

KHAR WAPSI: 98 CHRIS-TIANS 'RECONVERT' TO **HINDUISM IN TRIPURA** 

> At least 98 Christians belonging to 23 tribal families have been "reconverted" to Hinduism in Tripura on Jan. 20, a far-right Hindu group claimed. Uttam Dey, president of the Hindu Jagran Manch, said that the people, mostly tea garden workers hailing from Bihar and Jharkhand, had been converted FULL STORY ON - 05 to Christianity in 2010."It is as

Christian News

Reg no :TVM/TC/1717/2014,Established :USA, Published from :India, Kerala, TVM



Volume 02

Issue No: 15

Pages:12

FEBRUARY 2019

## Church Bombing in Philippines: 20 Dead on Sunday!



The Islamic State (IS) group said it was behind the attack on Jolo island, where jihadist groups are active. The first blast happened as Sunday Mass was being celebrated. A second device exploded outside as soldiers

responded.

The attack came days after a Majority-Muslim area in the region voted for greater autonomy in a referendum. A statement from IS said the attack was carried out by "two

knights of martyrdom" against a "crusader temple".Jolo has long been a base for militants, including those of the Abu Sayyaf group. Several of its factions have declared allegiance to IS.

The local officials say the first blast happened at 08:45 local time (00:45 GMT) inside the Cathedral of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, which has been hit by bombs in the past. The second explosion was shortly afterwards on the doorstep of the church.

Police initially put the death toll at 27 but later lowered it to 20, saying there was double counting in earlier official reports. Most of the victims are civilians. The main road leading to the church sealed off by soldiers in armoured personnel carriers. Some of the wounded were evacuated by air to the

nearby city

FULL STORY ON - 10

## EGYPT OPENS MIDDLE EAST'S BIGGEST CATHEDRAL NEAR **CAIRO**

Egypt inaugurated one of the Middle East's largest cathedrals on Orthodox Christmas Eve, just a day after a deadly bomb blast targeted a church in the capital. Security was tight as President Abdel-Fattah al-Sisi opened the Cathedral of Na-

tivity in Egypt's New FULL STORY ON - 05





**Editorial** 

2





Rev. Manuel Joseph Th.M. Sub-editor, End-Time News

"The attack has generated mixed reactions from the people of India. A good number of people want the country to avenge the enemies through military attacks, including surgical strikes



At least 40 CRPF personnel were killed and above 40 were seriously injured in one of the deadliest terror attacks in Jammu and Kashmir, India, when a Jaishe-Mohammad terrorist rammed a vehicle carrying over 350 kg of explosives into their bus in Pulwama district on 14 February 2014 at around 3.15 PM.at Ladhu Modi Lethpora.

There are 61 battalions for CRPF (Central Reserve Police Force) in Jammu and Kashmir, of which 48 are in Kashmir and the rest 13 are in Jammu, with a total strength of 65000 soldiers. Generally, the convoy moves from Jammu to Srinagar (and vice versa) on alternative days. Though the transit is very regular in summer, it is not possible in winter due to snowfall and landslides. Due to snow-blocked roads, around 2547 soldiers and 78 buses were stranded in Jammu

since February 4. When the road got cleared on 14 of February, they started their journey at 3:30 AM, having completed all the routine procedures. When the convoy was travelling through Pulwama highway, the suicide bomber, approaching the highway from a lane, rammed a vehicle carrying over 350 kg of explosives into one of the buses killing all the 40 travelers in it and injuring many in the buses behind. The powerful explosion, which reduced the bus to a mashed heap of iron, was heard many kilometers away, including in some parts of adjoining district Srinagar. Body parts could be seen spread around the area making the rescue opera-

FULL STORY ON - 09

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Mediation

3





## **ALLAN VARGHESE**

When Jesus Christ told his eleven disciples to "Go and make disciples of all nations," (Matthew 28:19) there is chance that they did not fully grasp the complexities of that command. However, as the disciples began carrying out this great commission, the intricate elements of being on mission started to become visible. Subsequently, the apostles, with the power of the Holy Spirit had to discern how to do the mission of God effectively. Part of fulfilling that mission was to identify and nurture thegifting of fellow Christians. In this short article I would like to focus onencouragement, which might have played its pivotal role in that process of discernment. We turn to the book of Acts of the Apostles to gather this wisdom.

When we hear the word encouragement, we often equate ittoproviding great compliments. Although such appreciations have its place, the term encouragement goes beyond,

to indicate a process of encouraging one another to recognize and nurture their God given gifting to do the Mission of God. To learn more about this long term encouragement process, we turn to Joseph Barnabas whose name is first mentioned in Acts 4:36 with his honorary title "the son of encouragement." The apostles called him the "son of encouragement" not because his father's name was "encouragement," instead he was well known to encourage others. Barnabas' encouraging character earned him the title. Therefore, let's consider three important aspects of encouragement through the life of Joseph Barnabas.

1. Barnabas' encouragement came from his faith: Acts 11:24 says, Barnabas was "a good man, full of Holy Spirit and faith." He was sure of hisfaith in Christ. Therefore it can be said that his decision to encourage others was motivated from what Christ thought of Him and not by what others thought. Often when we get a prompting to encourage our fellow brothers and sisters, we ponder what he/she might think of us. We are easily swayed by what will happen to our reputation if we go and speak encouragement. However, Barnabas' intention to encourage was not influenced by such vain thoughts but by his faith and by the Holy Spirit. He was certainly ledby the Holy Spirit

2. Barnabas encouraged with his possession: Acts 4:36, 37 says; "Joseph, a Levite from Cyprus, whom the apostles called Barnabas (which means "son of encouragement"), sold a field he owned and brought the money and put it at the apostles' feet." (NIV) Barnabas encouraged the Church with his possession. Often it is easy to say compliments. But it takes more effort and commitment to put our money as an encouragement.

Barnabas did not hesitate to put his wealth as an encouragement to make Christ known. The story of Barnabas informs us to consider our possession for the ones we seek to encourage. If we consider time to be the possession, then lets not hesitate to give time to the ones we encourage. If we consider money to be our possession, then lets encourage one another by providing money so that God's mission can be carried out.

3. Barnabas sought out to encourage and remain patient: In an individualistic society it is often normal to think that I will wait for someone to come to me and then I shall encourage him or her. We just don't want to take the risk that involves going out of our way to encourage someone. However, the

**Bible Study** 





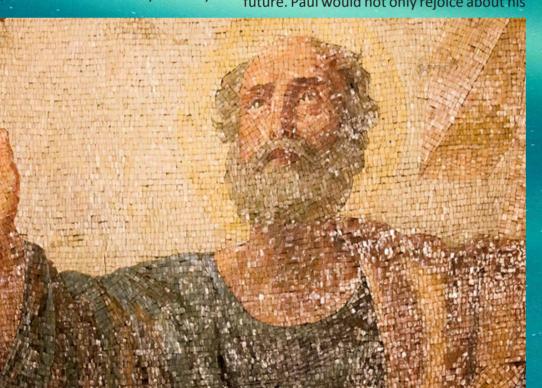
## Rev. Pr. O.M. Rajukutty

Paul's perspective on life and death is founded upon the bedrock certainty of the resurrection of Jesus Christ, and from that, the certainty that all the dead will be raised some to eternal life, and some to eternal torment. He says in Phili. 1: 23, 24 "For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain. But if I live in he flesh, this is the fruit of my labor: yet

## PAUL'S PERSPECTIVE ON LIFE AND DEATH

While the gospel was making great progress, Paul was imprisoned, soon to go on trial before Caesar, and his future was cause for great concern—for some perhaps, but not for Paul.

cent and set free. To some people the mere possibility of death would be enough to be thrown into a deep despair. In the last part of verse 18 of Philippians 1st chapter, Paul takes up the subject of his outlook on the future. Paul would not only rejoice about his



shall choose I wot not. For I am in a trait betwixt two, having a desire to depart, and to be with Christ; which is far better: Nevertheless, to abide in the flesh is more needful for you." Paul was least bothered about his future. He says, he knows in whom ne believes. What of the future? While the gospel was making great progress, Paul was mprisoned, soon to go on trial before Caesar, and his future was cause for great concern—for some perhaps, but not for Paul. After Paul presented his case to Caesar, he executed. He might also be declared inno-

present circumstances, he will now tell us why he is able to rejoice in his future, whether that be life, or death carefully at the words of our text and see why Paul has such

**UNCERTAIN FUTURE BUT CERTAIN JOY** 

Paul says: "What then? Notwithstanding every way whether in pretense or in truth, Christ is preached; and I therein do rejoice, yea, and will rejoice"- Philippians 1:18. Paul will continue to rejoice, for he knows that this will turn out for his deliverance through the could be found guilty, and if so, he would be prayers of the saints and the support of the Spirit of Jesus Christ. Paul's confident hope with complete boldness, even now as always life or death. Christ should be magnified in his body, is Paul's desire. Paul is joyful be cause he is certain that his present and future circumstances will turn out for his deliverance. The question we must ask and answer is, "What does Paul mean by deliverance?"As a concordance search will indicate, this word can refer specifically to one's salvation (Acts 4:12; 13:26, 47:16:17; Romans 1:16), but it is also used with a broader meaning of "deliverance" or "rescue" (Acts 7:25), or "preservation" (Acts 27:34). The meaning of the word must be broad enough to encompass anything from his release from prison to his release from this life, by his execution. The key to understanding Paul's words is to be found in the Book of Job. We need to understand that the phrase, "this will turn out for my deliverance," in Philippians 1:19 is identical with Job's words in Job 13:16 that, "Indeed, this will turn out for my deliverance, for no godless person would dare come before him" (NIV).

Job continues: Why do I put myself in jeopardy, and take my life in my hands? Then he says,"If he slays me, I will hope in him; I will surely defend my ways to his face". Moreover, for no godless person would come be fore him. Listen carefully to my words; le your ears be attentive to my explanation. See now, I have prepared my case; I know that am right. Who will contend with me? If so, will be silent and die. Job gives emphasis to 'mine' (Job 13:12-19). His is no accident! Pau intended for his readers to understand that his choice of words



# **Full Story**

### FULL STORY ON - 01

Administrative Capital, 45 kilometers east of Cairo, ahead of Coptic midnight mass. On the same day, the country's former military chief also opened one of the region's largest mosques in the same area.

It was a bold move in Egypt where extremist groups including Isis have repeatedly attacked the country's embattled Coptic community, who make up an estimated 10 per cent of the 100 million-strong population and face mass discrimination. Just a day before the inauguration a policeman was killed, and two others injured, trying to defuse a device which had been placed on the rooftop of a mosque near a church in the Nasr City district of Cairo

"This is an important moment in our history," President Sisi said at the event which was attended by several foreign dignitaries including Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas and Arab League Chief Ahmed AboulGheit."We are one and we will remain one," he added, referring to Egyptian Christians and Muslims. Coptic Pope Tawadros II, who later led the mass, said: "On this day we see you have fulfilled this promise and here we are witnessing a great opening on this grand occasion."

US President Donald Trump was quick to applaud the opening."Excited to see our friends in Egypt opening the biggest Cathedral in the Middle East. President Al-Sisi is moving his country to a more inclusive future," he tweeted on Sunday. The security forces were taking no chances at the event which was held in a nearby hotel. Worshippers had to pass through three sets of metal detectors, while armoured vehicles and dozens of ambulances were stationed nearby.

A documentary screened at the opening said that the cathedral has the capacity to hold 8,000 people, making it the largest in the Middle East.The nearby Al-Fattah al-Aleem Mosque can hold nearly double that number.Both are located in the new administrative capital, a major development the Egyptian government hopes will supersede crowded Cairo in the coming years.

But many fear the cathedral will only become the target of future attacks in the country that since the 2013 military overthrow of Muslim Brotherhood President Mohammed Morsi has been rocked by shootings and suicide bombings claimed by groups like Isis.

But religious rights activists say that Christians in Egypt do not enjoy the same rights

as their Muslim counterparts and are not properly protected by the security forces. More than 100 Copts have been killed in jihadist attacks since December 2016 alone. In November Isis claimed to be behind the deadly shooting of a bus of Christian pilgrims in Minya, in which six Copts and one Anglican were killed. Militants killed a further 40 people in twin church bombings in April 2017, and an Isis gunman in December of that year gunned down nine people in an attack on a church in a south Cairo suburb.

### FULL STORY ON - 03

story of Barnabas tells us a different story. When the apostles were afraid of Paul (who was still went by the name Saul at this stage after his conversion), it was Barnabas who took the risk and sought out Paul (Acts 9:27). It was Barnabas' courage to go, recognize and verify Paul's transformation that made Paul as the valiant follower of Jesus Christ and a crucial personality for the Mission of God. Barnabas' story also reminds us to be patient with one another in the process of encouragement

In conclusion, Barnabas demonstrates the nature of encouragement that goes beyond just speaking words of appreciations. Barnabas' story calls us to root our nature of encouragement in our faith in Christ so that we may go out of our way to recognize and nurture the gifting of our fellow Christian, even to the point of sacrificing our wealth to invest in the other, for the sake of carrying out the mission of God to make disciples.

### FULL STORY ON - 01

if the lost family members had returned home," Dey added.

The session of "gharwapsi" that indicates the "return home" to Hinduism happened in the district of Kailashahar, about 180 km from the capital Agartala. The mass conversion ceremony was sponsored by the Vishva Hindu Parishad (VHP).

Praising the ceremony in front of the press, Dey said, "They were Hindus, but were lured into Christianity after the Sonamukhi tea garden in Unakoti district, where they were working, was closed in 2010."

One of the former Christians, Birsa Munda, said: "We are very poor people. Christians converted us. They often treat us badly. We have freely decided to reconvert ourselves

However, experts claim that most of the conversions to Christianity occur among tribal groups that follow animist religions, not Hindus. Therefore, gharwapsi would not be justified. The alleged confirmations of the nationalist and of the former Christian are attempts of the ruling party to woo voters for the upcoming general elections in May.

### **Submissions Invited**

You are cordially invited to send submissions to The End Time News magazine, including articles, short stories, poems, cartoons, etc. If you would like to contribute, please contact us at our email address:

harvestingsoulsmission@gmail.com

http://www.harvestingsouls missioninc.org

Zamboanga.

Calling the attack, a FULL STORY ON - 12

"dastardly act", Defence Secretary DelfinLorenzana urged the local population to work with the authorities to "deny terrorism any victory". "We will use the full force of the law to bring to justice the perpetrators behind this incident."

In last week's referendum, voters approved the creation of the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Majority-Muslim areas of southern Philippines.But voters in Sulu province, where Jolo is located, rejected it. The referendum was the result of a peace deal between the government and the Moro Islamic Liberation Front.

The authorities have previously expressed hopes that the vote could be a political solution to try to end decades of fighting between Islamist separatists and the Philippine army in the predominantly Catholic country.



## CHINA CREATING 'CHURCH-FREE ZONES' AROUND SCHOOLS, GOV'T 'PREVENTING MINORS FROM BELIEV-

## **ING IN GOD'**

The Chinese government is creating "churchfree zones" around schools, prompting some believers to fear authorities are attempting to "sever the roots so that the next generation loses its faith." A magazine, which reports on Christian persecution in China, published the document titled "Implementation Plan on the Special Governance of Private Christian Gathering Sites" in the northern Shanxi Province.

nd Time News

Another document, issued by the Religious Affairs Bureau, states: "All private Christian gathering sites around universities and colleges, as well as on-campus activity sites, are to be shut down in accordance with the law. Criticism and (re)education of participating teachers and students is to be carried out by the school authorities."Authorities are also requiring places of worship to submit the names of their youth members, leading some believers to question whether the government will use the information to affect their employment prospects.

One believer who wasn't named told the outlet that by "being so strict in preventing minors from believing in God, the Chinese Communist Party is seeking to sever the roots so that the next generation loses its faith."New Regulations on Religious Affairs, the Chinese government's "control over the religious faith of minors has reached its highest level since the Cultural Revolution.""In addition to forbidding religious facilities near schools, the regulations mandate investigating the beliefs of students and their parents; prohibiting minors from believing in God; and closing Sunday schools."

In December, more than 60 police officers and officials stormed a children's Bible class at Rongguili Church in Guangzhou and confiscated church property, including 4,000 books. In February, a priest in Hebei province who asked to remain anonymous told ucanews.com that authorities had asked clergymen in some parts of the province to post signs prohibiting minors from entering religious venues, prayer houses and other



church premises."When minors enter internet bars, the government and police turn a blind eye. However, they are becoming very strict in prohibiting minors from entering religious venues. It is ridiculous," a local Christian told the outlet. Despite such persecution, the Gospel continues to spread at an unprecedented rate, as an increasing number of parents are "begging" teachers to teach their children about Jesus.

Sean Elgut, the headmaster of Veritas Christian Academy of Virginia, revealed that Christian schools are on the rise in China. While many Chinese are atheist, or Buddhist, most parents are open to Christianity, and some even encourage their children to learn all they can about Christ."Chinese parents start to realize Christian education is beyond textbooks. The parents want their kids to live with faith. They are begging us to teach them about Jesus," Elgutsaid.In addition to teaching Christian values, teachers spend quality time with students in hopes of leading them to Christ: "Time is important. We want to spend more time with them, just like Jesus with His disciples. He had time for them and taught them," he said.

## 'VISUAL COMMENTARY ON SCRIPTURE' WEBSITE LAUNCHED

A new \$2 million web project launched by King's College London is offering users a new way to visually digest biblical Scripture through the analyses of classic and contemporary works of art. The United Kingdombased public research university officially launched a website titled Visual Commentary on Scripture, a project that has been over a year in the making and was made possible by a donation from billionaire U.S.-based philanthropists Roberta and Howard Ahmanson.

The project, which aims to cover every book in the Christian Bible, uses works of historic and modern visual art that reflect messages found within passages of Scripture. According to the project's director, the VCS aims to make it easier for people to see the "bridge between the historic traditions of Christianity and the art world.""What we are seeing now, and I think it is a new moment in Christian history, more Protestant and Evangelical churches have a very strong desire of wanting to use a visual language in the mission," King's College professor of Christianity and the arts Ben Quash told.

"Visual language is a new kind of currency among young people who talk to each other all the time in visual language by sharing images on So churches who want to communicate the Gospel for young people who talk in images are having to take images seriously. I think that is very exciting because it FULL STORY ON - 07

**Bible Study** 

7



# THE RESURRECTION OF THE SAINTS

### M.K THOMAS



1 Corinthians: 15:26 The last enemy to be destroyed is death.

Nobody likes to die. Everyone is frightened when one hears of death. We are always happy at birth and life. But very much afraid of death. Death is as old as human history. Science and scientist put their all-out efforts to conquer death, but it is invincible. Our position or possession, qualification or caliber can't overcome death.

Why does a man die? - The Bible only can answer this question clearly!Romans: 5:12 Because of one man's sin and by sin death entered the world. How and when does man become free from death? It happens by the resurrection of his people during the rapture. We can meditate this topic by four points.

## 1. What is the proof of resurrection of his saints?

2. Where are the spirits of saints till the day of resurrection (including the spirits of unsaved people)?

- 3. What is the nature of resurrection?
- 4. What is the order of resurrection?

1.What is the proof of resurrection of his saints?

a) The Church of Corinth had all gifts or they did not lack any spiritual gifts but they didnot believe in the resurrection of the dead. So apostle Paul is asking them, if there is no resurrection for the dead, then Christ has not been raised and our preaching and faith are useless. So long as Christ is alive by breaking the seal of Roman emperor he has risen from the dead (1 Corinthians 15: 12).

b)1 Corinthians 15:20 He is the first fruit of those who have fallen asleep. "First fruits" is the ancient Greek word aparche. In the Septuagint, this word is used for the offering of firstfruits and in secular usage the word was used for an entrance fee. Jesus was the first fruits of our resurrection in both senses. In the Old Testament, the offering of first fruits brought one sheaf of grain to represent and anticipate the rest of the harvest (Leviticus 23:9-14). The resurrection of Jesus represents our resurrection, because if we have been united together in the likeness of His death, certainly we also shall be in the likeness of His resurrection (Romans 6:5). The Feast of First fruits was observed on the day after the Sabbath following Passover (Leviticus 23:9-14). Significantly, Jesus rose from the dead on the exact day of the Feast of First fruits, the day after the Sabbath following the Passover.

c)Another proof is in the book of Leviticus: 23:10 At the time of harvesting the field of Jews, they will not let the laborers to step into the field whereas the owner of the field will make a bundle of stalk of corn (sheaf) and it will be brought to the High priest of the Temple for wave offering. The wave offering represents a spiritual truth. Though the sheaf can't speak, it proclaims silently that as I am harvester from the soil, there are so many saints to be raised from this earth.

## 2. Where are the spirits of those people till resurrection?

After man dies or after he breathes last Where is he then? There are many misconceptions and some people believe that the spirit enters another man. But some believe that if his deeds were good his spirit will rest in peace. All these opinions are wrong as per the word of God. As soon as one dies the spirit does not stay there even for one second. Ecclesiastes: 12:7 King Solomon says the dust returns to the ground it came from and the spirit returns to God who gave it. So many people think that however the

## Sparkling Wisdom!



### FULL STORY ON - 06

means that there is a new opportunity to draw people into reading the Bible through using visual arts."

Each passage of scripture included in the VCS will have three accompanying works of visual art that all relate to the biblical passage in question. Each painting associated with the scripture will have their own commentaries written by a select writer or author. The commentaries of the paintings reflect on the historical perspective of the time period the artwork was completed as well as perspectives on the passages of Scripture they are associated with.

As of now, there are nearly 100 passages of scripture completed by the project, each with their own three paintings and accompanying reflections. According to Quash, the goal is to have over 1,500 scripture exhibitions included in the project with about 240 being produced per year. One example is the VCS exhibition of the "Sermon on the Mount," which is accompanied by a 1481–1482 fresco by Italian painter CosimoRoselli, a 1442 fresco by Italian painter Fra Angelico and a 1598 oil painting by Flemish painter Jan Brueghel the Elder.

According to Quash, the project was partly inspired by the Ancient Christian Commentary on Scripture, a multi-volume book set in which the biblical text is surrounded by classical commentary from early church theologians."The idea was to get people to realize the depth of the commentary tradition in the early centuries of Christianity and give them an opportunity to read the Bible in the company of the great early church theologians," Quash said."Instead of textual commentary gathered around the Bible passages, what we did was works of art that people selected how the texts interact with the works of art. In a way, the nearest model we have is this Ancient Christian Commentary. But it takes a big step beyond that by going into the visual realm."



## Sparkling Wisdom!

- ❖. There are far, far better things ahead than any we leave behind. − C.S. Lewis
- Worry is like a rocking chair. It will give you something to do, but it will not accomplish anything. Believe that God can give you provision at a moment's notice, because He can. John Hagee
- Other people are going to find healing in your wounds. Your greatest life messages and your most effective ministry will come out of your deepest hurts. – Rick Warren
- Comfort and prosperity have never enriched the world as much as adversity has.
   Billy Graham
- When a man becomes a Christian, he becomes industrious, trustworthy and prosperous. Now, if that man, when he gets all he can and saves all he can, does not give all he can, I have more hope for Judas Iscariot than for that man John Wesley
- We must not select a few favorite Bible passages to the exclusion of others. Nothing less than a whole Bible can make a whole Christian A. W. Tozer
- ❖ A man may be said to be given to covetousness when he takes more pains for getting earth than for getting heaven **Thomas Watson**
- Anticipated sorrows are harder to bear than real ones, because Christ does not support us under them - Edward Payson
- Grace puts its hand on the boasting mouth, and shuts it once for all Charles
   Spurgeon
- Let us fight bravely against all the trials of this brief life, confident that our Lord will uphold us by his power until we have fully overcome - John Calvin



**Abigail Thyvilayil John** 

**NEWS** 

9

## FULL STORY ON - 02

tions tough.

Following the attack, Pakistan-based Jaishe-Mohammed (JeM) terror group claimed responsibility for the attack and later Police

officials after the attack, labelled it (in a tweet) despicable and affirmed that the sacrifices of security personnel will not go in vain. In a statement, Singh said the government is determined to foil the designs of those who want to disrupt peace through

KirenRijiju said the "cowardly" attack will not go unpunished and it will be avenged in "all way possible". Congress president Rahul Gandhi (most likely the next Prime Minister) said he was deeply distressed by the cowardly attack on the convoy in which so many CRPF men were killed.

Following the incident, various nations in the world expressed their grief and solidarity to India, deeply condemning the biggest terror attack Kashmir witnessed in the last decade. United States, Germany, France, China, Australia, Nepal, Bhutan, Sri Lanka, Iran, Bahrain, Indonesia, Bangladesh, Italy, Spain, UK, European Union, UAE, Oman, Saudi, Estonia are a few countries to mention.

The attack has generated mixed reactions from the people of India. A good number of people want the country to avenge the enemies through military attacks, including surgical strikes and there is another group who suggest political resolutions instead. The Christians in India need to pray for peace and protection and on no account the current issues lead to a war or war-like situation. We request all your sincere prayers too for the country! God Bless India!



Time News

identified the suicide bomber as Adil Ahmed, a Kashmir native, who joined the terror group in 2018.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who spoke to Union Home Minister Rajnath Singh and top

such a terror attack "sponsored and sheltered by Pakistan". "Jaish-e-Mohammed has carried out this terror attack. We assure the country that we will undertake whatever it takes to avenge this," he said. His deputy

### FULL STORY ON - 07

spirit goes to God then why should I be born again. But it is a misconception. Here the Spirit of saved or unsaved, it is in the supreme authority and custody of God. God will send the spirit to two different places. The Spirit of saved will be send to the bosom of Abraham or upper Hell or paradise of upper Hell Proverbs: 15:24 whereas the spirit of unsaved people will be send to the lower Hell or torturing place. Psalms: 86:13 All the Old Testament saints were send to the bosom of Abraham. After the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ he went to the upper Hell, even one of the thieves was send there. Christ took all captives from there to the third heaven and the upper hell was locked by Jesus. Now this place is vacant. So it is written in the word of God the key of death and hell is with me (Revelation 1:18). The spirit of saved person today goes to the third heaven with God. But the unsaved will remain in the lower hell till the day of judgment before the white throne. From Cain to the last unsaved person will be there. They have to wait for 1007 years from the coming of Christ in the sky. The second resurrection is only for (exclusively)

unsaved and wicked people.

### 3. What is the nature of resurrection?

There are 2 different types of people resurrected in 2 different times. Those who have done good and those who have done evil. John 5:28-29 All who are in the grave will hear the voice and come out. Those who did good will rise up to live and those who did evil will rise up to be condemned. But remember it doesn't happen at the same time. Only the righteous who died in Christ will hear the voice of trumpet first and the unsaved will rise up after 1007 years of rapture. Those who did evil will rise up to be condemned. What is evil? John: 6:28,29 Once some people asked Jesus What we must do to do the works God requires. He said you should believe in Him Whom He has sent. Sobelieving in Jesus is good. By doing good works we can't please God.

## 4. The order of Resurrection: - 1 Corinthians:15:23

1.Jesus Christ the first fruit in the first row. He is already risen up.

2. Then those who belong to him (we the Church)

3. The third row is all unrighteous and unsaved standing before the white throne (Revelation: 20:11). Earth and Sky fled away from his

presence. All are standing in vacuum.

My dear readers albeit we have earned so many acres of land or any other possession, you will not have even one cent of land to stand upon. Now we should make sure if we are in the first resurrection because a day is coming that no one can do anything. At last the book of life will be opened. The sea gave up all the dead that were in it. Death and Hades gave up the dead that were in it. if anyone's name was not found written in the book of Life he will be thrown into the lake of fire. before they are thrown everyone has to say Jesus is the only Lord. As they are not willing to go by themselves they are forcibly pushed into the fire. All of them have heard the gospel preaching once or many a times but they did not obey. They ridiculed and mocked at them. What a terrific day the unsaved are going to face. Surely the day is coming. It will burn like furnace. All arrogant and evil doer will stubble (Mal: 4:1-2).

Let's be prepared for His coming. Death and Hades will be thrown into the lake of fire Rev: 20:14 Thus death the last enemy will be destroyed. O death where is your victory O death where us thy sting. Amen!





**NEWS** 



## MUSLIM LEADER FOILS DEADLY TERRORIST ATTACK AGAINST CHRISTIAN CHURCH IN EGYPT

A bomb attack against a church in east Cairo was averted thanks to the prompt action of a Muslim cleric, Imam SaadAskar who called the police. When the bomb squad tried to dismantle the devices, one exploded killing a bomb disposal expert.

The incident took place last Saturday at the end of the celebrations for Coptic Orthodox Christmas at the Church of the Virgin Mary and Abu Seifin in Ezbat al-Haganah, Nasr City, an eastern suburb of the Egyptian capital. Visiting the church afterwards, Imam Askar said: "We have to stand by each other's side and take care of each other. Those who target places of worship have no religion and are neither Muslim nor Christian".

Two al-Azhar students told the imam about a stranger with a suitcase. Together with mosque worker Gouda ShaabanKhalifa, 63, Askar ran after him, but he fled the scene leaving behind a trolley case. The police found three explosive devices inside. Major Mostafa Ebeid al-Azhari, from the bomb squad at the Cairo Security Directorate, defused two bombs before the third one exploded, killing him. According to local sources, Coptic Christians who were celebrating their Christmas, were the target. Sheikh SaadAskar, the imam of the mosque oppo-



site the church, was thus able to warn people at the church, urging them to leave.

A video posted on social media shows the sheikh warning people in the church to quickly get away. When police arrived, they set up an exclusion zone. After dismantling the bombs, they fanned out looking for other explosive devices.

Christians are substantial minority (10%) in Egypt, a Muslim majority country of almost 95 million people. In 2016 and 2017, several violent attacks were carried out against the Christian community. For this reason, this year's Christmas celebrations were held under tight security, especially around churches and Christian-owned buildings.

For experts, such places are a weak link and easily accessible to extremists who target them because of their high international visibility.

## **BIBLE STUDIES CLASS PROPOSED IN FLORIDA** STATE AS ELECTIVE

Florida lawmakers are considering a bill allowing public high schools to offer an elective Bible studies class as part of its curriculum. House Bill 195 was introduced by Jacksonville Democrat Rep. Kim Daniels last week. It would require every school district in Florida offer religion classes as an elective to students in 9th-12th grade.

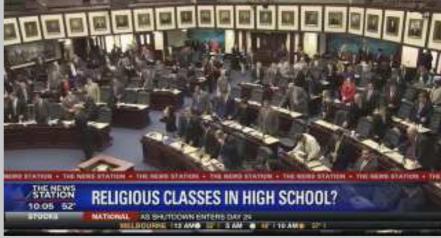
The bill is short on details but calls for "an objective study of religion," and an "objective study of the Bible, including, but not limited to, a course on the Hebrew Scriptures and Old Testament of the Bible; a course on the New Testament of the Bible; and a course on the Hebrew Scriptures, the Old Testament of the Bible, and the New Testament of the Bible."

Right now, such courses are allowed to be

offered in schools, but it is not mandatory for districts to offer them. Pastor Troy Schmidt of First Baptist Church or Windemere supports the idea as an elective, and pointed out several other states, including Texas, Kentucky and Oklahoma have implemented a

similar mandate.

"The Bible is a 2,000-plus-year-old document. It has a lot of historical significance, it formed our nation," he said. "It's not being forced. People have the choice to take it or not, they could take any other course they



want."However, not all are on board with the proposal. David Williamson, cofounder of the Central Florida Freethought Community said this kind of course would require specific teachers."They're going to have to (FULL STORY ON - 01

**Full Story** 

11



#### FULL STORY ON - 08

was deliberate. He purposely chose to employ the very words of Job, because they applied to his own situation as well. Job was a righteous man, whose suffering was not due to his sin, but because of his piety. God was demonstrating to Satan that the righteous worship Him because of who He is, and not simply because God blesses them materially. Job's friends then came along and accused him of wrongdoing. In various ways, they told Job that his suffering was the result of his sin, and if he would confess his sin and forsake it, God would once again bless him with prosperity. In the context of Job 13, Zophar has taken up accusing Job of sin, and Job responds to Zophar. Some scholars think that Paul was claiming that his suffering, like Job's, was innocent, and that his accusers were wrong.

In his book, Explore the Book, J. Sidlow Baxter says, Zophar is less courteous and more drastic than either Eliphaz or Bildad. Zophar, like the other two, has his distinguishing feature. Eliphaz, as we have seen, bases his views on observation and experience. Bildad rests on tradition. But Zophar is content with mere ASSUMPTION. He is the pure dogmatist. From beginning to end of his speeches there is not a semblance of reasoning. Baxter then goes on to say: All these three men are committed to what is substantially the same fixed theory of life, namely, that calamity is always the direct outcome of sin, and that the Divine favor or disfavor is indicated by a man's material prosperity or adversity. They all want to prove that goodness and wickedness are always rewarded and punished in this present life: they are all silent concerning human destiny and Divine retribution in a life beyond this present one. Their philosophy and doctrine have no horizon beyond this earth. Job's response to Zophar (and the others) might be paraphrased this way: "Your accusations that I have sinned and need to confess are empty and without grounds. Be quiet and let me speak. I am ready to face whatever comes my way. Why do I put myself at risk as I do? I believe that I will stand justified before Him. I believe that my circumstances will turn out for my deliverance, whatever form that may take. Ultimately I will stand before Him without fear.

Now, with Job's situation and response in mind, let us consider how Paul meant for us to see his response to his circumstances and his accusers. In Philippians 1:12-18, Paul

wrote about his present circumstances and the various responses others had to his incarceration. He said that even cynical guards had come to see that the real issue was not an offense against the state, but the offense taken by the Jews, because of the gospel Paul preached. Most of the saints were encouraged by Paul's boldness in proclaiming the faith, and in the advance of the gospel. Paul chose his words very wisely when he borrowed from Job's own words of defense. Like Job, he knew that he was not guilty of wrongdoing. Like Job, he was ready to die for God's cause, if necessary. Like Job, he knew that somehow God was going to make his circumstances turn out for his deliverance. Like Job, Paul believed that a day will come when he will be adorned with his glorious body when he sees his redeemer.

### FULL STORY ON - 10

identify a person who can teach this, determine if they can objectively teach this," he said. "You don't have an objective world religions class here, you have a Judeo-Christianity, and Kim Daniels version of it, put into schools."

Rep. Daniels is a former preacher, and self-proclaimed "demon-buster' In 2018, lawmakers passed a bill to get the phrase "In God we Trust" displayed at every Florida public school. Daniels did not answer requests for comment on this story.

Similar legislation has been proposed in North Dakota by Republican lawmakers who have come under heavy criticism for the proposal. The American Civil Liberties Union has even called it "unconstitutional," claiming the course needs to bring other viewpoints into the mix.

"A school could teach comparative religious classes or you could talk about the Bible's relationship to literature, art, or music," Heather Smith, ACLU executive director in North Dakota.

The Florida bill stipulates that schools must "follow all state and federal laws and guidelines in maintaining religious neutrality and accommodating the diverse religious views, traditions, and perspectives of all students in the school." Kentucky passed a similar bill in 2017.

#### FULL STORY ON - 12

In October, a ministry helping Iranian believers told that it was witnessing one of the "fastest growing underground church movements" in the world. Mike Ansari, president of Heart4Iran Ministries, told CP that "the persecution of minorities has been a constant under the current Islamic regime in Iran. The Iranian converts to Christianity have been systematically arrested and persecuted as heretics. "He attested that the persecution is stemming from a "historic and organic growth of Christianity inside Iran, evidenced by one of the fastest growing underground church movements in the world."

The ministry leader revealed that most Christians who are arrested "are coerced to divulge information about their house-church activities and those of their friends, under the threat of criminal persecution, or arrest of family members."

Ansari said it's important to remember that the Church was strong in Iran even before the rise of Islam."Much of today's Islamic world, including Iran, was once Christian. The churches across Iran and Iraq were once great and enduring churches, which sent the first missionaries to China. Yet with emergence of Islam, these communities were marginalized and at times completely destroyed," Ansari said ahead of the International Day of Prayer for the Persecuted Church that month.



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# TWO IRANIAN CHRISTIANS REFUSE TO RENOUNCE CHRISTIAN FAITH IN EXCHANGE FOR FREEDOM FROM PRISON

Two Iranian Christians at their final appeal hearing were ordered by a court to renounce their Christian faith to gain their freedom but they refused to do so. Christian Solidarity Worldwide said the hearing took place on Tuesday in Tehran, where Christians SahebFadaie and FatemehBakhteri were ordered by presiding judges Hassan Babaee and Ahmad Zargar to turn away from their religion.

The believers, who refused to comply, have been convicted of "spreading propaganda against the regime," and are waiting to hear their final verdict. In September, Fadaie was sentenced to 18 months in prison, along with two years of internal exile, while Bakhteri was sentenced to one year in prison.

The Christians were arrested and convicted for discussing Christian doctrine in a house church, which was deemed to be an attack on Islam, the dominant religion in Iran. Fadaie is already serving a 10-year prison sentence in the notorious Evin prison in Tehran, convicted in July 2017 along with three other Christians "for acting against national security" by "promoting Zionist Christianity." CSW's Chief Executive Mervyn Thomas argued that Fadaie's and Bakhteri's convictions were not only go against their



right to religious freedom, but also "criminalizes the Christian faith, which the Iranian Constitution purports to recognize." "It is deeply concerning that Judges Babaee and Zargar are presiding over their appeal, especially in view of the unacceptable demand for them to renounce their faith; the rejection by these judges of a previous appeal involving Mr. Fadaie, and the allegations that both judges are implicated in hu-

man rights violations," Thomas added. The CSW head insisted that the two Christians deserve due process and to have their verdicts overturned."We also continue to urge the Iranian government to cease all forms of harassment and intimidation of peaceable religious communities, and to release all those detained in connection with their religion or belief," he said.

