
FRIDAY CHURCH NEWS NOTES

EMERGING YOUTH LEADER WARNS ABOUT “LEGALISTS”



Greg Stier, founder and president of Dare 2 Share Ministries, recently published “10 Warning Signs You May Be Attending a Legalistic Church” (*Christian Post*, July 25, 2016). Though his “warning signs” are a bit “tongue in cheek,” it’s obvious that this influential youth leader is targeting “fundamentalist” type churches and trying to prejudice youthful minds against them. While I can’t speak for all “fundamentalist” churches, and some of them, in fact, turn my stomach, those that I preach in and associate with are not guilty of these alleged “legalisms.” Consider some of Stier’s 10 Warning Signs: **“There is a huge emphasis on holiness, but little to no emphasis on grace.”** In fact, the churches we fellowship with have a *total*

emphasis on grace. They teach that there is no true holiness apart from Christ and His blood-grounded grace. We can’t save ourselves, and we can’t live the Christian life, not for a moment. It is Christ from beginning to end (Galatians 2:20). That is most definitely our emphasis. Just ask our young people. **“If the pastor ever met the Apostle Paul he would rebuke him for not using the King James Version of the Bible.”** In fact, we teach that the King James Bible is right because it is translated from the Hebrew text that was preserved by the Jews and the Greek text that was preserved by Bible-believing churches going back to Paul. This young emerging preacher is ignorant even of the ABCs of the Bible version issue. **“Every Gospel invitation ends with ‘... and now for the bad news.’”** In fact, every Gospel invitation I have ever heard in a “fundamentalist” church ends with God’s wonderful offer of salvation through Christ’s atonement, though it does *begin* with the “bad news” of man’s sinful and condemned condition,

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ATTEMPT BY A CALIFORNIA DISTRICT TO SHUT DOWN HOMESCHOOL DEFEATED

An attempt by a public school district in northern California to declare homeschooling illegal was defeated by the efforts of the Home School Legal Defense Association (HSLDA). The San Benito High School District issued a letter to homeschooling parents declaring that “under California Law, a home school is not a private school, nor is it a lawful alternative to public school...” This was in spite of the fact that the legality of homeschooling has long been established in California. HSLDA President Mike Smith says, “Many school districts and the California Department of Education took the same position that the San Benito High School is now taking. But despite years of official opposition in numerous places in a variety of ways, HSLDA successfully advocated for many families whose homeschooling was challenged by school districts and other public agencies” (“CA district says homeschooling not lawful,” OneNewsNow.com, Jul. 31, 2016). HSLDA approached the public school district on behalf of the homeschooling families and cleared up the matter. Smith warned parents that there would probably be future challenges and that they need to “gain an understanding of their legal rights as home educators in their state.” Even more, they need to pray every day and passionately in obedience to 1 Timothy 2:1-4.



FOREIGNERS CHEATING IN AMERICAN COLLEGES

The following is excerpted from "Reports of cheating on the ACT in China," *Business Insider*, July 26, 2016: "Evidence of 'widespread' cheating has emerged in a Chinese program designed to help foreign students gain admission into US schools, according to an investigation by Reuters. The program, called the Global Assessment Certificate (GAC), can cost more than \$10,000 a year and helps foreign students whose first language is not English prepare for college and ace the ACT college entrance examination. Seven students who spoke with Reuters allege that school officials and proctors knew about and allowed cheating on the ACT at three different program locations. ... Additionally, eight teachers or administrators at seven different centers also claimed that cheating occurred during the courses, and, in two instances, was encouraged by officials, according to Reuters. US colleges are starting to take note and some are becoming concerned over the reports. ... And it's not the first time allegations about cheating on the ACT in Asian countries has emerged. ... In June, the ACT college examination was canceled

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which is how Paul began the Epistle of Romans. "***The contemporary service uses a pipe organ.***" In fact, the churches we lead and the churches we fellowship with use every type of instrument, and some of them have orchestras. "***The pastor has got a big BUT - 'Sure salvation is by faith alone BUT you also have to _____.'***" In fact, I don't know of any fundamentalist church that adds anything to faith for salvation. They teach, in fact, that if anything whatsoever is added to salvation by grace alone through faith alone it is to be condemned as a false gospel. We merely do what the apostle Paul taught us to do, which is to teach that "we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them" (Ephesians 2:10). "***Taking the youth group swimming includes separate swimming pools and wet suits for everyone...loose ones.***" This is the one of the ten that the young emerging preacher almost got right, but it is *not* "legalism" to be careful about nudity and morality and about protecting young people from fornication (Matthew 5:28). The "cool guy emerging preachers" have the ears of this generation in fulfillment of Bible prophecy (2 Timothy 4:3-4), but they are mockers of the holy things of God and libelers of those saints who are trying to be faithful to God's Word in an evil hour. They are the blind leading the blind. The true grace of God was defined 2,000 years ago by the apostle Paul under divine inspiration, and it sounds far more like "fundamentalist" theology than emerging: "For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men, Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world; Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ; Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works. These things speak, and exhort, and rebuke with all authority. Let no man despise thee" (Titus 2:11-15).



Police display receiver equipment used by somebody outside the exam hall to pick up the pictures. That person then looks up the answer, before reading it back to the student.

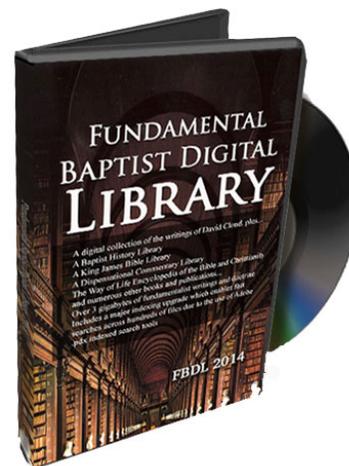
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in South Korea and Hong Kong, China because of suspected cheating, *The New York Times* reported. ... A *Wall Street Journal* analysis into cheating found that foreign students were more likely than American students to cheat. Citing data from 14 large public universities, *The Journal* noted that public universities recorded 5.1 reports of alleged cheating per 100 international students, compared to one report of cheating per 100 American students. At nearly every school, reports of cheating involving foreign students were twice as high, ranging up to as much as eight times as high at some institutions.”

THE AUTHORSHIP OF ISAIAH

Multitudes of Bible teachers today deny or question the unity of and sole authorship of the prophecy of Isaiah. The following excellent summary of the refutation of that view is by W.J. Hocking, in his preface to the fourth edition of William Kelly’s *Exposition of the Book of Isaiah*, 1946: “With regard to their authorship, men of faith will be content to accept without question the testimony of the Lord Himself and His apostles and prophets that Isaiah was the writer of both parts (chaps. 1-38 and 40-56) of the prophecies prefaced by his name. There are in the New Testament about forty quotations from these prophecies, and more than half of these are there stated to have been spoken or written by Isaiah. The quotations are taken from four chapters in the first volume (6:9, 10; 9:1, 2; 10:22, 23; 11:1, 10) and from five chapters in the second volume (40:3; 42:1; 53:1, 7, 8; 61:1, 2; 65:2). There is therefore ample New Testament authority for believing that Isaiah was the sole author of the collection of prophecies bearing his name. He is twice named by the Lord Himself, Who also read aloud one of the prophecies concerning Himself which was fulfilled in their hearing that day. Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John all mention Isaiah by

name; and Paul in his Epistle to the Romans quotes five passages from Isaiah, each by that name. Modern literary taste and scholarship, however, repudiate these clear testimonies, including that of Him Who is ‘the Faithful and True Witness,’ preferring the cloudy creations of their own imaginations.” William Kelly’s commentaries can be found in “The Treasury of Rare Dispensational Commentaries,” which is part of *The Fundamental Baptist Digital Library*, available from www.wayoflife.org.



CIRCADIAN CLOCKS, GENES, AND RHYTHM

The following is excerpted from “Circadian Clocks” by Jeffrey Tomkins, Ph.D., Institute for Creation Research, *Acts & Facts* 45: “Life could not exist without organisms’ engineered ability to keep track of time on a 24-hour day-night cycle called a *circadian rhythm*. Even sophisticated electronic machines such as computers or microcontrollers have a central clock or an oscillator. This critical design feature must be in place for complex systems to work on a schedule, interface with other system components, and interact with the environment. The circadian clocks in plants and animals are far more advanced than those in man-made systems. These living clocks regulate many aspects of genetics, metabolism, physiology, growth, and behavior in numerous types of cells and tissues throughout the entire organism. In fact, animals typically have not only a centralized circadian clock in their brain but also many peripheral clocks in different tissues and organs. These peripheral clocks regulate temporal and spatial organization and physiology in whatever cell, tissue, or organ they are located, and they also



keep systems in sync with the central clock in the brain. Clearly, a complex cellular communication network connects tissues and body parts within a time-based context—a phenomenon that still isn’t fully understood. ... This level of interconnectivity and complexity is essentially impossible for humans to comprehend and unravel, yet its existence is unscientifically ascribed to the random processes of evolution. An internetworked and interdependent system like this is an excellent example of irreducible complexity, specifically the myriad of components that must be in place all at once for it to work. Appealing to evolution to develop this vast complexity through random mutations and alleged selective pressures bit by bit is absurd. Only a masterful, omnipotent Engineer could have put such a fantastic and orchestrated system as this into place—not just once but in thousands of uniquely created kinds of plants and animals. The more we understand about the genetics of living things, the more glory we should give their Creator.”

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.