



FIRST EVER BABY BORN WITHOUT A MOM, ONLY 'FATHER' AS BIRTH PARENT

A baby born in Britain might be the first ever to not have a mother listed on the birth certificate because the woman who gave birth identifies as a man.

[FULL STORY ON - 10](#)

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'Christians in Nigeria Are Being Brutally Slaughtered' Urges Church Not to Turn 'A Deaf Ear to Their Cries': Franklin Graham

Evangelist Franklin Graham is making an impassioned plea on behalf of Nigeria's persecuted Christians. "Christians in Nigeria are being brutally slaughtered, and they feel like the rest of the world is turning a deaf ear to their cries," the 66-year-old head of Samaritan's Purse wrote in a Facebook post over the weekend. It comes as ongoing violence



between Christians and Muslim farmers in Nigeria's central Plateau state continues to escalate. Two weeks ago, a Christian pastor, his wife,

and their three sons were burned alive when Islamic herdsmen attacked their village. "Rev. Adamu Wurim Gyang and three of his children were set on fire and burned beyond

recognition," Graham wrote. "His wife, Jummai, only 45 years old, was shot and left to die in a pool of blood. Their one remaining son living away from home at college read about the attack on Facebook and went home, devastated to find his family dead." Twenty other Christians were also killed. Islamic militants, reportedly armed with machetes and AK-47 machine guns, destroyed 95 homes, along with farmland and several churches. "Horrific story after story," Graham said on Facebook. "This is just evil." The central Nigerian state has been the epicenter of vicious violence between Christian and Muslim farmers for months. In June, Muslim herdsmen went on a rampage attacking 11 villages and killing more than 200 people, mostly Christians. "Women are dying every day, men are dying. What do you want us to do? Please,

[FULL STORY ON - 10](#)



'God I Can't Thank U Enough': Odell Beckham Praises God for Healing Him
[FULL STORY ON - 08](#)



Egypt names first Christian woman governor
[FULL STORY ON - 08](#)



House Church in China Refuses to Obey Authorities Despite Persecution: 'Our Faith is Ruled by God'
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EVIDENCE OF THE EXODUS FOUND NEAR JORDAN RIVER

THE
End Time News
THE WAKE UP CALL FOR SOULS

NEWS

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Historical evidence for the biblical account of the Exodus might be located at a site near the Jordan River, according to a recently announced discovery. Exodus, the second book of the Bible, has been a subject of much debate over its historical accuracy, as some scholars have questioned the claim that the ancient Israelites immigrated from Egypt during that time period. However, at the Jordan Valley site of Khirbet el-Mastarah, archaeologists Ralph K. Hawkins and David Ben-Shlomo have said that there is evidence of ruins from a nomadic people believed to be the Hebrews coming from Egypt. "We have not proved that these camps are from the period of the early Israelites, but it is possible," noted Ben-Shlomo. "If they are, this might fit the biblical story of the Israelites coming from east of the Jordan River, then crossing the Jordan and entering into the

hill country of Israel later."

Ben-Shlomo and Hawkins had their findings published in the July/August 2018 edition of Biblical Archaeology Review, noting that the ruins appear to date to the Iron Age, which would be around the time of the Exodus. In comments given to the Biblical Archaeology Society during the summer, Ben-Shlomo and Hawkins said their findings came from research on the site conducted in the summer of 2017. At Khirbet el-Mastarah, they found among other things stone ruins and pottery fragments dating to either the Late Bronze Age (1400–1200 B.C.) or the Iron Age

(1200–1000). "By the end of our 2017 season, we were struck by the fascinating picture that had begun to emerge in the Jordan Valley, a region that up until recently has been virtually unknown archaeologically," said Ben-Shlomo and Hawkins.

"Within a range of just a couple of miles, we may be able to see the evolution of early Israel from a domestic-scale culture to a political-scale culture." The aforementioned Khirbet 'Auja el-Foqa has been identified by researchers with the ancient city of Ataroth, as referenced in Joshua 16:5.

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ALCOHOLISM AND DRUG ADDICTION



Rev. Dr. Edison Thomas

Drug stands as one of the burning human issues of these days. Although world is experiencing rapid development in this third millennium. Youth are becoming more miserable. The number of alcohol and drug addicts are increasing day by day especially aiming the youth. In this seminar paper the researcher is going to deal with the problem of alcohol and drug addicts and its negative effects in the human life, in the society, in the church and in the families.

MEANING AND DEFINITION OF ALCOHOL AND DRUGS

The word alcohol is of Arabic origin, being derived from the particle al and the word kohl an impalpable powder used in the East for painting the eyebrows. Thus

Paracelsus and Libavius both used the term to denote a fine powder, the latter speaking of an alcohol derived from antimony. The word drug comes from the Dutch word choong, which means dry. The name probably comes into use because most easily drugs were made from dried plants. Looking into the concept of drug it can be seen that the ancient Greek called drug as "pharmakon" a word that meant both poison and medicine.

Alcoholism

This is one of the greatest problems which is found in Young's Consumption of alcohol is injurious to health, it causes serious liver disease, cirrhosis of live gastritis, central nervous system depression, loss of memory power, brain damage and dementia. It is also leads to hypoglycemia. Alcoholism also a social problem "more than 30 % of road accidents are caused by drunken drivers. Alcohol causes a lot of family problems. Women bear the brunt of alcoholism. Wife beating, destroying and selling household goods not only had to heavy debts and bankruptcy but also leave the children in such families with badly scarred minds. Of the large group of

sedative drugs which includes barbiturates and chloroform may affect people of all races and religious. It may affect men and women, the old and the young, rich and the poor and so on and not any specific class.

ALCOHOL IS A DRUG

Even though many people are not aware of it, it is an undisputed fact that alcohol is a potent drug. Ethyl alcohol, the intoxicating substance on alcohol beverages, produced physical and psychological changes. Therefore, alcohol is considered to be a drug. In the case of alcohol these effect ranges from a feeling of well-being experienced after one/two drinks, to drunkenness, which is the acute effect of having too many drinks.

HEALTH EFFECTS OF ALCOHOL

There are both short and long term effects for the use of alcohol. The short term effects are as follows:

1. Alcohol is a powerful drug and it affects body and brain straight away. About five minutes after starting drinking, it has reached all the parts of the body.

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2. Alcohol dehydrates the body and lowers blood sugar levels.

3. Alcohol dulls the brain. Although it may feel stimulating at first, it feels worse later on because alcohol is a downer (a depressant drug).

4. Alcohol affects judgement. Research shows that more convicted drunkards think that they can perform tasks well when drunk, the worse they really do.

5. In large doses alcohol causes loss of coordination and showing of movements, and can even lead to coma and death.

6. Mixing alcohol with other drugs is extremely dangerous. This includes prescription and “over the counter” drugs such as sleeping pills, cough medicines, as well as illicit drugs such as cannabis, cocaine or heroin.

The long term Effects are as follows:

1. Stomach disorders like ulcers and gastritis

2. Cancer of the mouth, chest and gullet

3. Liver cirrhosis

4. Brain damage

5. Sexual difficulties

6. Problems with the nervous systems like pain in the arms and legs.

BIBLICAL INSIGHT

Be very careful, then, how you live—not as unwise but as wise, making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil. Therefore, do not be foolish, but understand what the Lord’s will is. Do not

get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be filled with the Spirit (Ephesians 5: 15-18). Do not gaze at the vine when it is red, when it sparkles in the cup, when it goes down smoothly in the end it bites like a snake and poisons like a viper.

The issues surrounding drug and alcohol abuse aren’t about substances; they are about the meaning and purpose of life. We need God’s wisdom to know what is important and how to communicate with grace and truth to a person who is struggling with a substance. We have made many foolish choices, but now is the time to follow the leading of God and come out for a hopeful future. Do you not know that your bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; you were bought at a price. Therefore, honor God with your bodies (1 Corinthians 6: 19-20).

Addiction in any form is danger to the person and to the society. In the modern world with stress from everything, emotional imbalances happening in life, addiction is becoming a part of many lives. The after effects due to such vices lead to diseases and conditions the modern medicine fails to treat and heal completely. Rehabilitation is the only possible way to win them back to normal life. This is when the work of God’s people come into picture. Effective pastoral care and counselling play a vital role in such scenarios. God’s love changes lives! The im-

mense measure of God’s love is demonstrated in that He paid the ultimate price to rescue us. He gives us freedom from the slavery of sin, but with that freedom come the responsibility to live for Him and make something of our lives to honor him in all we do.

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CHINA TRYING TO 'REWRITE THE BIBLE,' FORCE CHURCHES TO SING COMMUNIST ANTHEMS



The Chinese government is supervising a five-year plan to make Christianity more compatible with socialism in which there will be a "rewrite" of the Bible, a prominent religious freedom activist has told Congress.

The Rev. Bob Fu, a former Chinese house church leader who immigrated to the United States in 1997 and founded an organization called China Aid talked about a plan enacted by leading state-sanctioned denominations in China to "Sincize" Christianity.

As China's crackdown on religion has seen many house churches demolished and thousands of crosses removed from churches nationwide, Fu warned upfront that what is happening right now in China represents the highest degree of persecution for independent faith groups the country has seen in decades.

"Religious freedom in China has really reached to the worst level that has not been seen since the beginning of the Cultural Revolution by Chairman Mao [Zedong] in the 1960s," Fu told members of the House Foreign Affairs' Subcommittee on Africa, Global Health, Global Human Rights, and International Organizations.

At the center of this new level of persecution is China's new regulation on religious affairs that was released last year but enacted on Feb. 1. According to Fu, the revision of the religious regulations are to actively guide religion to "adapt to socialist society."

In a written testimony, Fu said that under the

new regulations religious activity sites will "accept the guidance, supervision, and inspection of relevant departments of the local people's government regarding the management of personnel, finances, assets, accounting, security, fire protection, protection of relics, health and disease prevent and so forth."

Fu said that in order to comply with the new religious regulations, the Three Self Patriotic Movement and the Chinese Christian Council have developed a five-year plan on "promoting the Sinicization of Christianity."

Fu explained that the CCC and TSPM held a seminary last July for preliminary discussion about the five-year plan. He added that the plan outline was finalized at a meeting this March.

The plan proposes "cultivating and implementing the socialist core values." The plan will be supervised by the national religious affairs bureau and "every province, autonomous region and municipality's TSPM and CCC seminaries and churches will cooperate with it."

One way in which they plan to Sinicize Christianity, Fu said, is by "retranslating" the Old Testament and providing new commentary to the New Testament to make socialist ideals and Chinese culture seem more divine.

"The plan made it clear that 'Sinicization of Christianity' means to change 'Christianity in China' into 'Chinese Christianity,'" Fu explained, emphasized that 'the heart and soul of Christianity's Sinicization is to Sincize the

Christian theology,' and even proposing to 're-translate the Bible or re-write biblical commentaries.'"

According to its latest outline, Fu said, a retranslation would be a summary of the Old Testament with some Buddhist scripture and Confucian teachings and new commentary for the New Testament.

"There are outlines that the new Bible should not look westernized and [should look] Chinese and reflect Chinese ethics of Confucianism and socialism," Fu told The Christian Post after the hearing. "The Old Testament will be messed up. The New Testament will have new commentaries to interpret it."

Fu added that the five-year plan advocates for "incorporating the Chinese elements into church worship services, hymns and songs, clergy attire, and the architectural style of church buildings."

"This includes 'editing and publishing worship songs with Chinese characteristics and promoting the Sinicization of worship music,' using uniquely Chinese art forms, such as Chinese painting, calligraphy, inscription, and paper-cutting to express the Christian faith," He said. "[It's also] encouraging churches to blend in style with Chinese architecture to local architectural style."

Fu said that while over 4,000 to 6,000 crosses of state-sanctioned churches have been torn down, churches that have crucifixes on the inside must "put up pictures of Chairman Mao and Chairman Xi [Jinping] on both sides of the cross."

"In the beginning of every church worship service, the choir of the church has to sing a few communist revolutionary songs praising the communist party before they can sing the worship songs," Fu detailed.

There have been reports that state officials have gone door-to-door trying to get Christians to sign a statement renouncing their Christian faith.

"For first time since cultural revolution, the communist party is now implementing a policy to mandate the Chinese faithful citizens to sign a form to renounce their faith," he said. "We have produced documentation showing [government officials] going door-to-door to force believers to sign a prepared form claiming that these believers were misled by evangelists into believing Christianity. Now, after a few weeks of self-examination and political studies, they have realized they made a mistake. This has not happened in the past."



Pr. Alexander John

ENDURE HARDSHIP AS A GOOD SOLDIER

Paul exhorts Timothy to endure sufferings and hardship for Jesus Christ. Paul is transferring the baton of faith and ministry to Timothy as a runner on Olympics handing over the baton to the other.

Paul uses three metaphors in this chapter to convey the message to Timothy: a soldier, athlete and farmer. From a soldier, endurance; from an athlete, discipline; from a farmer, fervency is expected.

It is very familiar with the Romans and Greek that the life is just like a war and the human beings are soldiers to battle and win over their life. Just as a soldier lives up to certain standard if he is a good one, and as an athlete obey the rules of the game if he wants to win, and as a farmer tills the ground according to the natural law of agriculture if he gets a crop, so also the minister must live up to the rules if he expects a crop and an eternal fruit.

WILLINGNESS TO ENDURE THE HARDSHIPS
The Soldier must be willing to endure the rigors of arduous campaigns. As a soldier of Jesus Christ, we need to go through hardships and suffering. We must have a Christian spirit not passively endure but which actively overcome trials. The Greek word "hupomene" is no the spirit lies down and let the flood go over it, it is the spirit which leads things head on and overcome them.

Take positively the sufferings and hardships which we go through. Every situation

or problem is iron for iron shaping process. We need to endure it. There is no crown without a cross. Once Paul said to his beloved disciple Timothy, if we suffer, we shall also reign with him (2 Timothy 2:12. Martin Luther once said, Christians are the heirs of the cross. As we are the heirs of the suffering we are also the heirs of the resurrection.

WILLINGNESS TO DO WHAT HE SHOULD
The soldier must know the impossibilities of engaging in military service and maintaining a Christian occupation.

Soldiers always ought to survey the dignity of the office which he is holding as well as his potentiality of opportunities. The ambition of a soldier is to please his commander. In order to please his commander, he must obey the command to fulfill the order given by the commander. All his wishes, desires and plans are being converted to his master's. Once he obeys the commandments of his superior master,

his body soul and spirit will join in the fulcrum of the concept that "I am a Soldier of Jesus Christ."

Our enemy, the devil, is the "prince of the power of the air." (Eph. 2:2) He operates in the atmosphere around us. He battles to defeat our faith by introducing doubt, fear, and eventually unbelief. If we could peer into the spirit realm surrounding us, we would see that Satan is attempting to be our substitute for God! Our enemy knows he doesn't have to annihilate the church – he just needs to deflect her from her God-given destiny and purpose.

There's a reason Satan is called "the accuser of the brethren," When we fall into sin in battle, the Holy Spirit will convict us. But Satan will counterfeit with accusations.

"You call yourself a Christian...?" It's designed to drive you into false peace. Church, it's critical we keep our eyes on the prize and set our face like a flint regarding God's commands. A soldier without a kingdom to protect has nothing to do.

TEND MY SHEEP

1 PETER 5:2



Rev. Manuel P Joseph Th. M

I Peter chapter 5 contains a set of admonitions to the servants of God and to the believers in general. A meticulous study of it will help us realize that everything in there has to do with Peter's life at various times of his discipleship tenure. All the instructions he gives to the suffering saints were once received by him from his Master, Jesus Christ. Let's look at one of those few instructions as they are for us today!

Peter begins the chapter addressing the elders and exhorts them to shepherd the flock of God by becoming perfect examples. He identifies himself as a fellow elder or as the one who holds the same office, as the one who witnessed the suffering of Christ and finally, as the one who will share in the glory to be revealed (5:1). The command, "shepherd the flock of God among you", is the one such instruction Peter received from Jesus. This instruction was the one that changed the rest of his life. Let's look at that interesting incident. The incident is recorded by John in his gospel. John was with Peter as the incident

was taking place. An eyewitness report is more convincing. In their last trip to Jerusalem, the disciples had experienced an emotionally overwhelming series of events: The Triumphal Entry, the expectation of a new kingdom, the agonizing prayer of Jesus, a betrayal by a trusted friend and disciple with a kiss, arrest of Jesus, denial of Jesus by their leader Peter, the agonizing crucifixion of Jesus, the Resurrection, and the manifestations of the risen Lord. Understandably they were confused and unsure of the future. In such a situation, Peter decided to go back into his old job, fishing. He had a family to support and must have had an ill feeling over his sin in denying the Lord three times. He was so influential that at least 6 disciples went with him including John who wrote about this (John 21:1-2). They started their job at night (for the fear of the people, I guess) and toiled hard but caught nothing till day break. Early in the morning, the disciples failed to recognize Jesus on the shore either because of the lack of light or the distance as they were hundred yards away. Jesus, preparing for them breakfast, asked, "Little children" or "lads" (paidia in Greek), have you caught any fish? Answering "no" to his question, they did what he asked them to do. They

"cast the net on the right-hand side of the boat" and hauled a huge catch of fish (153 in number). John alone, remembering the previous catching of the fish, a miracle done by Jesus in the same sea (Luke 5:1-11), identified that the man on the shore was Jesus! Hearing John's word, Peter immediately jumped into the water, and apparently swam to Jesus. This is typical of his impulsive nature, wanting to do everything first. The others came pulling their net full of fish. On the shore they were invited by Jesus for a breakfast and they knew that it was the Lord. That was the third resurrection appearance mentioned by John (21:3-14).

After the tasty breakfast, as they were sitting by the charcoal and fire, Jesus asked to Peter, do you love me more than these? "These" meaning the other disciples, not the 153 fish strictly as Peter had once said that he never would fall away no matter what others did (Matt 26:33,35; Luke 22:33; John 13:37). Then Jesus repeats the question three times. Every time Peter answered Jesus, He gave him a commission. Three times Peter said he did not even know the Lord (18:17, 25, 27); now three times he said he loved the

FULL STORY ON - 01

New York Giants wide receiver Odell Beckham Jr. fell to his knees and publicly thanked God for healing his body before millions of fans Sunday. "Lord, I come to You at this time ... not to ask You for anything ... but just to say Thank You," he wrote in an Instagram post that captured the powerful moment.

This weekend, Beckham played for the first time since breaking his ankle in October. He was eager to give God all the glory.

"Mind. Body. Soul. Spirit. God I can't thank U enough for completely puttin me back together and givin me another opportunity. It's OUR time. #ELEVATE," he wrote in an earlier post.

The NFL star recently gave his life to Jesus and got baptized while visiting Israel in July. He documented the spiritual journey on social media.

"Fresh start," he captioned the photos with the hashtag "Imforgiven." "What a time!"

"I couldn't of asked for anything more!!!! God I can't thank U enough for this one. My journey is just beginning," he wrote in another post.

FULL STORY ON - 01

Egypt on Thursday named its first Christian woman governor as part of a massive reshuffle of the country's provincial governors. Manal Awwad Mikhail, 51, has been appointed as governor of the coastal province of Damietta, becoming Egypt's second female governor, state media reported.

Last year, Nadia Abdou, a female engineer, was picked as governor of the Nile Delta province of Beheira.

In 2015, Mikhail served as deputy governor of Giza, a twin city of Cairo. In that post, she was in charge of revamping the city's informal housing settlements.

A graduate of the veterinary science school, Mikhail earned a doctorate's degree in medical sciences in 1999.

Over the past years, Egypt has seen several male governors from its minority Christians, who account for about 10 per cent of the country's population of around 100 million.

On Thursday, President Abdul Fattah Al Sissi swore in Mikhail in her new job along with 20 other new governors. Six other governors have retained their posts in the major shake-up aimed at boosting public services in Egypt's 27 provinces.

Following the swearing-in ceremony, Al Sissi met the governors and instructed them to work to raise living standards, come up with unconventional solutions to problems and combat corruption in their respective provinces, a presidential official said.

Two former provincial officials are being tried in separate graft cases on charges of taking bribes.

Sparkling Wisdom!

- ❖ "If we find ourselves with a desire that nothing in this world can satisfy, the most probable explanation is that we were made for another world." ? **C.S. Lewis**
- ❖ "God will not look you over for medals, degrees or diplomas but for scars." ? **Elbert Hubbard**
- ❖ "The function of prayer is not to influence God, but rather to change the nature of the one who prays." ? **Soren Kierkegaard**
- ❖ "Faith is not the belief that God will do what you want. It is the belief that God will do what is right." ? **Max Lucado**
- ❖ "This is what the past is for! Every experience God gives us, every person He puts in our lives is the perfect preparation for the future that only He can see." ? **Corrie Ten Boom**
- ❖ "To love means loving the unlovable. To forgive means pardoning the unpardonable. Faith means believing the unbelievable. Hope means hoping when everything seems hopeless." ? **G.K. Chesterton**
- ❖ "You were made by God and for God and until you understand that, life will never make sense." ? **Rick Warren**
- ❖ "The most confused you will ever get is when you try to convince your heart and spirit of something your mind knows is a lie." ? **Shannon L. Alder**
- ❖ "It is not the strength of your faith but the object of your faith that actually saves you." ? **Timothy Keller**
- ❖ "Faith is not something to grasp, it is a state to grow into." ? **Mahatma Gandhi**

Abigail Thyvilayil John



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FULL STORY ON - 07

Lord (21:15-17). Jesus' threefold question and threefold commission of apostolic mission in contrast to his three denials restore him back into the ministry. Peter who had denied Jesus beside a fire (18:18, 25) is now was restored beside another fire.

Three times Jesus commissioned Peter to care for the flock: Feed My lambs; (v. 15); Take care of My sheep (v. 16); Feed My sheep (v. 17). These commissions are one and the same. Jesus commissioned Peter to take care of the flock of God as their shepherd in the future. Peter was restored into the ministry of teaching and preaching of the word of God. He was restored to speak to the Jews on Pentecost and to witness the conversion of the thousands of people. He was restored to the ministry of the church as one of the pillars of the church at Jerusalem. And as he writes an encouraging letter to the suffering saints, he demands their elders also to do the same thing Jesus wanted him to do long back, "shepherding the flock of God". Now Peter can say, "As Jesus said, I just did and as I did, I want you all do".

As Peter followed the Lord in doing what He wanted him to do, he now requires us to do the same. We are to take care of the people of God. We have to live in an exemplary way that they emulate us and our lives. No matter what ministry is given to you, no matter where you serve, do as the Lord commissions and unto Him. He will bless us! Apostle Peter is a good example, so also we (can be) in the future.

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23-YEAR-OLD TELANGANA MAN HACKED TO DEATH IN FRONT OF PREGNANT WIFE MONTHS AFTER INTER-CASTE MARRIAGE.



A Dalit Christian man in Telangana was hacked to death on Sept. 14 by his wife's family members because they were unhappy that she married a person from a different caste against their wish. The murder of the 23-year-old P Pranay Kumar took place at Miryalguda in Nalgonda district. This adds one more sad incident to the honor-killings in India.

The father of the pregnant woman whose husband was killed agreed to give Rs 1.13 crore to the assailants for the task. Of this amount, around Rs 15 lakh was paid as an advance, according to reports.

Police have arrested seven people, including the woman's father, Maruti Rao, and her uncle, Shravan. Among the seven arrested are two people who were acquitted in the murder of former Gujarat home minister Haren Pandya.

The incident happened when the couple was coming out from a hospital after Amrutha's routine pregnancy check-up, assailants hired by her father hacked Pranay to death in front of her. The attack was captured on CCTV cameras installed in the hospital premises. The footage shows that the assailants attacked Pranay with a machete from behind, killing him on the spot.

The couple had fallen in love in school and were in a relationship since their college days. They married just eight months after that even as their families opposed it.

Pranay belonged to the Madiga Scheduled Caste whereas Amrutha was from the Vysya caste.

The murder has led to protests in Telangana's Nalgonda district where the demonstrators called for a shutdown in Miryalguda town to

demand justice for the couple.

Pranay and Amrutha, who were in love since their school days, got married in January this year. Since August 9, the hired killers conducted recce of different places before executing their plan last Friday, police said. The incident had triggered protests by some Dalit groups in Nalgonda. Amrutha, who claimed her father insisted on her ending the marriage, said she will give birth to Pranay's child and ensure justice is done to him. She has also refused to return to her paternal home.

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FULL STORY ON - 01

please, I am begging you, congressmen, (men) of London...please, I am begging you, stand for the helpless. There is nobody (else)," Rev. Dachomo said.

FULL STORY ON - 01

In what is being called a landmark case regarding the rights of trans-identified persons in England, an unidentified woman who says she's a man is embroiled in a court battle after she asked to be listed as the child's father. The woman, who is a single parent, began the legal process earlier this year, reports say.

The unidentified woman had already made the official changes and was, according to the relevant legal documents, a "father" upon giving birth. However, although she identifies as a man, she was informed that the law requires that those who give birth must be registered as mothers. Subsequently, her attorneys launched a human rights case for her to be listed as the child's father, asserting that registering her as a mother infringes on her right to respect for her private and family life.

Sir Andrew McFarlane, president of the family division of the high court will soon decide whether a child's birth certificate can be valid with only a single "parent" or "father" listed, according to a news agency. Children's rights advocate Katy Faust, founder of the children's rights organization Them Before Us, was not amused. "When the government issues a birth certificate with no mother, it's not 'progress.' It's state-sanctioned gaslighting," she commented on her Facebook page.

In June, attorney Hannah Markham argued that the law requiring her client to be registered as a mother was "no longer compatible" with modern society given "the evolution of freedom of expression and gender equality and the protection of an individual's rights to identify as a particular gender."

The legal dispute is occurring at the same time as the British National Health Service is being sued for not paying for fertility treatments for trans-identified persons.

As a news agency reported last week, as more individuals at younger ages are choosing to undergo gender transition procedures that render them infertile, the equality watchdog in the British government, the Equality and Human Rights Commission, is arguing that it's discriminatory to not offer these services as a standard procedure to

FULL STORY ON - 01

A house church in China has refused to succumb to the demands of authorities despite facing continued harassment for refusing to install cameras in the building.

Reuters reports that in April, The Zion church in Beijing, one of the city's largest unofficial Protestant "house" churches, was ordered to install 24 closed-circuit television (CCTV) cameras in the building for "security."

"They wanted to put cameras in the sanctuary where we worship. The church decided this was not appropriate," Zion's head pastor, Jin Mingri, told Reuters. "Our services are a sacred time."

When the church refused to obey, police and state security agents started harassing churchgoers, Reuters reports. In addition to calling them, visiting them, and contacting their workplace, officials asked the Christians to promise not to go to church.

Now, The Zion church is being evicted despite previous verbal assurances from its landlord that it could rent the location until 2023, Jin said. But despite ongoing persecution, the church refuses to betray their faith by submitting to the Communist government.

"House churches believe that our spiritual needs and the content of our faith is ruled over by God," Pastor Jin said. "What we need is the freedom to believe. Without this, it is not real faith."

There are roughly 60 million Christians in China, most of them Protestant, with about 10 million Catholics, according to independent estimates.

In efforts to "sinicize" - to be culturally Chinese and submit to oversight from the Communist Party - Christianity, China tightened restrictions on churches not sanctioned by authorities earlier this year.

In addition to being asked to install security cameras, some unofficial churches have been asked by police to take detailed lists of attendee IDs and phone numbers. Yet, authorities have also demolished fully registered churches as well, taking down rooftop crosses and arresting believers. In Henan province, church-run academies for children have also been shut down, with Communist officials accusing teachers of "brainwashing" students with Christianity.

Wang Yu, a prominent rights lawyer who has defended Christians from harassment, told Reuters the pressure on believers is an attempt to force the church to close.

"The authorities hope numbers will dwindle till it becomes impossible to continue, but in recent months ever-more churchgoers have been attending service," she said, adding that the situation is likely to worsen, as authorities have started describing the church as a "cult" when harassing churchgoers

"Being labeled a cult was how it all started for the Falun Gong in 1999," Wang said, referring to the spiritual movement the Communist Party banned that year.

Open Doors, a group that tracks religious persecution, says China is now in the top 50 of countries where it is most difficult to practice Christianity.

"All Christians are slandered, which seems to support the widely held belief that the Communist Party is banking on a unified Chinese cultural identity to maintain its power," said Open Doors. "Christians, in particular, are hedged in by authorities, as they are the largest social force in China not controlled by the state."

trans-identified individuals so they can start families later in life, perhaps through the use of surrogates. These services — such as gamete extraction and storing eggs and sperm — are particularly an issue, they contend, for

those who not have the resources to pay them.

The NHS has maintained that it is not responsible for ensuring fertility treatments for anyone, trans-identified or otherwise.

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NEW CBS SHOW 'GOD FRIENDED ME' DRAWS 10 MILLION VIEWERS IN DEBUT EPISODE



CBS' new TV show "God Friendened Me" was warmly received for its debut episode on 30 September, drawing 10.45 million viewers. "God Friendened Me," which tells the story of an atheist who receives a friend request from God, is currently at a 1.4 rating between adults 18-49 with 10.45 million viewers, according to a rating agency. It's faring well compared to another such program (1.4 and 8.8 mil-

lion viewers) which had its debut in the same time slot last year.

According to the series' synopsis, "Miles is an outspoken atheist who, ironically, receives a friend request on social media from God. When he accepts it, Miles is led to Cara Bloom an online journalist who also receives a friend request from the 'God Account.' This experience transforms Miles and Cara into agents of change in

the lives of those around him. Deep down, though, Miles is still convinced that the whole thing is an elaborate hoax. Until he can actually prove that, Miles is content with playing along and changing as many lives as he can."

Miles' father, a pastor, tries to convince his son to return to his Christian faith and stop pushing atheism on his radio program, which he says is leading people to have no hope in life.

The cast of the new CBS show says the series explores all sides of faith and science as the plot follows the young atheist whose beliefs begin to be challenged after he receives a friend request from God. "Is there or is there not a God? That conversation is part of what this whole show is all about," actor Joe Morton who plays the show's pastor, explains in the feature clip. The new drama airs on Sundays at 8:30 p.m. EST. Lead actor Brandon Micheal Hall believes it touches "on a subject" that he considers very "sacred." Supporting actor Suraj Sharma says the show "crisscrosses conversations about belief, faith, God and science. Directed by Marcos Siega, "God Friendened Me" was written by Steven Lilien and Bryan Wynbrandt.

NIGERIA: 4 CHILDREN, GRANDMOTHER AMONG 17 CHRISTIANS SLAUGHTERED BY RADICALS IN MASS RAID

Seventeen Christians, including four children and one grandmother, were shot dead last week by Fulani radicals who raided their homes in Jos, Nigeria. The attack happened on Thursday (27 September, 2018) evening, when the gunmen broke into homes and began shooting at anyone they saw.

Lucky Kogi, one of the survivors, revealed that two of his children and 14 members of his extended family were killed in the slaughter. Rogu Audu, another witness whose mother and two children were murdered in the attack, said, "When the Fulani herdsmen came, they shot into the house randomly, breaking and forcing their way into rooms, shooting defenseless women and children and anyone in sight."

Audu claimed that Nigerian army soldiers accompanied the Fulani attackers who were armed with both firearms and machetes. "The

Fulani herdsmen came from the Wild Life Park, which shares a border with our community," Audu said. "The park is located in

the southern flank of Rukuba Road and has rocky hills, which provided the attackers with cover to enable them to invade our community." The man revealed that all the casualties were members of the local Evangelical Church Winning All. Other residents said that wounded family members who suffered cuts on their heads, faces, and hands, are receiving treatment at the Bingham University Teaching Hospital in Jos.

Thousands of Christians have been killed this year in Fulani attacks, with some of the deadliest raids occurring in and around Jos. Over

200 believers were slaughtered in some of the biggest incidents there in June, displacing at least 3,000 people.

A worker with persecution watchdog group Open Doors USA described the situation for survivors at the time, saying, "Life has become a living hell for them. They have lost



loved ones, houses, and all they labored for in the twinkling of an eye. The agony they are going through is hard to describe," said the worker, who was given the pseudonym Kerrie.

UWSA RELEASES 100 ETHNIC WA CHRISTIANS IN MYANMAR



Myanmar's largest non-state army on Friday freed 100 ethnic Wa Christians it had detained, but continues to hold more than 100 ethnic Lahu Christians in a crackdown on religious freedom in mountainous territory the rebel faction controls in Shan state. The United Wa State Army (UWSA), a 30,000-strong ethnic armed group comprising the military wing of the United Wa State Party (UWSP), the de facto ruling party of the self-declared Wa state not officially rec-

ognized by the Myanmar government, began detaining Christian clergy members and shutting down dozens of their churches in September.

The rebel faction questioned the clergy members about whether they were engaging in development work or persuading people to con-

vert to Christianity, in a bid to ferret out "religious extremists" in Wa territory, including missionaries who have not obtained official permission and clergy members who operate outside the law.

Those who were freed on Friday had to sign a document saying that they would pray only at home and not in churches, said Rev. Dr. Lazarus, general secretary of the Lahu Baptist Convention.

Seven priests who refused to sign the docu-

ment are still being detained, he said. UWSA militants, most of whom follow tribal religions, also seized more than 40 ethnic Wa students participating in Bible study classes in MongPauk township and has reportedly forced them to become recruits, according to a statement issued by the LBC on Sept. 25. The township, the majority of whose population is Lahu, is the headquarters of the LBC.

"I believe they have been forced to become soldiers because photos of them in military uniforms are posted on Facebook," Rev. Dr. Lazarus said.

The ethnic army also shut down 52 Christian churches in the MongPauk region, including ones operated by the Wa Baptist Convention and Kachin Baptist Convention, and destroyed three others, the statement said.

The UWSA is also detaining more than 130 ethnic Lahu Christians, including 92 male and female priests, the LBC said.

LBC has heard that the USWA plans to hold the detainees until April 2019 when it celebrates the 30th anniversary of a bilateral ceasefire it signed with the Myanmar government.



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.

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