

FROM OUR PASTOR

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Adolf Hitler was not content with gobbling up all of Austria with the **Anschluss** of 1938. He invaded the Sudetenland in Czechoslovakia the same year and the entire country in 1939. Not satisfied, Hitler agitated for more **Lebensraum** or living space for his Greater Germany vision.

The next obvious target for expansion was Poland, but Poland was at peace and not a threat to anyone. Sensing that neither France nor Great Britain were going to tolerate further "justified" expansion, Hitler went about fabricating a reason to invade Poland. On the night of August 31, 1939, German security troops escorted Jewish concentration camp victims to a radio tower near the Polish border town of Gleiwitz. There they dressed them in German border guard uniforms and had them promptly shot. Hitler went on the radio and accused Poland of an act of war against Germany. The dead men in German uniforms were his pretext of "Polish Aggression." The German army invaded Poland the next day on September 1, 1939. Two days later Great Britain and France declared war on Nazi Germany, WWII had begun!

We need to keep this lesson from history in mind as we watch developments in the crazy kingdom of North Korea. This week they published photos of Kim Jun-un and what appeared to be a mock-up of a miniature nuclear warhead. This only a few weeks after launching several long-range rockets --called an "H-bomb of justice"-- into the sea in the direction of the USA. North Korea also conducted its fourth nuclear test and made threatening statements to South Korea and the U.S. .

At what point do leaders of the free world begin to take these provocations and threats seriously? Is North Korea capable of pulling off a deception stunt like Hitler in order to actually attack another nation?

Another likely deceiver is Iran, which this week launched two long-range missiles in obvious violation of the recent agreement with the US. The missiles, capable of reaching [Israel](#), were marked with a statement in Hebrew reading "Israel must be wiped off the Earth," Iran's semi-official Fars News Agency reported. The phrase originates from a remark made by the Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, the founder of Iran's Islamic revolution.

Human nature and Satan's society have been around since the fall of man in Garden of Eden, so the actions and words of evil men and dictators are not so new. However, this is the first time that such men have been able to use missiles and nuclear weapons. In time some madman will actually do what everyone fears, and he will likely have a deceiving reason for doing it.

Psalm 10 is a great lesson of history and how we should view "the man of the earth oppressing (others)." (last verse). Let me suggest that you take time to read it slowly this week and think about every verse. The first eleven verses reveal the nature of

tyrants and evil men in power, and notes that many prayers are made for relief of the tyranny. The final verses of the Psalm tell of a time when the prayers have been heard and God brings justice and peace to the earth. May that time come soon!

Keep an eye on the dangers in the world, but keep praying Jesus Christ's words, "Your Kingdom come, your will be one on earth as it is in heaven."

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