

October 14, 2023

Praise Is Our Weapon of War

We appear to be in the midst of a resolution to the War between Israel and Hamas launched nearly two years ago to the day. The situation is more fluid now. I was just going to go over and review what I had shared with you two years ago as part of or Simchat Torah service. Now two years later it appears we are on the cusp of ending this war.

There is a history of nations coming up against Israel and attacking them, provoking them to respond and defend themselves.

Listening to some of the protesters on Friday for what was supposed to be a day of Jihad was rather striking. The old tired lines of Israel being an apartheid state and oppressing the Palastinian people continued and without any remorse. A member of Congress displaying the Palestinian flag outside her office, the rhetoric that comes from members of congress, it is astounding.

Israel is the one who provoked the attack because of what they did.

What did they do?

They withdrew their people from what is now the Gaza Strip in 2005. They gave it away. The infamous land for peace deal that produced no peace and only enabled factions supported by Iran to burrow themselves into the land, both literally and figuratively.

Today there are over 300 miles of tunnels the IDF will have to address. Filled with militant jihadists backed by the state sponsor of terrorism there will be a battle that ensues. They use their people as human shields and then use their deaths as propaganda saying look at Israel's atrocity, killing civilians.

We are seeing a swift response by Israel as they surgically respond with precision of terrorist strong holds.

Yet what you see is not a human battle but a spiritual battle. It is Adonai vs. the Adversary. The intent is to wipe the Jewish people from the face of the earth. The Adversary knows that if you eliminate the Jewish people from the face of the earth, all of them, Messiah can't return. He is returning to be King of His people, setting up His throne in the land...

Eze 43:7 He said, "Human being, this is the place for my throne, the place for the soles of my feet, where I will live among the people of Isra'el forever. The

house of Isra'el, both they and their kings, will never again defile my holy name by their prostitution, by [*burying*] the corpses of their kings [*on*] their high places,

Eze 43:8 or by placing their threshold next to my threshold and their door-frames next to my door-frames, with only a common wall between me and them. Yes, they defiled my holy name by the disgusting practices they committed; which is why I destroyed them in my anger.

For which Yeshua will return as promised...

Mat 23:37 "Yerushalayim! Yerushalayim! You kill the prophets! You stone those who are sent to you! How often I wanted to gather your children, just as a hen gathers her chickens under her wings, but you refused!

Mat 23:38 Look! God is abandoning your house to you, leaving it desolate.

Mat 23:39 For I tell you, from now on, you will not see me again until you say, 'Blessed is he who comes in the name of Adonai.' "

For the New Covenant is made by Adonai to the Jewish people...

Jer 31:30 "Here, the days are coming," says Adonai, "when I will make a new covenant with the house of Isra'el and with the house of Y'hudah.

Jer 31:31 It will not be like the covenant I made with their fathers on the day I took them by their hand and brought them out of the land of Egypt; because they, for their part, violated my covenant, even though I, for my part, was a husband to them," says Adonai.

Jer 31:32 "For this is the covenant I will make with the house of Isra'el after those days," says Adonai: "I will put my Torah within them and write it on their hearts; I will be their God, and they will be my people.

Jer 31:33 No longer will any of them teach his fellow community member or his brother, 'Know Adonai'; for all will know me, from the least of them to the greatest; because I will forgive their wickednesses and remember their sins no more."

We know His Covenants are everlasting and can not be changed or transferred because...

Num 23:19 "God is not a human who lies or a mortal who changes his mind. When he says something, he will do it; when he makes a promise, he will fulfill it.

Thus if there is no people, there is no covenant.

Yet what does Adonai say about His people...

Jer 31:34 This is what Adonai says, who gives the sun as light for the day, who ordained the laws for the moon and stars to provide light for the night, who stirs up the sea until its waves roar—Adonai-Tzva'ot is his name:

Jer 31:35 "If these laws leave my presence," says Adonai, "then the offspring of Isra'el will stop being a nation in my presence forever."

Jer 31:36 This is what Adonai says: "If the sky above can be measured and the foundations of the earth be fathomed, then I will reject all the offspring of Isra'el for all that they have done," says Adonai.

So when we see what is happening today, know that this is what Yeshua warned us about...

Mat 24:3 When he was sitting on the Mount of Olives, the talmidim came to him privately. "Tell us," they said, "when will these things happen? And what will be the sign that you are coming, and that the `olam hazeh is ending?"

Mat 24:4 Yeshua replied: "Watch out! Don't let anyone fool you!

Mat 24:5 For many will come in my name, saying, 'I am the Messiah!' and they will lead many astray.

Mat 24:6 You will hear the noise of wars nearby and the news of wars far off; see to it that you don't become frightened. Such things must happen, but the end is yet to come.

Israel has declared war.

This is no longer a rumor or speculation, it is war.

This is not Revelation because we are still in chapter three and the warnings to the Messianic communities. This is Matthew 24:6 now.

As I alluded, Israel is not unfamiliar with enemies coming against them and attacking.

Remember Amelek?

Exo 17:8 Then `Amalek came and fought with Isra'el at Refidim.

Exo 17:9 Moshe said to Y'hoshua, "Choose men for us, go out, and fight with `Amalek. Tomorrow I will stand on top of the hill with God's staff in my hand."

Exo 17:10 Y'hoshua did as Moshe had told him and fought with `Amalek. Then Moshe, Aharon and Hur went up to the top of the hill.

Exo 17:11 When Moshe raised his hand, Isra'el prevailed; but when he let it down, `Amalek prevailed.

Hands raised to Heaven, to the throne of Adonai, prompting Him to enable His people to prevail, yet his hands need to be raised throughout the battle

Exo 17:12 However, Moshe's hands grew heavy; so they took a stone and put it under him, and he sat on it. Aharon and Hur held up his hands, the one on the one side and the other on the other; so that his hands stayed steady until sunset.

Exo 17:13 Thus Y'hoshua defeated `Amalek, putting their people to the sword.

Exo 17:14 Adonai said to Moshe, "Write this in a book to be remembered, and tell it to Y'hoshua: I will completely blot out any memory of `Amalek from under heaven."

War and battles are nothing new to this nation.

The Israreli Arab war of 1949 for their independence

The Six day war (show video)

The Yom Kippur War.

All of recent history

I want to share this account from 2 Chronicles 20...

2Ch 20:1 Some time later, the people of Mo'av and the people of `Amon with other `Amonim came up to fight Y'hoshafat.

2Ch 20:2 Y'hoshafat was told, "A huge army from beyond the [*Dead*] Sea, from Aram, is on its way to fight you; right now they are in Hatzatzon-Tamar" (that is, `Ein-Gedi).

The nation today is surrounded by millions who what them destroyed. 10 million people in the land surrounded by many times that, well over 100 million.

2Ch 20:3 Y'hoshafat was frightened, so he determined to seek Adonai. He proclaimed a fast throughout all Y'hudah,

Pray that the leaders seek the wisdom of Adonai.

2Ch 20:4 and Y'hudah assembled to seek help from Adonai; they came from all

the cities of Y'hudah to seek Adonai.

Let them be like Y'hoshafat and humble themselves before the Almighty.

2Ch 20:5 Standing in front of the new courtyard in the house of Adonai, among those assembled from Y'hudah and Yerushalayim,

2Ch 20:6 he said: "Adonai, God of our ancestors, you alone are God in heaven. You rule all the kingdoms of the nations. In your hand are power and strength, so that no one can withstand you.

2Ch 20:7 You, our God, drove out those living in the land ahead of your people Isra'el and gave it forever to the descendants of Avraham your friend.

2Ch 20:8 They lived in it, built you a sanctuary in it for your name, and said,

2Ch 20:9 'If calamity strikes us, such as war, judgment, disease or famine, we will stand before this house—that is, before you, since your name is in this house—and cry to you in our distress; and you will hear us and rescue us.'

2Ch 20:10 "So now, see: the people of `Amon, Mo'av and Mount Se`ir, whom you would not let Isra'el invade when they came out of the land of Egypt, so that they turned away from them and did not destroy them,

2Ch 20:11 are now repaying us [*evil*]; they have come to throw us out of your possession, which you gave us as an inheritance.

2Ch 20:12 Our God! Won't you execute judgment against them? For we haven't strength enough to defeat this huge horde coming against us, and we don't know what to do, but our eyes are on you."

2Ch 20:13 All Y'hudah stood before Adonai with their little ones, their wives and their children.

2Ch 20:14 Then, in the middle of the assembly, the Spirit of Adonai came upon Yachzi'el the son of Z'kharyahu, the son of B'nayah, the son of Ye`i'el, the son of Matanyah the Levi, from the descendants of Asaf.

2Ch 20:15 He said, "Listen, all Y'hudah, you who live in Yerushalayim and King Y'hoshafat: here is what Adonai is saying to you: 'Don't be afraid or distressed by this great horde; for the battle is not yours, but God's.

2Ch 20:16 Tomorrow, go down against them. They will be coming up by the ascent of Tzitz, and you will find them at the end of the vadi, before the Yeru'el Desert.

2Ch 20:17 You won't even need to fight this battle! Just take your positions, Y'hudah and Yerushalayim, stand still, and watch how Adonai will deliver you! Don't be afraid or distressed; tomorrow, go out against them; for Adonai is with you.' "

2Ch 20:18 Y'hoshafat bowed his head with his face to the ground; while all

Y'hudah and the inhabitants of Yerushalayim fell down before Adonai, worshipping Adonai;

2Ch 20:19 and the L'vi'im from the descendants of the K'hati and the descendants of the Korchi, stood up and praised Adonai the God of Isra'el at the top of their voices.

2Ch 20:20 The next morning, they rose early and went out into the T'koa Desert. As they left, Y'hoshafat stood and said, "Listen to me, Y'hudah and you inhabitants of Yerushalayim! "Trust in Adonai your God, and you will be safe. Trust in his prophets, and you will succeed."

2Ch 20:21 After consulting with the people, he appointed those who would sing to Adonai and praise the splendor of his holiness as they went out ahead of the army, saying, "Give thanks to Adonai, for his grace continues forever."

2Ch 20:22 Then, during the time when they were singing and praising, Adonai brought a surprise attack against the people of `Amon, Mo'av and Mount Se`ir who had come to fight Y'hudah; and they were defeated.

2Ch 20:23 What happened was that the people of `Amon and Mo'av began attacking those people who lived by Mount Se`ir, to kill and destroy them completely; and when they had finished off the people from Se`ir, they set to work slaughtering one another.

The Lord Delivers Judah

2Ch 20:24 So when Y'hudah reached the watchtower overlooking the desert, they looked toward the horde; and there in front of them were corpses fallen to the ground; none had escaped.

2Ch 20:25 Y'hoshafat and his army came to take the spoil from them and found among them personal property in abundance and corpses with precious jewels, which they stripped off for themselves until they couldn't carry any more. They took three days just to collect the spoil, there was so much.

2Ch 20:26 On the fourth day, they assembled in the Valley of B'rakhah [*blessing*], where they blessed Adonai; hence that place is called the Valley of B'rakhah to this day.

2Ch 20:27 Then they returned, everyone from Y'hudah and Yerushalayim, with Y'hoshafat leading them joyfully back to Yerushalayim; for Adonai had caused them to rejoice over their enemies.

2Ch 20:28 They came to Yerushalayim with lyres, lutes and trumpets and went to the house of Adonai.

2Ch 20:29 A panic from God was on all the kingdoms of the countries when they heard that Adonai had fought against the enemies of Isra'el.

Let the nations around Israel be stricken with fear. Let Adonai be revealed as the one who goes before the people.

We are not in the land nor in the midst of this war yet we are part of this battle between Adonai and the Adversary.

During this time as his warriors of faith, let us use the weapons He has given us for this battle of good vs. evil.

Prayer and Praise are our weapons of war that we wield on behalf of those in the midst of the battle now. Let us be Aaron and Hur to Y'oshua and his warriors in the midst of battle.

Here are the 20 points laid out by President Trump as it pertains to the ceasefire and what is to transpire. There will be three phases to this plan with the first being all hostages (dead and alive) being returned in exchange for a list of Hamas requested prisoners.

Here is the full text of the president's plan, as provided by the White House:

1. Gaza will be a deradicalised terror-free zone that does not pose a threat to its neighbours.
2. Gaza will be redeveloped for the benefit of the people of Gaza, who have suffered more than enough.
3. If both sides agree to this proposal, the war will immediately end. Israeli forces will withdraw to the agreed upon line to prepare for a hostage release. During this time, all military operations, including aerial and artillery bombardment, will be suspended, and battle lines will remain frozen until conditions are met for the complete staged withdrawal.
4. Within 72 hours of Israel publicly accepting this agreement, all hostages, alive and deceased, will be returned.
5. Once all hostages are released, Israel will release 250 life sentence prisoners plus 1,700 Gazans who were detained after 7 October 2023, including all women and children detained in that context. For every Israeli hostage whose remains are released, Israel will release the remains of 15 deceased Gazans.
6. Once all hostages are returned, Hamas members who commit to peaceful co-existence and to decommission their weapons will be given amnesty. Members of Hamas who wish to leave Gaza will be provided safe passage to receiving countries.
7. Upon acceptance of this agreement, full aid will be immediately sent into the Gaza Strip. At a minimum, aid quantities will be consistent with what was included in the 19 January 2025 agreement regarding humanitarian aid, including rehabilitation of infrastructure (water, electricity, sewage), rehabilitation of

hospitals and bakeries, and entry of necessary equipment to remove rubble and open roads.

8. Entry of distribution and aid in the Gaza Strip will proceed without interference from the two parties through the United Nations and its agencies, and the Red Crescent, in addition to other international institutions not associated in any manner with either party. Opening the Rafah crossing in both directions will be subject to the same mechanism implemented under 19 January 2025 agreement.

9. Gaza will be governed under the temporary transitional governance of a technocratic, apolitical Palestinian committee, responsible for delivering the day-to-day running of public services and municipalities for the people in Gaza. This committee will be made up of qualified Palestinians and international experts, with oversight and supervision by a new international transitional body, the "Board of Peace," which will be headed and chaired by President Donald J. Trump, with other members and heads of state to be announced, including Former Prime Minister Tony Blair. This body will set the framework and handle the funding for the redevelopment of Gaza until such time as the Palestinian Authority has completed its reform programme, as outlined in various proposals, including President Trump's peace plan in 2020 and the Saudi-French proposal, and can securely and effectively take back control of Gaza. This body will call on best international standards to create modern and efficient governance that serves the people of Gaza and is conducive to attracting investment.

10. A Trump economic development plan to rebuild and energise Gaza will be created by convening a panel of experts who have helped birth some of the thriving modern miracle cities in the Middle East. Many thoughtful investment proposals and exciting development ideas have been crafted by well-meaning international groups, and will be considered to synthesize the security and governance frameworks to attract and facilitate these investments that will create jobs, opportunity, and hope for future Gaza.

11. A special economic zone will be established with preferred tariff and access rates to be negotiated with participating countries.

12. No one will be forced to leave Gaza, and those who wish to leave will be free to do so and free to return. We will encourage people to stay and offer them the opportunity to build a better Gaza.

13. Hamas and other factions agree to not have any role in the governance of Gaza, directly, indirectly, or in any form. All military, terror, and offensive infrastructure, including tunnels and weapon production facilities, will be destroyed and not rebuilt. There will be a process of demilitarisation of Gaza under the supervision of independent monitors, which will include placing weapons permanently beyond use through an agreed process of decommissioning, and supported by an internationally funded buy back and reintegration programme all verified by the independent monitors. New Gaza will be fully committed to building a prosperous economy and to peaceful coexistence with their neighbours.

14. A guarantee will be provided by regional partners to ensure that Hamas, and the factions, comply with their obligations and that New Gaza poses no threat to its neighbours or its people.

15. The United States will work with Arab and international partners to develop a temporary International Stabilisation Force (ISF) to immediately deploy in Gaza. The ISF will train and provide support to vetted Palestinian police forces in Gaza, and will consult with Jordan and Egypt who have extensive experience in this field. This force will be the long-term internal security solution. The ISF will work with Israel and Egypt to help secure border areas, along with newly trained Palestinian police forces. It is critical to prevent munitions from entering Gaza and to facilitate the rapid and secure flow of goods to rebuild and revitalize Gaza. A deconfliction mechanism will be agreed upon by the parties.

16. Israel will not occupy or annex Gaza. As the ISF establishes control and stability, the Israel Defense Forces (IDF) will withdraw based on standards, milestones, and timeframes linked to demilitarization that will be agreed upon between the IDF, ISF, the guarantors, and the United States, with the objective of a secure Gaza that no longer poses a threat to Israel, Egypt, or its citizens. Practically, the IDF will progressively hand over the Gaza territory it occupies to the ISF according to an agreement they will make with the transitional authority until they are withdrawn completely from Gaza, save for a security perimeter presence that will remain until Gaza is properly secure from any resurgent terror threat.

17. In the event Hamas delays or rejects this proposal, the above, including the scaled-up aid operation, will proceed in the terror-free areas handed over from the IDF to the ISF.

18. An interfaith dialogue process will be established based on the values of tolerance and peaceful co-existence to try and change mindsets and narratives of Palestinians and Israelis by emphasizing the benefits that can be derived from peace.

19. While Gaza re-development advances and when the PA reform programme is faithfully carried out, the conditions may finally be in place for a credible pathway to Palestinian self-determination and statehood, which we recognise as the aspiration of the Palestinian people.

20. The United States will establish a dialogue between Israel and the Palestinians to agree on a political horizon for peaceful and prosperous co-existence.