

THE EVIDENCE FOR THE
EXISTENCE OF A CHRISTIAN
CHURCH IN KERALA EVEN
BEFORE A HINDU TEMPLE



Spiritual Bankruptcy

A good man leaves an inheritance for his children's children, but a sinner's...



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Pope Francis' recent support for Lord's Prayer changing the wording "lead us not into temptation."

The church has a long history of fiddling with the Lord's Prayer and debating the right wording. Scripture itself isn't unified on the wording. The Bible gives us two versions of the prayer—often referred to as the Our Father—one from Matthew's gospel (Matt. 6:9–13) and one from Luke's gospel (Luke 11:2–4).

Additionally, today we often forget that the last two lines ("for thine is the kingdom...") aren't from Scripture but were added later by well-intentioned churchmen who felt that ending with sin didn't tell the whole story. Then there's the question of translations and traditions. If Matthew's wording probably borrows a term that refers to financial debts in the original Greek, is it okay that many traditions say "trespasses"?

Pope Francis recently waded into the wording of the Lord's Prayer by supporting a decision by the French Catholic church to change the wording of a line in the French translation of the prayer.

In an interview last week, Francis agreed that the new wording adopted by the French Catholic church was theologically clearer, suggesting that the previous version was not a "good translation."

The phrase, "Ne nous soumet pas

à la tentation" (roughly "Don't subject us to temptation") was updated this Sunday to be "Ne nous laisse pas entrer en tentation" (meaning "Don't let us go into temptation.") In English, the phrase is traditionally rendered "lead us not into temptation." The concern for the French church and the pope is that the wording may suggest that God causes people to sin.

"It's not about letting me fall into temptation. It's I, the one who falls, not Him pushing me toward temptation, so as to then see how I fall," Francis said, in an Italian interview with TV2000, a television channel owned by Italy's conference of bishops. "No, well, a father won't do that. A father will immediately help you pick yourself up. Satan's the one leading you into temptation. That's Satan's task."

The Lord's Prayer is a deeply loved and familiar invocation memorized and recited by millions of Christians around the globe every week. The Roman Catholic Church considers it a brief paraphrase of the whole gospel, and for centuries theologians of various traditions have insisted that the way the church prays indicates what the church believes ("Lex Orandi, Lex Credendi"). So, it's important to get the wording right.

French Police Faked Records in Cover-Up After ISIS Jihadists Killed Priest in Church

French intelligence agents allegedly changed the date in a document in an attempt to remove evidence about their blunders that allowed Islamic State supporters to kill French priest Rev. Jacques Hamel inside his parish in 2016.

French prosecutors have opened a criminal inquiry into the allegation that the agents post-dated a document as a cover-up, according to [The Times](#), which quoted French news website Médiapart

as saying the agents were more concerned about their careers than tracing terrorists.

The inquiry will be conducted by the "police of the police," Inspection Generale de la Police Nationale, according to [Sputnik News](#), which also said a lawyer representing some of the attack survivors has reportedly asked to declassify all the documents related to the case.

On July 26, 2016, Islamic State jihadists Adel Kermiche and Abdel-Malik Petitjean stormed the church in Saint-Étienne-du-Rouvray in Normandy and slit the throat of the 85-year-old priest. The two were shot dead by police as they left.

Five days before the killing, an agent from the Paris Police Prefecture Intelligence Unit

stumbled upon a message in the encrypted channel Telegram in which someone boasted that "I haven't been uncovered."

The sender of the message, with the username @Jayyed, was later identified as Kermiche, who



also posted a video on the channel saying he had given lessons in a mosque in the town in Normandy advising his followers to "go into a church and take out everyone."

The agent informed senior officials about Kermiche, advising they inform the General Direction of Interior Security, the French chief intelligence agency. This information was not sent.

After the church incident, the agent was asked to post-date his notes and erase the browser history on his computer. However, the document with the original date on it wasn't deleted from one of the computer files. The slaying of the priest shook all of France, including many in the Muslim community.

Democrat Doug Jones Wins Alabama. Senate Race; Roy Moore Says 'God Is in Control'



Democrat Doug Jones won a bitter fight for a U.S. Senate seat in deeply conservative Alabama on Tuesday, dealing a political blow to President Donald Trump in a race marked by sexual misconduct accusations against Republican candidate Roy Moore.

The stunning upset makes Jones the first Democrat elected to the U.S. Senate from Alabama in a quarter-century and will trim the Republicans' already narrow Senate majority to 51-49, opening the door for Democrats to possibly retake the chamber in next year's congressional elections.

U.S. stock futures, Treasury yields and the dollar dipped on Wednesday on the news of Jones' victory which could endanger Trump's policy agenda. With 99 percent of the vote counted, Jones had a lead of 1.5 percentage points over Moore. But the Republican refused to concede, telling supporters in Montgomery that votes were still coming in and state law would trigger a recount if the margin was within half a percent. "Realize that when the vote is this close that it's not over," Moore said. "We also know that God is always in control."

Moore, 70, a Christian conservative twice removed from the state Supreme Court in Alabama for ignoring federal law, denied the allegations and said he did not know

any of the women who made them. Reuters has not independently verified them.

Trump endorsed Moore even as other party leaders in Washington walked away from him, but Jones, 63, a former federal prosecutor, portrayed the campaign as a referendum on decency and promised the state's voters he would not embarrass them in Washington. "I have always believed that the people of Alabama have more in common than divides us," Jones told cheering supporters at his Birmingham victory party, where Lynyrd Skynyrd's "Sweet Home Alabama" had blasted from loudspeakers earlier. "We have shown the country the way we can be unified," said Jones, who as a U.S. attorney prosecuted members of the Ku Klux Klan for the 1963 bombing of a Birmingham church that killed four little girls. Jones, who cast himself on the campaign trail as the candidate who could reach across the aisle and get things done in Washington, said Alabama had often taken the wrong road when it came to a crossroads. "Tonight you took the right road," Jones said.

Jones is expected to take office early in January, after the results are certified. His election will not affect the pending votes in Congress on a tax overhaul or government funding.



Pastor Mark Burns saved U.S. President Donald Trump From Poisonous Spider Bite in Oval Office

Pastor Mark Burns of Harvest Praise and Worship Center in Easley, South Carolina, says he saved U.S. President Donald Trump from a poisonous spider bite when he was in the Oval Office earlier this week. When he and a group of evangelical leaders presented Trump with the "Friends of Zion" Award for his decision last week to recognize Jerusalem as the capital of Israel.

The pastor, who has been a strong supporter of the president, explained that he was at the Oval Office to present Trump with the award for "his courageousness," when in his peripheral vision he saw a movement going up Trump's back.

"It was this massive, huge white spider. And it was darting toward the back of his neck," Burns recalled.

He thought to himself, "can anyone else see this?"

He noted that nobody else seemed to react, and it was happening so fast that his first instinct was "kill the spider, protect Trump."

Burns said that he smacked the president's back, killing the spider in the process — not an easy thing for him to do, given his fear of spiders.

"I cannot stand spiders, I have always had a fear of spiders, but because it was the president of the United States of America, and I saw it running literally toward his neck," he felt that he had to act.

Later on in the video the pastor said that it was a yellow sac spider that he killed, which according to the website VenomousSpiders.net, is poisonous. The website clarifies that the spider's bite "has mild and local cytotoxic and neurotoxic effects," though no fatal incident has ever been recorded.

Still, the bite is "quite painful from the outset. A person usually develops redness, swelling, and itching near the site of the bite. Redness disappears after about 72 hours, and the skin heals in a week or two."

Burns said that Trump is a "man's man" and that he wasn't startled by the pastor smacking him on the back, even though the room went quiet with people wondering what had happened.

The South Carolina preacher then turned to Secret Service agents and said, "please don't shoot me." When Trump asked whether the spider was dead, he presented the dead arachnid in his hand as evidence. "I was not going to let this spider bite the president of the United States," he said.

He explained the situation and said, "I saved you Mr. President," joking that he "deserves a medal" for his actions. He said that everyone present laughed at the incident. Monday's Oval Office meeting included several big name Christian leaders, including Family Research Council's Tony Perkins, James Dobson of Family Talk Radio, televangelist Paula White, Dallas Pastor Robert Jeffress, African-American Pastor Harry Jackson, and former Southern Baptist Convention President Jack Graham, among others. Dobson called it an "incredible meeting" where the evangelical leaders prayed for Trump.

"There is a great deal of love between these evangelical leaders and the congregations that they represent, and I think the president in return," he said.



Sparkling Wisdom!!

Compiled by Abigail T John, Kerala

1. "God never said that the journey would be easy, but He did say that the arrival would be worthwhile" – Max Lucado
2. "If God is your partner, make your plans BIG!" –D.L. Moody
3. "You are the only Bible some unbelievers will ever read." – John MacArthur
4. "The Christian life is not a constant high. I have my moments of deep discouragement. I have to go to God in prayer with tears in my eyes, and say, 'O God, forgive me,' or 'Help me.'" –Billy Graham
5. "Relying on God has to start all over every day, as if nothing has yet been done." –C. S. Lewis
6. "Your potential is the sum of all the possibilities God has for your life." –Charles
7. "We are all faced with a series of great opportunities brilliantly disguised as impossible situations." –Chuck Swindoll
8. "Be faithful in small things because it is in them that your strength lies." –Mother Teresa
9. "God is most glorified in us when we are most satisfied in Him" –John Piper
10. "Always, everywhere God is present, and always He seeks to discover Himself to each one" –A.W.Tozer

The End Time News Published!!



Oklahoma City: USA: In IPC Hebron, OK, on Sunday, December 17, 2017, after the regular church service, Pastor Shibu Thomas released "The End Time News" online news journal by handing over the first English copy to the secretary of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Mr. Thomas Samuel. In the blessed occasion, Pastor Thomas Samuel prayed for and blessed everyone who is working behind the publication. The End Time News, a monthly online journal published from

India, delivers up-to-date news providing coverage of national and international news, written from a Christian perspective, true-life stories and devotions that offer practical solutions to everyday problems and inspiration for overcoming personal difficulties, presents biblical outlooks and studies on various crucial scriptural topics and enriches lives with resources for daily Christian living providing encouragement, spiritual support and practical helps.

Oklahoma City, USA: IPC Hebron Church, OK, Sunday School annual meeting and PYPA was jointly conducted on December 30, 2017.



PYPA 2017

The End Time News Reviews

Though there are so many online journals available, the End Time News seems to be promising on as it combines the news and the study of the word of God. I really appreciate Brother Baiju Jacob for his vision and the team behind for the commendable execution. May it reach to as many people on earth as possible and may it be a blessing to all.

Joy Thumbamon



Indeed, it's news on time. It was a privilege to be one of the first few to comment on this wonderful online journal. The overall outlook is very encouraging and the articles on various subjects are very beneficial for one's Christian life. Waiting for the coming editions. May God bless everyone working with it.

Reshma Thomas

I would gladly say The End Time News is one of a kind. It's clear in its views, strong in its spiritual emphasis and sharp in its teaching. Very well executed, it stands as the best in recent times. May it grow and sustain in the publishing world for the glory of the Lord. God bless the team!

Pr.M.D DANIEL . BPC





REV. A J JOHN
KOZHUVALLOOR
MA. M.DIV

According to the traditional belief of the St. Thomas Christians in Kerala, the Hindu temples are ancient than the Christian churches. This tradition is totally in contradiction to the modern secular historical findings. During the period of the formation of the oral or written St. Thomas tradition, the historiography was not at all developed as of today. So the Malankara church historians have been just following the oral tradition of their predecessors without any question.

St. Thomas Tradition

According to this tradition, Apostle St. Thomas came to



Malankara by A D 52 at Kodungallor (Muziris) and converted 4 Hindu Brahmins families to Christianity. The miracle which he had performed in the temple pool water caused the Brahmins to believe in Jesus and they embraced Christianity and also he did put the cross at the top of the Hindu temple and reformed it as church. Afterwards in his ministry, Apostle Thomas

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established seven and a half churches in Malankara. This tradition is being handed down through the centuries.

The Arrival of Brahmins in Kerala

The period of arrival of the Brahmins in Kerala is still a n e n d l e s s d i s p u t e .

According to MGS Narayanan, a secular Indian historian, 34 Brahmin families landed in Kerala by 9th century AD. But professor Elamkulam Kunjan Pillai, late Indian secular historian, gives an account of their entrance little earlier as 5th century. During these centuries, most probably, Brahmins had a nomadic way of living, which means they have been a wandering people. As MGS Narayanan says, they got

settled as families only by 9th century. P K Sreenivasan and KN Sivarajapillai have noted that the Brahminical stories did not spread in south India where Thirukkural was the holy book. Thirukkural does not mention about Brahmins

8th century A.D, which is close to the time of the arrival of the Brahmins to Kerala. According to him, it was the period of "Karinthamil". This is a very strong point which no one can deny about the arrival of the



at all though this ancient Tamil vedam was written between 2nd and 8th century A.D. A R Rajaraja Varma had stated in his famous work "Kerala Panineeyam" that the origin of Malayalam language is about the

Brahmins to Kerala. So it is logical to conclude that there were no any Brahmins in Kerala at the arrival of St. Thomas. No one can question or deny the arrival of Apostle Thomas to Kerala as he

FULL STORY ON - 7



BENOY P. J.
Rajasthan, India

New Year is a time of celebrations and joy. But simply a change of calendar cannot be considered as something new. If we call the year new, there must be something new in it. Let us think about a few things that can bring a state of newness in our life in the year 2018.

The world needs you. You are in this world with a purpose. Your

existence is not an accident. Your parents, family, society, the institution you work for; yes, there are many who need you. You are very useful and worthy. Above all, God has a purpose for you. So be available for everyone!

You need others. Like others need you, you too need them. You can hardly grow on your own without the support of others around you. Make a space in your life for the admonitions and encouragements from others. A tree needs a ground to pierce its root into. A creeper needs a ground to spread. Human beings are not an exception. When sometimes we feel contented standing alone, remember that if we stumble, there won't be anyone to uphold us!!

Always walk an extra mile. The world around you expects something from you. Always try to do a little more. It's not for the benefit of others, but for your own. Don't be selfish.

Don't be a "me, my" person. When you walk an extra mile, you learn more, gain more experiences and you grow!

Be ready to learn and Unlearn. It is not about learning from a book but learning from life, people, surroundings, experiences of successes and failures, from adversities and from any situation you will be in. We are not the perfect beings on the globe. We still need to learn a lot to make this life a better one. Along with learning, unlearning is also important to bring

changes in life. If there is anything in your life that you need to unlearn, you must do it this year. To fill in a container with something useful, we must first empty it.

Be Optimistic. When you face troubles, when you are ill-treated, when you fail, when you feel like stumbling at some point, when you don't get what you want to get, when the doors seem to be closed in front of you, be of good courage; there is something good in store for you.

Don't be disappointed in failures. Usually we are disappointed in failures. Thomas Alwa Edison failed a thousand times in his efforts to invent electric bulb. When he was asked

FULL STORY ON - 8

Enclosed and Safe Within the Fence!

Rev. Dr. Mathukutty A. Samuel, Oklahoma City

This is a short meditation based on Luke 15:11-13.

Luke 15:11-13 -¹¹ Then He said: "A certain man had two sons. ¹² And the younger of them said to *his* father, 'Father, give me the portion of goods that falls *to me*.' So he divided to them *his* livelihood. ¹³ And not many days after, the younger son gathered all together, journeyed to a far country, and there wasted his possessions with prodigal living.

I would like to compare the "Far country" to the World. Some of us were in that "far country" before we were saved. Some of you are in the church, but you wonder what is going on out in the "far country". Let me tell you that there is nothing out there for you. Sooner or later some of you will consider-even if just a passing thought -about the "far country."

Some of our houses have fences and gates to keep the children from going out into the street. Some children climb that fence to go out. Others, when the gate opens, find a chance to go out. But when the children see the dogs outside the gate they come inside and close the gate. All of a sudden the fence, that used to be a prison, becomes a refuge. The prison turns to a place of protection.

No doubt the prodigal son heard about the "far country" from someone-maybe from one of the hired servants or from a friend-and he couldn't wait to get away from his father. Inside his father's fence he was protected by a set of rules.

From the above portion of the scripture we know that the father had some rules and standards. As long as that son lived in his father's home, he had to stay within the rules. So He wanted to be outside of the fence because out there is freedom, and he could do whatever he wanted to do! Have you at one time or another longed to be away from rules and standards just to see what it was like? Let us look into some of the thought we have about these Fences.

2. ***DON'T FENCE ME IN!***



One day he came to his father and said, "I would like to have what is mine." His father gave him everything that was due him, and then he headed toward the "far country." But what happened when he got there? He wasted all that he had on riotous living, meaning he

was living outside the rules, outside the boundaries, outside the standards, but inside the worldliness. He thought he would have freedom; instead he was like an ox going to the slaughter, like a bird caught in a snare. He wasted everything what he had. When a famine came into the land, he was forced to join himself to a citizen of that country-a pig farmer-and his job was to feed unclean pigs, the lowest thing a Jewish man could do.

3. ***DON'T FENCE ME OUT!***

He had lowered himself to wallowing with the pigs. Then he asked himself, what am I doing here? How did I get so far down? Then he "came to himself" and said "I know what I am going to do. I

will leave this far country and go back to my father and ask his forgiveness. Even his hired servants eat better than I" Now he knows that when he goes back to his father's house, he will be back under his father's rules, because his rules and standards haven't changed. So he takes his journey back to his father's house. I think when he left home, he thought he was leaving a prison, but he soon discovered that

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undoubtedly obeyed the Great Commission of the Lord Jesus Christ to go all the world and

Bhushan Awardee, is one of the most widely-read compendiums on the social, cultural and



make disciples. It can be concluded that St. Thomas preached the gospel not to Brahmins but to the early inhabitants of Kerala that is Dravidians and may be to the Jewish traders who were settled in Kerala then.

Hindu Temple in South India

1. "Inscriptions on temple of Kerala are available around 8th century A D." (S. Jayashankar, **Temples of Kerala**, page 6; Directorate of Census Operations, Kerala, 1997).
2. "The Development of the construction of the Hindu Temples are only after 8th A.D" (**The Temple Encyclopedia**, page 12, DC Books, Kottayam).
3. "The ancient Hindu temples such as Venkadam, Kanchi, Thirupparam Kantram, Sreerangam, were founded not even before the 5th century A.D." (**Kerala in 5 to 6 centuries A D**, page 175, Elamkulam Kunjan Pillai).

Existence of an Ancient Church in Kerala

A. Sreedhara Menon, eminent historian, academic and Padma

political history of Kerala. In his famous work on Kerala history, **Kerala Samskaram**, he mentioned about a traveler who made voyages to Kerala during the 6th century. Cosmas Indicopleustes, meaning "Cosmas who sailed to India"; also known as **Cosmas the Monk**, was a Greek merchant and later hermit from Alexandria of Egypt. His work **Christian Topography** contained some of the earliest and most famous world maps. He described and sketched some of what he saw in his Topography. In 522 AD, he visited the Malabar Coast (South India). He is the first traveler to mention Christians in present-day Kerala in India. He wrote, "In the island of Tabropane (Ceylon), there is a church of Christians, and clerks and faithful. Likewise, at Male where the pepper grows; and in the town of Kalliana there is also a bishop concentrated in Persia". Mr. Menon cites this as an evidence to the existence of the Christian churches in Kerala prior to any Hindu Temple. There is no doubt that this ancient secular historical record about a Christian church is two centuries before the existence of a Hindu temple.

A SEEKING GOD

JOE THOMAS
KOTTAYAM



As we approach yet another Christmas Season, I was looking around to see what it all means to day. The colour decorations, green, the gold, the silver and the red, combination of them, immediately rings Christmas. Santa's presence is prominent. Suddenly the towns have become tinsel towns. But nowhere baby Jesus is shown as the reason. I didn't see birth of Jesus being celebrated, remembered or glorified for his Incarnation. It was all 'Santa', the Christmas tree and business at its unusual peak. The greeting Cards with nativity scene, no longer relevant, instead wishes you 'a happy Holiday season'. Christmas is developing separate from the Faith and the Hope it once carried; a Christ-miss!

Did God save the world by the incarnation?

You might make a valid argument for the Cross or the Resurrection. To me, more than any other event, it is the Incarnation that puts the person of Christ upfront and in the centre, because its emphasis is not on what Christ did but on who he is.

"But the angel said to them, "Don't be afraid! I am here with good news for you, which will bring great joy to all the people. This very day in David's town your Saviour was born—Christ the Lord! And this is what will prove it to you: you will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger."(Luke 2:10 -12),

The Nativity scenes by the early painters had put it all in perspective. The terminology 'iconography' brushes all those paintings under the carpet in one sweep and reduces them as 'old and traditional' or allegorical. But were they? To criticise, one can say that lot of apocryphal and non-canonical material had crept in. But by and large one can see a standardisation in motive and execution. Most modern Eastern Orthodox icons are very close to their predecessors of a thousand years ago. What does it all say? Are they just work of Art or profound messages? A typical nativity scene expectedly develops into a lot more than historical picture.

The manger is set in a cave where Virgin Mary, the righteous Joseph, sheep, oxen, and the ass are all present. The setting of Paradise in this world. After the fall of Adam, the paradise is in full reunion with this world. The star from above brightens the world outside.

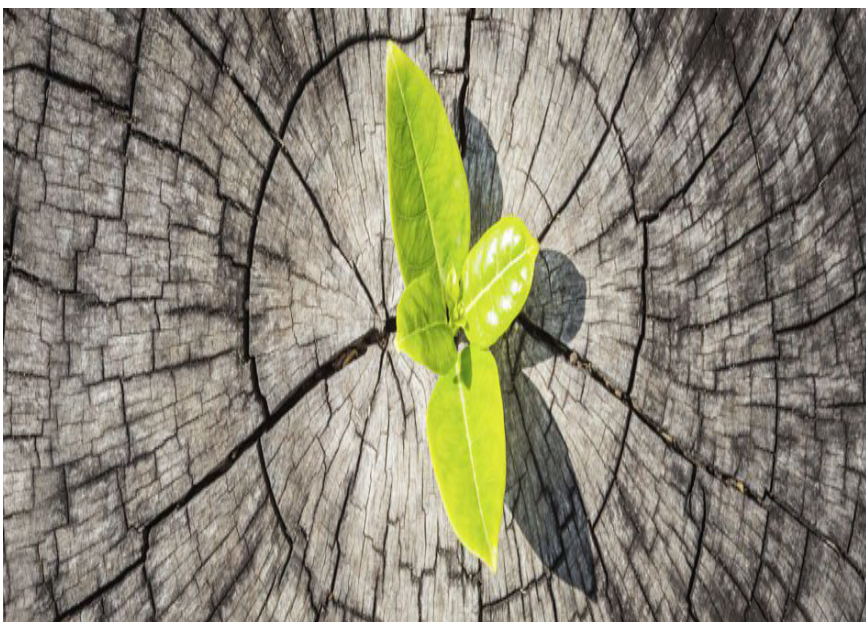
Joh 1:5 the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. 9 The true light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world.

The ox and the ass recalls Isaiah.

Isa 1:3 the ox knows its owner, and the donkey its master's crib, but Israel does not know, my people do not understand.

FULL STORY ON - 12

5p. A NEW LIFE IN THE NEW YEAR....



about it, his response was surprising. He said he didn't fail; instead he discovered a thousand reasons why it doesn't work. Your failure will teach you how to do things in the right way and the result will be your victory.

Play your role well. Everyone is not born with the same purpose but everyone is equally important. In 1 Corinthians 12: 21-26, apostle Paul says,

The eye cannot say to the hand, "I don't need you!" And the head cannot say to the feet, "I don't need you!" On the contrary, those parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable and the parts that we think are less honorable we treat with special honor. And the parts that are unpresentable are treated with special modesty, while our presentable parts need no special treatment. But God has put the body together, giving greater honor to the parts that lacked it, so that there should be no division in the body, but that its parts

should have equal concern for each other. If one part suffers, every part suffers with it; if one part is honored, every part rejoices with it.

Never have inferiority or superiority complex. Trust yourself. Know your worth. No matter what others think about you. Know your worth and keep on making your efforts. Pride goes before fall. The moment we start thinking that we are somebody, we start being no one. Humility will take you to heights whereas pride will cause you to fall.

Wait up on the Lord. Keep on working. Don't try to reach the peak all of a sudden. Going up is a step by step process. Almighty has destined a time for you! The time will come and the world around will see what you are here for!

May your new year be a new one in the real sense with something new that you have never come across in your life. Happy New Year!!



Carson Wentz Trusting in God's Perfect Plan After Season Ending ACL Injury

Philadelphia Eagles quarterback Carson Wentz's NFL season came to an end with an ACL injury Sunday, but that isn't stopping him from trusting that God has a perfect plan. Wentz, 24, found a reason to celebrate his team and God despite tearing his ACL in the Eagles' 43-35 win against the Los Angeles Rams Sunday. That win helped clinch the Eagles' 2017 NFC East championship. Even though Wentz's injury has officially ended his season, he took to Twitter to support his team.

"NFC East Champs! So proud of the resiliency of this team," "Such a special group of men. And I greatly appreciate all the prayers!" Wentz tweeted Sunday.

He also shared a scripture and his mindset after a brutal injury. "I know my God is a powerful one with a perfect plan," he wrote. "Time to

just lean in to Him and trust whatever the circumstances! #Proverbs3:5-6."

This season, a number of Eagles have been vocal about taking part in multiple Bible studies throughout the week. Last month, Eagles tight end Trey Burton blamed Satan for his teammates getting injured after they focused on God.

"We've had a lot of guys who are strong leaders get hurt after showing their boldness for the Lord," Burton said in a CBS Sports report.

"Satan can't control us on the field, so he's going to try to attack us off the field, attacking us physically."

Earlier this year, Wentz opened up about his faith at a live event that took place at Eastern University in Pennsylvania. While there, he explained the concept of God's grace and how it separates Christianity from other religions in the world.

<https://harvestingsoulsmissioninc.org/>



Glory Joseph,
USA

A good man leaves an inheritance for his children's children, but a sinner's wealth is stored up for the righteous. Proverbs 13:22.

Material inheritance is what you leave behind for your children or someone who you believe deserves it. It can be in the form of assets, land, or money. Material inheritance can only be enjoyed by the recipient for long as it lasts. Spiritual inheritance, however, is an immeasurable, intangible asset that we can leave behind to bless countless generations.

Biblical characters such as Abraham, Joshua, Hannah, Lois, Eunice left spiritual inheritances to their children as well as others and it has lasted even to this day. The worth of Spiritual Inheritance was recognized by our forefathers, and then by our parents who in turn have left us an example. The question to be addressed in our day is: Are you going to leave the next generation spiritually bankrupt? The answer to this question is in



Spiritual Bankruptcy

our hands. We can help our future generation from being spiritually bankrupt by recognizing the problem, having a recovery plan and finally by restructuring our lives.

spiritual inheritance? Being aware of our life's purpose is the key to answering this question. Materialism or the possession of expensive things such as a large home, expensive cars, and other goods are looked upon as a

common problem seen in today's world. Apostle Paul instructs Timothy in 1 Timothy 6:6 that there is great gain in godliness with contentment. It is a natural human tendency to covet after more and more

Biblical characters such as Abraham, Joshua, Hannah, Lois, Eunice left spiritual inheritances to their children as well as others and it has lasted even to this day. The worth of Spiritual Inheritance was recognized by our forefathers, and then by our parents who in turn have left us an example.

Let's take a minute and ask ourselves a simple question, "am I spiritually bankrupt?". Awareness of the purpose of our life will help us to be far sighted, and to look beyond our earthly span of life. Proverbs 13:22 says a good man leaves an inheritance to his children's children. What will we leave for our children, a temporary material inheritance or a long lasting

sign of success in our society. This lifestyle requires us to establish busy dual earning families so that we can afford these possessions. This in turn leads us into a busy life style in which we work around the clock, keeping us in a vicious cycle of time deficit. This results in us being short on the precious time that we should be investing into our children's future. Lack of contentment is a

material possessions. We often feel unsatisfied with our goods and our belongings especially when we compare ourselves with others. This sin of comparison is very much alive in our society. Has this sin crept into our individual lives knowingly or unknowingly at different periods of our lives? How can I recover from my spiritual bankruptcy? This

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09..Spiritual Bankruptcy..



should be a question that we need to ponder on and work on as soon as we can. Recovering from spiritual bankruptcy would mean refocusing on our goal of leaving behind a spiritual inheritance for the next generation. This would mean that we would have to address several areas of our life during our life time. There is an old saying that actions speak louder than words. Children learn from example of their parents in the home. They often tend to follow the pattern established by their parents. Making the fear of God a vital component in your family's recovery plan is essential. Joshua influenced his household to fear God. He made his faith clear to them. It is our responsibility to prepare our sons and daughters to receive the spiritual inheritance. We need to share our spiritual experiences, miracles and wonderful works of the Lord with our children. Psalm 78:6

says, so the next generation would know them, even the children yet to be born, and they in turn would tell their children. Showing a pattern of giving needs to start within the home. When you start showing generosity starting with the people around you and then to outsiders, your actions will speak volumes in the hearts of your children. They will follow your footsteps when it is their turn to do so. They will consider the needs of others ahead of their desires. Practice showing love to the needy, underprivileged, physically and mentally challenged in and outside of our community. Cultivate a new culture of care and empathy within our homes by speaking up for and caring for those who have been forgotten by society. Showing a forgiving spirit within the home and outside the home. Let your children witness you forgiving others. Starting in

your home, you are establishing a culture of grace for your future generations, and keeping them from being spiritually bankrupt.

The last question that we need to ask ourselves is: "how can I re-structure my life?". The plan of the enemy is to distract your attention from your goal and purpose. He can take away your time by tying you down financially by making you believe you need more money by using materialism. This in turn will drive you to work more, leading you to physical and mental exhaustion without lasting satisfaction. This will steal your time that should be used for restructuring your life. The devil will keep you in this vicious cycle.

We are God's instruments in this world. Both mothers and fathers are placed in a household to mold a generation so they will not fall into spiritual bankruptcy. Let the reading of the word

of God become an integral part of your own life as well as the lives of your children. Teach your children about the blessings that come with obedience as outlined in Deuteronomy 28:1-3.

Be investors in the kingdom of God by giving to missions, charities and needy. Invest money not just for our children's academic excellence, but also for their spiritual excellence. Teach them to invest into the kingdom of God by being kingdom builders. Stress the importance of seeking the kingdom of God first. This will allow them to become strong individuals who will learn to rely on the one who can turn hopeless situations into hopeful situations for them. Let your children see your acts of forgiveness within the home. Take time to apologize to each other, to your children and to others. It does not make you a weak individual, but makes you a strong believer demonstrating God's mercy.

Are we going to leave our next generation spiritually bankrupt? No! We need to provide a spiritual inheritance to our children by recognizing our priorities, and having a recovery plan by showing patterns of generosity, love and forgiveness within and outside our homes. Finally, we should restructure our lives and encourage our next generation to be kingdom builders.

6-Enclosed and Safe Within the Fence!

and memories-that had not been there before.

4. *THE WORLD'S FENCE IS TWISTED WITH BARBED WIRE.* 2 Peter 2:20-22.

When a dog vomits, he will go back and eat it. And the clean pig will go right back to the pigpen. There are winners, and there are losers. Young people, make no mistake about it. When you decide to make a decision about your life, make a decision as you want to be a winner or loser. A worldly loser will start flirting with you. You will probably be flattered that he is interested in you. But remember that he is living in that "far country." You know what peer pressure is? It is the influence of those with whom we decide to hang around. So be very careful about the decisions you make about your future.

5. *THE 'THE LAW OF LIBERTY' FENCE DOES NOT RESTRICT FREEDOM.*

Have you ever heard or read about the "law of liberty"? Compare James 2:12; Gal. 5:1

Do you have standards in your home? Do you have curfew at night? 1 Thessalonians 5:22 says "Abstain from all appearance of evil." You may say, "Rules at home! Rules in the church! Rules in the school! Man! I am so tired of this rules thing!" We all need to remember that inside the rules are joy, peace, and power with God. Inside the rules, one will find the will of God for his life. Rules are not

there to restrict us but to protect us. Rules are not like a prison from which you should want escape, but a heaven of protection from outside.

6. *DO NOT BUILD A "TOTTERING" FENCE', 1Tim 3:14 & 15.*

Our churches must be strong on how we should behave ourselves as Christians, but you will have a tendency to want drift just a bit. You want to go outside all of those rules and restrictions and standards and try something different. You might want to go to a church with fun, games, pizza, youth programs, where the girls and guys have their arms around one another, where the dress standard is very lax. These may look good to you, but move just one step in that direction and you move closer to the "far country," closer to the world, closer to eating with the pigs and closer to the dogs eating their own vomit. It is important for us to maintain standards in our own homes. If I do not maintain the standards at home, I cannot maintain them in my church. If children have rules and standards in their homes, they can grow up inside the fence of safety and protection.

No one is exempt from the enticement of the "far country". So we must continually ask the Lord "Help me not to go to the far country." When the prodigal son came home, he came back with dishonor that would never be wiped away; the reproach would always be there. Keep the standard up. Keep the rules up. Keep your lives clean and pure. So you will not bear reproach. Decide now to stay inside the fence of rules and standards. May God bless you! ●

Creation Festival Founder Arrested for Alleged Child Molestation



Harry L. Thomas, founder of the Creation Festival and senior pastor of Come Alive New Testament Church in Medford, New Jersey, has been accused of sexually assaulting four children over a 16-year period between 1999 and 2015. The church stated that the alleged misconduct was "unrelated" to his leadership. Thomas, 74, has been charged with one count of aggravated sexual assault, three counts of sexual assault, and four counts of endangering the welfare of children, according to the prosecutor's office in Burlington County, New Jersey, where Thomas lives and where his church is located. Authorities have refrained from releasing further details in order to protect the identity of the victims. "All persons are considered innocent until proven guilty in a court of law," stated the

prosecutor's office. It noted that Thomas was "being treated at a medical facility" while a case was prepared for "possible indictment" by a grand jury. "It is with deep regret and saddened hearts that the Elders and Trustees of Come Alive New Testament Church have indefinitely suspended Pastor Harry Thomas from all leadership positions with the church, festival, and all associated ministries," the ministry said in a statement to media Thursday. "While the allegations are unrelated to his roles in these ministries, leadership has determined this to be the proper course of action at this time until there can be a full investigation," stated church leaders. "It is requested that all pray for the parties involved and refrain from speculation regarding the circumstances."

Israel Discovers Covert Iranian Intelligence Operation Near Hebron

Israel's Shin Bet security agency said Tuesday that it has uncovered an Iranian military intelligence operation near Hebron that was planning to carry out terror attacks and collect intelligence for the Islamic Republic. According to the Shin Bet, the key suspect arrested was Mahmoud Makharmeh, 29, a computer engineering student who resides in Hebron. He was recruited for Iranian intelligence by his relative, Bakhar Makharmeh, who is also from Hebron but has

resided in South Africa in recent years. In 2015, Mahmoud Makharmeh visited South Africa and met several times with Iranian intelligence agents, the Shin Bet said. "The operation demonstrates the Iranian involvement in encouraging terror attacks against Israel and also shows the forces being sent by Iran to countries around the world, in order to advance enemy activities against Israel," stated the Israeli security agency.

God in Flesh THE INCARNATION OF CHRIST

PR POLE MALA

The study of christ begins with the incarnation. By incarnation we mean the birth of jesus as the son of mary. It is incarnation because it was the not begining of his life, He was pre-existent. Human birth is the orgin of the individual person, Whereas Jesus as a person who was exiting from eternity. It does not resemble the Hindu concept of re-incarnation or transmigration. That is the idea of human souls begin born again in other body after death according to their karma. The birth of Jesus is not such a result of karma.

Incarnation is a mystry, the work of the infinite God, that a finite man cannot understand or explain. In human understanding it is a miracle. mary begin a virgin asked how this take place, when angel Gabriel announced it (luke 1:35) she wanted an explanation but the angel said "the holy spirit come up on you , and the power of the highest will overshadow you; therefore, also, that holy one who is to be born will be called the son of God". Mary was satisfied with the answer and accepted the incarnation saying "be it unto me according to the word"(luke

1:38). We furnish no other explanation about the birth of Jesus Christ. We just have to accept the comment of the angel "nothing is impossible with God"

The sonship of christ

The sonship of christ is not because he was born or reproduced by the father but it speaks of his essential relationship with the father. The character of son or he is "the effulgence or fullness of God's glory and the very impression of his substance (Hebrew 1:3) The point to a distinctness in which one side of the duality (double) is a perfect, yet depended, reproduction of other. The sonship includes "upholding all things by the word of his power (Hebrew 1:3). While verse Hebrew 1:8 testify his deity. It denotes a relation which is essential and transcendent. It is as son Christ discharges. His priestly function sacrificing Himself in death and resurrection, entering through His blood as priest with the veil. It is in the son that God has spoken (Hebrew 1:2) and as son that He intercedes (Hebrew 4:14, 7:28) indissociably bound up with the very thought of sonship. Christ and God are of one divine nature, yet within this unity there obtain relations of higher and lower. Consecrated and sent by the father (John 10:36). The sonship of Christ is not by reproduction.

The great mystery of the incarnation is the crux and the core of the Christian message. It is the mystery over which the rationalists stumble, by which the humanists are offended and by which the world is bewildered. The natural mind is not equipped to grasp this truth. The apostle Paul said, "Without controversy great is the mystery of godliness; God was manifested in the flesh, justified in the spirit, seen by angels, preached among the gentiles, believed on in the world, received up in glory" (1 Timothy 3:6).

07-...A SEEKING GOD

God is in full conciliation with the world and the nature with its creator. Then you have the shepherds who wondered. Wonder is the ultimate praise of worship. The wise men, the kings of this world bow to the king of Kings. God did give a lot of significance to the event of incarnation while Crucifixion and resurrection were achievement of final proceedings and ascension had the least of celebration.

To say it another way, wrapped in the manger is the salvation of the world. The Cross, Resurrection, and Ascension are all present implicitly in the baby Jesus, only to be unpacked over the next thirty-plus years. Far from being secondary, the Incarnation is in very real sense our saving moment!

Simeon says: "For my eyes have seen your salvation" (Luke 2:30).

We miss this because we are looking backward through the Cross to the crib. But, even before Adam fell, God was looking "forward" through the crib to the Cross!

It is in the Pastoral Epistles—1 and 2 Timothy and Titus—that we find most profoundly this idea that salvation comes in the person of Jesus Christ. In a resounding echo of the angels' chorus, Paul rings in, twice asserting that he has been "appointed a herald" of the Good News (1 Tim. 2:7; 2 Tim. 1:11). Paul is sure that the day of God's kingdom has dawned with the birth of the King. The focus is the arrival or appearance of Christ, not his works:

**The grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all.
(Titus 2:11 NRSV)**

When the kindness and love of God our Saviour appeared, he saved us. (Titus 3:4–5a)

Simply put, with the arrival of the Saviour, the world is saved.

"God our Saviour" is an Old Testament depiction. For this scarlet thread in the Pastorals we need look no further than the first sentence of 1 Timothy: "Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the command of God our Saviour and of Christ Jesus our hope."

[God] has saved us and called us to a holy life—not because of anything we have done but because of his own purpose and grace. This grace was given us in Christ Jesus before the beginning of time, but it has now been revealed through the appearing of our Saviour, Christ Jesus, who has destroyed death and has brought life and immortality to light through the gospel. (2 Tim. 1:9–10)

The phrase "revealed through the appearing" is a significant indicator for us, because it insists that "Saviour" is who God is. Jesus Christ did not suddenly become Saviour when he died for our sins; he was born, lived, died, and rose again for us because he is Saviour!

Before Christ, humanity had no view directly into God's nature, and we were left to be awed by his transcendence. In Christ the invisible becomes visible, and he who cannot be seen has appeared; the unapproachable has drawn near! All religions and their scriptures seek God but in the Bible God seeks mankind. It begins with:-

But the LORD God called out to the man (Adam), "Where are you?" (Gen 3:9)

And continues with:-

"Listen! I stand at the door and knock; if any hear my voice and open the door, I will come into their house and eat with them, and they will eat with me. (Rev 3:20).

God with us means- us with God. Open the door; so that you have a Merrier Christmas and a Happy New Year.

**Joe Thomas
Kottayam**

Travis Greene Unashamed to Spread the Gospel, 'No Regrets' Performing at Trump's Inauguration



Gospel recording artist Travis Greene recently received a 2018 Grammy nomination for "Best Gospel Album" and as the success of his modern style worship continues, the singer said he has no regrets performing at Donald Trump's inauguration ball earlier this year because God called him to be unashamed of the gospel in all areas. Along with being nominated by the Recording Academy, Greene just received a 49th NAACP Image Awards nomination for his album, Crossover: Live From Music City

recognized for "Outstanding Gospel Album (Traditional or Contemporary)." The RCA/Inspiration recording artist also recently reached No. 1 on the Billboard Gospel Airplay Chart for his song, "You Waited," marking his third consecutive No. 1 single. Despite his success, Greene is keeping focused on this mission ahead by using his gifts to share the hope of Jesus Christ with others. Greene is also the Pastor of Forward City Church in Columbia, South Carolina.

5 Things to Know About Donald Trump's Move to Recognize Jerusalem as Israel's Capital



President Donald Trump announced on Wednesday that the U.S. will be beginning a process to move its embassy in Israel from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem, and officially recognize the city as Israel's capital."I have determined that it is time to officially recognize Jerusalem as the capital of Israel," Trump declared in his statement. While previous presidents have made this a major campaign promise, they failed to deliver.

Today, I am delivering." The decision has sparked various reactions from major world leaders, with many concerned that it will hinder peace efforts in the Middle East, though a number of U.S. evangelicals have hailed Trump for keeping his campaign promise. Here are five important things to know about the controversy behind the decision to recognize Jerusalem as Israel's capital, and the challenges ahead for moving the U.S. embassy.



Harvesting souls mission



Our Vision

- To establish indigenous healthy growing churches that will make a significant gospel impact within the culture, people groups, communities, multiple generations in India.
- To establish strategic partnership with existing ministries to facilitates more and more better church planting movements in various regions of India.
- To grow our churches through effective evangelism and gospel centered discipleship that produces both born again experiences and subsequent transformation of the whole person, whole families and whole culture.
- To recruit, train, and send native workers who have a definite call from the Lord and intense commitment for the end time Harvesting of Souls.
- The Great commission of our Lord Jesus Christ is carried out through preaching the glorious gospel of the blessed God in villages and streets, city and nation-wide.

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