Rumblings of Armageddon Part 2

By Charles Feinberg

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Thus far in our study after an important introduction we have closely examined the prophetic passages that directly speak of Armageddon. Now the present picture. Friends no student of world affairs today needs to be told the importance of the Middle and Near East in international relations. It is the most dangerous powder keg in existence. Notice the importance of this area it's the meeting ground between the civilizations of the East and the West. Of the 21 civilizations that are treated by Toynbee in his great work on history twelve are ultimately traced to the Middle East. It's to this area the West owes much of its civilization its culture its philosophy its science and religion Judaism Christianity and Islam.

The area moreover is of great military importance. It covers two million eight hundred thousand square miles. There's no land bridge like it in the world. It is unique. It is a land bridge connecting Europe Asia and Africa. It’s been the sought after prize by every military conqueror from Alexander the Great to our own day. Not only did Germany have plans concerning it the Kremlin has had its own plans. Both Catherine the Great and Peter the Great felt themselves protectors of the Holy Land. Before these nations can accomplish their world conquests. They want territory in the Middle East oh they may at the beginning ask for instance a base for land and naval forces. Areas south in the general direction of the Persian Gulf but this area is
important both geographically and militarily, population wise. It is between as we shall be seeing in a few moments between the two largest population centers in the world. This area is important too friends because of its basic resources. Almost half we used to say.

Now it's more like 75 percent of the world's known supply of oil lies lies in Saudi Arabia, Iran, Iraq, Kuwait and other countries in this area, been found in the negative of Israel as well. When for instance they drilled for their production. Only 500 wells. One year that was a number over against a million in the United States alone. One year the daily production per well in Iran, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait was nearly seven thousand barrels. And that's more than a quarter of a century ago seven thousand barrels. During the same year the world average was merely 20 barrels. The United States average 13 barrels industry in Europe would be crippled if that oil were stopped. That's why France and England and Israel went to war in the Sinai at the time that Nasser cut off the supply of oil in the Suez. Industry in Europe which is energy weak would be crippled if that oil were stopped.

And we have found in World War II. That you can make synthetic rubber but you cannot make synthetic oil and chrome for high speed cutting tools manganese for steel graphite for radio. They're supplied from the Middle East. This area offers the best approach to Africa. It provides 90 percent of industrial diamonds that are used in high precision instruments 75 percent of fiber that's used in rope comes from Africa. Think of what that means to the navies of the world. And for packaging and cartage. Think of its copper deposits. Its leading output of uranium I have here uranium. I have a squib. A part of an article from a mission in Africa uranium found in the Niger Republic. The discovery of enormous uranium deposits in the remote Air Mountains of Niger republic has prompted predictions that Niger will become the richest country per capita in Africa. The deposits were found by French scientists in 1966, 11 years ago. But their value has
only now been assessed the largest at Arlit is estimated at over 20000 tons. Think of it uranium. Which these lethal bombs are made. A Franco-Niger mining company with a 75 year concession has been formed 50 percent of the profits will go to the Niger Treasury. At present one of the poorest in Francophone French speaking Africa production of 200 tons a year is expected in the 70s in the decade we're in increasing to a thousand tons. Construction of mining facilities refining plant transportation facilities is to begin immediately. Arlit is expected to explode into a town of thousands. Almost overnight. Yes. With a total population of only 3 million it's predicted that the uranium boom will do for Niger what oil did for Kuwait.

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… It is important because of the tremendous Dead Sea actually the salt sea Holdings the salt sea or the Dead Sea contains in mineral wealth. Potash makes soap fertilizer nitrates 1 million No. 1 billion. 300 million tons. The Jordanian government decided on a Dead Sea potter scheme of its own. It asked foreign companies to come in and they didn't respond only now to find nine thousand million tons of potassium chlorate could be extracted from that Dead Seas enough, hear it, enough to supply farmers all over the world with this type of fertilizer for two hundred and fifty years. My dear friends the governments of the world are in a mad rush. They are having nightmares as to how they're going to be able to feed the exploding population of the world they're investigating how the ocean. Can be made to feed populations. And look here Potash as a fertilizer. The soil the world over is being depleted. Ah but potash there. In the billions of tons and bromine for medicine synthetic chemicals color agent, 835 million tons salt.
Salt. Table salt. Bath salt. Commercial salt 11 billion nine hundred million tons. Gypsum by the way that's salt. I've seen it. I have put my finger in the salt sea and it's as if you put your finger. In a flower barrel the salt sea known as the Dead Sea. Is six times as salty as the ocean gypsum for dressings for soil [inaudible] Eighty one million tons. Calcium chloride used as a drying agent, 6 billion tons Bychubin or asphalt used for paving roads sealing ships even embalming. Unknown quantity and then magnesium chloride. Hear it the lighter than aluminum metal of the future. Twenty two billion tons.

The Dead Sea is forty seven miles long nine miles wide and from three to thirteen hundred feet deep. Israel possesses a 35 mile shoreline. My dear friends. No wonder. This could arouse the avarice and the greed the cupidity. Of Russia and those who want to get into that area. Think of the amount of wealth. There is in that part of the world. More yet. This region is located between the two largest population centers in the world. That of Europe and of Southeast Asia. Geo politicians, world politicians now tell us that possession of these lands called the heartlands they tell us that the possession of these lands is essential to world domination. General Eisenhower later President Eisenhower. But when he was chief of staff said I quote it as far as the shear value of territory is concerned. There is no more strategically important area in the world. Than in the Middle East both Czarist Russia Communist Russia have been aiming for control of this territory. They want to reach out toward Afghanistan and India. What are the danger signs of coming crisis? Well fanatical nationalism in that part of the world as well as in other parts undeveloped resources.

No middle class if you will. The very rich and the very poor social distress on a very wide scale. And nationalism is showing itself in widespread dissatisfaction over existing conditions. What do they need? Well they need natural resources except oil. They need capital.
They need greater national production to keep pace with a growing population. They need efficient government administration. Very basic if they're ever going to attract foreign capital. Yes the British government. During World War One made irreconcilable promises to the Arabs and the Jews and let's be fair our country did too. Then threw the problem in to the UN. Now that doesn't mean that Britain and the United States haven't done more for both of those than any other government. Yes. The pipelines of the Near East oil have been controlled for a long time by the British and American companies. But the laws of being nationalized. Practically in toto Of course the Arabs claim a Jewish state would be a constant threat to the Arab neighbors.

In spite of assurances to the contrary the Arabs fear that Israel will ultimately with the help of the United States try to rule the Arab world. One writer Khaled Abyan said Arab bitterness over the success of Israel and the pronounced friendship of Washington to the new state indicating these danger signs of coming crisis. Said he in his book half sleeve half free. Khaled Abend, out of bitterness over the success of Israel and the pronounced friendship of Washington for the new state have greatly embittered those Arab leaders whose troops made such a poor showing in the Palestine. Palestine war. Hurt pride has blinded them to the menace of Russian designs in the Near East. Late King Abdullah the grandfather of King Hussein of Jordan publicly accused the American government of turning the whole war near east toward communism. The Arabs claim they would join the Western nations if Israel were left out.

Of course the Arabs want our military help as other nations do with but the reason this hasn't been forthcoming is a fear that it will turn the balance of power and these weapons will be used against Israel and then religious fanaticism is trying to align itself with the extreme left wing nationalism. Loyal to the Koran. Loyalty to Islam are being stressed the illegitimate. And means and illiterate masses. Are being used as a nose of clay. Anti-foreign feeling has led to the
liquidation of Friends of the West. Militant nationalism has the backing of Russia. She's riding the crest of the wave. Now my friends it's Russia's plan as always to remain out of any war and have others fight on the fringes. Of the heartland. This permits her to remain strong to build up her own military power. Friends thus we have preliminary definite rumblings of the coming thunder and storm of Armageddon. Here are the elements of coming future desperate cataclysmic catastrophic conflict.

Now it would be in a sense not quite practical. If we just spoke of the rumblings of Armageddon as to the prophetic passages. And. The present picture. If we did not at the same time make this quite relevant to us personally there is personal peril in the situation. Not that the United States. Will go down. In a conflict in that part of the world. Not that there will be. Such a conflict that will put all the nations very shortly out of commission. These things. Are indicated in a special time bracket when the church is gone. But then the church's departure from this world though it could be at any moment is never indicated as to time specific time. How far away these rumblings will turn into the violent storm. No one can safely say. But the course of events the trend. All these things are abundantly clear. On the part of wisdom. If you know there's a storm coming up.

That part of wisdom is to prepare to avoid the storm. And there's but one way one way trust Christ be saved and safe. It's useless to ask how the world got itself into this shape. Some folks that are always. Immediately interested in origins when you ask them to make a decision about a present need. It's as if a doctor were called in to weigh down a patient and instead of giving a proper diagnosis or a proper analysis of the disease begins to berate the patient. For getting into a sickly condition in the first place. My friends it's useless to ask how the world got itself into this shape. It is wisdom to take refuge in the only refuge Christ Jesus the Lord. We're
told that a missionary from China was preaching to the bluejackets on a British man of war. At the port of [inaudible] he was approached at the end of the message by a sailor. And this was quite outspoken. He said Sir. I've heard your word. I've heard your message. I just want you to know I'm not going to believe a single thing you've said that you've told us until you inform me why God allowed sin to come into the world in the first place. Well the missionary was just as blunt as he was a very blunt man and his answer came quite quickly to his lips. He said Man you're a fool and I will prove it. Suppose a man was on the top floor of an 11 story building and a fire broke out on the first floor.

The man heard the cries of fire but he kept on reading a book. Finally those flames burst right into his room. He rushed to the window. He saw a fire escape and firemen below. And all of them yelling to him shouting to him to come down to escape the fire. To do so while he still could. But instead of climbing down the ladder to safety think of his foolishness. He shouted down to the firemen, I won't come down one step until you tell me how the fire started in the building. The missionary asked him, what would you think of that man. He asked the sailor. The sailor said I'd say he was a fool. Blurting it out. By his own words. He condemned himself.

There is friend, there's no question about it. For a split second. There is peril in delay. We're to decide now. I have looked through the Bible for many years. Over a half century I've looked in the Bible. To see if there is any indication any counsel any advice in the Bible anywhere Old or New Testament that would tell us we have ample time.

That we can just delay that we can as well do this important business of a decision for eternity. We can as well do it next week next month next year as we can right now today. No I never find that. I know. In each place it tells us not to waste time the time is short. And that now is acceptable time. Now is the day of salvation. The delay is perilous. It is catastrophic. In fact. A
question is put that has no answer. No answer of safety in Hebrews two how shall we escape if we neglect. So great salvation the greatest mind the greatest philosopher in the history of the world has never been able never been able. To tell us an answer to that. There is peril in delay. Here is a loved one lying sick. Can you tell the individual through a doctor that there is great danger that there can be no recovery unless a certain medication is taken or a certain operation is taken and that person says well I don't think I want to do that? I think I'll do it at leisure so on. Or here is an individual. Who has lost control of the car and is going over the precipice. Would you be a friend to tell that individual? That he need not worry about putting on the brake. He need not care about what happens.

When the wheels of that car leave the ground and rush out into the open space. And the chasm below. No. The Matter is of eternal importance. Decide now if a building were on fire you wouldn't tell folk to wait. You would tell them at the earliest possible moment. Rescue yourself flee and we're told to flee from the wrath to come flee to Christ and all you have to do friend. Is in your heart of hearts say nothing in my hand I bring. Simply to thy cross I cling. Other refuge. Have I none. Hangs my helpless soul on thee. Oh Lamb of God. I'm coming to you. At this very moment our father and our God. As we hear of these events that are going on in the world. As the scene is being set, as the props. Are being put up. As the nations are maneuvering into their positions. As the world Darkness becomes. Thicker. And thicker. And the way out is beyond human wisdom and judgment. Lord as we see these things. Help our father those who know thee not to be alerted. That now is the hour to make a decision.

Since life here is so uncertain. The life which is eternal should be laid hold off. And to us who do know thee our father may our pulses be quickened may our zeal be accelerated. May our eyes be looking for opportunities to share Christ? So that he may have other sheep in his flock as
well that he may see of the travail of his soul. And be satisfied. Lord for the love of the Savior. May we be alert may we be concerned. May we be on the firing line? We make our petition. With Thanksgiving not in fear of what's to come but indeed before us and trust that we are resting upon the arm of the buttons and we have the compass. We have the book. That will lead us out of the darkness into everlasting life. We make our petitions in Jesus' precious name, Amen.

[End Part 2]