

Today's News in Light of the Bible

PROPHETIC Newsletter

www.TheKingIsComing.com

AUGUST 2018

Published by World Prophetic Ministry, Inc. (800) 622-2767
National Processing Center • PO Box 150439 • Grand Rapids, MI 49515



Turkish President Threatens “War between the Cross and the Crescent”

Tensions are rising as Christians around the world react to Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan's recent statements that certain circumstances are “leading the world towards a war between the cross and the crescent.” Erdogan's troubling remarks were made in reaction to the country of Austria's announcement that it would begin taking measures on the dangerous movement it calls “political Islam.” Specifically, Austrian Interior Minister Herbert Kickl announced



HINDSON

that the country vows to close seven mosques and potentially expel as many as 60 Turkish-funded imams and their families in Austria's crackdown on “political Islam.” Other high-ranking Austrian officials, including Chancellor Sebastian Kurz, stated the move was to battle radicalization and what the Austrian government sees as growing “parallel societies.” Kurz, indicated that the action is rooted in a 2015 law that requires Muslim organizations to express a “positive fundamental view towards [the] state and society” of Austria, and bans foreign funding

See **TURKEY** on page 2

of religious institutions. Kurz said at a press conference, “Political Islam’s parallel societies and radicalizing tendencies have no place in our country.” Kurz’s vice chancellor, Heinz-Christian Strache, also addressed the situation and ominously added, “This is just the beginning.” This new policy arose after a number of scandals involving mosques in Austria, including one in which Islamists were plotting to overthrow the government and replace it with an Islamic caliphate!

Addressing the Austrian media, Austrian Culture Minister Gernot Blümel told journalists that the mosques had been shut down because they were suspected of “extremism.” All the mosques that were shut down followed the Salafi tradition which adheres to a strict and literalistic school of interpretation and application within Islam. Soren Kern of the New York Daily News described Salafism as “the fastest-growing Islamic movement in Europe.” Kern has been warning European leaders for years of the rise of this dangerous ideology. Adding to the concern over this growing Islamic movement, Dr Ghayas Saddiqui from the Muslim Parliament of Great Britain stated that there is no degree of moderation in the Salafis’ approach. He stated, “It is a very strict interpretation of Islam, and their attitude to both non-Muslims and Muslims who are not with them is very harsh.” Also contributing to the concern many countries are having with Salafism is that they have no coherent – central – ideology. They are accountable to no-one and it is this lack of accountability that makes them potentially dangerous as they are much more prone to being readily recruited by various cells of Islamic terrorists. Perhaps the loss of potential proxy terrorists is what led

Erdogan to state, “These measures taken by the Austrian prime minister are, I fear, leading the world towards a war between the cross and the crescent.” Erdogan went on to say “They say they’re going to kick our religious men out of Austria. Do you think we will not react if you do such a thing?” For now the world must wait and see if Erdogan has the capacity to wage such a war.

The Bible makes it clear that “wars and rumors of wars” will increase as the last days approach. Jesus specifically mentioned that nations will rise against each other with threats (rumors) of war and war itself (Matthew 24:6-7). With Erdogan’s threats against Austria we can certainly see the parallels of “nation rising against nation.” Also of concern to us should be that the “war between the cross and the crescent” Erdogan threatens. Notice that while the motivation came from the actions of a country; Austria; Erdogan made threats against Christianity! Consider the four horseman of the apocalypse that will arrive during the Tribulation period (Revelation 6:1-8). To the fourth horse power was given unto them over the fourth part of the earth, to kill with sword, and with death” (Revelation 6:8). The actions of radical Islamic terrorists have been attributed to over 25,000 deaths since the World Trade Center attacks of 9/11. In fact, according to the terror watch-group web site thereligionofpeace.com, prior to the writing of this article, there were 148 Islamic attacks in 21 countries, in which 813 people were killed and 853 injured, yet Islam claims to be the religion of peace. Thus, Erdogan’s threat of a religious war belies any claims of Islam as a peaceful religion and should cause concern that the death toll attributed to Islam will rise more rapidly.— PNL

PRAY: Pray that the remarks by Turkish President Erdogan will prove to be only blustering. Pray for God to protect Christians around the world from Islamic terror such as threatened by Erdogan.

Terrorism Becoming More Common

Terrorism – particularly Islamic terrorism – is becoming much more commonplace around the world. For instance, according to the terror watch-group web site thereligionofpeace.com in 2002 (the year after 9/11)

there were 667 Islamic attacks in 23 countries, in which 3,149 people were killed and 6,055 injured. However, in 2017 there were 2,042 Islamic attacks in 61 countries, in which 15,834 people were killed and 14,360 injured. This is a 101% increase in the number of attacks. More

problematic is that these figure also represents a 133% increase in the number of people killed by Islamic terrorists! We can only surmise that Islamic terrorists are gaining skill in their efforts. You would think that with a 133% percent increase in the number of deaths at the hands of Islamic terrorists the world would be up in arms, yet quite the opposite seems to be the case. There is a general apathy in regard to Islamic terror that is observable throughout much of the world. A few years ago, after an Islamic man drove a truck through a crowd celebrating Bastille Day in Nice, France, killing 84 and injuring more than 100. French Prime Minister Manuel Valls publicly stated that “France is going to have to learn to live with terrorism.” At the time, he meant the nation would enact measures to fight terrorism but it seems as if people around the world have simply grown used to the threat.

In a recent article Amarnath Amarasingam and Colin P. Clarke, point out that terrorist attacks have become commonplace. So much so that many people are no longer shocked at news of another terror attack. Additionally,

terrorism has become so common that many attacks and attempted attacks are no longer ever reported by the news media. For example, there was an Islamic terror attack that was foiled in

Germany that involved the toxin known as ricin! The toxin ricin is made from plant seeds, but when synthesized it become 6,000 times more deadly than anthrax and there is no antidote for humans who inhale ricin! German authorities recently arrested a 29-year-old Tunisian man who was



synthesizing ricin and was planning a biological weapons attack in Germany. Yet, this was largely ignored by many news media outlets. In fact, U.S. President Donald Trump brought this situation to everyone’s attention last year. When he was addressing U.S. troops at MacDill Air Force Base, the President stated that terrorism wasn’t being reported by the media. He stated, “All over Europe it’s happening. It’s gotten to a point where it’s not even being reported.” While many have criticized the President for his remarks, there appears to be an unconscious reaction that many people have by ignoring threats. As Amarasingam and Clarke indicated in their article, “individuals find ways to integrate and normalize some violence as part of their life.”

The Bible tells us that violence will increase as the end times draw near. Consider Jesus’ warning that “As the days of Noah were, so also will be the coming of the Son of Man” (Matthew 24:37). Also consider that the Bible indicates that in the days of Noah “the earth was

See **TERRORISM** on page 6

PRAY: Pray that the Lord would tarry in His return that we might have more time to spread the Gospel throughout the world. Pray also that many would be appropriately concerned with the rise in terrorism that we see and take action to curtail this deadly trend.

Presbyterian Church USA Passes Anti-Israel Resolutions



The Presbyterian Church USA (PC USA) held their 23rd General Assembly recently. This ecclesiastical gathering is comprised of commissioners elected by the individual presbyteries or churches and is intended to reflect the concerns of these local churches in matters that affect the overall governance of what is considered to be a mainline Protestant denomination of

roughly 1.4 million people. Over the years this denomination has seen its membership decline and some recent resolutions will likely not gain them any support from the Evangelical community or help to increase their popularity. These resolutions will certainly distance the PC USA from those

See **PRESBYTERIAN** on page 5

Micro-Chip Implants More Accepted Than Ever

Frighteningly, people are becoming more accustomed to the idea of having micro-chips implanted in their body. Last year we brought you the story of the Swedish technology firm Epicenter, where roughly 150 employees agreed to have a microchip inserted in their hands to allow them to perform a variety of tasks such as opening doors automatically, use electronic devices such as printers more efficiently, and conducting monetary transactions at the company cafeteria. At the time Epicenter co-founder Patrick Mesterton bragged of this technological aspect saying “You can do airline fares with it, you can also go to your local gym, so it basically replaces a lot of things you have other communication devices for, whether it be credit cards, or keys, or things like that.” However, a survey of the

news recently reveals that the technology is now more accepted than ever! For example, a transportation company in Sweden; SJ Railways, has adopted technology that reads microchips instead of having printed tickets for passengers! The passengers voluntarily have micro-chips embedded in their hands, and use it as an alternative to printed rail passes. As the conductor moves through the train to check tickets, passengers are simply hold out their hand for the conductor to scan and check ticket information thereby validating their spot on the train. SJ Railways claims it is the first travel company in the world to offer this service.

The technology is catching on here

See **MICRO-CHIPS** on page 6

who support Israel. At the recent 23rd General Assembly, the PC USA considered several resolutions that were decidedly anti-Israel in nature. Included among those that passed were resolutions opposing the federal and state anti-BDS laws. BDS stands for the Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions movement that calls for economic boycotts against Israel and large corporations deemed to be supporting Israel. Many U.S. states have passed anti-BDS laws to prohibit this activity. However, the PC USA seeks to allow such boycotts. Another resolution calling for more debate on Israel's "illegal" military occupation of the West Bank and eastern Jerusalem also passed along with another expressing "profound grief and sorrow" for Palestinians killed during the clashes along the Gaza border. The PC USA also decided to urge the real estate company RE/MAXX to cease its activities in renting and selling Jewish properties in Israeli settlements.

Affirming what can only be understood as an anti-Israel bias within the leadership of the PC USA, the denomination also voted against resolutions that it said were not sufficiently critical of Israel because they also mentioned Palestinian transgressions, particularly the terrorist group Hamas. In one resolution the name of the terror group Hamas was removed making it seem as if Israel were directing violence at the border with no provocation. The American Jewish Committee condemned the Presbyterian assembly for the resolutions. Rabbi Noam Marans, AJC's director of Interreligious and Intergroup Relations, issued a statement saying "The Church remains obsessively critical of Israel in its national utterances. For many years and in myriad ways, the PCUSA has gone beyond legitimate criticism of Israel and embraced demonization of the Jewish state." Sadly, these actions are nothing new to the PC USA. In 2014, the

Presbyterian Church USA approved an Israel divestment measure. The anti-Israel measures continued at the 2016 General Assembly, where the leadership of the PC USA passed several resolutions aimed to pressure Israel to leave the disputed territories. The anti-Israel behavior within the Presbyterian Church has even driven away some American Jewish organizations that normally try to build relations with Christian denominations as well as groups within the Presbyterian Church that support Israel. Dexter Van Zile, a Christian media analyst, observed "The folks from Presbyterians for Peace in the Middle East who tried to stop this train wreck had an impossible task: arouse the conscience of a dying church that has been hijacked by people who are simply obsessed with Israel." In our opinion, any Christian group that would seek to deny Israel of their rights as a nation, or economically punish those who do business with Israel, has their priorities out of alignment with Scripture.

The Bible indicates that God holds the nation of Israel in high esteem. The prophet Zechariah recorded God's opinion of Israel as "the apple of His eye" (Zechariah 2:8). Even more disturbing in light of the PC USA resolutions is that the Bible clearly warns that God will curse those who curse Israel saying "the one who curses you I will curse" (Genesis 12:3). Conversely, in the first half of this verse God also promised "I will bless those who bless you" (Genesis 12:3). We can only wonder why a denomination would seek to openly oppose Israel? Perhaps this history of Israeli opposition from the PC USA is reflected in the observable downward trend of their membership? In the last 30 years the PC USA has lost over 2 million members while the Southern Baptist Convention – who are generally supportive of Israel – has added 2 million members during the same time frame. Perhaps church leaders should take God's promises to Israel more seriously and seek to bless Israel with their support and cooperation.— PNL

PRAY: Pray for the leaders of the PC USA to recognize the special place that Israel holds in God's sight. Pray the PC USA – and other denominations – would realize the role that Israel will play as the end times unfold and begin to openly support the modern nation of Israel.

MICRO-CHIPS from page 4

in America as well. Over 50 employees at a Wisconsin technology company plan to have a microchip implanted in their hand. As recently reported by CNBC and other major news outlets, the Wisconsin tech company; Three Square Market, is offering its employees microchip implants that can be used to scan into the building and purchase food at work. Whether or not to get a chip is entirely up to the employees to decide. Three Square Market, a company that provides technology for break-room

or micro markets, has over 50 employees who plan to have a tiny chip – about the size of a grain of rice – which uses RFID technology or Radio-Frequency Identification, implanted between the thumb and forefinger according to a statement from the company.

According to a press release from the company the microchip can be implanted “within seconds.” The company, which is based in River Falls, Wisc., envisions the rice-sized microchip allowing employees to easily pay for items, access the building and their computers all with a scan of their hand. Three Square Market Chief Executive Officer Todd Westby stated, “It’s the next thing that’s inevitably going to happen, and we want to be a part of it.” The company is partnering with Swedish

company BioHax International, which has already “chipped” many of their employees.

This has an obvious connection to Bible prophecy and the fulfillment of certain end times events. The Book of Revelation clearly predicts a time after the antichrist has risen to power when everyone will be required “to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their forehead” (Revelation 13:16). This “mark” will be of



significance economically as no one will be able to buy or sell any products or services unless they have this mark (Cf. Revelation 13:17).

Since the microchip implanted by the tech-company in Sweden is already being linked to

its employee’s credit cards one can begin to see the potential fulfillment of prophecy taking shape. Imagine a time in the future – during the first half of the Tribulation for example – when the antichrist could arrange for a manipulation of the currency market such that a significant portion of the world’s economy collapsed! If such an event were to transpire, the antichrist could easily convince the world’s population to have microchips implanted in their hands — linked to a “stable” new world currency — so that they could “buy and sell” the food and other essentials needed for basic survival (Cf. Revelation 13:17). While we believe that this will not be fulfilled until after the rapture of the church, we must commit to serious prayer over this situation.— PNL

PRAY: Pray that we can use our time wisely to spread the Gospel message so that as many as possible might be saved from the coming Tribulation. Pray that the rise of this technology – that could be used to fulfill Bible prophecy – could somehow motivate people to take the warnings of Bible prophecy seriously.

TERRORISM from page 3

filled with violence” (Genesis 6:11). Moreover, the Bible clearly warns us that in the last days numerous false prophets will deceive many (Matthew 24:11) and Mohamed – the false

prophet of Islam – is doubtlessly among the most deceitful! Shockingly, Islamic doctrine teaches that it is permissible to kill your enemies if they do not convert to Islam! Thus, as we see violence increasing – especially in the frequency and death toll of Islamic terrorism – we should recognize the warnings of Scripture.— PNL