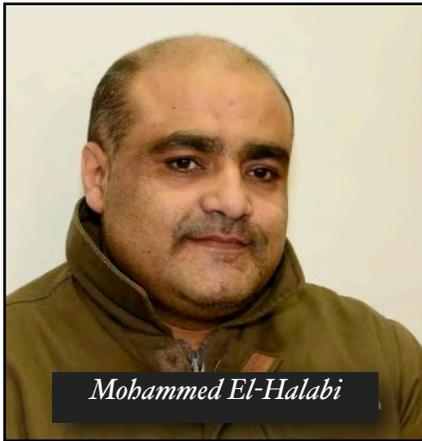


## FRIDAY CHURCH NEWS NOTES

# WORLD VISION HAS GIVEN MILLIONS TO A TERRORIST ORGANIZATION

The following is excerpted from “World Vision’s Christian Donations Funded Hamas,” *Israel Today*, Aug. 4, 2016: “World Vision International is perhaps the world’s largest Evangelical Christian humanitarian aid organization. It

can now add direct, if inadvertent, funding of terrorism to its resumé World Vision has been operating in Israel, the West Bank (Judea and Samaria) and the Gaza Strip since 1975. It has now been revealed that 60 percent of World Vision’s annual budget for the Gaza Strip was diverted by Hamas to the tune of \$7.2 million per year. Much of that money was given in cash to Hamas militants, while even more was used to finance the construction of terror tunnels and to purchase weapons. All of this was discovered during a lengthy investigation beginning in mid-June, when Israel arrested Mohammed El-Halabi, World Vision’s Gaza branch director, on suspicion of terrorist activity. During the investigation, El-Halabi revealed that he has been a Hamas member since his youth and had undergone organizational and military training in the early 2000s. In 2005, Hamas dispatched El-Halabi to infiltrate World Vision. El-Halabi related that Hamas believed that he had a good chance of infiltrating the humanitarian aid organization

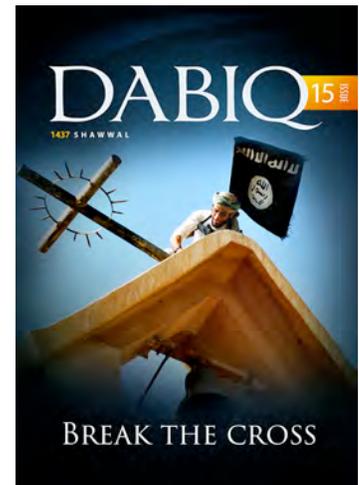


*Mohammed El-Halabi*

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## ISLAMIC STATE MAGAZINE’S RECENT RANTS

The Islamic State’s propaganda magazine Dabiq promotes a Sunni reading of the Quran and Islamic history. They know exactly what they are doing: waging global jihad in the name of Allah in obedience to Mohammed. The 15th issue of the magazine, titled “Break the Cross,” says that Jesus was a “slave of Allah” and that he will return with Mohammed to “wage jihad” to bring all nations under submission. The article promotes standard Islamic teaching that Jesus was not crucified and that the doctrine of the Trinity is a polytheistic doctrine invented by Paul, a “treacherous Jew.” The magazine corrects the Pope for claiming that real Muslims want peace, that acts of Islamic terror are not true Islam, and that Islamic terrorism is not “a religious war.” The Islamic State says, “This is a divinely-warranted war between the Muslim nation and the nations of disbelief. Indeed, waging jihad--spreading the rule of Allah by the sword--is an obligation found in the Quran, the word of our Lord. The blood of the disbelievers is obligatory to spill by default. The command is clear. Kill the disbelievers, as Allah said, ‘Then kill the polytheists wherever you find them.’” The Islamic State knows its Quran.



## CHILDHOOD SCREEN ADDICTION

The following is excerpted from “iPad Alert: What Exactly Is Your Tablet Doing to Your Kid’s Brain?” *Observer.com*, Aug. 3, 2016: “Addiction psychologist Nicholas Kardaras ... has spent the last decade examining young tech addicts, and the result is the book *Glow Kids: How Screen Addiction Is Hijacking Our Kids—and How to Break the Trance*, which will be released August 9. Video games, computers, cell phones and tablets are all ‘digital drugs’ in Kardaras’ estimation, and there is more and more evidence to back him up—recent studies have shown that electronics activate pleasure circuits in developing brains. The amount of dopamine in the brain doubles (food and sex have the same effect) while the amount of gray matter shrinks, compromising the frontal cortex (the decision-making center of the brain). This leads to delays in neurological development and verbal intelligence. ‘An MRI of a tech addict and an MRI of a drug addict are the same—they both neurophysiologically affect the brain,’ Kardaras said. ‘Digital media is a continuum, just as substances are.’ Having observed roughly 1,000 teenagers over 15 years, Kardaras has noticed some societal changes. ‘Ten years ago patients could keep their phones in their pockets,’ he said. ‘Now that’s almost impossible. Kids lose their innate sense of curiosity when they’re constantly stimulated.’ One rapidly growing engine of stimulation is elementary schools—many of these institutions have purchased iPads for children to use in the classroom. Educators may think they’re helping children, but Kardaras actually links this increase in digital learning with the statistic that one in 10 children has Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD). ... ‘[The video game industry is] a multibillion dollar industry that has a financial stake in creating addictive product and making sure this information isn’t out there.’” (In *The Mobile Phone and the Christian Home and Church*, a youth discipleship course, we give many tips for families and churches that want to protect their young people from the negative effects of social media. It is available in print or as a free eBook from Way of Life Literature.)

### WORLD VISION HAS GIVEN MILLIONS TO A TERRORIST ORGANIZATION

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because his father works for the UN. He added that his father, Halil El-Halabi, who has served as head of UNWRA’s educational institutions in the Gaza Strip for years, is a member of Hamas and uses his position as a UN employee to help the terrorist organization. Shortly after being employed by World Vision, El-Halabi began to use his position to benefit the Islamist terrorist organization, primarily by diverting funds meant as aid to strengthen Hamas’ terrorist arm. Over the years, El-Halabi advanced in the charity’s hierarchy until he was appointed director of the Gaza branch. In this capacity, he controlled the budget, equipment and aid packages which amounted to tens of millions of dollars.”

## 12 BOOKS BILL GATES SAYS EVERYONE SHOULD READ

Bill Gates, founder of Microsoft and one of the world's richest men, reads about a book a week and has published book recommendations for years. Recently Business Insider gathered a list of "12 books Bill Gates thinks everyone should read" (Aug. 8, 2016). *Tap Dancing to Work* is about Warren Buffet. *The Sixth Extinction* is a warning about global warming. *The Better Angles of Our Nature* presents the case that mankind is getting less violent and "much more humane." *On Immunity* defends vaccination. There are eight others, but the book that is glaringly missing is the Bible, the book worth more than all other books combined, for it is the infallible Word of God, the compassionate divine light to a human race sitting in spiritual darkness. In the Bible we find the truth about human history, human nature, the human condition, eternal salvation, wise living, and the future. The major theme of the Bible is that "the Father sent the Son to be the Saviour of the world" (1 John 4:14).

## METHODISTS ELECT HOMOSEXUAL BISHOP

The following is excerpted from "Methodists Elect," NewsMax.com, Jul. 16, 2016: "The Western district of the Methodist church has elected an openly gay bishop despite the denomination's ban on same-sex relationships. The Rev. Karen Oliveto was elected late Friday night at a meeting in Scottsdale, Arizona, of the church's Western Jurisdiction. Oliveto is pastor of Glide Memorial United Methodist Church in San Francisco. She is the first openly gay bishop in the 12.7 million-member denomination. The United Methodist Church is deeply divided over LGBT rights. Church law says same-gender relationships are 'incompatible with Christian teaching.' But several regional districts are openly defying the prohibition by appointing gay clergy and allowing same-sex weddings in churches. Some instances have led to trials under the church legal system."

## SOME FAVORITE QUOTES

"The American Republic will endure until the day Congress discovers that it can bribe the public with the public's money" (Alexis de Tocqueville, *Democracy in America*, 1835).

"When the taste for physical gratifications among them has grown more rapidly than their education ... the time will come when men are carried away and lose all self-restraint ... It is not necessary to do violence to such a people in order to strip them of the rights they enjoy; they themselves willingly loosen their hold. ... they neglect their chief business which is to remain their own masters" (Alexis de Tocqueville).

"Society will develop a new kind of servitude which covers the surface of society with a network of complicated rules, through which the most original minds and the most energetic characters cannot penetrate. It does not tyrannise but it compresses, enervates, extinguishes, and stupefies a people, till each nation is reduced to nothing better than a flock of timid and industrious animals, of which the government is the shepherd" (Alexis de Tocqueville).

# CHRIST'S SINLESSNESS

“And declared *to be* the Son of God with power, according to the spirit of holiness...” (Romans 1:4). The following is combined from John Phillips’ commentaries on Romans 1 and Matthew 5: “The expression ‘spirit of holiness’ suggests that the Lord Jesus lived a life of victory over the power of sin, and indeed, His life was perfectly holy. He never looked with lust; He never uttered a hasty, unkind, untrue or frivolous word; and He never entertained an impure thought. He was never accused by conscience, never inflamed by wrongful passion, never out of step with the will of God. His time was never wasted, His talents never debased for selfish ends, His influence never bad, His judgment never wrong. He never had to apologize for anything He did or retract a single word He said. He was never too late or too soon; never upset; never insipid, shallow or afraid. He lived on earth approximately twelve thousand days and every one of them was a marvel of holiness. There was never a single moment when the Lord Jesus did not absolutely fulfill every detail

of every divine commandment. As a baby, as a boy, as a teenager, and in the prime of life, at home, at school, at work, at play, as a son and as a brother, as a neighbor and as a friend, as a village carpenter, as an itinerant preacher, in secret and in public, when surrounded by family and friends and when confronted by formidable foes--at all times, in all places, in all ways, He kept the law of God. He kept it in letter and in spirit. He kept the law in its injunctions and in its intentions. He kept it because it was His nature to keep it. He would never dream of not keeping it. It was His Father’s will, and Jesus always did those things that please the Father. He was ‘holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners’ (Heb. 7:26). From the summit of the Mount of Transfiguration He could have stepped straight into glory. He had absolute victory from the moment He first drew breath in that Bethlehem barn until the moment He closed His eyes in death on the cross of Calvary. He was ‘declared to be the Son of God with power, according to the spirit of holiness.’”

## INFORMATION

The Friday Church News Notes is designed for use in churches and is published by Way of Life Literature’s Fundamental Baptist Information Service. Unless otherwise stated, the Notes are written by David Cloud. Of necessity we quote from a wide variety of sources, but this obviously does not imply an endorsement. We trust that our readers will not be discouraged. It is God’s will that we know the times (1 Ch. 12:32; Mat. 16:3) and that we be as wise as serpents and harmless as doves. The News Notes remind us that the hour is very late, and we need to be ready for the Lord’s coming. Are you sure that you are born again? Are you living for Christ? “And that, knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep: for now is our salvation nearer than when we believed. The night is far spent, the day is at hand: let us therefore cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armour of light. Let us walk honestly, as in the day; not in rioting and drunkenness, not in chambering and wantonness, not in strife and envying. But put ye on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make not provision for the flesh, to fulfil the lusts thereof” (Rom. 13:11-14). This material is sent only to those who personally subscribe to the Fundamental Baptist Information Service mailing list. To SUBSCRIBE, go to <http://www.wayoflife.org/wayoflife/subscribe.html>. TO UNSUBSCRIBE OR CHANGE ADDRESSES, go to the very bottom of any email received from us and click “Manage My Subscription.” Way of Life Literature, P.O. Box 610368, Port Huron, MI 48061, 866-295-4143, [fbns@wayoflife.org](mailto:fbns@wayoflife.org).