

*"And when these things begin to come to pass, then look up, and lift your heads, for your redemption draweth nigh" - Luke 21:28*

# JERUSALEM SHALL BE A CUP OF TREMBLING

## ISRAEL: EU STANCE ON JERUSALEM HARMS PEACE TALKS

*Haaretz* reports: "Israel lashed out at a new plan by the European Union to call for the division of Jerusalem with a future Palestinian state, saying that such a move by the EU would further harm the chances of renewing peace negotiations in the Middle East.

EU foreign ministers are expected to issue an official call for Jerusalem to be divided, in order to serve as the capitals of both Israel and a Palestinian state. A draft document authored by the current holder of the rotating EU presidency, Sweden, and implying that the EU would recognize a unilateral Palestinian declaration of statehood, has been obtained by *Haaretz*.

'The process being led by Sweden harms the European Union's ability to take part as a significant mediator in the political process between Israel and the Palestinians,' said a statement by Israel's Foreign Ministry.

'After the important steps taken by the government of Israel to enable the resumption of negotiations with the Palestinians, the European Union must now exert pressure on the Palestinians to return to the negotiating table. Steps like those being led by Sweden only contribute to the opposite effect,' said the statement.

Jerusalem is waging a diplomatic campaign to keep the EU from issuing such an endorsement, but diplomats close to

the EU deliberations believe it is almost inevitable..." (Zechariah 12:2, 3 states: **"Behold I will make Jerusalem a cup of trembling" and "a burdensome stone to all people."** It's happening. Soon a leader of the "New World Order" will arise and contract a peace treaty lasting seven years including the division of Jerusalem. After 42 months, it is broken and leads to Armageddon – Joel 3:2. By then believers will have been raptured.)

## 'DON'T CALL JERUSALEM PALESTINIAN CAPITAL'

*The Jerusalem Post* reports: "Sweden's attempts to insert language into an EU resolution on the Middle East that would recognize east Jerusalem as the capital of a future independent Palestinian state harms European efforts to play a significant part in mediating between Israel and the Palestinians, the Foreign Ministry said in a statement.

The statement followed a *Haaretz* report that the Swedes were pushing a resolution that will be discussed at a monthly meeting of EU ministers in Brussels that would officially call for the division of Jerusalem.

According to the Foreign Ministry statement, there is nothing new in the resolution.

However, as one Israeli diplomatic official pointed out, what is maddening from

an Israeli viewpoint is that the call for east Jerusalem to be the capital of an independent Palestinian state is not coupled with a call to recognize west Jerusalem as the capital of Israel.

'This disrupts the balance,' the official said, adding that the resolution is being pushed forward by the Swedes, who hold the rotating presidency of the EU, without any prior coordination with Israel.

The official pointed out that since taking over the presidency in July, Swedish Foreign Minister Carl Bildt has not visited the country once. He was scheduled to come in September, but his visit was cancelled following the angry Israeli reactions to the *Aftonbladet* newspaper article that accused Israeli soldiers of harvesting Palestinian organs..." (The division of Jerusalem is totally against God's plan for Israel. Jerusalem is mentioned 930 times in God's Holy Word and always as the eternal possession of the Jews, God's chosen people. The Koran of the Palestinians never mentions Jerusalem once. Trouble lies ahead for all the world.)

## JORDAN: JERUSALEM IS A TICKING TIME BOMB

*The Jerusalem Post* reports: "Jerusalem is a ticking time bomb where an attack by Jewish extremists on Muslim holy sites could erase any chances for peace between Israel and the Palestinians, undermining

stability in the entire Muslim world, Jordan's US Ambassador Zeid Ra'ad Zeid al-Hussein told the *Washington Post* in an interview.

The Jordanian envoy referred to clashes between security forces and Arab rioters in Jerusalem, and explained that the Hashemite Kingdom was worried those events could lead to another incident such as the 1969 fire at the Aksa Mosque set by Australian Denis Michael Rohan. Rohan, a Christian, was arrested and later found to be mentally ill.

'We are worried that, in the short term, something like this might happen,' he said. 'It would unleash emotions of an extreme

nature [and] the consequences would be very severe,' Zeid told the paper.

He went on to warn that the US does not seem to realize the serious ramifications such an incident could have on the peace process and on the entire region.

The threat of an attack on sites such as the Aksa Mosque compound 'is the real showstopper [and] the issue that can turn US policy on its head,' Prince Zeid reportedly said, but 'there is no discussion about this in Washington. ... Something is not working right.'

The Jordanian diplomat stressed that the two-state solution was pointless if the Israeli government refused to discuss the

status of the capital.

'If Jerusalem is left out of the mix, if you can't negotiate Jerusalem, there is no deal, even if you negotiate other components,' he said. 'Why should [the Palestinians] want to engage? There is no purpose behind it. What possible benefit could Arab countries get from it?'

Zeid predicted that if the Palestinians lose faith in the two-state vision, they would focus their efforts on becoming Israeli citizens in hopes of eventually becoming a majority... (The ticking time bomb will soon become a global problem leading to World War III – Joel 3:2. See the next three articles.)

# NEWS FROM ISRAEL AND THE MIDDLE EAST

## **HAMAS: TERRORISM TO ELIMINATE ISRAEL IS A 'PRINCIPLE'**

*Israel National News* reports: "In an interview published in the London-based Arabic newspaper *Al-Hayat*, a Hamas spokesman said that the jihadist movement is loyal to 'Palestinian principles' in its policy of terrorism against the Jews until Israel ceases to exist.

Palestinian Authority Chairman and Fatah leader Mahmoud Abbas claimed earlier that Hamas had agreed to the establishment of a Palestinian state within temporary borders. Osama Hamdan, a Hamas spokesman in Lebanon and close associate of powerful Hamas political leader Khaled Mashaal, rejected the idea, however.

Hamas, Hamdan explained, has never agreed and will never agree to any recognition of Israel's legitimacy as a sovereign state. An agreement to temporary borders contradicts this position, as it would constitute acceptance of Jewish sovereignty over the pre-1967 borders of Israel, he added.

The Hamas plan is based on obtaining a Palestinian state by force of arms, Hamdan said, 'not by way of agreements, a path that has failed.' In fact, the Hamas spokesman told *Al-Hayat* that negotiations between his movement and Abbas' Fatah group reached an impasse over acceptance of the Quartet's

call for an end to Arab 'resistance' operations; i.e., terrorism. The Quartet — the European Union, the United States, the United Nations and Russia — is involved in pushing for negotiations between Israel and its Arab neighbors.

Hamdan emphasized further that, in fact, it is Hamas that is remaining loyal to 'basic Palestinian principles' in fighting against any agreements with Israel..."

## **ABBAS TO UN: IMMEDIATE ACTION AGAINST ISRAEL NEEDED**

*YnetNews.com* reports: "The Palestinian observer at the UN, Riyad Mansour, urged the Security Council to take measures against Israel in light of what he called years of failed peace negotiations and a lack of Israeli willingness to advance a comprehensive peace agreement.

Speaking on behalf of Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas, Mansour told the General Assembly that the peace talks had been hindered by the 'settlements, arrests (of Palestinians by the IDF) and Israeli attacks.'

In his speech, the Palestinian envoy reiterated the claim that the IDF committed war crimes during its December-January offensive in Gaza.

He went on to criticize Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's government, saying it was 'alienating' the Palestinians and withdrawing from 'all of the commitments and agreements that we have reached with previous Israeli governments.'

The UN is currently marking the historic date of November 29 1947, the day in which it approved the partition plan separating Israel into two states – Jewish and Arabic.

But while in Israel the date is celebratory, as it marks the end of the British mandate and the beginning of independent rule, the UN headquarters in New York and Geneva are holding ceremonies of mourning and solidarity with the Palestinian people..."

## **NETANYAHU: ISRAEL WANTS PEACE, BUT PALESTINIANS DON'T SEEM READY**

*Haaretz* reports: "Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said that Israel was fully committed to renewing Middle East peace negotiations, but questioned whether the Palestinian Authority was prepared to enter the political process.

'It is clear today, to anyone willing to check the facts, that Israel wants peace — to enter the peace process with the aspiration of fulfilling it,' Netanyahu told the annual

Eilat Journalists Conference. ‘I don’t see the same firmness on the other side.’

According to Netanyahu, the government is doing everything in its power to advance the peace process, but has found itself stymied by obstacles from the Palestinian side.

‘I see preconditions being laid that never before existed. I see legal steps being taken at the international court to advance that absurd thing called the Goldstone report. You can’t reach peace if the horizon is moving away, and it is moving away because of the stereotype,’ Netanyahu said, referring to common perceptions of him being a hawk.

The prime minister was also referring to the Palestinian Authority’s endorsement of the Goldstone Commission’s damning report on the Gaza war, and to complaints it had submitted against Israel to the International Criminal Court.

‘I think they need to decide to enter negotiations, because only if we start them, we can finish them,’ he said.

The prime minister declared that his government was willing to make concessions for peace, difficult as they may be...

### **VENEZUELA’S CHAVEZ AGREES TO UPGRADE TIES WITH PALESTINIANS**

*Voice of America News* reports: “Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez has agreed to upgrade relations with the Palestinian Authority in support of its quest for an independent Palestinian state.

Mr. Chavez hosted Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas in Caracas and promised to open a Venezuelan embassy in the West Bank, where Mr. Abbas’s government is based.

The Venezuelan president — a harsh critic of Israel — praised the Palestinians

for what he called their struggle against a ‘genocidal state of Israel’ that seeks to ‘exterminate’ their people.

Mr. Chavez’s government also signed a series of aid agreements with Mr. Abbas’s delegation, including an offer of scholarships for Palestinian students.

Mr. Abbas thanked Venezuela for its support. He also reiterated his rejection of Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu’s offer to restart peace talks by freezing new housing construction in West Bank Jewish settlements for 10 months.

In a speech to Venezuelan lawmakers, Mr. Abbas said Israel’s prime minister faced a choice between ‘peace and occupation,’ and ‘chose occupation.’ Mr. Abbas has refused to resume peace talks until Israel stops all construction in the West Bank and east Jerusalem...” **(Chavez of Venezuela and Ahmadinejad of Iran are two of the greatest hate-filled dictators of Jews and Israel in history after Hamas and Hitler. Their goal is the destruction of Israel and Jews, another Holocaust – Psalm 83:4. It won’t work. God says in Isaiah 56:5, “I will give Israel an everlasting name.”)**

### **NUCLEAR DETECTOR SET UP ON IRAN BORDER**

*The Jerusalem Post* reports: “Israeli officials believe the international community is ‘starting to come to the understanding that Iran has been lying to everybody’ about its nuclear intentions, a senior Israeli diplomatic official told *The Jerusalem Post*.

The statement followed news of a UN agency completing a nuclear test detection station in Turkmenistan, just a few kilometers from the Iranian border.

The PS44 installation is the 337th facility of the International Monitoring System. It

was set up by the Comprehensive Test-Ban Treaty Organization (CTBTO), a network of stations across the globe that monitors the atmosphere to detect nuclear blasts by countries secretly testing nuclear weapons.

PS44 is expected to be operational by 2010, once it has been tested.

There have been more than 2,000 nuclear test explosions worldwide since the Manhattan Project’s Trinity trial in the US in July 1945. The last detonation occurred May 25, when North Korea said it conducted a test, an event that was detected at 61 of the CTBTO’s seismic stations.

While the Turkmenistan site is part of a larger network, the opening of a station near Iran may signify that ‘the Iranian issue is finally gaining ground in the international community,’ according to the Israeli official.

More proof of this came when the board of governors of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) voted to censure Iran, on November 27, for failing to cooperate in international efforts to verify its claims that its nuclear program has peaceful intentions.

‘Luckily, Iran itself is decimating the efforts of even its most vociferous defenders to help it avoid international criticism,’ the Israeli official said...” **(John 8:44 depicts who is behind the lying spirit of Iran’s President “Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it.” Satan has always hated Israel as he “stood up against Israel” thousands of years ago – I Chronicles 21:1; and continues his hatred and onslaught of God’s chosen people – Deuteronomy 7:7, 8.)**

# NEWS FROM IRAN

### **IRAN WAR GAMES TO DEFEND NUCLEAR SITES**

*BBC News* reports: “Iran has begun five days of large-scale war games to simulate attacks on its nuclear sites, officials said, warning it will retaliate if provoked.

The head of Iran’s air defence said the

aim of the exercises was to thwart aerial reconnaissance and air attacks.

Another official warned Tehran would retaliate with a missile strike on Tel Aviv, if it was attacked by Israel.

Iran is under intense pressure over its nuclear programme, which critics say is intended to produce nuclear weapons.

The US and Israel have not ruled out the prospect of a military attack to prevent Iran developing nuclear bombs. Tehran insists its programme is peaceful.

The head of Iran’s air defence, Brig Gen Ahmad Mighani, told state media the aim of the war games, which will cover an area of 600,000 sq km (230,000 sq miles), was



‘to display Iran’s combat readiness and military potentials.

‘Due to the threats against our nuclear facilities it is our duty to defend our nation’s vital facilities,’ he said.

Meanwhile, Mojtaba Zolnoor, an aide to supreme leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, warned Iran would respond to any Israeli attack.

‘If the enemy attacks Iran, our missiles will strike Tel Aviv,’ he was quoted as saying by the official *IRNA* news agency...” (Dr. Mike Evans in his tremendous book entitled “Atomic Iran” spells out the nuclear devastation that could soon encircle the globe as Persia, which changed its name to Iran in 1935 joins Russia – Ezekiel 38:1, 2, 5 in the conflict of the ages – Ezekiel 38:8, 16; Revelation 9:14-18.)

### **AHMADINEJAD: U.S., ISRAEL LACK ‘COURAGE’ TO ATTACK**

*YnetNews.com* reports: “Visiting Brazil, Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad said that US and Israeli military threats against Iran were a thing of the past, and that, in any case, ‘they don’t have the courage’ to attack Iran.

‘The age of military attacks is over, now we’ve reached the time for dialogue and understanding. Weapons and threats are a thing of the past,’ the Iranian told a joint press conference with President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva, closing his one-day visit.

Ahmadinejad’s visit was greeted in Rio de Janeiro by a 1,000-strong rally of members of Jewish, anti-racist and gay rights groups who protested his past tirades against Israel and other groups.

Fielding a question on whether he feared an attack from Israel or the United States, Ahmadinejad said armed confrontation was no longer a possibility.

That’s clear ‘even for mentally challenged people,’ he said with a smile.

Besides, he added, ‘those you mention (Israel and United States) don’t have the courage to attack Iran. They’re not even thinking about it.’...” (Baloney — Ezekiel 39:6 proves that Gog of Magog and Iran will be defeated – Ezekiel 39:1, 2, 12, 13.)

### **AHMADINEJAD: WORLD TO BE FREED FROM ‘BULLYING STATES’**

*YnetNews.com* reports: “The World according to Ahmadinejad: Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad said upon his

return from a visit to Latin America and Africa that ‘a new movement has started to free the world from domination of a few bullying states.’

The *IRNA* news agency quoted Ahmadinejad as saying that signs, bases and strong points of order and developments in the new world should be identified. He added that the world was speedily changing and the new world was being formed.

‘Signs and evidence show that a few domineering governments have not been able to solve problems and address public demand,’ the Iranian president added.

Ahmadinejad received a warm welcome from his Venezuelan counterpart Hugo Chavez, who used the visit to brand Israel as a murderous agent of Washington.

The Venezuelan singled out a comment by President Shimon Peres, during a visit to South America, that his and Ahmadinejad’s days in power may be numbered.

‘We know what the state of Israel stands for — a murderous arm of the Yankee empire,’ Chavez told joint news conference. ‘What the president of Israel said, we take as a threat.’...” (See Romans 3:13-17 as well as the next three reports.)

### **IRAN’S AHMADINEJAD, VENEZUELA’S CHAVEZ DENOUNCE US ‘IMPERIALISM’**

*Voice of America News* reports: “Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad has ended a visit to Venezuela in which he and his Venezuelan counterpart Hugo Chavez denounced what they call U.S. ‘imperialism.’

The two leaders praised each other in Caracas, solidifying their anti-American alliance. Mr. Ahmadinejad compared Iran and Venezuela to brothers-in-arms engaged in trench warfare against imperialism, a reference to the United States.

Mr. Chavez also denounced U.S. ally Israel as a ‘murderous arm of the Yankee empire,’ in his words. He rebuked Israel’s president for predicting Venezuelans and Iranians will make their leaders disappear. Mr. Chavez said he views Shimon Peres’ recent comment as a threat.

The Venezuelan president also said Cuba’s ailing former President Fidel Castro had asked him to deliver a ‘hug’ to Mr. Ahmadinejad. Mr. Chavez said he met briefly with Mr. Castro in Cuba.

Iranian state media say Mr. Ahmadinejad left Venezuela for Senegal, the final stop on his five-nation tour.

Earlier the Iranian and Venezuelan presidents attended the signing of several bilateral agreements, including joint projects in energy, housing and farming.

Mr. Ahmadinejad’s visit drew protests from Venezuela’s opposition, which accused Mr. Chavez of developing a ‘dangerous’ alliance with Tehran. Venezuela’s Jewish community denounced Mr. Ahmadinejad as an ‘ominous character’ who could do serious harm to humanity...”

### **IRAN’S SUPREME LEADER BLAMES WEST FOR STUDENT PROTESTS**

*Voice of America News* reports: “Iran’s Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei blasted the United States and other Western countries for stirring up trouble inside Iran, before students are expected to hold peaceful demonstrations on university campuses across Iran.

Both the Iranian government and student opposition activists are gearing up for what many are expecting will be a large turnout of demonstrators on university campuses across the country.

December 7 is known as ‘national students’ day’ in Iran, and it marks the anniversary of the 1953 slaying of three students by Shah Mohammed Reza Pahlevi’s security forces, following a coup against populist Prime Minister Mohammed Mosadegh, earlier that year.

Eyewitnesses say hundreds of students have received threatening emails, this week, warning them not to participate in demonstrations. Pro-government Basij militia members are also reported to be present in large numbers on campuses across the country.

Internet connection speeds in Iran are also reported to be extremely slow, amid word the government is again trying to hamper communications between Iranians and the outside world. Foreign media have also been warned not to cover the rallies.

Iran’s Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei lashed out against the West, saying it was responsible for sowing discord inside the country.

He says that today, the propaganda of arrogant nations of the world is the main source for the existence of conflict inside Iran.

The Ayatollah also used extremely virulent language against the United States and Britain, calling them Iran’s top enemies.

He says Americans are at the top of Iran’s list of enemies and the British are the most

dreadful of those enemies. He also asserted the United States and other nations have tried to isolate Iran for the last 30 years, but have failed and will continue to fail..."

### **IRAN ACCUSES WEST OF PROVOKING NEW NUCLEAR SITES MOVE**

*BBC News* reports: "The head of Iran's nuclear programme has accused the West of provoking his country into launching a plan to build 10 new uranium enrichment plants.

Ali Akbar Salehi said a UN demand for Iran to halt work on a recently revealed site had 'prompted the government to approve the plan'.

Iran's parliamentary speaker, Ali Larijani, said later he believed a diplomatic solution was still possible.

Tehran's move has fuelled further concerns over its nuclear programme.

Western powers say Iran is trying to develop nuclear arms. Iran says its nuclear programme is peaceful.

A source in Russia's foreign ministry told local news agencies that Russia, which supplies much of Iran's nuclear technology, was 'seriously concerned by the latest statements of the Iranian leadership'.

French Foreign Minister Bernard Kouchner told a French radio programme that Iran was being 'a bit childish'.

'Iran is playing an extremely dangerous

game,' he said. 'There's no coherence in all this, other than a gut reaction.'

Israel's ambassador to the UK, Ron Prosor, was asked by the *BBC* if military action by Israel against Iran was now more likely.

He called for 'all options to be on the table' without being more specific.

Iran's proposed new plants would be of a similar size to its main existing enrichment plant at Natanz.

Mr Salehi, who is also vice-president of Iran, said: 'We had no intention of building many facilities like the Natanz site but apparently the West doesn't want to understand Iran's peaceful message.'..."

# NEWS FROM RUSSIA

### **PUTIN SAYS NO PLANS TO LEAVE POWER**

*Reuters* reports: "Russian Prime Minister Vladimir Putin, in power for over 10 years, ruled out a departure from politics, telling a questioner: 'Don't hold your breath.'

The country's most powerful leader made the comment with a smile when asked on his annual televised question and answer session with the Russian people if he would like to leave politics and start a quiet life.

Putin, 57, also said he 'will think about' taking part in the 2012 presidential election, when many Russians expect him to return to the Kremlin for a six-year term..." **(Putin may become the Gog of Magog, the Chief Prince of Rosh [Russia], Meshech [Moscow], and Tubal [Tobolsk – Southwest of Siberia] during the Armageddon 3 ½ year campaign.)**

### **U.S. AND RUSSIAN OFFICIALS WORK ON NEW ARMS CONTROL TREATY**

*Voice of America News* reports: "U.S. and Russian negotiators are continuing talks in an effort to agree on a new follow-on treaty to the 1991 START-One pact that expired December 5. Both sides say an agreement is more likely at the end of the month.

The START-One agreement is one of the most complex treaties in history dealing with reducing nuclear weapons. It was signed in 1991 by U.S. President George

Herbert Walker Bush and Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev. It came into force in 1994.

Daryl Kimball, Executive Director of the Arms Control Association, a private research firm, says that treaty helped end the Cold War.

'It slashed U.S. and Russian strategic nuclear forces from 1990 levels of about 10,000 deployed strategic warheads each down to approximately 6,000 by the year 2001,' said Kimball. 'And it also established a far-reaching network and system of on-site inspections, verification provisions, information exchanges to provide each side with high confidence that the other was complying with the terms of the treaty.'

Frank Miller, a former senior official on the National Security Council under President George W. Bush says those verification provisions are crucial.

'It's important to have confidence. It's important to have on the ground inspections which this treaty provisions call for,' said Miller. 'It's important to have exchanges of telemetric data. So in addition to what each side's own intelligence services are able to pick up, the treaty provides additional information which has always been seen as being of great confidence-building value.'

Daryl Kimball says since the START-One treaty was signed, the United States and Russia have slashed their strategic nuclear arsenals even more..." **(The U.S. – Russian arms control treaty will fail miserably and dangerously – Ezekiel 38; 39:1, 2, 12, 13; Joel 2: 3, 20, 30.)**

### **INDIA IN NUCLEAR DEAL WITH RUSSIA**

*BBC News* reports: "Russia and India have signed an agreement to increase their civilian nuclear energy co-operation.

The announcement came after talks between Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh and Russian President Dmitry Medvedev in Moscow.

Russia will build a number of nuclear reactors in energy-hungry India as well as increase atomic fuel exports to it.

Russian reports suggested progress had also been made on India's purchase of a refurbished former aircraft carrier.

The sale of the Soviet-era Admiral Gorshkov was agreed years ago but delivery has been long delayed.

Kremlin sources gave no timing for when the vessel might be handed over to India's military.

Mr Singh called the nuclear deal 'a major step forward'.

'Today we have signed an agreement which broadens the reach of our co-operation beyond the supply of nuclear reactors to areas of research and development and a whole range of areas of nuclear energy,' Mr Singh told a Kremlin news conference.

Mr Medvedev spoke of 'great potential' in the two countries' relations..." **(India may align itself with Russia as part of the "Kings of the East" led by China, the ally of Russia – Daniel 11:44; Revelation 16:12; Revelation 9:14 -18. East = China and North = Russia.)**

# THE EU SUPERSTATE

## EU SELECTS NEW PRESIDENT

*Voice of America News* reports: “The European Union has chosen its first full-time president — Belgian Prime Minister Herman Van Rompuy. Leaders of the 27-member bloc also chose a woman for the second top job — British commissioner Catherine Ashton, who will be the EU’s new foreign policy chief .

At a press conference in Brussels, the European Union’s President-elect Herman Van Rompuy offered a unifying message in English, Flemish and French — vowing to listen and take into account all the diverse views of the 27-member bloc.

‘Europe must be in every member state’s advantage,’ said Herman Van Rompuy.

‘This cardinal principle leads me to a two-track approach. First of all, I will consider everyone’s interests and sensitivities. Even if our unity is our strength, our diversity remains our wealth. Every country has its own history, its own culture, its own way of doing things. Our journey may be toward a common destination, but we will all bring along different luggage.’

Von Rompuy also vowed to ensure that every country in the EU will emerge victorious from any decision taken. He becomes the new EU president January 1.

Von Rompuy’s selection took place fairly swiftly over a dinner meeting among European leaders, after weeks of divisions over who would get the top job. In selecting the Belgian premier, they opted for a

candidate able to cobble unity and compromise, rather than a high profile figure for the job.

EU leaders also sought balance in selecting Catherine Ashton, the British trade commissioner for the European Union, for the job as foreign minister. Ashton said she was proud to be selected for a high-profile role in an institution dominated by men. And she said she would deliver results...” **(The permanent presidency of the European Union is necessary in order for this power to become the head of the New World Order when it envelops the entire globe, 247 nations in a “ten division empire” as predicted by Barnabas, St. Irenaeus; St. Justin Martyr; and St. Jerome almost 2,000 years ago.)**

# CONTENDING FOR THE FAITH

## PASTOR SHOT, KILLED ON WAY HOME FROM WORSHIP

*WorldNetDaily.com* reports: “Two masked members of the al-Shabaab Muslim militia have shot and killed a pastor as he drove home from a worship service, according to reports.

The shooting killed Mogadishu, Somalia, pastor Ali Hussein Weheliye in the attack in October, but reports of the incident didn’t come out until recently.

Experts at the missions think-tank the Joshua Project estimate that Somalia is 99 percent Muslim. International Christian Concern’s Jonathan Racho agrees with that statistic and says the overwhelming numbers make it difficult to be a Christian in Somalia.

‘A vast majority of Somalis are Muslims, but there are hundreds of Christians in Somalia. This pastor was the pastor of an underground church,’ Racho said.

‘Christians in Somalia have to go underground and they don’t give away their identities because once al-Shabaab knows someone is a Christian, that is a death sentence for that person,’ Racho says.

Racho makes the death sentence claim because al-Shabaab is a jihadist militia

with close ties to Osama bin Laden and the al-Qaida terrorist group.

Intelligence sources say that most al-Shabaab fighters receive training at al-Qaida or Taliban training camps in Pakistan before being sent to Somalia for the declared anti-Christian jihad in that eastern African nation.

Racho said that these facts are evidence that Weheliye’s murder is not an isolated incident.

‘Al-Shabaab has gone on a campaign of killing Christians. One of its official policies is to eradicate Christians from Somalia,’ Racho said.

‘This year alone, Pastor Ali is the fifteenth Christian to be killed in Somalia. The killing has been going on for the past several years. The church in Somalia is going through a difficult time. If this trend continues many more Christians will be killed and many will be forced to leave Somalia,’ Racho explained.

The American Enterprise Institute’s Michael Rubin agrees with the assessment.

‘Al-Shabaab is a franchise of al-Qaida. That they would kill a Christian is no surprise,’ Rubin said.

The ICC’s Racho says it’s part of an

organized campaign.

‘Al-Shabaab has controlled many areas in Somalia and they’re trying to control Mogadishu as well. They want to take over the fledgling government in Somalia. They want to rule the whole country and make Somalia an Islamic state,’ Racho explained.

‘In an Islamic state, Muslims who convert to Christianity should be killed. This is part of their policy and this is part of what they’ve been doing for the past several years,’ Racho said...” **(Islam has murdered many Christians as well as slaughtering one another as Shi’ites and Sunni’s in Iraq, totaling 85,000 at this point in time. How tragic. What does God Yahweh say about such hatred as members of the same religion, brothers in their faith, kill one another as Muslims — I John 2:9-11, 3:10, 3:14, 15; 4:7, 8.)**

## AUSTRALIA WELCOMES PARLIAMENT OF WORLD’S RELIGIONS

*Voice of America News* reports: “One of the world’s largest inter-faith festivals has opened in Australia. Up to 8,000 people are expected at the Parliament of the World’s Religions — among them is the Tibetan



spiritual leader, the Dalai Lama.

At the Parliament of the World's Religions, which was held in Melbourne, delegates will discuss issues such as climate change, indigenous rights and the West's relationship with Islam.

Native American leaders, rabbis from Israel and Buddhist monks from Vietnam will join Muslim scholars, Hindu philosophers and representatives of the various Christian denominations at the event.

The six-day parliament convenes every five years. It has a simple, symbolic premise — to cultivate harmony and bring together different people to share their beliefs

and ideas.

The director of the conference, Dirk Ficca, a Presbyterian minister from the United States, says it is particularly important that the voices of moderate Muslims are heard.

'There are going to be 40 programs on Islam and the West,' he said. 'Talk about a tradition that is misunderstood, talk about a tradition that is maligned, talk about a tradition where one percent of the tradition has given the entire community a bad name, it is Islam. And so we want to give reputable Islamic scholars and leaders the chance first of all to share what they

believe Islam is all about.'

Thousands of delegates from 80 countries are expected to attend the conference.

The Parliament of the World's Religions will not end with a grand concluding statement but will simply wish for adherents of different faiths to be more accepting of each other..." **(In the upcoming "New World Order" a political figure will arise to a dictatorship over all nations – Daniel 7:23; Revelation 13:1, 7 – as well as a religious figure who rules once a one world religion – Revelation 13:11-18. My video to be released in January deals with this monstrous apocalyptic duo.)**

# KNOWLEDGE INCREASED

## **CYBER WARFARE 'NOW A REALITY' WITH UNITED STATES AND RUSSIA ARMED**

*The London Daily Telegraph* reports: "Cyber warfare is now a reality with at least five nations including the United States and Russia already armed with virtual weapons, according to a report.

A wave of politically-motivated cyber offensives this year – such as attacks on the White House and the US Department of Homeland Security – show that the international arms race is now moving online, a study claims.

The report warns that cyber strikes could have a 'devastating' impact on national infrastructure with power grids, water supplies and financial markets all at risk.

While the potential of online warfare has long been talked up, the Virtual Criminology Report released by the web security firm McAfee claims that it is now moving from science fiction to fact.

France, Israel and China are among the countries known to have cyber weapon programmes, according to Paul Kurtz, the former White House adviser who compiled the study based on interviews with more than 20 experts.

'McAfee began to warn of the global cyber arms race more than two years ago, but now we're seeing increasing evidence that it's become real,' said Dave Dealt, president of McAfee.

'Now several nations around the world are actively engaged in cyber warlike

preparations and attacks. Today, the weapons are not nuclear, but virtual, and everyone must adapt to these threats.'

The infrastructure of most developed nations is connected to the internet and vulnerable to hackers because of insufficient security controls, the report warns.

Companies will also be caught in the crossfire of future cyber wars between governments because so many essential services are privately run, it advises.

In November, 2009, a congressional advisory panel in the US warned that China appears to be using the growing technical abilities to collect US intelligence through a sophisticated and long-term computer attack campaign..." **(This is the most devastating and dangerous moment in history as cyber warfare could paralyze the U.S.A. and most of the world – I Timothy 3:1; and Luke 21:25 portrays: "Nations in distress with perplexity" [mass confusion].)**

## **LARGE HADRON COLLIDER PROGRESS DELIGHTS RESEARCHERS**

*BBC News* reports: "Researchers working on the Large Hadron Collider (LHC) say they are delighted with the progress made since the machine restarted.

One official said the collider had done more in a few hours than it did in five days of operations last year.

The LHC is being used to smash together beams of protons in a bid to shed light on the nature of the Universe.

Housed in a 27km-long circular tunnel under the Franco-Swiss border, it is the world's largest machine.

During the experiment, scientists will search for signs of the Higgs boson, a subatomic particle that is crucial to our current understanding of physics. Although it is predicted to exist, scientists have never found it.

The machine was heavily damaged when an electrical fault caused a ton of liquid helium to leak into the tunnel just nine days after it was first launched in September last year.

During 14 months of repairs dozens of giant superconducting magnets that accelerate particles at the speed of light had to be replaced.

Operated by the European Organization for Nuclear Research (Cern), the LHC will create similar conditions to those which were present moments after the Big Bang.

'We are further advanced now than where we were after five days of experiment last year,' said Cern's director of accelerators Steve Myers.

He added that the extra year had allowed researchers to upgrade instrumentation and computer software..." **(This collider will become the most horrendous explosion ever attempted in history as it tries to recreate the "Big Bang Theory". It won't happen as scientists attempt to play God – Genesis 1:1; Proverbs 30:4; Colossians 1:16-17. See also the next report.)**

## **LARGE HADRON COLLIDER SETS WORLD ENERGY RECORD**

*BBC News* reports: “The Large Hadron Collider (LHC) experiment on the French-Swiss border has set a new world record for energy.

The LHC pushed the energy of its particle beams beyond one trillion electron volts, making it the world’s highest energy particle accelerator.

The previous record was held by the Tevatron particle accelerator in Chicago.

Officials say it is another milestone in the LHC’s drive towards its main scientific tests set for 2010.

The LHC is designed to smash together

beams of sub-atomic particles at just under the speed of light. Researchers hope to see signs of new physics in the aftermath of the collisions, helping them unlock the secrets of the Universe.

Operated by the European Organisation for Nuclear Research (better known by its French acronym Cern), the LHC is built inside a 27km-long circular tunnel.

‘We are still coming to terms with just how smoothly the LHC commissioning is going,’ said Cern’s director general Rolf Heuer.

‘It is fantastic. However, we are continuing to take it step-by-step, and there is still a lot to do before we start physics in 2010. I’m keeping my champagne on ice until

then.’

Until now the LHC had been operating at a relatively low energy of 450 billion electron volts.

However, engineers increased the energy of this ‘pilot beam’, reaching 1.18 trillion electron volts at 2344 GMT.

The previous record of 0.98 trillion electron volts has been held by the Tevatron accelerator since 2001.

The LHC is eventually expected to operate at some seven trillion electron volts.

Earlier, the machine circulated two beams of protons for the first time and carried out its first low-energy beam collisions...”

# SIGNS IN THE SUN, MOON, AND STARS

## **NEW MAP SUGGESTS MARS WAS WET AND HUMID**

*Breitbart.com* reports: “A new detailed map of Mars shows what was likely a vast ocean in the north and valleys around the equator, suggesting that the planet once had a humid, rainy climate, according to research.

The computer-generated map, based on topographic data from NASA satellites, also shows that the network of valleys on the red planet is at least twice as extensive as previously estimated.

‘The relatively high values over extended regions indicate the valleys originated by means of precipitation-fed runoff erosion — the same process that is responsible for formation of the bulk of valleys on our planet,’ said Wei Luo, geography professor at Northern Illinois University who co-authored the report.

‘A single ocean in the northern hemisphere would explain why there is a southern limit to the presence of valley networks,’ Luo said.

‘The southernmost regions of Mars, located farthest from the water reservoir, would get little rainfall and would develop no valleys. This would also explain why the valleys become shallower as you go from north to south, which is the case.’

Rain, said Luo, ‘would be mostly restricted to the area over the ocean and to the land surfaces in the immediate vicinity, which correlates with the belt-like pattern of valley dissection seen in our new map.’

The report appears in the *Journal of Geophysical Research*.

Since NASA’s Mariner 9 space probe discovered the ancient Martian valley networks in 1971, debate has raged over whether the valleys resulted from water erosion — meaning that there was humidity and rainfall — or through groundwater sapping erosion, which can happen in cold and dry conditions...” (Luke 21:25 – “*There shall be signs in the sun, moon, and stars*”).

## **NASA ON A CRUSADE TO DEBUNK 2012 APOCALYPSE MYTHS**

*Breitbart.com* reports: “The world is not coming to an end on December 21, 2012, the US space agency insisted in a rare campaign to dispel widespread rumors fuelled by the Internet and a new Hollywood movie.

Sony Pictures’s latest big screen offering ‘2012’ arrived in theaters with a 200-million-dollar production about the end of the world supposedly based on myths backed by the Mayan calendar.

The doomsday scenario revolves around claims that the end of time will come as an obscure Planet X — or Nibiru — heads toward or collides into Earth.

The mysterious planet was supposedly discovered by the Sumerians, according to claims by pseudo-scientists, paranormal activity enthusiasts and Internet theorists.

Some websites accuse NASA of concealing the truth on the wayward planet’s existence, but the US space agency denounced such stories as an ‘Internet hoax.’

‘There is no factual basis for these

claims,’ NASA said in a question-and-answer posting on its website.

If such a collision were real ‘astronomers would have been tracking it for at least the past decade, and it would be visible by now to the naked eye,’ it added. ‘Obviously, it does not exist.’

‘Credible scientists worldwide know of no threat associated with 2012,’ NASA insisted.

Initial theories set the disaster for May 2003, but when nothing happened the date was moved forward to the winter solstice in 2012 to coincide with the end of a cycle of the ancient Mayan calendar.

But NASA insisted the Mayan calendar in fact does not end on December 21, 2012, as another period begins immediately afterward. And it said there are no planetary alignments on the horizon for the next few decades.

And even if the planets were to line up as some have forecast, the effect on our planet would be ‘negligible,’ NASA said.

Among the other theories NASA has set out to debunk are that geomagnetic storms, a pole reversal or unsteadiness in the Earth’s crustal plates might befall the planet...” (NASA is right in debunking the “End of the World Theory” because God’s Word states 120 times that ours is “A world without end” – Isaiah 45:17; Ephesians 3:21. However, they miss or misunderstand the prophecies concerning unusual events and the 21 judgments in space and upon earth that occur during the 7-year Tribulation period of Revelation chapters 6 – 18.)