

# Newsbytes

The First Watch

October 19, 2016

No. 793

Since 2001

Newzbytes is a ministry of Calvary Chapel of Appleton

[www.ccappleton.org](http://www.ccappleton.org)

---

“Let us be alert to the season in which we are living. It is the season of the Blessed Hope, calling for us to cut our ties with the world and build ourselves on this One who will soon appear. He is our hope—a Blessed Hope enabling us to rise above our times and fix our gaze upon Him.” Tozer

---

## U.N. body votes: Temple Mount no longer Jewish

Posted By Leo Hohmann On 10/13/2016 @ 5:13 pm In APP Frontpage, Faith, Front Page, World | No



Israeli soldiers patrol the Temple Mount in Jerusalem

UNESCO, the United Nations committee responsible for “cultural understanding,” has given preliminary approval to a resolution that denies the documented historic Jewish connection to the Temple Mount and the Western Wall.

The vote was 24-6 with another 26 nations abstaining. Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu immediately condemned the resolution as “the theater of the absurd.”

The proposed resolution, submitted by seven Muslim nations under the title “Item 25: Occupied Palestine” refers to parts of the site by the Muslim terms, “Al-Aqsa Mosque” and “Haram al-Sharif” and emphasizes the historic and religious significance of the site to Islam, but simply ignores evidence of Jewish history at the same site.

The document refers to Israel throughout as “the occupying Power” and accuses it of “aggressions and illegal measures” at the holy site.

UNESCO “firmly deplores the continuous storming of Al-Aq a Mosque/Al- aram Al-Sharif by Israeli right-wing extremists and uniformed forces, and urges Israel, the occupying Power, to take necessary measures to prevent provocative abuses that violate the sanctity and integrity of Al-Aq a Mosque/Al- aram Al-Sharif.”

The resolution also condemns Israel’s construction work in the Western Wall area by referring to it by its Muslim name “Al-Buraq Plaza,” a reference to the mythical unicorn that transported the prophet Muhammad from Mecca to Jerusalem.

In reality, Muhammad never set foot in Jerusalem or the Temple Mount.

Jonathan Schanzer, vice president of research at the Foundation for Defense of Democracies, told JNS.org that “The move is ironic in the sense that the Israelis have probably done more than any other sovereign that has controlled Jerusalem to ensure that all faiths can have access to the city and practice their faith.”

The resolution condemns Israeli’s interference with the Waqf, the Jordanian body that administers the Muslim sites. The resolution makes no mention that the Muslim sites in question were built on top of the remains of the Jewish “Great Temple” several hundred years after its destruction by the Romans in the year 70 AD.

The seven sponsors of the resolution are Algeria, Egypt, Lebanon, Morocco, Oman, Qatar and Sudan. They

introduced it on behalf of the Palestinians.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu issued a statement on Facebook Thursday which he titled “The theatre of the absurd continues at the UN.” The statement reads as follows:

“Today UNESCO adopted its second decision this year denying the Jewish people’s connection to the Temple Mount, our holiest site for over three thousand years.

“What’s next? A UNESCO decision denying the connection between peanut butter and jelly? Batman and Robin? Rock and roll?

“Is it any wonder the UN has become a moral farce when UNESCO, the UN body tasked with preserving history, denies and distorts history?

“Israel will continue to fight the lies, hatred and double standards at the UN.

“Israel will prevail because truth will prevail.”

The six countries that voted in support of Israel were: the United States, Great Britain, Lithuania, the Netherlands, Germany and Estonia.

Western Wall, where Jews have prayed for years.

The United States also chastised the UNESCO executive board for approving the resolution.

A senior administration official told The Jerusalem Post on Thursday that “One-sided, unhelpful resolutions have been a recurring challenge at UNESCO in recent years, and the United States has strongly opposed these resolutions at the UNESCO Executive Board.”

UNESCO’s drive to rewrite the history of the Temple Mount in Islam’s image began shortly after it accepted the Palestinians as a member state in 2011. The Mount is known to Muslims the Al-Haram Al Sharif (the Noble Sanctuary), the Jerusalem Post reports.

Initially they tried and failed to have it declared a solely Muslim site. Since then, they have submitted resolutions on Jerusalem at every possible UNESCO meeting, that uses only the Muslims terms for the Temple Mount area and its adjacent wall, according to the Post.

UNESCO’s executive board passed such a resolution last April and its 21-member World Heritage Committee had been poised to do so again in July in Istanbul.

That vote was delayed until Oct. 24-26, when the failed Turkish coup, cut the meeting short.

Since then according to language of a draft text seen by the Jerusalem Post, a sentence has been inserted into the text that mentions that Jerusalem and its Old City walls are holy to all three religions; Judaism, Islam and Christianity.

Carl Gallups, a Christian pastor in Florida and author of the newly released “When the Lion Roars: Understanding the Implications of Ancient Prophecies for Our Time,” said the hatred of Israel is a symptom of the last days.

“The Word of God has much to say about the abject hatred of the renege nation of Israel in the last days. It also speaks of Jerusalem ultimately being surrounded by enemies and, at least, the temple area – being trampled upon by ‘Gentiles,’” he said.

“To Satan, it is not enough that an ultimate symbol of an ‘abomination that causes desolation’ (The Dome of the Rock) is sitting upon the Temple mount — but now, apparently he is indwelling an organization that fancies itself to be the head of a rising ‘one world order,’ and attempting to assassinate historical truth in the furthered cause of alienating Israel in the last days.”

Gallups said the U.N. wishes to “deny the Jewish people’s connection to the Temple Mount.” Then the obvious question has to be asked, “Then for whom and for what ‘temple’ was the mount originally constructed?”

“These certainly are the most profoundly prophetic days since the first coming of Yeshua/Jesus Christ. And this absurd display of unfettered surrealism is just one more sign of that continually revealing truth.”

Thursday’s vote was taken by UNESCO’s 58-member Programme and External Relations Commission in advance of its ratification next Monday or Tuesday, by UNESCO Executive Board, made up of the same member states.

## Russia Prepares For War

<http://www.prophecynewswatch.com/>

News Image BY PNW STAFF OCTOBER 13, 2016

Share this article:

Ominous signs continue to emerge out of Russia as media sources in Russia report that state officials and government workers were told to bring back their children studying abroad immediately, even if means cutting their education short and not waiting until the end of the school year.

The reason for the instruction was not clear, but the two suggested possibilities by most analysts: Russia is preparation for war against the West, or President Vladimir Putin is displaying his domination over the country's oligarchs and forcing those with children studying in the US and Europe to bring them home.

Taken in isolation such actions may not seem that troubling, however mounting tensions between Russia and the United States, as well as other NATO block countries have been a source of concern for months now.

Many experts fear that Russia has begun to accelerate to a war footing. From direct warnings to the United States in Syria to thinly veiled threats of invasion in Sweden, Estonia, Lithuania and Norway, Russia is making its intentions clear while at the same time positioning warships, anti-aircraft missiles, nuclear weapons and divisions of its military in preparation for war.

A treaty agreement with Syria that authorizes an open-ended Russian troop presence passed the Russian Duma on October 7th. The treaty follows both the heaviest Russian bombing of the rebel-held Aleppo thus far in the war and the collapse of a cease-fire backed by both Russia and the United States.

Last Thursday, just one day before signing the treaty that would allow an indefinite Russian presence at the Khmeimim air base in Syria, Russia warned the US that its air-defense missiles would fire upon any foreign power attempting to fly over Syrian airspace, including US warplanes should they try to interfere in Assad's brutal oppression.

Russian S-300 and S-400 anti-aircraft missiles now cover Russian troops spread throughout Syria and any US strike on ISIS or the Assad regime runs the risk of either hitting Russian personnel or being downed by Russian air defense, either of which would pull Russia and the US into direct conflict.

At a time when the United States is reducing its nuclear arsenal, Russia has announced plans both to modernize and to expand its own nuclear capabilities. Russia's 1,796 currently deployed nuclear warheads represents a 246 warhead breach of the treaty limit (1,550) established in 2011.

Russia currently leads the United States by 429 warheads and that gap is likely to grow in the near-term with Russia's announced plans to expand nuclear deployment this week. Of particular interest are claims that the Russian short-range SS-25 ballistic missile, a road-mobile nuclear strike vehicle capable of hitting targets across Europe, has been recently deployed despite a 1987 treaty ban.

Inside Russia, near St. Petersburg, a series of missile drills with Iskander missile systems has created concern in nearby Finland and Estonia. The military exercises of the Leningrad missile brigade simulate a preemptive missile strike against enemy infrastructure. This follows after a simulated Russian nuclear strike and invasion of an enemy that looked quite suspiciously like Sweden last year.

Neighboring countries have been preparing for Russian invasion for the past several years, but most recently Sweden has followed Norway's example in reinstating conscription, this time of both men and women, in the face of the looming Russian threat. The presence of Iskander-M missiles in Kaliningrad, between Poland and Lithuania, is positioned as a direct threat to NATO countries.

Attempts by the United States to protect Poland and Romania with anti-missile defenses has been decried by Russian diplomats as a provocation that would render these countries as targets in the event of a Russian strike. The Russian intention to position offensive strike capabilities while bullying its neighbors into weakening their defenses cannot be more transparent.

Within Russia, in addition to the construction of massive nuclear bunkers in major cities and strategic military sites, the past week saw a national drill involving 200,000 emergency responders and 40 million civilians.

The 4-day long exercise practiced a national response to a simulated nuclear strike on Russia by the US and represented a civil defense drill unprecedented in its scope. No small feat, in addition to the 40 million civilians and 200,000 emergency personnel, the effort involved an estimated 50,000 pieces of military equipment as well.

Russian media, in a campaign to incite national fervor against the West, accompanied the national nuclear defense drill with rhetoric blaming nuclear escalation on US "schizophrenics" hungry for war.

Understanding the possible consequences of a Russian invasion of Europe or open war with the US, Russia is taking steps to prepare its people for a nuclear counter attack, both psychologically and through drilling its citizenry and hardening its infrastructure.

Russian Deputy Defense Minister Nikolai Pankov briefly mentioned this week the possibility of re-establishing military bases in both Vietnam and Cuba, both of which had been closed in 2002 in an effort to scale-back Russian military presence around the world. Also this week, Russia sent additional warships into the Mediterranean to join the fleet already positioned there.

The most recent warship, the Mirazh missile cruiser, follows after Wednesday's arrival of two more Black Sea Fleet missile corvettes, the Serpukhov and the Zelyony Dol, both of which carry a complement of Kaliber long-range missiles.

Russian Navy representative Nikolay Voskresensky announced that these would add to the permanent Russian presence that is being used to conduct strikes within Syria and will be ready to respond to any threats.

With such a series of Russian actions, including military buildup, large-scale aggressive exercises, massive civil defense drills, global expansion and even direct threats to NATO countries, there is little

wonder that officials are concerned.

Tensions have ratcheted higher and the possibility exists for a single bomb or missile to trigger war on a scale that the world hasn't seen for more than half a century.

One Russian official recently summed up such fears by stating that if a US plane were seen as a threat to Syrian or Russian troops, there would be no time for a red-phone hotline call before it would be shot down by anti-aircraft missiles. That a wider war would inevitably follow is a foregone conclusion.

## U.S. nuclear attack warning 'upgraded to level 3' as Russian threat goes 'beyond Cold War'

by Utopia: the Collapse  
defcon-3

October 2016 – RUSSIA - America is edging closer to nuclear Armageddon after upgrading its attack "defense readiness", it has been claimed. In a statement on its website, it claims that while there are no imminent nuclear threats against the US the situation is considered "fluid and can change rapidly." The website, which bases its warning on "current affairs," writes: "Tensions between Russia and the United States have reached levels beyond the cold war in the recent week. "The situation between Russia and the United States is extremely fluid at the moment. In all likelihood as dynamic as at times during the Cuban Missile Crisis of 1962.

"At this time, the DEFCON Warning System feels that an increase to DEFCON 3 would be a prudent move." Singling out Syria as "trigger point" for increased conflict between the US and Russia, the website says the situation is very sensitive and "has the potential to spiral out of control." The website stresses it is not affiliated with the US government or military and advises the public to "make their own evaluations." The warning comes amid fears the next world war could kick off today as President Barack Obama meets top foreign policy advisers to discuss battling Russia. The U.S. leader is set to lay out plans for military options in Syria in a crunch meeting that could spell disaster for the world. Meanwhile, a Ukrainian helicopter was reportedly shot down by pro-Putin rebels with NATO officials on board, sparking fears of a western backlash. –Daily Star

## Sound Doctrine Will Not Be Endured

By Nathele Graham

"For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; and they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables." (2 Timothy 4:3-4)

We are living in the time that Paul was talking about: New Age, Yoga, Meditation, Contemplative Prayer, Political Correctness, Prosperity Gospel, and many more heresies are creeping into Christian congregations and none of these are sound doctrine. Even the outright rejection of Jesus Christ as the only way of salvation is being preached from some pulpits.

How did we get to the place where sound biblical doctrine is rejected, but satanic lies are embraced? It's sad to think of how many people refuse to accept Christ because biblical truth doesn't fit their lifestyles. Sound doctrine is not endured by many people today.

If you aren't interested in biblical truth, it's easy to find someone who teaches a "warm and fuzzy" lie. Itching ears can always find someone to scratch them. If you're looking to condone a particular sin, you can find a book to support your error or a group that makes you feel good about unsound doctrine. Are you old enough to remember Flip Wilson and his comedy routine about the "Church of 'Happening Now'?"

It was funny then, but today it isn't so much a joke as a reality. Instead of preachers speaking sound biblical doctrine their sermons are silenced by laws that require them to sidestep God's truth, and we seem to think that's acceptable. In order to remain tax free they become politically correct instead of biblically correct. The same sin that gripped Sodom and Gomorrah is gripping people today, but sound doctrine is not endured... it's not politically correct. Is it wrong for the man in the pulpit to speak against adultery?

What if he offends Mr. Smith and Mrs. Jones, or even Mr. Smith and Mr. Jones? Will they keep giving money if their sin is preached against? After all, this is 21st century and we've become more tolerant, right? Wrong. God hasn't changed and Christians need to hold fast to Scripture and live to please Him rather than expect Him to change to accommodate us. God wrote this on the stone:

"Thou shalt not commit adultery." (Exodus 20:14).

And Jesus said "Ye have heard that it was said by them of old time, Thou shalt not commit adultery: but I say unto you, That whosoever looketh on a woman to lust after her hath committed adultery with her already in his heart." (Matthew 5:27-28)

That's sound doctrine. God wrote it on stone tablets, Jesus confirmed it, and this truth hasn't changed. Always look to God's Word for doctrine instead of to a denomination or the government. Then live by what God says.

It's time for men of integrity who are not afraid to stand on the sound doctrine as found in God's Word to speak out. Women, too, need to hold fast to God's truth and stop compromising.

The first Christians faced many troubles and persecution. People from both Greek and Hebrew backgrounds joined together to serve Christ and care for each other. Disputes arose and the need for overseers was evident. To be sure everyone's needs were met, men were appointed who could be trusted to serve honestly and without showing favors to one group or the other.

"And the saying please the whole multitude: and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Ghost, and Philip, and Prochorus and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolas a proselyte of Antioch whom they set before the apostles: and when they had prayed, they laid their hands on them." (Acts 6:5-6)

Stephen is described as "... full of faith and of the Holy Ghost" and that quality should be evident in every Christian. He was a man who didn't follow false doctrine or scratch itchy ears to appease others. He served God and studied Scripture.

"And Stephen, full of faith and power, did great wonders and miracles among the people" (Acts 6:8)

Could he have done those wonders and miracles if he had compromised his faith? God can use us in spite of failures, but standing firm on God's Word will allow us to be used by Him in powerful ways. When we take time to study God's Word it becomes easier to see the sin in own lives and ask for God's forgiveness. It also helps us to take a stand against false teaching. Stephen's miraculous activity was noticed by Jewish leaders who were trying to stop Christianity from spreading, and so Stephen was arrested.

False witnesses were brought in with false accusations. Stephen could have compromised his faith by tickling ears in order go along with political correctness, but he chose to stand on God's Word. He had studied Scripture and wasn't afraid to speak the truth, even in the face of death. Stephen gave a Jewish history lesson to the high priest and all who were within earshot and didn't back down from the truth. From Abraham to Solomon and the building of the Temple, Stephen told of how they had always resisted God.

"Ye stiffnecked and uncircumcised in heart and ears, ye do always resist the Holy Ghost: as your fathers did, so do

ye. Which of the prophets have not your fathers persecuted? and they have slain them which shewed before of the coming of the Just One; of whom ye have been now the betrayers and murders: who have received the law by the disposition of angels, and have not kept it.” (Acts 7:51-53)

Stephen showed how they had rejected God in the past and how they had rejected their Messiah, the Just One. His words brought anger to those who accused him of blasphemy, but as Stephen didn't back down. People who will not endure sound doctrine will always refuse to listen.

“Then they cried out with a loud voice, and stopped their ears, and ran upon him with one accord, and cast him out of the city, and stoned him; and the witnesses laid down their clothes at a young man's feet, whose name was Saul.” (Acts 7:57-58)

How ironic. The very man who held the cloaks of those who stoned Stephen for preaching sound doctrine would years later write the letter to Timothy warning that sound doctrine would not be endured and people would have itchy ears. Because Stephen was not afraid to speak truth he bore a strong witness for our Lord, Jesus Christ. Saul later would be known as Paul. After his conversion he fearlessly spoke God's truth and wrote many letters encouraging us in sound doctrine.

Stephen began his speech with God's call to Abraham and the establishment of the line that would bring the Messiah to the world. The foundation of Christian faith is rooted in Jewish history, but Christianity has not replaced Israel in God's plan. Many Christian denominations teach the heretical doctrine that the ekklēsia (the called out Body of Christ) has replaced Israel in God's eyes.

This is absolutely not true. Our faith is in the Jewish Messiah who entered His creation just as the Jewish prophets foretold. He fulfilled the Law but did not abolish it. The Law gives us a good idea of what God expects from us; the Ten Commandments are still valid and are to be obeyed. Jesus' blood sacrifice took away our sin instead of just covering it.

“For it is not possible that the blood of bulls and of goats should take away sins.” (Hebrews 10:4)

Sound doctrine begins in the Old Testament and is fulfilled in the New Testament. Sin is defined in the Law, but forgiveness of that sin is found only through Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.

The only way to discern sound doctrine is to study God's Word. God's truth runs from Genesis 1:1 through Revelation 22:21. God has not changed and neither have humans. We still try to twist Scripture to make it say what we want so we can pretty much keep on sinning and figure it's okay with God. We don't want to endure sound doctrine because that might require us to change our mind about sin in our life and view it as God does. It might cause us to repent and live our life so as to please God.

Paul is a good example of how our life should change to please God. Once Paul met Jesus his life was changed forever. He never again held cloaks as stones were thrown at someone for preaching the truth of Jesus Christ. In fact, he was stoned, beaten, imprisoned, and beheaded for speaking God' truth. Paul never spoke false doctrine, but through his knowledge of Old Testament Scripture and the truth of the gospel taught others sound doctrine.

As he traveled he would often begin teaching in a synagogue in spite of the fact that his message of the Good News of Jesus Christ was usually rejected. One such place he taught was in Berea where they were astute enough to check Scripture to see if what he preached was true.

“These were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so.” (Acts 17:11)

Do you search the Scriptures to see if what you are being taught is true? If you're willing to have your itchy ears tickled, then you won't care one way or the other about God's truth. That's a pity.

Stephen was martyred because he spoke the truth, but his reward was great. He used Old Testament Scripture to show that Jesus was the Messiah. The Bereans also used Old Testament Scripture to test Paul's teaching and

found it to be the truth. Today we still need to study all of Scripture to be sure that we understand God's word and have been taught sound doctrine; we need to rebuke false teachers.

“Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine.”  
(2 Timothy 4:2)

It takes time and effort to study Scripture. Get busy.

We live in the time that sound doctrine isn't politically correct, but there's no excuse for accepting what is unacceptable to God.

God bless you all,

Nathele Graham  
twotug@embarqmail.com  
www.straitandnarrowministry.com  
ron@straitandnarrowministry.com

Ron Graham's previous commentaries archived at <http://www.raptureready.com/featured/graham/graham.html>