
FRIDAY CHURCH NEWS NOTES

KEN HAM'S CHRISTIAN ROCK CONCERT



Casting Crowns at the Ark Encounter. Ken Ham

Toward the end of April, Ken Ham of Answers in Genesis (AiG) interviewed the CCM group Casting Crowns at his Ark Encounter museum and boldly promoted Christian rock to his supporters (“Casting Crowns at Ark Encounter,” Apr. 27, 2017, YouTube).

During the interview, Mr. Ham said he was looking forward to hosting a Christian rock concert at the Ark Encounter featuring Steven Curtis Chapman. Following is a discerning comment on this by former Pentecostal Hughie Seaborn, who, like Ham, is Australian. “It doesn’t surprise me that Ken Ham would cosy up to Casting Crowns rock group. It was good to hear the leader, Mark Hall, actually come out and plainly say in public that ‘We’re rockers. We’re just rockers for Jesus.’ Ken was OK with that. He even chucked the name of Steven Curtis Chapman in there for good measure, advertising an upcoming rock concert they’re going to have at the Ark. The problem is that every young person who Ken Ham influences, and who sees this video on their iPhone

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KENTUCKY APPEALS COURT SIDES WITH CHRISTIAN PRINT SHOP

The following is excerpted from “Kentucky appeals court,” *World*, May 15, 2017: “The owner of Hands on Originals, a Lexington, Ky., print shop, did not violate a local nondiscrimination ordinance when he refused to create T-shirts for an annual gay pride festival, the Kentucky Court of Appeals ruled Friday. The 2-1 decision is the second to uphold Blaine Adamson’s right to engage in ‘viewpoint or message censorship.’ A local gay and lesbian advocacy organization asked Adamson to create T-shirts promoting the organization’s 2012 Pride Festival. Adamson declined, saying he could not promote that message as a Christian. The organization filed a complaint

against Hands on Originals with the Fayette County Human Rights Commission, which ruled in 2014 the company violated a county ordinance prohibiting discrimination based on sexual orientation or gender identity. Adamson appealed, and five months later the Fayette Circuit Court reversed that ruling. But the Human Rights Commission continued to press its case, claiming Adamson’s refusal to serve the gay advocacy organization constituted discrimination against a protected class of citizens. ‘Today’s decision is a victory for printers and other creative professionals who serve all people but cannot promote all messages,’ said Jim Campbell, an attorney with Alliance Defending Freedom who represents Adamson. The plaintiffs, Pride Community Services Organization (formerly Gay and Lesbian



Blaine Adamson, owner of
Hands on Originals,

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(most likely while sitting in a good church whose Pastor is OK with Ham, but who is trying to keep the rock out) will be OK with these 'rockers for Jesus' now, as well. Ken Ham has always been ecumenical and happy to promote himself and his ministry in any apostate and heretical church that will allow him to sell his materials to their members and sign them up as ministry supporters. But just like how the CCM crowd has used their music to tear down walls and build bridges across to any group who claims to believe in Jesus, Ham has used science and the truth of Creation to achieve exactly the same results. There's a Scripture that warns that not only are we to avoid and warn about people who promote outlandish error, but also people who promote truth, if that truth in any way leads us away from our allegiance to the God of the Bible and into serving false gods. It's a very scary warning from God in my way of thinking, because it also tells us that God is carefully watching us and proving us to see which way we might be influenced to turn (Deuteronomy 13:1-5). I first met Ken Ham and his team of scientists back in the late 80s in a Pentecostal Assemblies of God (AOG) church I was attending at that time. They were all very happy there running their Creation conference. ... They used to hold meetings in SDA churches as well. ... I had a quick look at the Casting Crowns' song 'The Word is Alive' that Mark Hall mentioned, saying that being at the Ark reminded him of the truth of God's Word. Ken

Ham then offered that the thing he likes about Casting Crowns' songs is that the words teach biblical truth. I read the words of the song, and I saw the same thing that is repeated in most other CCM songs. It's always about how wonderful we are, but about how hurt, lonely, afraid and victimised we are, and how God's heart just longs to make it all better and lovely so we can feel good and enjoy our lives. Example: 'The Word is alive /And it cuts like a sword through the darkness /With a message of life to the hopeless and afraid /Breathing life into all who believe.' According to this Christian rock song, our problem is not that we are lost sinners whom God commands with a message that we are to repent of our evil ways, but that we are nice people who feel hopeless and afraid, maybe because we got rejected by our latest girlfriend, or someone posted something negative on Facebook about us, or our parents won't let us run the house, or something. But, the song assures us that God will breathe new life into us if we just believe. Believe what? Well, believe that God's word is alive apparently. ... I was talking with a visiting missionary at our church just a couple of weeks ago and he mentioned Ken Ham positively to me in our conversation. When I confessed to him that I have some serious problems with Ken Ham's ministry, his eyes went real wide like I had uttered a profanity or something. Unfortunately, that's the reaction one gets from most professing fundamentalists today."

CHINA'S "DEMOGRAPHIC TIME BOMB"

The following is excerpted from "China ended its one-child policy," *Business Insider*, May 19, 2017: "According to a new survey released by the recruitment website Zhaopin, 67% of working women with one child don't want a second, up from 50% in 2014, The New York Times reports. In addition, the survey found 40% of childless women don't want any kids at all, up from 21% in 2016. Economists tend to look upon situations like China's with concern. When countries don't have enough kids but also see rising elderly populations, as China does, the economy tends to suffer. People feel the squeeze of social-security costs and limit spending. Less spending means fewer resources to raise kids. In the most extreme cases, these vicious cycles are known as 'demographic time bombs,' and they take awhile to form. ... [China's] one-child policy lasted more than 35 years, from 1979 to 2015. The economy boomed during that time, mainly as a result of slowed population growth, but now there is an abundance of senior citizens and too few workers to support them."

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Services Organization) and the Lexington Human Rights Commission, are considering an appeal to the Kentucky Supreme Court. ... But the court made clear it would not accept as a defense the refusal to accommodate an activity predominantly associated with a specific group of people. In listing examples of discrimination in public accommodation, the court cited *Craig v. Masterpiece Cakeshop*, in which a gay couple sued Denver, Colo., bakery owner Jack

Phillips for declining to make a cake for their same-sex wedding celebration. Phillips lost his case at every level but has appealed to the U.S. Supreme Court. ‘Holding that a cake-maker’s refusal to sell a wedding cake to a homosexual couple, because the cake-maker knew the cake would be used to celebrate a same-sex marriage and the cake-maker was opposed to such unions, is the equivalent of discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation,’ the Kentucky court said.”

PRESIDENT TRUMP SAYS A DEAL WILL BE REACHED BETWEEN ISRAEL AND THE PALESTINES

President Donald Trump, a businessman who prides himself in his mega deal-making ability, thinks he can make the mother of all deals by bringing lasting peace between Israel and the Palestinians. In an interview with the newspaper *Israel Hayom*, Trump said, “I think that there is a great opportunity to reach a deal [between Israel’s Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas]. I am working very hard so that finally the Israelis and Palestinians will have peace, and I hope that this can happen quicker than anyone ever imagined. It is a great opportunity and it is good for everyone. We have the right people working on it, [Ambassador] David Friedman and [Middle East envoy] Jason Greenblatt.” One of the many things that Trump is missing on this issue, and it is a gross oversight, is that the Palestinians don’t want peace. They want the destruction of Israel. They have made this clear ever since Israel began expressing aspirations for a modern state in the early 20th century. Even when Israel has given “land for peace,” as with her unilateral disengagement from the Gaza Strip in 2005, that land has been used as a staging ground for attacks on Israel and has done absolutely nothing to bring peace. Between 2005 and 2014 alone, more than 12,000 rockets were fired into Israel from the Gaza Strip, killing 47 and wounding more than 1,900. The attacks have been supported by most Palestinians. Those are the people Trump wants to bring to the “negotiating” table.



US President Donald Trump and Palestinian Authority President Mahmud shake hands



US President Donald Trump with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu in Jerusalem

ELECTRONIC HORNETS

The following is from CreationMoments.com, March 2, 2017: “How many hornets does it take to power a digital watch? In the case of the Oriental hornet, six hornets can generate enough electricity to run the watch. Entomologists at Tel Aviv University have been studying Oriental hornets. They have been most interested in the outer skeleton, or skin, of the hornet. And they have discovered that this cuticle works as a living solar cell. When sunlight hits the hornet's cuticle, electricity is generated. To prove their point in dramatic fashion, they wired six hornets together in series. That arrangement generated enough electricity to run a digital watch for several seconds. Their research also revealed the fact that the cuticle's electrical generation is most efficient at the temperatures in which the hornets normally operate. Different layers in the cuticle generate and store electrical current. Voltages have reached as high as several hundred millivolts, and the current has been recorded as high as several tenths of an ampere. In effect, Oriental wasps are living semiconductors! The researchers now find themselves in the classic situation of finding out how little they know by learning something. They report that they don't know how the hornet converts its electrical energy into a form it can use. Nor do they know how the cuticle stores the energy or transmits it. Modern science loves to take pride in its accomplishments. However, every time science investigates God's seemingly simplest creations, scientists are reminded of their need for humility.”



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.
