
FRIDAY CHURCH NEWS NOTES

JACOB SHEEP TO RETURN TO ISRAEL

A flock of “Jacob sheep” are soon to be transported from Canada to Israel. Called “Jacob sheep” because they are spotted and speckled as per Genesis 30:32, they are owned by Gil and Jenna Lewinsky of Abbotsford, British Columbia. The Israeli Ministry of Agriculture has given rare permission to import live sheep, and El Al, Israel’s national airline, has agreed to subsidize 90% of the cost of transportation from New York (“On wings of El Al, biblical sheep to end 3,000-year exile,” *Times of Israel*, June 21, 2016). The Lewinskys are still working to secure land in Israel where they hope to house the sheep in an educational farm that will be



open to the public, and they need to raise \$200,000 in crowd funding. Currently there are no Jacob Sheep in Israel.

40TH ANNIVERSARY OF ISRAEL’S ENTEBBE RAID

The following is excerpted from “Bullet scars as Uganda remembers,” *Times of Israel*, June 26, 2016: “Skimming above the choppy waves through the dark the four planes swooped in low over Lake Victoria, packed with over 200 elite Israeli commandos on a daring raid to free hijacked hostages. Landing soon after midnight at Uganda’s Entebbe airport on July 4, 1976, it took the paratroopers less than an hour to storm the base and free over 100 passengers aboard an Air France plane, an operation that has gone down in special forces legend. The plane had been hijacked a week earlier on June 27. Four decades later, Israel’s Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu is due to visit Uganda for the anniversary not only to mark the operation and boost now-friendly ties between Uganda and Israel, but also to pay a deeply personal tribute. The commando leader, the only Israeli soldier killed in the raid, was his older brother, 30-year old Lieutenant-Colonel Yonatan Netanyahu. ... Uganda and Israel are planning the

memorial to be one of reconciliation, preserving the bullet scars in the walls of the old terminal at Entebbe, still the airport for the capital Kampala, some 40 kilometers (25 miles) to the north. Earlier this month, some of the retired commandos who took part in the raid visited the scene of the extraordinary rescue, standing alongside Ugandan officials, including the son of their then enemy, dictator Idi Amin. ... Amin’s son Jaffar, a 10-year old boy when the raid took place, welcomed the commandos to Uganda this month as a ‘sign of reconciliation,’ remembering the stories his father told after he was deposed and forced into exile. ... Jaffar recalled what his father had said when he asked why he had not sent fighter jets to shoot down the departing Israelis. ‘My father said of the Israelis, Son, those are the children of God, when they start to fight, they never stop,’ Jaffar said. ‘To him, he felt they had come to rescue their people, they had accomplished their mission, so he let them go.’”

NORWAY TO RETURN SEIZED CHILDREN TO CHRISTIAN PARENTS AFTER INTERNATIONAL PRESSURE

The following is from “Norway to Return,” *The Christian Post*, June 6, 2016: “The Christian parents of five children, who were seized by Norwegian child services seven months ago to ‘prevent’ them from being ‘indoctrinated’ with Christianity, will soon be reunited as the authorities have agreed to return the custody of the remaining four kids to the family. ‘We thank you all for your love, support, prayers, and active participation in the reunification of this family. May God richly bless you and repay you for all you have done to bring this family back together,’ says a statement from the Romanian Pentecostal parents, Marius and Ruth Bodnariu, who have been living in Norway for more than a decade, according to *Romania Insider*. Norway’s *Dagen* newspaper reported that the decision to return the kids to their family is parts of an agreement reached with the family. The five children were seized by the Norwegian Child



Protective Services on Nov. 16 and 17 last year based on a teacher’s concerns about how the kids were being raised by ‘radical’ Christians who were ‘indoctrinating’ their children. Parliamentarians, lawyers and Christian groups from many countries, including the United States, Romania and other part of Europe, raised serious concerns over the action of the Norwegian child services. ... Last month, more than 100 attorneys from the United States and abroad and members of the European Parliament wrote a letter to the Norwegian Prime Minister, saying the government’s act of seizing the children violated domestic and international law, and urging their immediate release. ‘We find the facts of this international incident unacceptable not only on legal grounds but also on humanitarian and moral grounds. We view these transgressions as grievous breaches of domestic and international law. ... Therefore, it is important that Norway immediately release the children back to their biological parents,’ the authors of the letter demanded.”

TEL AVIV GAY PRIDE PARADE

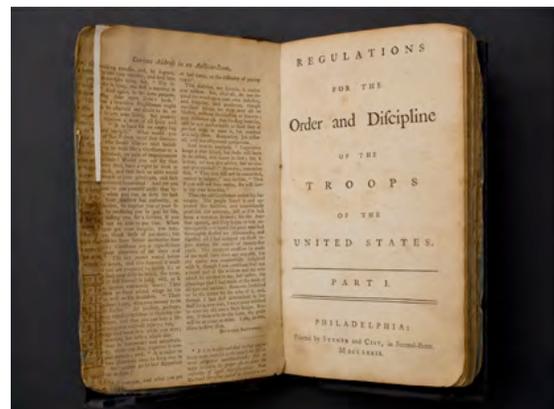
Tel Aviv hosted its 18th annual Gay Pride Parade on June 3, attended by an estimated 200,000. The parade culminates a week-long Gay Pride celebration. Many Israeli Defense Force personnel participated. A permanent LGBT (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transsexual) Center opened in Tel Aviv in 2008. Israel’s

Tourism Ministry markets Tel Aviv worldwide as “the premiere LGBT tourism destination.” Since 2002, Jerusalem has hosted its own Gay Pride Parade, though it has often been accompanied by opposition demonstrations led by Orthodox Jews. Well does Revelation 11:8 liken end-time Jerusalem to Sodom.

DISCIPLINE AND THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

George Washington, America's Commander-in-Chief during the War of Independence from Great Britain, said during the French and Indian War, "Discipline is the soul of an army. It makes small numbers formidable; procures success to the weak and esteem to all." Yet when Washington took control of the American "army" in July 1775, it was "a mixed multitude of people under very little discipline, order or government." Two years later, the ragtag American army was still pathetic, and it was a German named Friedrich von Steuben who whipped it into shape. Steuben had served as adjutant general on the staff of Frederick the Great and had been made a baron. After meeting Benjamin Franklin in Paris, Steuben volunteered his services to Washington in exchange only for his expenses. Like many other Europeans who joined the America effort, Steuben wanted to "fight for liberty." He had a major role in the war effort and was awarded American citizenship and 16,000 acres of land in New York after the victory. "The Continental army was in shambles when Steuben joined Washington at Valley Forge in late February 1778. In addition to lacking arms, ammunition, food, shelter, and morale, the army had no orderly military structure, no formal training system, and no organized administration procedures. The troops didn't even know how to march in formation. Steuben immediately began imposing the lessons he had learned in the Prussian military on the encampment, attempting to transform a willing but untrained assembly of militias into an army in a matter of months. The fact that he didn't speak English only made the already seemingly impossible task just a little more difficult. Steuben attacked the problem by creating a model company of slightly more than a hundred men, then began drilling them in the full range of military skills from marching to fighting with a bayonet. Creating the prototype of the tough drill sergeant, he made his men relentlessly practice reloading and firing, reloading

and firing, until the process became natural and efficient. He taught them basic tactics and simple maneuvers. As a veteran officer described Steuben's impact, 'Discipline flourishes and daily improves under the indefatigable efforts of Baron Steuben-- who is much esteemed by us.' In addition to personally demonstrating these techniques, he spoke to Alexander Hamilton and General Nathanael Greene in French and they translated his comments into English. ... Once these men were sufficiently trained, they began passing along their knowledge to other groups, and the effect rippled through the entire army. This training regimen eventually was turned into the classic manual *Regulations for the Order and Discipline of the Troops of the United States* ... [it] remains the foundation for the professional army. ... In subsequent battles the colonists stunned the British with their rapid and orderly response to commands, their newfound ability to maneuver, and their deadly use of the bayonet" (*Bill O'Reilly's Legends and Lies: The Patriots*, written by David Fisher, 2016). **CONCLUSION:** There are important lessons here for churches in the training of Christian soldiers for the Lord's army. See, for example, Romans 13:12; Galatians 6:9; 2 Corinthians 4:2; 10:3-5; Ephesians 6:10-18; 1 Timothy 1:18; 2 Timothy 2:2-3; 4:7; Hebrews 10:25; 12:3-13.



ILLUSTRIOUS CHEMIST SAYS SCIENCE DOES NOT UNDERSTAND ORIGIN OF LIFE

The following is excerpted from “Nobody Understands,” *Christian News*, June 13, 2016: “An illustrious chemist who has previously shed light on critical shortcomings in scientists’ understanding of evolution has written a detailed essay explaining ‘the massive gaps in our understanding’ of how life first originated. Dr. James Tour is a professor of chemistry, computer science, and materials science and nanoengineering at Rice University. He has written over 590 research publications and over 100 patents, and he is the recipient of numerous scientific awards. ... In his most recent paper, a 12,000-word essay titled ‘Animadversions of a Synthetic Chemist,’ Tour tackles a question that has puzzled scientists for centuries: Where did life come from? The essay was published in the most recent edition of *Inference: International Review of Science*. ... The chemical-synthesizing process is enormously complex, requiring intelligent, meticulous oversight. ... Tour considers must-have elements of life, including carbohydrates, DNA, and RNA. He also references the work of Albert Eschenmoser--a respected synthetic chemist who was determined to create life’s ingredients in a lab but eventually decided to change direction and research other areas because his findings were unsatisfactory. ... ‘Under prebiotic conditions the reaction in question is not likely to

yield anything useful. With each added step, difficulties are compounded by improbabilities so overwhelming that no other field of science would depend upon such levels of faith,’ he wrote. ... ‘Those who think scientists understand the issues of prebiotic chemistry are wholly misinformed,’ he continued. ‘Nobody understands them. Maybe one day we will. But that day is far from today. It would be far more helpful (and hopeful) to expose students to the massive gaps in our understanding. They may find a firmer--and possibly a radically different--scientific theory. The basis upon which we as scientists are relying is so shaky that we must openly state the situation for what it is: it is a mystery,’ he concluded.”



Dr. James Tour

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.