

Westboro Baptist Church

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Religious Opinion & Bible Commentary on Current Events

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NEWS RELEASE

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Signs of the Times: Shining Bible Light on Current Events

The Lord has wrought many blessed judgments in the world this week which can be seen plainly by any who have been given eyes to see, ears to hear, and a heart to understand by the gracious hand of God. Let's view some of this week's judgments from the proper perspective:

Since the latter half of September, aggressive "demonstrations" have exploded across France as students express discontent with the country's education system. Chief issues include a lack of staff, overcrowded classrooms, and generally poor working environments. These children swiftly shifted passive complaint into stark violence, including lighting fires, destroying buildings and vehicles, and assaulting teachers and police officers. Police have responded in kind, leading to continued escalation and thousands of arrests across the country.

And no wonder. Given France's nature—a nation that has defined itself by violent discontentment for centuries—there are many aspects to consider about this judgment from the hand of God. Consider what it says about their children: through these random acts of violence and destruction, they demonstrate they have been **"left to themselves"** (Pro. 29:15), that they've been taught to **"run to mischief"** (Pro 6:18), and that they lack any patience or trust in God, who is the only source of peace. (Ecc. 5:8; 2 Thess. 3:16)

And why? Because their parents failed to **"bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord"** (Eph. 6:4), failed to teach them His precepts (Deut. 6:6-9), and—by universally shirking God's standards and glorifying violent disobedience for generations (Pro 6:12-14)—taught them to **"walk with angry men"**, and thus **"set snares for their souls"**. (Pro. 22:24-25) At the same time, their government refuses to act on the legitimate complaint—that they have neglected the education of their children—while pouring funds into immigration systems and foreign wars, thereby provoking these children to wrath. (Col 3:21)

So, it's little wonder that nation is now oppressed by a generation of children who immediately turn to violence when they don't get their way. (Isa. 3:12) If these children genuinely desire wisdom, as they claim to, let them put away the cheap, worldly wisdom and hear the divinely-inspired words of Solomon: **"meddle not with them that are given to change"** (Pro. 24:21); **"fear God and keep his commandments; for this is the whole duty of man."** (Ecc. 12:13)

On September 30th, Flydubai flight 1037 was enroute to Ben Gurion Airport in Israel, when the plane's pilot was attacked by his copilot in a suspected terror attack. Several passengers rushed the cockpit and subdued the copilot. Two off-duty pilots took control of the plane—damaged by a plummet that exceeded the plane's maximum speed—and were able to perform an emergency landing. In the wake of these events, many of the passengers openly thanked God for the deliverance, even as calls for vengeance and aggression pour forth from the mouths of Israel's leaders.

To the former, we say, praising God is good (Psa. 107:8), if it is paired with a humble heart (Psa. 51:17) and due consideration of these events. We implore you to consider your ways (1 Sam 12:24; Hag. 1:5), repent of your sins, and turn unto the Lord, remembering that he appointed these events to happen to you, specifically. If you will not hear—if you harden your hearts, refuse to recognize the sovereign hand of God in this thing, and continue in your sin—then this amazing deliverance will only further condemn you. (Psa. 50:22-23, Pro. 29:1)

To the latter, we say, **"by strength shall no man prevail."** (1 Sam. 2:9; Psa. 33:17; Pro. 21:31; Ecc. 9:11) Your information networks, early warning systems, and webs of scheming to rule by your own strength utterly failed to catch this. It was by the grace of God, and his power alone, that a disaster was averted; he gave the pilot strength to survive the attack long enough to get help (Deu. 32:39), he kept the plane in the air (1 Sam. 2:8), he placed the off-duty pilots on the plane to perform the landing (Jer 10:23), he kept the damaged aircraft from falling apart before landing. Stop trusting in yourselves, humble yourselves before God, and repent of your sins against God and your fellow men—chief among them being the murder of your Savior. (Mat. 27:25)

Repent or Perish!