

---

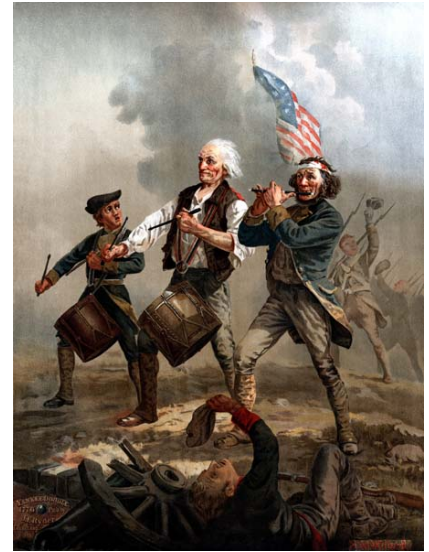
# Friday Church News Notes

---

## A New American Revolution?

Friday Church News Notes, May 15, 2009 [www.wayoflife.org](http://www.wayoflife.org)

Some are calling for a new American revolution, but I would observe that there is a great difference between the last half of the eighteenth century and the first half of the twenty-first. In the 18th century, there existed enough moral character among American citizens to bring about a great, far-reaching revolution based (among other things) on biblical principles, and in hindsight it is obvious that the American revolution was God's will for that time. No such moral fiber exists today. In the eighteenth century children learned how to read from the King James Bible and from moralistic texts which urged such qualities as honesty, thrift, and industry. The citizens, whether truly Christian or not and whether godly or not, generally believed in an Almighty God, in divine creation, in moral absolutes, in heaven and hell. On the other hand, twenty-first century children learn to read in a context of atheistic evolution and moral relativity, in a public school system in which the Bible has been renounced. God's people need to understand the times. America today is not "one nation under God" in any sense of the term and it cannot be brought back to God through politics or demonstrations or alternative media or tax revolts or stockpiling weapons. The only hope for America is genuine spiritual revival in the churches, and that is what God's people need to focus on. The end of the age is fast approaching. We need to look up. We need to be found faithful in fulfilling Christ's Great Commission (Matthew 28:18-20) rather than having become sidetracked to some extra-biblical objective. We need to imitate the early Christians who "turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God; and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, even Jesus, which delivered us from the wrath to come" (1 Thessalonians 1:9-10). There is a saying, "When the outlook is bleak, try the uplook!"



## Christians Imprisoned in China

The following is excerpted from "18 Christians Arrested," *Christian Newswire*, May 4, 2009: "On April 30, 2009, a group of house church Christians and leaders from the house church group China Gospel Fellowship (CGF) were gathered for a communion service at a house church in Xinye city, Henan province, when they were raided by a dozen PSB officers. Eighteen Christians were taken to the Public Security Bureau (PSB) office of Xinye city. They were each forced to pay a 1000 yuan (about \$150) fine. At the time of this press release, 16 Christians are still being held by the PSB, including 10 preachers from Hubei province."

## TEACHER IN ENGLAND SUSPENDED AFTER BUCKING HOMOSEXUAL BRAINWASHING SESSIONS

The following is excerpted from "Teacher Bucks Homosexual Training," *OneNewsNow*, May 6, 2009: "A Christian teacher in England has been suspended after complaining about the use of classroom time to promote homosexuality as an acceptable lifestyle. Kwabena Peat was one of several teachers who walked out of the school's compulsory indoctrination and training day, and he did so based on his Christian beliefs. LifeSiteNews.com reports Peat wrote a letter to three staff members who organized the session at Park View Academy, disagreeing with featured speaker and co-founder of Schools Out pro-homosexual program Sue Sanders, who said in her "aggressive" presentation that people who believe homosexuality is abnormal need to sort out their 'issues.' Following the letter, Peat was suspended with pay until the school decides his fate as an employee. Matt Barber, director of cultural affairs at Liberty Counsel, says the incident is representative of the homosexual activist movement. 'They are not interested in just being left alone, as one of their most influential leaders in the homosexual community recently said,' he points out. 'What they're really after is silencing any opposition to the homosexual lifestyle--even if it's rooted in seriously held religious belief--and they are willing to do anything to do that.'"

## U.S. MILITARY DESTROYS BIBLES



The following is excerpted from OneNewsNow.com, May 5, 2009: “The U.S. military is confirming that it has destroyed some Bibles belonging to an American soldier serving in Afghanistan. Reuters News says the Bibles were confiscated and destroyed after Qatar-based Al Jazeera television showed soldiers at a Bible class on a base with a stack of Bibles translated into the local Pashto and Dari languages. The U.S. military forbids its members on active duty—including those based in places like Afghanistan—from trying to convert people to another religion. Reuters quotes Maj. Jennifer Willis at the Bagram Air Base, north of Kabul, who said, ‘I can now confirm that the Bibles shown on Al Jazeera’s clip were, in fact, collected by the chaplains and later destroyed. They were never distributed.’ According to the military officials, the Bibles were sent through private mail to an evangelical Christian soldier by his church back

home. Reuters says the soldier brought them to the Bible study class where they were filmed. The Chairman of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff, Admiral Mike Mullen, told a Pentagon briefing Monday that the military’s position is that it will never ‘push any specific religion.’” *CONCLUDING NOTE FROM BROTHER CLOUD*: No one expects the military to push religion. We also don’t expect them to destroy religious books, and most especially the very Book upon which our presidents take their solemn vows. How many Korans have you destroyed, Admiral Mullen? The military brass should remember this foolish act the next time they need divine intervention. There is no doubt that the U.S. military has won many battles through the power of prayer. I have read extensively into the history of America’s military battles, and many victories can be explained only by blind chance or divine intervention. And no doubt many losses can be explained by a lack of the same. In fact, World War II itself could easily have been concluded differently. I am not saying the U.S. military has ever been godly; I am saying, simply, that many godly people have prayed and their prayers were answered. My mother’s Baptist congregation in Lakeland, Florida, had someone praying daily for their men serving overseas during the last world war, and every one of them came home safely. If you think that is a result of the breathtaking wisdom of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff, you need your head examined! “Except the LORD build the house, they labour in vain that build it: except the LORD keep the city, the watchman waketh but in vain” (Psalms 127:1).

*(Admiral Mullen, shown above)*

### MAINE BECOMES FIFTH STATE TO APPROVE “GAY MARRIAGE”

The following is excerpted from *The Christian Post*, May 6, 2009: “Maine has become the fifth state to allow gay marriage after Gov. John Baldacci signed a bill legalizing the practice. His signature went on to the bill within an hour after the Senate passed it Wednesday. ‘In the past, I opposed gay marriage while supporting the idea of civil unions,’ said Baldacci. ‘I have come to believe that this is a question of fairness and of equal protection under the law, and that a civil union is not equal to civil marriage.’ A similar gay marriage bill could reach the New Hampshire governor on Wednesday as the state House is set to vote on the legislation in the afternoon. Massachusetts, Connecticut, Iowa and Vermont currently allow same-sex marriage. ... The legislation repealed a provision under the state’s 1997 Defense of Marriage Act that limited marriage between one man and one woman and replaced it with one that allows marriage between any two persons that meet the requirement of Maine law. The bill also affirmed the right of religious institutions and ministers to refuse solemnizing gay marriage without facing any penalties or fines.”

*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. For instructions on how to unsubscribe to this list or to change mailing addresses, please consult the information paragraph at the end.*

## PEOPLE DIE AFTER BEING “HEALED” IN THE LAKELAND OUTPOURING

An investigation by *World* magazine has discovered that at least two of the people “healed” during Todd Bentley’s healing crusade in Lakeland, Florida, have died of their diseases. Following is an excerpt: “Christopher Fogle, of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, loved to fish. It was a break from his fast-paced, 25-year career with the Perkins Restaurant chain. But when Fogle got severe cancer, his relaxing fishing trips, which he sometimes took with his children, ended. It was a devastating blow for the active 45-year-old. But for Todd Bentley, television preacher and self-proclaimed healer, the cancer represented an opportunity to ‘proclaim the glory of God.’ ... At the height of what many called a revival, *WORLD* asked Bentley to talk about the healings, like Fogle’s, and asked for a list of people who had been healed at the services. His associates told me Bentley was out of the country and a list could not be produced. But six weeks and more than a dozen requests later, the ministry eventually sent a list of 13 names. Fogle was No. 12 on the list, along with this note: ‘Healed through the Outpouring and is back to fishing.’ That was on Aug. 8, 2008. There was just one problem. Two weeks earlier, on July 22, Christopher A. Fogle—according to his obituary in the Keokuk (Iowa) *Daily Gate City*, ‘left this life . . . after a courageous battle with cancer.’ A review of the list nearly one year later reveals that Fogle is not the only person ‘healed’ who is now dead. When I called Phyllis Mills, of Trinity, N.C., on April 22, to hear the testimony of her healing, a polite family member said, ‘Phyllis passed away a few days ago. In fact, we’re on our way to her funeral now.’ Mills, 66 at the time of her death,

had lung cancer and was undergoing aggressive treatments when she was, according to the list, ‘healed at the revival.’ Mills ‘was taking radiation, but was sent home,’ according to notes on Bentley’s list, with ‘no trace of cancer in her body’” (“Heal or Heel,” *World*, May 23, 2009). The Bentley crusade ended in scandal in August 2008 after Bentley announced that he was separating from his wife. In November 2008, Bentley’s Fresh Fire ministry said that he was guilty of adultery with a “former employee,” and on March 9, 2009, Rick Joyner announced that Bentley had married the same employee. My friends, God has given us clear instructions in Scripture about healing, and James 5 does not describe a raucous “healing crusade.” We believe in divine healing for today through prayer, but we don’t believe in Pentecostal showmen who pretend to apostolic healing gifts that they clearly do not possess. See “I Believe in Miracles” at the Way of Life web site.

*Below, Bentley shows off his tattoos*



## PERSECUTION AGAINST CHRISTIANS INCREASES IN GREAT BRITAIN

The following is excerpted from “Enforced ‘Diversity Will Make Britain First Modern Soft Totalitarian State,” LifeSiteNews.com, May 6, 2009: “A deliberate campaign to enforce ‘diversity’ and political correctness by ‘unelected or quasi-governmental bodies’ is turning Britain into the ‘the first modern soft totalitarian state’, an Australian political science expert and author says. Hal Gibson Pateshall Colebatch, an Australian historian, author, poet, lecturer, journalist, editor, and lawyer, has warned in an editorial in *The Australian* that while there may as yet be no concentration camps or gulags in Britain, ‘there are thought police with unprecedented powers to dictate ways of thinking and sniff out heresy, and there can be harsh punishments for dissent.’ He points to the dozens of cases over the last ten years in which Christians and others who hold traditional moral views, have been targeted by police and other governmental agencies for their beliefs. Colebatch warned of legislation that is currently being pushed through Parliament that will outlaw the telling of racist, ‘homophobic’ or politically incorrect jokes, with a potential sentence upon conviction of seven years in prison. An attempt in the House of Lords to insert a freedom of speech clause was shot down by Labour Justice Minister Jack Straw. Colebatch cited ‘innumerable cases’ over the last decade in which public employees such as nurses, policemen, teachers, marriage commissioners and others have been threatened with the sack or suspension or disciplinary measures for sharing, or even privately revealing, their religious beliefs. Colebatch also mentioned arrests of school children for allegedly uttering racist remarks, and police warnings to a bishop who had failed sufficiently to ‘celebrate diversity’ in his ministry. In many cases, the threats, firings, suspensions and arrests have targeted Christians who hold traditional social and moral beliefs about sexuality. ... In an editorial last week in *The Church of England Newspaper*, Martin Beckford (religious affairs correspondent for the *Daily Telegraph*) wrote that the public sector in Britain is engaging in an all-out campaign against Christianity.”

## WHEN SWORDS SHALL BE BEATEN INTO PLOWSHARES

(Friday Church News Notes, May 15, 2009, [www.wayoflife.org](http://www.wayoflife.org) [fbns@wayoflife.org](mailto:fbns@wayoflife.org), 866-295-4143) - “And it shall come to pass in the last days, that the mountain of the LORD’S house shall be established in the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills; and all nations shall flow unto it. And many people shall go and say, Come ye, and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths: for out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. And he shall judge among the nations, and shall rebuke many people: and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruninghooks: nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more” (Isaiah 2:2-4).



**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).