

Notes: Shabbat – May 10, 2014

Start: 10 am

**Order of Service:**

Meet and Greet  
Liturgy – Ma Tovv  
Introduction (if new people)  
Liturgy – Sh'ma  
Announcements  
Jeri - Drash  
Prayer  
Praise Reports  
Praise and Worship Songs  
Message  
Aaronic Blessing  
Kiddush  
Oneg

**Introduction:** One Man's Messiah Is Another Man's Anti-Messiah

“Oh mighty lord, I pray to you to hasten the emergence of your last repository, the promised one, that perfect and pure human being, the one that will fill this world with justice and peace”

Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad's speech before the United Nations General Assembly – September 17, 2005

Who is he referring to?

Is it Yeshua?

Perspective is important. Especially

Within Islam, they have their own promised one.

Just as Allah is not the same as Adonai, the Mahdi or 12<sup>th</sup> Imam is not the Jewish Messiah spoken of by the Prophets and fulfilled in the person of Yeshua.

What are Islam's expectations of their coming messiah?

Approximately 95 miles from Tehran, the capital of Iran is a city called Qom, where on the outskirts resides the Jamkaran mosque. At this mosque is a sacred well. The opening of this well is covered by a green-like metal box. The box is there to prevent people from jumping into the well.

When people go to the well, their time is spent there praying and kissing the metal box. Others will write down their prayer requests on a piece of paper and drop them down the well. They are addressed to the Mahdi.

Many believe the Mahdi is actually hiding at the bottom of the well and reading the prayer requests.

Shiite Muslims believe that one day, out that well will emerge their version of an Islamic savior or messiah.

On a daily basis, tens of thousands come through this mosque to say their prayers, but also to pray that one day soon the Mahdi will return.

Where did the Mahdi or 12<sup>th</sup> imam come from?

According to Ron Cantrell, author of “*The Mahdi: Hijacked Messiah*” the Mahdi descended from the Prophet Muhammad himself, but vanished in the middle of the 9<sup>th</sup> century. Now, more than 1100 years later, Shiites are anxiously anticipating the 12<sup>th</sup> Imam to come back at the end of the age.

Cantrell, further explains, that the Mahdi comes with a promise that he would return and bring Islam to its total fruition as the world's last standing religion.

The Mahdi is a personage that is expected to come on the scene as the Islam messiah.

He is expected to come at the end of time, very much like the return of Yeshua.

However, there are some significant differences between the Messiah of Israel and the Messiah of Islam.

According to a 2012 Pew Research poll, a significant number of Shiite and Sunni Muslims believe the Mahdi will return in their lifetime.

- 83% in Afghanistan
- 72% in Iraq
- 67% in Tunisia
- 62% in Malaysia

When extrapolating the percentages to a number, we are talking about 600 million muslims.

Sunnis and Shiites have been at odds with each other for centuries, however they both agree that the earth will eventually become an Islamic world.

However, the Shiites have a particular view of how the end times will play out.

In Shiite eschatology, chaos precedes the return of the Mahdi and marks the end of the age.

This is an apocalyptic time marked by wars, plagues and famines, followed by the Day of Judgment.

Concerning countries like Iran, when you see what their primary beliefs are, it is easier to see the motives behind the actions.

With chaos and world turmoil being a prerequisite for the coming of the Mahdi, one can put the pieces together regarding Iranian actions. They are attempting to hasten the return of the Mahdi.

Ahmadinejad has stated publicly that this chaos he was orchestrating must take place before the Mahdi can come on the scene.

Yeshua provides us with His insight:

**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.

**Mat 24:7** For peoples will fight each other, nations will fight each other, and there will be famines and earthquakes in various parts of the world;

**Mat 24:8** all this is but the beginning of the 'birth-pains.'

Even though Ahmadinejad's second and final term ended in June 2013, the ideology of the 12<sup>th</sup> Imam permeates Iran's ruling mullahs (leaders)

The mix of messianic theology and nuclear weapons as part of Iran's foreign policy is a toxic brew with both regional and global ramifications.

Should Iran be successful, it could cast its nuclear shadow over the region and especially their Sunni rivals like Saudi Arabia, not to mention other Gulf neighbors. It would protect them from any credible military intervention.

Any one of a number of terrorist groups would be emboldened, knowing that their patron had their nuclear back.

Hezbollah  
 Hamas

While the Mahdi returns to "save humanity", Israel and America must first be destroyed, making room for the Mahdi to make his appearance in Jerusalem.

What is happening is not unexpected.

Source - Wikipedia

Fascists sought to unify their nation through an authoritarian state that promoted the mass mobilization of the national community and were characterized by having leadership that initiated a revolutionary political movement aiming to reorganize the nation along principles according to fascist ideology. Fascist movements shared certain common features, including the veneration of the state, a devotion to a strong leader, and an emphasis on [ultranationalism](#) and [militarism](#). Fascism views political violence, war, and [imperialism](#) as a means to achieve national rejuvenation, and it asserts that stronger nations have the right to expand their territory by displacing weaker nations.

Fascist ideology consistently invokes the primacy of the [state](#). Leaders such as [Benito Mussolini](#) in [Italy](#) and [Adolf Hitler](#) in [Germany](#) embodied the state and claimed indisputable power. [Fascism borrowed theories and terminology from socialism](#) but replaced socialism's focus on [class conflict](#) with a focus on conflict between nations and races.

**Zep 2:1** Gather together, gather yourselves, nation devoid of shame;

**Zep 2:2** before the decree takes effect, and the day comes when one passes like chaff; before Adonai's fierce anger comes on you, before the day of Adonai's anger comes on you.

**Zep 2:3** **Seek Adonai, all you humble in the land, you who exercise his justice; seek righteousness, seek humility — you might be hidden on the day of Adonai's anger.**

Sathar - hid by covering, to keep close

What is this Day of Adonai?

**Zep 1:1** This is the word of Adonai that came to Tz'fanyah the son of Kushi, the son of G'dalyah, the son of Amaryah, the son of Hizkiyah, during the reign of Yoshiyahu the son of Amon, king of Y'hudah:

**Zep 1:2** "I will completely sweep away everything off the face of the land," says Adonai.

**Zep 1:3** "I will sweep away humans and animals, the birds in the air and the fish in the sea, also the wicked and what makes them stumble; I will wipe humanity off the land," says Adonai.

**Zep 1:4** "I will stretch out my hand over Y'hudah and all those living in Yerushalayim. I will wipe every remnant of Ba`al from this place, the idol-serving priests and even their names,

**Zep 1:5** those worshiping heaven's army on the roofs, also those who worship and swear by Adonai but swear by Malkam as well,

Zep 1:6 those who turned away from following Adonai, and those who haven't sought Adonai or consulted him at all."

Zep 1:7 Keep silent before Adonai Elohim, for the Day of Adonai is near. Adonai has prepared a sacrifice; he has set apart those he invited.

Zep 1:8 When the time comes for Adonai's sacrifice — "I will punish the leaders and the sons of the king, also those who dress in foreign clothes.

Zep 1:9 On the same day I will also punish all who jump over the threshold to fill the house of their master with violence and deceit.

Zep 1:10 Also on that day," says Adonai, "a cry will be heard from the Fish Gate, wailing from the city's Second Quarter and a loud crash from the hills.

Zep 1:11 Wail, you who live down in the hollow, because all the merchants are destroyed, all who trade with silver are ruined.

Zep 1:12 When that time comes, I will search Yerushalayim with lamps and punish those who are [*smug and thick, like wine*] left too long on its dregs, who say to themselves, 'Adonai will do nothing — neither good nor bad.'

Zep 1:13 For this, their wealth will be plundered; and their houses will be destroyed. Yes, they will build houses but not live in them; they will plant vineyards but not drink the wine."

Zep 1:14 The great Day of Adonai is near, near and coming very quickly; Hear the sound of the Day of Adonai! When it's here, even a warrior will cry bitterly.

Zep 1:15 That Day is a Day of fury, a Day of trouble and distress, a Day of waste and desolation, a Day of darkness and gloom, a Day of clouds and thick fog,

Zep 1:16 a Day of the shofar and battle-cry against the fortified cities and against the high towers [*on the city walls*].

**Zep 1:17 "I will bring such distress on people that they will grope their way like the blind, because they have sinned against Adonai. Their blood will be poured out like dust and their bowels like dung.**

Zep 1:18 Neither their silver nor their gold will be able to save them. On the day of Adonai's fury, the whole land will be destroyed in the fire of his jealousy. For he will make an end, a horrible end, of all those living in the land."

Isa 65:17 "For, look! I create new heavens and a new earth; past things will not be remembered, they will no more come to mind.

Isa 65:18 So be glad and rejoice forever in what I am creating; for look! I am making Yerushalayim a joy, and her people a delight.

Isa 65:19 I will rejoice in Yerushalayim and take joy in my people. The sound of weeping will no longer be heard in it, no longer the sound of crying.

Isa 65:20 No more will babies die in infancy, no more will an old man die short of his days — he who dies at a hundred will be thought young, and at less than a hundred thought cursed.

Isa 65:21 They will build houses and live in them, they will plant vineyards and eat their fruit.

Isa 65:22 They will not build and others live there, they will not plant and others eat; for the days of my people will be like the days of a tree, and my chosen will themselves enjoy the use of what they make.

**Isa 65:23** They will not toil in vain or raise children to be destroyed, for they are the seed blessed by Adonai; and their offspring with them.

**Isa 65:24** Before they call, I will answer; while they are still speaking, I will hear.

**Isa 65:25** The wolf and the lamb will feed together, and the lion eat straw like an ox (but the serpent — its food will be dust). They will not hurt or destroy anywhere on my holy mountain," says Adonai.

**Joh 14:1** "Don't let yourselves be disturbed. Trust in God and trust in me.

**Joh 14:18** I will not leave you orphans — I am coming to you.

**Joh 14:19** In just a little while, the world will no longer see me; but you will see me. Because I live, you too will live.

**Joh 14:20** When that day comes, you will know that I am united with my Father, and you with me, and I with you.

**Joh 14:21** Whoever has my commands and keeps them is the one who loves me, and the one who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and reveal myself to him."

**Joh 16:33** "I have said these things to you so that, united with me, you may have shalom. In the world, you have tsuris. But be brave! I have conquered the world!"