

# Newsbytes

The First Watch

January 24, 2018

No. 858

Since 2001

Newzbytes is a ministry of Calvary Chapel of Appleton

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

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"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

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**Meanwhile, just to the North of here a piece....**

## Canada: "Islamophobia Day"? Are You Kidding?

by Tom Quiggin January 19, 2018

[gatestoneinstitute.org](http://gatestoneinstitute.org)

The Prime Minister of Canada, Justin Trudeau, is being asked by the National Council of Canadian Muslims (NCCM, formerly known as CAIR CAN) to designate January 29 as a "National Day of Remembrance and Action on Islamophobia." If he does, it is an indicator that the Islamists in Canada have succeeded in their program of political expansion and influence to the point of now being able publicly to manipulate the Prime Minister's Office. In fact, in Canada, "Islamophobia" comes in only fourth behind crimes against Blacks, Gays and Jews. Hate crimes against Muslims have dropped, even as the overall number of hate crimes increase, according to the last Statistics Canada reporting.

Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau is being asked by the National Council of Canadian Muslims to designate January 29 as "National Day of Remembrance and Action on Islamophobia." If he does, it is an indicator that the Islamists in Canada have succeeded in their program of political expansion and influence. (Image source: European Parliament)

The event behind this request is the violent attack on the Quebec City mosque of January 29, 2017, in which six people were murdered.

CAIR CAN/NCCM claims in its letter to the Prime Minister that the attack occurred "solely because the victims were Muslim." This statement is doubtful: the mosque has a complicated history, a recent rash of traumatic events, and was initially founded by adherents of the Muslim Brotherhood.

CAIR CAN/NCCM was founded with the mission of supporting its American parent organization, CAIR USA, which in turn was formed to support Hamas. According to the Hamas Covenant, the group is the Palestinian branch of the Muslim Brotherhood. Hamas is listed as terrorist group by the United States and Canada. CAIR USA was also listed as a terrorist entity by the United Arab Emirates in 2014. They described the listing of these groups as including Muslim Brotherhood front groups, proxies and fund raisers.

The current Executive Director of CAIR CAN/NCCM, Ihsaan Gardee, has tried to claim that CAIR USA and its Canadian chapter CAIR CAN/NCCM have no relationship. He has made this claim in media interviews to the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation and while testifying to the Parliament of Canada. This view is misleading. The US State Department has identified CAIR CAN/NCCM as the Canadian chapter of CAIR USA. CAIR USA has repeatedly claimed that CAIR CAN/NCCM is its "Canadian office." Most tellingly, CAIR CAN/NCCM made the following statement on its own website in 2003

referring to CAIR USA: "This Washington-based organization is CAIR CAN's parent organization." That statement was published as part of its "A Journalist's Guide to Islam."

The Senate of Canada also heard from internationally known Muslim Brotherhood expert Dr. Lorenzo Vidino in May of 2015. In his testimony, Vidino stated that the Muslim Brotherhood has a series of eight to ten front organizations in Canada. Among those he noted were CAIR CAN/NCCM.

#### THE MOSQUE ATTACK(S) IN QUEBEC CITY

The Quebec City Mosque, also referred to as the Centre culturel islamique de Québec or CCIQ, was attacked on 29 January 2017. The alleged attacker, Alexandre Bissonnette, murdered six people and wounded eight when he opened fire with a rifle on a Sunday evening.

Not just one attack occurred. The mosque has suffered a series of five events, which appear connected. In June of 2016 a pig's head was placed at the front door of the mosque. Three weeks later a pamphlet was distributed around the mosque's neighborhood, which claimed that the mosque was run by the Muslim Brotherhood. The pamphlet also said that the headquarters of the Muslim Brotherhood in Quebec was the Quebec City Mosque. Following that, a blog also stated that the mosque was a Muslim Brotherhood organization. This blog posting was dated July 8, 2016 and it has similar text to what was in the pamphlet distributed around the mosque. The title of the blog was "What is the most serious: a pig's head or a genocide?" The question suggests that the first three incidents are connected. The blog was still active as of January 19, 2018.

The blog also appears to have made an indirect threat to the mosque. The posting stated that:

"If the Grand Mosque of Quebec does not provide formal and verifiable evidence that it repudiated any organizational, financial and ideological ties with the Muslim Brotherhood and its organizations such as the Muslim Association of Canada or others, and if it does not clearly condemn all that these organizations represent, the informed citizens will have to consider the Great Mosque of Quebec, aka Mosque of the capital, aka the Cultural Centre of Quebec, as a home propagating a radical concepts and political Islam."

While this statement of July 2016 does not make a direct violent threat to the mosque, one could believe, especially with the benefit of hindsight, that this posting identifies a threat to the mosque. It does not, of course, say that a violent action will occur if the mosque did not repudiate its Muslim Brotherhood links. The threat, however, is implied; given the two violent events that followed, it seems prescient.

The statement also suggests that the first three incidents and the shooting, are connected.

As noted, the mosque was then violently attacked in January of 2017, which resulted in the deaths and injuries. On the August 6, 2017, a fifth event occurred in which a car belonging to Mohamed Labidi, the President of the mosque, was burned in a deliberately arson according to police.

#### THE ORIGINS OF THE MOSQUE

The Quebec City mosque was originally formed by Muslim Student Association, according to its own history. The Muslim Student Association was founded by adherents of the Muslim Brotherhood. The mosque donated money on a yearly basis (2001 to 2010) to the Canadian charity known as the International Relief Fund for the Afflicted and Needy (IRFAN). This funding occurred through IRFAN, which the Canada Revenue Agency has stated was set up deliberately to circumvent Canadian law to fund Hamas. This "charity" has since been listed as a terrorist entity in Canada, as it sent tens of millions of dollars of cash and services to Hamas.

One of the leading figures at the mosque is Abdullah Assafiri. He was listed as the "directeur de la

formation et de l'animation religieuse au Centre culturel islamique de Québec" (Director of training and religious activity at the Quebec Islamic Cultural Centre). He also represented the mosque when it interacted with the provincial government.

Mr. Assafiri is also a major leadership figure in the Muslim Brotherhood, according to the Muslim Brotherhood itself. He was listed as the "Masul" or "leader" for Eastern Canada in the North American Muslim Brotherhood's Shura Council organizational list. The list became public as a court document during the Holy Land Relief Foundation terrorism funding trials in the USA.

Mr. Assafiri told the press he normally would have been at the mosque on the Sunday night of the attack, but he did not attend when the shooting occurred because his son had borrowed his car (c'est parce que son fils avait emprunté sa voiture).

With respect to the presence of the Muslim Brotherhood in Canada, newspapers such as the Toronto Star, have printed that there is no such thing as the Muslim Brotherhood in Canada or the USA. A 2015 piece by Haroon Siddiqui, the Toronto Star's editorial page editor emeritus, actually reported that:

"Muslim Brotherhood is not a registered entity in Canada or the USA, nor does it have any branch in North America."

For this assessment, Mr. Siddiqui was quoting Dr. Jamal Badawi. What Siddiqui did not mention was that Dr. Badawi is a member of the North American Muslim Brotherhood's Shura Council, according to the Muslim Brotherhood itself. Further, the Muslim Brotherhood has held up Dr. Badawi as a leading and exemplary figure in its education field. Dr. Badawi has also served on the board of directors of both the Muslim Association of Canada and CAIR CAN/NCCM. The Muslim Association of Canada (MAC) was also noted as a Muslim Brotherhood front group in Dr. Vidino's 2015 testimony to the Canadian Senate. The MAC website states that the "Muslim Brotherhood remains the truest reflection of Islamic practice in the modern era."

Dr. Badawi was also listed as an unindicted co-conspirator in American based Holy Land Relief terrorism funding trial that had its roots in Hamas and the Muslim Brotherhood. Convictions for this trial were obtained in 2008.

## CONCLUSIONS

In the case of the Quebec City mosque attack, while it is possible that the victims were attacked solely because they were Muslim, the connected incidents – both before the attack and the online implied threat -- suggests that the motivation for the attack might be somewhat more complicated.

If the "Islamophobia Memorial Day" is declared by the prime minister, it is a clear "indicator and warning" on how far an Islamist mentality has been developed within the corridors of government. It also will further confirm how deeply Prime Minister Trudeau has continued in his support the Islamist cause on every occasion since his election as a Member of Parliament in 2008.

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# Damascus Shall Be A Ruinous Heap

Published on: January 16, 2018    raptureready.com

Ronda Lane

The past week has been filled with so many events. There is no lack of things to write about. But the most important event (regarding Bible prophecy) is the recent moves of Iran (and Israel) near Damascus.

In real time we've watched Iran inch closer and closer to Damascus in the erroneous belief of safety there. They now have no choice but to either give up their weapons depots and munitions/missile factories and ambitions (not likely) OR to bring them inside Damascus itself.

Last year, we saw that Iran had been using a remote area outside of Damascus for their base of operations. They built some of their own structures and also used Syrian buildings, which were already standing (even though Putin had promised Israel that they would not permit Iran to build or use ANY permanent structures in Syria). All the while, Iran was clear on their intent: They avow to "wipe Israel off the map." Israel warned Iran that they would not tolerate such provocation. And Israel struck those Iranian operations numerous times.

Iran also (covertly, or so they thought) has been transferring arms to Hezbollah in (what's left of) Lebanon, as well as supplying missiles to Gaza. Israel has disrupted a number of those weapons convoys as well.

After Iran realized they were vulnerable in that location that was further out, they moved their operations to an area just outside of Damascus, to a suburb of Damascus, in a Syrian (Assad) base. Iran had (erroneously) thought that Israel would not strike there. They were wrong. This past week (Tuesday, Jan.9, 2018) Israel did indeed strike that location as well.

Already the liberal leftist media around the globe is putting out propaganda pieces against Israel for the most recent strike Israel conducted. The typical leftist rhetoric (such as the terms "occupied Golan") appears in these hit pieces.

We are now watching (in live time) as Iran pushes to move their operations INSIDE of Damascus. They are again counting on an erroneous assumption – that Israel will not strike inside Damascus. They are wrong (according to Isaiah 17).

Sadly, this will mean loss of life for those who reside in Damascus when Isaiah 17 occurs. But let's keep in mind these three key factors:

#1. It is Iran who is putting the Damascus residents at risk by placing their weapons depots and factories inside a populated city, knowing full well Israel has promised to destroy them.

#2. We've seen some so-called 'Christian' organizations calling for Israel to consider the 'Christians' residing in Damascus. IF there are any true believers residing in Damascus, they had better heed God's scriptural warning and flee. Just as Noah warned for many years prior to the flood (according to scriptural exegesis by some Bible scholars, possibly for 120 years prior), mankind didn't heed God's word and warnings then because they didn't BELIEVE it... so too must those so-called 'Christians' in Damascus not believe God's word and warning; otherwise, they would have already fled.

#3. God's word is sure; Damascus will be a ruinous heap. It will happen overnight. It will be complete and utter destruction. We cannot say if nuclear weapons are used (as some have speculated) or if Israel may strike a weapons cache of Iran's (or who knows? Maybe Saddam Hussein really did have WMD's, and maybe they really are hidden in Damascus?) But whatever and however the means, we

know of a certainty that at some point Damascus will be entirely “taken away from being a city.”

Many (myself included) believe that Isaiah 17 could very well be the catalyst for Ezekiel 38-39. It will be a good excuse for Russia (and the Ez.38-39 coalition) to invade Israel (after all they will receive the green light from the rabidly pro-Islamic and anti-Israel UN). But the wording in subsequent verses within Isaiah 17 seems to allude to some of the same things Ezekiel 38-39 speaks of. For instance, Isaiah 17:12-13:

“Woe to the multitude of many people, which make a noise like the noise of the seas; and to the rushing of nations, that make a rushing like the rushing of mighty waters! The nations shall rush like the rushing of many waters: but God shall rebuke them, and they shall flee far off, and shall be chased as the chaff of the mountains before the wind, and like a rolling thing before the whirlwind.”

When we contrast and compare with Ezekiel 38-39, we see many similarities. It also seems telling that God’s word speaks of “the mountains” in v.13 of Isaiah 17, just as Ezekiel 39:2-5 describes the Golan as the place where Russia, Iran, Turkey, Libya, and N. Sudan will invade Israel.

I’m sure most of you are also keeping watch on this situation. The nearness of Isaiah 17 also brings with it much hope in the nearness of the rapture. Please allow me to explain.

As many of you also do, I believe God’s word clearly presents a pre-trib rapture (1 Cor.15:49-53; 1 Thes.4:16-18; 1 Thes.1:10; Rom.5:9; 1 Thes.5:9; et al). The doctrine of imminence (no signs preceding the rapture; it can happen any moment) is also plentiful in scripture. We aren’t looking for any specific sign, but we recognize the prophetic significance of Isaiah 17, Damascus.

Why is that so important? Because of two factors: #1. Rom.11:25-26, and #2. The timing of Ez. 38-39.

The first factor: Romans 11:25-26. Recognize three things:

#1. Israel is blind (in part) for now. Many of those precious Jews who are not blind (as they are corporately blind in part, not in full) have come to Christ during the age of grace (Hallelujah!) But for now, this study, we are focusing on those who are still blind.

#2. There is an end point to that blindness (which means they will be given to see again, at some point). When is that point? When the “fullness of the Gentiles be come in.” When that last Gentile in the age of grace comes to Christ, then two things happen: The church is removed, and God’s plan for Israel resumes.

#3. By verse 26 we see Israel being saved and coming to Christ. This can’t come while we (grace/church-age believers) are still here. The verse prior excludes that option. Once the “fullness of the Gentiles” be come in, then and only then can Israel have their eyes opened and the blindness removed.

Note: Please do not confuse the “fullness of the Gentiles” with the “Gentiles treading the city.” Those are two separate and distinct time periods.

The “fullness of the Gentiles” (Rom.11:25) occurs during the age of grace/church age. It is a time period (in which we now reside, and have been in for almost 2,000 years) in which both Jews (those Jews who were not blinded, as they were only blinded in PART) and Gentiles (a Gentile is anyone not born a Jew) can both come to Christ for salvation, by grace through faith (Rom.1:16; Gal.3:28; Col.3:11; 1 Cor.1:23-24; et al).

We Gentiles who have come to Christ during this time period (now) are “wild olive,” and we’ve been

“grafted in” (Rom.11). This time period ENDS with the rapture of the church. All grace/church-age believers in Christ, those who have believed upon Him alone for salvation, both Jew and Gentile, will be taken up in the rapture.

THEN God opens the eyes of Israel; those other Jews who HAD been blinded will no longer be. Now that doesn't mean all of them will come to Christ during the tribulation (just as all Gentiles and unblinded Jews do not in this current age). But we know that a THIRD of them will (Zech.13:8-9). And that third will survive until the end of the tribulation in order to enter the Millennial Kingdom (but I'm jumping ahead here).

We discussed what the “fullness of the Gentiles” (Rom.11:25) means. And now we are going to look at the “treading underfoot of the city” by Gentiles (Rev.11:2). This is a distinct period of time during the tribulation in which the Gentiles shall tread the city (Jerusalem) underfoot for exactly 42 months (on Israel's 360-day year calendar).

These two terms only have one thing in common: the word “Gentile,” but these are not the same Gentile groups at all. (Sadly, many a denomination has confused the two.) The first group is the group that occurs all throughout the age of grace (this present church age): the “fullness of the Gentiles.” The second group occurs in the tribulation: the “treading underfoot of the Gentiles.” Both have very different purposes and very different groups of Gentiles.

With those two people groups (and dispensations) now recognized as separate, we can see why it's so important to comprehend that once the “fullness of the Gentiles be come in,” then the rapture occurs, removing ALL grace/church-age believers (both Jew and Gentile, who are all one body in Christ). THEN God turns His attention back to Israel, bringing them through the “time of Jacob's trouble” (Jer.30:7). Opening their eyes, they will no longer be blind, not even in part.

This timing is key to both Isaiah 17 and Ezekiel 38-39 (most pre-tribulational Bible scholars concur). Here's why:

Ezekiel 38-39. When studying Ez. 39:27-29 we can readily see that by the end of that war (and it doesn't appear to be a long war), God will be pouring out His Spirit on the house of Israel. They will recognize that it was God who (against all odds) saved them from what would have been certain death. It will be so apparent. And what's more, their eyes are being opened. Once their eyes are opened, they will (of course) no longer be “blind in part.”

So to put this all together here... If (as many suspect) Isaiah 17 is the catalyst into Ez. 38-39, and since by the end of Ez. 38-39 the church has to have been raptured prior (as God is opening Israel's eyes by then), then how close might we be to the end of the age of grace/church age?

That pre-supposes that Isaiah 17 is the catalyst into Ezekiel 38-39. But when we compare and contrast parts of Isaiah 17 with parts of both Ezekiel 38 & 39, we can see this one event (Damascus' destruction) may likely lead right into Ezekiel 38-39.

With Iran now moving operations inside Damascus, how much longer could it be until Isaiah 17 comes to fruition? And then Ezekiel 38-39 to follow?

Of course God COULD decide to delay that mission. He MAY decide to forestall the complete ruin of Damascus. But will He? It may be days, weeks, months, or (some speculate) even years. God COULD take apart this coalition between Russia, Iran, Turkey, Libya, and N. Sudan. He could put it in the mind of Iran to back off on their ambitions in Syria. God could do that. He can do anything He desires. His will is perfect. Do I think that's going to happen? No, I do not. But let's put all possibilities out there.

Let's also look to Matthew 24 and Christ Jesus' own words pertaining to the "beginning of sorrows." He likened events to a woman ready to give birth. Just as a woman goes into labor, her contractions get stronger, more forceful, more painful, and come with more frequency. As the water breaks, they grow ever closer together in frequency.

Not only do we see "wars and rumors of wars," but we see "kingdom against kingdom," not just in Syria, not just between Israel and Iran, Russia, Turkey, Libya, and N. Sudan, but all around the globe.

Then we also have 2 Tim.3:1-5 where we see numerous characteristics for those living in what that chapter calls the "perilous last days." Many of you are familiar with that scripture; but if not, why not take a few moments to look that up? You will find that it describes modern-day society to a tee. What do we also see in that chapter? Verse 13:

"But evil men and seducers shall wax worse and worse, deceiving, and being deceived."

These last couple of years have been fraught with all of those characteristics. What's more is Romans 1:18-32, those who have been given over to a reprobate mind. We see that in society more prevalently than ever before. Once a person has rejected Christ, and even claimed that "there is no God" nonsense, then God gives them up and gives them over to a reprobate mind. They can no longer comprehend truth from lie, good from evil. If they find others with the same perversions as themselves, then they think that somehow justifies their own actions.

They pat themselves on each other's backs with approval for the depravity. And there is no low too low. It reminds me of the social media campaign last year: "Shout out your abortion." They SHOULD be ashamed of murdering their own babies in the womb, but instead they are PROUD of it, and pat each other on the back for doing so (Rom.1:32).

All of the foretold characteristics of the last days are here. 2 Tim.3:1-5, 13; Rom.1:18-32; and so much more. We're witnessing not only those things, but the apostasy in churches, as well as secular society in full rebellion against God. The leaven of the world has crept into the church doors and congregations. It's even corrupted many pastors as well as the congregations. Some seem to open the door wide and welcome it in – twisting, omitting, and even mocking God's word.

Have you ever baked homemade bread? When the bread has risen enough to bake, can you then try to take the leaven out of the dough? Is it even possible? That's where we are today in society. The leaven has infiltrated so much of what used to be good. It's too late to try to pick the yeast or leaven out of the 'bread'.

I don't see (scripturally) a revival prior to the end of the age of grace/church age. Yes, it could happen. But will it?

The USA murders almost 20% of babies in the womb (in many other nations the numbers are even higher, sadly). There are massive amounts of people who are now claiming there are supposedly 50+ "genders." Our own Supreme Court has foisted "same sex marriage" upon the masses.

And on top of the fact that this goes against scripture (marriage is defined as between one man and one woman), it has also caused all kinds of legal ramifications for Christians who refuse to bake a cake, supply catering services, flower arrangements, etc. for those who desire to live outside of God's word.

They do not want "tolerance;" they want to break down Christian's rights to keep themselves disentangled from participating or funding the sins of abortion, "gay marriage," and numerous other anti-Biblical stances.

So do we see things getting better and better? No. Do we see a mass revival? No. Do we see huge numbers of people coming to Christ (or even willing to hear the gospel at all?) No... at least not here in the US (although there are, reportedly, people coming to Christ in Iran, N. Korea, and India; and thank the Lord if that's true!) But a mass revival? No. I'm not seeing it. Are you?

Besides all those indicators of the perilous last days (and there are many more, but time doesn't permit to cover them all), if we are as close to Isaiah 17 as I think we are, then we are that much closer to Ezekiel 38-39 and that much closer to the end of the age of grace, and with it, the rapture!

Some may disagree with me on Isaiah 17 and Ezekiel 38-39 (there are people who think the chapters have nothing to do with each other). But for me and for many others who see all these things converging, we have more hope and comfort than ever of our Blessed Hope!

We are "Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ" (Titus 2:13).

Maranatha!

## 'Jesus bought this': Delighted televangelist Kenneth Copeland giggles with glee as he unveils new \$3.7 million private jet paid for by donations from his followers

[dailymail.co.uk](http://dailymail.co.uk)

- The head of the Kenneth Copeland Ministries wore a flight jacket to take delivery of his new jet and giggled as it touched down on his private airstrip.

- His church posted a thank you video on its website noting that the plane had been purchased from Christian businessman and movie-maker Tyler Perry.

- GV (that's G5) prices start at \$3,700,000 before customization and can carry about 14 people and a crew of four. The televangelist has previously called flying commercial 'getting in a long tube full of demons'

Controversial televangelist Kenneth Copeland was all smiles on the tarmac near his Fort Worth, Texas mega church as he took delivery of his new \$3million Gulfstream V private jet.

'This is a big deal, this is a big plane' he says in a video posted on his ministry's website, before grinning into the lens and asking viewers, 'do you see this? do you see this? I hope so, you bought it. You and Jesus.'

Copeland, who is the head of the Kenneth Copeland Ministries and has his own TV show, bought the jet off Tyler Perry. The Gulfstream V, also known as the GV (pronounced Gee Five), introduced in 1997, was one of the first long range private jets.

It can travel up to 6,000 miles without refueling. It is also fast. But the speed and range come with a pricetag, the GV can start with a base price of \$3,700,000, but custom upgrades cost in the tens of millions.

The most popular GV carries 14 passengers comfortably, that has club style seating for 4 in the front, 2 more club seats and a couch in the middle and then four more seats in a 'conference' set up in the rear of the plane.

In a thank you note posted with the video, a follower writes, 'First, the Holy Spirit confirmed to Brother Copeland that the Gulfstream V was the plane the Lord had set aside for KCM. Right away discussions began, and Brother Copeland developed a wonderful personal relationship with the seller, Christian businessman and movie-maker Tyler Perry.' Dressed in a bomber jacket, Copeland prays on the video, chuckling as he thanks God for the 'partners' (as he calls church members) who followed him and paid for the plane.