It seems the Israeli political scene has been in absolute turmoil since the beginning of Israel's disengagement from Gaza last year. The disengagement plan resulted in a terrorist organization bent on the destruction of Israel taking power, and former Prime Minister Ariel Sharon lapsing into a coma. The Prime Minister who took his place, Ehud Olmert, is on corruption charges and President Katsav is up for rape. Then we have the complete failure of the Israeli-Hizbullah conflict to achieve anything, and the resultant resignation of IDF Chief Halutz. Couple that with a government formed by a mishmash of politicians from the both the left and right leaning parties. Now that Katsav will be out of the way, Israeli politicians are scrambling for his position. Former Prime Minister and current Vice Prime Minister Shimon Peres has not yet announced his intentions to run for the presidency, but he seems to be a favourite among the public. Having the previous political experience of running the country, and of course the experience of peace negotiations with the Palestinians, I expect Peres will win the race. It's all in the name.

Quote: *"Kadima's number two man Peres has shown interest in running for president again, but has yet to make an official announcement. Kadima sources told Ynet that advisor Eyal Arad, who steered Prime Minister Ariel Sharon to victory in 2001, has been recruited to manage Peres' presidential bid. Opinion polls projected Peres as the frontrunner in the race, with most Israelis favoring him for the presidency. However, the Israeli public does not determine the outcome of such a race. Under Israeli law, a presidential candidate is elected by majority in the Knesset.*

If he does win, and if Solana's predictions that a deal with the Palestinians is a few weeks to two months away, Shimon Peres may just become the man who " hearkens to the division " of God's land. Is it just me, or does it seem that God is walking contrary to His people? Rabbis have speculated that because of the disengagement from Gaza and the "convergence" plan and their efforts to hand the land of Israel back to their enemies, that God has allowed the leadership of Israel to be judged, and has brought their sin out into the open. I'd be inclined to agree with that. But if things keep going the way they are going, then I believe, the worst is yet to come.

Leviticus 26:23-26

And if ye will not be reformed by me by these things, but will walk contrary unto me; Then will I also walk contrary unto you, and will punish you yet seven times for your sins. And **I will bring a sword upon you** , that shall avenge the quarrel of my covenant: and when ye are gathered together within your cities, I will send the pestilence among you; **and ye shall be delivered into the hand of the enemy.** And when I have broken the staff of your bread, ten women shall bake your bread in one oven, and they shall deliver you your bread again by weight: and ye shall eat, and not be

satisfied.

Source YNet News