

O Timothy

“Keep that which is committed to thy trust...”

A Monthly Newsletter for Spiritual Protection and Edification

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“I believe strongly in dress codes for Christian workers in this day and age, but the dress code must be thorough. It is not enough to say that the women must wear dresses rather than pants. It should describe the important features of a modest dress...The issue needs to be spelled out plainly. The dress standard is not only a code; it is a teaching tool to educate the people on this matter. And dress standards for church leaders and workers is a model for for the rest of the church to follow.” Page 6.

Digging in the Walls: A month's worth of news items, republished from Friday Church News Notes. **Page 15.**

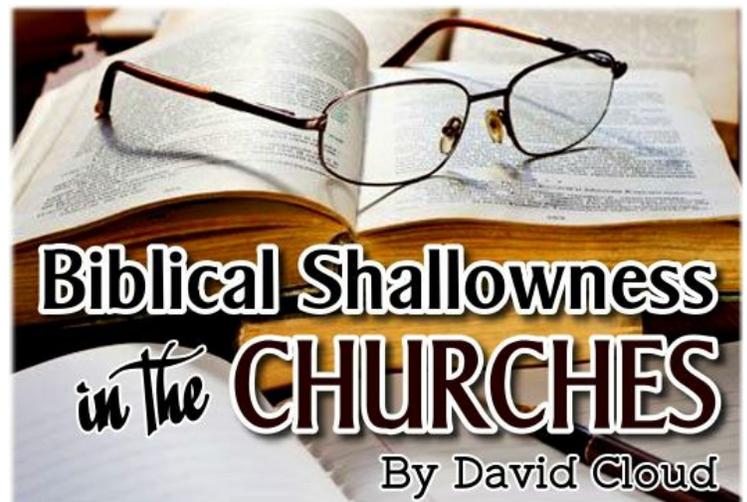


BIBLICAL SHALLOWNNESS IN THE CHURCHES - *By David Cloud*

The following is excerpted from [Why Most Independent Baptist Churches Will Be Emerging](#), available from Way of Life Literature in print and a free eBook edition, www.wayoflife.org.

There is a frightful lack of biblical knowledge among members of the average Independent Baptist church, in my experience. Many pastors have admitted to me that the majority of their people are not serious Bible students.

It is impossible to understand the Bible properly and grow in understanding of it effectively without training in such things as principles of interpretation, Bible history and geography, Bible culture, and theology or Bible doctrine, yet most members of Independent Baptist churches are grossly lacking in such things.



Most are like a church member I talked with recently who told me that his Bible reading is “hit and miss” and that he had no Bible dictionary, concordance, or commentary, had never learned to use such tools, and knew little to nothing about the principles of Bible interpretation.

It is typical for church members not even to look at their Bibles during the preaching. Few come to the services to obtain serious Bible education and to capture practical truth they can use in their lives and ministries.

In many Independent Baptist churches, people can attend faithfully for years without learning the Bible well. The Sunday School lessons and preaching are biblically shallow, and the people are not taught to study the Bible for themselves.

Visiting speakers tell great motivational stories but the biblical content of the preaching is weak, typically.

People don't grow strong in God's Word under such a ministry. The Bible is to be preached with reproof and exhortation, but also "with doctrine" (2 Timothy 4:2).

No wonder so many churches change direction so easily when the pastor changes. They aren't properly grounded in Scripture. They are dependent on a man rather than the Spirit of God and the Word of God. They are man-centered rather than Christ-centered.

And the problem begins with the pastors.

In the Pastoral Epistles, we see that every preacher is to be a serious Bible student. Paul taught Timothy to be nourished up in good doctrine (1 Tim. 4:6), to give attendance to reading and to doctrine (1 Tim. 4:13), to

take heed unto doctrine (1 Tim. 4:16). He taught Timothy that it is the elder who labors in the word and doctrine who is worthy of double honor (1 Tim. 5:17). Too many pastors want the double honor of this verse without paying the price of laboring in the Word of God.

Paul reminded Timothy that he had been educated among many witnesses and exhorted him to pass this same biblical education along to others (2 Tim. 2:2). He exhorted him to study to show himself approved unto God, rightly dividing the word of truth (2 Timothy 2:15). He taught him to be "apt to teach," which requires much learning (2 Tim. 2:24). He taught him that the Scripture is for doctrine (2 Tim. 3:16). He taught him to preach God's Word with doctrine (2 Tim. 4:2).

Paul showed Timothy the example of having a passion for study in prison even when he was old and knew that he would soon face martyrdom (2 Tim. 4:13)!

Paul taught Timothy that the qualified pastor is a man who has "been taught" so well that he is capable of protecting the congregation from whatever error the devil throws at it (Titus 1:9-16). This requires a lot of teaching and a lot of study.

Christ instructed us not only to preach the gospel to every creature, but also to disciple the converts so thoroughly that we teach them to *observe all things* whatsoever He has taught us (Mat. 28:19-20). See also Acts 20:27, where Paul taught the *whole counsel of God*. That refers to the complete canon of Scripture. That is a lot of Bible education. It requires the teaching of history and geography and prophecy and a thousand other things.

But I have found that the most difficult place to sell serious Bible study books and associated materials is at the average Independent Baptist preachers' meeting.

A pastor friend who has been in the ministry for many decades wrote the following to me in 2014:

"I asked a missionary what books he had read lately that were a blessing, and he replied that all he reads is a magazine on running. I fear that Independent Baptists may be the *illiterati* of the 20th and 21st centuries. And the present addiction to iPhones and social media only makes it worse. John Nordman, who worked with Hyles years ago at Hyles Anderson, led the Bible college in Brisbane for some years until the pastor's son did a Schaap on some

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kids there and the wheels fell off. He sent me their college prospectus one year hoping to get some of our kids, and I wrote him back and asked him why there was not a course on theology. I later found out that Hyles Anderson never allowed theology to be taught because Jack Hyles thought it would turn their students into Calvinists. Some years ago I started asking preachers questions when we sat around talking or when we drove down the road. Questions on what doctrine was especially precious to them at that moment, or what book of the Bible they love the most this week, or what good book they are reading, or which one has helped them grow the most, or what authors are the most challenging to them spiritually, or what they think about this or that verse (and I pick the hardest ones to ask about). If they are driving, I take my Bible and read to them some passage I am meditating on and ask them to explain them to me. Most of them are out of their depth within ten seconds. Some stare at me with open mouth and shake their head. The Presbyterian pastors I know are the most adept at discussing solid Bible doctrine. Most of the Independent Baptist pastors have never read anything deeper than John Rice or Curtis Hutson. We had a missionary here this weekend who tells great stories, but doesn't know ANY solid Bible doctrine."

This preacher said further:

"There is abysmal ignorance concerning the doctrine of Christ, concerning the doctrines of justifica-

tion, sanctification, and glorification. One of our major problems is that expository preaching is not politically correct in fundamental churches. For a pastor to preach through a book of the Bible is a rare thing. Most of the men I know don't do that because it doesn't draw big crowds and they like fireworks in the pulpit or fairy tales."

Another man commented:

"I agree about the importance of the study of Bible prophecy. Unfortunately, fundamental Baptist preachers seem very reluctant to delve into prophecy. I think it might be because most preachers have not studied much beyond the first three chapters of Revelation. I don't think I have ever heard a really solid message from an IFB preacher from the mountain of OT prophecies with momentous future fulfillment. They don't seem to know what they are missing."

A large percentage of the Independent Baptist preaching I have personally heard over the past 43 years has been motivational pablum (baby food) with no serious exegesis of Scripture and little spiritual depth.

Churches that aren't serious Bible education institutions are building on the sand, and they won't stand for long in today's spiritual climate.



"But if I tarry long, that thou mayest know how thou oughtest to behave thyself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth" (1 Timothy 3:15).

1. SIT RESPECTFULLY AND ALERTLY

Things such as leaning on your elbows with your head down and chewing gum send signals that you are not interested in what the preacher is saying. Remember that

others are watching you and being influenced by you. Your attitude and bodily posture affects the preacher, those sitting around you, and the entire atmosphere of the service.

Young people should not be allowed to sit together unless they are spiritually-minded and serious about seeking the Lord, because they will distract one another as well as others. We have many spiritually-minded young people in our church who sit together and encourage one another

to listen carefully and to take notes from the preaching, but when young people are only in church because they are forced to be and don't have a heart for the truth, they should not be allowed to sit together. This is for their sake, for the sake of the other young people who are influenced by their example, and for the sake of the entire congregation.

One reader wrote about teenage boys who sit together and play with a video game during the service. "As one plays, the boy on either side watches until it is their turn."

This is a sad thing, and one wonders where the parents are. And why doesn't the pastor put a stop to it? The adults might be afraid of "losing them," but they have "lost them" already. Their bodies might still be in church, but their hearts are solidly in the world, so at least the adults can break up this unholy cabal and make the service conducive for others to hear God's Word without the distraction of these foolish boys and their games. And who knows, if this cabal were broken up and these teenagers were required to sit quietly during the preaching, God might get hold of some of their hearts and they would repent of their disrespect of holy things and be born again before it is too late.

2. DON'T DISTRACT OTHERS

Examples of things that distract others are talking and writing notes back and forth between persons, texting, and playing video games (believe it or not, it is being done), making noise (i.e., cracking your fingers), picnicking (eating and drinking and passing around candy and gum), playing with babies, children gawking at the people behind them, and children running back and forth in the pew when the congregation is standing to sing. Parents need to be aware of what their children are doing and make certain that they are not distracting someone.

One reader wrote, "Some families spread the pew with mounds of candy and other snacks, sticky and otherwise, and the children gorge themselves. Then of course, it's not long before parent or grandparent will take each child, one at a time, back and forth to the restroom to wash sticky hands, etc. And no, they do not sit in the back."

Another example is leaving the service to go to the restroom. Parents should make sure that their children don't develop this distracting habit. The child quickly

learns that it can control the mother by asking to go to the restroom after the service starts. It is the all-too-common case of the child training the parents. This practice is extremely dishonoring to the Word of God being preached. There is plenty of time to go to the bathroom before and after the services. Of course, if a baby is involved or if an individual has a medical or health problem that requires him or her to leave the service, that is a different matter altogether. But such a person should sit in the back and slip out quietly.

One reader gave the following feedback after reading an earlier edition of this report:

"The section regarding 'Don't Distract Others' really hit home to me. I prefer to sit up front 'near the action'; however, because of my work, I am on call 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, and there are occasional calls on Sundays, so I sit at the back so that I may slip out should I receive a call. However, I have seen others that sit near the front and walk all the way to the back for one reason or the other, and, upon their return, walk all the way back to the front. It is human custom to watch movement. I have tried my best to train myself to pay attention to the preaching and to not be distracted by people moving around. When I was young, we were taught that in any group, if one had to leave, one sits near the back, and even if one is sitting up front and needs to leave, upon returning, a seat should be taken in the back. I don't know why people aren't taught this (rather basic) group courtesy."

3. LISTEN WELL

LISTEN WITH COMPASSION TOWARD THE PREACHER. God uses all kinds of men and not all are powerful, fascinating speakers. It appears that Paul wasn't (2 Cor. 10:10). Jonathan Edwards preached one of the most famous of sermons, "Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God," but Edwards was not a great speaker. In fact, he simply read the sermon. The preacher who was instrumental in the conversion of Charles Spurgeon was not a mighty speaker. Spurgeon described him as a very simple, uninteresting speaker, yet how greatly God used him! Remember that God can use weak men. An example is Solomon. He had tremendous problems, but God used him to write three important books of the Bible, including the book of Proverbs, which is the book of wisdom. Our

eyes must be upon God and not upon the preacher. Listen to the preacher as you would want people to listen to you. Avoid a critical attitude.

LISTEN PRAYERFULLY. Nothing significant is accomplished apart from prayer (Rom. 12:12; Eph. 6:18; Col. 4:2; 1 Thess. 5:17). Pray for yourself. Pray for the preacher. Pray for others who are in attendance.

LISTEN ATTENTIVELY. Listen as if Jesus Christ were speaking. 1 Peter 4:11 says the speaker is to be the very oracle of God, meaning His mouthpiece. If you listen carefully and seek something from the Lord, you can be edified even from a seemingly boring message. See also Luke 8:18; Revelation 2:7, 11, 17, 29; 3:6, 13, 22. Lazy minds don't learn and grow. Don't let your mind wander to other things. Don't do something else when you should be listening to the preaching. I have seen people read novels in church! More often they read the hymnal or pass notes or other such things. You won't get anything from the preaching if you don't listen attentively.

LISTEN WITH AN OPEN, SUBMISSIVE HEART. God's invitation is extended throughout the message and not merely at the end. Let God speak to you, reprove, rebuke, and exhort you. Don't think that the preaching is for someone else. Don't make excuses for your sins and faults.

LISTEN WITH FAITH (Heb. 4:1-2). The Word of God is ineffective unless it is "mixed with faith." Some listen to preaching as a form of entertainment. They enjoy it but they don't believe it enough to change how they live. This was how the Jews were listening to the prophet Ezekiel: "And they come unto thee as the people cometh, and they sit before thee as my people, and they hear thy words,

but they will not do them: for with their mouth they shew much love, but their heart goeth after their covetousness. And, lo, thou art unto them as a very lovely song of one that hath a pleasant voice, and can play well on an instrument: for they hear thy words, but they do them not" (Ezek. 33:31-32).

LISTEN DISCERNINGLY. The Bible warns that we must not put our trust in man (Jer. 17:5). We must carefully test all preaching by the Word of God (Acts 17:11; 1 Cor. 14:29; 1 Thess. 5:21).

LISTEN STUDIOUSLY (2 Tim. 2:15). Have paper and pen ready so that you can capture something from the message. Write things in your Bible (important things, such as cross references, definitions, important thoughts, what God is saying to you through the message).

By the way, you should have your own Bible rather than merely looking on with someone else. Take notes of the important points. Write down things to study later, things to check later, and things to share with others. This will help you remember what is preached.

4. TREAT THE INVITATION SERIOUSLY

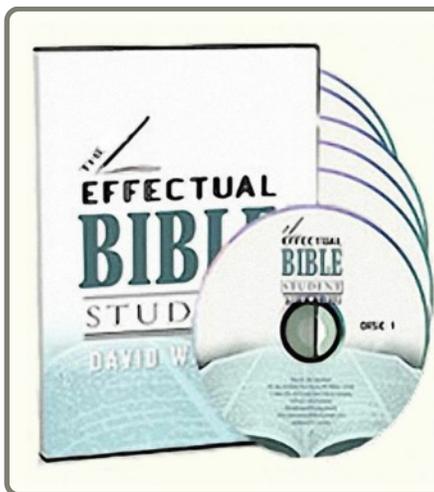
Respond to the invitation as Lord leads, and pray for others.

It is important to be quiet until the the last prayer is finished. Some people are so spiritually insensitive that they start preparing to leave during the invitation and final prayer, shuffling around, folding papers, zipping up Bible cases, putting on jackets, digging keys out of purses, etc. This is very distracting to those to whom the Lord might be ministering.

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by David W. Cloud



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pushing the edge on dress standards

Borderline Modesty Vs. True Modesty

By David Cloud

The following is from the book [Dressing for the Lord](#), which is available in print and eBook editions from [Way of Life Literature](#).



In my preaching conferences I have had occasions, sadly, to observe that though a church or Christian school might have pretty good dress standards (written or unwritten) for workers and youth, many of the girls and young women dress immodestly.

I am not the only one to notice this. One pastor wrote as follows:

“In 2006, I visited the campus of ----- Christian College and attended a chapel service. I was grieved as I watched the students assemble. Many of the girls were wearing tight, form fitting blouses and skirts. There were a lot of skirts above the knee as well as slits that went above the knee. One pastor friend refers to the slit skirt as ‘peek-a-boo’ skirts. How can the young men possibly keep their minds pure as they train for the ministry when so many of the girls are dressing like strange women all around them?”

Another man wrote:

“Our church teaches and preaches separation. Our pastor has even compiled a small booklet on modest dress. Having said all that, we have had and still do have problems. In order to be a choir member or teach Sunday School, etc., we must sign a form saying we agree to the dress standards as well as many other standards of conduct. WHAT I HAVE SEEN IS, YES THEY ARE WEARING DRESSES, BUT MANY ARE FAR FROM MODEST. ... FORM FITTING CLOTHING [IS ONE OF THE PROBLEMS]. A lady can be actually wearing a reasonably nice dress that meets the standard, at least in their mind it does, but the problem is that it is at least a size too small for her! These folks are rarely confronted because they are wearing a dress, you know! I believe we easily forget modesty and become lost in ‘I’m wearing a dress attitude.’ To be

honest I have seen more modest pants on many lost ladies than the ‘dresses on our standard-signing church ladies.’ I’m not for pants; I’m just referring to our hypocrisy! It shows either a lack of discernment on their part or a worldly desire to show off the body, maybe both.”

Another man described the same problem:

“I am thankful you are writing a book about dressing modestly. It is needed in this day and time when most fundamental independent Baptist Christians think that just as long as they wear a dress that comes below the knee, it’s appropriate.”

A lady gave the following description of the fundamental Baptist church that she attends:

“The teenagers wear the skirts that come to the knee but when they bend over or sit down...well you know. Their tops are low cut with a v and look like they were painted on. ... My husband leads the music and he said he can’t even look at the people because there are so many short skirts, etc.”

The problem in these situations is that while the dresses might be long enough (when the woman is standing), they are still not modest because of the way they are cut or what happens to the clothing when the woman is involved in various activities.

For one thing, dresses can be cut too low. Many men who wrote to me on this subject mentioned that this is a great distraction and temptation.

But we must understand that modesty is much more than merely covering nakedness. That is only a baby step in modesty. The heart of the truly modest girl or woman is sensitive to holiness and aware of her influence in this world and seeks to be truly modest from every standpoint, caring nothing about fashion or for merely “walking on the edge” of modesty.

One major problem is tight clothing. In our survey of Christian men on the issue of women's dress we found that tight clothing is at least as much of a potential enticement for men as skimpy clothing. Most of the men indicated that tight skirts and tight blouses and form-fitting jeans hold a "VERY great potential" for lust.

Consider the following statements:

"You don't even need to see skin; they provide all the curves." Another man said: "I would say the Number One problem is any garment that is form fitting, be it jeans, pants, skirt, dress, shirt, whatever. Anything that is tight, no matter how long it is, leaves nothing to the imagination, and that defeats the whole purpose of covering the skin in the first place!"

"One thing I see in my church is tight clothing. Oh, it may very well be covering but it is revealing the shape in a woman. This can be even more tantalizing to a man."

"The point is that it is not merely the type of clothing that can trip a man up; rather it is the amount and the level of cling to the body."

Thin clothing can also be a serious modesty issue. One man wrote: "If a woman is standing so that light can shine through her skirt, although she may be covered with a garment, it is so transparent that everything is revealed. A woman can be covered yet at the same time uncovered."

There are many other ways to be "seductive" even in "modest" clothing. God, through the prophet Isaiah, rebuked the women of that day not only because of what they wore but also *because of the countenance and because of how they carried themselves*:

"Moreover the LORD saith, Because the daughters of Zion are haughty, and walk with stretched forth necks and wanton eyes, walking and mincing as they go, and making a tinkling with their feet" (Isaiah 3:16).

One man wrote:

"It's not just clothing that can be inappropriate -- also high heel shoes. They cause the hips to gyrate when the lady walks. The secular world told us this, so why is it in the church? Bright red nail varnish on fingernails and toenails, red lip stick, seamed stockings -- that look from the '50s and '60s. [It screams out, 'Look at ME!'] It's not always what the attire is but how it is worn and

the woman herself. ... Excessive use of perfume and make up -- both designed to draw men; they should be used with wisdom. Also, flirtatious natures and wanting to be noticed by the opposite sex should be reigned in."

The battleground, of course, as we have noted many times, is the heart. If a lady is worldly in her heart, she will probably not be modest even if fully clothed and she will look for ways to push the boundaries of any clothing standards with the objective of being fashionable and perhaps showing herself off.

A pastor that operates a home for troubled young women wrote as follows, "We have had girls come from homes and churches that hold to strict dress standards, but they carry themselves like strange women in modest clothing because it's in their hearts!"

It's in their hearts! It's in their hearts! Whatever is in the heart will show itself in the dress.

When young women's clothes are form hugging and push the envelope of decency on every side, it is obvious that one of two things is happening.

First, in many cases the objective is not really to be modest before the Lord but rather simply to obey man's rules and that only as long as necessary. That is a serious issue that is reflective either of an unregenerate heart or a backslidden one. It has been said that true character is demonstrated by what we do when no one is watching.

Second, there are doubtless cases in which girls and young women simply don't understand how immodest they really are in the eyes of men. They are naively going along with the current fashion and with the crowd. If this is the case, the lady in question will be open to correction and will respond to plain preaching and teaching and private exhortation on this subject.

How can a church, then, resist the problem we have described and gain true modesty in the congregation?

Following are some suggestions:

True modesty requires education. The females must not merely be given a dress code but must be taught the Bible principles of modesty carefully and urged to apply them consistently. This won't happen through a sermon or a Sunday School lesson every few years. It requires

making female modesty a real emphasis in the church and developing a course of instruction that will educate the people properly, and in addition to that, mentioning it often in the preaching/teaching ministry of the church in a kind and patient way.

True modesty requires example. It is essential that the wives of the pastors and teachers and deacons and workers and the older female church members understand the issue of modesty and that they are committed to it from the heart and are applying the Bible's principles consistently rather than just going by a couple of written rules. If there is a failure here, it will be reflected throughout the congregation. If the wives of church officers and workers push the boundaries of modesty, if they are careless about their necklines and if their dresses are too tight and if fashion is more important than modesty, the church will never win this battle. Victory has to start at the top.

True modesty requires exhortation. Teaching is not enough; exhortation is also needed. The preacher is instructed to "reprove, rebuke, exhort" (2 Tim. 4:2). This goes beyond teaching. Reproving, rebuking, and exhorting are all necessary. God's people have a sin nature that tends to backslide and go after the things of the flesh and the world, and they must be reproved and exhorted to stay in the Lord's narrow paths. This ministry of reproof is as much a necessary part of the pastor's ministry as teaching. If he neglects it he is compromising. Both the males and the females of the congregation need to hear reproof on all areas of practical Christian living, and that certainly includes modest dress and separation from the world. Pastors who leave this out of their preaching will find that many things slip in the congregation because of the lack of plain reproof.

True modesty requires consistency in the preachers' children. It is not enough for a pastor to preach modesty; his family must demonstrate it before the congregation and that includes his children. I have known of many pastors who have injured their ministry by the lack of enforcement of biblical modesty in the lives of their own wives and daughters. I recall a church in Florida where the pastor was a strong preacher and a soul winner, as well as a compassionate man and a good example to the people in many ways. But his beautiful teenage daughter dressed indecently and her poor example and her father's acquiescence in the matter helped break down the separation

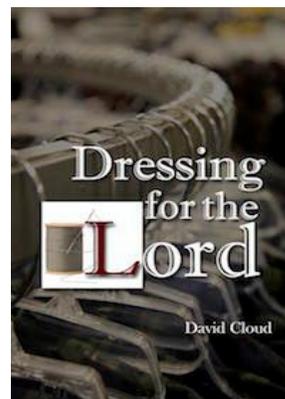
from the world in the youth department and many young lives were ruined by the love for the world.

True modesty requires educated, concerned men. It is necessary for Christian men to understand the issues of female modesty and to take a stand for it in their homes and to support it in the church. If the women are trying to be modest but the men are worldly, the men will put pressure on the women to be more "fashionable" and "less dowdy." (And I must emphasize here that I don't think Christian women should be "dowdy." The right choice isn't between immodesty and dowdiness. It is between immodesty and modest but attractive femininity.)

True modesty requires a wise dress code. I believe strongly in dress codes for Christian workers in this day and age, but the dress code must be thorough. It is not enough to say that the women must wear dresses rather than pants. It should describe the important features of a modest dress, that the neck line must not be low, that the clothing must not be tight, that it must be low enough so that the leg is covered properly, that it must not be clingy, that it must not be sheer, etc. The issue needs to be spelled out plainly. The dress standard is not only a code; it is a teaching tool to educate the people on this matter. And dress standards for church leaders and workers is a model for for the rest of the church to follow.

Of course, if a girl or woman is worldly in her heart, she will still look for ways to push the boundaries of the standards regardless of how clear they are, but that is a separate problem.

[This article is from the author's book [Dressing for the Lord](#), which is available in print and eBook editions from Way of Life Literature.]



Dressing for the Lord

By David Cloud

Modern society is drenched with indecency. A Vogue fashion show would make ancient Corinth blush. To lay a solid Bible foundation for modesty, we give a careful exegesis of about 25 key Bible passages from Genesis to 1 John, and from these Scriptures we develop Bible principles that can be applied to any nation or culture.

[Click here for "Dressing for the Lord"](#)

Men Vs. Women's PHYSIOLOGICAL DIFFERENCES

By David Cloud

According to Scripture, both Adam and Eve were made in God's image, but they were made for different roles in this life. The first woman was made after the man to be his wife and "help meet." She was designed by the Creator to bear children, and her physical and emotional makeup is distinctively different than the man's.

The differences between men and women have been obvious to mankind throughout history, but rabid unisex campaigners today are doing their best to belittle them. A couple of years ago the ultra-liberal and very politically correct *Huffington Post* gleefully reported that "the whole 'men are from Mars, women are from Venus' trope is false" ("Men's and Women's Differences Aren't Actually Distinct, Confirms Study," *Huffington Post*, Feb. 6, 2013).

Such nonsense is refuted by the fact that men and women can rarely compete head-to-head in athletics at the elite level.

"As a group, women do not run, jump or swim as fast as men. Women are also more prone to certain types of athletic injuries than men. ... The mean difference has been about 10 percent between men and women for all events. The mean gap is 10.7 percent for running, 8.9 percent for swimming and 17.5 percent for jumping" ("How Do Men and Women Differ Athletically?" *Livestrong.com*).

Women are smaller in stature than men. "The average 18-year-old man is 70.2 inches tall and weighs 144.8 pounds, whereas the average woman of the same age is 64.4 inches tall and weighs 126.6 pounds" ("Physiological Differences Between the Sexes," *PhysicallyTrained.com*, U.S. Army physical training regulations).

Women have significantly less crushing strength in their hands than men. Researchers at the University of

Wisconsin-Milwaukee found that on average, adult males between the ages of 20 and 24 generate 121 pounds of "crushing" grip strength in their right hands, and women in that same age group had 70.4 pounds of grip strength in their right hands (*Archives of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation*).

Women have about 10% more body fat than men. "Men accumulate fat primarily in the back, chest, and abdomen; women gain fat in the buttocks, arms, and thighs. Also, because the center of gravity is lower in women than in men, women must overcome more resistance in activities that require movement of the lower body" ("Physiological Differences Between the Sexes," *PhysicallyTrained.com*).

Women's hearts are about about 25% smaller than men's. "Thus, the man's heart can pump more blood with each beat. ... Thus, for any given work rate, the faster heart rate means that most women will become fatigued sooner than men" ("Physiological Differences Between the Sexes," *PhysicallyTrained.com*, U.S. Army).

Women have about 30% less lung capacity than men. "This gives men still another advantage in the processing of oxygen and in doing aerobic work such as running" ("Physiological Differences Between the Sexes," *PhysicallyTrained.com*, U.S. Army).

Women have less oxygen-carrying capacity than men. The woman's blood contains 20% fewer blood cells.

"Since red cells supply oxygen to the body, she tires more easily and is more prone to faint. Her constitutional viability is therefore strictly a long-range matter. When the working day in British factories, under wartime conditions, was increased from ten to twelve hours, accidents among women increased 150 percent; the rate of accidents among men did not increase significantly" (*Physical Differences*," *DrJamesDobson.org*).

Women have about 50% less upper body strength than men and about 30% less lower body strength (“Men vs. Women,” LifeScience.com). This is because of a smaller ratio of muscle mass to body weight. “This explains why female speed records in running and swimming are consistently 10 percent slower than men’s” (“Physiological Differences,” Chron.com). “A woman who is the same size as her male counterpart is generally only 80 percent as strong” (“Physiological Differences Between the Sexes,” PhysicallyTrained.com, U.S. Army).

Women have less bone mass than men, having shorter and smaller bones. This provides a significant mechanical advantage for the man. “The increased articular surface and larger structure of male bones provide them with a greater leverage and a wider frame on which to support muscle. Similarly, the ligaments of female athletes are generally more lax and fragile than those of their male counterparts. This gives male athletes an advantage in sports that involve throwing, kicking and hitting, and explains the higher incidence of musculoskeletal injuries among female athletes” (Chron.com).



“See then that ye walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise, Redeeming the time, because the days are evil. Wherefore be ye not unwise, but understanding what the will of the Lord is” (Eph. 5:15-17).

Video games are very addictive and they are great time wasters. Also many of them have very wicked content. Even the more innocent games use rock music as a background, thus addicting young people to the sensual rock rhythms.

If young people are allowed to play video games, they must be carefully chosen and the play time must be strictly limited by the parents.

ADDICTION

“The more we looked into it the more we found that gaming was taking over the lives of kids.”

“Some studies suggest that gaming is absolutely taking over the minds of children all together.”

“Virtual life becomes more appealing than real life.”

Beware of role playing games. Nothing takes over young people’s hearts and minds more than these. They are

called MMORPG (massively multiplayer online role-playing games).

The most addictive games in 2015 are the following: Madden, Dota 2, Grand Theft Auto, Tetris, Candy Crush Saga (the company is valued at \$7.5 billion), Minecraft, EverQuest (called “never rest” and “ever crack”), The Sims (player has omnipotent control over people), World of Warcraft (called World of War Crack), Call of Duty (the last two are played by more than 100 million players), Halo 3 (called Halodiction), Total War, Pong, Civilization, Diablo 3, Super Meat Boy, Team Fortress 2, Dark Souls 2, Counter Strike, Starcraft 2, Persona 4 Golden, Monster Hunter 3, Elder Scrolls, Angry Birds, Faster Than Light, Peggle, League of Legends, Civilization V, Pokemon.

Even in remote places like Nepal, gaming competition is becoming popular. A report on Nepali gamers in the *Kathmandu Post* (Aug. 29, 2015) was entitled “By Their Bootstraps.”

Gaming started in Nepal in internet cafes in 2010. The 2015 Colors E-sports Carnival at the Civil Mall had 500 participants competing at *Defense of the Ancients* (DOTA), a multi-online battle game.

OCCULT

Many of the video games are occultic. Consider the current craze, Pokémon Go. Almost overnight it has become the most popular mobile game in American history, increasing the stock market value of part owner Nintendo more than 50%. “Pokémon Go, the newest iteration of the nearly 20-year-old Pokémon franchise, engages players in an ‘augmented reality’ where they try to find and capture Pokémon hidden throughout the real world. The Australian Business Review has suggested that it may be a ‘watershed moment’ in the development of virtual reality” (“Pokémon Go craze drawing gamers to church,” *Baptist Press News*, July 15, 2016). The game “uses the mobile phone’s camera to create the perception that the Pokémon characters are actually in front of the players.” It is so engaging and addictive that people have crashed their automobiles and walked into dangerous situations. Two men recently fell off a cliff near San Diego while engaged in the game.

Pastor David Brown, First Baptist Church of Oak Creek, Wisconsin, who made the effort to investigate Pokémon and apply the test of God’s Word to it in 1999, says, “The name *Pokémon* is derived from POCkEt MONstEr. ... One of the first things I did was to find out who produced the Trading Card Game. Here is an exact quote right from the Web page of the producer - ‘The *Pokémon* Trading Card Game is a new collectable Card Game that is made and distributed by *Wizards of the Coast*. The same company that made the best-selling game ... *Magic: The Gathering*.’ *Wizards of the Coast* also owns TSR, the producers of *Dungeons & Dragons*. When I discovered who owned the American *Pokémon* Trading Card Game rights, I knew it was not just an innocent card game for elementary school children. [The Pokémon rap mantra says]: ‘I will travel across the land/ Searching far and wide/ Each Pokémon to understand/ The power that’s inside/ Gotta catch them all.’ ... To be sure it is a game, but a game that does not glorify God! When God says something is wrong, it is wrong regardless of what form it is in. Not only that, but many of the kids who play this game *are* seduced into believing the principles that the game subtly teaches” (Dave Brown, “The Problem with Pokémon”).

In the official literature, the main characters of the game are described as headstrong, stubborn, quibbling, hormonal, having a fascination with and trying to “score”

with the opposite sex, self-centered, vindictive, obnoxious, and prone to cross-dressing!

Pokémon promotes the search for occultic power. The cards are called “energy cards.” Players engage in “pretend” occultic warfare. Currently there are 729 species of Pokémon monsters, and 151 of them are sought by Pokémon Go players. Two of them are named *Abra* and *Kadabra*, long associated with magic. The *Abra* card promotes the ability to read minds. The *Kadabra* character has a pentagram on his forehead. What an incredibly dangerous, wicked influence for children! Nintendolife says there are poison types, psychic types, dark types, fairy types, dragon types, and ghost types.

There is nothing innocent about Pokémon. It is a clever attempt at demonic mind-control. For more about the dangers of Pokémon see “The Problem with Pokémon” by David Brown, <http://logosresourcepages.org/Occult/more.htm>

VIOLENCE

Beware of violent games. One of the most popular is Grand Theft Auto. Players assume the role of lawless, destructive criminals who kill innocent bystanders, policemen, and military personnel, “while dealing with only temporary consequences.” It has been called a cop-killing training machine. Some of the versions require the player to torture people in brutal ways to advance to new levels. Sexual elements include hiring and killing prostitutes (by means of the player’s choice of fist, machete, bat, or gun). Real life murders have been committed by people who were obsessive players of *Grand Theft Auto* and have even admitted to being inspired by the game.

WASTING TIME

“How long wilt thou sleep, O sluggard? when wilt thou arise out of thy sleep? *Yet* a little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to sleep: So shall thy poverty come as one that travelleth, and thy want as an armed man” (Prov. 6:9-11).

The average gamer spends eight hours per week playing video games. This equates to 416 hours per year.

Last year, a teen told me he wanted to learn to study the Bible on his phone, but when I asked to look at his phone,

I found that it was filled with games. I challenged him to get rid of them and to spend that time on Bible study and other profitable things. I told him that until he was willing to put aside wasteful things, he wouldn't make much progress in his spiritual life.

One young Christian lady we know became concerned about how much time she was spending on video games, and she decided to figure it up. She concluded that she was spending three months out of a year playing games! She deleted the games from her iPad and is spending that time memorizing Scripture and other profitable things.

Young people who want to find God's will must learn to be careful about time. "Redeeming the time, because the days are evil" (Ephesians 5:16).

To redeem the time we must learn how to set priorities.

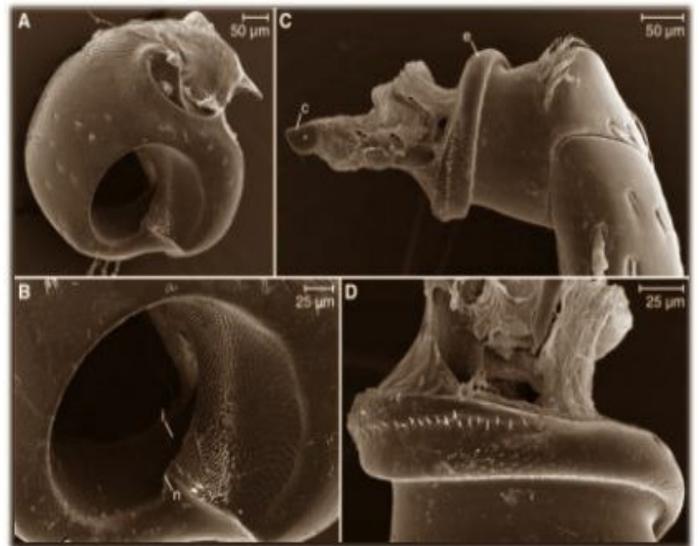
- A major priority is Bible study and prayer. The young person must not allow anything to interfere with his devotional life. Not only must he give time to it, but he must also give his attention to it. If something is crowding out the Word of God and making it impossible to meditate, that thing should be put out of one's life (Mk. 4:19).

- Another priority is to be faithful to the assemblies (Heb. 10:25). As a new believer at age 23, I determined that I would never take a job that would keep me out of church, and the Lord always provided jobs that didn't interfere with the Lord's service.
- Nothing must be allowed to hinder my Christian life and the will of God. Multitudes of young people have backslidden and gotten out of God's will because of secular education and jobs, as we have already noted.

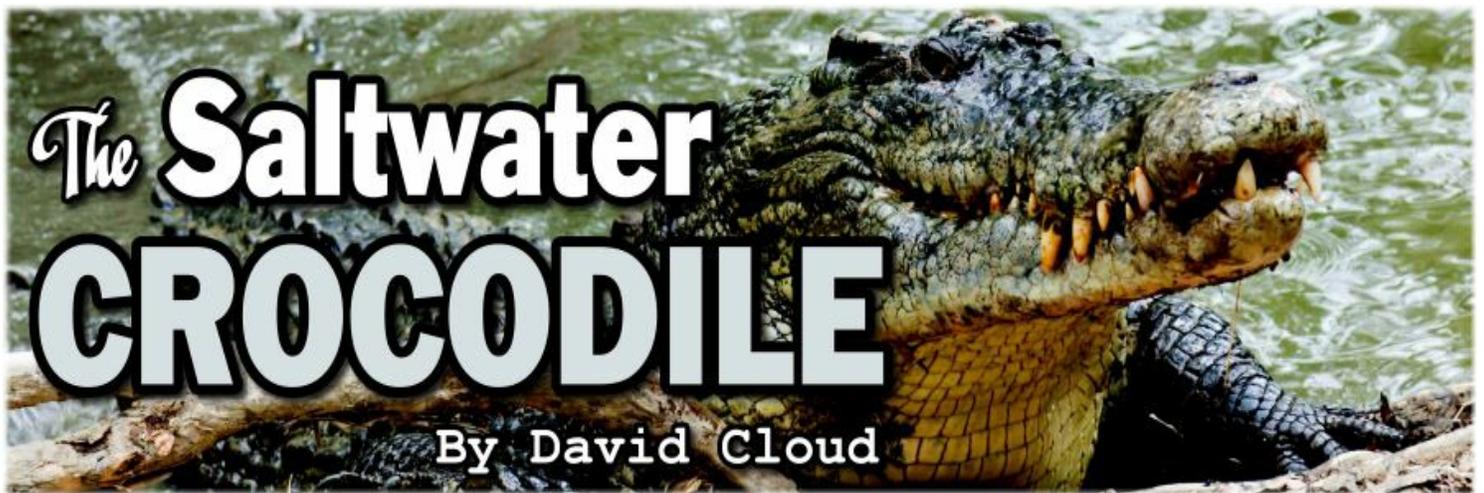
To redeem the time we must learn to fill our lives with wholesome and eternally profitable things. God has filled even this fallen world with wonderful things for those who are wise enough to choose excellent above the empty.

A few examples of profitable things are Bible study, evangelism, wholesome music, church ministries, good literature, educational documentaries, photography, learning new skills, creation science, geology, history, and physical exercise. The most profitable occupation is to seek the Lord. The creation is fascinating, but the Creator is far more so, and to try to enjoy God's creation without putting God first in your heart and life is idolatry. Above all, the wise young person will study God.

SCREWS AND NUTS IN A WEEVIL'S LEGS (Friday Church News Notes, December 16, 2016, www.wayoflife.org, fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - The following is from CreationMoments.com, November 22, 2016: "On a previous broadcast, we told you about a small hopping insect with gears in its legs, allowing both legs to jump at the exact same moment. Today, I bring to your attention the first animal ever found to have a screw-and-nut mechanism in its body. I'm talking about the weevil. A few years ago, *New Scientist* reported how a scientist made this discovery while studying CT scans of a weevil species from New Guinea. He was 'surprised to find that its legs appeared to be *screwed into its body*' (Michael Marshall, 'Beetles beat us to the screw and nut,' *New Scientist*, Jun. 30, 2011). That's right! The top segment of each leg is attached to a small part called the trochanter ... and the trochanter attaches the leg to the insect's body by screwing into a part called the coxa. On the inside of the coxa and on the outer surface of the trochanter, the scientist 'found ridges just like those on screws and nuts.' So we see that our Creator invented screws and nuts, not mankind. But, of course, the *New Scientist* article claims, 'The weevils are another example of evolution coming up with the same



solutions to problems as human engineers.' Oh really?! The screws and nuts you'd buy in a hardware store were designed and made by intelligent beings. In the same way, the screws and nuts in the weevil's legs must have been designed and made by an intelligent being as well. Any other explanation is, well, just plain nuts!"



On a recent visit to Queensland, Australia, near the Great Barrier Reef, I visited a saltwater crocodile farm and learned some fascinating things about this fearsome reptile. I wouldn't want to be near a grown croc without a fence or wall between us, but they are indeed amazing creatures, and when Christ establishes His kingdom and the wolf lies down with the lamb (Isaiah 11:6), we will be able to play with all of God's creatures.

Crocodiles are large reptiles that are members of the Crocodylia order, which includes caimans, gharials, and alligators. The word "crocodile" comes from the Greek *crocodilos*, meaning lizard.

"Crocodiles and alligators are not the same. Crocodiles are larger, have V-shaped jaw and some of their teeth can be seen even when the jaw is fully closed. Alligators are smaller, they have U-shaped jaw and their teeth are not visible when jaws are closed" ("Crocodile Facts," SoftSchools.com).

There are 13 species of crocodiles, ranging in size from the dwarf crocodile (growing to 5.6 feet and weighing 13 pounds) to the saltwater crocodile (found in southeast Asia and northern Australia). The salty can be a real monster, growing to more than 20 feet long and weighing up to 2,000 pounds, and it is the most aggressive of the crocodiles.

They are cold-blooded and regulate their temperature by sunning, "mouth gaping," which can cool them down, and other things. They hibernate during cold months and can go dormant during droughts.

They are flesh-eating carnivores that clamp down on prey with their massive jaws, crush it, and then swallow it whole. Having the strongest bite of any animal, the saltwater crocodile can apply 5,000 pounds of closing pressure per square inch. (A human jaw produces 100 pounds, a great white shark 670 pounds, the American alligator 2,200 pounds.) But the croc's jaw has very little opening power and can be held shut with a large rubber band.

They are fearsome "ambush predators" that usually wait for the prey to come near. They have excellent night vision and a keen sense of hearing and smell. "They can detect both air-borne and water-soluble chemicals." Their jaws and even their individual scales have sensory pits known as Domed Pressure Receptors (DPRs) that allow them to detect the slightest disturbance in surface water, "detecting vibrations and small pressure changes as small as a single drop." (Alligators have DPRs only in their jaws.) They can swim up to 25 mph by use of their powerful tails and stay under water for an hour. A croc has 24 sharp teeth and can grow 8,000 new teeth in a lifetime.

Their highly acidic stomach can "easily digest bones, hooves, and horns."

The crocodile female builds a nest and lays 20-80 eggs, which she "fiercely guards" for three months. It is not wise to mess around with a nesting mama crocodile. "Temperature of the nest determines the gender of the baby. When temperature is 31.6 degrees Celsius - males will develop. Temperature below and above 31.6 degrees induces development of females." At the time

of hatching, the young start calling within the eggs. “They have an egg-tooth at the tip of their snouts, which is developed from the skin, helps them pierce out of the shell. Hearing the calls, the female usually excavates the nest and sometimes takes the unhatched eggs in her mouth, slowly rolling the eggs to help the process. The young is usually carried to the water in the mouth. She would then introduce her hatchlings to the water and even feed them herself.”

The saltwater crocodile is a highly intelligent creature.

It has an amazing homing ability. When a problem Australian croc was flown 250 miles away by helicopter and released, it returned within three weeks (“Relocated 350kg crocodile swims 400km to return to home in North Queensland,” *Brisbane Times*, Dec. 20, 2015).

Satellite tracking devices have shown that the crocs make intelligent use of water currents and tidal movements.

“In one study by Vladimir Dinets of the University of Tennessee, he observed that crocodiles use twigs as bait for birds looking for raw materials in nesting. The sticks are placed on their snouts and submerge themselves, and when the birds swooped in to get



them, the crocodiles would then catch them. Crocodiles only do this in spring nesting seasons of the birds, when there is high demand for sticks to be used for building nests” (*Wikipedia*, citing “Crocodiles are cleverer than previously thought,” *ScienceDaily*, Dec. 4, 2013).

The Crocodile’s Eyes

The crocodile’s eyes, together with its ears and nostrils, are located on top of its head, allowing it to lie nearly submerged in the water and thus hidden from prey.

An opaque nictitating membrane protects the eye while allowing vision.

New research has found that the croc’s eyes are perfectly designed for their environment and habits.

“The ‘fovea’, a patch of tightly packed receptors that delivers sharp vision, forms a horizontal streak instead of the usual circular spot. This allows the animal to scan the shoreline without moving its head, according to Australian researchers. ... [PhD student Nicolas Nagloo of the University of Western Australia says,] ‘In the case of crocodiles [the fovea] is spread across the middle of the retina, and it gives them maximum clarity all along the visual horizon.’ This arrangement reflects the predator’s iconic ability to lurk with just its eyes above the water, waiting motionless for prey to wander too close to the river’s edge” (“Crocodile eyes are fine-tuned for lurking,” *BBC News*, May 4, 2016).

The crocodile can sleep with one eye open, probably using one brain hemisphere at a time, as some other animals do, including birds while flying long distances.

“Consistent with this idea, the crocs in the study were more likely to leave one eye open in the presence of a human. They also kept that single eye trained directly on the interloper, said senior author John Lesku. ‘They definitely monitored the human when they were in the room. But even after the human left the room, the animal still kept its open eye... directed towards the location where the human had been - suggesting that they were keeping an eye out for potential threats’” (“Crocodiles sleep with one eye watching,” *BBC News*, Oct. 22, 2015).

DIGGING IN THE WALLS

God commanded the prophet Ezekiel to dig in the walls of Israel's temple and observe the evils being done in secret by apostate religious leaders of that day. "Then said he unto me, Son of man, dig now in the wall ... And he said unto me, Go in, and behold the wicked abominations that they do here. So I went in and saw. ..." (Ezek. 8:7-10).

Ezekiel was then instructed to preach against the errors of the leaders and to tell the people the things he had witnessed.

"Therefore prophesy against them, prophesy, O son of man. ... Then I spake unto them of the captivity all the things that the Lord had shewed me" (Ezek. 11:4,25).

The hour in which we live is very similar to that of Ezekiel's day. Many of those who profess to be the people of God are apostate. It was prophesied in the New Testament Scriptures that such would be the case in the closing hours of our age. This will culminate in the brief worldwide rule of an utterly apostate Harlot "church" (2 Tim. 3-4; 1 Tim. 4; 2 Pet. 2-3; Jude; Rev. 17).

As in Ezekiel's day much of the apostasy of our hour is hidden from the view of the average Christian. We intend by God's grace to "dig in the walls" of modern ecumenism and to expose and cry out against the things we find. In this section we also report on secular events which are relevant to Christians. May God give us ears to hear, minds to understand, and hearts to obey. Is the truth of God not worthy of defense?



LYING ABOUT FIDEL (Friday Church News Notes, December 2, 2016, www.wayoflife.org, fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - The death of Cuba's dictator Fidel Castro last week brought an outpouring of sympathetic lies from the leftist propagandizing "mainstream media." A report in Reuters was typical, and these are the type of reports that appear on popular Internet news sites and in newspapers throughout the world to brainwash the average ill-informed person. I read it in *The Himalayan Times* in a coffee shop in Kathmandu, Nepal. The spirit of the piece is that Fidel was a hero who thumbed his nose at the *oppressive* United States and created a congenial communist state that allegedly improved the lives of the people. "He swept away capitalism and won support for bringing schools and hospitals to the poor" ("Former Cuban Leader Dies at 90," Reuters, Nov. 26, 2016). The truth is that he didn't *win* support; he *forced* support through terrorism and brutal oppression. While the report admits that Fidel had "legions of enemies and critics" who "saw him as a ruthless tyrant," these critics were not given a voice to express their concerns. An ill-informed reader is left to think that perhaps their criticism of good-ole Fidel was unjust. This Reuters report does not inform its readers of Fidel's brutality, the destruction of free speech, free religion, free press, and democratic elections, the destruction of the economy through Marxist principles, the tiny, dark, nightmarish prison cells filled with 500,000 "critics," the "highest political incarceration rate per capita on earth," the unspeakable torture and beatings, the

15,000 executions by firing squad, the forced labor. Reuters does not explain why hundreds of thousands of Cubans risked their lives to escape Fidel's communist paradise to flee to *oppressive* America (tens of thousands drowning or being eaten by sharks in the attempt), while practically no one tried to immigrate to Cuba. Those people can tell you the truth about Cuba, but they were not given a voice by Reuters, *et al.* (They are given a voice in volumes such as *The Black Book of Communism* by Pascal Fontaine, *Fidel: Hollywood's Favorite Tyrant* by Humberto Fontova, and *Against All Hope* by Armando Valladares, who describes the frightful 22 years of torture and imprisonment he personally endured for "merely raising the issue of freedom.") Though Cuba's socialistic health care system has been touted as one of the best in the world, the reality is there are two health care systems in Cuba, a very poor quality one for ordinary Cubans and a superior one for the Communist Party elite and medical tourists. "Testimony and documentation on the subject are vast. Hospitals and clinics are crumbling. Conditions are so unsanitary, patients may be better off at home, whatever home is. If they do have to go to the hospital, they must bring their own bedsheets, soap, towels, food, light bulbs--even toilet paper. And basic medications are scarce ... finding an aspirin can be a chore. And an antibiotic will fetch a fortune on the black market. The equipment that doctors have to work with is either antiquated or nonexistent. Doctors have been known to reuse latex gloves--there is no choice. When they travel to the island, on errands of mercy, American doctors make sure to take as much equipment and as many supplies as they can carry. One told the Associated Press, 'The [Cuban] doctors are pretty well trained, but they have nothing to work with. It's like operating with knives and spoons'" ("Does Cuba Have the Best Healthcare System?" May 22, 2016, quora.com). This Reuters report also failed to tell its readers that Cubans continue to stream out of Fidel's

communist paradise for America's oppressive shores ("Surge in Cuban Immigration to U.S. continues," Aug. 5, 2016, [Pewresearch.org](http://www.pewresearch.org)). We wonder why the leftist reporters don't immigrate to one of the communist paradises instead of staying in oppressive America. For more truth about Fidel's shocking reign of terror see <http://www.faithwire.com/2016/11/28/heres-a-handy-list-of-atrocities-for-everyone-glorifying-fidel-castro-today/>

SCIENTISTS HAVE FOUND WATER "LURKING MUCH DEEPER" THAN PREVIOUSLY THOUGHT (Friday Church News Notes, December 2, 2016, www.wayoflife.org fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - Scientists have concluded that minerals near the earth's mantle could hold massive amounts of water. "Scientists running complex simulations on the mineral brucite, which forms part of Earth's mantle, have concluded that **IT CAN HOLD WATER UNDER HIGH PRESSURE UP TO 595 KILOMETRES (OR 370 MILES) BELOW THE SURFACE--** much deeper than earlier estimates. ... geologist Mainak Mookherjee from Florida State University [says,] 'We didn't think water could be stored by hydrous minerals such as brucite at these depths. But now that we know it's there, we need to figure out how much water could be effectively stored inside it.' Every year, billions of tonnes of water are pushed underground through the process of subduction, where one tectonic plate rides over the top of another. It's just as important a part of the water cycle as rainfall and evaporation. ... And brucite



is only part of the story: other hydrous minerals, such as mica, lawsonite, serpentine, could be involved as well. ... water could be found way underground--as deep as 660 kilometres (410 miles)--through the mineral ringwoodite" ("Water could be lurking much deeper in our planet than we thought," *Science Alert*, Nov. 24, 2016). This reminds me of a passage in the ancient book of Genesis, "In the six hundredth year of Noah's life, in the second month, the seventeenth day of the month, the same day **WERE ALL THE FOUNTAINS OF THE GREAT DEEP BROKEN UP**, and the windows of heaven were opened" (Genesis 7:11).

STUDENTS CANNOT DISCERN TRUE FROM FAKE NEWS (Friday Church News Notes, December 2, 2016,



www.wayoflife.org, fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - A study by Standard History Education Group has found that young people are unable to judge the credibility of online information. After testing 7,800 teenagers on "civil ability reasoning," lead author Sam Wineburg said, "'Overall, young people's ability to reason about the information on the Internet can be summed up in one word: bleak'" ("Stanford Study," *NewsMax.com*, Nov. 22, 2016). "When it comes to evaluating information that flows through social media channels, they are easily duped." A major reason for this is that few young people are being properly educated. They are not being taught to think critically. That is a failure of parents, churches, and schools. Another reason is that the average young person is too busy playing to be

concerned with learning to think properly. The youth discipleship course [*The Mobile Phone and the Christian Home and Church*](#) offers practical help for parents and churches that want to disciple their young people instead of entertain them to death.



JUDGE IN GERMANY RULES FOR SHARIA POLICE (Friday Church News Notes, December 2, 2016, www.wayoflife.org fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - On November 21, a German court ruled that "a group of Islamists did not break the law by forming 'sharia police' street patrols and telling people to stop drinking, gambling and listening to music" ("Sharia police are not illegal," *The Local*, Nov. 22, 2016). The patrols wear orange vests emblazoned with the words "Sharia Police," but the court found that the vests were not "threatening." This report reminds us that a major Islamic objective is to put Western nations under Sharia law. They have long-range plans and accomplish their goals incrementally. If they suffer a defeat, they do not give up. Very few western political leaders understand these things, probably including Donald Trump. While he is concerned about keeping Islamic terrorists out of America, the more foundational issue is to understand and deal effectively with the fact that conquering the world for Allah has been a fundamental aspect of Islam since the days of Mohammed. The Jihadist is not an "extremist" or "ultra" anything. He is a true and obedient Muslim who is taking his Quran seriously. Political activity and worldly-minded political leaders cannot change hearts and minds, but prayer can.

TRICERATOPS SOFT TISSUE (Friday Church News Notes, December 2, 2016, www.wayoflife.org, fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - The following is excerpted from “Triceratops,” creation.com, Nov. 19, 2016: “Layers of soft and stretchable tissue were discovered in the brow horn of a *Triceratops*. When examined under a scanning electron microscope, bone osteocytes cells were seen together with extraordinary structural preservation of the cell. This even included the preservation of thin protein extensions from the cell membranes called filipodia. These filipodia measured less than 300 nm in diameter and were seen branching into the underlying bone matrix. Some skeptics in the past have tried to dismiss claims of soft tissue as mere biofilms left behind by bacteria. The iDINO project [carried out by the Creation Research Society] special report refutes the skeptics by demonstrating under a scanning electron microscope, that what we are seeing are not merely biofilms, but highly structured soft tissue in dinosaur bone. This argues strongly against the idea that the fossil is 65 million years old as many evolutionists claim. More recently, Brian Thomas and Vance Nelson carbon dated a number of dinosaur fossils including two specimens from *Triceratops horridus*. The two specimens gave a date in years of $33,570 \pm 20$ and $41,010 \pm 220$ the half-life of moa mitochondrial DNA is reported in the literature as 521 years. This only serves to compound the problem for evolution since DNA, red blood cells, bone proteins, etc. should not be present in ancient fossils if they were really that old. In the same issue of the iDINO project special report, Brian



Thomas published a paper on original biomaterial in fossils, where he discusses the discovery of protein (e.g. collagen) and DNA in fossils from different strata. He also discusses mechanisms of preservation that skeptics have appealed to when trying to explain why biomaterial is found in these supposedly ancient fossils. The idea that soft tissue can exist for 65 million years is highly problematic for evolution since we would expect soft tissue to have completely degraded in a far shorter period of time. Soft tissue preservation in dinosaurs fits very nicely with the Biblical understanding that dinosaur fossils are evidence of rapid burial by the global flood a few thousand years ago.”

ISRAEL’S MILITARY WAS FORCED INTO ACCEPTING WOMEN IN COMBAT POSITIONS BY ITS SUPREME COURT (Friday Church News Notes, December 9, 2016, www.wayoflife.org, fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - The following is excerpted from “The Political Correctness of Women in Combat,” *Israel Today*, Nov. 21, 2016: “[T]he IDF is starting a new experimental program to fully integrate women into the Armored Corps. Women can already serve in the Armored Corps, but not (yet) as tank crew members. The program aims to determine how mixed tank crews function under normal training conditions. If successful, women would be able to join any combat role in the IDF except for elite special forces. ... Many in Israel are questioning why we are now repeating the failed experiment of 2015, when the ability of women to serve in the Armored and Artillery corps was thoroughly examined. At the time, the army’s psychological and medical experts concluded that ‘the attempt to train women for frontline combat roles (which is beyond their physical ability) for the sake of *equality* may result in many injuries just to find the one woman who can cope with the required physical demands.’ The army also argued that a woman’s special privacy needs couldn’t be accommodated by crews operating for



days at a time in their tanks. IT IS NO SECRET THAT THE IDF WAS FORCED INTO EQUAL OPPORTUNITY BY THE SUPREME COURT BACK IN 1995, following the appeal of Alice Miller, who sued the military for her right to enlist into the prestigious Aviation Course. In a historic decision, the court deemed the ban on female recruits to the Aviation Course to be unconstitutional. Backed by the likes of the feminist Women’s Lobby and the ultra-liberal Association for Civil Rights in Israel, the case effectively TRANSFORMED THE ISSUE OF WOMEN IN COMBAT FROM A PROFESSIONAL DISCUSSION TO AN IDEOLOGICAL CRUSADE. The IDF’s present efforts to find ways for women to serve in all military units have elicited harsh criticism from retired colonels and generals who think that such ideology can only be detrimental to the army as it takes precedent over real military demands. ... Whether it is a good idea or not, IT IS CLEAR THAT THE QUESTION OF WOMEN IN COMBAT HAS TURNED COMPLETELY POLITICAL, WHICH MEANS THAT THE FUTURE FIGHTING CAPABILITY OF THE IDF WILL NOW BE DICTATED BY POLITICAL CORRECTNESS” (emphasis added).

FRANCE DEBATES BILL TO CRIMINALIZE ONLINE PRO-LIFE ADVOCACY (Friday Church News Notes, December 9, 2016, www.wayoflife.org, fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - The following is excerpted from CNSNews.com, Dec. 1, 2016: “French lawmakers on Thursday will debate and vote on a Socialist government-backed



draft law that could criminalize online pro-life advocacy. The legislation would extend the ambit of already-illegal 'interference' in abortion to cover digital media. Any website carrying material that is deemed to be 'deliberately misleading, intimidating and/or exerting psychological or moral pressure' aimed at persuading a mother not to abort her child could face criminal charges, with punishments of two years in prison and a fine of 30,000 euros (\$31,800). ... France legalized abortion on demand until the end of the 12th week of pregnancy – or what is known officially as 'voluntary interruption of pregnancy' (*L'interruption volontaire de grossesse* or *IVG*)--in 1975. In 1993 another law was passed, creating the offense of hindering or interfering in an abortion--aimed at preventing pro-life activists from physically blocking access to, or occupying or otherwise targeting abortion facilities. ... The law was later broadened to cover 'moral and psychological pressure' aimed at dissuading abortion, and the legislation now under consideration seeks to widen that further into the digital realm. In the new law's crosshairs are websites like IVG.net, which offers counselling, practical support, and resources that include information about medical and psychological risks entailed in having an abortion. ... In other recent abortion-related developments in France, judicial authorities recently ruled that a video featuring children with Down syndrome could not be broadcast on public television on the grounds that the children's smiles may 'disturb' women who have had abortions. Earlier this year, a mandatory one-week waiting period before abortion was abolished."

MENNONITES PERSECUTED FOR HELPING EX-LESBIAN WHO FLED COUNTRY WITH DAUGHTER

(Friday Church News Notes, December 9, 2016, www.wayoflife.org, fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - The following is excerpted from "American Missionary to Nicaragua," ChristianNews.net, Dec. 1, 2016: "An American missionary to Nicaragua entered a guilty plea on Wednesday to a charge of conspiracy in international parental kidnapping for helping an ex-lesbian flee the U.S. with her child seven years ago. ... Miller, also known as Timo, lives in Crossville, Tennessee, but conducts missions work in Managua, Nicaragua. He now faces 12 to 18 months in prison for purchasing plane tickets for Lisa Miller (no relation) and her daughter to fly from Canada to Nicaragua, and then helping them find refuge in the country. The woman had fled the United States after being threatened by a federal judge that he would transfer custody of the child to the woman's ex-partner if she did not allow the girl to have further visitation. As previously reported, according to the criminal complaint filed in 2011, Timothy Miller allegedly used his mother-in-law's credit card to pay for Lisa Miller's plane tickets to fly out of Canada--funds that he reimbursed. He then picked up Miller and her daughter in Managua and helped them to find refuge in the country. ... The situation began in 2000, when Lisa Miller joined in a civil union with lesbian Janet Jenkins in the state of Vermont, one of the few states that allowed homosexual arrangements at the time. Following an artificial insemination procedure from a male sperm donor, Miller gave birth to a girl, named Isabella, in 2002. ... In 2003, Miller and Jenkins split over continued tension in their relationship, part of which involved the miscarriage of Miller's second pregnancy, and Miller moved to Virginia. She renounced her involvement in homosexuality and reportedly turned to Jesus Christ to be born again. ... When

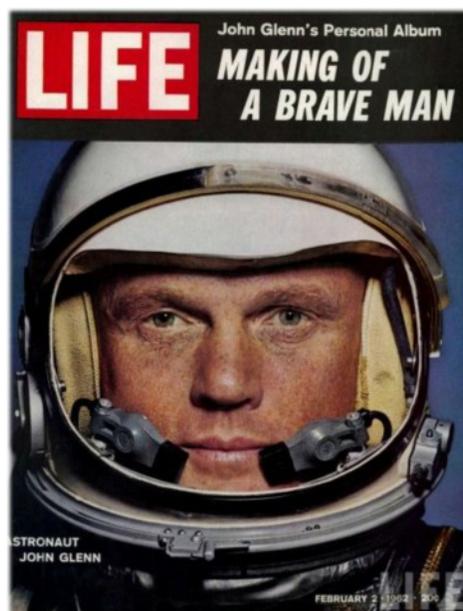
the civil union between Miller and Jenkins was officially dissolved, the court gave custody to Miller, while also granting visitation rights to Jenkins. ... Later, Miller testified to the court that the visits were causing great trauma to Isabella. She claimed that at six years old, the girl was forced to take baths together with Jenkins, and that the girl was openly touching herself inappropriately. She also stated that Isabella was withdrawn and talked about suicide at times. ... Miller then filed for exclusive custody of Isabella, and the court agreed. ... However, Jenkins fought the ruling all the way up to the Virginia Supreme Court, which in 2008, ruled in favor of granting Miller's former lesbian partner visitation rights. Miller refused. The following year, family court judge Richard Cohen warned Miller that she must allow Isabella to visit Jenkins and threatened that if she did not do so, he would transfer full custody to Jenkins. In November 2009, Cohen followed through with his threats and ordered Miller to hand the child over to Jenkins. However,



Miller had fled the country with Isabella before he issued the transfer order, and for some time, none knew the whereabouts of the two. It was later discovered that they had fled to Nicaragua via the help of a number of Mennonite Christians and their contacts. ... Mennonite pastor Ken Miller is currently serving 27 months behind bars for his alleged part in the escape after being convicted in 2012. Businessman Phillip Zodhiates, who is not Mennonite, was found guilty by a jury in October and is scheduled to be sentenced in January."

FORMATIVE CHURCH DISCIPLINE (Friday Church News Notes, December 9, 2016, www.wayoflife.org, fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - The following is by J.M. Pendleton, *Church Manual Designed for the Use of Baptist Churches*, 1867: "It is clear from these Scriptures (Eph. 2:21, 22; 4:12, 13; 2 Peter 1:5-7; 3:18) that Christians should ever be in a state of progressive spiritual improvement. They must not retrograde, nor remain stationary, but be constantly advancing in the divine life. The 'perfecting of the saints' is an object of vast importance. ... **Formative church discipline** contemplates the vigorous growth of the 'babe in Christ' till it is developed into 'a perfect man.' Bringing the baptized disciples into local church organizations has this purpose in view. They are to be taught 'to observe all things whatsoever Christ has commanded.' By such observance alone can a church edify itself in love, building up its members on their most holy faith. By such observance is promoted the symmetry of Christian character, and in it are included all the activities of the Christian life. **Formative discipline**, in its sanctifying influences, ought to reach every church-member. The old, with their gray hairs, should exhibit its beneficial power in the ripeness of the fruits of the Spirit. The middle-aged, in the perfection of physical strength, should also show that it makes them 'strong in the Lord and in the power of his might.' And the young, in the morning of life, should yield to its plastic touches, that they may become useful laborers in the vineyard of the Lord. All have been redeemed with the precious blood of Christ and 'should live, not to themselves, but to him who died and rose again'" (Pendleton, *Church Manual Designed for the Use of Baptist Churches*, 1867).

DEATH OF AN ASTRONAUT WHO BELIEVED IN GOD (Friday Church News Notes, December 16, 2016, www.wayoflife.org, fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) -



John Glenn, one of the original seven American astronauts, died on December 8 at age 95. In 1962, he was the first American to orbit the earth, and in 1998 he was the oldest person to go into space (age 77). Glenn was one of many American astronauts who talked about their faith in God. The following interesting overview was published in the *Orlando Sentinel*, Nov. 7, 1998. Orlando is only a few miles from Florida's Kennedy Space Center. "From high above Earth, John Glenn saw the face of God. He is not alone. There is something about the beauty of space, Earth and the universe that touches many astronauts' spirits. Logic-oriented scientists and daring pilots turn spiritual, some even evangelical, after their space flights. Glenn and most of his Mercury astronauts strongly testified about how faith helped with their groundbreaking flights. The crew of Apollo 8 punctuated the first flight around the moon with a moving reading from Genesis. The first liquid poured and food eaten on the moon occurred when Buzz Aldrin took communion. Apollo astronaut Jim Irwin became an evangelist before his 1991 death. Astronaut Tammy Jernigan talked about her Christian faith in a live broadcast from a shuttle three years ago. Shannon Lucid, the daughter of missionaries, took a minister's sermons up to the Russian space station Mir.

When that space station was damaged in a crash, one of the cosmonauts' first broadcasts back to Earth was to thank God that they survived. John Glenn ... summed it all up last week while in orbit. 'To look up out at this kind of creation and not believe in God is to me impossible,' Glenn said in a Sunday news conference, responding to a reporter's question. 'It just strengthens my faith.' Glenn, a devout Presbyterian, said he was praying every day in orbit. An enhanced faith 'is pretty common,' said former astronaut Bryan O'Connor, who used to run the space shuttle program for NASA. 'I can tell you I felt a sense of awe out there looking at the Earth that I never had before, and it's easy to relate that to a spiritual kind of thing. It's almost natural. ... It's really an accentuator.' Astronauts usually don't talk about faith much at work, said three-time ex-astronaut Mike Mullane. However, there was an active Bible study group among the astronauts when he flew several years ago. ... 'It is so incredibly beautiful that it does stir your soul into thinking that there does have to be some Supreme Being,' Mullane said Monday. Astronaut Dom Gorie ... has vivid memories of looking out the window and thinking there is 'no other way it could have formed without a creator'" ("Astronauts Faith Isn't Lost in Space," *Orlando Sentinel*, Nov. 7, 1998).

A WORLD FILLED WITH FAKE NEWS (Friday Church News Notes, December 16, 2016, www.wayoflife.org, fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - The American media is abuzz with talk about "fake news." According to "the left," fake news emanates from "the right," and according to "the right," it emanates from "the left." Fake news is the publication of lies and distortions, and according to the Bible, the world's media is filled to the brim with "fake news" on all sides of the political spectrum, because we live in a fallen, spiritually-dark world. Fake news includes positive references to and support for Darwinian evolution, the big bang, the right to abortion, the right to

AN 80-MILE-PER HOUR FISH (Friday Church News Notes, December 9, 2016, www.wayoflife.org, fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - The following is from CreationMoments.com, November 24, 2016: “Many fish are surprisingly fast when they’re hunting for lunch. Which species do you think is the fastest-swimming fish in the ocean? Some people say it’s the sailfish. Sailfish have been clocked at a speed of 68 miles per hour while leaping. Others say black marlins hold the record. According to BBC Video, marlins are capable of swimming at speeds up to an incredible 80 miles per hour! But today’s broadcast is about another fish that’s been clocked doing 80. I’m talking about the swordfish. Recently, scientists have discovered the secret behind the swordfish’s incredible speed. For a long time, scientists have known that the swordfish’s bill--or ‘sword’--is porous and rough. This reduces drag in the water. But now a scientist has discovered that swordfish have a gland--located where their ‘sword’ attaches to their skull--and this gland secretes water-resistant oil which coats the swordfish’s skin. According to Dr. John Videler, a biologist and professor at Groningen University in the Netherlands, the oil reduces drag in the water by 20 percent



(‘Secret to Swordfish’s Speedy Swimming Found,’ *Live Science*, July 7, 2016)! Until now, it was thought that the gland played a part in the fish’s olfactory system. But these new findings make it more clear than ever that swordfish were designed and built for speed. Our Creator gave them powerful, streamlined bodies and everything else they need ... just as He has given us everything we need!”

die, homosexual rights, animal rights, man’s innate goodness, atheism, humanism, universalism, pantheism, panentheism, the force, self-esteemism, astrology, the Age of Aquarius, theological liberalism, JEDP, alcoholism as a disease, the power of positive thinking. Everything contrary to God’s Word is fake news. Thankfully, the good Lord has given unworthy sinners a Book of pure truth containing Good News. “To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them” (Isaiah 8:20).

HUNDREDS OF MUSLIM NO-GO ZONES IN EUROPE (Friday Church News Notes, December 16, 2016, www.wayoflife.org, fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - The following is excerpted from “Hundreds of Muslim No-Go Zones,” *PoliZette*, Dec. 13, 2016: “Filmmaker Ami Horowitz recently encountered the all-too-real brutality to be found in a Muslim ‘no-go’ zone in Sweden. ... ‘The rules of engagement are if [police are] chasing a subject, no matter what

this guy did, once they cross that threshold [into a Muslim area], they stop pursuit, and if they want to actually go in they have to call an entire armed convoy,’ Horowitz said. ... Horowitz recently recounted his whole story in an op-ed published by The Hill. ... As Horowitz noted, liberals love to pretend that Muslim no-go zones-- Muslim neighborhoods to which even the authorities are afraid to venture and in which Sharia law is the rule and non-Muslims are attacked on sight--are little more than a figment of paranoid conservative imaginations. But as Horowitz would find out for himself, they are very much a horrifying reality. ‘Literally moments after I stepped into



the town, a gang of five clearly Islamic men approached my crew, and they attacked me without provocation,’ he continued. ‘They repeatedly punched, kicked and choked me, as a number of bystanders watched. Eventually they dragged me into a building, which at the time I assumed was to finish me off. Once inside the apartment building vestibule, they resumed their vicious attack. But seconds later someone opened an apartment door directly above us, and it luckily spooked them enough to run away,’ wrote Horowitz. The truth, however, is that there are neighborhoods like Husby scattered across Europe. These ‘no-go’ areas stand as a damning testament to the utter devastation wrought on Europe by multiculturalism and mass Muslim migration. While it is nearly impossible to gauge the full extent of the no-go zone problem, it is safe to say there are hundreds of no-go areas scattered throughout Europe. A March 2016 report published by the Hungarian government found 900 areas across Europe. ... As Muslim migration into Europe shows no real signs of slowing, the number of Muslim no-go areas will

only continue to grow. ... No-go areas are also a ‘significant threat when you consider the high birthrate of the Muslim community,’ Hamid said. Indeed, the existing no-go zones coupled with Muslims' high birthrate and the flood of Muslim migration into Europe could see the development of entire no-go regions. ... ‘It’s like when you see a cancer cell that is not causing any harm now, but later on if it is left without intervention it can cause very serious trouble,’ said Hamid.”

GIRL WHO WAS NOT SUPPOSED TO BE BORN HEADING TO CARNEGIE

(Friday Church News Notes, December 16, 2016, www.wayoflife.org, fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - The following is excerpted from *WorldNetDaily*, Dec. 11, 2016: “The young girl’s fingers fly over the piano keyboard in ways that impress even the judges of international competitions, so much so that she’s scheduled in a few weeks to appear at Carnegie Hall. But the talent that Anni Zhang puts on display, if China had had its way, never would have been. She was the No. 2 daughter of her family in China during a time when the one-child policy, now two-child but still forcing abortions, limited family sizes. According to Reggie Littlejohn, president of the Womens Rights Without Frontiers organization, which has been fighting China’s deadly mandatory abortion policy for years, Anni’s family had to endure persecution to keep their daughter. ‘Family planning police came daily to pressure Anni’s mother to abort her,’ a statement from Littlejohn explained. ‘Anni’s father was able to get permission for Anni’s birth only after a long and difficult struggle.’ ... She arrived in the United States only a few years ago, with her older sister, after having been detained as ‘China’s youngest prisoner of conscience.’ It was because her father, Zhang Lin, was sentenced to prison for standing up for Anni’s right to go to school. ... ‘We are so proud of Anni. She is flourishing, both



as a pianist and as a top student. Her father, Zhang Lin, was trained as a nuclear physicist, and Anni has inherited his strength in math and science. Her story is an example for all those who struggle against the odds. Through our help and her own hard work, Anni is a witness to the hope of a new beginning and to the beauty, brilliance and infinite value of Chinese girls,’ Littlejohn said. ... ‘Anni could easily have been one of the 400 million lives ‘prevented’ by China’s One (now Two) Child Policy of coercive population control. Or she could have been selectively aborted because she is a girl, as happens to so many second daughters in China.’ ... ‘The fact that the Chinese government refuses to give Zhang Lin a passport under these circumstances underscores their inhumanity,’ Littlejohn said. ‘It is pointless and cruel that they are depriving Zhang Lin and Anni of the joy of his attendance at her Carnegie Hall performance.’” To hear Anni practice *Chopin’s Étude Op. 10, No. 5*, see www.wnd.com/2016/12/girl-who-was-not-supposed-to-be-born-heading-to-carnegie/?cat_orig=diversions

THE LORD IS A GOD OF GRACE AND JUDGMENT

(Friday Church News Notes, December 16, 2016, www.wayoflife.org, fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - “And therefore will the LORD wait, that he may be gracious unto you, and therefore will he be exalted, that he may have mercy upon you: for the LORD is a God of judgment: blessed are all they that wait for him” (Isaiah 30:18). The Lord is a God of grace and a God of judgment, but the judgment cannot be

blamed on God anymore than a court’s conviction of a thief can be blamed on the court. God repeatedly called Israel to repentance and offered salvation, sending His prophets one after the other, but Israel rejected God’s law and refused His grace. The same is true for all men. The Lord loves mercy and has provided for mercy through the atonement that was purchased at great cost to God and has sent His people to the ends of the earth to proclaim the sweet gospel of Christ, but those who reject His grace will surely suffer His judgment. There is no other means of salvation, as Christ Himself said, “He that believeth not shall be damned” (Mark 16:16). Any God that is preached that is not a God of grace and judgment is not the true God revealed in Scripture: “for the LORD is a God of judgment” (Isa. 30:18).

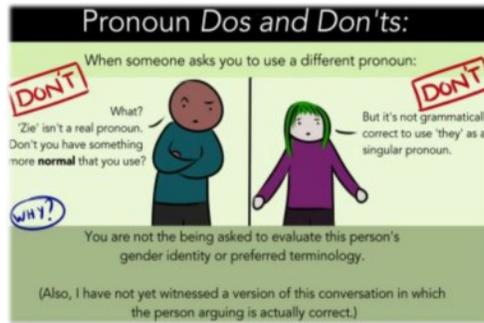
ALPHA MALES REPLACE PAJAMA BOYS

(Friday Church News Notes, December 23, 2016, www.wayoflife.org, fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - Dr. Sebastian Gorka, a professor of military strategy, likes what he sees in the new administration that is preparing to take power when Donald Trump is inaugurated as the 45th president of the United States in January. Gorka, who previously taught at the Marine Corps University, says, “The message I have is a very simple one, it’s a bumper sticker: the era of the Pajama Boy is over January 20th and the alpha males are back” (RealClearPolitics.com, Dec. 17, 2016). No doubt, alpha males are replacing pajama boys at the top echelons of America’s government, and I’m very glad. In fact, not only are alpha males going to be in charge, but high finance



deal-maker males are going to be in charge. But we must not forget that Trump and his alpha males will not bring God's blessing on America. They might help the economy, but wealth is no measure of God's blessing. In fact, it can be an evidence of His curse. The United States today sounds an awful lot like Ezekiel's description of Sodom with its "pride, fulness of bread, and abundance of idleness" (Eze. 16:49). The alpha males will bring welcome change, but there are many important things that they won't or can't change. For example, the alpha male Secretary of Defense will hopefully bring a measure of good sense back to such things as strategy, weapons procurement, and rules of engagement, but he won't be able to remove the feminist influence that has permeated the service and the homosexual rights program that is in place. And he won't be able to get God's blessing on the military, which is essential for protection. "Righteousness exalteth a nation: but sin is a reproach to any people" (Proverbs 14:34). "Except the LORD build the house, they labour in vain that build it: except the LORD keep the city, the watchman waketh *but* in vain" (Psalm 127:1). "*As for* my people, children *are* their oppressors, and women rule over them. O my people, they which lead thee cause *thee* to err, and destroy the way of thy paths" (Isaiah 3:12). "Hear, O earth: behold, I will bring evil upon this people, *even* the fruit of their thoughts, because they have not hearkened unto my words, nor to my law, but rejected it" (Jeremiah 6:19). "As they were increased, so they sinned against me: *therefore* will I change their glory into shame" (Hosea 4:7).

OXFORD UNIVERSITY'S SPEECH POLICE (Friday Church News Notes, December 23, 2016, www.wayoflife.org, fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - Oxford University's student union has distributed a flyer urging students to use "gender neutral" pronouns such as "ze" instead of "he" or "she" in order not to offend "transgender persons" and to "cut down on discrimination." "Deliberately

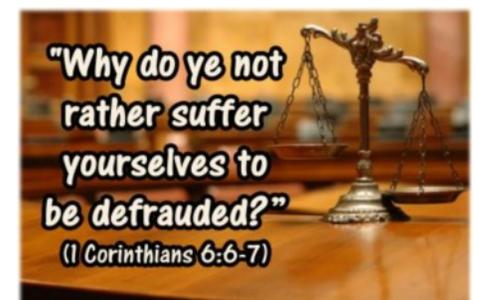


using the wrong pronoun for a transgender person is an offence under the university's behaviour code. It is hoped the use of 'ze' may also be used in lectures and seminars, as well as socially. Human rights campaigner and LGBT activist Peter Tatchell welcomed the notion, adding: 'This issue isn't about being PC. It's about respecting people's right to define themselves as neither male nor female.' ... Cambridge University is moving in the same direction" ("Oxford University students," *The Independent*, Dec. 14, 2016). For the sake of not offending the feelings of a few, everyone else's freedom of speech and freedom of religion is destroyed.

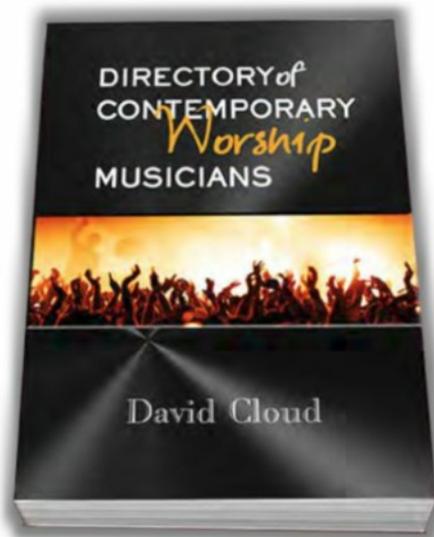
PREACHERS WHO PREACH TOO LONG (Friday Church News Notes, December 23, 2016, www.wayoflife.org, fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - Some preachers preach too long. It has been said that it is better for the people to wish you had preached longer than that they wish you had stopped long before you did. I love preaching and delight in Bible study, but there are very few men I can listen to for more than 60 minutes with pleasure and profit. And most people have a much shorter attention span than I do. If you are a truly great preacher, that is a different story. Consider Lawrence Chaderton, one of the translators of the King James Bible. As a young man Chaderton began a series of afternoon sermons at the church of St. Clement's, Cambridge, that continued for 50 years. "Sermons were timed by an hour glass, which stood beside the pulpit. Chaderton's biographer tells how once having preached for two hours, he feared he had worn out his listeners' patience and stopped. But the entire congregation

cried, 'For God's sake, go on! We beg you, go on!' Chaderton continued for another hour" (Olga Opfell, *The King James Bible Translators*, p. 47). When Chaderton announced that he was retiring from the lectures, forty of the clergy, who said they owed their conversion to his preaching, begged him to reconsider. Chaderton died in the year 1640 at age 103, and it is said that to the end he could read a small-print Greek New Testament without glasses.

ALLOW DEFRAUDING (Friday Church News Notes, December 23, 2016, www.wayoflife.org, fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - "But brother goeth to law with brother, and that before the unbelievers. Now therefore there is utterly a fault among you, because ye go to law one with another. Why do ye not rather take wrong? why do ye not rather suffer *yourselves* to be defrauded?" (1 Corinthians 6:6-7). The following is from John Phillip's commentary on 1 Corinthians: "Years ago I fell into the hands of an unscrupulous businessman who persuaded me to invest money in what he knew to be a worthless enterprise. He gave me some equally worthless documents as security. When the first interest check was returned by the bank I knew I had been duped. I took the worthless check to him and demanded an explanation. It was a mistake, he said, he had meant to cover the check. I should redeposit it. It was the beginning of a long trail of lies and evasions. At last I took legal counsel. 'A clear case of fraud,' the attorney said. 'Let me have the case and I'll see the man in prison.' The man was a professing believer. He went to the



same church as I did. I knew his wife and little children. After some agonizing heart searching, I decided to let the matter rest. The sum of money involved was considerable (at least for me it was), but it was not worth a lawsuit. I decided to ‘suffer myself to be defrauded.’ ‘Ah!’ the worldly wise would say, ‘then this brother was able to use 1 Corinthians 6 as a way to get away with fraud!’ Well, yes and no! In actual fact the case was simply referred to a Higher Court. The man did not get away with his dishonesty, as I learned later. He paid in other ways. Nor was I the loser. A wealthy businessman friend of mine heard what had happened. He approached me one day and said, ‘I should have warned you about that man. I didn’t know you were a potential victim. The Lord has put it on my heart to help you. Sell me those securities. Don’t you worry about my taking a loss, I can absorb it easily enough. Anyway, I have more leverage than you have and I know more about him than you do. Leave him to me.’ The man was as good as his word. Within a few weeks he handed me a check for the full amount. Doubtless it does not always work out like that. But it will always work out--in the end.”



THE FALSE SPIRIT OF CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP MUSIC (Friday Church News Notes, December 23, 2016, www.wayoflife.org fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - [The Directory of Contemporary Worship Musicians](#), which we publish as a free eBook, contains extensive documentation proving that Contemporary Christian Music is a jungle of end-time apostasy and that it is led by “another spirit” (2 Cor. 11:4). When you consider the fact that CCM has an illicit relationship with the world, which the apostle John plainly stated is “not of God” (1 John 5:15-17),

that CCM represents the charismatic movement in all of its dangerous heretical weirdness (e.g., gibberish speaking, spirit slaying, holy shaking, holy laughter, holy drunkenness, word-faith name-it-and-claim-it, latter rain miracle revival, fourth dimension prayer, end-time prophets and apostles), that CCM is ecumenical through and through and closely affiliated with Rome, that most CCMers love Dietrich Bonhoeffer and C.S. Lewis and a galaxy of other rank heretics, that CCM is permeated with Roman Catholic contemplative prayer mysticism, that CCMers love wretchedly corrupt “Bibles” such as The Message, that large numbers of CCMers love *The Shack* and its idolatrous “just not” female god, and that CCM is widely infiltrated with homosexuality -- it is obvious that we are dealing with “another spirit” rather than the Spirit of God who is the Holy Spirit of Truth and Righteousness (John 4:23; 14:17; 15:26; 16:13; 1 John 4:6). We have provided extensive documentation of these serious charges in the [Directory of Contemporary Worship Musicians](#). “For the fruit of the Spirit is in all goodness and righteousness and truth” (Ephesians 5:9). See http://www.wayoflife.org/free_ebooks/

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- Exalting the Lord Jesus Christ; His eternal perfect, and preserved Word; and the Gospel of his Grace. (2 Peter 3:1-2, 18)
- Standing for the whole counsel of God. (Acts 20:27; Jude 3)
- Challenging Christian workers to uphold the truth and resist the apostasy of our times. (1 Timothy 6:20-21)
- Exposing the spirit of error and compromise within Christendom (Hosea 4:6a; 2 Tim. 3)
- Upholding the New Testament Church (1 Tim. 6:13-14). O Timothy is a ministry of Bethel Baptist Church of London, Ontario.
- Challenging churches to fulfill the Great Commission of world evangelism (Matt. 28:18-20; Acts 13-14)
- Standing for the Received Text of the Holy Scriptures, the Authorized Version in the English Language, and sound translations of the TR in the languages of the world. (Ps. 12:6-7)



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