

Today's News in Light of the Bible

PROPHETIC Newsletter

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Christ warned us throughout the Bible that until the day He returns, Christians will face persecution. While we may not face it daily in our lives here in America, we do have a duty to pray for our brothers and sisters in Christ that do experience it.

Please join us in praying for India and the rise of anti-Christian sentiments in that nation. We know that irregardless of persecution, God's Holy Word and the global church will prevail!

There has also been a rise in violence from Muslims in Saudi Arabia, Israel's close neighbor. We know that this area of the world is a vital player in the End Times. We must not only pray for the Middle East, we must continue to share the Gospel!

Thank you for your continued support of our ministry! It enables us share our Good News message of hope!

Until He returns,

Ed Hindson

Netanyahu Re Elected Israeli Prime Minister



Benjamin Netanyahu was recently re-elected – for the fifth time – as the Prime Minister of the nation of Israel. This election is historical in that Netanyahu's government now has recorded the longest tenure of any Israeli Prime Minister. Netanyahu defeated the former Chief of Staff of the Israeli Defense Forces; Benny Gantz. Remarking on the election, U.S. President Trump phoned

Netanyahu from Air Force One to offer his congratulations. Netanyahu's office stated that President Trump "warmly" congratulated" the Prime Minister who thanked President Trump for his "great support for Israel" including the brave steps of officially recognizing Jerusalem as the capital of Israel, acknowledging Israel's sovereignty over the Golan Heights area, and withdrawing the U.S. from the Iran Nuclear deal that tacitly endangered

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Israel to Supply Natural Gas and Electricity to Europe

An exciting development was recently announced by Israeli Energy Minister Yuval Steinitz. Israel has reached an agreement with the nations of Cyprus, Greece, and Italy to construct an underwater natural gas pipeline that would supply natural gas to the European market. The proposed pipeline would be over 1,300 miles in length and carry over 700 billion cubic feet of natural gas from the offshore Israeli gas fields known as Leviathan and Tamar located in the Mediterranean Sea.

Additionally, the pipeline could be also secure a conduit through which Israel, Cyprus, and Greece have proposed to install and electric cable with a 2,000-megawatt capacity that would export electricity generated at Israeli power plants to Europe. The project is estimated to cost approximately 7 billion dollars and could be fully operational within five years.

Once completed, the undersea pipeline would be the longest and deepest in the world which would also make it the most challenging and complex to build. The pipeline will need to be more than two miles deep and will cross through a major undersea earthquake zone between Cyprus and Crete.

Complicating the situation is the deployment of a Turkish warship off the coast of Italy that has been given orders by Turkish President Recep Erdogan to prevent an Italian energy company from exploring the

area off the coast of Cyprus. Likewise, the influence that Russia holds over the European gas market may also weaken as a result of the Israeli proposal.

However, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu is confident that Israel can make the project a reality and provide a more economical, more politically stable energy option for the nations of Europe. Netanyahu stated recently that this project will build



“an alliance for good” by increasing trade and tourism between Israel and Europe.

Similarly, Israeli Energy Minister Steinitz was quoted as saying that this “will enable Israel to become an energy supplier to Europe.”

These exciting ideas would allow Israel to act as a blessing to European nations by providing an additional option for energy that could help reduce the Arab influence over Europe in the oil and gas market.

The implications of this exciting proposal reminds me of God’s prophetic promise that Israel would become a blessing to all nations. Specifically, we find this prophetic promise given to the patriarch Abraham. Nearly 4,000 years ago God called Abraham to leave his homeland in Ur of the Chaldeans and journey into an unknown land so that God could create His chosen nation from Abraham’s

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Hindu Radicals Burn Bibles in India

Shocking news is coming out of the country of India recently. A widespread anti-Christian sentiment has been rising in the midst of the social fervor surrounding what will be the largest democratic election the nation of India has ever experienced. Many observers estimate that 900 million people will be eligible to vote in the election that many believe is essentially a referendum on the current Prime Minister.

However, more than just political motivations are in play. According to Open Doors USA – an international agency that monitors and help minister to persecuted Christian around the world – India is the tenth most-persecuted country for Christians! The predominate religion in India is Hinduism and along with tensions stemming from India's caste system, many radical Hindus are fiercely anti-Christian and are driving by a desire to cleanse their country of Christianity and will not hesitate to use violence and intimidation to achieve their goals. Along with public humiliation, beatings, and even murder, radical Hindus have now resorted to burning Bibles by the thousands!

According to International Christian Concern – a religious organization that aids persecuted Christians internationally – radical Hindus

have seized and burned thousands of Bibles and threatened the lives of Christians who were distributing the Bibles legally! This shocking event took place in Singtom village in the Nagar Kurnool district.

It is evident that Satan is at work in this situation using these radical Hindus to attempt to stamp out God's Word and silence His witnesses. After stealing the Bibles from the vehicles the Christians were using to transport the Bibles, the extremist Hindus went so far as beat the men and women who had been distributing Bibles in this region for 30 years and even threaten grotesque physical deformation (not suitable to repeat in our forum) against the Christians. This horrible event comes in the wake of what has been one of the most dangerous years of Christian persecution in India according to the Evangelical Fellowship of India.

Across the southern part of India, there have been more than 60 reported cases of violence against Christians already this year.

As upsetting as this situation is, we are told in the pages of Scripture to expect such events as the last days draw near. Matthew 10:22 warns

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Israel.

According to the structure of the Israeli government, the newly elected Prime Minister will have 42 days to form a coalition government by appointing – and cooperating with – various officials from the other political parties.

Israeli voters in this election had a record number of 40 parties to choose from. This means that Netanyahu will have no small task in assembling his coalition government. Netanyahu has stated that – as he has previously done for more than a decade – he plans to seek support from the Ultra-Orthodox and right-wing nationalist parties in an effort to encompass the majority of Israeli political views in his coalition government.

Yet, there is the unlikely option that Netanyahu and Gantz could form what the

Israeli system refers to as a unity government. This is doubtful, and most likely Netanyahu will continue to govern Israel as he has after his four previous elections.

While the Bible does not speak directly to this election, there are several important scriptural principles that we must keep in mind.

Most importantly we should remember that the Lord has promised to bless those who bless Israel and curse those who curse Israel, and that all the people of the earth will be blessed by Israel (Genesis 12:3).

As such, we – as believers and as a nation – should pray for the stability of the region, the success of Prime Minister Netanyahu's government, and – as we are instructed by Scripture, we should pray for the peace of Jerusalem (Psalm 122:6).— *PNL*

PRAY: Pray for God's continued protection of Israel. Pray also that America, as a nation, would continue to support Israel since, as we know, God will bless those who bless Israel and curse those who curse Israel.

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descendants (Genesis 12:1-2).

The nation God created through Abraham's offspring is the nation of Israel! The LORD promised that through Abraham's offspring "shall all families of the earth be blessed" (Genesis 12:3 KJV). Likewise, specifically addressing other nations, after the incident with Isaac demonstrating Abraham's great faith, the LORD again told Abraham, "in thy seed shall all the nations of the earth be

blessed; because thou hast obeyed my voice" (Genesis 22:18).

We can see the parallels and similarities this promise has to the potential impact of Israel being able to provide energy options for Europe. The more "nations" that Israel can bless with more affordable, more politically stable options for their energy needs, the greater likelihood exists that these nations would be blessed in other ways. — *PNL*

PRAY: Pray that this proposed undersea pipeline would improve Israel's international relationship and provide a greater degree of economic security to their country.

Saudi Arabia Beheads 37 People in Mass Execution

In yet another disturbing example of the ongoing violence inherent with Islam, the government of Saudi Arabia recently held a mass execution in which 37 people were beheaded and one person was crucified!

The Saudi government even went so far as to pin the body and severed head of one individual to a post as a public warning to others. The government said these individuals had confessed to terrorism-related crimes such as spying for Iran and plotting against the Saudi kingdom.

However, Amnesty International – an international group monitoring human rights violations – reports that the men were “convicted after sham trials that relied on confessions extracted through torture.”

Many observers believe that the charges of spying for Iran were fabricated in order to bolster support from the U.S. government and the anti-Iranian sentiment prevalent in Washington. Ali Al-Ahed, who runs The Institute for Gulf Affairs – an international group that monitors politics in the Middle East – stated these executions were politically motivated to send a message to Iran.

The penchant for violence inherent within Islam can be readily observed with these horrific executions. The country of Saudi

Arabia has the Sunni branch of Islam as their official religion and firmly bases its national laws and policies on what is commonly known as Sharia Law that adheres to a strict interpretation of the Muslim scriptures; the Quran. As such, the fact that 34 of the 37 people



executed were from the rival Shiite branch of Islam speaks to the violent nature of Islam in which certain verses of the Quran are often used to support violence and death toward those who will not

convert to Islam, or even with other Muslims who disagree with other Muslims.

One especially disturbing detail of this event is that one person who was executed was only 16 years old!

Thus, as Islamic voices claim their religion is one of peace, there is a shocking absence of dissent from moderate Islamic voices at such events as this mass execution in Saudi Arabia.

Interestingly, while Islam claims to be a religion of peace underlying tones of their radical hatred can be observed in such events as the politically motivated mass execution of members of their own religion!

As tragic as this event is, it can serve to remind us that the notion of Islam as a

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that Christians “shall be hated of all men for my name’s sake: but he that endureth to the end shall be saved” (KJV).

In this verse our Lord is warning His disciples, and His followers in our modern time, to prepare for persecution. This persecution will take the form of the wrath and indignation from those who reject Jesus as Lord. Yet, perseverance

in the face of such anger and affliction, as we “endureth to the end” (Matt 10:22), will be the evidence of our eternal salvation.

Oddly enough, perhaps by seeking out Christian material to destroy some militants may actually be exposed to the truths of God’s Word. We should remain in prayer over this situation.—*PNL*

PRAY: Pray for the safety of those who will continue to be persecuted in India. Also pray that as radical Hindus destroy Christian material that they will be exposed to the truth of God’s Word and miraculously converted out of the web of deception in which they are entangled. Pray also for the safety of those who whose ministries actively supply Bibles and Christian material to India.

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peaceful religion is a deception – devotees of a “peaceful” religion wouldn’t behead each other. Yet, this is, sadly, to be expected in light of certain Bible prophecies.

Our Lord taught that “as the days of Noah were, so shall also the coming of the Son of man be” (Matthew 24:37). Genesis 6:13 teaches that in the days of Noah “the earth was filled with violence.”

The violence we can see in such a tragic event as this stampede certainly requires a disregard for human life, carried out by zealous members of the world’s largest cult, which we can only pray does not escalate.

The holy book of Islam; the Quran teaches a violent doctrine endorsing the idea of a constant struggle between Muslims and others that



can only end when everyone in the world has converted to Islam, either by faith or by force! As I have stated many times, any “religion” that is spread by forced conversion under the threat of death is, in reality, a cult.

Let us pray their influence does not continue to spread.—*PNL*

PRAY: Pray for those whose friends and family were killed in this tragic mass execution. Pray that they would be shown the errors and abuses of the false, violent, religion of Islam and that they could be reached with the Good News of the Gospel.