

FROM OUR PASTOR

April 1, 2017

Warm Sabbath Greetings to everyone! This past week another UN sponsored meaningless gathering took place. Jeffrey Lewis, writing in Foreign Policy Magazine reported: " More than 100 countries are meeting at the United Nations this week to negotiate a global ban on nuclear weapons. That would normally be a big deal, but it's not this time. That's because more than 40 countries, including the United States and many of its closest allies, are skipping the negotiations, hoping in vain the ban will just go away. In fact, not a single country that possesses nuclear weapons has sent a delegation to the negotiation in New York. The Russians are there in spirit, though — because in the absence of the United States and its allies, the negotiations are taking a decidedly anti-American tone."

The plan was to strengthen the existing "Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty" (NPT), but since none of the countries that have or are developing nuclear weapons is represented, the end result will be the usual statements and declarations that are ignored and soon forgotten. The United Nations was created primarily through the efforts of one man--President Franklin Roosevelt. After the demise of the League of Nations (which was the brainchild of President Woodrow Wilson even though the US never joined it) President Roosevelt was able to get Russian dictator Stalin to sign on by letting the Soviets have control of Eastern Europe in the Yalta agreement. He didn't ask the people of Poland, Hungary, Romania, and the Baltic states if they would agree to being under the Soviet boot beforehand.

Created as part of the agreements that ended World War 1 in 1920, the League proved incapable of preventing aggression by the Axis powers in the 1930s. When Germany, Japan, Italy, and Spain, wanted to go to war, they simply withdrew from the League. The onset of the Second World War showed that the League had failed its primary purpose, which was to prevent any future world war. The League lasted for 26 years; the United Nations (UN) replaced it with the same stated purpose after the end of the Second World War on 20 April 1946 and inherited a number of agencies and organizations founded by the League.

So here we are seventy two years after the dropping of the two atomic bombs that finally ended history's greatest cataclysm. In that time nine nations are known to have developed nuclear weapons and according to Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists Nuclear Notebook, the total number of nuclear weapons worldwide is estimated at 10,144. That is more than enough to eliminate all humans on earth many times over. In addition to what is public knowledge, there are rogue nations, such as Iran, that are close to or may already have nuclear weapons, but have not revealed what they have since they lack a delivery vehicle for now. What everyone agrees on and has been acknowledged by the UN agencies meeting this week, is that a new arms race is developing fast.

Russia and China are leading the pack, using primarily high technology stolen from or bought from the US to develop hypersonic missiles, underwater drones, and outer space delivery systems that can avoid current defenses. The chances of them being used at some point is becoming a realistic possibility.

God's prophets of old revealed that in the time just prior to the return of Jesus Christ cities would be destroyed. Ezekiel warned: " And the cities that are inhabited shall be laid waste, and the land shall be desolate; and ye shall know that I am the LORD." (12:20) Several others predict that huge numbers of people on the earth will die very quickly--at least one third. One such place is Revelation 9:18 "By these three was the third part of men killed, by the fire, and by the smoke, and by the brimstone..." The most likely way for this to happen is by use of nuclear weapons.

Mankind is in the process of proving that real peace is not possible by men and will only come when the Kings of Kings--Jesus Christ--is ruling the earth. Isaiah tells us, "With righteousness He shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth." (Isaiah 11:4) Peace will finally come when all the earth is filled with the knowledge of their Creator.

"They shall not hurt nor destroy in all My holy mountain, for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea." (Isaiah 11:9)

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