This Week's Developments

February 18 - 24, 2024

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Proposed Canadian law could see Christians jailed for quoting the Bible

LifeSite News Feb 20, 2024



EVENT

Should Christians be arrested for quoting portions of the Bible in public? Should pastors be charged with a "hate crime" when they preach against certain sins? Should churches be closed if the government does not approve of their beliefs? You might think these are ridiculous questions. After all, this is Canada – the "true north strong and free"! Our national motto is "a mari usque ad mare," quoted from Psalm 72:8, which says that Christ shall have dominion "from sea to sea." However, with the introduction of Bill C-367, all these questions are on the table. This repressive, Christophobic proposal from Bloc Québécois leader Yves-François Blanchet is currently before Parliament and may be voted on shortly. So far, "hate crime" charges against Christians have been very difficult to prove because of an important protection in our Canadian Criminal Code. There is a "religious exemption" in Section 319 that states: "No person shall be convicted of a [hate crime] offense... if, in good faith, the person expressed or attempted to establish by an argument an opinion on a religious subject or an opinion based on a belief in a religious text." But if Bill C-367 passes, that protection will be removed from the Criminal Code. In fact, to criticize the teachings and practices of other religions may be tantamount to a "hate crime!"

COMMENT

The article goes on to say that "the reason for Bill C-367 is the recent rise in antisemitic demonstrations in Canada. Some politicians would claim extremists are being allowed to call for the annihilation of the Jews because our Criminal Code protects religious speech, so religious speech must be silenced." This makes some sense, but whatever might be the reason behind it, this is no less than another indication of the work of the "frog-like spirits" predicted in Rev 16 to have such influence on the political realm at the time of the end. Note that these spirits do not have to originate in France the land of the "frog" but from entities LIKE or SIMILAR to it. What is more similar than the politics of Quebec; and here it is impacting on religious matters firstly, and secondarily politics. This also is predicted in the pages of the Bible, in the very words of Christ himself, speaking of the time of the end,

BIBLE QUOTE

They shall deliver you up to councils; and ye shall be brought before rulers and kings for my sake, for a testimony against them... And ye shall be hated of all men for my name's sake: but he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved.

Russia threatens to unleash 'entire arsenal on London if it loses war in Ukraine'

London Evening Standard, February 20, 2024

EVENT

The Kremlin has said it will use its "entire strategic arsenal" and fire nuclear missiles at London, Washington, Berlin and Kyiv if it is made to give up the areas of Ukraine it has invaded. Former Russian president Dmitry Medvedev, who is a close ally of Vladimir Putin, has warned of "total war" if Russia was forced to return to its 1991 borders established at the collapse of the Soviet Union. Instead, Medvedev suggested Kyiv and the West should allow Putin to have the areas of Ukraine he believes are part of Russia, the Mirror reports. He said: "Attempts to return Russia to the borders of 1991 will lead to only one thing. "Towards a global war with Western countries using the entire strategic arsenal of our state. "In Kyiv, Berlin, London, Washington." Medvedev, the deputy head of the Russian Security Council which controls the war, warned that it is better to return everything to Russia "before it's too late". If not he said that Russia will "return it ourselves with maximum losses for the enemy"

COMMENT

It is shocking to hear the ex president of Russia and powerful ally of Putin threatening to use nuclear weapons against capital cities in Europe. These statements come on the second anniversary since Russia invaded Ukraine. The warning Russia is making to the West is simple – they will not withdraw to the original borders and if necessary will destroy everything to achieve their aims. Putin has made clear that it is the Donbass region of Ukraine that he wants to walk away with. He won't settle for anything less. The Donbass region of Ukraine was originally part of ancient Magog. Ancient Magog covered much of southern Russia and also the Donbass region of Ukraine. Gog is of the land of Magog and so by taking the Donbass, Putin is taking the last piece of Magog....

BIBLE QUOTE

The word of the Lord came to me: "Son of man, set your face against Gog, of the land of Magog, the chief prince of[a] Meshech and Tubal; prophesy against him. Magog never covered territory further west than Ukraine. Magog therefore is not Germany. Magog was also known as Scythia which covered Southern Russia and eastern Ukraine. (Ezekiel 38:2)

Russia's worrisome invite to Hamas, PIJ and its implications

Jerusalem Post, February 19, 2024



EVENT

Russia has invited Palestinian groups to Moscow, which could bring together Hamas, the Palestinian Authority, and other terrorist groups. Palestinian Authority Prime Minister Mohammad Shtayyeh said over the weekend that Russia invited Palestinian factions to meet in Moscow at some point in late February, the latest Russian move to increase its influence in a post-October 7 world. Moscow hosted a Hamas delegation already in October, as Hamas sought to do outreach to Moscow. In October, a Hamas delegation set out for Moscow, led by senior Hamas member Mousa Abu Marzouk, and met with the Russian and Iranian deputy foreign ministers, Mikhail Bogdanov and Ali Bagheri Kani. That meeting represented a convening of interests between Russia, Iran, and Hamas. This is concerning because Iran backs Hamas and also supplies Russia with drones for its use in the war in Ukraine. Russia has been particularly cold towards Israel following October 7, slamming its operations in Gaza and particularly Israel's ambassador to Russia in early February.

COMMENT The one nation that has benefited most from the conflict between Israel and Hamas is Russia. The USA now has to fund and supply weapons to both Ukraine AND Israel. This is creating great financial pressure and with limitations on the number of weapons some that were intended for Ukraine have now gone to Israel. Some analysts believe that Putin's fingerprints are all over the Hamas Oct 7th attack. Which explains why Putin is about to welcome to Moscow (again) the terrorist groups that want to destroy Israel. The Bible says that Israel's enemies will visit Gog (Putin) asking him to support their cause...

BIBLE QUOTE

After many days thou [Gog] shalt be visited: in the latter years thou shalt come into the land that is brought back from the sword, and is gathered out of many people, against the mountains of Israel, which have been always waste: but it is brought forth out of the nations, and they shall dwell safely all of them. Visited means "sought after", "needed", "visited", "to seek" (Ezekiel 38:8)

Israel opposes 'unilateral' imposition of Palestinian state

Reuters, February 18, 2024



EVENT

Israel on Sunday formalised its opposition to what it called the "unilateral recognition" of Palestinian statehood, and said any such agreement must be reached through direct negotiations. Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu brought the "declaratory decision" to a vote in cabinet, which unanimously approved the measure, according to a statement. Netanyahu said at the start of the weekly meeting that the move comes after "recent talk in the international community about an attempt to unilaterally impose on Israel a Palestinian state." The formal Israeli statement, according to Netanyahu's office, reflects the fact that: "Israel rejects outright international dictates regarding a permanent accord with the Palestinians. An accord, should it be reached, will only come through direct negotiations between the sides, without preconditions." "Israel will continue to oppose the unilateral recognition of a Palestinian state. Such recognition in the wake of the October 7th massacre will grant a huge, unprecedented reward to terrorism and prevent any future peace accord," it said.

COMMENT

One of the astonishing impacts of the massacre committed by Hamas against Israel on October 7th is the fact that almost every nation on earth is now clambering for there to be a Palestinian State. This means dividing Israel (and Jerusalem) in two and giving those people who want to destroy Israel half of "the land". World leaders believe this will solve the issue and the Palestinians would then live happily ever after in their new state next to Israel. Of course this would never happen. The total destruction of Israel is the only outcome they desire – and so war would continue. Israel has rejected any unilateral recognition of a Palestinian state. The division of Israel is recorded in Joel 3.

BIBLE QUOTE

I will also gather all nations, and will bring them down into the valley of Jehoshaphat, and will plead with them there for my people and for my heritage Israel, whom they have scattered among the nations, and parted [divided] my land. The nations may well announce a division of the land – but in the next verse God says "what has Philistia to do with me?" (Joel 3:2)

British parliament plunged into chaos over Gaza cease-fire vote

Politico, February 21, 2024



EVENT

Angry MPs staged a walkout in the House of Commons Wednesday night and vented their fury at Speaker Lindsay Hoyle, as a symbolic vote on a cease-fire between Israel and Hamas descended into chaos. MPs had been set to vote on a motion from the Scottish National Party calling for an "immediate" cease-fire in Gaza. The SNP used its dedicated "opposition day" in the Commons to push the motion. But Hoyle intervened to allow the opposition Labour Party — which feared a rebellion from its own MPs amid pressure over its response to the conflict — to put forward its own amendment to the motion, which also backed an "immediate humanitarian cease-fire" but included softer language on Israel's conduct in the war. The Prime Minister gave his own views on the Gaza votes controversy in a short broadcast interview on Thursday afternoon. "I think the important point here is that we should never let extremists intimidate us into changing the way in which Parliament works. Parliament is an important place for us to have these debates. Some people may want to stifle that with intimidation or aggressive behaviour."

COMMENT

The chaos seen in Britain's parliament was down to one thing – fear. MP's are fearful of the violent consequences if they are not seen to be backing Gaza and the Palestinians. It has come to light that many MP's are receiving threats if they don't vote "the right way" and condemn Israel. A staff member for an MP said it was "only a matter of time" until "the worst happens". This is why the UK prime minister said that some want to stifle debate though intimidation and aggression. The Bible says that Jerusalem would become a burdensome stone for all people and those who try to move it will be cut to pieces. In other words Jerusalem will become an insolvable issue that brings destruction

BIBLE QUOTE

And in that day will I make Jerusalem a burdensome stone for all people: all that burden themselves with it shall be cut in pieces, though all the people of the earth be gathered together against it. Don't forget the Hamas war is about Jerusalem. They call this conflict The Al Aqsa Flood – Al Aqsa is the Muslim name for the Temple Mount in Jerusalem. (Zechariah 12:3)

Israel strikes Hezbollah 'military compound' in Lebanon

Daily Telegraph, February 23, 2024



EVENT

A Hezbollah "military compound" in Lebanon has been hit by an Israeli strike amid ongoing cross-border fire as tensions intensify in the Middle East. Hezbollah claimed that two paramedics affiliated with the group and one of their fighters were killed in a "direct" attack on a civil defence centre in Blida, southern Lebanon. The Hezbollah-affiliated Islamic Health Committee said the attack caused "the destruction of the health centre as well as a number of ambulances". Late on Thursday, the Israeli army released a statement saying that it had identified fighters "entering a Hezbollah military compound in the area of Blida". "Fighter jets were scrambled and struck the compound where the terrorists were identified," it said. The violence on Israel's northern border has sparked fears of another full-blown war between Israel and Hezbollah like that of 2006.

COMMENT

In recent days, Israel has attacked deeper into Lebanon with a series of airstrikes that have killed Hezbollah fighters, some of them senior officers, and several Lebanese civilians. On February 19, Israel staged airstrikes against two warehouses in Ghaziyeh, just south of Sidon and some 50 kilometers (31 miles) north of the border. Despite the intensifying violence of recent weeks, the fighting between Hezbollah and the Israeli military still falls well short of reaching a threshold that could precipitate war. However, the Bible says that Hezbollah will be drawn into the conflict and ultimately, completely destroyed. Psalm 83 says that the inhabitants of Tyre will align themselves in a confederacy of people who want to destroy Israel. The region of Tyre is the stronghold of Hezbollah. But the Psalm says that the fate of these enemies of Israel is total destruction. This is the inner ring war that happens before Russia descends for a spoil.

BIBLE QUOTE

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; (Psalm 83:4-7)

Netanyahu unveils Israel's 'day after' plan for Gaza

The Times, February 23, 2024



EVENT

Israel wants operational freedom throughout Gaza "without a time limit" as part of its postwar plan for the territory, Binyamin Netanyahu has told his war cabinet. In his long-awaited "day after" plan outlining Israel's post-war intentions for Gaza, the Israeli prime minister also called for a "demilitarised, deradicalised" territory and the closure of UNRWA, the vital aid body that has come under fire after the alleged involvement of some of its employees in the October 7 Hamas attacks. "Israel will maintain operational freedom of action in the entire Gaza Strip, without a time limit, for the purpose of preventing the renewal of terrorism and thwarting threats from Gaza," the document issued by the prime minister's office states as its first medium-term goal. Netanyahu also has to placate the more extreme elements in his administration, for fear he could fracture the fragile government. Some far-right ministers have called for Palestinians to leave Gaza.

COMMENT

Netanyahu's plan, unveiled on Thursday night, appears to reject any future governance by the Palestinian Authority, which governs the West Bank, by ruling out civil administration by "countries or entities that support terrorism". Responding to the plan, a spokesman for Mahmoud Abbas (Palestinian Authority leader) said that Gaza must be part of the independent Palestinian state with Jerusalem as its capital. It is interesting there are some in Israel's government calling for Palestinians to leave Gaza altogether. In Joel 3 we read of the sons and daughters of the "coasts of Philistia" i.e. the Gaza Strip - being sold to the Sabeans. The Sabeans lived in modern day Yemen. We may well see the destruction of Hamas and the deportation of some Palestinians to Yemen.

BIBLE QUOTE

I will return your recompence upon your own head: And I will sell your sons and your daughters into the hand of the children of Judah, and they shall sell them to the Sabeans [area of Yemen], to a people far off: for the LORD hath spoken it.

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