



THE FIRST WOE: THE DESTRUCTION OF DAMASCUS, SYRIA, 2033-2034

By George Lujack

Damascus, Syria is one of the oldest continually inhabited cities in the world. The city of Damascus, as of 2021, hosted a population of over 2.4 million residents. Scripture declares, in clear unmistakable prophetic language, that Damascus will cease from being a city and it will be a ruinous heap (Isaiah 17:1).

The Syrian Civil War officially began on March 15, 2011. The American-led intervention in the Syrian Civil War began on September 22, 2014.

Many prophecy watchers were looking *exclusively* at Israel during the tetrad (set of 4) blood moons that occurred on Elohim's (God's) feast days that fell between April 15, 2014 and September 28, 2015, anticipating a major prophetic event to occur directly involving the nation of Israel.

Many prophecy watchers were looking at the wrong place: Israel, and not at Syria, Israel's northeast neighbor during the tetrad (set of 4) blood moons of 2014-2015.

During the tetrad (set of 4) blood moon cycle of 2014-2015 a major prophetic event was fulfilled. The Scripture prophecy of Revelation 9:1-11, which included the 5-month torment of Syrian Muslim men who did not have the seal of Elohim (God) on their foreheads (figuratively speaking), was fulfilled between October 01, 2014 and March 01, 2015, within the tetrad blood moon cycle of April 15, 2014 and September 28, 2015. During this time, the American-led intervention in the Syrian Civil War made every effort to spare Islamic Syrian men's lives in a containment war that targeted military buildings, equipment, supplies, and vehicles, but spared Islamic combatants lives. During the blood moons of 2014-2015, Syrian Islamic men - those without the seal of Elohim (God) on their foreheads, figuratively speaking – as they do not worship the true Elohim (God), were tormented for five months as they bore witness to their military buildings, equipment, supplies, and vehicles being destroyed, as their lives were spared.

REVELATION 9:6 (NKJV) [WITH INTERPRETATION]:

In those [SYRIAN CIVIL WAR] days [ISLAMIC] men will seek death [IN WAR AND THROUGH SUICIDE BOMBINGS] and will not find it; they will desire to die, and death will flee from them.

Another interesting trend is being fulfilled according to the prophecy of Revelation 9:6: the steep decline of Islamic suicide bombings as a means of terrorism.

Damascus has become a multinational staging area as a military assault base against Israel. Russia, Iran, and Turkey are the three major cooperating nations that back the Syrian regime and offer it military support.

THE BURDEN AGAINST DAMASCUS

Syria has continually launched rocket and mortar attacks against Israel since the onset of the Syrian Civil War. Israel's Iron Dome air defense system has thus far successfully intercepted many of these rockets before they struck their intended targets. The constant threat of rocket and mortar attacks, as well as the threat of future military conflict, is the burden Israel bears against Damascus (Isaiah 17:1). As the tensions between the warring factions in the Syrian Civil War cease, the stage is set in Damascus for hostilities to turn against Israel.

SYRIAN REFUGEE CRISIS – EXODUS FROM SYRIA

ISAIAH 17:3,9 (NKJV) [WITH INTERPRETATION]:

“And the remnant [CHRISTIAN REFUGEES] of Syria; they will be as the glory of the children of Israel,” says YHWH (the Lord) of hosts.

“In that day his [SYRIA’S] strong cities will be as a forsaken bough, and an uppermost branch, which they [SYRIA’S CHRISTIAN REFUGEES] left because of the children of Israel; and there will be desolation [TO DAMASCUS AND SYRIA].”

Elohim (God) is active in preparing Damascus for judgment. Since the 1960s, Christians made up approximately 30 percent of the Syrian population. In 2011, at the onset of the Syrian Civil War, that figure had dropped to 10 percent of the population, or 2.2 million people. Estimates vary, but as of June 2021, Christians comprise up to 5 percent of the Syrian population, somewhere between 400,000 and 677,000 residents. Elohim (God) is directing events in and around Syria to remove His people from that land before judgment comes to it.

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ISAIAH 10:5,12 (NKJV) [WITH INTERPRETATION]:

“Woe to Assyria [SYRIA], the rod of My anger and the staff in whose hand is My indignation.”

“I will punish the fruit of the arrogant heart of the king of Assyria [PRESIDENT OF SYRIA], and the glory of his haughty looks.”

ISAIAH 17:12 (NKJV) [WITH INTERPRETATION]:

Woe to the multitude of many people [GATHERED IN DAMASCUS] who make a noise like the roar of the seas, and to the rushing of nations that make a rushing like the rushing of mighty waters!

REVELATION 9:12 (NKJV) [WITH INTERPRETATION]:

One woe is past [THE DESTRUCTION OF DAMASCUS, SYRIA].

Revelation 9:1-11 has been fulfilled via the American-led intervention in the Syrian Civil War, which occurred within the 2014-2015 tetrad (set of 4) blood moon cycle. Revelation 9:12 is a reference to the first “woe” passing, which is the woe of destruction coming to Damascus and the judgment coming to the multitude of people that are gathered there for trouble against Israel (Isaiah 17:12).

THE FATE OF DAMASCUS

ISAIAH 17:1,14 (NKJV) [WITH INTERPRETATION]:

“Behold, Damascus will cease from being a city, and it will be a ruinous heap.”

“Behold, at eventide [EVENING] he [THE PRESIDENT OF SYRIA] is no more.”

The nation of Israel will carry out an evening military operation and nuclear strike against Damascus, causing Damascus to cease from being a city and to become a ruinous heap. Israel will preemptively strike Damascus due to the imminent military threat posed to the nation of Israel by Damascus.

THE PROPHECY OF ELAM (IRAN)

JEREMIAH 49:35 (NKJV) [WITH INTERPRETATION]:

Thus says YHWH (the Lord) of hosts: “Behold, I will break the bow [NUCLEAR POWER CAPABILITIES] of Elam [IRAN], the foremost of their [MILITARY] might.

JEREMIAH 49:36-37,39 (NKJV) [WITH INTERPRETATION]:

Against Elam [IRAN] I will bring [ISRAELI JET FIGHTERS FROM] the four winds from the four quarters of heaven [THE SKY], and scatter them [IRANIAN REFUGEES] towards all those winds; and there shall be no nation where the outcasts [REFUGEES] of Elam [IRAN] will not go. For I will cause Elam [IRAN] to be dismayed before their enemies and before those who seek their life. I will bring disaster upon them [IRANIAN MILITARY FORCES], My fierce anger,” says YHWH (the Lord); “And I will send the sword after them [IRANIAN MILITARY FORCES] until I have consumed them.”

“But it shall come to pass in the LATTER DAYS: I will bring back the captives [REFUGEES] of Elam [IRAN],” says YHWH (the Lord).

Israel will destroy other regions in Syria, and will likely take out some or all of Iran’s nuclear power plants when it launches its attack against Damascus. Many of Iran’s citizens will flee Iran as refugees, but will return back to Iran before the end of the age.

DAMASCUS’ PROJECTED POPULATION IN 2034

The United Nations projects that there will be over 3.7 million people living in Damascus in 2034. If government policy and hostility trends against Christians living in Damascus continue, and Christians continue to depart Syria as exiles and refugees, there will likely be no Christians living in Damascus by 2034.

2033-2034 TETRAD (SET OF 4) BLOOD MOONS



Between the upcoming tetrad blood moon cycle dates of April 14, 2033 and September 28, 2034 is the most likely time frame that the first woe of Revelation will be fulfilled, which is the destruction of Damascus, as well as other significant military targets in Syria. Iran’s Bushehr nuclear power plant and other Iranian nuclear facilities will also likely be targeted and destroyed at this time.