

“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

Atheist Writer Asserts That True Christianity Is the Key to Saving America

January 10, 2025 -- *Crosswalk.com* reports: “A prominent atheist writer argues that the United States needs to embrace more Christian values to get back on track but that the church is failing in its role of representing Jesus. Jonathan Rauch, a self-identified atheist and a senior fellow at the Brookings Institution, says as much in a new book, *Cross Purposes: Christianity’s Broken Bargain with Democracy*, in which he says the modern church is too secular, too fearful and lacking true faith.

Rauch summarized his arguments in a new interview with *Matter of Opinion*, a New York Times podcast.

“What really needs to happen to get our country on a better track is for Christianity not to become more secular or more liberal, but to become more like itself, to become more truly Christian,” Rauch said.

The ‘three fundamentals of Christianity,’ Rauch asserted, align well with ‘Madisonian liberalism.’ He defined those three fundamentals as 1) imitating Jesus, 2) not being afraid, and 3) forgiving one another...” (*Behold, the days come, saith the Lord God, that I will send a famine in the land, not a famine of bread, nor a thirst for water, but of hearing the words of the Lord: And they shall wander from sea to sea, and from the north even to the east, they shall run to and fro to seek the word of the Lord, and shall not find it.* – Amos

8:11-12. There is a famine of the Word of God in America, a famine that even an atheist can identify. Paul wrote to Timothy: *I charge thee therefore before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall judge the quick and the dead at his appearing and his kingdom; Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all long suffering and doctrine. For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables. But watch thou in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, make full proof of thy ministry* – II Timothy 4:1-5.)

Study: Nearly 400 Million Christians Persecuted Globally, Islamism and Communism Main Drivers

January 16, 2025 -- *Breitbart.com* reports: “The Christian aid organization Open Doors published its annual World Watch List – a ranking of the most dangerous places in the world to practice the Christian faith – on Wednesday, which found that 380 million Christians around the world face severe persecution.

Christian persecution – which Open Doors defines as ‘any hostile action toward a person or community motivated by their identification with the person of Jesus Christ’ – is particularly prevalent in countries with widespread Islamist terrorism or run by communist regimes. Of the

top ten countries on the World Watch List, Islamic radicalism is the driver of persecution in eight of them, while the other two, North Korea and Eritrea, are under the yoke of communist regimes.

Of the 380 million Christians facing persecution, in many cases including deadly attacks, 310 million of them are in the top ten nations on the list. Half of these countries are in Africa and three are in the Middle East. Afghanistan is in South Asia; North Korea is an outlier in the Far East region, though bordering the number 15 country on the list, its longtime patron China...”

(Great persecution will soon overtake most Christians in a majority of the world. *Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness’ sake: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake. Rejoice, and be exceeding glad: for great is your reward in heaven: for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you.* – Matthew 5:10 – 12; *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.* – John 15:18 – 21; ...When he

had opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of them that were slain for the word of God, and for the testimony which they held. — Revelation 6:9; ...I saw the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and for the word of God, and which had not worshipped the beast, neither his image, neither had received his mark upon their foreheads, or in their hands; and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years. — Revelation 20:4; and Fear none of those things which thou shalt suffer: behold, the devil shall cast some of you into prison, that ye may be tried; and ye shall have tribulation ten days: be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life. — Revelation 2:10. See the next report.)

Breitbart Exclusive – Persecution Expert: Christians in Aleppo Could Face ‘Beginning of the End’ Under Jihadi Rule

January 10, 2025 -- Breitbart.com reports: “The ancient Christian community of Syria is facing an existential threat, particularly in Aleppo, where the rise of the Islamist terror gang Hayat Tahrir al-Sham (HTS) could be the ‘beginning of the end,’ the president of International Christian Concern (ICC), Jeff King, told *Breitbart News* on Wednesday.

King’s organization works globally to help Christians who face government persecution, violence from terrorists and anti-Christian mobs, and other dangers. It published its Global Persecution Index (GPI), a global assessment of the most dangerous places in the world to practice Christianity, shortly after the new year. The 2025 edition covers persecution in 2024 – posing a complicated situation for assessing Syria, as the half-century-old Assad family regime officially collapsed in December...”

Christian in Sudan Loses Wife, Home for Converting

January 20, 2025 -- MorningStarNews.org reports: “The Muslim family of a young man in Sudan’s Darfur Region has disowned him and compelled his wife to divorce him because he converted to Christianity, an area source said.

The convert in El Geneina, capital of West Darfur state, put his faith in Christ in January of last year. A hardline Muslim identified only as Sheikh Amaar discovered his faith and on Aug. 23 told him to return to Islam or face serious consequences, the source said.

The Christian, whose name is withheld for security purposes, did not fear for his life and continued growing in his faith, the source said. The sheikh (Islamic teacher) later incited family members

and other area Muslims to attack him.

A relative told him, ‘You are no longer a member of our family, because you have changed your religion,’ and on Oct. 9 the Christian left his home, the source told *Morning Star News*...” **(Jesus stated the reason for the persecution of Christians worldwide. It is because the world hates Him. Why? If I had not come and spoken unto them, they had not had sin: but now they have no cloak for their sin... If I had not done among them the works that none other man did, they had not had sin... – John 15:22, 24. Before Jesus came to the earth, mankind could look at each other and say “I’m not as bad as that person is, I’ve never murdered, I’ve never stolen,” much like the Pharisee did in Luke 18:10 – 14 – I thank thee that I am not as other men... Once Jesus came to the earth, those rationalizations were no longer valid. As a result, the world strikes out against God, and against Christians. Jesus also stated in Matthew 5:10 – 12: Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness’ sake: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake. Rejoice, and be exceeding glad: for great is your reward in heaven: for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you.)**

SUFFER THE CHILDREN

Two-Year-Old Child Among Dead in Mass Stabbing at German Park, ‘Afghan’ Knifeman Arrested

January 22, 2025 -- Breitbart.com reports: “At least two people have been killed, including a child, in a mass stabbing at a historic but now crime-plagued park in a Bavarian town.

The latest on the Aschaffenburg park attack is that the two people who were killed were a two-year-old boy suffering ‘multiple stab wounds’ and a 41-year-old man. The arrested suspect is a 28-year-old Afghan male, so says local police in a statement.

The number of ‘seriously injured’ people has been revised up from two to four, including another child and three adults, Germany’s *Die Welt* relates.

Distressingly, the newspaper states the attack may have been on a group of day-care children who had been taken out to the park for a walk by their teachers. It

reports the attacker followed the group, and when they tried to leave the area he attacked, allegedly ‘specifically targeting the children’.

The deceased adult male is reported to have put himself between the knifeman and the children...” **(...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. And if thy hand offend thee, cut it off: it is better for thee to enter into life maimed, than having two hands to go into hell, into the fire that never shall be quenched: Where their worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched” – Mark 9:42 – 44. See the next report.)**

Shock in Guatemala: Cult leaders order mothers to starve children

January 17, 2025 -- Israel National News reports: “Guatemalan welfare authorities were forced to separate members of the Lev Tahor cult from their children after it was discovered that

the cult’s leadership ordered mothers to deliberately starve their children.

According to sources with knowledge of the case, the aim was to pressure the authorities into allowing the cult to control the food being served to the children.

‘The mothers were brainwashed and ordered their children to starve to death and not eat even fruit and vegetables,’ said the source. ‘These children’s health, including their mental health, is really bad.’

Since the raid on December 20th, during which 160 minors and 40 women were rescued from the cult’s compound in Santa Rosa, the heads of the cult managed to smuggle phones into the welfare centers and continued to pass on instructions.

Even more appalling, according to the sources, instructions were discovered ordering the mothers to kill their children if the ‘Zionists’ came to rescue them...”

NEVER AGAIN?

Auschwitz survivors and world leaders mark 80 years since Nazi death camp's liberation

January 27, 2025 — *NBC News* reports: “The Soviet Red Army troops who arrived here on Jan. 27, 1945, helped uncover one of the greatest atrocities ever committed by — and against — humankind.

Inside the Auschwitz concentration camp complex, the soldiers liberated roughly 7,000 prisoners who had been brutalized by a Nazi regime hell-bent on exterminating the Jewish people. The horrors there defied comprehension.

Eighty years later, some former prisoners returned to mark the 80th anniversary of their deliverance — a date that is known as International Holocaust Remembrance Day.

In the eyes of so many around the world, the survivors’ very existence is a resounding act of defiance against the world-historic cruelty and vast injustice of Adolf Hitler’s reign of terror. Their stories of survival are also implicit pleas to the world: Never forget humanity’s capacity to commit unthinkable crimes. (When Hitler came to power in Germany, the fate of the Jews in Europe was sealed. Like many before and after him, Hitler blamed the Jews for all the ills of society. He saw the Treaty of Versailles that ended the First World War as a Jewish document. Weaknesses in the German economy were attributed to the Jews. He faulted the Jews for the birth and presence of communism in the world. He accused the Jews of being revolutionary and instigating internationalism, a supposed plot of the Jews to destroy Germany and seize control of the world. They became his favorite scapegoat, and their suffering at his hands rivals the most gruesome of human crimes.

Hitler’s persecution of the Jews began in 1933; shortly after he took office. On April 7 of that year he stripped all Jews of offices in the German civil service. Government officials, doctors, lawyers, and workers in educational and cultural fields were all required to sign the following statement:

I declare officially herewith I do not know of any circumstance — despite careful scrutiny — that may justify the presumption that I am not of Aryan descent; in particular, none of my paternal or maternal parents or

grandparents was at any time of the Jewish faith. I am fully aware of the fact that I expose myself to prosecution and dismissal if this declaration proves untrue.

Within three months, thirty thousand heads of Jewish families had been deprived of income.

The future sufferings of the Jews were also announced in two lines of a song called “The Horst Wessel Song,” which became the theme of every major parade in Germany. Translated, two lines of the song were: “When Jewish blood flows from the knife, Things will go much better.”

Under Hitler’s direction there was a steady rise in outrageous demands and unlawful acts against all Jews. By 1938 every synagogue in the nation had been burned, the windows of every Jewish establishment had been shattered, and twenty-five thousand innocent Jews were in concentration camps.

In the infamous Buchenwald camp Jews were shipped and tortured during the day, while throughout the night a voice shouted over the loudspeakers, “Any Jew who wishes to hang himself is asked first to put a piece of paper in his mouth with his number on it so that we may know who he is.”

At the end of World War II, General Eisenhower made a decision to personally visit as many Nazi concentration camps as he could. His reason? He wanted to document the camps and their appalling conditions.

In his book *Crusade in Europe* he stated: *The same day [April 12, 1945] I saw my first horror camp. It was near the town of Gotha. I have never felt able to describe my emotional reactions when I first came face to face with indisputable evidence of Nazi brutality and ruthless disregard of every shred of decency. Up to that time I had known about it only generally or through secondary sources. I am certain, however that I have never at any other time experienced an equal sense of shock.*

I visited every nook and cranny of the camp because I felt it my duty to be in a position from then on to testify at first hand about these things in case there ever grew up at home the belief or assumption that ‘the stories of Nazi brutality were just propaganda.’ Some members of the visiting party were unable to through the ordeal. I not only did so but as soon as I returned to Patton’s headquarters

that evening I sent communications to both Washington and London, urging the two governments to send instantly to Germany a random group of newspaper editors and representative groups from the national legislatures. I felt that the evidence should be immediately placed before the American and British publics in a fashion that would leave no room for cynical doubt.

Anticipating a time when Nazi atrocities might be denied, General Eisenhower also ordered the filming and photographing of camps as they were liberated. Members of the U.S. Army Signal Corps recorded approximately 80,000 feet of moving film, together with still photographs.

Within months after the war in Europe, about 6,000 feet of that film footage was excerpted to create a one-hour documentary called “Nazi Concentration Camp”. Prosecutors used the film, which is graphically gruesome, to prove that Nazi leaders, on trial at Nuremberg, had perpetrated unbelievably heinous crimes against humanity.

Thomas Dodd, one of the U.S. prosecutors, introduced the film into evidence on the 29th of November, 1945. When the lights came up, after the trial film was screened, people had a new understanding of what the words “concentration camp” really meant.

Eisenhower wanted to be in as many pictures as possible to prove the death camps really existed. He was sometimes accompanied by Generals Bradley and Patton (such as their visit to the Ohrdruf concentration camp on April 12, 1945). See the next report.)

Most people believe a genocide of Jews could happen today, multi-country survey finds

January 23, 2025 -- *The Times of Israel* reports: “A majority of people in seven countries believe a mass genocide against Jewish people similar to the Holocaust could happen today, according to a survey published by The Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany.

The report — which surveyed people in the United States, the United Kingdom, France, Austria, Germany, Poland, Hungary and Romania — also exposed a global trend of fading knowledge of basic facts about the Holocaust, the Claims Conference said.

It showed that almost half of young adults in France don't even know what the Holocaust is.

The report was published ahead of the 80th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz on January 27. Data was collected from a representative sample of one thousand adults in each country in November 2023.

Some 76 percent of people in the United States said they thought another Holocaust could happen, followed by the UK at 69%, France at 63%, Austria at 62%, Germany at 61%, Poland at 54%, and Hungary at 52%. In Romania, 44% said they thought such a scenario was possible..."

Hundreds chant for 'intifada' at New Year's Day protest in NYC's Times Square

January 2, 2025 -- *The Times of Israel* reports: "Several hundred demonstrators called for an intifada on Wednesday at an anti-Israel protest in New York City's Times Square to mark New Year's Day. Attendees chanted 'Resistance is glorious — we will be victorious,' 'We will honor all our martyrs,' and 'Gaza, you make us proud.' They carried signs that said 'Zionism is cancer,' 'No war on Iran,' and 'End all U.S. aid to Israel.' 'There is only one solution — Intifada revolution,' they chanted, using a common refrain at anti-Israel rallies in the U.S.. 'Intifada,' Arabic for 'uprising,' is associated with the Second Intifada, a period of terror attacks in Israel in the early 2000s marked by suicide bombings.

Speakers at the Wednesday rally urged attendees to recommit to anti-Israel activism in the new year..." **(The Jewish people have long been blamed for all of the world's ills. All throughout history they have been the universal scapegoat. Incredibly, even the awful plague of the Black Death that swept Europe was blamed on the Jews. They were accused of having poisoned wells with**

a powder made of spiders, frog legs, Christian entrails, and consecrated hosts (Communion bread). The public wrath that resulted from that fantastic tale brought about the slaughter of thousands of Jews and the complete extermination of two hundred Jewish communities. This can be traced back to the father of anti-Semitism – Satan who ...stood up against Israel – I Chronicles 21:1. God loves His Chosen People – ...I have loved thee with an everlasting love: therefore with lovingkindness have I drawn thee – Jeremiah 31:3. See the next three reports.)

Mass. man arrested for incitement to shoot synagogue worshippers, threats to rape Jewish women

January 7, 2025 -- *The Jerusalem Post* reports: "A Massachusetts man was arrested on Saturday for inciting others to shoot worshippers outside synagogues and multiple firearms violations, the Beverly Police Department announced on Monday.

Mathew Scouras, 34, was arraigned Monday for allegedly posting on an internet image board threats against Jewish people, threats to rape Jewish women, and encouraging other users to shoot people outside of synagogues.

The suspect was taken into custody for a mental health evaluation, and a search of his home recovered a Nazi flag, a 9mm Glock ghost gun with no serial number, six boxes of ammunition, \$70,000 in cash, and various firearms parts and accessories including stocks, scopes, pistol frames, and rifle lower receivers..."

'Israel must go': Israeli attacked in Berlin over Israeli-Palestinian peace pin – report

January 6, 2025 -- *The Jerusalem Post* reports: "An Israeli Jewish street artist was hospitalized in Berlin after she was attacked on New Year's Eve for wearing

a restaurant's Israeli-Palestinian peace pin, according to the vegan Israeli-Palestinian restaurant Kanaan Berlin.

The artist, identified as 'Soli,' was wearing the Kanaan pin, which depicts a heart divided into an Israeli and Palestinian flag. She was approached by at least four individuals, according to the Saturday Instagram post.

'Israel must go,' one of the attackers reportedly shouted.

A young Arab woman pulled the Israeli artist's hair, and the situation escalated with three men joining the physical attack, striking Soli.

According to photographs shared by the restaurant, Soli was hospitalized with a head injury..."

Syria's new curriculum: Jews are 'damned and have gone astray'

January 3, 2025 -- *Israel National News* reports: "Syria's newly formed government is under fire following the announcement of proposed changes to the school curriculum. Critics have voiced concerns that the amendments, which some perceive as introducing an Islamist bias, could reshape the country's educational framework, *CNN* reported Thursday.

Details of the changes were posted on the education ministry's official Facebook page, according to the report.

Among the modifications are alterations to certain phrases: 'path of goodness' has been replaced with 'Islamic path,' and the phrase 'those who are damned and have gone astray' now explicitly refers to 'Jews and Christians,' reflecting a strict interpretation of a Quranic verse.

Additionally, the definition of 'martyr' has shifted from someone who died for their homeland to someone who sacrificed their life 'for the sake of God.' Entire chapters, such as one on 'the origins and evolution of life,' have been removed altogether..."

A PALESTINIAN STATE?

Gaza Strip is part of the 'State of Palestine,' PA's top envoy tells UN Security Council

January 21, 2025 -- *The Jerusalem Post* reports: "Palestinian Authority Foreign Minister Varsen Aghabekian said the Gaza Strip was part of the 'State of Palestine' in a speech at the United Nations Security Council on Monday.

'We reaffirm in this context that the Gaza Strip is an integral part of the occupied Palestinian territory and that the State of Palestine holds the legal and political jurisdiction over the Strip and all occupied Palestinian territories since 1967, including East Jerusalem,' she said.

'We reiterate our categorical rejection of any attempts to cut off parts of our

land or displace our people, which clearly violates international law and the prohibitions established by international legitimacy.'

'We reiterate the inevitability of adhering to our legitimate rights and our national identity that unites our people everywhere in the world, which requires the unity of our land and our people under the umbrella of the Palestine Liberation

Organization, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, and the commitment of all to its political program and international obligations, and working under one system, one law, and one legitimate weapon,' Aghabekian concluded..." (Genesis 15:18 states: *In the same day the Lord made a covenant with Abram, saying, Unto thy seed have I given this land, from the river of Egypt unto the great river, the river Euphrates and in Joshua 1:4 we read: From the wilderness and this Lebanon even unto the great river, the river Euphrates, all the land of the Hittites, and unto the great sea toward the going down of the sun, shall be your coast. These verses encompass all of the land modern Israel currently possesses, plus all of the land of the Palestinians*

(the West Bank and Gaza), plus some of Egypt and Syria, plus all of Jordan, plus some of Saudi Arabia and Iraq. Israel currently possesses only a fraction of the land God has promised. See the next report.)

Abbas asks Trump for assistance in establishing a Palestinian state

January 21, 2025 -- Israel National News reports: "Palestinian Authority (PA) chairman Mahmoud Abbas on Monday issued an official statement congratulating U.S. President Donald Trump on the occasion of his inauguration.

'We are ready to work with you to achieve peace during your term, in accordance with the two-state solution, based on

international legitimacy (decisions by representative institutions),' Abbas said. He stated that according to his vision, the diplomatic solution should lead to 'the State of Palestine and the State of Israel living side by side in security and peace,' emphasizing the need to 'achieve security and stability in the region and the world.'

...Relations between Abbas and Trump soured during Trump's first term as President. The PA chairman, angered by Trump's recognition of Jerusalem as Israel's capital in 2018, refused to consider the Trump administration an honest broker for negotiations with Israel..."

NEWS FROM ISRAEL AND THE KINGS OF THE EAST

Hamas vows to 'rise again,' fight until Israel is destroyed

January 21, 2025 -- Israel National News reports: "The Hamas terrorist organization vowed to 'rise again' and to continue fighting until Israel is destroyed in a statement issued today (Monday), the second day of the ceasefire agreement with Israel, *AFP* reported.

'Gaza, with its great people and its resilience, will rise again to rebuild what the occupation has destroyed and continue on the path of steadfastness until the occupation is defeated,' the terrorist organization stated.

'Over the course of 471 days, the systematic crimes of the occupation have failed to dissuade our people and their valiant resistance from clinging to the land and confronting the aggression,' it added..." (They may threaten Israel, but Psalm 121 states: *I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills, from whence cometh my help. My help cometh from the Lord, which made heaven and earth. He will not suffer thy foot to be moved: he that keepeth thee will not slumber. Behold, he that keepeth Israel shall neither slumber nor sleep. The Lord is thy keeper: the Lord is thy shade upon thy right hand. The sun shall not smite thee by day, nor the moon by night. The Lord shall preserve thee from all evil: he shall preserve thy soul. The Lord shall preserve thy going out and thy coming in from this time forth, and even for evermore. Notice especially verse 4 -- Behold, he that keepeth Israel shall neither slumber nor sleep. During his confrontation with the prophets of*

Baal, Elijah mocked the prophets after they were unable to get a response from Baal. I Kings 18:27 states: *And it came to pass at noon, that Elijah mocked them, and said, Cry aloud: for he is a god; either he is talking, or he is pursuing, or he is in a journey, or peradventure he sleepeth, and must be awaked. God does not sleep, and He will preserve Israel. See the next three reports.)*

U.S. intel figures show Hamas has recruited up to 15,000 new fighters during Gaza war

January 27, 2025 -- The Times of Israel reports: "The Palestinian terror group Hamas has recruited between 10,000 and 15,000 members since the start of its war with Israel, according to two congressional sources briefed on U.S. intelligence, suggesting the Iran-backed fighters could remain a persistent threat to Israel.

The intelligence indicates a similar number of Hamas fighters have been killed during that period, the sources said. The latest official U.S. estimates have not been previously reported.

Hamas and Israel began a ceasefire on Sunday after 15 months of a conflict that began with the terror group's devastating attack on October 7, 2023, which sparked the war in the Gaza Strip and inflamed the Middle East.

The sources briefed on the intelligence, which was included in a series of updates from U.S. intelligence agencies in the final weeks of the Biden administration, said that while Hamas has successfully recruited new members, many are young and untrained and are being used

for simple security purposes..."

Hamas uses Gaza hospitals for command, distribution of arms and safety, terrorist reveals in interrogation

January 7, 2025 -- YnetNew.com reports: "A captured Hamas terrorist who was employed at the Kamal Adwan Hospital in Jabaliya said the facility was used by the terror group as a command center, a launch pad for attacks and a point for the distribution of arms to Hamas fighters.

The IDF Spokesperson's Unit published on Tuesday a clip of the interrogation of the terrorist, a 21-year-old cleaner at the hospital who was a member of the Nuchbah force since he joined the terror group in 2021.

The IDF arrested some 240 individuals, the largest number of terrorists caught in one location, in the hospital compound and shut it down.

'They believe the hospital is a safe haven for them because the military cannot directly target it with an F-16 missile or destroy the building since there are civilians and patients there,' said 21-year-old Anas Muhammad Faiz Al-Sharif, who described working as a cleaning supervisor at the hospital..."

Shocking: Freed Israeli Hostages Say Hamas Used U.N. Facilities to Hide Them

January 23, 2025 -- Breitbart.com reports: "Outrage is intensifying after Israeli hostages recently freed from Gaza revealed they were held in U.N. facilities during their captivity,

with critics calling UNRWA a ‘front for Hamas’ that must be ‘disbanded’ immediately.

Last weekend, three Israeli women — Romi Gonen, Emily Damari, and Doron Steinbrecher — were released in a high-stakes prisoner swap, which saw Israel free 90 Palestinian detainees, including convicted terrorists.

The women, who endured nearly a year and a half of harrowing captivity under the terrorist group Hamas, described being detained in United Nations facilities, including tent camps and humanitarian zones administered by the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA), Israel’s *Channel 13 News* reports...

Iran steps up air defense drills near key nuclear site amid Israeli, U.S. threats

January 8, 2025 -- *The Times of Israel* reports: “Iran’s military has begun drills focusing on air defenses near the Natanz nuclear enrichment plant in the center of

the country as part of exercises planned nationwide, state media reported on Tuesday.

The drills — dubbed Eqtedar, or ‘might,’ in Farsi — have involved the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC), the ideological branch of Iran’s military, alongside the army.

‘The first phase of the joint Eqtedar exercises in the air defense zone of the Natanz nuclear facility has commenced under the orders of the air defense headquarters commander,’ state TV said.

It added that IRGC air forces were undertaking ‘an all-out point defense’ of the site ‘against a multitude of air threats in tough electronic warfare conditions.’

On Monday, IRGC spokesman Ali Mohammad Naini said the drills, which will also cover other parts of Iran until mid-March, were being conducted in response to ‘new security threats,’ without elaborating... (Iran has a long history of calling for the destruction of Israel. It 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 stars 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.)

RUSSIA AND THE KINGS OF THE EAST

Russia’s Putin discusses ‘multipolar global order’ with China’s Xi hours after Trump inauguration

January 21, 2025 -- *Voice of America News* reports: “Russian President Vladimir Putin had a call Tuesday with Chinese President Xi Jinping, emphasizing the two countries’ close ties, a day after Donald Trump was sworn in as the 47th U.S. president.

The two leaders have developed strong personal links that helped bring relations between Moscow and Beijing, growing even closer after Putin sent troops into Ukraine in 2022. China has become a major customer of Russian oil and gas and a source of key technologies amid sweeping Western sanctions on Moscow.

In Tuesday’s call with Xi, Putin emphasized that Russia-China relations are based on shared interests, equality and mutual benefits, noting that they ‘don’t depend on internal political factors and the current international environment.’... (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]. See the next report.)*

China saw record trade with Russia in 2024: customs data

January 14, 2025 -- *SpaceWar.com* reports: “Trade between China and Russia reached a record high last year, official data showed Monday, reflecting strong economic ties between the countries despite Western sanctions on Moscow.

Combined imports and exports with Russia totalled \$244.8 billion in

2024, according to figures published by China’s General Administration of Customs, up slightly from \$240.1 billion in 2023.

Last year’s uptick brought trade between the large neighbouring countries to a historic high, though it represented much slower growth than the 26.3 percent year-on-year surge recorded the year before last.

Political and economic ties between Beijing and Moscow have deepened since Russia’s invasion of Ukraine in early 2022, drawing extensive criticism from the United States and other Western nations, which have implemented tough sanctions in response.

China has sought to position itself as a neutral party in the crisis and has repeatedly declined to condemn Moscow’s invasion...”

Philippines files protest over Beijing’s ‘escalatory actions’ in South China Sea

January 13, 2025 -- *Voice of America News* reports: “The Philippines on Monday called on Beijing to desist from ‘escalatory actions’ at a South China Sea shoal and said a protest has been lodged over the presence of Chinese coast guard, militia and navy in its exclusive economic zone.

The protest stems from the presence of two coast guard vessels on Jan. 5 and Jan. 10 in and around the disputed Scarborough shoal, one of which was a 165-meter-long boat referred to by the Philippines as ‘the monster.’ It said a Chinese navy helicopter was also deployed in the area.

‘The escalatory actions of these Chinese vessels and aircraft disregard Philippine and international laws,’ said the Philippines’ national maritime council, an inter-agency group tasked with upholding the country’s interests at sea. ‘China should direct its vessels to desist from conducting illegal actions that violate Philippines’ sovereign rights in its EEZ,’ it said in a statement...” **(China is prophesied to be a top contender and bloody warrior during the battle of Armageddon – Revelation 16:16. Revelation 16:12 pictures Kings coming to the Middle East, primarily China, 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.)**

Taiwan identifies 52 ‘suspicious’ Chinese ships for close monitoring

January 28, 2025 -- *SpaceWar.com* reports: “Taiwan has identified 52 ‘suspicious’ Chinese-owned ships flying flags of convenience that require close monitoring if detected near the island, the coast guard said Monday,

as Taipei seeks to protect its subsea telecoms cables.

The stricter regime comes after a Cameroon-flagged vessel was briefly detained by Taiwan’s coast guard earlier this month on suspicion of damaging an international cable northeast of the island.

The vessel was owned by a Hong Kong-registered company with a Chinese address given for its only listed director, the coast guard said previously.

Taiwan fears China could sever its communication links as part of an attempt to seize the island or blockade it.

Flags of convenience allow shipping companies to register their vessels in countries to which they have no link — for a fee and freedom from oversight.

The coast guard said 52 ‘suspicious’ Chinese-owned ships flying flags of convenience from Mongolia, Cameroon, Tanzania, Togo, and Sierra Leone had been highlighted for close monitoring based on port records and data from Tokyo MOU, a regional multilateral body for port state control.

Of the 52 vessels, 15 were rated a ‘threat’ for various reasons — including the amount of time they spent loitering or sailing slowly near Taiwan’s subsea cables in 2024...”

North Korea warns of responding ‘more intensively’ to U.S. drills with South Korea, Japan

January 17, 2025 -- *SpaceWar.com* reports: “North Korea warned Friday

that it would exercise its right to self-defense ‘more intensively’ as it condemned recent trilateral air drills held by South Korea, the United States and Japan.

The North’s Foreign Ministry issued the statement after U.S. B-1B strategic bombers took part in an aerial exercise Wednesday with South Korean and Japanese fighter planes over waters near the Korean Peninsula.

‘From the outset of the year the U.S. and its satellites are getting evermore undisguised in their military provocations to pose a grave challenge to the security environment of the DPRK,’ the statement carried by the *Korean Central News Agency* said.

The Democratic People’s Republic of Korea is the official name of North Korea.

The ministry blamed U.S. ‘political and military provocations’ for raising the danger of armed conflict in the region and said North Korea would respond ‘more intensively’ to defend itself with a growing arsenal of weapons...” **(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.)**

THE NORTH KOREA MADMAN

North Korea tells United Nations it is a ‘responsible nuclear state’

January 23, 2025 -- *SpaceWar.com* reports: “North Korea defended its right to maintain a nuclear weapons program at a United Nations disarmament conference in Geneva on Tuesday, shortly after U.S. President Donald Trump surprised allies by referring to the North as a ‘nuclear power.’

‘As a responsible nuclear weapons state, we will continue to make efforts to prevent all forms of war and to protect peace and stability,’ Jo Chol Su, North Korea’s permanent representative to the United Nations Office at Geneva, said during the conference.

Jo blamed the United States for an

‘astronomical amount of arms buildup and undisguised nuclear proliferation.’

‘The U.S. and its allies keep on supplying high-tech military hardware ... resulting in conflicts and bloodshed in many parts of the world,’ Jo said.

The North Korean representative pointed to recent trilateral air exercises held by the United States, South Korea and Japan, which included U.S. B-1B strategic bombers, as creating a dangerous climate in the region...”

(Even if North Korea gives up its nuclear weapons, there are enough remaining in the world to create havoc. Nuclear war is part of the battle of the ages – see Revelation 9:18. Other prophesied texts are predicted in Psalm 97:3; Isaiah 66:15; Ezekiel 20:47: ... Thus saith the Lord God; Behold, I will

kindle a fire in thee, and it shall devour every green tree in thee, and every dry tree: the flaming flame shall not be quenched... Study also Zephaniah 1:8; Malachi 4:1; and Revelation 8:7.)

North Korea says it tested hypersonic intermediate-range missile aimed at remote Pacific targets

January 10, 2025 -- *Voice of America News* reports: “North Korea said Tuesday its latest weapons test was a new hypersonic intermediate-range missile designed to strike remote targets in the Pacific as leader Kim Jong Un vowed to further expand his collection of nuclear-capable weapons to counter rival nations.

The North Korean state media report

came a day after South Korea's military said it detected North Korea launching a missile that flew 1,100 kilometers (685 miles) before landing in waters between the Korean Peninsula and Japan. The launch, conducted weeks before Donald Trump returns as U.S. president, came off a torrid year in weapons testing.

North Korea demonstrated multiple weapons systems last year that can target its neighbors and the United States, including solid-fuel intercontinental ballistic missiles, and there are concerns that its military capabilities could advance further through technology transfers from Russia, as the two countries align over the war in Ukraine.

North Korea in recent years has flight tested various intermediate-range missiles, which if perfected, could reach the U.S. Pacific military hub of Guam. In recent months, North Korea has been testing combining these missiles with purported hypersonic warheads to improve their survivability..." (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.)

North Korea's Kim says new hypersonic missile will deter 'rivals'

January 7, 2025 -- SpaceWar.com reports: "North Korea's leader Kim Jong Un said it tested a new hypersonic missile this week aimed at deterring the country's Pacific rivals, state media reported Tuesday, as Washington's top

diplomat visited the region.

The test came two weeks before the inauguration of U.S. president-elect Donald Trump, who previously tried to woo North Korea, and coincided with U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken's visit to the South.

'The hypersonic missile system will reliably contain any rivals in the Pacific region that can affect the security of our state,' Kim, who oversaw the launch, said in comments carried by the *Korean Central News Agency (KCNA)* on Tuesday.

KCNA cited the use of a 'new compound of carbon fibre' in the missile's engine, which experts warned could allow Pyongyang to hit further targets with technology to which only the United States, Russia and China currently have access.

The launch also used a 'new comprehensive and effective method' for its flight and guidance control system, KCNA said..."

A NUCLEAR WORLD

Kremlin urges Trump to resume nuclear disarmament talks 'as soon as possible'

January 27, 2025 -- SpaceWar.com reports: "The Kremlin said Friday it wanted to resume nuclear disarmament talks with the United States 'as soon as possible', a day after President Donald Trump said he wanted the world to 'denuclearize'

Negotiations between the world's two largest nuclear powers have been left at an impasse amid tensions over the Ukraine conflict.

Moscow pulled out of the last remaining arms control agreement with Washington, called 'New START', in 2023 amid a sharp deterioration in relations between the two countries.

Both have indicated they will unilaterally adhere to the warhead limits outlined in the treaty until 2026, but they are yet to agree on a replacement and talks have stalled for months.

'We are interested in starting this negotiation process as soon as possible,' Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov said Friday.

'The ball is in the Americans' court, who have stopped all substantive contacts,' he added.

In remarks at Davos on Thursday, Trump said he would also want China involved in talks on nuclear arms

control..." (A huge nuclear war is prophesied multiplied times in God's Word. Revelation 9:14 – 18 depicts Armageddon: *Saying to the sixth angel which had the trumpet, Loose the four angels which are bound in the great river Euphrates. And the four angels were loosed, which were prepared for an hour, and a day, and a month, and a year, for to slay the third part of men. And the number of the army of the horsemen were two hundred thousand thousand: and I heard the number of them. And thus I saw the horses in the vision, and them that sat on them, having breastplates of fire, and of jacinth, and brimstone: and the heads of the horses were as the heads of lions; and out of their mouths issued fire and smoke and brimstone. By these three was the third part of men killed, by the fire, and by the smoke, and by the brimstone, which issued out of their mouths. And Revelation 16:16 tells of the longest and final battle of the ages. See the next report.)*

Report: Khamenei halts nuclear weapons program in olive branch to Trump

January 24, 2025 -- WND.com reports: "Iranian supreme leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei reportedly has prohibited the development of nuclear weapons, in a move that some are perceiving as an attempt to initiate talks with the Trump administration about easing sanctions.

The head of Iran's 'Armed Forces Judiciary' made the announcement on Jan. 21, according to Iran International. That was just one day after Trump's inauguration, but the possible olive branch does not necessarily mean nuclear activity will stop...

Iran's halting of its development of nuclear weapons indicates its economic issues as a result of Western sanctions have become a priority, and the regime may be willing to negotiate with the U.S. and other nations to help it recover financially.

It also suggests that the Islamic regime may be adopting a new approach with the new Trump administration..."