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# FRIDAY CHURCH NEWS NOTES

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## JEWISH JOURNALIST RECORDS ANTI-SEMITIC HATE ON PARIS STREETS

The following is excerpted from “Ten Hours of Fear and Loathing in Paris,” nrg.co.il, Feb. 17, 2015: “Welcome to Paris 2015, where soldiers are walking every street that houses a Jewish institution, and where keffiyeh-wearing men and veiled women speak Arabic on every street corner. ... In modern-day Paris, you see, Jews are barred from entering certain areas. ... For 10 hours I quietly walked down the streets and suburbs of Paris, with photographer Dov Belhassen documenting the day using a GoPro camera hidden in his backpack. Given the tensions in Paris, which is still reeling from a wave of terrorist attacks (including the murder of *Charlie Hebdo* magazine journalists), I was assigned a bodyguard. ... Areas known as tourist attractions were relatively calm, but the further from them we walked, the more anxious I became over the hateful stares, the belligerent remarks, and the hostile body language. At times it was like walking in downtown Ramallah. Most women were wearing a veil or a hijab, most

men appeared to be Muslim, and Arabic was prevalent everywhere. We decided ahead of time that I was to walk through these areas quietly, without stopping anywhere, without speaking to anyone, without so much as looking sideways. My heart was pounding and negative thoughts were running through my head. I would be lying if I said I was not



Thousands of troops have been deployed on the streets of Paris this week to reassure France's Jews

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## CHINA'S INTERNET ADDICTION CAMPS

The following is excerpted from “Teen’s cure for Internet addiction,” *Fox News*, Feb. 3, 2015: “About 14% of China’s youths may be addicted to the Internet, says a psychologist; he runs a rehab center, or ‘boot camp,’ that takes a tough approach to the weaning process, the *Telegraph* reports ... Others, however, take action on their own. Witness the case of teen known only as ‘Little Wang,’ who, in an effort to end his addiction, cut his left hand off. ... China is one of several countries grappling with what the *Telegraph* calls an addiction ‘epidemic’; in China, it’s known as *wangyin*, the *New Yorker* reported last year. Taiwan has established fining systems for parents who let their kids spend too much time on their computers. Japan, like China, has addiction-fighting camps; China now has some 250 of them, *Kotaku* reported last year. China sees such addiction as a clinical disorder that’s among the top dangers to young people, though there may be a political side to that, the *New Yorker* noted, given that the government is concerned about people organizing online.”



## HIP EMERGING DUDE “FREAKED OUT” BY TERMS LIKE BORN AGAIN



Rob Fee

*Relevant*, the magazine for hip emerging Christians, has a new report by Rob Fee on “11 Phrases that Freaked Me Out as a Kid.” These include “the Lamb that was slain,” “washed in the blood,” “on fire for God,” the Holy Ghost,” “born again,” “I’m not of this world,” “the Lamb’s book of life,” “the

devil as a roaring lion,” and “guard your heart.” Of “the Lamb that was slain,” Fee remarks, “As a kid, when I heard everyone celebrating the murder of sheep, I really began to get nervous about taking friends from church to the petting zoo.” Of the Holy Ghost, Fee says, “My mom tried to explain it as part of the Trinity, but that definitely didn’t help. ‘You see, honey, God is the guy in charge, Jesus is His son, and the Holy Ghost is, uh, their pal. Technically, God is Jesus’ dad, but they all join forces to become one. It’s kind of like Planeteers from Captain Planet, except it’s not a sin to watch TV shows about them.’” Of “washed in the blood,” Fee comments, “I pictured Jesus standing next to a giant bathtub that He was bleeding into while trying to make me dive into it like a Steven Curtis Chapman song in ’99.” And of “the Lamb’s book of life,” Fee says, “Is this the same lamb we killed earlier? Now it seems as though murdering him wasn’t enough, we’re also going to take his books. How about we just leave the farm animals alone for a bit, OK, pastor? It’s making me legitimately sad.” I suppose it doesn’t get more hip than making comedy out of the new birth, ridiculing washed in the blood and the Lamb’s book of life, and mocking the Trinity. *Relevant* magazine claims to “reach about 2,300,000 twenty- and thirty-something Christians a month.” It is a window into 2 Timothy 4:3-4 Christianity.

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afraid. Walking into a public housing neighborhood, we came across a little boy and his hijab-clad mother, who were clearly shocked to see us. ‘What is he doing here Mommy? Doesn’t he know he will be killed?’ the boy asked. ... Over at a nearby street I was lambasted with expletives ... At a nearby cafe, fingers were pointed at us, and moments later two thugs were waiting for us on the street corner. They swore at me, yelled ‘Jew,’ and spat at me. ... Two youths were waiting for us on the next street corner, as they had apparently heard that a Jew was walking around their neighborhood. They made it clear to us that we had better get out of there, and we took their advice. ‘A few more minutes and this would have been a lynching,’ the bodyguard told me as we were getting into the car. ‘Leave this area right now.’”

## ATHEISM AND THE EUROPEAN UNION

The countries of the European Union have been described as “post-Christian societies,” and atheism has increased dramatically in the past few decades. Currently there are three countries in the EU with atheist prime ministers: Greece, France, and Croatia (“Greece’s election of first atheist PM a trend,” OneNewsNow.com, Jan. 30, 2015). According to a 2010 Eurobarometer Poll, only 16 percent of the Czech and 27 percent of French believe in God. Overall, 20 percent of residents in the EU claim to be atheists.

## FIFTY SHADES OF GREY: FURTHER MORAL DEGRADATION OF SOCIETY

The following is from “Romance vs. Pornography and Abuse,” Saltshakers.org.au, Feb. 12, 2015: “You may have heard advertisements for the film *Fifty Shades of Grey*. Launched to coincide with ‘Valentines’ Day,’ the promoters would like to think this is a romantic tale, but that is far from the truth. The film, based on a three-volume series of so-called ‘erotic novels,’ shows sexual exploitation and domestic violence, and is pornographic. Dawn Hawkins, executive director of the

National Center on Sexual Exploitation (USA), writes, ‘This is not entertainment or a fairy tale, as Hollywood is claiming. This is glamorization of violence and abuse.’ Dawn continues, ‘Hold up a mirror to Christian Grey [the main character] and you’ll see the reflection of a culture saturated in exposure to violent pornography. This is the porn that has and continues to groom the next generation of men to believe that they are entitled to violent sexual behavior, and that women should enjoy it. *Fifty Shades of Grey* models and reinforces this, while Hollywood is cashing the check. We will not accept what Hollywood is offering.’ ... At a time when sexual exploitation and domestic and family violence are being highlighted and severely criticised, this film should be shunned by everyone.”

## MAJOR FEDERAL COURT WIN FOR CHRISTIAN MINISTRIES



The following is excerpted from “Christian Ministries Win Right to Fire Workers Who Violate Beliefs,” *Charisma News*, Feb. 12, 2015: “In an age where Christian-owned companies are being penalized for denying customer services that violate their morals, InterVarsity Christian Fellowship (IVCF) won a major victory in Federal Court. The U.S. Court of Appeals for the 6th Circuit in *Conlon v. InterVarsity Christian Fellowship* affirmed the freedom of faith-based groups to make employment decisions consistent with their beliefs. Here’s the backstory: Alyce Conlon filed a lawsuit against IVF after she was terminated for failing to reconcile her marriage. She was put on paid leave so she could work on her marriage. In Dec. 2011, IVF fired the spiritual director because the group didn’t see the progress it hoped for. Conlon’s husband later filed for divorce. ‘Because IVCF is a religious organization and Conlon was a ministerial employee, IVCF’s decision to terminate her employment cannot be challenged under federal or state employment discrimination laws,’ the three-judge panel [of the 6th Circuit Court] declared. ‘The Establishment and Free Exercise Clauses do not permit federal or state courts to adjudicate such matters when the defendant properly asserts the ministerial exception as an affirmative defense.’”

## EGYPTIAN SCHOLAR DEMANDS THAT JEWS RETURN EXODUS TREASURE

Egyptian scholar Amar Ali Hassan is demanding that Israel return the treasures they took from the Egyptians when they left Egypt 3,500 years ago. In an interview with Egypt's *Channel 1* in July 2014, Hassan said, "When they left they stole Egypt's gold and treasures. We demand that they return the treasures they stole from us" ("Egyptian Academic Demands Jews Return Exodus Gold," *Israel Today*, Sept. 15, 2014). Hassan is referring to the Bible's statement that children of Israel "borrowed of the Egyptians jewels of silver, and jewels of gold, and raiment" (Ex. 12:35-36). In fact, that was the just wages that the Egyptians owed Israel for abusing them as slave labor to build their cities. It is interesting that Hassan, Ph.D. in political science, author, and Middle East research center scholar, acknowledges that Israel has a long history in the region and that Israel's history in Scripture is accurate. This flies in the face of the Israel denial movement since Yasser Arafat.

## THE IRON-PLATED SNAIL

There is a snail that lives in extreme depths of the Indian Ocean that has iron plating. Iron plating! The black scaly-foot snail is covered with iron plates made of three layers, making the armor pliable and yet super strong. There is a top layer of iron sulfide, a lower layer of a calcified material, with a "thick, squishy organic layer in between" ("Absurd Creature of the Week," *Wired.com*, Feb. 12, 2015). The creature thrives on the deep ocean floor by hydrothermal vents that spew out 750-degree F, toxin-laden water. Among other things, the iron-plating is thought to deflect the tiny poison harpoons of predatory snails. Scientists believe that bacteria living on the snail help create the iron sulfides. Other bacteria live in a gland inside the snail and provide it with sustenance. "Its digestive system is practically nonexistent, but it does have a gland--which is

1,000 times bigger than in other snails--where the bacteria live and produce food. Like the kind of bacteria that builds the snail's shell, this type takes the chemicals in the neighborhood and synthesizes them into grub for the snail" (*Ibid.*). Since the snail cannot live without the bacteria, I want evolutionists to explain how it lived while it waited millions of years for the right bacteria to evolve and join hands in this incredible symbiotic relationship. Everything about this and every other creature shouts "divine design" for those who have eyes to see.



### 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, go to <http://www.wayoflife.org/wayoflife/subscribe.html>. TO UNSUBSCRIBE OR CHANGE ADDRESSES, go to the very bottom of any email received from us and click "Manage My Subscription." Way of Life Literature, P.O. Box 610368, Port Huron, MI 48061, 866-295-4143, [fbns@wayoflife.org](mailto:fbns@wayoflife.org).