



When did God bless Jacob?

▶▶▶ FULL STORY ON -04

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MORE THAN 120 CHURCHES ATTACKED SINCE START OF SYRIA'S CIVIL WAR



Syrian war monitor associated with the opposition said on Sept. 9 that over 120 Christian places of worship have been damaged or destroyed by all sides in the country's eight-year conflict. Some of the attacks were deliberate, such as the ISIL group using bulldozers to destroy the ancient Saint Elian Monastery in Homs province in 2015. The

majority, however, were caused by front-line combat, shelling or rockets. Christians made up about 10 percent of Syria's pre-war population of 23 million, who co-existed with the Muslim majority and enjoyed freedom of worship under President Bashar Assad's government. Most have left

▶▶▶ FULL STORY ON - 06

BIBLICAL TOWN EMMAUS, WHERE CHRIST APPEARED AFTER HIS RESURRECTION, MAY HAVE BEEN FOUND



Archaeologists believe they might have discovered the location of the town of Emmaus, where Jesus was said to have first appeared before two of his disciples after His resurrection.

As reported by Haaretz, scholars on a Franco-Israeli expedition in KiriathYearim that began in 2017 have found a massive, ancient wall of a Hellenistic-era fortress that might

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BEATEN, ABANDONED BY HER HINDU FAMILY FOR FAITH REFUSES TO DENY CHRIST



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MIKE PENCE TO CHRISTIAN LAWYERS: 'SPEND MORE TIME ON YOUR KNEES THAN ON THE INTERNET'



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PASTOR FACING IMPRISONMENT FOR REVEALING HORRORS OF RELIGIOUS PERSECUTION



A Baptist minister from Myanmar who spoke with President Donald Trump about being "oppressed and tortured by the Myanmar military government"

▶▶▶ FULL STORY ON - 011



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

Christian life is not a bed of roses! There are hardships awaiting as endured by the true believers since the inception of the church. Jesus Himself attested to it. So have patience that will bring out the character of God in you.

The way we behave, when we are in the company of the unchurched, is as equally important as the way we conduct ourselves among the Christians. We are the living testaments that someone will have for a reference as a Christian. So we are to exhibit a character and a conduct that is worthy of the Lord living in us! How should we behave as Christians?

Be Merciful: Have compassion and deep sympathy for all the people in need and for those who are going through the toughest path of their lives. Everyone has a battle to fight and someone's can be worse than ours! Identify with them and offer them any help you can. Be concerned about their spiritual status and pray for God's intervention. We have a God who listens to our prayers (Matt. 9:36; Mark 8:1-3; Luke 10:33, 34)!

Be Kind: Being helpful, doing everything you can to meet the needs of the ones in need and assisting those people to get out of their suffering can be attributed to kindness (2 Sam. 9:1-7; Acts 28:2).

Be Humble: It's not a good to think highly about you and count every other person inferior. You are not supposed to be feeling too inferior too. The word demands us to

consider others as more significant than us. "I am greater than thou" attitudes have no place in Christian life (Rom. 12:3; Phil. 2:3, 4).

Be Patient: We are to be patient in dealing with all difficult situations and people. As preached by the prosperity preachers, Christian life is not a bed of roses! There are hardships awaiting as endured by the true believers since the inception of the church. Jesus Himself attested to it. So have patience that will bring out the character of God in you. This rule is even applicable when you are at the receiving end of the wrongdoings of others (James 5:7-11).

Be a Lover: The self-sacrificing love of Jesus is the model after which we love others. To expect something in return for our affection is a crime. Love like Christ loved. He loved everyone, literally every single person, He came across when He was on earth. The race, color, faith, practices and rituals never mattered for Jesus. He is the ultimate example we are to emulate (John 15:12; 1 Pet. 4:8)! These behavioral patterns are not any superficial, but they are genuine expressions of the Lord and His word in us. They flow from deep within as we center our lives around Christ and transform daily into his image.

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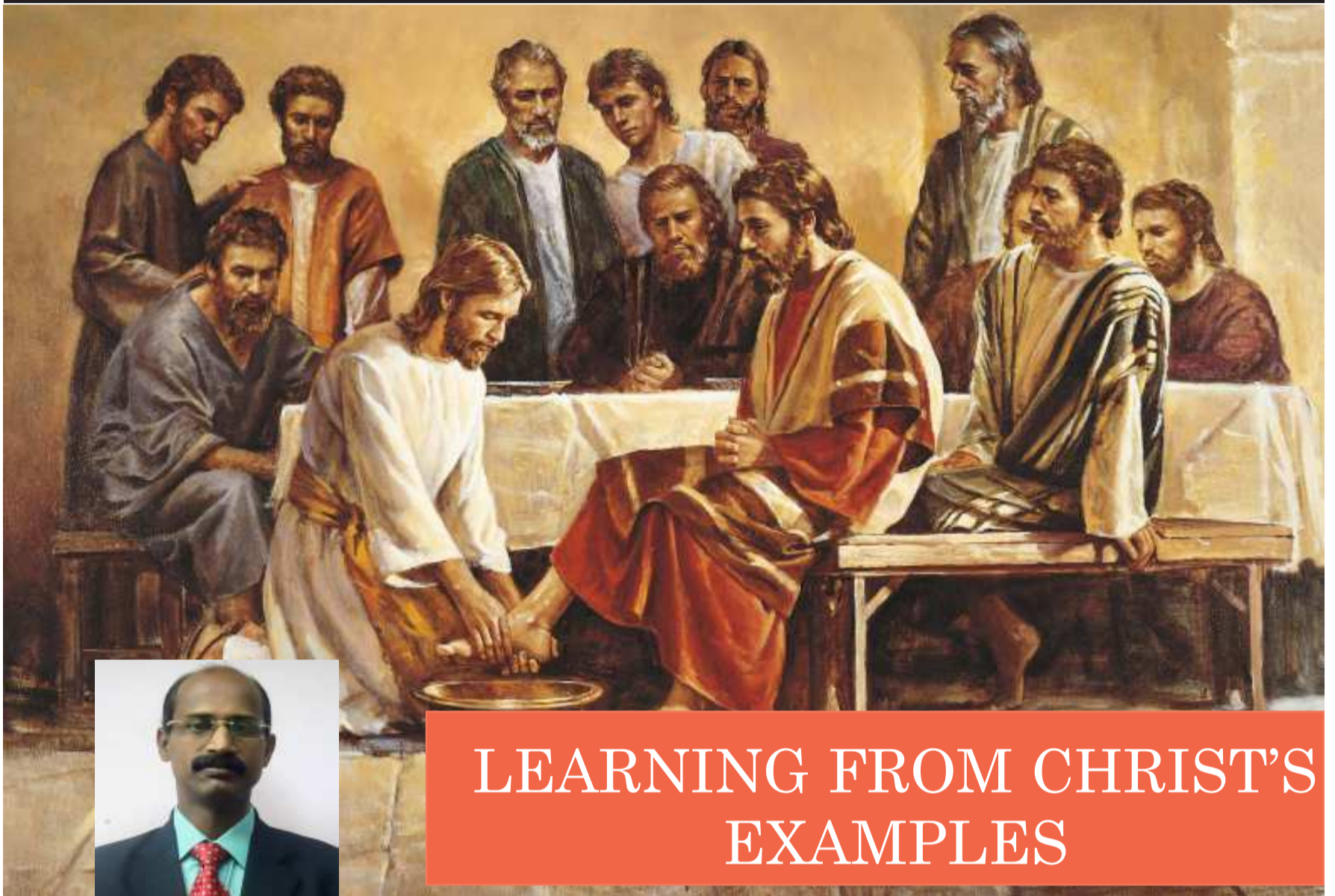
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LEARNING FROM CHRIST'S EXAMPLES

**Tennison Mathew
Kalayathinal. Pattambi.**

Christ establishes clearly and without apology that his disciples are to become like him. A disciple is not above his teacher, nor a slave above his master. It is enough for the disciple that he becomes as his teacher and the slave as his master (Matthew 10: 24-25). Christ is claiming there to be the master and teacher. In other words, He is saying, you should be like me. Don't think you must surpass me or look elsewhere. I am sufficient in every way. Follow my example. Consider now how Christ, while training his disciples, purposely shows himself in four ways to be the example to follow.

A. EXAMPLES IN BEING SENT

The great commission (Matthew 28:19) sends the disciples out to an often hostile and unearing world to make the disciples. Is this a mission one that has been done before? Consider these words, "As thou

didst send me to the world, I have also send them to the world" (John 17:18). Christ Himself was sent by God just as He sends His disciples. It is amazing to think that a God, who could do as he pleased, got painfully and personally involved. He sent His only son, His very best, to save us. Note these two points: first Christ knows how it is to be sent as He was sent, secondly, very clearly He says to His disciples by His example and command that they are sent to this world.

B. EXAMPLE IN SERVICE

The Lord Jesus on the night of His death washed the feet of His disciples. Foot washing was common practice after walking on dirty roads all day. Normally, this act of care and service would already have been performed before the meal. But nobody did it. So Jesus gets up and does it Himself. After he finishes he says, "for I gave you an example that you also should do as I did to you" (John 13:15). Furthermore, He says, "For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve and to give His life a ransom for many (Mark 10:45). Christ, by His example, showed His disciples what it meant to be a servant and

taught that they should also serve.

C. EXAMPLE IN SUFFERING

Christ also taught that disciples will be slandered and falsely accused just as He was. The disciple's work could also be attributed to Satan himself (Matthew 10:24-28). Christ continues and says the disciple is not to fear those who kill only the body but to fear the one who can destroy both body and soul in hell. A disciple quickly finds that Christ's teaching runs contrary to that of society. The often hostile world can be expected to react in a way that can cause the disciple suffering. Consider this verse: "For you have been called for this purpose, since Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example for you to follow in His steps" (1 Peter 2:21). And how did He handle suffering? Did He run from it or fought against it? No, but "while being reviled, He did not revile in return, but kept entrusting Himself to Him who judges righteously (1 Peter 2:2). Christ, by His teaching, said the disciples will suffer and by His own example in life and death showed what the proper response to suffering should be.



M K Thomas

When did God bless Jacob?

Gen 32:22-32



Let's Know a few things about Jacob before meditating on the above verses.

Jacob had an atypical character. He always needed an upper hand. At the time of his birth, he grasped the heel of his brother Esau. So he was called Jacob. The actual meaning of Jacob is "he who has grasped his brothers heel" not "deceiver". Gen: 25:26 While he was going to Laban's house, he stayed at a certain place as the sun

had set. Then he made a vow to the Lord. He laid out six preconditions before the Lord. If you implement these conditions, I will do two things for you.

1. Lord you should be with me.
2. You should protect me
3. Watch over me on this journey.
4. Give me food to eat.
5. Clothes to wear.
6. Return me to my father's house safely.

If the above demands are met, I will give you two things.

1. The stone I have set up as pillar will be God's house.
2. I will give you a tenth of all that you give me. Gen: 28:20-23

Even in the dealings with God, Jacob wants an upper hand. He deals with such things where there is a profit and lucre.

We can see two more examples. Once Jacob cooked some stew. Esau came from the field with great tiredness and hunger. Hence, he asked Jacob to

▶▶▶ **FULL STORY ON - 10**



I am Engaged in a Great Work!!



Pastor Shibu Thomas
Oklahoma, USA

So I sent messengers to them with this reply: "I am carrying on a great project and cannot go down. Why should the work stop while I leave it and go down to you?" Nehemiah 6:3

One can become sincere in a project he is involved in only if he comprehends its value. A person's work may be regarded by

others as invaluable and scornful. On the contrary, to the one the work is bestowed, it is a great and marvelous responsibility. When we do our work sincerely, punctually, and in all our strength we get the desired result. God is not looking for people those who while away their time doing nothing for God and the society, instead He is on the hunt for enthusiastic and dedicated men and women who act responsibly. Here Nehemiah and his friends are busy building the broken and burned wall of Jerusalem. But Sanballat, Tobiah and Geshem, who are jealous of the work being done, call Nehemiah for a meeting saying "Let's meet in a village and discuss things". But Nehemiah's reply as we read in 6:3 is a reflection of his firm decision and dedication to the work entrusted with him. He said, "I am carrying on a great project and

cannot go down. Why should the work stop while I leave it and go down to you?" The ministry you have, be it any big or small, is given to you by God according to the talent and the ability you have. Stick to it and work devotedly. Do not waste your life by compromising with anything that's against God's will. Pursue the work until you have completed it. When we do our work according to His calling, the Lord who is above will shower His blessing on us. We have to commit all our work to the Lord without considering anything as irrelevant. Trust in Him and He is faithful and just to complete it. May the Lord help us with his grace and mercy to be sincere in the work He has called us to do.

▶▶▶ **FULL STORY ON - 03**

D. EXAMPLE IN LOVE

In Christ's instruction to His disciples about fruit bearing He says, "By this is my father glorified, that you bear much fruit, and so prove to be my disciples" (John 15:8). He adds, "This is my commandment, that you love one another, just as I have loved you" (John 15:12). Christ commanded the disciples to love certainly. The deceptive heart of man would find many ways to call his actions toward others love. But God leaves us with us an example that cannot be misunderstood: "But God demonstrates His own love towards us, in that while we were yet sinners Christ died for us (Romans 5:8). God has gone out of His way to clearly show us how He loves. His love surpasses pretty promises and is demonstrated in the reality of His actions. Christ, thorough His commands and examples, expects no less of His disciples. They are to love each other as He loved them. "Having loved His own who were in the world, He loved them to the end" (John 13:1).

God works through us as we first follow the example of Christ. As our lives become obedient to the word of God, we begin to be the disciples He can use. He wants us to be able to say with confidence "Follow me as I am following Christ. I will show you the goodness and the riches of God in Christ and when you learn about it, you can show somebody else" Where are men and women who can say this? Is this standard too high? Certainly not!! Christ's calling of a disciple come with the ability to be one! Amen!!

▶▶▶ **FULL STORY ON - 01**

for Europe over the past 20 years, with their flight significantly gathering speed since the start of the current conflict. Around half of all Syrians are now either internally displaced or have left the country.

The report was issued by the Syrian Network for Human Rights, which is registered in the United Kingdom and whose founder and chairman lives in Qatar. The group, which collects statistics on the war, said government forces were responsible for 60% of the 124 documented attacks since fighting erupted in March 2011. The rest were blamed on ISIL militants, the al-Qaida-linked group Hayat Tahrir al-Sham and other factions of the armed opposition.

There was an immediate comment from the government, which rarely comments on reports from foreign organizations. "Targeting Christian places of worship is a form of intimidation against and displacement of the Christian minority in Syria," said Fadel Abdul Ghany, the founder and chairman of SNHR. The report said ISIL was behind 10 attacks on Christian sites, five of which were in the northern city of Raqqa, once the extremists

de-facto capital. The group was known for displacing and killing Christians in areas it controlled and confiscating their properties. Hardest hit was the northern province of Aleppo, with 34 attacks, 24 by rebels and six by the government.

The highest number of attacks by government forces - 27 out of 29 - was in the central province of Homs.

▶▶▶ **FULL STORY ON - 01**

have been built by a Seleucid general who defeated the famed Jewish leader featured prominently in the Hanukkah story.

KiriathYearim is a hill that overlooks the approach to Jerusalem. It was mentioned various times throughout the Old Testament and is said to have been the location of the Ark of the Covenant for decades before the ark was taken to Jerusalem by King David.

The discovery, researchers say, could help to identify the location of the biblical town of Emmaus. It is written in the book of Luke that it was on the road to Emmaus where Jesus made his first appearance before two of His disciples after His resurrection from the dead.

In the biblical account, the two disciples walk from Jerusalem to Emmaus when the resurrected Jesus joins them on the walk. However, the men do not recognize the man who joined them as Christ.

Later, upon reaching Emmaus, Christ accepted an offer to eat and stay with the men as night fell. After the bread was broken and the food was blessed, the disciples' eyes were opened and they recognized Jesus. After they recognized Him, according to Luke 24, Jesus vanished from their sight.

According to the book of Luke, the village of Emmaus was located about 60 stadia about 7 miles from Jerusalem. Haaretz reports that an upcoming study from the expedition that will be published on Oct. 24 makes a suggestion that could have "broader implications for biblical archaeology and Christian history."

The study is led by Tel Aviv University archaeologist Israel Finkelstein and College de France biblical studies professor Thomas Römer. The researchers suggest that the hill of KiriathYearim and the adjacent town of Abu Gosh could be identified as the biblical town of Emmaus that was fortified by Seleucid general Bacchides in the Old Testament.

The book of Maccabees lists a number of cities surrounding Jerusalem in which General Bacchides built fortresses. Those towns included Emmaus, Beth Horon, Bethel,

Timnath, Pirathon, Tephon, and Jericho. Finkelstein and Römer suggest that KiriathYearim is Emmaus because there are no other known major Hellenistic strongholds west of Jerusalem.

"Geographically I think that the distance to Jerusalem fits well, so I do think that KiriathYearim could have been the Emmaus of the New Testament," Römer was quoted as saying.

As Haaretz notes, most of the places included on the list in 1 Maccabees 9 can be identified as sites that lie north, south or east of Jerusalem. At some of those sites, Archaeologists have found remains of other Hellenistic fortifications.

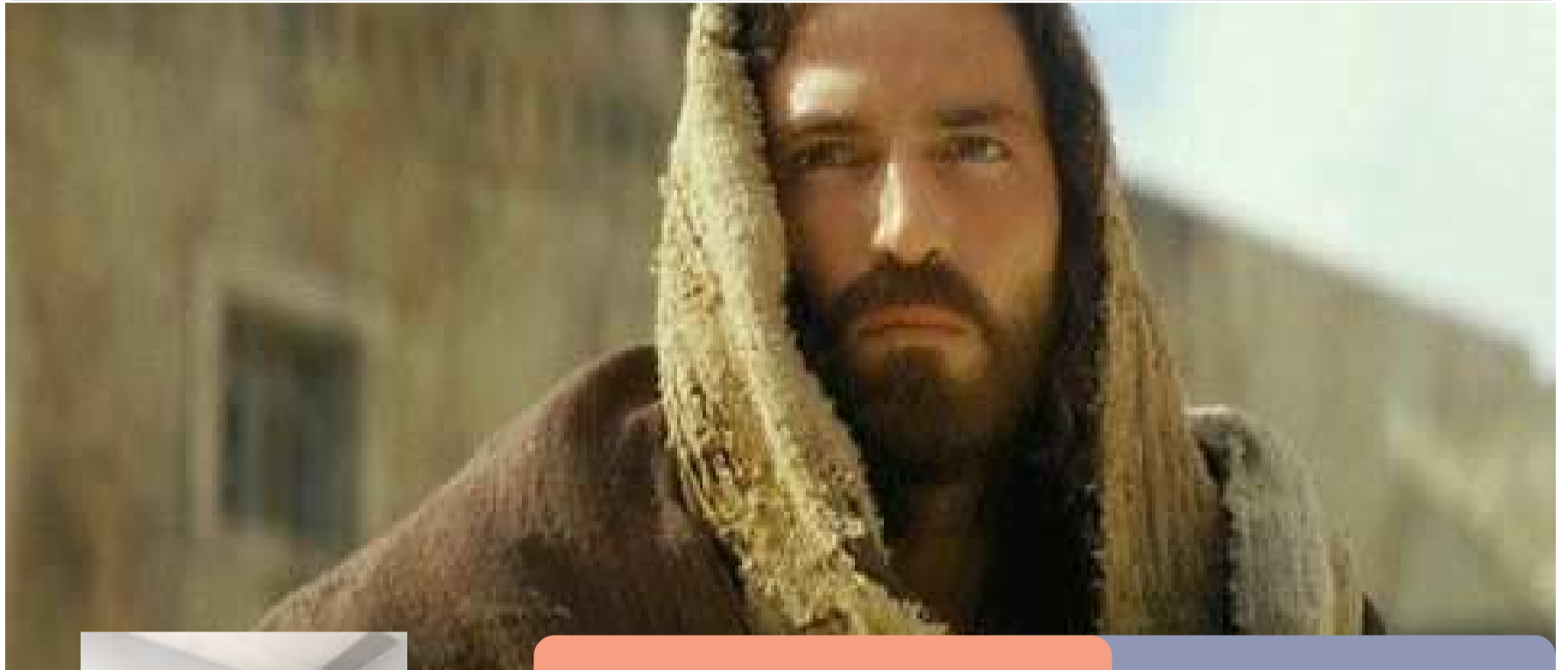
"Finkelstein and Römer have a good case archaeologically, geographically, and topographically," Benjamin Isaac, emeritus professor of ancient history from Tel Aviv University, told Haaretz. "However, it is a hypothesis and remains a hypothesis."

Isaac warns that there is not enough hard evidence to conclusively link Emmaus to KiriathYearim. Isaac notes that there are at least two other sites nearby that could also be Emmaus from the New Testament.

Historian Eusebius of Caesarea from the second and third century identified Emmaus Nicopolis, a Byzantine town in the Ayalon Valley near the modern-day Latrun junction, as the Emmaus mentioned in Luke. Emmaus Nicopolis was destroyed in the 1967 Six-Day War and the ruins today are part of a national park. However, Emmaus Nicopolis, lies about 15 miles from Jerusalem, which would be double the distance from Jerusalem described in Luke.

According to Haaretz, others believe that the modern-day village of Motza, which lies between KiriathYearim and Jerusalem, is where Emmaus of the Bible was located. However, that village is too close to Jerusalem to fit the description provided in Luke. According to Römer, the word "Emmaus" is the Greek version of the Hebrew word for "hot spring." He said there likely could have been a number of towns sharing the Emmaus name.





Sarah J John

SET LIKE FLINT

Dusty sun scorched roads prevailed in most of his travels as he made his way towards the city. HE was accompanied by a rag tag team which did not measure up to his royal standards. Yet HE chose to be with them. He set his face with fortitude like flint (a massive hard quartz when struck by steel would produce a spark) and he was determined to reach that city because that was HIS destiny. He was on a mission and His steely gaze towards that city could not be thwarted; the city of Jerusalem. He asked those who He had chosen who do the people say I am? Some say you are John the Baptist, some say you are Elijah and even some prophet. He asked Peter Who do you say that I am? Peter said you are Christ the Son of the Living God.

Who is the one who set His face like

flint? Who is this Jesus? Apostle John in John chapter 1 describes in detail his divine nature. He always existed and everything was created for him, through him. In Him was life and that Life was the light of all mankind. Life and Light was in HIM. Jesus's magnificence and power is noted in the Old Testament. In Isaiah chapter 6, Isaiah saw the Lord high and lifted up in Holy worship and He became completely undone to stand in His Holy presence. Likewise, at King Solomon's temple dedication the Shekinah Glory of the Lord was so prevalent and real that the priests could not minister. Jesus is seen in Revelation 1:13-16 in His full brilliance and He is robed in majesty, power and authority. HE left all of His grandeur, position and power in heaven to travel the dusty road toward Jerusalem.

His Focus on the city of Jerusalem was set like flint. He felt all the pains and anguish since He was Son of Man. Jesus took Peter, James and John to the Mount of Transfiguration and HE was transfigured there. His glory was manifested in their presence like never before. The glory of the Son of God that was in HIM burst out for a moment His face shone like the sun and His clothes became white as light. Just like as it was mentioned in Revelation 1, it was the same Jesus. Two people appeared

at the transfiguration Moses the Law giver and Elijah the prophet. Moses received the Ten Commandments from God and Elijah represented the prophets. Jesus said HE came not to abolish all the Law and all what the prophets spoke about but rather to fulfill all that was said about Jesus. Moses gave the guidelines for the sacrificial system and temple worship. Jesus became the perfect sacrifice on the cross giving us the freedom to approach God's presence through the blood of Christ. Elijah faced the prophets of Baal on Mount Carmel where he challenged the Evil and Satan calling fire from heaven to devour the sacrifice and made a spectacle of them. This battle against evil and Satan originated in the Garden of Eden and the final battle would be won on the Cross.

The final culmination of all that was written in scripture would be fulfilled by Jesus. Jesus, Son of Man was encouraged by Moses and Elijah but the true affirmation was from His Father when He is said This is my Son with whom I am well pleased, listen to Him. His face was set like flint to Jerusalem then towards Calvary, to redeem back all that Satan stole from mankind. He paid it all on the cross of Calvary as the final payment for anything we would encounter in life. He Reconciled us back

▶▶▶ FULL STORY ON - 10

FULL STORY ON - 11

top generals for their role in a campaign against ethnic Muslims and called on the U.S. government to focus on bringing “general democracy and federalism” to his country.

Now, Lt. Col. Than Htike, is seeking to prosecute Samson for his criticism of the country’s military, according to the New York Times. The colonel’s complaint accuses Samson of “knowingly giving false information” and notes that the minister’s remarks were posted on the Facebook page of ABC News, violating Myanmar’s “criminal defamation laws.” A judge is expected to rule next week on whether the case can proceed. If found guilty, Samson could face several months or years in prison. “There is no freedom of expression for Myanmar citizens wherever you are because you can get in trouble even when you talk about the truth in the White House,” Samson told the Times.

Over the last three years, the country’s military has filed dozens of defamation complaints against its critics, mainly over comments they posted on Facebook. All of the complaints have been brought by colonels. Samson said the legal process was a big improvement over decades of military impunity in ethnic areas such as Kachin State, when critics of the military would simply vanish. “If the military was not happy with what we said, they wouldn’t file a lawsuit,” he said. “They would take you anonymously and you would disappear anonymously.” Samson rejected an offer to drop the suit if he apologized for his comments, stating, “I do not want to trade off the truth for my own individual escape.”

In July, Samson was in Washington for the U.S. State Department’s three-day Ministerial to Advance Religious Freedom when he and about 20 other attendees were invited to the impromptu meeting with Trump. “With us today are men and women of many different religious traditions from many different countries,” Trump said at the time. “But what you have in common is each of you has suffered tremendously for your faith. You’ve endured harassment, threats, attacks, trials, imprisonment and torture.”

Trump officials expressed concern that speaking about religious persecution in the Oval Office could open testifiers up to increased persecution in their homelands.

Persecution watchdog group Open Doors USA ranks Myanmar at No. 18 on its World Watch List of 50 countries where it’s most difficult to be a Christian. Bangladesh is ranked as No. 48.

Sparkling Wisdom!

- ❖. Stop worrying about what you aren’t and start being happy about who you are. – **John Hagee**
- ❖. True humility is not thinking less of yourself; it is thinking of yourself less. – **Rick Warren**
- ❖. Forgiveness is an act of the will, and the will can function regardless of the temperature of the heart. – **Corrie ten Boom**
- ❖. I have decided to stick to love. Hate is too great a burden to bear. – **Martin Luther King Jr.**
- ❖. Success is on the same road as failure; success is just a little further down the road. **Jack Hyles**
- ❖. We have a God who delights in impossibilities. **Billy Sunday**
- ❖. One touch of Christ is worth a lifetime of struggling. -**A.B. Simpson**
- ❖. He said “Love... as I have loved you.” We cannot love too much. -**Amy Carmichael**
- ❖. “We need never shout across the spaces to an absent God. He is nearer than our own soul, closer than our most secret thoughts.” **A.W. Tozer**
- ❖. “The Bible is the greatest of all books; to study it is the noblest of all pursuits; to understand it, the highest of all goals.” **Charles C. Ryrie**



Abigail Thyvilayil John



BEATEN, ABANDONED BY HER HINDU FAMILY FOR FAITH REFUSES TO DENY CHRIST

A 12-year-old girl in India has shared the harrowing account of how her Hindu family beat her and kicked her out of their house after she converted to Christianity — yet she refused to deny Jesus Christ. Saree, a young girl living in India, recently shared her story with persecution watchdog Open Doors USA, beginning with her early childhood struggles with deafness.

“I was bullied at school for being deaf,” she said. “They scolded me: ‘You are deaf!’ It made me so sad. We went to the hospital, to Hindu temples and even to people who practiced witchcraft. Nothing helped.”

One of Saree’s aunts, a devout Christian, convinced the then-11-year-old to go with her to church. “Your family members are not believers in the true God,” she told her niece. “But I am. Come with me. My God will heal you.”

Saree recalled the first time she ever set foot in a church: “The people were singing songs, and the preacher taught from the Word of God. I heard a little bit of sound, so I could understand a little of what was being said and sung. The songs made me happy.”

After the sermon, the pastor and a few other people prayed for the young girl. What happened next was nothing short of miraculous. “First they called me to the front,” Saree said. “I was a bit afraid and actually wanted to run. But I still went. While they were praying, I could hear sounds. Slowly, the sounds became louder and louder. I also felt something coming to me. It came closer and closer. It was the presence of God. Then the sounds became really clear. I could hear everything. I was incredibly happy.”

Saree’s aunt told the young girl about Jesus — a move that angered her family. “Your God is not our God,” Saree’s mother told her aunt. “We are not going to believe in your God. People in your church die too. So we won’t go to that church.” Later, she warned Saree not to go to church, warning, “the villagers can cut us off. We won’t be able to buy any food or drinks anymore, and nobody will talk to us.”

Excited by her new faith, Saree continued to attend the church without telling her family. However, it wasn’t long before her brother discovered her secret. “He and my father beat me and dragged me into the house,” Saree



said. “One time, I was carrying a Bible. He took it, threw it into the mud and beat me with a stick. Later I collected the Bible, wiped it clean and gave it to another believer. He kept it safe for me.”

“Almost every time I went to church, my brother and father beat me,” she continued. “About three months ago, they were fed up with me. My brother and father yelled: ‘If you continue to go to church, we will punish you!’ They beat and kicked me badly. Then they gave me some clothes and pushed me out the door. My father said, ‘You are not our daughter anymore.’”

Desperate, Saree fled to a relative’s house, walking six miles in search of safety. However, her mother found the young girl and brought her home, where she was once again beaten by her 22-year-old brother.

“Leave Jesus Christ!” he screamed, beating her with a stick and slapping her with his shoes. But Saree refused, stating, “I won’t leave Jesus.” Fearing for her life, she fled to her aunt’s, where she has been living with her for the last few months.

Now 12 years old, Saree misses her family and attending school, especially now that she can hear: “Because of my persecution, I cannot go to school. I also miss my family a lot. I love my family, but they don’t accept me,” she said. “I’ve seen them twice after they kicked me out. I went to see them, but my father doesn’t talk to me. My mother talks a little bit with me, but only my elder sister talks nicely. I didn’t see my brother.”

India ranks as the 10th-worst nation in the world when it comes to Christian persecution, according to Open Doors USA’s 2019 World Watch List. The organization notes that conversion to another faith can result in harsh punishments, including arrest, an attack, or even death. Additionally, reports of children being beaten, raped and even killed are on the “rise in India,” says Open Doors, adding: “They are often persecuted not for their own faith, but because of their parents’ faith. The U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom has designated India as a “Tier 2” country of concern when it comes to religious freedom violations.”

<http://www.harvestingsoulsmissioninc.org>

▶▶▶ **FULL STORY ON - 07**

into the right relationship with Father God, Redeemed us back from the clutches of Satan, Restored the joy and peace that was lost, gave us His nature, His name and has given us the Holy Spirit as a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance to be with the Lord forever.

As we travel the dusty roads of our lives we need to set our gaze as flint towards Jesus. Each decision we make in our lives should be with the same fortitude to desire to be like Jesus. The way has already been paved to come into relationship with Him.



You are cordially invited to send submissions to The End Time News magazine, including articles, short stories,

poems, cartoons, etc. If you would like to contribute, please contact us at our email address

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▶▶▶ **FULL STORY ON - 04**

give some stew. Jacob said first you sell your birthright. Thus Esau despised his birthright. Gen: 25:29-34. Similarly, he received the blessing from his father in personation. Gen:27. All these examples show that Jacob wants to be ahead of all and doesn't want to be in the back of anyone.

In Gen 32:22-32 he was asking God for a blessing and God blessed him. Does Jacob lack any blessing? No, he had blessings from his father, father in law, he had plenty of livestock and had more than one wife. Yet he needs a blessing from God. The word blessing is misunderstood by many believers. Jacob understood these

blessings are secular and perishable. We have a blessing in heaven that is unfading and undefiled. We must put all our efforts to obtain it. Even if there is sin in our home, wonders and miracles can happen. The widow of Zarephath said to Elijah "Have you come to kill my son and remind my sin". Where as the pot and jar were overflowing with flour and oil. Peter asked Jesus to go away from him as he is a sinner, but his boat was filled with fishes. Secular blessings are not the symbol of God's blessing. God gives secular blessings to all people, both saved and unsaved. Adam and Eve lost their fellowship with God as they committed sin. Yet God gave them garments of skin and clothed them. Many other examples can be quoted from the Bible. God had resentment, hatred or dislike with the people of Israel for forty years. They did not lack any secular blessing. Similarly healing from any incurable disease doesn't guarantee that we will gain eternity. Secular blessings are not guaranteed for eternity. These blessings are perishable. Jacob said to God I have all these blessings but I need an imperishable blessing before I arrive at home. In order to have imperishable blessing what did Jacob do first?

1. He had sent his wife and possessions across the river and he was left alone. It doesn't mean that we should give up all our possessions and wife or forsake our parents and dear ones, whereas we must throw away all unwanted actions and deeds. Once Samuel asked Saul to send his servant ahead so I can give you a message from God. To have

a personal relationship with God, give up all unwanted habits and nature. In our view and perspective Saul's servant was a perfect man. But the one who has eyes of blazing fire says the servant is not needed here while receiving the message from God. Jesus once went alone to the mountain to pray. Abraham told his servant you be here, I and boy will go over there and after worship we will come back to you. In all the portions we see Jesus and Abraham left alone respectively.

2. Jacob was blessed when the angel touched the socket of his hip and it was wrenched. The longest and strongest bone in human body is femur. It has a spiritual meaning. We may think our education, possession, position or beauty may be the strongest in life. But all those things should be shattered before the Lord. We should surrender our belongings that we consider strongest and say Lord I am nothing, everything is thy gift. Moses was called to lead the people of Israel at the age of 80. He underwent tough training and God moulded him according to God's plan. Moses had thought he was so capable and had good knowledge gained from Egypt. He was very powerful in action and speech. At last he surrendered all his capabilities at the feet of the Lord and finally God appointed him the leader of Israelites. Apostle

▶▶▶ **FULL STORY ON - 10**

John says I should decrease and He should increase in me. Another example we can see from Mark:2:1-5, four men brought a paralysed patient. But they could not get him to Jesus because of big crowd. As such they made an opening in the roof above and lowered the sick person before Jesus. The faith of the owner of the house is really appreciable. He didn't grumble or grudge about the damage of his house as he also wishes somehow the sick man should be saved. He was more concerned about the healing of that man than his house.

Always remember that after a shattery there is a recovery.

3. Jacob was blessed when he said the truth. When he received blessing from his father, elder brother and father in law he was not sincere. In order to have secular or temporal blessing no holiness or separation is required. To have undefiled and unfaded blessing kept in heaven it is very essential to observe holiness and separation. In verse 29 we read that God blessed him there. Here the importance is not for the place. "There" means where he was left alone where he was shattered and where he said the truth. It is very unambiguous and apparent that we should be very holy and blameless before the Lord. He holds victory in store for the upright. He is a shield to those whose walk is blameless. Prov:2:7

MIKE PENCE TO CHRISTIAN LAWYERS: 'SPEND MORE TIME ON YOUR KNEES THAN ON THE INTERNET'



"Spend more time on your knees than on the Internet," Vice President Mike Pence told attorneys for the Christian and pro-life Alliance Defending Freedom (ADF) earlier this month. Pence was having a "fireside chat" with ADF President Michael Farris on August 6.

"Mr. Vice President, you receive frequent critiques from some in the media, some pundits, and some people who just don't like what you're doing politically," said Farris. "But our team is also under a regular attack from our critics. You handle this all with so much grace and character. It's inspiring to me and to our whole team. What advice can

you give to us about how to handle these kinds of attacks when we're faced with them?"

Pence responded, "Well, first, I'm very humbled by your comment, Mike. I appreciate it very much. And I would just say maybe a couple of things. Number one is: Spend more time on your knees than on the Internet." The vice

president's suggestion was met with applause.

As Christians, "we're charged to pray for our loved ones but also pray for our enemies," he continued. "And I—you have lots of opportunities in politics to do that. But I would say that forgiveness is a great gift. And I—my wife and I literally try and work through forgiving people who might speak willfully against us or might mischaracterize who we are or what our family is all about."

Pence said he's "incredibly proud" of his wife Karen, who has been criticized for teaching at a Christian school that follows Christian teaching on marriage.

PASTOR FACING IMPRISONMENT FOR REVEALING HORRORS OF RELIGIOUS PERSECUTION



A Baptist minister from Myanmar who spoke with President Donald Trump about being "oppressed and tortured by the Myanmar military government" during a visit to the White House could be prosecuted for his comments. Pastor Hkalam Samson, president of the Kachin Baptist Convention and a leading rights ad-

vocate for a predominantly Baptist ethnic group in northern Myanmar known as the Kachin, was part of a group of international religious leaders that recently met with the president to express concerns about religious freedom in their home countries.

"As Christians in Myanmar, we are oppressed and tortured by the Myanmar military government," Samson said. "We don't have chance, many, for religious freedom."

During his 60-second speech, the pastor also thanked Trump for imposing sanctions on four

FULL STORY ON - 08

HINDU RADICALS DEMAND DEATH FOR ORGANIZERS OF CHRISTIAN FILM SCREENING IN INDIA

Around 100 Christians were attacked by Hindu radicals on August 23 for watching the Christian film "He Will Come Again" in the home of a Christian woman in Jamalpur village, located in India's Bihar state. The screening of the Christian film caused Hindu radicals to not only attack the local Christians, but also demand the deaths of the Christian leaders that organized the screening.

That with about 10 minutes left in the film, a man stood up in front and beginning shouting, "Who is the operator here? Who is the operator here?" The man then demanded the volume of the film be reduced to a level that it was no longer audible.

After being confronted by one of the organizers of the screening, the disruptive man left. However, he returned when the film concluded with at least 15 other Hindu villagers carrying swords, bamboo poles, and wooden sticks. Local Christians then locked the organizers of the film inside the Christian home for their own safety.

"The batch of Hindu villagers abused them with filthy language, scattered the congregation, and besieged the house," Immanuel Tirkey, one of the organizers, "Soon a mob



of 250 angry, upper-caste Hindus showed up with lathis and steel rods."

The mob surrounded the Christian home and demanded that the organizers of the film screening be released to them. The mob said that they would kill the organizers because they were converting Hindus to a foreign faith.

As the siege of the Christian home continued, local authorities were called to the

scene. Police officers were able to disperse the mob, but local Christians continue to report feeling under threat.

Across India, attacks on Christians and their places of worship continue to rise in frequency and severity. Many claim the rise of the Hindu nationalist Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) has encouraged the activities of Hindu radicals and increased levels of religious intolerance across India.



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- * To establish strategic partnership with existing ministries to facilitates more and more batter 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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