

O Timothy

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

A Monthly Newsletter for Spiritual Protection and Edification

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Billy Graham greets visitors outside Black Madonna shrine at monastery in Czestochowa, Poland, in 1979

“The Billy Graham Evangelistic Association was formed in 1950 ... Graham conducted his first citywide crusade in Grand Rapids, Michigan, in September 1947, and his October 1948 crusade in Augusta, Georgia, marked the beginning of an openly ecumenical program. This was the first crusade that was sponsored by the city ministerial association...” Page 2.

Digging in the Walls: A month's worth of news items, republished from Friday Church News Notes. **Page 13.**



Bill & Gloria Gaither

WHEN DID BILLY GRAHAM'S COMPROMISE BEGIN? ~ By David Cloud

Billy Graham died in February 2018, at age 99. He is the most famous Christian of this generation and had a massive global influence.

Sadly, he has been called *Mr. Facing Two Ways*, because on one hand he was an ordained Baptist preacher who preached that salvation is on the basis of the blood of Christ alone by the grace of Christ alone through faith alone and claimed to believe that the Bible is the infallible and sole authority for faith and practice, while on the other hand he yoked together with those who preached a gospel of works and sacraments and who denied the Bible's absolute authority.

Because of his aggressive ecumenical agenda, Billy Graham did more than any man in recent history to build a “one world church.” He is the face of the New Evangelical movement with its renunciation of “separatism.”



He turned thousands of “converts” over to apostate churches.

As early as September 21, 1957, Graham said in an interview with the San Francisco News, “Anyone who

makes a decision at our meetings is seen later and referred to a local clergyman, Protestant, Catholic, or Jewish.”

Billy Graham’s compromise and disobedience began very early in his ministry. He was born in 1918 into a Presbyterian home and traces his conversion to the preaching of evangelist Mordecai Ham in 1934. He graduated from high school in May 1936 and attended Bob Jones College (which later became Bob Jones University) in the fall but switched to Florida Bible Institute after only one semester because he did not like the strict discipline at Bob Jones.

He noted in his biography that "one thing that thrilled me [about Florida Bible Institute] was the diversity of viewpoints we were exposed to in the classroom, a wondrous blend of ecumenical and evangelical thought that was really ahead of its time" (Graham, *Just As I Am*, p. 46).

It was during his time in Florida that Graham felt the call to preach. In late 1938, he was baptized by immersion in a Baptist church, and in early 1939, he was ordained to preach by a Southern Baptist congregation.

Graham graduated from the Florida Bible Institute in May 1940 and joined Wheaton College that September, graduating from there in 1943.

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In May 1944, he began preaching for the newly formed Chicagoland Youth for Christ, and in January 1945, he was appointed the first full-time evangelist for Youth for Christ International.

He was president of Northwestern Schools (founded by W.B. Riley) from December 1947 to February 1952, though he continued to travel and preach for Youth for Christ and eventually branched out with an independent ministry.

The Billy Graham Evangelistic Association was formed in 1950 and the *Hour of Decision* radio broadcasts began that same year. Graham conducted his first citywide crusade in Grand Rapids, Michigan, in September 1947, and his October 1948 crusade in Augusta, Georgia, marked the beginning of an openly ecumenical program. This was the first crusade that was sponsored by the city ministerial association. The Graham organization began demanding broad denominational support for his crusades.

During Graham’s 1949 Los Angeles crusade, his ministry began to receive national press coverage. Graham’s final rift with most fundamentalist leaders did not occur until 1957, though. This was brought about by the open sponsorship of the liberal Protestant Church Council in New York City. The Graham crusade committee in New York included 120 theological modernists who denied the infallibility of Scripture. The wife of modernist Norman Vincent Peale headed up the women’s prayer groups for the Crusade. Modernists such as Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., sat on the platform and led in prayer. In the *National Observer*, Dec. 30, 1963, King said the virgin birth of Christ was "a mythological story" created by the early Christians. In *Ebony* magazine, January 1961, King said: "I do not believe in hell as a place of a literal burning fire."

THE COMPROMISE BEGAN MUCH EARLIER THAN 1957, THOUGH. AS EARLY AS 1944, BILLY GRAHAM WAS BEFRIENDED BY ONE OF THE MOST INFLUENTIAL CATHOLIC LEADERS IN AMERICA, FULTON SHEEN.

When Sheen died in December 1979, Graham testified that he had "known him as a friend for over 35 years" (Religious News Service, Dec. 11, 1979). Sheen was a faithful son of Rome. In his book *Treasure in Clay*, Sheen said that one of his spiritual secrets was to offer Mass

every Saturday "in honor of the Blessed Mother to solicit her protection of my priesthood." Sheen devoted an entire chapter of his biography to Mary, "The Woman I Love." He said, "When I was ordained, I took a resolution to offer the Holy Sacrifice of the Eucharist every Saturday to the Blessed Mother ... All this makes me very certain that when I go before the Judgment Seat of Christ, He will say to me in His Mercy: 'I heard My Mother speak of you.' During my life I have made about thirty pilgrimages to the shrine of Our Lady of Lourdes and about ten to her shrine in Fatima" (Fulton Sheen, *Treasure in Clay*, p. 317).

In his 1997 autobiography, Graham described his first meeting with Sheen, though he doesn't give the exact date. He said he was traveling on a train from Washington to New York and was just drifting off to sleep when Sheen knocked on the sleeping compartment and asked to "come in for a chat and a prayer" (Graham, *Just As I Am*, p. 692). Graham said: "We talked about our ministries and our common commitment to evangelism, and I told him how grateful I was for his ministry and his focus on Christ. ... We talked further and we prayed; and by the time he left, I felt as if I had known him all my life."

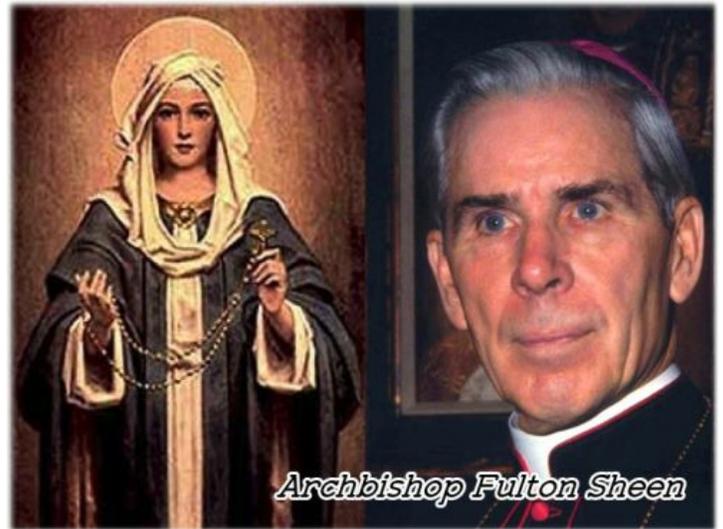
Thus, Graham acknowledged that he accepted Fulton Sheen's sacramental gospel as the truth even in those days. There is a serious problem and deception with this.

While Graham was meeting with Fulton Sheen and befriending him as a fellow evangelist, Graham was assuring fundamentalist leaders, such as Bob Jones Sr. and John R. Rice, that he was opposed to Catholicism and that he was a fundamentalist. It is obvious, though, that Billy Graham was never committed to that position in his heart.

When Graham met Sheen in 1944, it was three years before his first citywide crusade. Graham had started preaching for Youth for Christ in 1944 and was an unknown young man.

Why would a Catholic leader as famous as Fulton Sheen go out of his way to befriend an insignificant young fundamental Baptist preacher like Billy Graham? Graham was only eight years out of high school at the time.

Boston's Archbishop Richard Cushing also "exercised a special influence over Billy Graham beginning in 1950."



Cushing printed 'BRAVO BILLY' on the front of his diocesan paper during the January 1950 campaign. In an interview in 1991, Graham referred to this as one of the highlights of his ministry:

"Another significant thing happened in the early '50s in Boston. Cardinal Cushing, in his magazine, *The Pilot*, put 'BRAVO BILLY' on the front cover. That made news all over the country. He and I became close, wonderful friends. That was my first real coming to grips with the whole Protestant/Catholic situation. I began to realize that there were Christians everywhere. They might be called modernists, Catholics, or whatever, but they were Christians" (*Bookstore Journal*, Nov. 1991).

By the end of 1950, Graham had formed a permanent team of staff members who arranged his meetings. Willis Haymaker was the front man who would go into cities and set up the organizational structure necessary to operate the crusades. One of his duties even in those early days was as follows:

"He would also call on the local Catholic bishop or other clerics to acquaint them with Crusade plans and invite them to the meetings; they would usually appoint a priest to attend and report back. This was years before Vatican II's openness to Protestants, but WE WERE CONCERNED TO LET THE CATHOLIC BISHOPS SEE THAT MY GOAL WAS NOT TO GET PEOPLE TO LEAVE THEIR CHURCH; rather, I wanted them to commit their lives to Christ" (Graham, *Just As I Am*, p. 163).

In his autobiography, Graham acknowledged that he began to draw close to Rome very early in his ministry:

"At that time [March 1950], Protestantism in New England was weak, due in part to theological differences within some denominations, the influence of Unitarian ideas in other denominations, and the strength of the Roman Catholic Church. In spite of all that, a number of Roman Catholic priests and Unitarian clergy, together with some of their parishioners, came to the meetings along with those from Evangelical churches. With my limited Evangelical background, this was a further expansion of my own ecumenical outlook. I now began to make friends among people from many different backgrounds and to develop a spiritual love for their clergy" (Graham, *Just As I Am*, p. 167).

Need I remind my readers that the Catholic and Unitarian and modernist "clergy" that Graham learned to love in the late 1940s and early 1950s were men who denied the very faith that Graham claimed to believe. The Catholic clergy that Graham loved denied that salvation is through the grace of Christ alone by faith alone without works or sacraments and they denied further that the Bible is the sole authority for faith and practice. The modernist clergy that Graham loved denied that the Bible is the infallible Word of God and questioned or openly denied the virgin birth, miracles, vicarious atonement, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. The Unitarian clergy that Dr. Graham loved were men who denied the Godhead and blood atonement of Jesus Christ and who scoffed at the infallibility of the Holy Bible?

Why did Graham not rather love those who were in danger of being deceived by these false teachers? Why did he not rather love God's Word enough to stand against its enemies? Why did he not rather love the Christ of the Bible enough to reject those who had rejected the true Christ and followed false christs?

Graham's love was motivated in the wrong direction. He loved the false shepherds, but he did not love the sheep that were led to eternal ruin by these shepherds.

Only the Lord knows how much influence false teachers like Fulton Sheen and Richard Cushing had on the young evangelist. By the early 1950s, Graham was also very chummy with theological modernists.

In a lecture to the Union Theological Seminary in February 1954, Graham testified that in 1953 he had locked himself into a room in New York City for an entire day with Jesse Bader and John Sutherland Bonnell that

he might ask them questions and receive their counsel. By this action, Graham was actually locking himself into a room with the Devil, because these men were certainly the Devil's ministers (2 Cor. 11:13-15).

Bader and Bonnell were both rank liberals who denied many doctrines of the New Testament faith. In an article in *Look* magazine (March 23, 1954), Bonnell had stated that he and most other Presbyterian ministers did not believe in the virgin birth and the bodily resurrection of Christ, the inspiration of Scripture, a literal heaven and hell, and other doctrines.

God had warned Billy Graham to mark and avoid those who teach contrary to apostolic truth (Rom. 16:17). God had warned him that error is like a canker (2 Tim. 2:16-18) and like leaven (Gal. 5:9), and that "evil communications corrupt good manners" (1 Cor. 15:33), but the popular evangelist ignored the warning.

By 1950, Billy Graham had so fallen under the power of Catholicism that he turned to it for solace during an illness. During his 1950 New England campaign, Graham fell sick for several days in Hartford, Connecticut. Executive Secretary Gerald Beavan "stayed at his bedside and read to him from Bishop Fulton Sheen's *Peace of Soul*" (Wilson Ewin, *The Assimilation of Evangelist Billy Graham into the Roman Catholic Church*).

We have seen that Sheen was a great lover of Mary and was certain of God's mercy only because of his devotion to Mary. Why would a young fundamental Baptist preacher turn to the writings of such a man for comfort?

Graham's first citywide meeting was held in Los Angeles, California, in 1949. As early as 1950 there were rumors that Graham was cooperating with Roman Catholics.

In 1950, Dr. Robert Ketcham of the General Association of Regular Baptist Churches came across a newspaper article indicating that Graham expected Catholics and Jews to cooperate in a revival in Oregon and another which reported that Graham had turned over decision cards to Roman Catholic churches. Ketcham promptly sent a letter of inquiry to Billy himself. His letter brought him a strong rebuke from Graham's executive secretary, Jerry Beavan. Part of Beavan's reply was as follows:

"For example, you asked if Billy Graham had invited Roman Catholics and Jews to cooperate in the

evangelistic meetings. SUCH A THOUGHT, EVEN IF THE REPORTER DID SUGGEST IT AS HAVING COME FROM MR. GRAHAM, SEEMS RIDICULOUS TO ME. SURELY YOU MUST KNOW THAT IT IS NOT TRUE. ... FURTHER, THAT YOU SHOULD GIVE ANY CREDENCE TO THE IDEA THAT MR. GRAHAM WOULD EVER TURN OVER ANY DECISION CARDS TO THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH SEEMS INCONCEIVABLE” (John Ashbrook, *New Neutralism II*).



Graham was soon openly doing what Mr. Beavan labeled "ridiculous" and "inconceivable." On Sept. 6, 1952, reporter William McElwain, writing for the *Pittsburgh Sun-Telegraph*, remarked on Graham's ecumenical activities with Rome:

“Graham stressed that his crusade in Pittsburgh would be interdenominational. He said that he hopes to hear Bishop Fulton J. Sheen at one of the Masses at St. Paul's Cathedral tomorrow. Graham said, ‘Many of the people who have reached a decision for Christ at our meetings have joined the Catholic church and we have received commendations from Catholic publications for the revived interest in their church following one of our campaigns. This happened both in Boston and Washington. After all, one of our prime purposes is to help the churches in a community.’”

It doesn't sound to me that Dr. Ketcham's aforesaid questions were ridiculous. Graham publicly admitted he was already turning seekers over to the Catholic Church in the early 1950s.

In an interview with the Religious News Service in 1986, the 67-year-old Billy Graham admitted that his ministry was deliberately ecumenical even in the early days. He told the interviewer that one of his "very close advisers and friends" was the aforementioned Dr. Jesse Bader, a liberal Disciples of Christ clergyman who was secretary of the radical National Council of Churches (*Christian News*, March 31, 1986).

Graham moved ever closer into fellowship with Roman Catholicism and theological modernism. As John

Ashbrook, author of *New Neutralism II: Exposing the Gray of Compromise*, observed, "Compromise takes a man farther than he intends to go." The Bible warns that "evil communications corrupt good manners" (1 Cor. 15:33).

How did Graham's ecumenical relationships affect him? The January 1978, issue of *McCall's* magazine contained an interview with Graham by James Michael Beam. Graham admitted his change in thinking:

"I am far more tolerant of other kinds of Christians than I once was. My contact with Catholic, Lutheran and other leaders--people far removed from my own Southern Baptist tradition--has helped me, hopefully, to move in the right direction. I've found that my beliefs are essentially the same as those of orthodox Roman Catholics, for instance. They believe in the Virgin Birth, and so do I. They believe in the Resurrection of Jesus and the coming judgment of God, and so do I. We only differ on some matters of later church tradition."

This is strange talk. The errors of the Roman Catholic Church are not mere matters of "later church tradition." Roman Catholicism is the utter perversion of the gospel and corruption of the New Testament church by the intermingling of biblical truth with paganism and Judaism.

Rome's false sacramental gospel of grace plus works requires that we label it cursed of God (Gal. 1:6-10), but Billy Graham determined to look upon Roman Catholicism as true Christianity and he led multitudes astray by that decision.

VIGILANCE & SEPARATION

in the

INTERNET AGE

By David Cloud

“Neither give place to the devil” (Eph. 4:27).

“And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove *them*” (Eph. 5:11).

“See then that ye walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise” (Eph. 5:15).

“But fornication, and all uncleanness, or covetousness, let it not be once named among you, as becometh saints; Neither filthiness, nor foolish talking, nor jesting, which are not convenient: but rather giving of thanks. For this ye know, that no whoremonger, nor unclean person, nor covetous man, who is an idolater, hath any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God” (Eph. 5:3-5).

Even if you are saved and love the Lord and are studying the Bible and seeking His will, there are still powerful enemies within and without, and victory requires keen vigilance and strict separation. David, the “sweet Psalmist of Israel,” was a passionate seeker of God, but we know what happened to him when he ceased being vigilant.

The things of the world can choke the Word in the believer’s life so that he doesn’t bear spiritual fruit (Mk. 4:19; Lk. 8:14). Jeremiah warned about sowing among thorns (Jer. 4:3). This refers to trying to serve the Lord without separating from sin, which is exactly what multitudes of professing Christians are doing in fundamental Baptist churches. Their daily lives are filled with worldly lusts and pleasures by the definition of 1 John 2:15-16, but they profess Christ and attend church and perhaps even read the Bible and pray. This was the condition of Israel of old. “.. this people draw near me with their mouth, and with their lips do honour me, but have removed their heart from me...” (Isa. 29:13). It is not possible to love God and also to love the wicked world. To love the wicked things of the world is to be the enemy of God (Jam. 4:4).

Young people who want to know and do God’s will *must* separate from the world.

Note the strictness of biblical separation: “*all* uncleanness” (Eph. 5:3), “*no* fellowship” (Eph. 5:11).

Separation from the world is strongly emphasized throughout Scripture. See Deuteronomy 7:26; Psalm 101:3; Proverbs 4:14-15, 23-27; 6:25-26; 7:6-10; Romans 12:1-2; 1 Corinthians 15:33; 2 Corinthians 6:14-18; 1 Peter 5:8; James 4:4; 1 John 2:15-17.

Remove temptations from your phone.

- Examples are wrong music, wrong apps, even the web browser if necessary.

- One young man says: “Before I got saved, I listened to rock music, copying it to my memory cards. After I got saved, for some time I couldn’t delete the songs. I used to say that I would be able not to listen to them, but I was easily tempted to listen to the things that were already in my phone. I was making provision for the flesh while promising not to fulfil the lusts thereof (Rom. 13:14). So one day I decided to delete them totally from my memory card and from my computer too. I thank the Lord, I have never regretted that decision.”

Use a web browser filter like CleanInternet.

Have an accountability partner.

- Some use Covenant Eyes for accountability. It monitors the individual’s Internet usage and emails reports to selected people for accountability. The accountability report lists web sites visited, Internet searches, and the times of day when the Internet is used. It also features a score that ranks the individual’s level of objectionable Internet usage. Covenant Eyes also has a filtering service

that can be used in combination with the accountability service. Another service of this type is X3 Watch. It provides accountability on computers, cell phones, and tablets. While I have not used this personally, it has been recommended by friends.

- Others use a church leader or mature Christian friend as an accountability partner. One single young adult wrote: “I have a friend in Bible college who has the restriction codes to my phone. I cannot access the App Store, I cannot access the browser. I personally deleted every game I had off the phone, deleted Facebook and anything else that I felt ‘drawing’ my mind away in ways that I thought were a hindrance to my walk with God. A great example of this is FoxNews. The App shows a lot of news, to be sure. The space directly below it has a lot of entertainment news, which was basically nothing but soft porn. I got sick and tired of seeing this and deleted that app as well. If SnapChat or other items are a hindrance, the partner can block those as well by restricting it. Remember that browsers can be downloaded through the App Store, so even if Safari or the base browser is blocked, there are ways around it.”

SOME OF THE GREATEST DANGERS

Videos

YouTube, music videos, X-rated movies, parents used to keep MTV out of the home, but now MTV and much worse is on the kids’ phones!

Pop music

29 of the 30 most popular YouTube videos in 2015 are music videos, and most are filthy. The total views of the 29 videos is 26 BILLION!

- Psy “Gangnam Style” (2.3 billion views)
- Justin Bieber “Baby” (1.2 billion)
- Katy Perry “Dark Horse” (1 billion)
- Taylor Swift “Blank Space” (1 billion)
- LMFAO “Party Rock Anthem” (906 million)
- Eminem “Love the Way You Lie” (896 million)
- Shakira “Waka Waka” (889 million)
- Jennifer Lopez “On the Floor” (846 million)
- Miley Cyrus “Wrecking Ball” (784 million)

Rock is intimately associated with illicit sex and always has been. Even a mere glance at iTunes proves this. The

covers of the albums and the lyrics are filthy, and a child of God seeking purity will not touch the unclean thing (2 Cor. 6:17).

Consider the following testimonies by rock & rollers:

- “That’s what rock is all about--sex with a 100 megaton bomb, *THE BEAT!*” (Gene Simmons of the rock group KISS, interview, *Entertainment Tonight*, ABC, Dec. 10, 1987).
- “Rock ‘n’ roll is 99% sex” (John Oates of the rock duo Hall & Oates, *Circus*, Jan. 31, 1976).
- “Rock ‘n’ roll is pagan and primitive, and very jungle, and that’s how it should be! ... the true meaning of rock ... is sex, subversion and style” (Malcolm McLaren, punk rock manager, *Rock*, August 1983, p. 60).
- “The THROBBING BEAT of rock provides a vital sexual release for adolescent audiences” (Jan Berry of Jan and Dean, cited by Ken Blanchard, *Pop Goes the Gospel*).
- “The great strength of rock ‘n’ roll lies in ITS BEAT ... it is a music which is basically *sexual, un-Puritan* ... and a threat to established patterns and values” (Irwin Silber, Marxist, *Sing Out*, May 1965).
- “Everyone takes it for granted that rock and roll is synonymous with sex” (Chris Stein, lead guitarist for Blondie, *People*, May 21, 1979).
- “Rock and roll is fun, it’s full of energy ... It’s *naughty*” (Tina Turner, cited in *Rock Facts*, Rock & Roll Hall of Fame and Museum).
- “Pop music revolves around sexuality. I believe that if there is anarchy, let’s make it sexual anarchy rather than political” (Adam Ant, *From Rock to Rock*, p. 93).
- “The sex is definitely in the music, and sex is in ALL ASPECTS in the music” (Luke Campbell of 2 Live Crew).

Pop music and rap will steal your heart for the world. At best you will have a divided heart.

Pastor Dave Sorenson tells how that as a teen his heart was captured by rock music that he listened to in his bedroom via a transistor radio that his pastor father let him have. I was captured by rock music via 45-rpm records at a friend’s garage. He was a deacon’s son.

Video Games

“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.

Video games and 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.

Video games and 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.

Video games and the 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 Pokémons 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://www.logosresourcepages.org/Occult/More.docx>

Even the more innocent games use rock music as a background, thus addicting young people to the sensual rock rhythms.

Video games and 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). We deal with this in the section of the course on “The Youth.”

Pornography

“But I say unto you, That whosoever looketh on a woman to lust after her hath committed adultery with her already in his heart” (Mat. 5:28).

“I made a covenant with mine eyes; why then should I think upon a maid?” (Job 31:1).

“For the commandment *is* a lamp; and the law *is* light; and reproofs of instruction *are* the way of life: To keep thee from the evil woman, from the flattery of the tongue of a strange woman. Lust not after her beauty in thine heart; neither let her take thee with her eyelids. For by means of a whorish woman *a man is brought* to a piece of bread: and the adulteress will hunt for the precious life. Can a man take fire in his bosom, and his clothes not be burned? Can one go upon hot coals, and his feet not be burned?” (Prov. 6:23-28).

“Hearken unto me now therefore, O ye children, and attend to the words of my mouth. Let not thine heart decline to her ways, go not astray in her paths. For she hath cast down many wounded: yea, many strong *men* have been slain by her. Her house *is* the way to hell, going down to the chambers of death” (Prov. 7:24-27).

Consider some frightful facts about pornography and the Internet:

- Pornography makes up nearly 40% of the total content on the Internet.
- Nearly 25% of Internet search queries are about pornography.
- Over 50% of boys and over 30% of girls first viewed pornography before age 13.
- A study in the UK in 2013 found that 50% of 18-year-olds have received nude pictures.

- Nearly 70% of boys and a majority of girls have seen homosexual acts online.
- Nearly 70% of young adult men and about 20% of young adult women view pornography at least once a week.
- About 55% of divorce cases involve one party having an obsessive interest in pornographic websites.

The man is visually oriented in his sexuality, which is why the Bible repeatedly warns of the man's lust of the woman's body (Job 31:1; Prov. 6:25; Mat. 5:28). Women are not naturally inclined to be so visual in their sexuality, though they can become perverted as is happening today.

The heart is a bottomless pit of evil, and pornography will carry the heart deeper and deeper into filth and perversion (Jer. 17:9).

This terrible process is described in Romans 1:21-30. Note that it begins with what is happening with the "imagination" and "heart" (verse 21) and ends with the corrupt of the "reprobate mind" (verse 28).

The only victory is complete abstinence. It requires making a covenant with one's eyes as Job did (Job 31:1).

Young people (and old) must remember that pornography will do the following and more:

- - It will enslave you.
- - It has the power to carry you into ever deeper and unspeakable regions of moral filth.
- - It will pervert your way of looking at women and hinder your ability to have proper relationships.
- - If you are single, it will ruin your chance for a truly pure marriage.
- - If you are married, it will harm or even destroy your marriage.
- - It will hurt your children.
- - It will hurt your testimony and result in shame and disgrace.

Sexting

Sending sexy pictures of oneself by text messaging is hugely popular.

A study in the UK in 2013 found that 50% of 18-year-olds have received nude pictures.

Studies have found that many young people consider sexting mere entertainment.

"As a criminal lawyer, I can tell you that teens (and sometimes even younger children) use the picture taking capacity of most cell phones to take and communicate vile images of themselves. The possibilities for harm are virtually endless. This is not a minor matter. ... I don't think this particular danger can be overestimated."

Snapchat is often used for this purpose. It is used by 60% of smartphone users ages 13-34. It is used to send a photo, video, or drawing that disappears in 1-10 seconds (user determined).

The messages are called "snaps" and over a billion are sent daily. "It is popular for 'teasing/sexting' as teens think the pic cannot be saved. But all one has to do is take a screenshot or even a picture of the photo with another phone." There are also unofficial apps and web tools that override snapchat's deleting function. The FBI has warned that Snapchat is being used by pedophiles to lure young victims. Snapchat can also be used for video chatting.

Conversations with the wrong people

"Girls need to know that boys should not be any part of their lives until they are old enough to marry. Fathers need to keep their daughters' hearts until they love Christ with all of it."

Many of the people who wrote to us on this subject shared horror stories of girls who have been enticed away from their families by men they met either by phone or texting or Facebook.

This happened to a girl in our church about three years ago. A young man started calling her on her cell phone, and at first she said that she didn't want to hear from him. Her parents and church leaders warned her against talking with him, but she refused to listen. Eventually they ran away together out of wedlock.

A girl recently told my wife her sad story. A man started calling her and wooing her. He told her that he had passed high school, had a good job, and didn't drink. Finally she ran away with him and quickly learned that he was lying about everything. He eventually left her for another woman. With a broken heart she said to my wife, "I

shamed my parents; they don't want me back; I ruined my life."

A pastor friend told me about a girl who got a SIM card from another person. An unknown male called that number and started talking to her. She unwisely continued conversing with him on the phone. When she resisted, the guy threatened to commit suicide if she didn't marry him, and eventually she eloped with him.

Don't talk on the phone or Facebook, etc., with a young person of the opposite sex except relatives. Creeps are using social media to trap unsuspecting victims.

Don't make plans to meet the wrong people.

Don't hide anything you are doing from your parents and church leaders. God has given them for your protection.

The Mobile Phone & The Christian Home & Church



A Youth Discipleship Course

By David Cloud

This practical and far-reaching youth discipleship course deals with the parent's part, the church's part, and the youth's part in winning and discipling young people.

Available from Way of Life Literature [Online Store](#)

The Wild Turkey

(*Meleagris gallopavo*)

By David Cloud



The wild turkey (*Meleagris gallopavo*) is the largest game bird in North America. There are six sub-species showing minor differences: Eastern, Florida (Osceola), Rio Grande, Merriam's, and Gould's.

There is a smaller Ocellated turkey that has rainbow-like iridescent feathering on his wings. It is only found on the Yucatan Peninsula in Mexico.

The North American turkey got its name by mistaken identity. The Spanish discovered it more than 400 years ago and took it back to Europe. There the English mistook it for an African guinea fowl they called a "turkey" because it came to England by way of Turkey. Thus, the North America turkey

isn't from Turkey, and the native American Indian isn't from India.

Adult males weigh 18-30 pounds, and females, 8-12 pounds.

The tasty bird was hunted almost to extinction in the 19th century, but conservation efforts have brought the population back to about 7 million.

Turkeys congregate in flocks and inhabit forests that have plenty of their favorite foods: nuts, seeds, insects, and wild berries. For this reason they are sometimes called forest turkeys. They spend their days on the ground hunting for food and their nights perched in branches of trees.

The wild turkey's dark coloring provides camouflage in shady forests. The female is fairly unremarkable in subtle brown, black, gray, and tan coloring, though there is a green iridescence or sheen to her feathers in bright light.

It's the male that is particularly striking when strutting his breeding plumage. He does this to seek a mate and also to warn away interlopers. The flesh on his head and neck turn bright iridescent blue and red. Peacock style, he fans a display of 18 chestnut-brown tail feathers with bold black and white and tan bars. His body inflates, showing off bronze-green iridescent wing feathers with white bars, displayed in fascinating layers. He also struts a little dance.

The male gets his name "gobbler" from the strong gobbling sound he makes. He is also called a tom. His gobble can be heard by females a mile away.

Both males and females communicate with a variety of cackles, purrs, yelps, and whistles.

The male has a beard of a stringy black feather hanging down from his chest.

The male also has a long protuberance hanging down in front of or to the side of its beak that is called a snood. It fills with blood during courtship and turns bright red. Dominant males tend to have longer snoods and can get quite snooty.

Both males and females have a flap of skin called a wattle or dewlap hanging from the chin and connected to the neck.

The bags of skin hanging from the turkey's neck are called caruncles. When engorged with blood, the male's caruncles turn vivid shades of red, white, or blue, as does the wattle. This is thought to play a role in attracting a mate.

Turkeys generally meander around searching for food, but they can be fast when they want, both on

land and air. They can run up to 25 miles per hour and fly up to 55 miles per hour for short distances.

The turkey's eyes are powerful. The eyes are spaced far apart on both sides of the turkey's head and give it a visual field of 270 degrees (humans have 180 degrees).

The turkey can focus clearly throughout its field of sight. It can see predators a mile or more away. And it can see ultraviolet light.

The female does all of the work of incubating the eggs and raising the chicks (called poults). She lays 8 to 15 eggs and sits on them for 25 days until they hatch. Until the poults can fly, which is about two weeks, the mother hen roosts with them on the ground. After that they roost in trees, but the chicks stay with the mother through the first year.

Studies by Richard Buchholz at the University of Florida have found that the unfeathered skin of the turkey's head and neck has an important role in regulating body temperature. The skin allows for heat dissipation and thermal conductance. This allows the bird to live in regions of more extreme temperature.

Benjamin Franklin told his daughter in a letter that the turkey would be a better symbol for America than the bald eagle, since it is "a much more respectable bird." He didn't like the fact that the bald eagle will steal food from other birds, such as the osprey, and can be driven away by smaller birds.

The commercial turkeys are bred for weight and are too large and fat to fly or even to mate. They are artificially inseminated.

The record wild turkey weighed 17 kilograms (37 pounds), while the record commercial turkey was a tom weighing 40 kilos (86 pounds). Its name was Tyson, and when he was auctioned off for charity in England he sold for \$6,692.

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?



IS THE ISRAEL IN THE WORLD TODAY GOD'S "ISRAEL"?

(Friday Church News Notes, February 2, 2018, www.wayoflife.org, fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143)

- Baptist preacher Steven Anderson claims that the Israel that exists in the world today, the Israel that came out of the nations to form a state in 1948, is not the Israel of Scripture and has no future in the covenants and promises of God. A major thesis of Anderson's popular video *Marching to Zion* is that since the Jews rejected Jesus as the Messiah and have continued in unbelief and disobedience and since rabbinic Judaism today is not based on the Bible but on the Talmud, Israel today is not the true Israel. She has been rejected by God and replaced with the church. Anderson says, "It's those of us who believe in Jesus Christ that are Israel. ... We Christians are the true people of God. We are the true Israel. And we are marching to Zion" (*Marching to Zion*). He says further, "So in God's eyes, they are not Jews, they are the synagogue of Satan." But the Bible speaks with a clear voice on this issue. From the Pentateuch to the New Testament, we are taught that *the same Israel* that disobeyed God and was scattered among the nations is the Israel that will be converted and restored. One clear statement on this is Leviticus 26:44 - "And yet for all that, when they be in the land of their enemies, I will not cast them away, neither will I abhor them, to destroy

them utterly, and to break my covenant with them: for I *am* the LORD their God." Consider, too, Hosea 3:4-5. "For the children of Israel shall abide many days without a king, and without a prince, and without a sacrifice, and without an image, and without an ephod, and without teraphim: Afterward shall the children of Israel return, and seek the LORD their God, and David their king; and shall fear the LORD and his goodness in the latter days." And consider Jeremiah 23:7-8 - "Therefore, behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that they shall no more say, The LORD liveth, which brought up the children of Israel out of the land of Egypt; But, The LORD liveth, which brought up and which led the seed of the house of Israel out of the north country, and from all countries whither I had driven them; and they shall dwell in their own land." In fact, all of the prophecies dealing with Israel's return and restoration indicate clearly that *the same Israel* that rebelled and was scattered among the nations as a judgment and has continued in apostasy until now is the Israel that will be converted and restored. Other examples are Deuteronomy 28-30; Jeremiah 31:6-11; Ezekiel 36:22-38; 37:1-14; Amos 9:8-15; Romans 11:15, 25-27. (For more on this see [What About Steven Anderson?](#) which is available in print and as a free eBook from www.wayoflife.org.)

3.5 MILLION PEOPLE DEAD BECAUSE OF CECILE RICHARDS (Friday Church News Notes, February 2, 2018, www.wayoflife.org, fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - The following is excerpted from "3.5 Million," *DailyWire*, Jan. 26, 2018: "Planned Parenthood's chief maniacal ghoulish has apparently sated



her ravenous appetite for snuffing out innocent incipient human life. Cecile Richards confirmed on Friday that she will resign from the largest abortion mill in the nation, explaining, 'Leading Planned Parenthood over the last 12 years has been the honor of my lifetime. I will be leaving the organization well-positioned to serve and fight for our patients for a century more.' The honor of Cecile's lifetime has entailed depriving over three and a half million human beings of their own lifetimes, and Richards walks away well-positioned herself, having earned nearly \$700,000 in salary for just the 2015-2016 fiscal year alone. ... Democrats and the mainstream media--but I repeat myself--have repeatedly claimed during Richards's tenure that 97% of Planned Parenthood's work 'is about mammograms and preventative health,' despite the absence of mammograms at any Planned Parenthood facility. ... In reality, a full 96% of Planned Parenthood's work relates to abortion, funded by taxpayers to the tune of \$528 million, slightly over 40% of the abortion mill's annual budget. Former abortionists and abortion activists constitute some of the most vocal pro-life advocates, such as Abby Johnson, Paul E. Jarrett, Brenda Pratt Shafer, and Bernard Nathanson among others. Nathanson has admitted that he and his fellow National Abortion Rights Action League co-founders made up scare-statistics about women dying from

illegal abortions before Roe v. Wade out of whole cloth. Jarrett powerfully testified, 'And as I brought out the rib cage, I looked and I saw a tiny, beating heart. And when I found the head of the baby, I looked squarely in the face of another human being--a human being that I'd just killed. I turned to the scrub nurse and said, I'm sorry. But I just knew that I couldn't be a part of abortion any more.'"

READER IS THANKFUL FOR WAY OF LIFE'S WARNING AND EDUCATION ABOUT MUSIC (Friday Church News Notes, February 2, 2018, www.wayoflife.org, fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - "In ---- Baptist Church, it is not just the young people who are a part of the issue. I have also gotten into the vehicles of some of our elderly church members and heard the raunchiest Southern Gospel barroom music. Southern Gospel is the Holy Grail in most churches down south where I live. ... Contemporary Christian Music is like an abscessed tooth. It will kill a church if it is not pulled from the music program. Once the tooth becomes abscessed, it cannot chew the strong meat of the Word of God. ... Most of the preacher's monthly fellowship meetings and church revival meetings that I attend in Independent Baptist churches are using Contemporary Christian Music even though they preach against it. That tells me that they have neither educated themselves nor their congregations to what Contemporary Christian Music actually sounds like. They are sincere, but sincerely wrong. I have heard a lot of Contemporary Christian Music soundtracks with drums lately. ... I know of no better source for training material on



Contemporary Christian Music than the Way of Life web site. Thank you, Brother David Cloud, for being at the forefront of this firefight. Thank you for standing in the face of much opposition from the folks who should be your fellow soldiers. I fully support your stand. The most poisonous of Satan's darts come forth from carnal saved folk. ... One of our greatest enemies in this apostate age is Contemporary Christian Music. We must stand against it or fall into total apostasy. This is the battle we face. To lose the battle, is to witness the destruction of our churches."

THE PREACHER WHO LEARNED TO TRUST GOD IN TITHING. (Friday Church News Notes, February 2, 2018, www.wayoflife.org, fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - "Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the LORD of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it" (Mal. 3:10). "But this I say, He which soweth sparingly shall



reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully” (2 Co. 9:6). The only way to practice regular giving to the Lord effectively is to practice it by faith. We must believe God’s promises even during times of difficulties. And we must remember that God tests faith to see if it is real and to make it grow stronger (Ja. 1:2-4). Many times if a Christian decides to begin tithing, he will have some financial problem to test his decision. John R. Rice told about an evangelist named Kuykendahl in Texas in the early 20th century. He had a circuit riding ministry and his offerings were very small, so much so that his large family had a difficult time. One year a wealthy businessman visited the area to share his testimony in several churches, and evangelist Kuykendahl was his host, transporting him from meeting to meeting in his buggy. Among other things, the businessman challenged the people to tithe and support God’s great work. As they were traveling along one day, the businessman asked the evangelist if he believed in tithing. He replied, “Yes, I would love to tithe, but I am poor and must take care of my large family.” The businessman responded, “I will make you an offer. If you will tithe for an entire year, I will guarantee you. If at any time during the year you find that you can’t meet your obligations and don’t know where to turn, just contact me and I will send you the necessary money. I am a wealthy man, and I am a man of my word.” Kuykendahl enthusiastically replied, “I will gladly take you up on this offer.” The evangelist kept his word and tithed faithfully, but he never had to contact the businessman. At the end of the 12 months, the evangelist was meditating on what had happened. God had blessed him that year and had met

every need. People gave him more than ever, and the family experienced many special blessings. As he contemplated these things, his heart was suddenly smitten when he realized that he had trusted the word of a businessman when he had not been willing to trust the Word of the Living God, who had made even greater promises!

U.S. EPISCOPAL DIOCESE VOTES TO STOP USING MASCULINE PRONOUNS FOR GOD (Friday Church News Notes, February 9, 2018, www.wayoflife.org, fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143)

- The Episcopal Church Diocese of Washington, D.C. has rejected the God of the Bible for a mythical goddess of feminist thinking. On January 27, the delegates to the diocese’s annual convention approved a statement “to utilize expansive language for God ... and, when possible, to avoid the use of gendered pronouns for God.” Gendered pronouns are things such as “He” and “Father” and “King.” The drafters of the daffy resolution said, “By expanding our language for God, we will expand our image of God and the nature of God” (“U.S. Episcopal diocese,” *LifeSiteNews*, Feb. 1, 2018). “The Rev.” Linda Calkins of St. Bartholomew’s Episcopal Church in Laytonsville, Maryland, said, “Many of us are waiting and need to hear God in our language, in our words and in our



pronouns.” In reality, the Episcopal Diocese of Washington, D.C. has rejected the God of the Bible for a mythical goddess. In Scripture, God is always referred to in masculine terms. He is King of kings, not Queen of queens. He is the Father and the Son, not the Mother and the Daughter. In the incarnation, God became a man, not a woman. “For *there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, THE MAN Christ Jesus*” (1 Timothy 2:5). (For more about this see “Fifty Years of Anglican Liberalism” at the Way of Life web site.)

EARLY FACEBOOK AND GOOGLE EMPLOYEES FORM COALITION TO FIGHT WHAT THEY BUILT (Friday Church News Notes, February 9, 2018, www.wayoflife.org, fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143)

- The following is excerpted from “Early Facebook and Google,” *New York Times*, Feb. 4, 2018: “A group of Silicon Valley technologists who were early employees at Facebook and Google, alarmed over the ill effects of social networks and smartphones, are banding together to challenge the companies they helped build. The cohort is creating a union of concerned experts called the Center for Humane Technology. Along with the nonprofit media watchdog group Common Sense Media, it also plans an anti-tech addiction lobbying effort and an ad campaign at 55,000 public schools in the United States. The campaign, titled The Truth About Tech, will be funded with \$7 million from Common Sense and capital raised by the Center for Humane Technology. Common Sense also has \$50 million in donated media and airtime from partners including Comcast and DirecTV. It will be aimed at

BEARS AND ARCTIC ICE (Friday Church News Notes, February 2, 2018, www.wayoflife.org, fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - The following is from CreationMoments.com, Dec. 28, 2017: “Think of the Arctic and you probably think about polar bears. Those magnificent, big, white carnivores are probably pictured in your mind standing on snow and ice, where they can be difficult to see. The Arctic is the realm of the bear, and this is reflected in its name. The word ‘Arctic’ is derived from the Greek word *arktos*, meaning bear. There are layers of meaning here. Certainly, the Arctic is home to the polar bear, but also the constellation Ursa Minor, the Little Bear, contains the star Polaris, which is the Pole Star, being directly above the North Pole, so if you were traveling

‘towards the Bear’, or Bearwards, you would be traveling North. Perhaps the most iconic pictures of polar bears published have been those showing one or two bears clinging precariously to tiny icebergs barely able to support them. The implication of such images is that the habitat of the bears is disappearing. What would be the culprit that is melting the ice? Presumably, it would be our old friend Climate Change. So what would a bear do if the ice under its feet melted away? I guess it would have to swim! Fortunately, polar bears are strong swimmers. Some bears have been tracked swimming up to ten days. Contrary to popular opinion, recent research has shown that many polar bear populations increased during times of receding ice. In the last couple of years, ice sheets have expanded again. Climate Change Alarmists notwithstanding,



conditions continue to underline that ‘while the earth remains, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night, shall not cease.’ Notes: Crockford, S. (2015), *The Arctic Fallacy*, (London: Global Warming Policy Foundation).”

educating students, parents and teachers about the dangers of technology, including the depression that can come from heavy use of social media. ‘We were on the inside,’ said Tristan Harris, a former in-house ethicist at Google who is heading the new group. ‘We know what the companies measure. We know how they talk, and we know how the engineering works.’ The effect of technology, especially on younger minds, has become hotly debated in recent months. ... Pediatric and mental health experts called on Facebook last week to abandon a messaging service the company had introduced for children as young as 6. Parenting groups have also sounded the alarm about YouTube Kids, a product aimed at children that sometimes features disturbing content. ... The new Center

for Humane Technology includes an unprecedented alliance of former employees of some of today’s biggest tech companies. Apart from Mr. Harris, the center includes Sandy Parakilas, a former Facebook operations manager; Lynn Fox, a former Apple and Google communications executive; Dave Morin, a former Facebook executive; Justin Rosenstein, who created Facebook’s Like button ... Apple’s chief executive, Timothy D. Cook,



told *The Guardian* last month that he would not let his nephew on social media.” (For practical instruction on protecting young people from evil influences, see [The Mobile Phone and the Christian Home and Church](#), available as a free eBook from www.wayoflife.org.)

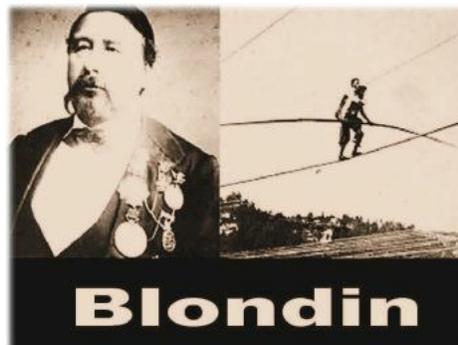
TWENTY-NINE AND EUTHANIZED: DARK NEWS FROM THE NETHERLANDS

(Friday Church News Notes, February 9, 2018, www.wayoflife.org, fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - The following is excerpted from “29 and Euthanized,” *National Review*, Andrew Walker, Jan. 31, 2018: “Recent news from the Netherlands illustrates how its euthanasia regime is among the world’s most permissive. It shows no signs of



slowing down. Aurelia Browsers, a 29-year-old mentally ill woman, was granted her wish and euthanized last weekend, demonstrating the slippery slope confronting those countries in which euthanasia and assisted-suicide laws are becoming ever laxer. Evidence suggests that Dutch physicians do not consistently follow the protocols intended to regulate the practice. News of Browsers' death follows grisly reports that an elderly woman with dementia was involuntarily euthanized in the Netherlands. In neighboring Belgium, laws exist that allow for children to be euthanized. Cases in the Netherlands show the most troubling reality of euthanasia laws: their widening use based on subjective criteria; Euthanasia is advertised as 'dignified death' for those suffering from a terminal illness. But the euthanizing of a young woman on grounds that she suffered from a mental illness shows the false advertising of the 'death with dignity' movement. ... Where the practice is prohibited, advocates are quick to highlight stories of bone-jarringly sad situations of patients with perhaps a neurological cancer slowly crippling their cognitive and physical abilities. ... Euthanasia advocates are less forthcoming in admitting how euthanasia laws end up loosening over time and how once-strict controls with respect to the conditions and ages of patients eligible for euthanasia inevitably broaden."

100% TRUST (Friday Church News Notes, February 9, 2018, www.wayoflife.org, fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - The Bible says that saving faith is to trust in Jesus Christ as Saviour "with all thine heart" (Acts 8:37). It is to be "sure" (John 6:69). It is a 100% faith. This was demonstrated in a dramatic way on August 17, 1859, at the world famous Niagara Falls. A three-inch thick rope was stretched 1,100 feet across the Niagara Gorge on the border of America and Canada, and tightrope walker Charles Blondin prepared to make the dangerous crossing, 160 feet above the swirling waters. He had done it several times before: blindfolded, pushing a wheelbarrow, somersaulting and backflipping, standing on stilts, at night, using locomotive headlights to illumine the rope. Once he carried a metal stove on his back, set it up over the middle of the river, cooked an omelet, then lowered it down to passengers on the deck of the Maid of the Mist. But this time, Harry Colcord was going to cling to the Blondin's back. Before starting the venture, Blondin said, "Look up, Harry.... you are no longer Colcord, you are Blondin. Until I clear this place be a part of me, mind, body, and soul. If I sway, sway with me. Do not attempt to do any balancing yourself" ("The Daredevil of Niagara Falls," *Smithsonian.com*, Oct. 18, 2011). Colcord was confident in Blondin's skill. He had



solid evidence that the man could do what he promised. So he yielded himself 100% to Blondin and got a free ride across the river without contributing one iota of effort to the task. That's saving faith. It is rejecting all self-reliance and relying 100% on Christ and His atoning work to make me right with God. "I will take the cup of salvation, and call upon the name of the LORD" (Psalm 116:13).

MUSIC: A GIFT OF GOD (Friday Church News Notes, February 9, 2018, www.wayoflife.org, fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - The following is excerpted from Jonathan O'Brien, Creation Ministries, Feb. 6, 2018: "Scientists recently discovered that our brains are made for music--that a deep musical appreciation is a foundational aspect of being human (Music on the Brain, Australian Broadcasting Network's Catalyst). Why do we have this special relationship with music, yet apes and other large-brained 'higher' animals don't make, or even desire, music as we do? Like speaking and writing in grammatical language, music is a peculiar and distinctive trait of human beings only. Where did this mysterious habit and liking of ours come from? ... Interestingly, music appreciation appears to be embedded or wired into nearly all regions of the brain. The scientists found that music seems to be tied in closely with love and relationships--that there is a clear, powerful physiological effect of music on social bonding. They concluded that music is so important to our brain's physical makeup that it is an indispensable part of what makes us human. ... Harmony and melody both involve unchanging scientific and mathematical laws, thus written into

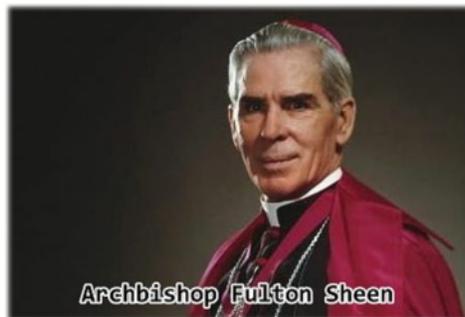


the very fabric of the universe--but it is only human beings that are capable of caring that this is so. ... Darwinism, being a materialist philosophy and not a science, is powerless to explain the meaning of music. Music is capable of overwhelming us with emotion because it is linked with our spiritual side, and is good evidence for the existence of the soul. ... Many people, of all backgrounds and beliefs, have spoken of music's 'soul.' ... Vishal Mangalwadi noted, 'Denying the reality of a spiritual core as the essence of every human being makes it hard to make sense of music, because music, like morality, is a matter of the soul.' ... The human body is as if made for music. As bipedal, upright creatures, our hands are freed for skilful and creative work—a desire for which is driven by our minds and hearts. We play difficult instruments such as the violin, guitar and piano, compose complex music, and sing, because our brains and our personalities strive for expression in this spiritual format of music. Our hands are miracles of design, perfectly engineered for the finest movements and most sensitive of touches, and are marvels of 'ingenuity, flexibility and mobility' ... Our ear is also an expertly-designed precision instrument for receiving and transmitting musical sounds. ... We also have vocal cords that are capable of the best musical tones imaginable. ... It's plain for all who care to see it that music is physically and spiritually part of

God's wonderful design for the creation."

CATHOLIC DIOCESES STILL FIGHTING OVER FULTON SHEEN'S BODY (Friday Church News Notes, February 16, 2018, www.wayoflife.org, fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143)

- Catholic Archbishop Fulton Sheen died in 1979, but two dioceses are still fighting over his body. Currently it is interred at St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York City, but the diocese of Peoria, Illinois, has been fighting to have it moved there since Peoria Bishop Daniel Jenky began sponsoring Sheen's sainthood. Jenky claims that he was promised by previous New York ecclesiastical authorities that Peoria could have the body, but that is disputed by the current authorities. Sheen's closest living relative, a niece, Joan Cunningham, proposes that the body be divided into "relics" for interment in multiple locations ("Archbishop Sheen's Body," *The New York Times*, Feb. 7, 2018). Fulton Sheen was an effective promoter of Roman Catholicism through his writings and television broadcast *Life Is Worth Living*, and he was a great venerator of the Catholic Mary. Sheen devoted an entire chapter of his biography to Mary. "When I was ordained, I took a resolution to offer the Holy Sacrifice of the Eucharist every Saturday to the Blessed Mother ... All this makes me very certain that when I go before the Judgment Seat of



Archbishop Fulton Sheen

Christ, He will say to me in His Mercy: 'I heard My Mother speak of you.' During my life I have made about thirty pilgrimages to the shrine of Our Lady of Lourdes and about ten to her shrine in Fatima" (Fulton Sheen, *Treasure in Clay*, p. 317). By his own testimony, Fulton Sheen's hope of salvation was his devotion to Mary. Yet Southern Baptist evangelist Billy Graham venerates Sheen. They first met in 1944, three years before Graham's first citywide crusade. In his 1997 autobiography, Graham described that first meeting. He says he was traveling on a train from Washington to New York and was just drifting off to sleep when Sheen knocked on the sleeping compartment and asked to "come in for a chat and a prayer" (Graham, *Just As I Am*, p. 692). Graham says, "We talked about our ministries and our common commitment to evangelism, and I told him how grateful I was for his ministry and his focus on Christ. ... We talked further and we prayed; and by the time he left, I felt as if I had known him all my life." (For more about this see [Billy Graham's Sad Disobedience](#), available as a free eBook from www.wayoflife.org.)

TUVALU ISLANDS EXPANDING DESPITE GLOBAL WARMING DOOMSDAY ALARMS (Friday Church News Notes, February 16, 2018, www.wayoflife.org, fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143)

- Since the 1990s, global warming alarmists have been saying that the Tuvalu Islands in the South Pacific will be inundated by a rising ocean. The islands stand only a few feet above sea level. A 1996 climate change study warned that "Tuvalu is particularly susceptible to the adverse impacts of climate change and in particular rising sea level." Believing the hype and convinced that they will



drown because of “excessive carbon dioxide emissions” in other parts of the world, the residents of Tuvalu threatened to sue the U.S. and Australia. In 2003, Tuvalu’s Prime Minister told the United Nations that global-warming is “a slow and insidious form of terrorism against us” (“Will Tuvalu Disappear Beneath the Sea?” *Smithsonian Magazine*, Aug. 2004). The latest research finds, though, that the islands are growing in size. Since 1970, they have added 181 acres of new land. Paul Kench, a co-author of the new study at the University of Auckland, says, “We tend to think of Pacific atolls as static landforms that will simply be inundated as sea levels rise but there is growing evidence these islands are geologically dynamic and are constantly changing” (“Tuvalu Is Growing,” *UPI*, Feb. 9, 2018).

CA COURT: FORCED COMPLIANCE VIOLATES 1ST AMENDMENT (Friday Church News Notes, February 16, 2018, www.wayoflife.org, fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - The following is excerpted from “CA Court,” OneNewsNow, Feb. 7, 2018: “It’s a familiar sounding story: a lesbian couple walks into the bakery of a cake-artist known for having Christian beliefs, then sues when the baker refuses to make a custom cake for their same-sex ‘wedding.’ But this case is not in Colorado, but ultra-liberal California. ... Like Jack Phillips of Masterpiece Cakeshop, the

state took Cathy Miller [owner of Tastries Bakery of Bakersfield] to court. She says she prepared for the inevitable string of defeats from left-leaning state judges. But in the first court action on the case--on a motion for preliminary injunction--Kern County Superior Court Judge David Lampe issued a strongly worded denial to the state, which wanted to immediately stop Miller from making any more cakes. ‘The State cannot succeed on the facts presented as a matter of law. The right to freedom of speech under the First Amendment outweighs the State’s interest in ensuring a freely accessible marketplace,’ Lampe wrote in his ruling on Monday. ‘The right of freedom of thought guaranteed by the First Amendment includes the right to speak, and the right to refrain from speaking. Sometimes the most profound protest is silence.’ The ruling, according to Bakersfield.com, only leaves Miller alone until the full case comes to trial, which is set for June. But that doesn’t dampen Miller’s spirit. ‘We just were so excited that God won and that we could stand for our religious freedom and freedom of speech,’ she tells OneNewsNow. Monday’s ruling gives voice to one of the arguments heard in favor of Colorado baker Jack Phillips, whose case is currently before the U.S. Supreme Court: ‘The difference here is that the cake in question is not yet baked,’ Judge Lampe wrote. ‘The State is not petitioning the court to order



defendants to sell a cake. The State asked this court to compel Miller to use her talents to design and create a cake she has not yet conceived with the knowledge that her work will be displayed in celebration of a marital union her religion forbids. For this court to force such compliance would do violence to the essentials of Free Speech guaranteed under the First Amendment.”

GLORIA COPELAND SAYS JESUS IS A FLU SHOT (Friday Church News Notes, February 16, 2018, www.wayoflife.org, fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - On a video posted to Facebook, Gloria Copeland, wife of Pentecostal Word-Faith evangelist Kenneth Copeland, says that there is no flu season for the believer because “Jesus himself gave us the flu shot, he redeemed us from the curse of the flu” (“Televangelist Gloria Copeland,” *USA Today*, Feb. 7, 2018). Gloria and Kenneth, founders of Believer’s Voice of Victory, teach a wide variety of heresies, including “positive confession.” Kenneth says, “All it takes is (1) Seeing or visualizing whatever you need, whether physical or financial; (2) Staking your claim on Scripture; and (3) Speaking it into existence” (quoted in *Christianity in Crisis*, p. 80). Copeland even teaches that believers are God. “You’re all God. You don’t have a God living in you; you are one! ... When I read in the Bible where God tells Moses, ‘I AM,’ I say, ‘Yeah, I am too!’” (“The Force of Love,” *Believer’s Voice of Victory*, 1987, audiotape #02-0028, side 1). Copeland has often spoken false prophecies. His most recent was on September 9, 2017, when he prayed a “word faith” prayer to stop Hurricane Irma, which was approaching the U.S. mainland. In



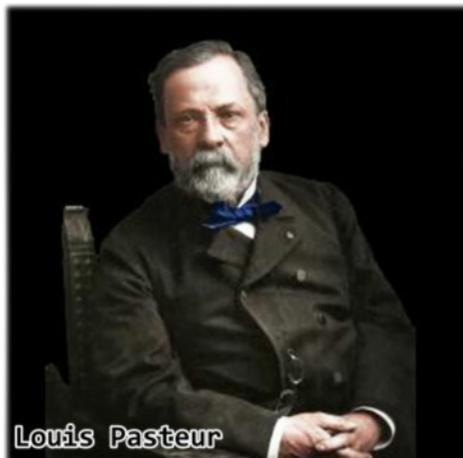
Kenneth & Gloria Copeland

the name of Jesus, he proclaimed that “the hurricane is dead,” but it soon hit the Florida mainland as a powerful category 3 storm and caused damage.

THE PASTEUR EXPERIMENTS

(Friday Church News Notes, February 16, 2018, www.wayoflife.org, fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143)

- The following is excerpted from [*Seeing the Non-existent: Evolution's Myths and Hoaxes*](#), David Cloud, copyright 2011: “The 19th-century experiments of Louis Pasteur proved that life does not spontaneously generate, which is powerful evidence against evolution and for the Bible. In his book *The History of Creation*, German evolutionist Ernst Haeckel said, ‘If we do not accept the hypothesis of spontaneous generation, then at this one point of the history of development we must have recourse in the miracle of a supernatural creation.’ Many people in Charles Darwin’s day believed that



Louis Pasteur

life could generate spontaneously. Called ‘abiogenesis,’ it was thought, for example, that maggots were spontaneously generated in rotting meat or in apples. Evolutionists proposed this process as the answer to how life arose, but Louis Pasteur (1822-95) disproved the hypothesis. In the 1860s, he was assigned by Emperor Louis Napoleon III to find a solution to the problem that the French wine industry was having with the fermentation process. It was thought that fermentation was simply a matter of chemicals combining (grape sugar turning to alcohol and carbonic acid gas) and producing microbes. This would be abiogenesis, but Pasteur disproved it. In experiments lasting two years, he demonstrated that it is yeast, which is a living microbe and a type of fungus, that causes fermentation (Ian Taylor, *In the Minds of Men*, p. 177). Unknown to the wine makers, the yeast was introduced into the process on the skins of the grapes. Pasteur also demonstrated that the air naturally contains minute living organisms known as bacteria that can multiply under the right conditions. He invented the process of pasteurization to kill the germs in milk and other liquids by heating. All research since Pasteur has confirmed his conclusion that life does not come into existence from non-life. Such a thing has never been witnessed or demonstrated. Former evolutionist Dr. Arthur Wilder-Smith, who debated various leading scientists throughout the world on this subject, said: ‘The Evolutionary model says that it is not necessary to assume the existence of anything, besides matter and energy, to produce life. That proposition is unscientific. We know perfectly well that if you leave matter to itself, it does not organize itself--in spite of all the efforts in recent years

to prove that it does’ (Wilder-Smith, in Willem J.J. Glashouwer and Paul S. Taylor, *The Origin of the Universe*, 1983).”

GAITHERS RECOMMENDING NEW AGE WRITINGS (Friday Church News Notes, February 23, 2018, www.wayoflife.org,

fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - Gloria Gaither, who together with her husband Bill have had a vast influence on Southern Gospel music, is recommending the writings of New Ager goddess Sue Monk Kidd and Catholic/Buddhist mystic Richard Rohr. In the Gaither’s *Homecoming Magazine* website, Gloria recommends Kidd’s *The Invention of Wings*, gushing that Kidd is “an amazing writer who tells a story with such skill that she somehow manages to both prick our consciences and give us great hope.” In an interview with Rohr, Gloria said, “I want to say thank you because so many of your books have been impacting my life, especially *Falling Upward*. ... I think that changed my thinking about ... just about everything. We have studied that book in our Monday night Bible study.” In 2009, Bill and Gloria Gaither hosted William Paul Young, author of *The Shack*. In 2005, they hosted emerging leader Brian McLaren, and New Ager Leonard Sweet at a Gaithers Praise Gathering. The people the Gaithers are promoting do not believe in the sacrificial blood atonement of Jesus Christ. By their own testimonies, they



Bill & Gloria Gaither

are not born again. In her book *Dance of the Dissident Daughter*, Sue Monk Kidd describes her journey from Southern Baptist Sunday school teacher to goddess worship by means of Catholic mysticism. Richard Rohr believes the path to God is found through “the teachings of both Jesus and Buddha” (announcement for Rohr’s 2008 Jesus and Buddha conference). In *The Shack*, William Paul Young re-imagines God as a woman. He believes God is non-judgmental and denies the need of salvation through the blood of Jesus Christ. These are the dangerous waters to which the Gaithers are digging channels for their ill-informed, feeling-oriented, Southern Gospel-loving friends in Independent Baptist churches. (For more about this see the free eBook [Evangelicals and Contemplative Prayer](#), available from [Way of Life Literature](#).)

BIG DADDY WEAVE AT TRINITY BAPTIST (Friday Church News Notes, February 23, 2018, www.wayoflife.org, fbs@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - Trinity Baptist Church of Jacksonville, Florida (Senior Pastor Tom Messer), long associated with Southwide Baptist Fellowship, has been moving into the contemporary, emerging sphere since the turn of the 21st century. Trinity exemplifies what is happening to large numbers of careless Independent Baptist congregations led by men of weak spiritual discernment. By 2005,



Southwide was using music by the likes of Brenton Brown of the Vineyard U.K. and Darlene Zschech of Hillsong, and within a few years Trinity had produced its own Christian rock album. It is important to understand that a move toward contemporary worship music is not merely a change in music; it is accompanied by a change in a church’s overall philosophy toward broadminded tolerance of error and worldliness, a “positive” focus, ecumenism, and rejection of “separatism.” As evidence, by 2012, Trinity hosted a Christian rock tour featuring Roman Catholic Audrey Assad. In 1996, Southwide Baptist Fellowship, meeting at Trinity Baptist, published a statement warning against Promise Keepers and its “unholy music,” but in less than a decade, Trinity was using that very music. Most recently, in February 2018, Trinity hosted a Big Daddy Weave concert. Big Daddy Weave is a Christian rock band that promotes the ecumenical, “non-judgmental” philosophy that permeates CCM. In an interview for their 2008 album *What Life Would Be Like*, Big Daddy’s Mike Weaver said: “We all grew up in church. That is awesome, and I’m thankful for it, but there is also some baggage that comes with that. We grew up hearing people talk about grace, but there seemed to be

an unspoken law that said, ‘but you also have to do this, this, this, this, and this.’ Nobody ever said it out loud, but I saw how people who didn’t do ‘this, this, this, this, and this’ were treated. Now truly, you will know a tree by its fruit, but that’s not grace. With *What Life Would Be Like* we are ripping up our old expectations to get to a place where we can receive the heart of God” (“Big Daddy Weave Bio,” 94fmthefish.com, n.d.). The “grace” that Big Daddy Weave and their friends in the contemporary Christian music scene promote is *not* the grace of Scripture. The “grace” preached by the vast percentage of CCM musicians is not true Christian liberty; it is antinomian license. It says, “Don’t tell me how to live, where I can go, how I can dress, how long my hair can be, what music I can listen to, what kind of church I can attend, how often I must attend, whether or not I can drink.” In contrast, consider the apostle Paul’s definition of Christian grace: “For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men, teaching us that, DENYING UNGODLINESS AND WORLDLY LUSTS, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world; looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ” (Titus 2:11-13). Bible grace for Christian living

is a grace that denies all ungodliness and worldly lusts. That is a far-reaching standard. It means that the grace-saved, grace-living believer is extremely careful about how he lives. He knows that He is saved by the free grace of Christ that was purchased on Calvary, but he also knows that he is saved “unto good works” (Ephesians 2:8-10). In order to please the holy Lord who saved him and now owns him, he continually analyzes his lifestyle to reject anything tainted with ungodliness and worldly lusts. He is careful to “love not the world” (1 John 2:15-17). He strives to “have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness” (Ephesians 5:11). A friend sent the following information this week: “Sadly, I’ve already seen a direct effect by Trinity on another Independent Baptist church. Plantation Baptist Church under Pastor Tom Hunter, Jr., had Pastor Messer speak last year at a conference. This deeply saddens me as I report this because I see firsthand what CCM and the wrong music can do to a church. Here are just a few of the songs I ran across viewing their sermon archive online. I was extremely surprised to see music (‘One Thing Remains’) from Bethel Church being performed at Plantation Baptist Church. Bethel is part of the N.A.R. (New Apostolic Reformation).”

CALVINISM OR ARMINIANISM? (Friday Church News Notes, February 23, 2018, www.wayoflife.org, fbs@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - “Seek the LORD, and ye shall live; lest he break out like fire in the house of Joseph, and devour it, and *there be* none to quench it in Bethel” (Amos 5:6). Even as God pronounces Israel’s destruction, He continues to call her to repentance. This is a most



amazing thing. God sees Israel’s destruction. He knows the end from the beginning. He knows that Israel will not turn, yet He pleads with her to turn. It appears that God somehow both lives in eternity with an eternal view and also lives in the present with a present view. How else can He repeatedly and passionately call men to repentance when He knows they will not repent? Or how can He repent that He made man when He foreknew everything that man would do (Ge. 6:5-6)? Or how can He say that He will destroy Israel and then change His mind at the pleading of a saint (Nu. 14:11-20)? Man has tried to reconcile such things in systematic theologies, but none of them are sufficient for the task. The typical doctrine of “sovereign election,” as typically defined by Reformed Theology, misses God’s *genuine offer* to save every sinner. This is plainly taught in Scripture, and any theology that denies the true offer of salvation to *every* sinner is wrongheaded. When God saved me, He gave me a Bible, not a systematic theology, and He instructed me as follows: “Study to shew thyself

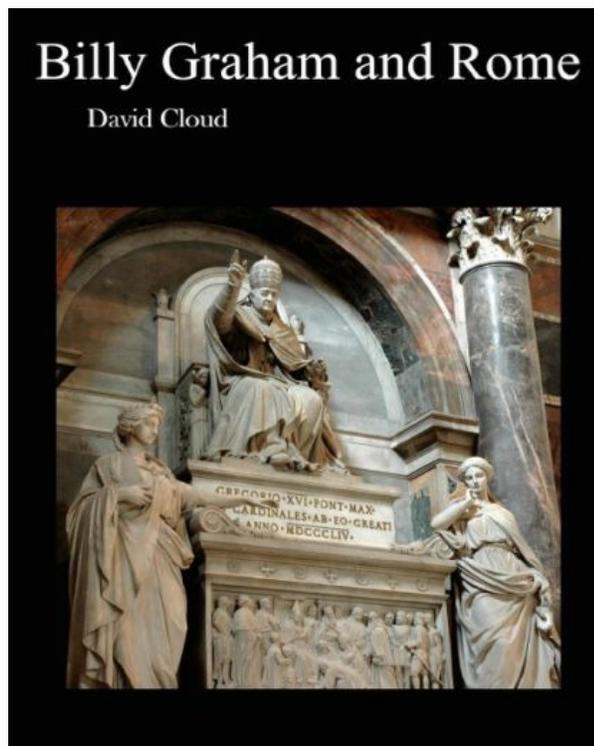
approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth” (2 Timothy 2:15). I see nothing here about the authority of a John Calvin or a James Arminius. I therefore have the right before God to be a simple “Biblicist,” and that is my fervent objective.

A MAN OF SORROWS (Friday Church News Notes, February 23, 2018, www.wayoflife.org, fbs@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - “He is despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief: and we hid as it were our faces from him; he was despised, and we esteemed him not” (Isaiah 53:3). The following is excerpted from Alexander MacLaren’s *Expositions on the Holy Scripture*: “We shall not rightly estimate the sorrowfulness of Christ’s sorrows, unless we bring to our meditations on them the other thought of His joys. How great these were we can judge, when we remember that He told the disciples that by His joy remaining in them their joy would be full. As much joy then as human nature was capable of from perfect purity, filial obedience, trust, and unbroken communion with God, so much was Jesus’ permanent experience. The golden cup of His pure nature was ever full to the brim with the richest wine of joy. And that constant experience of gladness in the Father and in Himself made more painful the sorrows which He encountered, like a biting wind shrieking round Him, whenever He passed out from fellowship with God in the stillness of His soul into the contemptuous and hostile world. His spirit carrying with it the still atmosphere of the Holy Place, would feel more keenly than any other would have done the jarring tumult of the crowds, and would know a

sharper pain when met with greetings in which was no kindness. Jesus was sinless, His sympathy with all sorrow was thereby rendered abnormally keen, and He made others' griefs His own with an identification born of a sympathy which the most compassionate cannot attain. The greater the love, the greater the sorrow of the loving heart when its love is spurned. The intenser the yearning for companionship, the sharper the pang when it is repulsed. The more one longs to bless, the more one suffers when his blessings are flung off. Jesus was the most sensitive, the most sympathetic, the most loving soul that ever dwelt in flesh. He saw, as none other has ever seen, man's miseries. He experienced, as none else has ever experienced, man's ingratitude, and, therefore, though God, even His God, 'anointed Him with the oil of gladness above His fellows,' He was 'a Man of Sorrows,' and grief was His companion during all His life's course."

Billy Graham & Rome

David W. Cloud



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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.
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