

# O Timothy

*"Keep that which is committed to thy trust..."*

A Monthly Newsletter for Spiritual Protection and Edification

Volume 36 - Issue 2 - February 2019



*"As the house of God (1 Ti. 3:15), the pillar and ground of the truth, the New Testament church is the most important institution on the earth. But because of false teaching, human tradition, and spiritual compromise, the vast majority of churches are not what God intends the church to be. They really shouldn't be called churches."* **Page 5.**

**Digging in the Walls:** A month's worth of news items, republished from Friday Church News Notes. **Page 12.**



## GREAT ARCHAEOLOGICAL DISCOVERIES IN ISRAEL ~ By David Cloud

The following is excerpted from [\*Jews in Fighter Jets: Israel Past, Present, Future\*](#), 600 pages, available from [www.wayoflife.org](http://www.wayoflife.org).

The return of the Jews to the land of Israel and the establishment of the modern state has been a huge boost to apologetics.

Since the twentieth century, archaeologists have discovered site after site and artifact after artifact pertaining to and confirming biblical history.

Following are some prominent examples:

**DEAD SEA SCROLLS** - discovered in the 1940s, the biblical scrolls, such as the Great Isaiah Scroll, are the oldest Hebrew Scriptures extant and prove that the Hebrew Bible has been preserved in great detail. The Great Isaiah Scroll was



discovered in 1947, one year before the founding of modern Israel. It is preserved at the Israel Museum's Shrine of the Book.

**TEMPLE MOUNT EXCAVATIONS.** The excavations on the southern end of the Temple Mount since 1967 have unearthed the Titus Stones, the Trumpeting Place stone, the Southern Steps, and the ancient Pilgrim's Way from the City of David to the Temple, among many other things dating to the Second Temple era.

**ROMAN SIEGE OF JERUSALEM.** In 2016, a portion of a "third wall" mentioned by Josephus was found, and outside the wall the ground is still littered with ballista and sling stones from the battle of AD 70.

**HEZEKIAH'S TUNNEL.** This 1,750-foot tunnel from the Gihon Spring to the Pool of Siloam was built by King Hezekiah to supply water to Jerusalem during the Assyrian siege and is mentioned in 2 Ki. 20:20 and 2 Ch. 32:30.

**HEZEKIAH'S WALL.** In 1970, a remnant of the wall built by Hezekiah in preparation for the siege of Assyria was discovered. It is about 23 feet thick and still stands up to 10 feet tall. It is mentioned in 2 Ch. 32:5.

**HEZEKIAH'S SEAL.** In 2009, a seal (bulla) bearing the name of King Hezekiah was discovered in the Ophel area

between the Temple Mount and the City of David. It was discovered in the area of the ancient royal bakery. The inscription says, "Belonging to Hezekiah (son of) Ahaz king of Judah." Dr. Eilat Mazar called this the most important individual discovery of her career, which is saying a lot, since she discovered David's palace.

**POOL OF SILOAM.** The ancient Pool of Siloam was discovered in 2004 and has been partially excavated. This pool is mentioned three times in the Bible (Ne. 3:15; Isa. 8:6; Joh. 9:7).

**SOLOMON'S GATES.** The Bible says Solomon built Hazor, Megiddo, and Gezer into royal military cities (1 Ki. 9:15), and the ruins of the massive six-chambered gates built by Solomon have been found at each of these places.

**DAVID'S PALACE.** In 2005, Dr. Eilat Mazar, granddaughter of Benjamin Mazar and a prominent authority on Jerusalem's ancient archaeology in her own right, discovered the ruins of what is believed to be David's palace. It is located in the right place in the ancient City of David, and she found evidence that the building was occupied up until the destruction of Solomon's temple by the Babylonians. The palace was built above a massive stepped-stone structure that is still partly intact. This is probably the "Millo" mentioned seven times in Scripture (2 Sa. 5:9; 1 Ki. 9:15, 24; 11:27; 12:20; 1 Ch. 11:8; 2 Ch. 32:5). The building discovered by Mazar is a large, complicated structure of engineering excellence and its date is confirmed by pottery shards, storage jars bearing the royal seal of the king of Judah, and an Proto-Aeolic capital, among other things.

**BULLAE.** Discovered in the area of David's Palace are bullae (clay document seals) bearing the names of people mentioned in the Bible who lived or worked in the palace just before it was burned by Nebuchadnezzar. These include Jehucal the son of Shelemiah (Jer. 37:3), Gedaliah, son of Pashur (Jer. 38:1), Gemariah the son of Shaphan (Jer. 36:10), and Azariah the son of Hilkiah (1 Ch. 9:11).

**HAZOR.** Evidence of the destruction of Hazor by Joshua as recorded in Jos. 11:11-13 was found in the 1990s. The heat of the burning was so great that it cracked heavy stone slabs. A one-meter thick layer of ash was found. Also found at Hazor are idols, olive and wine presses, city walls, ruins of houses, and a cuneiform tablet

**O TIMOTHY Magazine  
Volume 36 Issue 2**

David W. Cloud, Editor  
Subscription information on  
back page of the magazine

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Way of Life Literature  
PO Box 610368, Port Huron, MI  
48061

866-295-4143 (toll free)

[fbns@wayoflife.org](mailto:fbns@wayoflife.org)

<http://www.wayoflife.org>

Bethel Baptist Church  
4212 Campbell St. N.  
London, Ontario, N6P 1A6 Canada  
519-652-2619

addressed to the pagan king of Hazor who lived in the 18th century BC, the time of Abraham.

**THE MESHA STELE** (also called **the Moabite Stone**). In 1993 the phrase “the House of David” was found inscribed on the Mesha Stele that describes the exploits of Mesha, a ninth-century BC Moabite king who is mentioned in 2 Ki. 3:6-27. The stele also mentions many other names and places found in the Bible, including Omri, Ahab, the tribe of Gad, Chemosh, Nebo, Ataroth, Jahaz, Dibon, Kirjathaim, Kerioth, Aroer and Arnon, Bezer, and Diblathai.

**DAN.** Many things have been unearthed at the ancient site of the city of Dan to confirm biblical history, including a triple-arch gate dating to 1750 BC, near the time of Abraham, images of Baal, the place of the worship of the golden calf (1 Ki. 12:28-29), and a portion of a monument with the words “Beit David” (“House of David”). The Tel Dan Stele, which dates to the ninth century BC, also mentions Israel’s kings Jehoram, Ahab, Ahaziah, and Jehoram.

**JEZREEL.** Archaeological excavations in ancient Jezreel, the summer palace of the kings of northern Israel, have unearthed a large rock-cut wine press that could be Naboth’s, the casemate wall and four towers of a fortress that enclosed almost 11 acres, a 20-foot deep moat, and remnants of the city gate.

**LACHISH.** The ruins at Lachish confirm the existence of the ancient Israeli city here and its siege and destruction by the Assyrians as mentioned in Scripture (2 Ch. 32:9).

**HEROD’S PALACES AND TOMB.** Palaces built by Herod have been unearthed in Caesarea Maritima, Masada, Jericho, and Herodium, and what is possibly his tomb was found on the side of the Herodium in 2009.

**PILATE INSCRIPTION.** In 1961, a limestone block was found at Caesarea Maritima proving that Pilate was the governor of Judea as the Bible says. Written in Latin, the inscription reads “Pontius Pilatus prefect of Judea erected the Tiberium to the august gods.” This agrees with Luke’s statement that Pilate ruled during the lifetime of Tiberius (Luke 3:1).

**CAESAREA MARITIMA.** Built by Herod, this was one of the foremost cities of the Roman Empire. It is mentioned

many times in Scripture. Excavations have discovered the 100-acre man-made harbor, one of the wonders of the ancient world, the hippodrome, the gymnasium with its baths and sophisticated hypocaust heating system, the cardo, the aqueduct, the 4,000-seat theater, fountains, mosaic floors, and temples.

**SAMARIA.** Found in the ruins of ancient Samaria, the capital of the northern kingdom of Israel, are remnants of Ahab’s ivory palace, the city gate mentioned in 1 Ki. 22:10, and Herod’s Roman city. Ivories from Samaria are in the British Museum, the Israel Museum in Jerusalem, and elsewhere.

**CAESAREA PHILIPPI.** Excavations of the ancient city of Caesarea Philippi, mentioned in Matthew 16:13, have unearthed pagan temples (to Pan and other gods) and the palace of Philip the Tetrarch, Herod’s son, mentioned in Luke 3:1.

**ELAH VALLEY.** The valley where David fought Goliath has been discovered and the layout fits the biblical account perfectly, including the Philistine town of Shaaraim in the hills on the north side of the valley. The town, mentioned in 1 Sa. 17:52, means “two gates,” and archaeologists have found both gates.

**GATH.** In 2005, a piece of pottery was found during excavation of Gath inscribed with a name similar to *Goliath*. It was written in early Hebrew script and has been dated to the 10th-9th BC, which is David’s time. This proves that such names were in use by the Philistines in that era. In 2015, the ruins of Gath’s ancient gate was unearthed. The gate is the largest ever found in Israel. It is mentioned in 1 Sa. 21:13.

**PHILISTINE TEMPLES.** The ruins of ancient Philistine temples have been found at Gath, Ekron, and Tel Qasile. The roof was supported by two central pillars made of wood standing on stone bases. The pillars were close enough so that a large man could push against them as the Bible says Samson did (Judges 16:29-30).

**CAPERNAUM, BETHSAIDA, CHORAZIN.** The ruins of these cities on the northern shore of the Sea of Galilee remain as mute witnesses to the woe that Christ spoke against them 2,000 years ago (Matthew 11:21-24).

**ANCIENT SYNAGOGUES.** Ancient Jewish synagogues have



been discovered at Beit Alfa, Magdala, Chorazin, Capernaum, Ein Gedi, Migdal, and many other places. The synagogue at Magdala, discovered in 2009, is first century, meaning that Jesus spoke there. “And Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues...” (Mt. 4:23). In one room of the synagogue was found a coin dating to AD 29, which was at or near the time of Jesus’ public ministry. Also found in the synagogue was a carved stone that appears to be a depiction of the temple in Jerusalem. On the front is the image of a seven-branched menorah. Since this is a first century synagogue, some of the priests who attended would have seen the actual menorahs in Herod’s Temple. This the oldest menorah so far discovered in Israel. The Magdala Stone is considered by many experts to be “one of the most outstanding discoveries of the last 50 years.”

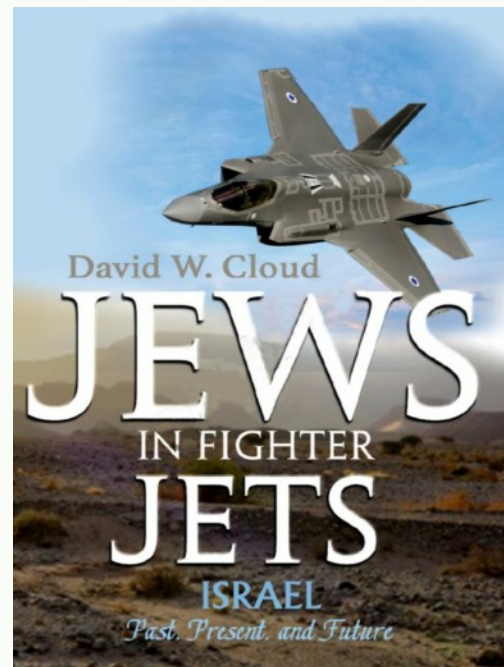
These are only a few of the astonishing archaeological discoveries in the land of Israel pertaining to biblical history, and the presence of the Jewish state has encouraged and hastened this work. The state of Israel sponsors, oversees, and protects the archaeology. The Israel Museum in Jerusalem contains a wealth of artifacts unearthed from the digs.

Never has there been so much evidence of the divine inspiration of Scripture. Thousands of archaeological discoveries have confirmed the accuracy of biblical history. In His grace, God has allowed these discoveries to be made for those who have eyes to see. Man has no excuse for not believing in the Bible and in the Christ of the Bible.

## Jews In Fighter Jets

### Israel, Past, Present and Future

By David Cloud



[\*Jews in Fighter Jets\*](#) covers the past 2,500 years of the history of the most important and amazing nation on earth, the only nation directly created by God and called by God “my people,” the nation to whom “were committed the oracles of God” and “of whom, as concerning the flesh Christ came” (Romans 3:2; 9:5).

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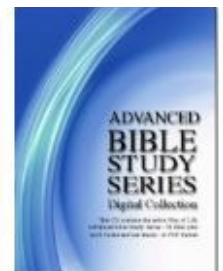
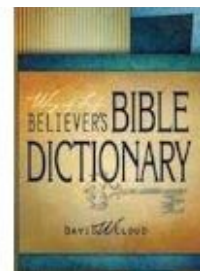
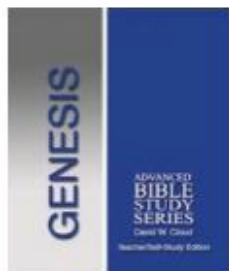
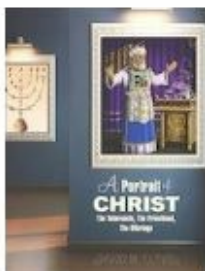
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Friday News

O Timothy





**I** am praying for the multiplication of a certain kind of church.

I have been a church member for 58 years. I made a profession of faith at about age 11 and was baptized as a member of a Southern Baptist church in central Florida. I wasn't saved. At age 23 I was born again and joined an Independent Baptist church, and I have been active in, ministering in, preaching in, and studying the church ever since.

As the house of God, the pillar and ground of the truth (1 Ti. 3:15), the New Testament church is the most important institution on the earth. But because of false teaching, human tradition, and spiritual compromise, the vast majority of churches are not what God intends the church to be. They really shouldn't be called churches.

In America, Independent Baptist churches exploded in number in the 1970s and 1980s. That was their heyday, and I was there. But looking back, in my estimation Independent Baptist churches in general were never strong enough biblically. Typically, they have had significant weaknesses that have resulted in the "great collapse" we have witnessed in the 21st century. I have described the collapse and laid out some of the reasons in the free eBook [\*Why Most Independent Baptist Churches Will Be Emerging within 20 Years\*](#), which was first published in 2011 and has been enlarged several times.

I am not discouraged. In fact, I am getting more encouraged all of the time. God is on the throne. Christ is alive, and the Bible still works. End-time apostasy does not render God's Word ineffectual. The Spirit of God is still empowering the harvest (Ac. 1:8). Christ's true churches are still golden candlesticks in His sight. Christ is still walking in the midst of His churches, still holding

the angels of His churches in His right hand (Revelation 1). He who said, "I will build my church," and, "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations," has promised, "I am with you always, even unto the end of the world" (Mt. 16:18; 28:20). His Word cannot be broken, and those who set out to prove His Word by faith will not be disappointed, though that faith will surely be tested.

### THE TYPE OF PREACHERS I AM PRAYING FOR

About two years ago, I began praying for God to raise up 1,000 special kind of preachers, men who can build and lead special kind of churches.

Sound, strong, fruitful churches are what the world desperately needs, but we won't have such churches without the right men. It has been said, truly, that "everything rises and falls on leadership."

Let me describe these men as I see them in Scripture: They are God-called men; biblically-qualified men; Christ-centered men of good Christian character and testimony; men who love their wives and disciple their children; well-trained men (in the Bible and in other issues facing the churches); studious men; men who are committed to God's Word rather than human tradition; humble men who can work with a team of men as we see in Acts 13; men of faith; men of Spirit-wrought courage; men who fear God more than man; men who are not intimidated by any old boy's network or preacher's association or "camp"; men who are willing to walk alone if necessary for the truth's sake; men of serious spiritual wisdom and discernment; men of passion for the truth, who esteem God's precepts concerning all things to be right and hate every false way (Ps. 119:128); men of large vision and zeal for gospel preaching and world missions and church planting; men who are wise about salvation, understanding repentance and knowing that

saving faith is always accompanied by a change in life; men who are careful about church membership; men who reprove and rebuke sin and error in a plain way; men who are ready and willing to exercise biblical discipline when necessary and will not draw back because of its difficulties; men who are hard workers; men who multiply themselves by training preachers; men who hate religious pragmatism for the evil thing that it is in God's sight (e.g., making decisions about the ministry based on what "works" to produce a desired goal as opposed to making decisions based *strictly* on Bible truth).

These are not mythical men. I know men like this. We have the treasure of Christ in earthen vessels in this present life, and there is no perfection. If we say that we have no sin we deceive ourselves. But these are the type of preachers that are described in the Pastoral Epistles, and they are, therefore, the type of men that God wants for His churches today. Only God can make such men, but since He has instructed us to pray for laborers for the harvest, surely these are the type of laborers we are to pray for. "Therefore said he unto them, The harvest truly is great, but the labourers are few: pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he would send forth labourers into his harvest" (Luke 10:2).

And since Christ has commanded that we pray this, surely God is ready to answer if we will be passionate about it. We don't have to fret and wring our hands in helplessness against the apostasy of the times. There is a lot we can do to overcome.

### THE TYPE OF CHURCHES I AM PRAYING FOR

I pray daily and fervently for the Lord to build strong churches. I pray for countries and regions in general, and I pray for specific towns and cities.

In a nutshell, I pray for churches that have qualified pastors and officers and teachers; churches that are exceedingly strong in the Bible, that build up the people in God's Word in a very serious way, churches of real Bible students; churches that not only *have* Bible institutes, they *are* Bible institutes; pilgrim churches that are biblically separated from this filthy, foolish world; churches that build up holy homes to raise children to be disciples of Christ; churches that preach the gospel zealously but are very careful about salvation, looking for clear biblical evidence, even in children; churches that are wise and educated about the very fundamental issue of music and that are forthrightly

rejecting sensual, worldly, and ecumenical music that is a bridge to the one-world church crowd; churches that practice biblical discipline in a godly, compassionate, but unabashed manner; praying churches; kind churches; churches that seriously disciple young people; churches that have a vision of training preachers and sending them out to start new churches; churches that multiply themselves; churches that support missionary works in far-flung places, not merely throwing a few dollars at them and barely (if at all) even reading their "prayer letters," but churches that know their missionaries and really pray for them and love them in Christ as part of their extended spiritual families.

This is not a mythical type of church. It is what we see in Scripture. I know of churches like this. Not many, but I know some. This is the type of churches we are endeavoring to build. And I know of many churches that are going against the grain and are getting stronger, more biblical, more fruitful, which is exactly the opposite direction than most churches are moving.

For those who are interested, let me be more expansive about the type of churches that I am praying for God to multiply.

### Churches with qualified leaders

- If a church's leaders are not right, the church will not be right, so I am praying for churches with God-called, qualified leaders. The Bible emphasizes high qualifications for pastors. They must be right in their spiritual and moral testimony and right in their family life. They must be serious students of God's Word and of everything else necessary to feed and protect the flock. They must be apt to teach and able to deal with false teachers and compromisers. They will not be ignorant of serious issues facing the churches, such as music. We described such men earlier.

### Churches with a first love for Jesus Christ

- I am praying for churches that love Jesus Christ. This is a true, New Testament church, and nothing less is acceptable to God (Re. 2:4-5). Christ taught that no man can have two masters (Mt. 6:24). Man's created purpose is that he love the Lord with all of the heart, soul, and might (De. 6:5; Mr. 12:30). Salvation is intended to bring man back into this sphere. God doesn't save men so that they can go about their lives as they please. The redeemed are peculiar people, which means they are God's purchased possession (1 Pe. 2:9), and they are to love Him and serve Him passionately. The believer has been bought with a price and is therefore to glorify God in the body and in the spirit (1 Co. 6:20).



Christ “gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works” (Tit. 2:14). This is true Christianity. This is the true disciple of Jesus Christ, and the Bible plainly teaches that these are the type of people, and no others, who are to make up a church congregation.

### **Churches that are careful about salvation**

- I am praying for churches that are wise and careful in dealing with souls and not quick to pronounce people saved unless there is real evidence of the new birth, even in children (Mt. 18:3; 2 Co. 5:17; Tit. 1:16; 1 Jo. 2:3-4). They are churches that know that eternal security goes hand-in-hand with evidence (Joh. 10:27-28). They are churches that take the time to explain the gospel thoroughly and that wait patiently upon the Spirit of God to do the supernatural work of conviction and conversion. They are churches that preach repentance plainly and unapologetically (Lu. 13:3, 5; 24:47; Ac. 17:30; 21:20; 26:20; 2 Pe. 3:9), and look for the evidence of repentance that we see in Scripture.

### **Churches with biblical standards for members**

- I am praying for churches that are careful about membership. They look carefully at the applicant’s salvation testimony, doctrinal soundness, and Christian zeal and faithfulness. I am praying for churches that have faithful members who conform to the pattern set in the first church in Acts 2:42, “And they continued stedfastly in the apostles’ doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers.” These are not churches in which a high percentage of the members are “Sunday morning only,” because, when measured biblically, “Sunday morning Christianity” is no Christianity at all. Such Christianity so-called is lukewarm at best, and Jesus Christ *hates* lukewarm (Re. 3:16). Who are we to accept lukewarm, when Christ hates it?

### **Churches that are strong in the Bible**

- I am praying for churches that are strong in God’s Word, that have real biblical depth. They are churches that have strong preaching with reproof, rebuke, and exhortation, but also with doctrine, preaching that builds up the people in the Word of God so that they understand it and can interpret it for themselves and live it out in their daily lives (2 Ti. 4:2). They are churches with a strong Bible teaching ministry conducted by qualified, effectual teachers. They are churches that not only *have* Bible institutes, they *are* Bible institutes. They are churches that train the people to be serious, effectual Bible students, even the youth. They

are churches that memorize Scripture and learn to meditate on Scripture day and night.

### **Churches with biblical standards for workers and teachers**

- I am praying for churches that are wise and careful about appointing teachers and workers. They have biblical standards of spirituality, knowledge, ability, and faithfulness for every position, for God says that “it is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful” (1 Corinthians 4:2). These are churches in which the pastors are not bending to the pressure to lower the standards as is happening everywhere today. They don’t have worldly people singing in the choir and ignorant people teaching Sunday School and deacons that miss prayer meetings to attend ball games. I am praying for churches that know that those who serve in ministry positions, whether usher or singer or Sunday School teacher, have an influence on the spiritual climate of the entire church by their testimonies and lifestyles and that it is better to have a few spiritually qualified workers than many unqualified ones.

### **Churches that function as a body**

- I am praying for churches that know that the church is a body with many members (1 Co. 12:27), and that every member has an essential place and purpose in God’s will, a church that aims to build up every member to the highest spiritual level possible. They are churches that aim to obey Colossians 1:28, “Whom we preach, warning every man, and teaching every man in all wisdom; that we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus.” They are churches that are geared to “the perfecting of the saints, the work of the ministry, the edifying of the body of Christ: Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ” (Ephesians 4:12-13).

### **Churches that are discipling churches**

- I am praying for churches that produce true disciples of Jesus Christ. They are discipling centers, not entertainment centers. They are all about serious discipleship. This is reflected in every aspect of the church’s services and “program.” It is reflected in its calendar. It is reflected in its ministries to children and youth. It is reflected in its ministries to the elderly.

### **Churches with discipline**

- I am praying for churches that exercise biblical discipline. In a sense, discipline is everything the church needs to do

to obey Christ's command to teach the saints "to observe all things" He has commanded (Mt. 28:19-20). A biblical church has a disciplined environment that produces disciples of Christ. This has been called constructive discipline and formative discipline. But here we are thinking about corrective discipline of sin and error, which is something that is widely neglected today. I am praying for churches that do not draw back in obeying Matthew 18:15-20 and 1 Corinthians 5 discipline, that understand that biblical discipline is godly love and are ready and willing to go against the grain of the age (Pr. 13:24; Heb. 12:6; Re. 3:19). They are churches that understand that "there must be also heresies [divisions] among you, that they which are approved may be made manifest among you" (1 Co. 11:19).

### **Churches that are uncompromising about separation and love holiness**

- I am praying for churches that are uncompromising about holiness and biblical separation, churches that are going against the tide of worldliness and compromise, churches in which the people live as holy pilgrims in an unholy world.

These are churches that preach and apply and live out scriptures such as Ro. 12:1-2; 2 Co. 7:1; Eph. 5:11; 2 Ti. 2:22; Jas. 4:4; 1 Pe.1:14-16; 1 Jo. 2:15-17. These are churches that love sacred music and understand what sacred music is as opposed to fleshly, worldly music. They are not playing around with and "adapting" contemporary music while pretending to be opposed to it. They are churches where the pastor understands sacred music and educates himself about music and doesn't make the excuse that he is ignorant. They are not churches that preach a mere external separation that produces hypocrites, but they preach separation as foremost a heart matter (1 Ti. 2:9-10; 1 Pe. 3:2-4). These are churches where separation is emphasized in the preaching and teaching and where holiness and separation is lived out in the homes and reflected in the lives of the youth. These are churches that are separating from pastors who have committed themselves to a compromised path and a contemporary philosophy, even if they are still called Baptist or Fundamentalist or whatever, and even if they still pretend to be faithful to God's Word. These are churches that aren't deceived by mere lip service, that understand that continued ministry affiliation with compromising preachers brings destructive influence that will harm the church, if only a little in this present generation, then a lot in the next.

### **Churches that build godly homes**

- I am praying for churches in which the church and the home work together *in harmony* to fulfill Christ's Great Commission. These are not family churches; they are churches that minister to families and do not hinder the biblical function of the family. But they are churches and not merely groups of families. They are neither "segregated" nor "integrated." They are simply biblical churches that train parents to build godly homes and to disciple their children, churches that train parents that the children belong to God (Eze. 18:4) and are loaned to parents to raise for God's glory. These are churches that know that it is the church that is the pillar and ground of the truth (1 Ti. 3:15) and that the church has a commission from Jesus Christ to teach God's people "to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you" (Mt. 28:19-20).

### **Compassionate churches**

- I am praying for churches that have Christ's love, churches that love people. They love the lost; they love the saints; they love children; they love young people; they love old people. These are the churches that are described in the following Scripture: "But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ: from whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love" (Ephesians 4:15-16). These are churches like the one I joined 45 years ago after being saved out of a druggie "hippie lifestyle," that loved me and was patient with me and helped me to grow spiritually and begin to get my feet on solid biblical ground.

### **Praying churches**

- I am praying for churches that are praying churches, churches that are full of real prayer warriors. They are churches in which the members are eager to attend prayer meetings instead of finding excuses to stay away, a church like the one at Jerusalem that "continued ... in prayers" (Ac. 2:42). They are churches that are engaged in intercessory prayer as an element of spiritual warfare (Eph. 6:10-20), churches that understand that there are demonic strongholds that "goeth not out but by prayer and fasting" (Mt. 17:21). They are churches that obey God's command to pray for kings and those in authority and for laborers for the harvest (1 Ti. 2:1-5; Lu. 10:2), churches that pray for healing according to James 5. They are churches that pray a lot. They have real prayer meetings in which the



people actually spend time praying, churches that have special prayer before special meetings, churches in which the homes are praying homes.

### **Churches that value women in a biblical way**

- I am praying for churches that value women in a biblical and godly way. They are churches that recognize that women are equal to men in the Christ (Gal. 3:28), though they are distinct from men in their roles in this world; they are churches that understand that women are forbidden to teach or to usurp authority over the men (1 Ti. 2:11-14), but they are exceedingly valuable for the ministry and should be prepared and liberated for that ministry under the direction and authority of the pastors. A Phebe would be welcome in these churches (Ro. 16:1-2). A faithful Priscilla would be loved and honored in these churches as Paul loved and honored Priscilla of old (Ro. 16:3-5). I am praying for churches in which the ministry of Titus 2:3-5 is operating in a wise and godly and effectual fashion.

### **Churches that pursue serious training of youth**

- I am praying for churches that are exceedingly focused on discipling youth. I'm not referring to a "youth ministry" that isolates young people from the adults and the families; I'm referring to a biblical ministry *geared to* youth. I am praying for churches that care little to nothing about entertaining young people, churches that refuse to be little more than a Christianized edition of the world. I am praying for churches in which the young people are dealt with seriously with the gospel and where everything possible is done to bring each young person to born again faith in Christ, churches which seek to make the young people effectual Bible students, churches in which the young people are taught not to be conformed to the world so they can find that good and acceptable and perfect will of God. These are churches in which youth meetings are not fun and games with a veneer of Bible; they are forums of serious Bible teaching and discipling. I am praying for churches that have some success in seeing the young people serve Christ with a pure heart and a joyful spirit as pilgrims in a strange land, young people who think differently, act differently, dress differently, and plan differently from the world.

### **Churches with a strong gospel and missionary vision**

- I am praying for churches that are zealous and aggressive in evangelism, that aim to get the gospel to every soul in the community and as far beyond as possible. They are churches that are geared to fulfill Christ's Great Commission of world evangelism, churches that reproduce

themselves by training preachers and sending out missionaries. They are churches that have missions conferences, not out of tradition, but out of a passionate, growing vision to reach the world for Christ.

### **Churches that know the times**

- I am praying for churches that know the times. They study, love, and understand Bible prophecy. They know that this is the time of end-time apostasy and they understand the implications of that. They know that the hour is late. They recognize that Israel's presence back in her land and the plans to build the Third Temple are major signs of the times.

### **Churches that are growing and fruitful**

- I am praying for churches that are growing and fruitful. They might not be large churches, but they are growing. They might not be growing very quickly, but they are growing and not dying. They are growing spiritually and growing numerically. Souls are being saved; lives are being changed. Homes are making spiritual progress. Growth is influenced by a church's location, and the growth might be slow at times, but in the churches for which I am praying, there is growth.

### **WHAT IF THERE IS NO STRONG CHURCH?**

If you have read this and would be thrilled to be a part of such a church and are qualified to be part of such a church, but there is no such church within commuting distance, there are still things you can do.

We have dealt with this extensively and practically in the free eBook [What If There Is No Strong Church?](https://www.wayoflife.org/publications/books/the-what-if-there-is-no-strong-church.pdf), which is available from Way of Life Literature.

### **FOR MORE ABOUT THIS SUBJECT, WE RECOMMEND THE FOLLOWING:**

#### ***The Discipling Church***

<https://www.wayoflife.org/publications/books/the-discipling-church.php>

#### ***Steps toward a Stronger Church for the 21st Century***

[https://www.wayoflife.org/s3/steps\\_to\\_a\\_stronger\\_church.php](https://www.wayoflife.org/s3/steps_to_a_stronger_church.php)

***The audio files for "Steps toward a Stronger Church" can be accessed at the following page -***

<https://www.wayoflife.org/audiosermons/>

# BAPTIST BIBLE FELLOWSHIP INTERNATIONAL'S ROAD TO EMERGING

By David Cloud

**B**aptist Bible Fellowship International (BBFI) was founded in 1950 by pastors who left the World Baptist Fellowship as a result of a dispute with J. Frank Norris. Prominent among the roughly 100 founding pastors and missionaries were G.B. Vick and Noel Smith. They located their headquarters in Springfield, Missouri, and founded the Baptist Bible College there.

The BBFI is a fellowship of pastors rather than a fellowship of churches. Any Baptist pastor can affiliate by adhering to the fellowship's 20 articles of faith and leading his church to support at least one approved BBFI missionary or missionary project (such as the fellowship's schools).

The BBFI grew quickly and became very influential among Independent Baptists. By 1969, enrollment in Baptist Bible College was 1,370, graduates totaled nearly 2,500, 1,594 pastors were listed in the Fellowship Directory, and 336 BBFI missionaries were ministering on 32 mission fields (Keith Bassham, "The BBFI - A History," *Baptist Bible Tribune*, [www.tribune.org/the-bbfi-a-history](http://www.tribune.org/the-bbfi-a-history)). Five of the 10 largest Sunday Schools in America were affiliated with the BBFI (Elmer Towns, *America's Ten Largest Sunday Schools*).

The founders died in the 1970s, Noel Smith in 1974, and G.B. Vick in 1975.

In the 1970s, enrollment at Baptist Bible College peaked at 2,481.

The number of affiliated BBFI pastors and missionaries probably peaked in the late 1990s when 3,326 pastors

were listed in the Fellowship Directory and 880 BBFI missionaries were working on 111 mission fields. (It must be noted that the BBFI directory is not carefully maintained and purged, and a lot of pastors and churches listed are not actively involved with the BBFI.)

Many pastors and churches have disaffiliated with the BBFI in recent decades, but there are no exact statistics. Many of these have affiliated with Heartland Baptist College in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, which was founded in 1998 independent of BBFI. It was formed from the remnants of Pacific Coast Baptist College of California, which was a BBFI school, but Heartland was independent of BBFI from its inception.

The BBFI was the first group of fundamental Baptists to reject biblical separatism and to go in a contemporary direction.

In the late 1970s, Jerry Falwell, who graduated from Baptist Bible College in 1956 and was associated with the BBFI throughout his career, took an ecumenical stance with the founding of the Moral Majority political organization in 1979. Half of the state chairmen of the organization were members of the BBFI (Daniel Williams, *God's Own Party: The Making of the Christian Right*, p. 177). In that capacity these Baptist pastors joined hands with practically every denomination and cult in direct contradiction to 2 Corinthians 6:14-18.

By February 1986, Falwell told *Christianity Today* that Catholics made up the Moral Majority's largest constituency (30%). In his 1987 autobiography, *Strength for the Journey*, Falwell referred to the

“Catholic brothers and sisters in the Moral Majority” (p. 371). That year, Falwell took over the leadership of the sleazy, heretical PTL ministry, claiming, amazingly, that it was “certainly worth saving” (Ibid., p. 442).

Falwell endorsed Chuck Colson’s 1992 book, *The Body*, which urged evangelicals to join forces with Roman Catholics and charismatics. Colson said, “... the body of Christ, in all its diversity, is created with Baptist feet, charismatic hands, and Catholic ears--all with their eyes on Jesus” (*World*, Nov. 14, 1992).

Not surprisingly, along the way Falwell capitulated to “Christian rock.” Speaking at Word of Life in New York in the 1980s Falwell said: “Other than Heavy Metal and vulgar lyrics, it’s all a matter of taste and has nothing to do with Christianity.”

In spite of this incredible compromise and error, Falwell remained in good standing with the BBFI and continued to speak at their meetings. Very, very few BBFI preachers publicly decried Falwell and his heretical thinking and practice.

Even in the late 1980s, the music was moving rapidly in a contemporary direction through the specials. I recall attending BBFI meetings in those days and being disgusted with the special music accompanied by pre-recorded background tapes that featured a Nashville sound. Most of the preachers didn’t seem to have a clue about the difference between sacred music and worldly music. As long as the people liked it and it got the preacher’s toe tapping, it was fine. I stopped attending those meetings because of the music, the biblical shallowness of the preaching, and the religious politicking.

In the 1990s, some prominent BBFI leaders supported the ecumenical Promise Keepers even though PK promoted unity between Protestants and Catholics. Roman Catholics were featured as speakers at PK conferences and were appointed as leaders within the organization. In 1996, Billy Hamm, pastor of the Mountain States Baptist Temple, Denver, Colorado, spoke at a Promise Keepers seminar and wrote a report justifying his involvement. Hamm had served five terms as treasurer of the Baptist Bible Fellowship, and in the late 1970s he had taught at BBFI-connected

Pacific Coast Baptist Bible College. Again, there were hardly any voices lifted publicly against Hamm’s blatant disobedience of Scriptures such as Romans 16:17 and 2 Timothy 3:5.

The direction of the BBFI was clear by 2002 when Bethlehem Baptist Church in Fairfax, Virginia, was chosen to host the fellowship’s annual conference. The music was led by a contemporary “worship team” composed of four young women. Around that time Bethlehem Baptist had dropped the “King James Only” clause from the by-laws, and the New Living Translation and other corrupt versions began to be used from the pulpit. The pastor sent out a letter to members saying, “With regard to dress and modesty issues, we enforce NO RULE on our folks. ... apparel issues are really of no concern to us.” (This type of statement is always a lie, because these churches don’t allow women to teach Sunday School in bikinis or men to sing specials in lipstick, dresses, and high heels.) The church’s Skate Night, which was sponsored by raunchy secular skateboarding companies, featured “throbbing Christian rock.” The church’s youth pastor in 2002 had an earring and in the church’s newsletter sported a T-shirt promoting the rock band P.O.D.

Following is a testimony of someone who attended the 2002 conference:

“All of us from our church got up and walked out. It was sickening to see the cutesie young women in their tight pants and high boots, sitting with legs crossed on high stools, leading the worship music. I was stunned. A far cry from what I had known when I attended back in the Viet Nam days when my husband was serving in the Air Force.”

Since then, Bethlehem Baptist Church has changed its name to Expectation, a very cool emerging-type name.

In 2003, BBFI in the Philippines invited the country’s Roman Catholic president to speak at an evangelism conference.

There are still some “conservative” BBFI churches (though they are usually not outspoken about reproving the compromise of the mother organization, which in itself is compromise and sin), but as a movement it is well on its way to the emerging church.



## 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?*



**CHINESE GOVERNMENT VIOLENTLY SHUTS DOWN LARGE CHURCHES** (Friday Church News Notes, December 28, 2018, [www.wayoflife.org](http://www.wayoflife.org), [fbns@wayoflife.org](mailto:fbns@wayoflife.org), 866-295-4143)

- The following is excerpted from "Hong Kong Christians Protest Brutal China Crackdown," Breitbart, Dec. 23, 2018: "On December 9, Chinese security forces carried out a series of coordinated raids on the Early Rain Covenant Church, one of the most prominent house churches in China, arresting as many as a hundred members, including Pastor Wang Yi and his wife. According to Gina Goh, Southeast Asia regional manager for International Christian Concern, officials beat, tortured, and denied food and restroom accommodations to the Christian detainees. Some of the Christians were dragged along the ground, stepped on, bound to chairs, and had handfuls of hair pulled from their scalp, Goh said. Six days later, authorities repeated the exercise on the Rongguili Church in Guangzhou, the largest unregistered church in south China. Local officials shut down the church, interrupting a children's Bible class, and confiscated some 4,000 religious books. The pre-Christmas raids are part of an escalating crackdown on house churches and unsanctioned Christians, as part of an effort by the Xi regime to secure absolute control over all religious activities in the country. So far this year, there have

been more than 10,000 cases of Christians being detained in China, compared with just over 3,000 cases for the whole of last year, according to Bob Fu of China Aid, a U.S.-based Christian non-profit organization."

**D E M O C R A T F A C E B O O K / T W I T T E R M I S I N F O R M A T I O N C A M P A I G N A G A I N S T R O Y M O O R E E X P O S E D** (Friday Church News Notes, December 28, 2018, [www.wayoflife.org](http://www.wayoflife.org), [fbns@wayoflife.org](mailto:fbns@wayoflife.org), 866-295-4143)

- The following is excerpted from "Facebook suspends accounts tied to Dem disinformation scheme," *Fox News*, Dec. 25, 2018: "Facebook suspended five accounts linked to Democratic operatives who engaged in 'coordinated inauthentic behavior' in a bid to steer votes away from Alabama Republican Roy Moore during last year's special Senate election. The announcement comes following a *New York Times* report last week that exposed the scheme, in which the users created a Facebook page and imitated conservative Alabamians who weren't satisfied with the Republican candidate while encouraging others to write in another candidate. ... The scheme also involved creating thousands of fake Russian accounts on Twitter that began following Moore. This effort attracted attention from local and national media, falsely suggesting Russia was backing Moore's



candidacy. ‘Russian invasion? Roy Moore sees spike in Twitter followers from land of Putin,’ read the headline of an article at *The Montgomery Advertiser*, just months before the election night. Other outlets shortly picked up the story.” CONCLUDING COMMENT BY FRIDAY CHURCH NEWS NOTES EDITOR: In addition to these lies, Roy Moore was the target of unsubstantiated allegations of sexual misconduct with teenage girls when he was in his 30s. His campaign called the allegations “baseless” and “the very definition of fake news,” but the damage was done. The man lost the election due to dirty politics, pure and simple.

**BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA FILING BANKRUPTCY** (Friday Church News Notes, December 28, 2018, [www.wayoflife.org](http://www.wayoflife.org), [fbns@wayoflife.org](mailto:fbns@wayoflife.org), 866-295-4143) - The following is excerpted from *Red State News*, Dec. 13, 2018: “The once proud organization known as the Boy Scouts is declaring bankruptcy after severely flagging numbers due to a myriad of problems, including implementing social justice measures to make it more inclusive. According to the *Daily Caller*, the Boy Scouts changed its name to Scouts BSA and began to allow girls into their ranks. Before that, the Boy Scouts ruled that openly gay scouts and scout leaders could also join the program. This led to a serious decline in membership and now the organization is filing



Chapter 11. ... It’s only going to get worse as well. The Mormon Church has announced that it’s discontinuing its partnership with the Boy Scouts and will be starting up its own boy’s program in 2020, according to the *Daily Caller*. When that happens, the Scouts will lose a third of its membership.”

**REPUBLICAN SENATOR BLOCKING TRUMP’S NOMINATION OF LGBT ACTIVIST** (Friday Church News Notes, December 28, 2018, [www.wayoflife.org](http://www.wayoflife.org), [fbns@wayoflife.org](mailto:fbns@wayoflife.org), 866-295-4143) - The following is excerpted from “Sen. Mike Lee Blocks,” CNSNews.com, Dec. 21, 2018: “Senator Mike Lee (R-Utah) is blocking Senate confirmation of President Donald Trump’s nominee to the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC), Chai Feldblum, for fear she could threaten religious freedom and traditional marriage. If confirmed, Feldblum, a leftist Democrat and LGBTQ activist who has made controversial comments about religious liberty, would serve her third EEOC term. She was first nominated in 2010 by then-President Barack Obama, and finished her second term in July 2018. Sen. Lee has asserted that Feldblum ‘is no typical Democrat,’ and could curtail ‘the rights of religious Americans.’ ... The EEOC is a bipartisan commission that enforces federal laws prohibiting discrimination against job applicants or employees on the basis of race, sex, religion, color, national origin, age, disability or genetic information. **In a 2006 interview with the *Weekly Standard*, Feldblum suggested sexual liberty was more important than religious liberty, and should**



**be prioritized should the two come into conflict.** ‘Sexual liberty should win in most cases,’ Feldblum said. ‘There can be a conflict between religious liberty and sexual liberty, but in almost all cases the sexual liberty should win because that’s the only way that the dignity of gay people can be affirmed in any realistic manner.’ ... Editor-in-Chief of *The Daily Wire* Ben Shapiro said Feldblum was ‘President Trump’s Worst Federal Nomination’ ... ‘Feldblum should not be anywhere near the levers of power,’ Shapiro wrote. ‘And it’s particularly inexcusable for President Trump and a Republican Congress to reauthorize her presence there.’”

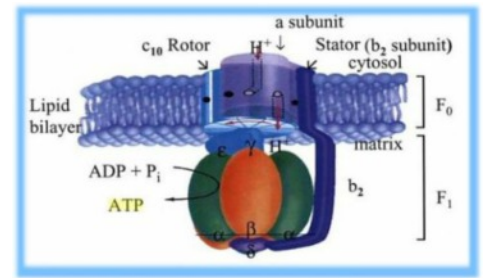
**GROCER IN ARIZONA THE FIRST TO OFFER DRIVERLESS VEHICLE DELIVERY** (Friday Church News Notes, December 28, 2018, [www.wayoflife.org](http://www.wayoflife.org), [fbns@wayoflife.org](mailto:fbns@wayoflife.org), 866-295-4143) - Kroger has become the first supermarket chain to provide delivery of groceries via driverless vehicles. The service was launched in Scottsdale, Arizona. The grocers have teamed up with the Nuro company and its small R1 electric-powered van “shaped like a rounded, silver lunch box” or a “toaster on wheels,” which has been in development since 2016. When filling an order, the van self-drives to the address. The customer watches the vehicle’s progress on a smartphone app, activates a code to

open the van, and retrieves his package.

**BEWARE OF HAVING TOO MANY SCHEMES** (Friday Church News Notes, December 28, 2018, [www.wayoflife.org](http://www.wayoflife.org), [fbns@wayoflife.org](mailto:fbns@wayoflife.org), 866-295-4143) - “If we are competent merchantmen in the business of the Church we shall limit our schemes, and we shall operate them to the last ounce of our strength. We shall not waste and squander our power in twenty scouting excursions, but we will use it in sinking one or two good mines, and working them with noble and persistent exploration. ... If the pulpit is your mine, don’t play with it, work it night and day. If the Sunday School is your mine, sink your shaft deeper and deeper, open out new seams and veins of treasure, and let the mine abundantly justify itself by its products. Whatever may be your mind, put your strength into it. I am a strong believer in a very few schemes, but tried to the utmost; I believe in a very few mines, but worked for all they are worth. The life of our day tempts us to diffuse. We are tempted to have too many irons in the fire, and we don’t beat any one of them to final ‘shape and use.’ Gentlemen, have a few well-designed and well-proportioned schemes. Don’t lose yourself in dreams. Lay your hands upon a few things, and hold on to them like grim death, and make them pay daily tribute to the Lord your God. Master something. Finish something, or be still working away at it when the Lord promotes you to higher service. That was the Master’s way. ‘I have finished the work which Thou gavest me to do.’ He ‘set His face’ steadfastly to it, nothing drew Him aside, and He finished it. ... And this, too, was the way of the Apostle Paul.

‘This one thing I do.’ His life and work were controlled by a glorious concentration, and he held on to his grace like a hound that has found the trail. Follow his inspired example. Don’t be forever itching after novelties. Don’t be continually shifting your ground” (J.H. Jowett, *The Preacher: His Life and Work*, 1912).

**ATP IS NECESSARY FOR LIFE** (Friday Church News Notes, December 28, 2018, [www.wayoflife.org](http://www.wayoflife.org), [fbns@wayoflife.org](mailto:fbns@wayoflife.org), 866-295-4143) - The following is excerpted from *Seeing the Non-existent: Evolution’s Myths and Hoaxes*, David Cloud: “The living cell is powered by ATP (Adenosine TriPhosphate), which is produced in the cell’s mitochondria by an amazing genetic motor called **ATP Synthase**. Without ATP there would be no biological life and without the ATP motor there would be no ATP. One trillion trillion of these complex motors would fit on the head of a pin. They typically spin at about 10,000 rpm and develop immense torque, with each rotation producing three ATP molecules. ‘The human body generates about its own weight of ATP every day, generated by trillions of these motors. And it is consumed very quickly to power vital biochemical reactions, including DNA and protein synthesis, muscle contraction, transport of nutrients and nerve impulses. An organism without ATP is like a car without gasoline. Cyanide is so toxic precisely because it stops ATP production. ... because energy is vital for life, life could not have evolved before this motor was fully functional. This is an even more foundational problem: natural selection by definition is differential reproduction, so requires self-reproducing entities at the start. Yet



self-reproduction requires ATP to supply the energy! So does the expression of the information that is selected. So even if a series of gradual steps could be imagined up this peak of *Mount Improbable*, there would be no natural selection to enable that climb. This is because all the hypothetical intermediates would be lacking energy and thus dead’ (Jonathan Sarfati, *By Design*, pp. 135, 136). Shem Dharampaul, M.D., observes: “In the glycolytic pathway which produces ATP, you need to input two molecules of ATP to produce four molecules of ATP (net product of two molecules). It is a classic chicken and egg scenario. From where did the first two molecules appear?” A graphical depiction of the ATP synthase can be viewed at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6d5QU7fCWpE>

**FACEBOOK TEMPORARILY BANS FRANKLIN GRAHAM FOR “HATE SPEECH”** (Friday Church News Notes, January 4, 2019, [www.wayoflife.org](http://www.wayoflife.org), [fbns@wayoflife.org](mailto:fbns@wayoflife.org), 866-295-4143) - The following is excerpted from “After Facebook apologizes for ban,” *Fox News*, Dec. 31, 2018: “Evangelical leader Franklin Graham accepted Facebook’s apology and suggested the social network come up with a standard based on ‘God’s word’ after the tech company mistakenly banned him for 24 hours last week over a 2016 post about HB2, North Carolina’s controversial ‘bathroom bill.’ ‘I was





defending our governor and the state on HB2. It was a good law. If you disagree with [Facebook's] position on sexual orientation, you can be classified as hate speech,' said Graham in an exclusive interview on *Fox & Friends* Sunday. In a post to his Facebook page, Graham said the social network is 'trying to define truth. They're making the rules and changing the rules. Truth is truth. God made the rules and His Word is truth. Actually, Facebook is censoring free speech. The free exchange of ideas is part of our country's DNA.' A Facebook spokesperson told *Fox News* the 2016 post was removed by mistake after one of its 15,000 content moderators decided that it violated the tech giant's ban on 'dehumanizing language.' The post and Graham's page have since been restored. 'I accept Facebook's apology and I appreciate them stepping up and doing that,' Graham said, but he questioned why the tech giant would censure such an old post. 'I think it was just really a personal attack towards me.' Facebook came under fire late last week after one of its employees leaked more than 1,000 pages of documents detailing its content moderation policies and how it polices speech on a global scale. Critics have said the company wields too much power and has made mistakes in determining whether something is hate speech or part of a country's mainstream dialogue. ... In March 2016, North Carolina's

General Assembly passed HB2, which reversed a Charlotte ordinance that ... allowed transgender people to use public restrooms that correspond with their gender identity, but the HB2 eliminated local ordinances statewide that expanded protections for LGBT people."

### **CNN JOURNALIST OF THE YEAR EXPOSED FOR FRAUD AGAINST CONSERVATIVE VOTERS**

(Friday Church News Notes, January 4, 2019, [www.wayoflife.org](http://www.wayoflife.org), [fbns@wayoflife.org](mailto:fbns@wayoflife.org), 866-295-4143) - The following is excerpted from "Der Spiegel Reporter Fired after Fake News Story" by Mike Huckabee, *The Stream*, Dec. 22, 2018: "The major German newspaper *Der Spiegel* revealed that one of its most renowned reporters, Claas Relotius, has been making up news for years. In a case of journalistic fraud 'on a grand scale,' Relotius has reportedly confessed to fabricating parts of at least 14 stories over the years, including an interview with Colin Kaepernick's parents and a story about a sign on the outskirts of a Minnesota town reading 'Keep Mexicans out.' ... Ironically, Relotius won awards for his investigative exposes, including CNN Journalist of the Year in 2014. ... After many years of making up 'facts' to fit his preconceived narratives, Relotius finally tripped up when he--like so many arrogant liberal reporters--slandered and underestimated the intelligence of rural American Trump voters whom he had never really talked to ... In trying to 'explain' to European readers how those backward, knuckle-dragging, gun-toting, racist small town yahoos (a stereotype he could have lifted straight out of a 1960s drive-in movie) could have chosen the odious

Trump over the resplendent Hillary, Relotius wrote a profile of Fergus Falls, Minnesota, which voted for Trump by 62.6% ... The intent was obviously to confirm the negative biases held by urban liberal bubble dwellers. Relotius put damning quotes into the mouths of people he'd never talked to; invented demeaning descriptions of locals that were wildly inaccurate; created residents who didn't really exist; made up 'facts' out of thin air that a Google search could have debunked ... When residents saw to their shock what he had written about them, local blogger Michele Anderson posted a list of just his top 11 lies about Fergus ... Adding more layers to the irony, Anderson is actually a Hillary-voting liberal who works for a local arts group and moved there from Portland, Oregon--but she loves her small town and gets along fine with her neighbors, liberals and conservatives alike."

### **APPLE PULLS CHRISTIAN MINISTRY'S APP AFTER PROTEST FROM GAY-RIGHTS ACTIVISTS**

(Friday Church News Notes, January 4, 2019, [www.wayoflife.org](http://www.wayoflife.org), [fbns@wayoflife.org](mailto:fbns@wayoflife.org), 866-295-4143) - The following is excerpted from "Apple Pulls," *The Christian Post*, Dec. 27, 2018: "Apple pulled a Christian ministry's app after LGBT advocates said it portrayed being gay as a 'sickness,' a charge the ministry says is false. NBC News reported that the tech giant removed the app that



was developed by Living Hope Ministries, a Texas-based organization, following a Change.org petition from gay rights group Truth Wins Out. The petition called the 'ex-gay' app 'dangerous,' 'bigoted' and 'hateful.' Living Hope Ministries is expressing disappointment over the move but says their work will continue. 'We are saddened by Apple's and Microsoft's removal of our app because of a single person's false accusations. Regardless of their decision we will continue to make the app and our services available to those who seek them,' Ricky Chalette, executive director of the group, said in an email to *The Christian Post* Thursday. 'We are a ministry that for nearly thirty years has helped individuals resolve their feelings they deem incongruent with their faith. We help people deepen their relationship with Jesus Christ through Bible study and accountability. We walk with them to align their lives with the teachings of Jesus Christ.' ... In 2014, Apple CEO Tim Cook became the first Fortune 500 company leader to announce he was homosexual, and told CNN in an interview earlier this year that being gay was 'God's greatest gift to me.'"

**CHINESE GOVERNMENT SCHOOLS TRACKING CHILDREN WITH ELECTRONIC UNIFORMS**  
(Friday Church News Notes, January



4, 2019, [www.wayoflife.org](http://www.wayoflife.org), [fbns@wayoflife.org](mailto:fbns@wayoflife.org), 866-295-4143) - The following is excerpted from "Chinese schools make pupils wear," *The Telegraph*, Dec. 26, 2018: "Schools in southern China are forcing children to wear uniforms embedded with computer chips that track their movement and trigger an alarm if they skip class. More than 10 schools in Guizhou province and the neighboring autonomous region of Guangxi are now requiring students to wear 'intelligent uniforms', according to the state-run newspaper *The Global Times*. Two chips, sown into the shoulders of school jackets, can sustain around 500 wash cycles and temperatures of 150 degrees Celsius ... The uniforms allow teachers and parents to track students' movement, sending out an alert if they are not present in a lesson. Facial-recognition scanners at school gates match the chips with the correct student, meaning that any who try to swap jackets in order to bunk off will be caught. ... In June 2016, China's Ministry of Education touted the 'digitalisation of education' in its Five Year Plan, calling for the development of 'smart campuses.' Earlier this year, Chinese media reported that a school in Hangzhou was using facial scanners to track if students were paying attention in class, while another school in the same province uses a facial-recognition system when serving children lunch in the cafeteria."

**CUBA STILL STARVING POLITICAL PRISONERS TO DEATH** (Friday Church News Notes, January 4, 2019, [www.wayoflife.org](http://www.wayoflife.org), [fbns@wayoflife.org](mailto:fbns@wayoflife.org), 866-295-4143) - The following is excerpted from "Cuba Has Detailed Half a Million



Dissidents," *Breitbart*, Dec. 7, 2018: "Cuba continues to employ starvation and dehydration as a mechanism to break political prisoners physically and mentally, *Breitbart News* learned from a former political prisoner on Friday. The practice of starving detainees and limiting their access to water remains 'a systematic and official practice,' Luis Zúñiga, a former political prisoner, declared during an event on human rights in Cuba hosted by the Organization of American States (OAS). ... During the event, the Justice Cuba international commission presented testimony from former political prisoners who have witnessed the torture and atrocities at the hands of the Cuban government first-hand. ... It is likely that 'political prisons in Cuba are responsible for the only cases in the world where there are prisoners who have died of malnutrition without going on a hunger strike, just by eating the food they gave them,' Zúñiga proclaimed. He also noted that prisoners are subjected to 'a permanent system of arbitrary beatings.'"

**THE INTERNET - HISTORY'S GREATEST LIBRARY** (Friday Church News Notes, January 4, 2019, [www.wayoflife.org](http://www.wayoflife.org), [fbns@wayoflife.org](mailto:fbns@wayoflife.org), 866-295-4143) - The Internet is, by far, history's most magnificent library. I love libraries and have spent a *lot* of time in serious libraries, including many days in the British Library. But there

is nothing in history to compare with the World Wide Web. Back in the 1970s, when I first started writing books, if I could have owned the British Library and the Library of Congress and transported them to one place and had the most efficient cataloging system available at the time, it would not have been as powerful and effective as the 21st century World Wide Web, especially since Google started scanning vast library holdings beginning in 2002. The old card cataloging system was helpful, but it was nothing at all compared to a modern search Internet engine. Though many of the materials on deposit in great libraries aren't available online, a massive amount are, and the digitization process grows daily. The last time I spent a day at the British Library, which was about five years ago, I knew that I would probably never go back. Several of the books I tried to order required longer than one day to deliver, and I only had a couple of days. Further, I realized that every book I was researching was already online (since I was doing research in older books). True, I can't order up a 1527 Tyndale New Testament via the World Wide Web and have it delivered to my desk so that I can actually handle it, but I can read it online or download the text to read on my laptop or iPhone. And that is true for a vast amount of the material that has ever been published in English. Newer books that are still under copyright can't be read for free online, but a great many of them can be purchased in eBook edition, which I prefer because transporting, searching, highlighting, copying and pasting are more efficient. The resources on the web and the power of the search engines puts information literally at the user's fingertips. Finding facts that would

have required hours or even days and weeks of digging through books just a few years go can be obtained at lightening speed today. The Internet is a researcher's wildest dream come true. No doubt the Antichrist will use it to his advantage, but in the mean time I will use it for the glory of God.

### CONGRESSWOMAN SWORN IN ON THOMAS JEFFERSON'S QURAN IS DEEPLY CONFUSED ABOUT AMERICAN HISTORY

(Friday Church News Notes, January 11, 2019, [www.wayoflife.org](http://www.wayoflife.org), [fbns@wayoflife.org](mailto:fbns@wayoflife.org), 866-295-4143) - Rashiba Tlaib, newly elected Democratic congresswoman from Michigan, was sworn into Congress last week on a Quran owned by Thomas Jefferson. She said, "It's important to me because a lot of Americans have this kind of feeling that Islam is somehow foreign to American history. Muslims were there at the beginning. ... Some of our founding fathers knew more about Islam than some members of Congress now ... My faith has centered me. The prophet Mohammed was always talking about freedom and justice" ("Detroit congresswoman to use Jefferson's Quran," *Detroit Free Press*, Dec. 19, 2019). Tlaib is right that some of the founding fathers knew more about Islam than some members of Congress today, but not in the way that she assumes. As soon as America gained independence from Britain, Muslim pirates had begun seizing



American merchant ships and enslaving the crews for ransom. In 1786, Thomas Jefferson and John Adams were sent to London to negotiate with Tripoli's ambassador, Sidi Haji Abdul Rahman Adja. When asked why the Muslims attacked nations that "had done them no injury," Adja replied, "It was written in their Koran, that all nations which had not acknowledged the Prophet were sinners, whom it was the right and duty of the faithful to plunder and enslave; and that every mussulman who was slain in this warfare was sure to go to paradise. He said, also, that the man who was the first to board a vessel had one slave over and above his share, and that when they sprang to the deck of an enemy's ship, every sailor held a dagger in each hand and a third in his mouth; which usually struck such terror into the foe that they cried out for quarter at once" (*Thomas Jefferson Papers*, Series 1 1651-1827, Library of Congress). The Barbary pirates cited the Koran as their authority for attacking, brutalizing, and enslaving anyone who is not submitted to Allah. In 1795, America paid \$1 million for the release of 115 sailors, an amount that was one-sixth of the U.S. budget. The pirates demanded an annual payment of the same amount. When Jefferson was elected America's second president in 1801, he and his fellow citizens were of no mind to accept bullying and blackmail. The U.S. Navy was built to protect America against Muslim pirates. One of the most memorable acts of the Barbary War was in 1805 when a force of eight U.S. Marines and 400 Greek and Arab mercenaries, led by U.S. Navy Lieutenant William Eaton, force-marched across 600 miles of desert from Alexandria, Egypt, to capture the city of Derne (or Derna) on the shores of Tripoli. This is memorialized in the U.S. Marine



Hymn. By 1816, the Barbary states were forced to cease attacking American and British ships, and this was accomplished by force of arms.

**SOUTHERN BAPTIST PRESIDENT SAYS WE CAN'T "PUT GOD IN A BOX"** (Friday Church News Notes, January 11, 2019, [www.wayoflife.org](http://www.wayoflife.org), [fbns@wayoflife.org](mailto:fbns@wayoflife.org), 866-295-4143)

- In a video interview with The Gospel Coalition, J.D. Greear, President of the Southern Baptist Convention (SBC), said that God can still speak audibly to believers today and is not limited to speaking through Scripture ("Southern Baptist President," BreakingChristianNews.com, Jan. 4, 2019). Greear said "he would never place God in a box about what He could do today." This has been the Pentecostal position from its inception. "Don't put God in a box" has always meant that God can do all sorts of things that we don't see in Scripture, such as knock people down, glue them to the floor, cause them to speak gibberish, laugh hysterically, shake, jerk, roar like lions, bray like donkeys, and stagger like drunks. "Don't put God in a box" has always been the theme song of those who refuse to be bound by Scripture. Former Pentecostal Hughie Seaborn comments as follows: "The SBC will be thoroughly Pentecostal before too long. God can do whatever He pleases, but He won't contradict His Word, and His Word tells us in Hebrews 1:1-2 that, '*God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets* [who received dreams, visions and audible voices], *Hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son* [through that which is perfect, the written Word of God].' Dreams, visions and audible voices are



subjective and fraught with dangerous deception. How can we know for sure who is speaking to us, even if what is received agrees with the Bible? The devil speaks a lot of truth, but it always has an agenda. The written Word of God is the only safety we have in these perilous last days. J.D. Greear is a dangerous man. When they say they '*would never place God in a box about what He could do today,*' they are actually saying that they don't want God to 'put them in a box.' That's the real issue that I've found with them. It's not, 'Don't tell me what God can and can't do,' but rather, 'Don't tell me what I can and can't do.' They don't like the restrictions that Scripture places on them."

#### **SOUTHERN BAPTISTS AND CHARISMATICISM**

(Friday Church News Notes, January 11, 2019, [www.wayoflife.org](http://www.wayoflife.org), [fbns@wayoflife.org](mailto:fbns@wayoflife.org), 866-295-4143) - The charismatic movement has been spreading through the Southern Baptist Convention since the late 1980s and the pace is increasing with each decade. In April 1995, *Charisma* magazine reported that two professors at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary (William Hendricks and Tim Webber) urged churches not to fear the charismatic movement. Hendricks, director of Southern's doctoral studies, said, "We shouldn't feel defensive or threatened by an alternative

experience, perspective or insights about the Holy Spirit," and warned that in fighting the charismatic movement "you could be fighting what is a legitimate experience of the Spirit." In March 1999, a *Charisma* magazine report entitled "Shaking Southern Baptist Tradition" gave many examples of charismatic Southern Baptist congregations. At that time, Southern Baptist pastors Jack Taylor, Ron Phillips, and Gary Folds, embraced the unscriptural nonsense that occurred at the Toronto Airport Church in Ontario and Brownsville Assembly of God in Pensacola, Florida. This "revival" took the form of gibberish speakings, uncontrollable laughter, falling on the floor, rolling on the floor, barking like a dog, roaring like a lion, braying like a donkey, electric shocks, shakings, jerkings, and other bizarre experiences with no biblical support. Since then, Ron Phillips' Fresh Oil & Wine Conferences at Central Baptist Church of Hixon, Tennessee, have promoted charismatic heresies. One of the speakers was Rodney Howard-Browne, the so-called "Holy Ghost Bartender." Southern Baptist Pastor Dwain Miller of Second Baptist Church in El Dorado, Arkansas, prophesied that God would use Phillips "to bring renewal to the SBC's 41,000 churches." Phillips told the *Tennessean* newspaper that he first experienced speaking in tongues when he was sleeping! In 2008, Phillips counted 500 churches in his charismatic network ("Charismatic Southern Baptist Churches," *Baptist Standard*, Oct. 30, 2008). James Robison, once a fiery Southern Baptist evangelist who preached against the theological liberalism of its schools and the worldliness of its churches, had a charismatic experience in 1979 and became a charismatic ecumenist who

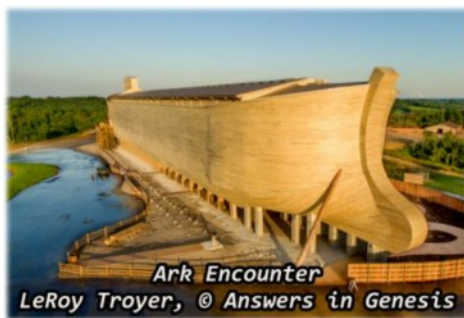
joins hands in fellowship and ministry with “Spirit baptized” Roman Catholics and praises Pope John Paul II as “one of the finest representatives of morality in this earth.” Bill Sharples resigned a Southern Baptist pastorate after accepting the tongues-speaking movement, but 25% of his meetings are in SBC churches and he claims that 15 to 20 percent of Southern Baptists that he meets are open to the charismatic movement. In November 2005, the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board voted to forbid missionaries to speak in tongues, but Jerry Rankin, the head of the board, said that he had spoken in a “private prayer language” for 30 years. What confusion! Speaking at a chapel service at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in 2006, Pastor Dwight McKissic, a trustee, told the students that he speaks in tongues in his “private prayer life” and has done so since 1981, when he was a seminary student (“Southwestern Trustee’s Sermon on Tongues Prompts Response,” Baptist Press, Aug. 30, 2006). In May 2015, the Southern Baptist International Mission Board reversed its former policy, now accepting missionaries who speak in “tongues” so long as they don’t become “disruptive” (“FAQs on Missionary Appointment Qualifications,” IMB Policy 200-1, IMB.org). One of the major bridges from the charismatic movement into Southern Baptist churches and homes is contemporary worship music. The 2008 Southern Baptist Hymnal contains a great many songs written by charismatics. About 75 of the top 100 contemporary worship songs are included. These songs are direct bridges to the one-world “church.” I don’t know of one prominent contemporary worship artist who is opposed in any practical sense to the

charismatic movement and ecumenism, and that includes the Gettys. Because the SBC refuses to deal with this error consistently, the leaven will continue to spread. The Bible warns that “a little leaven leaveneth the whole lump.” This is true for sin (1 Cor. 5:6) as well as for false doctrine (Gal. 5:9). And in a few years, someone will be writing about “tongues speaking” and other charismatic phenomena among Independent Baptists.

### NOAH’S IMPOSSIBLE SHIP

(Friday Church News Notes, January 11, 2019, [www.wayoflife.org](http://www.wayoflife.org), [fbns@wayoflife.org](mailto:fbns@wayoflife.org), 866-295-4143)

- The following is from CreationMoments.com, Dec. 14, 2018: “According to the Bible, Noah’s Ark was 450 feet long, 75 feet wide and 45 feet high. It was built of a type of wood called ‘gopher wood.’ This may have been laminated wood, but it was wood. However, skeptics claim that even today wooden boats cannot be made that large simply because wood is not strong enough to endure the huge stresses generated by such a large structure; they say only iron can endure these stresses. That is, of course, not true. Ancient writers tell us of a sea battle in 280 BC in which the *Leontifera* participated. They describe the *Leontifera* in some detail. They tell us that she carried 1,600 rowers and 1,200 additional fighting men. From these and other details, the *Leontifera* has been estimated to have been



between 400 and 500 feet long. Plutarch tells us of another ship built around 294 BC that had twice as many banks of oars as the *Leontifera*. In the late third century BC, Ptolemy Philopator built a ship that took 400 sailors to run, in addition to 4,000 rowers. With additional soldiers on board, the ship carried 7,250 men. This battleship was 420 feet long, wider than Noah’s Ark and about the same height. The Bible is trustworthy in all that it teaches, even when it talks about historical fact or the natural world that science studies. Ref: *Creation*, 6-8/00, pp. 46-48, ‘The Large Ships of Antiquity.’”

### AMERICAN PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION DECLARES M A S C U L I N I T Y “PSYCHOLOGICALLY HARMFUL”

(Friday Church News Notes, January 18, 2019, [www.wayoflife.org](http://www.wayoflife.org), [fbns@wayoflife.org](mailto:fbns@wayoflife.org), 866-295-4143)

- The following is excerpted from “American Psychological Association,” Jan. 8, 2019, [frontpagemag.com](http://frontpagemag.com): “That cultural revolution is moving forward so quickly that it’s rapidly running out of rails. In the last five years, the Left has embraced racial supremacism, denied biology, endorsed anti-Semitism, and declared that science was a white patriarchal conspiracy. What’s left? The APA now claims that ‘traditional masculinity is psychologically harmful.’ ‘The main thrust of the subsequent research is that traditional masculinity—marked by stoicism, competitiveness, dominance and aggression—is, on the whole, harmful,’ the APA claims. Its new guidelines insist that, ‘gender refers to psychological, social, and cultural experiences and characteristics associated with the social statuses of girls and women or



boys and men.’ If gender is just a state of mind, then masculinity easily becomes a mental illness. That is what happens when the inmates run the APA’s asylum.”

### **ABORTION THE LEADING CAUSE OF DEATH WORLDWIDE**

(Friday Church News Notes, January 18, 2019, [www.wayoflife.org](http://www.wayoflife.org), [fbns@wayoflife.org](mailto:fbns@wayoflife.org), 866-295-4143) - The following is excerpted from “Abortion kills 42 million,” *Christian Headlines*, Jan. 2, 2019: “The leading cause of death in 2018 around the world was abortions, according to LifeNews. The news site and data site Worldometers reported that 42 million abortions took place in the world in 2018. Officially, the 42 million abortions are not included in the total death count worldwide, which was 59 million for last year. With abortions counted, the death toll is 101 million from 2018, according to CBN News. ... Pro-life supporters are pushing President Donald Trump to defund Planned Parenthood. During his presidential campaign, he vowed to defund the organization. ‘It’s very simple. Abortion is not health care,’ Kristan Hawkins, president of Students for Life, told CBN News last year in an interview. ‘Planned Parenthood is not an institution where women go to get a flu shot or a check-up. Planned Parenthood is an institution where women go when they feel like they

have no other choice. When they have to choose to pay someone to kill the very life they helped to create.”

### **FORMER FACEBOOK MANAGER LIKENS FACEBOOK TO A CULT**

(Friday Church News Notes, January 18, 2019, [www.wayoflife.org](http://www.wayoflife.org), [fbns@wayoflife.org](mailto:fbns@wayoflife.org), 866-295-4143) - The following is excerpted from “Former Facebook Employees,” *Breitbart*, Jan. 8, 2019: “Former Facebook employees compared the company to a ‘cult,’ in interviews with CNBC ... In 2016, former Facebook product manager Antonio Garcia Martinez also likened the company to a cult, comparing CEO Mark Zuckerberg to Jonestown cult leader Jim Jones. ‘Facebook is full of true believers who really, really, really are not doing it for the money, and really, really will not stop until every man, woman, and child on earth is staring into a blue-bannered window with a Facebook logo,’ he claimed. ‘Zuckerberg founded the church of a new religion.’”

### **CALIFORNIA CHURCH PROTESTED FOR A SIGN SAYING HOMOSEXUALITY IS A SIN**

(Friday Church News Notes, January 18, 2019, [www.wayoflife.org](http://www.wayoflife.org), [fbns@wayoflife.org](mailto:fbns@wayoflife.org), 866-295-4143) - The following is excerpted from “California Church Enrages LGBT Community,” *The Stream*, Jan. 7, 2019: “Protesters demonstrated against a church in northern California, demanding its pastor remove a church marquee message they believe is hateful toward the LGBT community. The marquee message, posted by Trinity Bible Presbyterian Church pastor Justin Hoke, reads ‘Bruce Jenner is still a man. Homosexuality is still sin. The



culture may change. The Bible does not.’ The sign angered LGBT citizens of Siskiyou County, who gathered outside the church Sunday to demand the pastor take the message down and keep such beliefs within the church’s walls. Hoke, however, contended the sign was not hateful and that it expressed Biblical teaching about gender and sexuality. ‘... that’s very offensive to call that sign hateful,’ Hoke said. ‘There is no hate at all in that sign.’ ‘People are getting upset because we’re saying this is wrong, it’s always been wrong, it still is wrong according to our God,’ Hoke added. ... Hoke said, in light of the protests, he plans to keep the sign up until the demonstrations stop. Kalayjian and other lead protesters accepted the challenge, however, saying they would protest outside the church every Sunday until the pastor removes the message.” **FOLLOW-UP:** Pastor Hoke resigned the pastorate of Trinity Bible Presbyterian after members of the church threatened to leave. He said, “As of today, I am no longer the pastor of Trinity Bible Presbyterian Church. ... it was determined that it would be in the best interest of the local body for us to part ways. I would like to add this, I did not want to leave, I did not quit, and I was willing to stay.” He turned down offers of financial support, saying he didn’t want to “use this 5 minutes of fame as a chance to capitalize on the sympathy and good will of others.” He added,



“The Lord has taken care of my needs. Please pray that God would open more doors for me to preach the gospel, that is all I want or need.”

### FACEBOOK STALKING IS A MASSIVE, GLOBAL PROBLEM

(Friday Church News Notes, January 18, 2019, [www.wayoflife.org](http://www.wayoflife.org), [fbns@wayoflife.org](mailto:fbns@wayoflife.org), 866-295-4143) - Facebook has provided wicked men an unprecedented forum for stalking women. It has reached epidemic proportions, and it is a global issue. According to a report in *The Himalayan Times* for Dec. 10, 2018, twenty Facebook stalking crimes are reported to the Kathmandu Metropolitan Police's Cyber Crime Unit *every day*. There are nearly one million Facebook users in this backwards country, a number which represents the large majority of the nation's youth. An example of the social media stalking is a 17-year-old nursing student who was the target of attempted blackmail by a man who created five fake Facebook accounts in her name and posted obscene photos with morphed images of her face. He offered to take down the accounts if she would meet with him. Another young woman accepted a “friend” request from someone posing as a woman, but it turned out that it was a male stalker who tried to force her to send him obscene photos. When she refused, he created a fake Facebook account and posted vile photos using morphed images of her face. Nepal police inspector Lila Raj



Dangi said that Facebook's office in Hong Kong has turned down multiple requests for help in protecting these women and identifying the offenders. The global pop culture, with its fundamental principle of “live young and free,” has made young women exceedingly vulnerable to the malicious, duplicitous advances of wicked men. It has “liberated” young women from the close protective oversight of fathers, brothers, and husbands. Facebook doesn't care two cents for these women. They are just dollar signs. It has been said that if a company doesn't sell *something* (e.g., if it offers “free” services), it sells *you*, and no two companies have been more effective at commercializing its users than Facebook and Google. (Duckduckgo is an alternative to Google that doesn't commercialize its users by collecting data. I've been using it for a few months and have found it to be a good search engine.)

### THE PREACHER'S DEVOTIONAL TIME

(Friday Church News Notes, January 18, 2019, [www.wayoflife.org](http://www.wayoflife.org), [fbns@wayoflife.org](mailto:fbns@wayoflife.org), 866-295-4143) - The effectual preacher will treat his morning Bible study/prayer closet as the law of the Medes and Persians. D. Martyn Lloyd-Jones said, “I have felt always, and increasingly with the years, that one of the great rules for a preacher is to safeguard the mornings. Make an absolute rule of this. Try to develop a system whereby you are not available on the telephone in the morning; let your wife or anyone else take messages for you, and inform the people who are telephoning that you are not available. One literally has to fight for one's life in this sense!” (*Preaching and Preachers*, pp. 166, 167). John Henry Jowett commented, “With all my heart I give this counsel:

be as systematic as a businessman. Enter your study at an appointed hour, and let that hour be as early as the earliest of your businessmen goes to his warehouse or his office. ... I can see and hear my businessmen as they start of early to earn their daily bread. And shall their minister be behind them in his quest of the Bread of Life? Shall he crouch and loiter into the day, shamed by those he assumes to lead, and shall his indolence be obtrusive in the services of the sanctuary when ‘the hungry sheep look up and are not fed’? Let the minister, I say, be as businesslike as the businessman. Let him employ system and method, and let him be as scrupulously punctual in his private habits in the service of his Lord, as he would have to be in a government office in the service of his country. And to regularity let him add proportion. Let him estimate the comparative values of things. Let first things be put first, and let him give the freshness of his strength to matters of vital and primary concern. Gentlemen, all this will pay, and the payment will be made in sterling good” (*The Preacher: His Life and Work*).

### BEWARE FEMALES - FACEBOOK STALKING

(Friday Church News Notes, January 25, 2019, [www.wayoflife.org](http://www.wayoflife.org), [fbns@wayoflife.org](mailto:fbns@wayoflife.org), 866-295-4143) - A missionary friend in a Latin American country wrote the following: “I have seen several young girls here with Facebook ‘friends’ who are men from other countries. I have counseled several and warned about this. They all replied that they get bombarded with ‘friend’ requests. I decided to do an experiment, and the results were very disturbing. I opened a fake Facebook account as a 17-year-old girl from this country.

**GECKO PHYSICS** (Friday Church News Notes, January 18, 2019, [www.wayoflife.org](http://www.wayoflife.org), [fbns@wayoflife.org](mailto:fbns@wayoflife.org), 866-295-4143) - The following is from CreationMoments.com, Dec. 19, 2018: "For 75 years, scientists have been trying to figure out how the gecko can walk across a ceiling. Scientists ruled out suction or glue. Then it was thought that perhaps the tiny hairs on its feet were able to grasp microscopic imperfections in the surface in which it walks. However, the gecko can not only walk across a polished glass ceiling, it can even hang by just one toe. Geckos have tiny hairs on their feet called setae. From these tiny hairs grow even tinier hairs called spatulae. These spatulae are so tiny that there are about a billion of them on each foot. Researchers have found that

these tiniest hairs are so small that they contact the molecules of a surface so closely that they actually use the very forces that hold the molecules together! Scientists have tested the strength of these forces, called van der Waals forces, for the first time. They found that these forces are much more powerful than first thought. As the gecko walks across a surface, it unrolls its toes, bringing the spatulae into contact with the surface. Then it gives a tiny tug that aligns the spatulae parallel to the surface, increasing their hold by ten times. As the gecko lifts its foot for the next step, it levers the spatulae off the surface, breaking the bond. Based on this research on the gecko's trick,



scientists are working to develop glues based on the same principle. While geckos and chance evolution know nothing about van der Waals bonds, the Creator Who made them both has left His signature in this unique and elegant design. Ref: *Science News*, 7/15/00, p. 47, 'Gecko toes tap intermolecular bonds.' Photo: Courtesy of Pixabay. (PD)."

No photos, no likes, no friends, no links to anyone or anything. I used an unregistered new phone chip number (available here from cell phone companies for two dollars). Basically, it was a blank Facebook profile, so there was nothing that could 'entice' a stalker. I then waited with no activity on my part. After a month or so the account was bombarded by 'friend' requests. All were from Muslim men from Muslim countries. I found this highly disturbing because it shows that the algorithms of Facebook are programed to make a link between foreign Muslim men with young foolish girls in this country. And of course it is not difficult to see where that leads."

**PRESIDENT TRUMP  
CELEBRATES "RELIGIOUS**

**FREEDOM DAY"** (Friday Church News Notes, January 25, 2019, [www.wayoflife.org](http://www.wayoflife.org), [fbns@wayoflife.org](mailto:fbns@wayoflife.org), 866-295-4143) - The following is excerpted from "Trump Celebrates," *DailyWire*, Jan. 16, 2019: "President Trump reaffirmed his support for religious liberty on Wednesday in celebration of Religious Freedom Day. In his proclamation to honor the day, President Trump praised religious liberty as being 'innate to the dignity of every human person.' 'On



Religious Freedom Day, we celebrate our Nation's long-standing commitment to freedom of conscience and the freedom to profess one's own faith,' Trump said, 'The right to religious freedom is innate to the dignity of every human person and is foundational to the pursuit of truth.' President Trump also highlighted America's inherently religious founding, one in which many settlers 'fled their home countries to escape religious persecution. Aware of this history, our Nation's Founding Fathers readily understood that a just government must respect the deep yearning for truth and openness to the transcendent that are part of the human spirit. For this reason, from the beginning, our constitutional republic has endeavored to protect a robust understanding of religious

freedom.’ ... In the same proclamation, President Trump emphasized that religious liberty is ‘under attack.’ ‘Unfortunately, the fundamental human right to religious freedom is under attack,’ he said. ‘Efforts to circumscribe religious freedom--or to separate it from adjoining civil liberties, like property rights or free speech--are on the rise.’”

**GOOGLE EMPLOYEES PROTEST USE OF WORD “FAMILY” TO REFER TO CHILDREN** (Friday Church News Notes, January 25, 2019, [www.wayoflife.org](http://www.wayoflife.org), [fbns@wayoflife.org](mailto:fbns@wayoflife.org), 866-295-4143)

- The morally-perverted viewpoint of a large number of Google employees was evident in an event that occurred in March 2017 when the use of the term “family friendly” by a Google executive in a weekly company-wide presentation caused an uproar. The term “family” was used in the context of discussing a product aimed at children. A Google employee stormed out of the meeting in protest



and later ranted in an internal communication thread that linking “family” to children is “offensive, inappropriate, homophobic, and wrong.” He said, “This is a diminishing and disrespectful way to speak. ... The use of ‘family’ as a synonym for ‘with children’ has a long-standing association with deeply homophobic organizations” (“Disrespectful: Google Employees Melt Down Over the Word ‘Family,’” *The Daily Caller*, Jan. 16, 2019). About 100 other Google employees agreed with this anti-traditional family diatribe. One said, “As a straight person in a relationship, I find the term ‘family’ offensive because it excludes me and my boyfriend, having no children of

our own.” Another said, “My family consists of me and several other trans feminine folks, some of whom I’m dating. We’re all supportive of each other and eventually aspire to live together. Just because we aren’t a heterosexual couple with 2.5 kids, a white picket fence, and a dog doesn’t mean we’re not a family.” Another said that “using ‘family’ to mean ‘people with kids’ is also annoying to me as a straight-cis-woman who doesn’t have or want kids. My husband, my parents, and my pets are my family.” Google vice president Parni Diwanji apologized for using “family” in the traditional way and asked for help from employees on how the company could use language more inclusively and less offensively. He pleaded with his liberal-minded employees, “Please help us get to a better state. Teach us how to talk about it in inclusive way, if you feel like we are not doing it well.” It is sad and frightful that the great power of the world’s premier search engine is in the hands of such people.

## Aim of O Timothy Magazine

- 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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