

# O Timothy

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

A Monthly Newsletter for Spiritual Protection and Edification

Volume 38 - Issue 12 - December 2021



*"God's people are to trust in their God and do good and wait for Him, for He is the King who ruleth over all. Those who cannot do this should not profess to have faith in Christ and should admit that they don't really obey the Bible. To do good in this present age is to focus on Christ's Great Commission until He comes for His bride. This is the business that Christ taught repeated, and emphasized..."* **Page 3.**

**Digging in the Walls:** A month's worth of news items, republished from Friday Church News Notes. **Page 10.**



## TEN FUNDAMENTAL THINGS MOST RIGHT WING CONSERVATIVES DO NOT KNOW ~ By David Cloud

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.

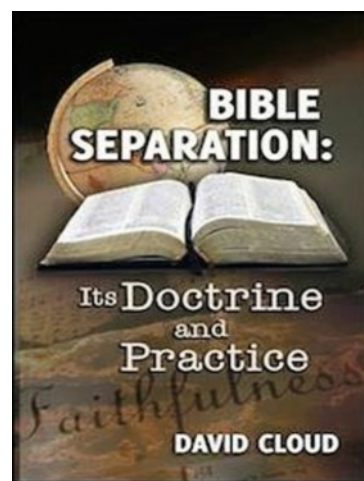
**NINTH**, at that time the world will experience trouble greater than it has ever experienced. God will pour out judgments on all nations for their sin. Billions will perish.

**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.

## Bible Separation:

### Its Doctrine and Practice

By David W. Cloud



An extensive, practical study on Bible separation, both ecclesiastical (separation from doctrinal error, apostasy, and spiritual compromise) and moral (separation from the world).

Separation is not the gospel and it is not the Great Commission: it is a wall of spiritual protection; but without it we eventually give up the gospel and turn aside from the Great Commission. Separation is based on and is a reflection of God's holy character. Forty years ago, separation was one of the fundamental things that distinguished Independent Baptists from denominational Baptists, but today the average Independent Baptist church is giving up on separation.

This book deals with the necessity of issuing plain warnings, separation and the Internet, dangers in Christian bookstores and on Christian radio, the corrupting power of error and the danger of dabbling with it, true Christian unity, Romans 14, and "secondary separation."

Available from Way of Life online Store:

[www.wayoflife.org/publications/books/bible\\_separation.php](http://www.wayoflife.org/publications/books/bible_separation.php)

#### O TIMOTHY Magazine Volume 38 Issue 12

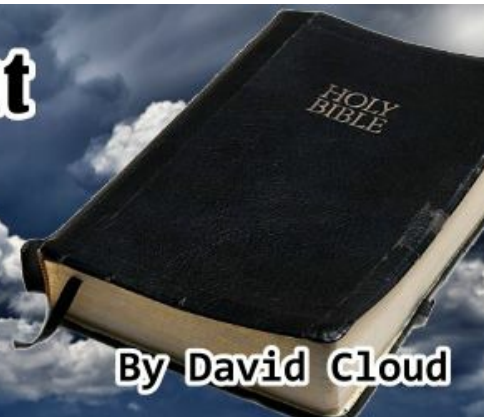
David W. Cloud, Editor  
Subscription information on  
back page of the magazine

Copyright 2011 by D.W.Cloud  
Way of Life Literature  
PO Box 610368, Port Huron, MI  
48061

866-295-4143 (toll free)  
[fbns@wayoflife.org](mailto:fbns@wayoflife.org)  
<http://www.wayoflife.org>

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

# What the BIBLE says about WICKEDNESS in HIGH PLACES



By David Cloud

**T**he former name of this report was “What the Bible Says about the Wicked?”

The following is why dirty politics and conspiracies and corrupt schemes in high places can never long prevail and why the righteous should not fret at the prosperity of the wicked. God’s people are to trust in their God and do good and wait for Him, for He is the King who ruleth over all. Those who cannot do this should not profess to have faith in Christ and should admit that they don’t really obey the Bible.

To do good in this present age is to focus on Christ’s Great Commission until He comes for His bride. This is the business that Christ taught, repeated, and emphasized after the resurrection (Mt. 28:18-20; Mr. 16:15; Lu. 24:44-48; Joh. 20:21; Ac. 1:8).

“be sure your sin will find you out” (Numbers 32:23).

“To me *belongeth* vengeance, and recompence; their foot shall slide in *due* time: for the day of their calamity *is* at hand, and the things that shall come upon them make haste” (Deuteronomy 32:35).

“So they hanged Haman on the gallows that he had prepared for Mordecai” (Esther 7:10).

“Even as I have seen, they that plow iniquity, and sow wickedness, reap the same” (Job 4:8).

“The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the LORD, and against his anointed, *saying*, Let us break their bands asunder, and cast away their cords from us. He that sitteth in the heavens shall laugh: the Lord shall have them in derision. Then shall he speak unto them in his wrath, and vex them in his sore displeasure” (Psalm 2:2-5).

“Behold, he travaileth with iniquity, and hath conceived mischief, and brought forth falsehood. He made a pit, and digged it, and is fallen into the ditch *which* he made. His mischief shall return upon his own head, and his violent dealing shall come down upon his own pate” (Psalm 7:14-16).

“The heathen are sunk down in the pit that they made: in the net which they hid is their own foot taken” (Psalm 9:15).

“Many sorrows *shall be* to the wicked: but he that trusteth in the LORD, mercy shall compass him about” (Psalm 32:10).

“Evil shall slay the wicked: and they that hate the righteous shall be desolate” (Psalm. 34:21).

“Fret not thyself because of evildoers, neither be thou envious against the workers of iniquity. For they shall soon be cut down like the grass, and wither as the green herb” (Psalm 37:1-2).

“For evildoers shall be cut off: but those that wait upon the LORD, they shall inherit the earth. For yet a little while, and the wicked *shall not be*: yea, thou shalt diligently consider his place, and it *shall not be*. But the meek shall inherit the earth; and shall delight themselves in the abundance of peace. The wicked plotteth against the just, and gnasheth upon him with his teeth. The Lord shall laugh at him: for he seeth that his day is coming. The wicked have drawn out the sword, and have bent their bow, to cast down the poor and needy, *and* to slay such as be of upright conversation. Their sword shall enter into their own heart, and their bows shall be broken” (Psalm 37:9-15).



“For the LORD loveth judgment, and forsaketh not his saints; they are preserved forever: but the seed of the wicked shall be cut off” (Psalm 37:28).

“Wait on the LORD, and keep his way, and he shall exalt thee to inherit the land: when the wicked are cut off, thou shalt see it. I have seen the wicked in great power, and spreading himself like a green bay tree. Yet he passed away, and, lo, he *was* not: yea, I sought him, but he could not be found” (Psalm 37:34-36).

“Thy tongue deviseth mischiefs; like a sharp razor, working deceitfully. Thou lovest evil more than good; *and* lying rather than to speak righteousness. Selah. Thou lovest all devouring words, O *thou* deceitful tongue. God shall likewise destroy thee for ever, he shall take thee away, and pluck thee out of *thy* dwelling place, and root thee out of the land of the living. Selah. The righteous also shall see, and fear, and shall laugh at him: Lo, *this is* the man *that* made not God his strength; but trusted in the abundance of his riches, *and* strengthened himself in his wickedness” (Psalm 52:2-7).

“They search out iniquities; they accomplish a diligent search: both the inward *thought* of every one of *them*, and the heart, *is* deep. But God shall shoot at them *with* an arrow; suddenly shall they be wounded. So they shall make their own tongue to fall upon themselves: all that see them shall flee away. And all men shall fear, and shall declare the work of God; for they shall wisely consider of his doing. The righteous shall be glad in the LORD, and shall trust in him; and all the upright in heart shall glory” (Psalm 64:6-10).

“When the wicked spring as the grass, and when all the workers of iniquity do flourish; *it is* that they shall be destroyed for ever: But thou, LORD, *art* *most* high for evermore. For, lo, thine enemies, O LORD, for, lo, thine enemies shall perish; all the workers of iniquity shall be scattered” (Psalm 92:7-9).

“Shall the throne of iniquity have fellowship with thee, which frameth mischief by a law? They gather themselves together against the soul of the righteous, and condemn the innocent blood. But the LORD is my defence; and my God *is* the rock of my

refuge. And he shall bring upon them their own iniquity, and shall cut them off in their own wickedness; *yea*, the LORD our God shall cut them off” (Psalm 94:20-23).

“The desire of the wicked shall perish” (Psalm 112:10).

“evil shall hunt the violent man to overthrow him” (Psalm 140:11).

“For their feet run to evil, and make haste to shed blood. Surely in vain the net is spread in the sight of any bird. And they lay wait for their *own* blood; they lurk privily for their *own* lives” (Proverbs 1:16-18).

“Therefore shall they eat of the fruit of their own way, and be filled with their own devices” (Proverbs 1:31).

“Evil pursueth sinners” (Proverbs 13:21).

“Pride *goeth* before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall” (Proverbs 16:18).

“Whoso diggeth a pit shall fall therein: and he that rolleth a stone, it will return upon him” (Proverbs 26:27).

“Whoso causeth the righteous to go astray in an evil way, he shall fall himself into his own pit” (Proverbs 28:10).

“Woe unto the wicked! *it shall be* ill *with him*: for the reward of his hands shall be given him” (Isaiah 3:11).

“Say unto them, *As* I live, saith the Lord GOD, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked; but that the wicked turn from his way and live: turn ye, turn ye from your evil ways; for why will ye die, O house of Israel?” (Ezekiel 33:11).

“For they have sown the wind, and they shall reap the whirlwind” (Hosea 8:7).

“the LORD will take vengeance on his adversaries, and he reserveth *wrath* for his enemies” (Naham 1:2).

“Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap” (Galatians 6:7).

“Vengeance *belongeth* unto me, I will recompense, saith the Lord” (Hebrews 10:30).

“And the world *passeth* away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever” (1 John 2:17).

The verb “*passeth*” is present indicative. The present tense is a continuous tense, and the indicative mood “asserts something which is occurring while the speaker is making the statement.” So the world is passing at this time.

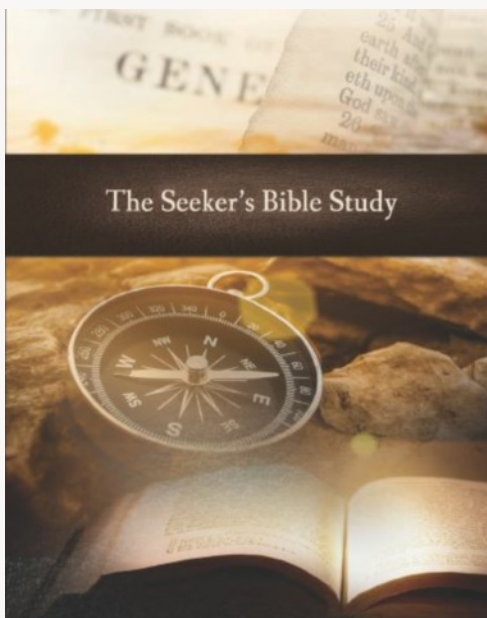
This present world system seems to be permanent, but it is even now in the process of passing away. That’s what God says. But he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever.

God holds the reins. He is using this present world system for His eternal purpose, and it will be finished exactly when God decides, to be replaced by Christ’s kingdom. The prophet Daniel described the end of this present world system. In the dream given to Nebuchadnezzar, it was depicted as a great image of a man representing the ruling empires of Babylon, Persia, Greece, and Rome (Da. 2:31-35).

Daniel’s interpretation explains that Rome continues in various forms until the return of Christ, at which time the world system will be crushed and replaced with Christ’s righteous kingdom. “Thou sawest till that a stone was cut out without hands, which smote the image upon his feet *that were* of iron and clay, and brake them to pieces. Then was the iron, the clay, the brass, the silver, and the gold, broken to pieces together, and became like the chaff of the summer threshingfloors; and the wind carried them away, that no place was found for them: and the stone that smote the image became a great mountain, and filled the whole earth” (Da. 2:34-35).

Bible commentator Robert Lenski says, “The world is now in the act of passing away. It is its very nature not to last. Its doom is overtaking it. Its glory is fading, its flowers are withering, its promises are failing, its hopes are crumbling. Isa. 14:11. ... Does the siren voice of the world tickle your ears? Hear the word of truth: ‘The world is passing away!’ The bank is breaking, it was never solvent--will you deposit in it? The foundation is tottering, it was never solid but only sham--will you build on it? The mountain is rumbling, quaking, it was never anything but volcanic, ready to blow off its head at any time--will you build your city there?”

## The Seeker’s Evangelistic Bible Study



The *Seeker’s Bible Study* is an evangelistic Bible study. It begins with a study of the gospel in 1 Corinthians 15:3-4, dealing with the Bible, Christ, sin, Jesus’ atoning death, Jesus’ burial and bodily resurrection. This is followed by practical studies on repentance and faith. The last section answers the question, “When Is Jesus Coming?”

The *Seeker’s Bible Study* is designed especially to be used as a multi-week, one-on-one course. In our church, we assign a qualified believer to go through the course with every willing visitor and contact.

The teacher is instructed to try to grow his or her class by involving family, neighbor’s, and friends of the original student.

There are review questions for each section.

The teacher’s notes can be found in the file “Seeker’s Bible Study - Teacher’s Notes” at the same page as the Bible course.

The *Seeker’s Bible Study* is available as a free download at:

English: [https://www.wayoflife.org/free\\_ebooks/seekers\\_bible\\_study.php](https://www.wayoflife.org/free_ebooks/seekers_bible_study.php). ~ Nepali: <https://nepalgoodnews.com/books/>

# The ruins of JERICHO confirm the BIBLICAL ACCOUNT

By David Cloud

**I** have stood on the ruins of ancient Jericho multiple times. It is an amazing experience. From here, you can see the location of a great many biblical events.

A great viewing place is the restaurant near the monastery on the Mt. of Temptation west of Jericho. A Chinese-built cable car facilitates the journey. You can see across the plains of Jordan to ancient Moab, where Moses viewed the land from Mt. Nebo (De. 34:1) and where he died and was buried (De. 34:5-6) and where Israel encamped and prepared for the invasion of Canaan (Jos. 3:16). You can see the place of the Jordan River crossing when God stopped the flow of the water from the north (Jos. 4). You can see the area where Israel camped on the plains east of Jericho at Gilgal and where the men were circumcised as the sign of the Abrahamic covenant (“And the people came up out of Jordan on the tenth day of the first month, and encamped in Gilgal, in the east border of Jericho,” Jos. 4:20). David traveled through here when he was fleeing from Absalom (2 Sa. 17:24). Then he returned through here as the conquering king after having been rejected, a picture of Jesus’ second coming. Elijah fled from Jezebel into the Judean wilderness, and it is possible that the brook Cherith is the brook that flows from Wadi Kelt north of Jericho. It was beyond Jordan that Elijah ascended in a fiery chariot (2 Ki. 2:6-11). John the Baptist baptized on the Jordan (Mt. 3:5-6). Jesus was here when He heard that Lazarus had died and went up to Bethany to heal him (Joh. 10:40-11:3). On His way to Jerusalem before the crucifixion, Jesus passed through here and saved Zacchaeus the tax collector and healed the blind man (Luke 19:1-10, 28-40). Herod built a palace here, where he died, and from here his body was transported to the Herodium to the southwest for burial.

Of all of the biblical events associated with this place, perhaps the most fascinating is the account of the conquering of Jericho itself by Joshua and Israel. And the witness of this account lies at the feet of the modern visitor to the Jericho tel, right in the midst of the modern city.

In the early 20th century it was assumed that the Bible’s account of the conquest of Jericho in the 15th century BC had been confirmed by the excavations of British archaeologists John and J.B.E. Garstang (1930-36).

Their report included photographs of the collapsed walls. They stated that “there is no difficulty now in understanding the note of confident faith which breathes in every line of the Bible narrative.”

In light of the skepticism that permeates the field of archaeology, we would be surprised if such a bold statement were left uncontested. Sure enough, the challenge came a couple of decades later from Kathleen Kenyon who excavated Jericho between 1952-58. She claimed that the city was abandoned at least 150 years before Israel came into the land. Her conclusion was as follows:

“It is a sad fact that of the town walls of the Late Bronze Age, within which period the attack by the Israelites must fall by any dating, not a trace remains ... The excavation of Jericho, therefore, has thrown no light on the walls of Jericho of which the destruction is so vividly described in the Book of Joshua” (Kenyon, *Digging Up Jericho*, 1957, pp. 261-262).

Kenyon’s view prevails. Israel Finkelstein, director of Tel Aviv University’s Institute of Archaeology, is typical in saying that “it’s not a possibility” that Canaan was conquered by Israel as the Bible describes.

John Garstang answered Kenyon and other critics in 1948 in *The Story of Jericho*.

“In this revision he sought to deal with opinions that conflicted with his conclusion that Jericho fell in 1400 BC. Garstang observed that few of these opinions were based on first-hand knowledge of the results of his excavation at Jericho and that many were lacking in



logical reasoning or were based on pre-conceptions concerning the date of the Exodus. ... He saw no need to discuss the date of the fall of Jericho 'as though it were a matter of debate,' and said that if there had not been a controversy concerning the date of the Exodus, there probably never would have been any question of the date of Jericho's fall. He concluded that the date of 1400 BC was plainly indicated by the evidence, which the reader 'may examine for himself' (*The Story of Jericho*, p. xiv)" (Joseph Free, *Archaeology and Bible History*, p. 112).

Garstang held to the documentary theory of the Pentateuch, but his archaeological research convinced him that "the historical narrative contained in the Books of Joshua and Judges ... was founded upon fact" (*The Story of Jericho*, p. 341). He spoke of their "remarkable accuracy and fullness of topographical detail."

Bryant Wood, who has a Ph.D. in Syro-Palestinian archaeology from the University of Toronto and is an expert in pottery dating, has also concluded that Kenyon was wrong. In an independent review of the evidence, he found the following: (1) Kenyon ignored evidence, such as certain types of pottery and amulets that would place the date of the destruction at the time of Israel's entrance into the land. In an earlier excavation in the 1930s, John Garstang had found distinctive pottery decorated with red and black designs that was in use only in the latter part of the 15th century BC, the exact time of Israel's conquest of the land. (2) She ignored the fact that the condition of the ruins perfectly match the Bible's description of the city's destruction. She found that the walls had collapsed outward and that the city had been burned. She even noted that the walls were collapsed before the city was burned ("Jericho: Does the Evidence Disprove or Prove the Bible?" *Bible and Spade*, Spring 2003).

Dr. Wood further examined the excavations of Jericho by an Italian-Palestinian team conducted in the 1990s (Lorenzo Nigro and Nicolo Marchetti under the auspices of the Palestinian Department of Archaeology) and had his picture taken by the retaining wall. The retaining wall held the high walls in place and when the main walls fell the bricks collapsed over the retaining wall to form a ramp for the Israelites to enter the city. The Italian-Palestinian team brashly stated that they saw no evidence for the biblical account, but men see what we want to see! God's Word calls the skeptics "willingly ignorant" (2 Pe. 3:3-5). Their skepticism is not based on facts; it is based

on the motive to "walk after their own lusts" and not to submit to the God of the Bible.

**When the wrong dating is corrected, the evidence at the Jericho tell fits perfectly with the biblical record, as follows:**

**1. The city was strongly fortified at the time of Joshua.**

The Canaanite cities were described by Moses as "great and fenced up to heaven" (De. 9:1). In the case of Jericho, there was a double wall. The outer wall consisted of a retaining wall 12-15 feet high, on top of which was a mudbrick wall six feet thick and 20-26 feet high. Inside the outer wall was an embankment that sloped up to the city. On top of this embankment was the inner wall, which was about 12 feet thick and 20-26 feet high. Therefore the top of the inner wall was about five stories above the ground level on which Israel marched around the city.

**2. The city walls collapsed and formed a ramp, allowing the Israelites to go straight ahead and enter the city.**

"So the people shouted when the priests blew with the trumpets: and it came to pass, when the people heard the sound of the trumpet, and the people shouted with a great shout, that the wall fell down flat, so that the people went up into the city, every man straight before him, and they took the city" (Jos. 6:20).

**3. The city was burned.** "And they burnt the city with fire, and all that *was* therein" (Jos. 6:24). "Once again, the discoveries of archaeology have verified the truth of this record. A portion of the city destroyed by the Israelites was excavated on the east side of the tell. Wherever the archaeologists reached this level they found a layer of burned ash and debris about one meter (three feet) thick. Kenyon (*Excavations at Jericho*) described the massive devastation as follows. 'The destruction was complete. Walls and floors were blackened or reddened by fire, and every room was filled with fallen bricks, timbers, and household utensils; in most rooms the fallen debris was heavily burnt, but the collapse of the walls of the eastern rooms seems to have taken place before they were affected by the fire'" (Bryant Wood, "The Walls of Jericho," *Answers in Genesis*, Mar. 1, 1999).

**4. The walls fell before the city was burned.** Kenyon found "a large deposit of red bricks outside the revetment wall, which formed a sloping incline from the top of this retaining structure to ground level. Both Kenyon and other archaeologists believe these bricks were the remains

of the walls surrounding the city” (Garry Brantley, *Digging for Answers*, p. 62). These bricks were not burned, proving that they fell before the city was burned and not as a result of the burning of the city, just as the Bible says.

**5. Part of the city wall with attached houses was left standing on the north side.** This was probably where Rahab’s house was located. “Then she let them down by a cord through the window: for her house was upon the town wall, and she dwelt upon the wall” (Jos. 2:15).

**6. Containers filled with grain was found in the excavations.** The Bible says the city was taken at the time of harvest (Jos. 3:15). The fact that the grain was found in the ruins of the ancient city, in spite of its great value, fits the biblical account that Joshua forbade the people to take anything from the city for personal use (Jos. 6:17-19). “Both Garstang and Kenyon found many storage jars full of grain that had been caught in the fiery destruction. This is a unique find in the annals of archaeology. Grain was valuable, not only as a source of food, but also as a commodity which could be bartered. Under normal circumstances, valuables such as grain would have been plundered by the conquerors” (Wood).

The containers filled with grain also point to a short siege. In a long siege, the grain would have been consumed by the inhabitants, which doubtless included people from the surrounding towns and villages who were trying to find safety from Israel.

**7. The city was not rebuilt.** It was cursed by Joshua. “And the city shall be accursed, *even* it, and all that *are* therein, to the LORD” (Jos. 6:17). Like Chorazin, Bethsaida, and Capernaum (Mt. 11:20-24), the ruins of ancient Jericho stand today in silent witness to the truth of God’s Word and to the judgment of God on unrepentant sinners.

Dr. Wood concludes as follows: “Jericho was once thought to be a ‘Bible problem’ because of the seeming disagreement between archaeology and the Bible. When the archaeology is correctly interpreted, however, just the opposite is the case. The archaeological evidence supports the historical accuracy of the biblical account in every detail. Every aspect of the story that could possibly be verified by the findings of archaeology is, in fact, verified.”

*Wikipedia*’s article on Bryant Wood says, “He is known for his 1990 proposed redating of the destruction of Jericho to accord with the biblical chronology of c. 1400 B.C. The proposal was later (1995) contradicted by new radiocarbon evidence, and Kathleen Kenyon’s dating of c. 1550 B.C. remains the date accepted in scholarly publications.”

(In my experience, *Wikipedia* should *never* be trusted when it deals with people and topics touching on the defense of the Bible.)

Actually, the radiocarbon evidence is inconclusive (which is typical) but it actually falls *against* Kenyon’s dating and gives support for Wood’s position!

See [http://creationwiki.org/Jericho\\_chronology\\_dispute](http://creationwiki.org/Jericho_chronology_dispute)

Further, Wood gives several important reasons why Kenyon’s analysis should be rejected, none of which are mentioned in the *Wikipedia* “hit piece.” Consider the following:

***First***, she only excavated one-third of the territory that her predecessor John Garstang had excavated in the 1930s.

***Second***, she claimed that Cypriot bichrome pottery was absent from the site and that this was evidence that Jericho had ceased to exist by 1400 B.C., but Garstang had published descriptions of a “considerable quantity of pottery decorated with red and black paint which appears to be imported Cypriot bichrome ware, the type of pottery Kenyon was looking for and did not find” (Wood, 1990, 16[2]:52).

***Third***, she ignored evidence that she herself had unearthed that points to a 1400 B.C. destruction of the city. This consisted of bowls, cooking pots, and small dipper juglets “all of which were characteristic of the Late Bronze Age (c. 1550-1400 B.C.)” (Garry Brantley, *Digging for Answers*, p. 61).

***Fourth***, she ignored the amazing archaeological facts that confirm the Bible’s account of the fall of Jericho, which we have examined in this report. She found the walls of the city and she found that they had fallen down in the manner described in the Bible. She found the massive burning. She found the grain.



# The BIBLE'S Strong Emphasis on PRAYER

By David Cloud

The following is excerpted from *Effectual Prayer in Perilous Times*, a new Bible course available from [www.wayoflife.org](http://www.wayoflife.org) -

Nothing is more important in the Christian life and ministry than effectual prayer.

In light of the following Bible facts about prayer, it has rightly been said, “No prayer, no power; little prayer, little power; much prayer, much power.”

Prayer is mentioned at least 550 times in the Bible, 174 times in the New Testament, 35 times in Acts, 48 times in Paul’s epistles. Paul taught something about prayer in practically every one of his epistles.

James, Peter, John, and Jude mention prayer 11 times.

Prayer is a major emphasis of Christ’s teaching (Mt. 5:44; 6:5-15; 9:38; 17:21; 21:22; 26:41; Mr. 13:33; Lu. 11:5-13; 18:1-6).

The prominent saints in the Bible were praying people (e.g., Enoch, Abraham, Hannah, Deborah, Samuel, David, Jehoshaphat, Hezekiah, Jeremiah, Daniel, Nehemiah, Paul, Lydia).

Prayer is one of the four foundational characteristics of the first church in Jerusalem (“they continued steadfastly in the apostles doctrine and fellowship, and breaking of bread and prayers,” Acts 2:42).

Prayer is the first ministry of church leaders (“But we will give ourselves continually to prayer, and to the ministry of the word,” Ac. 6:4). Note that prayer is to be continual. And note that prayer is put first, and that is because prayer is necessary for the ministry of the word

to be most effectual. This is God’s plan. Paul plainly taught this.

Prayer is to be “first of all” in the churches (1 Ti. 2:1-2).

God’s people are to pray without ceasing (1 Th. 5:17), to continue instant or steadfast in prayer (Ro. 12:12), to pray always (Eph. 6:18), to continue in prayer (Col. 4:2).

The prayers of the saints are kept before the throne of God as sweet odors before Him and are effectual in producing His great works on earth.

Prayers are mentioned at the opening of the seven-sealed book which contains God’s plan for overthrowing the rebellion on earth and establishing Christ’s eternal kingdom (Re. 5:8; 8:3-4). These are not the selfish prayers of nominal believers; these are not the prayers of those who pray for comfort and help while they live lukewarm, worldly lives; these are the prayers of the saints who are living according to God’s will and praying according to God’s will, like the saints recorded in Scripture.

Prayer is a major part of spiritual warfare in the battle for truth and righteousness in this present world. Paul mentioned prayer prominently in his description of the whole armor of God. “Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints” (Eph. 6:18).

The devil does everything he can to stop or hinder effectual prayer. He tries to make the saint think that his prayers won’t change anything, that it doesn’t matter whether or not he prays, or how much he prays. He tries to focus the saint’s attention on his sin and failings and cause him to become too discouraged to pray.

## 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?



**PRAY FOR THE NATION! PRAY FOR CHURCHES TO WAKE UP! PRAY FOR PREACHERS TO WAKE UP!** "For when they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them, as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape. 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 5:3-9).

**TWITTER CONTINUES DRACONIAN CENSORSHIP POLICY** (Friday Church News Notes, October 29, 2021, [www.wayoflife.org](http://www.wayoflife.org), [fbns@wayoflife.org](mailto:fbns@wayoflife.org), 866-295-4143) - The following is excerpted from "Rep. Banks' Twitter account suspended," *Just the News*, Oct. 24, 2021: "The official Twitter account of Rep. Jim Banks (R-Ind.) was suspended after he called Department of Health and Human Services

Assistant Secretary for Health Rachel Levine, who is a transgender woman, a man. Banks' original tweet said, 'The title of first female four-star officer gets taken by a man,' referring to Levine becoming the first openly transgender four-star officer in the U.S. Public Health Service Commissioned Corps.

Banks announced the suspension on his personal Twitter account Saturday: 'My tweet was a statement of fact. Big Tech doesn't have to agree with me, but they shouldn't be able to cancel me. If they silence me, they will silence you. We can't allow Big Tech to prevent us from telling the truth. When Republicans take back the House next year, we must restore honesty to our public forums and hold Big Tech accountable.' A Twitter spokesperson gave a statement to *The Hill* regarding Banks' account suspension, saying: 'The account referenced has been temporarily locked for violating our Hateful Conduct Policy. The account owner is required to delete the violative Tweet before regaining access to their account.'" **CONCLUSION:** In reality, Twitter is the hateful party in this situation. They want to destroy the precious liberty of freedom of speech.

**CRUSADER SWORD FOUND IN WATERS OFF ISRAEL'S NORTH SHORE** (Friday Church News Notes, October 29, 2021, [www.wayoflife.org](http://www.wayoflife.org), [fbns@wayoflife.org](mailto:fbns@wayoflife.org), 866-295-4143)



- “Shlomi Katzin came across the 900-year-old weapon on the floor of the Mediterranean sea while scuba diving Saturday off the Carmel coast in northern Israel, the Israel Antiquities Authority said in a statement. ... The sword, measuring about four feet long, was encrusted in marine life but in otherwise ‘perfect condition,’ according to Nir Distelfeld, an official with the IAA. Distelfeld, in a statement, described it as a ‘beautiful and rare find’ that probably belonged to a Crusader knight. ‘It is exciting to encounter such a personal object, taking you 900 years back in time to a different era, with knights, armor and swords’” (“Israeli diver finds,” *The Washington Post*, Oct. 19, 2021). [The History of the Church from a Baptist Perspective](#), available from Way of Life Literature, contains the account of the Crusades from beginning to end. The last major Crusader fort to fall to the Mamluks of Egypt was Acre, north of Carmel, which fell in 1291 after a seven-week siege. The surviving knights fled the Acre fortress through an underground passage to ships in the harbor, where they departed down the coast to the small fortress at Atlit. After they buried their dead in the cemetery by the sea, they departed for Europe in August, leaving all of the Holy Land in possession of the Muslims. The 200-year crusader presence was ended. The Crusader fortress at Acre is an impressive museum today, and visitors can walk through the escape tunnel. The Crusader cemetery near Atlit lies in desolation surrounded by a flimsy fence when we visited it a few years ago.

**AMERICA’S FOUNDERS PUT THE U.S. ON A PATH TO END SLAVERY** (Friday Church News Notes, October 29, 2021,

[www.wayoflife.org](http://www.wayoflife.org), [fbns@wayoflife.org](mailto:fbns@wayoflife.org), 866-295-4143) - The following is excerpted from Michael Medved, “How the nation’s Founders,” *USA Today*, May 15, 2021: “When critics attack the nation’s founders as irredeemably racist, they ignore the

Constitution’s anti-slavery time bomb. While disparaging that document’s accommodations to slavery, detractors also forget the hammer-blow against the evil institution delivered just weeks before the fateful gathering in Philadelphia to establish a new government. Rather than treating slavery as an essential, enduring element of the Republic they designed, the leaders of the founding generation shared Lincoln’s hope, expressed 71 years later, that ‘the opponents of slavery will arrest the further spread of it, and place it where the public mind shall rest in the belief that it is in the course of ultimate extinction.’ During the eight years of Revolutionary struggle (1775-83), all thirteen colonies made a significant start along that path by legally and separately banning the transatlantic slave trade. Following the American victory and the resulting treaty with Britain, three states (South Carolina, North Carolina and Georgia) resumed the importation of captives from Africa. At the Constitutional convention, most delegates denounced ‘the infernal traffic’ (George Mason of Virginia) as ‘a nefarious institution’ and ‘the curse of heaven’ (Gouverneur Morris of Pennsylvania), but South Carolina threatened to exclude itself from the



new nation unless the other states agreed not to interfere with the commerce in slaves for a set period of time. The resulting compromise (Article I, Section 9, Clause 1) declares that the despised commerce ‘should not be prohibited by the Congress prior to the year one thousand eight hundred and eight...’ -twenty years after ratification. James Madison initially deemed this concession to be ‘dishonorable’ but later, in *Federalist 42*, hailed it as ‘great point gained in favor of humanity, that a period of twenty years may terminate forever with these states ... the unnatural traffic’ that was ‘the barbarism of modern policy.’ ... To their everlasting credit, the founders’ time bomb went off, right on schedule, ending America’s involvement in the international slave trade on the earliest day Constitutionally permitted: January 1, 1808. President Thomas Jefferson signed the bill proudly, having argued for it in his annual message to Congress at the end of 1806. ... Of course, it’s easy to sneer at Jefferson’s hypocrisy--owning slaves even while he repeatedly denounced the very institution that sustained his private wealth--but his role in the public sphere left no doubt that he sought the ‘ultimate extinction’ of human bondage, as President Lincoln put it. ... It’s true that the enlightened



achievements of the organizers of the new government didn't eliminate the manifold horrors of enslavement that afflicted millions for more than two generations after the United States began. But the statesmen of our founding still deserve our gratitude for launching the Republic in a direction that eventually delivered Lincoln's 'new birth of freedom,' and justified [America's] status as 'the last, best hope of earth.'"

**YELLOW JOURNALISM** (Friday Church News Notes, October 29, 2021, [www.wayoflife.org](http://www.wayoflife.org), [fbns@wayoflife.org](mailto:fbns@wayoflife.org), 866-295-4143) - "Yellow journalism" was a name given in the 1890s to a style of newspaper reporting that emphasizes sensationalism. **It was reckless, lurid, and provocative, anything to sell papers and increase circulation. Truth was of little or no concern. Politics was covered from an extreme partisan stance.** The newspapers featured oversize headlines and colored political cartoons. The name was coined to describe the competition between two New York City newspapers, Joseph Pulitzer's *World* and William Randolph Hearst's *Journal*. Yellow journalism got its name from a popular cartoon in the *World* called the Yellow Kid from the yellow color of the hero. Hearst hired the cartoonist from Pulitzer, who then hired a new cartoonist to continue the Yellow Kid, resulting in the battle of the Yellow Kids. In October 1910, NYC Mayor Jay Gaynor issued this warning:



"They are absolutely without souls. ... **The journalism of New York City has been dragged to the lowest depths of degradation. The grossest railleries and libels, instead of honest statements and fair discussion, have gone unchecked.**"

Two months earlier, Gaynor was shot in the neck in an assassination attempt. He blamed the attack "on the vitriolic yellow press that had poisoned the populace against him." By means of the internet and social media, yellow journalism has risen to a realm unimaginable to Pulitzer and Hearst.

### MY PRAYER FOR AMERICA

(Friday Church News Notes, November 5, 2021, [www.wayoflife.org](http://www.wayoflife.org), [fbns@wayoflife.org](mailto:fbns@wayoflife.org), 866-295-4143) - Following is the basic substance of my continual prayers for America: "Father, I pray for America, the nation of which I am a citizen on this earthly pilgrimage though I live elsewhere. I thank you for the countless blessings you have given to mankind through this very imperfect nation. I pray because you alone are God, you change the times and the seasons, you remove kings and set up kings. I thank you that your Son, Jesus Christ, has all power in heaven and in earth and, therefore, no one has any power that is not given to him by Christ and no one exercises power that is not under the hand of Christ. I pray according to your command in 1 Timothy 2:1-2, for those who are in authority, for the president and vice-president, for the senators and congressmen, for the state governors and the local leaders. I give thanks for the great liberties and blessings we have even in these evil times, liberties that most men in this fallen world have only dreamed of. I pray that those who are in

authority will rule in such a way that we might lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty. Give them wisdom to make right decisions and confound their evil decisions. I pray that you will restrain the devil's mystery of iniquity in all of its forms, as God's Word tells us you are doing (2 Th. 2:7). As the church is the pillar and ground of the truth, I pray for pastors to be strong and to lead your redeemed people according to Scripture and not according to tradition and pragmatism, to fear God more than man. I pray for churches to wake up from worldliness and lukewarmness and to shine as lights in the midst of a crooked and perverse nation. You said that you show mercy unto thousands of them that love you, so I pray for your mercy upon the nation for the sake of those who love you and I pray that those who love you will increase. I pray this in the name of Jesus Christ, who alone is the Mediator between God and men by His ransom for all."

**FLORIDA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL TAKES CHILDREN TO A GAY BAR** (Friday Church News Notes, November 5, 2021, [www.wayoflife.org](http://www.wayoflife.org), [fbns@wayoflife.org](mailto:fbns@wayoflife.org), 866-295-4143) - Last week a class of children from Wilton Manors Elementary School in Broward County, Florida, were taken on a field trip to a homosexual bar. School board member Sarah Leonardi tweeted, "I was SO honored to be invited to chaperone



## THE ANIMAL WITH TWO LIFE CYCLES

(Friday Church News Notes, October 29, 2021, [www.wayoflife.org](http://www.wayoflife.org), [fbns@wayoflife.org](mailto:fbns@wayoflife.org), 866-295-4143) - The following is from CreationMoments.com, Aug. 10, 2021: "The jellyfish almost seems like a creature from a bad science fiction movie. Around 500 species of jellyfish, ranging in size from small marbles to several feet across, inhabit the world's oceans. Jellyfish have several mouths and will try to eat anything, including each other. Thankfully, the stings of most jellyfish have no effect on human beings. The jellyfish lives two very different lives, each with different lifestyles and methods of reproduction. The familiar jellyfish form is a swimming lifestyle in which the creatures reproduce sexually. However, in another phase of their life, they are called *polyps*. In the polyp stage, they look like small anemones, cling to rocks and reproduce by cloning. Jellyfish cannot move fast enough to chase prey. However, careful study of jellyfish swimming patterns shows that jellyfish don't swim at random. The pattern in which they swim produces the greatest mathematical likelihood of encountering prey. Biologically jellyfish have only two internal organs:



a stomach and sex organs. Although evolutionists tell us jellyfish were among the earliest creatures, some of them have sophisticated brain functions that--outside of jellyfish--are found only in mammals and human beings! The jellyfish is a tribute to God's creativity and imagination. Even though the jellyfish appears to be one of the simplest forms of life on Earth, it is also a mathematically precise hunter. Even this living bag of lukewarm Jell-O praises God through its existence. Author: Paul A. Bartz. Ref: Brownlee, Shannon. 1987, 'Jellyfish aren't out to get us,' *Discover*, Aug. p. 49."

@WiltonManorsES's field trip to the incredible Rosie's! The students and I had a fun walk over and learned a lot about our community! A huge thank you to @RosiesBnG for hosting this special field trip every year!" The school does not take field trips to Bible-believing churches to learn about Scripture and prayer, but they allow the children to be indoctrinated by those who flaunt their disobedience to God's Word.

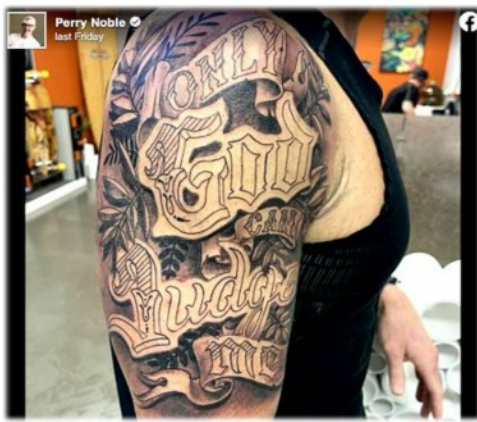
**U.S. STATE DEPARTMENT ISSUES FIRST GENDER X PASSPORT** (Friday Church News Notes, November 5, 2021, [www.wayoflife.org](http://www.wayoflife.org), [fbns@wayoflife.org](mailto:fbns@wayoflife.org), 866-295-4143) - The following is excerpted from "State Department issues," *Fox News*, Oct. 26, 2021: "The State Department on Wednesday issued the first U.S.



passport with an 'X' gender marker, granting a third option for American passport holders who do not identify as female or male. 'The Department of State continues the process of updating its policies regarding gender markers on U.S. passports and Consular Reports of Birth Abroad (CRBAs) to better serve all U.S. citizens, regardless of their gender identity,' press secretary Ned Price said in a statement. 'The Department is moving towards

adding an X gender marker for non-binary, intersex, and gender non-conforming persons applying for a U.S. passport or CRBA,' he added. The move was first announced by Secretary of State Antony Blinken in June and said it means Americans will no longer require a medical certificate to opt-out of choosing a specific gender." **GOD'S COMMENT ABOUT THIS NEWS ITEM:** "So God created man in his *own* image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them" (Genesis 1:27). "The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the Lord, and against his anointed, *saying*, Let us break their bands asunder, and cast away their cords from us. He that sitteth in the heavens shall laugh: the Lord shall have them in derision" (Psalm 2:2-4).





## DIVORCED DRINKING PASTOR TATTOOS

### THE CONTEMPORARY PHILOSOPHY ON HIS ARM

(Friday Church News Notes, November 5, 2021,

[www.wayoflife.org](http://www.wayoflife.org), [fbns@wayoflife.org](mailto:fbns@wayoflife.org), 866-295-4143) -

Divorced drinking pastor Perry Noble, who was fired in 2016 for drunkenness and “being derelict” in his duties as a pastor and husband, recently broadcast a photo of his new tattoo on Facebook. Covering his entire upper arm, it proclaims, “Only God Can Judge Me.” In 2008, Noble, then pastor of Newspring Church in Anderson, SC, criticized the Southern Baptist Convention for passing a resolution against “social drinking.” In 2013, he again defended drinking alcohol. In 2015, he said that God gave him a revelation that the Ten Commandments aren’t commandments, but promises! In 2016, he was fired from Newspring, and that is saying something because Newspring is incredibly, insanely worldly. (They performed “Highway to Hell” by the vile rock band AC/DC for Easter service 2009 and occult rocker Ozzy Osbourne’s “Crazy Train” in November 2011.) It wasn’t long before Nobel was back in the “ministry,” this time with a new “church” called Second Chance Church, which quickly exploded in attendance. Obviously Nobel’s

apostate “live after your own lusts” philosophy resonates with America today. The motto “Judge Not” is the theme song both of the secular pop culture and the contemporary “evangelical” culture, which is merely a Christianized version of the world and is a dramatic fulfillment of Bible prophecy: “For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; And they shall turn away *their* ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables” (2 Ti. 4:3-4). While it’s true that only God can judge an individual with ultimate and final judgment, it is also true that God has plainly and forcefully instructed the churches to judge and discipline sin and error. See, for starters, Matthew 7:15-23; Acts 20:28-30; Romans 16:17-18; 1 Corinthians 5; 2 Corinthians 6:14-18; 11:1-4, 12-15; Ephesians 4:11-14; 5:11; 2 Thessalonians 3:6, 14; 1 Timothy 4:1-3; 6:3-5; 2 Timothy 2:16-21; 3:5; 4:10; Titus 1:10-16; 3:10-11; 2 John 1:8-11; Revelation 2:2, 6, 14-16; 20-23.

### RALPH CARMICHAEL, FATHER OF CCM, DIES

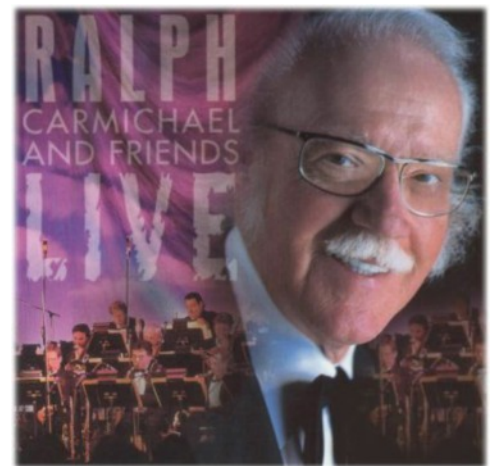
(Friday Church News Notes, November 5, 2021,

[www.wayoflife.org](http://www.wayoflife.org), [fbns@wayoflife.org](mailto:fbns@wayoflife.org), 866-295-4143) -

Ralph Carmichael, who has been called the Father of Contemporary Christian Music, died on October 18 at age 94. In the late 1960s, he joined Billy Ray Hearn and Kurt Kaiser to create the first contemporary youth musicals, “Tell It Like It Is” and “Natural High.” The soft folk rock sound created a carnal appetite for the back beat and beat anticipation and helped break down barriers against contemporary music in the churches, preparing the way for the onslaught of Christian rock in every form. The

soft rock sound was lively enough to be desirable to church members but not hard enough to be shocking and offensive. It was a bridge to what was to come later. The son of a Pentecostal pastor, Carmichael “was allowed to listen to mainstream music on the radio.” That fed his appetite for the world’s music, and as a student at Southern California Bible College he founded a men’s quartet “that combined classic hymns and contemporary jazz” (“Ralph Carmichael,” *Christian Headlines*, Oct. 21, 2021). Carmichael was probably a sincere man who loved God, but so was Jehoshaphat, and building bridges to the world and error is always disobedience to God’s Word and always produces bad fruit. “And Jehu the son of Hanani the seer went out to meet him, and said to king Jehoshaphat, Shouldest thou help the ungodly, and love them that hate the LORD? therefore *is* wrath upon thee from before the LORD” (2 Ch. 19:2). “Be not deceived: evil communications corrupt good manners” (1 Co. 15:33). “And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove *them*” (Eph. 5:11). “And be not conformed to this world” (Ro. 12:2). We have documented the fruit of Contemporary Christian Music in

[The Satanic Attack on Sacred Music](#) (videos and book) and [The Directory](#)





[of Contemporary Christian Music](#), a free eBook, [www.wayoflife.org](http://www.wayoflife.org).

**METHUSELAH TREE** (Friday Church News Notes, November 5, 2021, [www.wayoflife.org](http://www.wayoflife.org), [fbns@wayoflife.org](mailto:fbns@wayoflife.org), 866-295-4143) - The palm tree mentioned 36 times in the Bible is the Judean Date Palm, and the most famous date palm is the Methuselah Tree that was grown from a 2,000-year-old seed. The seed was found by archaeologists in the 1960s in Masada, Herod the Great's desert fortress overlooking the Dead Sea. They date to before Christ, so they are 2,000 years old. Masada was stocked with every type of food and wine that the luxury-loving Herod craved, but the fortress was abandoned after his death. It was briefly occupied in 73-74 AD for the last stand of Jewish revolters against Rome. When they committed mass suicide, the burned fortress was left to crumble into the dust. The Judean Date Palm itself went extinct sometime before 1000 AD. Groves of them once flourished in Judea (as described by Pliny and Josephus) and were famous across the Roman Empire, but they were destroyed by centuries of war, neglect, and desertification. About 20 years ago, Dr. Sarah Sallon, a natural medicine researcher, had the idea of planting some of the ancient seeds to see if they had medicinal benefits not found in other dates. With difficulty, she convinced the highly skeptical

Masada archaeologists to give up their precious find for this purpose. Dr. Elaine Solowey, with the Arava Institute at the Kibbutz Ketura in the Israeli Negev, oversaw the planting. One of three seeds sprouted and grew into a healthy date palm that began flowering and producing pollen in 2011. They named it *Methuselah* after the oldest living man in history. The problem is, as its name suggests, that it is a male and needs a female for fruit. (In the date palm, the male produces pollen and the female produces fertile flowers that can be pollinated to produce dates.) Solowey convinced other archaeologists to give up ancient seeds they found in Qumran, a few miles north of Masada, and she has been successful in growing females. One is named *Hannah*, after the prophet Samuel's mother. In 2020, Methuselah pollinated Hannah and in September she bore 111 dates! Sallon says the Judean date palms "were known for their wonderful sweetness, their very large size, and their ability to be stored for a long time, so they actually were exported around the Roman empire" ("Dates Like Jesus Ate," National Public Radio, Feb. 6, 2020). The date palm fruit "is famous for its rich sugar content, it's also praised for its nutritional value. Dates are rich in vitamins, high in antioxidants and loaded with fiber" ("Methuselah," Bridges for Peace, Mar. 11, 2021).

**MORE EVIDENCE OF SYSTEMIC RACISM IN AMERICA: FIRST BLACK WOMAN ELECTED TO STATEWIDE OFFICE IN VIRGINIA, MORE BLACK MAYORS** (Friday Church News Notes, November 12, 2021, [www.wayoflife.org](http://www.wayoflife.org), [fbns@wayoflife.org](mailto:fbns@wayoflife.org), 866-295-4143)



- In yet more irrefutable proof of America's systemic racism, Winsome Sears was elected lieutenant governor in Virginia on November 3, becoming the first black woman to hold statewide office in the commonwealth. Jason Miyares became the first Latino elected to attorney general in Virginia, and "people of color" won mayorships in New York City, Boston, Pittsburgh, Kansas City, and Cincinnati. Jamaican immigrant Winsome Sears is a U.S. Marine Corps veteran and famously posed with a military rifle in a campaign photo. The win by Republicans Sears and Glen Youngkin (governor elect) in Virginia overthrew leftist Democratic control of the highest offices in the state, for now. Facetiousness aside, the election of blacks, Asians, and Latinos are proof that America is a place of liberty and opportunity for all people, where immigrants of any skin color can succeed. After her win, Sears said, "We're framing too many issues in terms of race and it just continues to divide us. And, unfortunately, politicians are using it as a tool because of the things that have happened to us historically to advance, I would think, their nefarious purposes. I didn't do anything special to get here except stay in school and study. America allowed me to come and do for myself and for my family. No one can say to me I don't know what it is to be poor. You're looking at the American Dream. We're always



going to have problems, I understand that. I'm not saying we're perfect. But you can see those people at the border right now trying to get in. They're dying to get in because they know if they can put a foot on American soil, the trajectory of their lives will change just as it did for my father" ("Winsome Sears reflects," *Fox News*, Nov. 4, 2021). She's right; the "people of color" breaking down America's walls *to get in* are clear evidence that the nation is *not* systemically racist and that it is a better nation than most other nations on this fallen earth. Even as Critical Race Theory is being taught in many public schools, it is everywhere refuted in reality and the majority of Americans know that it is nonsense. In exit polls, over 72% of Virginia voters said CRT in the schools was an "important" factor in their vote ("Minority candidates make history," *Just the News*, Nov. 3, 2021). On another front, law and order was popular with voters. In New York City, the newly elected mayor, Eric, Adams, is a law-and-order former police officer. In Minneapolis, voters rejected a ballot initiative that would have dismantled the police department. In New York's Nassau County and Suffolk County, tough on crime candidates (Anne Connelly and Ray Tierney) won the district attorneys elections. People are obviously tired of the political attack on the police and the devastating increase of violent crime that is the product of leftist policies.

**TEXANS VOTE TO PROHIBIT GOVERNMENT FROM LIMITING RELIGIOUS SERVICES** (Friday Church News Notes, November 12, 2021, [www.wayoflife.org](http://www.wayoflife.org), [fbns@wayoflife.org](mailto:fbns@wayoflife.org), 866-295-4143) - The following is excerpted from



Religion News Service, Nov. 4, 2021: "Texas voters on Tuesday (Nov. 2) overwhelmingly supported a measure barring governments from taking any kind of action that limits religious services, such as the public health orders that shut down houses of worship and businesses earlier in the COVID-19 pandemic. Proposition 3, which will add a clause to the Texas Constitution forbidding state or local authorities from prohibiting or limiting religious services, garnered 62.4% of votes, according to unofficial results from the Texas secretary of state."

**FEDERAL JUDGE RULES RELIGIOUS BUSINESSES EXEMPT FROM HOMOSEXUAL BIAS CLAIMS** (Friday Church News Notes, November 12, 2021, [www.wayoflife.org](http://www.wayoflife.org), [fbns@wayoflife.org](mailto:fbns@wayoflife.org), 866-295-4143) - The following is excerpted from Religion News Service, Nov. 4, 2021: "For-profit businesses with sincerely held religious beliefs are exempt from LGBTQ discrimination liability under a decision this week by a federal judge in Texas. The



ruling Sunday (Oct. 31) came in response to the U.S. Supreme Court's 2020 landmark ruling in *Bostock v. Clayton County, Georgia*, which held that LGBTQ people are protected from discrimination under Title VII of the 1964 Civil Rights Act. The *Bostock* ruling left open the question of whether and how the anti-discrimination provisions applied to religious entities. 'But how these doctrines protecting religious liberty interact with Title VII are questions for future cases too,' wrote Justice Neil Gorsuch in the 2020 majority opinion. In answer to these questions, U.S. District Judge Reed O'Connor in Fort Worth held that Braidwood Management Inc., which operates three Christian health care businesses in Katy, Texas, is exempt from LGBTQ anti-discrimination protections in Title VII of the 1964 Civil Rights Act under both the First Amendment and the Religious Freedom Restoration Act. ... Separately, O'Connor ruled that other religious nonprofits, including Bear Creek Bible Church, a nondenominational church in Keller, Texas, can fire or refuse to hire LGBTQ employees under Title VII's religious exemptions. ... This new ruling allows both organizations to continue their employment practices unhindered by fear of liability for LGBTQ discrimination. However, the decision can be appealed to federal appellate court."

**ABORTIONS DROP 50% FOLLOWING TEXAS "HEARTBEAT" LAW** (Friday Church News Notes, November 12, 2021, [www.wayoflife.org](http://www.wayoflife.org), [fbns@wayoflife.org](mailto:fbns@wayoflife.org), 866-295-4143) - The following is excerpted from "Abortions Drop," *Christian Headlines*, Nov 1, 2021: "A new Texas law that prohibits abortions if





a fetal heartbeat is detected has led to a 50 percent decline in abortions in the state, according to a new University of Texas study. Researchers at the university's Texas Policy Evaluation Project studied data from state clinics and found that abortions in September--the first full month the law was in effect--plummeted 49.8 percent compared to the same month one year earlier. The U.S. Supreme Court heard oral arguments Monday in an emergency appeal from abortion clinics and the Biden administration, each of which is asking the justices to block the law. It is not known when the court will rule. The law requires abortion doctors to test for a fetal heartbeat. If one is detected--which typically occurs at about six weeks of pregnancy--then abortion is banned except in cases of a medical emergency."

**COVID VACCINE NOW REQUIRED FOR NON-CITIZEN ENTRY INTO THE USA** (Friday Church News Notes, November 12, 2021, [www.wayoflife.org](http://www.wayoflife.org), [fbns@wayoflife.org](mailto:fbns@wayoflife.org), 866-295-4143) - On October 25, President Biden announced that the United States will require all non-citizens (and non-permanent residents) entering the country to demonstrate proof of vaccination against Covid-19. This is in addition to the requirement to show a pre-departure negative test within three days of boarding a flight to America. Unvaccinated travelers,

whether U.S. citizens or not, must now test within one day of departure. The airlines are required to examine the vaccine document and determine if the vaccine is a type approved by the CDC and the World Health Organization and if two weeks has passed since the full dosage was administered.

**MICHIGAN CITY FIRST IN U.S. TO HAVE ALL-MUSLIM MAYOR/CITY COUNCIL** (Friday Church News Notes, November 12, 2021, [www.wayoflife.org](http://www.wayoflife.org), [fbns@wayoflife.org](mailto:fbns@wayoflife.org), 866-295-4143) - The following is excerpted from "Hamtramck City Council will be all Muslim," *Detroit Free Press*, Nov. 5, 2021: "The six-member City Council of Hamtramck will consist of all Muslims starting in January, another historic first for the metro Detroit city known for its sizable immigrant population. The newly elected mayor, Amer Ghalib, 42, is also Muslim, which means all of the city's elected officials will be Muslim. In Tuesday's election, three candidates who are all Muslim were elected and will join three current City Council members who are also Muslim. Five of them are immigrants and one is a convert to Islam with ancestral roots in eastern Europe. Advocates with Muslim groups and experts say they do not know of any other city council in the history of the U.S. that has been entirely Muslim."



**SPENDING AND BEING SPENT** (Friday Church News Notes, November 12, 2021, [www.wayoflife.org](http://www.wayoflife.org), [fbns@wayoflife.org](mailto:fbns@wayoflife.org), 866-295-4143) - *"I will very gladly spend and be spent for you; though the more abundantly I love you, the less I be loved"* (2 Co. 12:15). Paul, the former Pharisee who hated Christians so much that he put them to death, now loved them with Christ's love. He was willing to spend and be spent for them even though they did not reciprocate his love. Again, we see the heart of a true godly pastor and parent. It often happens that those we love and help the most, love us the less and even turn against us and do evil against us, but Paul did not let fallen human nature cause him to stop loving and serving. His eyes were upon Christ; he was serving Christ; so he was not offended by man's sin and did not stop serving Christ because of man's sin. *The Expositor's Bible* comments, "Nature says, 'Stand upon your rights; vindicate your position; insist on having all that you conceive to be your due'; but love says, 'Spend and be spent, and spare not till all is gone; life itself is not too much to give that love may triumph over wrong.'"

**ROCKS DON'T BEND** (Friday Church News Notes, November 12, 2021, [www.wayoflife.org](http://www.wayoflife.org), [fbns@wayoflife.org](mailto:fbns@wayoflife.org), 866-295-4143) - The following is from CreationMoments.com, Sept. 29, 2021: "Rock folds always seem to me to make interesting photographs. When I lived in South Wales, there were some very fine examples in the cliffs on the Vale of Glamorgan coast. For the most part, the rock layers seem to run parallel to the beach. Then, suddenly, they bend away, upwards or downwards, in dramatic sweeps. In these bends, the rock layers





continue to run parallel. Standard traditional geology suggests that the layers would have been horizontal when originally formed. The existence of the folds, however, causes more problems for traditional geologists who rely on millions of years for all their explanations. The *Encyclopedia Britannica* says: "The long linear folds that are characteristic of mountainous regions are believed to have resulted from compressional forces acting parallel to the surface of Earth and at right angles to the fold." However, it is not difficult to imagine what large compressional forces would do to rock layers. Rocks are not malleable, so the eventual result of such forces would be to crack the layers--and, indeed, such cracks can be found. Parallel bending does not make a lot of sense in a deep-time scenario. Suppose, instead, that the layers had been recently formed early in the Flood, and forces were applied towards the end of the Flood to layers which were still plastic and had not hardened. These would bend together in parallel folds. The biblical Flood provides the best explanation for how rocks could bend! Author: Paul F. Taylor. Ref: *Encyclopedia Britannica*."

**LAST JEW DEPARTS AFGHANISTAN** (Friday Church News Notes, November 19, 2021, [www.wayoflife.org](http://www.wayoflife.org), [fbns@wayoflife.org](mailto:fbns@wayoflife.org), 866-295-4143)

- The following is excerpted from "No More Jews," *Israel Today*, Nov. 11, 2021: "Following the withdrawal of American troops from Afghanistan, Zebulon Simantov was said to be the last Jew in the country. However, reports now name 83-year-old **Tova Moradi**, who fled Afghanistan last month, as the holder of that title. Whoever was the last to leave, what is now certain is that Afghanistan has no more Jews [thanks to the Islamic Taliban]. The country once hosted a healthy Jewish community numbering some 50,000. Boaz Arad reports, 'Tova Moradi and 124 other Afghans boarded an extraordinary evacuation flight from Mazar-i-Sharif. This flight was the final lap of a nerve wrecking operation run by Israeli volunteers. ... What was orig. supposed to be a land crossing through Tajikistan helped by Afghan contacts with the right connections in Taliban checkpoints ... went wrong fast--so plan B kicked into action. They fly out. Against all odds, the plane took off and arrived at Dushanbe. ... Albania's PM, Edi Rama, was willing to help. There were female athletes and students on the flight. Young, motivated, with a very bleak future under Taliban. Human rights activists, female police officers, judges, all blacklisted. ... The Taliban's return put Moradi and her family in danger. She is now at a small seaside resort in Albania that houses her and other Afghans, from where she hopes to continue to Canada' (@aradboaz, Oct. 30). *The Jerusalem Post* reported that Moradi left Kabul in October with more than 20 grandchildren. Their escape was organized by the Israeli human rights organization IsraAid. Moradi was herself one of 10 children. At the age of 16, she ran off and married a Muslim. The Jewish community



ostracized them. She never adopted her husband's religion, but kept Jewish traditions, her daughter told the *Associated Press*. She was known as a Jew in her neighborhood. Several brothers live in Israel, and her parents are buried in Jerusalem. The elderly woman ... first flew to Albania before being taken to resettle in Canada. She also desires to visit relatives in Israel."

**COVID - LOCKDOWN VS. FREEDOM** (Friday Church News Notes, November 19, 2021, [www.wayoflife.org](http://www.wayoflife.org), [fbns@wayoflife.org](mailto:fbns@wayoflife.org), 866-295-4143) - The U.S. states of California and Florida are case studies in the effects of lockdown on the spread of Covid. California, ruled by a leftist Democratic government, has had one of the most draconian lockdowns among the 50 states. Florida, with a Republican government oriented toward personal liberty, has had one of the least restrictive policies toward Covid. Florida has come out better throughout the Covid situation and continues to do so. "The rate of new COVID-19 cases in California is currently more than twice the rate in



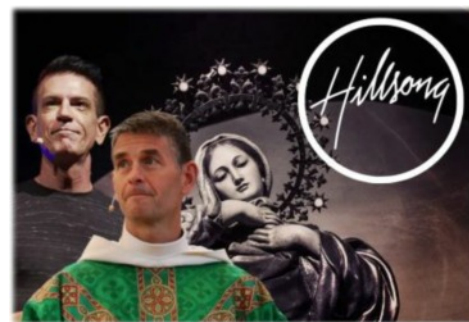
Florida, prompting debate about draconian public health measures implemented across the Golden State, like vaccine mandates for small children. California is averaging 16 new cases per 100,000 residents the last week compared to just seven in Florida. California's full vaccination rate (62%) is higher than places like Florida (60) and Texas (54), where state leaders do not enforce mask policies or support strict mandates. The Golden State has seen a surge of more than 60% in new cases in the last two weeks, compared to a 20% drop in the Sunshine State. Clearly, their progressive edicts failed to quell recent outbreaks" ("Despite Mandates Aplenty, California's Covid Rate Now Doubles Florida's," *PJMedia*, Nov. 9, 2021).

**NORTH KOREA ASKS STARVING CITIZENS TO EAT LESS** (Friday Church News Notes, November 19, 2021, [www.wayoflife.org](http://www.wayoflife.org), [fbns@wayoflife.org](mailto:fbns@wayoflife.org), 866-295-4143) - The following is excerpted from "North Korea," *New York Times Post*, Oct. 28, 2021: "North Koreans are being asked to eat less food as the communist nation deals with a food emergency that is expected to continue at least until 2025, according to reports. A shortage of food in the nation led by dictator Kim Jong Un has resulted from a shutdown of its border with China, an action that was taken in 2020 in a bid to slow the spread of the



coronavirus, Radio Free Asia (RFA) reported. But the move has devastated North Korea's economy as food prices have spiked, and has resulted in starvation deaths among its population of 25 million, the report said. ... About 40% of North Korea's population is estimated by the U.N. World Food Program to be undernourished and the nation has been short of food this year by about 860,000 tons – or the equivalent of two months' worth of food, according to the U.N.'s Food and Agriculture Organization, RFA reported. ... Meanwhile, Pyongyang has recently resumed the testing of missiles after a hiatus. The most recent tests occurred Tuesday when the North fired two ballistic missiles into the Sea of Japan."

**HILLSONG PHOENIX HOSTS CATHOLIC MASS** (Friday Church News Notes, November 19, 2021, [www.wayoflife.org](http://www.wayoflife.org), [fbns@wayoflife.org](mailto:fbns@wayoflife.org), 866-295-4143) - Hillsong Phoenix is hosting an Alpha Conference in January 2022, featuring Catholic priest John Riccardo and a Catholic mass ([alphausa.org](http://alphausa.org)). The theme is "Cultivating Kingdom Culture," the "core value" of which is "to listen, to understand, to actively engage in the world of another," because "great healing happens when we Listen to each other." This is psychobabble heresy. The Lord Jesus Christ sent His disciples to preach the gospel (Mark 16:15). The truth is revealed in Scripture; it is not found by dialogue. The truth is to be believed and obeyed and proclaimed. Paul didn't listen to the philosophers at Athens to empathize with them. He understood that they were in ignorance and superstition and spiritual darkness and he proclaimed to them the glorious light of the



gospel of Christ (Acts. 17). The New Testament faith revealed in Scripture is not to be debated; it is to be proclaimed and defended. "... it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort *you* that ye should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints" (Jude 1:3). This is the third time that Hillsong Phoenix has hosted an Alpha Conference with a Catholic priest and a Catholic mass. On July 3-4, 2015, Darlene Zschech and Hillsong joined hands with Pope Francis at the Convocation of the Renewal of the Holy Spirit at the Vatican and participated in a mass. Pope Francis praised the charismatic movement's zeal for unity and said that Christian unity is "rooted in a common baptism" ("Pope Greet Members of the Renewal," July 4, 2015, [FullyCatholic.com](http://FullyCatholic.com)). According to Roman Catholic dogma, baptism is the new birth and the entrance into the Christian life which is then nurtured by the sacraments. It is a cursed "grace plus works" gospel (Galatians 1:8-9) which the Catholic Church in recent times has cleverly rebranded as "grace only." The Hillsong philosophy is pure ecumenism, and it is the recipe for building an apostate one-world "church." Bible-believing churches that use charismatic contemporary praise music are playing with fire. This music brings with it a philosophy that will change the character of any "fundamentalist" church. It builds bridges to the



“broader church” and its heresies. (For a full report on Hillsong, see “[Darlene Zschech and Hillsong](#),” [www.wayoflife.org](http://www.wayoflife.org).)

# BLACK LIVES MATTER THREATENS NEWLY ELECTED MAYOR WITH VIOLENCE (Friday Church News Notes, November 19, 2021, [www.wayoflife.org](http://www.wayoflife.org), [fbns@wayoflife.org](mailto:fbns@wayoflife.org), 866-295-4143)

- “The head of Black Lives Matter of Greater New York met with Eric Adams, the city’s mayor-elect, to discuss policing and warned that there will be ‘bloodshed’ if the city returns to its pre-De Blasio model, according to a report. Adams, himself a former police captain, on Wednesday met with Hawk Newsome, the BLM leader, and others behind closed doors at Brooklyn’s Borough Hall, the *New York Daily News* reported. The meeting was tense and turned into a shouting match, the paper reported. One of the key issues raised was the possibility that the city could reinstate its anti-crime unit, which Newsome compared to the Nazi Gestapo. ‘If he thinks that they’re going to go back to the old ways of policing, then we are going to take to the streets again. There will be riots, there will be fire and there will be bloodshed because we believe in defending our people,’ Newsome told the paper” (“New York BLM leader,” *Fox News*, Nov. 11, 2021). Black Lives Matter is a Marxist, lawless, hate-filled, violent,



“tear down traditional America” organization. They should be outlawed and imprisoned.

## WHEN THE TRANSITION OF POWER IN AMERICA WAS DONE WITH GOOD WILL

(Friday Church News Notes, November 19, 2021, [www.wayoflife.org](http://www.wayoflife.org), [fbns@wayoflife.org](mailto:fbns@wayoflife.org), 866-295-4143)

- In the 1952 U.S. presidential election, Republican Dwight D. Eisenhower won a landslide victory over Democrat Adlai Stevenson, ending Democratic control of the White House that stretched back two decades. In his farewell address on January 15, 1952, Harry Truman said, “Next Tuesday, General Eisenhower will be inaugurated as President of the United States. A short time after the new President takes his oath of office, I will be on the train going back home to Independence, Missouri. I will once again be a plain, private citizen of this great Republic. That is as it should be. Inauguration Day will be a great demonstration of our democratic process. I am glad to be a part of it--glad to wish General Eisenhower all possible success, as he begins his term--glad the whole world will have a chance to see how simply and how peacefully our American system transfers the vast power of the Presidency from my hands to his. It is a good object lesson in democracy. I am very proud of it. And I know you are, too. ... Regardless of your politics, whether you are Republican or Democrat, your fate is tied up with what is done here in this room. **The President is President of the whole country. We must give him our support as citizens of the United States.** He will have mine, and I want you to give him yours. ... When Franklin Roosevelt died, I felt there



must be a million men better qualified than I, to take up the Presidential task. But the work was mine to do, and I had to do it. And I have tried to give it everything that was in me. Through all of it, through all the years that I have worked here in this room, I have been well aware I did not really work alone--that you were working with me. No President could ever hope to lead our country, or to sustain the burdens of this office, save as the people helped with their support. I have had that help--you have given me that support--on all our great essential undertakings to build the free world's strength and keep the peace. Those are the big things. Those are the things we have done together. For that I shall be grateful, always. And now, the time has come for me to say good night--and God bless you all.”

## SYNAGOGUES CLOSING (Friday Church News Notes, November 26, 2021, [www.wayoflife.org](http://www.wayoflife.org), [fbns@wayoflife.org](mailto:fbns@wayoflife.org), 866-295-4143)

- The Jews are returning to their land, and many synagogues have closed. **Since the first decade of the 21st century, there have been no functioning synagogues in Calcutta,** a city that once hosted a thriving Jewish community and five synagogues. The first Jew, Shalom Aharon Obadiah Cohen, arrived from Aleppo, Syria, in 1792. He led in the building of the first synagogue, Neveh Shalome, in 1831. Beth El synagogue followed in 1856; Magen David,





1884; Magen Aboth, 1897; Shaare Rasson, 1933. The Calcutta Jews were led by merchants trading in cotton, jute, spices, and opium. By the mid-20th century there were 6,000 Jews, but they are gone now. They began leaving after the establishment of the state of Israel in 1948. In 2019 there were only 30 Jews left in the city, all 70 or older. A report in the *New York Times* for Oct. 24, 2013, was entitled "The Last Jews of Calcutta." Muslims are now caretakers of the defunct synagogues. **In 2021, the last Jew left Afghanistan and the last synagogue closed.** Jews had lived in Afghanistan since at least AD 500. At one time the Jewish population was thought to number 50,000. In 1948 the population was 5,000. By 1996, there were only 10 Jews in the one remaining synagogue in Kabul. The synagogue's Torah was stolen by the Taliban. By 2001, there were thought to be only two Jews left, Zablon Simintov and Ishaq Levin. (Actually there was a third, Tova Moradi, as we reported in last week's *Friday Church News Notes*.) "They were famous for being arch-rivals, and repeatedly turned each other into the Taliban. This feud was the plot-line for a New York City play entitled 'The Last Two Jews of Kabul.' In 2005, the feud ended when Levin died of natural causes, leaving Simintov as the only remaining Jew in all of Afghanistan" ("The Last

Operating Synagogue," atlasobscure.com). Simintov, who has long been estranged from his wife and two daughters in Israel, left Afghanistan in September 2021 after the American military departure. Where are the Jews going? Large numbers of them are going home in preparation for the final fulfillment of Bible prophecy. "Then he said unto me, Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel: behold, they say, Our bones are dried, and our hope is lost: we are cut off for our parts. Therefore prophesy and say unto them, Thus saith the Lord God; Behold, O my people, I will open your graves, and cause you to come up out of your graves, and bring you into the land of Israel" (Ezekiel 37:11-12).

**KID ROCK: "DON'T TELL ME HOW TO LIVE"** (Friday Church News Notes, November 26, 2021, [www.wayoflife.org](http://www.wayoflife.org), [fbns@wayoflife.org](mailto:fbns@wayoflife.org), 866-295-4143) - Kid Rock's filthy new song "Don't Tell Me How to Live" is a flashback to two 1965 hits, the Rolling Stones', "I'm free to do what I want any old time," and the Animals' "It's my life and I'll do what I want." This has been rock's theme from its inception. Rock is not just music and innocent entertainment; it is a moral revolution. An advertisement for *Rolling Stone* magazine proclaimed, **"Rock 'n' roll is more than just**

**music--it is the energy center of a new culture and youth revolution."** Indeed, it changed the world. We live in a society created by rock & roll. You can see the effect everywhere: in attitude, in fashion, in the generation gap, in the obsession with sex, in the idolization of pop stars, in the love for fantasy, in the glorification of entertainment. Above all, you can see the effect in focus on self and in the "judge not" philosophy that has become a cultural law. Nothing is absolutely wrong; everything is relative. At the heart of rock music is sexual liberty, which is brazen rebellion against God's holy law of marriage. John Oats of Hall & Oats said, **"Rock 'n' roll is 99% SEX"** (*Circus*, Jan. 31, 1976). Gene Simmons of KISS said, **"That's what rock is all about—SEX with a 100 megaton bomb, THE BEAT!"** (*Entertainment Tonight*, ABC, Dec. 10, 1987). Tina Turner said, "Rock and roll is fun ... **It's NAUGHTY**" (*Rock Facts*, Rock & Roll Hall of Fame and Museum). Debbie Harry of Blondie said, **"Rock 'n' roll is all sex. One hundred percent SEX"** (*The Age of Communication*, p. 398). Adam Ant said, **"Pop music revolves around SEXUALITY"** (*From Rock to Rock*, p. 93). The Bible, which will be around long after the global pop culture has passed away, says, "Marriage is honourable in all, and the bed undefiled: but whoremongers and adulterers God will judge" (Hebrews 13:4).





### CHRISTIAN FLORIST SETTLES HOMOSEXUAL HARASSMENT CASE

(Friday Church News Notes, November 26, 2021,

[www.wayoflife.org](http://www.wayoflife.org), [fbns@wayoflife.org](mailto:fbns@wayoflife.org), 866-295-4143)

- A 77-year-old great grandmother has settled an eight-year-old legal battle over supposed discrimination against homosexuals. Barronelle Stutzman, owner of Arlene's Flowers, Bellevue, Washington, was sued in 2013 after refusing to serve a same-sex couple's wedding on the grounds of her religious convictions. They could have gone to practically any other florist, but they wanted to make the point that they are proud of their homosexuality and everyone should be required to celebrate their lifestyle. As a Baptist and a Bible-believer, Stutzman is opposed to same-sex marriage and refuses to participate in it. The American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) took the side of the couple and has been hounding Stutzman ever since, even going after her personal assets. Her appeals were twice rejected by the Washington Supreme Court, which obviously resonates to a different law than the U.S. Constitution and its Bill of Rights. In the settlement, Stutzman will pay \$5,000 to the homosexual men and sell the business to her employees. She told *Fox News* that Christ had "walked with me every step of the way." She said, "I am willing to turn the legal struggle for freedom over to others. At age 77, it's time to retire and give my business

to someone else. I wish the culmination of all that I've been through could result in a new respect, culturally and legally, for freedom of conscience in our country. From the beginning, I have asked no more than the freedom to act in accordance with my religious beliefs and personal convictions. I have treated those who persecuted me with respect, and with the assurance that I want for them the same freedom that I ask for myself. ... **We're all in trouble--whether we're religious or not--when we don't have the freedom to live consistent with our faith and our beliefs**, when I don't have the freedom to run my business according to my beliefs, live my life according to my beliefs." When asked what she would tell others facing similar lawsuits, she said, "God's just asking us to be obedient and He'll take care of the rest." Her legal counsel is Alliance Defending Freedom, which has also defended two Christian businesses in Colorado that have been targeted by homosexuals.

### BJU TO COMPETE IN BEACH VOLLEYBALL

(Friday Church News Notes, November 26, 2021, [www.wayoflife.org](http://www.wayoflife.org), [fbns@wayoflife.org](mailto:fbns@wayoflife.org), 866-295-4143)

- Bob Jones University has long been on a slide away from its founding principles, and this slide increased with the appointment in 2014 of Steve Pettit as president. In October 2021, Bob Jones announced the addition of beach volleyball to its intercollegiate sports lineup. The Bruins will play their inaugural season in the spring of 2022, competing against schools such as Erskine College, Truett-McConnell University, St. Andrews University, and Spartanburg Methodist College. These are extremely liberal,



secularized Christian schools. Neil Ring, BJU's director of athletics, says, "This addition allows us to be on the front edge of an emerging sport while staying aligned with our mission" (*BJU Today*, Oct. 21, 2021). Obviously this "mission" is not that of the school's founding. The announcement was accompanied by a photo of five smiling BJU female athletes dressed in tights, thus conforming to the world's corrupt sense of "modesty." One reader commented, "How long before the tights conform to the same skimpy bikinis that some of their competitors will more than likely be wearing?" (For a history of Bob Jones University, see [The History and Heritage of Fundamentalism and Fundamental Baptists](http://www.wayoflife.org), [www.wayoflife.org](http://www.wayoflife.org).)

### 70% OF EVANGELICAL CHRISTIANS IN AMERICA DO NOT BELIEVE JESUS IS THE ONLY WAY TO GOD

(Friday Church News Notes, November 26, 2021, [www.wayoflife.org](http://www.wayoflife.org),

[fbns@wayoflife.org](mailto:fbns@wayoflife.org), 866-295-4143)

- According to a new survey from Probe Ministries, nearly 70% of "evangelical Christians" disagree with the Bible's teaching that Jesus Christ is the only way to God. After affirming the following two statements--"I made a personal commitment to Jesus Christ" and "I will go to Heaven because I confessed my sins and accepted Jesus Christ as my Savior"--these same





people said they would not try to convert someone to their religion. The top three reasons are: “They can get to Heaven through their different religious beliefs”; “We shouldn’t impose our ideas on others”; “The Bible tells us not to judge others.” This is a reflection of the gross biblical ignorance that exists in the vast majority of churches in America. Instead of serious Bible study and effectual prayer and holy pilgrim Christian living, there is rock & roll, conformity to the pop culture, an emphasis on self-esteem, a wholesale rejection of biblical separatism. Even in James’ day, there were Christians

who were friends of the world, and he gave the following recipe for revival: “Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse *your* hands, *ye* sinners; and purify *your* hearts, *ye* double minded. Be afflicted, and mourn, and weep: let your laughter be turned to mourning, and *your* joy to heaviness. Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up” (James 4:8-10). America’s most desperate need is for pastors of James’ spiritual caliber and courage.

**THEN SHALL YE ALSO APPEAR WITH HIM IN GLORY** (Friday Church News Notes, November 26, 2021, [www.wayoflife.org](http://www.wayoflife.org), [fbns@wayoflife.org](mailto:fbns@wayoflife.org), 866-295-4143) - The following is excerpted from the *Way of Life Commentary Series, The Prison Epistles*: “Then shall ye also appear with him in glory” (Col. 3:4). This is resurrection glory. “Solomon in all his glory” (Lu. 12:27) was but a tiny foreview of the glory of Christ. It is the glory of thrones and palaces and paradise gardens. It is the glory of being delivered from mortality to

immortality, of no more sickness, pain, aging, death. It is the glory of being released from the bondage of corruption to the liberty of the sons of God (Ro. 8:18-23). It is the glory of being delivered from “the old man.” It is the glory of shining (“Then shall the righteous shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their Father,” Mt. 13:43). It is the glory of everlasting joy (Isa. 35:10). It is the glory of mighty angels and cherubims and seraphims (Mt. 16:27; Lu. 9:26). It is the glory of ruling with Christ (Mt. 19:26; Re. 3:21; 5:10). It is the glory of heaven and of Christ’s millennial kingdom and of the New Jerusalem. The doctrine of glory is a major theme of Bible prophecy, and God’s people are to be better and better educated in these things. This is in great contrast to the condition of so many churches that are largely ignorant of Bible prophecy and aren’t well informed of the glory that is just on the horizon of life. No wonder that the members of such churches have their affection set on things on the earth rather than things above!

## Aim of O Timothy Magazine

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





**O TIMOTHY MAGAZINE**

Way of Life Literature

P.O. Box 610368, Port Huron, MI 48061-0368

866-295-4143 (toll free),

[fbns@wayoflife.org](mailto:fbns@wayoflife.org) (e-mail)<http://www.wayoflife.org> (web site)

NONPROFIT ORG  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
PORT HURON, MI  
Permit No. 1061

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

**SUBSCRIPTION INFORMATION**

- **ONLINE EDITION: FREE!** - To access the online edition, go to [www.wayoflife.org](http://www.wayoflife.org), click the **O Timothy** tab, then click the words "online edition" to select the issue you wish to view or download.
- **UNITED STATES:** The annual subscription is US \$10 for the US. **NOTE: Please do NOT make checks payable to O Timothy - MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO WAY OF LIFE LITERATURE**, thank you, and designate that the amount is for O Timothy. Please use the form below for ordering.
- **CANADA:** The annual subscription for Canada is \$31.50 Canadian (GST included). Checks or money orders should be made payable to Bethel Baptist Church and designated for O Timothy. Payments should be mailed to Bethel Baptist Church, 4212 Campbell St N, London, ON N6P 1A6.
- **PHILIPPINES:** O Timothy magazine began publication in the Philippines in January 2005. It is distributed on a free will offering basis in the Philippines at this time, as long as the Lord provides the needs. We take up an annual offering to pay the expenses. If you are interested in receiving the magazine in the Philippines, contact us c/o: Pastor Medel Barrera, Berean Bible Baptist Church Gardenia Valley, Molino III, Bacoar City, Philippines. The phone # is 0917-856-4439. Email: [info@bbbcmolino.org](mailto:info@bbbcmolino.org).
- **INTERNATIONAL:** The annual subscription for other countries is US \$45. Contributions must be sent in US Funds by International Money Order drawn on a major New York bank. Make the drafts payable to Way of Life Literature and designate the amount for O Timothy subscription.

SUBSCRIPTIONS (O Timothy is a monthly publication)

USA - One Year Subscription.....\$10 US.

CANADA .....\$31.50 Canadian (GST Included)

FOREIGN.....\$45 US

PHILIPPINES.....(see contact information above)

DATE\_\_\_\_\_

NAME\_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS\_\_\_\_\_

CITY, STATE, ZIP\_\_\_\_\_

COUNTRY\_\_\_\_\_

PHONE, EMAIL\_\_\_\_\_

**PRINTED IN CANADA**