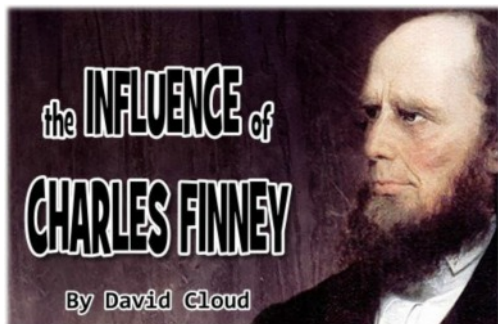


# O Timothy

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

A Monthly Newsletter for Spiritual Protection and Edification

Volume 37 - Issue 12 - December 2020



*"Though innovation itself is not wrong so long as it is not contrary to God's Word, there is great danger for Finney-style 'new measures' to produce false professions and emotional decisions that are not the product of God's Spirit, and we are confident that this has happened to multitudes of people who have been manipulated by man-made methodology and human pragmatism."* **Page 7.**

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



## EMINEM AND THE HIP HOP CULTURE ~ By David Cloud

**E**minem is a window into the filthy, angry world of mainstream rap or hip hop, which is a major factor in the moral destruction of inner city communities today.

"Be not deceived: evil communications corrupt good manners" (1 Corinthians 15:33).

"Be ye therefore followers of God, as dear children; And walk in love, as Christ also hath loved us, and hath given himself for us an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweetsmelling savour. But fornication, and all uncleanness, or covetousness, let it not be once named among you, as becometh saints; Neither filthiness, nor foolish talking, nor jesting, which are not convenient: but rather giving of thanks. For this ye know, that no whoremonger, nor unclean person, nor covetous man, who is an idolater, hath any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God. Let no man deceive you with vain words: for because of these things cometh the wrath of God upon the



children of disobedience. Be not ye therefore partakers with them. For ye were sometimes darkness, but now *are* ye light in the Lord: walk as children of light: (For the fruit of the Spirit *is* in all goodness and righteousness and

truth;) Proving what is acceptable unto the Lord. And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove *them*. For it is a shame even to speak of those things which are done of them in secret. But all things that are reproved are made manifest by the light: for whatsoever doth make manifest is light. Wherefore he saith, Awake thou that sleepest, and arise from the dead, and Christ shall give thee light. See then that ye walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise, Redeeming the time, because the days are evil” (Ephesians 5:1-16).

The real name of superstar white rapper Eminem is Marshall Mathers III (b. 1972). He has sold more than 220 million records and was the best-selling music artist of the 2000s. *Rolling Stone* magazine dubbed him “the King of Hip Hop.” In 2009, *Billboard* magazine named him “Artist of the Decade” and in 2015 listed him as one of “the greatest rappers of all time.” He is number 83 on *Rolling Stone’s* list of *100 Greatest Artists of All Time*.

Eminem’s second album, *The Slim Shady LP*, 1999, launched him into rapper stardom. The Slim Shady character, Eminem’s “alter ego,” is a “drug-dealing, bloodthirsty thug who spits furious rhymes about murder, rape, drugs and living by the law of the urban jungle.” He claims its all just entertainment, like a horror movie

(“Robert Hilburn, “Has He No Shame?” *Los Angeles Times*, May 14, 2000). As for his filthy, degrading, violent raps about women, he says, “I don’t hate women in general. They just make me mad sometimes” (“Emma Brockes Meets Eminem,” *The Guardian*, Nov. 12, 1999). The vicious song “Just the Two of Us” (also called “97 Bonnie and Clyde”) is about a man who kills the mother of his child and has the following conversation with his daughter on the way to dispose of the body: “Where’s mama? She’s just taking a little nap in the trunk/ Oh, that smell? Dada must have runned over a skunk.” Mathers actually used his four-year-old daughter’s vocals in this vile song. He said later that he and his girlfriend, Kim, were not getting along at the time and that he actually wanted to murder her like that.

Eminem won a Grammy in February 2000 for this vile album and it was certified 4x platinum in November 2000, which shows how wicked the music industry and the culture at large has become.

Eminem’s *The Marshall Mathers* album, which appeared in June 2000, is described by a secular music reviewer as “an hour-plus of vile, hate-filled spew, dripping with references to rape, murder and violence toward women, gays and pretty much anyone Eminem doesn’t like. On the opening track, the rapper even threatens to rape and kill his estranged mother, who in real life is suing him for remarks he made about her on his debut album, *The Slim Shady LP*” (Dan Durchholz, “Eminem tops the charts — and goes over the edge,” *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*, June 25, 2000, p. F3). She won the suit in 2001.

The Bible warns, “The eye that mocketh at his father, and despiseth to obey his mother, the ravens of the valley shall pick it out, and the young eagles shall eat it” (Proverbs 30:17).

The song “Kim” in *The Marshall Mathers* album is a vicious rant of anger and hatred toward the rapper’s wife, climaxing in her murder. In the song he destroys her furniture and murders her four-year-old stepson by slitting his throat. He then drives her to the woods where she tried to run away but is caught, and he slits her throat while screaming, “Bleed ... Bleed!” The song ends with the sound of a body being dragged through the grass and thrown into the trunk of the car. (“97 Bonnie and Clyde” begins with this scene and proceeds to describe the burial of the body.) Mathers admitted that he wrote the song about his own wife and that he was filled with hatred

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when he created the lyrics. He said he wanted “to scream” (Eminem, *Angry Blond*, 2000).

When he played the song to his wife, he told her, “[I]t shows how much I care about you. To even think about you this much. To even put you on a song like this.” Murderous “love” is not love. The “love” of rock/hip hop is not love, it is lust. God’s Word defines real love. “Charity suffereth long, *and* is kind; charity envieth not; charity vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up, Doth not behave itself unseemly, seeketh not her own, is not easily provoked, thinketh no evil” (1 Corinthians 13:4-5).

Countless hip hop-loving men have murdered their wives and “baby mammas,” but of course this has nothing to do with the music and the culture it has created. It’s just entertainment. It’s just art.

The song “Stan” in *The Marshall Mathers* album is about a deranged man who kills himself and his girlfriend. Yet *Q* magazine named it the third-greatest rap song of all time, and *Rolling Stone* ranked it 290th in the magazine’s *500 Greatest Songs of All Time* list.

*Marshall Mathers* sold 1.7 million copies in its first week, making it the second biggest opening week for any

album in U.S. history. Within the first month it had sold 5 million copies.

By 2017, the 45-year-old Mathers had made no moral progress and was still spewing out filth and violence. He appeared on the song “No Favors” in Big Sean’s album *I Decided*, calling President Trump vile names and rapping about brutally raping conservative commentator Ann Coulter. It’s just art.

Beginning in 1989 (when she was 15), Mathers lived on and off with his girlfriend, Kimberley, who was 15 at the beginning of the relationship. In December 1995, they had a girl, Hailie Jade. In June 1999, they married but divorced in 2001. They remarried in January 2006 but divorced yet again three months later.

Eminem had a powerful drug addiction for many years. He said he would consume from 40-60 Valium and 30 Vicodin tablets a day. He overdosed on methadone in 2007. Doctors said he had taken the equivalent of four bags of heroin.

“For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?” (Matthew 16:26).

**MILLIONS OF YEARS OLD DNA** (Friday Church News Notes, November 20, 2020, [www.wayoflife.org](http://www.wayoflife.org), [fbns@wayoflife.org](mailto:fbns@wayoflife.org), 866-295-4143) - The following is from creationmoments.com, September 11, 2020: “While even many Christians feel obligated to accept millions of evolutionary years, evidence continues to build for a young creation. The evidence has mounted to the point that even many evolutionists feel they must find some explanation for it. In a previous *Creation Moments* program, we talked about DNA and other cell material found unfossilized in what was otherwise a fossilized T. rex. Since then, a hadrosaur leg bone with intact blood cells has also been found. Then there is the mummified hadrosaur that was the subject of a television special. Even its internal organs were intact. According to evolutionists, we are supposed to believe that this mummy had not crumbled to dust in 77 million years. That claim is not credible, given our experience with the best preserved Egyptian mummies that are only a few thousand years old. Segments of DNA have also been found from Neanderthals, supposedly prehistoric mammals, plants and even bacteria. According to evolutionary dating, these samples range in age from



40,000 to 250 million years. Yet, we know that DNA is totally decayed in 10,000 years. Enough color pigment cells remain in a fossilized feather that you can still see the color pattern. Yet, it is supposedly more than 100 million years old. While evolutionists have tried some explanations for this evidence, the simplest explanation is that they are young. Ref: *Acts & Facts*, 6/09, p. 17, Brian Thomas, ‘Fossilized Biomaterials Must Be Young.’”





**“Lancaster’s Role in the Downgrade” is the title of a new video presentation which is part of the series [The Satanic Attack on Sacred Music](#).**

In 2001, Dr. Frank Garlock issued a clear warning: “If a church starts using CCM it will eventually lose all other standards. You need to draw a line concerning your music” (BJU Chapel, Mar. 12, 2001).

Note that Dr. Garlock said that if a church STARTS using CCM--if it starts messing around with CCM, starts using it some--it will eventually lose all other standards. It will eventually depart from its founding biblical principles.

Throughout the world, there are churches that are laboratories to demonstrate the truth of that warning. It cannot be refuted.

One of those laboratories is Lancaster Baptist Church, Lancaster, California, home of West Coast Baptist College.

“Lancaster’s Role in the Downgrade” documents the changes that have been produced at Lancaster through the adaptation of contemporary worship music. The church STARTED messing around with CCM openly in about 2010, if not earlier. Lancaster Baptist Church itself has not yet lost all other standards, but many of its graduates and former staff members are far down the road toward that objective. They are establishing out-and-out contemporary, Christian rock churches in California and beyond. In “Lancaster’s Role” we examine Coastline Baptist Church, Oceanside, California; Rock Hill Church, Fontana, California (founded by Paul

Chappell’s son); Grace Gathering, Santa Barbara, California; Ambassador Baptist Church, Fresno, California; and Citypoint Baptist Church, Tempe, Arizona. We document their philosophy, their music, their dress, their preaching.

Some men who have viewed this presentation told us that they didn’t believe that this was really happening at Lancaster until they saw the fruit with their own eyes in this video.

[The Satanic Attack on Sacred Music](#) consists of about 17 hours of teaching. It is packed with photos, graphics, audio and video clips. The video series and the book (255 pages) are available for FREE VIEWING AND DOWNLOADING at: [https://www.wayoflife.org/s3/satanic\\_attack\\_on\\_sacred\\_music.php](https://www.wayoflife.org/s3/satanic_attack_on_sacred_music.php)

One previewer commented, “The series is broad and deep with serious factual analysis according to properly interpreted Scripture.”

The presentations are as follows:

- Emotions and the Music Issue
- The Spiritual Environment of the Music Issue: The Church and the Home
- Bible Principles of Music (scheduled for later in 2020)
- Music’s Role in the Great Changes among Fundamental Baptists
- Contemporary Music as a Bridge to Dangerous Waters
- Bob Jones, Majesty Music, New Reformed Calvinism, and the Gettys
- The Language of Music Styles

- Lancaster's Role in the Downgrade of Fundamental Baptist Churches
- Congregational Singing and the CCM Issue
- A Plea to Southern Gospel Music Fans (scheduled for later in 2020)
- The Music Issue in a Nutshell

In [\*The Satanic Attack on Sacred Music\*](#), we study the Bible's most important teachings on the issue of music. We look at the amazing changes that are happening among fundamental Baptists and the role of contemporary music in these changes. We learn about the dangers represented by Contemporary Christian Music: the Pentecostal/charismatic movement, the ecumenical movement, theological liberalism, New Evangelicalism, the Emerging Church, modern Bible versions, contemplative prayer, cultural liberalism, the encyclopedic view of the Bible, the New Reformed Calvinism, the Jesus People movement, theistic evolution, homosexual Christianity, the downgrade in hell, secular rock, Getty-Townend Music, Matt Maher the Roman Catholic apostle of unity, Hillsong, Rick Warren, Robert Webber, William Young and the Shack, C.S. Lewis, Chuck Swindoll's heretical doctrine of grace. We show why that knowing about these movements and people is very important to your life, home, and church.

We show that these things are not "out there" somewhere; they are a very near danger. We document the change in music standard at Bob Jones University and Majesty Music.

We consider the soft style of Christian music vs. the more militant style. We learn how to discern the elements of the world sound of contemporary music. We learn how to discern soft rock. We learn how that chords are used in contemporary music to create an unresolving sound and "feel."

We examine why contemporary music always transforms churches. We consider why using CCM is different than using traditional Protestant hymns.

We show that conservative evangelicals are not safe partners.

We show that the Southern Baptist Convention is more corrupt than ever.

We examine the great changes in Southern Gospel today.

We consider why we should be concerned about "little" changes in music.

We show that trying to deal with the music issue alone won't work well; it won't save the church from apostasy. Unless we have spiritual churches and spiritual homes, the battle is already lost.

And we look at the role of good congregational singing in protecting a church from CCM.

The course also includes a PDF book that contains the entire text. This is a major new book on the issue of contemporary Christian music.

[\*The Satanic Attack on Sacred Music\*](#): the video series and the book (255 pages) are available for FREE VIEWING and downloading at:

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## The Satanic Attack On SACRED MUSIC

By David Cloud



**Available for download at:**

[https://www.wayoflife.org/free\\_ebooks/satanic\\_attack\\_on\\_sacred\\_music.php](https://www.wayoflife.org/free_ebooks/satanic_attack_on_sacred_music.php)

# SPIRITUAL SAFETY IN THE FACEBOOK AGE

*By David Cloud*



This comprehensive book on social media dangers and protections is particularly geared for use as a Bible course in homes and churches.

## Chapter titles:

- Spiritual Safety Requires Understanding the Times
- Spiritual Victory Requires Understanding Social Media Dangers
- Spiritual Safety Requires a Heart Seeking God's Will
- Spiritual Safety Requires Building the Right Kind of Churches and Homes

- Spiritual Safety Requires the Right Mindset
- Spiritual Safety Requires Practical Steps for Protection
- Church Smartphone Accountability Program
- Beware of Video Games
- Recommended Materials for Youth Discipleship

In *Spiritual Safety in the Facebook Age*, we look at social media in general, with special focus on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, Snapchat, TikTok, YouTube, Tumblr, Google, and Kik.

The first chapter examines the age of apostasy, the age of the Great Commission, the age of scoffing and rebellion, the age of music, the sexualized age, the age of advertising, the age of global commerce, the age of celebrity, the internet age, the age of the smartphone, and the age of social media.

The second chapter documents 14 major dangers of social media, including evil communications, the worldview of the media owners, tracking, addiction, self-promotion, stalking, slander, immorality, heresy, time wasting, and ecumenism.

The chapter on practical steps for protection gives suggestions for individuals, parents, and churches.

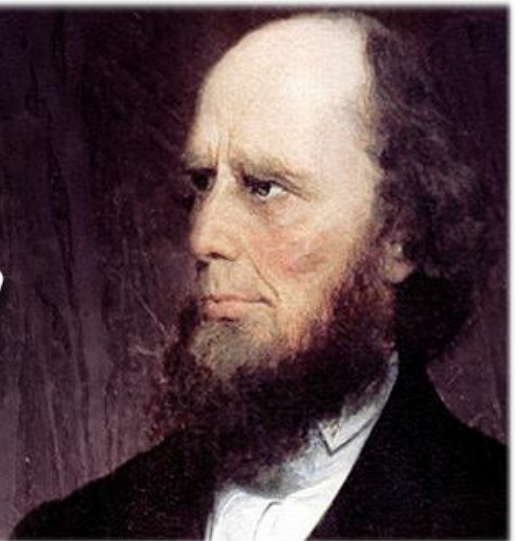
This new book builds on two previous titles: *Keeping the Kids: How to Keep the Children from Falling Prey to the World* and *The Mobile Phone and the Christian Home and Church*.

**Softcover Book: , 266 pages, 5.5 x 8.5 in. — eBook: PDF, mobi (Kindle), and ePub Formats**  
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# the INFLUENCE of CHARLES FINNEY

By David Cloud



The evangelistic campaigns of the D.L. Moody era and beyond were built on principles and techniques that were established by Charles Finney (1792-1875), who conducted crusades in the late 1820s and early 1830s.

"It has been said 'evangelism entered modernity with him.' It was Finney who originated many of the methods used by such famous revivalists as Moody, Chapman, and Mills, who in turn passed them on to be adapted later by men such as Billy Sunday and Billy Graham" ("Charles G. Finney--Prototype of the Modern Evangelist," *Ministry* magazine, Nov. 1976).

Finney's innovations included such things as a special choir and a musical chorister\*; special revival hymns and revival songbooks; interdenominational cooperation; protracted meetings; aggressive advertising; the creation of an exciting atmosphere; manipulation of emotions or "excitements"; a de-emphasis on the necessity of the work of the Spirit in conviction and regeneration (in practice); a de-emphasis on looking for such work before leading people in a profession; a de-emphasis on looking for evidence of salvation; the invitation system as a specific, organized methodology; the anxious bench and the idea that a professor in Christ should "do something" physical, such as standing and coming forward; quick dealing with souls who respond; an emphasis on the numbers of attendees and professions; and an emphasis on weighing methods by "success."

(\* Finney's chorister was Thomas Hastings, author of 600 hymn texts and 1,000 hymn tunes, including that for "Rock of Ages." Hastings wrote this tune and introduced the hymn in Finney's six-month revival campaign in Rochester, New York, in 1830.)

Finney called these the "**new measures.**" He created a revivalist package specifically geared to produce "decisions." Everything was structured for this purpose: The atmosphere, the introduction, the type of music, the type of preaching, the mechanics of the invitation.

"If not all of the 'new measures' were entirely original with Finney, nevertheless he did modify them and amalgamate them into a completely new approach to evangelism, an approach that later revivalists adapted to the changing times but never basically altered" (*Ministry* magazine, Nov. 1976).

Many of the things that Finney did were not against Scripture and therefore were not wrong. It is right to urge men to repent and trust Christ *today* instead of waiting for some mysterious "effectual call of God" as many Calvinists of Finney's day wrongly taught.

It is not wrong to advertise the gospel and to get as many sinners as possible to attend gospel preaching so long as the advertising is not exalting a preacher or some other sort of carnal thing.

It is not wrong to use gospel music if it is scriptural in its message and not worldly in its sound. God's people are commanded to sing songs and hymns and spiritual songs, and there is nothing in the New Testament that forbids such singing in the context of an evangelistic meeting, but we should not forget that when it comes to evangelism, the Bible emphasizes preaching far above singing.

It is not wrong to invite men to an "anxious room" so that they can be dealt with personally after gospel preaching.

People *should* be invited to come and be helped. But everything about this must be done carefully and wisely. There should be no time limit on the dealing, no pressure whatsoever about time, which means it shouldn't be done right in the meeting itself, with the expectation that it will be finished before the closing prayer. The dealing with souls should be thorough and should continue as long as necessary, if it is hours, days, months, or years.

It is not wrong to innovate for the sake of bringing men to Christ. He has commanded us to preach the gospel to every creature, and we should certainly plan how to do this big job. We don't need to be "stuck in a rut." We don't repeat the same things that we have seen and been taught. **But every plan, every technique, must be tested carefully and prayerfully by the Word of God to make sure it is not contrary to any Scriptural precept.**

Though innovation itself is not wrong so long as it is not contrary to God's Word, there is great danger for Finney-style "new measures" to produce false professions and emotional decisions that are not the product of God's Spirit, and we are confident that this has happened to multitudes of people who have been manipulated by man-made methodology and human pragmatism. Lewis Sperry Chafer, who worked in evangelism for 17 years from 1890 to 1907, warned of "the appalling percentage of failures in the ranks of supposed converts" (*True Evangelism*, 1911). We give evidence of this throughout this book.

**We must understand that Finney's evangelistic methodologies were built upon false doctrine.** He didn't merely reject some form of Calvinism, he rejected the Bible. He held some extremely serious heresies. He denied original sin, Christ's substitutionary atonement, imputed righteousness, justification by God's grace alone through faith alone without works, the new birth as a supernatural miracle, and eternal security.

Finney preached a works gospel. He taught that man is not born with a corrupt nature, but that he has the power to sin or not to sin and that he is not under the judgment of God for Adam's sin but is judged only for his own sin. Finney taught that Christ died, not as a substitutionary atonement for man's sin, not in the sinner's place, but as an example of how that God loves sinners and hates sin. If sinners understand this and turn from sin, they will be saved. Regeneration is to change one's actions, and one is kept saved by walking in perfect holiness.

"According to Finneyism, the atonement saves us *by example*. In the death of Christ, we see how much God loves us, we see how much sin cost God, and we are humbled and moved to repent and obey God's moral law. Salvation in Finneyism is nothing more nor less than obedience to the moral law of God, of which every man is naturally capable because he is a completely free moral agent" (Leon Stump, "Charles G. Finney Justification by Faith," *Life Lines*, Oct.-Dec. 1999).

Following are shocking quotes from Finney's *Lectures in Systematic Theology*. Finney was a philosopher, not a simple Bible teacher. He depended upon his human reason rather than the clear statements of God's Word. He leaned to his own understanding.

"Original sin, physical regeneration, and all their kindred and resulting dogmas, are alike subversive of the gospel, and repulsive to the human intelligence; and should be laid aside as relics of a most unreasonable and confused philosophy." (Lecture 42)

"If the Psalmist [Ps. 51:5] really intended to affirm, that the substance of his body was sinful from its conception, then he not only arrays himself against God's own definition of sin, but he also affirms sheer nonsense. The substance of an unborn child sinful! It is impossible!" (Lecture 23)

"[Psalm 58:3, 'The wicked are estranged from the womb, they go astray as soon as they are born, speaking lies'] must mean like the text last examined, that the wicked are estranged and go astray from the commencement of their moral agency. If it means more than this, it is not and cannot be true." (Lecture 36)

"[Ephesians 2:3, 'By nature the children of wrath, even as others'] Upon this text I remark that it cannot, consistently with natural justice, be understood to mean, that we are exposed to the wrath of God on account of our nature. It is a monstrous and blasphemous dogma, that a holy God is angry with any creature for possessing a nature with which he was sent into being without his knowledge or consent. The Bible represents God as angry with men for their wicked deeds, and not for their nature." (Lecture 33)

"[Christ dying as our substitute] assumes that the atonement was a literal payment of a debt, which we have seen does not consist with the nature of the atonement ... It is true, that the atonement, of itself, does not secure the salvation of any one; but the promise and oath of God that Christ shall have a seed to serve him does." (Lecture 32)



"The fact is, when Dr. Woods and others insist that Regeneration is the work or a work of God, they tell the truth but not the whole truth. For it is also the work of man and of the subject." (Lecture 39)

"But if Christ owed personal obedience to the moral law, then his obedience could no more than justify himself. It can never be imputed to us. He was bound for himself to love God with all his heart, and soul, and mind, and strength, and his neighbour as himself. He did no more than this. He could do no more. It was naturally impossible, then, for him to obey in our behalf. This doctrine of the imputation of Christ's obedience to the moral law to us, is based upon the absurd assumptions, (1.) That the moral law is founded in the arbitrary will of God, and (2.) That of course, Christ, as God, owed no obedience to it; both of which assumptions are absurd. But if these assumptions are given up, what becomes of the doctrine of an imputed righteousness, as a ground of a forensic justification? "It vanishes into thin air." (Lecture 56)

"This doctrine of an imputed obedience for righteousness, or of that Christ's obedience to the law was accounted as our obedience, is founded on a false assumption. Christ's obedience could do no more than justify himself. It can never be imputed to us. It is naturally impossible for him to obey in our behalf as a proxy." (Lecture 36)

"But for sinners to be forensically pronounced just, is impossible and absurd. ... As has already been said, there can be no justification in a legal or forensic sense, but upon the ground of universal, perfect, and uninterrupted obedience to law. This is of course denied by those who hold that gospel justification, or the justification of penitent sinners, is of the nature of a forensic or judicial justification [that Christ died in the place of sinners]. They hold to the legal maxim that what a man does by another he does by himself, and therefore the law regards Christ's obedience as ours, on the ground that he obeyed for us." (Lecture 36)

"God works or draws, and the sinner yields or turns, or which is the same thing, changes his heart, or, in other words, is born again. The sinner is dead in trespasses and sins. God calls on him, 'Awake thou that sleepest, arise from the dead that Christ may give thee light.' God calls; the sinner hears and answers, Here am I. God says, Arise from the dead. The sinner puts forth his activity, and God draws him into life; or rather God draws, and the sinner comes forth to life." (Lecture 39)

"We have seen that the subject is active in regeneration, that regeneration consists in the sinner changing his ultimate choice, intention, preference; or in changing from selfishness to love

or benevolence; or, in other words, in turning from the supreme choice of self-gratification, to the supreme love of God and the equal love of his neighbour. Of course the subject of regeneration must be an agent in the work." (Lecture 39)

"But again, to the question, can man be justified while sin remains in him? Surely he cannot, either upon legal or gospel principles, unless the law be repealed. That he cannot be justified by the law, while there is a particle of sin in him, is too plain to need proof. But can he be pardoned and accepted, and then justified, in the gospel sense, while sin, any degree of sin, remains in him? Certainly not." (Lecture 15)

"Whenever he sins, he must, for the time being, cease to be holy. This is self-evident. Whenever he sins, he must be condemned; he must incur the penalty of the law of God ... If it be said that the precept is still binding upon him, but that with respect to the Christian, the penalty is forever set aside, or abrogated, I reply, that to abrogate the penalty is to repeal the precept, for a precept without penalty is no law. It is only counsel or advice. The Christian, therefore, is justified no longer than he obeys, and must be condemned when he disobeys..." (Lecture 2, original edition)

"By sanctification's being a condition of justification, the following things are intended. (1.) That present, full, and entire consecration of heart and life to God and his service is an unalterable condition of present pardon of past sin, and of present acceptance with God. (2.) That the penitent soul remains justified no longer than this full hearted consecration continues." (Lecture 53)

"We shall see that perseverance in obedience to the end of life is also a condition of justification." (Lecture 53)

**Finney also had a major role in turning the churches from Christ's Great Commission to social reform.** "In the nineteenth century, the evangelical movement became increasingly identified with political causes--from abolition of slavery and child labor legislation to women's rights and the prohibition of alcohol. In a desperate effort at regaining this institutional power and the glory of 'Christian America' (a vision that is always powerful in the imagination, but, after the disintegration of Puritan New England, elusive), the turn-of-the century Protestant establishment launched moral campaigns to 'Americanize' immigrants, enforce moral instruction and 'character education.' Evangelists pitched their American gospel in terms of its practical usefulness to the individual and the nation" (Michael Horton, "The Disturbing Legacy of Charles Finney," [monergism.com](http://monergism.com)).

This program continued to gain steam in the days of Billy Sunday before World War II, as we will see. His message focused on Christianizing America. He advertised his campaigns as “civic clean-ups.” He preached against dancing, card playing, gambling, theater-going, commercial dishonesty, drinking, not just for the sanctification of individual believers and churches, but for the conversion of America. Sunday’s preaching and campaigning was a major force in the passage of the 18th Amendment in 1919, prohibiting the manufacture, transportation, and sell of intoxicating liquor. He invited his hearers to become better Americans and to make America a better country. He said, “Do you want God’s blessing on you, your home, your church, your nation,

on New York? If you do, raise your hands. ... How many of you men and women will jump to your feet and come down and say, Bill, here’s my hand for God, for home, for my native land, to live and conquer for Christ? ... Come on down and take my hand against booze, for Jesus Christ, for your flag” (“Era of the Evangelist,” Christianity.com, Apr. 28, 2010; William McLoughlin, *Modern Revivalism*, p. 434).

The program of social reform toward the Christianization of America has continued up to this day among many fundamentalists. Prominent examples are Carl McIntire’s American Council of Christian Churches and Jerry Falwell’s Moral Majority.



**I**n Flint, Michigan, on May 1, at a Family Dollar store, a 43-year-old security guard, a family man, the father of six children, was shot dead after asking a customer to wear a mask (“Killed for Doing His Job,” *The Sun*, May 4, 2020).

In Staten Island, New York, on May 25, a mob of angry customers at a Shoprite grocery store cursed and berated a woman for not wearing a mask. One shamer removed his mask so he can yell louder (“Video shows mob berating woman,” *Fox News*, May 26, 2020).

In Gardena, California, on July 5, a security guard shot and killed a 50-year-old man at a supermarket because he wasn’t wearing a mask (“California security guard charged with murder,” *Fox News*, Jul. 9, 2020).

In Bayonne, France, in July 5, a 59-year-old bus driver, family man, father of three daughters, was beaten to death by a group of passengers who refused to comply with the mask rule (“French bus driver died,” *Agence France-Presse*, Jul. 11, 2020).

In Lansing, Michigan, on July 14, a man stabbed another man in a restaurant after being told he had to wear a mask. He fled the scene and was later shot to death by a policewoman after he approached her with a knife and would not put it down (“Suspect killed by Michigan deputy,” *ABC News*, Jul. 15, 2020).

In Minden, Ontario, on July 15, a man assaulted a grocery store employee after being told to wear a mask and was later shot to death after a confrontation with police in his home. One of the employees said later that they shouldn’t have to enforce government rules. “If we didn’t have to force him and tell him that he couldn’t come into the store, nothing would have happened, really. He would have got his groceries and went along with his day” (“OPP shoot man dead hours after mask dispute,” *CBC.ca*, Jul. 15, 2020).

In Lakeside, Colorado, on July 19, a woman shopping in a liquor store was cursed and attacked with a cart for not wearing a mask (“Mask Madness,” *The Washington Times*, Jul. 20, 2020).

In Albuquerque, New Mexico, on July 21, a man who was told that he had to wear a mask to have his automobile serviced ran over the shop owner's son ("New Mexico deputies," *Associated Press*, Aug. 24, 2020).

In Gainesville, Georgia, on about July 23, a woman shopping in a Walmart with her two young children was severely berated by another customer for not wearing masks. The mask shamer said, "I hope you all die" and walked off. Walmart policy does not require young children to wear masks ("Store Mask Bully," *Western Journal*, July 29, 2020).

In San Diego, California, on July 23, a woman pepper sprayed a man who wasn't wearing a mask. He and his wife were sitting outside alone, social distancing and eating a snack. The woman sprayed the entire container into the poor man's face ("Man allegedly pepper-sprayed for not wearing facial covering," *ABC10 News San Diego*, Jul. 24, 2020).

In Hackensack, New Jersey, on July 29, in a Staples store, a 54-year-old woman who had recently undergone a liver transplant and was walking with a cane, demanded that another customer wear a mask and was subsequently shoved to the floor and suffered a broken leg ("Woman Shoved to the Ground," *NBC4 New York*, Jul. 31, 2020).

In Manhattan Beach, California on July 31, a woman berated a man for not wearing a mask (even though he was sitting outside and eating at the time), then threw hot coffee on him. The victim subsequently beat up the crazed woman's husband ("California Couple Throws Coffee," *International Business Times*, Aug. 1, 2020).

In Wisconsin, on July 31, the head of the Department of Natural Resources, instructed his employees that they must wear masks even while video conferencing from their homes ("Employees need masks," *The Kansas City Star*, Aug. 10, 2020).

On August 10, a woman and her two children were removed from a Southwest Airlines flight because her three-year-old autistic son would not wear a mask. She had a note from the boy's doctor about his special condition, but Southwest apparently does not allow medical exemptions ("Family removed," *USA Today*, Aug. 11, 2020).

On August 19, a mother and her six children were removed from a JetBlue Airways flight after her two-year-

old daughter kept pulling off her mask. The other passengers were loudly protesting the airline's decision, saying, "That's not fair; don't do that to that mother," to no avail. Another mother was kicked off the same flight with her young son for sticking up for the first mother ("Mom traveling with 6 kids kicked off," *ABC News*, Aug. 21, 2020).

Former Navy Seal Robert O'Neill, one of the nation's brave heroes who participated in the raid that killed mass murderer Osama Bin Laden, was banned from flying on Delta on August 20 after he tweeted a selfie of himself not wearing a mask on a Delta flight, calling masks "dumb." Even though he was eating and drinking at the time and airline policy does not require wearing a mask for such an activity, he was perhaps targeted for his jocular attitude against masking.

On August 31, there was a shootout at a Family Dollar store in St. Louis after employees told two customers that they must wear masks according to a city ordinance. One of the customers shot at an employee, who returned fire and wounded the man ("Missouri man shot," *Fox News*, Sept. 5, 2020).

On September 23, a mother was tased and handcuffed by a security officer for not wearing a mask at an outdoor eight-grade football game in Logan, Ohio ("Woman apparently tased at football game," *WTAP.com*, Sep. 24, 2020). She was seated far from other people in the bleachers.

That same day, police in Moscow, Idaho, arrested three unmasked Christians who were participating in a hymn sing outside city hall, even though there have been zero covid-19 deaths or hospitalizations in the entire county ("Idaho Christians Arrested," *PJ Media*, Sept. 24, 2020).

Three National Football League teams have been fined more than \$1 million because their coaches didn't wear masks at all times during games ("Coach Faces \$100K Fine," *The Daily Wire*, Sep. 30, 2020).

Actor Jason Isaacs of *Harry Potter* said that non-mask wearers should be in prison or the stocks or executed by hanging ("Harry Potter star," *Insider*, Sep. 29, 2020).

On October 3, the office of California Gov. Gavin Newsom sent out a tweet urging restaurant goers, "Don't forget to keep your mask on in between bites. Do your part to keep those around you healthy."



## 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?



## THE POPE SPEAKS OUT IN SUPPORT OF SAME SEX CIVIL UNIONS

(Friday Church News Notes, October 30, 2020, [www.wayoflife.org](http://www.wayoflife.org), [fbns@wayoflife.org](mailto:fbns@wayoflife.org), 866-295-4143)

- In *Francesco*, a new biographical documentary, Pope Francis speaks out in favor of homosexual "civil unions." He says, "They're children of God and have a right to a family. Nobody should be thrown out, or be made miserable because of it. What we have to create is a civil union law. That way they are legally covered." Francis, who was elected pope in 2013, spoke strongly *against* the legalization of same-sex marriage in 2010 when he was the cardinal of Buenos Aires. He called it "a move of the father of lies who wishes to confuse and deceive the children of God" (*National Catholic Register*, Jul. 8, 2010). The pope is now disregarding the Catholic Church's own official teaching, which says, "Basing itself on Sacred Scripture, which presents homosexual acts as acts of grave depravity, tradition has always declared that 'homosexual acts are intrinsically disordered.' They are contrary to the natural law. ... Under no circumstances can they be approved" (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, approved by Pope John Paul II, second edition, 1997, # 2357). In 2003, the Catholic Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith stated, "The Church teaches that respect for homosexual persons

cannot lead in any way to approval of homosexual behaviour or to legal recognition of homosexual unions" (Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger, "Considerations Regarding Proposals to Give Legal Recognition to Unions between Homosexual Persons"). Ratzinger was Pope Benedict XVI from 2006-2013 and is currently "pope emeritus."

## MORE TOTALITARIAN HARASSMENT OF CHURCHES IN CALIFORNIA

(Friday Church News Notes, October 30, 2020, [www.wayoflife.org](http://www.wayoflife.org), [fbns@wayoflife.org](mailto:fbns@wayoflife.org), 866-295-4143)

- The government of California is acting like a communist state in its actions toward churches. Most recently, health officials of Los Angeles County cited 11 parishioners who attended a worship service at Our Lady of the Angels Church that seats 500. The citation carries a \$1,000 fine ("Clear Case of Retaliation," *The Daily Wire*, Oct. 26, 2020). On October 20, county inspectors attempted to eject two women praying alone in the church and threatened them with citations. In late September, the church joined in a lawsuit against California Gov. Gavin Newsom and other state officials claiming that their rights under the state constitution were being violated by the extended lockdown. In September, North Valley Baptist Church in Santa Clara, was fined more than \$112,000 for



congregating contrary to the state's regulations. Los Angeles County has repeatedly sought to shut down the services of Grace Community Church of Sun Valley and to hold Pastor John MacArthur in contempt, but in early October a Los Angeles Superior Court ruled that the church is entitled to a full trial on the merits of their challenge to the constitutionality of the government shut-down orders and the county's injunction. This delays implementation of the fines and possible imprisonment sought by the totalitarian county.

**THE U.S. AND 31 OTHER COUNTRIES DECLARE THERE IS NO "INTERNATIONAL RIGHT TO ABORTION"** (Friday Church News Notes, October 30, 2020, [www.wayoflife.org](http://www.wayoflife.org), [fbns@wayoflife.org](mailto:fbns@wayoflife.org), 866-295-4143)

- The following is excerpted from "No International Right to Abortion," *Christian Headlines*, Oct. 23, 2020: "The United States joined 31 other countries Thursday in signing a document emphasizing the equal rights of men and women and declaring there is 'no international right to abortion.' The Geneva Consensus Declaration was co-sponsored by the U.S., Brazil, Egypt, Indonesia, Hungary and Uganda and represents 1.6 billion people and every region of the world, supporters of the document said. It was signed during a joint virtual ceremony. 'In no case should abortion be promoted as a



method of family planning,' the document says. The declaration involves three primary issues: promotion of equal rights for women, opposition to abortion for family planning, and the recognition of the need for universal health coverage. 'Under President Trump's leadership, the United States has defended the dignity of human life everywhere and always,' Secretary of State Michael R. Pompeo said in a statement. 'He's done it like no other President in history. We've also mounted an unprecedented defense of the unborn abroad.' The Geneva Consensus Declaration, Pompeo said, 'protects women's health, defends the unborn, and reiterates the vital importance of the family as the foundation of society.'"

**BLACK BRITISH MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT BLISTERS SCHOOLS TEACHING CRITICAL RACE THEORY, SUPPORTING BLM**

**MOVEMENT** (Friday Church News Notes, October 30, 2020, [www.wayoflife.org](http://www.wayoflife.org), [fbns@wayoflife.org](mailto:fbns@wayoflife.org), 866-295-4143) - The following is excerpted from "British Member of Parliament," *The Daily Wire*, Oct. 20, 2020: "Responding to Labour MP Dawn Butler's calls to 'decolonize' history in the British Parliament's House of Commons, Woman and Equalities Minister Kemi Badenoch absolutely blistered schools for teaching critical race theory and supporting the Black Lives Matter movement, asserting, ... Badenoch, a member of the ruling Tory party who was born in Wimbledon and spent much of her childhood in the United States and Nigeria, stated: 'Our curriculum does not need decolonizing for the simple reason that it is not colonized. We



should not apologize for the fact that British children primarily study the history of these islands, and it goes without saying that the recent fad to decolonize maths, decolonize engineering, decolonize the sciences that we have seen across our universities to make race the defining principle of what is studied is not just misguided but actively opposed to the fundamental purpose of education. What we are against is the teaching of contested political ideas as if they are accepted fact. We don't do this with communism; we don't do this with socialism; we don't do it with capitalism. And I want to speak about a dangerous trend in race relations that has come far too close to home to my life, and it's the promotion of critical race theory, an ideology that sees my blackness as victimhood and their whiteness as oppression. I want to be absolutely clear: This government stands unequivocally against critical race theory. Some schools have decided to openly support the anti-capitalist Black Lives Matter group, often fully aware that they have a statutory duty to be politically impartial. Black lives do matter; of course they do. But we know that the Black Lives Matter Movement, capital 'BLM,' is political. I know this because at the height of the protest, I've been told of white Black Lives Matter protesters calling--and I'm afraid, I apologize for saying this word--calling a black armed police officer guarding



Downing Street a “pet n\*\*\*\*\*.” That is why we do not endorse that movement on this side of the House. It is a political movement, and what would be nice would be for members on the opposite side to condemn many of the actions that we see from this political movement, instead of pretending that it is a completely wholesome anti-racist organization. There is a lot of pernicious stuff that is being pushed and we stand against that. We do not want to see teachers teaching their white pupils about white privilege and inherited racial guilt. And let me be clear: Any school which teaches these elements of critical race theory as fact or which promotes partisan political views such as defunding the police without offering a balanced treatment of opposing views is breaking the law.”

**90-YEAR-OLD SURVIVES COVID-19 AND GIVES THANKS TO GOD FOR AMERICA AND ALL BLESSINGS** (Friday Church News Notes, October 30, 2020, [www.wayoflife.org](http://www.wayoflife.org),



[fbns@wayoflife.org](mailto:fbns@wayoflife.org), 866-295-4143) - The following is excerpted from “Coach Bobby Bowden,” Faithwire.com, Oct. 22, 2020: “Former Florida State Seminoles football coach Bobby Bowden is thanking his doctors, his family, and the many fans who prayed for him as he battled a COVID-19 infection. ‘I want to thank all the many, many people who were thinking of and praying for me over the last few weeks,’ he said in a statement released Wednesday. ‘I just went through a battle with COVID-19 and God just wasn’t ready to take me home yet to be with him.’ ... ‘I have always said that the only thing you can take to heaven with you is your kids, and for 71 years of marriage,

Ann and I have tried to live our lives and share our Christian faith with them so that, one day, we will all be there together,’ he said. ‘But until that time, we are here on earth, and America is the greatest country this side of heaven. We have the freedom to pursue our faith in God, our dreams for our career, and our love for our families,’ he continued. ‘For too long now, politicians in Washington have run American down and apologized for our greatness. I’m tired of it.’ ... The former coach noted he received the same experimental drug used to treat Trump’s recent COVID-19 infection, Remdesivir. ‘At the age of 91, in many other countries, I might not have even been treated,’ Bowden said. ‘In America, I was. The one thing that all of us as parents and grandparents can do for our children and grandchildren in these next couple weeks is vote.’ He concluded by arguing re-electing the current president ‘is our only chance to leave the next generation with the same heritage, beliefs, and opportunities that Ann and I had and that many of you had.’”

**THE ADDER THAT TELLS TIME** (Friday Church News Notes, October 30, 2020, [www.wayoflife.org](http://www.wayoflife.org), [fbns@wayoflife.org](mailto:fbns@wayoflife.org), 866-295-4143) - The following is from creationmoments.com, October 14, 2020: “Australia has many unique creatures that people find fascinating. One example is the floodplain death adder and its habit of eating dangerous frogs. The marbled frog has a defense that could get the adder into trouble. It secretes an incredibly sticky mucus. If the adder gets some of this on himself, dirt, leaves and even sticks will begin to stick to him. When the adder strikes a marbled frog, he

immediately drops the frog and waits. Studies show that two thirds of the stickiness of the mucus has degenerated by ten minutes after the frog dies. And that’s how long the adder waits before he consumes the frog unharmed. The Dahl’s frog produces a powerful poison for its defense. The adder will quickly strike the frog and drop it so the adder’s poison can kill it. Apparently, even this momentary contact is enough to deliver some poison to the adder. Scientists report that after such a strike the adder will writhe about. Eventually it recovers and continues to wait. After an average of 42 minutes, the adder eats the frog. Research shows that by



this time the poison has degraded to nontoxic levels. Researchers debate whether the adder’s strategy of waiting different times for differing frog defenses is learned or inherited. We can be sure, however, that it was created. Ref: *Science News*, 10/12/07, p. 227, S. Milius, ‘Eat a Killer.’”





**2020 U.S. ELECTIONS** (Friday Church News Notes, November 6, 2020, [www.wayoflife.org](http://www.wayoflife.org), [fbns@wayoflife.org](mailto:fbns@wayoflife.org), 866-295-4143) - U.S. elections affect things on earth, but they do not change anything in heaven. No election can remove God from His throne or Jesus Christ from God's right hand or stop the coming of the Day of the Lord. The prophetic hour is very late, and as God's redeemed await the Rapture shout, which is imminent, we have our assignment. Let's keep the hand to the plow. "If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God. Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth. For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God. When Christ, *who is* our life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory" (Colossians 3:1-4). "And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to

observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, *even* unto the end of the world. Amen" (Matthew 28:18-20). "But ye, brethren, are not in darkness, that that day should overtake you as a thief. Ye are all the children of light, and the children of the day: we are not of the night, nor of darkness. Therefore let us not sleep, as *do* others; but let us watch and be sober. For they that sleep sleep in the night; and they that be drunken are drunken in the night. But let us, who are of the day, be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love; and for an helmet, the hope of salvation. For God hath not appointed us to wrath, but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ" (1 Thessalonians 5:4-9).

**SOUTHERN BAPTIST CHURCH BURNED DOWN IN PHILADELPHIA AS SBC LEADERS SYMPATHIZE WITH RIOTERS** (Friday Church News Notes, November 6, 2020, [www.wayoflife.org](http://www.wayoflife.org), [fbns@wayoflife.org](mailto:fbns@wayoflife.org), 866-295-4143) - The following is excerpted from

"Vietnamese Southern Baptist Church," *Reformation Charlotte*, Oct. 29, 2020: "This week, a Vietnamese Southern Baptist church was burned to the ground amid race riots in Philadelphia. According to *Kentucky Today*, 'Pastor Philip Pham received a call Tuesday night from a church member whose friend had seen the flames and seven fire trucks surrounding the church.' ... He said the facility is a 'total loss.' Incidentally, in recent weeks, Southern Baptist leaders have called on Southern Baptists and Evangelicals to sympathize with the rioters and try to 'understand' why they are doing what they are doing. In June, a group of staff from one of the denomination's most prestigious seminaries, Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary (SEBTS), along with pastors from Southern Baptist churches, held a discussion where they justified the actions of rioters and anarchists while pointing to 'white supremacy' as the underlying cause of their disorderly conduct. In the video, you can hear Wesley Price say, 'Rioting makes sense. It's not right, but makes sense ... everyone can get to the point where you're going to rage out ... it's the voice of those who had their voice taken away.'" **CONCLUDING NOTE:** The idea of "systemic racism" in 21st century America is nonsense. No one has taken away the "voice" of the rioters. They have opportunities in America today that



were not even dreamed of in former times in human history and are not enjoyed in the vast majority of the world even today.

**MAILCHIMP TO START CENSORING E-MAIL** (Friday Church News Notes, November 6, 2020, [www.wayoflife.org](http://www.wayoflife.org), [fbns@wayoflife.org](mailto:fbns@wayoflife.org), 866-295-4143) - The following is excerpted from Beth Baumann, “An Unlikely Tech Company Now Censoring,” *Townhall*, Oct. 31, 2020: “Social media platforms like Twitter and Facebook have been on Americans’ radar because of their blatant censorship over the years. Most recently, Twitter came under fire for censoring the *New York Post* over their reporting on Hunter Biden’s laptop that allegedly revealed he sold access to his father, former Vice President Joe Biden. But now, Mailchimp, a platform used to send mass emails to clients, supporters and even the media, are now talking about ‘fact checking’ the emails that are sent. Melissa Chen the New York editor for *Spectator USA* shared a screenshot of the message Mailchimp’s legal team sent her. ‘We’ve updated our language to further clarify our Rules (Section 17 of STOU), which state that Mailchimp does not allow the distribution of Content that is, in our sole discretion, materially false,



inaccurate, or misleading in a way that could deceive or confuse others about important events, topics, or circumstances,’ the email stated.’ ... I’ve worked on numerous political campaigns--senatorial, congressional, all the way down to mayoral--that have relied on Mailchimp to send information to supporters. The reason: the first 1,000 or so subscribers are free. My guess: this is just another way for a Big Tech company to censor people, especially conservatives. It will be interesting to see what they consider ‘false, inaccurate, or misleading.’”

**ISLAM JIHADIST MURDERS IN FRANCE** (Friday Church News Notes, November 6, 2020, [www.wayoflife.org](http://www.wayoflife.org), [fbns@wayoflife.org](mailto:fbns@wayoflife.org), 866-295-4143) - Muslim jihadists are on a rampage in France in spite of massive police and military presence. On Sept. 25, 18-year-old Ali Hassan viciously attacked with a meat cleaver two people that he mistakenly thought worked for *Charlie Hebdo*, a magazine that published satirical caricatures of Muhammad in 2011 and 2012. Hassan, a refugee from Pakistan, had been watching videos calling for further jihadist action against *Hebdo* (“Before Attack,” *Daily Herald*, Oct. 6, 2020). On Oct. 16, a history teacher was beheaded near his school in Paris by an 18-year-old who was subsequently shot to death by police. He was a Chechen who had recently been granted refugee status in France. His grandfather, parents, brother, and other suspects were arrested (“Suspect in teacher’s beheading,” *CBS News*, Oct. 17, 2020), and a mosque was shut down for fomenting jihad (“French mosque closed,” *The Hill*, Oct. 20, 2020). The teacher,



Samuel Paty, had used the *Charlie Hebdo* caricatures of Muhammad in his class to illustrate liberty of expression. Minutes after the attack, before being shot to death, the attacker posted a photo of Paty’s decapitated head with a message, “I have executed one of the dogs from hell who dared to put Muhammad down.” On Oct. 29, Brahim Aouissaoui shouted “Allahu Akbar” (“Allah is Great”) before beheading one worshiper, stabbing two others to death, and wounding others in the Notre Dame Cathedral in Nice (“Catholics beheaded by Islamist,” *Catholic Arena*, Oct. 29, 2020). The murderer, who had recently arrived from Tunisia, was shot multiple times by police but survived. On Jan. 7, 2015, two Muslim men aligned with Al-Qaeda killed 12 workers and injured 11 others at the offices of *Charlie Hebdo*. A couple of days later, an Islamic jihadist murdered four Jews in the Île-de-France region (which includes Paris). The terrorists were shot dead by police. On July 14, 2016, 86 people were killed and 458 injured by a Tunisian man who drove a 19-ton cargo truck through a crowd in Nice on Bastille Day. The murderer, Mohamed Lahouaiej-Bouhlel, who was aligned with the Islamic State, was shot dead by police. On July 26, 2016, 84-year-old priest Jacques Hamel’s throat was slit during morning mass in Rouen in northern France. The terrorists, who operated with the Islamic State, were shot dead by police.

## PROFESSIONAL ATHLETES ARE NOT DYING FROM COVID

(Friday Church News Notes, November 6, 2020, [www.wayoflife.org](http://www.wayoflife.org), [fbns@wayoflife.org](mailto:fbns@wayoflife.org), 866-295-4143) - There is a media and CDC frenzy every time a professional athlete is diagnosed with Covid, but as far as we have been able to determine, ZERO American athletes who are currently active in professional sports have died of Covid-19. Several retired professional athletes have died, but the average age is 78 years old ("Here is the list of sports stars who died of Covid," Outlookindia.com, updated Sept. 12, 2020). These include Roy Lester, football, died age 96; Dick Lucas, football, died age 86; and Steve Dalkowski, baseball, died age 80.

## BRAINWASHED UNIVERSITY STUDENTS VOTE TO REMOVE STATUE OF ABRAHAM LINCOLN

(Friday Church News Notes, November 6, 2020, [www.wayoflife.org](http://www.wayoflife.org), [fbns@wayoflife.org](mailto:fbns@wayoflife.org), 866-295-4143) - The following is excerpted from "University of Wisconsin-Madison Student Government," *Townhall*, Oct. 30, 2020: "The student government at the University of Wisconsin-Madison voted unanimously to remove a statue of Abraham Lincoln, which the student government sees as a 'remnant of white supremacy.' President Lincoln,



who signed the Emancipation Proclamation and lobbied for the 13th Amendment, is not a 'remnant of white supremacy.' 'That would likely have come as something of a surprise to John Wilkes Booth,' Professor Jonathan Turley, George Washington University Law School professor, writes in a recent article on the students' unanimous decision to cancel Lincoln. ... Nancy Pelosi has called for a 'review' of statues in the United States so that leftists can continue tearing down history in an official, government-approved manner. Would any historic figure survive the scrutiny of a congressional review committee comprised of members like Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, Ilhan Omar, or Rashida Tlaib? Would any living figure? Cancel culture is a repugnant development of our universities, and the unanimous vote to remove Lincoln shows just how pervasive the problem has become."

## ROBOT INSPIRED BY SLIM MOLD

(Friday Church News Notes, November 6, 2020, [www.wayoflife.org](http://www.wayoflife.org), [fbns@wayoflife.org](mailto:fbns@wayoflife.org), 866-295-4143) - The following is from creationmoments.com, October 9, 2020: "A robot that can move about on its own must be programmed in great detail. Instructions must be given to each moving part. These instructions must also be able to direct the robot under all anticipated conditions. If there is any error in the instructions or an encounter with unexpected conditions, the robot will probably just freeze in place. Even slime mold can do better than this. Even though slime mold cells are not connected to each other by nerves, when the cells join together, the resulting organism is able to move. It



is able to deal with unexpected circumstances moving about by shifting liquid to change their collective bag-shaped body. Taking their cue from slime mold, a research group from Tohoku University in Japan has used the same principle to make a mobile robot. The robot is able to move across any flat surface by shifting liquid around, which changes pressure on different parts of the robot. It is made of 14 interconnected syringes, each with a motor to move the water. It moves around randomly until it is given a direction. Then the motors synchronize, and the robot begins to move in the commanded direction. This slime-mold type arrangement adjusts to changes in environment just like the real thing. Leave it to God to accomplish a complicated task with a simple design. Ref: *Nikkei Weekly*, 9/13/10, p. 21, 'Robot inspired by slime mold.'

## POLITICS WON'T SAVE THE NATION

(Friday Church News Notes, November 13, 2020, [www.wayoflife.org](http://www.wayoflife.org), [fbns@wayoflife.org](mailto:fbns@wayoflife.org), 866-295-4143) - America's root problems are spiritual, and the only real solution is spiritual. The only thing that will help America in her terrible plight is a true revival, and there *could be* revival at some level, particularly in the churches. Revival always begins at God's house with God's people. 2 Chronicles 7:14, "If my people,





which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land” (2 Ch. 7:14). This is a promise for Israel, but it has application to the church age. See Romans 15:4 and 1 Corinthians 10:11. Nothing like a revival and lasting change will happen through Moral Majority programs or Tea Parties or Chick Fill-A Days or Trump rallies. As these have been tried repeatedly and enthusiastically over the past few decades, the moral depravity has only increased and the power of the forces for right and liberty has only decreased, because these are carnal weapons that deal with symptoms and cannot affect the foundational spiritual issues. These are Band-Aids on cancer. They can win political skirmishes but not spiritual wars. The heart of the tree is being eaten away even as the watchers are pleased at keeping a few leaves alive. Some type of revival could happen if individual Christians and individual churches would repent of an adulterous love for this God-hating world, repent of setting the affections more on things below than things above, and earnestly beseech God’s help. Who knows how far the forces of evil could be driven back?

God has never needed a majority. Gideon’s vigilant few are enough. But so many churches are like Sardis; they have a name that they live, but they are dead. They are comfortable in the world, not pilgrims but dwellers, mighty for pot luck but weak for spiritual warfare, zealous for video games and sports and consuming fleeting hours on social media vanity, but not zealous students of God’s Word, passionate for parties but not for prayer. **Why pray according to 1 Timothy 2:1-2 that we might “lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness” when God knows that we will not live such lives? It’s past time for pastors to rise up and lead their churches in true revival. Better to have 30 people, if need be, with God’s blessing and power, than 200 without it. Are we afraid of losing members and finances if we take God’s Word seriously? If so, we are mere hirelings. “My brethren, be not many masters, knowing that we shall receive the greater condemnation” (James 3:1). With God’s blessing and power we can have real eternal fruit; without it, there is nothing but wood, hay, and stubble.**

**OREGON IS THE FIRST U.S. STATE TO DECRIMINALIZE “HARD DRUGS”** (Friday Church News Notes, November 13, 2020, [www.wayoflife.org](http://www.wayoflife.org), [fbns@wayoflife.org](mailto:fbns@wayoflife.org), 866-295-4143) - The following is excerpted from “Oregon becomes,” *Fox News*, Nov. 4, 2020: “Oregon became the first state to decriminalize hard drugs like heroin, cocaine and meth in a 59-41% vote as of early Wednesday morning, according to the Associated Press. The ‘Drug Addiction Treatment and Recovery Act’ will



transition Oregon’s drug policy from a punitive, criminal approach to ‘a humane, cost-effective, health approach.’ ... Instead of treating drug users as criminals, Oregon will now offer them addiction services funded by marijuana tax revenue, which is more than \$100 million a year in the state. Only small amounts of drugs are decriminalized, such as less than 1 gram of heroin or MDMA; 2 grams of cocaine or methamphetamine; 12 grams of psilocybin mushrooms; and 40 doses of LSD, oxycodone or methadone. Criminal penalties for possession of these amounts are replaced with a fine of up to \$100, which can be waived if the user is evaluated at Addiction Recovery Centers. Crimes that are associated with drug use, such as manufacturing drugs, selling drugs and driving under the influence, are still criminal offenses. ... There was also a fair amount of opposition to the measure, with two dozen district attorneys in the state saying the measure ‘recklessly decriminalizes possession of the most dangerous types of drugs (and) will lead to an increase in acceptability of dangerous drugs.’”

**PUEBLO, COLORADO IS PROOF THAT LEGALIZATION OF MARIJUANA IS A FOOLISH IDEA** (Friday Church News Notes, November 13, 2020, [www.wayoflife.org](http://www.wayoflife.org), [fbns@wayoflife.org](mailto:fbns@wayoflife.org), 866-295-4143)



- The following is excerpted from "The True Cost of Marijuana," *The Epoch Times*, Oct. 27, 2020: "For years, Pueblo has been looking for industries to revive its economy, and when recreational marijuana was legalized for retail sale in Colorado in 2014, many saw it as the answer. More people would be employed and the tax money would go to schools and infrastructure. ... So far, 11 states have legalized retail marijuana and four others—New Jersey, Arizona, Montana, and South Dakota—are considering it. Marijuana is still an illegal, Class 1 drug according to federal law. Two emergency room doctors in Pueblo see a different side of the equation and say the deleterious effects of cannabis legalization far outstrip any benefits. Dr. Karen Randall, who trained in pediatrics and emergency medicine, spent years as an ER doctor in Detroit, but Pueblo turned out to be a whole other level. 'It's like a horror movie,' she told *The Epoch Times*. Every shift in the ER brings in a patient with cannabinoid hyperemesis. In layman's terms, that means someone is screaming and vomiting uncontrollably. The sound is wretched and apocalyptic. It's caused by chronic cannabis use, usually high-potency products, and it stops when the person stops using cannabis. ... Dr. Brad Roberts said he's seeing more and more patients with psychosis who have no previous psychiatric history and are testing

positive only for THC. ... Roberts and Randall are trying to sound the warning bell on the negative effects marijuana legalization has had on their community ... Since legalization in Colorado, Randall and Roberts have seen an increase in all drug use, not just marijuana. Methamphetamine use is up 143 percent, opiates are up by 10 percent, and cannabis is up by 57 percent, according to data from the ER drug screens over the past seven years. 'If you pump a community full of drugs, you're going to have to expect everything that's associated with them. You're going to have to expect the crime, addiction,' Randall said."

**BOB JONES UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT PARTNERS WITH E C U M E N I C A L ORGANIZATION** (Friday Church News Notes, November 13, 2020, [www.wayoflife.org](http://www.wayoflife.org), [fbns@wayoflife.org](mailto:fbns@wayoflife.org), 866-295-4143) - Twice in 2020, BJU President Steve Pettit has endorsed the Christian Learning Centers of Greenville County (CLC), which minister to public school students. At a fundraising event on May 12, Pettit said, "We are fully engaged in helping the [CLC] ... Dr. Bobby Wood one of our vice presidents is now a new member of the board and we are so glad he is there ... as a university we are FULLY SUPPORTIVE of the CLC." Pettit again issued public support for the CLC at a fundraising event on Oct. 22, saying, "[BJU] has the privilege of partnering with [CLC] in providing the gospel and biblical training to public high school students." Machen White warns, "CLC, however, is not what it seems. The CLC leadership and sponsoring churches are made up of everything



from conservative evangelicals, to left leaning charismatics, to rank theological liberals. The Chairman of CLC board, Kevin Brady, attends Advent United Methodist Church. Board member, Richard Furman, attends First Presbyterian Church of Greenville. Board member, Gabe Vicks, attends Word of Life. Board member, Todd Hyneman, attends Holland Park Church of Christ. Among sponsoring churches, three United Methodist churches, a liberal Presbyterian church, several charismatic churches, and a half dozen SBC churches are listed on the CLC website. Social justice is often promoted on CLC podcasts. In the CLC doctrinal statement, the gospel is at best supplemented and at worst replaced with social justice" (*Musings of a Fundamentalist*, Nov. 5, 2020).

**SOUTHERN BAPTIST PRESIDENT SAYS CHRISTIANS ARE CURSED FOR NOT FIGHTING FOR "GENDER JUSTICE"** (Friday Church News Notes, November 13, 2020, [www.wayoflife.org](http://www.wayoflife.org), [fbns@wayoflife.org](mailto:fbns@wayoflife.org), 866-295-4143) - The following is excerpted from "JD Greear Says," *Reformation Charlotte*, Oct. 29, 2020: "JD Greear, president of the Southern Baptist Convention--who denounced Southern Baptists as racists and white supremacists, called on Christians





to stand up for LGBTQ rights, and has a pro-choice woman leading Bible studies at his church and also says that people who are followers of Jesus will think about the 'rights of immigrants' while at the ballot box-has denounced the Church as 'cursed' like Meroz for not fighting for 'racial justice' and 'gender justice.' Greear recently complained in a sermon that Christians today, like Christians during the time of American slavery, have a 'malaise' about matters of justice because, he says, it doesn't 'directly affect them.' 'Whether we're talking about racial

justice or gender justice or what have you,' he says, 'tragically ... there's often been a malaise in the church ... because the injustice did not directly affect those of us sitting in places of privilege. Like Meroz, it didn't affect our tribe.' Of course, he doesn't exactly explain what 'gender justice' is, however, the website, Gender Justice U.S. defines it as 'a world where everyone can thrive regardless of their gender, gender expression, or sexual orientation.' And since Greear has called on Christians to stand up for gay rights and says that using 'preferred pronouns' for transgender people is 'pronoun hospitality' and that he believes he should do it, one can draw his own conclusion as to what Greear means by the term."

**AMERICA'S BLESSINGS** (Friday Church News Notes, November 20, 2020, [www.wayoflife.org](http://www.wayoflife.org), [fbns@wayoflife.org](mailto:fbns@wayoflife.org), 866-295-4143)

- Conservative political commentator Michael Medved calls America "the greatest nation on God's green earth," and we agree. It is backsliding spiritually, degrading morally, its liberties are under attack, and there are many woes, as we point out regularly in this publication, but in the broad context of the world today America remains unique. We would mention just a few examples. There is more personal freedom than any other nation. America's famed Bill of Rights has been weakened by activist courts, but there is still great liberty in comparison with other nations. There is more true justice than in the vast majority of nations. There are more NT churches and born again Christians. There are more economic opportunities. There is more equality, more opportunities for "minorities." There is more freedom for gun ownership and thus self-defense. There are more private schools and

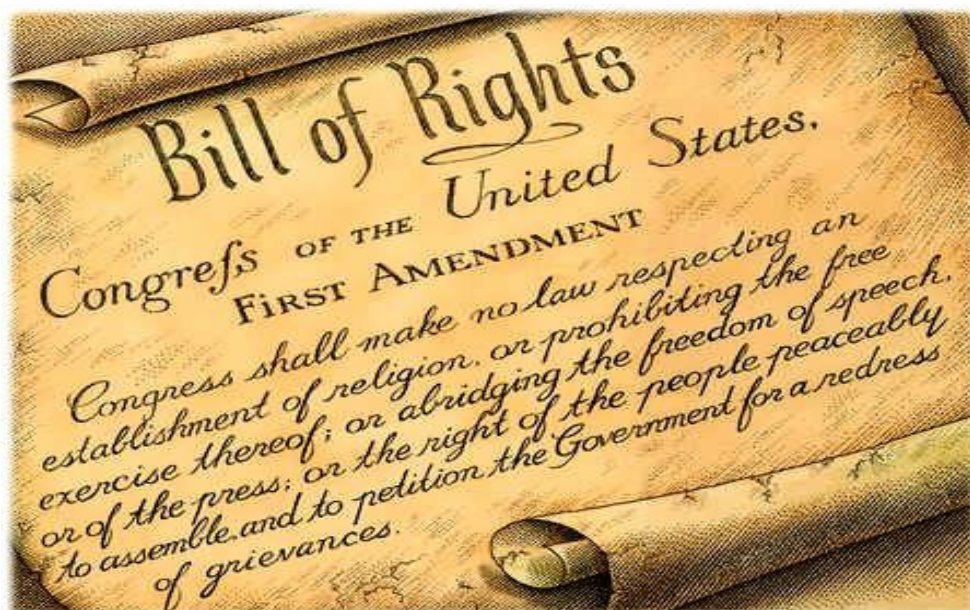
**GOSSIPING PLANTS** (Friday Church News Notes, November 13, 2020, [www.wayoflife.org](http://www.wayoflife.org), [fbns@wayoflife.org](mailto:fbns@wayoflife.org), 866-295-4143) - The following is from creationmoments.com, October 23, 2020: The venus flytrap senses a fly and, in less than a second, its trap springs shut. It will eat today. A new area of science is plant behavior. Plant behaviorists point out that plants, like the venus flytrap that interact with animals, have to move on an animal scale. We have traditionally thought of plants as inactive living things that just sit there. But as we learn more about them, we are beginning to discover that plants are much more active than we ever thought. Other plants move as well, often

when they interact with animals. But sometimes not. When a white mulberry tree opens its blooms, they open at half the speed of sound. But there's more than this to plant behavior. Scientists have learned that plants have memory, despite the lack of a nervous system or brain. Yet, when a leaf has mobilized its defenses against a predator in the past, it will do so more quickly the next time the threat returns. Previously we have talked about how plants communicate by emitting scents. When a leaf is attacked, a scent is emitted, warning



surrounding leaves and plants. Scientists now call this 'plant gossiping.' When we see how much ability God has given even plants, we are led to realize, thankfully, that God has been even more generous to us. Ref: *Science News*, 6/20/09, pp. 16-19, Susan Milius, 'No brainer behavior.'"





home schools than any other country. There is a much larger conservative constituency than other countries. By conservative we mean such views as pro-life, pro traditional marriage, less government regulation, anti-globalism, anti-socialism, pro freedom of religion and freedom of speech, educational freedom, and effective immigration control. America has a very large and aggressive conservative media. About half of the nation voted for Donald Trump and his conservative agenda. Conservatives are represented politically by the Republican party, which controls the U.S. Senate and picked up at least nine seats in the House of Representatives, "putting them in close range to regain the House in 2022." Republicans fully control the governments of 24 states (called a trifecta), compared with 15 states for Democrats, and control both chambers of the state legislatures in another 7 states, for a total of 31. (In 1975, Democrats held 37 trifectas, so Republicans have gained considerable power at the state level over the past 45 years.) In 2020, Republicans increased their control

of the 99 state legislative bodies from 58 to 62. This is more than at any point in the nation's history. The Republican Party is steadily increasing its support among blacks and Hispanics.

#### **NORWAY OUTLAWS PRIVATE "HATE SPEECH" AGAINST HOMOSEXUALS (LGBT)**

(Friday Church News Notes, November 20, 2020, [www.wayoflife.org](http://www.wayoflife.org), [fbns@wayoflife.org](mailto:fbns@wayoflife.org), 866-295-4143)

- The following is excerpted from "Norway's LGBTQ+ Hate Speech," *National Review*, Nov. 11, 2020: "We're forever hearing about this supposed rise in 'LGBTQ+ hate crimes,' and it's no wonder, really --given that the definition of what constitutes a 'hate crime' keeps being expanded. The latest example is Norway, which has just amended its



penal code, first passed in 1981, to outlaw even 'private remarks' that the ruling class considers offensive. Reuters reports: 'People found guilty of hate speech face a fine or up to a year in jail for private remarks, and a maximum of three years in jail for public comments, according to the penal code.' What makes this amendment particularly gratuitous is that Norway is, as Reuters puts it, 'one of the most liberal countries in Europe for LGBT+ people.' The country operates on a full system of self-identification, and no medical proof is required to change one's legal gender. LGBTQ+ ideology has been mainstreamed in every sphere of life imaginable. Still, radical gender activists will not be at rest until every private citizen repudiates biological truth and relinquishes his every doubt about their dogma."

#### **HOMELAND SECURITY SECRETARY LABELS**

#### **TWITTER A THREAT TO NATIONAL SECURITY**

(Friday Church News Notes, November 20, 2020, [www.wayoflife.org](http://www.wayoflife.org), [fbns@wayoflife.org](mailto:fbns@wayoflife.org), 866-295-4143)

- The following is excerpted from "DHS chief labels Twitter," *The Washington Times*, Oct. 30, 2020: "Acting Homeland Security Secretary Chad Wolf labeled Twitter a 'threat' to America's security on Friday, saying that the tech giant's quick trigger finger in censoring government agencies could deny people information they need to be safe. Mr. Wolf's comments came after an embarrassing incident in which Twitter expunged a tweet about the border wall and locked the account of the head of Customs and Border Protection, saying it was 'hateful' to claim that 'walls work' to stop gang members and criminals



from getting across. Twitter caved after nearly 24 hours, restoring the tweet and access to the account. 'It is dangerous and damaging when any publisher arbitrarily and unfoundedly decides, as it did here, that the facts and policies of a particular presidential administration constitute *violence*—in order to censor them,' Mr. Wolf wrote in a letter to Twitter's CEO. He continued: 'And in the case of Twitter, this can cut off an essential mode of communication between U.S. government officials and the public. In doing so, Twitter is sabotaging public discourse regarding important national and homeland security issues.'"

**ANTONIO GRAMSCI AND THE MARXIZING OF THE INNER MAN IN THE WEST** (Friday Church News Notes, November 20, 2020,



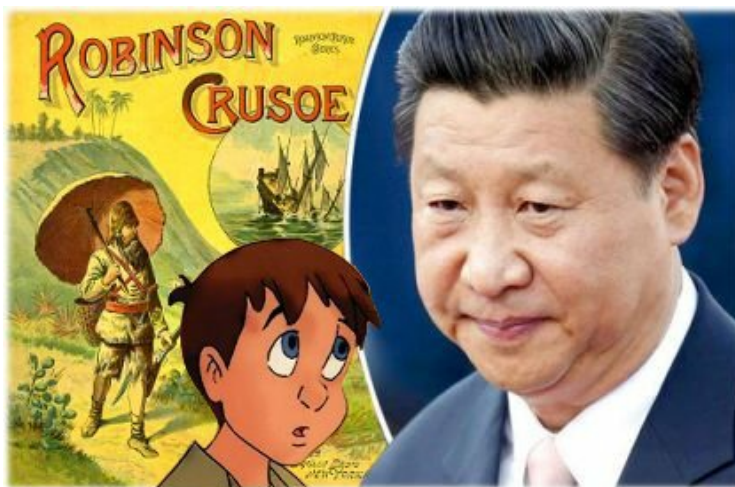
[www.wayoflife.org](http://www.wayoflife.org), [fbns@wayoflife.org](mailto:fbns@wayoflife.org), 866-295-4143) - Antonio Gramsci was the founder of the Italian Communist Party in 1921. Following is an overview of Gramsci's plan to Marxise the inner man and thereby create a new West: "What was essential, insisted Gramsci, was to Marxise the inner man. Only when that was done could you successfully dangle the utopia of the 'Workers' Paradise' before his eyes, to be accepted in a peaceful and humanly agreeable manner, without revolution or violence or bloodshed. ... What Marx and Lenin had got wrong, Gramsci said, was the part about an immediate proletarian revolution. ... Gramsci had a better way. A subtler blueprint for Marxist victory. ... Use Lenin's geopolitical structure not to conquer streets and cities, argued Gramsci. Use it to conquer the mind of civil society. Use it to acquire a Marxist hegemony over the minds of the populations that must be won. ... they must join in whatever liberating causes might come to the fore. ... Marxists must join with women, with the poor, with those who find certain civil laws oppressive. ... they must enter into every civil, cultural, and political activity in every nation, patiently leavening them as thoroughly as yeast leavens bread. If there was any true superstructure that had to be eliminated, it was the Christianity that had created and still pervaded Western Culture in all its forms, activities, and expressions. ... Marxist action must be unitary against what he saw to be the failing remnant of

Christianity. And by a unitary attack, Gramsci meant that **Marxists must change the residually Christian mind. He needed to alter that mind—to turn it into its opposite in all its details—so that it would become not merely a non-Christian mind but an anti-Christian mind. ... everything must be done in the name of man's dignity and rights, and in the name of his autonomy and freedom from outside constraint. From the claims and constraints of Christianity, above all else. Accomplish that, said Gramsci, and you will have established a true and freely adopted hegemony over the ... thinking of every formerly Christian country. Do that, he promised, and in essence you will have Marxized the West.** The final step—the Marxization of the politics of life itself—will then follow" (Malachi Martin, *The Keys of This Blood*, 1990, pp. 247-251). Martin was a Roman Catholic and did not understand fundamental spiritual issues, but he did understand cultural Marxism.

**CHINA REMOVING CHRISTIANITY FROM CLASSICAL BOOKS** (Friday Church News Notes, November 20, 2020, [www.wayoflife.org](http://www.wayoflife.org), [fbns@wayoflife.org](mailto:fbns@wayoflife.org), 866-295-4143) - The following is excerpted from "In China, Even 'Robinson Crusoe' Is Censored," *Bitter Winter*, May 26, 2019: "To help achieve the goal of eradicating any teaching content with religious overtones, the CCP is now altering the books written by international



authors that are read by primary and secondary school students. According to a parent of a student in north Hebei Province, the content of some books was deleted or changed in the new version of the grade six Chinese language textbook, published by the People's Education Press in January 2019.



The original version of English writer Daniel Defoe's (1660-1731) novel *Robinson Crusoe* contains the following passage: 'also, I found three very good Bibles, [...] some Portuguese books also; and among them two or three Popish

prayer-books, and several other books all which I carefully secured.' In the new version of the textbook, the content related to the Bible and prayer books was deleted ... The short story *Vanka* by Russian writer Anton

Chekhov (1860-1904) has also been altered beyond recognition. Religious terms in the original version--such as 'attend Sunday service,' 'hope God will send you his blessings,' 'I will pray for you,' and 'I beg you for Christ's sake'--have been deleted, and 'for the dear Lord's sake' has also been altered to 'for goodness' sake.' Hans Christian Andersen's (1805-1875) *The Little Match Girl* has also been altered: the passage, 'when a star falls, a soul was going up to God,' has been changed into 'when a star falls, a person is leaving.'"



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





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