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

PRAY FOR THE PEACE OF JERUSALEM

Pray for Israel, Pray for Peace

October 7, 2023 -- *PJMedia.com* reports: “Fifty years ago, almost to the day, on Oct. 6, 1973, Israel was attacked on the holy day of Yom Kippur. I remember being a child attending services and the Rabbi stopping the liturgy to tell us what had happened and to pray for Israel. On Oct. 7, 2023, Israel has again been attacked, this time on the holiday of Shemini Atzeret. Once again, our people and nation have been attacked on a holy day. All reservists have been called up, and Israel is again fighting for her life.

Hamas terrorists infiltrated Israeli communities through the Gaza Strip and launched a surprise attack in conjunction with over 5,000 rockets fired into Israel. Horrific videos of terror are filling the internet. One clip from Gaza shows a lifeless Israeli soldier being trampled by an angry crowd. Hamas asks that all Arab nations attack Israel immediately to ‘set the earth on fire.’ The Hamas commander, Mohammed Deif, specifically asked all terror groups in Syria, Lebanon, and Iraq — all of which are funded through Iran — to join in a war against Israel. Israeli civilians are being specifically attacked, slaughtered, and kidnapped as hostages. We see video after video demonstrating that the Hamas terrorists act in ways that are beyond comprehension by any human being. Rather, they act like sick, rabid animals

or zombies who have lost any sense of humanity...” *(Keep not thou silence, O God: hold not thy peace, and be not still, O God. For, lo, thine enemies make a tumult: and they that hate thee have lifted up the head. They have taken crafty counsel against thy people, and consulted against thy hidden ones. They have said, Come, and let us cut them off from being a nation; that the name of Israel may be no more in remembrance. For they have consulted together with one consent: they are confederate against thee: The tabernacles of Edom, and the Ishmaelites; of Moab, and the Hagarenes; Gebal, and Ammon, and Amalek; the Philistines with the inhabitants of Tyre; Assur also is joined with them: they have holpen the children of Lot. Selah. Do unto them as unto the Midianites; as to Sisera, as to Jabin, at the brook of Kison: Which perished at Endor: they became as dung for the earth. Make their nobles like Oreb, and like Zeeb: yea, all their princes as Zebah, and as Zalmunna: Who said, Let us take to ourselves the houses of God in possession. O my God, make them like a wheel; as the stubble before the wind. As the fire burneth a wood, and as the flame setteth the mountains on fire; So persecute them with thy tempest, and make them afraid with thy storm. Fill their faces with shame; that they may seek thy name, O Lord. Let them be confounded and troubled for ever; yea, let them be put to shame, and perish: That men may know that thou, whose*

name alone is Jehovah, art the most high over all the earth Psalm 83:1-18.)

Photos of babies being burnt, decapitated confirmed

October 13, 2023 -- *The Jerusalem Post* reports: “*The Jerusalem Post* can now confirm based on verified photos of the bodies that the reports of babies being burnt and decapitated in Hamas’s assault on Kfar Aza are correct. May their memory be a blessing.

The photos were shown to U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken during his visit to Israel on Thursday by the Public Diplomacy Directorate in the Prime Minister’s Office. Later in the day, the photos were published by the Prime Minister’s Office on Twitter. The photos are graphic and have a content warning covering them until a button reading ‘show’ is pressed.

In the past two days, the Hamas terrorist movement has launched a campaign denying that it kidnapped, murdered, and abused civilians during its attack on southern Israel.

In a video published by Hamas, the movement dismissed the reports of babies being decapitated in Kfar Aza. On Thursday, Hamas deputy leader Saleh al-Aroui claimed as well that the 1,200 members of the al-Qassam Brigades who infiltrated Israel did not target civilians, saying Palestinian civilians had entered later and fought with Israeli civilians...” **(Hamas is full of savage barbarians that continue to**

sink lower and lower into depravity. What human being could decapitate and burn a baby to teach others a lesson? Our Lord showed great compassion towards children: “Then were there brought unto him little children, that he should put his hands on them, and pray and the disciples rebuked them. But Jesus said, Suffer little children, and forbid them not, to come unto me; for of such is the kingdom of heaven. And he laid his hands on them, and departed thence” – Matthew 19:13-15.)

Handwritten note found on Hamas terrorist calls for beheading, removing hearts and livers

Oct. 25, 2023 -- *The Jerusalem Post* reports: “A handwritten note discovered on the body of a Hamas terrorist encouraged the fighters to carry out a merciless massacre, including decapitation and dismemberment of the victims’ bodies.

The note, announced by IDF Spokesperson R.-Adm. Daniel Hagari in an interview with American television network *CBS*, contains words of encouragement from the Hamas leadership declaring the religious importance of killing Jews, and imparts inspiration from historical Muslim leaders who massacred men, sold women and children into slavery, and looted cities.

The terrorists are encouraged to decapitate heads and remove the hearts and livers of their victims.

‘You must sharpen the blades of your swords and be pure in your intentions before Allah. Know that the enemy is a disease that has no cure, except beheading and removing the hearts and livers. Attack them!’ the note reads...”

(The Koran calls Jews “apes” and “pigs” I quote: “...those who incurred the curse of Allah and his wrath...those of whom some he transformed into apes and swines...those who worshipped evil...these are many times worse in rank, and far more astray than the even path” Surah 5:60. See also Surah 7:166.

The American Thinker web page gives the Top ten reasons why sharia is bad for all societies:

1. Islam commands offensive, aggressive and unjust jihad which is a holy war

2. Islam orders apostates to be killed

3. Islam orders death for Muslims and death for non-Muslim critics of Muhammad and the Quran, and even Sharia itself

4. Islam orders unmarried fornicators to be whipped, put to death, and adulterers to be stoned

5. Islam commands all homosexuals to be executed

6. Islam commands that highway robbers should be crucified or mutilated

7. Islam commands that a male and female thief must have a hand cut off

8. Islam allows an injured plaintiff to exact legal revenge, physical eye for physical eye

9. Islam allows husbands to beat their wives

10. Islam commands that drinkers and gamblers be beaten.

See the next two reports.)

Hamas religious scholars: ‘Spill the blood of Israeli soldiers and settlers’

Oct. 26, 2023 -- *YnetNews.com* reports: “Officials in the Religious Scholars Association of Palestine in Gaza issued a decree calling for the killing of Israeli soldiers and ‘settlers,’ inside and outside the Gaza Strip.

The association is the central governing body that is affiliated with Hamas and functions from inside the enclave. They are charged with publishing religious and moral guidelines, including those issued to the Izz ad-Din al-Qassam Brigades, the military arm of Hamas.

Since the war’s second day, on October 8, while skirmishes and firefights were still raging inside Israeli territory, the decree called for the taking of lives.

Signed on behalf of ‘The Islamic nation’s Religious scholars’, it read: ‘Religious scholars make it unequivocally clear that any soldier and Zionist settler are to be killed, wherever they are found in all Muslim lands, both within and outside of Palestine.’

Association senior official, Saleh al-Raqab, published an article on October 8 called ‘Oh Jihad warriors in Palestine’, in which he wrote: ‘Allah, grant victory to Jihad warriors in Palestine, guide their strikes and gunfire upon the Jews’ throats, stabilize the warriors’ legs and

bring forth their stabbing blades into their hearts’...”

Hamas terrorists ordered to kill as many people as possible, target schools in attacks: report

Oct. 16, 2023 -- *The Christian Post* reports: “Newly uncovered documents reveal that Hamas terrorists were directed to kill as many people as possible, with a specific focus on elementary schools and youth centers. These meticulously rehearsed attacks resulted in a death toll exceeding 1,300 in Israel alone, according to official sources.

Israeli officials say the attacks were not a byproduct of military action but rather a central objective, as can be concluded from the documents recovered from the bodies of dead militants at the sites of the attacks, *The Wall Street Journal* reported.

Written orders carried by Hamas explicitly directed them to maximize human losses and take hostages, the Journal said, citing one set of orders that specifically targeted the farming community of Alumim, instructing militants to ‘achieve the highest level of human losses.’

Another set of orders focused on Sa’ad, a 670-person collective farming community, with the directive to ‘take control of the kibbutz, kill as many individuals as possible, and capture hostages.’

Details in the recovered documents also indicate that elementary schools and youth centers were among the primary targets...”

Hamas launched unique terror tactic: Livestreaming horrors on victims’ social media

Oct. 18, 2023 -- *The Times of Israel* reports: “Hamas seems to have intentionally adopted a new terror tactic during its devastating attack on Israeli communities on October 7 — that of using the social media accounts of their victims to spread fear and confusion among their families and friends as the killings and abductions unfolded.

In a report Tuesday, *The New York Times* followed multiple instances in which terrorists who broke into homes in towns and kibbutz communities took control of residents’ phones. In some

cases, they then livestreamed their abuse of victims. In others, they posted messages or media to their social media accounts or called relatives to taunt them. In one case, a teenage hostage was filmed by terrorists being forced to walk around homes in his community and calling on neighbors to come out as it was safe, *NYT* reported.

In another, a family's ordeal was live-streamed to their Facebook account as parents held at gunpoint attempted to calm their two sobbing children, while the kids asked about an older daughter who had been shot dead in another room..." (Killing is rewarded in Islam. Not only do they receive 72 virgins as righteous and martyred godly men, but what even more shocking is they get to choose 70 relatives and friends to go to heaven. Their plan of winning the lost is a sick one and against God's plan which is: For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life – John 3:16.)

Netanyahu: Terrorists Burned People Alive; Every Hamas Member Is 'a Dead Man'; Gantz Invokes Ten Plagues

Oct. 12, 2023 -- *Breitbart.com* reports: "Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu recounted the horrors of Saturday's terror attack by the Palestinian terror group Hamas in an address Wednesday evening to his nation introducing his emergency national unity government.

As *Breitbart News* reported earlier Wednesday, Netanyahu and opposition leader Benny Gantz of the Blue and White Party agreed to form an emergency government of national unity, setting aside political differences until the end of the war. Other opposition parties may follow...

Netanyahu added that every member of Hamas should be considered 'a dead man.'

Minister of Defense Yoav Gallant also spoke, vowing to 'wipe Hamas off the face of the earth.'

'What happened has not happened to the Jewish people since 1945,' he added. 'There's no situation in which you kill Israeli kids and we go about our business.'

Those remarks came as the Israeli Air Force (IAF) hit Gaza on what was called an 'unprecedented' scale...

He warned: 'The reward of our enemies will be blood, fire and pillars of smoke' — a quote from the Book of Joel (3:3) that is also reference, in Jewish tradition, to the Ten Plagues of the Bible that preceded the liberation of the Israelites from slavery...." (**Prime Minister Netanyahu is correct. Why do the heathen rage, and the people imagine a vain thing? The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the Lord, and against his anointed, saying, Let us break their bands asunder, and cast away their cords from us. He that sitteth in the heavens shall laugh: the Lord shall have them in derision. Then shall he speak unto them in his wrath, and vex them in his sore displeasure. Yet have I set my king upon my holy hill of Zion. I will declare the decree: the Lord hath said unto me, Thou art my Son; this day have I begotten thee. Ask of me, and I shall give thee the heathen for thine inheritance, and the uttermost parts of the earth for thy possession. Thou shalt break them with a rod of iron; thou shalt dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel. Be wise now therefore, O ye kings: be instructed, ye judges of the earth. Serve the Lord with fear, and rejoice with trembling. Kiss the Son, lest he be angry, and ye perish from the way, when his wrath is kindled but a little. Blessed are all they that put their trust in him – Psalm 2:1-12. See the next report.)**

New Israeli unit has one goal: Kill all terrorists involved in massacre

Oct. 23, 2023 -- *The Jerusalem Post* reports: "In Israel's ongoing effort to track down all those involved in the brutal terrorist attack that left more than 1,400 Israelis murdered, the Shin Bet (Israel Security Service) has established a new unit named Nili, an acronym in Hebrew for 'The Eternity of Israel Will Not Lie.'

The unit is dedicated to hunting down and eliminating every individual who played a role in the massacre in the western Negev settlements two weeks ago.

This force was specifically set up to target members of a special commando unit within Hamas's military wing

called Nukhba ('elite') who infiltrated Israel, executed mass killings in various villages and IDF outposts, and then returned to the Gaza Strip.

The members of this new organization function independently from other Command and Control units that are focused on neutralizing strike cells and high-ranking terrorists. This particular mission is distinct, with the organization encompassing both field operatives and intelligence personnel..."

Israeli military warns Gazans to relocate south for safety

Oct. 13, 2023 -- *The Jerusalem Post* reports: "The Israeli military announced on Thursday evening that some 600,000 Palestinians in Gaza should relocate to the enclave's south within the next 24 hours.

This, according to *Reuters* and confirmed by military sources, is ahead of an expected ground invasion of the Gaza Strip.

Sources have told the *Jerusalem Post* multiple times this week that the counter-ground invasion would start sometime on or after Saturday, October 14.

'The IDF calls on all residents of Gaza City to evacuate their homes, move south for their protection, and settle in the area south of the Gaza River,' the IDF statement read.

'This evacuation is for your personal safety. It will be possible to return to Gaza City after a notification confirming [safety]. Do not approach the border fence with the State of Israel...' (Israel does all that it can to protect civilians – Hamas uses civilians to protect their missiles; placing them next to schools and in residential neighborhoods. Golda Meir has been quoted as saying: "We can forgive the Arabs for killing our children. We cannot forgive them for forcing us to kill their children. We will only have peace with the Arabs when they love their children more than they hate us.")

Jesus says: ...whosoever shall offend one of these little ones that believe in me, it is better for him that a millstone were hanged about his neck, and he were cast into the sea – Mark 9:42; and Suffer [allow] little children, and forbid them not, to come unto me: for of such is the kingdom of heaven – Matthew 19:14. See the next report.)

Israel issues new warnings to Palestinians to evacuate northern Gaza

Oct. 16, 2023 -- *SpaceWar.com* reports: "Israel on Saturday gave Palestinians living in the northern Gaza Strip a six-hour window to use safe corridors to evacuate the area before an expected ground invasion as the United States urged protection for civilians.

Israel Defense Forces instructed residents to flee to the southern part of the enclave using designated evacuation corridors between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. in a message posted to social media in Arabic.

'If you care about yourself and your loved ones, go south as instructed,' the IDF wrote. 'Rest assured that Hamas leaders have taken care of themselves and are taking cover from strikes in the region.'

Israel forces are preparing for the 'next stages' of the war and will attack the Hamas rulers of the Gaza enclave 'with great force,' IDF spokesman Rear Adm. Daniel Hagari said Saturday at a press briefing, again urging Palestinian civilians to flee region as the war entered its eighth day.

The United Nations reported that more than 400,000 Palestinians have already fled northern Gaza in the wake of a massive Israeli aerial bombardment in retaliation for last week's unprecedented surprise attack by Hamas which killed more than 1,300 Israelis..."

Iran's Khamenei Threatens Israel with 'Greater Disaster' if It Defends Itself from Terror

Oct. 11, 2023 -- *Breitbart.com* reports: "Speaking at a graduation ceremony for Iranian military cadets on Tuesday, Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei described the brutal Hamas terrorist attack on Saturday as an 'irreparable defeat' for Israel.

He blamed the Israelis for bringing rape and murder upon themselves.

'The cause of this destructive storm was the continuous brutality and ferocity of the fake usurper regime against the Palestinian nation,' Khamenei said, as reported by Iran's *Tasnim* news agency...

Khamenei took his bluster to Twitter on Tuesday morning, only to have an amusing encounter with the Israelis, who let him know that his regime is very

much on their minds as they set about neutralizing Hamas and its sponsors.

'The heads of the Zionist regime and their backers should know that the massacre and mass murder of the people of Gaza will cause a larger calamity to come upon them,' Khamenei wrote.

'It's easy to be brave when you're hiding behind a keyboard,' the State of Israel's official Twitter account responded. 'You and your Hamas friends will regret your barbaric actions very soon.'..." **(Iran will be blotted out when Russia, China, and Islamic nations fight Israel and her allies during Armageddon – Revelation 16:16. The battle is described in Ezekiel 39:1 – 5: ...thou son of man, prophesy against Gog, and say, Thus saith the Lord God; Behold, I am against thee, O Gog, the chief prince of Meshech and Tubal: And I will turn thee back, and leave but the sixth part of thee, and will cause thee to come up from the north parts, and will bring thee upon the mountains of Israel: And I will smite thy bow out of thy left hand, and will cause thine arrows to fall out of thy right hand. Thou shalt fall upon the mountains of Israel, thou, and all thy bands, and the people that is with thee: I will give thee unto the ravenous birds of every sort, and to the beasts of the field to be devoured... Soon the war of wars will arrive from the North and East [Russia and China] – Daniel 11:44. The battle is described in Ezekiel 38:1 – 5: ...the word of the Lord came unto me, saying, Son of man, set thy face against Gog, the land of Magog, the chief prince of Meshech and Tubal, and prophesy against him, And say, Thus saith the Lord God; Behold, I am against thee, O Gog, the chief [Russian] prince of Meshech and Tubal: [Moscow and Tubal, or Tubalsk – Southwest of the Russian capital]: And I will turn thee back, and put hooks into thy jaws, and I will bring thee forth, and all thine army, horses and horsemen, all of them clothed with all sorts of armour, even a great company with bucklers and shields, all of them handling swords: Persia, Ethiopia, and Libya with them; all of them with shield and helmet.)**

Nasrallah, senior Hamas and PIJ leaders talk of achieving 'victory' over Israel

Oct. 25, 2023 -- *The Times of Israel* reports: "The leader of Lebanon's

Hezbollah held talks on Wednesday with senior Hamas and Palestinian Islamic Jihad figures in a key meeting of the region's top three anti-Israel terror groups amid the war raging in Gaza.

A brief statement following the meeting said that Hezbollah's leader Hassan Nasrallah agreed with Hamas's Saleh al-Arouri and Islamic Jihad's leader Ziad al-Nakhleh on the next steps that the three — along with other Iran-backed, non-state actors — should take at this 'sensitive stage.'

Nasrallah is known as a reclusive leader who rarely ventures beyond the confines of Hezbollah's fortified zones in south Lebanon, where the Iranian-backed jihadi group has an extensive network of underground bunkers.

Their goal, according to the statement that was carried on Hezbollah-run and Lebanese state media, was to achieve 'a real victory for the resistance in Gaza and Palestine' and halt Israel's 'treacherous and brutal aggression against our oppressed and steadfast people in Gaza and the West Bank.'..." **(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.)**

CONTENDING FOR THE FAITH

Andy Stanley: Evangelical Churches Must Change on LGBT Issue: 'Learn from Us'

Oct. 3, 2023 -- *ChristianHeadlines.com* reports: "Megachurch pastor Andy Stanley delivered rare remarks on the issue of gender and sexuality Sunday, defending his church's hosting of a conference with LGBT-affirming speakers and asserting that evangelicals must change their approach on the issue of homosexuality.

Last week, Stanley's North Point Community Church in Alpharetta, Ga., hosted the Unconditional Conference. This event was billed as a conference 'for parents of LGBTQ+ children and ministry leaders looking to discover ways to support parents and LGBTQ+ children in their churches.' The conference's speakers included individuals who have argued Christianity has been wrong on the issue throughout its history. Among the speakers were two gay men.

Protestia posted the audio from Stanley's sermon.

Stanley criticized theologian Albert Mohler without using his name. The seminary president had written a column denouncing the conference as a departure from historic Christianity and had used an illustration, arguing the theological train for Stanley had left 'the station.'

'I have never subscribed to his version of Biblical Christianity to begin with. So, I'm not leaving anything,' Stanley responded. '... In my opinion, it is my opinion, his version of biblical Christianity is the problem. ... His version of biblical Christianity is why people are leaving Christianity. ... [It's] because they can't find Jesus in the midst of all the other stuff and all the other theology.'

Stanley added, 'That version of Christianity draws lines. And Jesus drew circles.'

The North Point pastor revealed that his church hosts a quarterly event for parents of LGBT-identifying children and teens..." ***(Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil; that put darkness for light, and light for darkness;***

that put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter! – Isaiah 5:20. 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 – II Timothy 3:1-5. See the next report.)

Pope Suggests Blessings for Same-Sex Unions Possible

October 3, 2023 -- *Voice of America News* reports: "Pope Francis has suggested there could be ways to bless same-sex unions, responding to five conservative cardinals who challenged him to affirm church teaching on homosexuality ahead of a big meeting where LGBTQ+ Catholics are on the agenda.

The Vatican published a letter Monday that Francis wrote to the cardinals on July 11 after receiving a list of five questions, or 'dubia,' from them a day earlier. In it, Francis suggests that such blessings could be studied if they didn't confuse the blessing with sacramental marriage.

New Ways Ministry, which advocates for LGBTQ+ Catholics, said the letter 'significantly advances' efforts to make LGBTQ+ Catholics welcomed in the church and is 'one big straw toward breaking the camel's back' in their marginalization.

The Vatican holds that marriage is an indissoluble union between man and woman. As a result, it has long opposed gay marriage. But even Francis has voiced support for civil laws extending legal benefits to same-sex spouses, and Catholic priests in parts of Europe have been blessing same-sex unions without Vatican censure..."

Israeli Police Arrest Five for Hostile Gestures Towards Christians

October 4, 2023 -- *Voice of America News* reports: "Israeli police Wednesday arrested five people suspected of spitting towards Christians or churches in the Old City of Jerusalem and formed a special investigative team to deal with growing complaints of hostile gestures against Christians.

'Unfortunately, we witness the continued disgraceful acts of hatred towards Christians in the Old City of Jerusalem, primarily through spitting by extremists,' said Jerusalem District Commander Doron Turgeman.

No details were provided about the identities of the people who were arrested.

Members of the area's small Christian community have said they have faced growing harassment and intimidation from Jewish ultranationalists, particularly since Netanyahu's hard right government took office late last year.

Wednesday's arrests came as the city prepared for its annual Jerusalem March, an event that usually draws huge crowds, including thousands of Christian pilgrims..." ***(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.)***

Biblical sin city Sodom destroyed by asteroid stronger than nuke – expert

September 29, 2023 -- *The Jerusalem Post* reports: "An ancient city that met a fiery end in what could be described as an asteroid impact more powerful than an 'atomic explosion' has been identified as the biblical city of Sodom, according to a biblical studies expert. Dr. John Bergsma, a prominent theologian, contends that excavations in Jordan provide substantial proof that one of the

Bible's most dramatic and improbable narratives may indeed be factual.

Bergsma asserts that archaeological findings in Jordan corroborate the existence of the biblical city of Sodom. Prior research had already indicated that the ancient city of Tell el-Hammam, located in the southern Jordan Valley, suffered a catastrophic fate—a revelation that Dr. John Bergsma, a theology professor at Ohio's Franciscan

University, believes aligns with the biblical account.

As per the Book of Genesis, God unleashed brimstone and fire upon the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah in response to the sins of their inhabitants, resulting in their complete obliteration. Similar destruction patterns were uncovered at Tell el-Hammam, leading Bergsma to reevaluate the credibility of the biblical narrative. He pointed

to signs of extreme heat detected on skeletons and pottery fragments unearthed by archaeologists, suggesting a possible impact from an asteroid..." *(Then the Lord rained upon Sodom and upon Gomorrah brimstone and fire from the Lord out of heaven; And he overthrew those cities, and all the plain, and all the inhabitants of the cities, and that which grew upon the ground. – Genesis 19:24,25.)*

RUSSIA AND THE KINGS OF THE EAST

Russia moves closer to ditching landmark nuclear treaty

Oct. 19, 2023 -- *SpaceWar.com* reports: "Russian lawmakers on Wednesday voted once more to revoke Moscow's ratification of the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty, moving the country another step closer to abandoning the landmark agreement.

The 1996 treaty outlaws all nuclear explosions including live tests of nuclear weapons, but it has never come into force because some key countries — including the United States and China — have not ratified the treaty.

In a fast-track hearing in the State Duma Wednesday, lawmakers voted unanimously to revoke Russia's ratification of the treaty in a combined second and third reading of the bill.

The initiative will next be voted on by Russia's upper house, the Federation Council, before being sent to President Vladimir Putin to sign into law.

Putin said earlier this month he was 'not ready to say' whether Russia needed to carry out live nuclear tests..." **(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 two reports.)

Russia says U.S. must end 'hostility' for nuclear talks

Oct. 25, 2023 -- *SpaceWar.com* reports: "Russia said Wednesday it would study U.S. proposals to resume dialogue on nuclear arms control, but that it would not accept them unless Washington dropped its 'hostile' stance towards Moscow.

The U.S. and Russia used to regularly inspect each other's nuclear facilities and limit warheads under the New START treaty, but Moscow suspended the treaty in February amid tensions over Ukraine.

Deputy Foreign Minister Sergei Ryabkov told Russian news agencies that Moscow had received an informal memo from the U.S. calling for renewed dialogue, but that talks were out of the question for now.

'The (U.S.) suggests putting dialogue on strategic stability and arms control on a systematic footing, doing so in isolation from everything that is going on,' Ryabkov said.

'We are not ready for this,' he added.

'It is simply impossible to return to dialogue on strategic stability, including New START... without changes in the United States' deeply, fundamentally hostile course towards Russia,' he said..."

Russian defence minister calls to speed up bomber production

Oct. 6, 2023 -- *SpaceWar.com* reports: "Russian Defence Minister Sergei Shoigu on Friday called for more Su-34 fighter jets to be produced, as Moscow pursues its offensive in Ukraine.

The Kremlin has announced a massive spending hike to accommodate its military needs in Ukraine as its large-scale offensive approaches its second year.

'These planes are real workhorses. They can make four to five flights a day,' Shoigu said during a visit to an aeronautical manufacturing base in Novosibirsk in Siberia.

'That's why we need to step up, accelerate' their manufacture, Shoigu said..."

Russia 'highly values' North Korean support against Ukraine

Oct. 19, 2023 -- *SpaceWar.com* reports: "Russia 'highly values' North Korea's support for its Ukraine campaign, Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov said in Pyongyang on Wednesday, with Western concerns mounting over the historic allies' deepening military ties.

Lavrov's comments came as he began a two-day visit to Pyongyang that is expected to lay the groundwork for a trip by President Vladimir Putin.

'We highly value your principled, unambiguous support for Russia's actions in connection with the special military operation in Ukraine,' Lavrov was quoted as saying by Russia's *RIA* news agency.

The foreign minister's trip comes after North Korean leader Kim Jong Un travelled to Russia to meet Putin last month, his first trip abroad since the pandemic began.

Lavrov arrived in Pyongyang from Beijing, where Putin hailed Chinese President Xi Jinping on Wednesday as an ‘old friend’ during a rare trip abroad. Putin, guest of honour at a summit celebrating Xi’s vast Belt and Road investments project, told reporters the two had met alone ‘eye-to-eye’ and that mounting global conflicts ‘strengthen’ their countries’ relations...” **(Russia in Bible prophecy is the main instigator of death and suffering during Armageddon – Revelation 16:16. Ezekiel chapters 38 & 39, which Dr. Van Impe has proclaimed for sixty years, aided by Oriental and Islamic nations, bring total chaos and atomic devastation upon the world. Worse yes, it’s just ahead of us. Every nation he included in World War III is forming exactly as taught this global blood bath six decades ago. The only good news is that the Rapture precedes Armageddon – “Because thou hast kept the word of my patience, I also will keep thee from the hour of temptation, which shall come upon all the world, to try them that dwell upon the earth” – Revelation 3:10. Then our deliverance as believers – Revelation 4:1 and our joy because of missing Armageddon.)**

With Mideast crisis, Russia and China hope to turn tables on U.S.

Oct. 25, 2023 -- *SpaceWar.com* reports: “Since Russia invaded Ukraine, the United States has sought to isolate Moscow and pressure China to keep its distance. With war in the Middle East, Russia and China are seeking to turn the tables.

The United States has cast Russia as the disruptor of the international order at the Security Council, with President Joe Biden promising the world body that Washington would use its veto only sparingly.

But the United States went ahead and vetoed a draft resolution last week it deemed insufficiently supportive of its ally.

In comments likely aimed at consumption in the Islamic world, Russia has accused the United States of escalating the conflict through military reinforcements, while China has lashed out at the U.S. veto and Israel’s actions. The Chinese and Russian reprimands

ring hollow for U.S. officials, who doubt the rival powers will engage in painstaking diplomacy along the lines of Secretary of State Antony Blinken’s recent trip to the region.

But the United States has historically stood out as a lonely voice in its close embrace of Israel, even if for now European allies are largely joining Biden in backing Israel.

Biden on taking office had aimed to shift from the complexities of the Middle East, seeing China as the greatest long-term challenge to the United States.

‘This is not a region where the U.S. has wanted to have a heavy footprint and be actively engaged. At the same time, this president in particular is deeply committed to Israel,’ said Leslie Vinjamuri, director of the U.S. and Americas program at Chatham House.

China ‘is quite willing to see the U.S. pulled sideways in its strategic focus into a region that it hasn’t wanted to be absorbed by, but now is willingly,’ she said...” **(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 four reports.)**

Putin in China to meet ‘dear friend’ Xi

Oct. 17, 2023 -- *SpaceWar.com* reports: “Russian President Vladimir Putin

arrived in China on Tuesday to meet his ‘dear friend’ Xi Jinping and bolster their relationship at a summit overshadowed by the Israel-Hamas war.

China this week welcomes representatives of 130 countries for a forum of President Xi’s vast trade and infrastructure Belt and Road Initiative (BRI).

At the top of the guest list is Putin, who is on his first trip to a major global power since Moscow’s Ukraine invasion threw his regime into international isolation.

He is due to hold talks with Xi on the sidelines of the forum on Wednesday, the Kremlin said, with the war raging between Israel and Palestinian militant organisation Hamas looming large over the summit.

‘During the talks, special attention will be paid to international and regional issues,’ the Kremlin said in a statement, without elaborating...”

China, U.S. Differ on Response to Widening Middle East Violence

Oct. 24, 2023 -- *Voice of America News* reports: “China will continue to support ‘all efforts conducive to promoting dialogue’ for the two-state solution amid the escalating conflict in the Middle East, according to the Chinese Foreign Ministry.

In the regular foreign ministry press briefing on Oct. 23, spokesperson Mao Ning, said, ‘As we speak, the Palestinian-Israeli conflict is escalating, the situation in Gaza is very grave and armed conflict is spreading with a growing spillover effect.’

‘All parties should abide by the international law and international humanitarian law, protect civilians and do everything possible to avert an even worse humanitarian disaster,’ she said.

She added that humanitarian needs must be met.

‘China will continue to support all efforts conducive to promoting dialogue and restoring peace and do its part ... for a comprehensive, just and lasting settlement of the Palestinian question.’

Her remarks highlighted the difference between Washington and Beijing on the Israel-Hamas war, which analysts worry will further fuel tensions between the two superpowers.

President Joe Biden told Americans on Oct. 19 in a televised live speech that the U.S. must increase its support for Ukraine and Israel...”

Xi: China Willing to Cooperate With U.S., Manage Differences

October 26, 2023 -- *Voice of America News* reports: “Chinese President Xi Jinping said Wednesday that China is willing to cooperate with the United States as both sides manage their differences and work together to respond to global challenges, according to Chinese state media.

Whether or not the United States and China could establish the ‘right’ way of getting along would be crucial to the world, Xi said in a letter delivered at an annual dinner of the New York-headquartered National Committee on United States-China Relations.

Xi’s call for more stable bilateral ties, which he says should be built on the

principles of ‘mutual respect, peaceful co-existence and win-win cooperation’, comes before a key visit by Foreign Minister Wang Yi to Washington later this week.

The trip from Thursday through Saturday by the top Chinese diplomat will be the highest-level in-person engagement ahead of an expected meeting between U.S. President Joe Biden and Xi in San Francisco at the November Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) summit...”

Xi tells top senator U.S.-China relations impact ‘destiny of mankind’

October 10, 2023 -- *SpaceWar.com* reports: “Chinese President Xi Jinping said on Monday that China-U.S. ties would impact the ‘destiny of mankind’, as he met with a group of American senators in Beijing.

Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer

is the latest high-level U.S. official to go to China as Washington seeks to ease tensions with Beijing, leading a six-person delegation.

‘How China and the United States get along with each other in the face of a world of change and turmoil will determine the future and destiny of mankind,’ Xi said as he met with Schumer at Beijing’s Great Hall of the People.

‘I have said many times, including to several presidents, that we have 1,000 reasons to improve China-U.S. relations, but not one reason to ruin them,’ Xi said, adding China-U.S. ties are ‘the most important bilateral relationship in the world’.

Schumer, in turn, told Xi that ‘our countries, together, will shape this century’.

‘That is why we must manage our relationship responsibly and respectfully,’ he said...”

EARTHQUAKES IN DIVERSE PLACES

Massive Earthquake Kills over 2,400 in Northwest Afghanistan

October 10, 2023 -- *Breitbart.com* reports: “Afghanistan was struck by its deadliest earthquake in years on Sunday, with more than 2,400 casualties reported at last count from the northwestern city of Herat and its surrounding province.

The U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) rated the quake at magnitude 6.3 and said its epicenter was in the rural district of Zindajan, about 20 miles northwest of Herat.

The U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) said ‘one hundred percent of homes are estimated to have been completely destroyed’ in Zindajan. Herat itself suffered relatively minor damage to its ancient minarets. Eyewitnesses said one reason the disaster response was slow for rural communities was that Herat was left largely intact and, since cellphone service was out, rescuers in

Herat did not immediately realize how badly damaged the surrounding villages were.

The Taliban regime struggled to produce solid estimates of how many people were killed, or even how many people live in Zindajan, since its population includes a large number of displaced persons...” **(Matthew 24:7; Mark 13:8; Luke 21:11; Revelation 6:12; 8:5; 11:13, 19; 16:18 all speak of great earthquakes in diverse places. We believe the greatest earthquake to occur will happen as Christ returns to earth to set up His 1,000 year Kingdom – Psalm 2:6; Revelation 19:11, 14, 16; 20:4; Zechariah 14:2, 4, 12, 16. See also the next report. This could be the hour – keep looking up!)**

More Powerful Quakes Shake Calamity-Hit Western Afghanistan

October 17, 2023 -- *Voice of America News* reports: “A pair of strong earthquakes shook western Afghanistan

on Sunday, disrupting the power supply to Herat province, which was already reeling from a week of devastating quakes.

The U.S. Geological Survey said the magnitude 6.3 and 5.5 quakes struck 20 minutes apart early morning, with their epicenters located outside Herat.

Authorities said surrounding provinces Badghis and Farah were also jolted by Sunday’s tremors, reporting the death of at least two people and more than 100 were brought to the main hospital in Herat. Residents and local officials confirmed that power was briefly cut off throughout province following the first quake.

The western Afghan region, bordering Iran, has experienced several major earthquakes and aftershocks since Oct. 7, when a magnitude 6.3 quake first rattled Herat...”