

## 7 Prophetic Flash Points to Keep an Eye on in 2023 - Prophecy Update January 2023 Matthew 24

Then Jesus went out and departed from the temple, and His disciples came up to show Him the buildings of the temple. 2 And Jesus said to them, “Do you not see all these things? Assuredly, I say to you, not one stone shall be left here upon another, that shall not be thrown down.”

3 Now as He sat on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to Him privately, saying, “Tell us, when will these things be? And what will be the sign of Your coming, and of the end of the age?”

4 And Jesus answered and said to them: “Take heed that no one deceives you. 5 For many will come in My name, saying, ‘I am the Christ,’ and will deceive many. 6 And you will hear of wars and rumors of wars. See that you are not troubled; for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet. 7 For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. And there will be famines, pestilences, and earthquakes in various places. 8 All these are the beginning of sorrows.

**Beginning of birth pangs - What happens - closer to the delivery date - the birth pangs and the contractions get more frequent and intense.**

**A) Jesus is saying when you see some of these things begin to ramp up - know that my coming is near.**

<sup>42</sup> Watch therefore, for you do not know what hour your Lord is coming. <sup>43</sup> But know this, that if the master of the house had known what hour the thief would come, he would have watched and not allowed his house to be broken into. <sup>44</sup> Therefore you also be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.

**Tonight I want to talk about 7 prophetic flashpoints that we need to be watching out for in 2023.**

**A) The first is found in our text in V.6-7 . 6 And you will hear of wars and rumors of wars. See that you are not troubled; for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet. 7 For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom.**

**B)#1 You will hear of Wars and rumors of War!**

**C) Now some people will argue that there has always been wars and rumors of wars happening - that is true.**

**D) But there are some major World players moving in the direction of War right now and I believe that is significant.**

**Let's consider some of these War rumors going on right now.**

**A) First of all - There is the continued War going on between Russia and Ukraine - there doesn't seem to be any end in sight to that.**

**B) Whenever Russia is involved it is something to take notice of because Russia is mentioned as a significant nation in the Last days.**

**C) Ezekiel 38 describes a group of nation that will come against Israel in the last days - two major nations in that group are Russia and Iran**

**What is interesting, is this war hasn't been faring well for Russia**

**A) On day 328 of the conflict, the Russian military isn't any closer to achieving any of its objectives.**

**B) These are stats from yesterday: Russia disputes some of these numbers**

- Lives lost: 117,770
- Wounded: 353,310
- Armored combat vehicles lost: 6,225
- Tanks lost: 3,130
- Artillery 2,108
- Planes shot down: 287
- Helicopter lost: 276
- Ships and boats: 17

**C) What is the significance of this? Talked about this last year - will Russia try to rebound from this by setting its sights on Israel w/ Iran**

**D) Keep an eye on the Russian and Iran - relationship**

**This was in the news this week - PIC #4**

**A) Last month it was reported that Russia is supplying “unprecedented military support to Iran in exchange for drones.**

**B)And Reported that Iran will receive a number of Russian Su-35 fighter jets by March as part of a military order that includes defense systems, missiles and helicopters.**

**C)So It is Clear the two nations are in a close relationship like the Bible says will they will be in the last days.**

**D)So Keep your eye on Russia and Iran.**

**Which also means that we need to keep our eye on Israel and Iran**

**A)This was in the headlines Pic #5 Netanyahu will order Attack on Iran if the world turns its back on Israel**

**B) Netanyahu doesn't mess around - does he?**

**C)Been Reported that Israel has devised three operational plans to attack Iran to "neutralize" its nuclear program.**

**D)That is a possibility right now - this could be the match that lights the fire in the middle east**

**E)Israel goes on the aggressive - the Bully has been making threats for years - we are not waiting anymore**

**Another significant War rumor is between China and Taiwan**

**A)There is growing tension between these two countries. Pic#6**

**B)China is sending war planes and ships toward Taiwan as things are heating up between those two nations**

**C)China's military said Sunday it conducted exercises around Taiwan in response to escalating "collusion and provocations" from Taiwan and the US, after the USA authorized increased military assistance to the island.**

**The USA is teaming up with Japan Pic #7**

**A)This week, the US and Japan announced a bolstered US Marine presence in Okinawa, which would have advanced intelligence and anti-ship capabilities.**

**B)The two allies also announced a series of other initiatives designed to bring the militaries closer together in the face of what they see as China's growing assertiveness in the region.**

**"We share a common vision with Japan to maintain a free and open Indo-Pacific and all the things that we're doing, you know, point towards that direction," said Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin on Wednesday.**

**Now China has been relatively quiet militarily - until recently - conflicts with Taiwan and India**

**What is the Prophetic implications of China?**

**A)Revelation chapter 9 talks about a massive army of 200 million soldiers coming out of the east**

**B)China's army right now is over 2 million soldiers - and China has a strong relationship with Russia as well.**

**C)China's President was quoted last month "China and Putin's Russia are friends with no limits." China's President Xi Jinping**

**D)So keep your eye on China -**

**Another Rumor of war is happening in Serbia  
A)Serbia puts troops on high alert**

**B)The Serbian army says it is at its "highest level of combat readiness" after weeks of escalating tensions between Serbia and Kosovo.**

**C)Kosovo, which has an overwhelmingly ethnic Albanian majority, broke away from Serbia after a war in 1998-99.**

**D)But Serbia does not recognize Kosovo as an independent state, nor do the ethnic Serbs who live there.**

**Serbian officials in Belgrade accuse Kosovo of plotting "terrorism against Serbs" in areas where some 50,000 ethnic Serbs live.**

**A)Serbian President Aleksandar Vucic says he will "take all measures to protect our people and preserve Serbia".**

**B)Why is that significant? Headline Pic #9**

**C) Russian Involvement there ALSO - People are wondering if the War in Ukraine and an outbreak in Serbia - Putin's attempt to bring war to Europe**

A Serbian Right-Winger Leader and ultranationalist Damjan Knezevic  
As gone on record to say - "Russian Ties Could Help If there's 'Conflict in Kosovo'"

**D) This is the question being asked if Serbia and Kosovo go to war? Will this draw the rest of Europe in?**

Look at this map of Eastern Europe -

**A) Russia and Ukraine - Look at Romania - next to Romania Serbia and then Kosovo**

**B) Some are suggesting that For Putin to help start war between Serbia and Kosovo would be the perfect way to hit Europe where it hurts without needing to actually get involved.**

**Interesting that These were the headlines in July 29, 1914**

- "Austria Formally Declares War on [Serbia]; Russia Threatens, Already Moving Troops; Peace of Europe Now in Kaiser's Hands"
- "Czar's Forces Mass on Eastern Border"
- "War Drums Beating Along the Danube—Manifesto by the Emperor"
- "France Expects to Be Drawn In"

**A) These headlines were from the New York Times on July 29, 1914, in coverage of the outbreak of World War I**

**B) Could the rising tension in Eastern Europe and Russia's involvement be the flame that ignites WWII?**

**D) So Keep an eye on Serbia and Kosovo**

**So #1 Prophetic Flashpoint - wars and rumors of war - keep an eye on these places where these war rumors are happening**

**2nd Prophetic Flashpoint - Keep an eye the opposition against Israel from the nations around the world Israel**

**A) We talked about this last Prophecy Update in November - the prophecy of Zechariah**

**B)<sup>2</sup> "Behold, I am about to make Jerusalem a cup of staggering to all the surrounding peoples. The siege of Jerusalem will also be against Judah. <sup>3</sup> On that day I will make Jerusalem a heavy stone for all the peoples. All who lift it will surely hurt themselves. And all the nations of the earth will gather against it. Zechariah 12:2,3 ESV**

**C) There has been a lot of tension and outrage against Jerusalem in recent days**

It started when the Israeli Defense minister Ben-Gvir made huge waves in December

**A) Just days after a new Israeli government was sworn in, Ben-Gvir who is one of its most extreme members in Israel's GOVT paid a provocative thirteen-minute visit to Jerusalem's Temple Mount/al-Aqsa Mosque complex.**

**B) His visit was more of a protest - Describing the Temple Mount as "the most important place for the Jewish people," he decried what he called "racist discrimination" against Jewish visits to the site.**

**C) With the Dome of the Rock in the background and waving his fingers at the camera, he said the visits would continue.**

**Well this caused a stir around the world.**

**A) Starting with The Biden administration says an Israeli proposal to end the ban on Jewish prayer at the Temple Mount in Jerusalem would be an "unacceptable" disruption to the "historic status quo," which only allows Muslims to pray there.**

**B) This coupled with the Continued Israel Palestinian tension is garnering a lot of condemnation from the rest of the world toward Israel.**

**C) A report by UN Watch revealed that in 2022, the United Nations General Assembly approved 15 anti-Israel resolutions as compared**

**1) to 13 against all other countries combined.**

**D) Contrast Russia, which invaded Ukraine amid accusations of human rights violations, garnered six condemnations.**

**Israel is trying to stand its ground and right to land that has always belonged to the nation**

**A)And Israel is constantly threatened by numerous Arab/Islamic terrorist groups in the region**

**B)And yet From 2006 through 2022, the UN Human Rights Council has adopted 99 resolutions against Israel,**

**C)Contrast 41 against Syria, gassing their own people -13 against Iran, continues to defy sanctions and pursue - nuclear weapons  
1)4 against Russia, and 3 against Venezuela.**

**D)It absolutely makes no sense -**

**Then there was this: The Biden recently administration condemned Israel for giving \$39 million in Palestinian Authority tax revenues to the victims of terrorism instead of the terrorists.**

**Israel says we are going to use this money to aid those who have been affected by the terrorist  
A)We are going to use it to rebuild communities that have been bombed and destroyed -**

**B)They are condemned -**

**C)On top of that - The "Palestinians" have received an estimated \$40 billion in foreign aid. Other estimates have put it at \$50 billion.**

**D)Over \$14 billion of that money went directly to the Palestinian Authority.  
1)What did all that money buy, apart from mansions for top terrorists?**

**Israel continues to be condemned**

**A)Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu responded on Saturday said a United Nations General Assembly vote asking the International Court of Justice (ICJ) to provide an opinion on Israel's occupation of the Palestinian territories was "despicable."**

**"The Jewish people are not occupiers on their own land nor occupiers in our eternal capital Jerusalem and no U.N. resolution can warp that historical truth,"**

**"These are the basic lines of the national government headed by me: The Jewish people have an exclusive and unquestionable right to all areas of the Land of**

**Israel. The government will promote and develop settlement in all parts of the Land of Israel – in the Galilee, the Negev, the Golan, Judea and Samaria.”  
– Benjamin Netanyahu**

**B)Some would say those are fighting words.**

**C)Despite Netanyahu’s objections - over 90 nations have declared in a signed statement that Israel must rescind the [sanctions it levied against the Palestinian Authority](#) for seeking assistance from the world court.**

**D)Keep our eyes on Israel - the growing tension from nations around the world.**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Prophetic flashpoint we need to keep our eyes on is the move toward globalism**

**A)Are we headed toward a global recession ?**

**B)The world bank warned on Tuesday -The global economy will come “perilously close” to a recession this year, led by weaker growth in all the world’s top economies — the United States, Europe and China**

**C)The World Bank projects that the European Union’s economy won’t grow at all in 2023**

**World Bank President David Malpass said the Russia’s invasion of Ukraine has added major new costs,”**

**“The outlook is particularly devastating for many of the poorest economies where poverty reduction is already ground to a halt and access to electricity, fertilizer, food and capital is likely to remain limited for a prolonged period.”**

**But the World economic Forum is meeting this week in Davos Switzerland - they have answers**

**A) The theme of the World Economic Forum’s 2023 Annual Meeting is “Cooperation in a Fragmented World”.**

**B)Nearly 50 heads of state and government will come together with business and society leaders to discuss solutions to the most pressing problems.**

**C)The overwhelming idea is that the solution to the worlds problem’s will come through global unity.**

Now some have suggested - since Covid globalism has been on the decline - nations tried to deal with the pandemic and the after math on their own  
A)Others are arguing that Globalization isn't in decline; it is simply changing.

B)That a new type of globalization is emerging.

C)One such person is The CEO of German tech giant [SAP](#) Christian Klein who said the world is entering the next phase of globalization —

**Klein is largely optimistic on the outlook for technology despite challenges posed by higher interest rates and supply chain disruptions.**

“Klein speaking at the WE forum in Davos - said we are entering “the next phase of globalization,” with companies shifting their focus to building up resilient supply chains and improving their sustainability credentials.

He added that technology is the “solution” to making supply chains more resilient, as companies need a better handle on the data underpinning their businesses.

**The General thought coming out of the forum is this: Global cooperation has mended a divided world before, and it can do the same for a fragmenting on.**

**Klaus Schwab, the Forum's Founder and Executive Chairman- added**

“We see the manifold political, economic and social forces creating increased fragmentation on a global and national level.”. "To address the root causes of this erosion of trust, we need to reinforce cooperation between the government and business sectors, creating the conditions for a strong and durable recovery."

**Significance Revelation 13 - Anti-Christ comes into power he sets up a one world government system - he is the leader.**

A)As the world at large continues to struggle it is setting the stage for a World leader to emerge on the seen with answers

B)So keep your eye on the ideas coming out of Davos and Europe promoting the idea that Globalism is the solution

4<sup>th</sup> Flash point we need to keep an eye on and that is the growing interest Cashless society - Digital currency

A)Central banks around the world are examining whether they should create digital currencies.

B)China is already gradually unrolling one.

1)The Federal Reserve has jumped on the bandwagon, with studies and experiments underway.

Quote President Biden often summarizes his vision for America in one word: **Possibilities**. A “digital dollar” may seem far-fetched, but modern technology could make it a real possibility.

C)But Not everyone is a fan

**Steve Forbes, in a post on December 15, said a Central Bank Digital Currencies, CBDC, were an “ominous threat to our freedoms.”**

**“Digital money would “enable governments to track every single purchase or sale you make. It would be a frightening tool of control, as officials could easily seize or freeze part or all of your money. No wonder Beijing is so gung-ho for CBDCs,” Steve Forbes**

**The article went on to explain How Governments Will Sell CBDCs to Citizens – this is really interesting**

A)One guess is that CBDCs will be rolled out as universal basic income.

**B)If you want universal basic income, you will need to apply for a chip reader credit card, and that will hook you into the CBDC blockchain matrix.**

C)Another way is to offer it in masse in a crisis – say hyperinflation.

“If inflation remained in the 8% and above range in the West, where CBDCs are most discussed, one could envision the government using this to convince businesses and consumers that a digital dollar will be a good way to control inflation.”

“The media would then be summonsed to call everyone who thinks CBDCs are a bad form of programmability and control a “conspiracy theorist”

or other sophomoric strategy to vilify those who question such wisdom from central bank technocrats.”

**But there are a number of Nations moving toward a cashless society right now**

**A) Norway, Finland and New Zealand are the three countries closest to becoming cashless societies,**

**B) followed by Hong Kong, Sweden, Denmark, Switzerland, the UK, Singapore and the Netherlands,**

**C) And The Japanese government is preparing to introduce a system for companies to pay salaries digitally – without going through bank accounts – by spring 2023.**

**D) This is real folks -**

**E) The Significance - Revelation 13 tells us that when the Anti-Christ comes into power he will establish a one world currency that will be a cashless society - can't buy or sell without - THE MARK**

**So keep an eye on the growing move toward a cashless society**

**5<sup>th</sup> Prophetic flashpoint to keep an eye on is A Growing spirit of Anti-Christ.**

**I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, *which is* your reasonable service. <sup>2</sup> And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what *is* that good and acceptable and perfect will of God. Romans 12:1-2**

**Romans 12:1 Don't be conformed to this world - don't let the world squeeze you into its mold or system**

**A) The world has a system that has been demonically inspired**

**B) Squeeze God out of our society - take the 10 commandments out of courtrooms - prayer -**

**C) Back in September we talked about how the last days would be like the days of Noah and Lot**

**D) Two cultures that were marked by a strong defiance against God**

**That is the system of the Devil to move the world in the direction of a defiance against God**

**A) Starts with a turning from the truth - when the world says - there is No absolute truth - truth is what you feel**

**B) New research has claimed that most Americans don't think moral standards come mainly from the Bible.**

**C) The America's Values Study found 42 per cent of respondents believe that "what you feel in your heart" is the proper moral compass.**

**D) A 2022 survey of 1,000 Christian pastors across seven major groupings of denominations revealed that only 37% of clergy have a Biblical worldview.**

**When a nation turns from the truth of God's word we start making up our own truth.**

**A) So we redefine what a baby is - redefine what gender is - redefine what marriage should be**

**B) Complete moral decadence and confusion is the result**

**This was a story out of Canada last week On January 5, the National Post reported "How Canadian schools aid students' gender transition without family consent,"**

**A) The article lays out details of what is becoming standard practice in Canadian public schools across the country.**

**B) The report begins by detailing how a Calgary teacher told a Grade 6 class that their classmate had come out as transgender,**

**1) but that they "must not let it slip their classmate's new gender identity to her parents," who did not know the student had begun identifying this way.**

**C) When the mother found out, she said 11 year old kids are being taught in school to lie to their parents.**

**But it is also happening here in the USA -**

**A) Celebrating gender ideology is a major part of most school systems**

**B) And now the Gay, Lesbian, Straight Education Network (GLSEN) organization wants to make sure the 2023 school calendar year is promoting as many LGBT special days as possible.**

**C) Among the many days to celebrate is "International Transgender Day of Visibility," which is supposed to be celebrated on March 31st.**

**D) It is followed by "Lesbian Visibility Day" which is supposed to take place on April 26th.**

**Guys this is the system that is trying to squeeze us into its mold**

**A) It is demonic - it is aggressive -**

**B) How do we combat it -**

*I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service. <sup>2</sup> And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God. Romans 12:1-2*

**C) You start by presenting yourself to God as living sacrifice**

**The Realization that you belong to God**

**A) You exist for God - Holy = set apart -**

**B) Acceptable is yielded to God - that is your reasonable service - other worship**

**C) Reasonable - means it makes sense to live your life for God**

*<sup>2</sup> And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God. Romans 12:1-2*

**A) Don't be conformed - don't let the world squeeze you into its mold**

**B) How you allow your life to be transformed by the word of God**

**C) The Bible become the basis for living - Your world view of Life, sex, marriage, gender, money -  
1) Formed by the word of God**

**D) Result: you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.**

**When a society doesn't do that - turns from the Word of God - anything goes becomes the result  
A) Did any of you see this: right here in San Diego**

**B) 17 year old girl in Santee discovers a naked man in the women's locker room at a YMCA**

**Earlier this month, 17-year-old Rebecca Phillips was showering at the Santee facility after her swim workout when she noticed a naked man in the women's locker room.**

**A) Phillips immediately went back into the shower terrified and hid behind the curtain until he was gone, she told the Santee city council last week.**

**B) Phillips then ran into the bathroom stall to quickly change before confronting the people at the front desk about the situation.**

**Rebecca Phillips told the city council, "When I asked the YMCA management what the policy was regarding transgenders, they confirmed that the man I saw was allowed to shower wherever he pleased."**

**"I was made to feel as though I had done something wrong when I talked to people at the YMCA," she told the council members. "The indecent exposure of a male to a female minor was an inconvenience to them."**

**C) YMCA stands for Young Men's Christian Association**

**D) They have moved so far from their beginnings**

**E) Keep your eye on the aggressive Demonic agenda that is moving our culture away from Jesus and - is Anti-Jesus**

**Seven prophetic flashpoints to keep an eye on in 2023**

**6<sup>th</sup> A Growing cancel culture and persecution against Christians**

**A) Did any of you see this story a Michigan woman canceled from Planet Fitness**

**B) Same thing as here in Santee - Someone who looked like a man was in the woman's locker room**

**C) So She went to the front desk after someone who looked like a "man" entered the women's locker room while she was changing.**

**"I wanted to know why there was a man in the women's locker room," she told CNN. "He looked like a man, and that's what stopped me in my tracks."**

**D) She said the front desk employee told her about Planet Fitness' "no-judgment" policy, which allows people to use changing room based on "their sincere, self-reported gender identity."**

**E) She complained and even called the Corporate offices of Planet Fitness and had her membership cancelled**

**Now I don't know if that woman was a Christian or not but this is what we are going to be seeing more and more.**

**A) A major cultural change is taking place right before our eyes.**

**B) Christianity—long a traditional and accepted part of society—is increasingly being silenced by governments, courts, businesses and technology.**

**C) Anti-God secularists have conducted a decades-long war on Christianity with the goal of expunging it from American life.**

**What does this mean? Where is it headed?**

**A) Those who hold the Judeo-Christian values that were common for the first 200 years of the nation's existence now find themselves mocked, belittled and attacked if they dare to express or stand up for their views.**

**B) If we as Christians - take a stand for morality - stand to protect our children from exposure to ideologies that go against God**

**C) We are going to be cancelled - your kids will be kicked out of school - you might lose your job**

**D) A church might get sued**

**E) This is world that we are living in - But we need to STAND**

Author David Horowitz was himself a student radical during the 1960s who became a conservative in the early 1980s after he became disgusted with the evils of the left. Horowitz wrote in his book *Dark Agenda: The War to Destroy Christian America*,

Referring to the millions of Christians murdered in totalitarian regimes in the 20th century, Horowitz writes:

"Radicals in America today don't have the political power to execute people and destroy their houses of worship. Yet they openly declare their desire to obliterate religion. In their own minds, their intentions are noble—they want to save the human race from the social injustice and oppression that religion allegedly inflicts on humanity" David Horowitz In *Dark Agenda: The War to Destroy Christian America*, (2018, p. 4).

But it is not just here - The persecution of Christians is surging around the world.

**Across 76 countries, more than 360 million Christians suffer high levels of persecution and discrimination for their faith – an increase of 20 million since last year."**

Significance to this is as the world moves toward this one world GOVT one world economy - those who are not on board will be canceled

**Seven prophetic flashpoints to keep an eye on in 2023**

**7<sup>th</sup> Prophetic flashpoint to keep an eye on in 2023 is the growing spiritual delusion and global deception happening around the world.**

**This is the church - many turning from the faith**  
**Now the Holy Spirit tells us clearly that in the last times some will turn away from the true faith; they will follow deceptive spirits and teachings that come from**

demons. <sup>2</sup> These people are hypocrites and liars, and their consciences are dead.

<sup>3</sup> They will say it is wrong to be married and wrong to eat certain foods. But God created those foods to be eaten with thanks by faithful people who know the truth. 1 Timothy 4:1-3

I solemnly charge you before God and Christ Jesus, who is going to judge the living and the dead, and because of his appearing and his kingdom: <sup>2</sup> Preach the word; be ready in season and out of season; correct, rebuke, and encourage with great patience and teaching. <sup>3</sup> For the time will come when people will not tolerate sound doctrine, but according to their own desires, will multiply teachers for themselves because they have an itch to hear what they want to hear. <sup>4</sup> They will turn away from hearing the truth and will turn aside to myths. 2 Timothy 2:1-4

**That is happening in mass in the church today - but not us - not here**

**A) We need to have the mentality of Paul - Running in a race that is a marathon - need for perseverance - endurance**

<sup>7</sup> I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. <sup>8</sup> There is reserved for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give me on that day, and not only to me, but to all those who have loved his appearing. 2 Timothy 2:7-8

**Note: One of thing that kept- Paul going is he loved the Lord's appearing**

**A) He was watching for the coming of Jesus**

**B) It encouraged him to not sit and hide - but to keep running keep serving keep fighting**

**1) Keep trying to make a difference**

**C) You are here tonight - You love the Lord's appearing**

**Remember: Paul - we are here to help others meet Jesus**