# This Week's Developments

## April 16 - 29, 2023

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### What Must Israel Get Done In The Next 75 Years?

Jerusalem Post, APRIL 22, 2023



#### **EVENT**

[In 1948] David Ben-Gurion was preparing to deliver the Declaration of Independence when he summoned the IDF's chief of operation and asked him squarely: "What are our chances of surviving the Arab armies' invasion?" "Our chances are even," came the scathing reply. Ben-Gurion still made the declaration, despite news of the massacre of 120 of Etzion Bloc's defenders, & US Sec of State George Marshall's warning, "They will destroy you." But it was not destroyed, and in fact defeated its invaders and went on to 75 years of achievements that its founders... would find difficult to believe... e.g., militarily, the state...today... is now the sixth most powerful in the world. Israel's population swelled from 600,000 to nearly 10 million. This demographic growth reflects two facts: 1) Israel's birth rate is the highest in the developed world at an average of 2.9 compared to the dev world average of 1.6; 2) the absorption of huge numbers of new arrivals by a relatively small veteran population – i.e., in the 1990s. 1 m immigrants absorbed by 4.5 m Israelis – no equivalent elsewhere. Underpinning this are economic achievements that to the state's founders would have sounded like science fiction. Its annual percapita product, at \$55,535, is the 12th-highest in the world – higher than Canada, Sweden, Germany and Japan. What challenges await Israel? [Most] daunting will be the effort to produce a constitution. [After] 75 years on, the lack of a constitution has brought the country to the brink of civil war.

#### **COMMENT**

It is interesting to look back on Berean Magazine Current Events of 100 years ago and read the excited comments about minor events pointing to Jews returning to their land and compare that to the state of Israel today. The writers then were trying to look thru a prophetic window to the future; we can now look back and witness the remarkable prophetic fulfillment. This article reminds us that there is still a prophetic window to the future; God is far from finished with his people. They brag of their accomplishments. They call it "chutzpah" – i.e., "they said it couldn't be done, but we did it anyway". However, they may be facing their greatest challenge yet because this is a nation without a constitution, flirting with civil war. Is this a problem awaiting a divine solution after being purged, humbled and refined to a point of accepting that they can't do it by themselves.

### BIBLE QUOTE

And it shall come to pass, that in all the land, saith the LORD, two parts therein shall be cut off and die; but the third shall be left therein. And I will bring the third part through the fire, and will refine them as silver is refined, and will try them as gold is tried: they shall call on my name.. Zech 13:8-9 I will make a covenant [constitution?] of peace with them; it will be an everlasting covenant [constitution?] with them. And I will place them and multiply them and will set My sanctuary in their midst forever. My dwelling place also will be with them; and I will be their God, and they will be My people."

Eze 37:21-27

## Vladimir Putin's war has exploded into Sudan

Daily Telegraph, April 16, 2023



#### **EVENT**

With more than 50 civilians and many more military killed already in the power struggle between rival governing factions that erupted in Sudan over the weekend, there is no good side in this battle. But as with so many other conflicts in Africa and the Middle East in recent years, one thing we do know is that Russian troublemakers are not far from the action. The fighting in Khartoum and elsewhere in the country was triggered by clashes between General Abdel Fattah al-Burhan, head of the Sudanese armed forces, and General Mohamed Hamdan Dagalo, or "Hemedti" for short. Hemedti is commander of the Rapid Support Forces (RSF) Rather unsurprisingly, the RSF has been linked to Yevgeny Prigozhin's Wagner Group – Putin's de facto private army. Wagner is believed to have been brought into Sudan by Bashir to help shore up his faltering regime in 2017, following a meeting with Putin in which Bashir promised to make the country Russia's "key to Africa"

#### COMMENT

If you look on a map you will see there is Sudan as a nation and a South Sudan. The country split in two in 2011. "North" Sudan is mainly Islamic whilst the South is mainly Christian. Putin is heavily invested in North Sudan. He wants a port on the Red Sea and is using his private army (Wagner Group) to get hold of Sudan's gold mines. Russia's alignment to Sudan is foretold in Ezekiel 38. The AV translates a place called "Cush" in the Hebrew as Ethiopia. Cush isn't really Ethiopia. Cush at the time of Ezekiel corresponds almost exactly to Sudan. Or to be even more accurate North Sudan. From 1070 BC to AD350 the area we now know as North Sudan was called the Kingdom of Kush. Kush = Cush = Sudan. Cush will be one of the nations joining forces with Gog...

#### BIBLE QUOTE

And I will turn thee [Gog] back, and put hooks into thy jaws, and I will bring thee forth, and all thine army, horses and horsemen, all of them clothed with all sorts of armour, even a great company with bucklers and shields, all of them handling swords: Persia, Ethiopia, and Libya with them; all of them with shield and helmet: Almost all versions translate Ethiopia as Cush (Ezekiel 38:4-5)

# US urges NATO vigilance for signs Russia could use nuclear weapon in Ukraine

Reuters, April 18, 2023



#### **EVENT**

The U.S. and its NATO allies must remain alert for signs Russian President Vladimir Putin could use a tactical nuclear weapon in a "managed" escalation of his war in Ukraine, the second-highest U.S. diplomat said on Tuesday. Deputy Secretary of State Wendy Sherman issued the warning during the opening session of an annual NATO arms control conference that was being held in North America for the first time since its inception in 2004. "We have all watched and worried that Vladimir Putin would use what he considers a non-strategic tactical nuclear weapon or use some demonstration effect to escalate, but in an managed risk escalation," Sherman said. "It is very critical to remain watchful of this." Putin's March 25 announcement that Russia is preparing to station tactical nuclear weapons in neighboring Belarus "is his effort to use this threat in a managed way," Sherman said.

#### COMMENT

There is a lot of talk in the press that Ukraine is about to launch a major push back against Russia. But could Putin be defeated and pushed out of Ukraine? Or is it more likely Putin will resort to greater and greater destruction to bring about a permanent stalemate – even an agreement- forced on Ukraine by the West? The latter seems unlikely currently but it is actually the most probable outcome. Putin must succeed and be able to declare some victory. The minimum victory he wants is the recognition that the Donbass region and Crimea are now Russian. The way he could bring nations to the table is by showing he will go to ANY lengths to achieve this goal. Tactical nuclear weapons are much smaller nukes and the fear is Putin may well use them. The Bible says Gog / Putin brings about "fearful destruction and shall succeed in what he does..."

#### BIBLE QUOTE

when the transgressors have reached their full measure, a king of bold countenance, one who understands riddles, shall arise. His power shall be great, and he shall cause fearful destruction, and shall succeed in what he does, and destroy mighty men and the people of the saints.

(Daniel 8:23-24)

# Religious icons with image of 'almighty' Putin sent to Russian troops

The Times, April 19, 2023



#### **EVENT**

Russian troops in Ukraine received religious icons featuring an image of President Putin for Orthodox Easter, it has been claimed, as the Kremlin moved to scale down its annual Victory Day parades over security concerns. The icons depicted Putin in a blue suit with a red tie and the words: "The Almighty Vladimir Putin." They are said to have been sent by his ruling United Russia party to mobilised troops serving in southern Ukraine, according to a video posted on the Telegram messaging service. "For prayers," read a note attached to the icons. The package also contained holy water and tinned food. Although he was once a KGB officer in the Soviet Union, an officially atheist state, Putin has forged an alliance with the powerful Russian Orthodox Church since coming to power 23 years ago. In 2011 the head of the church, Patriarch Kirill, described Putin's rule as a "miracle of God".

**COMMENT** Vladimir Putin is symbolically related to Antiochus Epiphanes. Antiochus Epiphanes is the little horn of Daniel 8 who was the ancient king of the north. Gog - ruler of Russia is the latter day king of north – currently Putin. There are many amazing symbolic links between these two men who live around 2200 years apart. Antiochus called himself Epiphanes which means "God Manifest". Antiochus even claimed to be Zeus incarnate. Following a humiliating defeat in Egypt he took out his frustrations on the Jewish people. Antiochus took control of the situation by slaying many innocents and brutally enforcing his cultural and religious policies on the population. Interesting Putin sees himself in a godlike way with a religious destiny. His own name Vladimir means "Ruler of the world" – Putin means "the way". The religious icons of Putin link to all this.

#### **BIBLE** QUOTE

By his cunning he shall make deceit prosper under his hand, and in his own mind he shall magnify himself. Without warning he shall destroy many; and he shall even rise up against the Prince of princes; but, by no human hand, he shall be broken. This verse is about the latter day Antiochus Epiphanes who is spoken of specifically in verses 9-13. (Daniel 8:2) (Daniel 8:25)

## Covert Russian ships 'prepare sabotage of Britain in the North Sea'

The Times, April 19, 2023



#### **EVENT**

Russian "ghost ships" are charting the vulnerabilities of Britain's underwater data cables, offshore wind turbines and other pieces of critical infrastructure in preparation for a campaign of sabotage in the event of war with the West, according to an investigation. Spy ships disguised as research vessels and fishing trawlers are part of a Russian mass reconnaissance programme in the North Sea, the investigation by Scandinavian broadcasters found. Journalists from Denmark, Sweden, Finland and Norway tracked the movements of Russian vessels sailing through the Baltic and North Seas with their location trackers switched off. When they approached one Russian ship supposedly conducting scientific research, they were confronted by a man wearing a balaclava and brandishing an assault rifle. European security services have been on high alert for the possibility of a clandestine Russian attack at sea since the bombing of the Nord Stream 1 and 2 pipelines in the Baltic last September. The perpetrator has yet to be definitively identified but the Danish military confirmed on Tuesday that one of its naval patrol vessels had taken 112 images of Russian vessels loitering near the site of the explosions four days before that incident.

**COMMENT** Britain is deeply vulnerable because it is so dependent on deep sea internet cables. Almost 60 submarine cables link Britain to the rest of the world and it is becoming increasingly clear how vulnerable to sabotage they are especially since the blowing up of the pipelines from Russia to Germany. It is incredible that a nation's security literally hangs by a thread. This is the case for much that the world thinks is stable and secure. It isn't. Destruction when it comes is sudden. World security can change in an instant.

### **BIBLE** QUOTE

For when they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them, as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape. But ye, brethren, are not in darkness, that that day should overtake you as a thief.

(1 Thessalonians 5:2-4)

# Putin ally: We are probably on verge of a new world war

Reuters, April 25, 2023



#### **EVENT**

Dmitry Medvedev, Russia's former president and prime minister, has warned of a global conflict breaking out as nuclear tensions rise and concerns about climate change intensify. "The world is sick and quite probably is on the verge of a new world war," Medvedev, an ally of Russian President Vladimir Putin and the deputy chairman of Russia's security council, told a conference in Moscow on Tuesday. Medvedev was once seen as a Western-leaning reformer but has reinvented himself as a hawk since Russia invaded Ukraine last year. He makes a statement almost daily about the war or Russia's perceived enemies. This week, for example, he railed against the United Kingdom on the Telegram messaging app, calling the country "our eternal enemy" after it imposed new sanctions on Russians. Since Russia's war in Ukraine began in February last year, officials in Moscow have repeatedly warned that the world faces the most dangerous decade since World War II.

#### COMMENT

At a conference last October Putin said "We are standing at a historical frontier: Ahead is probably the most dangerous, unpredictable and, at the same time, important decade since the end of World War II." Putin casts the war he initiated with Ukraine as an existential battle with the West and has warned that Russia will use all available means to protect itself. Many world leaders dismiss these dire warnings of Russia's view of what is coming as purely trying to put them off from arming Ukraine. But with Bible in hand we know that actually it IS what is coming. A terrible time of trouble such as never was – Armageddon. As Peter says – "Since all these things are thus to be dissolved, what sort of persons ought you to be in lives of holiness and godliness....?"

### BIBLE QUOTE

But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up. Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation and godliness,

(2 Peter 3:10-11)

# U.S. Arms Warplanes With 'Bunker Busting' Bombs in Message to Iran

Wall Street Journal, April 28, 2023



#### **EVENT**

The US Air Force has sent a chilling message to Iran after sending warplanes armed with 'bunker busting' bombs. The US military confirmed it has dispatched powerful 250-pound bombs on A-10 Warthogs in a bid to give pilots a better chance of deterring Iran by destroying ammunition bunkers. Forces have been repeatedly attacked by Iran-backed fighters and, according to officials, it is the first time precision-guided weapons have been onboard the warplanes. The Warthogs have also recently been refitted in order to carry up to 16 bunker bombs, which are known as GBU-39/B bombs. The bombs come amid rising tensions with Iran after Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps detained an oil tanker in the Gulf of Oman as it carried liquids to the US from Kuwait. The tanker has remained there since Friday after Iran claimed it crashed with an Iranian ship in the Gulf and tried to escape.

**COMMENT** As a deeply divided Israel marks its 75th anniversary, analysts say Iran is gaining strength in the Middle East and could threaten Israel on several fronts. We know this will happen. Psalm 83 speaks of Israel's immediate neighbours forming an alliance to destroy the nation. All of Israel's immediate and surrounding enemies are backed by Iran - militarily and financially. America can see Iran growing in confidence as its own influence weakens – hence it sending bunker busting bombs to the region. Iran has also threated to block the Strait of Hormuz through which 20% of the world's oil travels. Isaiah 21 says that Iran will one day do this and bring terrible trouble to the world. It is just a matter of time before the inner ring war around Israel (activated by Iran) finally begins...

#### **BIBLE** QUOTE

A grievous vision is declared unto me; the treacherous dealer dealeth treacherously, and the spoiler spoileth. Go up, O Elam [Iran]: besiege, O Media [Iran]; all the sighing thereof have I made to cease. Therefore are my loins filled with pain: pangs have taken hold upon me, as the pangs of a woman that travaileth: I was bowed down at the hearing of it; (Isaiah 21:2-3)

#### ADDITIONAL AND SUPPORTING ARTICLES

- DebkaFile Review (world events through the bi-focals of Israeli military intelligence) TV-7 Israel News Watchman Newscast
- 2023-04-22 What must Israel get done in the next 75 years Israel News The Jerusalem Post
- 2023-04-22 Plumes of smoke in Sudan as truce is shattered; first evacuation vessel arrives in Jeddah WION 6.49 min YouTube
- 2023-04-21 The Fighting in Sudan Threatens Peace Efforts with Israel The Washington Institute
- 2023-04-21 Russia downbeat on Black Sea grain deal as Kyiv tries to unblock exports Reuters
- 2023-04-21 Israel Prepares for MULTI-FRONT War; Says Iran Pouring BILLIONS Into Terror Watchman 10.42 min YouTube
- 2023-04-20 Why Sudan's conflict matters to the rest of the world AP News
- 2023-04-20 Ukraine appeals to NATO chief for membership and more arms Reuters
- 2023-04-19 Russia watches as US arms Ukraine with Patriot defence system; French armoured vehicles in use 2.26 min YouTube
- 2023-04-16 Thawing of Saudi-Iranian relations helps Israel long term editorial The Jerusalem Post
- 2023-04-15 Africa needs more help with climate change, debt and food crises Reuters 11.00 min YouTube
- 2023-04-14 California's recent weather crises brought dead lake back to life 3.46 min CNN Video
- 2023-04-14 After earthquake, Istanbul gripped by fear that bigger disaster awaits Reuters
- 2023-04-13 Southeast Florida swamped by more than two feet of rain Reuters
- 2023-04-13 France heading towards worse summer drought than 2022, geological service says Reuters
- 2023-04-12 Inside Details of Russia, Iran and China's Secret Deal Vantage with Palki Sharma 4.20 min YouTube
- 2023-04-11 Russia welcomes Finland's NATO membership with nuclear Iskander missiles World at War 5.04 min YouTube
- 2023-04-10 Hezbollah & Hamas Leaders Hold TERROR SUMMIT; Iran Ring of Fire Watchman Newscast 10.58 min YouTube
- 2023-04-06 Graphic shows all the changes in global temperature since 1850 3.28 min CNN Video
- 2023-04-02 How does the IDF protect Israel from Hezbollah 10.35 min YouTube
- Animated Map Indo-European migrations File-Indo-European migrations.gif Wikipedia



