

# Friday Church News Notes

## Institute for Creation Research Defames Fundamentalists as Pharisees

Friday Church News Notes, March 27, 2009 [www.wayoflife.org](http://www.wayoflife.org)

Henry Morris III of the Institute for Creation Research (ICR) has defamed fundamentalists by calling them Pharisees. Commenting on Matthew 23:13, Morris says, "The Pharisees would be analogous to the fundamentalists of our day and the Sadducees to the liberals. Both camps claimed belief in 'inspiration' and both camps prided themselves on their knowledge of Scripture. Their common error was distorting the truth of God with interpretations that clouded the message--thereby shutting up the doors out of unbelief that led into the 'glorious liberty of the children of God' (Romans 8:21)" (Morris, "Shutting the Kingdom," March 20, 2009, ICR website). In fact, it is a gross inaccuracy and injustice to apply the term "Pharisee" biblical fundamentalists. Consider the characteristics of the Pharisee as given in Scripture. First, Phariseeism is to supplant the Word of God with man-made tradition and thereby make the Word of God of none effect (Mat. 15:7-9). Second, Phariseeism is to reject Jesus Christ (Mat. 12:22-24). Third, Phariseeism is to pervert the Gospel



of the free grace of Christ into a work's salvation (Mat. 23:15). Fourth, Phariseeism is self-righteousness (Lk. 18:9-12). Fifth, Phariseeism is hypocrisy (Lk. 12:1). The Pharisees were at the forefront of the crucifixion of Jesus Christ and of the

**Continued, page 2**

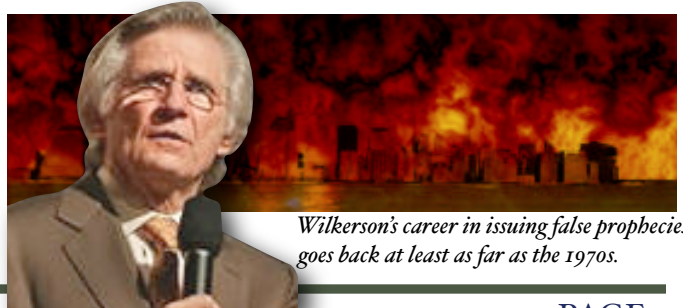
## Jack of All Trades and Master of One

"The versatile ne'er-do-well is often castigated by the taunt, 'Jack of all trades and master of none.' In reality, however, that saying is a perversion. What the famous Benjamin Franklin actually said was that a man should be 'Jack-of-all-trades and master of *one*.' A really cultured man has been described as one who knows something about everything, and everything about something. So far as the Christian worker is concerned, and most of all the Christian minister, the specialization-point must be the Bible. Other knowledge may be interesting, useful, important; but to be a master in Bible knowledge is *vital*" (J. Sidlow Baxter, *Explore the Book*, p. 112).

## DAVID WILKERSON'S PATHETIC ATTEMPT AT PROPHECY

Pentecostal preacher David Wilkerson has given another prophecy. Earlier this month he said: "An earth-shattering calamity is about to happen. It is going to be so frightening, we are all going to tremble--even the godliest among us. For ten years I have been warning about a thousand fires coming to New York City. It will engulf the whole megaplex, including areas of New Jersey and Connecticut. Major cities all across America will experience riots and blazing fires--such as we saw in Watts, Los Angeles, years ago. There will be riots and fires in cities worldwide. There will be looting--including Times Square, New York City" ("What You Need to Know," *Christianity Today*, March 16, 2009). Wilkerson, author of the popular book *The Sword and the Switchblade*, is a false prophet. I say that on the authority of his own prophecies. In the early 1970s, in his prophecy called "The Vision," Wilkerson predicted that the charismatics would be driven out of the Roman Catholic Church. For 1993, he prophesied that there would be 1,000 fires in New York City from race riots. For 1999, he prophesied that there would be no more gospel television networks, that they would all be in bankruptcy and ruin. For 2000, he prophesied a dire

financial crash. None of this happened. A biblical prophet cannot be mistaken. He must be 100% right 100% of the time. "When a prophet speaketh in the name of the LORD, if the thing follow not, nor come to pass, that is the thing which the LORD hath not spoken, but the prophet hath spoken it presumptuously: thou shalt not be afraid of him" (Deuteronomy 18:22). There is no doubt that America and the entire world are headed toward frightful calamities. The Bible plainly describes them, and we don't need any half-baked additions. "The secret things belong unto the LORD our God: but those things which are revealed belong unto us and to our children for ever, that we may do all the words of this law" (Deuteronomy 29:29).



*Wilkerson's career in issuing false prophecies goes back at least as far as the 1970s.*

**HENRY MORRIS III, from page 1**

persecution of the early Christians. It is a great error to label a Christ-loving, Bible-honoring, grace-preaching, self-debasing, peace-loving fundamentalist Christian a Pharisee. I can't speak for all Bible-believing fundamentalists, but I can speak for myself and for thousands of fundamentalists that I know personally; and we have no confidence in our own "righteousness." We know that we have no righteousness apart from Jesus Christ, and we have kept no one away from this glorious grace and the eternal liberty that is freely available in Christ. In fact, I have preached this for 35 years, including nearly 20 years as a missionary in one of the darkest parts of the world. I demand an apology from Mr. Morris and the Institute for Creation Research for defaming their brethren in Christ, and if they don't give it here I appeal to the judgment seat of my Saviour Jesus Christ. I am tired of being defamed just because I have the same spirit that the Psalmist displayed in Psalm 119:128.

**DICTIONARY REDEFINES MARRIAGE TO INCLUDE HOMOSEXUAL COUPLES**

The following is excerpted from the *Christian Post*, March 19, 2009: "One major dictionary company has defined marriage in broader terms than the U.S. government. Similar to the definition of marriage under federal law, Merriam-Webster states marriage as 'the state of being united to a person of the opposite sex as husband or wife in a consensual and contractual relationship recognized by law.' Every state in the nation recognizes marriage on similar terms except for Connecticut and Massachusetts. But the dictionary runs askew from legal recognition of marriage by the federal government and almost all the states by tacking on a secondary definition that counts unions between same-sex couples as 'marriage.' Merriam-Webster added the secondary meaning for marriage in 2003, even before gay marriage was legalized anywhere in the country. Whereas the company's dictionary editions prior to 2003 stated no mention of same-sex marriage, the latest version now defines marriage also as 'the state of being united to a person of the same sex in a relationship like that of a traditional marriage.'"

**SCIENCE JOURNAL'S CONTRADICTION REPORT ON GLOBAL WARMING**

A report in the scientific journal *Nature* warns that global warming 3 to 5 million years ago caused extensive flooding and could predict what is ahead for the earth in modern times. The finding is based on an examination of core samples far below the surface of an ice shelf in the Antarctic. Tim Naish, director of the Antarctic Research Centre at Victoria University in New Zealand said, "What we're seeing in the past would lead us to believe that we are on track for losing parts of the West Antarctic ice sheet" ("Big Melt Seen in Antarctic Past," *USA Today*, March 18, 2009). Scientists conclude that "unless something is done to curb emissions soon ... this would commit us to an inevitable 5-meter (16.4 foot) sea level rise over the next several centuries." This conclusion, though, contradicts the actual facts of the study. First, the researchers themselves say that a rise in the ocean based on the alleged ancient global warming took perhaps a thousand years to happen. That is obviously not a crisis scenario. Second, the alleged warming took place before modern human culture could have possibly been a factor. How many automobiles and electric generation plants existed three million years ago? The fact is that the global warming scientists are merely guessing. Their views are based on the uniformitarian presumption that there was no divine creation or global flood. We don't believe the earth existed three million years ago. Man is not going to destroy the earth; God is going to do that. "The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is long suffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance. But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up. ... Nevertheless we, according to his promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness" (2 Peter 3:9-10, 13).

*Tim Naish at the drilling site in Antarctica*

### THE MODERNISTS THAT HAVE SAWN ISAIAH ASUNDER

“According to the old tradition, the prophet Isaiah was sawn asunder. Of the truth of the tradition we cannot be sure, but we know that one of the earliest feats of the Higher Criticism was to perform the like operation upon his prophecy. So much is the theory of a divided prophecy gaining ground, that no one must make any pretension to scholarship if he hesitates to accept the double authorship of Isaiah. From chapter 40 to the close was written, we are told with tiresome iteration, not by Isaiah, but by a prophet of the Exile--the Great Unknown. By the way, it is remarkable how many unknown great men flourished among the Jews, and remained unknown to their posterity, until, in these

enterprising days, the Higher Critics arose and discovered them, brought them into light with the exception of their names. How wondrously modest, how self-effacing, these writers had been! And how strangely unmindful of their best men had the people been! True, we know they did not always receive the God-sent messengers; they killed the prophets, and stoned them that were sent unto them. But killing a man is a different thing from ignoring a man. You cannot well put a man to death without recognizing the fact that he existed” (Archibald McCaig).

### HARRY TRUMAN’S RECOGNITION OF ISRAEL

I believe that one of the most important events in American history was Harry Truman’s recognition of Israel on May 14, 1948. America’s friendship toward Israel has not been perfectly consistent by any means, but the fact remains that America has been Israel’s best friend in modern history, and that is significant. God told Abraham, the father of the Jewish nation, “And I will make of thee a great nation, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing: And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed” (Genesis 12:2-3). On this authority there can be no doubt that one of the chief reasons for God’s blessing on America has been her blessing of Israel. Truman’s decision to recognize Israel was hard fought. He was strongly opposed by the U.S. State Department, which favored a United Nations trusteeship over Palestine, and by many of the most powerful individuals in the government. The State Department took a pragmatic view, seeing the need for the free flow of oil from Muslim nations in the face of the very real possibility of war with Russia in those days. They did not want to offend the Muslims for the sake of a “few Jews.” Truman withstood this pressure because of his biblical convictions. We don’t know how much he read the Bible in his adult years, but it is said that he read it through three times before age fourteen. Clark Clifford, who was special counsel to Truman, said that the president “was a student and believer in the Bible since his youth” and that “from his reading of the Old Testament he felt the Jews derived a legitimate historical right to Palestine, and he sometimes cited such biblical lines as Deuteronomy 1:8: ‘Behold, I have

given up the land before you; go in and take possession of the land which the Lord hath sworn unto your fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob” (“President Truman’s Decision to Recognize Israel,” Jerusalem Center for Public Affairs, May 1, 2008). The new Jewish state was declared at midnight in Jerusalem, May 14, 1948, which was 6:00 P.M. in Washington, and a mere eleven minutes later the White House announced the recognition of the United States.



*President Truman meeting on May 8, 1951 with Prime Minister David Ben Gurion of Israel and Abba Eban, Israeli Ambassador to the US.*

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## YOUR BUSY LIVER

The following is from Creation Moments, <http://www.creationmoments.net/radio/transcript.php?t=2181>: “An adult’s liver is about the size of a football and weighs about three pounds, making it the body’s largest internal organ. Tucked neatly beneath the ribs, your liver performs more than 500 different tasks. It is a vital link between your heart, lungs and digestive system. Inside the liver is a bewildering array of microscopic veins in which each drop of blood is processed. Here, blood conditions are constantly monitored to make sure everything is up to standard. If more of certain substances are needed in the blood, they are supplied. Useless chemicals are broken down into useful chemicals. Proteins are made in the liver, blood-clotting factors are corrected, hormone balances are maintained, and poisons are neutralized. If substances are needed to fight an infection, they are produced and added to the blood. The liver also stores vitamins and minerals and prepares itself to provide your body with quick energy when you need it. In addition, the liver makes bile, which is essential for digestion. Structures like the liver have caused many evolutionists to abandon the idea that life is a result of millions of years of accidents. The liver is just too well designed and integrated into the body to have been produced by purposelessness and mindlessness. Surely it makes more sense to acknowledge a supremely wise Creator who loves His Creation, including you and me.”



**CONCLUSION:** 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, UNSUBSCRIBE, or CHANGE ADDRESSES go to <http://www.wayoflife.org/wayoflife/subscribe.html>. Way of Life Literature, P.O. Box 610368, Port Huron, MI 48061, 866-295-4143, [fbns@wayoflife.org](mailto:fbns@wayoflife.org).