

# The Burden of Damascus Revisited

## [Excerpts]

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By Jack Kinsella

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*Note from Pastor Kevin Lea: For those interested in a detailed discussion on this topic, you are invited to download for free from our web site the following handouts and audio files of messages on this apparently soon-to-be-fulfilled biblical prophecy:*

### ***Handouts***

['Psalm In A Bog' Linked To Israel's Current War](#)  
[Israel Should Be 'Wiped Off the Map:' Iran President](#)  
[Will Iran's 'Petroeuro' Threat Lead to War?](#)

### ***Sermons***

[Part 1 – The Coming Destruction of Damascus](#)  
[Part 2 – The Coming War between Israel and Her Neighbors](#)

*You can also watch these sermons online by going to our YouTube station which is linked at our home page ([www.calvarypo.org](http://www.calvarypo.org)).*

**OmegaLetter.com** Sarin is a clear, colorless, tasteless liquid that has no odor in its pure form. Once released into the atmosphere, it evaporates into a vapor, or gas. Sarin  
**What's this world coming to?** was originally developed by the Nazis in 1938 and mimics the effect on humans that pesticides have on insects.

Symptoms will appear within a few seconds after exposure to the vapor form of sarin and within a few minutes up to 18 hours after exposure to the liquid form. People can be exposed to the vapor even if they do not come in contact with the liquid form of sarin.

And even at very low concentrations, exposure to sarin can be fatal. It is estimated to be five hundred times more toxic (poisonous) than arsenic. The effects of sarin are nightmarish -- even describing what happens merits a disclaimer -- if you're squeamish, skip the next paragraph. (I'll set the description off in italics so you can tell when you've scrolled past it):

*Initial symptoms following exposure to sarin are a runny nose, tightness in the chest and constriction of the pupils. Soon after, the victim has difficulty breathing and experiences nausea and drooling. As the victim continues to lose control of bodily functions, the victim vomits, defecates and urinates. This phase is followed by twitching and jerking. Ultimately, the victim becomes comatose and suffocates in a series of convulsive spasms.*

Syria's stockpile of chemical weapons warheads, including sarin, is estimated to be the largest in the Middle East. The CIA estimates that Syria produces hundreds of tons of nerve agents annually.

Syria's arsenal is believed to include:

- Several thousand aerial bombs filled with sarin and somewhere between fifty and one hundred sarin warheads fitted on ballistic missiles.
- New long-range North Korean Scud Cs, with ranges of up to 600 km and possible nerve gas warheads. May be converting some long range surface-to-air and naval cruise missiles to use chemical warheads.

- SS-21 launchers and at least 36 SS-21 missiles with 80-100 km range, plus Scud B launchers and Scud B missiles with 310 km range.
- Short range M-1B missiles and SSC-1b cruise missiles. ‘
- Su-24 long-range strike fighters and MiG-23BM Flogger F fighter ground attack aircraft;
- Su-20 fighter ground attack aircraft;
- Su-22 fighter ground attack aircraft.

According to WND expert David Friedman of Tel Aviv University: “For weaponization, the material is poured into warheads, which can be anything from ballistic missiles to standard artillery shells to air-dropped munitions. The weapons can be as small as mortar bombs. Some of Syria’s chemical weapons are already in launch-ready, warhead form.”

He said some of the chemicals are compounds whose elements are kept separate for safety’s sake. The compounds are only mixed together when their immediate use is imminent.

Syria began mixing the chemicals yesterday.

### **Assessment**

The United States warned Syria that the use of chemical weapons would constitute a “red line” for Barack Obama. Obama told a gathering of nuclear proliferation experts in Washington: “The use of chemical weapons is, and would be, totally unacceptable and if you make the tragic mistake of using these weapons, there will be consequences and you will be held accountable.”

At the moment, Syria now faces a US force of at least 10,000 men, 70 fighter/bomber aircraft, seventeen US warships, two carriers, a guided missile cruiser, and ten destroyers and frigates.

For its part, Syria says it isn’t planning to use its chemical weapons arsenal against its own people, but rather, against “external enemies” which in the Arab Middle East, always includes Israel.

For its part, Israel said that even if Assad doesn’t attack, Israel fears that Assad’s fall could put these weapons in the hands of Hezbollah or Hamas, and says it therefore won’t rule out military intervention to prevent it.

So we have NATO, Germany, the US, Jordan and Turkey on one side. On the other side sits the Russian Black Fleet Naval Task Force, also sitting just off the Syrian coast.

The United Nations has begun closing its diplomatic missions across Syria and withdrawing its diplomats from Damascus. Now what?

### **What does the Bible say?**

There are all kinds of theories and possible scenarios that seem to dovetail with Bible prophecy for the last days. We’ve talked about the Bible’s prophesied war between Israel and the Arab world in the context of Psalms 83, the Book of Obadiah, and Isaiah 17’s “Burden of Damascus.”

That said, they are all theories -- including those advanced in the OL. They represent our best GUESS at how current events may be following a Bible prophecy scenario.

Maybe they are. They look like they are. I even think that they are. But I don’t know. Neither does anybody else.

*To view the rest of this article (and the portions that were excerpted above) by Jack Kinsella, you need to subscribe to the Omegaletter at <http://www.omegaletter.com/briefs/briefings.asp?BID=3625>*

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