

---

# FRIDAY CHURCH NEWS NOTES

---

## STALIN'S HOLODOMOR OF UKRAINE

The following is excerpted from Scott Johnson, "Ukrainian Contexts," Powerlineblog.com, Feb. 27, 2022: "Vladimir Putin and others insist on our understanding the rape of Ukraine in a certain context. The context consists of components including the dissolution of the Soviet Union, the expansion of NATO into Eastern Europe, and Putin's high anxiety. If anyone has supplied the context from Ukraine's perspective, I missed it. I doubt that it's ancient history in Ukraine. Ukraine's subjugation by the Soviet Union was an unhappy experience. Although he chides Stalin for being too generous with Ukraine, Putin thinks that Stalin was quite a guy. He has sought to rehabilitate his reputation. He seeks to restore the glory of Stalin and the Soviet Union under his rule. Ukrainians see Stalin in a somewhat different



*continued on NEXT PAGE*

## ISRAEL OPEN FOR BUSINESS, PUTTING COVID BEHIND

The following is excerpted from "Israel Omicron Exit," *The Times of Israel*, Feb. 28, 2022: "Israel's two-year-long pandemic-induced national state of emergency will end on Tuesday [March 1], as cases are plummeting, hospital wards emptying out, and a top expert [Prof. Nadav Katz of Hebrew University] says that 'there is no cloud on the horizon, for now.' ... After so many people got infected by Omicron, experts, including those on Katz's team, expect that widespread immunity will reinforce vaccine immunity to protect Israel from a large outbreak in the

*continued on PAGE THREE*

## IS IT GOG/ MAGOG TIME?

Someone wrote to me last week and asked if the prophecy of Gog and Magog in Ezekiel 38-39 is post-Rapture. The answer is that it is most definitely post-Rapture. This great prophecy describes a major power north of Israel ("out of the north parts," Eze. 38:15; 39:2) that will create a strong military alliance and attack Israel and be destroyed by God. As for the timing, it is clear that it is for a time when Israel thinks herself safe and disarms. It is when Israel "shall dwell safely" (Eze. 38:8, 11, 14; 39:26). This is repeated four times for emphasis and it certainly does not describe this present hour. Israel's cities don't have walls, but Israel has better than that. It has one of the most formidable militaries on earth. In fact, it is very possible that Israel could defeat Russia and her allies. Russia has a strong military and a strong leader, but I would put my money on Israel. The rest of our reply to this question can be found in a report published earlier this week entitled "Is It Gog/Magog Time?" available at the Way of Life web site.

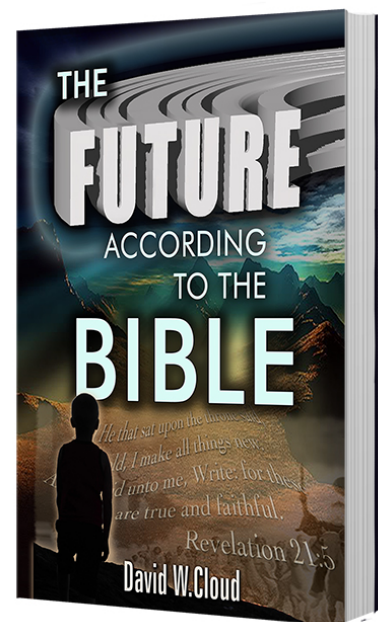
## STALIN'S HOLODOMOR OF UKRAINE

continued from FRONT page

context. They recall that Stalin inflicted the so-called Holodomor ("hunger extermination") on them in 1932-1933. Stalin of course did what he could to suppress the story. ... The terror famine is one of the horrors of the twentieth century. ... Robert Conquest was the first historian I know of to reconstruct the story, as he did in *The Harvest of Sorrow* (1987). Conquest implied that Stalin killed 5.5 million ethnic Ukrainians out of a population of 34.1 million at the beginning of the trouble, or 16 percent. ... Most recently, Anne Applebaum reconstructed the story in *Red Famine: Stalin's War on Ukraine* (2017). According to Applebaum, Stalin's terror famine killed nearly 4 million Ukrainians. Applebaum explained that the numbers have been difficult to calculate because the Soviet system tried to cover up the famine immediately after it happened, even going to the extent of covering up and hiding a census that was taken in 1937 (because it showed the large numbers of deaths). Putin's anxiety to the contrary notwithstanding, you can see why Ukrainians might not want to be colonized again by Russia or to become Putin's subjects."

# THE FUTURE ACCORDING TO THE BIBLE

One of the countless reasons why the Bible is the most amazing and exciting book on earth is its prophecies. The Bible unfolds the future in great detail, and *The Future According to the Bible* deals in depth with every major prophetic event, including the Rapture, the Judgment Seat of Christ, the Tribulation, the Antichrist, Gog and Magog, the Battle of Armageddon, the Two Witnesses, Christ's Return, Muslim nations in prophecy, the Judgment of the Nations, the resurrection body (very extensive study), the conversion of Israel, the highway of the redeemed, Christ's glorious kingdom, the Millennial Temple, the Millennial throne, the Great White Throne judgment, and the New Jerusalem. The first two chapters deal at length with the prophecies that are being fulfilled today, including the apostasy and end-time skepticism. Knowledge of these prophecies is essential for a proper understanding of the times and a proper Christian worldview. The 130-page section on Christ's kingdom describes the coming world kingdom in more detail than any book we are familiar with. Every major Messianic prophecy is examined. Prophecy is a powerful witness to the Bible's divine inspiration, and it is a great motivator for holy Christian living. In this book we show that the Lord's churches are outposts of the coming kingdom. The believer's position in Christ's earthly kingdom will be determined by his service in this present world (Revelation 2:26-27; 3:21). The book is based on nearly fifty years of intense Bible study plus firsthand research in Israel, Turkey, Egypt, Jordan, and Europe. 446 pages



## ISRAEL OPEN FOR BUSINESS, PUTTING COVID BEHIND

continued from  
FRONT page

near future, even with new variants. Israel will repeal most coronavirus regulations on Tuesday, as the country transitions from a 'state of emergency' to a 'special health situation.' ... Under the new guidelines, both vaccinated and unvaccinated tourists of all ages will be allowed into the country, as long as they submit a negative PCR test before boarding the flight and take another one after landing in Israel. Citizens will no longer need to test before returning home (though it's suspected that some airlines will still insist on a test); they will need to test upon arrival. ... Presenting a green pass, which proves that its holder is vaccinated or has recovered from the virus, has become a prerequisite for far fewer venues in recent weeks, and now won't be requested at all. And while masks will still be required indoors, the current requirement for masks in some large outdoor gatherings will be canceled."

## ILLINOIS COUNTY MUST PAY \$370,000 FOR REQUIRING CHRISTIAN NURSE TO PERFORM ABORTION SERVICES



*Sandra Rojas*

The following is excerpted from "Illinois County," *Christian Headlines*, Feb. 18, 2022: "An Illinois county must pay more than \$370,000 in attorney's fees for requiring a Christian nurse to refer women for abortions and provide abortifacient contraceptives, a state judge ruled Wednesday. Sandra Rojas had worked as a pediatric nurse for 18 years in the Winnebago County Health Department when, in 2015, she and other nurses were required to undergo training that involved learning about abortion referrals and abortifacient contraceptives. Rojas objected, saying her Christian faith prohibited her from assisting in abortion services. Although her supervisor gave her a temporary religious accommodation, Rojas was told that the training and the abortion-related services were required to work in her position. Rojas resigned her position and then sued the county, alleging it had violated her freedom of religion and freedom of conscience rights. Judge Eugene G. Doherty of the 17th Judicial Circuit sided with Rojas last year, ruling the department 'improperly discriminated' against Rojas 'by refusing to accommodate her objections of conscience.' The department, the judge ruled, had violated the Illinois Health Care Right of Conscience Act. On Wednesday, Doherty ordered the county to pay \$374,104 in attorney's fees."

## MICRO-PREEMIE CELEBRATES FIRST BIRTHDAY

The following is excerpted from "Micro-Preemie," *Christian Headlines*, Feb. 23, 2022: "On Tuesday, a micro-preemie celebrated his first birthday, defying doctors' belief that he would not survive after being born so prematurely. Jari Lopez was born at 24 weeks of gestation on Feb. 22, 2021, and weighed about 11.5 ounces. Doctors told Jari's parents that he only had a 30 percent chance of survival due to fetal growth restrictions and his mother's preeclampsia diagnosis. ... Jari's mother, Amber Higgins, told *Fox News Digital* that at her 20-week ultrasound appointment, she learned that her baby boy was exceptionally small. This led to Higgins being admitted into Presbyterian Hospital in Albuquerque, New Mexico, where she was monitored daily. ... 'His heart rate was dropping, so they decided to do an emergency C-section.' ... 'Jari's biggest issue when he was first born was his lungs,' Dr. Jennifer Anderson, who helped treat Jari, told *Fox News Digital*. 'The lungs aren't totally developed when born at 24 weeks. When he was first born [at] only 325 grams, and we knew at that point he was the smallest baby taken care of in our NICU, we knew it was going to be a very, very bumpy road taking care of him.' ... Higgins was finally able to hold her son when he was a month old and was released from Pediatrix on June 29, 2021. Doctors also gave Jari and his family a ceremonial send-off. ... Nowadays, Higgins says that her son is active and 'very, very feisty.'"

## DESIGNED TO FLY

The following is from CreationMoments.com, February 28, 2022: "Many textbooks tell young people today that birds are modified reptiles. Suppose, they say, that millions of years ago the scales on some reptiles began to fray along the edges. In time, they say, the frayed scales turned into feathers and birds were born. The elegance and beauty of the feather make this story hard to believe. Can sticking a feather on a lizard produce a peacock? The bird's feather is only a small part of the complete flying system of the bird. Even with very careful planning and redesigning, a reptile doesn't have what it takes. A bird needs massive breast muscles for flight. In some birds, 30% of the body weight of the bird is breast muscle. By comparison, in humans breast muscles are only about 1% of body weight. A bird also needs an extremely high metabolism and blood pressure to deliver the energy those muscles need for flight. Birds have a higher metabolism than any other creature; they also have the necessary high blood pressure. Finally, as is well known, birds need light skeletons. The man-o'-war has a wingspan of seven feet. But its entire skeleton weighs only a few ounces—less than its feathers! Even the most clever rebuilding of a reptile cannot produce a bird. In fact, birds have very little in common with reptiles. The entire being of the bird, from body to brain, has been specially designed for flight by a Creator who clearly knows everything there is to know about flight. Author: Paul A. Bartz."

### 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).