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| **PROPHECY UPDATE NEWS HEADLINES****Yesterday's Prophecies - Today's Headlines** |

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| HEADLINES IN PARTNERSHIP WITH ****TRACKING BIBLE PROPHECY****[http://www.trackingbibleprophecy.org/birthpangs.php](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001Erp3-2ELJdsNB3cgBzrbLBIiu6u8YEg4mi7_WblNTxZahMF6e4DeZnm7C4odFADKeUBcIfkTV4OvXBYxkFz20QwRR3t0ew89sEpecUrC4UcM3DhMIBiGR10uB8fSG2-D7omeLO90x_8VKn0TGJpVked92VN1XEUUNsaAY9UGIaVi7JHq-qFKRCsyDdQ6O9qQaktLVar7uMt6WxNqk_k50Q==&c=IAAmvTrPrx1eMiuFYLqc2WykP94TAHUqItOD55RrPj3WBO8h7J06tw==&ch=uhJnAfre38PGjELbj-xPMCLMl9rjo163xC2zlzkBXxWof2ZT1MCYSQ==)* [Israel to ease its blockade of Gaza, reports Turkish newspaper](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001Erp3-2ELJdsNB3cgBzrbLBIiu6u8YEg4mi7_WblNTxZahMF6e4DeZgNQYV0Jf8Zocl0aXp8-7rGXZ1DGFnndopecp9yzlmf1C0FiOkuqqGXLpDxApGLzuMs0neLlwSNF_aa8U_m-FMmOVyDZgYX_iaBOsj4CykRhAy2MGBdEB-hBGWcBCUEjjvq79Ix2H3rboQXgYe_yDfrse9jFywBeWj8ZsOzBOSaAz7DTPBHyZj-fHGywncl4x5yqzLYD6ax7XBxw3VZrw6G4HWDRWTxSvg==&c=IAAmvTrPrx1eMiuFYLqc2WykP94TAHUqItOD55RrPj3WBO8h7J06tw==&ch=uhJnAfre38PGjELbj-xPMCLMl9rjo163xC2zlzkBXxWof2ZT1MCYSQ==)
* [Face-saving formula on Gaza blockade could allow Israel-Turkey normalization](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001Erp3-2ELJdsNB3cgBzrbLBIiu6u8YEg4mi7_WblNTxZahMF6e4DeZgNQYV0Jf8ZolVf2A14Fc4_xzutI09BuNhE75fiMnkwzCZnxvyc6C2Mue2LAB0WoVhB2yNniga7Rrb0VT6PKntrQko2mThHmWlrSfF5-oI1KGloWndYTQMydiYza7AoKNfx7rMhPoukiMVXikBCe_4PPKcaAlFA0BLFchgTUGMX3gHkfrbsS84aLEles7JBvoikd0O15JXkQisvhi0qQcsditWdMiOcxjgw-Y3X0yK3AfSEbCf6yCtAKbIwC5OZEYDB8MbJPWsBloIkdVR1klO0=&c=IAAmvTrPrx1eMiuFYLqc2WykP94TAHUqItOD55RrPj3WBO8h7J06tw==&ch=uhJnAfre38PGjELbj-xPMCLMl9rjo163xC2zlzkBXxWof2ZT1MCYSQ==)
* [Hamas leader meets Turkish president amid talk of Jerusalem-Ankara detente](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001Erp3-2ELJdsNB3cgBzrbLBIiu6u8YEg4mi7_WblNTxZahMF6e4DeZgNQYV0Jf8Zo9bUA43awsDA7VJcnZRzDdgQHWHJA3KrTZyCjRMpheybdMaEnOaJZgLGUHD34ViH_sH0UnLgJwdVS1MPcpeY-n5Ve21nLlm-uhQyL_BRKCP5lUbrClIZExYSJsq44JCYQ9RiobZw-n14zRBN8cUn2UHckXmY_QC5jaOjNjxP7oMbYuQkwa0xB4xoPrDG2dMlqu9ey03iMewOFtoImKn4z_20k1meuYcEpvL3NEXQPkMVk_gAWTiS4fdYI1bSatB_k&c=IAAmvTrPrx1eMiuFYLqc2WykP94TAHUqItOD55RrPj3WBO8h7J06tw==&ch=uhJnAfre38PGjELbj-xPMCLMl9rjo163xC2zlzkBXxWof2ZT1MCYSQ==)
* [62 Kurdish militants, two soldiers killed in fighting across southeast Turkey](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001Erp3-2ELJdsNB3cgBzrbLBIiu6u8YEg4mi7_WblNTxZahMF6e4DeZgNQYV0Jf8Zo-zpEjU4jnKr_IPzCZIDx8xjwMWRAi5NaP8qGkhZFL5NzlUHlc_lC2MRqnchm5bpHPVnwJpfblKS7o5zOZL4XpD0YizGWd3I1Od4-svtgx0wi6anDltfbJrNjZHN-IuNNzq8jngR8mdGNQxj0A3dM-gTjc4C9GQVEbBDL5lUyHmi88V6txQnRqQI5vcz8f75EO6Wv56YfPcKT2hbqtuvVbLdNw1nnCXoZNjm0JF3ykOQ=&c=IAAmvTrPrx1eMiuFYLqc2WykP94TAHUqItOD55RrPj3WBO8h7J06tw==&ch=uhJnAfre38PGjELbj-xPMCLMl9rjo163xC2zlzkBXxWof2ZT1MCYSQ==)
* [Russia wants to maintain ties with Turkish people, Turkish leadership "not eternal" -Putin](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001Erp3-2ELJdsNB3cgBzrbLBIiu6u8YEg4mi7_WblNTxZahMF6e4DeZgNQYV0Jf8ZoAbMxPemWQwoRaEM0C5tBbTfv2fe9qvjT4HGyl0lptsSUWiYGCWGBVfNQQXN7Ibz0jcHs87M4yc6ytcNjzOGWq7fMDqZye3uKlsayxPSNo6KsgvCgajSeW6Tgr330wqZS7n-o2pg1KcdxyTvxaKMrtpM3RdgIyJqQUhk39pHaquSC5QyvbqcJl3cxcVyvV9ZPblplcUazSeLrcgHeZnwmUbeumHzukJje1XMqflE_A5oWcX5WWldEaSGbD9165Yen&c=IAAmvTrPrx1eMiuFYLqc2WykP94TAHUqItOD55RrPj3WBO8h7J06tw==&ch=uhJnAfre38PGjELbj-xPMCLMl9rjo163xC2zlzkBXxWof2ZT1MCYSQ==)
* [Report: Putin says Russia ready to use 'more military means' in Syria if need be](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001Erp3-2ELJdsNB3cgBzrbLBIiu6u8YEg4mi7_WblNTxZahMF6e4DeZgNQYV0Jf8Zom-76_6hU19TZ7dnaOILEDFTk3osVTxaHgrF6Jb5gpJ_sHn1Cco9R1DJqudS6cDmGPMBwiFFax04HvHKvDQKy86EdkvstfXhullZIDSpTqesWY1cIQo4qrjzLB-jwNYJpJEOxykKYIYSBHSZWa1Uo6nyQup8Q-dkETcT5RLu3o7aAuXZ37BllacVJ3FaxajejyAhDEogDmY7LvDN4Vn28oy1IZpJeLSWs30Tm-dVQ88o=&c=IAAmvTrPrx1eMiuFYLqc2WykP94TAHUqItOD55RrPj3WBO8h7J06tw==&ch=uhJnAfre38PGjELbj-xPMCLMl9rjo163xC2zlzkBXxWof2ZT1MCYSQ==)
* [U.N. endorses Syria peace plan in rare show of unity among big powers](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001Erp3-2ELJdsNB3cgBzrbLBIiu6u8YEg4mi7_WblNTxZahMF6e4DeZgNQYV0Jf8ZowPvNUZcHLVqR0kjhRVNH4Ob4iMK_kfjg-0hYw2OcWZA_no9t3B40XtsM1dPqoX9WjW_FZZZHsjN96zkp1uV6fCNG_a6C6HtpRCovqWFUeCu7b6Mf4R5iIMeVkwekR9aQObqMMXCnt4QZN40opnYVYWoHMOfIc21yF2eS4Kd73-f3NTqKQSCuiw==&c=IAAmvTrPrx1eMiuFYLqc2WykP94TAHUqItOD55RrPj3WBO8h7J06tw==&ch=uhJnAfre38PGjELbj-xPMCLMl9rjo163xC2zlzkBXxWof2ZT1MCYSQ==)
* [Germany says obstacles remain for Syria after UN backs peace process](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001Erp3-2ELJdsNB3cgBzrbLBIiu6u8YEg4mi7_WblNTxZahMF6e4DeZgNQYV0Jf8ZoatGXrHeZfGVfT6saxMqNEIzKZXxC_GNqq3cXGW5ERKFGwm1MI2Mfc72Dzz6j58RnI9Fs1pobNEZYaYJFdH2vIb5_aQ26Xsj9nAedQuDlDubQ3U02JAFl0_GRMNcu7aBeDs8kQblisYip91mfxuJA-TMZ3g5gOMneRV2YjlqUJgCaJ1hOZIIGHN8ctK5TShIuIfsyrH8KNf494GHdjZ-Nzu5dBj1M2H6i&c=IAAmvTrPrx1eMiuFYLqc2WykP94TAHUqItOD55RrPj3WBO8h7J06tw==&ch=uhJnAfre38PGjELbj-xPMCLMl9rjo163xC2zlzkBXxWof2ZT1MCYSQ==)
* [Five years later: How the US and EU failed the Arab Spring](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001Erp3-2ELJdsNB3cgBzrbLBIiu6u8YEg4mi7_WblNTxZahMF6e4DeZgNQYV0Jf8Zoa9Mse4DWq0Z_kbMjAasGH5sONBXE7vakdoiZbz_xyNxCbEd-IFknpv8LcM28mXQ6byjE8Q16TC-aWegLgUJFWuV5B8Jj3XjRB9p1e0ow9c68A4AxTGwtzbP-8LPuY6z6pKyIFs8xG3zipWmWU-aAmh6O7UYqgQKI0flO9KDmh0bQh8cEXX9nvLLnAeGqKn23UxarVw6yaXFOpUkoEJql1g==&c=IAAmvTrPrx1eMiuFYLqc2WykP94TAHUqItOD55RrPj3WBO8h7J06tw==&ch=uhJnAfre38PGjELbj-xPMCLMl9rjo163xC2zlzkBXxWof2ZT1MCYSQ==)
* [Pentagon chief visits French carrier to show joint resolve against ISIS](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001Erp3-2ELJdsNB3cgBzrbLBIiu6u8YEg4mi7_WblNTxZahMF6e4DeZgNQYV0Jf8ZogScW_1_84DohAoAuT3bOz1kS23E31hI2ZRlxyHW4UkKtjMYibaBAzMeyB5W_2tm3Nwq1PzdiYEQLcjeUL_fEvHnnG-r5AxV0_TmraK3mtGZbJwHnpndWBYb6Lv9r7XN3FoHGMiALU28vc0kOqz2Z4IWS3U8X_EHWxcw0m3Uh2aN1DzYE4kvNqqD2Y8qpnINbVnRm40PGkTlMr-a_QuRN0uLHFMAcacgXRoIkypZWrVg=&c=IAAmvTrPrx1eMiuFYLqc2WykP94TAHUqItOD55RrPj3WBO8h7J06tw==&ch=uhJnAfre38PGjELbj-xPMCLMl9rjo163xC2zlzkBXxWof2ZT1MCYSQ==)
* [Syria war: Report claims 'third of rebels share IS aims'](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001Erp3-2ELJdsNB3cgBzrbLBIiu6u8YEg4mi7_WblNTxZahMF6e4DeZgNQYV0Jf8ZoRPpCbkYbj1VpFvBauqZvpCYd0_rhjXwUOdQHluSI7C7Eah1HW2Lj046_tuZjDF9K-VOcvu20W8r--MzHxhAZA0rEnDo0XgrY1JbG8dbuVAnplwUdh8kgGqmN8xkIwvlpYujlq9gHpRqR6MLvejI-BA==&c=IAAmvTrPrx1eMiuFYLqc2WykP94TAHUqItOD55RrPj3WBO8h7J06tw==&ch=uhJnAfre38PGjELbj-xPMCLMl9rjo163xC2zlzkBXxWof2ZT1MCYSQ==)
* [Islamic State denounces Saudi Arabia's anti-ISIS coalition](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001Erp3-2ELJdsNB3cgBzrbLBIiu6u8YEg4mi7_WblNTxZahMF6e4DeZgNQYV0Jf8ZoPNgEEeN7LFtwGujt07a3wbTgiVzdfpA-b5x4I2qmHfpsQw5Le2_wqp5y1KAiwq9vVWAH6gCiJRz3lv45JvjOoADF-ft-_At2NTNYBUObAlu7SbUTRHAUAQkhNhgke13a-gYoHgRr5hsisEzEqeKoyVQgokphld94NuyfLwhHGkXAf5Gmx4l7XNr4N3uJRf7RiFKSNj0Fha2OgwAVxPKjfg==&c=IAAmvTrPrx1eMiuFYLqc2WykP94TAHUqItOD55RrPj3WBO8h7J06tw==&ch=uhJnAfre38PGjELbj-xPMCLMl9rjo163xC2zlzkBXxWof2ZT1MCYSQ==)
* [Pakistan Taliban reject ISIS leader's claim to be 'caliph'](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001Erp3-2ELJdsNB3cgBzrbLBIiu6u8YEg4mi7_WblNTxZahMF6e4DeZgNQYV0Jf8Zo0onIU2RAx4ABL-FgudTfLZp7on5GibuugyGc_Hxs92qQjUU_jyW9qbLCEc_C4XMR_bxgvZgs9yY8m-NDRjngea0NIPXH_06YGSW1xglWbGMTiEuKZ560dKkzkTVoFmUslu9EtpikA6BJGvVuw07xr5GJo_WptK061zHW9TKv8w_mbUJWfWOWy8PoqYZRY-U0edNKkDYeneAqt8rIt_SF_Q==&c=IAAmvTrPrx1eMiuFYLqc2WykP94TAHUqItOD55RrPj3WBO8h7J06tw==&ch=uhJnAfre38PGjELbj-xPMCLMl9rjo163xC2zlzkBXxWof2ZT1MCYSQ==)
* [Iraqi forces ask residents of IS-controlled Ramadi to leave city within 72 hours](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001Erp3-2ELJdsNB3cgBzrbLBIiu6u8YEg4mi7_WblNTxZahMF6e4DeZgNQYV0Jf8ZozP-llYmHor_GbkOB2SvO7rUHhVMkqzbLx5mPJXuzQ3UDDr13GswEOKLmHyTI0aueb7gFWBQ2rH7fahacseJZ6Ey92hDnkK3E9MmhM61ThHcune58xOdqmFwpcCPvEUQYxFmktE4SS_rBRY_7HX4ny9BokHmbf2C7LNpMKIJ3pGw6Iu6tFq1aJuo0WjQz_8jRc3jFBvZ_evTslM7SaWEZbhsQnRihCF93fLrEO2wgkJKXsz5QgCpvEw==&c=IAAmvTrPrx1eMiuFYLqc2WykP94TAHUqItOD55RrPj3WBO8h7J06tw==&ch=uhJnAfre38PGjELbj-xPMCLMl9rjo163xC2zlzkBXxWof2ZT1MCYSQ==)
* [Iraqi soldiers may have been hit by coalition friendly fire](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001Erp3-2ELJdsNB3cgBzrbLBIiu6u8YEg4mi7_WblNTxZahMF6e4DeZgNQYV0Jf8ZogSSmGSpiHvV5MjYAov1PEUp_PfEhm861PZ2xNx3rQp-aiJ1pNpdTWce735skOGgjACrai-zSFVRO_uSm4rSozcp5ay3XuhfSCXOXhiU_h9BJ-zco9AqkmbCNRgFoHlFA8hiz_lP_oswk3hGPEP-PoPdiTnSpSrmqOXEf9Ziwz6i7JapooC7nqyI1tPDbFK57m1aZttDCDw0=&c=IAAmvTrPrx1eMiuFYLqc2WykP94TAHUqItOD55RrPj3WBO8h7J06tw==&ch=uhJnAfre38PGjELbj-xPMCLMl9rjo163xC2zlzkBXxWof2ZT1MCYSQ==)
* [Pentagon chief: Iraqi strike may be 'mistake' by 2 sides](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001Erp3-2ELJdsNB3cgBzrbLBIiu6u8YEg4mi7_WblNTxZahMF6e4DeZgNQYV0Jf8ZoJqmHzVVDF8hPVf6LvKCRPunrS58mvA3s0KH_xaIsjdYKaiBmoWRcMj3QKH3nef_gTlNSutEEzofPFgE_6ga28a3SmKx-Ff_mOFVa2K8PLxrv0ceBM61sLR0ugr9pepbNPB8Zw05UQ8_cwJ5MoV3k78oHn7SD-otKvJIb60NWqBRGABbB_YJ5BYbYSPZo7mTkS_ryxaJi0xo5dkmDZU31gQ==&c=IAAmvTrPrx1eMiuFYLqc2WykP94TAHUqItOD55RrPj3WBO8h7J06tw==&ch=uhJnAfre38PGjELbj-xPMCLMl9rjo163xC2zlzkBXxWof2ZT1MCYSQ==)
* ['Only so much bombing you can do,' says Obama, vowing not to fade in final year](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001Erp3-2ELJdsNB3cgBzrbLBIiu6u8YEg4mi7_WblNTxZahMF6e4DeZgNQYV0Jf8ZovFLqRFxSHLFom7vMYEGhwPU4tW6hIq3sOrpV5YOdV_vucARoCbuqd5W6bd5OF5j_ZPOIE1CnAeTFB4c3C_0_1LXYHRUMAgA2YS-fDnR5WrK_GTrirBdS4M8I9h687JXlO_quDcu44v6PnR4eujMtex4tEsLebQN6eTd9VObjG4TLCwNXl-TWkuePps7fTNEUGx0Lt3PxBU-fEIcuecAN6x9bAPIVW4QG&c=IAAmvTrPrx1eMiuFYLqc2WykP94TAHUqItOD55RrPj3WBO8h7J06tw==&ch=uhJnAfre38PGjELbj-xPMCLMl9rjo163xC2zlzkBXxWof2ZT1MCYSQ==)
* [Obama sends message of tolerance after meeting California shooting victims](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001Erp3-2ELJdsNB3cgBzrbLBIiu6u8YEg4mi7_WblNTxZahMF6e4DeZgNQYV0Jf8ZoVLXzqRYAYZZYDWE5ehV0LPOQ0KAEevU1ggvKLO3FMU_L1DnOvyLGooI1PbwVX0HOxB9ThYezDt1X-pa0XxwCslWY6bBIIymF0Y50qk5hA1HrN438Gp-PUtTH22rh06YQRJZUWAzDkE1Cx6mF4GdP1iZvExV_xl_1YRT8D43NKhJ8RzvFEBsLxq9tXbvHNbJaReqjgsQVHEfAmcKSLWlNdB1lTb47usih4cKd0MoGMZk=&c=IAAmvTrPrx1eMiuFYLqc2WykP94TAHUqItOD55RrPj3WBO8h7J06tw==&ch=uhJnAfre38PGjELbj-xPMCLMl9rjo163xC2zlzkBXxWof2ZT1MCYSQ==)
* [Obama Administration and UN Announce Global Police Force to Fight 'Extremism' In U.S.](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001Erp3-2ELJdsNB3cgBzrbLBIiu6u8YEg4mi7_WblNTxZahMF6e4DeZiQUsFA9PL7TS4S0NDowTM6x8ZUKtc1QlyeT0LqW86KOzTEgdFULQguL1RaTOD8Mn42z3zy5bEQ4etZAW06Bacf7NsG_-PJvanHoYUPj475ALPMBfGjE9nRfw1Mc5KnI9Z_gVL1apRUQpSlNENATpG8KaLW1T2kMXzSOirkhloJrIXE9Gmd6Y0nBK-sJhleQVylSxgfUaGdZ4OjmWG330iX2xY83LG9YlLhWNR_4_qaPbfyjjRfYDrl2aYfKSBxl8sBWCHNomCHsbKpe994mDQg=&c=IAAmvTrPrx1eMiuFYLqc2WykP94TAHUqItOD55RrPj3WBO8h7J06tw==&ch=uhJnAfre38PGjELbj-xPMCLMl9rjo163xC2zlzkBXxWof2ZT1MCYSQ==)
* [Security is focus at churches, mosques amid heightened fears](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001Erp3-2ELJdsNB3cgBzrbLBIiu6u8YEg4mi7_WblNTxZahMF6e4DeZgNQYV0Jf8ZoGv8xEcCLuRFwpTbvtHUAWrfKLd0SDBK_f3g_YrwQ8fwz3r9M0mmKV1_MMZJlUBTvanl7GQNY-23Lzs8W0HP1xv5ohcwAPt871W40derIFJprg1z0cXMSMly8JlyjfE9ZOqeDuZZ7Zoh6ISmQ4J0dR9HFqALWZPn9IKLcVdCUdr7vfghuyYel6Ywysg3X0ImvXgl8DgyWwtCnjwu2hVHPzeredtQHDXToaMEspyQkfkBU49n3UzHzkG_HaB1EM9DMZRyvue3jhRBn73Gf0uWzdA==&c=IAAmvTrPrx1eMiuFYLqc2WykP94TAHUqItOD55RrPj3WBO8h7J06tw==&ch=uhJnAfre38PGjELbj-xPMCLMl9rjo163xC2zlzkBXxWof2ZT1MCYSQ==)
* [State Dept. issues 'urgent' message to Americans about possible terror attack in Pakistan capital](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001Erp3-2ELJdsNB3cgBzrbLBIiu6u8YEg4mi7_WblNTxZahMF6e4DeZgNQYV0Jf8ZoqkNiwe81BkFw3iJjkwzTgMv648G2S_DflPx7MfOD3ivPgBG726wkUXLtLK0b0PVakOQcxXHQCrRPNNuX73Plik4QNJAEJ-CS23XuO6zmk-4OmyzcFKoa6L1uwmXGGBYfo23lGjYIU0NuBIKiN7F3uPcZpFnZk802rYh1vjqWoDXnlguLG4yOQkJM_tADOpM5iNPAVpITGb9-gdOd3QShYl1kCy0xNI6piVt1iIdLAH4gnkBFdxO-nEfW4_8yHGMqaprw3hcJnYQoF9kZfOm1PR6I4sXbNhNPazUwRkeSsJM=&c=IAAmvTrPrx1eMiuFYLqc2WykP94TAHUqItOD55RrPj3WBO8h7J06tw==&ch=uhJnAfre38PGjELbj-xPMCLMl9rjo163xC2zlzkBXxWof2ZT1MCYSQ==)
* [US citizens in Tunisia warned by embassy of potential terror attacks](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001Erp3-2ELJdsNB3cgBzrbLBIiu6u8YEg4mi7_WblNTxZahMF6e4DeZgNQYV0Jf8Zo_r0vfo2ffKT2f2U7VUQsomjEbQclCREQaOgBHx_eKR_k1FMsjFLr6Gp39m9LymWzaMdcNvaxZFxzrY5a7DQ7TJL8lVbCTJGv3dPdcyhmSrsuE88mO0u7r8D2LS3V-RAAxIB5-pt_RZNh9nJYbf8Avbch-a1RX8_K5ipFrdjRMz-VC6CbAAbO_cTT4MIOKirWPe8foYZrI2snhCUOcMv486NcJd_YmhKW&c=IAAmvTrPrx1eMiuFYLqc2WykP94TAHUqItOD55RrPj3WBO8h7J06tw==&ch=uhJnAfre38PGjELbj-xPMCLMl9rjo163xC2zlzkBXxWof2ZT1MCYSQ==)
* [Fierce fighting in northern Yemen kills at least 75](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001Erp3-2ELJdsNB3cgBzrbLBIiu6u8YEg4mi7_WblNTxZahMF6e4DeZgNQYV0Jf8ZoXVK_dXxgp0ec7caLZa_3qFyG5FyAgeTQO8q5pfuJ4DOCQBdiDLUOo384ReSIHUiVk65dK3niTBeJSrBFMhRdc-hdLsJaR1s326YPA98jAbdDF1h9I-3h5RlanaJw0SMephA2LmQAWsz9fYB-yTmuU4xFHcpFBE7BFqYqmw-FnLXwL_kIfy7ZuHINCj_-S17RwDBy3kOE05s=&c=IAAmvTrPrx1eMiuFYLqc2WykP94TAHUqItOD55RrPj3WBO8h7J06tw==&ch=uhJnAfre38PGjELbj-xPMCLMl9rjo163xC2zlzkBXxWof2ZT1MCYSQ==)
* [Bomb found on Air France flight headed to Paris](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001Erp3-2ELJdsNB3cgBzrbLBIiu6u8YEg4mi7_WblNTxZahMF6e4DeZgNQYV0Jf8ZoS9oe1JJZZTh8tpjJzIj-23D-ZG7msnHldP_YmuflgShwigWINf5Rl6wYBMfJ5MRvK2CcE1w-FpAGUfEsGhl13xwR5Gtl3sEEYH-OfWjDzlsPAcBCxuFLkaMX--k1AC0QbX9SUXfEISdoYves7sOl5uV8ojSo215L6E-RwD2vt1QDY-o8BH9eDlp_c8D2vRAgTMpLDsju4j8=&c=IAAmvTrPrx1eMiuFYLqc2WykP94TAHUqItOD55RrPj3WBO8h7J06tw==&ch=uhJnAfre38PGjELbj-xPMCLMl9rjo163xC2zlzkBXxWof2ZT1MCYSQ==)
* [Air France flight makes emergency landing in Kenya after bomb scare: police](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001Erp3-2ELJdsNB3cgBzrbLBIiu6u8YEg4mi7_WblNTxZahMF6e4DeZgNQYV0Jf8Zo_BlKN7lw65ofHDUarTLKTahuhMj2Ps7Lk17By2nuFn3Ga1acDmp3Pkheu6NbYaR2Y3ov7EpheqEsd7yLA1vTfjpQGyP8CfITutl5eQaUT8VfedD0lB4YABGybcQNU3XudxDSRP40g6YwBVnq4GqaJGy3RUcjLkVn5JrLv5IkkNjSsY8KpfVeSyQ4NLZpd91S&c=IAAmvTrPrx1eMiuFYLqc2WykP94TAHUqItOD55RrPj3WBO8h7J06tw==&ch=uhJnAfre38PGjELbj-xPMCLMl9rjo163xC2zlzkBXxWof2ZT1MCYSQ==)
* [Plane evacuated at Mexico City airport due to bomb threat](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001Erp3-2ELJdsNB3cgBzrbLBIiu6u8YEg4mi7_WblNTxZahMF6e4DeZgNQYV0Jf8ZoyS6cU8hyI_eU5Lvc5HvNQea5oWvg5mPVUWx2u_-X4WoYzA2i1WVqCbrJQ5dGopHE0Hp5CnuFTZ-Sgir3i7MguUO1O6oLjmNlZQEREON7P4ULOFUaL3bGogN7Gq2BjE3bQ5b3yASgIzYFeP2p5jsr8id2-G0BU1lAL71LBFL8NKOz56-YulniVkXsofHn6mepU4e8wpjIUyLsY4HWCXlOHSm1UQfB1MUs8gmFRw4501RH9VgtJjNzT5OoZo0-qbNy&c=IAAmvTrPrx1eMiuFYLqc2WykP94TAHUqItOD55RrPj3WBO8h7J06tw==&ch=uhJnAfre38PGjELbj-xPMCLMl9rjo163xC2zlzkBXxWof2ZT1MCYSQ==)
* [U.S. Bomber Mistakenly Flew Near Disputed Island in South China Sea](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001Erp3-2ELJdsNB3cgBzrbLBIiu6u8YEg4mi7_WblNTxZahMF6e4DeZgNQYV0Jf8ZoAT1O9qqavRxHvp6x2dJU6fxK1nPKjiK2rE9_X0UBo8mhdO5rTUNJ2yz4qs6_P8-MlSdLc06MHvyHOZm6pVySsoqrfK9hZZK9zbAKnRoc9ChByWYvtiAz16u5CGBrEpwCGVwnSIpIFGKb2S_e7dYHM7zW0Y5SKMFQ_DybTRxi0MEDz_iEVdqoZjIoQ_BV5S2Ywc-PzQmurUEQdawk97ScIGLH9rnz2TcqgrrxvOG5zwkO3UIHbiLW4Q==&c=IAAmvTrPrx1eMiuFYLqc2WykP94TAHUqItOD55RrPj3WBO8h7J06tw==&ch=uhJnAfre38PGjELbj-xPMCLMl9rjo163xC2zlzkBXxWof2ZT1MCYSQ==)
* [China urges U.S. to stop 'provocative actions' after B-52 flights](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001Erp3-2ELJdsNB3cgBzrbLBIiu6u8YEg4mi7_WblNTxZahMF6e4DeZgNQYV0Jf8Zo9od593iuB3mgXShR-emUJFWpcVsQ2uPAFBZCoT_Gz1grNPdaZFHE-6-O9izAhw2Ukjy8y7cZV3eLZ6bzP_XAA0xv_Cb_Ib1howZIZxBURCxicxmCRhwG5_vAl7t3N8o7qTn92Sa7IfbaHCmNWo-rUlUrQuhA9Slc1RH9oAFDfhONXyPXm9SKQAq2hC7dKyV1yWep9HphUy4cAPxrsSVI1h7LOa8KG7sO&c=IAAmvTrPrx1eMiuFYLqc2WykP94TAHUqItOD55RrPj3WBO8h7J06tw==&ch=uhJnAfre38PGjELbj-xPMCLMl9rjo163xC2zlzkBXxWof2ZT1MCYSQ==)
* [Inside the Billion-Dollar Battle for Puerto Rico's Future](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001Erp3-2ELJdsNB3cgBzrbLBIiu6u8YEg4mi7_WblNTxZahMF6e4DeZgNQYV0Jf8ZoNRunSakjiJXx_VwxahoWR-LeHoBv7dkEdKBpKcqlcgnKLPPu0cyIcKd8we_oUXOmB_vhiFgpG3RfDmzKJv3-jFr5vJXnW_umpwshDPFAcbkCJaHchiMKAF0PqWg-MjpLMMq3cNayi7GYd-5qbcWKjkeetBxJyQSkD11B4tdqzpOBQtknO4HnThqxAJOsqU5L&c=IAAmvTrPrx1eMiuFYLqc2WykP94TAHUqItOD55RrPj3WBO8h7J06tw==&ch=uhJnAfre38PGjELbj-xPMCLMl9rjo163xC2zlzkBXxWof2ZT1MCYSQ==)
* [Falling oil prices raise fears about economy](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001Erp3-2ELJdsNB3cgBzrbLBIiu6u8YEg4mi7_WblNTxZahMF6e4DeZgNQYV0Jf8Zoc8H30SbSwxTC3AHsmVGg530QckYFMD36G8W6uK5r4ZhdDe8S_BHdbsf2y1b-obFA-3NUqPTY2NueNZzvJKzAvrh3yo2VCLhkcH0itGEXYaulU6_wquob3oJ03iYE0WRNuL4ehwga624FcqLZewpGhLPFu1ESjFnF1QVY_wSprjfMARweSuPgFSKThXXUrjmWi0UxyXBPexByElm7Dar0oQ==&c=IAAmvTrPrx1eMiuFYLqc2WykP94TAHUqItOD55RrPj3WBO8h7J06tw==&ch=uhJnAfre38PGjELbj-xPMCLMl9rjo163xC2zlzkBXxWof2ZT1MCYSQ==)
* [Trump Predicts U.S. Economic 'Bubble' Could Soon Burst](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001Erp3-2ELJdsNB3cgBzrbLBIiu6u8YEg4mi7_WblNTxZahMF6e4DeZgNQYV0Jf8ZoPps9Kd-qdpdkr86wbiNrC2m9szikwKIiwqi34aegP8D9tLrb-D7nmL5NzZsBj6BjBm8p6hLs005Ju8TbV7VJpaKZwdDStM_lQC6ejsc3sldw0Ql-gDi-xnhyT4hKSq85XXLhbSuNiXfgUKclIu6vJv4N3i-OfETproCzR2Kx1trnwlB1ezJWPHHJPV212-LGIqWb1Oz7CxZo66b0Gx4c1uZw7HFGbaj_&c=IAAmvTrPrx1eMiuFYLqc2WykP94TAHUqItOD55RrPj3WBO8h7J06tw==&ch=uhJnAfre38PGjELbj-xPMCLMl9rjo163xC2zlzkBXxWof2ZT1MCYSQ==)
* [CERN Physicists Might Have Discovered A New Fundamental Particle](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001Erp3-2ELJdsNB3cgBzrbLBIiu6u8YEg4mi7_WblNTxZahMF6e4DeZgNQYV0Jf8Zo0hH-ROZbG2zfEFzVlyQ2s2w_XTeqMU3QnzSbvMQSjn72yHLaSX_xLOzdJ3vL5gqGUKo5NX1gb3QOeRfEgD4bxMpsGzw87BBh6zO13X9g8qKBF-n4mhEggOXPwqGP7lAvA7vNBisonAAi7UroUNE_ViB92mOwgSobnk_1pbLwSednu3sdNyhBY7y-lTasRf9vxGbJw2LVOCiEpGrA0ZSItA==&c=IAAmvTrPrx1eMiuFYLqc2WykP94TAHUqItOD55RrPj3WBO8h7J06tw==&ch=uhJnAfre38PGjELbj-xPMCLMl9rjo163xC2zlzkBXxWof2ZT1MCYSQ==)
* [5.8 magnitude earthquake hits near Ovalle, Chile](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001Erp3-2ELJdsNB3cgBzrbLBIiu6u8YEg4mi7_WblNTxZahMF6e4DeZgNQYV0Jf8ZoJHtUU33QeuJsRzLZqCE1jylBwEDwIAbl3IkNpa_We5sKxncx-32djh0_MfDi2p4uJ-PG_hBeudRLSg6931QYbTzjMqOoH_ibRqYuQKL42rGUKN6urIEvzFIt-MfoVRxHJfkoUEBkBu_za4uwAEys06vdPSLRnhwt6DBaw7N8LNlUD7w15Trziw==&c=IAAmvTrPrx1eMiuFYLqc2WykP94TAHUqItOD55RrPj3WBO8h7J06tw==&ch=uhJnAfre38PGjELbj-xPMCLMl9rjo163xC2zlzkBXxWof2ZT1MCYSQ==)
* [5.6 magnitude earthquake hits near Cikamurang, Indonesia](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001Erp3-2ELJdsNB3cgBzrbLBIiu6u8YEg4mi7_WblNTxZahMF6e4DeZgNQYV0Jf8ZogQYpyj4MewgL1KSHCEkSfkZPmQNQi3v5Uy2d3Sc2teciY81xnTiuTikpj6NWDFUIcRlF52BrqZ-WBJmd9K9wgzNrmF_76JQ4pFwR6Vv3BNLsbbiTTfv_3qC2HEY--8dGlsLwnDVMBoezjmJrOMDOkOTbUdvCl-vC4U65qybNXqrvCnuijsNCLw==&c=IAAmvTrPrx1eMiuFYLqc2WykP94TAHUqItOD55RrPj3WBO8h7J06tw==&ch=uhJnAfre38PGjELbj-xPMCLMl9rjo163xC2zlzkBXxWof2ZT1MCYSQ==)
* [5.2 magnitude earthquake hits near Biri, Philippines](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001Erp3-2ELJdsNB3cgBzrbLBIiu6u8YEg4mi7_WblNTxZahMF6e4DeZgNQYV0Jf8ZoJeESBathmGJzW8wOCVIIoKrSaji7ApsuC_mftRW8aQSYrR-cuma93Cd6fAgs-MmiKJxRhCfDyEHs5VWpvve7GauFMMzN3RfdswUJlRDYSYldwFNr73EoM06RBsepJhK_Qly5b_cdh9EhqUQKfCgs3mHIsQf6mTU_vIX2u2d3rMOJRfY_sRvbpg==&c=IAAmvTrPrx1eMiuFYLqc2WykP94TAHUqItOD55RrPj3WBO8h7J06tw==&ch=uhJnAfre38PGjELbj-xPMCLMl9rjo163xC2zlzkBXxWof2ZT1MCYSQ==)
* [5.2 magnitude earthquake hits near Raoul Island, New Zealand](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001Erp3-2ELJdsNB3cgBzrbLBIiu6u8YEg4mi7_WblNTxZahMF6e4DeZgNQYV0Jf8ZoYFjj23Xo0BI0Gr6G0NYwVIsTOy18LY6PsSDl5HJ1l3oKKOxgsocyHCFpLE87rBPAYTSSbg3wQntZUxay1Vyq4feI4o_ZMwhcXTDUitmOXX1C0zapjwrOipppZWvOEAov_rkg-F13fRklYlhiaKMV-GT4cBxoaJmvtyqrDIuv_KV9r3cBC6X9LA==&c=IAAmvTrPrx1eMiuFYLqc2WykP94TAHUqItOD55RrPj3WBO8h7J06tw==&ch=uhJnAfre38PGjELbj-xPMCLMl9rjo163xC2zlzkBXxWof2ZT1MCYSQ==)
* [3.1 Earthquake Strikes near San Ramon, California](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001Erp3-2ELJdsNB3cgBzrbLBIiu6u8YEg4mi7_WblNTxZahMF6e4DeZgNQYV0Jf8Zo7uJmkql5VJOOJ6DvJWLHoTXWeLE4vd4np33YWxVBU_kYmPI6QA0jRZBU2y7OHDiyRSKXGnFCb1MCR80nOhuhkZ1-YZQ5AWQf6ZQ_Af8NCPzR48ZNTYXOWJhHPrL_zVYWdUN8eQLqnFMKqZslFcrtmWzMyKkvqObMCznrlr4Q3VJ4EU3OBf86kG0qjw3FuUsZbvkqCgg5ITJzew5gyNSilSLSJq0I38PY&c=IAAmvTrPrx1eMiuFYLqc2WykP94TAHUqItOD55RrPj3WBO8h7J06tw==&ch=uhJnAfre38PGjELbj-xPMCLMl9rjo163xC2zlzkBXxWof2ZT1MCYSQ==)
* [Colima volcano in Mexico erupts to 20,000ft](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001Erp3-2ELJdsNB3cgBzrbLBIiu6u8YEg4mi7_WblNTxZahMF6e4DeZgNQYV0Jf8ZoJyAGL7skf64LAkvQNzsdZ2jPHz4SEk7Jo9LLbAw2L_CQ6nnMYf_BaRvL8VWYEpMetc5djn3YG9LYPwZd_LhdyqG4JZ0GRuKT3237RPvhLywOSBT6PJbVkHouziEQs5y9WTx9QunDgY8HyV3Omdqrc_PGi5NwkRtW&c=IAAmvTrPrx1eMiuFYLqc2WykP94TAHUqItOD55RrPj3WBO8h7J06tw==&ch=uhJnAfre38PGjELbj-xPMCLMl9rjo163xC2zlzkBXxWof2ZT1MCYSQ==)
* [Sheveluch volcano on Kamchatka, Russia erupts to 20,000ft](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001Erp3-2ELJdsNB3cgBzrbLBIiu6u8YEg4mi7_WblNTxZahMF6e4DeZgNQYV0Jf8ZoyIFVqGutfa-UHIU49emHN8axDRdSlPpzw-TDoDTGeHVcgn7HKR8UmZOvq--lrDTHzetxOICwcf0YuGbl2U161Bx1cH5VilMckQNxpbycU6hHZMOfJjeK31TB1FlzVUi62ZxcyqqNLZDjqAHqrrciw9JB_vjlqfBw29RONgwozryQf620qTJuBsyxMzfR4OzY3gY-yqFqYv8=&c=IAAmvTrPrx1eMiuFYLqc2WykP94TAHUqItOD55RrPj3WBO8h7J06tw==&ch=uhJnAfre38PGjELbj-xPMCLMl9rjo163xC2zlzkBXxWof2ZT1MCYSQ==)
* [Karymsky volcano on Kamchatka, Russia erupts to 15,000ft](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001Erp3-2ELJdsNB3cgBzrbLBIiu6u8YEg4mi7_WblNTxZahMF6e4DeZgNQYV0Jf8ZogCgZt4VJ68of3m4cDd_ugRoZGiq6hwXFBhxiWBhRsvOahwdS_4mby582k63PZvJ_BGxsRrfu5NqXYC1b6ivCc9_Cnz67FS7YEjALEwryTny_Ga1oyu_PNWL4ExCfRothLiotosID_OtB9Wss8Kpjtgclfa7yJ3NRok6mBjyBa25hWAGHFfix-f-vNR6-GbDslpDrz09PiVo=&c=IAAmvTrPrx1eMiuFYLqc2WykP94TAHUqItOD55RrPj3WBO8h7J06tw==&ch=uhJnAfre38PGjELbj-xPMCLMl9rjo163xC2zlzkBXxWof2ZT1MCYSQ==)
* [Sinabung volcano in Indonesia erupts to 12,000ft](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001Erp3-2ELJdsNB3cgBzrbLBIiu6u8YEg4mi7_WblNTxZahMF6e4DeZqqives8VULHJuLX-W_ihPZsEzJnBRoUXx_qdZNuV7m_XnkVvr1M0NjZIXrNZyLy6zdeUZFdCLNviaG_x2vm2EEAFsKvuCM-e4LOeR1fFnt-4tLqhdqj2OUFH5wL8RXyBvepx45G7Sn_m_50VWLsZF8=&c=IAAmvTrPrx1eMiuFYLqc2WykP94TAHUqItOD55RrPj3WBO8h7J06tw==&ch=uhJnAfre38PGjELbj-xPMCLMl9rjo163xC2zlzkBXxWof2ZT1MCYSQ==)
* [Copahue volcano in Argentina erupts to 11,000ft](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001Erp3-2ELJdsNB3cgBzrbLBIiu6u8YEg4mi7_WblNTxZahMF6e4DeZuuTJrVdYAWTzRZFOVqLuQ9YGjbor3BYelq2L6GNMm7AJdJYR6nCAIojSWPfboMWcW1Go_-WTvTbGveCIr0H9DmPwXOiL-C6GEGbotElGXbPPRuxDbpCtqfzgCRpVusgIpFkcuZl7JAckR4P0kblxLJh0joBdzJeWw==&c=IAAmvTrPrx1eMiuFYLqc2WykP94TAHUqItOD55RrPj3WBO8h7J06tw==&ch=uhJnAfre38PGjELbj-xPMCLMl9rjo163xC2zlzkBXxWof2ZT1MCYSQ==)
* [70s in D.C. around Christmas? It's looking likely - and it would crush records](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001Erp3-2ELJdsNB3cgBzrbLBIiu6u8YEg4mi7_WblNTxZahMF6e4DeZgNQYV0Jf8Zo9CqVw78j__o0x9sZ-fDi5vl-PTKMblSaHvBo6PI4g1vFEC4tEjdH-liLveEqT6Tgpyxx_l7grmI88fmjm_kHetZFxhyhwZarFvCS7SZwqEPfEUJT5Rb1dsFX7_1qgicyImgTgaicYfSwu8MziYPC4Uc_1TUbDf28oNMC7VgSjFRep_j6O-n51AEE_k_EEImJzt40wZuw6ZUJQUvmhLs4gU1jKDE0HGJQxUiNSo0RbC0klzzJDozPtZQWVmbkuBa7rmkvYMZsXCZ6F_u9EtfxIw==&c=IAAmvTrPrx1eMiuFYLqc2WykP94TAHUqItOD55RrPj3WBO8h7J06tw==&ch=uhJnAfre38PGjELbj-xPMCLMl9rjo163xC2zlzkBXxWof2ZT1MCYSQ==)
* [Iranian schools close under blanket of smog in Tehran](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001Erp3-2ELJdsNB3cgBzrbLBIiu6u8YEg4mi7_WblNTxZahMF6e4DeZgNQYV0Jf8Zoo9DhM0YNU8wb65D81naoJOO2t1MOs_QGFsgjTcExRaH3vbIIBt2WJGJqz4pjuTx0ZNx70Zj-oFuW8KrStL-4uNBLRqaFbPG9iDwS7X4X--YZjRBX1OgqCS5uKhvAglFgNYajyErejumOhk4lU5SxAHoBDU-j4wU-cjHShNkCjsOQEosCHp1hkKra-ArzkFFr8HEBSgJyTxo=&c=IAAmvTrPrx1eMiuFYLqc2WykP94TAHUqItOD55RrPj3WBO8h7J06tw==&ch=uhJnAfre38PGjELbj-xPMCLMl9rjo163xC2zlzkBXxWof2ZT1MCYSQ==)
* [Drug Overdose Deaths Hit 'Alarming' New Record in U.S., CDC Says](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001Erp3-2ELJdsNB3cgBzrbLBIiu6u8YEg4mi7_WblNTxZahMF6e4DeZgNQYV0Jf8ZoFHxMArwjjAmsk91Q0BNp1GKfqkD98wB0geLI0kYqW0pFRdRG9hjXYrMpUACusgUFbJrlGL0tdkEiwoHQK9zVmQeVbKRQN7cCinr0nypQxX021psmu5jzzk_aFDyr4PeY8ShHX-qdOO_onPrXbopnN__WzQe7SMq-4k9dAyx3lhz0AZ_RKLaxizp9W17MjtfH5QnHUSEc1XRYkLRnysohdg==&c=IAAmvTrPrx1eMiuFYLqc2WykP94TAHUqItOD55RrPj3WBO8h7J06tw==&ch=uhJnAfre38PGjELbj-xPMCLMl9rjo163xC2zlzkBXxWof2ZT1MCYSQ==)
* [Armed gang using gay dating app Grindr to target and rob men in London](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001Erp3-2ELJdsNB3cgBzrbLBIiu6u8YEg4mi7_WblNTxZahMF6e4DeZgNQYV0Jf8ZoeS-uYPnfYJVlr9K8QwJpQLX_LK9if799tst40hmhE-vkbS0FqeuoZPBnKfUof-xCOihxIfq3vHMhBa4zYjdmHnRXuEW7sGhtvKw4eR5dJMX5cnxsCrlGpLeI_KsO0Po_tEIUMHj-spUZZBW7HuU-EevY_Kgfzj-J5ftLK-nMRLs_dMMgnmTcI0kGZCcKuHwlrDoVeB4JeUNReGo8Q9rXkLGH1yAdT4svX7FOrS6l9t4JSHoCAMZKesd4dtgWSMlK&c=IAAmvTrPrx1eMiuFYLqc2WykP94TAHUqItOD55RrPj3WBO8h7J06tw==&ch=uhJnAfre38PGjELbj-xPMCLMl9rjo163xC2zlzkBXxWof2ZT1MCYSQ==)
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| **PROPHECY UPDATE NEWSLETTER****STAY INFORMED, GET EQUIPPED, BE ENCOURAGED****Pre-Millennium - Pre-Tribulation - PrePARED****\*If you missed an issue or did not receive your daily copy - All Newsletters are archived at:**[**http://www.prophecyupdate.com/newsletter-archives.html**](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001Erp3-2ELJdsNB3cgBzrbLBIiu6u8YEg4mi7_WblNTxZahMF6e4DeZuUyIdBiKzn0P29S-4yaM3Iyu_UjAEv6_rc0qZ40ZlugwxnY8EFChkJcquMPaT32pKiZJDlXZNBO5p0uYHyh_MFATmYkt6zgtQ-ICWuDSRMab_BFrLZf9RJY670ktzQP1xn_51lglpVmd3LpOAwy6MSbVCzXfhUlLfknKrk7HrP4&c=IAAmvTrPrx1eMiuFYLqc2WykP94TAHUqItOD55RrPj3WBO8h7J06tw==&ch=uhJnAfre38PGjELbj-xPMCLMl9rjo163xC2zlzkBXxWof2ZT1MCYSQ==)  |

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|   **IN TODAY'S NEWSLETTER...*** [Featured Article: The Church of Jesus Christ: Honored at the Highest Level](#featuredarticle)
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| featuredarticle **The Church of Jesus Christ: Honored at the Highest Level** - Joseph Chambers - [http://www.pawcreek.org/open-bible-dialog/honored-at-the-highest-level](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001Erp3-2ELJdsNB3cgBzrbLBIiu6u8YEg4mi7_WblNTxZahMF6e4DeZgNQYV0Jf8ZonPkHH0WopUoTYw4mGGCTqpUh9F-Qm2Imrslq4y1HEsw2Permc6kyNDD4UbHD4G7-HMVmk_nWEsuiwkc6JWbVIPQEIR_fxFrZ70HFkzUNIkjDllMYfSQcZhqJSmC-JX568N74pFXP6sgtPEUHDyQC6vngX45qGcFW2kEI3Ir71Sk=&c=IAAmvTrPrx1eMiuFYLqc2WykP94TAHUqItOD55RrPj3WBO8h7J06tw==&ch=uhJnAfre38PGjELbj-xPMCLMl9rjo163xC2zlzkBXxWof2ZT1MCYSQ==) By faith he dwelt in the land of promise as in a foreign country, dwelling in tents with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise; for he waited for the city which has foundations, whose builder and maker is God. - Hebrews 11:9-10  There is no question but that the Biblical Church is a delight to the heart of God.  Equal to His love for Israel is His love for the future Bride of Jesus Christ. The twenty-four elders in Revelation four and five represent these twenty-four excellent and honored saints at His soon coming. Also these same twenty-four chosen numbers are seen in the City of New Jerusalem. The twelve patriarchs are names of the twelve gates and the twelve apostles are the names of the twelve foundations. These twenty-four in number is actually a multitude as seen in the fifth chapter. The number twenty-four is used to bring the First Testament saints and the New Testament saints together as a whole. Our Father shows His excitement for the future honors He will bestow on His chosen people. We see Israel and all the tribes of Jews honored in many ways in the future Kingdom. We also see His chosen church with a beautiful future fully worthy of our absolute dedication to Him alone. Every day I get more excited about our future. This world is nothing but a passing fancy of flesh and pleasures. They are hardly worthy of our attention. The eternal bride of Jesus Christ will receive the highest reward available to His saints. There will be no cul-de-sacs or dead end streets in New Jerusalem. Every gold paved street will be a Hallelujah Boulevard. The mansions will be far superior than this world can imagine. Every bit of God's New Heaven and New Earth will be grand and full of bliss, but nothing will compare to the magnificent city called "New Jerusalem." "Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me. In My Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also. - John 14:1-3 This city will be Home to the exclusive Bride of Jesus Christ. One of the Seven Angels out of the Heavenly Temple said the following: "And there came unto me one of the seven angels which had the seven vials full of the seven last plagues, and talked with me, saying, Come hither, I will shew thee the bride, the Lamb's wife. And he carried me away in the spirit to a great and high mountain, and shewed me that great city, the holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God, Having the glory of God: and her light was like unto a stone most precious, even like a jasper stone, clear as crystal..." (Revelation 21: 9-11) The description of the city is too exact to be understood in any fashion other than literal. Please let me paint a picture of this city that will descend out of heaven after the White Throne Judgment. The city is a foursquare city. The width is exactly the same on all four sides and the height is equal. Twelve thousand furlongs is fifteen hundred miles. To imagine a city that is fifteen hundred miles square and fifteen hundred miles high that is surrounded by jasper walls is breathtaking. The highest mountain in the world is less than six miles high (Mount Everest - 29,035 feet) and the highest in America is less than four miles high (Mount McKinley - 20,320 feet). We are speaking of a city so massive that our minds can only imagine its grandeur. The city of New Jerusalem is 7,920,000 feet high compared to Mount Everest at 29,035 feet. This comparison makes Mount Everest appear to be nothing but a molehill. The total wealth of this entire earth does not hold a light to the wealth of this new city. The gold that has been mined and minted during human history is minute compared to the gold in this city. It would not be enough to pave the streets of one level of this city and this will be a city of twelve foundations or levels. Each level will be one hundred and twenty-five miles high or 657,700 feet, over twenty-two times higher than Mount Everest. The height of the walls on each level is 144 cubits or approximately 226 feet. These walls are not provided to keep the glorified saints in or out. Nothing is more beautiful than the present massive stone walls of present day Jerusalem. These stone walls have a golden hue appearance as they are beautifully lit at night or in the sunshine. But, the walls of New Jerusalem will be primarily wrought of jasper stone. Jasper is a dark green semi-translucent to opaque form of semi-precious chalcedony. Its beauty is rare. It is readily acceptable to a fine polish and has the physical properties of those of quartz. No one would think of building city walls out of jasper in our present world. The expense would be totally prohibitive to the richest person but certainly not to our Father. The entire walled structure of this city, all twelve levels, will be jasper and pure gold. It appears that the outside formation of these walls is jasper, with the interior of the walls being pure gold. The foundations at each level are one hundred and forty-four cubits, which is approximately 226 feet high. These foundations are then garnished with twelve manners of precious stones. Now I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away. Also there was no more sea.  Then I, John, saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.  And I heard a loud voice from heaven saying, "Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people. God Himself will be with them and be their God. - Revelation 21:1-3 The first foundation is garnished with jasper on jasper. We can certainly expect that the garnishing jasper will be of a different shade as the jasper wall, which comprises the wall's structure. There are different colors of jasper depending on the location where it is mined. The second level will be garnished with sapphire stones. The color of a pure sapphire is sky blue; using it to garnish the jasper will be extraordinary. The third level will be chalcedony, which can be any color of the rainbow from pale blue to yellow, brown, or gray. The fourth level will be garnished with emeralds. The finest emeralds are more valuable than diamonds; they are magnificent gems of the most beautiful green color. The stone used to garnish the fifth foundation is sardonyx or onyx. This stone varies in color; it may be translucent or opaque and is often striped. The sixth stone used for garnishment is Sardis, possibly the red variety that is highly polishable and extremely beautiful. The seventh level is garnished with chrysolite, which is a form of topaz of Tarshish. The garnishment of the eighth level is beryl, which is actually colorless, but reflects a great variety of colors depending on foreign substances it contains. It is indeed a precious stone. The ninth garnishing stone on the ninth level of this city is topaz, which is called by some, the "gem of the setting sun." Sometimes, it is said to be the color of gold or peach. The tenth level is chrysoprasus, which is called the apple and is a light green variety of agate. It is a very rare stone. The eleventh foundation of this magnificent city is jacinth. The jacinth is a red variety of zircon, which is found in square prisms of different shades. The last of the twelve levels is garnished with amethyst. This is a royal purple and a fitting crown for the city. Imagine the crown of this city of transparent purple quartz that is decorating the jasper translucent walls with the gold within reflecting throughout the foursquare city. Beautify all of this with gates of pearl, each gate one pearl carved into form to be twelve matching gates into the city. Each gate will be fifteen hundred miles high. Glowing through each gate will be streets of pure gold. It is hard to imagine the beauty of a solid pearl gate set on the walls of this city. This city reflects the creative masterpiece of a Groom full of love for His eternal Bride. This city is almost too much to grasp but it will be easily understood when we awake in a glorified state. The Bible says that Heaven is God's Throne and the earth is His footstool. With this sense of the greatness of "New Jerusalem" we can better understand this golden city. Then those who feared the Lord spoke to one another,And the Lord listened and heard them;So a book of remembrance was written before HimFor those who fear the LordAnd who meditate on His name."They shall be Mine," says the Lord of hosts,"On the day that I make them My jewels.And I will spare themAs a man spares his own son who serves him."Then you shall again discernBetween the righteous and the wicked,Between one who serves GodAnd one who does not serve Him.- Malachi 3:16-18 This is the Bride's home for eternity. The multitude of saved people that seek no perfection of living or total surrender to His perfect will, will certainly enjoy the city to visit and the glory of worshiping the Father and His Son. They will love the Golden City and bask in the Son light of Gods glory but live across the Father's great new heaven and earth. "And the nations of them which are saved shall walk in the light of it: and the kings of the earth do bring their glory and honor into it. And the gates of it shall not be shut at all by day: for there shall be no night there. And they shall bring the glory and honor of the nations into it." (Revelation 21:24-26) It's up to every saved person to give their total life to serve Him only and to be part of the Bride. It's the highest honor and reward in our Heavenly future. |

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| a1**Israeli rockets killed infamous terrorist Samir Quntar in Damascus** - [http://www.debka.com/article/25097/Israeli-rockets-killed-infamous-terrorist-Samir-Quntar-in-Damascus](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001Erp3-2ELJdsNB3cgBzrbLBIiu6u8YEg4mi7_WblNTxZahMF6e4DeZgNQYV0Jf8Zo5yPVKDycO-4_pJpeWXfStLV82RB85gL530unPCYZBTJ5kIu9WLx1_VCHAhwV53j5zNQnc4vSHIUw7DbT3YJ8HjHJ51tDUt3hpFT_HiDQoNfZ0mihqa6CCvDD7nQLb4lI9vh7IxmbcLZdX_BAiVaS2Ookb3YcGgc58eiJa72CGlcjNU_6VXrqkjG1S8r4XvoHjm2mFB5xqxa6qpG6Lnv6Wg==&c=IAAmvTrPrx1eMiuFYLqc2WykP94TAHUqItOD55RrPj3WBO8h7J06tw==&ch=uhJnAfre38PGjELbj-xPMCLMl9rjo163xC2zlzkBXxWof2ZT1MCYSQ==) Syrian and Hezbollah media confirm that Israeli rocket fire from four air force jets early Sunday, Dec. 20, destroyed a building in the eastern Jaramana district of Damascus and killed Samir Quntar, head of Hezbollah terror networks in southern Syria and the Golan. Footage showed a multi-storey residential building collapsed and rescue workers digging through the rubble for survivors. In addition to Quntar, Issam Sha'alan, a senior commander of the National Syrian Golan Resistance Organization was also killed. This organization was established by Syrian intelligence for terrorist operations against Israel. Israel remembers Samir Quntar for the exceptionally vicious murder of a family in Nahariya in 1979. He was released by Israel in 2008 in a controversial swap in exchange for the bodies of two Israeli reservists killed by Hezbollah in 2006. debkafile's military and counterterrorism sources report that in the last two years, Samir Quntar established a network of terrorist cells in all of southern Syria on behalf of three masters: Iran's Revolutionary Guards, Hezbollah and the Assad regime's Military Intelligence Agency. In Tehran and Damascus, his mission was defined as "establishing commando units for special operations." Those units were in fact hit and terror squads. His territory ranged from Jebel Druze in southeast Syria up to the Druze villages of the Syrian Hermon range and the Syrian Golan including Quneitra. In the past year, he recruited scores of Syrian Druze to fight for Bashar Assad and was able to prevent the Druze community from joining the rebel forces fighting the Assad regime in southern Syria. He was outstandingly successful in thwarting every US-Jordanian-Israeli action for deploying an effective military force to the rear of the Syrian army in the South.  The renegade Druze terrorist additionally mustered Druze recruits to his terror cells in 30 villages on the Hermon opposite IDF positions. These cells were responsible for the intermittent short-range rocket fire into the Israeli Golan and Galilee. They caused slight damage but they were an effective stratagem in his drive to plant is spies in the Druze villages and turn them against relations with the IDF and Syrian rebel forces. Quntar acted under the direct command of the Al Qods Brigades chief the Iranian general Qassem Soleimani, after he was appointed commander of Iranian forces in Syria, Lebanon and Iraq, and Mustafa Badr, Al-Din, head of Hezbollah forces in Syria. He was recently promoted to take charge of building a combined terrorist network of Syrians, Hezbollah commandos and Palestinians for mounting incursions deep into Israel for major terrorist attacks. His transfer from southern Syria to a high security residential building I Damascus attested to his enhanced status.  On April 22, 1979, at the age of 16, as a Lebanese Druze member of the Palestinian Liberation Front, Samir Quntar perpetrated a vicious terrorist attack in Nahariya that ended in the murder of an Israeli policeman, the attempted kidnapping of an Israeli family and the death of four Israelis and two of his fellow kidnappers. Quntar and his team reached the northern Israeli coastal town by boat from Lebanon, broke into an apartment building and kidnapped a father, 31-year-old Danny Haran, and his 4-year-old daughter, Einat. He took them to the beach, shot the father in the back and smashed in the head of the child. The mother, Smadar Haran, who hid in a crawl space in the house with her two-year-old daughter Yael, accidentally suffocated Yael to death while trying to quiet her.  Qantar was tried and convicted of murder and sentenced to life in prison. In November 2008, after his release from Israel in a prisoner swap for two reservists killed by Hezbollah, Syrian president Bashar Assad presented Quntar with a Syrian medal and in early 2009 he was honored by Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad.  On 8 September 2015, the United States Department of State designated him as a Specially Designated Global Terrorist. |

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| a2**Iran's plans** - [http://www.jpost.com/Opinion/Irans-plans-437816](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001Erp3-2ELJdsNB3cgBzrbLBIiu6u8YEg4mi7_WblNTxZahMF6e4DeZgNQYV0Jf8ZoQgY2a17dDhqOqL6Ze7eTMAQSSE9xvApnwVppIy1Cck2HmO_sK9HXVgkRRyJKw_6_X6ZxBb-tZnabCL05uGlqDhUS8NrQziRO9jSYNxz1ohkuU7cnpRPp8AaFlFz4ux4wsDPzF92JIS4=&c=IAAmvTrPrx1eMiuFYLqc2WykP94TAHUqItOD55RrPj3WBO8h7J06tw==&ch=uhJnAfre38PGjELbj-xPMCLMl9rjo163xC2zlzkBXxWof2ZT1MCYSQ==) The Iranian regime sees Israel as its arch-enemy, and even if its leaders have toned down their rhetoric in the past year or so, they clearly oppose the existence of the Jewish state. The UN International Atomic Energy Agency's 35-nation board of governors voted last Tuesday to close its investigation into Iran's past nuclear weapons activities. While there may have been joy in Tehran over the decision, Jerusalem was more jittery than ever about Iran's plans. "Serious doubts and outstanding issues regarding Iran's program still remain," the Foreign Ministry said. The IAEA decision "sends a wrong message to the Iranians that the international community is willing to look the other way," added National Infrastructure, Energy and Water Minister Yuval Steinitz. US Secretary of State John Kerry, welcoming the move, said it allowed the nuclear watchdog "to turn its focus now to the full implementation and verification of the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), which prohibits the resumption of such nuclear weapons-related activities and provides comprehensive tools for deterring and detecting any renewed nuclear weapons work." The JCPOA, agreed upon between world powers and Iran this past summer, seeks to halt Tehran's nuclear work and allow for strict international monitoring in exchange for sanctions relief. At the same time, the IAEA and the Islamic Republic agreed on a road map granting the nuclear agency access to key materials and facilities in Iran throughout the fall. This resulted in a December 2 report by the agency that determined that Iran had been actively designing a nuclear weapon until 2009, despite its claims to the contrary, but found no evidence that the effort succeeded in developing a complete blueprint for a bomb. With that report, the IAEA deemed it acceptable to conclude its investigation. American Jewish groups joined Israel in expressing their displeasure with the IAEA's decision. The Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations said it was "deeply dismayed," noting that Iran had "continuously cheated and dissembled, as confirmed by the most recent IAEA report. "The international community has an obligation to hold Iran to its commitments. What incentives will there be for future compliance if they see that stonewalling, deception and threats allow them to undermine and negate the provisions of the JCPOA," the Conference of Presidents said. "The United States and its allies should insist that the IAEA examine all evidence pertaining to Iranian violations and should respond forcefully to any violations." AIPAC condemned the IAEA vote as a "deplorable" development. "The IAEA is closing this file even after discovering further suspicious evidence and experiencing additional Iranian obstinacy," AIPAC said. "The IAEA could have recommended delaying 'implementation day' until Iran demonstrated substantial compliance with its obligation to explain its past illicit nuclear activities." Within hours of the IAEA vote, the UN Security Council's Panel of Experts on Iran determined in a confidential report, obtained by Reuters, that Iran had violated an October Security Council resolution by test-firing the medium-range Emad rocket, which is capable of delivering a nuclear warhead. What steps, if any, is the international community planning to take against Tehran following this violation? In response to the report, the White House did not rule out punitive measures against Iran that were "consistent with US national security." But what, in practice, does this mean? Iran's ayatollahs have used terrorism as a tool since they seized power in 1979. They have had a hand in dozens of terrorist attacks around the globe, from Argentina to Afghanistan. Today, Iran continues to be the world's largest state sponsor of terrorism, funding proxies such as Hezbollah in Lebanon and Hamas in the Gaza Strip, as well as fighters for Syrian President Bashar Assad. The Iranian regime sees Israel as its arch-enemy, and even if its leaders have toned down their rhetoric in the past year or so, they clearly oppose the existence of the Jewish state. Iran's coffers are now expected to fill as a result of sanctions relief. What will the Islamic Republic do with the billions of dollars pouring in? If it decides, as Israel fears, to pump them into its military and resume its covert nuclear program, can we trust the international community and the IAEA to act? What would it take to wake them up to the dangers posed by the Iranian regime? If the rest of the world chooses to look the other way, it may again fall on Israel to sound the alarm. |

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| **FROM THE HEART****PLEASE REMEMBER PROPHECY UPDATE IN YOUR CHRISTMAS, AND END OF THE YEAR GIVING - THANK YOU SO VERY MUCH!****http://files.ctctcdn.com/61c7cfcb201/1966c7fd-05e4-4647-8075-0a43806d1b6d.jpg****IF YOU HAVE BEEN BLESSED THROUGH THIS MINISTRY, THEN WE ASK THAT YOU WOULD PLEASE REMEMBER PROPHECY UPDATE IN YOUR GIVING - WE ARE TRULY, TRULY, THANKFUL FOR YOUR SUPPORT** Prophecy Update has no corporate sponsors. This ministry is paid for and prayed for by readers and supporters. Without your support, there would be no Prophecy Update, Please pray about becoming a monthly supporter - thanks!http://files.ctctcdn.com/61c7cfcb201/821fca8a-c4df-4570-b7d8-49f6a838fbb3.jpg  **If ever there was a time to invest in God's Kingdom, it's now!****What on earth are you doing for Heaven's Sake?****"Share in the Blessings and Rewards that will last Forever!"**"Folks, it's all beginning to unravel. America is in more danger of falling than at any time in its history. But I believe Bible prophecy predicts this very decline. From this point on, we believers have to get serious. We are going to face discouragement, disillusionment and, most certainly, persecution in the time between now and the Rapture. But don't be discouraged or disillusioned. The coming turmoil will provide us unrivaled opportunities to share the good news of the Gospel. So be ready to share your faith and your hope with those who need Christ. We still have time to reap a great harvest of souls for God's kingdom!" - Hal Lindsey**1) We need your prayers!**- We proclaim the Truth of the Word of God and we are under constant spiritual and sometimes even physical attack.**2) We need your encouragement!**- We need to hear from you, let us know how the Lord is blessing you through this ministry so that we can share it with others.**3) We need your input! -** If you have a prophetic article or story or if there is a news related item we missed, let us know. **4) We need your financial support!**- To put it quite simply, without your support, there would be no Prophecy Update.I ask that you would prayerfully consider partnering with us to get the Word out and keep the world informed. Remember, your gift, no matter how small, does make a difference! You will be helping to touch lives, around the world, 24 hours a day, seven days a week, thanks to the internet your generosity carries a global impact! - Thanks!**Our Prayer for You**- "Now he who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will also supply and increase your store of seed and will enlarge the harvest of your righteousness. You will be made rich in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God. This service that you perform is not only supplying the needs of God's people but is also overflowing in many expressions of thanks to God. Because of the service by which you have proved yourselves, men will praise God for the obedience that accompanies your confession of the gospel of Christ, and for your generosity in sharing with them and with everyone else." 2 Corinthians 9:10-13Prophecy Update is a **501 (c) (3) tax exempt** - non-profit organization, and all your donations are tax deductible.  If you have been blessed by Prophecy Update and would like to help support this ministry financially. You can make a secure donation online by going to:[**DONATE NOW**](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001Erp3-2ELJdsNB3cgBzrbLBIiu6u8YEg4mi7_WblNTxZahMF6e4DeZgWZEQob9NM6FSNsBJ5wKPM-EP3DZszUDDyRHXx7H4dKjw1YLok9bMgjTHbCdj7BGO5XpaOBJ4_4kfAxHi7f2mYqqnSp-t3_WHa7v2K5sHvhZmr03OgNLLj9vP8Khpylm5SMySgP8NSe&c=IAAmvTrPrx1eMiuFYLqc2WykP94TAHUqItOD55RrPj3WBO8h7J06tw==&ch=uhJnAfre38PGjELbj-xPMCLMl9rjo163xC2zlzkBXxWof2ZT1MCYSQ==) Or Visit our website:[**http://prophecyupdate.com/donations/**](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001Erp3-2ELJdsNB3cgBzrbLBIiu6u8YEg4mi7_WblNTxZahMF6e4DeZgWZEQob9NM6FSNsBJ5wKPM-EP3DZszUDDyRHXx7H4dKjw1YLok9bMgjTHbCdj7BGO5XpaOBJ4_4kfAxHi7f2mYqqnSp-t3_WHa7v2K5sHvhZmr03OgNLLj9vP8Khpylm5SMySgP8NSe&c=IAAmvTrPrx1eMiuFYLqc2WykP94TAHUqItOD55RrPj3WBO8h7J06tw==&ch=uhJnAfre38PGjELbj-xPMCLMl9rjo163xC2zlzkBXxWof2ZT1MCYSQ==) Or write us at: **Prophecy Update** **P.O. Box 40516** **Bakersfield, CA 93384-0516**   |

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| b1**Apocalypse at Christmas Time** - Russell D. Moore - [http://www.christianpost.com/news/apocalypse-at-christmas-time-152782/](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001Erp3-2ELJdsNB3cgBzrbLBIiu6u8YEg4mi7_WblNTxZahMF6e4DeZgNQYV0Jf8ZolXdYUI7jFFzijrGpmS8BiQxRE0oioP7Hh-OTL_oh2PIDkgQk-J_mOezGLqdahwHjOupytqOwQL7BwUoEqnx4q2NAhkOL3sOlNxbHLpy8ZGMpRpFugyBP5KNTqkZRnxA0f4SWi0Wt8OV9BN50AC7ahEagzIIv_NETW__sWrAb_T8Cn2aukHTwzg==&c=IAAmvTrPrx1eMiuFYLqc2WykP94TAHUqItOD55RrPj3WBO8h7J06tw==&ch=uhJnAfre38PGjELbj-xPMCLMl9rjo163xC2zlzkBXxWof2ZT1MCYSQ==) It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas. The stirrings of holiday cheer are all around us, from the Bing Crosby music loop at the Home Depot to the inflatable glowing Santas that every neighborhood seems to have. But my Bible reading right now is anything but festive. I'm in Revelation, reading about Jesus the Warrior-King, returning to his creation to destroy his enemies with the sword. Shouldn't I take a break from the Apocalypse to highlight the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay? Isn't there something kind of, well, unseasonable about teaching, at this time of year, about a Christ who bears a sword and a cosmic entourage, who prepares his people a messianic banquet and then prepares for the birds a banquet of the flesh and blood of his enemies (Rev 19:17-19)? It is hard to imagine Tiny Tim exclaiming "God bless us every one" after hearing about southern-fried Gog and Magog. But my discomfort only reveals to me how much my Christmas imagery is more shaped by Currier and Ives than by apostles and prophets. The infant Jesus is not as conspicuous in American pop culture as he once was. Claymation Burl Ives is a little more palatable to contemporary religious pluralism. But the baby Jesus still exists in the American Christian subculture as a kind of non-threatening mascot for everything warm and sentimental about the holiday season. The only problem with this is that the Bible doesn't present the baby Jesus as warm or sentimental at all. As a matter of fact, the sentimental Jesus of the Christmas season often chills our evangelistic fervor because we forget that the Bethlehem event is the exact opposite of blessing the good feelings of contemporary American culture. The virgin birth prophesied in Isaiah is a sign, the prophet tells us, of God defeating his enemies and restoring his kingship (Isa 7:10-25). The young Galilean couple travel to Bethlehem, it must be remembered, because from that city of David will come a Conqueror who will drive back the Assyrians and shepherd the people of Israel (Micah 5:1-6). That's why the angel tells Mary not just that she will bear a holy Child but that he will sit on the throne of his father David (Luke 1:32-33), a throne it must be remembered that came through the severed head and bloody foreskins of not a few Philistines. This is also why Herod didn't greet the oracles of the Magi with a hearty "season's greetings," but with a bloody threat to root out this threat to his kingship (Matt 2). And all of this is rooted in an ancient promise that the son of the woman would crush the head of the serpent of Eden (Gen 3:15). Remember: Jesus was not born into a gauzy, snowy "winter wonderland" of sweetly-singing angels and cute reindeer nuzzling one another at the side of his manger. He was born into a warzone. Jesus was chased out of his manger and into Egypt by one of Planned Parenthood's ancestors, King Herod, who also sacrificed Bethlehem's infant children for the sake of power. We must remember the infancy of Jesus. We must cherish in our hearts that he took on flesh and blood for us, that he bore our humanity in all of its fullness, even in the dependencies of a baby in a feeding box. But we must never allow this baby to be defined as non-threatening. Indeed, the shadow of Bethlehem threatens the frenzied buying of our consumeristic Christmas season. We must remember that ultimately we will not coo over him in a cradle beneath us, but give an account to him as our sovereign Judge and give glory to him as our sovereign King. We must remember that our love for family and friends and Christmas includes our responsibility to plead with them to be found in Christ before the great and terrible day of the Lord. I suppose that's why I won't take a break from Revelation this season. The young virgin Mary, after all, set the tone for our Christmas thoughts when she reflected on the angel's announcement of the birth of Jesus. She sang of God's mercy to his people, of his faithfulness to his covenant promises. And then she sang also of the fact that in this fetal Incarnate One within her God "has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts; he has brought down the mighty from their thrones, and exalted those of humble estate; he has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich he has sent empty away" (Luke 1:51-53 ESV). With Bethlehem before her, Mary also had Armageddon on her mind. So should we.   |

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|  b2**Peace on Earth, Good Will Towards Men?** - David Pepe - [http://www.theignorantfishermen.com/2011/12/peace-on-earth-good-will-towards-men.html](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001Erp3-2ELJdsNB3cgBzrbLBIiu6u8YEg4mi7_WblNTxZahMF6e4DeZgNQYV0Jf8ZoD2VxDw4pfKrAOtjS0QWgC3_hDFb2w96oN2gu8j9BswHWbhjQR0VjupBu5P-k23o3NoRPMsc5bV_iL0I_e7V_GPsIpujOmu4fQmLPsVplTBXXvI8zoc6n7EQ9fknFfF8WbrLeQWK9N4LhxWODnZazm_HSOWGvd2UlAJCIy_Zcy2kLbbOvZLWNcuKksnD1RXu5&c=IAAmvTrPrx1eMiuFYLqc2WykP94TAHUqItOD55RrPj3WBO8h7J06tw==&ch=uhJnAfre38PGjELbj-xPMCLMl9rjo163xC2zlzkBXxWof2ZT1MCYSQ==) One of the most favorite sayings and happy thoughts that are spoken frequently by people during the Christmas or "holiday" season is the phrase "Peace on Earth good will to men". There are bumper stickers, signs, shirts, holiday cards, trinkets etc. that seek to capitalize and get out this optimistic and positive message. Even liberal secularists who reject biblical Christianity love to quote this phrase and claim it as their own. Sadly, this phrase is TOTALLY taken out of the biblical context and is perceived from a subjective godless utopian world perspective (conservative and liberal). The origin of this quote is taken from the biblical account in Luke of the countless MILLIONS of angelic beings who were sent forth by Almighty God to proclaim the Savior's birth (Luke 2:.8-15, Heb.1:14). These countless innumerable angelic beings manifested themselves with the heavenly heralds of wondrous and astonishing exaltations of great joy to the oblivious shepherds who were in the fields of Bethlehem GUARDING their sheep by NIGHT (Luke 2:8-14). It was in the birth of THIS child (Jesus Messiah (Isa. 9:6-7) that Almighty God would bring forth the propitiation for redemption for ALL of fallen humanity and the final death nail and demise of Lucifer and his fallen angelic monsters (Gen. 3:15, John 16:7-11, 1 John 1:2:2, Rev. 5, 20:10). The righteous angelic hosts of heaven comprehended what was taking place and were ecstatic about what their Creator was doing. It absolutely stupefied these angelic beings as the Son of God - the pinnacle of glory - stepped out of ETERNITY and put on flesh and blood to redeem Adam's fallen race. Is it any wonder that and shouted with exceedingly great joy (John 1:1-3, 14, Phil. 2:5-11, Heb. 10:1-18)! Almighty God the Creator of all (Col. 1:16,-17, Heb. 1:2-3, Rev. 4:11) was interceding on behalf of Adam's fallen and rebellious race and showing forth His ETERNAL love, mercy and grace in good will towards His enemies (Rom. 5:6, Eph. 2:1-10, Col. 1:20-22). The objective angelic understanding of Adam's fallen race far exceeds our own as humans (Heb.1:14). They exist and dwell in FULL REALITY and heavenly LIGHT. They know all to well the horrific devastation that awaits unrepentant unregenerate transgressing mankind in the Lake of Fire FOREVER (Matt. 13:42, 50, 25:41, John 3:16-17, Rev. 20:11-15, 21:8). Is it any wonder that the angelic hosts of heaven rejoice with EXCEEDINGLY GREAT joy when just one son of Adam repents and comes to the Messiah of Israel, the Savior of the world as their personal Savior (Isa. 53, Luke 2:13-14, John 3:16-17). This is what is meant by the statement "peace on earth good will towards men". This child - who is Almighty God the Son - PUT ON flesh and blood to shed His RIGHTEOUS blood for the transgressions of the entire world (Adam to the end of time). It was to be His sacrificial death and resurrection from the dead that would restore fellowship between man with their Creator and establish an EVERLASTING peace between the two parties (Job 9:33, John 1:14, Rom. 10:4, Phil. 2:5-11, Heb. 1:2-3, 10: 1-18). My beloved, this child IS our PEACE (Isa. 9:6, Eph. 2:14-17, Col. 1:20, 1 John 2:2)! When we seek to say "peace on earth, good will towards men" and LEAVE OUT the Son of God who is the ONLY Savior and method FOR establishing TRUE PEACE, we deceive ourselves and join in Satan's godless rebellion against ALL that is the ETERNAL God and His ETERNAL sovereignty (2 Cor. 4:3-4). There can NEVER be true peace for those who REJECT and leave Almighty God the Son out of the equation (Psalm 112:10, Isa. 32:17, 48:18, 22, Rev. 20:11-15). Notice how the world leaves off and will NEVER state the first part of the quote, "GLORY TO GOD IN THE HIGHEST"? They can't and will NEVER acknowledge that, for if they did they would have to repent and be saved (John 3:19-21, Rom. 1:18-32, 2 Thess 2:10)! There is absolutely no way that TRUE PEACE and PERFECT HARMONY can EVER be brought about WITHOUT the ETERNAL established RIGHTEOUSNESS of ALMIGHTY GOD (Isa. 32:17, 48:18,22). Almighty God's whole ETERNITY and physical universe was established based on the ETERNAL RIGHTEOUS PERSON of the TRIUNE GOD! How deceived are we as humans and totally delusional to think that we as Adam's fallen race could establish a PERFECT world and enter into ETERNITY without the required RIGHTEOUSNESS that Almighty God demands (1 Cor. 6:8-11, Gal. 5:19-21, Rev. 21:8, 22:14-15).We are a smashed and broken egg with absolutely no way our repairing ourselves. 6000 years of human history testifies to the fact that we are a violent and lawless race with death as our future and destiny (Rom. 3:23) and on our way to total destruction. If it had not been for Almighty God's outside intervention holding back the full accumulation of violence of mankind we would have been extinct a long time ago  (Matt. 24:21-22, 2 Thess. 2:6-8). Isn't it amazing that as American's listen to our leaders in Washington D.C., the media (conservative and liberal), Hollywood and the music culture and industry preach utopian ideals unto them that the majority of the world sincerely believe that lie from hell, which is if we just keep working at "peace" (give peace a chance) that we will one day finally achieve it? My friend, let's wake up and get real! There is NO WAY that a smashed egg can EVER again be put perfectly back together and there is NO WAY that this broken world can EVER fix itself. This vain utopian pursuit is the ultimate delusional chasing of the devil's cattle. At the end of this vain delusional chase the world will tragically finally find out the REALITIES of time and ETERNITY that they have REJECTED their whole lives (Luke 16:22-31, Heb. 9:27, Rev. 20:11-15). It will be in that Day that these will be fully AWAKENED from their self-induced godless hypnotic delusion and will FULLY understand that their lawless self-willed existence here in time has led them straight into the slaughter house of the ETERNAL Divine Judgment and wrath of Almighty God (Rom. 1:18-32, 2 Thess. 2; 8-12, Rev.20:11-15). My dear friend this is not Almighty God's desire for you, to die in your transgressions. He sent His Son 2000 years ago born of a virgin so you might LIVE FOREVER with Him and to enjoy Him in RIGHTEOUS PERFECTION and BLISS FOREVERMORE (1 Cor. 2:9, Rev 21-22:1-5). This was Almighty God's grand desire at the beginning of creation for mankind not what man has horrifically reaped upon himself. We as a world do not know divine PEACE let alone the temporal peace that fallen man can barely manufacture (Isa. 32:17, 48:18, 22, 53, John 1:10-11, Rom. 3, Rev.6-16).  This season may we truly - with all our being - want to know, possess and exercise the wondrous peace of Almighty God which He has brought to us by the shed blood of His dear Son (Eph. 2:14). As we walk in time may we seek to enjoy our redemptive benefits which have been given to us by our God and Savior (Eph. 1:3, 2:1-19, Phil. 4:17, Col. 3:1-4) and the heavenly peace of heart that comes with the fact and reality that our sins and trespasses are removed FOREVER (Psalm 103:12, Rom. 7:24-25, 10:4, Gal 1:4). That my friends is what "peace on earth is all about! Rejoice GREATLY (Phil. 4:4)! A Savior was born and is soon coming again in great glory to establish His 1000 year reign of PEACE AND RIGHTEOUSNESS (Isa. 2:1-4, 9:6-7, 11:1-9, 32:1 Jer. 23:5, 33:15-16, Dan. 2:44-45, 7:7:13-14, Micah 4:1-4)!!!  The Kingdom of Heaven is at hand!  |

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|  dailyjot**Compelling Historical Evidence for the Virgin Birth of Jesus Christ** - Eddie Hyatt - [http://www.charismamag.com/spirit/prophecy/25076-compelling-historical-evidence-for-the-virgin-birth-of-jesus-christ](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001Erp3-2ELJdsNB3cgBzrbLBIiu6u8YEg4mi7_WblNTxZahMF6e4DeZgNQYV0Jf8ZoAbH5hGcarvfXqqn0q5ePAfon7EbnX3GGOFchbvtbcL10VCHj4Pv12HATPoArtjwh2rrqWuYjHLeiE9OxMaysD365ekpXK_lFU4f_7Bxs9CFovIJnlwq7rtKwaMX0TpRv3PNdjc7oj2JnuKEYjuk6VN2GIQSLvcCzZA4PD5esYwP_S59o0I1e4AXSxf_skrCVZ8Lz_X2mxAafQ_ZBlx5dA3W6z1Zgl-CZBUnz8X6-DOk=&c=IAAmvTrPrx1eMiuFYLqc2WykP94TAHUqItOD55RrPj3WBO8h7J06tw==&ch=uhJnAfre38PGjELbj-xPMCLMl9rjo163xC2zlzkBXxWof2ZT1MCYSQ==) Here are some historical evidences for the virgin birth of Jesus Christ: ◦    A physician and world-class historian documented it◦    Modern archaeology affirms it◦    An agnostic professor of mythology is convinced◦    Old Testament prophets predicted it centuries in advance◦    The earliest Christians believed it universally **1. Documented by a physician & world-class historian.** The virgin birth of Jesus Christ was documented by a physician and world-class historian who interviewed eyewitnesses, probably including Mary herself, for his account of this world-changing event. Luke gives the most detailed account of the Nativity and mentions Mary 12 times, more than any other biblical writer. In addition to the birth of Christ, he also gives special, detailed attention to the birth of John the Baptist and many see his gynecological interests to be a result of his training as a physician. At the beginning of his Gospel, Luke indicates that he has made a thorough investigation of the things about which he is writing, which included his utilization of eyewitness accounts. He spent extended periods of time with Paul in Jerusalem and Judea and would have had the opportunity to interview those who were closest to the event, including Mary herself. There is no reliable information on how long Mary lived, but some traditions say she lived as much as 24 years or longer after the resurrection. The detail Luke presents does indicate that he has derived his information from a primary source, either Mary herself or someone to whom Mary had relayed the intimate details of the event. The well-known Greek scholar, Kenneth S. Wuest, noted Luke's attention to detail. In his book Word Studies in the Greek New Testament, he said, "If Mary was still alive, he, a doctor of medicine, investigated the story of the virgin birth by hearing it from Mary's own lips." The accuracy of Luke as a historian was confirmed by the famous historian, A.N. Sherwin-White, who carefully examined his references in Luke/Acts to 32 countries, 54 cities, and nine islands, finding not a single mistake. Sir William Ramsay, who spent years in Asia Minor following and examining Luke's account of Paul's travels, wrote in The Bearing of Recent Discovery on the Trustworthiness of the New Testament, "You may press the words of Luke in a degree beyond any other historian's and they stand the keenest scrutiny and the hardest treatment." Challenging the claims of critics that the story of the virgin birth was based on a hoax, the noted Greek scholar, Professor John A. Scott, reminded the naysayers of Luke's reputation as a historian and that he had based his account on primary sources. Wuest says Scott then declared, "You could not fool Doctor Luke." **2. Affirmed by modern archaeology.** Luke's status as a world-class historian, accurate in even the smallest details, has been brought to light by modern archaeology. For example, Sir William Ramsay, considered one of the greatest archaeologists of all time, originally thought he would scientifically discredit Luke's accounts by visiting and examining the places mentioned in his Gospel and Acts. Ramsay was a student of the skeptical, German higher criticism of the 19th century and was taught that the New Testament was an unreliable religious treatise written in the mid-second century by individuals far removed from the events described. But after years of retracing Luke's account of Paul's travels and doing archaeological digs along the way, Ramsay completely reversed his view of the Bible and first-century history. Ramsay became convinced that Acts was written in the first century by the traditional author, and he acquired a very high regard for Luke as a historian. He wrote, "Luke is a historian of the first rank; not merely are his statements of fact trustworthy, he is possessed of the true historic sense; in short, this author should be placed along with the greatest of historians." In 1896, Ramsay began publishing his discoveries in a book entitled St. Paul the Traveler and the Roman Citizen. The book caused a furor of dismay among the skeptics of the world, for its affirmation of the biblical record was totally unexpected. Over the next 20 years, he published other volumes showing how he discovered Luke to be accurate in the tiniest details of his account. The evidence was so overwhelming that many atheists gave up their atheism and embraced Christianity. William F. Albright, archaeologist and late professor of Semitic languages at John Hopkins University, is considered by many to be the greatest of archaeologists. Like Ramsay, he began as an agnostic, skeptical of the Bible as a reliable book of history. But, like Ramsay, his views were also completely changed by doing the hard work of an archaeologist in the field. Albright discovered that not only was Luke reliable, but that the entire Bible was a reliable source of history. According to The New Evidence That Demands a Verdict, Albright wrote, "Discovery after discovery has established the accuracy of innumerable details, and brought increased recognition to the Bible as a source of history." At one time, it was thought that Luke had completely missed the boat concerning the events he portrayed surrounding the birth of Christ (Luke 2:1-5). Critics argued that there was no census and that everyone did not have to return to their ancestral home. They also pointed out that Josephus had dated the governorship of Quirinius of Syria, whom Luke mentions, as beginning in A.D. 6, too late for the birth of Christ. In every case, however, archaeological discoveries proved the critics to be wrong. In the case of Quirinius, it was found that he had actually served two separate terms as governor, the first beginning around 7 B.C., which fits perfectly with the time of Christ's birth. F. F. Bruce, one of the most respected of New Testament scholars, noted that where Luke has been suspected of inaccuracy by modern critics, archaeology has again and again proved Luke to be right and the critics wrong. The evidence begs the question that if Luke was this careful to get his facts right about names, places, events and dates, can we not be confident that he was just as careful to get his facts right concerning the more important things about which he reported, such as the virgin birth of Jesus Christ? **3. An agnostic professor of mythology is convinced.** C. S. Lewis was the agnostic professor of Renaissance literature at Oxford University, a prolific author and a recognized expert of mythological texts. He too had bought into the idea that the Bible was not a book of reliable history and that the New Testament was filled with all sorts of mythical stories, created by individuals far removed from the events described. But through the influence of his childhood and friends who challenged his atheism, Lewis began to read the Bible. He was astounded at what he encountered in the Gospels, for it was obviously a different genre from the ancient mythologies with which he was so familiar. His surprised response was, "This is not myth!" Lewis went on to become a dedicated follower of Christ and perhaps the most significant Christian apologist of the 20th century. At the time, higher criticism was being popularized in German seminaries. Certain theologians, such as Rudolph Bultman, were claiming that the New Testament accounts of the virgin birth of Jesus, His miracles and His resurrection were myths created by His followers. Lewis challenged these theologians, saying, "I would like to know how many myths these people have read!" He went on to explain that he had been a long-time professor and critic of mythological literature and knew how a myth sounded and felt. "And the gospel story," he said, "is not myth!" **4. Predicted centuries in advance by OT prophets.** Genesis 3:15 said, "I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; he will bruise your head, and you will bruise his heel." These words were spoken by God to the serpent after the fall of our first parents. The "seed of the woman" in this passage is an allusion to a future descendant of Eve who will defeat the serpent and reverse the curse brought on by his deception. The Bible normally speaks of the seed of men, but in this case it is the "seed of the woman." This is a prophecy that clearly anticipates the future virgin birth of Christ-a birth in which the seed of a man is not involved. The beloved Methodist theologian, Adam Clarke, wrote in The Holy Bible Containing the Old and New Testaments with a Commentary and Critical Notes, "The seed of the woman is to come by the woman, and her alone without the concurrence of man." According to this prophecy, the "seed of the woman" will receive a temporary wound from Satan-"you will bruise His heel"-but the "seed of woman" shall inflict on Satan a final and mortal wound-"He will bruise your head." This Messianic promise was fulfilled through the virgin birth of Jesus and through His death and resurrection. Isaiah 7:14 said, "Therefore the Lord Himself shall give you a sign: The virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel." The Hebrew word translated "virgin" in this passage is almah and refers to a young woman of marriageable age, but would usually include the idea of virginity, since that was expected of a young Jewish woman being married for the first time. That "virgin" is an accurate English translation is confirmed by the Septuagint, which uses the Greek word parthinos to translate almah. Parthinos specifically means a young woman who has never had sex with a man. Parthinos is the word used by both Matthew and Luke in their description of Mary, affirming that she was a young woman who had never had sex with a man when Jesus was born. Further evidence that this Son born of a virgin is a Messianic prophecy referring to Jesus is indicated by Isaiah's statement that he shall be called Immanuel, which means "God with us." This is a clear statement concerning the incarnation of God in Jesus Christ, and reminds us of the words of Gabriel to Mary that the Son she will bear "will be great, and will be called the Son of the Highest" (Luke 1:32). **5. Believed universally by the earliest Christians.** That the virgin birth was universally believed by the earliest Christians is verified by "The Apostle's Creed," an early confession of faith that dates from the second century and was used throughout the church. By including the virgin birth in their creedal statement, these early believers made clear that they considered it an essential doctrine of the Faith. The Creed reads in part: "I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth; And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord: Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary" (emphasis added). This belief in the virgin birth was confirmed by the Nicene Creed of A.D. 325 and has continued to be the belief of Catholic, Eastern Orthodox and Protestant Christians. Note the words of the 18th century hymn, "Hark the Herald Angels Sing," written by Charles Wesley, an Oxford graduate and Anglican minister, and with his brother John, the leader of the great Methodist revival. Because of the references to the virgin birth, this hymn became a popular carol sung at Christmas: "Christ by highest heav'n adored/Christ the everlasting Lord!/Late in time behold Him come/Offspring of a Virgin's womb!/Veiled in flesh the Godhead see/Hail the incarnate Deity!/Pleased as man with man to dwell/Jesus, our Emanuel/Hark the herald angels sing/Glory to the newborn king!" **Conclusion** With such overwhelming evidence for the virgin birth of Jesus Christ, it raises the question as to why there remains so much skepticism about this event and other miracles recorded in the New Testament. This question was answered in The New Evidence That Demands a Verdict by Yale archaeologist and professor Millard Burrows, who said, "The excessive skepticism of many liberal theologians stems not from a careful evaluation of the available data, but from an enormous predisposition against the supernatural." In other words, the barrier to faith is not an intellectual one, but a heart that is committed to unbelief. Believing in Christ does not require a so-called "blind leap of faith." Any honest seeker who will lay aside their biased presuppositions and consider the historical evidence will also experience the affirming witness of the Holy Spirit in their heart and will know that Jesus was truly born of a virgin. And if that part of the story is true, then we can have confidence that the rest of the story is true as well. |

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It was called the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. This tree was located in the Garden of Eden, where the Lord had placed Adam and Eve in a literal paradise, with radiant beauty at every turn, exotic wildlife and the perfect climate. Best of all, there was no sin or guilt or shame. God himself would show up there every day to take a walk with his friend Adam. In fact, the Bible tells us the Lord would come to Eden in the cool of the day, which almost sounds as though God took on some kind of human form to walk and talk with Adam. God gave Adam and Eve only one restriction in Eden: Stay away from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. Don't go there. So where do we find Adam and Eve next? At the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. That is so typical. That is just like us, isn't it? It's like saying to a child, "Do not go in that room." Where do you find that child next? In the very room you said was off-limits. That is just our nature. Of course, you know the rest of the story about Adam and Eve and how they listened to the serpent and ate the forbidden fruit. After that happened, they lost their sweet fellowship with God. And then the Lord came to the garden, calling out to Adam, "Where are you?" (Genesis 3:9 NIV) Did God ask this question because he was oblivious to where Adam was? No. God knew exactly where Adam was and what he had done, and God wanted Adam to confess it. That is what parents try to get their kids to do when they get into trouble. When my boys were growing up, I had a little trick I used to draw out a confession. I sat them down and said, "I already know what you did. I know everything. If you tell me the truth, the punishment will be less than what it would be if you lie to me. Tell me everything." Usually I would get some information I didn't know about. But after a while, they became wise to this. When I gave them that fatherly look and said, "Tell me," they would look right back at me as if to say, No way! We've fallen for this before! The difference between earthly fathers and God is that God actually does know everything. He knew everything that had happened at the tree of the knowledge of good and evil; he just wanted Adam to own up to it. But Adam didn't do that. Instead, he made an excuse - the first excuse we know of in human history. Adam said, "The woman you put here with me - she gave me some fruit from the tree, and I ate it" (Genesis 3:12). In other words, This is not my problem. It is not my fault. I was happy hanging out with the animals. I take a short nap. I wake up. A rib is missing. And she is here! Then God gives us the Bible's first Christmas verse, addressing his words to the devil: "And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will crush your head, and you will strike his heel" (verse 15). The battle lines were drawn. God was saying to the devil, "Game on. The Messiah is coming. And he is going to crush you." The Christmas story didn't begin in the gospel of Matthew. It didn't begin in Luke. It began in the Old Testament. Jesus has always been there. John 1, speaking about Jesus, says, "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it" (verses 1-5). In contrast to Matthew and Luke, which give us different aspects of the Nativity, John takes us back - way back. He points to eternity past, going back further than our minds can imagine. Before there was a world, before there were planets, before there was light and darkness, before there was matter, before there was anything but the Godhead, there was Jesus. Jesus Christ - coequal, coeternal, and coexistent with the God the Father and God the Holy Spirit. He was with God. He was God. Jesus was Deity in diapers. God became an embryo. He did not become identical to us, but he became identified with us. In fact, he could not have identified with us more closely than he did. It was total identification with us, without any loss of his identity. He became one of us without ceasing to be himself. Jesus, who was God, became a man. When we think of the first Christmas, we think of it as the birth of Jesus, and technically it was. But that is not when Jesus began. He has no beginning or end. He is the Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, the first and the last. Yes, there was a moment when God made a decision to descend from heaven to earth and be born in a manger as a helpless little infant. Isaiah 9:6 sums it up perfectly: "For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace." From our perspective on Earth, a child was born. But from God's perspective in heaven, a son was given. It was when God became a man.   |

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