

O Timothy

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

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"Separation from the world must be emphasized continually. The world's pop culture is devouring multitudes of young people in the churches. It is capturing their hearts. The church must deal effectually with the world's music, social media, video games, dress fashions, friendships, attitude ... Young people who want to know and do God's will must separate from the world." Page 5.

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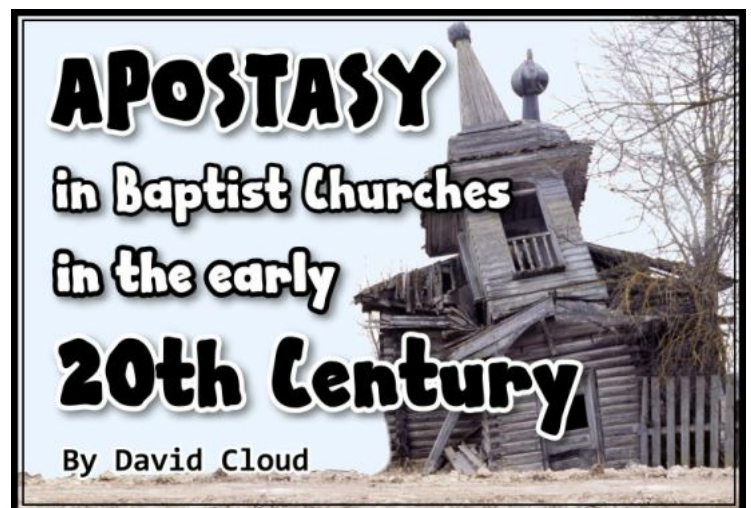


APOSTASY IN BAPTIST CHURCHES IN THE EARLY 20TH CENTURY ~ By David Cloud

The following is excerpted from [The Discipling Church: The Church That Will Stand until Jesus Comes](#), www.wayoflife.org.

By the end of the 19th century, the Baptist churches in America were very weak and had stopped practicing strict discipline. Writing in 1907, Henry Vedder observed,

"There has been a decline in the discipline maintained among Baptist churches, as serious as it is great. In the majority of churches in the cities, exclusions are practically unknown except for some notorious wickedness. Even in cases of notorious wickedness, there is often complete immunity for the offender. Little serious attempt is made to exercise oversight of the lives of members, and to hold them to accountability for departures from even a moderate standard of Christian ethics. The place of exclusion has been taken by a new practice, called 'dropping,' by which is meant the simple erasure of a name from the



roll of membership, no stigma of any kind attaching to the person so dropped, with no inquiry, no charges, and of course no examination or trial. This growing practice threatens to become universal in much less than another half-century, with results on the spiritual efficiency of the churches and the personal piety of their members that cannot fail to be most disastrous. Nothing can

explain such disuse of discipline but a general weakening of moral fiber. This is an alarming phenomenon, and goes far to offset all that has been recorded of material and spiritual progress” (*A Short History of the Baptists*).

Vedder also remarks that the number of adult baptisms had dropped remarkably.

“Owing to the increasing infrequency of revivals, and the decline of the older evangelism, the majority of the converts are now received into the churches through the Sunday-school and the young people’s society; the conversion of adults becomes with every decade increasingly rare” (*A Short History*).

Between the 1920s and 1940s, prior to World War II, there was a revival of salvations. Preachers such as J. Frank Norris, Mordecai Ham, Bud Robinson, John. R. Rice, J. Wilbur Chapman, R.A. Torrey, Sam Jones, Hyman Appelman, and Oliver B. Greene had large numbers of converts. But we can find no evidence that there was an accompanying revival in church discipline.

Church membership exploded in many congregations, such as the two pastored by Norris in Fort Worth, Texas, and Detroit, Michigan, but they were more like preaching stations and evangelistic centers than Ephesians 4:11-16 type churches. There was some discipline, but not thorough-going. The standards for membership were not very high, and a large number of the members were not

committed or faithful. This remained the pattern for the rest of the century.

At the turn of the 20th century, confidence in the Bible was weakened by theological liberalism and Darwinian evolution.

The Northern Baptists became liberal in theology by the beginning of the 20th century. (They were known as the Northern Baptists until 1950, when the name was changed to American Baptist Convention.) For example, in 1918, Harry Emerson Fosdick, pastor of the influential Riverside Church in New York City, published *The Manhood of the Master*, denying that Jesus Christ is God. In 1926, the Northern Baptist Convention voted by a margin of three to one *not* to evict Riverside Church from the convention.

Liberalism also entered the Southern Baptist Convention in the first half of the 20th century.

By 1902, J.W. Bailey of North Carolina wrote in the *Biblical Recorder* that there were a multitude of “theologies” in the Southern Baptist Convention. He said, “Theologies change every day. ... [Baptists do not stand for] formulated dogmas.”

For theological and cultural reasons, the churches became increasingly weak and rejected New Testament discipline.

Even as early as 1874, William Whitsitt, a professor at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, said, “[I]t is now very difficult to exclude a person for drunkenness or any other ordinary crime” (*Restoring Integrity in Baptist Churches*, Kindle loc. 2138).

In 1878, J.C. Hiden, pastor of First Baptist Church, Greenville, South Carolina, wrote a series of articles in the *Baptist Courier* “lamenting the recent trend of lax discipline.”

By 1921, Z.T. Cody, editor of South Carolina’s *Baptist Courier*, wrote,

“Our churches have practically no discipline. As to worldliness and minor offences, many of our churches do nothing. But what is far worse, our churches often allow the most serious moral transgressions to go unnoticed. Even at times, to save a disturbance in the church, they will grant a minister a letter who, as they know, has grossly violated, not only the proprieties of

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life, but the moral law of God. ... What we dread today more than aught else is a disturbance in the 'peace' of a church. ... We do not know what is the remedy for this lapsed condition."

A pastorate that was probably largely unregenerate turned from the Bible as sole authority (in practice if not profession) and looked to "science" for help. The churches stopped depending on spiritual weapons and turned to carnal weapons such as programs and an efficient organization. For example, instead of depending on prayer to prepare for special meetings, they depended on advertising.

There was an emphasis on "efficiency" and "pragmatism" (using whatever works to produce a desired goal).

"Efficiency consisted not in purity or obedience, but in system, organization, and rationality in all areas of church activity. ... progressive church leaders held that the church in the modern age needed a polity based not on ancient authority but on science, rationality, and system. They looked to social scientists and efficiency experts such as Frederick Winslow Taylor, who in this era developed management into a science for producing efficient organizations" (*Restoring Integrity in Baptist Churches*, Kindle loc. 2167-2174).

In the 1920s, the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary appointed Gaines Dobbins as a "professor of church efficiency." His 1923 book *The Efficient Church* had a wide influence. He claimed that Christ's ministry in the Gospels was "the perfection of efficiency" and Paul was the "world's greatest efficiency expert in religion."

The churches began leaning to the spirit and wisdom of the times instead of God's Spirit and God's Word. Instead of separating from the world and its fallen thinking, they learned from the world.

They bowed to the American spirit of individualism and consumerism. They stopped requiring evidence of salvation and practicing discipline so as not to offend potential members. The churches appeased the people's idolatrous, me-centered desire to shop for a church that met their felt needs. They lowered the spiritual standards, became entertainment-oriented, borrowed from the world to make Christian music more appealing to the unsaved and carnal, softened the preaching, created "youth ministries" that encouraged the generation gap and were merely Christianized versions of the world's pop culture.

By the last half of the 20th century, this spiritual appeasement produced the seeker-sensitive movement.

A regenerate church membership and discipline only gets in the way of the seeker-sensitive philosophy and will never produce a megachurch today.

They bowed to the philosophy of non-judgmentalism and relativism that permeated society.

The concept of the church as pilgrims and strangers in a foreign country was replaced by Americanism and flag waving.

The social gospel produced an emphasis away from evangelism and church planting. Building God's kingdom on earth through social-justice projects, honest business practices, and maintaining good social order began to replace "saving brands from the burning."

In 1910, William Poteat, president of Wake Forest College, told the annual Southern Baptist Convention that Baptists were in the best position to save civilization.

In 1920, Richard Edmonds wrote, "Upon the Baptists of the South may rest the salvation of America and of the world from chaos and from sinking back into the darkness of the middle ages" (*The South, America and the World*).

The churches bowed to the influence of the "new morality" and allowed church members to live worldly lives. Such things as dating, pre-marital sex, drinking, jazz, rock, divorce, unisex fashions flooded the weak churches.

When fundamentalist leader J. Edwin Orr toured the South in 1935, he was dismayed to find that "quite a majority of believers go to the movies once a week, as well as other questionable amusements, and the unpainted face is more an exception than the rule. The converted Christians behave almost exactly the same as the non-Christians do--there is no separation" (Joel Carpenter, *Revive Us Again*, p. 59).

Churches stopped striving for a regenerate church membership.

"Even among the Methodists and Baptists church membership became a graduation exercise from the Sunday school or Young People's group. Neither the ministers nor church members thought a crisis conversion experience, even of the shake-my-hand variety, was neces-

sary” (William McLoughlin, Jr., *Modern Revivalism*, p. 454).

This fairly well describes the condition of the church I grew up in (born 1949). I remember one of my non-church friends saying to me, “Why should I come to your church? You folk are no different than we are.”

There was no looking for evidence of salvation. Any profession of faith was accepted and the individual’s salvation was never doubted thereafter, no matter how he lived or what he believed. Most professions were made by children. All of the kids went through the routine of “believing on Christ” and getting baptized at some point in their childhood, but for the most part there was no change of thinking and lifestyle. It wasn’t expected and wasn’t required. Life-changing adult conversions such as we read of in the New Testament were *very* rare. Verses such as 2 Corinthians 5:17; Titus 1:16; and 1 John 2:4 were as foreign to our experience and understanding as the Chinese language.

There was no caution about receiving members. Any flimsy testimony was sufficient. Faithfulness was not required. If you attended one service a week or no services you could be a member in good standing.

As a result, each generation brought a larger percentage of unregenerate people into the membership.

The old church covenant from the 1800s hung on the wall, but it was a historic relic, a museum piece. Its principles were not taught or enforced.

There were no serious biblical standards for workers.

There was no serious discipleship, separation, or discipline. I heard the Bible preached and taught, but I was not given a biblical worldview and there was no emphasis on true discipleship.

The churches adapted to the pop culture. They entertained pagan fables such as Santa Claus and the Easter Bunny. Like the proverbial frog in the pot, they followed

Hollywood’s descent into ever-deeper moral filth. They didn’t have a testing mindset. They weren’t thorough-going Bible people. They weren’t true disciples of Jesus Christ. They weren’t pilgrims and strangers in a foreign world.

Almost no one in the SBC in those days saw Walt Disney or Ed Sullivan as enemies of the truth. The fact that Disneyland had no church on Main Street didn’t register as a warning that Disney was promoting an atheistic worldview and was drawing the hearts and minds of youngsters away from the God of the Bible like a charming Pied Piper.

The fact that *The Disney Hour* and *The Ed Sullivan Show* were weakening Sunday evening church attendance with their enticing wares was not a matter of deep concern by the preachers.

The vast majority of Southern Baptist preachers were as soft as their hero Billy Graham. The preaching lost its rebuking, convicting, discipling power.

This is the type of Baptist church that was on nearly “every street corner” in the American South, which was why it was called “the Bible Belt.”

Southern Baptist churches were one of the most prominent influences in southern society, but because of their spiritual weakness, church was a thing of little significance and social impact.

At some point in childhood, most people went through the motion of “receiving Christ” and then continued to live their lives as they pleased with little to no serious reference to Scripture.

The rock & roll pop culture conquered these churches quickly in the 1950s. At first there were a few voices lifted against rock music and its “live as you please” philosophy, but the resistance faded quickly. By the 1960s, Southern Baptist church kids partied as much as non-church kids. Church kids loved the same music and held the same philosophy of life.



Way of Life Literature

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YOUNG PEOPLE and separation from the WORLD

BY David Cloud

The following is excerpted from the May 2017 edition of [THE DISCIPLING CHURCH: THE CHURCH THAT WILL STAND UNTIL JESUS COMES](#).

Separation from the world must be emphasized continually. The world's pop culture is devouring multitudes of young people in the churches. It is capturing their hearts. The church must deal effectually with the world's music, social media, video games, dress fashions, friendships, attitude.

Even if you are saved and are studying the Bible and seeking His will, there are still powerful enemies within and without, and victory requires keen vigilance (Eph. 5:15; 1 Pet. 5:8) and strict separation (1 Jn. 2:15-17). David, the "sweet Psalmist of Israel," was a passionate seeker of God, but we know what happened to him when he ceased being vigilant.

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

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

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

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

Some of the Greatest Worldly Dangers Today

The mobile phone itself

The mobile phone has brought the world into people's lives in the most intimate way. It connects to the Internet, where moral dangers and false teaching are only a click or a tap away.

If a young person wants to serve the Lord and know His will, he must be extremely cautious about modern communication tools.

It is wise to remove all temptations from one's phone. Examples are wrong music, wrong apps, even the web browser if necessary. One young man wrote, "Before I got saved, I listened to rock music, copying it to my memory cards. After I got saved, for some time I couldn't delete the songs. I used to say that I would be able not to listen to them, but I was easily tempted to listen to the things that were already in my phone. I was making provision for the flesh while promising not to fulfil the lusts thereof (Ro. 13:14). So one day I decided to delete them totally from my memory card and from my computer too. I thank the Lord, I have never regretted that decision."

It is wise to use a web browser filter like CleanInternet.

It is wise to have an accountability partner.

Some use Covenant Eyes for accountability. It monitors the individual's Internet usage and emails reports to selected people for accountability. The accountability report lists web sites visited, Internet searches, and the times of day when the Internet is used. It also features a score that ranks the individual's level of objectionable Internet usage. Covenant Eyes also has a filtering service that can be used in combination with the accountability service. Another service of this type is X3 Watch. It provides accountability on computers, cell phones, and tablets. While I have not used this personally, it has been recommended by friends.

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

Pop music

Twenty-nine of the thirty most popular YouTube videos in 2015 were music videos, and most are filthy. The total views of the 29 videos was 26 BILLION!

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

Rock is intimately associated with illicit sex and always has been. Even a mere glance at iTunes proves this. The covers of the albums and the lyrics are filthy, and a child of God seeking purity will not touch the unclean thing (2 Co. 6:17).

Consider the following testimonies by rock & rollers:

"That's what rock is all about--sex with a 100 megaton bomb, *THE BEAT!*" (Gene Simmons of the rock group KISS, interview, *Entertainment Tonight*, ABC, Dec. 10, 1987).

"Rock 'n' roll is 99% sex" (John Oates of the rock duo Hall & Oates, *Circus*, Jan. 31, 1976).

"Rock 'n' roll is pagan and primitive, and very jungle, and that's how it should be! ... the true meaning of rock ... is sex, subversion and style" (Malcolm McLaren, punk rock manager, *Rock*, August 1983, p. 60).

"The THROBBING BEAT of rock provides a vital sexual release for adolescent audiences" (Jan Berry of Jan and Dean, cited by Ken Blanchard, *Pop Goes the Gospel*).

"The great strength of rock 'n' roll lies in ITS BEAT ... it is a music which is basically *sexual, un-Puritan* ... and a threat to established patterns and values" (Irwin Silber, Marxist, *Sing Out*, May 1965).

"Everyone takes it for granted that rock and roll is synonymous with sex" (Chris Stein, lead guitarist for Blondie, *People*, May 21, 1979).

"Rock and roll is fun, it's full of energy ... It's *naughty*" (Tina Turner, cited in *Rock Facts*, Rock & Roll Hall of Fame and Museum).

"Pop music revolves around sexuality. I believe that if there is anarchy, let's make it sexual anarchy rather than political" (Adam Ant, *From Rock to Rock*, p. 93).

"The sex is definitely in the music, and sex is in ALL ASPECTS in the music" (Luke Campbell of 2 Live Crew).

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

Pastor Dave Sorenson tells how that as a teen his heart was captured by rock music that he listened to in his bedroom via a transistor radio that his pastor father let him have.

I was captured by rock music via 45-rpm records at a friend's garage. He was a deacon's son.

Videos

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

Video Games

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

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

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

Video games and addiction

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

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

"Virtual life becomes more appealing than real life."

Beware of role playing games. Nothing takes over young people's hearts and minds more than these. They are called MMORPG (massively multiplayer online role-playing games).

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

Golden, Monster Hunter 3, Elder Scrolls, Angry Birds, Faster Than Light, Peggle, League of Legends, Civilization V, Pokemon.

Even in remote places like Nepal, gaming competition is becoming popular. A report on Nepali gamers in the *Kathmandu Post* (Aug. 29, 2015) was entitled "By Their Bootstraps." Gaming started in Nepal in internet cafes in 2010. The 2015 Colors E-sports Carnival at the Civil Mall had 500 participants competing at *Defense of the Ancients* (DOTA), a multi-online battle game.

Video games and violence

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

Video games and the occult

Many of the video games are occultic. Consider the current craze, Pokémon Go. Almost overnight it has become the most popular mobile game in American history, increasing the stock market value of part owner Nintendo more than 50%.

"Pokémon Go, the newest iteration of the nearly 20-year-old Pokémon franchise, engages players in an 'augmented reality' where they try to find and capture Pokémons hidden throughout the real world. The *Australian Business Review* has suggested that it may be a 'watershed moment' in the development of virtual reality" ("Pokémon Go craze drawing gamers to church," *Baptist Press News*, July 15, 2016). The game "uses the mobile phone's camera to create the perception that the Pokémon characters are actually in front of the players." It is so engaging and addictive that people have crashed their automobiles and walked into dangerous situations. Two men recently fell off a cliff near San Diego while engaged in the game.

Pastor David Brown, First Baptist Church of Oak Creek, Wisconsin, who made the effort to investigate *Pokémon* and apply the test of God's Word to it in 1999, says:

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

In the official literature, the main characters of the game are described as headstrong, stubborn, quibbling, hormonal, having a fascination with and trying to "score" with the opposite sex, self-centered, vindictive, obnoxious, and prone to cross-dressing!

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

Nintendolife says there are poison types, psychic types, dark types, fairy types, dragon types, and ghost types.

There is nothing innocent about *Pokémon*. It is a clever attempt at demonic mind-control.

For more about the dangers of *Pokémon* see "The Problem with *Pokémon*" by David Brown, [The Problem With Pokemon](#)

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

Video games and wasting time

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

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

Last year, a teen told me he wanted to learn to study the Bible on his phone, but when I asked to look at his phone, I found that it was filled with games. I challenged him to get rid of them and to spend that time on Bible study and other profitable things. I told him that until he was willing to put aside wasteful things, he wouldn't make much progress in his spiritual life.

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

Young people who want to find God's will must learn to be careful about time. "Redeeming the time, because the days are evil" (Ephesians 5:16). We deal with this in the section of the course on "The Youth."

Pornography

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

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

"For the commandment *is* a lamp; and the law *is* light; and reproofs of instruction *are* the way of life: To keep thee from the evil woman, from the flattery of the tongue of a strange woman. Lust not after her beauty in thine heart; neither let her take thee with her eyelids. For by means of a whorish woman a *man is brought* to a piece of bread: and the adulteress will hunt for the precious life. Can a man take fire in his bosom, and his clothes not be burned?

Can one go upon hot coals, and his feet not be burned?" (Prov. 6:23-28).

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

Consider some frightful facts about pornography and the Internet:

- Pornography makes up nearly 40% of the total content on the Internet.
- Nearly 25% of Internet search queries are about pornography.
- Over 50% of boys and over 30% of girls first viewed pornography before age 13.
- A study in the UK in 2013 found that 50% of 18-year-olds have received nude pictures.
- Nearly 70% of boys and a majority of girls have seen homosexual acts online.
- Nearly 70% of young adult men and about 20% of young adult women view pornography at least once a week.
- About 55% of divorce cases involve one party having an obsessive interest in pornographic websites.

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

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

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

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

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

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

Sexting

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

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

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

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

Snapchat is often used for this purpose. It is used by 60% of smartphone users ages 13-34. It is used to send a photo, video, or drawing that disappears in 1-10 seconds (user determined). The messages are called "snaps" and over a billion are sent daily. "It is popular for 'teasing/sexting' as teens think the pic cannot be saved. But all one has to do is take a screenshot or even a picture of the photo with another phone."

There are also unofficial apps and web tools that override snapchat's deleting function. The FBI has warned that Snapchat is being used by pedophiles to lure young victims. Snapchat can also be used for video chatting.

Taking the wrong job

A major reason why young people backslide is that they disobey God and get a job that keeps them out of the church services and otherwise hinders their spiritual lives.

Consider the following two warnings,

"We lose about 20% of the young sometime after the seventh grade, and generally we lose them because they get jobs that make them work on Sundays. Once they get those jobs, it becomes easy for them to justify staying out of services and they generally do."

"We have noticed that many who leave get the idea that if God gives them a job that requires them to work during services, then it is O.K. to miss services. If God gives them a job that requires wearing immodest clothes then it must be O.K. to wear immodest clothes. If God gives them a job that plays rock-n-roll music on the PA then that is O.K. They think they are strong enough to take that and keep coming to church unaffected. Usually though, within six months of getting the job they are missing 50% or more of the services and within a year, they are out of the services completely. As the Singles Director, I have stressed the fact the God has His perfect job for us and Satan has his perfect job for us. However, most of the kids won't wait upon God to provide that perfect job."

If a young person lives by faith, he will not take a job that causes him to disobey God's Word. We tell our young people, "God has a job for you and the devil has a job for you. The devil wants you to make a hasty decision, but it is your responsibility to be wise and wait on God's will."

Consider two biblical principles that apply to employment:

First, the Bible says do not associate with evil or with idolatry (1 Co. 15:33; Ro. 12:2; 2 Co. 6:14-18; Eph. 5:11). Thus, it is not God's will for His people to take a job at a place that would require participation in evil (such as selling liquor or wearing immodest clothing or showing wicked movies or playing worldly music or worldly dancing), to participate in pagan religious rituals, etc.

I recall a teenager at one church who got a job working in a movie theater. He was bothered by the unwholesome films that were showing and was thinking about quitting,

but he was advised not to quit by the church's worldly youth pastor! The result was severe backsliding. I recall another young man who had a job at a restaurant-bar and was responsible to supervise worldly parties that included drinking and dancing. He did not grow spiritually until he quit that job.

Second, the Bible says do not neglect the assembly (Heb. 10:25). Thus, it is wrong to make any decision that would cause you to become unfaithful in church attendance and overall participation in church life. I recall a young man in our church that was saved out of a druggie lifestyle. He showed promise and was growing in the Lord, then his father asked him to return to his village.

In spite of our counsel against it, he went, and from that point he backslid in his Christian life and has not made much spiritual progress. This kind of thing has happened many times.

Friendships with the wrong people

"And Dinah the daughter of Leah, which she bare unto Jacob, went out to see the daughters of the land. And when Shechem the son of Hamor the Hivite, prince of the country, saw her, he took her, and lay with her, and defiled her" (Ge. 34:1-2).

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

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

This happened to a girl in our church about three years ago. A young man started calling her on her cell phone, and at first she said that she didn't want to hear from

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him. Her parents and church leaders warned her against talking with him, but she refused to listen. Eventually they ran away together out of wedlock.

A Nepali girl recently told my wife her sad story. A man started calling her and wooing her. He told her that he had passed SLC (high school equivalent), had a good job, and didn't drink. Finally she ran away with him and quickly learned that he was lying about everything. He eventually left her for another woman. With a broken heart she said to my wife, "I shamed my parents; they don't want me back; I ruined my life."

A pastor friend told me about a girl who got a SIM card from another person. An unknown male called that

number and started talking to her. She unwisely continued conversing with him on the phone. When she resisted, the guy threatened to commit suicide if she didn't marry him, and eventually she eloped with him.

Don't talk on the phone or Facebook, etc., with a young person of the opposite sex except relatives.

Creeps are using social media to trap unsuspecting victims.

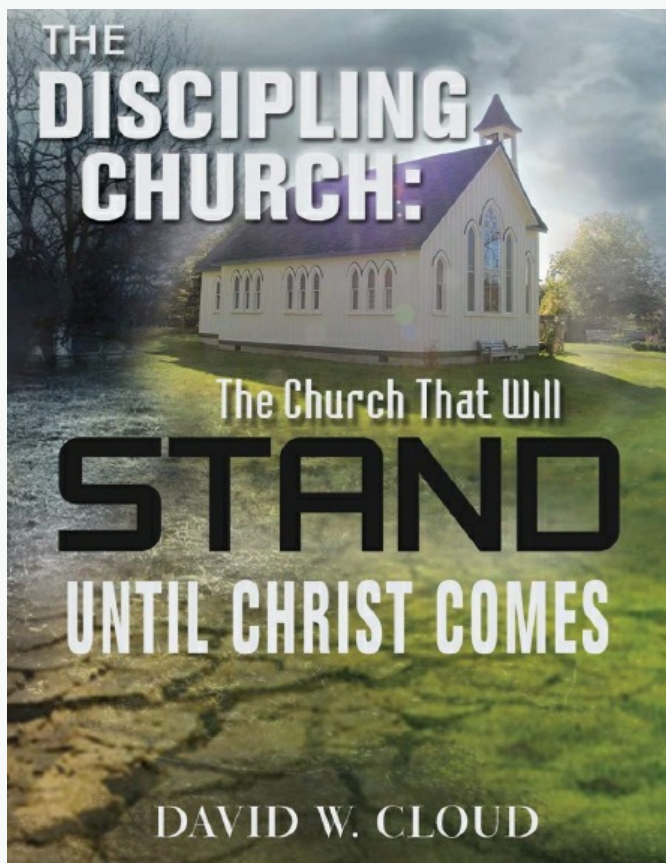
Don't make plans to meet the wrong people.

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

THE DISCIPLING CHURCH

The Church That Will Stand Until Jesus Comes

By David W. Cloud



This church planting manual aims to establish churches on a solid biblical foundation of a regenerate church membership, one mind in doctrine and practice, serious discipleship, thorough-going discipline, and a large vision for world evangelism. We examine the New Testament pattern of a discipling church, and we trace the history of Baptist churches over the past 200 years to document the apostasy away from the biblical pattern to a mixed multitude philosophy. We also document the history of "sinner's prayer" evangelism which has affected the reality of a regenerate church membership. The book deals with biblical salvation with evidence, care in receiving church members, the church's essential first love for Christ, the right kind of church leaders, the right kind of preaching, training church members to be Bible students, the many facets of church discipline, building strong families, youth ministry, training preachers, charity, reproof, educating the church for spiritual protection, maintaining standards for workers, the church's prayer life, the church's separation, spiritual revival, the church's music, and many other things. The last chapter documents some of the cultural factors that have weakened churches over the past 100 years, including the theological liberalism, public school system, materialism and working mothers, the rock & roll pop culture, pop psychology, the feminist movement, New Evangelicalism, television, and the Internet. There is also a list of recommended materials for a discipling church. 550 pages

Available From: Way of Life Literature - Online Store

https://www.wayoflife.org/publications/books/the_discipling_church.php



The following are some of the fundamental biblical truths of life that the vast majority of contributors to the most popular conservative news sites do not know and do not take into account in their thinking. This includes Breitbart, Fox News, Right Wing News, Liberty Nation, Blaze, Frontpagemag, etc.

FIRST, the world was made in six days by an almighty Creator who is eternal, omniscient, holy, just, merciful, compassionate, who is King over all and works all things after his own will according to His eternal plan.

SECOND, man was made in the image of God and His created purpose is to love God and glorify Him, and every man is accountable to Him.

THIRD, all men are sinners against God's holy laws and are under His judgment thereby.

FOURTH, the ultimate conspiracy behind the scenes is the program of the dark powers that control the present world system led by Satan, a fallen angel who rebelled against God. Those dark powers are working out a program called the mystery of iniquity, the objective of which is to put a man who is evil incarnate on the world's throne.

FIFTH, at the same time, God is working out His program of global gospel preaching to invite all men to His free salvation in Jesus Christ. This program began with the resurrection and ascension of Christ. The book of Acts is the record of the beginning of this program, and it remains God's main business in this world.

SIXTH, Christ and His apostles prophesied that false churches will multiply. This is called the *apostasy* (to turn from the faith). It will increase throughout the age until the vast majority of churches (so called) will be corrupted. This is what we see in church history and this is what we see in the world today.

SEVENTH, the present church age will end whenever God determines and the true believers in Christ will be removed to heaven. This event is called the catching away or Rapture. It is imminent, meaning it can happen any time and will be unexpected by the world.

EIGHTH, immediately thereafter, Satan's man will come on the scene. He is called the Antichrist and the Man of Sin. At first he will pretend to be a great peacemaker and global problem solver. He will make a covenant with Israel that will allow the third temple to be built. The world will cry, "Peace, peace," thinking that a new age of peace and prosperity has begun. After three and a half years, the Antichrist will show his true character and will cause all men to worship him on pain of death.

NINTH, at that time the world will experience trouble greater than it has ever experienced. God will pour out judgments on all nations for their sin. Billions will perish.

TENTH, three and a half years after the Antichrist sets himself up as God, the true Christ will return from heaven in power and glory to establish His kingdom on earth as He promised.

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?



SOME GOOD SENSE ABOUT COVID IN FLORIDA (Friday Church News Notes, October 1, 2021, www.wayoflife.org, fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143)

- The following is excerpted from "New Florida surgeon general," *The Washington Times*, Sept. 21, 2021: "Republican Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis named a UCLA doctor and health policy researcher who shares his approach to managing the coronavirus pandemic to serve as the state's surgeon general Tuesday. ... **'Florida will completely reject fear as a way of making policies in public health. So we're done with fear,'** Dr Joseph A. Ladapo said. 'That's been something that's been, unfortunately, a centerpiece of health policy in the United States ever since the beginning of the pandemic and it's over here. Expiration date. It's done.' ... DeSantis agreed there's been misinformation spread about COVID-19 to control personal behavior. ... Ladapo, who received his medical degree and a Ph.D. in health policy from Harvard University, will replace Dr. Scott Rivkees, whose contract expires at the end of the month. ... Ladapo said vaccines aren't the only way to combat COVID-19 and getting one

is a personal choice. 'Vaccines are up to the person. There's nothing special about them compared to any other preventive measure,' he said. **'The state should be promoting good health, and vaccination isn't the only path to that. It's been treated almost like a religion. It's just senseless. There's lots of good pathways to health.'** ... And Ladapo spoke out against lockdowns. **'After lockdowns, overall mortality increased. Lockdowns are bad. Lots of reasons why they're bad, that's just one really good one,'** he said."

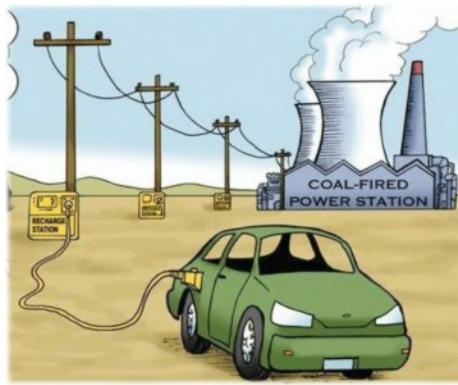
FOLLOW-UP ABOUT THE COVID VACCINES AND ABORTION (Friday Church News Notes, October 1, 2021, www.wayoflife.org, fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143)

- A reader challenged me as follows: "Re: the comment you quoted about abortion: it 'started' from aborted cells. And now that it has merged into new cells has [that] now made it ok? Please search deeper into this. My concern is not that they are continually aborting babies to produce the vaccine. I don't believe (or know if) they are still doing that. The issue is that they did do that, and just because it has now merged into new cells doesn't make it any better. It still started from a murder in the name of 'science.' It should've been opposed back then as loud as some of



us are doing so now.” REPLY FROM BROTHER CLOUD: Babies were not aborted for *the purpose of* creating vaccines and babies are not now being aborted for such a thing. The strongest voices pushing the anti-vaccine position on the basis of abortions are shrill Roman Catholics who are very confused people on a multitude of issues. There is no simple answer to some of these things. There are going to be differences of opinions. It is not a clear thus saith the Lord. I have given my current studied opinion on Covid and the vaccines for those who care to hear it. I knew that it would not sit well with many readers, but I decided that it would be best to give my opinion. These cannot be anything other than personal opinions, on my part or on your part. As for forced vaccinations, I am certainly not in support of that. Each individual who faces such a decision will have to make it before the Lord (Proverbs 3:5-6). One reader said, “This isn’t about health and never has been. It needs to be exposed for what it is.” Yes, the fundamental issue here is identified in Bible prophecy as “the mystery of iniquity.” It is not a vast human conspiracy; it is a vast Satanic conspiracy. And only the Lord can resist it. Nothing we do, beyond effectual prayer, can have any effect. I’m going to keep myself occupied with obeying Psalm 37:1-4; Colossians 3:1-4; and Matthew 28:18-20. That is what I have advocated throughout the Covid thing.

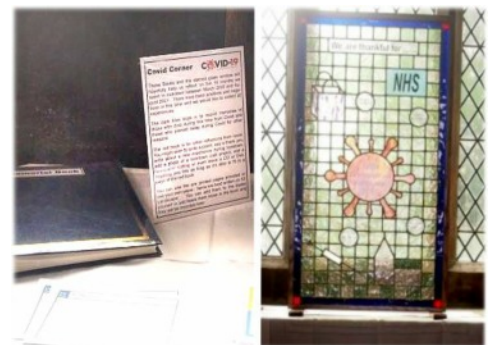
ANALYSIS OF ONE STATE SHOWS THE FOLLY OF THE CLIMATE CHANGE GOALS (Friday Church News Notes, October 1, 2021, www.wayoflife.org, fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - The following is excerpted from “Why we can’t possibly switch everyone to electric cars: “Converting



the state’s cars, trucks and buses from oil to electricity will require New York to gobble up huge portions of the world’s supply of materials like cobalt and neodymium, which will make the state’s auto fleet heavily reliant on a single supplier: China. The CCPA [Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act] requires New York to slash its greenhouse gas emissions by 85% by 2050. Transportation accounts for about one-third of that output. Slashing transportation emissions will require electrifying nearly all of New York’s 11.3 million motor vehicles. What would that mean? We can get an estimate by looking at a remarkable June 3 letter that was sent to the British government by professor Richard Herrington, the head of earth sciences at the Natural History Museum in London, and seven colleagues. Herrington and his colleagues looked at the UK’s climate goals and the requirement that all its vehicles be converted to electricity by 2050. They found doing so would require two times the total annual world cobalt production, nearly the entire world production of neodymium, three quarters the world’s lithium production and at least half of the world’s copper production during 2018. Remember, that’s just for the UK! ... Who controls those commodities? The copper market is fairly well

diversified. But China controls about half of global lithium production and about 85% of the world’s supply of cobalt, a critical ingredient in the batteries used in electric vehicles. China also mines about 70% of the world’s supply of ‘rare earths,’ including neodymium, which is an essential ingredient in electric motors. ... Even if cobalt, neodymium and the other commodities needed to produce millions of electric vehicles were widely available--and not controlled by the Chinese government--mining and smelting the vast quantities of material needed to make those automobiles will itself require enormous amounts of energy, and therefore mean more carbon dioxide emissions. Further, any significant switch from diesel fuel and gasoline will require vastly more electricity production from renewables, on top of the amount needed to replace the fossil fuels now being used to generate power for the grid.”

CHURCH CREATES COVID CORNER FOR “REFLECTION” (Friday Church News Notes, October 1, 2021, www.wayoflife.org, fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - The following is excerpted from “Cheshire Church,” *Premier Christian News*, Aug. 30, 2021: “A church in Weaverham, Cheshire, has created a ‘Covid Corner’, a space to reflect on the positive and negative experiences of the coronavirus lockdown. St Mary’s Church hopes to



encourage members of the church and the wider community to come and write down their experiences in a Memorial book. The 'Covid Corner' features a stained-glass window which reminds people to be thankful to the NHS, food banks and food deliveries, vaccines and the church and community. A book of reflections where people are invited "to add anything you wish about Covid (including photographs)" is also available."

HIGH COURT IN PAKISTAN UPHOLDS 13-YEAR-OLD GIRL'S FORCED MARRIAGE, CONVERSION

(Friday Church News Notes, October 1, 2021, www.wayoflife.org, fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - The following is excerpted from "High Court," *Morning Star News*, July 7, 2021: "The Lahore High Court has upheld a ruling in Pakistan granting custody of a 13-year Christian girl to a Muslim accused of kidnapping her, forcibly marrying her and converting her to Islam. Setting aside her parents' pleas that Nayab Gill was underage and hence could not legally marry or change her religion on her own, Justice Shahram Sarwar Chaudhry on Thursday (July 1) rejected the girl's official birth documents showing she was 13, said



her father, Shahid Gill. Her Roman Catholic father said the court instead accepted her claim, considered to be made under severe threats of harm to her and her family, that she was 19 years old and married 30-year-old Saddam Hayat, a married father of four children, after converting to Islam of her own free will in Gujranwala on May 20. 'My daughter was brought to the court in police custody on July 1; over a dozen members of Hayat's family were also accompanying them,' Gill told *Morning Star News*. ... Gill said by phone from Gujranwala that the family's lawyer was unable to argue the case professionally. 'When Nayab claimed that she was 19 years old, I nudged the advocate to demand evidence in support of her claim, but he kept quiet,' Gill told *Morning Star News*. 'He also did not demand medical tests of my child to determine her exact age.' The judge also could have sent her to a women's shelter to have some time away from the accused's influence and reconsider her decision, but the attorney did not make the request, Gill said."

PERSECUTION IN AFGHANISTAN: THE FALSE AND THE TRUE

(Friday Church News Notes, October 8, 2021, www.wayoflife.org, fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - The following is excerpted from "Christians Trapped in Afghanistan," Release International, Sept. 27, 2021: "UK-based Release International is concerned about false reporting of persecution under the Taliban, which is obscuring the real hardship faced by the Afghan Christians who remain. Such reports have presented images from Iraq of Isis atrocities, and of a protest in Colombia, claimed to have been filmed in Afghanistan.



Even a 2009 rumour of missionaries about to be executed in Iraq has been amplified and applied to Afghanistan. ... 'Understandably, there is a great deal of fear and rumour,' says Release International CEO, Paul Robinson. 'This is why we talk to partners who are working directly with the underground church. Release International partners with SAT-7 Pars, which broadcasts programmes via satellite TV into Afghanistan. SAT-7 is hearing directly from its audience about what is happening in that country.' The executive director of SAT-7 Pars, Panayiotis Keenan, told Release International: 'Since the Taliban has taken over, we are receiving many messages from Afghanistan that the persecution is getting harder. Afghan Christians are contacting us on a daily basis, describing how difficult the situation is. They are hiding and meeting in secret locations. But winter is coming and that will soon become more and more difficult.' ... Pakistan and Iran are the natural escape routes for Afghans fleeing their country. But officially, the Pakistan border is closed to refugees from Afghanistan, and both Pakistan and Iran say they have reached their limit of refugees and asylum seekers. Meanwhile, Turkey has redoubled its efforts to build a wall to keep out refugees from Iran. The UK has pledged to take 20,000 Afghan refugees, with priority given to women, children and those facing persecution."

BEES: MASTER ENGINEERS (Friday Church News Notes, October 1, 2021, www.wayoflife.org, fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - The following is from CreationMoments.com, Aug. 12, 2021: “Why did the Creator bring together so many precise specifications and high intelligence in the honeybee? To glorify Himself and because bees are crucial to the reproductive cycles of so many plants as well as the food chain. The amazing structure of the honeycomb has amazed scientists for thousands of years. As early as the third century AD, the astronomer Pappus of Alexandria offered an explanation for the six-sided or hexagonal shape of the honeycomb. He pointed out that while the triangle, square and hexagon could all be candidates for the shape of the comb, one of these shapes holds more than the others. The most efficient shape for storing the most honey while wasting the least space is the hexagon. There are many variations of the hexagon that are available to the bee. However, the honeybee is always very precise in constructing honeycomb hexagons, with an obtuse angle of $109^{\circ}23'$ and an acute angle of $70^{\circ}23'$. These angles produce the most usable space for the least amount of building material. Humans are unable to use such precision in



their designs without sophisticated equipment. Each honeybee is a tiny but powerful computer that could only have been designed and built by an intelligent Creator. Bees and what they do are of central importance to much of the rest of creation. No wonder God has given them so much: the complex structure of their society, their intelligence and industriousness! Author: Paul A. Bartz. Ref: Philip, Johnson C. 1991, ‘Bees--master engineers,’ *Bible-Science Newsletter*, v. 29:3, Mar. p. 1.”

HOMESCHOOLING IS SURGING ACROSS AMERICA

(Friday Church News Notes, October 8, 2021, www.wayoflife.org, fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - The following is excerpted from “Homeschooling,” *The Federalist*, Aug. 19, 2021: “The last year and a half hasn’t been easy on American school children. Between COVID-19 restrictions and fierce battles over curriculum, schools have become embroiled in political conflict as the future of education has been thrust into uncertainty. It should come as no surprise that homeschooling has dramatically spiked since the onset of COVID-19 and the lockdowns that followed. Census data

reveals that by the fall of the 2020-2021 school year, 11.1 percent of households with school-aged children reported homeschooling, double the amount of the previous year. Then, by May 2021, the percentage was 19.5. ... Maria Murray is the founder and academic director of a homeschooling



community in Northern Virginia. ... When asked some of the main concerns she’s hearing from parents, she responded, ‘The concerns I hear from inquiring families are things like requiring masks all day, the redefining of morality, and mostly wanting to be a part of a homeschooling community that primarily focuses on what education used to mean, which is reading, writing, arithmetic, a homeschooling environment where families can work together to focus on the basics.’ ... A press release from the Texas Homeschool Coalition reports that ‘interest in homeschooling is already outpacing the all-time records set by the enormous homeschool increase from 2020,’ before going on to note that ‘during

the 2020 surge, THSC's weekly call and email volume exploded from families interested in homeschooling' and reached an all-time high, but then the organization's call volume last week surpassed 'the weekly record set in 2020 by nearly a factor of five.' The president of the Texas Home School Coalition, Tim Lambert, said, 'We are literally inundated with calls and emails from thousands upon thousands of families asking how they can begin homeschooling this fall.'"

PERSECUTION IN INDIA (Friday Church News Notes, October 8, 2021, www.wayoflife.org, fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - There are regular reports of persecution of Christians by Hindus in India. The police often turn a blind eye. Following are the headlines of reports from the last several months by *Morning Star News*: Hindu extremists beat pastors at police station in Central India (Sept. 30); Christian boy, 14, clinging to life after burn attack in eastern India (Sept. 13); Pastor in India driven from home after police torture, threats (July 22); Pastor in northern India killed for his faith, sources say (July 6); Christian families driven into jungles of Odisha State (June 25); Pastor seriously wounded, father killed in northern India (June 4); Police rescue--then jail--Christian family attacked in India (May 4); Christians seriously injured in mob assault on house church (March 24)' Police in India allow Hindu extremist

attack on churches, then arrest Christians (March 3); Pregnant Christian woman loses baby after Hindu extremist attack (February 5). The summary of the last news story is as follows: "Leela Bai, eight months pregnant, rushed outside a house she was visiting in central India after hearing the commotion of a Hindu extremist mob attacking tribal Christians preparing to celebrate the New Year. The mob pushed her down and kicked her stomach until she fell unconscious, and later that evening she miscarried on the way to a hospital--which declined to give her any care, she said. Scores of tribal Christians planning to celebrate New Year's Eve with a thanksgiving service instead spent the night in the mountains where they had fled to save their lives. 'My baby died in my womb after they pushed me down and kicked my stomach,' the 25-year-old Bai said as she wept. ... later that evening she miscarried on the way to a hospital--which declined to give her any care, she said. Scores of tribal Christians planning to celebrate New Year's Eve with a thanksgiving service instead spent the night in the mountains where they had fled to save their lives" ("Pregnant Christian Woman Loses Baby," *Morning Star News*, Feb. 5, 2021).

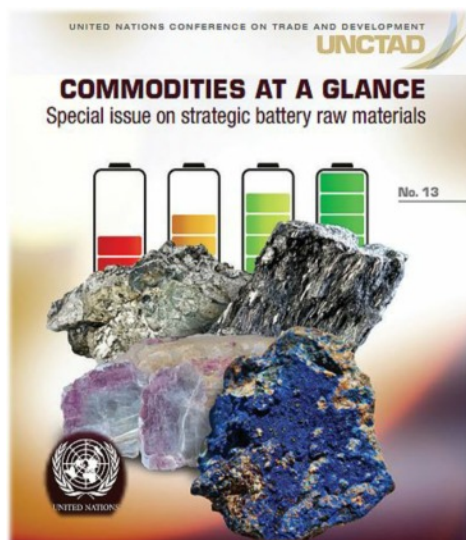
ISRAELI STUDY CONCLUDES THAT NATURAL IMMUNITY IS 13X STRONGER THAN VACCINES (Friday Church News Notes, October 8, 2021, www.wayoflife.org, fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - The following is excerpted from "Israeli Study," *The Federalist*, Aug. 27, 2021: "A new pre-print Israeli study has found that people with natural immunity to COVID-19



could be 13 times less likely to contract the respiratory virus than those who were solely vaccinated against the disease. [See 'Comparing SARS-CoV-2 natural immunity,' medrxiv.org.] Conducted by researchers at Maccabi Healthcare and Tel Aviv University, the yet-to-be peer-reviewed study found that when comparing individuals previously infected with the virus and those that received two jabs of the Pfizer-BioNTech shot, those with natural infection saw greater protection against the delta variant and breakthrough infection. ... The study ultimately concluded that 'natural immunity confers longer lasting and stronger protection against infection, symptomatic disease and hospitalization caused by the Delta variant of SARS-CoV-2, compared to the BNT162b2 two-dose vaccine-induced immunity' and that 'individuals who were both previously infected with SARS-CoV-2 and given a single dose of the vaccine gained additional protection against the Delta variant.'"

OVERALL, ELECTRIC CARS PRODUCE MORE CARBON DIOXIDE THAN GASOLINE-POWERED ONES (Friday Church News Notes, October 8, 2021, www.wayoflife.org, fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - The following is excerpted from "The Dirty Secrets of 'Clean' Electric Vehicles," *Forbes*, Aug. 2, 2020: [T]he supposed advantages of EVs in





emitting lower carbon emissions are overstated according to a peer-reviewed life-cycle study comparing conventional and electric vehicles (“Comparative Environment Life Cycle Assessment of Conventional and Electric Vehicles,” *Journal of Industrial Ecology*). To begin with, about half the lifetime carbon-dioxide emissions from an electric car come from the energy used to produce the car, especially in the mining and processing of raw materials needed for the battery. This compares unfavorably with the manufacture of a gasoline-powered car which accounts for 17% of the car’s lifetime carbon-dioxide emissions. When a new EV appears in the show-room, it has already caused 30,000 pounds of carbon-dioxide emission. The equivalent amount for manufacturing a conventional car is 14,000 pounds. Once on the road, the carbon dioxide emissions of EVs depends on the power-generation fuel used to recharge its battery. If it comes mostly from coal-fired power plants, it will lead to about 15 ounces of carbon-dioxide for every mile it is driven--three ounces more than a similar gasoline-powered car. Even without reference to the source of electricity used for battery charging, if an EV is driven 50,000 miles over

its lifetime, the huge initial emissions from its manufacture means the EV will actually have put more carbon-dioxide in the atmosphere than a similar-size gasoline-powered car driven the same number of miles. Even if the EV is driven for 90,000 miles and the battery is charged by cleaner natural-gas fueled power stations, it will cause just 24% less carbon-dioxide emission than a gasoline-powered car. As the skeptical environmentalist Bjorn Lomborg puts it, ‘This is a far cry from *zero emissions*.’”

LOVERS OF PLEASURES CHURCHES (Friday Church News Notes, October 8, 2021, www.wayoflife.org, fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - Paul’s prophecy of the last days in 2 Timothy 3 describes apostates as “**lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God**” (2 Ti. 3:4). This is a perfect description of last days society, which is pleasure mad. There has never been more economic prosperity and there have never been more avenues for pleasure. Even most professing Christians love pleasures more than God. Consider the test of time. How much of one’s time is spent on God compared with how much is spent on pleasures? Consider the test of money, energy, and enthusiasm. A great many Christians, even in the staunchest Bible-believing churches, are as sports mad as the secular crowd. Christian youth are as much in love with video games and rock & roll and hip hop and mature-rated movies and Facebook self-expression as the secular crowd. Consider the typical church’s calendar, which is filled to the brim with entertainment, not only for children and teens, but also for the “senior citizens.” Over the pleasure program is a thin veneer of God.



Think of the average evangelical or even “fundamentalist” Christian home. There is a *little* prayer, a *little* Bible, a *little* evangelism, a *little* ministry, perhaps, but there is a *whole lot* of pleasure. This is accepted as normal Christianity, but it is actually apostasy.

REPORT FINDS THAT 3,000 PEDOPHILES HAVE WORKED IN THE FRENCH CATHOLIC CHURCH (Friday Church News Notes, October 15, 2021, www.wayoflife.org, fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - The following is excerpted from “Up to 3,200 Pedophiles,” CNN, Oct. 3, 2021: “Between 2,900 and 3,200 pedophile clergymen have worked in the French Catholic Church since the 1950s, the president of an independent commission on sexual abuse told CNN Sunday. ... The report aims to establish the facts and provide an understanding of what happened in order to prevent ‘such tragedies’ from taking place in the future. But the report does not aim to establish ‘personal responsibility,’ according to the commission’s website. The



commission--made up of 21 people--was set up in 2018 by the French Catholic Church hierarchy and religious institutes after abuse scandals came to light. ... The archives of dioceses and religious institutions were accessible to the commission. Sauvé said creating the commission was an important stepping stone towards addressing 'this secret and hideous side of our society' and that an 'enormous amount of work' had gone into building the report over the last 32 months. ... Olivier Savignac, who runs a victims group called Parler and Revivre, said the release of the report would be like 'a cyclone, a tsunami, a hurricane. ... There has always been collusion between the church in France and the Vatican to protect perpetrators of abuse. The church has been too moderate in following the word of God and taking care of the smallest and the weakest.'"

CANADA TRIBUNAL RULES THAT USING "WRONG" PRONOUNS VIOLATES HUMAN RIGHTS (Friday Church News Notes, October 15, 2021, www.wayoflife.org, fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143)

- The following is excerpted from "Canadian Tribunal," *Christian Post*, Oct. 5, 2021: "A Canadian human rights tribunal has ruled that a restaurant wrongfully fired an employee who demanded that the business use nonbinary pronouns,

awarding the ex-employee \$30,000. The British Columbia Human Rights Tribunal released a ruling last week in favor of Jessie Nelson, a former employee of Buono Osteria who prefers the pronouns of they/them. At issue was the restaurant using female pronouns for Nelson, with the business firing her and claiming that she had become too 'militant' in the demand to be identified as nonbinary. Tribunal Member Devyn Cousineau authored the opinion, concluding that the refusal to use Nelson's preferred pronouns 'amounted to discrimination.' ... Tanner Hnidey, a Christian writer from Alberta, penned a column on his website denouncing the ruling as a rejection of objective truth and a disturbing restriction on free speech. 'Now it's one thing for a person to think they are a different gender than they actually are. It's one thing for a man to believe he's plural when he's singular in reality,' wrote Hnidey. 'It's quite another thing to force us to believe what another believes; coercing us to say what others want us to say. And that's precisely what the BC Human Rights Tribunal ruled.'"

BREAKDOWN OF COVID DEATHS IN THE U.S. BY AGE (Friday Church News Notes, October 15, 2021, www.wayoflife.org, fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143)

- According to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control (CDC), very few people under age 19 have died of Covid. Of the total deaths attributed to Covid (700,951), 181 were age 0-4 and 406 were 5-18, for a total of 587 deaths in the 0-18 age category (or .08% of the total) ("Provisional Covid-19 Deaths," data.cdc.gov, Oct. 6, 2021). CDC does not list comorbidities for children, so it is impossible to know whether they died of Covid alone or of cancer,



heart or kidney disease, etc., exacerbated by Covid, but of the pediatric deaths by influenza in the 2019-2020 season, 43% had a pre-existing medical condition ("2019-20 Season's Pediatric Flu Deaths," CDC, Aug. 21, 2020). More than half of the deaths attributed to Covid by the CDC were of the elderly 75 and over (378,496 or 54%). The U.S. life expectancy is about 78 years old.

CHINA RATTLING SABER AT TAIWAN (Friday Church News Notes, October 15, 2021, www.wayoflife.org, fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143)

- The following is excerpted from "Could Taiwan defend itself against Chinese invasion?" *London Times*, Oct. 8, 2021: "The incursion of 150 Chinese fighter aircraft and bombers inside Taiwan's air defence identification zone over four days this week was a test of Beijing's war plan for invading the island, one of America's authorities on Chinese and Taiwanese security said. 'This wasn't about China retaliating for something the West had done, such as the exercise involving American and British aircraft carriers off the Philippines. It's more likely to have been a dry run for testing their ability to execute their war plans,' said Ian Easton. The first physical sign of an invasion would be the lights going out. A cyberattack, hitting every power station to cripple Taiwan's ability to defend itself, would lead the way to a full-scale Chinese air,





airborne, amphibious and ballistic missile assault that would include 'decapitation' missions to neutralise leadership figures. 'The [People's Liberation Army's] doctrine calls for emphasising operations in the speed domains--space, cyberspace, the air and the electromagnetic--and quick victory,' Andrew Krepinevich, an American defence policy analyst and former Pentagon official, said. 'If the PLA acts according to its doctrine, we would likely see a massive cyberattack supported by large-scale jamming and other forms of electronic warfare on the island to disable its critical infrastructure and military command links.'" "And ye shall hear of wars and rumours of wars" (Matthew 24:5).

NORTH CAROLINA LT. GOVERNOR CALLS HOMOSEXUALITY "FILTH"

(Friday Church News Notes, October 15, 2021, www.wayoflife.org, fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - In a sermon in June at Asbury Baptist Church, Seagrove, NC, Mark Robinson, North Carolina Lt. Governor, condemned the immoral social engineering and Marxism that



is permeating America's public schools. He said, "They don't want you to have a choice where they go to school. Then when they get there, what do they teach them? They teach them a bunch of stuff about how to hate America. They teach them that they are racists. They teach them a bunch of stuff about transgenderism and homosexuality. I say this now, and I've been saying it, and I don't care who likes it. Those issues have no place in a school. There's no reason why anybody anywhere in America should be telling any child about transgenderism, homosexuality, any of that filth. ... Black lives do not matter to Black Lives Matter. You know how I know that? Because if they did, you know where they would be instead of being at the police station? They would be down there at the gang hangout, at the drug dealer's house burning that down. They'd be down at the abortion clinic burning that down if Black lives really mattered." Not surprisingly, there have been loud protests against Robinson's statements and calls for his resignation. Robinson was elected to office in November 2020 and is the first black Republican elected to a major office in that state since the late 1800s when the Democrats robbed black people of the right to vote by crookedness and KKK violence and installed Jim Crow laws.

FRANKS STOP THE MUSLIM ADVANCE INTO EUROPE

(Friday Church News Notes, October 15, 2021, www.wayoflife.org, fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - This week, in AD 732, Charles Martel, ruler of the Franks, stopped the Muslim advance in western Europe. Francia consisted of subkingdoms over which Martel had gained nominal control. The historian



Isidore said he was "a mighty warrior from his youth and trained in all the occasions of arms." In 732, Muslim armies occupying Spain entered Francia under the leadership of Caliph Abdul Rahman, who "promised to stable their horses in St. Peter's at Rome" (Trifkovic, *The Sword of the Prophet*, p. 96). As they made their way north, the Muslims "burned churches and slaughtered the population" (Susan Bauer, *The History of the Medieval World*). Martel joined forces with Odo of Aquitaine and with 30,000 men they defeated an invading army of 80,000 or more Muslims at the Battle of Tours. The Muslims underestimated their enemy. Sixteen years earlier, Musa, the first caliph, said the Franks are "brave and impetuous in the attack, but cowardly and craven in the event of defeat; never has a company from my army been beaten" (Raymond Ibrahim, "The Battle of Tours," *National Review*, Oct. 12, 2013). But when the Muslims assaulted in "wild headlong charges," the Franks did not panic but held their phalanx position. "[S]taying as motionless as a wall, they were like a belt of ice frozen together, and not to be dissolved, as they slew the Arab with the sword." The Franks used their shields and heavy armor to form a wall of protection. This discipline in battle is why the Roman legions had

been successful on the same terrain centuries earlier. After Caliph Rahman was killed, his army retreated back over the Pyrenees mountains, destroying and looting as they went. This was a major turning point in history, halting the advance of Islam into western Europe. Fourteen years earlier, the Muslims had been defeated in their attempt to destroy Constantinople, thus being stopped from conquering Europe from the east. It was the Battle of Tours that earned Charles his nickname *Martel* or *Hammer*. In 736, Charles defeated a large Muslim invasion force that came by sea and landed in Narbonne. This was probably the first time that heavy armored cavalry with stirrups were used in Europe. It was the dawn of the age of the knights.

CHRIST SINGING IN THE KINGDOM (Friday Church News Notes, October 15, 2021, www.wayoflife.org, fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - The Lord Jesus Christ will sing in the congregation in the kingdom. "For both he that sanctifieth and they who are sanctified are all of one: for which cause he is not ashamed to call them brethren, Saying, I will declare thy name unto my brethren, in the midst of the church will I sing praise unto thee" (Heb. 2:12). This is quoted from Psalm 22:22, a prominent Messianic prophecy. Verse 22 was fulfilled in Christ's incarnation when He sang with His little flock. "And when they had sung an hymn, they went out into the mount of Olives" (Mt. 26:30), and it will be fulfilled in the kingdom when Christ reigns from Mt. Zion. Christ is the Creator of the human voice. He is the Creator of singing. God made man a musical creature. How wonderful it will be to hear the Singer of singers sing

glorious heavenly melodies and harmonies! This world's best singers only provide a bare glimpse into glory.

PRAY FOR THE NATION! PRAY FOR CHURCHES TO WAKE UP! PRAY FOR PREACHERS TO WAKE UP! "And that, knowing the time, that now *it is high time to awake out of sleep: for now is our salvation nearer than when we believed. The night is far spent, the day is at hand: let us therefore cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armour of light*" (Romans 13:11-12).

AMISH IGNORED GOVERNMENT COVID MEASURES (Friday Church News Notes, October 22, 2021, www.wayoflife.org, fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - The following is excerpted from "Amish Covid," *Full Measure*, Oct. 10, 2021: "Lancaster County, Pennsylvania: thousands of Amish families lead lives largely separate from modern America. ... [T]here was a whole different approach here in this community when coronavirus broke out than many other places. ... After a short shutdown last year, the Amish chose a unique path that led to Covid-19 tearing through at warp speed. ... Calvin Lapp, Amish Mennonite, says they weren't denying coronavirus, they were facing it head on. **'Working is more**



important than dying. ... to shut down and say that we can't go to church, we can't get together with family, we can't see our old people in the hospital, we got to quit working? It's going completely against everything that we believe.' ... Steve Nolt, Mennonite scholar, says, 'For the most part, yeah, by the middle of May, it's sort of like back to a typical behavior again. I know of some cases in which Amish people refused to go to the hospital, even when they were very sick because if they went there, they wouldn't be able to have visitors. And it was more important to be sick, even very sick at home and have the ability to have some people around you than to go to the hospital and be isolated.' Last March, the Lancaster County Amish were reported to be the first community to achieve 'herd immunity,' meaning a large part of a population had been infected with Covid-19 and became immune. ... **One thing's clear: there's no evidence of any more deaths among the Amish than in places that shut down tight— some claim there were fewer here.** That's without masking, staying at home, or another important measure. ... Nolt says, 'I think it's pretty clear that in percentage terms, relatively few [got the vaccine]. ... [As for the economy side] we made more money in the last year than we ever did. It was our best year ever.'"

KEN HAM DEBUNKS CLAIM OF NOAH'S ARK DISCOVERY (Friday Church News Notes, October 22, 2021, www.wayoflife.org, fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - The following is excerpted from "Boat-like Formation ... Discovered?" Answers in Genesis, Oct. 7, 2021: "You may have seen exciting headlines like this one: '3D



would still reject the evidence...' So, has Noah's ark been found? We would say *no*. ...[A]s Dr. Snelling said, skeptics 'would just explain away the evidence, as they do the mountains of evidence for a global flood. The unbelieving heart doesn't want to

very direct warning to women, 'do not talk with promiscuous men.' This short advice has saved me so much trouble/disappointment. This advice is so powerful because women are easily influenced and manipulated by sweet talk. There's safety in separating and limiting conversation/interactions with random men. Have a wonderful day and I hope for you ministry to continue."

scans show boat-like formation matching biblical description of Noah's Ark, archaeologists say.' According to reports, researchers using ground-penetrating radar have discovered a boat-shaped formation matching the dimensions of the biblical ark, including 'parallel lines and right angles,' on Mount Tendürek in Eastern Turkey. ... Well, this isn't a new find--this is the Durupinar site we've written about many times before ... It was first postulated as an Ark site back in 1959 and has been disputed (and refuted) ever since, including by Christians and creationists who believe God's Word ... Geologist, and director of our research department, Dr. Andrew Snelling, explains: 'We do not expect the Ark to have survived and been available to find after 4,350 years. With no mature trees available for Noah and his family to build shelters after they got off the Ark, there is every reason to expect they dismantled the Ark (which they didn't need anymore) to salvage timber from it. Besides, this claimed Ark site is in a valley and not on a mountain as described by the Genesis account. ... We don't need to find the Ark to accept it as a historical reality. We already have the infallible testimony of the ever-present, all-knowing Creator in His Word. And even if the Ark were found, scoffers

believe, 'though one rose from the dead' (Lu. 16:31)."

FEEDBACK ON SPIRITUAL SAFETY IN THE FACEBOOK AGE (Friday Church News Notes, October 22, 2021, www.wayoflife.org, fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - "Thank you, brother Cloud, for this amazing e-book 'Spiritual Safety in the Facebook Age' that I purchased this summer but only got around to explore it now. It's so practical and the No.1 e-book for all believers that spend time online; it's not only for youngsters, adults would benefit just as much, if not even more, from this book, because many adults are also extremely addicted to twitter/instagram. Having

experienced twitter for almost a year, I'm more than ready to eliminate it completely. It has only brought negative influence that corrupted my behavior. Twitter has the vilest speech possible online with people harassing others. A perfect platform for people in anon mode to verbally assault others, but it also contains extreme filth in terms of sexual photos and gore. Too many times I was caught by surprise when people posted disturbing images and clips without warning about its content. It was traumatic to see those. Another thing that I'm thankful for is your

DC COMICS RECREATES SUPERMAN AS BISEXUAL (Friday Church News Notes, October 22, 2021, www.wayoflife.org, fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - The new leftist, hip, politically-correct iteration of Superman is Jonathan Kent, a bisexual who combats "the climate change crisis and protests against the deportation of refugees." Jonathan is the son of Clark Kent and Lois Lane of the original Superman series. This is a further progression in the promotion of homosexuality by the major comic publishers. Earlier this year, it was announced that the new Robin of Batman and Captain America will have boyfriends. Tom Taylor, series writer for DC Comics, told the *New York Times*, "Superman's symbol has always stood for hope, for truth and for justice. Today, that symbol represents something more. Today, more people can see themselves in the most powerful superhero in comics." In reality, there is no truth or hope in DC Comics. It is pure



mythology akin to Greek gods and goddesses. The comic genre, as well as science fiction, present a fantasy world without God, without divine purpose, without the fall and redemption, without heaven and hell, without Jesus Christ who is “the way, the truth, and the life.” It is a world that is attractive to man’s fallen nature, but it is a mere daydream that will come crashing down in the presence of Almighty God.

ELECTRIC BUS FIASCO (Friday Church News Notes, October 22, 2021, www.wayoflife.org, fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143)

- The following is excerpted from “Magic Bus,” *PowerLine*, July 17, 2021: “Possibly the dumbest thing any country could do from an energy standpoint is to promote widespread use of electric vehicles, while simultaneously mandating reliance on wind and solar energy, which work less than half the time. Moreover, governments’ politically-motivated reliance on electric



vehicles like buses has been a disaster. This is a typical ‘green’ fiasco: ‘More than two dozen electric Proterra buses first unveiled by the city of Philadelphia in 2016 are already out of operation, according to a WHYY investigation. The entire fleet of Proterra buses was removed from the roads by SEPTA, the city’s transit authority, in February 2020 due to both structural and logistical problems--the weight of the powerful battery was cracking the vehicles’ chassis, and the battery life was insufficient for the city’s bus routes. ... The city paid \$24 million for the 25 new Proterra buses, subsidized in part by a \$2.6 million federal grant.’ There is no sane reason for any

government to buy, let alone subsidize, these vehicles. It is crony corruption, pure and simple. ‘Proterra, which had Energy Secretary Jennifer Granholm on its board of directors when Philadelphia pulled the buses off the streets last year.’ ... It would help, I suppose, if they actually worked. But practicality is optional if you are ‘green.’ Enormous amounts of money are being made at the expense of taxpayers and ratepayers. ... Battery capacity is a huge issue with electric vehicles: ‘Philadelphia placed the Proterra buses in areas where it thought they could succeed but quickly learned it was mistaken. Two pilot routes selected in South Philadelphia that were relatively short and flat compared with others in the city were too much for the electric buses. Even those routes needed buses to pull around 100 miles each day, while the Proterras were averaging just 30 to 50 miles per charge,’ WHYY reporter Ryan Briggs wrote.”

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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)
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