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# FRIDAY CHURCH NEWS NOTES

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*Deshauna Barber*

## MISS USA EMBODIES ANCIENT GODDESS CHARACTERISTICS

The 2016 Miss USA contestant winner, Deshauna Barber, embodies both major aspects of ancient goddess worship. Her very participation in the Miss USA contest embodies the sexuality aspect, and her philosophy embodies the feminist power aspect. In the question segment of the contest, she said, “As a woman in the United States Army, I think it was an amazing job by our government to allow women to integrate to every branch of the military. We are just as tough as men. As a commander of my unit, I am powerful. I am dedicated. And it is important that we recognize that gender does not limit us in the United States Army.” Before the contest, Deshauna tweeted, “It’s time to show that we as women are versatile, strong and can be anything we set our minds to.” These statements made a great media soundbite for this generation. Deshauna is doubtless a talented young woman who excels in her work as an Information Technology analyst officer, but her philosophy is not true. Human beings are not capable of anything they put their minds to. Further, the woman cannot do everything the man can do, nor can the man do everything the woman can do. They were created for different roles in this present world. “And he [Christ] answered and said unto them, Have ye not read, that he which made *them* at the beginning made them male and female” (Matthew 19:4). (For more on goddess worship see the chapter on ancient Babylon in *Bible Times & Ancient Kingdoms*, available from Way of Life Literature.)

## HILLSONG’S APOLOGY FOR THE NAKED COWBOY

In last week’s *Friday Church News Notes*, we reported on the appearance at the March Hillsong Women’s Conference in New York City of “a naked cowboy.” Though he wasn’t entirely naked, he appeared to be wearing only a cowboy hat, boots, and a guitar. He was joined on stage by “scantily-dressed ‘cheerleaders,’ an Elvis impersonator,” and others. Hillsong Senior Pastor Brian Houston of Hillsong Sydney issued a public statement claiming that his wife, Bobbie, “was clearly unaware that this was going to happen” and that Hillsong New York’s pastors, Carl and Laura Lentz, “were not part of the decision” (“Brian Houston Responds,” *The Christian Post*, June 5, 2016). Hughie Seaborn, a former Pentecostal who lives in Australia and has followed the antics of Hillsong for decades, makes the following observation: “In the same way he lied about any knowledge of his father, Frank’s, paedophilia, Brian is lying again. This time about Hillsong New York’s leadership, including his wife Bobbie, having any knowledge of a naked cowboy appearing at the Women’s Conference. The video clip clearly shows that the Naked Cowboy was choreographed into the performance. None of the other participants in the debacle was shocked to see a naked cowboy coming onto the stage. He didn’t have to shove anybody out of

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## HILLSONG'S APOLOGY FOR THE NAKED COWBOY ...continued from previous page

their place and steal their position. The Hillsong leadership are all complicit in this diabolical event, including his kids and his wife Bobbie, who you might remember produced a series of sexually explicit 'teaching' tapes back in 2001 entitled 'Kingdom Women Love Sex,' which were available from Koorong 'christian' Bookshop for \$21.95. Watching this short video clip tells us a lot about the downward progression of Christendom, not just in America, but in the world, when you see a couple of thousand professing Christian women all screaming and acting like lunatics--even before any naked cowboy appears. They all bring reproach upon the name of Christ."

## ANOTHER CCM ARTIST "COMES OUT"

Trey Pearson, lead singer of the popular Christian rock band Everyday Sunday, has "come out" as "gay." He joins Marsha Stevens, Ray Boltz, Jennifer Knapp, Anthony Williams, Kirk Talley, Clay Aiken, Doug Pinnock, Ty Herndon, and others. Everyday Sunday's 2001 namesake album has sold 250,000 copies, and Pearson has toured with Toby Mac, Switchfoot, MercyMe, Jeremy Camp, and other big name contemporary Christian artists. In a June 2016 cover story interview with *614 Magazine*, the married father of two said, "I grew up in a very conservative Christian home where I was taught that sexual orientation was a matter of choice," and though he was attracted to other males, he attempted to suppress his feelings. His "coming out" is presented in terms of "being true" to himself. The *614 Magazine* cover story was titled "Gay, Christian Rock Star: This Is Who I Am." After counseling with emergent apostates like Rob Bell, Pearson says that "there is absolutely no conflict with accepting who I am and following Jesus," because "God wants me to be healthy, authentic, whole, integrated, and my truest self." For the Selfie generation, it's all about ME, as prophesied in Scripture ("lovers of their own selves," 2 Timothy 3:1-2). Trey's vow to be faithful to his wife unto death is thrown aside, because his desire to be faithful to himself trumps everything. He claims to be "free" now and to be pursuing "health and wholeness." In reality, he is in great and terrible bondage because he



is being reconciled to his fallen nature. The Lord Jesus Christ said, "For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies" (Matthew 15:19). To say that one should be true to "feelings" of homosexuality is no different than saying that a man who is attracted to women other than his wife should be true to those "feelings." The Bible plainly identifies such "feelings" as sin, and there is nothing right, godly, or honorable in yielding to them. The emergent program categorizes "loving, committed same-sex" relationships as honorable and as acceptable before God, claiming that Scripture only condemns abusive and idolatrous acts of homosexuality, such as ancient temple prostitution, but this is nonsense. The Bible plainly teaches that apart from the union of holy marriage, sexual activity is sin, and there is not a hint anywhere in Scripture, from Genesis to Revelation, that a holy marriage can consist of a same-sex union. "Marriage is honourable in all, and the bed undefiled: but whoremongers and adulterers God will judge" (Hebrews 13:4). The Lord Jesus Christ pointed to Genesis 2 as God's abiding standard for marriage. "And he answered and said unto them, Have ye not read, that he which made *them* at the beginning made them male and female, And said, For this cause shall a man leave father and mother, and shall cleave to his wife: and they twain shall be one flesh? Wherefore they are no more twain, but one flesh. What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder" (Matthew 19:4-6).

# SCHOOL CALLS SHERIFF TO STOP SEVEN-YEAR-OLD BOY FROM DISTRIBUTING BIBLE VERSES

The following is excerpted from "School Calls Sheriff," Smobserved.com, June 3, 2016: "A public school in Palmdale directed a Los Angeles Deputy Sheriff to call on the family of a seven-year-old child in order to forbid him from handing out Bible verses and stories on a public sidewalk outside of the school. The deputy told the family that 'someone might be offended.' The child, who attends Desert Rose Elementary, had originally been receiving short notes with Bible verses from his mother, Christina Zavala, packed with his lunch. After sharing the notes with his friends, he received requests from his friends for their own Bible verses. His mother complied and provided additional Bible verses for

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her son's friends and included short stories for context. When one child shared one of these notes with the first-grade teacher, telling her, 'this is the most beautiful story I've ever seen,' the teacher intervened. After publicly rebuking the Zavala boy, she called Mr. and Mrs. Zavala and, invoking separation of church and state, told them that their son was not allowed to share Bible verses on school grounds. The teacher was unimpressed with Mrs. Zavala's correct interpretation of the Establishment Clause and stated that if they wanted to share Bible, it would have to be outside the school gates. Accordingly, Mrs. Zavala and her son proceeded to hand out Bible verses and stories to her son's friends at the school gate for a brief period after school let out. According to the Zavala's, many children congregated to receive the stories. On May 9, 2016,



when Mr. Jaime Zavala came to pick up his son and distribute Bible verses, he was approached by School Principal Pagliagro. Pagliagro told Mr. Zavala that it was 'against school policy' to hand the Bible notes out at the school gate and they would have to move onto the sidewalk, which was a 'public place.' Jaime and his son complied and soon returned home. It was at 4:30 pm on that day that the LA Deputy Sheriff knocked on their door, telling them the school had called to report that the child and his parents had been sharing papers at school and that this was not permitted. Mr. and Mrs. Zavala then approached Liberty Counsel, a non-profit litigation, education, and policy organization who specialize, in part, in matters of religious freedom. Liberty Counsel undertakes to educate school districts in correct interpretation of the clause establishing separation of church and state. The Palmdale School District has been served a letter from Liberty Counsel informing them that pupils of public schools have the right to exercise freedom of speech, including but not limited to, distribution of printed material. Expression can only be prohibited that is obscene, libelous or slanderous, and constitute a clear and present danger of commission of unlawful acts. It is not uncommon for schools to misconstrue their duty and, in the process, restrict students' freedom to exercise religion."

## SMILEY FACE BIBLE FOR THE TWITTER GENERATION



*Bible Emoji: Scripture 4 Millennials* is a smiley face Bible for the Twitter generation. It replaces about 10 percent of the text with emoji symbols. God is signified by a silly yellow smiley face with a blue halo. The creator of Bible Emoji says he wants users to “have a game reading it.” There is no fear of God here, no reverence. Everything is cheapened and brought down to the level of the shallow pop culture.

## BARRELEYES

The following is from CreationMoments.com, May 25, 2016: “Almost all sighted animals that aren't insects see with eyeballs. But that is not true of a fish named barreleyes, and that's for a good reason. Barreleyes has that name because instead of eyeballs, the fish sees through tubes. The fish live a third of a mile below the surface, so studying them in detail was not possible until the last few decades. Barreleyes can move its eyetubes in different directions, depending on what it wants to look at. Even



stranger, the eyetubes are inside the forehead and do not come into contact with the water at all. How can it see if its vision organs are inside its head? It has a transparent forehead filled with transparent liquid. What is the purpose of such a strange arrangement? Scientists believe that barreleyes eat siphonophores, which are jellyfish-like creatures that sting. The transparent forehead protects its eyes from getting stung. Barreleyes' uniquely designed eyes are impossible to explain with gradual evolutionary modifications of regular fish eyes. Yet, they are well designed for barreleye's unusual way of making a living. As Scripture reminds us several times, nothing is too hard for God. As we read Scripture's record of what God has done in the past and what He has promised He still will do, especially for His people, this reminder is a comfort.”

### INFORMATION

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).