

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

CONTENDING FOR THE FAITH

Steve Chalke: Literal readings of Genesis fuel erosion of confidence in Bible

January 4, 2018 -- *ChristianToday.com* reports: “Conservative evangelical readings of the Genesis creation story have fuelled the erosion of confidence in the Bible, a prominent Baptist pastor is claiming.

Steve Chalke, a well-known leader arguing for same-sex marriage in the church, says the biblical creation story is actually about a ‘radical message of inclusion and equality’ and traditionalist readings have missed its true message.

‘By taking the Bible literally, we often fail to take it seriously,’ he says, adding that knowing this reading of Genesis ‘might save the faith’ of young people shunning the Church’s conservative approach to sexuality.

‘Because aspects of the Church have for too long tried to defend the historicity of the Genesis 1 creation poem, Noah’s Ark and various other stories, they have failed to grasp the opportunity its real message presents us with,’ he says in a statement on Thursday linked to a video release. ‘At the same time, they have unwittingly played a role in the erosion of confidence in the Bible’s authority and relevance.’

The Bible’s creation account was not

written to explain history or science, Chalke argues, but instead as a deliberate parody of the version held by the Babylonian empire, which had taken the Israelites into exile at the time Genesis was written...” (“*This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come. For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, Without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good, Traitors, heady, highminded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God; Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away. For of this sort are they which creep into houses, and lead captive silly women laden with sins, led away with divers lusts, Ever learning, and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth. Now as Jannes and Jambres withstood Moses, so do these also resist the truth: men of corrupt minds, reprobate concerning the faith. But they shall proceed no further: for their folly shall be manifest unto all men, as their’s also was... But evil men and seducers shall wax worse and worse, deceiving, and being deceived. But continue thou in the things which thou hast learned and hast been assured of, knowing of whom thou hast learned them; And that from a*

child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works” – II Timothy 3:1-9; 13-17 [emphasis mine].)

Gunmen attack Coptic Christian church near Cairo, killing at least nine

December 29, 2017 -- *The Jerusalem Post* reports: “Gunmen killed at least nine people including three police in an attack on a Coptic Christian church south of Cairo on Friday, medical and security sources said.

The two attackers opened fire at the entrance to the church of Mar Mina in Helwan district, which was being guarded by police in the run-up to Orthodox Christmas celebrations next week, security sources said.

One attacker was shot dead by security forces, the sources and the state-run news agency *MENA* reported. State television said the second had been captured.

Islamist militants have claimed several attacks on Egypt’s large Christian minority in recent years, including two bomb attacks on Palm Sunday in April and a

blast at Cairo's largest Coptic cathedral last December that killed 28 people.

The Health Ministry said that nine people had been killed on Friday in addition to the gunman, and five wounded, including two women in serious condition.

Local media said the dead attacker had been wearing an explosive belt, and that two other bombs had been defused near the church. . .” *(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. But all these things will they do unto you for my name's sake, because they know not him that sent me. If I had not come and spoken unto them, they had not had sin: but now they have no cloak for their sin. He that hateth me hateth my Father also. If I had not done among them the*

works which none other man did, they had not had sin: but now have they both seen and hated both me and my Father. But this cometh to pass, that the word might be fulfilled that is written in their law, They hated me without a cause. But when the Comforter is come, whom I will send unto you from the Father, even the Spirit of truth, which proceedeth from the Father, he shall testify of me: And ye also shall bear witness, because ye have been with me from the beginning” – John 15:18-27.)

Iraqi Archbishop: ‘gang rapes, torture and murder of Christians’ are ongoing

December 29, 2017 -- *Breitbart.com* reports: “An Iraqi Catholic archbishop says that Christians in Iraq ‘are afraid of another wave of persecution that will be the end of Christians,’ despite news of the ‘defeat’ of the Islamic State.

‘The daily practice of robberies, gang rapes, torture and murder of Christians is ongoing,’ said Basra Archbishop Habib Al Nawfali in a recent interview with *Catholic News* service. ‘Therefore,

they are pondering what will be next.’

Speaking during a meeting on intercultural dialogue sponsored by the European Parliament earlier this month, Al Nawfali, who has been Archbishop of Basra since 2013, condemned the ‘genocide’ of Iraqi Christians, while calling on leaders in the West to defend the rights of native Iraqis, including Christians.

‘We need support politically from Western leaders, and Christian villages need help economically to open workshops to provide employment or for the reconstruction of houses,’ Al Nawfali said.

He also lamented the exodus of Christians from the Holy Land, noting that as many as 1 million Christians have been forced from their ancient homeland, a situation he described as a ‘disaster.’ . . .” **(Christians who suffer and die for Christ will receive the “Crown of Life” to place at the feet of Jesus – James 1:12; Revelation 2:10. The 24 elders represent 12 Old Testament Tribes and 12 New Testament Apostles – saved Jews and redeemed Christians. In Revelation 4: 10 & 11 they cast their earned crowns before the Lord Jesus Christ.)**

THE SANCTITY OF LIFE

They’re throwing babies onto fires in Myanmar – we need to recognize genocide is occurring

December 19, 2017 -- *The National Post* reports: “Ethnic cleansing’ and even ‘genocide’ are antiseptic and abstract terms. What they mean in the flesh is a soldier grabbing a crying baby girl named Suhaifa by the leg and flinging her into a bonfire. Or troops locking a 15-year-old girl in a hut and setting it on fire.

The children who survive are left haunted: Noor Kalima, age 10, struggles in class in a makeshift refugee camp. Her mind drifts to her memory of seeing her father and little brother shot dead, her baby sister’s and infant brother’s throats cut, the machete coming down on her own head, her hut burning around her . . . and it’s difficult to focus on multiplication tables.

‘Sometimes I can’t concentrate on my class,’ Noor explained. ‘I want to throw up.’

In the past I’ve referred to Myanmar’s atrocities against its Rohingya Muslim minority as ‘ethnic cleansing,’ but increasingly there are indications that the carnage may amount to genocide. The U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum, backed by a Myanmar-focused human rights organization called Fortify Rights, argues that there is ‘growing evidence of genocide,’ and Yale scholars made a similar argument even before the latest spasms of violence. . . .” **(“These six things doth the Lord hate: yea, seven are an abomination unto him: A proud look, a lying tongue, and hands that shed innocent blood, An heart that deviseth wicked imaginations, feet that be swift in running to mischief, A false witness that speaketh lies, and he**

that soweth discord among brethren”– Proverbs 6:16-19 [emphasis mine]. **“Being filled with all unrighteousness, fornication, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder, debate, deceit, malignity; whisperers, Backbiters, haters of God, spiteful, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents, Without understanding, covenantbreakers, without natural affection, implacable, unmerciful: Who knowing the judgment of God, that they which commit such things are worthy of death, not only do the same, but have pleasure in them that do them”** – Romans 1:29-32. These barbarians will soon **“...be cast into hell, into the fire that never shall be quenched: Where their worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched”** – Mark 9:43, 44.)

THE KINGS OF THE EAST

Xi Jinping in New Year's Eve speech: China is 'keeper of international order'

January 2, 2018 -- *Breitbart.com* reports: "Chinese communist leader Xi Jinping assured listeners in his New Year's Eve speech that 'China has something to say' on international issues in 2018, promising that under his regime, Beijing will be a 'keeper of international order.'"

In a speech Chinese state media hailed as 'encouraging' and 'inspiring,' Xi promised to eradicate all poverty from China by 2020 and touted the nation's 'One Belt One Road' (OBOR) intercontinental infrastructure plan.

His assurances that China will be a powerful player on the international stage follow renewed criticism of China's ties to North Korea after President Donald Trump accused Beijing of selling oil to the rogue regime illegally. Trump's administration recently branded China a 'strategic competitor' and accused China of economic dishonesty, regional belligerence, and contributing to the U.S. opioid epidemic.

'Reform and opening-up is the path we must take to make progress in contemporary China and to realize the Chinese dream,' Xi asserted in his speech Sunday. 'Only three years are left to 2020. Every one of us must be called to action, do our best, take targeted measures to secure victories one after another,' he said, promising an end to poverty by 2020...' **(China will become a basic partner with Russia for the rapidly approaching battle of Armageddon – Revelation 16:16. Russia will lead invasion number one – Ezekiel 38 & 39. China will lead invasion number two – Revelation 16:12; Revelation 9:14 – 16. Then all nations will come against Jerusalem for the final invasion at which point Jesus will return to stop the bloodshed and set up his eternal kingdom upon**

earth – "[He gathers] all nations against Jerusalem to battle; and the city shall be taken... Then shall the Lord go forth, and fight against those nations, as when he fought in the day of battle. And his feet shall stand in that day upon the mount of Olives, which is before Jerusalem on the east, and the mount of Olives shall cleave in the midst thereof toward the east and toward the west, and there shall be a very great valley; and half of the mountain shall remove toward the north, and half of it toward the south" – Zechariah 14:2 – 4. Then Psalm 2:6 occurs as God the Father says: "...I set my king upon my holy hill of Zion [Jerusalem].")

China mulls law to punish those who 'slander heroes and martyrs'

December 25, 2017 -- *SpaceDaily.com* reports: "China is considering a law that would punish those who 'insult or slander heroes and martyrs,' according to a report Friday from the country's top legislature.

The Standing Committee of the National People's Congress (NPC) said on its website that it is examining a proposal on the 'Protection of Heroes and Martyrs Law' in order to 'promote the spirit of heroic martyrs and patriotism.' Since President Xi Jinping took office in 2012, he has stressed a drive to infuse every aspect of Chinese education with 'patriotic spirit' in a campaign to strengthen the legitimacy of the ruling Communist Party.

The NPC approved legislation last month to punish anyone who disrespects the national anthem with up to three years in prison..." (As was mentioned in the December 2017 issue of the *Van Impe Intelligence Briefing*, China has recently elevated the stature of President Xi Jinping putting him on par with Chairman Mao Zedong and has made

him in essence emperor for life. And now there is a proposed law punishing those who insult or slander heroes? President Jinping should read the book of Daniel to see what happened to a king who elevated himself: "*The king spake, and said, Is not this great Babylon, that I have built for the house of the kingdom by the might of my power, and for the honour of my majesty? While the word was in the king's mouth, there fell a voice from heaven, saying, O king Nebuchadnezzar, to thee it is spoken; The kingdom is departed from thee. And they shall drive thee from men, and thy dwelling shall be with the beasts of the field: they shall make thee to eat grass as oxen, and seven times shall pass over thee, until thou know that the most High ruleth in the kingdom of men, and giveth it to whomsoever he will. The same hour was the thing fulfilled upon Nebuchadnezzar: and he was driven from men, and did eat grass as oxen, and his body was wet with the dew of heaven, till his hairs were grown like eagles' feathers, and his nails like birds' claws. And at the end of the days I Nebuchadnezzar lifted up mine eyes unto heaven, and mine understanding returned unto me, and I blessed the most High, and I praised and honoured him that liveth for ever, whose dominion is an everlasting dominion, and his kingdom is from generation to generation: And all the inhabitants of the earth are reputed as nothing: and he doeth according to his will in the army of heaven, and among the inhabitants of the earth: and none can stay his hand, or say unto him, What doest thou?*" – Daniel 4:30-35.)

A NUCLEAR NORTH KOREA

Olive branch or booby trap? North Korea's new tone divides analysts

January 7, 2018 -- *SpaceDaily.com* reports: "North Korean leader Kim Jong-Un could be laying a trap for the U.S. and the South with his apparent olive branches towards Seoul, analysts say, warning that Pyongyang's ultimate goal is to divide their 70-year alliance.

After months of high tensions over the North's weapons ambitions — last year it launched missiles capable of reaching the U.S. mainland and carried out its most powerful nuclear test to date, proclaiming it a hydrogen bomb — events have moved quickly in recent days.

In his New Year speech, Kim said the country had completed its nuclear deterrent — Pyongyang says it needs to defend itself against a U.S. invasion — and he had a 'nuclear button on my desk'.

At the same time he made overtures to Seoul, saying Pyongyang could send athletes to the Winter Olympics the South is hosting next month and expressing a willingness to discuss the issue.

It was a 180-degree turnaround for the North, which has long ignored South Korean President Moon Jae-In's efforts to engage it.

Since then the two sides have reopened a communications hotline and agreed to talks next week at Panmunjom, in the Demilitarized Zone that divides the peninsula, while Washington has agreed to a request by Seoul to postpone joint military drills that always infuriate Pyongyang until after the Olympics and Paralympics.

Unusually, Pyongyang — whose propaganda can be colourfully aggressive, sometimes threatening to turn Seoul into a 'sea of fire' — has referred to Moon as 'president', and asserted Kim's desire for improved North-South relations.

Sceptics say Kim is trying to drive a wedge between the allies — the

U.S. has 28,500 troops stationed in the South to defend it from the North — at a time when the international community should remain united in putting pressure and sanctions on the North over its weapons programmes..." **(North Korea marches with Russia and China for the war of the latter years and latter days – Ezekiel 38:8, 16. Atomic bombs will produce global incineration – Psalms 97:3; Isaiah 66:15; Joel 2:3, 30; Zephaniah 1:18; Malachi 4:1; Revelation 8:7 and 9:18.)**

Report: U.S. military training for ground invasion to capture North Korean nukes

December 23, 2017 -- *Breitbart.com* reports: "U.S. military forces reportedly began training for a mission involving a ground invasion of North Korea, with the objective of deactivating all their nuclear weapons.

According to military sources who spoke to South Korea's *Yonhap News Agency*, hundreds of U.S. and South Korean soldiers conducted an exercise dubbed 'Warrior Strike,' preparing them to 'infiltrate North Korea and remove weapons of mass destruction in case of conflict.'

Photos published on the unit's Facebook page show armed soldiers training with night vision equipment, gas masks, helicopters and expensive weaponry.

'On December 15, 2017, Bravo Company, 1-5 CAV converged on a subterranean tunnel for training,' a description of the post reads. 'Check out these photos and stay tuned for more coverage of BlackJack soldiers in action.'

The exercises concur with a recent analysis by the Pentagon that determined a ground invasion of North Korea would be the 'only way' to fully disarm the country of its nuclear arsenal.

'The only way to 'locate and destroy—with complete certainty—all components of North Korea's nuclear

weapons programs' is through a ground invasion,' wrote Rear Admiral Michael Dumont on behalf of the Pentagon Chiefs of Staff..." **(China and North Korea are prophesied to be top contenders and bloody warriors during the battle of Armageddon – Revelation 16:16. Revelation 16:12 pictures Kings coming to the Middle East, primarily China and North Korea to slay a third-part of mankind in atomic warfare. Revelation 9:14 – 18 the Oriental nations from the East join with Russia – the leader from the North – Daniel 11:44 – for the most horrendous war in history. See the next report.)**

U.S. closer to 'nuclear war with North Korea' than ever before: Former Joint Chiefs head

December 31, 2017 -- *ABC News* reports: "The United States faces a greater threat of nuclear conflict on the Korean peninsula than at any previous time, said a former head of the Joint Chiefs of Staff under both presidents George W. Bush and Barack Obama.

'We're actually closer in my view, to a nuclear war with North Korea and in that region than we have ever been,' Ret. Navy Adm. Michael Mullen told *ABC News 'This Week'* co-anchor Martha Raddatz in an interview Sunday. 'I don't see the opportunities to solve this diplomatically at this particular point.'

Mullen, who chaired the Joint Chiefs from 2007 to 2011, said President Donald Trump has succeeded in getting China to take a more active role in trying to restrain North Korea's nuclear activities.

'I think President Trump has made China move more than they have in the past. Whether they continue to do that to help resolve this is the open question,' he said. 'A real measure of how this all comes out is whether China is going to commit to a peaceful resolution here. If they don't, then I worry a great deal that it's much more likely there will be conflict.'..."

PSALM 83:4

Turkey's Erdogan threatens to wipe out Jews

December 13, 2017 -- *WND.com* reports: "President Obama praised Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan as 'a man of action' and one of the five world leaders with whom he had the strongest bond. President Trump met with him at the White House last spring.

And certainly Erdogan has tried to portray himself to Western leaders as a pragmatist with whom they can work.

But at a convention of his ruling party Sunday, Erdogan invoked a Muslim hadith — a collection of the accounts and sayings of Muhammad — that made clear his view of Jews and the state of Israel, according to dissident Turkish journalist Abdullah Bozkurt, the Investigative Project on Terrorism reported.

'Those who think they own Jerusalem better know that tomorrow they won't be able to hide behind trees,' Erdogan said, according to Bozkurt.

That statement essentially is an affirmation of a prophecy that all Jews will one day be destroyed, the journalist said.

Bozkurt explained Erdogan was making 'a veiled threat of killing each and every Jew with a shocking reference to apocalyptic prophecy of tree story.'...'' **(This will never happen. Almighty God has stated: "...I will give them [Israel] an everlasting name,**

that shall not be cut off" – Isaiah 56:5. Everlasting means everlasting. God promised to Abraham in Genesis 22:17: **"...in blessing I will bless thee, and in multiplying I will multiply thy seed as the starts of the heaven, and as the sand which is upon the sea shore..."** **"And because he loved thy fathers, therefore he chose their seed after them, and brought thee out in his sight with his mighty power out of Egypt; To drive out nations from before thee greater and mightier than thou art, to bring thee in, to give thee their land for an inheritance, as it is this day. Know therefore this day, and consider it in thine heart, that the Lord he is God in heaven above, and upon the earth beneath: there is none else. Thou shalt keep therefore his statutes, and his commandments, which I command thee this day, that it may go well with thee, and with thy children after thee, and that thou mayest prolong thy days upon the earth, which the Lord thy God giveth thee, for ever"** – Deuteronomy 4:37 – 40. See the next report.)

Houston imam calls for Muslims to kill Jews

December 29, 2017 -- *Israel National News* reports: "A Houston imam walked back a sermon in which he called for Muslims to kill Jews without specifically apologizing for his comments.

Imam Raed Saleh Al-Rousan of

Houston's Tajweed Institute earlier this month delivered what he called an 'impassioned sermon,' according to a statement about the speech issued on Wednesday.

'I unequivocally affirm and uphold the dignity, sanctity and value of all human life, including – of course – people of the Jewish faith,' Al-Rousan said in the statement. 'I must also state in no uncertain terms that I am absolutely and completely opposed to and disgusted by all forms of terrorism, all terrorists, and I oppose anyone who would commit, call for, or threaten violence against civilians. This is why as a person of faith and a religious leader, that I am mortified that an impassioned sermon I gave in light of President Trump's Jerusalem declaration is being seen as a call for the very things I despise.'

Al-Rousan had delivered his inflammatory speech on Dec. 8, two days after President Donald Trump announced the United States' recognition of Jerusalem as Israel's capital.

'Judgment Day will not come until the Muslims fight the Jews. The Muslims will kill the Jews,' Al-Rousan said.

The imam also asserted in his speech that Jews 'killed the Prophets and the Messengers of Allah.' He accused Britain of bringing Jews to Palestine, adding 'So do not tell me that Palestine is the country of the Jewish people. No!...''

JERUSALEM A CUP OF TREMBLING

'Arabs must acknowledge Jerusalem is holy to Jews'

December 20, 2017 -- *Israel National News* reports: "Saudi researcher Abdelhameed Hakeem, General Manager of the Jeddah-based Middle East Center for Strategic and Legal Studies, said recently that the Arabs must acknowledge that Jerusalem is 'as

holy to the Jews as Mecca and Medina are to the Muslims.'

Hakeem spoke on the Saudi-based *Al-Hurra TV* on December 15. The interview was translated by the *Middle East Media Research Institute (MEMRI)*.

'We need to realize and acknowledge that Jerusalem constitutes a religious

symbol for the Jews, and that it is as holy to them as Mecca and Medina are to the Muslims,' he said, adding that 'Arab mentality must be liberated from the heritage of political Islam – both Sunni and Shiite – which, for purely political reasons, have sown the seed of the culture of hatred towards the Jews, and of denial of their historic rights in the region.'

‘The Jews are an integral part of the history of this region, and Israel is the product of the Jews’ historic right in the region. If we meet with the Israeli negotiators, believing them to be partners to the history of this region – whether the leaders, the peoples, or the intellectual elites – this will facilitate matters and provide flexibility in the peace process,’ he continued.

‘We should learn from our history in order to be able to make the right decision. In the course of the Arab-Israeli conflict, the Arabs have missed many opportunities,’ said Hakeem...” (*“...when thy days be fulfilled, and thou shalt sleep with thy fathers, I will set up thy seed after thee, which shall proceed out of thy bowels, and I will establish his kingdom. He shall build an house for my name, and I will stablish the throne of his kingdom for ever...And thine house and thy kingdom shall be established for ever before thee: thy throne shall be established for ever”* – II Samuel 7:12, 16. *“I have made a covenant with my chosen, I have sworn unto David my servant, Thy seed will I establish for ever, and build up thy throne to all generations”* – Psalms 89:3-4. *“He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David: And he shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end”*—Luke 1:32, 33. **Jerusalem is the Eternal Capital of Israel, and the Lord Jesus Christ will reign from David’s Throne in Jerusalem for ever and ever. See the next two reports.)**

Saudi academic calls on Arabs to recognize Jewish connection to Jerusalem

December 18, 2017 -- *The Jerusalem Post* reports: “A Saudi academic has voiced backing for U.S. President Donald Trump’s recognition of Jerusalem as Israel’s capital and called on Arabs to recognize the city’s sanctity to Jews.

Abdulhameed Hakeem, head of the Middle East Center for Strategic and Legal Studies in Jeddah, told U.S.-based *Alhurra* television on Saturday that Trump’s move, which touched off protests across the Muslim world from Tunisia to Indonesia, constitutes a ‘positive shock’ to the peace process.

Hakeem added: ‘We as Arabs must come to an understanding with the other party and know what its demands are, so that we can succeed in peace negotiation efforts, so that negotiations not be futile. We must recognize and realize that Jerusalem is a religious symbol to Jews and sacred to them, as Mecca and Medina is to Muslims.’

Hakeem – who in a March article for the Washington Institute for Near East Policy stressed that Israel and Saudi Arabia face a common Nazi-like threat in Iran – said the ‘Arab mind must liberate itself from the legacy of [former Egyptian President] Gamal Abdul-Nasser and the legacy of both the Sunni and Shi’a sects, which has instilled for political interests the culture of Jew hatred and denial of their historic right in the region.’

The London-based *al-Araby al-Jadeed* website reported that Hakeem’s comments touched off an angry

response on social media. One user, A. Elmhay, wrote, ‘The Zionizing Arabs are a greater danger than the Zionists themselves.’...”

Two more nations to move embassies to Jerusalem

December 26, 2017 -- *Israel National News* reports: “Following an announcement Sunday by Guatemalan President Jimmy Morales that his country has begun work to relocate its embassy in Israel from Tel Aviv to the capital of Jerusalem, two more Latin American countries are poised to announce similar plans.

Since President Trump’s historic December 6th declaration formally recognizing Jerusalem as Israel’s capital city and announcing plans to relocate the U.S. embassy to Jerusalem, several other countries have expressed interest in following suit.

A day after Trump’s announcement, Czech President Milos Zeman suggested his country might also relocate its embassy to Jerusalem.

‘[President] Trump’s decision makes me happy because when I visited Israel four years ago, I said that I would like to transfer the embassy, and that if that happens, we will be the first to do so,’ said the Czech president in a television interview.

While the Czech Prime Minister Andrej Babis later nixed the proposal, the Czech Republic joined with Hungary announced they recognized Jerusalem as Israel’s capital, and blocked attempts by the European Union to publish a joint statement of foreign ministers lambasting Trump’s December 6th declaration...”

PRAY FOR THE PEACE OF JERUSALEM

Trump’s new national security doctrine: Israel is not the cause of the Middle East’s problems

December 18, 2017 -- *Haaretz* reports: “Prioritizing national sovereignty over alliances, President Donald Trump is poised to outline a new national

security strategy that envisions nations in a perpetual state of competition, reverses Obama-era warnings on climate change, and de-emphasizes multinational agreements that have dominated the United States’ foreign policy since the Cold War.

The Republican president, who ran on a platform of ‘America First,’ will detail his plan Monday, one that if fully implemented could sharply alter the United States’ relationships with the rest of the world. The plan, according to senior administration officials who

offered a preview Sunday, is to focus on four main themes: protecting the homeland and way of life; promoting American prosperity; demonstrating peace through strength; and advancing American influence in an ever-competitive world...

The strategy document asserts that ‘for generations the conflict between Israel and the Palestinians has been understood as the prime irritant preventing peace and prosperity in the region. Today, the threats from radical jihadist terrorist organizations and the threat from Iran are creating the realization that Israel is not the cause of the region’s problems. States have increasingly found common interests with Israel in confronting common threats.’...” (Psalms 122:6 – **“Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: they shall prosper that love thee.” Why? Satan stood up against Israel — I Chronicles 21:1. The Devil and his anti-Semitic haters will lose because Yahweh God promises “I will give them [Israel] an everlasting name** (emphasis mine) Isaiah 56:5. **“For thou art an holy people unto the Lord thy God: the Lord thy God hath chosen thee to be a special people unto himself, above all people that are upon the face of the earth. The Lord did not set his love upon you, nor choose you, because ye were more in number than any people; for ye were the fewest of all people: But because the Lord loved you, and because he would keep the oath which he had sworn unto your fathers...”** Deuteronomy 7: 6 – 8.)

Netanyahu: Abbas again proves Palestinians are the ones who don't want peace

December 26, 2017 -- *Haaretz* reports: “Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said Sunday that Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas has again proved that Palestinians are the ones who do not want to find a solution to the Middle East conflict.

Abbas came out Friday against the American peace initiative and said the Palestinians would not accept any plan made by the Americans due to U.S.

President Donald Trump’s decision to recognize Jerusalem as Israel’s capital, a move that was widely rejected by the world in a UN vote Thursday.

In a Christmas letter to Christians, Abbas wrote that the Palestinians will not ‘accept any plan from the U.S.’ due to the White House’s ‘biased’ support of Israel and its settlement policy. He also said the American plan ‘is not going to be based on the two-state solution on the 1967 border, nor is it going to be based on international law or UN resolutions.’ ‘Abbas declared he was abandoning the peace process and did not care which proposal the United States brings to the table,’ Netanyahu said at the weekly cabinet meeting. ‘I think that once again, something clear and simple emerges: The Palestinians are the ones who do not want to solve the conflict.’...” (Benjamin Netanyahu has stated: **“If the Arabs put down their weapons today, there would be no more violence. If the Jews put down their weapons today, there would be no more Israel.”** In the summer of 2000, President Bill Clinton held a summit at Camp David with Ehud Barak and Yasser Arafat – it failed. According to a *Newsweek* article on June 26, 2001: “Nearly a year after he failed to achieve a deal at Camp David, former president Bill Clinton gave vent to his frustrations this week over the collapse of peace in the Mideast. And Clinton directed his ire at one man: Yasir Arafat. On Tuesday night, Clinton told guests at a party at the Manhattan apartment of former U.N. ambassador Richard Holbrooke and his wife, writer Kati Marton, that Arafat called to bid him farewell three days before he left office. **“You are a great man,”** Arafat said. **“The ---- I am,”** Clinton said he responded. **“I’m a colossal failure, and you made me one.”** Clinton said he told Arafat that by turning down the best peace deal he was ever going to get-the one proffered by Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Barak and brokered by Clinton last July-the Palestinian leader was only guaranteeing the election of

the hawkish Ariel Sharon, the current Israeli leader. But Arafat didn't listen.” See the next two reports.)

Abbas to ask EU to recognize ‘Palestine’

January 8, 2018 -- *Israel National News* reports: “Palestinian Authority (PA) officials are continuing their efforts to gain recognition of the European Union (EU) of the state of ‘Palestine’ with eastern Jerusalem as its capital, the *Xinhua* news agency reported Sunday.

Well informed sources in the PA said, according to the report, that PA chairman Mahmoud Abbas will meet with the EU’s foreign ministers on January 22 in Brussels. At that meeting, he is expected to ask them to recognize a Palestinian state on the pre-1967 territories with eastern Jerusalem as its capital.

The sources told *Xinhua* that such recognition by the EU would revive the internationally-backed two-state solution and help the Palestinian bid to get a full UN membership.

The PA has been mulling unilateral steps in response to U.S. President Donald Trump’s recent decision to recognize Jerusalem as Israel’s capital...”

‘The Palestinians have lost the support of the Arab world’

January 3, 2018 -- *Israel National News* reports: “Middle East expert and senior lecturer at Bar Ilan University, *Arutz Sheva* weekly columnist Dr. Mordechai Kedar says that the Palestinian Authority is losing support in the Arab world, claiming that former allies are growing ‘sick of the Palestinians,’ as they find support for PA efforts against Israel contrary to their national self-interest.

Interviewed by *Channel 20*, Kedar says that the Arab world is increasingly impressed by ‘Israel’s internal stability, its democracy – which even allows all sorts of thugs to say they don’t want to enlist – and the fact that Israel is comprised 20% of Arabs, and not one of them is fleeing. They even know that the Palestinians, who live under Israeli

‘occupation,’ live much better than all the other Arabs in the Middle East. They understand that Israel is something that doesn’t mesh with what they were taught about it – it is something different.’

Kedar explained that the Arab world was growing annoyed with PA efforts against Israel in light of U.S. President

Donald Trump’s recognition of Jerusalem as the capital of Israel.

‘What happened was that Trump warned that he would stop funding countries that voted against the U.S. – in Egypt, nobody wants to lose their food just because the Palestinians want Jerusalem. Therefore, in this matter

the Palestinians have succeeded in annoying many Arabs in the Middle East, to the extent that people say, ‘Why do we have to be held captive by the Palestinians in the peace process with Israel? If it’s in our interest to have peace with Israel, let’s get on with it, and let the Palestinians break their backs with Israel.’...”

ISLAMIC THREAT

Islamic State threatens U.S.: ‘we will burn you with the flames of war’

December 15, 2017 -- *Breitbart.com* reports: “Islamic State terrorists have threatened to attack the United States with ‘showers of bullets and explosive vehicles’ in a series of online propaganda posters depicting New York’s Police Commissioner James O’Neill as a prisoner in an orange outfit kneeling before a terrorist, among other mocked-up images.

In the poster showing O’Neill, ISIS warns, ‘We will do more ops in your land, until the final hour and we will burn you with the flames of war which you started in Iraq, Yemen, Libya, Syria, and Afghan. Just you wait. We are waiting too.’

ISIS’s image is titled, ‘A Message Signed in Blood to the Nation of the Cross.’

The SITE Intelligence Group highlighted the poster after a failed New York City terrorist attack attempted by an ISIS-inspired alleged jihadist from Bangladesh, Akayed Ullah, who entered the United States in 2011 courtesy of chain migration.

Another propaganda image, titled ‘ISIS in Manhattan,’ shows a terrorist with his boot on Trump’s head with the caption, ‘Wait for us. The vanguards of the conquerors are coming to you with showers of bullets and fires of the explosive vehicles.’...” **(America is in grave trouble. Ezekiel 33:3 states: “...**

when he seeth the sword come upon the land... blow the trumpet, and warn the people.” Ezekiel continues: *“Then whosoever heareth the sound of the trumpet, and taketh not warning; if the sword come, and take him away, his blood shall be upon his own head. He heard the sound of the trumpet, and took not warning; his blood shall be upon him. But he that taketh warning shall deliver his soul. But if the watchman see the sword come, and blow not the trumpet, and the people be not warned; if the sword come, and take any person from among them, he is taken away in his iniquity; but his blood will I require at the watchman’s hand.”* Matthew adds: *“...as the days of Noah were, so shall also the coming of the Son of man be”* – **Matthew 24:37. How was it in Noah’s day? “The earth also was corrupt before God, and the earth was filled with violence” Genesis 6:11.)**

Study finds Canada ‘obsessed with Islamophobia’

January 4, 2018 -- *Israel National News* reports: “A study published last week by Gatestone Institute’s Judith Bergman reveals a prevailing atmosphere of denial and avoidance characterizing Canada’s relationship with Islam.

Entitled Canada: Obsessed with ‘Islamophobia’, Bergman’s report concludes that the current government seems not to believe that Islamic terrorism in Canada even exists.

According to the report, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police guide is premised on the belief that radicalization occurs because of perceptions of ‘injustice’, not because of jihad, with Islamic groups not even being mentioned.

‘The message is that terrorism is ‘diverse’ and has nothing to do with Islam,’ according to the report. ‘However, Public Safety Canada’s list of terrorist entities contains 54 terrorist groups, 46 of which are Islamic terrorist groups.

‘While worried about graffiti, Canadian authorities appear far less concerned about deterring Canadian imams from preaching jihad, Jew-hatred, and the murder of Jews to their Muslim congregations, despite Jews being approximately twelve times more likely to be targeted for hate crimes than Muslims are. For anti-Muslim graffiti, you go to jail for five months, but inciting an entire congregation to kill Jewish citizens does not even merit prosecution,’ Bergman writes...”

(Denial and avoidance is not a viable strategy for dealing with radical Islam. ISIS makes no secret of its ultimate ambition: A global caliphate secured through a global war and ultimately to lead Muslims toward an apocalyptic battle against the "disbelievers." Burying your head in the sand only exposes your neck to those who love to behead people.)