

Kingdom Report

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Apocalypse and Coming of Iran's Shiite 12th Imam

You don't know how dangerous the entire Middle East has become unless you understand the peculiar "end times" theology of Iran's Shiite majority. They are preparing for the coming of the 12th Imam when a world apocalypse occurs.

After the missile attack by Iran on Israel Tuesday evening Israel threatened a major counter strike coming on Iran. On Friday morning 4th October the Supreme Leader of Iran Ayatollah Ali Khamenei while leading Friday morning prayers and holding a rifle in his hands issued his own threats in the wake of several reports saying Israel is readying a major response to the Oct. 1st Iranian ballistic missile attack. The Biden administration is said to be in consultations with Israel's security cabinet on the potential of taking out the Islamic Republic's oil and gas sites and vital infrastructure. Nuclear sites could be on the table as well.

This was followed by the deputy leader of the Iranian Revolutionary Guards declaring "If the occupiers (Israel) make such mistake we will target all their energy sources, installations and all refineries and gas fields".

And Iran promised that if any nation joins in helping Israel in their attack (i.e. America) then they will destroy the entire oil production of the Middle East.

The question is all this just bluster and empty threats? Will Iran commit national suicide and attempt to destroy Israel in retaliation for a major attack by Israel on Iran?

If you know and understand Iran's peculiar Shiite theology and eschatology regarding the soon coming of the 12th Imam then you will understand that they believe they will be saved by the miraculous second coming of the Mahdi, the 12th Imam.

Much like evangelicals believe Israel will be miraculously defended and saved by the coming of Jesus Christ at the battle of Armageddon.

Much like Israel's Orthodox majority political parties believe that God has given all of Palestine "from the river to the sea" to Israel and will bless and protect them from defeat as they ethnically cleanse the land of Palestinians in Gaza, West Bank and Lebanon.

My readers are well aware of what the theological and eschatological position of both evangelical Christian Zionists and Israeli Orthodox faith Zionists are. But very few fellow evangelicals know or understand the eschatology of Iran's Shiite majority. And therefore do not realize what incredible danger the whole region from a war that all the combatants think they are doing God's will and will receive God's blessing and divine protection.

So for your enlightenment let me give you a brief overview of Iranian Shiite eschatology and when you have read it ask yourself “are these people bluffing about blowing up the whole world economy by blowing up the oil installations of the Middle East?”

In the Islamic Shiite faith, particularly among Iranian Shiites, the 12th Imam Mahdi is a central figure in eschatological beliefs. This belief is not held among the rest of the world Sunni Muslims. But it is very important to realize what their “end times” theology says to understand why the world is now on the precipice of the abyss of destruction that can set the whole Middle East on fire and with it the world economy.

The key points about their beliefs:

Identity: The 12th Imam Mahdi is believed to be Muhammad ibn al-Hasan al-Mahdi, also known as Muhammad al-Mahdi or simply the Mahdi. He is considered the last of the twelve Imams and a direct descendant of Prophet Muhammad through his grandson, Hussain

Concealment of the Imam: Shiites believe that the 12th Imam went into concealment (ghaybah) in 941 CE and has been alive but concealed since then. This is seen as a divine act to protect him until the appropriate time for his return

Return: The 12th Imam is expected to reappear at the end of times to establish justice and righteousness on earth. He will lead humanity and bring about a period of peace and prosperity, ridding the world of evil and injustice

Role with Jesus: According to Shiite beliefs, the 12th Imam will return alongside Jesus Christ, who will pray behind him. Together, they will defeat the antichrist-like figure, Al-Masih ad-Dajjal, and bring about a new era of justice and peace

Establishment of True Islam: The 12th Imam is believed to restore the original teachings of Islam, which have been corrupted over time. He will not establish a new religion but rather revive the true and pure form of Islam as taught by Prophet Muhammad

Universal Justice: The 12th Imam's return is seen as a moment of universal justice, where he will lead humanity to a path of righteousness and equity, countering the corruption and injustice that have prevailed in the world

These beliefs are central to the Iranian Shiite tradition and have significant implications for their understanding of the end times and the role of the 12th Imam in bringing about a new era of peace and justice

The second coming of the hidden 12th Imam will however be at a time of international turmoil and collapse. Much like Christians believe in the Second Coming of Christ at Armageddon. So they expect.....

Great Tribulations: That the Mahdi's reappearance will be preceded by a period of significant global turmoil and hardship. This includes "much heavier afflictions, world-wide wars, mass destructions by satanic powers (such as Dajjal and Sufyani)

Failure of Human Systems: It is believed that the Mahdi will emerge when all human-made ideologies and systems have been tried and failed. As stated, "Imam al-Mahdi will come when all types of ideologies are tested and they fail"

Divine Timing: The reappearance is tied to eschatological events. The Mahdi is believed to emerge at the "End of Time" along with Jesus Christ to lead humanity and bring justice to the world

Major Battles: There are beliefs about significant conflicts preceding or accompanying the Mahdi's emergence, including a major battle at Dabiq or al-Amaq

Defeat of Evil Forces: The Mahdi, often alongside Jesus, is expected to defeat the Antichrist figure (Al-Masih ad-Dajjal) and establish a just rule.

But will Iran respond to an Israeli counter strike expected soon?

Here is a report on Friday from the Al Jazeera news network:

Iran sends important message to US – Al Jazeera

Tehran has sent a note to Washington via Qatar that it will no longer exercise "*unilateral self-restraint*" when it comes to Israel, Al Jazeera has reported, quoting an Iranian source.

The message came as Jerusalem has threatened a "*harsh response*" to Tuesday's barrage of Iranian missiles, which Tehran described as reprisal for the deaths of Hamas and Hezbollah leaders at Israel's hands.

Iran informed the US that "*the phase of unilateral self-restraint has ended,*" since that failed to safeguard Tehran's national security requirements, the anonymous source told Al Jazeera on Thursday.

Tehran does not want a regional war but any attack by Israel will be met with an "*unconventional response*" that includes targeting Israeli infrastructure, according to the Qatar-based outlet. Meanwhile, the Iranian mission to the UN has issued a statement putting other countries on notice should they aid any Israeli strike on Iran.

"Our response will be solely directed at the aggressor. Should any country render assistance to the aggressor, it should likewise be deemed an accomplice and a legitimate target," the mission said. "*We advise countries to refrain from entangling themselves in the conflict between the Israeli regime and Iran and to distance themselves from the fray.*"

On Wednesday, Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian accused Israel of wanting to "*cause insecurity and spread crisis in the region,*" which Tehran opposes. However,

he said, *“any type of military attack, terrorist act or crossing our red lines will be met with a decisive response by our armed forces.”*

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has vowed to *“exact a heavy price from the ayatollahs’ regime,”* the Tel Aviv-based Channel 12 reported on Tuesday. The *“harsh response”* is being closely coordinated with the US and is expected to come *“within days,”* the outlet said.

So within days we will know if we are facing a major escalation of hostilities that can lead to reprisals and world war.

Here are some thoughts to contemplate:

For my fellow evangelicals a note of warning. Be careful about “end times” prophecies. I personally don’t see anything about what Israel is doing as being the blessing of the Lord. Mass bombings and human slaughter is not how God is bringing in His Kingdom on earth neither is this Israel a praise in all the earth and neither is it a witness to the nations that would cause them to do what God says he wants in Isaiah 2 and Micah 4....the nations of the earth coming to God’s mountain (The real Israel of God) and saying “teach us your ways”. Neither do I see these people and what they are doing as “seed of Abraham that will bless all the nations of the earth.”

So here is a prophecy in Jeremiah 19:11 about the future of Israel and Jerusalem that I assure you none of your end time prophecy books will quote....

“And say to them (the Jews) Thus says the Lord of hosts, Just so will I break this people (Israel) and this city (Jerusalem) even as one breaks a potters vessel which cannot again be repaired and they will bury in Topheth because there is no other place for burial.”

I fear that the Israeli leadership has made a drastic calculation that this is the time when all enemies of Israel must be vanquished, all talks of 2-state solution is finished, Gaza, and the West Bank will be bombed into oblivion and made unliveable, and Iran will be eliminated as a force in the region.

If Iran and the rest of the Arab world realize this to be the end game for Israel and there is no hope of negotiations or peace....then the masses of people in Turkey, Jordan, Egypt, Iran, Iraq, Syria, Afghanistan....will force their leaders into a confrontation for the elimination of Israel as a nation state.

Iran and Hezbollah have tens of thousands of missile they have not fired yet....and especially the ballistic and hypersonic missiles. Israel’s “Iron Dome” defence can be easily overwhelmed.

The next weeks will let us know if all the talk in America about an “October surprise” is about a coming war and a great financial reset after financial collapse.

Dangerous times...be in prayer and put your trust in the Lord. This is His earth and all nations are under His control. In the end...the Kingdom of God and the glory of the Lord will fill the earth.