

O Timothy

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

A Monthly Newsletter for Spiritual Protection and Edification

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"Commentators of past centuries, who were not prejudiced one way or the other by the current debate on unisex fashion, held that the teaching of Deuteronomy 22:5 is applicable to dress in the Christian life. They warned that to break down the distinction of sexes by removing the differences in clothing would result in much evil. This is exactly what has happened since unisex fashion has prevailed since the 1960s." Page 10.

Digging in the Walls: A month's worth of news items, republished from Friday Church News Notes. **Page 13.**



WHAT CAN WE DO IN THE FACE OF GROWING ANARCHY? ~ By David Cloud

What can God's people do in this present world, in the midst of lawlessness and apostasy, in the face of growing totalitarianism, speech control, the cancel culture, the licentious pop culture, Big Tech, Marxism, Critical Race Theory, etc.?

God's people do not yet rule on this earth, but they aren't powerless, by any means.

The following are the things that God has instructed His people to be occupied with in this present world. These things require a great deal of time and focus to accomplish, and if we will do that God has told us to do, and seek to do those things with increasing perfection before Him, instead of following the ways and thinking of the world around us we won't be characterized by such things as fretting, hand-wringing, worrying, hopelessness, fear, politicking, covetousness, and pleasure seeking.



Every child of God would do well to sit down and write out two lists: (1) How am I fulfilling these Scriptures in my daily life? (2) What practical steps can I take to do these things in a more perfect manner?

Make sure you are saved

The Bible warns that Christianity in the last days will be a powerless one. “Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away” (2 Timothy 3:5). It warns that false gospels and false christs and false spirits will abound. It is imperative to make sure that you are truly born again through the true gospel and the true Christ and the true Spirit. “Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God” (John 3:3).

Don't be surprised at growing wickedness and apostasy

God's Word prophesies the condition of the world and of professing Christianity, and this is exactly what we see in our day.

“This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come. For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, Without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good, Traitors, heady, highminded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God; Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away” (2 Timothy 3:1-5).

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“For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; And they shall turn away *their* ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables” (2 Timothy 4:3-4).

“Knowing this first, that there shall come in the last days scoffers, walking after their own lusts, And saying, Where is the promise of his coming? for since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as *they were* from the beginning of the creation” (2 Peter 3:3-4).

“But, beloved, remember ye the words which were spoken before of the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ; How that they told you there should be mockers in the last time, who should walk after their own ungodly lusts. These be they who separate themselves, sensual, having not the Spirit” (Jude 1:17-19).

“Fret not thyself because of evildoers, neither be thou envious against the workers of iniquity. For they shall soon be cut down like the grass, and wither as the green herb. Trust in the LORD, and do good; *so* shalt thou dwell in the land, and verily thou shalt be fed. Delight thyself also in the LORD; and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart” (Psalm 37:1-4).

“Fret not thyself because of evil *men*, neither be thou envious at the wicked” (Proverbs 24:19).

“For the LORD spake thus to me with a strong hand, and instructed me that I should not walk in the way of this people, saying, Say ye not, A confederacy, to all *them to* whom this people shall say, A confederacy; neither fear ye their fear, nor be afraid. Sanctify the LORD of hosts himself; and *let him be* your fear, and *let him be* your dread” (Isaiah 8:11-13).

Have a biblically-educated, settled conviction that God is on the throne and the times are in His hand

“But the LORD *is* the true God, he *is* the living God, and an everlasting king: at his wrath the earth shall tremble, and the nations shall not be able to abide his indignation” (Jeremiah 10:10).

“I have made the earth, the man and the beast that *are* upon the ground, by my great power and by my outstretched arm, and have given it unto whom it seemed meet unto me” (Jeremiah 27:5).

“Daniel answered and said, Blessed be the name of God for ever and ever: for wisdom and might are his: And he changeth the times and the seasons: he removeth kings, and setteth up kings: he giveth wisdom unto the wise, and knowledge to them that know understanding” (Daniel 2:20-21).

“And at the end of the days I Nebuchadnezzar lifted up mine eyes unto heaven, and mine understanding returned unto me, and I blessed the most High, and I praised and honoured him that liveth for ever, whose dominion *is* an everlasting dominion, and his kingdom *is* from generation to generation: And all the inhabitants of the earth *are* reputed as nothing: and he doeth according to his will in the army of heaven, and *among* the inhabitants of the earth: and none can stay his hand, or say unto him, What doest thou?” (Daniel 4:34-35).

“The LORD sitteth upon the flood; yea, the LORD sitteth King for ever” (Psalm 29:10).

“But I trusted in thee, O LORD: I said, Thou *art* my God. My times *are* in thy hand: deliver me from the hand of mine enemies, and from them that persecute me” (Psalm 31:14-15).

“Thy kingdom *is* an everlasting kingdom, and thy dominion *endureth* throughout all generations” (Psalm 145:13).

“There is no power but of God” (Romans 13:1).

“And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to *his* purpose” (Romans 8:28).

“Having made known unto us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure which he hath purposed in himself: That in the dispensation of the fulness of times he might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven, and which are on earth; *even* in him: In whom also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestinated according to the purpose of him who worketh all things after the counsel of his own will” (Ephesians 1:9-11).

Be a mature, skillful Bible student

“But his delight *is* in the law of the LORD; and in his law doth he meditate day and night” (Psalm 1:2).

“This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success” (Joshua 1:8).

“And now, brethren, I commend you to God, and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up, and to give you an inheritance among all them which are sanctified” (Acts 20:32).

“Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth” (2 Timothy 2:15).

“And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. All scripture *is* given by inspiration of God, and *is* profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, throughly furnished unto all good works” (2 Timothy 3:15-17).

“For every one that useth milk *is* unskilful in the word of righteousness: for he is a babe. But strong meat belongeth to them that are of full age, *even* those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil” (Heb. 5:13-14).

Be spiritually discerning, testing everything by God's Word

“These were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so” (Acts 17:11).

“For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war after the flesh: (For the weapons of our warfare *are* not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;) Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ” (2 Corinthians 10:3-5).

“Prove all things; hold fast that which is good” (1 Thessalonians 5:21).

Focus on your heavenly citizenship and live as a pilgrim

“If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God. Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth. For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God. When Christ, *who is* our life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory” (Colossians 3:1-4).

“Dearly beloved, I beseech *you* as strangers and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts, which war against the soul” (1 Peter 2:11).

Live holy Christian lives to the glory of Jesus Christ

“And that, knowing the time, that now *it is* high time to awake out of sleep: for now *is* our salvation nearer than when we believed. The night is far spent, the day is at hand: let us therefore cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armour of light. Let us walk honestly, as in the day; not in rioting and drunkenness, not in chambering and wantonness, not in strife and envying. But put ye on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make not provision for the flesh, to *fulfil* the lusts *thereof*” (Ro. 13:10-14).

“that ye might be filled with the knowledge of his will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding; That ye might walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God; Strengthened with all might, according to his glorious power, unto all patience and longsuffering with joyfulness; Giving thanks unto the Father, which hath made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light” (Colossians 1:9-12).

Build real New Testament churches

“But if I tarry long, that thou mayest know how thou oughtest to behave thyself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth” (1 Timothy 3:15).

“Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added *unto them* about three thousand souls. And they continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers” (Acts 2:41-42).

Build godly Christian homes

“Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as it is fit in the Lord. Husbands, love *your* wives, and be not bitter against them. Children, obey *your* parents in all things: for this is well pleasing unto the Lord.” (Col. 3:18-20).

“And, ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord” (Eph. 6:4).

“That they may teach the young women to be sober, to love their husbands, to love their children, *To be* discreet, chaste, keepers at home, good, obedient to their own husbands, that the word of God be not blasphemed” (Tit. 2:4-5).

Separate from the world

“Blessed *is* the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful” (Psalm 1:1).

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

“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).

“Love not the world, neither the things *that are* in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that *is* in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world. And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever” (1 Jo. 2:15-17).

Fulfill Christ's Great Commission

“And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, *even* unto the end of the world. Amen” (Matthew 28:18-20).

Be law-keepers and supporters of law-enforcers

God's Word teaches us to obey man's laws so long as man's laws do not cause us to disobey God's laws. Paul *emphasized this*, though he lived in the pagan, godless, humanist Roman Empire.

"Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God. Whosoever therefore resisteth the power, resisteth the ordinance of God: and they that resist shall receive to themselves damnation. For rulers are not a terror to good works, but to the evil. Wilt thou then not be afraid of the power? do that which is good, and thou shalt have praise of the same: For he is the minister of God to thee for good. But if thou do that which is evil, be afraid; for he beareth not the sword in vain: for he is the minister of God, a revenger to *execute* wrath upon him that doeth evil. Wherefore *ye* must needs be subject, not only for wrath, but also for conscience sake. For for this cause pay ye tribute also: for they are God's ministers, attending continually upon this very thing. Render therefore to all their dues: tribute to whom tribute *is due*; custom to whom custom; fear to whom fear; honour to whom honour" (Romans 13:1-7).

Endure suffering and persecution in a godly manner for Christ's sake

"For this *is* thankworthy, if a man for conscience toward God endure grief, suffering wrongfully. For what glory *is it*, if, when ye be buffeted for your faults, ye shall take it patiently? but if, when ye do well, and suffer *for it*, ye take it patiently, this *is* acceptable with God. For even hereunto were ye called: because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow his steps" (1 Peter 2:19-21).

"But and if ye suffer for righteousness' sake, happy *are ye*: and be not afraid of their terror, neither be troubled; But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and *be* ready always to *give* an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear: Having a good conscience; that, whereas they speak evil of you, as of evildoers, they may be ashamed that falsely accuse your good conversation in Christ. For *it is* better, if the will of God be so, that ye suffer for well doing, than for evil doing" (1 Peter 3:14-17).

Be spiritually revived and ready for the shout

"For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive *and* remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep. For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: Then we which are alive *and* remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord. Wherefore comfort one another with these words" (1 Thessalonians 4:15-18).

"But ye, brethren, are not in darkness, that that day should overtake you as a thief. Ye are all the children of light, and the children of the day: we are not of the night, nor of darkness. Therefore let us not sleep, as *do* others; but let us watch and be sober. For they that sleep sleep in the night; and they that be drunken are drunken in the night. But let us, who are of the day, be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love; and for an helmet, the hope of salvation. For God hath not appointed us to wrath, but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ" (1 Th. 5:4-9).

"The night is far spent, the day is at hand: let us therefore cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armour of light" (Romans 13:12).

"Let your moderation be known unto all men. The Lord *is* at hand" (Php. 4:5).

"Be ye also patient; stablish your hearts: for the coming of the Lord draweth nigh. Grudge not one against another, brethren, lest ye be condemned: behold, the judge standeth before the door" (James 5:8-9)

"But the end of all things is at hand: be ye therefore sober, and watch unto prayer" (1 Pe. 4:7).

"And he saith unto me, Seal not the sayings of the prophecy of this book: for the time is at hand" (Revelation 22:10).

Be a student of Bible prophecy so you will have a proper worldview and good understanding of the times

"We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise

in your hearts: Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation. For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake *as they were* moved by the Holy Ghost” (2 Peter. 1:19-21).

“This second epistle, beloved, I now write unto you; in *both* which I stir up your pure minds by way of remembrance: That ye may be mindful of the words which were spoken before by the holy prophets, and of the commandment of us the apostles of the Lord and Saviour” (2 Peter 3:1-2).

Pray, pray, pray

“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. For this *is* good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour; Who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth” (1 Timothy 2:1-4).

“continuing instant in prayer” (Ro. 12:12).

“Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints” (Eph. 6:18).

“Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God” (Php. 4:6).

“Continue in prayer, and watch in the same with thanksgiving” (Col. 4:2).

“Pray without ceasing” (1 Th. 5:17).

“For the eyes of the Lord *are* over the righteous, and his ears *are open* unto their prayers: but the face of the Lord *is* against them that do evil” (1 Pe. 3:12).

“But the end of all things is at hand: be ye therefore sober, and watch unto prayer” (1 Pe. 4:7).



QUESTION FROM A READER

“**T**hank you (as always!!) for your labor of love in His Name with the (again - always!!) study and preparation for the weekly *Church News Notes*. Just one question about an admonishment that you appear to be making in ‘A Word of Caution about the News’ concerning not ‘get(ing) involved with any type of uprising.’ I am well aware of God’s desire for us, as Christians, to live peaceably with all men as much as possible (Romans 12:8ff). I would appreciate your thoughts about how this should be balanced with the

defense of our God-given liberty and freedom for instance as Americans. I take it you would still be a defender of our 2nd Amendment rights as Americans, right? Please don’t get me wrong, I’m not advocating Civil War II. Just what sort of ‘uprising’ are you against?”

REPLY FROM BROTHER CLOUD

That is an excellent question. I’m particularly (but not exclusively) referring to a violent uprising. I don’t believe it is time for another civil war or war of independence. The 21st century is entirely a different thing from the 18th

century. God is allowing the Mystery of Iniquity to make great strides. I want to be found doing exactly what Christ has told me to do.

We must know the times. The godly king Josiah thought it was time to fight Egypt, because Egypt was Israel's ancient enemy, but he was wrong (2 Chronicles 35:19-27). Because Josiah didn't discern the times and followed his own pragmatic thinking rather than God's Word, he died prematurely and the revival he was leading died with him. He "hearkened not unto the words of Necho from the mouth of God" (2 Ch. 35:22). How sad and how stupid! He should have kept his attention focused on the spiritual. I believe that is exactly where we are today.

I am glad to be an American, but I'm not an American first. I am first a citizen of heaven and a pilgrim in a strange land, and the laws of my heavenly country are higher than the laws of America. There is only one flag I can salute with no reservations and with the greatest enthusiasm, and that is the flag of Heaven.

I recall a fundamental Baptist preacher with a fruitful ministry who thought some of the tax laws were unjust or unconstitutional, and he took his stand and went to prison. As far as I am concerned, that is Josiah. It is wrongheaded. It is being an American first and a pilgrim of heaven second. It is standing on the U.S. Constitution instead of standing on the Word of God. Paul never exemplified such a thing.

I support the second amendment, of course, but that doesn't mean I will shoot government officials who come to take my arms away or even threaten to do so. (I have

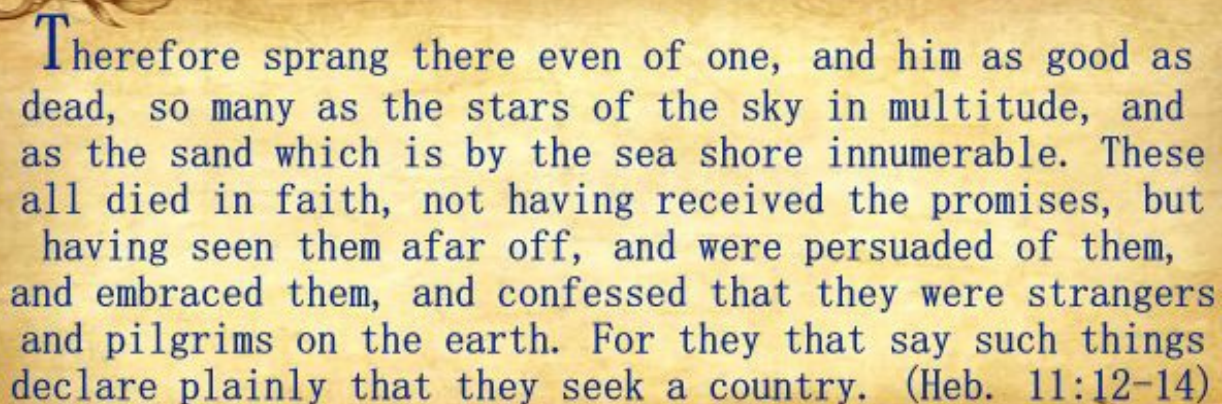
spent most of my Christian life overseas where bearing arms is out of the question.)

The way I see it, the removal of American liberties is God's judgment on a very wicked nation, a nation of churches that are mostly apostate or lukewarm, and I don't want to fight against God to regain liberties He Himself has taken away. That would be Josiah dumb. The "make America great again" crowd doesn't have a clue about these things, so I will not join that bandwagon.

I know exactly what I am supposed to do, because Christ has told me. I'm going to keep my attention on the things my Heavenly Master has specifically told me to do, and has told me to do until the end of the world (Matthew 28:18-20): preaching the gospel, building sound New Testament churches, building holy homes to raise a godly seed, building up the saints, training preachers, defending the faith, praying. I'm not told to overthrow kings and authorities, I am told to pray for them. I will join no revolution in these wicked end times.

I am convinced that if born again Americans would obey God's Word and stop following the thinking and ways of "conservative politics," if they would spend far more time and energy saving the homes and churches with spiritual weapons instead of saving America with carnal weapons, God would help us mightily.

"My son, fear thou the LORD and the king: *and* meddle not with them that are given to change: For their calamity shall rise suddenly; and who knoweth the ruin of them both?" (Proverbs 24:21-22).



Therefore sprang there even of one, and him as good as dead, so many as the stars of the sky in multitude, and as the sand which is by the sea shore innumerable. These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off, and were persuaded of them, and embraced them, and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth. For they that say such things declare plainly that they seek a country. (Heb. 11:12-14)



The Preacher as a Student

By David Cloud

The following is excerpted from [Feed the Flock: Expository Bible Preaching](https://www.wayoflife.org/publications/courses/index.php), a Bible course available at <https://www.wayoflife.org/publications/courses/index.php>

Many preachers today are not far behind the Primitive Baptists described in *The Man Who Moved a Mountain*, a biography of Virginia preacher Robert Childress. One shouted, “Praises be to God that I am ignorant. I’d only praise him more if I were ignoranter” (p. 22). Hearing such things as a child, Childress recalled thinking to himself, “Did God hate learning?” Carter Woodson described the same thinking among some black preachers in the South. “Preaching to his congregation, the ignorant minister would often boast of having not rubbed his head against the college walls, whereupon the congregation would respond: ‘Amen.’ Sometimes one would say: ‘I did not write out my sermon.’ With equal fervor the audience would cry out: ‘Praise ye the Lord’” (*The History of the Negro Church*).

There is too much contentment with mediocrity. It is common for preachers to be perfectly content with one course in Bible interpretation, one course in preaching, one course in theology, etc. They consider themselves fully equipped when they have *barely begun* to be prepared.

A great many are weak in grammar and vocabulary. They can’t write a proper paragraph in the English language, which is their mother tongue.

A great many have zero music training even though music is a major theme of the Scriptures and a major part of church life.

A preacher friend shared the following with me a few years ago: “I asked a missionary what books he had read

lately that were a blessing, and he replied that all he reads is a magazine on running. I fear that Independent Baptists may be the *illiterati* of the 20th and 21st centuries. And the present addiction to iPhones and social media only makes it worse. ... Some years ago I started asking preachers questions when we sat around talking or when we drove down the road. Questions on what doctrine was especially precious to them at that moment, or what book of the Bible they love the most this week, or what good book they are reading, or which one has helped them grow the most, or what authors are the most challenging to them spiritually, or what they think about this or that verse. If they are driving, I take my Bible and read to them some passage I am meditating on and ask them to explain it to me. Most of them are out of their depth within ten seconds. Some stare at me with open mouth and shake their head. The Presbyterian pastors I know are the most adept at discussing solid Bible doctrine. Most of the Independent Baptist pastors have never read anything deeper than John Rice or Curtis Hutson. We had a missionary here this weekend who tells great stories, but doesn’t know ANY solid Bible doctrine.”

The church should be a serious Bible Institute, and the pastors are the headmasters, training the church in everything that is necessary to build it up and protect it.

To accomplish this requires that he be a serious student.

Following are the biblical characteristics of a preacher who is right in his study life:

- He has been taught (Tit. 1:9).
- He is strong enough in God’s Word to protect the flock (Tit. 1:9-16).
- He is nourished up in good doctrine (1 Ti. 4:6).
- He gives attendance to reading and to doctrine (1 Ti. 4:13).

- He takes heed unto doctrine and continues in it (1 Ti. 4:16).
- He labors in the Word and doctrine (1 Ti. 5:17).
- He labors to rightly divide God's Word (2 Ti. 2:15).
- He preaches God's Word with doctrine (2 Ti. 4:2).

Ongoing study is interesting, challenging, educational, edifying, exciting, horizon expanding. It enriches your life, your home, your ministry.

The preacher must first of all be a student of God's Word

"This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success" (Jos. 1:8).

"... his delight is in the law of the LORD; and in his law doth he meditate day and night" (Ps. 1:2).

"O how love I thy law! it is my meditation all the day" (Ps. 119:97).

"Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth" (2 Ti. 2:15).

"All scripture *is* given by inspiration of God, and *is* profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works" (2 Ti. 3:16-17).

"I commend you to God, and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up" (Ac. 20:32).

Ben Franklin suggested that a man be a jack of all trades and a master of one. That is good advice for a preacher, and the one thing he should master is the Bible.

"One of the most fatal habits a preacher can ever fall into is to read his Bible simply in order to find texts for sermons. This is a real danger; it must be recognised and fought and resisted with all your might. Do not read the Bible to find texts for sermons; read it because it is the

food that God has provided for your soul, because it is the Word of God, because it is the means whereby you can get to know God. Read it because it is the bread of life, the manna provided for your soul's nourishment and well-being" (D. Martyn Lloyd-Jones, *Preaching and Preachers*, p. 172).

"The need of the hour is for young preachers to get their noses out of contemporary theology books and get their minds into the Word in an in-depth basis, 365 days a year, year in and year out. The Bible must be more than just a source of proof text for preaching. As one saturates his mind with the Word of God, it will begin to soak down into his heart and modify his theology, his behavior, his dedication, his morals, his convictions, and his philosophy of life. Incidentally, when one so saturates his mind with the Word of God, separation from the world and from apostasy will flow naturally. It is the view of this author the reason many young preachers are weak on separation at whatever level is because they are weak in their absorption of the Word of God. ... The devil is all too happy to see young preachers spending more time in contemporary theology books than in the Book of Books. It is no wonder there are so many defections and failures in the ministry. Furthermore, the devil will happily see to it that a preacher is super busy. ... Some are too busy to spend significant time in the Word. Such are on a collision course with trouble; whether theologically, philosophically, or morally" (David Sorenson, *Broad Is the Way: Fundamentalists Merging into the Evangelical Mainstream*).

"When I first joined the staff of the Moody Bible Institute, the radio pastor of the Moody network was a godly man named Robert J. Little. The more one came to know this beloved brother, the more one appreciated him. He was a giant in the Scriptures, a humble and able man with a big heart and a catholicity of interests. His knowledge of the Scriptures was encyclopedic. One day, in his later years, an elderly brother came up to him after a service and said, 'Brother Little, I wish I had your knowledge of the Bible.' R.J. looked at him for a moment. Then he said, 'My dear brother, you are too late. In fact, I would judge that you are about fifty years too late. I have been studying my Bible diligently and intensively for fifty years. That's how I gained my knowledge of the Bible. I'm sorry to tell you, my brother, that you can never have my knowledge of the Bible. You have left it for too late'" (John Phillips).





The woman shall not wear that which pertaineth unto a man, neither shall a man put on a woman's garment: for all that do so *are* abomination unto the Lord thy God" (Deuteronomy 22:5).

Commentators of past centuries, who were not prejudiced one way or the other by the current debate on unisex fashion, held that the teaching of Deuteronomy 22:5 is applicable to dress in the Christian life. They warned that to break down the distinction of sexes by removing the differences in clothing would result in much evil. This is exactly what has happened since unisex fashion has prevailed since the 1960s.

Dress is a language, and it is no small thing.

MATTHEW HENRY (1662-1714): "The distinction of sexes by the apparel is to be kept up, for the preservation of our own and our neighbour's chastity, De. 22:5. Nature itself teaches that a difference be made between them in their hair (1 Co. 11:14), and by the same rule in their clothes, which therefore ought not to be confounded, either in ordinary wear or occasionally."

JOHN GILL (1697-1771): "The woman shall not wear that which pertaineth unto a man ... It being very unseemly and impudent, and contrary to the modesty of her sex. ... neither shall a man put on a woman's garment; which would betray effeminacy and softness unbecoming men ... **since in nature a difference of sexes is made, it is proper and necessary that this should be known by difference of dress, or otherwise many evils might follow;** and this precept is agreeable to the law and light of nature..."

ADAM CLARKE (1762-1832): "It is, however, a very good general precept understood literally, and applies particularly to those countries where the dress alone distinguishes between the male and the female. ... **Were this to be tolerated in society, it would produce the greatest confusion.**"

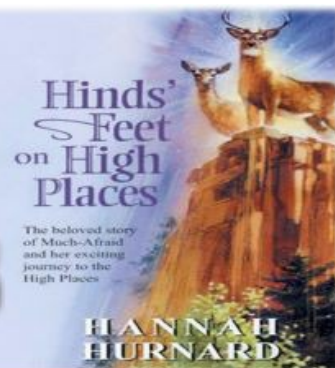
ALBERT BARNES (1789-1870): "The distinction between the sexes is natural and divinely established, and **cannot be neglected without indecorum and consequent danger to purity** (compare 1 Co. 11:3-15)."

JAMIESON, FAUSSET, BROWN (1864): "They were properly forbidden; for **the adoption of the habiliments [clothing] of the one sex by the other is an outrage on decency, obliterates the distinctions of nature by fostering softness and effeminacy in the man, impudence and boldness in the woman as well as levity and hypocrisy in both; and, in short, it opens the door to an influx of so many evils that all who wear the dress of another sex are pronounced 'an abomination unto the Lord.'**"

ARNO GAEBELEIN (1861-1945): "The immediate design of this prohibition was not to prevent licentiousness, or to oppose idolatrous practices; but **to maintain the sanctity of that distinction of the sexes, which was established by the creation of man and woman, and in relation to which Israel was not to sin.** Every violation or wiping out of this distinction--such even as the emancipation of women--was unnatural, and therefore 'an abomination in the sight of God. Yet today we find a universal movement in the world for the complete emancipation of women, which ignores and even defies the place which the Creator and the Redeemer has given to woman.'"



Hannah Hurnard's Hinds' Feet In Low Places



The following is excerpted from "From High Places to Heresy," *Personal Freedom Outreach Quarterly Journal*, April-June 1996:

Hannah Hurnard's book *Hinds' Feet on High Places* was written in 1955 and from all appearances is mainstream and orthodox. It is still stocked in Christian bookstores and there are over a million copies in circulation. ...

If Hurnard had only written *Hinds' Feet on High Places*, she would have made a lasting impact for good. However, the twists and turns in her thinking brought her at last to some very strange, Gnostic, unorthodox and even occultic views. Few are aware that her views changed drastically in the late 1950s. At that time, Hurnard left the "High Places" and mountains of orthodoxy and headed for the lowlands of gross error. ...

In a 1994 biography by Isabel Anders (*Standing on High Places*), there are frank and honest admissions regarding Hurnard's shift from sound biblical doctrine:

"The view that she strongly sets forth is one of universalism, or a belief that all will be saved in the end. This was an understanding that caused Hannah to reconsider all of her early evangelical zeal, as well as look with new eyes at the meaning of life and death. ... When she voiced other, even more questionable viewpoints in her public speaking engagements, door after door would close to her. Eventually, all invitations to speak to evangelical Christian groups virtually came to an end. ... Her lifelong conviction that God would speak to her personally, giving her deeper and deeper insights and 'light' that was to be widely shared with others, led her to believe that there could be no spiritual authority over her or her speaking and writing except the Lord Jesus Christ himself" (Anders, *Standing on High Places*, pp. 154, 155, 161, 170).

Hurnard died on Marco Island, Fla., in 1990 refusing conventional treatment for her cancer. Before her death, her home had been open every Monday evening for those who came to hear her share her form of strict vegetarianism, reincarnation and New Age thought. ...

In Hurnard's "garden of Eden" [in her 1981 book *Eagles' Wings in the Higher Places*] man only fell from "God consciousness," so Hell turns out to be only Purgatory. ...

Hurnard teaches vegetarianism, not for health reasons but because she believes God is in animals and in animal flesh. This is a necessary corollary to Pantheistic belief (*ibid.*, pp. 91-96, 117). ...

The capstone of her heresy is a low view of Jesus Christ. On page 124 she teaches that Jesus rose through an "angelic level of God consciousness" to a "Son of God consciousness" which is where all mankind is headed anyway. ...

In another of Hurnard's books, *Way of Healing*, a man by the name of Othniel receives a visit from Peter and Mark. ... [W]e find that Jesus did not turn water into wine. Hurnard has the Apostles saying that Jesus secretly waved a heavenly wand) and changed his listener's thoughts and attitudes so that they thought they were drinking wine in a kind of a mass hypnosis. ... What we are actually dealing with here is a neo-gnosticism that she calls "new consciousness" and "Holy Wonder." ... We are told that Jesus did not really feed the 5000. That is the old orthodox view. The real insight is that there may have been some kind of mob psychology that made selfish people actually want to take out the lunches that they were hiding and share. ...

Another strange suggestion on pages 44-45 is that the miracles of Jesus, along with truth, direction and instruction can be found in fairy tales and fables. Along the way, the Apostles instruct Othniel in "Jack and the Beanstalk," "King Midas," "The Goose that Laid the Golden Egg," "Ali Baba," and "Beauty and the Beast." ...

In 1988, Harper and Row, released another biographical attempt by Hurnard, *Thou Shalt Remember — Lessons of a Lifetime*. ... She blatantly expresses favor for such things as aura reading (pg. 148), and out-of-body experiences (pg. 180). These things are the stock in trade of spiritism and occultism, yet they sit on the shelves of Christian bookstores. She also objects to the Old Testament sacrifices, saying that God hated them (pg. 157).

HYMN - "IN THE BELOVED ACCEPTED AM I"

This hymn by Cioilla Martin (1866-1948) was published in 1930.

She was married to Walter Martin, a Baptist evangelist, traveling with him when possible, but often compelled to remain at home due to frail health.

The tune was written by Wendell Loveless (1892-1987).

1. In the Beloved accepted am I,
Risen, ascended, and seated on high:
Saved from all sin thro' His infinite grace,
With the redeemed ones accorded a place.

Refrain

In the Beloved, God's marvelous grace
Calls me to dwell in his wonderful place;
God sees my Savior, and then He sees me,
In the Beloved, accepted and free.

2. In the Beloved--how safe my retreat,
In the Beloved accounted complete;
Who can condemn me? In Him I am free,
Savior and Keeper forever is He.

3. In the Beloved I went to the tree,
There, in His Person, by faith I may see
Infinite wrath rolling over His head,
Infinite grace, for He died in my stead.

Tune music score

<https://hymnary.org/media/fetch/191342>

Tune audio

<https://hymnary.org/media/fetch/183899>

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?



COURT HANDS DOWN RULING AGAINST GOVERNMENT CENSORSHIP AND COLLUSION WITH SOCIAL MEDIA

(Friday Church News Notes, July 14, 2023, www.wayoflife.org, fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143)

- The following is excerpted from "Court," *PJMedia*, July 4, 2023: "On Independence Day, July 4, 2023, the forces of freedom won a major victory ... **In a landmark ruling in *Missouri v. Biden*, Judge Terry Doughty, Chief U.S. district judge of the United States District Court for the Western District of Louisiana, struck back hard against what he called 'the most massive attack against free speech in United States' history.'** Doughty even began his decision by quoting the most famous adage regarding the importance of the freedom of speech: 'I may disapprove of what you say, but I would defend to the death your right to say it,' a statement that is often attributed to Voltaire but which Doughty credits to the early twentieth-century English writer Evelyn Beatrice Hall ... Doughty declares that 'in their attempts to suppress alleged disinformation, the Federal Government, and particularly the Defendants named here, are alleged to have blatantly ignored the First Amendment's right to free speech.' He noted that 'Plaintiffs allege that Defendants, through public pressure campaigns, private meetings, and other forms of direct

communication, regarding what Defendants described as *disinformation*, *misinformation*, and *malinformation*, have colluded with and/or coerced social-media platforms to suppress disfavored speakers, viewpoints, and content on social-media platforms.' Specifically, Doughty noted: 'Plaintiffs allege that Defendants suppressed conservative-leaning free speech, such as: (1) suppressing the Hunter Biden laptop story prior to the 2020 Presidential election; (2) suppressing speech about the lab-leak theory of COVID-19's origin; (3) suppressing speech about the efficiency of masks and COVID-19 lockdowns; (4) suppressing speech about the efficiency of COVID-19 vaccines; (5) suppressing speech about election integrity in the 2020 presidential election; (6) suppressing speech about the security of voting by mail; (7) suppressing parody content about Defendants; (8) suppressing negative posts about the economy; and (9) suppressing negative posts about President Biden.' All that is abundantly true, and there are plenty of other examples of the regime's hatred of dissent as well. ... **Doughty wrote: 'During the COVID-19 pandemic, a period perhaps best characterized by widespread doubt and uncertainty, the United States Government seems to have assumed a role similar to an Orwellian *Ministry of Truth*. The Plaintiffs have presented substantial evidence in support of their claims that they were the victims of a far-reaching and widespread censorship campaign.'** He added: 'It is quite telling that each example or category of suppressed speech was conservative in nature. This targeted suppression of conservative ideas is a perfect example of viewpoint discrimination of political speech.

American citizens have the right to engage in free debate about the significant issues affecting the country. Yes, they do, and in *Missouri v. Biden*, Doughty has done a great deal to protect that right. This decision prohibits the government from working with social media giants to censor American citizens.”

U.K. COURT SUPPORTS PARENT WHO WAS FIRED FOR VOICING CONCERNS ABOUT TRANS-AFFIRMING (Friday Church News Notes, July 14, 2023, www.wayoflife.org, fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143)

- The following is excerpted from “Parent wins back job,” *The Christian Post*, July 8, 2023: “A Christian parent governor at a local primary school in the United Kingdom has won back her position after being dismissed for voicing her concerns about the school’s trans-affirming sex education policy as the High Court ruled in her favor and reinstated her to the governing body. In a case that has significant implications for parents and school governors across the country, the Gateshead parent, known only as ‘Susan’ to protect her children’s identities, was removed from her position as a parent governor after she pointed out potential legal errors in the school’s Relationships and Sex Education policy. The Christian Institute, which represents the mother, said in a statement that the High Court reinstated her after a legal



settlement was reached with the school. ‘Susan conducted herself in a way that all parents would hope any good school governor would,’ said Ciarán Kelly, deputy director of The Christian Institute, a non-denominational charity dedicated to promoting Christian faith. ‘It’s her job to robustly question and challenge the school, not simply rubber-stamp whatever documents are placed in front of her.’”

U.K. EMPLOYMENT TRIBUNAL RULES IN FAVOR OF TEACHER WHO LOST HER JOB FOR CRITIQUING

TRANSGENDERISM AND SEX ED (Friday Church News Notes, July 14, 2023, www.wayoflife.org, fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143)

- The following is excerpted from “Christian Teacher wins appeal,” *The Christian Post*, June 17, 2023: “A Christian teaching assistant in England won her appeal against a prior judgment that upheld her 2019 dismissal for sharing Facebook posts that critiqued transgenderism and compulsory sex education in her son’s Church of England primary school. In the Friday ruling, President of the Employment Appeal Tribunal in London Jennifer Eady ruled in favor of Kristie Higgs, stating that **the ‘freedom to manifest belief (religious or otherwise) and to express views relating to that belief are essential rights in any democracy, whether or not the belief in question is popular or mainstream and even if its expression may offend.’** Higgs was dismissed in 2019 from the Farmor’s School in Fairford, Gloucestershire, after she took to social media to voice objection to her child’s Church of England school planning to introduce books that promoted transgender identity. ...

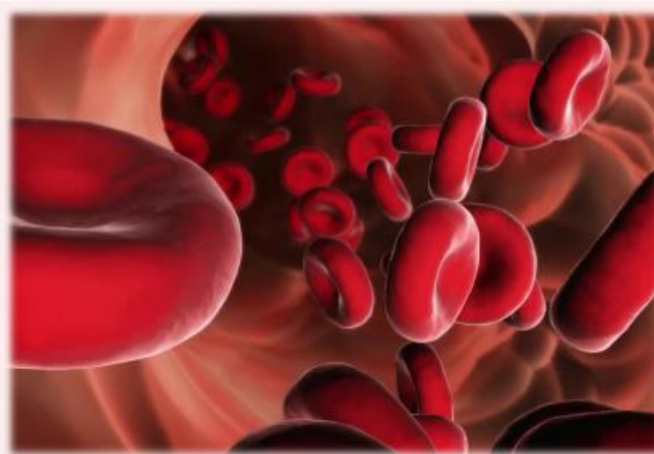


She was let go after an extended interrogation, during which she was told that her Christian beliefs, as expressed in her posts, were comparable to ‘pro-Nazi right-wing extremist’ views.”

SHILOH’S NEW RED HEIFERS (Friday Church News Notes, June 9, 2023, www.wayoflife.org, fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143)

- This month, the first red heifer arrived in Shiloh in Israel in further preparation for the Third Temple. Numbers 19 describes the purification water made from the ashes of “a red heifer without spot, wherein *is* no blemish, *and* upon which never came yoke.” Hundreds of Israelis and tourists gathered in Shiloh for the Binyamin Temple Conference marking the occasion. Five red heifers arrived in Israel in September 2022 and have been kept in an undisclosed location. Two more of them will be brought to Shiloh next month. The heifers will be the central attraction of a new research center in Shiloh, the location of the Tabernacle and the Levitical sacrifices for nearly 400 years. Up to a million visitors a year are anticipated to view the heifers, though they won’t be allowed to touch them. The Temple Institute has attempted to produce pure red heifers from Red Angus stock for many years. According to the famous 12th century rabbi Maimonides (Rambam), only nine red heifers were sacrificed in Israel’s ancient history, and the

LIFE FROM THE BLOOD (Friday Church News Notes, July 14, 2023, www.wayoflife.org, fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - The following is from CreationMoments.com: “The Bible teaches us that our physical life is in our blood. It also teaches us that our spiritual and eternal life is dependent upon the blood of Jesus Christ. Your heart pumps blood at a speed of more than three feet per second. This means that any given red blood cell will make a full circulatory trip from your lungs and back in only about a minute. But your heart is not the only hard-working part of your circulatory system. Your red blood cells live only about 4 months. In that time, a red blood cell has made over 170,000 trips from your lungs to bring oxygen to every part of your body. That means your body must constantly replace red blood cells. So your body produces about 2 million new red blood cells every second. Your body does this most efficiently by recycling the iron from dead red blood cells into the new red blood cells. Iron, of course, gives the hemoglobin in red blood



cells the ability to carry oxygen. As we learn more about our circulatory systems, we see that physical life is a daily gift from God. Yet, it was the life-blood of our Savior, Jesus Christ, shed on the cross for us in His holy, innocent suffering and death that makes eternal life possible for us. Notes: *Science News*, 6/3/06, pp. 346-348, Ben Harder, ‘Blood, Iron, and Gray Hair.’”



Messiah will offer the 10th (“Biblical Red Heifer,” *Israel365 News*, July 16, 2023). A plot of land on the Mt. of Olives has been purchased for the sacrifice of the heifers, and priests have been prepared. The Temple Institute has nine Levitical priests who have never touched a dead body or visited a cemetery or hospital (they were born at home) (“The Red Heifer Ceremony,” CBN, Mar. 17, 2023). The sacrifice of the red heifer is tentatively planned for Passover 2024.

TUCKER CARLSON READING THE BIBLE

(Friday Church News Notes, July 21, 2023, www.wayoflife.org, fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - Tucker Carlson, former *Fox News* commentator, told the 2023 Family Leadership Summit, that he has been reading the Bible since February, and it has been “like the most interesting thing I think I’ve ever done.” He described himself as a “not particularly faithful” Episcopalian. He has read through the New Testament and is now in Deuteronomy. He said that one thing that stuck out to him is God’s sovereignty over human history. “While they [people] have free will, of course, they can make decisions, and they live with the consequences of those decisions--they’re not really in charge of the arc of history at all. They are being acted upon a lot. And I never really appreciated that

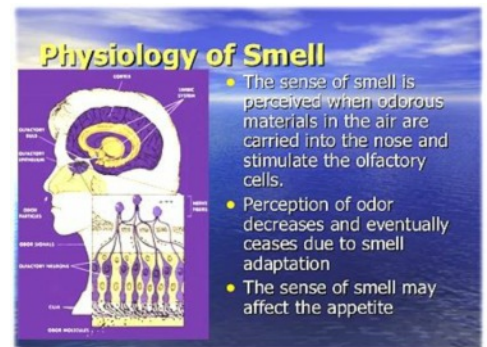
because I’m American. And so I grew up with this feeling that we’re the sum total of our choices. Well, that’s not what I’m reading at all. Yes, people’s choices matter. You need to do certain things and not do other things. But on the other hand, you’re not in charge. You are being acted upon by a world you can’t see. And that, by the way, is consistent with my life experience. Like, I’ve seen that, I’ve lived that. I’m 54. And so I feel like it’s really important to approach politics with that in mind...” That is a true and important lesson, but we pray that Carlson will see the main theme of the Bible, which is God’s eternal plan in Jesus Christ (Ephesians 1:10) and redemption through His vicarious atonement on Calvary. The third chapter of the Gospel of John would be a good place to camp. “Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he



cannot see the kingdom of God. ... For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved. He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God. ... He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him” (John 3:3, 16-18, 36).

POPE SAYS EUCHARIST IS “CHRIST HIMSELF” (Friday Church News Notes, June 9, 2023, www.wayoflife.org, fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - Speaking to an audience at the Vatican in June, Pope Francis said the Eucharist or Mass is not a symbol of Christ’s sacrifice; it is Christ Himself as living bread. This is Rome’s false gospel of salvation through the sacraments. Speaking to the organizing committee of the United States Eucharistic Congress that is scheduled for July 2024, the Pope said, “It’s more than a symbol, it’s the real and loving presence of the Lord. ... We must recover the sense of silence, of Adoration. ... as Saint John Paul II said, ‘Without the Priesthood there is no Eucharist’” (“Pope to American Catholics,” Zenit.org, June

19, 2023). This confirms official Catholic doctrine. The host (wafer) of the Mass is consecrated by a priest and becomes the very body and blood of Christ. It is eaten as Christ and is the object of worship (adoration). The Eucharistic Congress aims to “revive faith in and love for the Most Holy Eucharist.” When I visited a cloistered nunnery in Quebec some years ago, a sign at the entrance of the chapel said, “You are entering to adore the Jesus-Host.” The following is from Vatican Council II, “The Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy, Instruction on the Worship of the Eucharistic Mystery” - “Hence the Mass, the Lord’s Supper, is at the same time and inseparably: a sacrifice in which the sacrifice of the cross is perpetuated ... For in it Christ perpetuates in an unbloody manner the sacrifice offered on the cross, offering himself to the Father for the world’s salvation through the ministry of priests” The Second Vatican Council, 1962-1965 was attended by 2,400 bishops and issued the most authoritative doctrinal pronouncements of the modern Roman Catholic Church. Its doctrines are as heretical and blasphemous as they were in the darkest ages of the Inquisition. In contrast to Rome’s doctrine, the Bible says, “By the which will we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once *for all*. ... For by one offering he hath perfected for ever them that are sanctified” (Heb. 10:10, 14).



MIRACLE SMELL (Friday Church News Notes, July 21, 2023, www.wayoflife.org, fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - The following is from CreationMoments.com, June 26, 2023: “It’s commonly known that many animals are able to detect extraordinarily weak odors. The real mystery is how they can smell scents that are 1,000 times too weak to produce the chemical reactions necessary to make a scent signal. From the chemist’s point of view, our sense of smell shouldn’t work as well as it does. When you smelled that wonderful dinner a few days ago, a marvel of chemical reactions was taking place in your nose. Scientists still aren’t sure how we sense such a wide range of smells. It was while investigating this question that scientists may have stumbled across the answer to another question. The receptors in our noses have to detect a certain number of scent molecules before they can trigger the chemical response that makes the signal that tells us we have smelled something. When air is drawn into your nose, an organ called Steno’s duct sprays a fine mist. Scientists always thought this mist simply humidified the incoming air. Now they’ve discovered that the duct also makes proteins that grab onto odor molecules. Sprayed into the incoming air, the proteins collect odor molecules. Then, with their load of odor molecules, they settle onto receptors that trigger your sense of

smell. As a result, even scents that are too weak to smell are concentrated by this ingenious system so that we can sense them. Our sense of smell helps protect us, gives our food flavor, and adds richness to the experience of living. It's truly a marvel of our Creator's design. REF.: Vaughan, Christopher. 'Molecular odor-eaters,' *Science News*, 1990, v. 133. p. 348."

"How good is the God we adore, Our faithful, unchangeable Friend! His love is as great as his power, And knows neither measure nor end!" (Joseph Hart).

CHRISTIANS ARRESTED FOR MASKLESS OUTDOOR SERVICE AWARDED PAYOUT FROM LIBERAL COLLEGE TOWN BUT DESPISED BY MASK-LOVING CITIZENRY

(Friday Church News Notes, July 28, 2023, www.wayoflife.org, fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - The following is excerpted from "Christians arrested," *Fox News*, July 20, 2023: "A liberal college town in Idaho is paying \$300,000 to three Christian churchgoers who sued the city after being arrested for not wearing masks at an outside service during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic. The city of Moscow announced this week that it would settle with Gabriel Rench, as well as Sean and Rachel Bohnet, who brought a case against city leaders in March 2021 that alleged their rights under the

First and Fourth Amendments were violated when they were arrested at an outdoor 'psalm sing' conducted by leaders from their church in September 2020. Moscow, home to the University of Idaho, is a town of approximately 25,000 people about 80 miles south of Spokane, Washington. ... A magistrate judge later dismissed the city's case against them, and U.S. District Court Judge Morrison C. England, Jr., wrote in his Feb. 1, 2023 memorandum and order denying the city's motion to dismiss that the 'plaintiffs should never have been arrested in the first place, and the constitutionality of what the City thought [its] code said is irrelevant.' ... Rench told *Fox News Digital* that he has nevertheless become a pariah in his predominantly liberal community since the arrest and subsequent settlement. Rench says members of his community have accused him of being 'an idiot' who does not 'love his neighbor' and have urged him to 'take your money and run' since the payout.

A WORD OF CAUTION ABOUT "THE NEWS" (Friday Church News Notes, July 28, 2023, www.wayoflife.org, fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - We want to be informed about what is happening, but we want to see everything through God's eyes. We have no intention to fret or worry, to be addicted to politics or to get wrapped in a political solution, to fill our minds with the latest conspiracy theory, or to get involved with any type of uprising. We intend to obey God's exhortations, such as these: "Fret not thyself because of evildoers, neither be thou envious against the workers of iniquity. For they shall soon be cut down like the grass, and wither as the green herb. Trust in the LORD, and do good; so shalt thou



dwell in the land, and verily thou shalt be fed" (Ps. 37:1-3). "But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you" (Mt. 6:33). "If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God. Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth" (Col. 3:1-2). Let the unredeemed do the fretting, as their only hope is this present world. What we are doing in the face of end-time apostasy and rampant wickedness is simple. We are doing what God has told us to do, which is to immerse ourselves in Scripture, meditating in God's Word day and night (Ps. 1:1-3), focusing like a laser on Christ's Great Commission (Mt. 28:18-20), preaching the life-changing gospel as far and wide as possible, building good churches and good Christian homes, raising children and youth for the glory of Jesus Christ, training preachers, starting new churches, earnestly contending for the faith, and lots and lots and lots of prayer, including prayer for those who are in authority that we might lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty. God has not instructed me to fight those in authority, He has instructed me to pray for them.

PLANTS AND BACTERIUM COMMUNICATE (Friday Church News Notes, July 28, 2023,



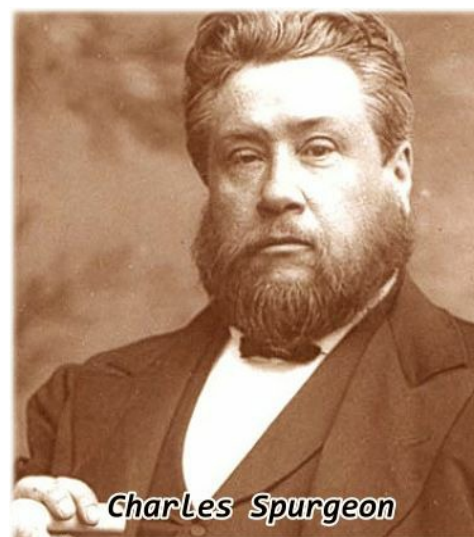
www.wayoflife.org, fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143)

- The following is from CreationMoments.com, July 13, 2023: "Some people talk to their plants. But what do you say to a bacterium? Evidently the soybean plant knows just what to say to make bacteria its close friend and helper. Symbiosis means a relationship between two different creatures in which they both help each other. Plants need nitrogen for healthy growth. However, while there is more than enough nitrogen in the air, plants normally can't make use of that nitrogen. Legumes, like soybeans, link up with bacteria that are able to take nitrogen from the air and turn it into a form of nitrogen that plants, including the soybean, can use. In return, the plant creates a nice home for the bacteria in nodes in its roots and provides the bacteria with food. The bacteria need a great deal of oxygen and energy to fix nitrogen into the soil. The oxygen is supplied by heme. If that name reminds you of the hemoglobin that carries oxygen in blood, you're on the right track. That's why the heme in the nodules turns them reddish. Who makes the heme, the soybean or the bacteria? When alone, neither creature has any heme. Researchers have learned that the plant performs the first part of the

chemistry needed to make heme and the bacterium finishes the job. The plant and the bacterium actually communicate chemically with each other so that production goes smoothly! Communication between such different creatures, allowing them to perform sophisticated chemistry to improve both of their lives, shows how inadequate evolution is to explain life. This arrangement surely glorifies the Creator! REF: Pennisi, E. 'Intimate chemistry of a symbiotic odd couple,' *Science News*, v. 139, Mar. 9, 1991. p. 151."

COLLEGE THAT SPURGEON WOULD CONDEMN CONFERS DEGREE UPON HIM

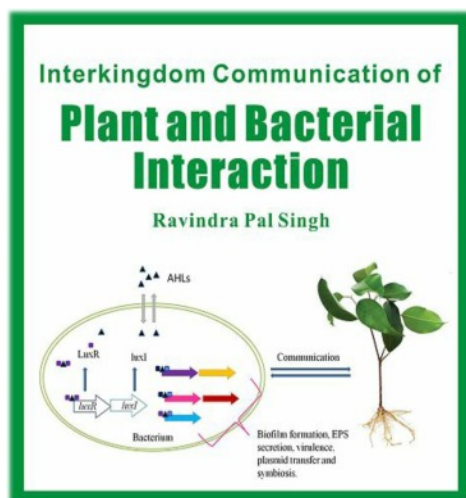
(Friday Church News Notes, August 4, 2023, www.wayoflife.org, fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - On July 8, Spurgeon's College posthumously bestowed an honorary Master in Theology degree upon its namesake, Charles Spurgeon. He pastored the Metropolitan Tabernacle in its heyday and founded the Pastor's College in 1856. About 900 preachers were trained in his lifetime. The entrance requirement was the new birth with a clear salvation testimony, doctrinal soundness, a good Christian character, a demonstrable call to preach, two-years' preaching experience, and the ability to do the course work. The most important of those things are not required today. In 1887, Spurgeon led the Metropolitan Tabernacle out of the Baptist Union because of its theological liberalism. He called the matter the "Downgrade Controversy," warning that heretics were downgrading Bible truth. Spurgeon died in 1892, and the Baptist Union has continued down the path of apostasy. The Pastor's College was renamed Spurgeon's College in



Charles Spurgeon

1923, by which time it was associated with the Baptist Union and no longer associated with the Tabernacle. From 1961-1977, the college was led by George Beasley-Murray who claimed that Jesus was wrong about the timing of His Second Coming, that John's Gospel was not written by John, and that salvation is not complete without baptism. Lynn Green, the first female president of the Baptist Union (2013), was a graduate of Spurgeon's College. She received a standing ovation for her inaugural sermon, when she proclaimed, "I believe that our union is ready for generational change ... It is time to ... embrace a new way of being for the 21st century." This is the philosophy of the emerging church: a new church for a new time. Charles Spurgeon pulled no punches in his earnest defense of the faith once delivered unto the saints, and there can be no doubt that if the old spiritual warrior were alive today, he would denounce the school that bears his name. (For more on this, see "[Spurgeon's Pastor's College Yesterday and Today](http://www.wayoflife.org)," www.wayoflife.org.)

RED SOX MANAGER SORRY FOR HURTING LGBT FEELINGS (Friday Church News





Notes, August 4, 2023, www.wayoflife.org, fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - After firing pitcher Matt Dermody for a tweet quoting the Bible, Red Sox General Manager Brian O'Halloran said, "We celebrated Pride Day the other day and that was an incredible day at the ballpark. The atmosphere was so joyous and celebratory on the field and in the stands. We're proud of our history celebrating Pride Night and standing next to the LGBTQ+ community. We're sorry that a roster decision that we made caused harm to that community. We regret that it hurt people in the community, it hurt our fans, it hurt people that work in the organization" ("Red Sox Relieves," *Boston Globe*, July 16, 2023). Matt Dermody had tweeted that "homosexuals will not inherit the kingdom of God" and "will go to hell," citing 1 Corinthians 6:9. On a recent podcast with Tomi Lahren, Dermody said, "I don't want anybody to go to Hell. I saw the list of all the things ... that lead people to Hell, and I was on that list. That instilled the fear of the Lord in me. And so now, it's not really about me anymore, but it's about helping others and preaching the Gospel and the Good News of Jesus Christ, that He saves us from ... the fires of Hell." He said he is "far from homophobic" and doesn't "hate anybody in this world." We would ask baseball manager Brian O'Halloran how it is that he is

so concerned about offending the homosexual folks, but appears to be completely unconcerned about offending Bible-believing Christians, Jesus Christ, and Almighty God?

CANCEL CULTURE BACKFIRE

(Friday Church News Notes, August 4, 2023, www.wayoflife.org, fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - The following is excerpted from "Cancel Culture in Retreat," PowerLineblog.com, July 26, 2023: "The story that has consumed the United Kingdom over the last week or two is the cancellation of Nigel Farage by Coutts, an exclusive private bank owned by National Westminster Bank, commonly known as NatWest. Farage, as you may remember, was a driving force behind Brexit, and Britain's establishment has never forgiven him. Coutts precipitously fired Farage as a client and canceled his accounts. Later, Coutts lied about the incident, claiming that Farage was canceled because he didn't have enough money to qualify for their services. That turned out to be false. ... There have been many articles about the controversy in the British press, but today's article in the *Wall Street Journal* is a good place to catch up: 'Farage ultimately landed a sucker punch. He acquired a 40-page document from Coutts that included a list of his political views that the bank felt created significant reputational risks of being associated with him.' ... As the story has continued to escalate, Alison Rose [chief executive of NatWest] herself has now resigned from NatWest. BBC has apologized for its incorrect report. ... 'Tories joined Farage to speak out about the risk that banks could cut off customers for having antiestablishment or strong conservative views. David Davis, a



former cabinet minister, called the decision to close Farage's account *thinly veiled political discrimination*.' ... Farage, meanwhile, has gone on offense, demanding that the entire NatWest board of directors resign. And he pledges to help others who have been hurt by left-wing prejudice in the banking industry. For now, what we can say for sure is that cancel culture has sustained a welcome setback."

"TRANS" MEN BEING PUSHED OUT OF FEMALE SPORTS

(Friday Church News Notes, August 4, 2023, www.wayoflife.org, fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - "Trans" men are being pushed out of female sports, which is an encouraging sign of sanity. In 2022, World Aquatics (formerly the International Swimming Federation) prohibited males from competing in women's swimming events. This month they announced a separate category for "trans-identified athletes." (We suspect that will be a neglected category.) The organization intends to "protect the rights of our female athletes." Other sports organizations that have taken this step are the World Boxing Council, British Cycling, and USA Powerlifting. The latter made the statement that "biological males" have "increased body and muscle mass, bone density, bone structure, and connective tissue." British Cycling announced that female races will be "for those whose

SEEING EYE FISH (Friday Church News Notes, August 4, 2023, www.wayoflife.org, fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - The following is from CreationMoments.com, July 21, 2023: "There's an old saying that people seldom remember how rapidly the job was done, but they do appreciate good workmanship. However, the staggering variety and number of things created by God did not limit the elegance of His fine workmanship. The relationship between the snapping shrimp and a fish called the goby is a good example of the Creator's attention to the finest detail. The snapping shrimp has very poor eyesight, while the goby has excellent eyesight. Both share the same burrow, which is dug by the shrimp and guarded by the goby. The shrimp uses the goby as a blind person uses a Seeing Eye dog. Whenever the shrimp is outside its burrow, it always keeps one antenna on the goby. The shrimp stays hidden inside the burrow if the goby should temporarily swim away. When danger approaches, the goby signals and disappears inside the burrow. The shrimp is right behind him. Neither the goby nor



the shrimp can survive without each other, so pairs are established for life when both goby and shrimp are very young. In order for this system to work, both goby and shrimp reproductive systems, which differ greatly, are synchronized so that shrimp and goby youngsters are ready to pair at the same time. This astonishing relationship shows us how our Creator's standards of excellence bring His love to every corner of the creation. REF: Yanagisawa, Y., 'Strange seabed fellows,' *Natural History*, Aug. 1990, p. 46."



sex was assigned female at birth" (*BBC Sport*, May 26, 2023). In America, 22 states "have enacted policies requiring athletes to compete on sports teams that correspond with their biological sex." These organizations and state politicians are saying there is such a thing as biological sex, and there are only two of those. These sane-thinking states are Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, Florida, Idaho, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana,

ND, Oklahoma, SC, SD, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, WV and Wyoming. I believe this is an answer to prayer for God to restrain the mystery of iniquity (2 Thessalonians 2:7). At the same time, we would warn that most sporting events today are brazenly immodest.

PRESBYTERIAN PASTOR SAYS SHE FELT NO SIN AFTER TWO ABORTIONS, CALLS ANTI-ABORTION TEACHING "TOXIC THEOLOGY" (Friday Church News Notes, August 11, 2023, www.wayoflife.org, fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - The following is excerpted from "PCUSA pastor teaches on Psalm 139," *The Christian Post*, Aug. 5, 2023: "A female pastor who is also a Planned Parenthood advisor delivered a sermon in which she said she felt 'God's presence' when she

aborted two pregnancies and blasted Evangelicals for their 'toxic theology' on the subject. ... Peters is also a professor of religious studies and founding director of the Poverty and Social Justice Program at Elon University in North Carolina ... Peters claimed that 'the Bible doesn't say anything about abortion' ... Calling Psalm 139 a 'liberating message of justice and light,' Peters then read from the text ... She revealed that as a mother of two, she had previously aborted two other pregnancies. ... 'I can also attest that I felt God's



presence with me as I made the decision to end two pregnancies and I felt no guilt, no shame, no sin.’ ... Her sermon culminated in a stated theological position in which she suggested Bible-believing Christians can be both pro-life and pro-abortion.” **THE HOLY BIBLE SAYS**, “There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof *are* the ways of death” (Proverbs 14:12).

WHAT THE BIBLE SAYS ABOUT ABORTION (Friday Church News Notes, August 11, 2023, www.wayoflife.org, fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143)

- Abortion is wrong for the following biblical reasons: (1) Man is created in God’s image (Ge. 1:26). (2) God is in control of conception (Ge. 20:18; 29:31; 30:22). (3) God forms the child in the womb. “... thou hast covered me in my mother’s womb. I will praise thee; for I am fearfully *and* wonderfully made ... Thine eyes did see my substance, yet being imperfect; and in thy book all *my members* were written, *which* in continuance were fashioned, when *as yet there was* none of them” (Ps. 139:13-16). (4) God forbids man to shed innocent blood, and what is more innocent than an unborn child (De. 19:10-13; 2 Ki. 21:16)? (5) The unborn is not a “fetus”; it is called a “child” and an “infant” in the Bible (Ge. 25:22; Job 3:16). (6) John the Baptist leapt for joy in his mother

Elizabeth’s womb at the voice of Mary (Lu. 1:41, 44). Though the unborn Jesus had only been conceived a short time, perhaps a couple of weeks, Elizabeth calls Mary “the mother of my Lord” (Lu. 1:43). (7) God’s law requires punishment if an unborn child is harmed (Ex. 21:22-23). (8) The Bible teaches that the unborn child does not belong to the mother, it belongs to the Creator (Eze. 18:4). The mother is the carrier, not the owner. The infant in a woman’s womb is a separate body, a separate soul, a separate life.

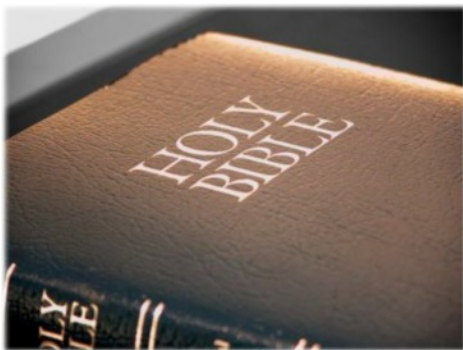
OREGON CLINIC DROPS WOMAN BATTLING BREAST CANCER OVER

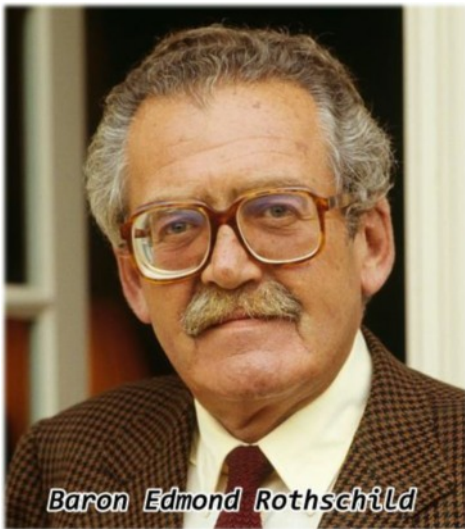
“**TRANSPHOBIA**” (Friday Church News Notes, August 11, 2023, www.wayoflife.org, fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - The following is excerpted from “Oregon Clinic,” *PJ Media*, Aug. 3, 2023: “Marlene Barbera is an Oregon resident who is fighting breast cancer. Until recently, she was a patient at the Richmond Family Medicine Clinic in Portland and was scheduled for a mastectomy. She will now be forced to seek treatment elsewhere—if that is even an option for her. ... According to an article in *Reduxx*, Barbera noticed a trans pride flag in the reception room of the clinic. She is what is known as ‘gender critical.’ This means she rejects the notions of gender identity. She contacted her doctor via the medical app MyChart, stating: ‘I have been threatened on Twitter by trans activists with rape and death--so it is daunting to go for medical treatment with that banner proclaiming that what I am, an adult human female, is a mere opt-in category for any gender non-conforming male and not a reality. May I please have a telephone appointment to discuss how I may



access your medical care without walking under a banner that seeks to negate all I am?’ ... The doctor, who had been her primary care provider for 12 years and had also treated members of her family, refused to remove the flag. ... Not long after, Barbera received a MyChart message from Oregon Health Science University Practice Manager Stein Berger. She was informed that Richmond is an ‘all-inclusive clinic and we value and advocate for diversity.’ She was also told that her ‘transphobic’ remarks were ‘harmful’ to the staff. Later that day, she got an email from the clinic stating in part: ‘**Effective immediately, you are discharged from receiving medical care at the Richmond Family Medicine Clinic. This action is being taken because of ongoing disrespectful and hurtful remarks about our LGBTQ community and staff ... Please note that you are also now dismissed from all OHSU Family Medicine clinics, including Immediate Care clinics.**’ Her access to services ended on July 29. She told *Reduxx* that she has nowhere else to go. But she also said: ‘Gender ideology is a religion. I do not subscribe to that religion...’ The most chilling facet of this situation is that the clinic is more than willing to hand Barbera a potential death sentence over a difference of opinion.”

BARON ROTHCHILD WANTED TO BUILD THE





Baron Edmond Rothschild

THIRD TEMPLE (Friday Church News Notes, August 11, 2023, www.wayoflife.org, fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143)

- The following is excerpted from "Baron Edmond Rothschild," *Israel Today*, July 21, 2023: "Did you know that a prophecy-minded Jewish philanthropist apparently tried to build the Third Temple over 100 years ago? A rather obscure news item resurfaced some time ago on the Internet provides opportunity to address the matter of Baron Edmond de Rothschild and his efforts to build the Third Temple. The news item relates to an extremely rare book published in 1889, *The Temple of Jerusalem and the House of the Forest of Lebanon*. The book is the painstaking work of two French scholars, Charles Chipiez and Georges Perrot. ... Together, the two produced a comprehensive book that was a daring attempt to produce a kind of a blueprint for the Messianic Temple described by the prophet Ezekiel (chapters 40-42). ... Baron Edmond Rothschild's contribution to the Zionist project is immense and is beyond the scope of this article. Suffice it to say that by 1914, 56% of lands owned by Jews were bought with the Baron's money. Though many view him as a philanthropist,

Edmond Rothschild was an avid Zionist who invested so heavily in the Holy Land because he believed Jewish immigration to this region was a realization of prophecy. ... unlike many of the early Zionists, Rothschild objected to the secular version of Zionism. ... he explained that his vision was 'to create the proper conditions that would allow the existence of Judaism and Jewish life ... such a thing is possible only in our Holy Land, where our Holy Law was given and where our prophets and spiritual teachers ... lived and worked.' ... We know for a fact that in 1887 he tried [unsuccessfully] to purchase the Western Wall."

WHAT IS REALLY HAPPENING WITH JUDICIAL REFORM IN ISRAEL? (Friday Church News Notes, August 18, 2023, www.wayoflife.org, fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143)

- The following is excerpted from "Here's What Is Really Happening," *The Federalist*, July 24, 2023: "The alleged authoritarian 'backsliding' by Israel's 'far-right' government would actually make the country far more democratic. ... *The New York Times* reports, 'Israel's Parliament passed a deeply contentious law limiting the Supreme Court's ability to overturn decisions made by government ministers.' What the *Times* means is that there is a new law limiting the judiciary's ability to unilaterally declare legislation 'unconstitutional' without using *any* legal justification whatsoever. Because, as it stands, Israel has a strong *anti-democratic* system overseen by a high court that is probably the most powerful judiciary in the free world. ... The court's decisions are often arbitrary, politically expedient, constantly evolving, and sometimes

contradictory. The court regularly blocks laws passed by center-right governments simply because judges claim policy is unreasonable. Why only center-right governments? Because the entrenched judges (with their allies in the Israeli bar) appoint their own successors in perpetuity. There is no accountability to either the popular will or a constitutional tradition. ... 'Only in Israel do judges confer the power of abstract review on themselves, without benefit of a constitutional or legislative provision,' Richard Posner once described the nation's system. ... The system is so insane that not only can the court lord over the legislative branch without explanation, but it can remove ministers and elected officials at will. The attorney general is empowered to bar officials--even the prime minister--from *participating* in national debates. This is not, by any real standard, 'democratic' governance. It is illiberal. ... As of now, protestors from both sides are out on the streets. And so far, they haven't engaged in the defenestration of their opponents or any violence. The debate is an illustration of a 'democracy' working, not one sliding into tyranny. ... The reality is that virtually everything we do in politics is 'divisive' and 'deeply contentious.' That's why politics exists. And in Israel, the time of day is a deeply contentious issue. ... Of course, if the Israeli Supreme Court was packed with right-wingers instead of left-



wingers, American media, the Democratic Party, and the protestors would be on the reform side. None of this has anything to do with governing principles or justice or norms or 'democracy.' Like those destroying the American judiciary at home, it's about power."

THE TRANSFORMATIONAL POWER OF CONTEMPORARY PRAISE MUSIC (Friday Church News Notes, August 18, 2023, www.wayoflife.org, fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - *The Transformational Power of Contemporary Praise Music* is a multi-media video presentation describing the power of Contemporary Worship Music to change the character of a "traditional" Bible-believing church. The presentation features a wealth of still pictures, audio and video clips. It examines the reason why this music lies at the heart and soul of the dramatic changes that are coming to Bible-believing churches. The transformational power is two-fold: It lies in the music's underlying philosophy, and it lies in the character of the music itself. We first document the philosophy of CCM, which is a doctrine of license under the guise of a more relaxed, grace-filled approach

to Christian living and theology. On the musical side, we examine the elements of contemporary worship, every aspect of which is designed to create a sensual, mystical, emotional experience. As Michael W. Smith puts it, contemporary music "helps you enter into the presence of God." The major elements of this experience are the addictive syncopated dance rhythms, unresolving chord sequences, sensual vocal techniques, electronic modulation, and the repetition. We analyze each of these elements. This presentation is available as a free eVideo at https://www.wayoflife.org/s3/satanic_attack_on_sacred_music.php

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

THE BABY WHO DIDN'T GROW UP (Friday Church News Notes, August 18, 2023, www.wayoflife.org, fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - Brooke Greenberg was 20 years old when she died in 2013, but she had never grown beyond the toddler stage. She was 30 inches tall, weighed 16 pounds, and had the



mental age of about 1 year. She had a rare anti-aging disease doctors called Syndrome X. This sad case reminds us that babies are cute but when they don't grow up, something is seriously wrong. The spiritual lesson is huge. There are multitudes of professing believers who have not matured beyond the spiritual toddler stage. Their Christian lives remain self-centered. They require a lot of attention, but they don't contribute to the family business. They throw spiritual temper tantrums when things don't go as they like. Brooke couldn't help her condition, but the child of God has no excuse for not maturing in Christ. "Wherefore laying aside all malice, and all guile, and hypocrisies, and envies, and all evil speakings, As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby" (1 Peter 2:1-2)..

Aim of O Timothy Magazine

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



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