

**News Articles for Episode 240** 

# Iran, Russia sign deal to begin Iranian drone production on Russian soil - The Jerusalem Post (jpost.com)

#bibleprophecy, #russia, #iran, #drones

Nov 19, 2022

Moscow and Tehran finalized the deal during a meeting in early November, accelerating the exchange of key components and designs that would allow production to begin within months.

Russia has quietly reached an agreement with Iran to begin manufacturing hundreds of <u>weaponized drones</u> on Russian soil, according to new intelligence seen by the US and other Western security agencies, *the Washington Post* has reported.

Officials from Moscow and Tehran finalized the deal during a meeting in Iran in early November, accelerating the exchange of key components and designs that would allow production to begin within months.

If the new agreement is fully realized, it would signify a further deepening of a <u>Russian-Iranian alliance</u> that has slowly been forming in light of Moscow's faltering military campaign in Ukraine. As the two countries grow closer, Iran has already provided crucial support for Russia during its war.

By moving drone production lines directly into Russia, Moscow could quickly replenish its <u>dwindling munition stockpile</u> with relatively inexpensive but highly destructive weapons systems that have recently begun playing a much larger role in the ninemonth-old Ukrainian war.

While the newly provided weapons could give a significant boost to Russia's failing war efforts, as well as provide a much-needed economic boost to isolated Iran, Iran's clerical rulers face mounting international pressure over their military alliance with Moscow.

<u>In a separate delegation</u>, Russian Security Council Secretary Nikolai Patrushev met Iran's President Ebrahim Raisi on November 9. The two discussed, among other topics, the economic sanctions and other "Western interferences" interfering with both countries, according to state-run Russian and Iranian news media.

Russian Security Council secretary Nikolai Patrushev's visit was a sign of Iran's growing importance as a supportive partner and weapons supplier at a time when Moscow is isolated by Western sanctions and faces <u>intense Ukrainian military pressure.</u>

Tehran growing closer to Russia under shadow of Western isolation

Tehran has sought to portray itself as neutral in the Ukraine conflict so far, but more and more Iranian-made drones are found to be used to attack Ukrainian cities, triggering threats of new economic sanctions from the West.

Emboldened by high oil prices since the Ukraine war, Iran is betting that with Russia's support it could pressure Washington to offer concessions for the revival of its 2015 nuclear deal with world powers.

Forming a real alliance with a superpower that shares anti-Western views and is not afraid of pushing such views on the battlefield is a strategic move designed to show Iran is not isolated.

Iran's leaders may be attempting to avert these new sanctions, however, by moving the physical assembly of the drones to Russian soil, the officials said, according to *the Washington Post*.

The Iranian drone industry is already spreading to other countries. Iran opened a drone factory in Tajikistan in May, which produces the Ababil-2 drone capable of reconnaissance and combat, according to the Eurasia Times.

Iran promises to supply Russia with missiles, drones

Iran has already promised to provide Russia with surface-to-surface missiles, in addition to more drones, last month, according to Iranian officials, a move that has infuriated the United States and other Western powers which are backing Ukraine in the war.

The Islamic Republic says its drones are the region's most powerful. In addition to surveillance, they can be used for attacks, either by dropping munitions or as so-called "kamikaze drones" that fly into a target and blow themselves up. Its advanced longrange suicide drone is designed to hit Israel's Tel Aviv.

Ukraine's President Volodymyr Zelensky warned last month that Tehran is actively supporting Moscow with drones in its invasion in exchange for getting assistance to develop its nuclear program.

Speaking at the *Haaretz* Democracy Conference, Zelensky said that the Islamic Republic would have not been able to send equipment to Russia if Israel had not taken a neutral stance in the Ukraine war.

"In eight months of full-scale war, Russia has used almost 4,500 missiles against us. And their stock of missiles is dwindling. Therefore, Russia went looking for affordable weapons in other countries to continue its terror. It found them in Iran," Zelensky said.

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#### Volodymyr Zelensky

Zelensky's remarks come as the Ukrainian Defense Ministry's Intelligence Directorate claimed that Russia's infantry are being provided with Iranian-made body armor and helmets, and new groups of Iranian instructors are also arriving in Russia to train them on the use of a new and more lethal type of drones, Arash UAVs, according to *Iran International*.

# Emmanuel Macron at APEC Summit: "We Need a Single World Order" (thegatewaypundit.com)

#bibleprophecy, #oneworldorder, #macron, #global

Nov 20, 2022

The APEC Summit opened on Friday in Thailand, the last of three world summits hosted in the region this month.

Chinese leader Xi Jinping <u>called for</u> stability, peace and the development of a "more just world order."

Advertisement - story continues below

French President Emmanuel Macron spoke at the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Summit in Bangkok. This was despite the fact that France is not a member of the APEC nations.

Macron is a graduate of the "Young Global Leaders" program of the World Economic Forum.

Macron called for a new global order where neither the US or China side wins.

**Emanuel Macron:** Are you on the US or the Chinese side? Because now, progressively, a lot of people would like to see that there are two orders in this world. This is a huge mistake. Even for both the US and China. We need a single global order.

So how does that look? And do any of these leaders actually believe China will concede to anyone at this point?

China is in the driver's seat and they know it.

Via Disclose TV.

# New Visa Card Features Personal Carbon Emissions Tracker (theepochtimes.com)

#bibleprophecy, #oneworldorder, #creditcards, #climatechange

Nov 23, 2022

The monitoring of personal behavior by banks will take another step forward as Canadian credit union Vancity launches a new credit card technology to report users' carbon emissions.

On Oct. 19, Vancity <u>announced</u> that it will be "the first financial institution in Canada to offer its individual and business members a way to estimate the CO2 emissions that come from their purchases." Vancity said its carbon counter, which is attached to Visa credit cards, was developed with ecolytiq, one of Europe's leading climate engagement technology companies.

This will be the first carbon counter program for Visa holders. Mastercard already provides a CO2 emissions-tracking card, developed with technology from Swedish company Doconomy. The Visa credit card technology developed by ecolytiq also provides "education and behavioral nudging" so that card users are not only informed about the CO2 emissions of their buying activity but also told how to reduce them.

According to ecolytiq, "the financial industry will play a major role in fighting climate change. Our Sustainability-as-a-Service solution enables financial institutions to offer their customers environmental footprinting as well as personalized impact offsetting and ESG investments."

Other tech companies are joining in this quest. Michael Evans, president of Alibaba Group, a Chinese tech company, announced at the World Economic Forum in 2021 that his company was developing an "individual carbon footprint tracker" that will monitor people's behavior in terms of "where they are traveling, how they are traveling, what they are eating, what they are consuming."

While this technology was ostensibly developed to fight climate change, many worry that is a first step toward personal social credit scores and could be used to track other types of behavior besides carbon emissions. For example, credit card companies Visa, Mastercard, and American Express announced in September that they would begin tracking purchases made at gun stores.

At the same time, the Biden administration is moving forward with an initiative to create a Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC), which could ultimately replace the U.S. dollar. In place of bank deposits, a CBDC would be a digital currency issued directly by the federal government that people or banks would hold in digital wallets, similar to bitcoins. But by contrast to bitcoins, a CBDC would be controlled by either the Federal Reserve or the U.S. Treasury Department.

President Joe Biden took a <u>first step</u> in March toward creating a U.S. CBDC, directing his administration to report to him by October on how it would create a digital currency.

Biden stated, "My administration places the highest urgency on research and development efforts into the potential design and deployment options of a United States CBDC." Other countries are also in the race to develop their own digital currencies. Among the priorities that Biden set for the CBDC were fighting climate change and "financial inclusion and equity."

Biden also instructed his attorney general, Merrick Garland, to determine whether or not he will need Congressional approval to launch a CBDC, or whether the Biden administration could do it on its own. That report has since been delayed.

In February, however, the Boston Fed completed the first phase of <u>Project Hamilton</u>, a CBDC simulation it developed with MIT's Digital Currency Initiative. And on Nov. 21, the Fed launched a <u>pilot program</u> to test a digital dollar through its New York Innovation Center.

The Fed <u>stated</u> that "the New York Innovation Center (NYIC) is participating in a proof-of-concept project along with members of the private sector to explore the feasibility of an interoperable network of digital central bank liabilities and commercial bank digital money." This program is being done in collaboration with BNY Mellon, Citibank, HSBC, Mastercard, PNC Bank, TD Bank, Truist, U.S. Bank, and Wells Fargo.

Among the world's major economies, the China's ruling communist regime was among the first to issue a CBDC. In 2020, it introduced the e-CNY or digital yuan. By the end of 2021, the digital yuan had 260 million users, representing about one-fifth of China's population, according to the People's Bank of China. China's CBDC gives its central bank access to, and control over, every digital yuan transaction.

### Senate Rejects Lee Amendment, Passes 'Respect for Marriage Act' (breitbart.com)

#bibleprophecy, #marriage, #samesex, #law

Nov 29, 2022

The Senate rejected Sen. Mike Lee's (R-UT) religious liberty amendment, as well as amendments from Sens. James Lankford (R-OK) and Marco Rubio (R-Fl), and passed the so-called "Respect for Marriage Act" (RFMA) on Tuesday evening.

The same-sex marriage bill passed 61-36 with the help of the <u>same 12 Senate</u> Republicans who initially voted with Democrats to advance the bill. The legislation will now go back to the House for a vote <u>as early as next Tuesday</u>, where it was first passed over the summer with the help of 47 Republicans.

NEWS: Senate passes marriage equality bill. Same 12 Republicans stuck to their yes vote on the original procedural measure.

- Trish Turner (@caphilltrish) November 29, 2022

61-36: Senate passes marriage equality legislation to protect same-sex and interracial marriages under federal law. 60 votes were needed. The Respect for Marriage Act now heads back to the House for final approval. pic.twitter.com/vKvliW5pIU

— Craig Caplan (@CraigCaplan) November 29, 2022

The House GOP will have to decide whether they want to pass the RFMA with the newly added "No Impact on Religious Liberty and Conscience" amendment created by a bipartisan group of senators who say the text protects religious liberty. Critics of the added amendment, brought by Sens. Tammy Baldwin (D-WI), Kyrsten Sinema (D-AZ), Susan Collins (R-ME), Rob Portman (R-OH), and Thom Tillis (R-NC), say it will "provide nothing that is not already guaranteed" and is an "unnecessary piece of legislation that provides for lawsuits against those who simply hold a different view on marriage."

Lee's <u>amendment</u> was conservatives' greatest hope of shoring up religious liberty protections in the bill, and would have prohibited the federal government from punishing individuals, organizations, nonprofits, and other entities based on their sincerely held religious beliefs or moral convictions about marriage by prohibiting the denial or revocation of tax exempt status, licenses, contracts, benefits, etc.

Who wouldn't want to deny the federal government the authority to retaliate against religious individuals and institutions in a way that is categorically abusive? pic.twitter.com/gzNxMGPxhW

- Mike Lee (@SenMikeLee) November 29, 2022

"Who wouldn't want to deny the federal government the authority to retaliate against religious individuals and institutions in a way that is categorically abusive," Lee queried before the vote.

His amendment needed 60 votes and failed 48-49, though several of the <u>12 GOP</u> <u>senators who voted with Democrats</u> to advance the bill voted in favor it. Lankford's amendment, which needed a simple majority vote, was also rejected, 45-52, as was Rubio's.

NOW VOTING: Adoption of Lee amendment #6482, in relation to Cal. #449, H.R.8404, Respect for Marriage Act. (60-vote affirmative threshold)

- Senate Cloakroom (@SenateCloakroom) November 29, 2022

Not adopted, 45-52: Adoption of Lankford amendment #6496, in relation to Cal. #449, H.R.8404, Respect for Marriage Act.

- Senate Cloakroom (@SenateCloakroom) November 29, 2022

Not adopted, 45-52: Adoption of Rubio amendment #6493, in relation to Cal. #449, H.R.8404, Respect for Marriage Act.

- Senate Cloakroom (@SenateCloakroom) November 29, 2022

The RFMA was introduced following the Supreme Court's overturning of *Roe v. Wade*, due to Democrats' unfounded concerns that the Supreme Court could <u>use</u> the *Dobbs* decision to overrule the Court's *Obergefell* gay marriage decision. Overall, the RFMA would repeal the Clinton-era Defense of Marriage Act and would require the federal government to <u>recognize</u> any marriage that was "valid in the place where entered into." The bill would additionally require every state to recognize every same-sex marriage that "is valid in the State where the marriage was entered into."

The bill also has a "private right of action" clause, which would allow "any person who is harmed by a violation of subsection (b)...[to] bring a civil action in the appropriate district court of the United States against the person who violated such a subsection for declaratory and injunctive relief." Likewise, attorneys general would be able to bring civil action against any person who violates the law.

# How TikTok Is Drawing Young People Into the Occult (newsweek.com)

#bibleprophecy, #witchcraft, #tiktok, #occult

Oct 30, 2022

Witchcraft and spiritualism are often associated with dusty old books, red velvet drawing rooms, and a general sense of old-time curiosity. But thanks to social media, these practices have been given a new lease of life.

In an age of uncertainty, loss and economic turmoil, young people are increasingly turning to astrology and <u>witchcraft</u> for answers.

"Modern technology has made it possible for people around the world to gain access to learning about mediumship and even practice it virtually," Megan Alisa, an evidential psychic medium with more than 234,000 followers on TikTok, told *Newsweek*.

Evidential psychic mediums share evidence that they are communicating with the dead by claiming to reveal information that could not otherwise be known by the medium.

"I use my social media platform to teach about mediumship, the spirit world and to help people tap into their own intuition," Alisa said. "I also use technology to do all of my private readings via Zoom...[and] do free readings via TikTok live and <a href="Instagram">Instagram</a> Live to help show people that mediumship is legitimate."

As of October 2022, <u>#WitchTok</u> had amassed over 33.2 billion views globally on TikTok.

"Having the ability to teach worldwide and connect with someone anywhere in the world for a reading has been very helpful for people who would have never had access to this before," Alisa said.

#### Newsweek subscription offers >

Joey Xoto, a digital entrepreneur with more than 184,000 TikTok followers, uses the platform to create paranormal experiences for his viewers.

"I would describe myself as an entertainer, using concepts such as mentalism, <a href="https://www.nynotism">hypnotism</a> and general showmanship to create paranormal experiences," Xoto said.

"I have always been fascinated about how our perception of ideas can create all kinds of strange outcomes, many of which can be explained by the power of suggestion in our own minds. Others still have no explanation," he said.

In one video, that has been viewed 1.7 million times, Xoto attempts to connect his viewers to a spirit called Le-ah.

In the video, Xoto describes how Le-ah will enter the viewer's arm and cause it to rotate. His post has received thousands of comments, with many claiming to have witnessed something other-worldly.

"Some were terrified by the things they were experiencing," he said. "Some had reactions that cannot be explained by science itself.

"Many viewers explained how a purple mark was being left on their hand! I cannot explain how a purple mark was being left.

"I created the parameters of what the experience could be for the viewer, and the viewers have pushed those parameters with their own imaginations. It's very cool to see but it even creeps me out!"

For Alisa, TikTok is a space where she can not only share her work, but also provides a platform to <u>dispel common misconceptions</u>.

"I debunk a lot of fear-based beliefs regarding spirits and hopefully remove stigma and fear around the work as I do so," she said. "There is nothing to be afraid of. The spirit world consists of love and it is this world here where we need to be more wary."

The perception of the paranormal in pop culture is often misleading, she said.

"Many paranormal shows have investigators who are interpreting through a lens of fear and misunderstanding—fear and sensationalism sells.

"I myself am a healthy skeptic and encourage people to be open-minded skeptics because there are a lot of frauds, scammers and people who need development that claim to do this work out in the world.

"I spent several years developing this ability, going to several development circles a week and being very dedicated to the work before ever going public as a medium for others."

Although she has been met with some skepticism, her response has overall been positive.

"Many people respond positively to my work as a medium and are curious to know more about it," she said. "The readings where my client goes from skeptic to believer because of the evidence that was provided are some of my favorite readings.

"Those in spirit surprise me every time I work with them and I never know what is going to come through until it does. Every reading I do is important to the person receiving it and I feel truly privileged to get to be a part of it."

### <u>Crisis as excess deaths soar to levels higher</u> <u>than during Covid pandemic (msn.com)</u>

#bibleprophecy, #covid, #deaths, #pandemic

Nov 1, 2022

#### Excess deaths in England and Wales

Throughout October, there have been an average of 1,564 extra deaths per week, compared with a weekly average of just 315 in 2020 and 1,322 in 2021.

Latest figures from the Office for National Statistics (ONS) showed that in the week ending Oct 21, there were 1,714 excess deaths in England and Wales, of which only 469 were due to Covid - just 27 per cent of the total.

It is 16.8 per cent higher than normal. Deaths are also running higher than the five-year pre-Covid October average from 2015 to 2019, figures showed.

Health experts have warned that some of the unexplained deaths are being caused by collateral damage from the pandemic, when <u>operations and treatments were cancelled</u> or <u>delayed</u> as the health service concentrated on Covid.

The Government's "stay at home, protect the NHS" message also left many people who needed medical treatment <u>unwilling to bother the health service</u>, or afraid they would catch coronavirus if they went into hospital.

The NHS is also struggling from long-term staffing issues and current shortages because of coronavirus, leading to <u>record waits for ambulances</u>, treatment and surgery.

Dr Charles Levinson, of the private GP service DoctorCall, which has seen a rise in patients presenting with advanced conditions, said: "What is driving the excess death crisis? In my view, delays in diagnosis/treatment now and throughout the pandemic.

"The <u>reasons behind this are clearly up for debate</u>. I also believe that the Government needs to be far more open on this and tell us what they are doing to solve it."

Excess deaths are stubbornly high and show no sign of slowing, despite a fall in coronavirus cases.

Data from the Institute of Faculty of Actuaries Continuous Mortality Investigation (CMI), which takes into account the ageing population, is also showing significant increases in excess deaths.

The CMI found that there were 13 per cent more deaths this week than if death rates were the same as 2019.

"That's another significant excess," said a spokesman. "Calculated excess deaths were significantly higher than the number of deaths mentioning Covid on the death certificate. This continues the pattern of recent months.

"Cumulative mortality rates year to date are 3.3 per cent of a full year's mortality worse than 2019."

The new data follow analysis from The Telegraph that showed that in the past six months, there have been more excess deaths from causes other than Covid than deaths due to coronavirus for the entire year.

There have been 18,734 deaths due to Covid this year, but since May there were 24,440 deaths where the primary cause was another condition.

Over the past six months, <u>non-Covid excess deaths</u> have been running at three times the rate of Covid deaths.

Some of those people did die with a coronavirus infection, but it was not the main reason for the death.

Covid death registrations published by the ONS have been creeping up in the past few weeks, following a rise in coronavirus cases in the middle of September. However, the government dashboard is now showing a drop in deaths.

While ONS figures only run to Oct 21, the dashboard figures are updated up to Oct 27 and show a drop in Covid deaths in England of 10 per cent over the previous week.

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# All Souls Day: Here's why priests advise praying for the dead | Fox News

#bibleprophecy, #catholics, #praying, #souls

Nov 2, 2022

Many Catholics find this day very significant — here's why

November 2 each year marks All Souls Day in the Catholic Church, dedicated to remembering those who have died.

It comes one day after All Saints Day, which commemorates all saints, known and unknown.

The practice of <u>Christian prayer for their dead</u> dates back to at least the second century, according to the Vatican's website, although the customs have changed over time.

Initially, one would specifically pray for the dead three days after the person's burial, then on the anniversary of that individual's death.

"Remembering the dead on [November 2] became official in the year 998 when Abbot Odilo of Cluny (994-1048) made it obligatory in all the monasteries subject to him," said the Vatican website.

All Souls Day is the "one day every year when Catholics everywhere remember their past," Fr. Thomas Petri, president of the Dominican House of Studies in <u>Washington</u>, <u>D.C.</u>, told Fox News Digital.

"They remember the faithful who have preceded them," he continued — "their loved ones who have gone before them. And, in an act of filial love and piety, we pray for the deceased with the hope they will rest eternally with <u>God in glory</u>."

"In the early 20th century, Pope Benedict XV granted permission allowing all priests to celebrate three Masses on All Souls Day," said the Vatican website.

Typically, priests celebrate one Mass a day, the site notes.

Initially, one would specifically pray for the dead three days after their burial, then on the anniversary of their death.

"The liturgy proposes various Masses on this day, all of which are geared toward highlighting the Paschal Mystery, Jesus' victory over sin and death," the same source indicates.

Unlike All Saints Day, which is observed annually on Nov. 1, All Souls Day is not considered to be a holy day of obligation, in which Catholics are required to attend Mass, noted Catholic.org.

Still, the holiday is important to many Catholics.

Fr. Edward Looney, a priest in the diocese of <u>Green Bay, Wisconsin</u>, echoed the comments of Fr. Petri.

"All Souls Day is a day when we pray for the dead. Our prayers and sacrifices aid souls in purgatory in the process of purification," he said.

When a person dies, their soul either goes to heaven, hell or purgatory, according to website Catholic Online.

"Have Masses said. Pray at cemeteries. Pray the eternal rest prayer."

"The intermediate option is purgatory, which is thought to be where most people, free of mortal sin, but still in a state of lesser (venial) sin, must go," the site notes.

Catholics believe that praying for the dead who are in purgatory helps them become spiritually prepared to enter heaven, the same source says.

"Purgatory is necessary so that souls can be cleansed and perfected before they enter into heaven. There is scriptural basis for this belief. The primary reference is in 2 Maccabees, 12:26 and 12:32," according to Catholic Online.

Looney noted that "saints and mystics have seen purgatory," and that "we should not stop praying for our dead."

"Even if it's been years, because our prayers add to their accidental glory — according to St. Thomas Aquinas — which means they can better intercede for us," he added.

To properly commemorate All Souls Day, Looney advised that people "have Masses said. Pray at cemeteries. Pray the eternal rest prayer."

### Queen James Bible, Translated "in a Way That Makes Homophobic Interpretations Impossible." - www.HNewsWire.com

#bibleprophecy, #bible, #perversion, #queenjames

Nov 2, 2022

Advisory: Be careful of what you read on social media. The algorithms used by these platforms have no regard for Biblical truth. They target your emotions to keep you engaged on their site so their advertisers can drop more ads. These platforms exist to enrich their stockholders. Consider God's promise to Believers in James 1:5, "If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you."

WOLVES IN SHEEP CLOTHING often know the Word of God better than the sheep...they count on the fact that most will not search the scriptures or test anything they say. This is the foundation of their deception, StevieRay Hansen.

Homosexuality was first mentioned in the Bible in 1946, in the Revised Standard Version. There is no mention of or reference to homosexuality in any Bible prior to this—only interpretations have been made. Anti-LGBT Bible interpretations commonly cite only eight verses in the Bible that they interpret to mean homosexuality is a sin; Eight verses in a book of thousands!

"The edits," say the Bible's publishers, "all confirm that the Bible does not condemn homosexuality, and therefore renders such interpretations impossible."

While the King James Bible is the most popular English Bible, this new version, they argue, is truer to the man himself:

Commonly known to biographers but often surprising to most Christians, King James I was a well-known bisexual. Though he did marry a woman, his many gay relationships were so well-known that amongst some of his friends and court, he was known as "Queen James." It is in his great debt and honor that we name The Queen James Bible so.

The publishers of this "big, fabulous Bible," I might add, have remained anonymus, listing the author as God and the contributor as Jesus Christ.

In an interview with the <u>Christian Post</u>, Christopher Yuan, an adjunct instructor of the Bible at Moody Bible Institute, said that these "revisionist interpretations which attempt to affirm homosexual sex and relationships have been around for decades. This is just another attempt to make these revisionist interpretations official or more mainline."

Here's are a few examples (my emphasis):

#### **Jude 1:7**

#### King James Version:

Even as Sodom and Gomorrha, and the cities about them in like manner, giving themselves over to fornication, and going after **strange flesh**, are set forth for an example, suffering the vengeance of eternal fire.

#### Queen James Version:

Even as Sodom and Gomorrha, and the cities about them in like manner, giving themselves over to fornication, and going after **nonhuman flesh**, are set forth for an example, suffering the vengeance of eternal fire.

#### Leviticus 18:22

#### KJV:

Thou shalt not lie with mankind, as with womankind: it is an abomination.

#### QJV:

Thou shalt not lie with mankind as with womankind **in the temple of Molech**: it is an abomination.

#### **Romans 1:27**

#### KJV:

And likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust one toward another; men with men working that which is unseemly, and receiving in themselves that recompence of their error which was meet.

#### OJV:

Men with men working that which is pagan and unseemly. **For this cause God gave the idolators up unto vile affections**, receiving in themselves that recompence of their error which was meet.

#### Our Bible"? - New LGBT Bible App Promotes End Times Apostasy

A new Bible app that promises to be pro-LGBTQ and promote a version of Christianity that affirms all beliefs and lifestyles is set to launch this summer. The "Our Bible App" is led by a group who teaches a heretical version of the faith and confirm what Beginning and End warned of for years: the movement to abandon Biblical Christianity and plunge the church into the prophesied end-times apostasy. A 'BIBLE' FOR OUTSIDERS

The Our Bible app promotes itself as "A progressive Bible app for Christians who are LGBT affirming, pro-women and people of color." Carol Chetatem, the CEO and founder, states on their crowdfunding page:

"It's the place where a transgender teen can find affirming bible texts. It's the place where your church will watch and then chat about a sermon, it's where you'll find new books and organizations that you care about.

It's an app but it's also a movement. It's about ending a stigma against what it means to be a Christian and filling in a pitfall that generations before us have fallen into. We can make that difference for ourselves and for our communities. Please donate today." (source).

Keeping with the current trend, the app includes gender-neutral language, removes verses from Scripture the founders disagree with and includes hundreds of devotionals and podcasts that celebrate the LGBT lifestyle. The Bible, of course, is very clear that homosexuality is a sin:

"Thou shalt not lie with mankind, as with womankind: it [is] abomination." – <u>Leviticus 18:22</u>.

The Lord Jesus Christ defined marriage as the union of one man and one woman:

"And he answered and said unto them, Have ye not read, that he which made them at the beginning made them male and female, And said, For this cause shall a man leave father and mother, and shall cleave to his wife: and they twain shall be one flesh? Wherefore they are no more twain, but one flesh. What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder." – Matthew 19:4-6.

In Romans 1, the Apostle Paul details homosexuality as being the result of a world whose heart has turned from The Lord:

"Because that, when they knew God, they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened. Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools, And changed the glory of the uncorruptible God into an image made like to corruptible man, and to birds, and fourfooted beasts, and creeping things. Wherefore God also gave them up to uncleanness through the lusts of their own hearts, to dishonour their own bodies between themselves:

Who changed the truth of God into a lie, and worshipped and served the creature more than the Creator, who is blessed for ever. Amen. For this cause God gave them up unto vile affections: for even their women did change the natural use into that which is against nature: And likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust one toward another; men with men working that which is unseemly, and receiving in themselves that recompence of their error which was meet." – Romans 1:21-27.

These verses clearly outline the Biblical position on sexuality. But that does not stop many pastors, teachers, and lay Christians from trying to rewrite the Bible to suit their own purposes. The Our Bible app is the perfect example of twisting Scripture into heresy for the sole agenda of accommodating a lifestyle the Bible defines as sinful.

#### **DANGEROUS HERESIES ABOUND**

In their <u>"What We Believe"</u> section of the website, the founders have a section entitled "Discovering the LGBT Presence In The Bible." Here they try to make a doctrinal case for their beliefs. Like many websites for apostate churches today, the opening statement attempts to convey how seriously the founders are about adhering to the Word of God:

"Looking at the Bible in this new way is about reading between the lines. We spend a lot of time analyzing what each story, paragraph and sentence means, down to the very last comma. We should also spend time considering what the Bible is not saying, especially if we are to believe its words with our whole hearts." (source).

However, once one review the section where they teach their actual doctrine, the errors become obvious:

#### "TRANSGENDER PRESENCE

Genesis 37: 3-4, [Like] his father, Joseph was also effeminate: 3 Now Israel loved Joseph more than all his children because he was the son of his old age. Also, he made him a tunic of *many* colors. 4 But when his brothers saw that their father loved him more than all his brothers, they hated him and could not speak peaceably to him.

The word described by tunic or "coat of many colors" is k'tonet passim. The only other person to wear a k'tonet passim was Tamar in 2 Samuel 13: 6-18, and is understood to be a very pretty, princess-like dress." (source).

The app attempts to state that Joseph was either effeminate or transgender because of the coat of many colors his father Jacob made for him. There is nothing in the text to support this. Looking at the passage in context reveals the reasons for his special garment:

"And Jacob dwelt in the land wherein his father was a stranger, in the land of Canaan. These are the generations of Jacob. Joseph, being seventeen years old, was feeding the flock with his brethren; and the lad was with the sons of Bilhah, and with the sons of Zilpah, his father's wives: and Joseph brought unto his father their evil report. Now Israel loved Joseph more than all his children, because he was the son of his old age: and he made him a coat of many colours. And when his brethren saw that their father loved him more than all his brethren, they hated him, and could not speak peaceably unto him.

And Joseph dreamed a dream, and he told it his brethren: and they hated him yet the more. And he said unto them, Hear, I pray you, this dream which I have dreamed: For, behold, we were binding sheaves in the field, and, lo, my sheaf arose, and also stood upright; and, behold, your sheaves stood round about, and made obeisance to my sheaf. And his brethren said to him, Shalt thou indeed reign over us? or shalt thou indeed have dominion over us? And they hated him yet the more for his dreams, and for his words. And he dreamed yet another dream, and told it his brethren, and said, Behold, I have dreamed a dream more; and, behold, the sun and the moon and the eleven stars made obeisance to me. And he told it to his father, and to his brethren: and his father rebuked him, and said unto him, What is this dream that thou hast dreamed? Shall I and thy mother and thy brethren indeed come to bow down ourselves to thee to the earth? And his brethren envied him; but his father observed the saying."

— Genesis 37:1-11.

First and foremost, Jacob loved Joseph more than his other sons. That is the clearly stated reason for him making the coat for him. Joseph was the first son of Jacob with his wife Rachel, who was the true love of his life. Because of trickery arranged by Rachel's brother Laban, Joseph was deceived into marrying Rachel's older sister Leah. With Leah and two concubines, Joseph fathered 10 of the 12 sons who would be the patriarchs of the 12 tribes of Israel. Late in life, Jacob and Rachel had Joseph and Benjamin. Thus, Joseph held a special place in his heart. Nothing was said about Joseph's personality or behavior.

Additionally, once Joseph revealed his dream to his family, a much greater work came into play: God's providential hand at work. Joseph's dream was a divinely inspired prophecy. After being betrayed by his brothers and sold into slavery in Egypt, Joseph rose from being in jail to being second in command to Pharaoh over the mightiest empire on Earth at that time. God would use Joseph's position to save his family once a famine ravaged the Middle East. All of this was symbolized in the coat he received.

An accurate reading of the book of Genesis reveals a much more powerful message – salvation from sin.

The app author is correct in asserting that the Hebrew term for "coat of many colors" is *kĕthoneth passim. Kĕthoneth* means "coat", "robe" or "long-sleeved under-garment." It is not necessarily a female piece of clothing. In fact, the first *kĕthoneth* made in the Bible occurred in the Garden of Eden after Adam and Eve committed the first sin in human history and became aware of the nakedness before God:

"Unto Adam also and to his wife did the Lord God make coats [kĕthoneth] of skins, and clothed them." (Genesis 3:21).

Both Adam and Eve, who were married, wore *kĕthoneth*. Thus, there was nothing "effeminate" or "transgender" about the clothing. Additionally, the Our Bible app completely overlooks the Gospel symbolism here: after Adam and Eve sinned, God killed animals to make clothing for them. Sacrifice was performed to cover the shame

of the first two human sinners. This is all remarkable foreshadowing of the work of Jesus Christ on the cross. All throughout the Old Testament, God instituted a system of repentance where animals had to be sacrificed to atone or "cover" the sins of the people and the nation of Israel. The animal served as a substitute – taking the punishment for the person who sinned. But this was a temporary measure that did not bring true forgiveness. All the Levitical sacrifices pointed to the ultimate sacrifice – Jesus Christ on the cross:

"But Christ being come an high priest of good things to come, by a greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, that is to say, not of this building; Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by his own blood he entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption for us. For if the blood of bulls and of goats, and the ashes of an heifer sprinkling the unclean, sanctifieth to the purifying of the flesh: How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God? And for this cause he is the mediator of the new testament, that by means of death, for the redemption of the transgressions that were under the first testament, they which are called might receive the promise of eternal inheritance." – Hebrews 9:11-15.

Joseph, who ultimately became heir to Jacob (when his older brother Reuben was disqualified), was a "Savior" to his family when he rescued them from famine. As stated in our article: Joseph Foreshadow of Jesus Christ, Joseph's entire life was a prophetic preview of the life and ministry of The Lord Jesus Christ on Earth. And the *kĕthoneth* was symbolic of his special role.

In Exodus, God commanded the High Priest of the tabernacle, Aaron, to wear a colored coat:

"And thou shalt embroider the coat [kĕthoneth] of fine linen, and thou shalt make the mitre of fine linen, and thou shalt make the girdle of needlework." –<u>Exodus</u> 28:9.

Isaiah 22 contains a Messianic description involving ruler-ship over Israel and the ruler wears a *kĕthoneth*:

"And I will clothe him with thy robe [kĕthoneth], and strengthen him with thy girdle, and I will commit thy government into his hand: and he shall be a father to the inhabitants of Jerusalem, and to the house of Judah. And the key of the house of David will I lay upon his shoulder; so he shall open, and none shall shut; and he shall shut, and none shall open." – <u>Isaiah 22:21-22</u>.

When The Lord Jesus Christ was going to be crucified, he was dressed in a *kĕthoneth*:

"Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the common hall, and gathered unto him the whole band of soldiers. And they stripped him, and put on him a scarlet robe. And when they had platted a crown of thorns, they put it upon his head, and a reed in his right hand: and they bowed the knee before him, and

mocked him, saying, Hail, King of the Jews! And they spit upon him, and took the reed, and smote him on the head." – <u>Matthew 27:27-30</u>.

The robe Jesus was dressed was one befitting royalty. The soldiers mocked Jesus by pretending to bow to him. Unbeknownst to them in their wickedness, they were truly bowing before God and the King of the Jews.

It is a lack of understanding of God's Word that led to such awful actions by the Roman soldiers. And the Our Bible app completely misses the mark with its heretical reimagining of Joseph. Rather than providing an accurate account of Joseph's faithful service to God (or noting the fact that he married a woman and had children), and the rich <u>Gospel-centered doctrine</u> in his life account, they twist the verses to try to turn Joseph into a transgender.

#### **JACOB WAS EFFEMINATE?**

The Our Bible app founders may be sincere in their compassion. But they are sincerely wrong on Scripture.

The heretical doctrines continue on the site with their "teaching" regarding Jacob:

"Genesis 25:27, Jacob, the effeminate twin: 27 So the boys grew. And Esau was a skillful hunter, a man of the field; but Jacob was a mild man, dwelling in tents." (source).

So, from this one verse, the Our Bible writers conclude that Jacob was effeminate and/or transgender. There is no further attempt to explain how they derived this conclusion from Scripture. When one looks at the word "mild" in Genesis 25:27 (in the King James Version the word "plain" is used) it becomes evident that Our Bible app is incredibly wrong. The Hebrew term for plain/mild is <u>tam</u>, which means to be "complete, perfect, lacking in nothing in beauty, morally innocent, having integrity." (<u>source</u>). There is nothing in the definition that contains any notion of being effeminate, gay or transgender.

Letting Scripture interpret Scripture, the meaning is further emphasized:

There was a man in the land of Uz, whose name was Job; and that man was perfect [tam] and upright, and one that feared God, and eschewed evil.  $-\underline{Job 1:1}$ .

"Behold, God will not cast away a perfect [tam] man, neither will he help the evil doers:" – Job 8:20.

"The bloodthirsty hate the upright [tam]: but the just seek his soul." - <u>Proverbs</u> <u>29:10</u>.

"I sleep, but my heart waketh: it is the voice of my beloved that knocketh, saying, Open to me, my sister, my love, my dove, my undefiled [tam]: for my head is filled with dew, and my locks with the drops of the night." – Song of Solomon 5:2.

In each instance, the use of the word *tam* refers to good moral character and integrity. There is no gender or sexual connotation to the word whatsoever. Yet the Our Bible app wants its readers to believe that somehow these passages are LGBT affirming.

#### TWISTING THE WORDS OF THE LORD JESUS CHRIST

The app moves on the New Testament using the very words of Christ Jesus to teach false doctrine:

"Mark 14:12-14, Jesus gives significance to a social outsider: 12 Now on the first day of Unleavened Bread, when they killed the Passover lamb, His disciples said to Him, "Where do You want us to go and prepare, that You may eat the Passover?"

13 And He sent out two of His disciples and said to them, "Go into the city, and a man will meet you carrying a pitcher of water; follow him. 14 Wherever he goes in, say to the master of the house, 'The Teacher says, "Where is the guest room in which I may eat the Passover with My disciples?"

Consider how Jesus chooses this one person as a landmark. He could have chosen anyone as a landmark to guide his eager disciples to their destination, but Jesus chose to highlight the existence of a man who was not following along the traditional gender lines of his biological sex. Men did not carry pitchers of water. That was women's work, especially in this place in history. If this happened today, it would be the same as Jesus asking one of us to go find a man wearing read high heels. It was that obvious that the man was stepping out of his gender role. Yet this was the man Jesus spoke of." – Our Bible app (source).

This is yet another example of misreading the text. In this passage, Jesus instructed His disciples to find appropriate lodging for them to have their Passover supper (commonly referred to as "the Last Supper"). It was at this dinner that Jesus revealed that one of the disciples would betray Him and instituted the New covenant that would be established by His shed blood on the cross. Rather than discuss these foundational doctrines, the Our Bible writers instead focus on the man who directed the disciples to the house where they would have supper.

#### The app claims:

"Jesus chose to highlight the existence of a man who was not following along the traditional gender lines of his biological sex. Men did not carry pitchers of water. That was women's work, especially in this place in history. If this happened today, it would be the same as Jesus asking one of us to go find a man wearing read high heels." (source).

Nowhere in Scripture are we told that carrying water was "women's work." This is just speculation on the part of the app writers. When The Lord Jesus Christ in His preincarnate form, accompanied by two angels, appeared at Abraham's home in Genesis 18, Abraham immediately took charge of all the "women's work":

"And the Lord appeared unto him in the plains of Mamre: and he sat in the tent door in the heat of the day; And he lift up his eyes and looked, and, lo, three men stood by him: and when he saw them, he ran to meet them from the tent door, and bowed himself toward the ground, And said, My Lord, if now I have found favour in thy sight, pass not away, I pray thee, from thy servant: Let a little water, I pray you, be fetched, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree: And I will fetch a morsel of bread, and comfort ye your hearts; after that ye shall pass on: for therefore are ye come to your servant. And they said, So do, as thou hast said.

And Abraham hastened into the tent unto Sarah, and said, Make ready quickly three measures of fine meal, knead it, and make cakes upon the hearth. And Abraham ran unto the herd, and fetch a calf tender and good, and gave it unto a young man; and he hasted to dress it. And he took butter, and milk, and the calf which he had dressed, and set it before them; and he stood by them under the tree, and they did eat." – Genesis 18:1-8.

Immediately, Abraham offers water to be fetched for The Lord and His angels. Abraham then rushed to prepare a meal of beef and bread with butter. Notice that the calf that was cooked was prepared by a male servant who lived with Abraham. It was not a woman cooking, but a man. There was no gender distinction to the work done by a servant.

Similarly, in Mark 14, the man carrying the jug was a servant. Jesus specifically told the Disciples that when they found the man with the jug they were to ask "the Master of the house" where they could eat the Passover supper. Just like Abraham's male servant cooking food, the male servant in Mark 12 carried water for the master of his home. There was nothing transgender about the passage at all. Not to mention that again, these teachings completely ignore the Gospel – the fact that Jesus Christ was preparing to show that He was the true Passover Lamb – the Lamb who would take away the sins of the world through His death on the cross.

#### SOMEHOW ADAM AND EVE ARE A GAY COUPLE?

LESBIAN, GAY AND BISEXUAL IDENTITIES

Genesis 2:18, Same-sex unions: The Lord God said, "It is not good for man to be alone. I will make a helper suitable for him."

Some translations say "helpmate," others say "partner," but each translation describing the person who will accompany Adam on his first footsteps on earth uses a non-gendered word, "helper." It isn't until later that we learn Adam's mate is woman, and that her name is Eve.

Ruth 1:14-19 The vow that Ruth and Naomi made to each other is the same vow that. What could have prompted such passionate loyalty other than love? 14 Then they lifted up their voices and wept again; and Orpah kissed her mother-in-law, but Ruth clung to her.

The Our Bible App makes outrageous heretical claims that take Scripture completely out of context.

The King James Version states that God made a "help meet" for Adam, which means someone who was suitable or "meets" for him. And the person God created was Eve - a woman. To somehow imply that Eve's gender was potentially going to be a male is an outrageous misreading of the text.

#### King David And Jonathan

As some erring pastors have also taught in the past, the Our Bible app uses the account of King David's love for Jonathan as proof they were a same-sex couple:

## "2 Samuel 1:26, David confesses that his love for Jonathan is greater than that of a woman:

*I am distressed for you, my brother Jonathan;* 

You have been very pleasant to me;

Your love to me was wonderful,

Surpassing the love of women." – Our Bible App, (source).

The verses above were David's words after Jonathan, his closest friend, died in battle. Jonathan, the son of David's enemy King Saul, was a prince and potential heir to the throne of Israel. Yet Jonathan forsook any pursuit of power and even defied his father the king, to help protect David's life. David, like Joseph, was a foreshadow of the Lord Jesus Christ. In fact, in the book of Ezekiel, a prophecy of the Messiah refers to Jesus as: "David, my servant" at a time in history when King David had been dead for centuries.

Jonathan's love of God's chosen King was emblematic of the love believers are to have for Christ:

"He that loveth father or mother more than me is not worthy of me: and he that loveth son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me. And he that taketh not his cross, and followeth after me, is not worthy of me. He that findeth his life shall lose it: and he that loseth his life for my sake shall find it." – Jesus Christ, Matthew 10:37-39.

Jesus made it clear that our love for Him should surpass any Earthly relationship. For the simple fact that a friend, family member or spouse could attempt to lead you away from faith in Him. So must we forego and forsake anything if it would remove us from belief in the Savior? Jonathan's love for David was sacrificial. He risked life, reputation and the love of his father for David's well-being. The Bible speaks of their hearts being "knit." Rather than this being a romantic, homosexual affection, it is emphasizing the unbreakable, eternal bond the men shared. This is the love that Jesus has for all born again believers:

"All that the Father giveth me shall come to me; and him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out." - <u>John 6:37</u>.

"And walk in love, as Christ also hath loved us, and hath given himself for us an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweetsmelling savour." – <u>Ephesians 5:2</u>.

In John 17, Jesus recited one of His final prayers for His disciples and all believers before going to give His life on the cross. And in that prayer, He echoed that all believers will be "one" with Him through faith — and that this unbreakable bond was premised on love:

"Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word; That they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that thou hast sent me. And the glory which thou gavest me I have given them; that they may be one, even as we are one: I in them, and thou in me, that they may be made perfect in one; and that the world may know that thou hast sent me, and hast loved them, as thou hast loved me." - John 17:20-23.

This was the love of Jonathan and David typified. Their bond exceeded family, ambition, ego, and self. This is the love that Jesus desires from all believers. It was not romantic love, but a sacrificial love based on faith. Jonathan believed in David as God's anointed King, despite Jonathan being the rightful heir to the throne by blood.

Furthermore, the Our Bible app completely ignores the fact that King David married a woman. He was heterosexual and fathered children and had many concubines. Additionally, his gravest sin recorded involved sexual sin with Bathsheba, a woman (2 Samuel 11:1-5). His illicit desire for Bathsheba led him into an affair, fathering a child with her and then arranging the death of her husband to conceal his infidelity.

This is very telling. When David was confronted with his sin by the prophet Nathan, he did not proclaim his innocence or that he was making a "lifestyle" decision, or that he somehow not doing something wrong in committing adultery. Instead, his response was: "... I have sinned against the Lord." (2 Samuel 12:13). David acknowledged his heterosexual sin before The Lord, repented deeply (Psalm 51) and was forgiven.

Ignoring this, the Our Bible app instead tries to portray his friendship with Jonathan as a homosexual affair – ignoring the Gospel-centric themes of their bond.

#### THE PROPHESIED END TIMES APOSTASY

Christian author and social media star Jen Hatmaker is one of many prominent Christians who now support gay marriage.

"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.

The Bible predicted that in the end times, false, heretical Christianity would rise and run rampant throughout society. Rather than adhering to "sound doctrine" – meaning

a proper reading of the Bible, many pastors, bloggers and "teachers" are instead twisting and reinventing Scripture to preach a message that pleases "itching ears" - avoiding discussion of sin or like the Our Bible app, declaring that certain sins no longer exist (or never existed at all).

#### Jesus Christ said:

"For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved. He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God. And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. For every one that doeth evil hateth the light, neither cometh to the light, lest his deeds should be reproved." — <u>John 3:17-20</u>.

The Our Bible app promotes a false Christianity that avoids the truth: all people are sinners. All people stand condemned before a just and Holy God. All people deserve the punishment of the grave and Hell. But the greatest truth it avoids is that God in His love for all people, sent Jesus Christ, the Son of God, to die on the cross as a sacrifice – taking the punishment for all people. And it is by acknowledging our sins and trusting in the work of Christ on the cross that we receive free forgiveness of sin.

#### **DELETE THE OUR BIBLE APP**

The Bible warned Christians that false doctrines would become popular in the end times.

"But I fear, lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled Eve through his subtilty, so your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ. For if he that cometh preacheth another Jesus, whom we have not preached, or if ye receive another spirit, which ye have not received, or another gospel, which ye have not accepted, ye might well bear with him." – 2 Corinthians 11:3-4.

The book of 1 John says: "If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." (1 John 1:8-9). Rather than telling those in the gay and transgender community a lie (that the Bible does not call homosexuality a sin), Bible-believing Christians should teach the truth – that like all people, they are sinners in need of a Savior. And God, in love, provided a way for all people to escape condemnation and the lusts of the flesh that we all experience. It is through faith in Jesus Christ.

Pray for the Our Bible app makers to repent of their rampant heresy, blatant doctrinal error, and false teachings. And pray for those who are in the LGBT community or others who feel marginalized. Jesus Christ is here for those on the margins. There are forgiveness and love in the Bible for LGBTQ community. Jesus does indeed love the outsider and the outcast. But He is also God and we are to love and deal with Jesus on His terms, not our own. And that means following the Bible truthfully, not making

"Our" own version that teaches another religion altogether. Our prayer is that Our Bible app makers will realize this and experience the true love of <u>free forgiveness in the Savior</u>.

"It is better to be divided by truth than to be united in error. It is better to speak the truth that hurts and then heals, than falsehood that comforts and then kills. Let me tell you something, friend, it is not loved and it is not friendship if we fail to declare the whole counsel of God. It is better to be hated for telling the truth than to be loved for telling a lie. It is impossible to find anyone in the Bible who was a power for God who did not have enemies and was not hated. It's better to stand alone with the truth, then to be wrong with a multitude. It is better to ultimately succeed with the truth than to temporarily succeed with a lie. There is only one Gospel and Paul said, 'If any man preaches any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed.