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

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CONTENDING FOR THE FAITH

Boy killed because he might grow up Christian

May 14, 2014 -- WND.com reports: "A Christian girl who fled Nigeria after Islamic terrorists killed her family on Tuesday relayed to journalists in Washington the macabre conversation Boko Haram members had just before they shot and killed her brother.

The terrorists, in 2011, had just killed her father, a Christian pastor, and while one member of a Boko Haram hit squad that came to her home argued to let the young boy live, the other two agreed that he should be shot and killed because he might grow up to be a Christian pastor.

The stunning testimony is part of what Deborah Peters, now a student in the United States, related at an event set up by the Hudson Institute.

Peters, 15, originally from Chibok, where hundreds of her contemporaries and friends recently were kidnapped by Boko Haram in what has developed into a crisis of global proportions,

said three Islamists in the Boko Haram terror group stormed into her family's home.

Her father, a Christian pastor, was in the bathroom showering when they arrived

'It was 7:30 and three men knocked on the door and asked where my dad is,' she said. 'They dragged him from the bathroom and shouted for him to deny his faith. He said he wouldn't ... and they shot him three times in the chest.'

Then they debated killing her younger brother.

They concluded leaving him alive was a danger they could not risk, because he might grow up to be a Christian pastor too..." ("...Jesus said, Suffer little children, and forbid them not, to come unto me: for of such is the kingdom of heaven" - Matthew 19:14. "...whosoever shall offend one of these little ones that believe in me, it is better for him that a millstone were hanged about his neck, and he were cast into the sea" - Mark 9:42.)

Muslims stone, attack Christians at church near Bethlehem

May 15, 2014 -- Israel National News reports: "Christian Arab residents of the village of El-Khader in the Bethlehem area were savagely attacked by local Muslims as they celebrated a Christian holiday last week. A report by CAMERA, an organization which monitors anti-Israel bias in the media, reported that Christians attempting to enter Saint George's Monastery in the village were intimidated and attacked with rocks and stones.

Author Lela Gilbert, author of Saturday People, Sunday People: Israel through the Eyes of a Christian Sojourner, filed a report with CAMERA over the incident.

'Some local Muslims either tried to park a car too close the church and/ or tried to enter the church during a service honoring St. George - the initial instigation isn't clear,' she wrote. 'But when the intruders were asked to leave, one of them stabbed a Christian man who was outside the church serving as a guard. He was hospitalized. Several then started throwing stones at the church. Seven or eight Christians were injured and some physical damage was done -broken windows etc. The police didn't show up for an hour.' ...

In a recent Op-Ed piece in the Wall Street Journal, former Israeli ambassador to the U.S., Michael Oren, wrote that 'As 800,000 Jews were once expelled from Arab countries, so are Christians being forced from lands they've inhabited for centuries' throughout the Middle East. Citing statistics, Oren wrote that Ramallah was 90% Christian before the 1948 War of Independence and Bethlehem was 80% Christian. Today Ramallah is a large Islamic city and Bethlehem's Christians are near extinction...' (Jesus said in John 15: 18 - 20: "If the world hate you, ye know that it hated me before it hated you. If ye were of the world, the world would love his own: but because ye are not of the world, but I have chosen you out of the world, therefore the world hateth you. Remember the word that I said unto you, The servant is not greater than his lord. If they have persecuted me, they will also persecute you; if they have kept my saying, they will keep yours also.")

'Humiliate Christians until they convert'

May 12, 2014 -- Israel National News reports: "In a sermon earlier this year, a British Islamist leader outlined how under an 'Islamic State' Christians and other non-Muslims would be systematically humiliated and persecuted to encourage their women and children to convert to Islam.

Abu Walid, an Islamist affiliated with the hardline Salafi stream, cited sources in the hadith (Islamic teachings outside of the Koran, based on the words of Mohammed's companions) which detailed how

the 'People of the Book' - referring to Jews and Christians - were to be treated as second-class citizens, or dhimmis, if they chose not to convert to Islam.

Those measures include, among other things: being forced to walk on the narrower side of the street to Muslims, shaving their foreheads, wearing red belts around their necks, being forced to wear odd shoes and only being allowed to travel sideways on donkeys.

The aim is essentially to bully them into accepting Islam - or at the very least to encourage their children and wives to leave them to escape humiliation..." (This diabolical method of forcing Christians to convert by humiliation or threat of death is a Satanic plan used by demonically controlled pagans.)

Meriam Ibrahim to be freed after death sentence for Christian faith overturned

June 1, 2014 -- ChristianToday. com reports: "Sudan authorities will be freeing Christian woman Meriam Ibrahim, who was sentenced to death for her faith.

Ibrahim, who gave birth to a baby daughter on Tuesday, is set to be free in a few days, Sudan officials told news outlets.

The news of the woman being freed comes just a day after David Cameron spoke out against the death sentence handed to Ibrahim earlier this month for apostasy. According to the *BBC*, Mr. Cameron said he was 'appalled' by the sentence and that it had 'no place in today's world'.

'Religious freedom is an absolute, fundamental human right,' he said.

'I urge the government of Sudan to overturn the sentence and immediately provide appropriate support and medical care for her and her children.'

Ibrahim was sentenced to death and 100 lashes on May 15 for marrying

a Christian man. Under Sharia law, she is considered a Muslim, and the marriage is invalid.

Her husband Daniel Wani said that Ibrahim refused to renounce Christianity and 'return' to Islam the religion of her estranged father..." (God honored Meriam's refusal to deny Jesus. I believe her faith was similar to the Apostle Paul's as he faced death by beheading through Nero – "For I am now ready to be offered, and the time of my departure is at hand. I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith: Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing"-II Timothy 4: 6 - 8.)

Sudanese authorities deny Meriam Ibrahim's release

June 2, 2014 -- ChristianToday. com reports: "Despite reports that Sudanese Christian Meriam Ibrahim will be freed as early as this week, Sudanese government authorities have denied this is certain.

Ibrahim was sentenced on May 15 to 100 lashes and death by hanging as a result of her marriage to a Christian man; under Sharia law in Sudan she is considered a Muslim and her marriage is invalid – she is accused, therefore, of adultery.

She has thus far refused to renounce her Christian faith however, and gave birth to a baby girl, Maya, in the Omdurman Federal Women's Prison in North Khartoum on May 27.

Her plight has gained international attention, with calls for Sudan to repeal her sentence as a matter of human rights..." (Praise God, prayers have been answered. Meriam Ibrahim was declared innocent of all charges and released into the care of her husband on June 23, 2014.)

The worst places on Earth for Christians

June 5, 2014 -- WND.com reports: "Somewhere around the world, another Christian is martyred, on average, every three hours, according to a new report that identifies nations where radical Islamists are abundant as the worst locations on Earth for Christians to be.

The new World Watch List research team for Open Doors International said the majority of the cases in which Christians are killed over their faith happen in Nigeria, Syria and the Central African Republic.

'The alarming increase of violence against Christians in Nigeria over the past months highlights the lack of religious freedom they have and the daily dangers they face from the Islamic terrorist group Boko Haram and other violent Islamic organizations,' said David Curry, president of Open Doors USA

Curry added, 'Going to school, attending church or identifying yourself as a Christian is a very brave

decision in Nigeria. It is turning into a bloodbath. Christians in the West must stand in the gap with our prayers and support.'..." (Presently 37 Muslim nations are slaughtering Christians and the death of Believers in Christ has doubled globally in 2013. These murderers within the Islamic religion will soon pay with the loss of their eternal souls – Revelation 21:8; 22:15. The Spirit of Jesus in the book of Revelation 2:10 states: "...be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life.")

THE SPREAD OF JIHAD

'Jihad is as Canadian as maple syrup'

May 15, 2014 -- Israel National News reports: "Jihad has become 'as Canadian as maple syrup', at least according to a Canadian foreign fighter in Syria who was quoted by the National Post.

The man, Abu Dujana al-Muhajir, last week taunted what he called the 'evil, despotic and Zionist Harper government', claiming in a blog post it was losing the battle against extremism.

Al-Muhajir is part of a small circle of youths from the city of Calgary who left for Syria to join armed extremist groups, according to the *National Post*. In the same blog post, he said 'so-called radical Islamists' were gaining in popularity and the number of Canadian jihadists was growing.

He lavished praise upon Canadians Damian Clairmont and Andre Poulin, both troubled youths who converted to Islam, became radicalized and died soon after arriving in Syria.

Quoting pro-Al-Qaeda ideologue Anwar Al Awlaki saying that jihad was becoming as American as apple pie and as British as afternoon tea, Abu Dujana wrote it was 'high time that we add to his statement 'and as Canadian as maple syrup."..." (The following verses describe these jihadists: "Their throat is an open sepulchre; with their tongues they have used deceit; the poison of asps is under their lips: Whose mouth is full of cursing and bitterness: Their feet are swift to shed blood: Destruction and misery are in their ways: And the way of peace have they not known:" – Romans 3:13 – 17. See the next three reports.)

Palestinian TV teaches kids the way to 'Jihad Street'

May 21, 2014 -- Breitbart.com reports: "Every day, hundreds of millions of children in more than 120 countries settle in to watch their local versions of 'Sesame Street' or similar shows inspired by the Muppet model. They learn to read, to write, to count. They learn about things like 'sharing,' and 'friendship,' and how to be kind to others. They learn what it is to love.

Except in Palestine, where the lessons from Hamas children's television are aimed at something else: to kill.

Take, for instance, 'Pioneers of Tomorrow,' with its fluffy talking bee who encourages viewers to 'throw

stones' at Jews, and a pretty young host who, in one episode, praises a little girl for her desire to be a police officer and 'shoot Jews.' Or consider the show's transformation, some years ago, of Mickey Mouse, into an Islamic supremacist character named Farfour. When international protests erupted, producers gave Farfour an honorary farewell: in his final episode, he is 'martyred' by Israelis..."

Western leaders warned: Islam demands subjugation

May 18, 2014 -- WND.com reports: "Western leaders are unwilling to recognize that Islamic jihadists want to subjugate the world and apply Islamic law to everyone, including them, according to several researchers.

Raymond Ibrahim, a researcher, translator and author, said that because Muslim persecution of Christians and others is 'grounded in the theology of Islam, very few politicians are willing to address the root source of it.'

'And of course if you cannot ascertain a problem, you cannot fix it,' he said.

He said politicians and others 'can speak openly about, say, the persecution of Christians in Korea, because its source is one man, one regime, who can be demonized or lambasted at will.'

'Moreover, if this one man goes, so does the persecution go with him since it is not based on anything intrinsic to North Korean culture,' Ibrahim said, noting the vibrancy of Christianity in South Korea as evidence.

'But because the subjugation and oppression of Christians is actually mandated in Islamic law, and because it is all but anathema for any Western politician to say anything negative about Islam itself, we are in a position where the root source behind the endemic persecution of Christians all around the Islamic world is rarely if ever addressed by Western leaders and authorities, which will only assure that it continues unabated,' he said..."

Ayatollah pledges to destroy America through 'battle and jihad'

May 29, 2014 -- Breitbart.com reports: "According to a former Iranian double-agent for the CIA who uses the pseudonym Reza Kahlili, Iran's Supreme Leader said Sunday that the Islamic Republic intends on conquering the United States.

Kahlili provided a Farsi to English translation of Ayatollah Khamenei's speech, originally published in Iranian state-media. 'Those [Iranians] who want to promote negotiation and surrender to the oppressors and blame the Islamic Republic as a warmonger in reality commit treason,' said Khamenei of the ongoing negotiations with world powers.

'Today's world is full of thieves and plunderers of human honor, dignity and morality who are equipped with knowledge, wealth and power, and under the pretense of humanity easily commit crimes and betray human ideals and start wars in different parts of the world,' said the self-appointed Supreme Leader who was never democratically elected as the ultimate authority in Iran.

While Khamenei speaks of his 'dignity and morality', he seemingly does not see any issue with the following groups of people being hanged on cranes, buried alive, beheaded, or stoned to death in front of a public audience in Tehran: women that have been raped, women that have 'dishonored' their family, Christians, Jews, gays, apostates from Islam, any dissenting voices, and declared 'enemies of Allah'..."

Expert says European intifada is coming

June 10, 2014 -- Israel National News reports: "Dr. Boaz Ganor, the

Director of the International Institute for Counter-Terrorism (ICT), predicted Tuesday that Europe will be facing a full-blown Muslim-Arab intifada soon, much like the violent uprising that Israel faced starting in the late 1980s.

Ganor based his prediction on the recent upsurge in islamist terror, and explained that the second generation of Muslim immigrants in Europe does not remember the characteristics of the lives their parents led in their countries of origin, does not feel gratitude for the European citizenship that their parents received. These second-generation immigrants feel alienated and discriminated against, and believe they are treated as second rate citizens.

Speaking at a conference held by the Van Leer Institute, Ganor said that the main threat against Israel is Iran, because Syria and Iraq are in no condition for war. Relations with Egypt are peaceful, and the Egyptian army was badly damaged by the internecine fighting in the country..." (Jesus said in Luke 21:25: "...there shall be signs in the sun, and in the moon, and in the stars..." – it's happening. But the text continues: "...and upon the earth distress of nations, with perplexity... [Mass confusion]" These signs pointing to Christ's return tell us Jesus is about to appear.)

NEWS FROM ISRAEL AND THE MIDDLE EAST

Jerusalem imam urges Muslims to invade Israel

May 19, 2014 -- WND.com reports: "An imam at the Al Aqsa Mosque atop Jerusalem's Temple Mount has publicly urged the armies of the Arab world to invade Israel and thus fulfill the great Muslim longing of destroying the hated 'Zionist entity.'

In a televised sermon from Milan,

Italy that was broadcast by *Al Jazeera*, Imam Raed Al-Daan said that Muslims everywhere are beginning to realize that 'the Jewish state will vanish, and that the morning sun will rise on Palestine'

Al-Daan went on to state that he and the other clerics who serve on the Temple Mount as part of the Palestinian Authority-appointed Islamic Trust (Waqf) 'await the legions of the conquerors. We await the armies from Tunisia, from Jordan, from Egypt, from Iraq, from the Maghreb (Morocco and Algeria), and from the Hijaz (Saudi Arabia).'..." (How ungodly and contrary to the message of the Judeo Christian God – "Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: they shall prosper that love thee" Psalm 122:6.)

Islamists at Al-Aqsa: Liberate Jerusalem from 'Jew Filth'

May 29, 2014 -- Israel National News reports: "Hizb ut-Tahrir, an Islamic organization which aims to have all Muslim countries unify as a caliphate ruled by Islamic law, held a mass rally at the Al-Aqsa Mosque last week, in which members of the group called upon the army of Pakistan and the Islamic nation to liberate Jerusalem from 'Jewish filth'.

Excerpts from footage of the rally were posted on the internet and translated by the Middle East Media Research Institute (MEMRI).

The same group last year released a video which shows Palestinian Arab children at the Al-Aqsa Mosque calling for the 'liberation of Palestine'.

These two videos are only two examples of the anti-Israel incitement which is prevalent in the Palestinian Authority (PA).

Such incitement ranges from the glorification of Nazism and the lionization of Adolf Hitler, to programs on official PA television featuring heavily-stereotyped Jews as villains (and encouraging violence against them), and various TV and radio shows which literally wipe the Jewish state off the map..." (If Jesus were present today, I'm certain he would say to those foul mouthed Jew-haters: "Ye serpents, ye generation of vipers, how can ye escape the damnation of hell?" Matthew 23:33.)

IDF, U.S. rehearse for Iran missile attack

May 18, 2014 -- Israel National News reports: "The IDF and the U.S. military cooperated Sunday in a large drill simulating a multi-front missile attack on Israel by Gaza, Lebanon, Syria and Iran, Channel 2 reported Sunday.

During the exercise, about 1,000 American soldiers stationed in Israel joined more than 4,000 Israelis, to practice the protection of the State

of Israel in a series of scenarios that simulate the firing of rockets and missiles from several arenas simultaneously: Gaza, Lebanon, Syria and Iran.

The exercise reportedly tested various scenarios, including one in which the U.S. sent Patriot missiles to Israel and some Aegis-type ships, which carry rockets and other defense systems against ballistic missiles, meant to assist Israel in protecting its population and territory.

The drill also rehearsed particularly complex scenarios in which missiles and rockets are fired in large quantities from many different arenas. Israel is rehearsing the use of its Arrow missiles, as well as Patriots, the Iron Dome and Magic Wand systems – the last of which is still in development. At the same time as the exercise in Israel, hundreds of American troops are practicing a similar exercise in Jordan..." (Iran, a Shiite nation, is the culprit behind the 100,000 deaths in Syria as they kill Sunnis and Christians. These Iranian killers will soon break every promise as they unleash their atomic laden missiles on America as soon as they develop their nuclear armory. The true God will bless America for defending Israel's Jews against these ruthless barbarians including Khamenei and past President Ahmadinejad - "They profess that they know God; but in works they deny him, being abominable, and disobedient, and unto every good work reprobate" - Titus 1:16. See the next

Assad forces flatten Syria's oldest synagogue

May 28, 2014 -- Haaretz reports: 'A historic synagogue on the outskirts of Damascus was destroyed amid fighting in Syria's civil war over the weekend.

Opposition leaders said Syrian army forces flattened the more than 400-yearold Eliyahu Hanabi Synagogue in an attack — part of a months-long bombardment of the suburb of Jobar — and also may have destroyed thousands of Jewish artifacts, *The Daily Beast* reported.

The synagogue had been damaged by a mortar shell in 2013. It stopped functioning as a Jewish house of worship more than a century ago.

Before Syria's civil war, the synagogue reportedly housed thousands of religious and cultural treasures, including century-old Torah scrolls, historical texts, dishes and ancient Judaica. It was not clear how many of those were in the building when it was destroyed.

According to the *Daily Beast*, the synagogue was a destination for Jewish pilgrims and was said to have been built atop the cave where the Prophet Elijah hid from his persecutors. Local Arab leaders took over the synagogue building in the 19th century...' (Assad is backed by the Iranians because of belonging to the Alawite sect, a branch of the Shiites of Iran.)

American citizen may have carried out Syria suicide bombing

May 29, 2014 -- Israel National News reports: "An American citizen carried out a suicide bombing in Syria on behalf of an Al-Qaeda-linked terrorist group on Sunday, the first time a U.S. citizen has carried out such an attack in the Syrian civil war, NBC News reported on Wednesday.

Law enforcement and counterterrorism officials who spoke to *NBC* on condition of anonymity, confirmed the suicide bombing and said they have identified the American. They declined to release his identity or hometown.

Word of the American's death in the suicide bombing first surfaced Tuesday in tweets from the Al-Nusra Front, an Al-Qaeda-linked group fighting the government of Syrian President Bashar Al-Assad.

The head of Al-Nusra Front has pledged allegiance to Al-Qaeda chief Ayman al-Zawahiri, and the group has been blacklisted as a terrorist organization by both the U.S. and the United Nations.

According to NBC, the tweets identified the bomber only by his Arabic nom de guerre, 'Abu Hurayra al-Amriki,' (Abu Hurayra the American) and said he carried out one of four suicide bombings of Syrian government sites in Jabal al-Arbaa'in in Idlib Province, the scene of heavy fighting in recent weeks and months..." (American and Canadian men from Muslim homes, heading for jihad in Syria eventually return home as American and Canadian terrorists to kill and maim those who befriended them. The Koran mentions death by crucifixion and beheading of enemies often - Surah 5:33; Surah 47:4.)

Khamenei urges 'resistance against the evil powers'

May 27, 2014 -- Israel National News reports: "Iran's Supreme Leader, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, called on Sunday for 'resistance against the evil powers', *Press TV* reports.

Khamenei's comments were made during a meeting with the speaker of the Iranian parliament and other Iranian lawmakers in Tehran, during which he declared that the struggle against evil powers will end only after the international community rids itself of the arrogant front led by the United States.

'This task calls for a hard and long struggle and major strides,' Khamenei pointed out, according to *Press TV*.

He stressed the need to maintain the ideology of 'combating the arrogance front' as a means to achieve the goals of the Islamic Republic.

'The reason behind the emphasis on the campaign is not the Islamic establishment's warmongering, but wisdom and logic necessitate that one equip oneself in order to pass through a region swarming with pirates, and have the ability and motivation to defend oneself,' he was quoted as having said..." (Imam Khamenei knows little about who represents the evil powers. God tells us who these malignant enemies are in Ephesians 6:12: "For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual [spirit] wickedness in high places." These wicked demonic spirits mentioned in Daniel chapter 10 controlled Persia which changed its name to Iran in 1935. These same evil spirits control Iran's leaders today, 2014. See the next report.)

Hamas, Islamic Jihad vow to continue terror - no matter what

June 8, 2014 -- Israel National News reports: "Both Hamas and Islamic Jihad reiterated their commitment to terror over the weekend, stating that a 'unity' pact with the Palestinian Authority (PA) and the new government's public pledge to renounce terror does not change their views.

Hamas leader and former political figure Ismail Haniyeh stated in a public address Saturday - in honor of the opening session of terror training 'summer camps' in Gaza - that 'Hamas's strategy has not changed and will not change.'

'Wherever [Hamas] presides, we will remain preachers and teachers and build the Palestinian nation to liberate all the land of Palestine,' Haniyeh said, referring to the entire land of Israel. 'We emphasize now that we will not retreat from our plan to liberate our lands and ensure the right of return and the release of [terrorist] prisoners.'

Islamic Jihad, similarly, ignored calls from Israeli Defense Minister Moshe Ya'alon to disarm due to the pact.

'Weapons [of resistance] will remain in our hands [. . .] in order to liberate all of Palestine,' Khaled Al-Batesh, Islamic Jihad leader, stated to Hamasbacked Palestine magazine Sunday..."

THE RELIGION OF PEACE

Boko Haram slaughters 20 villagers for failure to pay Islamic tax

May 27, 2014 -- Breitbart.com reports: "On Sunday, Nigeria-based militant Islamist group Boko Haram raided Kamuyya village in northeast Nigeria, killing 20 people.

Locals told Nigeria's *Daily Post* that Boko Haram members had previously come to the town two months ago. They requested the citizens pay a tax of 250,000 Nigerian Naira (\$1500 US) currency so 'God's work' can be carried out. When the Islamists returned, they were apparently infuriated that the locals, many of whom lived in abject

poverty, could only raise 70,000 Naira.

A local told the *Daily Post*, 'Actually, when they issued such a threat, we all took it lightly, as we are all relaxed, and nobody bothered to make any extra effort to put in the amount they requested. Maybe that was what ignited this bloody attack because we were unable to meet their demand.'

Boko Haram members believe in a society that strictly follows the Sharia, or Islamic law. Under Sharia law, non-Muslims must pay a Jizya tax because, since they are not Muslims, they are viewed as second-class subjects.

The raid comes just days after a Boko Haram attack on Kimba village, where the radical Islamists burned down the entire town..." (This so-called 'religion of peace' has murdered millions in the past 25 years and thus fulfilled Islam's Sharia Law that kills daughters who have premarital sex, all homosexuals, all apostates - Islamic defectors - and all infidels – other religious groups. Islam is guilty of slaughtering 200 million victims in the last 1,400 vears. Judgment day awaits these murderous terrorists. The next five reports documents my statements.)

Boko Haram suspected of killing 27, burning down village

May 23, 2014 -- Breitbart.com reports: "Militant Islamist group Boko Haram has been suspected of killing 27 people in attacks on two separate villages in northeast Nigeria, within close proximity to where almost 300 schoolgirls were abducted by Boko Haram last month.

Police reported that ten were gunned down in the village of Shawa, while another 17 were taken out by Islamist forces in Alagarno.

U.S. State Department spokeswoman Jen Psaki weighed in on the most recent wave of Boko Haram attacks. She said the attacks were 'unconscionable, terrorist acts.' Psaki continued, saying the U.S. would help Nigeria 'in their efforts to defeat violent extremism.'..."

Taliban goes on beheading spree in Afghanistan

May 23, 2014 -- Breitbart.com reports: "The Taliban appears to be fully engaged in its yearly 'spring

offensive,' which has been a season where the Islamist entities in the region dramatically ramp up attacks against the U.S.-led coalition forces in Afghanistan.

On Wednesday, Taliban insurgents in the Badakhshan province in Afghanistan kidnapped twenty-seven Afghan soldiers. Another 22 Afghan police were killed in the battle. Forty of the remaining soldiers were forced into a bunker where they have stored low quantities of both food and ammunition. Badakhshan's local police chief said the nation was putting its best efforts towards finding the kidnapped officers.

According to the AP, the Taliban claimed responsibility in a message to the media. Another statement the Taliban released to the media praised the insurgent group's continuing efforts in its 'Khaybar' offensive, named after the Koranic passage that details the story of Mohammed's slaughter of Jews in the year 629 AD..."

Egyptian court gives death sentence to 'Jewish' Islamists

June 1, 2014 -- Israel National News reports: "An Egyptian court that sentenced to death 37 Islamists and handed life terms to 492 others defended its verdict on Sunday, saying the men were 'demons' who followed Jewish scripture.

The court in the central city of Minya had triggered international outrage earlier this year for sentencing to death hundreds of alleged supporters of ousted Islamist president Mohamed Morsi in two separate mass trials which only lasted minutes.

In one trial in March, 529 were sentenced to death for the killing of a police officer but the court later upheld the sentencing against only 37 of them, while the rest were jailed for life.

In a statement Sunday to justify its

decision, the court said: 'The accused came out of the depths of hell... to plunder Egypt's wealth, terrorize its people and they killed the deputy commissioner.'

It described the men as 'enemies of the nation' who used mosques to promote the teachings of 'their holy book, the Talmud,' the central scripture of Judaism..."

Pregnant Pakistani woman's stoning 'revolting', says Archbishop

June 1, 2014 -- ChristianToday. com reports: "The stoning to death of a pregnant Pakistani woman has been described as 'revolting' by the Archbishop of Canterbury.

Archbishop Justin Welby was speaking to *The Times* at the end of a two-day visit to Pakistan this week.

Farzana Parveen, 25, was stoned in front of the court in Lahore by members of her family who saw it as a question of honour. Parveen was three months pregnant and was killed because she married the man of her choice.

Her husband, Mohammad Iqbal, 45, said police stood by and did nothing while she was lynched in front of hundreds of people.

'I was utterly horrified and every Pakistani I have spoken to is also horrified. It (the stoning) was in no sense a punishment, but a revolting lynching,' said the Archbishop.

He also said Christians in Pakistan should be able to worship safely and that churches needed to be protected..."

'Moderate' Muslims back death for 'gays'

May 28, 2014 -- WND.com reports: "Western society is becoming more acquainted with the punishments mandated by Islamic law as the religion spreads in Europe and North America.

But punishments such as the chopping of a hand for thievery, stoning for homosexuality or death for conversion from Islam are demanded only by the radicals who support suicide bombers and the 9/11 hijackers, right? The average, 'moderate' Muslim couldn't affirm such uncivilized actions, could he?

That's apparently wrong, according

to video of a session at a recent 'peace' conference held by IslamNet, an organization whose website is published in Norwegian..."

WHEN THEY SAY PEACE, PEACE

Pope Francis gets involved In Middle East peace process

June 5, 2014 -- Voice of America News reports: "Israeli President Shimon Peres and Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas are expected to meet at the Vatican Sunday for what is being called an 'intense prayer session' with Pope Francis.

The unexpected invitation was extended during the pope's recent visit to the Middle East, where Francis engaged in the kind of photo opportunities that popes usually avoid. He stopped at the barrier erected around the Palestinian territories and at an Israeli memorial for victims of terrorism.

On the plane home, Pope Francis told reporters he is not getting involved in the stalled peace process.

Nonetheless, said Daniel Petri at the Catholic University of America in Washington, the invitation is a bold move.

'If something happens, it's tremendous. Pope Francis is the miracle worker of the Middle East,' he said..." (God's Word states that the antichrist and false prophet come to power on a peace platform over the Middle East turmoil – Revelation 13:1, 7, 8, 11-16. The contract is one of seven years duration but broken by Russia after 42 months – Daniel 11:21, 24; Daniel 9:27; Ezekiel 38:1, 2, 11 – 16. The battle of Armageddon [Revelation 16:16] is described in Revelation 9:14 – 18. See the next two reports.)

Israeli, Palestinian presidents start Vatican prayer meeting

June 8, 2014 -- Reuters reports: "The Israeli and Palestinian presidents began an unprecedented meeting with Pope Francis on Sunday to pray together in the hope that the gesture will relaunch the Middle East peace process.

Francis, who made the surprise invitation to Shimon Peres and Mahmoud Abbas last month during his trip to the Holy Land, welcomed the two leaders in front of the modest guest house where he has decided to reside after renouncing the spacious papal apartments in the Apostolic Palace.

It was the first public meeting between the two presidents in more than a year and was taking place more than a month after United States-led peace talks collapsed amid bitter mutual recrimination.

The three, accompanied by Patriarch Bartholomew, spiritual head of the Orthodox Christians, were then driven together in a white mini-van to what the Vatican has called a 'neutral' site in the Vatican gardens with no religious symbols.

They walked together, with the pope between Peres and Abbas, down a treelined lane to their seats on either side of the pope as a chamber orchestra played.

'We have gathered here, Israelis, Palestinians, Jews, Christians and Muslims, so that each of us can express his or her desire for peace for the Holy Land and for all who dwell there,' the master of ceremonies said as the service began.

She said the presidents wanted to voice 'the desire of their respective peoples to invoke to God the common longing for peace'.

Religious representatives of the three religions - Judaism, Christianity and Islam - then began prayers for peace in Italian, Hebrew, Arabic and English..."

Islamist leader attacks Pope for visiting 'Muslim' Western Wall

June 9, 2014 -- Israel National News reports: "Sheikh Raed Salah, head of the radical Islamic Movement in Israel, wrote an open letter to Pope Francis last Thursday, criticizing him for his visit to the Western Wall (Kotel) two weeks ago, and further claiming that the site is Muslim.

In the letter, which was posted on the Arabic site Al-Sonara, Salah condemns the pope for placing a note in the Kotel.

'The Israeli occupation utilized the visit of the pope in the most ugly fashion,' wrote Salah, going on to list the pope's actions he saw as being in Israel's favor at the 'Al-Buraq' Wall, a name given by Muslims to the Kotel in the 1920s in an attempt to claim it. The name refers to Mohammed's 'winged steed' he supposedly rode to Jerusalem in his 'night journey.'

'You put a note in the 'Al-Buraq' Kotel which the Israeli occupation calls in deception and lies the Wailing (Western) Wall...as a result you give them approval that this Kotel is the Western Wall and not the 'Al-Buraq' Wall, and you permit them sovereignty on it,' charged Salah..."