Diplomats at the United Nations have revealed that the governments of Britain, France and Germany are seeking a UN resolution on final status issues that would break the current deadlock in the Middle East peace process. The three nations, which have permanent seats on the UN Security Council and form the backbone of EU foreign policy, hope that the outline of a peace agreement
can be drafted by the EU and UN before the next meeting of the Quartet for Middle East Peace (EU, US, UN, Russia) in April. The hope is that Israel and the Palestinian Authority will be able to agree in principal to the outcome of a deal, and that direct negotiations on the finer details can then resume. The international community is still hopeful of a September deadline for the establishment of a Palestinian state, but one diplomat said that unless direct negations bear fruit, the Palestinians are likely to demand unilateral recognition of a state.

Quote: *"The three countries, all members of the Security Council, are pressing for Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon and the EU to propose a settlement text at a meeting in mid-April of the Quartet -- the UN, EU, US and Russia, the diplomats told The Associated Press on condition of anonymity because talks are taking place in private.*

Just a few months ago, 130 nations voted for a UN resolution that would have condemned Israeli settlement activity as a major obstacle to Middle East peace, and demand the Jewish state halt all construction work in Judea, Samaria and east Jerusalem. Thankfully the resolution was not passed due to the US veto, but as I commented at the time, the day is not far off when the UN may be asked to vote again . Only next time it could be on the matter of full recognition of the state of 'Palestine'. While this resolution does not yet call for that, its adoption could set in motion the process that will ultimately bring that about.

The Bible predicts that during the last days, just prior to the return of the Lord Jesus Christ, Israel's enemies will be in siege against Judah and Jerusalem (Zechariah 12:2-3), and that the status of Jerusalem will become such a contentious issue that all the nations of the world would become involved in trying to resolve it. Today, the Palestinian Authority, a government run by terrorist organizations that are at war with the Jews and deny Israel's right to exist, are seeking to establish their own state in Judea, Samaria and east Jerusalem with the approval of the United Nations. The prophet Daniel also foretold that during the last days, a world leader would arise who would strengthen a covenant between Israel and many nations (Daniel 9:27). Daniel's prophecy identifies this world leader as the ruler of the people that destroyed Jerusalem and the Second Temple in 70AD. That was the Roman Empire. Today the governments of the European Union, an empire that spans the same geographical area as that of the old Roman Empire, are drafting an agreement they hope Israel and the nations of the world will be able to sign up to. And the Bible predicts there will be peace, but for a limited

time only (1st Thessalonians 5:3). For after three and a half years of calm, it seems that this world leader will turn against Israel, and the city of Jerusalem shall be divided (Revelation 12:2). And the nation of Israel will enter that period known as the time of Jacob's trouble (Jeremiah 30:7), the great tribulation period foretold by Daniel, John and the Lord Jesus Christ. It is this time period that will culminate in the battle of Armageddon, and the return of the Lord Jesus Christ as King of Kings and Lord of Lords.

As you can see, current events are pointing towards the soon return of the Lord Jesus Christ. If Christ came today, would you be ready to meet Him? Have your sins been forgiven? If not, then why not trust in the Lord Jesus Christ for salvation today? Just confess to God that you are a sinner in need of salvation. Thank Him for sending His own Son Jesus Christ to bear the punishment for your sin upon the cross of Calvary. It doesn't have to be a lengthy prayer, just a sincere one. For the Bible says that "whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved ", Romans 10:13. Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ for salvation today.

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