

Friday Church News Notes

The Archbishop of Canterbury's Unbelief

Friday Church News Notes, April 3, 2009 www.wayoflife.org

Rowan Williams, the Archbishop of Canterbury, claims that God will not intervene to save the world. After describing possible doomsday scenarios caused by such things as global warming or bioterrorism, the head of the global Anglican Communion said that "to suggest that God might intervene to protect us from the corporate folly of our practices is as un-Christian and un-biblical as to suggest that he protects us from the results of our individual folly or sin" ("God Won't Rescue World from Stupidity," *USA Today*, March 27, 2009). The spiritually blind church leader added that there "will not be a safety net that guarantees us a happy ending in this world." In fact, we do not know anything about the future for certain except what God has revealed in Scripture, and there we find that



the world will not end by any man-made catastrophe. Rather, Jesus Christ will return in power and glory and establish the global kingdom of God, ruling over it with a rod of iron. "Knowing this first, that there shall come in the last days scoffers, walking after their own lusts, and saying, Where is the promise of his coming? for since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of the creation" (2 Peter 3:3-4).

SELF-ESTEEM MADNESS CREATING A GENERATION OF EGOTISTS

The following is excerpted from "Praising Obsession Creates Generation of Egotistical Students," *London Telegraph*, March 15, 2009: "An obsession with children's self esteem is breeding narcissism, says Dr. Carol Craig, chief executive of the centre for confidence and wellbeing in Glasgow. ... School staff and parents feel they cannot criticise their children for fear of upsetting them, according to Dr. Craig, leaving them with an "all about me" mentality. Mothers and fathers now often tell teachers that it is 'bad for his self-esteem' if their son fails a spelling test, or that their daughter is left 'unhappy' by missing out on a part in the school pantomime, she claimed. Dr Craig called the self-

esteem agenda, which has been imported from the United States, a 'fashionable idea' that has gone too far and urged schools to reclaim their role as educators, not psychologists. She said an obsession with children's self esteem was breeding narcissism. Speaking at the Association of School and College Leaders conference in Birmingham, Dr. Craig said: 'Narcissists make terrible relationship partners, parents and employees. It's not a positive characteristic. We are in danger of encouraging this.' ... The conference heard how a math teacher in one school had corrected a pupil who had placed a zero in the wrong place. The pupil replied: 'Thank you, but I prefer it my way.'"

Catholic Nun Describes Rampant Immorality Among Priests and Nuns



The following is excerpted from "Catholic Church Stung by Autobiography," *The Independent*, London, Feb. 20, 2009: "A former nun's tell-all story which details illicit relationships, sexual harassment and bullying in the convent where she spent three decades is causing ructions in the Catholic Church in the south Indian state of Kerala. In 'Amen--an Autobiography of a Nun,' Sister Jesme says when she became a nun she discovered priests were forcing novices to have sex with them. There were also secret homosexual relationships among the nuns and at one point she was forced into such a relationship by another nun who told her she preferred this kind of arrangement as it ruled out the possibility of pregnancy. 'I want to express my feelings and to explain what happened to me... I want people to know how I have suffered,' she told *The Independent* last night, speaking from the town of Kozhikode. ... Sister Jesme, who quit last year as the principal of a Catholic college in Thrissur, alleges senior nuns tried to have her committed to a mental institution after she spoke out against them. ... Last night, a spokesman for the Syro-Malabar order of the Catholic Church, Dr Paul Thelakkat, dismissed Sister Jesme's allegations as a 'book of trivialities.' 'It's her experiences, but these are things that might creep into a society of communal living,' he said. Asked if the church would be shocked by the allegations, he replied: 'Absolutely not. The church knows about these things.'"

ECUMENISM MATURING ON CUE

The following is from Hughie Seaborn of Cairns, Queensland, Australia, <rseaborn@ozemail.com.au>: “Well friends, it’s all happening here in Oz. I was watching the news on the informer (my TV) tonight when I saw the most amazing thing. Roman Catholic Archbishop of Brisbane, John Bathersby and Anglican Archbishop of Brisbane, Phillip Aspinall, sharing a joint ecumenical service yesterday (Friday, March 27) before a packed congregation at St. John’s Cathedral. I was scratching around in Google and actually found a web page announcing the event and have copied the link below so you can get the whole story of what these two great and godly leaders are up to. They’ve been smooching up to each other for years but this is the first time they actually shared the ‘pulpit’ together. I caught a bit of the message from the TV news item where one of them was talking about the horrible division that has existed between the two churches and the term ‘self-righteousness’ was mentioned. Obviously a reference to those who at least had the courage to oppose the Pope and split from Rome all those years ago. The joint announcement can be seen at the following address: <http://www.stritasparish.org/JointLentMsg.html>. Money crashing globally, major apostate denominations loving up to each

other, socialist governments gaining power--also globally. It’s enough to make you suspect the Lord is about to do something substantial. Look up! Lift up your heads! Our redeemer draweth nigh!”



AUTHOR OF *THE SHACK* DENIES SUBSTITUTIONARY ATONEMENT AND HELL FIRE

In an interview on March 13 with Kendall Adams of KAYP radio, William Young, author of *The Shack*, denied substitutionary atonement and hell fire, two cardinal doctrines of the biblical Christian faith. When asked, “I take it that you wouldn’t agree that the cross was a place of punishment for sin,” Young replied, “No. I don’t; I [don’t hold] a penal substitution point of view.” Young also said, “I don’t think that hell is physical fire and that kind of stuff and it is not an issue of separation from God.” *The Shack* is very popular among emerging type churches, but it presents a false god. For more on this see “The Shack’s Cool God” at the Way of Life web site.

RACIST VIEWS OF EARLY EVOLUTIONISTS

Charles Darwin and other fathers of the theory of evolution were racists. Indeed, if evolution is true, racism is a proper conclusion, because it would mean that some types of men are more advanced than others, just as man is more advanced than his (alleged) ape ancestors. Darwin said: “At some future period, not very distant as measured by centuries, the civilised races of man will almost certainly exterminate, and replace, the savage races throughout the world. ... The break between man and his nearest allies will then be wider, for it will intervene between man in a more civilized state, as we may hope, even than the Caucasian, and some ape as low as a baboon, instead of as now between the negro or Australian [aborigine] and the gorilla” (*The Descent of Man and Selection in Relation to Sex*, 1871, pp. 241-42). Ernst Haeckel said, “The Caucasian, or Mediterranean man (*Homo Mediterraneus*), has from time immemorial been placed at the head of all races of men, as the most highly developed and perfect” (*The History of Creation*, 1868, vol. 2, p. 321). Darwin’s friend Thomas Huxley said, “No rational man, cognizant of the facts, believes that the average negro is the equal, still less the superior, of the white man” (*Lectures and Lay Sermons*, 1871, p. 115). To claim that man evolved and yet that all men are equal and that there is purpose to life are impossible contradictions.

JUDGE ORDERS THAT MORNING AFTER PILLS BE GIVEN TO 17-YEAR-OLD GIRLS WITHOUT PRESCRIPTION

The following is excerpted from CNSnews.com, March 24, 2009: "A federal court in New York on Monday expanded teenagers' access to Plan B--also known as the morning-after pill or emergency contraception. The court gave the Food and Drug Administration 30 days to make Plan B available over the counter to 17 year olds. Right now, the pill is available over the counter only to those 18 years and up. Pro-life groups are dismayed that 17-year-old girls will now have unrestricted access to a drug that can produce abortion by

preventing a fertilized egg from implanting in the uterus. But abortion rights groups celebrated the ruling, saying it takes politics out of science. ... Pro-life groups said the Plan B ruling means 17-year-old minor girls will be able to get the pill without visiting a doctor or talking to their parents first. This ruling jeopardizes girls' health and the ability of parents to care for their daughters' physical and emotional well-being," said Chris Gacek of the Family Research Council."

JAPANESE SCIENTISTS SKEPTICAL OF GLOBAL WARMING

The following is excerpted from "Japan Boffins: Global Warming Isn't Man-made," Andrew Orłowski, *The Register*, Feb. 25, 2009: "Exclusive Japanese scientists have made a dramatic break with the UN and Western-backed hypothesis of climate change in a new report from its Energy Commission. Three of the five researchers disagree with the UN's IPCC view that recent warming is primarily the consequence of man-made industrial emissions of greenhouse gases. Remarkably, the subtle and nuanced language typical in such reports has been set aside. One of the five contributors compares computer climate modelling to ancient astrology. Others castigate the paucity of the US ground temperature data set used to support the hypothesis, and declare that the unambiguous warming trend from the mid-part of the 20th Century has ceased. The report by Japan Society of Energy and Resources (JSER) is astonishing

rebuttal to international pressure, and a vote of confidence in Japan's native marine and astronomical research. Publicly-funded science in the West uniformly backs the hypothesis that industrial influence is primarily responsible for climate change, although fissures have appeared recently. Only one of the five top Japanese scientists commissioned here concurs with the man-made global warming hypothesis."



HARRY TRUMAN: THE BUCK STOPS HERE PRESIDENT

Recently I finished the 1000-page biography of Harry Truman, president of the United States, by David McCullough, and it was well worth it. Truman's Baptist faith was on the Southern Baptist side, so it is not very surprising that he drank, cussed, gambled, married an Episcopalian, and was a Mason. He did have some strong moral fiber, though, especially compared to some recent presidents. He was honest. He was not a womanizer and he believed that every man should be a one-woman man. He was courageous in the face of tremendous opposition. He was a blunt, no-nonsense kind of guy who stood up for what he believed and took responsibility for his failures. He had a plaque on his desk that said, "The Buck Stops Here." There are other presidents that could say more honestly that the buck stopped in their pockets or that the buck stops anywhere but here! Truman's

presidency encompassed one of the most interesting eras in American history. He was the president during the surrender of Germany and Japan. He witnessed the fall of the Iron Curtain over Eastern Europe and the Bamboo Curtain over China and other parts of Eastern Asia. He made the decision to drop the atomic bomb, to create the United Nations, to establish NATO, to pursue the Marshall Plan, to continue Roosevelt's socialistic New Deal, to desegregate the U.S. military, to recognize the modern state of Israel, to carry out the Berlin Airlift, to fight North Korea, and to fire the brilliant, fiercely proud, hugely popular but insubordinate General Douglas MacArthur.

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WHEN THE PRIDE OF MAN SHALL BE HUMBLLED

(Friday Church News Notes, April 3, 2009, www.wayoflife.org fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - "Enter into the rock, and hide thee in the dust, for fear of the LORD, and for the glory of his majesty. The lofty looks of man shall be humbled, and the haughtiness of men shall be bowed down, and the LORD alone shall be exalted in that day. For the day of the LORD of hosts shall be upon every one that is proud and lofty, and upon every one that is lifted up; and he shall be brought low. ... And the loftiness of man shall be bowed down, and the haughtiness of men shall be made low: and the LORD alone shall be exalted in that day. And the idols he shall utterly abolish. And they shall go into the holes of the rocks, and into the caves of the earth, for fear of the LORD, and for the glory of his majesty, when he ariseth to shake terribly the earth. In that day a man shall cast his idols of silver, and his idols of gold, which they made each one for himself to worship, to the moles and to the bats; To go into the clefts of the rocks, and into the tops of the ragged rocks, for fear of the LORD, and for the glory of his majesty, when he ariseth to shake terribly the earth. Cease ye from man, whose breath is in his nostrils: for wherein is he to be accounted of?" (Isaiah 2:10-22).

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.