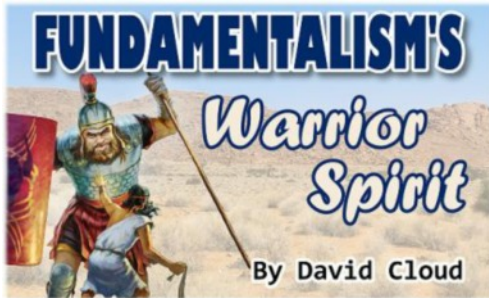


O Timothy

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

A Monthly Newsletter for Spiritual Protection and Edification

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"(David) took a few moments to tell the giant, 'I come to thee in the name of the LORD of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom thou hast defied. This day will the LORD deliver thee into mine hand; and I will smite thee, and take thine head from thee; and I will give the carcasses of the host of the Philistines this day unto the fowls of the air, and to the wild beasts of the earth; that all the earth may know that there is a God in Israel.'" Page 8.

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



TWO AMERICAS: THE OLD AND THE NEW ~ By David Cloud

I love America. Even with America in steep decline, I believe it is the greatest nation on God's green earth, as one radio personality likes to say.

As long as I can remember, I have been thankful to God for America and glad to be an American citizen. Spending a large portion of my life overseas has given me a different perspective of America than most of its citizens, but I know America. I have traveled its length and breadth, from sea to shining sea. I've lived in many states (Florida, Tennessee, Missouri, Louisiana, Washington, Oklahoma) and visited every state. I've seen the purple mountain majesties, the fruited plain, the sun rising over the Atlantic and setting over the Pacific.

Forgetting for a moment America's vast interior, with its mountains, canyons, plains, plateaus, deserts, gigantic lakes, rivers, waterfalls, wetlands, and rain forests, America has 84,000 miles of coastline. I've seen all of the coastlines in the American mainland, from Miami to



northern Maine on the Atlantic Coast, from Fort Meyers to Galveston on the Gulf Coast, from San Diego to Bellingham on the Pacific Coast. It is too bad that the vast majority of American visitors see *very* little of the nation's scenic magnificence.

I've not only traveled America and looked at America, I've studied America. I've read hundreds of books on every aspect of this unique nation, including biographies of a great many of its most prominent men and women.

Everyone is confused about America today. What's going on with the homeless camps defacing once beautiful cities such as Seattle, San Francisco, and Portland; the mass shootings; organized mobs of thieves bankrupting stores; murderers, rapists, and anarchists released on bond; schools locked down like prison camps; profligate spending; mountainous debt; calls for defunding the police; censorship of ideas; colleges and universities having deteriorated into bastions of totalitarianism; the cancel culture; the imperial presidents; the ultra extreme party spirit in politics; the gross breakdown in law and order in the cities; the insane wokeness destroying the morale of the military's best warriors; senile American presidents; America's sports stars refusing to honor the flag; an open southern border which is beyond insane; drag queens twerking for children in public libraries; the breakdown of the nuclear family; vast numbers of illegitimate children; totalitarian public school officials running roughshod over parents; widespread support for men who pretend to be women entering women's restrooms and participating in women's sports, to mention a few things.

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America's citizens are confused, and foreign onlookers are confused. The eyes of the world have been upon the American experience since the colonial days when its founders purposed that the fledgling nation be "a city on the hill" to shine the light of truth and liberty across the globe.

What's happened to America? In a nutshell, there are two Americas today: the Old and the New, and they are at war, knowingly or unknowingly.

THE OLD AMERICA

America was a mixed multitude even from the beginning. The colonies were composed of the most zealous of Christians as well as secular-minded heathen. Many of the colonists were seeking liberty for truth and godliness; others were seeking filthy lucre just as passionately. These two things have always composed the heart and soul of America: righteousness and covetousness. The percentage of born again Christians has always been relatively small even when "Christianity" predominated. Few, if any, of the nation's presidents were born again. (See *The Bible and Western Society*, a free eBook available from www.wayoflife.org.)

The central principle of "old America" is liberty, as enshrined in the Declaration of Independence, the U.S. Constitution, the First Amendment (the magnificent Bill of Rights), and the Second Amendment (the right to bear arms). America was created to be an Empire of Liberty, a Beacon of Liberty, the Sweet Land of Liberty. America, the land of the Liberty Bell, the Liberty Tree, the Statute of Liberty. The home of men who proclaimed, "Give me liberty or give me death." The land of liberty of religion; liberty of speech; liberty of press; liberty of self-government; liberty from injustice; liberty of economics. America has been called an Idea, and that idea is liberty. Though the liberty was not enjoyed by all at first, that error has been rectified by the 13th Amendment (which abolished slavery), the 15th Amendment (the guarantee of voting rights regardless of race or color), and the 19th Amendment (voting rights for women).

"Liberty was stitched into the fabric of American federalism. In a sense that is hard to appreciate today, throughout the nineteenth century the federal government had little impact on daily life, apart from the local U.S. Post Office" (David Reynolds, *America, Empire of Liberty*).

Whatever its failures, and there were many, Old America was a nation that was more mightily influenced by the Bible than any nation in history, other than Israel. Even the more skeptical founding fathers like Ben Franklin and Thomas Jefferson were mightily influenced by the Bible. Everyone was.

The Bible was used as a textbook and reader in the nation's schools, both private and public, for the first 250 years. Everything was taught from the standpoint of a biblical view of God and morality.

America's first indigenous reader, other than the Bible, was *The New England Primer* (pronounced prem'-ur). It was filled with quotations from the King James Bible, Scripture truths, prayers, catechisms, and hymns. It was the first textbook printed in America and was the most important educational textbook from 1690 to 1790. An estimated two million copies were sold during that time, and it continued to be published until the 1930s. The introduction to the 1900 edition said, "*The New England Primer* was one of the greatest books ever published. It went through innumerable editions ... [It] contributed, perhaps more than any other book except the Bible, to the molding of those sturdy generations that gave to America its liberty and its institutions."

The New England Primer was followed by Noah Webster's *American Spelling Book* (popularly called the Blue-Back Speller), which was "an essential part of the curriculum of all elementary school children in the United States for five generations." Webster's influence on American education was so great that he has been called "The Schoolmaster of the Republic." Nearly 100 million copies of the Speller have been printed. It taught biblical principles to millions of Americans. Webster also taught the nation to define words with the *American Dictionary of the English Language* (1828), which contained 6,000 quotations from the King James Bible.

By the use of the Bible and Bible-based textbooks, Americans of the 17th through the 19th centuries were steeped in Scripture from a young age, and this had a powerful influence on society, even among the unsaved.

It was the Bible's influence that produced Old America's greatest qualities: the belief that the Bible is God's Word; near universal belief in the almighty Creator God revealed in the Bible; acceptance of absolute truth based on biblical principles; the emphasis on good character

traits such as honesty, purity, humility, self-restraint, benevolence; exalted concepts of human liberty (as summarized in the magnificent Bill of Rights); love of neighbor; civic mindedness; pursuit of universal literacy; strong law and order; respect for authority; the centrality of the "nuclear family" (composed of mother, father, children); private ownership of property; small government under the control of the people.

This is the old America. It was "the land of the free." With all its faults, it was "one nation under God," to a large degree.

THE NEW AMERICA

The New America is simply a portion of America that is in rebellion to the Old America. In brief, it is rebellion against almighty God and His holy laws.

The rebellion isn't new. It existed in incipient form even in the early years after the nation's founding. Thomas Paine, whose *Common Sense* was the best-selling book of the Revolutionary War era, was also one of the most brazen skeptics of the time. In *The Age of Reason*, Paine attacked the divine inspiration of the Bible and exalted human reason as the final authority.

In the 19th century, this rebellion took the form of the enlightenment, existentialism, transcendentalism, unitarianism, German theological liberalism, Darwinian evolution, Social Darwinism, Freudian psychology, Marxism, and socialism, to name a few.

In the 20th century, there was the addition of New Age, Secular Humanism, Feminism, abortion rights, homosexual rights, the sexual revolution, globalism, socialism (e.g., the New Deal and the Great Society), and many other isms.

In the 21st century, there is the addition of cultural Marxism (e.g., Black Lives Matter, Antifa), Analytic Philosophy, Woke, and others.

Influential voices in the destruction of the Old America and the creation of the New America include Charles Darwin, Karl Marx, Julius Wellhausen, Sigmund Freud, Friedrich Nietzsche, Henry David Thoreau (transcendentalism, Hinduism), Jean-Paul Sartre (nihilism, existentialism, moral relativism), Margaret Sanger (abortion rights, free love, feminist liberation, founder of

Planned Parenthood, author of *The Woman Rebel*, with its slogan “No Gods! No Masters”), John Dewey (Secular Humanism preached by education), Michael Foucault (Maoist lecturer at the University of California, a homosexual who died of AIDS), Havelock Ellis (philosopher of “free love”), Carl Sagan (evolution), Noam Chomsky (the power of media to transform society), Jacques Derrida (deconstructionism, Marxism), Rachel Carson (radical environmentalism), Betty Friedan (feminism, co-founder National Organization for Women and author of *The Feminine Mystique*), Martin Luther King, Jr., and Alice Walker (black feminism), Elvis Presley, Hugh Hefner, Alfred Kinsey and Margaret Mead, Oliver Wendell Holmes, Harry Blackmun, Earl Warren, Oprah Winfrey, Steven Spielberg, George Lucas, Stephen Hawking, Michael Jackson, Beyonce, Barak Obama, Madonna, Snoop Dogg, Kim Kardashian, Ellen DeGeneres, and Eminem.

All of these people and all of their isms are various forms of rebellion against the Old America and its belief in the almighty Creator God, absolute truth, Bible-based morality, law and order, equity, freedom of thought, freedom of religion, freedom of speech, freedom of association, the divine distinction of the sexes, the centrality of the nuclear family, the sacredness of life, respect for authority, love of neighbor, civic mindedness, private ownership of property, and small government under the control of the people.

America’s world influence has been great, but it has been a two-edged sword. The Old America had a vast influence for good, though never *only* good: the gospel of Jesus Christ, liberty and justice, democracy, republicanism, equity, benevolence, civic mindedness, etc.

While the Old America is not dead and its influence continues for good, today, the New America’s influence predominates, and it is evil: narcissism, licentiousness, sensuality, immodesty, covetousness, cultural Marxism, atheism.

Born in 1949, I have witnessed both Americas. The New America existed in incipient form in the 1940s and 1950s. It was spreading like ivy, which first sleeps, then creeps, then leaps. It was creeping around in the shadows and had not yet exploding into the limelight. The Old America was definitely in the dominion then, but we are approaching the tipping point when the Old America will be under dominion.

The major political parties have come to represent the two Americas. Generally speaking, the Republicans tend to represent the Old America, and the Democrats tend to represent the New America.

MAGA (Make America Great Again)

Donald Trump’s Make America Great Again program is misguided. The only way to make America great again is to make America the America it was when it was great, and there is no evidence that Trump has a clear concept of what that is or how to get there.

To Make America Great Again would be to re-create the Old America, and that isn’t possible today.

There is something that God’s people can do, and it is no small thing. They can pray. Effectual prayer by redeemed people on “praying ground” is the most powerful thing on this earth. The Bible teaches us how to pray: to pray a lot, to pray persistently, to pray earnestly, to pray individually, to pray corporately, to pray in secret, to pray in public, and to pray with prayer partners.

One of the things we are instructed to pray for is the nation.

“ I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, *and* giving of thanks, be made for all men; For kings, and *for* all that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty” (1 Timothy 2:1-2).

Kelly Whiting -

“I’d also say that the two Americas are defined explicitly by their view of human nature, and for the old America that was a biblical understanding of humanity sprinkled with historical knowledge (that people don’t change and are basically evil - liberty isn’t based on the idea that men are good, but that they’re evil so no one should be controlling everyone because human evil will make it despotism every single time) versus the new America view that people are perfectable and that they advance in moral goodness. That’s the root of every ism and left wing movement that has come down the pike. And it’s a rejection of Biblical anthropology.” (Continued on next page →)

The following are the lyrics of “America (My Country, 'Tis of Thee)” written by Samuel Smith in 1832, forty-three years after the ratification of the U.S. Constitution:

*My country, 'tis of Thee,
Sweet Land of Liberty
Of thee I sing;
Land where my fathers died,
Land of the pilgrims' pride,
From every mountain side
Let Freedom ring.*

*My native country, thee,
Land of the noble free,
Thy name I love;
I love thy rocks and rills,
Thy woods and templed hills,
My heart with rapture thrills
Like that above.*

*Let music swell the breeze,
And ring from all the trees
Sweet Freedom's song;
Let mortal tongues awake;
Let all that breathe partake;
Let rocks their silence break,
The sound prolong.*

*Our fathers' God to Thee,
Author of Liberty,
To thee we sing,
Long may our land be bright
With Freedom's holy light,
Protect us by thy might
Great God, our King.*

*Our glorious Land to-day,
'Neath Education's sway,
Soars upward still.
Its hills of learning fair,
Whose bounties all may share,
Behold them everywhere
On vale and hill!*

*Thy safeguard, Liberty,
The school shall ever be,
Our Nation's pride!
No tyrant hand shall smite,
While with encircling might
All here are taught the Right
With Truth allied.*

*Beneath Heaven's gracious will
The stars of progress still
Our course do sway;
In unity sublime
To broader heights we climb,
Triumphant over Time,
God speeds our way!*

*Grand birthright of our sires,
Our altars and our fires
Keep we still pure!
Our starry flag unfurled,
The hope of all the world,
In peace and light impearled,
God hold secure!*



FUNDAMENTALISM'S Warrior Spirit

By David Cloud

The following is excerpted from [*The History and Heritage of Fundamentalism and Fundamental Baptists*](#), www.wayoflife.org -

Fundamentalism as a movement had serious weaknesses, as we have documented in this book, but the strength of Fundamentalism was its stand for the infallible inspiration of Scripture, its testing mindset, its zeal for the truth, its willingness to fight for the truth, to defend the truth, to preach *against* error as well as *for* truth, and to separate from error.

This is biblical and right. In fact, no Christianity that lacks this is biblical and right.

“Therefore I esteem all *thy* precepts *concerning* all things to be right; and I hate every false way” (Psalm 119:128).

“Now I beseech you, brethren, mark them which cause divisions and offences contrary to the doctrine which ye have learned; and avoid them” (Ro. 16:17).

“Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness?” (2 Co. 6:14).

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

“As I besought thee to abide still at Ephesus, when I went into Macedonia, that thou mightest charge some that they teach no other doctrine” (1 Ti. 1:3).

“Holding faith, and a good conscience; which some having put away concerning faith have made shipwreck: Of whom is Hymenaeus and Alexander; whom I have delivered unto

Satan, that they may learn not to blaspheme” (1 Ti. 1:19-20).

“Perverse disputings of men of corrupt minds, and destitute of the truth, supposing that gain is godliness: from such withdraw thyself” (1 Ti. 6:5).

“O Timothy, keep that which is committed to thy trust, avoiding profane *and* vain babblings, and oppositions of science falsely so called” (1 Ti. 6:20).

“But shun profane *and* vain babblings: for they will increase unto more ungodliness. And their word will eat as doth a canker: of whom is Hymenaeus and Philetus; Who concerning the truth have erred, saying that the resurrection is past already; and overthrow the faith of some” (2 Ti. 2:16-18).

“Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away” (2 Ti. 3:5).

“I have fought a good fight, I have finished *my* course, I have kept the faith” (2 Ti. 4:7).

“Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world” (1 Jo. 4:1).

“Whosoever transgresseth, and abideth not in the doctrine of Christ, hath not God. He that abideth in the doctrine of Christ, he hath both the Father and the Son. If there come any unto you, and bring not this doctrine, receive him not into *your* house, neither bid him God speed: For he that biddeth him God speed is partaker of his evil deeds” (2 Jo. 1:9-11).

“Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write unto you of the common salvation, 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).

Growing up Southern Baptist, I didn't know anything about Fundamentalism. But after I was saved and began to love and study the Bible, I came across fundamentalist preaching, and it resonated with me, because this is the type of Christianity I see in Scripture. There I see serious discipleship, soldiering, fighting, disciplining, earnest contending, reproving and rebuking, marking and avoiding, withdrawing from, coming out from among, touching not the unclean thing, not being yoked together with. This is not the sum of New Testament Christianity, of course, but it is a major element.

When the world attacked God's Word, fundamentalists took their stand. They stood up on their hind legs like a grizzly bear and said, "Bring it on!" They took on the newly rising philosophies in Western society. The fact that they were in the extreme minority didn't stop them. They had the spirit of Athanasius who, when he was told, "The whole world is against you," replied, "Then I am against the whole world." He was known as *Athanasius Contra Mundum* (Athanasius against the World). Every Bible-believing Christian should be known as *Contra Mundum*. The Bible record is filled with *Contra Mundums* who pleased the Lord. James was *Contra Mundum*! "Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God" (Jas. 4:4). John was *Contra Mundum*. "And we know that we are of God, and the whole world lieth in wickedness" (1 Jo. 5:19).

True fundamentalists walk in the footsteps of the spiritual warriors of all ages. We think of Abraham, who armed his servants and pursued the army of five Mesopotamian kings to Dan and defeated them. What a warrior!

We think of Enoch who was such a warrior against sin and error, so worked up in preaching prophetically against this present age, that he used the word "ungodly" four times in one sentence (Jude 1:14-15).

We think of the sons of Levi who, responding to Moses' call, "Who is on the LORD's side?" strapped on their swords and killed 3,000 of the Lord's enemies (Ex. 32:26-28). There was no peace with compromisers for those warriors! No softy priests, these!

We think of Joshua and Caleb, who alone of the 12 spies, said, "Let us go up at once, and possess it; for we are well able to overcome it" (Nu. 13:30). While the other 10 said,

"The people *be* strong that dwell in the land, and the cities *are* walled, *and* very great: and moreover we saw the children of Anak there," Joshua and Caleb said, "With God as our help, we can take on the whole lot of those giants in their fortified cities and their well-equipped armies. Let's go!" What warriors!

We think of Caleb 45 years later, at age 85, saying, "Now therefore give me this mountain, whereof the LORD spake in that day; for thou heardest in that day how the Anakims *were* there, and *that* the cities *were* great *and* fenced: if so be the LORD *will be* with me, then I shall be able to drive them out, as the LORD said" (Jos. 14:12). Through a half century of living and fighting, his warrior zeal hadn't faded. We know that his faith in God was not disappointed, for we are told, "Hebron therefore became the inheritance of Caleb the son of Jephunneh the Kenezite unto this day, because that he wholly followed the LORD God of Israel" (Jos. 14:14). God was pleased with this soldier.

After Joshua and Caleb, the warrior spirit largely died out of Israel. There arose "another generation after them, which knew not the LORD" (Jdg. 2:10). Instead of going on and conquering the remaining Canaanites and capturing all of the Promised Land as God had commanded, the next generation settled down, content to live among the enemies of God. Whereas Joshua and Caleb's fundamentalist generation sang, "the fight is on," their compromising evangelical offspring sang, "the fighting is over."

We think of Deborah, the female judge of Israel who urged Barak to lead the army of Israel against Jabin's Canaanites. She called Barak to Mt. Ephraim and told him that God had commanded them to fight Jabin's great army led by Sisera, but Barak was not eager. He said, "If thou wilt go with me, then I will go: but if thou wilt not go with me, then I will not go." Deborah did not hesitate, "I will surely go with thee: notwithstanding the journey that thou takest shall not be for thine honour; for the LORD shall sell Sisera into the hand of a woman" (Jdg. 4:6-9). Barak gathered an army from the tribes of Zebulun and Naphtali and went with Deborah to Mt. Tabor. There they could see the multitude of Canaanite soldiers with their 900 chariots of iron gathered in the valley of Jezreel by the river Kishon. When Barak still hesitated, Deborah said, "Up; for this *is* the day in which the LORD hath delivered Sisera into thine hand: is not the LORD gone out before thee?" (Jdg. 4:14). Barak and his men did the

fighting, but it was Deborah who was the chief warrior that day. “Up, men! Let’s go, boys!”

We think of David accepting the challenge of Goliath, the blasphemous, boasting giant, “a man of war from his youth,” the champion of God’s enemies, the Philistines. He was about nine and a half feet tall and was armed with a brass helmet, brass greaves that covered the lower parts of his legs, a brass shield that covered his upper back, a huge spear with a 15 pound tip, and a coat of mail (made of brass plates arranged like the scales of a fish) that weighed about 125 pounds. David told Saul, “Let no man’s heart fail because of him; thy servant will go and fight with this Philistine” (1 Sa. 17:32). David had decided to take care of this business. He selected five stones from the brook Elah. He took a few moments to tell the giant, “I come to thee in the name of the LORD of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom thou hast defied. This day will the LORD deliver thee into mine hand; and I will smite thee, and take thine head from thee; and I will give the carcasses of the host of the Philistines this day unto the fowls of the air, and to the wild beasts of the earth; that all the earth may know that there is a God in Israel.” Then David *ran toward the giant*, sunk a stone in his forehead, and cut off the champion’s head with his own sword. What a warrior!

We think of Elijah. Oh, we cannot forget Elijah! He was a prophet in a time of nearly complete apostasy in Israel, and he determined to have a showdown with Baal: one prophet of Jehovah God facing off with 850 prophets of Baal. He told Ahab to bring the people of Israel and the prophets to Mt. Carmel and called for two altars to be built, one for Baal and one for Jehovah. He said, “the God that answereth by fire, let him be God.” For hours, the prophets of Baal acted like maniacs in an attempt to get the attention of their god, crying out, leaping, cutting themselves “till the blood gushed out,” but Baal was silent. Elijah didn’t watch the demonstration quietly; “he mocked them, and said, Cry aloud; for he is a god; either he is talking, or he is pursuing, or he is in a journey, or peradventure he sleepeth, and must be awaked.” When the Baal liturgy was over, Elijah called for twelve barrels of water to be poured on his altar, then calmly, but fervently, prayed, “Hear me, O LORD, hear me, that this people may know that thou art the LORD God,” and “then the fire of the LORD fell, and consumed the burnt sacrifice, and the wood, and the stones, and the dust, and licked up the water that was in the trench” (1 Ki. 18:37-38). For good measure, the prophet of God had the

850 prophets of Baal taken down to the river Kishon and killed. What a warrior for truth!

We think of John the Baptist who said to impenitent, hard-hearted, prophet-killing Israel, “O generation of vipers, who hath warned you to flee from the wrath to come?” (Lu. 3:7), and told the fearsome Herod, who had taken his brother’s wife as his own, “It is not lawful for thee to have her” (Mt. 14:4).

We think of the Lord Jesus Christ, who even in His humility (Php. 2:8) publicly called the Pharisees and scribes hypocrites, children of hell, blind guides, fools, serpents, and generation of vipers (Mt. 23:1-36), and twice chased the money changers out of the temple with a whip (Mt. 21:12; Joh. 1:13-17)! How much more do we see Christ’s warrior spirit when He appears on a white horse at the head of the armies of heaven, in righteousness judging and making war, His eyes as a flame of fire, clothed with a vesture dipped in blood, smiting the nations, and ruling with a rod of iron (Re. 19:11-15). Indeed, “The LORD is a man of war” (Ex. 15:3)!

The apostle Paul was a warrior. His bodily presence might have been weak, as his enemies claimed (2 Co. 10:10). We don’t know and it doesn’t matter; he was large when it came to fighting for the truth. On the very first stop of his first historic missionary journey, he publicly called out a prominent member of the city of Salamis with these shocking words, “O full of all subtilty and all mischief, thou child of the devil, thou enemy of all righteousness, wilt thou not cease to pervert the right ways of the Lord,” and struck him with blindness for good measure (Ac. 13:10-11)! What a fireball! As for two preachers of that day, Hymenaeus and Alexander, Paul turned them over to the devil “that they may learn not to blaspheme” (1 Ti. 1:20). In an epistle meant to be read by all of the churches, Paul called out two other preachers by name, Hymenaeus and Philetus, labeling their teaching “profane and vain babblings” (2 Ti. 2:16-18), not caring a whit if he hurt their poor feelings. In the same epistle, Paul publicly exposed Alexander the coppersmith’s evil (2 Ti. 4:14-15) and mentioned the preacher Demas by name, a former coworker, for “having loved this present world,” holding him up as a bad example before all the churches. Paul rebuked Peter publicly for hypocrisy (Ga. 2:11-14). The apostle to the Gentiles taught a vast amount of really deep “positive truth,” but he wasn’t finished. He got very “negative” when he fought against Galatian judaizers and Corinthian spiritualizers and Colossian gnostics. Paul

stood against false christs and false gospels and false spirits of any and every sort, but he didn't stop there. He stood against carnality, worldliness, man-centeredness, pride of scholarship, unqualified pastors, and every type of sin in the churches. He was an unwavering disciplinarian (1 Co. 5). He was big on rebuking (2Ti. 4:2; Tit. 1:13; 2:15). Unlike many warriors since then, Paul never backed down, never softened his stance, never regretted or repented of fighting for the truth's sake. At the very end, Paul summarized his Christian life with these words, "I have fought a good fight" (2 Ti. 4:7). Indeed! Any preacher who is not a fighter is not walking in the footsteps of Paul.

True fundamentalists are pilgrims and strangers, soldiers, come outers, walk aloners, when necessary. In their defense of the faith, fundamentalists have offended relatives and friends, lost salaries, retirement benefits, insurance policies, positions, church properties, and prestige. They have endured willful misunderstanding, misrepresentation, slander, ridicule, and *disdain*. They have turned their backs on comfortable denominationalism and institutionalism to found independent churches and ministries by faith in God alone, often without the pledge of any human support. They have literally become the offscouring of the world in the eyes of secular society and of Christianity at large.

Fundamentalist Bob Schuler said, "I have come, thank God, to where I believe I could stand up and vote my convictions if I were the one lonely man on my side of the question. ... Such are times when men need to know their own souls and to be fortified with a loyalty that is to God alone. If standing true and courageous amid the storms that now assail they can look up and go forward, it will matter little whether other men are their friends or their foes" (cited from Richard Clearwaters, *The Great Conservative Baptist Compromise*).

William Ashbrook, author of *Evangelicalism The New Neutralism*, renounced the liberal northern Presbyterians and lost "his pulpit and his pension." He identified lack of courage as a chief characteristic of the time. "It is indeed a question of whether we of this generation have the courage to stand up for our convictions and maintain a bold testimony in the face of encroaching unbelief and compromise. ... Many, from weakness or fear of reproach, are quitting the fight. It is sad indeed to see those who were speaking out boldly a few years back, now remaining in silence, apparently wearied of the conflict.

... God's challenge was never more needed than in this day. 'Watch ye, stand fast in the faith, quit you like men, be strong' (1 Co. 16:13)."

J.C. Ryle said, "We want more boldness among the friends of truth. There is far too much tendency to sit still, and wait for committees, and number our adherents. We want more men who are not afraid to stand alone. It is truth, not numbers, which shall always in the end prevail. We have the truth, and we need not be ashamed to say so. The judgment day will prove who is right, and to that day we boldly appeal" (cited from Iain Murray, *J.C. Ryle: Prepared to Stand Alone*, p. ii).

We think of the old fundamentalist papers, such as W.B. Riley's *Christian Fundamentals* and John Straton's *Calvary Call* and A.J. Gordon's *Watchword* and J. Frank Norris's *Searchlight* and Oliver Van Osdel's *Baptist Temple News* and Marion Reynolds' *Foundation* and T.T. Shields' *Gospel Witness* and Gerald Winrod's *Defender* and G. Archer Weniger's *Blue Print* and Don Jasmin's *Fundamentalist Journal*. They were bold and forthright about heretics and compromisers. There was no beating around the bush, no soft and gentle "neutralist" mood! No speaking in generalities. These fundamentalist periodicals were scented with the smoke of battle rather than the perfume of positivism.

In fundamentalist books such as *Evangelicalism The New Neutralism* by William Ashbrook and *New Neutralism II: Exposing the Gray of Compromise* by John Ashbrook and *The New Evangelical Experiment* by Rolland Starr and *The New Evangelicalism* by Charles Woodbridge and *The Challenge of a New Religion* by Carlton Helgersen, theological modernists are called "evil"; they are called "heretics"; their theology is called "poison," "damnable"; New Evangelicals are called compromisers, dangerous, pragmatists, popularizers, latitudinarians, neutralists. New Evangelicalism is called "a virus," "tragedy," "menace," "deadly," "deviant," "the deadliest ism of all," "theological and moral compromise of the deadliest sort."

The old fundamentalists named names--lots of them! They named names when preaching, and they named names when writing. Heresy and compromise is a public issue, and they made a public issue of dealing with it.

They knew they would be misunderstood and charged with hate-mongering; they knew that they were in the minority and that by so speaking they were closing doors

of fellowship and ministry. They knew they were choosing a limited fellowship by refusing to limit their message. They knew that “to identify oneself with the truth is to place one’s self in the heart of a storm from which there is no escape for life.” But they did it anyway, because this is the biblical example and therefore it is the will of God, and because they loved God and had a zeal for God’s truth in their hearts and souls. Like lonely Jeremiah, they could say, “But his word was in mine heart as a burning fire shut up in my bones, and I was weary with forbearing, and I could not stay” (Jer. 20:9).

Until today, fighting is what sets fundamentalists apart from even the most conservative of evangelicals. The latter might wear gloves, but they are velvet ones. They might point out a theological disagreement with someone, but typically in gentle, intellectual, “let’s still be friends,” non-separatist terms.

They aren’t warriors. They say that they esteem all of God’s precepts concerning all things to be right, like the Psalmist, but unlike the Psalmist, they don’t “hate every false way” (Ps. 119:128). To hate false ways is shocking to their sensibilities. It’s not their kind of Christianity.

But fundamentalists are warriors. We think of W.L. Pettingill in his warning about the liberal Harry Emerson Fosdick: “[T]he fight is on and it grows hotter. Let us praise God for that. A fight is much better than a disgraceful surrender and a fight is necessary just now that the truth of the Gospel may continue with us” (*Serving and Waiting*, January 1925, Philadelphia School of the Bible).

A.J. Gordon said, “Satan is the real Pope [and] demons the real cardinals.”

No velvet gloves there.

We think of David Otis Fuller who often ended his letters with the words, “The battle is getting hotter and hotter, and I like it better and better.” I received many of those letters.

We think of **JOHN ROACH STRATON** (1875-1929), pastor of Calvary Baptist Church in New York City from 1918 until his death in 1929, during the “Roaring Twenties.” He was called “a crusader, a two-fisted hard-hitting man of God, always the defendant at the bulwarks of Christianity.” Calvary Baptist was founded

in 1847 and had prominent pastors, including John Dowling, author of *The History of Romanism*.

Straton was the son of a Baptist preacher, but when he was 18 he attended law school and embraced humanism and evolution and was on a moral spiral downward. He visited services at First Baptist Church of Atlanta and was born again. He attended Mercer University and Southern Seminary. He started preaching, and by the end of World War I in 1918, he rejected postmillennialism for premillennialism. That was the year he was called to the pastorate of Calvary Baptist.

Straton published *The American Fundamentalist* (later called *The Calvary Call*) to broadcast his preaching and warnings. The *New York Times* reported regularly on his hard-hitting sermons, sometimes on the front page and sometimes publishing his entire Sunday sermon, which reminds us of how dramatically America has changed. The media was not universally positive of course. “Hostile journalists and cartoonists dipped their pens in acid and satirized Straton as ‘the Fundamentalist’s Pope,’ the ‘Witch Doctor of Gotham,’ and the ‘Meshuggah (Yiddish for crazy) of Manhattan’” (“John Roach Straton,” *Baptist Bible Tribune*, Jan. 25, 2013).

He was a tall, distinguished looking man, but he preached on the streets, and he preached *against* things. He designed and built a pulpit platform on an automobile from which he preached to crowds in the city (David Beale, *In Pursuit of Purity*, p. 213). He aimed to call America to repentance. He preached against Unitarianism, theological modernism, German skepticism, the social gospel, denominationalism, and communism. He preached against the popular press of his day for “engaging in a plot to ruin moral forces and bring them into national contempt” (George Dollar, *A History of Fundamentalism in America*). What would he say today when the press is promoting free sex, pornography, homosexual rights, sex education for children, and abortion on demand!

Pastor John Straton named names. He called the very popular, very liberal Harry Emerson Fosdick “a religious outlaw--the Jesse James of the theological world.” He called out S. Parkes Cadman, president of the Federal Council of Churches, for saying there is no hell. Straton said that Cadman was one of those who were “sprinkling cologne upon the putrid iniquities of

a rebellious race.” He preached against liberal Baptist historian H.C. Vedder of Crozer Seminary. He preached against the budding tendency for American courts to capitulate to humanistic psychology and to coddle criminals rather than punish them. He said God is “not a mollycoddle ... and the present wave of crime and vice that is simply devastating America is the direct result of this false and flimsy teaching.”

Straton also preached against worldliness. His books included *The Menace of Immorality in Church and State* (1920), *The Scarlet Stain on the City and How to Wipe It Out* (c. 1921), and *Satan in the Dance Hall* (c. 1925). Chapter titles in the latter included “Flappers and the Dance of Life” and “The Devil’s Music and the Scopes Trial.” There were 750 dance halls in New York City in Straton’s day.

Of female fashions, he said, “When it comes to women’s dress today there is not enough to talk about.” What would this warrior pastor say today! He preached against church dances and the use of theater stars and starlets to attract a crowd. He reproved parents who let their children choose between the picture show and Sunday School. He said the result of worldly homes was “the cigarette smoking boy who develops into the girl-ogling, sap-headed dude who would not recognize a sound thought or a sound ethical principal if he met it in the street; and the female flapper and flirt who knows more at 16 than her grandmother knew at 60, who hasn’t a speaking acquaintance with the art of sweeping a room, sewing a dress, or making a biscuit, but is past mistress with the lip-stick, the powder puff, and the bunny bag” (from Straton’s sermon “New York as Modern Babylon”). (A bunny bag was a small bag for cosmetics and other female accouterments.)

Straton took on prominent skeptics and heretics in public debates. The interest was so large that they were held in

Madison Square Garden. He also debated at Harvard, Dartmouth, Columbia, and other leading schools.

At the Northern Baptist Convention in 1923, Straton stood from the floor and denounced W.H.P. Faunce of Brown University as an infidel who was unfit to deliver the keynote address.

There isn’t a prominent “conservative evangelical” alive today who knows anything of the fundamentalist prophet-warrior spirit. There are no A.J. Gordons, no John Stratons, no William Bell Rileys, no J. Frank Norrises, no Bob Jones, Srs., no Marion Reynoldses, no Robert Ketchams. The spirit of these old fighters does exist today, but it doesn’t exist anywhere in conservative evangelicalism.

The essence of Fundamentalism was its warrior spirit, and that was biblical and right and good and godly, though the fighting wasn’t done with any perfection. Poor redeemed sinners haven’t done *anything* with perfection since Adam’s fall.

The warrior spirit was right, and from the warrior spirit flowed testing, reproofs, rebukes, warnings, and separations.

But conservative evangelicals don’t believe in fighting after this manner. They don’t even like fighters. If they find a fighter battling against sin and error, it is far more likely that they will attack him than join him.

The essence of Fundamentalism was, and is, its warrior spirit, and may the Lord multiply that spirit ten thousand fold today, regardless of the label! When living in such a wicked, apostate age, if a preacher doesn’t get worked up like Enoch of old and start firing off a bunch of well-aimed “ungodlys,” something is seriously wrong with him.

Thou therefore endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ. No man that warreth entangleth himself with the affairs of this life; that he may please him who hath chosen him to be a soldier. (2 Timothy 2:3-4)

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?



KIDULTS: ADULTS BUYING TOYS FOR THEMSELVES

(Friday Church News Notes, December 23, 2022, www.wayoflife.org, fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143)

- In the latest trend of the vain pop culture, adults are buying toys for themselves. Yes, for themselves. *NBC News* reports, "There are two things keeping the toy industry afloat right now: inflation and a consumer group known as 'kidults.' These kids at heart are responsible for one-fourth of all toy sales annually, around \$9 billion worth ... Kidults, who tend to spend more on toys, have a great fondness for cartoons, superheroes and collectibles that remind them of their childhood. They buy merchandise such as action figures, Lego sets and dolls that might typically be considered 'for kids.' However, in recent years, toy makers have created product lines just for these consumers, realizing that demand is high for this generation of adults who still want to have fun. 'The definition of adulthood has definitely evolved,' said Jeremy Padawer, chief brand officer at toy company Jazwares. 'What it used to mean, to be an adult, was to be a very upstanding, serious member of society. And to do that you had to demonstrate it intellectually,

emotionally, in every other single way. Now we feel a lot more free to express our fandom as a part of our adulthood,' he said" ("Adults are buying toys for themselves," *NBC News*, Dec. 19, 2022). The fleeting pop culture controls the thinking of most professing Christians, more than the eternal Word of God. They are not pilgrims; they are worldlings. The social calendar of the average church is evidence that it is pandering to the lukewarm crowd. It consists of partying with a thin veneer of Bible,. The pop culture focuses on fun. It is self-centered. Its latest theme song is "Young, Wild and Free" by foul-mouthed, marijuana addict Snoop Dogg. "So what we get drunk. So what we smoke weed. We're just having fun ... Living young, wild and free." This is a direct fulfillment of Bible prophecy. It is a sign of the times. "This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come. For men shall be LOVERS OF THEIR OWN SELVES" (2 Timothy 3:1-2). "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" (2 Timothy 4:3). **God's Word says, Grow up!** "As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, THAT YE MAY GROW THEREBY" (1 Peter 2:2). "Therefore leaving the principles of the doctrine of Christ, LET US GO ON UNTO PERFECTION" (Hebrews 6:1). "Whom we preach, warning every man, and teaching every man in all wisdom; THAT WE MAY PRESENT EVERY MAN PERFECT in Christ Jesus" (Colossians 1:28).

BIDEN SIGNS SAME-SEX MARRIAGE LAW (Friday Church News Notes, December 23, 2022, www.wayoflife.org,



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- The following is excerpted from "Biden Signs," *Christian Headlines*, Dec. 14, 2022: "President Joe Biden on Tuesday signed a bill into law that he says will ensure that same-sex marriage remains legal but that critics say goes much further than that by also threatening religious liberty. The bill, the Respect for Marriage Act (H.R. 8404), defines marriage as 'between 2 individuals' and overturns the 1996 Defense of Marriage Act, which defined marriage as the union of one man and one woman. Supporters say it ensures that same-sex marriage remains legal even if the U.S. Supreme Court overturns its landmark decision *Obergefell v. Hodges* (2015), which struck down traditional marriage laws nationwide. ... Although the bill includes an amendment that supporters say protects religious liberty, critics say its impact is too narrow. The amendment protects churches and other houses of worship. ... Alliance Defending Freedom, a religious liberty legal group that opposed the bill, said in an analysis that the law ignores 'the true threats to religious individuals and organizations.' As written, the new law 'can be used to punish social-service organizations that work closely with government,' such as 'adoption or foster placement agencies that serve their communities in accordance with their religious belief that marriage is the union of one man and one woman.' The new law

also could be used by the government to threaten a religious organization's tax-exempt status, ADF said. ... 'It only applies to religious organizations in the solemnization or celebration of a marriage, not to religious individuals or to any entity in any other context.' ... For example, the new law would not protect Christian-owned florists and bakers who have been involved in prominent lawsuits nationwide."

MEGACHURCH PASTOR WANTS TO REACH YOUNG MEN BY GROWING MARIJUANA (Friday Church News Notes, December 23, 2022, www.wayoflife.org, fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143)

- Pastor Jamal Bryant of Atlanta's New Birth Missionary Baptist Church has announced his plan to grow marijuana on the church property as an outreach. The church is "the largest land-owning Black church in America." He said he is looking for male congregants that "smell like weed" ("Megachurch Pastor," *Relevant*, Dec. 9, 2022). He says, "So if the guy, Black boy, in Bankhead said, 'They growing weed at the church? Where do I join?' I don't need no pamphlet for him." So Pastor Jamal wants to use marijuana as a church promotion! This is beyond dumb, even if marijuana were legal in Georgia, which it is not (cultivating marijuana for any reason is a felony offense). Marijuana is not



a harmless drug. Proponents of recreational marijuana typically ignore **proven dangers** such as addiction, psychosis, marijuana as a gate-way drug, long-term effects on learning, cognition, and personality, amotivational syndrome (lethargy and loss of interest in achievement), bronchitis and respiratory infections, and increased risk of cardiovascular disease. **There is a long line of evidence that marijuana is not an innocent relaxation drug.** I know this all too well, having been a drug user before I was saved, beginning with my Army tour in Vietnam in 1970-71. Marijuana is a psychoactive drug with hallucinogenic properties which can mess with the depths of an individual's soul. It affects people differently, but depression, intense anxiety, and paranoia are common side effects, and acute psychosis is not infrequent. This was proven in a study published in the *Lancet* in March 2019. The rush to legalize marijuana is the fruit of the rock & roll pop culture, the heart and soul of which is the anti-God philosophy of "live as you please." It is the product of a filthy entertainment industry, apostate Christianity, an educational system devoted to moral relativism, a society that celebrates unrestrained self-expression, and the gross lack of wisdom typically reflected in mainstream media reporting. God's command that His people be "sober" is repeated 12 times in the New Testament Epistles. It means to be in control of one's mind and spirit so that nothing but God is in charge. "Sober" is the opposite of being under the influence of alcohol or marijuana or other mind-control drugs.

CANADA EUTHANIZED 10,000 OF ITS CITIZENS LAST YEAR (Friday Church News Notes, December 23, 2022,



www.wayoflife.org, fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143)

- The following is excerpted from "America, be very afraid," *Daily Mail*, Dec. 6, 2022: "Canada, a country that prides itself on its open-mindedness and tolerance, has the most permissive rules on euthanasia in the world--and the results have been frankly terrifying. Last year, more than 10,000 people in Canada--astonishingly that's over three percent of all deaths there--ended their lives via euthanasia, an increase of a third on the previous year. ... Alan Nichols, for instance, was a 61-year-old British Columbian with a history of depression and other medical issues--though none of them life-threatening--who was hospitalized in 2019 over fears he might be suicidal. Although he asked his brother, Gary, to 'bust him out' as soon as possible, within a month of going into hospital he'd submitted a request to be euthanized. He listed only one health condition--hearing loss--as the reason, but that was enough to satisfy his keepers and he was killed. 'Alan was basically put to death,' said his brother Gary. Erin Smith said her 71-year-old father, Rod McNeill, went to an Ontario hospital after suffering a fall. A month later, he ... was euthanized for a condition--end-stage chronic obstructive pulmonary disease--that an autopsy shows he didn't have, Smith said. ... **Canada is set to allow people to die**

exclusively for mental health reasons. Starting March 2023, Canada's medically assisted suicide eligibility will expand to people who do not have a physical ailment. ... **Canada is also considering extending euthanasia to 'mature' minors--children under 18 who meet the same requirements as adults. Doctors and human rights campaigners say Canada's easy-come, easy-go euthanasia laws are particularly dangerous for disabled people who are being 'devalued' as a result.** ... Professor Tim Stainton, director of the Canadian Institute for Inclusion and Citizenship at the University of British Columbia, **described Canada's law as probably the biggest existential threat to disabled people since the Nazis' programme in Germany in the 1930s'.** Being compared to the Nazis is surely the last thing that Justin Trudeau and his achingly woke allies would expect to ever hear but as they turn their country into **an assisted suicide Wild West**, they are losing any claim to common humanity."

SOUTHERN BAPTIST MEGACHURCH RECEIVES UNREPENTANT HOMOSEXUALS AS MEMBERS (Friday Church News Notes, December 30, 2022, www.wayoflife.org, fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143)

- First Baptist Church of Orlando, Florida, a prominent Southern Baptist congregation, receives unrepentant homosexuals as members, including those with same-sex "marriage" partners. On Feb. 13, 2022, senior pastor David Uth said in a sermon that his church invited homosexuals to participate in its small groups, because "everyone needs a safe space to come to explore

faith." We agree with that, as far as it goes. Our church invites all sorts of unsaved people to attend services and other ministries open to visitors, so they can learn the gospel and see it lived out in Christian lives. Every church should be involved in this type of thing. Our job is to reach sinners with the gospel, every variety of sinner. In our main services, we have a good representation of Hindus, Buddhists, agnostics, adulterers, fornicators, thieves, drunkards, drug abusers, nominal Christians, etc. We urge them to come, so long as they don't cause a disturbance. We want them to hear the preaching of God's Word, the testimonies and the singing of hymns, and after the services, we urge them to stay around and take refreshment with us and talk about Christ, which many of them do. We invite them to house Bible studies. We want to get to know them and answer their questions. One of our main services each month is devoted to ministry to the unsaved, all varieties of them. In that service, everything is geared toward this purpose. At the same time, the visitors aren't members. To be a member, one has to meet the biblical qualifications, which are repentance toward God and faith in the Lord Jesus Christ and scriptural baptism (Acts 2:41-42; 20:21). They must be born again, converted, supernaturally changed, and by God's grace we have seen every sort of sinner converted and go on to live



PLANTS FOCUS LIGHT (Friday Church News Notes, December 23, 2022, www.wayoflife.org, fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - The following is from CreationMoments.com: “In many ways, a plant is like a machine that changes the energy of sunlight into food energy that is needed by the rest of the living world. The energy which runs the plant is light. Now, if you were going to design a better, more efficient plant, how might you do it? Obviously, one way to improve a plant would be to create one that can do its job with less light. But remember, the plant cannot store more energy than it receives. And if the plant was too sensitive to light, a strong dose of sunlight could kill it. The obvious solution is to outfit the plant with tiny lenses which focus even dim light into the chemical centers where photosynthesis takes place. Due to man’s ignorance, modern science has often regarded plants as if they were simple, unsophisticated forms of life. Now scientists have discovered that many plants do indeed have special cells which focus and concentrate the available light into the very centers where it is needed. One plant’s shaded leaves were found to intensify available light



by 26 times. And if the light gets so strong that it could damage the leaves, the light is focused onto cells which can absorb the extra light. Plants are much more complex, higher-performance living things than we ever suspected. Plants incorporate designs based on a highly sophisticated knowledge of both chemistry and physics. What a wonderful witness they are to our Creator!”

fruitful Christian lives as new creatures in Christ. It is always wonderful to see the great change that God works. This is not what First Baptist of Orlando is doing. They are not preaching repentance to homosexuals and calling them to a new life in Christ. They are accepting homosexuals as they are, in their sin. That isn’t true Christian love. They are allowing homosexuals to deceive themselves into thinking that God accepts them as they are, which the Bible plainly says is not true. Research by Justin Peters found multiple cases of this. One member of First Baptist is Joe Mills, who was “married” to his male partner in December 2021. Mills is not only a member, he is the administrator of one of the church’s Gospel Gatherings, and he baptizes new members. This is not New Testament Christianity. Among the membership of the church

at Corinth, which was founded by the apostle Paul, were all sorts of sinners, including fornicators, idolaters, adulterers, effeminate, abusers of themselves with mankind, thieves, covetous, drunkards, revilers, and extortioners. They were not received *in* their sin; they were received when they were born again and changed. **“And such WERE some of you: but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God”** (1 Corinthians 6:11).

For the evidence behind this report, see https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GFdzHnJX_Qo

STANFORD’S SPEECH CONTROL (Friday Church News Notes, December 30, 2022, www.wayoflife.org, fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143)

- The following is excerpted from “The Stanford Guide to Acceptable Words,” *Wall Street Journal*, Dec. 19, 2022: “Parodists have it rough these days, since so much of modern life and culture resembles the Babylon Bee. The latest evidence is that Stanford University administrators in May published an index of forbidden words to be eliminated from the school’s websites and computer code, and provided inclusive replacements to help re-educate the benighted. Call yourself an ‘American’? Please don’t.



Better to say ‘U.S. citizen,’ per the bias hunters, lest you slight the rest of the Americas. ‘Immigrant’ is also out, with ‘person who has immigrated’ as the approved alternative. It’s the iron law of academic writing: Why use one word when four will do? You can’t ‘master’ your subject at Stanford any longer; in case you hadn’t heard, the school instructs that ‘historically, masters enslaved people.’ And don’t dare design a ‘blind study,’ which ‘unintentionally perpetuates that disability is somehow abnormal or negative, furthering an ableist culture.’ ... ‘masked study’ is to be preferred. ... ‘Gangbusters’ is banned because the index says it ‘invokes the notion of police action against gangs in a positive light, which may have racial undertones.’ Not to beat a dead horse (a phrase that the index says ‘normalizes violence against animals’), but you used to have to get a graduate degree in the humanities to write something that stupid. The Elimination of Harmful Language Initiative is a ‘multi-phase’ project of Stanford’s IT leaders. The list took ‘18 months of collaboration with stakeholder groups’ to produce, the university tells us. We can’t imagine what’s next, except that it will surely involve more make-work for more administrators, whose proliferation has driven much of the rise in college tuition and student debt. For 16,937 students, Stanford lists 2,288 faculty and 15,750 administrative staff.” One report on this observes, “As with Twitter, it would be interesting to fire half the admin and see what happens.”

SOME LIBRARIES BAN BIBLE-BASED CHILDREN’S BOOK

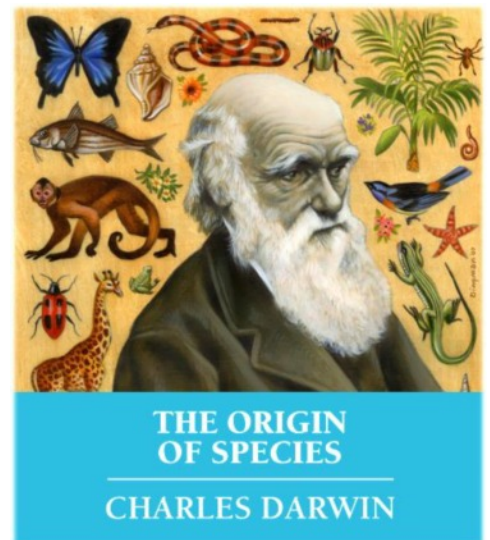
(Friday Church News Notes, December 30, 2022, www.wayoflife.org, fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - The following is excerpted from



“Kirk Cameron speaks out,” *Fox News*, Dec. 8, 2022: “Actor Kirk Cameron spoke out Wednesday following more than 50 libraries allegedly rejecting his attempts to visit and read his new faith-based book, while many have had no problem hosting drag queen story hours for children. The ‘Growing Pains’ star said a library in Alameda County, Calif., rejected a solicitation while instead continuing to schedule what he characterized as a ‘gender name-change clinic’ later in the week. ‘I’m thinking, Wow, if we’re so committed to diversity, why am I being excluded? Why can’t I use your facility to read my book? You’re a library.’ He said a Providence, R.I., library rejected another offer, with a worker telling publisher Brave Books they are a ‘very queer-friendly library; our messaging does not align.’ ‘My understanding of history is that the family and the church are two great pillars of Western civilization,’ Cameron said. ‘And those two things need to be removed and taken out of the way in order to fundamentally change the power structure and the moral value code of the nation.’ However, the actor added that since the news broke of his dozens of rejections, parents and other librarians are contacting him or his publisher to solicit appearances to read his book.”

THE RAPID, DESTRUCTIVE EFFECT OF DARWINISM ON

SOCIETY (Friday Church News Notes, December 30, 2022, www.wayoflife.org, fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - Charles Darwin published *On the Origin of Species* in 1859. Though he gave zero evidence for how the species originated by naturalistic means, his atheistic philosophy received a sympathetic hearing in England, Europe, America, and beyond. It was a major event in the onslaught of end-time apostasy. Less than 30 years later, the following observation was given at the International Prophetic Conference in Chicago, 1886, the second of five such conferences: “A man is what he thinks. If he thinks mud he will be mud. That is why, under the reign of Huxley, Darwin and the prurient biologic school, reverence is dying away, the sacredness of womanhood dying away, dignities, titles, self-respect dying away, and London becomes like to Sodom and Paris like to Gomorrah.” This statement was made by George Sayles Bishop, a Reformed pastor. Already, Darwin’s wicked hypothesis had exercised a terrible effect on society. The prophetic conferences marked the dawn of the fundamentalist revival. (I see the fundamentalist movement in all of its broad aspects as one of



America's Great Awakenings.) The major themes of the conferences were the infallible inspiration of Scripture, end-time apostasy, the defense of the faith once delivered unto the saints, and the literal interpretation of Bible prophecy, with an emphasis on the return of the Jews to their homeland and the establishment of a Jewish state. At the time, this appeared to be impossible. The land of Israel was controlled by the Muslim Ottoman Turks, and they were dead set against a Jewish state in "Palestine." But Bible believers knew that it would happen, because it is prophesied in Scripture. In 1864, Charles Spurgeon had preached on Ezekiel 37:1-10 at a gathering of the British Society for the Propagation of the Gospel among the Jews, saying, "The meaning of our text, as opened up by the context, is most evidently, if words mean anything, first, that there shall be a

political restoration of the Jews to their own land and to their own nationality. And then, secondly, there is in the text and in the context a most plain declaration that there shall be a **spiritual restoration**--in fact a conversion--of the tribes of Israel." The first part of this prophecy was fulfilled in 1948 with the founding of the modern state of Israel. This is a preparation (unknowingly on Israel's part) for the coming of the Antichrist with his peace covenant as prophesied in Daniel 9:27. The second part of the Ezekiel 37 prophecy, the spiritual restoration of Israel, will occur during the time of Jacob's trouble, which might be just around the corner (Jeremiah 30:7-24).

ELON MUSK ALLOWS SCIENTIFIC LIBERTY (Friday Church News Notes, January 6, 2023,



www.wayoflife.org, fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143)

- America has always been the land of liberty, until the totalitarian mindset raised its head in recent times, doubtless as a judgment for America's wickedness. But there is still more liberty in America than in other nations. It is encouraging to see every glimmer of it in these strange times. Elon Musk purchased Twitter to make it a forum for free speech, and he is still pursuing that agenda in spite of unreasonable, vicious,

THE COMMON WHITETHROAT - A SUPER MIGRATOR

(Friday Church News Notes, December 30, 2022, www.wayoflife.org, fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - The following is excerpted from David Coppedge, "Capabilities of Migrating Birds," *Evolution News & Science Today*, Dec. 15, 2022: "The common whitethroat (*Curruca communis*) is a small dusky-colored warbler that summers in Europe and winters in Africa, Arabia, or Pakistan. Its low weight (14 grams), plain appearance, and scratchy voice belie its migratory prowess. Two ornithologists from the University of St. Andrews, with a colleague in Nigeria, outfitted 40 of the birds with geologgers weighing only half a gram and recorded their flight paths. These lightweight contenders were measured traveling 5,000 km in just 52 days, including 2,000 km nonstop across inhospitable barriers like the Sahara Desert and the Mediterranean Sea. How's that for a home run? The scientists published the stats in *PLOS ONE*: 'Departures from breeding grounds took place between July and August in a south-westerly direction. During spring migration individuals travelled longer distances at faster rates making its



overall duration shorter than autumn migration. We suggest that, while Whitethroats **can cross the Sahara Desert and Mediterranean Sea in a single flight**, they are likely to refuel before and after crossing.' [Emphasis added.] The small champions sometimes stop at the bases, but occasionally make home runs. 'If under severe time constraints, however, individuals can successfully undergo a flight without making stopovers.'"

widespread slander. On Dec. 29, he tweeted, “New Twitter policy is to follow the science, which necessarily includes reasoned questioning of the science.” He also said, “Anyone who says that questioning them is questioning science itself cannot be regarded as a scientist.” He is doubtless referring to the totalitarian policy of Dr. Anthony Fauci and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control during the Covid crisis, among other things. Eric Weinstein, managing director of Thiel Capital, commented, “This. Changes. Everything. If true. Is that a 100% commitment to biologists that they can stop *lying* about biological sex, healthy reproductive development, ‘herd immunity’, genetic differences between geographically separated populations, horse paste, Wuhan Inst. GoF, etc.?” Joshua Stevens, who works for NASA, tweeted, “This is fair and reasonable. And if any scientist tells you otherwise, never let them wax poetic about curiosity and wonder ever again.”

UPDATE ABOUT TIKTOK AND THE CHINESE COMMUNIST PARTY (Friday Church News Notes, January 6, 2023, www.wayoflife.org, fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - TikTok is the world’s third largest social network, after Facebook and



Instagram. In June 2022, *BuzzFeed News* reported that TikTok’s parent company, ByteDance, “is required under Chinese law to share its data with the Chinese Communist Party whenever requested.” “Audio obtained by BuzzFeed covering more than 80 internal meetings at TikTok between the months of September 2021 and January 2022 showed that U.S. employees were not permitted to access user data and instead relied on Chinese employees to do so” (“China accessed data of US TikTok users repeatedly,” *Fox News*, June 19, 2022). In December 2022, TikTok was banned on state devices in Texas, South Carolina, Maryland, and South Dakota. In January 2023, Congressman Mike Gallagher called on all Americans to delete TikTok from their phones, saying, “TikTok is owned by ByteDance, and ByteDance is effectively controlled by the Chinese Communist Party (CCP). The editor-in-chief of ByteDance, for example, is a CCP Secretary” (*Fox Business*, Jan. 2, 2023). Gallagher said a large percentage of young Americans get their news from TikTok, and there is the danger of the Chinese government selectively editing their news. He said it would be like in 1958 if America allowed Russia’s propaganda organization *Pravda* to buy the *New York Times*, the *Chicago Post*, and other major news publications. Florida Congressman Mike Waltz agrees. He says, “We need to ban TikTok as a country. We can’t have a situation where hundreds of millions of Americans can be influenced by our greatest adversary” (Ibid.)

APPEALS COURT BACKS FLORIDA SCHOOL DISTRICT’S POLICY THAT SEPARATES BATHROOMS BY



BIOLOGICAL SEX (Friday Church News Notes, January 6, 2023, www.wayoflife.org, fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - The following is excerpted from “Federal appeals court,” *Fox News*, Dec. 31, 2022: “A federal appeals court has ruled in favor of a Florida school district’s policy that separates school bathrooms by biological sex. The 11th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals announced its 7-4 decision on Friday, ruling that the St. Johns County School Board did not discriminate against transgender students based on sex, or violate federal civil rights law by requiring transgender students to use gender-neutral bathrooms or bathrooms matching their biological sex. The court’s decision was split down party lines, with seven justices appointed by Republican presidents siding with the school district and four justices appointed by Democratic presidents siding with Drew Adams, a biological female, who sued the district in 2017 after not being allowed to use the boys’ restroom. ... Judge Barbara Lagoa wrote in the majority opinion that the school board policy advances the important governmental objective of protecting students’ privacy in school bathrooms. She said the district’s policy does not violate the law because it’s based on biological sex, not gender identity. ... Two other federal appeals courts have ruled that transgender students can use bathrooms that accord with their

identities. Friday's decision increases the likelihood that the U.S. Supreme Court will take up the issue."

ABORTION DESTROYING BLACKS IN AMERICA

(Friday Church News Notes, January 6, 2023, www.wayoflife.org, fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - The following is excerpted from "White People Don't Like Abortion," TownHall.com, Nov. 12, 2012: "Planned Parenthood founder Margaret Sanger believed in using abortion to rid the world of the 'unfit.' In Sanger's world, the unfit included blacks and she hoped they would be eliminated with the help of her organization. As she wrote in her autobiography, Sanger founded Planned Parenthood in 1916 'to stop the multiplication of the unfit.' This, she boasted, would be 'the most important and greatest step towards race betterment.' While she oversaw the mass murder of black babies, Sanger cynically recruited minority activists to front her death racket. She conspired with eugenics financier and businessman Clarence Gamble to 'hire three or four colored ministers, preferably with social-service backgrounds, and with engaging personalities' to sell their genocidal policies as community health and welfare services. Outright murder wouldn't sell. But wrapping it under the egalitarian cloak of 'women's health'--and adorning it with the

moral authority of black churches--would. Sanger and Gamble called their deadly campaign 'The Negro Project.' ... Planned Parenthood receives \$500 million from the government each year and funded millions of dollars' worth of advertisements this year to get Barack Obama reelected. Sanger's dream is coming true today as Planned Parenthood clinics are purposely placed in minority neighborhoods to target pregnant women. Fast forward: Five decades and 16 million aborted black babies later, Planned Parenthood's insidious agenda has migrated from inner-city 'birth control bureaus' to public school-based health clinics to the White House--forcibly funded with taxpayer dollars just as Sanger championed. ... 28 percent of the black race has been wiped out by abortion. More than 1,400 black babies are aborted every day. Though blacks make up 12% of the population, they make up 36% of abortions."

HOW COVID RESTRICTIONS AFFECTED RELIGIOUS GROUPS

(Friday Church News Notes, January 6, 2023, www.wayoflife.org, fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - The following is excerpted from "Key findings about Covid-19 restrictions that affected religious groups around the world in 2020," Pewresearch.org, Nov. 29, 2022: "During the COVID-19 pandemic, countries around the world restricted large gatherings to reduce the spread of the virus. Religious events, including in-person worship services, were banned in many places. In every region of the globe, at least some religious groups protested these regulations. Pew Research Center's 13th annual report on restrictions on



religion in 2020 includes a new analysis of how public health measures related to the coronavirus affected religious groups the year the pandemic took hold globally. The report also shows that overall government restrictions and social hostilities relating to religion remained fairly stable from 2019 to 2020. ... In 69 countries (35% of the total analyzed), one or more religious groups defied public health measures that were imposed during the pandemic. ... Religious groups criticized government-mandated public health measures in 54 countries (27% of all analyzed), often stating the rules were a violation of religious freedom. ... In nearly a quarter of countries, governments used physical force, such as arrests and raids, to make religious groups comply with COVID-19 public health measures. ... In 18 countries, authorities linked religious groups or gatherings to the spread of COVID-19. And in 39 countries (20% of all studied) private individuals or groups attributed the spread of the virus to religious groups. ... Meanwhile, the number of countries with either 'high' or 'very high' levels of government restrictions remained the same, at 57 countries (29%) from 2019 to 2020, a peak number for the study."

NASA LEARNING FROM THE ALBATROSS

(Friday Church News Notes, January 6, 2023, www.wayoflife.org,





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- The following excerpted from David Coppedge, "Capabilities of Migrating Birds," *Evolution News & Science Today*, Dec. 15, 2022: "Moving up to the heavyweight class, the wandering albatross is a fascinating bird that can travel thousands of miles without flapping its wings. With its 11-foot wingspan (the longest of any living bird), this iconic soaring champion of the southern oceans attracted the attention of the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute. Researchers show maps of its wanderings, and describe how it tilts and swoops in clever ways to take advantage of the wind's energy. Wandering albatrosses lack sufficient musculature to sustain continuous flapping flight for long periods of time; however **they have a shoulder lock that mechanically holds their wings outstretched so that little energy is expended while soaring, according to the paper. The wandering albatross is so good at efficient use of wind energy, NASA has taken notice.** The *BBC News* reported that an albatross-inspired glider has been designed for future flights on Mars. Unlike rovers or the highly successful Mars demonstration helicopter, a flyer designed like an albatross could fly for free on the Martian wind, swoop up the slopes of volcanoes, and stay aloft for long periods of time. A

demonstration Mars sailplane has been designed at the University of Arizona. With looks similar in proportions to the albatross, it can pack a small camera, and temperature and gas sensors to reconnoiter much farther than its battery-powered explorers can. While these other forms of transport have been partly limited by power needs, the glider would use energy available in the atmosphere itself, explained Adrien Bouskela, an aerospace engineering doctoral student at the University of Arizona. 'It's kind of a leap forward in those methods of extending missions,' he said."

A HURRAH FROM OLD AMERICA

(Friday Church News Notes, January 13, 2023, www.wayoflife.org, fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - Old America is the original, traditional America, characterized by such things as liberty, opportunity, equality, independence, property ownership, churches, sermons, the Bible, praying in Jesus' name, patriotism, and benevolence. Old America is under siege by a New America, which is characterized by a totalitarian stance against everything Old America stands for. (See "[Two Americas, the Old and the New](#)" in this issue of O Timothy, and online at, www.wayoflife.org.) The New America breeds in the public school system and universities and is leavening every institution. The war between the Old America and the New is fierce, but the Old America is far from dead, thankfully. It was on display in all its glory at the inauguration ceremony for newly-elected Florida governor Ron DeSantis, who promoted unabashed Old American values during his first four-year term. The overflow crowd was massive and enthusiastic. The

ceremony featured DeSantis' traditional family of a wife, a boy that is obviously all boy, and two little girls that are obviously all girl, clothed sweetly in pretty dresses. American flags were everywhere. The U.S. military was on display, with a 21-shot artillery salute and a fighter jet flyover. There was a Sousa march and the Pledge of Allegiance and the "Star Spangled Banner," and no one "took a knee." There was a biblical prayer by a Baptist preacher addressed to "Our Father in heaven" and concluding with "in the strong name of your Son and our Saviour, Jesus Christ the Lord." Hallelujah! DeSantis is a fearless warrior for Old America, and his policies have prospered the state of Florida greatly. In his inaugural speech, he said, "Over the past few years, as so many states in our country grinded their citizens down, we in Florida lifted our people up. When other states consigned their people's freedom to the dust bin, Florida stood strongly as freedom's lynch pin. When the world lost its mind, when common sense suddenly became an uncommon virtue, Florida was a refuge of sanity, a citadel of freedom for our fellow Americans and even for people around the world. In captaining the ship of state, we choose to navigate the boisterous sea of liberty, rather than cower in the calm docks of despotism. .. Florida is number one in these United States in net in-migration. We are number one in new business formations. We are



number one in tourism. We are number one in economic freedom. We rank number one in education freedom, and we rank number one in parental involvement in education. Florida also ranks number one in public higher education. This is a record we can all be proud of!" He noted that the state operates in the black and has a budget surplus. He promised to make school districts more responsive to parents and to rededicate high education to the pursuit of knowledge and truth, not "trendy ideologies." He said, "We will protect our children against those who seek to rob them of their innocence," referring to the leftist agenda of promoting transgenderism. He said, **"We seek normalcy, not philosophical lunacy! We will not allow reality, facts, and truth to become optional! We will never surrender to the woke mob! Florida is where woke goes to die!"**

WILL POLITICAL CONSERVATISM SAVE AMERICA? (Friday Church News Notes, January 13, 2023, www.wayoflife.org, fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - DeSantis and other Old America leaders are an answer to prayer. What has happened in Florida is too amazing not to be the handiwork of God. Florida is my home state. I know it well. It is a magnificent state, with 1,350 miles of coastline and 30,000 lakes and the most consistently spectacular sunsets I have seen anywhere. I grew up fishing and skiing in those lakes. Today, Florida is one of 24 states that is a Republican triplex, meaning Republicans control the offices of governor, secretary of state, attorney general, and both chambers of the state legislature. But until the late 1990s, Florida was a Democrat

stronghold. Even in 2018, DeSantis won against his Democrat opponent by a razor thin margin (49.6% to 49.2%). This reminds us of how quickly these things can change. We have *no* faith in politics or in the steadfastness of the American people to pursue right. They are fickle and easily swayed by well-conceived deception. **We must understand the fundamentals. The root problem in America is not Woke universities, it is Sleeping churches. We know that even with signs of encouragement such as DeSantis and other conservatives in power, wickedness and ungodly philosophies continue to leaven the nation day after day, everywhere, even in Florida. Overall, Old America is not winning.** Trump's idea to make America great again, is the misguided thinking of an unregenerate man. The New America would have to be pushed back into a closet as in former times for America to truly be great again. God could do that, of course, but there is no sign of it. At the same time, God is very merciful and is definitely helping His people and answering prayer. Americans still have great freedom, though totalitarianism is pressing in. Let's use every bit of freedom for Christ's glory! I am heartily thankful for every "conservative" who is fighting for the Old America on the political level, and I cheer them on. That is not my fight, though. God has given His people something far more important to fight for, which is Christ's Great Commission and the New Testament church. I will continue to pound that key fiercely!

THE DESANTIS INAUGURATION PRAYER (Friday Church News Notes, January 13, 2023, www.wayoflife.org, fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143)



- The following prayer was delivered by Tom Ascol, senior pastor of Grace Baptist Church, Cape Coral, Florida. Ascol is a conservative Southern Baptist who speaks out against theological liberalism, critical race theory, and other errors. "Our Father in heaven we bow to you today on this momentous occasion because you alone are God; you are the Creator and Sustainer of all things, visible and invisible; you are Sovereign; and through your Son Jesus Christ you rule and overrule in all the affairs of life. We thank you for your great love for people whom you have made in your own image. And we confess that we have not lived as we ought, and we have sinned against you. We also confess that with you there is mercy that you may be feared. Thank you for delivering up your Son to be the Saviour of the world. We also thank you for the provisions you have made for us to pursue liberty, joy, and justice in your world, and for instituting government and all governing authorities for our well-being. ... Grant Gov. DeSantis wisdom beyond his years, strength beyond his abilities, and courage to stand firm in every righteous conviction. Remind him that he occupies this office as your servant. Enable him to serve with joy, zeal, and in the fear of God. Father, grant our governor good counsel and the humility to heed it when it will serve the citizens of this state well. ... Help

him to remember both the source and responsibility of his authority. Lord, we ask you to have mercy on our governor's precious family. We pray for his wife Casey and his children, Madison, Mason, and Mamie. With all the demands that go with this office, grant him the love and strength to care for them. Watch over and bless this family as he gives himself to serve this state. So, Holy Father, hear our prayers for Gov. DeSantis. Receive our praise and answer our request, because we bring them to you in the strong name of your Son and our Saviour, Jesus Christ the Lord. Amen."

DESANTIS, SOUTHERN BAPTISTS, REPUBLICANS, AND ROCK & ROLL (Friday Church News Notes, January 13, 2023, www.wayoflife.org, fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143)

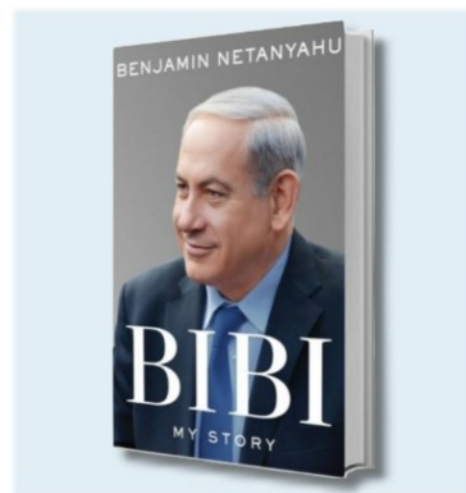
- Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis is a political and social conservative, but he is also a good times rock & roller. This is confusion. The rock culture is one of the major things that has given America the Woke culture. The theme of rock & roll has always been, "I'm free to do what I want any old time." That is rebellion to the Almighty, who says man is *not* free to do what he wants. The rock & roll philosophy is the fountain for every type of licentiousness and ungodly thinking: adultery, fornication, homosexuality, transsexualism, unisex fashion, radical feminism, gangsterism, serial theft, abortion, the generation gap, disrespect to authority, etc. Rock & roll is the soundtrack for all of these things. Whatever blessing Republicanism is to America today, the seeds of moral destruction reside in its beloved rock & roll. A Southern Baptist led in prayer at Desantis' inauguration. Southern Baptists tend to be

Republican (though that is changing), but the vast majority even of the most conservative Southern Baptists are worldly. Just check out the youth departments. Southern Baptist churches have been worldly since I was a boy in the 1950s. Southern Baptist churches are part of America's fundamental problem and cannot therefore be its solution. The gradual spread of critical race theory and other heresies among Southern Baptist churches is merely a symptom of a much deeper problem, and that is unregeneracy, lukewarmness, worldliness, and biblical ignorance. The rock and roll culture has done more, probably, than any other one thing to destroy the holy, separated, pilgrim character of Bible-believing churches and to ruin the moral fiber of Old America. I was saved at age 23 out of a lifestyle driven by rock & roll, a lifestyle that nearly destroyed me, as it has destroyed multitudes of young people. See the free eBook [*What Every Christian Should Know about Rock Music*](#), at www.wayoflife.org/

BIBI: MY STORY (Friday Church News Notes, January 20, 2023, www.wayoflife.org, fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143)

- Benjamin Netanyahu's autobiography (*Bibi: My Story*), published in October, is fascinating, entertaining, challenging, and highly educational on many levels, especially for Bible-believing Christians who are interested in the state of Israel. The book is an education in Zionism, Israeli and American politics, the military, economics, the United Nations, cutting-edge technology, Mossad, and a great many other things. Netanyahu's speeches before the U.S. Congress and United Nations, which he recounts first hand, are

jewels. Recently elected to his third term of Prime Minister (December 2022), he represents the conservative side of the state of Israel. I like Netanyahu as a leader, and I'm glad to see him back in power. He is a Bible student but not a believer in Jesus as the Christ. He doesn't understand that Israel today is in apostasy and is preparing for the coming of the Antichrist. But he loves the state of Israel and wants to prosper and protect it. He has long wanted to destroy Iran's nuclear program. He has done a lot of good for Israel. He has served over 15 years as Prime Minister (1996-1999 and 2009-2021) and about 10 years as minister of Science and Technology, Foreign Affairs, Finance, and others. He had a major role in converting the nation from socialism to free market and removing government obstacles to business that have done much to make Israel the dynamic economic, technological, and military power that it is today. Netanyahu also had a major role in developing Israel's now extensive economic relationships with nations all over the world. His family roots are deep in the Jabazinsky (non-socialist) side of the Zionist movement. His paternal grandfather was a rabbi and Zionist. His father immigrated to Israel before statehood. Born in 1949 in Tel Aviv, Benjamin spent part of his youth in the States (1956-58, 1963-67, 1972-76) and was educated at MIT. He and his two brothers were members of Sayeret Matkal, one the most elite Israeli military units. He participated in the Six-Day War



REVERSIBLE WINGS (Friday Church News Notes, January 13, 2023, www.wayoflife.org fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - The following is from CreationMoments.com: “Sometimes incredible wonders pass right before our eyes, but we are not equipped to see them. Take the hummingbird, for an example. Did you know that like the woodpecker, the hummingbird has a tongue that wraps all the way around its head just under the skin? This feature is not really evident when you look at the hummingbird. Nor is the wonderful way in which its wings move, so that it can hover, fly forwards or fly backwards. High-speed photography has revealed some amazing secrets about the hummingbird’s wings that cannot be noticed by the eye. All birds, except the hummingbird, move their wings at the shoulder, elbow and wrist. Only the hummingbird is capable of turning his wings upside down, so that when he hovers, both strokes of his wings



beat the air in order to support him. This demonstrates that the hummingbird is not a modification of the general bird design--as evolutionists tell us. Rather, the hummingbird was created with unique features that enable it to make its living. Ref: *Time-Life*, ‘Flight.’”

of 1967 and took a break from MIT in 1973 to fight in the Yom Kipper War. His older brother, Yanatan (Yoni), was killed in 1976 in the raid on Entebbe that resulted in the rescue of more than 100 Israelis. Netanyahu gives an insider’s perspective of this raid. He writes with firsthand knowledge about Israel’s wars against the Muslim nations and the war on terror within Israel’s own borders. He describes his relationship with American presidents Ronald Reagan, George H.W. Bush, Bill Clinton, George W. Bush, Barack Obama, Donald Trump, and Joe Biden. It is clear that Israel is still living in the Times of the Gentiles, meaning she is under Gentile control to some extent. Also interesting are Netanyahu’s

longstanding relationship with Vladimir Putin. The fact that Netanyahu is so viciously hated by the left in Israel and the States is a plus in our view. He has been constantly hounded and slandered by the press. Since the 1990s, multiple indictments for corruption have produced nothing of substance against Netanyahu and his wife and obviously have not destroyed his popularity with the Israeli people, who put him back in power in December 2022. In *Bibi: My Story*, there is considerable bragging about Israel’s chutzpah. There is a vague reference to the rebirth of Israel being a miracle, but God Himself, by name, gets no credit for Israel’s preservation. The book ends with these words: “Through

three millennia we never gave up on our dream to live as a prosperous and free people in our homeland, the land of Zion. Having restored our independence, we cannot, we will not, let anyone bring an end to this miracle. We need not fret about the future. ... The Book of Samuel says, ‘The eternity of Israel will not falter.’ Throughout our journey, including in the tempests and upheavals of modern times, this has held true. The People of Israel Live!” So Bibi mentions “the eternity of Israel” but not the eternal God of Israel. Our prayer is that he will wake up to a true understanding of the Bible he reads. Some of Israel’s worst days are still ahead in “the time of Jacob’s trouble” (Jeremiah 30:7).

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)
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