
FRIDAY CHURCH NEWS NOTES

THE KORAN'S DENIAL OF JESUS' DIVINITY READ IN SCOTTISH CHURCH



A section of the Koran denying that Jesus is the Son of God was chanted by a Muslim woman at a worship service in St. Mary's Cathedral, Glasgow, Scotland. This church belongs to the Scottish Episcopal Church, which in turn is part of the worldwide Anglican communion. The occasion was the Feast of the Epiphany which deals with the visit of the wise men to the infant Jesus and "celebrates Jesus being revealed to the nations." The Koran's Surah 19 claims that baby Jesus said, "Allah is my Lord and your Lord, so worship Him." It also says, "It is not [befitting] for Allah to take a son; exalted is He!" What blasphemy! What apostasy and spiritual foolishness! We are observing the one world "church" taking shape before our eyes, which is one of the signs that we are seeing the day approaching (Hebrews 10:25). From its inception, Islam was a judgment on apostate Christianity. The difference between now and previous times (such as the 15th century when the Byzantine Empire fell to Muslim jihadists) is that today many of the "Christians" don't even recognize Islam as an enemy.

TRUMP'S PICK TO LEAD DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE SUPPORTS POLICY ON LGBT

In his confirmation hearings, James Mattis, Donald Trump's pick to lead the Department of Defense, says he supports the current policy of allowing LGBT (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transsexual) soldiers to serve openly in the United States military ("Groups Praise Mattis for Supporting LGBT-Friendly Policy," *Newsmax*, Jan. 12, 2017).

RELIGIOUS LEADERS BLESS ABORTION CLINIC

A group of 20 religious leaders met to bless Planned Parenthood's new abortion clinic in Washington, D.C. The group of misguided people included a Jewish rabbi, Hindu priests, a Muslim imam, and some denominational Christians. Abortion supporter "Rev." Christine Wiley of Baptist United Church of Christ calls herself "progressive." Rabbi Michael Namath of the Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism prayed, "God, let your spirit rest upon these care servers, who serve as instruments of your hands" ("Religious Leaders Bless Planned Parenthood Abortion Mega-Clinic," *Breitbart*, Jan. 13, 2017). The Hindu priests engaged in chants to bring "a good vibration to the building." Laura Meyers, president of Planned Parenthood, says the organization is "doing sacred work."

“CLOCK BOY” DEFAMATION SUIT TOSSED

The following is excerpted from Jim Hanson, “Clock Boy,” *National Review*, Jan. 13, 2017: “Free speech won a victory in Texas on Tuesday when a judge dismissed a defamation lawsuit by Mohamed Mohamed, father of the ‘Clock Boy,’ Ahmed Mohamed, against me, my employer--the Center for Security--Fox News, Glenn Beck, and others including the mayor of Irving, Texas. The suit claimed that in the course of discussing Ahmed Mohamed’s bringing a device resembling a bomb to his school, we had defamed Ahmed and his family. This was nonsense and the suit contained no actual evidence of defamation, which the judge affirmed, citing the Texas statute prohibiting strategic Lawsuits Against Public Participation (SLAPP). Robert Muisse, co-founder of the American Freedom Law Center, which represented us, said, ‘AFLC was formed in large measure to take on Islamists like CAIR who use and abuse the legal system with their cynical form of lawfare to undermine our

constitutional liberties--notably free speech.’ ... [T]he simple fact is that the device Ahmed brought to school looks just like the timing device for an improvised bomb. I know this, because as an Army Special Forces Weapons NCO, I’ve built and exploded devices that looked just like it. The teachers and law-enforcement officials acted entirely properly to ensure that all students were safe and to find out why Ahmed brought it to school in the first place. His answers to simple questions about this were evasive and consequently they put safety procedures into play. The lawsuit was designed to attack those who pointed out that Islamist groups were using this and similar campaigns to smear and silence their opponents. Those who note that there is an agenda to suppress speech critical of Islam in any way are called haters and Islamophobes. ... We didn’t start the fight against radical Islam, but we cannot ignore it. And we certainly cannot be forbidden to speak about it.”

LESBIAN COUPLE TO PASTOR BAPTIST CHURCH

The following is excerpted from “Married lesbian couple,” *The Washington Post*, Jan. 9, 2017: “Calvary Baptist Church, a progressive Baptist landmark in the heart of downtown Washington, has named a gay couple as co-pastors. Sally Sarratt and Maria Swearingen were presented to the congregation during worship services Jan. 8 and are set to begin their new jobs Feb. 26. A spokeswoman for the congregation said she didn’t know whether a gay couple leading a church was a first for Baptists. ‘We look for the best people in the world and that’s who they were,’ said Carol Blythe. ‘We’re very excited.’ The 155-year-old church severed ties with the Southern Baptist Convention in 2012: It was at loggerheads with the group on several issues, including the SBC’s stance against homosexuality. Calvary Baptist still affiliates with American Baptist Churches USA.”

EUTHANASIA AND PLANT’S RIGHTS IN SWITZERLAND

The following is excerpted from “What Happened to Switzerland?” *The Discovery Institute*, May 1, 2014: “Swiss law has permitted assisted suicide since 1942 so long as the assister does not have ‘selfish motives.’ For decades, nothing much came of it. But with the emergence of the (sufferer-elimination) euthanasia movement, the country Kevorkianized, resulting in the establishment of suicide clinics to which people

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EUTHANASIA AND PLANT'S RIGHTS IN SWITZERLAND

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attend from around the world. These death clinics are becoming increasingly popular. A recently published report revealed that 1705 died at one clinic (Dignitas) alone since 1998, with 204—about four per week—killing themselves within the facility in 2013. The people who die in these clinics are not limited to the terminally ill, and indeed, sometimes include healthy people. ... For example, in recent months, an elderly Italian woman committed assisted suicide at a clinic because she was upset about losing her looks. ... At the same time that Swiss law allows a raucous suicide industry to thrive, it also outlaws flushing goldfish down the toilet. In other words, the putative suffering of fish is of greater legal concern than the assisted killing of suicidal people. ... Meanwhile, one canton allows lawyers to represent supposedly wronged animals. One such legal eagle sued an angler for taking too long to reel in a pike. It gets even more bizarre. Switzerland's constitution requires that 'account must be taken of the dignity of living beings when handling animals, plants and other living organisms.' ... In a resulting report [by the Swiss Federal Ethics Committee on Non-Human Biotechnology], *The Dignity of Living Beings with Regard to Plants*, a 'clear majority' of the panel determined that we cannot claim 'absolute ownership' over plants and, moreover, that 'individual plants have an inherent worth.' This means that 'we may not use them just as we please, even if the plant community is not in danger, or if our actions do not endanger the species, or if we are not acting arbitrarily.' So, is it immoral to weed the garden? The committee didn't say. But it did offer the following illustration of supposedly immoral behavior: A farmer mows his field (apparently an acceptable action). But then, while walking home, he casually 'decapitates' some wildflowers with his scythe. ... these policies are symptomatic of our fast-eroding ability to think critically and to distinguish serious from frivolous ethical concerns."

THE FOREIGN SPIRIT OF CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP MUSIC



The hard-hitting multi-media presentation *The Foreign Spirit of Contemporary Worship Music* documents the frightful spiritual compromise, heresy, and apostasy that permeates the field of contemporary praise. Through extensive documentation, it proves that contemporary worship music is controlled by "another spirit" (2 Cor. 11:4). It is the spirit of charismaticism, the spirit of the "latter rain," the spirit of Roman Catholicism and the one-world "church," the spirit of the world that is condemned by 1 John 2:16, the spirit of homosexuality, and the spirit of the false god of *The Shack*. The presentation looks carefully at the origin of contemporary worship in the Jesus Movement of the 1970s, examining the lives and testimonies of some of the most influential people. Nearly 60 video clips and hundreds of photos are featured. The presentation is available as a free eVideo download from www.wayoflife.org. It is also available as part of the *Music for Good or Evil* video series.

SMART LEAVES

The following is from CreationMoments.com, September 21, 2016: “As science learns more about the universe, some are suggesting that they see basic mathematical principles that underlie everything. This principle, which one scientist has called ‘cellular automata,’ might be at the root of everything from astronomy to zoology. The leaves of plants have pores that let in carbon dioxide. However, if the pores open too far or remain open too long, the plant may lose too much water. How does a plant, that has no brain or nervous system, keep these factors in balance? Researchers had always thought that the pores work independently. However, close study has shown that patches of pores in a leaf open and close together. In fact, over several minutes, open and closed patches of pores move across a leaf in patterns. As scientists studied these patterns, they realized that the pattern they were looking at was what they call ‘distributed, emergent computation’ or ‘cellular automata.’ The individual cells of the leaves are working with each other to perform complex large-scale computations. In short, the cells of plant leaves are working together as a computer, even though they lack a central processor. While evolutionists would hope to explain this built-in intelligence by chance, it is difficult to get around the fact that intelligence is built into the creation. Such intelligence can only be ascribed to an intelligent source, our Creator. Source: *Science News*, 2/21 2004, pp. 123-124, Erica Klarreich, ‘Computation’s New Leaf.’”

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.