

FEBRUARY 2018

“TRUTH”

**A SURE WORD
FOR TODAY**



Truth is like a mountain, It cannot
be moved and it never changes

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WEBSITE UPDATE

Be sure and check out the website’s, “Word of Encouragement.” This month we extended an invitation to our dear friend Myra Emslie, to write this section of the website. Myra has done a wonderful job and you won’t want to miss it.

We continue to see the number of subscribers climb each month. This is the result of the new page we offer entitled, “Subscribers Gallery.” On this page our subscribers can view photos only available to them. If you have gone to the website but cannot find this page it is because you haven’t subscribed.

Our subscribers are sent an e-mail each month telling them about all the new articles available that month. They also are given a link to the “Subscribers Gallery”. If this is something you would like please subscribe today. It is free and easy so take advantage of it. Go to the website, click on “Subscribe”, fill out the form, click “send” and it is done.

FEATURE ARTICLE: "GOD'S PLAN FOR JERUSALEM"

WARNING: You are entering the "TRUTH ZONE". You may not like what you read. It may make you feel uncomfortable. That is not my goal. My goal is to help you and provide spiritual guidance for you and your family in a time of great spiritual darkness. You can be sure that what you read here will be TRUTH!

For me life has always been quite simple. Black is black and white is white; always has been and always will be. One plus one equals two; always has and always will. There is no need to write and tell me that Fuzzy math has come up with a different answer. I am already aware of that and am really not interested. I am very happy with the answer I learned in 1st grade. It has served me quite well, thank you.

Not only have I lived this way when it comes to everyday life, but it has also been this way when it comes to my theology. I have always felt my relationship with God and my understanding of Scripture should be simple. Truth is truth, it is always the same, it never changes. I can count on it; what was truth yesterday will still be truth today and tomorrow.

While pastoring I often repeated some phrases that graphically revealed just how simple my theology was. I would say something that was ridiculously simple and then would follow it by saying, "I know it's deep, but try and wrap your head around it." Another phrase I used from time to time was, "You don't have to be a brain surgeon to understand this." Or, "People, this is not rocket science." **I love simple!**

Because of my simple approach to life and theology, I often find myself curious about how other people approach life. It seems they are constantly confused and perplexed. They don't really know what they believe, nor do they have a firm grasp of what is right and what is wrong. I consider this to be a terrible way to live.

All this was made so real to me last year. In December we started hearing rumors that President Trump was getting ready to announce that he was recognizing Jerusalem as the capital of Israel and was going to move the US embassy there. He had promised this during his campaign, but so had his three predecessors, so I took a wait-and-see attitude. Then on December 6th he actually did it.

Because of my simple way of viewing life, I was very sure of what would happen next. It was not rocket science. There would quickly follow a hysterical outcry of protest. Not only could I predict this, I could also predict who would be involved.

First on my list was the Arab world. DUH! It didn't take a rocket scientist to know what their response would be. Did anyone actually think the Arab world would stand up and praise Allah for this amazing act of courage?

Second on the list would be President Trump's political adversaries. In a speech the very next day, former president Barack (the Muslim) Obama warned that America was in danger of taking the same path Germany had taken when Hitler rose to power. DUH? Where did he come up with that? If I remember right, Hitler was determined to destroy the Jews, not bless them.

Third on the list would be the most anti-Semitic group on the planet, the United Nations. DUH! The only thing they are united on is their hatred of Israel and the Jewish people.

I found the outcry to be totally amusing. President Trump had abandoned decades of US diplomacy! He had rejected the wisdom of diplomats around the world. America was now isolated from the rest of the world. Both France and England, who have experienced horrific acts of Muslim terrorism, were quick to condemn what he had done. Even the Pope and North Korea got in on the act! Oh, the horror of it! Certainly, we had started down the path to Armageddon!

How could Trump have done such an unthinkable, unwise thing? The answer is very simple. I used to say, "If it ain't broke, don't fix it." Well, it was broke. **Twenty years of diplomacy had failed to produce even one day of true peace.** How could anyone expect things would now miraculously change? DUH! I know this is deep; but try and wrap your head around it. **It was broke and it needed to be fixed!**

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“ God’s Plan For Jerusalem“

Continued from Page 2

I guess that is one of the things I like about President Donald Trump. He doesn’t appear to be a man who lives on wishful thinking. I think for him, life is really quite simple. If there is a problem, it needs to be fixed. If what we have been doing hasn’t been able to fix it, we need to try something else. **He can recognize failed policy and has the courage to then go a different direction.**

There were some other reactions to his great act of courage that I could have accurately predicted. One was the silence of most churches, and the other was what some Christians are saying. As you read their posts on social media, it sounds almost exactly like an echo of what the major news networks are saying. They just can’t seem to understand what is going to be accomplished by this ‘rash’ decision.

Well, once again, I want to make this so simple a 1st grader could understand it. Are you ready? I will go slow. **If folks would spend as much time reading their Bible as they do listening to CNN, they wouldn’t be confused.** It all would be very simple and clear.

Question: Have you studied to see what the Bible has to say about the future of Jerusalem? If you don’t know what the Bible says, I’ll offer you some help.

Micah 4:1-3 (MEV)

"Then it will be that in the latter days, the mountain of the house of the Lord will be established as head of the mountains, and will be lifted up above the hills; and people will stream to it. 2 And many nations will come and say, 'Come, that we might go up **(not down to Tel Aviv)** to the mountain of the Lord, and to the house of the God of Jacob, that He might teach us His ways, and that we might walk in His paths.' For from Zion will go forth the law, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem. 3 Then He will judge between many peoples and mediate for mighty nations far and wide; they will beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks. Nation will not take up sword against nation, and they will no longer train for war."

Could it be that President Trump did what he did because he was more concerned about what God thinks than about what the world thinks? Could it be that on the day Micah 4 is fulfilled, Donald Trump will be proclaimed as the one who took the first courageous step toward seeing this great prophetic scripture come to pass?

Folks, I have read Micah 4 hundreds of times and it has never changed. It is truth and therefore it never will change. Nowhere in those verses will you find the word “mosque.” Nor have I ever seen the word “Allah.” The word of Allah will never go forth from Jerusalem because Jerusalem does not belong to the Muslims. And in spite of what some may teach, the God of Abraham, Issac, and Jacob is not the same God as the god of the Muslims. Jesus was a Jew and not a Palestinian. On the day Micah 4 is totally fulfilled, Islam will cease to exist. If you don’t like that, get over it! Your life will become much less confusing if you just start agreeing with the Bible.

What the Bible has to say may seem so impossible. For sure, I don’t know how God is going to get it all done. That does not bother me; it is not my problem. The One who said it, is the One who will bring it to pass.

For right now, you and I should be praising Jesus for a number of things. We should be praising the Lord for rescuing America from the corrupt hands of those who wanted to destroy life as we have known it in this republic. We should be praising God for giving us a president who is not afraid to reject the wisdom of man in favor of acting on the wisdom of God.

I wept for joy on the night Donald Trump was elected to the highest office in the land. I wept for joy again when I heard him proclaim that Jerusalem was the eternal capital of Israel. I wept for joy because, once again, I had seen God watch over His word to perform it.

"So once more I will shock these people with many wonderful acts. I will destroy the wisdom of those who think they are so wise. I will do away with the cleverness of those who think they are so smart."

Isaiah 29:14 (NIRV)

Read all of Micah 4
on the next page

Micah 4 New Living Translation (NLT)

God's Future Plan For Jerusalem

1 In the last days, the mountain of the Lord's house will be the highest of all—the most important place on earth.

It will be raised above the other hills, and people from all over the world will stream there to worship.

2 People from many nations will come and say, "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of Jacob's God. There he will teach us his ways, and we will walk in his paths."

For the Lord's teaching will go out from Zion; his word will go out from Jerusalem.

3 The Lord will mediate between peoples and will settle disputes between strong nations far away. They will hammer their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks. Nation will no longer fight against nation, nor train for war anymore.

4 Everyone will live in peace and prosperity, enjoying their own grapevines and fig trees, for there will be nothing to fear. **The Lord of Heaven's Armies has made this promise!**

5 Though the nations around us follow their idols, we will follow the Lord our God forever and ever.

6 "In that coming day," says the Lord, "I will gather together those who are lame, those who have been exiles, and those whom I have filled with grief.

7 Those who are weak will survive as a remnant; those who were exiles will become a strong nation.....

8 **As for you, Jerusalem, the citadel of God's people, your royal might and power will come back to you again.**

The kingship will be restored to my precious Jerusalem.

9 But why are you now screaming in terror?

Have you no king to lead you?

Have your wise people all died?

Pain has gripped you like a woman in childbirth.

10 Writhe and groan like a woman in labor, you people of Jerusalem, for now you must leave this city to live in the open country.

You will soon be sent in exile to distant Babylon.

But the Lord will rescue you there; he will redeem you from the grip of your enemies.

11 **Now many nations have gathered against you.**

"Let her be desecrated," they say.

"Let us see the destruction of Jerusalem."

12 **But they do not know the Lord's thoughts or understand his plan.**

These nations don't know that he is gathering them together to be beaten and trampled like sheaves of grain on a threshing floor.

13 **"Rise up and crush the nations, O Jerusalem!" says the Lord.**

"For I will give you iron horns and bronze hooves, so you can trample many nations to pieces. You will present their stolen riches to the Lord, their wealth to the Lord of all the earth."

..... **Then I, the Lord, will rule from Jerusalem as their king forever.**

And now my friends,
you know God's plan for Jerusalem.



A MINUTE WITH MISS LINDA



“What If?”

“What if?” These are probably two of the most powerful words in the English language. They contain both the power to paralyze you or the power to propel

you. They have the power to trap you in the prison of your past, or the power to unlock all the potential of your future. Learn to control them and they will become a great blessing. Fail to control them and they will become a curse that destroys God’s plan for your life.

I am quite sure that about now there are a few eyebrows raised as my readers consider my first paragraph. How can just two words have that much power over our lives? Is this even possible? Am I overstating this? No, I am not. I will go even further; I don’t think it is possible to overstate the power of those two words. It is time I begin to explain myself.

It should be obvious by now that there is both a positive and a negative side to the “what ifs” of life. I want to end on a positive note, so I will start by talking about the negative effect a “what if” can have on your life. The first thing that comes to mind is that it can trap you into living in your past.

All of us have things in our past that we wish we hadn’t done, or things we wish others hadn’t done. I want to emphasize that this is true of everyone. There are no exceptions.

I have always found it interesting that some people are able to move on and let the past be the past while others seem unable to do this. For them, the events of their past become open doors for the “what if” monster to gain entrance into where they live today. Once inside he locks the door and forces them to live continually in their past.

If you talk to them, you quickly become aware that they have never been able to let the past be the past and walk away from it. There are a million illustrations of how this “what if” monster is destroying their life. What if I hadn’t married the man I am married to? What if I had married my high school sweetheart? What if I hadn’t been molested when I was a child? These are the kinds of things they will bring up every time they discuss how unhappy they are with their life today.

I want to be kind, but I also want to help you escape the prison you are in. **STOP IT!!! JUST STOP IT RIGHT NOW!!!** The only word I can think of that describes what you are doing is the word futile. I am convinced that it is futile to look back and say, “what if I had” or “what if I hadn’t” done this or that. **Webster’s Dictionary defines futile as: serving no useful purpose, completely ineffective.**

If you are receiving counseling from a person who is encouraging you to go into your yesterday in order to find out why your today is so messed up, you need to end that relationship right now. It will never help you.

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Whenever I have tried to look back and say "what if," I have quickly realized that there is no point to it. What has happened in the past cannot be changed. It is what it is. If I keep asking myself "what if," it becomes an excuse to stay there and never move on into the future God has for me.

There is another "what if" that can inflict great harm on your future. Each of us face decisions every day that will either be made from a position of faith or a position of fear. It is a terrible thing when our "what if" is always speaking words of fear. What if I do this and it turns out wrong? What if I am making the wrong decision? What if I end up regretting this? Be careful, or that "what if" monster will enter your house and take you captive!

I think this is a good time to start teaching you how to take the "what if" monster captive and start training him to work for you instead of against you. I promise, life can get so exciting if every "what if" is followed by a statement of strong faith. I have seen so many wonderful things happen when I approached life this way.

Recently we were in a large retail store checking out. The gal at the cash register was training another gal who had her arm in a sling, so we asked her what had happened. She said it was because she had a bulging disk in her back. Right then I heard the Lord tell me that I needed to pray for her. You all know what happened next. The "what if" monster showed up.

He started by saying, "What if you do this and it causes a big scene?" I quickly countered with, "But what if it is God wanting me to do this and I listen to faithless you and not Him?" Before old ugly "what if" could respond, I touched the gal's shoulder and said, "Can I tell you something?" She nodded yes. I then said, "Jesus loves you," and I proceeded to pray for her. When I finished, she got all teary-eyed and gave me a big hug.

As we were walking out to the car, I said to the "what if" monster, "Well, I hope you learned how to behave yourself today." That monster needs to be retrained to the point that he will become a help instead of a hindrance.

When we were pastors, there were so many times when God told us to do things that seemed impossible. Believe me, the "what if" monster was always hanging around. Over and over we had to tell him, "If you can't say something faith-filled, then you will just have to be silent!" It was then we saw God work miracle after miracle.

More than once, we saw God change the weather just in time so we could experience "**Praise in the Park.**" Once at the Greeley Stampede, the weather service had even issued tornado warnings, but God supernaturally intervened and cleared the sky.

One of the most intense encounters we ever had with the "what if" monster occurred when God told us to start **Resurrection Christian School**. I won't waste this space telling you all the "what ifs" he threw at us. I would much rather tell you how God provided funds supernaturally time after time so we could see RCS become a reality with no debt.

We will always have the "what if" monsters hanging around. We just need to retrain them so they become a help and not a hindrance. They must never be allowed to take you into your past. They must never be allowed to fill you with fear that paralyzes you. They must be taught to only speak "what ifs" that are faith-filled. Faith-filled "what ifs" will allow you to experience the best that God has for you. Every day becomes an exciting adventure when you start it by asking yourself, "What if God shows up today and I see miracles that go beyond what I could have ever imagined?"

I would like to end with one more huge faith-filled "what if." Imagine what life would be like if you would cast all your cares on Him and not get overwhelmed and uptight about situations that sometimes appear so huge. We serve a God who watches over us and cares so much for every detail of our lives. I am more determined than ever to make this my forever "what if." What if I cast all my cares and worries on Him? What if I truly believe He is an awesome God? What will my life be like if I finally become convinced that, if He rules the entire universe, He can take care of my little corner of it?

THAT IS A "WHAT IF" I CAN LIVE WITH!!!

“DRAMA CONTINUES IN SYRIA”

In recent months we have seen the focus removed from the situation in Syria because of what happened when our president took a bold, courageous step and declared that the US now recognizes Jerusalem as the eternal capital of Israel. This was easily the biggest news to come out of the Middle East in the last decade. It has started a snowball effect that will probably result in many nations following the lead of the US.

However, all this does not mean that the situation in Syria has ceased to be of major importance when it comes to Bible prophecy being fulfilled. Nothing has changed, and therefore we need to stay informed on what has been happening in the last few months.

If we go back to November of last year, we find things in Syria were really heating up. In the middle of the month, it was reported that Iranian troops had started to establish military bases in southern Syria less than 40 miles from the border of Israel. Stay with me and I will show you how this happened.

In July Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu had stated that Israel would never allow an Iranian military presence in Syria. He had requested that Russia not allow this to happen. However, his request was flatly rejected by Russia. But in November, this Russian directed objective became a reality.

This bold move was achieved through a careful deception in which Russia sold the US on the idea that ceasefire zones should be established as a starting point to an eventual peace in Syria. It all sounded very good, but their plan was to turn these cease fire zones into areas where they could establish military bases that would then be turned over to Iranian forces hostile to Israel.

The Russian plan worked flawlessly. They built the military bases without any interference from Syrian rebels, US military, or Israeli air attack. Once built, they turned these bases over to Iranian forces.

Al Arabiya news service reported in November that the Iranian Revolutionary Guards (IRGC) had established a new militia named Brigade 313 in southern Syria. The Syrian opposition was warned that the militia, trained and funded by the Iranian Revolutionary Guards, aimed to use the de-escalation zones in South Syria to advance Iran’s designs on the Israeli border area.

Following this brazen escalation of Iranian military presence in Syria, Vladimir Putin proudly announced to the world that Russia had accomplished her objectives and would now be bringing their troops home. **What he failed to mention was the fact that a permanent Russian airbase, a permanent Russian naval base, and army military bases manned by Iranian Revolutionary Guard troops would remain.**

Considering the fact that Iran has made no attempt to hide its intentions to destroy Israel, all this is indeed troubling. One need not speculate as to where all this will end. Our Bibles tell us that it is going to end in a full-scale war being waged against Israel and that Israel is going to be attacked from the North. (Syria)

However, the Bible also plainly tells us that the outcome will be a huge victory for Israel. There is no doubt about it. Read Ezekiel 38-39 and you will be reading tomorrow’s headlines today. Never forget, God is in control and therefore these kinds of things should fill us with excitement and not anxiety.

Ezekiel 38:18; 21-23 (NLT)

"But this is what the Sovereign Lord says: When Gog invades the land of Israel, my fury will boil over! 21 I will summon the sword against you on all the hills of Israel, says the Sovereign Lord. Your men will turn their swords against each other. 22 I will punish you and your armies with disease and bloodshed; I will send torrential rain, hailstones, fire, and burning sulfur! 23 In this way, I will show my greatness and holiness, and I will make myself known to all the nations of the world. Then they will know that I am the Lord."

And that my friends,
is the “Truth!”