe and America!

The King James Version says he will "push" at him. The Hebrew for "push" is *nagach* and means "to but with the horns," "fig to war against, gore, push down" (Strong's Concordance, #5055). Says Gesenius Hebrew Lexicon, "to push, strike with a horn, used of horned animals." Here in Daniel it means "to wage war with anyone."

How plain! Here is the "king of the south" *pushing* at the king of the north – and the result! This "pushing" will include more than the threat to cut off oil – it will include a military invasion – an attack upon the border of the king of the north! It may well be an attack at that very same historical spot, in the region of modern Syria and Iraq, the oil epicenter of the Middle East!

Is this just an ancient prophecy applying only to ancient Egypt in the days of Nebuchadnezzar? Not at all! Bible prophecy is DUAL! Notice the proof!

Notice, once again, verse 10 of Jeremiah, chapter 46: "For this is the DAY OF THE LORD GOD of hosts, a *day of vengeance*, that he may avenge him of his adversaries: and the sword shall devour, and it shall be satiate and made drunk with their blood: for the *Lord God of hosts* hath a sacrifice in the north country by the river Euphrates" (v. 10).

This verse clearly identifies the TIME ELEMENT of this prophecy as the "day of the Lord," the "day of God's vengeance!" That expression, used, throughout the Old Testament prophecies, refers to the time just before the second coming of the Messiah, Jesus Christ, to rule this earth! It is the time period lying *just ahead of us now!*

The land of Egypt will be crushed, and smitten, by a modern Babylonian power from the "north." But this modern Babylon is centered in the United States and Europe. It will be a composite world Empire, like that of ancient Babylon and Rome, which will include the nations of modern Europe and North America as well -- a "New World Order" which will include the nations of NATO (North Atlantic Treaty Organization).

It will rise up mightily, and grow quickly, into superpower status, and will astonish and

shock the world. It will be a *powerful* kingdom, just like ancient Babylon!

Jeremiah added, "They did cry there, Pharaoh king of Egypt *is but a noise*, he hath passed the time appointed . . . Egypt is like a very fair heifer, but destruction cometh; it cometh out of the *north*" (Jer. 46:17, 20). "The daughter of Egypt shall be confounded; she shall be delivered into the hand of the people of the *north*" (verse 24).

Continuing with verse 25, "The Lord of hosts, the God of Israel, saith; Behold, I will *PUNISH* the multitude of No, and Pharaoh, and Egypt, with their gods, and their kings; even Pharaoh, and all them that trust in him: And I will deliver them into the hand of those that seek their lives, and into the hand of Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon, and into the hand of his servants ... But fear not thou, 0 my servant Jacob, and be not dismayed, 0 Israel: for, behold, I will save thee from afar off, and thy seed from the land of their captivity; and Jacob shall return, and be in rest and at ease, and none shall make him afraid" (verses 25-27).

How plain it should be that a modern Moslem Empire is going to rise up in the Arab world, with Egypt as its head. It will think to recapture its glory of old. It will think to spread the faith of Allah to the rest of the world. Religious fanaticism will stir up a mighty Arab Empire, and it will think to spread its faith by force of arms! But it will come to its end, in shame and horror.

A Treaty with Egypt?

What does God say about Israel trusting in Egypt, and making a treaty with the Egyptians? And what does God think about the United States, also, depending upon Egypt as an "ally" in the Cold War against Communism, and sending military aid to the Egyptians?

Notice!

"WOE to the rebellious children, saith the Lord, that take counsel, but not of me; and that cover with a covering, but not of my spirit, that they may add to their sin: That walk to go down into EGYPT, and have not asked at my mouth; to *strengthen themselves in Pharaoh*, and to TRUST in the shadow of *Egypt!* Therefore shall the strength of Pharaoh be your shame, and the trust in the shadow of Egypt your confusion" (Isaiah 30:1-3).

God thunders to our foolish nations, today, "WOE to them that go down to Egypt for help; and stay on horses [military equipment], and trust in chariots [missiles and warplanes and tanks], because they are many . . . but they look not unto the Holy One of Israel, neither seek the Lord! Now the Egyptians are men, and not God; and their horses flesh, and not spirit . . ." (Isaiah 31:1-3).

The Word of the Everlasting God says that those who trust in Egypt are DOOMED!

In historical times, Egypt was conquered by Babylon the Great. After Nebuchadnezzar had conquered Judah, many of the Jews left in the land fled into Egypt for refuge, assuming the Babylonian king would never conquer Egypt. But they were wrong! God told Jeremiah, His

prophet, to tell the Jews hiding in Egypt, "Thus saith the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel; Behold, I will send and take Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon, my servant. . . . and when he cometh, he shall *smite the land of Egypt*" (Jer. 43: 10-1 1).

God says of the "daughter of Egypt," meaning modern Egypt, "The nations have heard of thy shame, and thy cry hath filled the land: for the mighty man hath stumbled against the mighty, and they are fallen both together" (Jer.46:12).

Even as King Nebuchadnezzar of old smote Egypt, the king of the south, even so the modern Beast power, modern Babylon, will smite modern Egypt, and crush her!

How clear that Egypt *is* the "king of the south"! Modern Egypt will be carried away into captivity (Jer.46:19). God thunders, "The daughters of Egypt shall be confounded; she shall be delivered into the hand of the PEOPLE OF THE NORTH" (v. 24).

Ezekiel's Prophecy

But the prophet Ezekiel tells us even more about this coming war.

"Son of man, set your face against Pharaoh king of Egypt, and prophesy against him, and against all Egypt. Speak, and say, 'Thus says the Lord God; Behold, I am against you, O Pharaoh, king of Egypt, O great monster who lies in the midst of his rivers . . . Then all the inhabitants of Egypt shall know that I am the LORD, because they have been a *staff of reed* to the house of Israel. When they took hold of you with the hand, you broke and tore all their shoulders; when they leaned on you, you broke and made all their backs quiver" (Ezekiel 29:2-7).

"Therefore thus says the Lord God: Surely, I will bring a sword upon you and cut off from you man and beast. And the land of Egypt shall become desolate and waste . . ." (Ezek. 29:8-9). Again, this whole chapter is a *type* of what is going to occur in the future!

How do we know this is a *future* prophecy, and not just something which occurred ages ago?

Chapter 30 proves it! This chapter continues the prophecy against Egypt! It gives us the *time setting*. Notice! Ezekiel declares: "The Word of the Lord came to me again, saying, Son of man, prophesy and say, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Wail, Woe to the day! For the DAY is near, even the *Day of the Lord* is near; it will be a day of clouds, the TIME OF THE GENTILES. The sword shall come upon Egypt, and great anguish shall be in Ethiopia, when the slain fall in Egypt, and they take away her wealth, and her foundations are broken down.

"Ethiopia, Libya, Lydia [Heb. Put, North Africa], all the mingled people, Chub, and the men of the lands WHO ARE ALLIED, shall fall with them by the sword" (Ezek.30:2-5).

The rest of this chapter describes in greater detail how Egypt will be punished.

This chapter is describing the countries allied" with Egypt in the end of this age, the time of the "end." Notice the time setting for this prophecy. It is during the "DAY OF THE LORD" – the time just ahead of us, during the climactic close of this human age of misrule, when Jesus Christ will establish His Kingdom over all!

God plainly says these things are also to unfold during the time called "THE DAY OF THE LORD"! Therefore, it should be obvious that all these prophecies of the Bible are DUAL in nature – there was an ancient, "type" or fulfillment, and then there will be a modern, END-TIME fulfillment! To put it another way, *history repeats itself!*

Some have been mistaken about these prophecies about Egypt because they misunderstood Ezekiel 29:15, where we read: "It [Egypt] shall be the basest of kingdoms; neither shall it exalt itself any more above the nations: for I will diminish them, that they shall no more rule over the nations' (Ezek. 29:15).

But what does this verse really say? Does it by any stretch of the imagination say that Egypt since the time of Nebuchaddnezzar has always been the "basest" of kingdoms? All the "kings of the south" mentioned in the book of Daniel, chapter 11, ruled *after* the time of Nebuchadnezzar! Egypt has been a mighty nation *many* times since those ancient days! Even in the days of Saladin, and Muhammad Ali, Egypt was a power to be reckoned with in the Middle East!

Egypt is *not* now the "basest of kingdoms"!

Notice, further, then, what Bible prophecy actually has to say about this vitally important nation lying on the northeastern corner of the continent of Africa! Notice what God's Word says is going to occur in the *immediate future*, the days lying just ahead of us, now, in world affairs!

Egypt, in ancient times, was often regarded as the enemy of God's people. It is even used as a spiritual "type" of "sin." The nation of Israel was enslaved by the Egyptians for 230 years, when God delivered His people at the hand of Moses.

But once again, in the future, God says His people are once again going to become *slaves* in Egypt!

We read in the prophecy of Isaiah, that when Christ the Messiah returns, "And it shall come to pass in that day, that the Lord shall set his hand again the *second time* to recover the remnant of his people, *which shall be left*, from Assyria, *and from EGYPT*..." (Isa.11:11).

Isaiah describes this further in the 27th chapter. We read, "And it shall come to pass in that day, that the Lord shall beat off from the channel of the river unto the stream of Egypt, and ye shall be gathered one by one, 0 ye children of Israel. And it shall come to pass in that day, that the great trumpet shall be blown, and they shall come which were ready to perish in the land of Assyria, and the outcasts in the land of Egypt, and shall worship the Lord in the holy mount of Jerusalem" (Isa. 27:12-13).

But once again, prophecy says, God will DELIVER His people from every nation where they have been driven!

Jeremiah described this incredible time, and the age we are rapidly plummeting into, this way: "Ask ye now, and see whether a man doth travail with child? wherefore do I see every man with his hands on his loins, as a woman in travail, and all faces are turned into paleness? Alas! for *that day is great*, so that *none is like it*. it is even *the time of Jacob's trouble*, but he shall be saved out of it" (Jer.30:6-7).

These verses describe the GREAT TRIBULATION which this world is rapidly approaching. Jesus also spoke of it. 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. And except those days should be shortened, there should no flesh be saved [alive!]: but for the elect's sake those days shall be shortened" (Matt. 24:21-22).

During this coming tribulation and holocaust, the nations descended from ancient Israel will be punished as never before, and the survivors will be scattered among the nations as captive slaves. They will perform slave labor in Assyria and Egypt! But from there, God promises, He Himself will rescue them!

"Therefore do not fear, O My servant Jacob, says the LORD nor be dismayed, O Israel: for, behold, I will save you from afar, and your seed from the land of their captivity. Jacob shall return, have rest and be quiet, and no one shall make him afraid" (Jer.30:10).

God continues, "For I am with you, says the LORD, to save you: though I make a full end of all nations where I have scattered you, yet I will not make a complete end of you. But I will correct you in justice, and will not let you go altogether unpunished" (verse 11).

Terrible times indeed lie ahead. But God will save His people from oppression! He will deliver them, and then bless them as they have never been blessed before!

How World War III Will Start!

The prophecy of Daniel 11 is the *key* to understanding what is going to happen in the future. It is the key that unlocks the puzzle, so that the pieces can properly be fitted together. Notice once again! "And at the time of the end shall the king of the south" – that is, Egypt and her *allies* – "*push* at him: and the king of the north shall come against him like a whirlwind" (Dan. 11:40).

This will be the real beginning of World War III – the opening scene. The northern kingdom – the United States and Europe together, called the New World Order – will counterattack with force and fury: "and the king of the North shall come against him like a WHIRLWIND, with chariots, horsemen, and with many ships; and he shall enter the countries, overwhelm them, and pass through. He shall also enter the Glorious Land [Israel], and many countries shall be overthrown. . . . He shall stretch out his hand against the countries, and the land of Egypt shall not escape. He shall have power over the treasures of gold and silver, and

over all the precious things of Egypt; also the Libyans and Ethiopians shall follow at his heels" (Daniel 11:40-43).

When the Beast power, modern Babylon, comprised of the nations of North America and Europe, the NATO alliance, invades the Middle East, Jesus Christ said, "And when ye shall see Jerusalem compassed with armies, then KNOW that the desolation thereof is nigh. Then let them which are in Judea flee to the mountains . . . For these be the days of vengeance, that all things that are written may be fulfilled" (Luke 21:20-22).

What event will trigger this massive attack, which will lead to the destruction of modern Israel? What event will trigger, or unleash, the horror of World War III on this planet?

World War III will start when the future "king of the south" *pushes* at the "king of the north" – the Western Alliance of nations! This attack will no doubt be an Islamic invasion to conquer the world for Islam!

World War III will begin . . . in the Middle East! It will be triggered by a hostile move on the part of Egypt and the Muslim world against the US and Europe! The Muslim nations could very well use that opportunity to cut off the oil supplies for the Western world!

That is the message that Daniel 11:40 is meant to convey! That is the WARNING God intends to get across! That is what your Bible really says!

Almighty God says, "But always, first of all, *I warn you through my prophets*. THIS I NOW HAVE DONE" (Amos 3:7, *Living Bible*).

Watch Egypt! Keep your eyes on the Middle East, that volatile tinderbox of dynamite! Shortly, a mighty Arab colossus will rise in North Africa, with Egypt in the forefront.

Remember! Jesus Christ, Yeshua the Messiah, said, "Now when these things begin to happen, look up and lift up your heads, because your redemption draws near" (Luke 21:28).

He also said, "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" (Luke 21:36).

The "perfect storm" assaulting the Arab nations of the Middle East, is like an influenza virus, and has spread to other parts of the world. Civil war in Libya, riots in India, protests in Italy, and growing dissatisfaction around the globe. Even protests, completely unrelated, in Madison, Wisconsin, as unionists have taken to the streets to protest vehemently lawmakers' attempts to curtail union power and exercise control over wages and benefits, when the state is sinking in red ink.

The year 2011 has begun with a storm. Violence is increasing worldwide, and even America is not exempt. Its time to batten down the hatches, and to prepare for the harrowing and ominous future – the time called "the time of Jacob's trouble," for it is fast approaching.