

This Week's Developments

May 14 - 21, 2023 [Original Slides]

- Japan: G7 leaders confront spectre of nuclear conflict
- Nuclear disaster threat looms in Zaporizhzhia
- Bowing to pressure, Biden relents on F-16s to Ukraine
- Inside Putin's \$1bn Black Sea survival bunker
- Saudi: We will assist the Palestinians establish a state
- Israel at 75: The nation faces a dangerous new foe
- *Additional & Supporting Articles*

Map 1

Map 2

G7 leaders confront spectre of nuclear conflict on visit to Hiroshima

The Guardian, May 19, 2023



EVENT

G7 leaders have laid flowers at a memorial to the victims of the US atomic bombing of Hiroshima in a sombre opening to a summit overshadowed by fears of a potential nuclear conflict in Ukraine. As the heavy early morning rain began to ease, the summit's host, Japanese prime minister Fumio Kishida, and his wife, Yuko, welcomed leaders and their spouses at the entrance to the city's Peace Memorial Museum, where they viewed graphic reminders of the attack on the city on 6 August 1945 and its gruesome aftermath. Joe Biden became the second sitting US president to visit Hiroshima, after Barack Obama in 2016, while Rishi Sunak is the first British prime minister to visit the site of the world's first nuclear attack. An estimated 60,000 to 80,000 people died instantly, but by the end of the year, the death toll had risen to 140,000 as more succumbed to burns and illnesses caused by exposure to radiation. **On a morning steeped in symbolism, this was the first time the leaders of G7 countries – including three that possess nuclear weapons – had visited the museum together.**

COMMENT

Last year the Prime Minister of Japan announced that Hiroshima would be host of the next G7 summit. It is a small city compared to others in Japan but what Hiroshima lacks in size or economic importance, it makes up for in symbolism and its historic connection with the last and only nuclear war. On August 6, 1945, America dropped the atomic bomb "Little Boy" on Hiroshima, killing an estimated 140,000 people and turning the theory of nuclear warfare into a terrifying reality. The spectre of nuclear war is perhaps closer than at anytime since then. Russia has talked many times since it invaded Ukraine of potentially resorting to using these weapons. A time of trouble is coming...

BIBLE QUOTE

For there will be greater anguish than at any time since the world began. And it will never be so great again. **In fact, unless that time of calamity is shortened, not a single person will survive.** But it will be shortened for the sake of God's chosen ones.

(Matthew 24:21-22 NLT)

Nuclear disaster threat looms as Zaporizhzhia braces for spring offensive

The Times, May 19, 2023



EVENT

The largest nuclear plant in Europe, the Zaporizhzhia facility was seized by Russian soldiers more than a year ago. Since then, Kyiv and Moscow have accused each other of shelling that has frequently brought down the power lines that are vital to preventing its six reactors from overheating. The situation, however, could be about to spin further out of control. As Ukraine prepares to launch its long-awaited counteroffensive, there are concerns that an escalation in fighting in the Zaporizhzhia region, which Russia claims as its own, could pose an unprecedented risk to the Soviet-built facility. Russian forces have been enhancing their defences in and around the plant, including setting up firing positions on some of its buildings, Reuters reported today, citing witnesses. **Rafael Grossi, director general of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), warned last week that there were “increasingly unpredictable” threats to the security of the plant that could result in a “severe nuclear accident”.**

COMMENT

There are increasing concerns that either by design or by accident there could be another Chernobyl catastrophe in Ukraine. War is all around the largest nuclear plant in Europe in Zaporizhzhia a city in Ukraine. Russia ordered the evacuation of civilians from areas near the facility over what it said was an increase in Ukrainian shelling. Authorities have distributed iodine tablets to be taken in the event of a leak or an explosion. If the pumps stop working at the nuclear plant there will be a meltdown within 1 hour to 3 days. Ukraine would blame Russia and Russia would blame Ukraine for any nuclear disaster. There is almost certainly greater destruction coming to Ukraine as Putin has to force a success from a disastrous war. And he will go to any lengths to achieve this...

BIBLE QUOTE

a fierce king, a master of intrigue, will rise to power. He will become very strong, but not by his own power. **He will cause a shocking amount of destruction** and succeed in everything he does. He will destroy powerful leaders and **devastate the holy people**. He will be a master of deception and will become arrogant; he will **destroy many without warning**.

(Daniel 8:23-25 NLT)

Bowing to pressure, Biden relents on F-16s to Ukraine

Washington Post, May 19, 2023



EVENT

After months of U.S. insistence that Ukraine did not need F-16s to fight its war with Russia, **Washington finally relented to pressure, agreeing not to stop allied nations from sending Kyiv the advanced Western fighter jets it has long desired.** Ukraine now hopes to have U.S.-made F-16s flying as early as this fall, following U.S. agreement to allow third countries to transfer the aircraft, according to an adviser to Kyiv's Ministry of Defense. "If we all pull our weight ... and decisions are made quickly," Yuri Sak said Friday, "I would estimate that end of September, early October, we could see the first F-16s flying in the Ukrainian airspace." While the planes will not be available for the Ukrainian counteroffensive expected to begin within weeks, the speed at which decisions are being made to supply them at all has been head-spinning. **For more than a year, getting F-16s into the skies above Ukraine for use against Russia has been Kyiv's holy grail.**

COMMENT

Over the years the US has sold many of its F-16 fighter jets to allies in Europe. Some of these nations want to supply them to Ukraine but the US has had a veto on this. Suddenly, President Biden has said he will not veto which opens the door to these high tech fighter planes being used against Russia. The move to supply Kyiv with advanced fighter jets comes amid concern that Ukraine's counteroffensive may not strike the knockout blow many have been hoping for. The West does not want this war to rumble on into 2024 so want to ensure a win against Russia. But this brings great peril as Russia sees this as the West fighting directly against itself. The Bible says that the king of the south (US/UK) push (militarily provoke) Putin the king of the north. It is underway.

BIBLE QUOTE

"Then at the time of the end, **the king of the south will attack the king of the north.** The king of the north will storm out with chariots, charioteers, and a vast navy. He will invade various lands and sweep through them like a flood. He will enter the glorious land of Israel,[h] and many nations will fall,
(Daniel 11:40 NLT)

Inside Putin's \$1bn Black Sea survival bunker

The Times, May 19, 2023



EVENT

President Putin has a large underground complex beneath his seaside palace that could serve as a refuge in case of public unrest, according to plans shared online. The subterranean complex is thought to have multiple ventilation shafts and be encased in 38cm-thick concrete walls. The existence of the \$1 billion palace under which the tunnels lie was revealed in 2021 by the investigative team of Alexei Navalny, 46, the jailed Russian opposition leader. It is near the resort town of Gelendzhik on Russia's Black Sea Riviera. Navalny's team later released leaked photographs which showed the building had **gilded stucco work, a swimming pool flanked by neo-classical marble columns and a saloon for smoking hookah pipes with a pole on a platform for pole dancing. There was also a church, an arboretum and an ice hockey rink for the games that Putin likes to play with oligarch friends.** Now, opponents of Putin, 70, have circulated plans drawn up for a complex under the palace, which consists of two large tunnels connected by an elevator that descends about 50 metres below the surface.

COMMENT

Putin has built himself a palace fit for a Tsar. The Kremlin denies it and says it is an oligarchs home which he doesn't use. However, this doesn't account for a no fly zone above it and a 7,000-hectare "buffer zone" owned by the Federal Security Service (FSB) that surrounds it. The palace is excessively grandiose with gold taps and toilet roll holders! The Bible speaks of a king (latter day Antiochus Epiphanes) who lives "at the time of the end". This ruler worships "gold and silver and precious things". Some versions say "costly gifts" some say "expensive gifts". Putin loves wealth and money. It is all gained through corruption. Some believe he is the richest man living on earth.

BIBLE QUOTE

He will show no regard for the gods of his ancestors or for the one desired by women, nor will he regard any god, but will exalt himself above them all. Instead of them, he will honor a god of fortresses; a god unknown to his ancestors **he will honor with gold and silver, with precious stones and costly gifts.**
(Daniel 11:37-38 NIV)

Saudi Crown Prince: We will assist in helping the Palestinians establish a state

Israel National News, May 19, 2023



EVENT

Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman on Friday once again stressed the importance the kingdom places on a Palestinian state. Speaking at the Arab League summit taking place in the country, bin Salman said, according to Channel 12 News, "The Palestinian issue was and still is the main issue of the Arab countries and is at the top of the kingdom's priorities. **We will not delay in providing assistance to the Palestinian people in recovering their lands, restoring their legitimate rights and establishing an independent state within the borders of 1967 with East Jerusalem as its capital.**" Palestinian Authority (PA) chairman Mahmoud Abbas, who attended the summit, said that "commemorating the Nakba at the UN refutes the Zionist narrative." In addition, he called on the Arab countries to turn to the International Criminal Court over the "Israeli occupation" and charged, "Israel violates the signed agreements and UN resolutions and adheres to the colonial Zionist project which is based on the continuation of the occupation, ethnic cleansing and apartheid."

COMMENT

Saudi Arabia has not made a peace agreement with Israel although has been under immense pressure to do so. So where does this significant Arab nation fit into Bible prophecy? Saudi Arabia is ancient Sheba and Dedan. These nations are mentioned in Ezekiel 38 as being part of the king of the south coalition of nations that stand against Russia and Iran (and others) who invade Israel. So we ultimately expect Saudi Arabia to be allied with the US and UK who also form part of the king of the south. But before Russia's invasion there is an initial inner ring war against Israel. One of the tribes mentioned in Psalm 83 are the Ishmaelites who lived in northern Saudi Arabia...

BIBLE QUOTE

With cunning they conspire against your people; they plot against those you cherish. **"Come," they say, "let us destroy them as a nation, so that Israel's name is remembered no more."** With one mind they plot together; they form an alliance against you—the tents of Edom and the **Ishmaelites**, of Moab and the Hagrites, (Psalm 83:3-6)

Israel at 75: After defeating its old enemies, the nation faces a dangerous new foe

The Jewish Chronicle, May 4, 2023



EVENT

Iran and armed groups Hezbollah and Hamas have joined forces to build a new coalition against Israel that replaces the old Arab alliance of Egypt, Syria, Iraq and Jordan. Israel now is at peace with Egypt and Jordan; a cold peace, but it has survived many crises. Syria and Iraq are still enemies, but they are at a low point and have lost most of their military might. In 2020, Israel normalised its relations with the UAE and Bahrain, two Gulf Arab states that need Israel as an ally against Iran, their common enemy. **Iran and its partners, such as the armed groups Hezbollah in Lebanon and Hamas in Gaza, have joined forces to build a new coalition against Israel that replaces the old Arab alliance of Egypt, Syria, Iraq and Jordan.**

COMMENT

When Israel declared independence in 1948, in the aftermath of World War II and the Holocaust, Tel Aviv was a small city of low-level dwellings. Today, where once there were sand dunes, there are now skyscrapers hosting some of the world's richest high-tech companies. But although Israel's rise has been dramatic and created enormous prosperity it stands at this time on the brink of a chasm, a crisis of identity, even as it continues to face ever-present external threats. There are unprecedented divisions in the country that have led to the longest protest movements in Israel's history. But on top of this Israel is surrounded by enemies that want to see Israel destroyed. Palestinians, Hamas, Hezbollah, Islamic Jihad, Syria itself. A prosperous nation surrounded by enemies is how many Christadelphian pioneers saw things working out with Bible in hand. The inner ring war is surely coming sooner rather than later.....

BIBLE QUOTE

And thou shalt say, I will go up to the land of unwalled villages; ..., To take a spoil, and to take a prey; to turn thine hand upon the desolate places that are now inhabited, and upon the people that are gathered out of the nations, **which have gotten cattle and goods**, that dwell in the midst of the land.
(Ezekiel 38:11-12)

ADDITIONAL AND SUPPORTING ARTICLES

DebkaFile Review (world events through the bi-focals of Israeli military intelligence) **TV-7 Israel News** **Watchman Newscast**

2023-05-27 **Ukraine says Russia eases attacks on Bakhmut to regroup** - Russia-Ukraine war News - Al Jazeera

2023-05-26 **Russia on the Edge- Prigozhin's Warning of Revolution Amid Ukraine War** - Vantage on Firstpost - YouTube

2023-05-26 **Russia acknowledges Vatican peace initiative, says no steps yet for a mission to Moscow** - AP News

2023-05-26 **Super Typhoon Mawar strengthens into most powerful storm in 2 years** - The Washington Post

2023-05-25 **Israel notes preparedness to strike Iran; Tehran boasts on evading US sanctions** TV7Israel News 24.05 - YouTube

2023-05-24 **Mercenary Prigozhin warns Russia could face revolution unless elite gets serious about war** - Reuters

2023-05-20 The Great Reset- Global Government & Digital Currency by 2030 - Watchman Newscast - 8.20 min - YouTube

2023-05-20 Is a Digital Dollar Coming- Instrument of Government Control - 5.49 min - YouTube

2023-05-20 How America amassed \$31 Trillion in debt - Gravitas Plus - 8.38 min - YouTube

2023-05-20 Friends No More- China Makes a Move to Push Russia Out of Central Asia - Vantage - 4.45 min - YouTube MAP

2023-05-19 Israel CONDEMNED Over Temple Mount Visits; - Watchman Newscast - 12.31 min - YouTube

2023-05-18 China's Xi hosts Central Asia summit as Russian influence wanes - Politics News - Al Jazeera

2023-05-15 Israel's Founding BLASTED as -Catastrophe- at UN Anti-Israel Event - Watchman Newscast - 13.39 min - YouTube

2023-05-13 Zelenskyy meets Pope Francis at Vatican and seeks backing for Ukraine's peace plan - AP News

2023-05-13 Turkey Elections- Is Erdogan's defeat certain - Gravitas Plus - 9.27 min - YouTube

2023-05-12 Ukraine's Game plan- Kyiv receives long-range missiles from the UK - Gravitas - 6.24 min - YouTube

2023-05-12 Turkiye decides its future - The West Asia Post - 5.43 min - YouTube

2023-05-12 Israeli attacks kill 5 Palestinian islamic jihad members - Gravitas - 4.41 min - YouTube

2023-05-04 **Tulare Lake Grows**

Animated Map - Indo-European migrations - File-Indo-European migrations.gif - Wikipedia

NATO PRESENCE IN EASTERN EUROPE



SOURCE: NATO

- Frankish Territory in 481
- Conquests of Clovis 481-511
- Conquests 531-614
- Conquests 714-768
- Conquests of Charlemagne 768-814
- Dependent territories
- Peoples tributary to Charlemagne
- Kingdom of Siagrius in 486
- Visigothic kingdom of Toulouse in 507
- Boundaries of the empire in 814



- Carolingian Empire 481-814



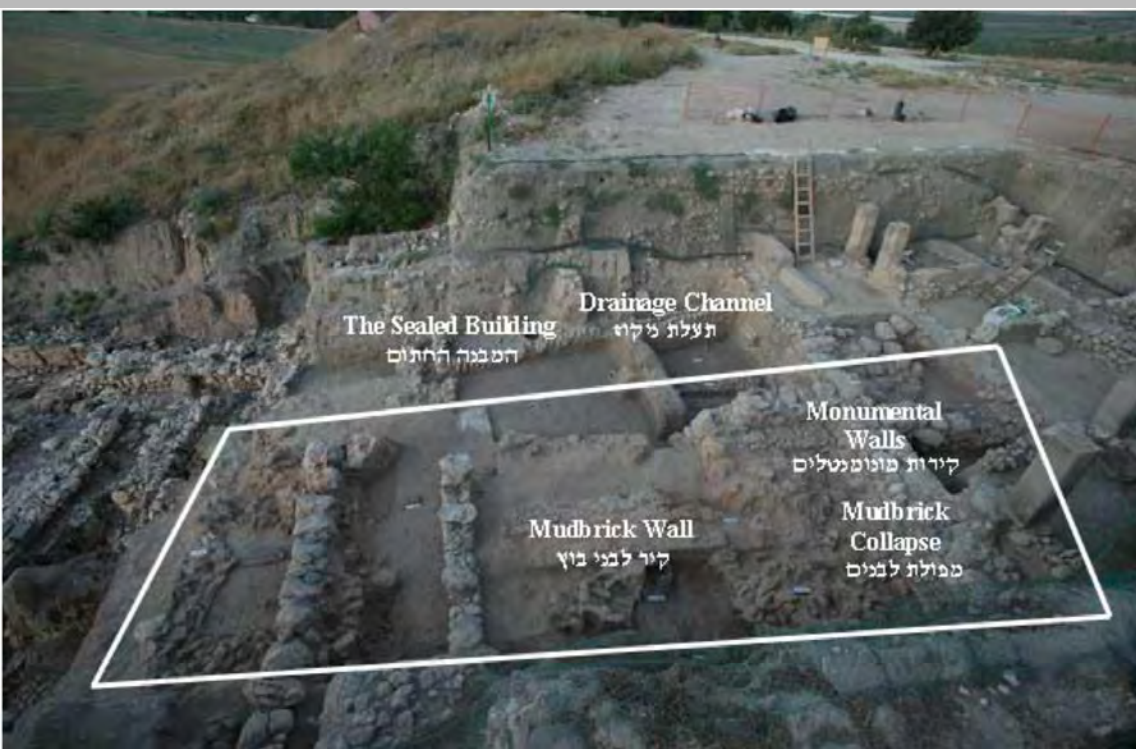
1. LITHUANIA
2. LUXEMBOURG
3. LIECHTENSTEIN
4. CZECH REPUBLIC
5. BOSNIA & HERZEGOVINA
6. YUGOSLAVIA

2) Gog (Russia) advances on Turkey, Egypt *



RACE FOR CENTRAL ASIA





This Week's Developments

May 14 - 28, 2023 [new Slides]

- Super Typhoon Mawar most powerful storm on Earth
- Hazor burnt and King Jabin Killed Twice by Israelites
- Prigozhin warns Russia could face Revolution

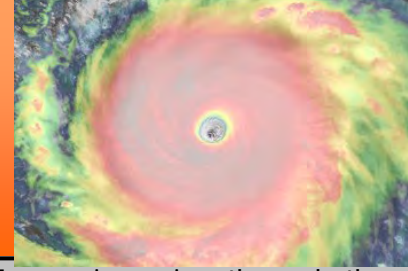
• *Additional & Supporting Articles*

Map 1

Map 2

Super Typhoon Mawar strengthens into most powerful storm on Earth

The Washington Post, May 26, 2023



EVENT

The most powerful storm system on Earth in more than two years, Super Typhoon Mawar, is raging through the Pacific, stirring up 70-foot waves amid 200 mph gusts as the atmospheric buzz saw cruises over warm ocean waters. The meteorological monstrosity could maintain Category 5-equivalent strength for days before weakening upon eventual approach to Taiwan. Super Typhoon Surigae exploded from a Category 2 to a Category 5 in one day. On Thursday night Eastern time, the U.S. Joint Typhoon Warning Center assessed Mawar's maximum sustained eyewall winds at 160 knots, or 185 mph. Gusts were pegged at 215 mph. In fact, no other storms worldwide have done that during the month of May. Equally staggering is Mawar's air pressure, which bottomed out around 897 millibars on Friday morning Eastern time. Average sea level air pressure is 1015 millibars. Air pressure represents the weight of the air over a given location. Lower air pressure signifies a stronger low-pressure system. The air pressure inside Mawar is equivalent to that atop a 3,000-foot mountain. That means roughly a tenth of the atmosphere's air is "missing" from the center of Mawar, spurring the powerful inward suction responsible for the storm's extreme winds.

COMMENT

It is becoming more & more apparent that the climate is in the process of change on planet earth. Heat is fuel for hurricanes and typhoons, and every fraction of average heat increase in the earth provides the fuel for exponential explosive intensification in the power of these storms. The storms feed off the surface temperature of the water. A growing body of research suggests that the rate and intensity of storm development is directly linked to the increase in water temperatures. These storms are simply one of the many symptoms of earth groaning under the weight & abuse of its population. Another symptom is the reforming of giant lake Tulare in California after being dry farmland for 100 years - the consequence of the series of atmospheric rivers that dumped up to 20 inches of water in the lower elevations and 60 feet of snow in the Sierra Nevadas. The lake is currently over 80 miles long and 40 feet deep and the snow has just begun to thaw and flow into the lake. Also affected is the psyche of Gen Z who are in a state of depression as they consider the hopelessness of the impact of climate change on their lives. One survey of 12 - 18 yr olds found 1 in 3 to be traumatized, depressed, hopeless and even suicidal, and turning to drugs as an escape. People need the hope of the Bible - the promise from the Creator of this planet.

BIBLE QUOTE

"As long as the earth remains, there will be planting and harvest, cold and heat; winter and summer, day and night." (Gen 8:22) "...the desert shall rejoice, and blossom as the rose...for in the wilderness shall waters break out, and streams in the desert... And the parched ground shall become a pool, and the thirsty land springs of water: sorrow and sighing shall flee away." (Isa 35:1-10)

Hazor burnt and King Jabin Killed Twice by Israelites



EVENT

- 1) The discovery of a Babylonian Tablet Confirms Biblical Name "Jabin": The first reference to Jabin is the list of Canaanite placenames at the temple at Karnak contains the name Qishon of Jabin. A second reference to Jabin has now apparently just been found at Hazor, where excavators discovered a fragment of a royal letter addressed "To Jabin"
- 2) Hazor has two significant destruction layers: a 15th century BC destruction, which should be attributed to Joshua, and a later destruction layer which corresponds to the destruction of the city by the Israelites under Barak and Deborah in the time of the Judges (Judges 4:23-24). Archaeologist, Douglas Petrovich notes: "The Hazor of Joshua's day clearly was destroyed by a massive conflagration...Various sections of the burnline and residual burned areas, which measure half of a meter in some places...reveals the unmistakable signs of a great conflagration."

COMMENT

The king of Hazor at the time of the Conquest in 1406 BC was named Jabin according to Joshua 11:1. In the days of Deborah and Barak, nearly 200 years later, the name of the king of Hazor was also Jabin (Jgs 4; Ps 83:9). This has been a problem to Biblical scholars. If Jabin was killed and his city burned by the Israelites at the time of the Joshua, how could Deborah and Barak battle the same king of Hazor many years later? Now we know that "Jabin" was the name of many kings who ruled in succession for over 500 years! Then there are / were doubts about the ability of the Israelites to destroy such a large city. It was apparently the largest Canaanite metropolis in northern Canaan, over 200 acres in size. Joshua 11:10 properly refers to it as "the head of all these [Canaanite] kingdoms." It is estimated to have been 10 times the population of Solomon's Jerusalem. The burn layers are obvious testimonies to the severity of the destruction at the very time of the invasion.

BIBLE QUOTE

Then it came about, when **Jabin king of Hazor** heard of it, that he sent to Jobab king of Madon and to the king of Shimron and to the king of Achshaph...Then Joshua turned back at that time, and captured Hazor and **struck its king with the sword**; ... They struck every person who was in it with the edge of the sword...**And he burned Hazor with fire.**" (Joshua 11:10-11) "And the Lord sold them into the hand of **Jabin king of Canaan, who reigned in Hazor**; and the commander of his army was Sisera, who lived in Harosheth-hagoyim...and the children of Israel ...prevailed against Jabin the king of Canaan, until **they had destroyed Jabin** king of Canaan (Judges 4:2)

Mercenary Prigozhin warns Russia could face Revolution

Reuters, May 24, 2023



EVENT

Yevgeny Prigozhin, the founder of the Wagner mercenary group, warned that Russia could face a revolution similar to those of 1917 and lose the conflict in Ukraine unless the elite got serious about fighting the war. Russia's most powerful mercenary said his political outlook was dominated by love for the motherland and serving President Vladimir Putin, but cautioned that Russia was in danger of turmoil. Prigozhin said there was a so-called optimistic view that the West would get tired of war and China would broker a peace deal, but that he did not really believe in that interpretation. Instead, he said, Ukraine was preparing a counteroffensive aimed at pushing Russian troops back to its borders before 2014, when Russia annexed Crimea. Ukraine would try to encircle Bakhmut, the focus of intense fighting in the east, and attack Crimea, he added. "Most likely of all, this scenario will not be good for Russia so we need to prepare for an arduous war," he said in an interview posted on his Telegram channel. "We are in such a condition that we could lose Russia - that is the main problem ... We need to impose martial law." If ordinary Russians continued getting their children back in zinc coffins while the children of the elite [bask] in the sun, he said, Russia would face turmoil along the lines of the 1917 revolutions that ushered in a civil war.

COMMENT

These are harsh and inflammatory words from the mouth of Putin's mercenary leader. One wonders at the end objective of this word smithing but it appears to have been directed at Shoigu – the Russian Minister of Defence - rather than at Putin. However, there is a lot of speculation as to the long term effect on the Russian Federation especially if this kind of narrative continues. The Kremlin blogger doing the interview was apparently fired afterwards. It is possible that the Russia we know may not yet be the Russia that fits God's plan, and may yet need a Revolutionary tweaking.

BIBLE QUOTE

And **through his policy** also he shall **cause craft to prosper in his hand**; and he shall magnify himself in his heart, and **by peace shall destroy many**: Dan 8:25