

# O Timothy

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

A Monthly Newsletter for Spiritual Protection and Edification

Volume 41 - Issue 12 - December 2024



*"Karl Barth almost always spoke obscurely so that it is often difficult to know what the man meant. Barthian experts disagree among themselves as to what his theology signified. I doubt the man even understood himself! It is this very obscurity that attracts those who fancy themselves to be intellectuals and scholars." Page 10.*

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



## CARY SCHMIDT, MORE CONTEMPORARY FRUIT OF LANCASTER ~ By David

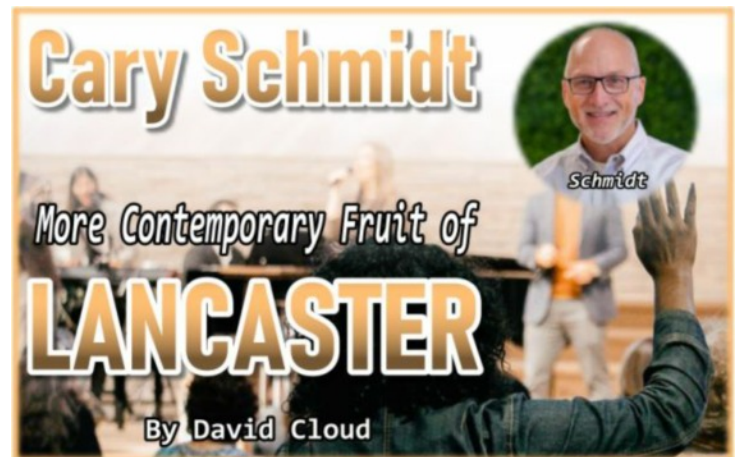
Lancaster Baptist Church of Lancaster, California, pastored by Paul Chappell, is spawning large numbers of contemporary churches by graduates, associates, and former staff members.

Examples are Rock Hill Church, Fontana, California (pastored by Chappell's son Matt); Coastline Baptist Church, Oceanside, California (pastored by Chappell's brother, mentored Matt Chappell); Grace Gathering, Santa Barbara; Ambassador Baptist Church, Fresno, California; Southridge Church, San Jose, California; Citypoint Baptist Church, Tempe, Arizona; and Emmanuel Baptist Church, Newington, Connecticut.

[See the report "Lancaster's Contemporary Fruit"](#)

<https://www.wayoflife.org/reports/lancaster-baptist-church-contemporary-fruit.php>

[And the video "Lancaster's Roll in the Downgrade"](#)



[https://www.wayoflife.org/s3/satanic\\_attack\\_on\\_sacred\\_music.php](https://www.wayoflife.org/s3/satanic_attack_on_sacred_music.php)

Cary Schmidt took the pastorate of Emmanuel Baptist Church, Newington, CT, in 2012, after serving 22 years with Paul Chappell at Lancaster. He left on good terms and his material remains on Pastor Chappell's web site.

Schmidt has transitioned Emmanuel Baptist from a fundamentalist stance to a contemporary evangelical one. A former member of the church informed me in 2017 of the changes, including \$85 thousand spent on a “slick platform renovation.” In typical contemporary fashion, the auditorium is darkened and the spotlight is on the speaker.

In April 2017, the new Emmanuel hosted a **Steve Green concert**. While Green is on the “conservative” side of Contemporary Christian Music, he is a rocker and an ecumenist and is therefore a bridge to the world and to the “broader church.”

In 1996, Green appeared at the Promise Keepers Atlanta Clergy Conference and sang “Let the Walls Come Down,” referring to tearing down walls between all denominations. Ralph Colas, who attended the conference with media credentials, wrote, “The big beat, contemporary music brought the ministers to their feet. ... Steve Green belted out repeatedly ‘Let the Walls Come Down.’ The 40,000 clergy shouted, whistled, clapped, and cheered as they worked to a higher and higher pitch of emotion” (*Calvary Contender*, April 15, 1996).

Promise Keepers’ ecumenism is cutting edge. At the 1997 Stand in the Gap conference in Washington, D.C., Promise Keepers’ founder Bill McCartney declared, “We have a plan ... Baptists, Lutherans, Roman Catholics,

we’ve been divided, but now we’re being reunited.” He said that full Catholic participation was his intention from the start (*Our Sunday Visitor*, July 20, 1997). Catholic priest John Salazar spoke at a Promise Keepers rally in Plainview, Texas, in December 1995. A Promise Keepers leadership conference was held at the Franciscan University of Steubenville, Ohio, in July 1995, and priest Michael Scanlan, who heads up the school, conducted a Catholic mass. In an article in *New Covenant* magazine for June 1997, Scanlan called Mary “the Spouse of the Holy Spirit.” He believes Mary is the Queen of Heaven and that she hears and answers prayer. Promise Keepers participated in follow-up conferences at the Franciscan University in 1996 and 1997. Catholic lawyer Mike Timmis was a member of the Promise Keepers board of directors. In an interview with attorney Michael Thomas in October 1997, Timmis said he attends mass daily and is dedicated to bringing Catholics and evangelicals together.

Green’s *The Faithful* album featured songs that promote Pentecostal-ecumenical heresies. “The River” preaches the dangerous charismatic practice of opening oneself non-critically to “the Spirit” and being led wherever the Spirit goes (nonsensical tongues, uncontrollable laughter, shaking, roaring like a lion, spirit slaying, etc.). “The river calls, we can’t deny/ A step of faith is our reply/ We feel the Spirit draw us in/ The water’s swift, we’re forced to swim/ We’re out of control/ And we go where He flows.” “The Great Revival” promotes the false doctrine of an end-time miracle revival: “Oh, glory hallelujah/ For the Lord is pouring a holy fire/ The great revival started...”

Why would a fundamental Baptist pastor bring Steve Green to his church to build bridges to the very dangerous ecumenical and charismatic movements?

In 2023, Cary Schmidt joined Bryan Samms at the Church Advanced conference. Samms is at the forefront of teaching pastors how to transition away from the King James Bible.

Samms transitioned the River City Baptist Church of Jacksonville, Florida, from a conservative fundamental Baptist Church to a contemporary evangelical church. He and Schmidt are two peas in a pod.

In October 2024, Cary Schmidt and Emmanuel Baptist Church of Newington hosted Keith and Kristyn Getty,

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Matt Papa, and others for a “Healthy Church Weekend.” Cary’s son Lance, who is “executive pastor,” was prominent in the advertisements. The Gettys are ecumenical rock & rollers who associate closely with Roman Catholic musicians, such as Matt Maher. They have a “conservative” side, but in practice they have no real boundaries in music, in association, in dress, etc., so that they are a bridge to the “broader church” with all of its heresies and spiritual dangers.

(For documentation, see the video presentation “Bob Jones, Majesty Music, New Reformed Calvinism & The Gettys,”

[https://www.wayoflife.org/s3/satanic\\_attack\\_on\\_sacred\\_music.php](https://www.wayoflife.org/s3/satanic_attack_on_sacred_music.php).)

## Conclusion

Not all West Coast graduates are planting contemporary churches, but that is the overall direction, and the seeds are being sown at Lancaster itself. I don’t know any graduates who have spoken out against what is happening. As far as I know, Paul Chappell has never denounced the aforementioned churches **publicly** and **plainly**.

A discerning pastor commented, “Pastor Chappell has produced this legacy. This is the fruit of his labor to embrace pragmatism and soften the lines of Independent Baptists. I would guess that 75% of WCBC grads end up this way within 10 years of graduating.”

It is very sad to me that these young men (the Matt Chappells, the Mark Rasmussen Jrs, the John Guys, etc.) are on a wrong path, a path that will lead to anywhere within the “broader church.” Only time will tell where they and their followers will end up.

They are young, talented, studious, zealous, visionary. They could be starting strong Bible churches that would stand and bear fruit and be a bright light in an evil day. They could be starting churches that are biblically stronger and wiser than any that have existed in my lifetime. They could be testing everything by God’s Word alone and rejecting every tradition that is unscriptural. But this entails going back to the New Testament church described in Scripture, which is a pilgrim separatist church, rather than following the “after their own lusts” pattern of end-time apostasy (2 Timothy 4:3-4).

Sadly, that is not what we are seeing as the fruit of Lancaster Baptist Church and West Coast Baptist College.

## TESTIMONY ABOUT THE [SATANIC ATTACK ON SACRED MUSIC](#) SERIES

(Friday Church News Notes, November 15, 2024,  
[www.wayoflife.org](http://www.wayoflife.org), [fbns@wayoflife.org](mailto:fbns@wayoflife.org), 866-295-4143)



- “I wanted to thank you for your video series [The Satanic Attack on Sacred Music](#). I just finished listening to it yesterday, and I wish there was a way to give that to every single Christian in the world (or rather, make them listen to it)--especially fundamental Baptists like myself. Before, I was pretty sure I understood the danger of wrong music and the reasons why. Now I KNOW and can have solid reasons and understanding

behind what I believe. There was music that I really enjoyed listening to on YouTube--literally just straight a-cappella hymns that I thought were perfectly acceptable, not pushing the line at all. But **after listening to the series I realized that music can be ever so slightly heading south with scooping and sliding, and I didn’t even realize that is part of what I liked about it.** It has given me a burden for having the right music. I am very blessed to be part of our church that teaches Godly music and has high music standards. But even in our church I can see how easy it would be for that very slow, very gradual decline starting with a special that just has the rhythm a little off, or ending on the wrong [chord.] (I need to listen to the series again; not having a musical background at all, some of it was Greek to me, but very fascinating.) **I have started praying daily for the standards of our church that they will be upheld, and that we will not degrade over time.** I just wanted to thank you again for your many years of sacrifice and service. You helped me make some big changes in my life many years ago that saved me from a lot of garbage, and I will always be grateful.”



# The Woman's ADORNMENT

## (1 Timothy 2:9-10)

By David Cloud

The following is excerpted from the [Way of Life Commentary Series, Pastoral Epistles](#)

When Paul turns from the ministry of the men in verse 8 to the ministry of the women in verse 9, he first addresses the woman's apparel. We see, then, that modesty in dress is *not* a "non-essential" and dress is *not* strictly a matter of personal preference, as is commonly believed in this apostate age. Further, to teach the biblical principles of modest dress is not "Phariseism" or "legalism."

Paul taught on apparel, and he taught it as one of the things whereby we are instructed how to behave ourselves in God's house (1 Ti. 3:15). 1 Timothy 2:9-10 is not Paul's teaching; it is God's Word. Paul wrote this epistle as an apostle of Jesus Christ (1 Ti. 1:1). This is how God wants His redeemed daughters to dress.

Paul's example of putting the apparel issue first is instructive in light of the fact that the vast majority of churches today ignore the issue almost entirely. Even so-called "fundamentalist" churches are giving up the "battle" on this issue. When I was saved in 1973 and joined an Independent Baptist church, I was attracted by the fact that the church took the Bible literally and seriously. There was a pilgrim lifestyle that set the people apart from the world. But that is quickly disappearing even among those types of churches. In 2002, the new pastor of Bethlehem Baptist church of Fairfax, Virginia, a formerly conservative church, sent a letter to his people that said, "With regard to dress and modesty issues, we enforce no rule on our folks." Lukewarm people want to live like the world, and the compromising pastors don't want to offend them.

Churches are simply following in lockstep with the world. There is great, worldwide rebellion against God's

created order today, as prophesied in Psalm 2:1-3. When I was a boy, American society was still very conservative in dress because of the influence of the Bible. Most women wore modest dresses and long hair. People dressed up even for sporting events, not to speak of church attendance. This was destroyed by the onslaught of the rock & roll culture that began in the 1950s and exploded in the 1960s. (There was an earlier jazz age in the "Roaring Twenties," but it was more limited to certain segments of society, most of the nation remaining conservative and biblically influenced.) Prominent rockers and fashion designers such as Mary Quant had an agenda of overturning every biblical element of society, including sexual distinctives. God made man male and female, but the rock & roll culture says, "We don't agree; we will be whatever we want to be." Unisex fashion (the androgynous look) and feminism paved the way for the homosexual rights movement and transsexualism. Even something as "little" as the Beatles wearing longer hair was a significant unisex statement. Paul McCartney boasted of their role in destroying traditional convention: "There they were in America, all getting house-trained for adulthood with their indisputable principle of life: short hair equals men; long hair equals women. Well, we got rid of that small convention for them. And a few others, too" (Barbara Ehrenreich, "Beatlemania: Girls Just Wanted to Have Fun," cited by Lisa Lewis, *The Adoring Audience: Fan Culture and Popular Media*, p. 102). Those "conventions" had come about because of the Bible's great influence on the nation, and these were not small things at all.

One reason why the apostle Paul begins with the woman's attire is the visual nature of the man's sexuality (Pr. 6:25; Mt. 5:28) and the woman's natural vanity and her tendency to adorn herself in such a manner as to attract attention in the wrong way. In arguing against being

“limited” by modest clothing, one woman said, “I don’t believe it is wrong to use my God-given assets to attract men’s attention.” This is the voice of rebellion. A woman’s “God-given assets” are to be used in God’s will and according to God’s law, not as she pleases. There is also the “pride of life,” which is the way of the world (1 Jo. 2:15-16) and which causes women to dress in an ostentatious manner to draw undue attention to themselves.

Paul lays out fundamental principles of modest dress which should be taught in every church. This is the substance of the “testing mindset” that is to characterize God’s people in this present world. All things are to be tested by the absolute standard of God’s Word to prove whether it is right or wrong, true or false, acceptable or unacceptable to God (1 Th. 5:21). Spiritual maturity requires exercising the senses “to discern both good and evil,” and those who do not live like this are labeled “babes” in God’s Word (Heb. 5:12-14). Mature spiritual women want to test their attire by the standard of God’s Word. It is this fundamental thing (the testing mindset) that is so glaringly absent from most churches, and which is disappearing from even the most “fundamentalist” of churches in the 21st century.

Observe that these guidelines are for “**women professing godliness.**” No other kind of woman will care about these things. To profess godliness is a description of a true Christian. She is saved by God’s free grace by the blood of Christ, and she is saved *unto godliness*. The true grace of God teaches us to “live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world” (Tit. 2:11-12).

So to profess Christ and salvation in truth is to profess godliness. It is to profess that I have repented and turned from ungodliness to godliness. It is to make godliness my standard of life because I have been born from darkness to life. To profess godliness is the opposite of the apostate Christianity described in 2 Timothy 4:3-4, which aims to live according to its own lusts. Women who are moving along according to the spirit of apostasy do not profess godliness and will not submit to the rules of godliness. If a church is full of women who refuse to heed the instruction of 1 Timothy 2:9-11, women who have the attitude of “no preacher is going to tell me how to dress; I refuse to be a weirdo,” it is a church moving with the spirit of apostasy, no matter what it might call itself or boast itself to be. It might have a name that it lives, but in reality, it is dead. Proper attire is no small issue.

The woman’s dress is to be modest (“modest apparel,” 1 Ti. 2:9).

The Greek word for “**modest**,” *kosmios*, means orderly, decent. It is the opposite of disorderly. It also translated “of good behaviour” (1 Ti. 3:2). So in 1 Timothy 2:9 it refers to clothing that is not disorderly, clothing that represents good behaviour, clothing that is becoming to, suitable for, proper for a woman who is behaving right. The Christian woman should not wear anything that would be characterized as NOT of good behaviour.

This is the fundamental guideline about modesty in a nutshell.

But there are five specific biblical principles in this passage that further describe modest apparel. As we will see, all are different ways of saying the same thing, of emphasizing the same thing, which is that the apparel of the woman of God is to express her godly character.

The modest Christian woman will apply these standards to every part of her wardrobe. She will apply these standards when she purchases or makes her clothes, when she determines what to wear, and when she looks in the mirror to consider her attire. “Is this item of dress suitable before God to me as a woman of God? Is it godly? Does it reflect holiness? Is it decent? Is it a good testimony for a godly woman? Is it a good example to other women? Does it suit my lifestyle as a pilgrim in this wicked world?”

This way of choosing one’s dress is exactly the opposite of the way of the world, which is to dress to please oneself, to dress to please the opposite sex, to dress to fit in with my friends, to dress to conform to society, to dress to suit a worldly crowd, or to dress merely for comfort. The woman of the world cares nothing for the glory of God and for the issues that the woman of God cares for.

These principles apply to every time and place.

We will see that the Christian woman’s attire is to reflect her character. The Christian woman’s modesty must come from the inside out. It comes from a sober and shamefaced spirit.

The heart condition, the spiritual character is the fundamental thing. The dress issue begins, therefore, with salvation, because without salvation it is impossible to be shamefaced, sober, godly. Without salvation there can be

no good works that please God. The dress issue, secondly, requires surrender in seeking God's perfect will, which requires non-conformity to the world and transformation by the renewing of the mind (Romans 12:1-2).

Without salvation and surrender and the pursuit of holiness, the dress issue is only a matter of externals, which is true Phariseeism. The churches must focus on the heart.

This teaches us that it is not enough to set forth dress standards. Every effort must be made to educate the women, beginning with the children in the homes, so that they understand the biblical principles of modesty and know the reason for the church's standards. Every effort must be made to reach their hearts, to make sure that they are born again, to challenge them to surrender themselves wholly to Christ and to live for His glory.

This is where the battle has been lost in so many churches. They have focused only on external rules. They haven't been careful about salvation, accepting flimsy professions of faith instead of looking for life-changing regeneration. They haven't sought to maintain a regenerate church membership. They haven't seriously educated and disciplined the people. They haven't produced mature saints who are skilled in the Word of God and who walk in a testing mindset to discern good from evil according to Hebrews 5:12-14. They have taught the children only how to play games and sing silly songs and be entertained with shallow Bible stories taught, all too frequently, by unqualified teachers. The youth have been pampered and entertained more than disciplined.

No wonder so many of the churches are one-generation churches that become the habitats of old people in the second generation, and the power of God, if there ever was any power of God, is a distant memory.

### **1. Modest dress is dress that is fitting for a woman displaying "shamefacedness" (1 Ti. 2:9).**

"Shamefacedness" is from the Greek *aidos*, which means godly humility. It "has the idea of downcast eyes" and means "bashfulness, i.e. (towards men), modesty or (towards God) awe" (Strong). It implies "a shrinking from trespassing the boundaries of propriety" (William Hendrickson, *New Testament Commentary*). Shamefacedness is shyness in the sense of humility, submission to God, submission to God's will, submission

to God's order of creation. Shamefacedness is that "meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of God of great price" (1 Pe. 3:3-4).

The shamefaced woman loves God and is committed to obeying His Word, and this is reflected on her face and in every aspect of her life, including her clothing.

It is a renunciation of "*the pride of life*" which is a major characteristic of this fallen world (1 Jo. 2:16).

A shamefaced Christian woman will not have the attitude that says, "I will dress as I please!" She will not be stubborn and sassy. She will not say, "I don't care what some old-fashioned men say about how I dress; that is their problem; I'm not going to be a weirdo!" That is exactly the spirit of this lost world, and the fact that so many women in "Bible-believing" churches reflect that spirit is clear evidence of apostasy. Paul described apostasy as a Christianity that lives according to its own lusts (2 Ti. 4:3-4).

Shamefacedness is exactly the opposite of the cheeky, saucy, proud, impertinent, brash, flippant, sensual, show yourself off, insubordinate attitude that the world seeks to develop in women today and that is modeled by Hollywood starlets and rock & roll divas.

### **2. Modest dress is dress that is fitting for a woman displaying "sobriety" (1 Ti. 2:9).**

"Sobriety" is from the Greek *sophrosune*, which is translated "soberness" in Acts 26:25. It means "soundness of mind, self-control" (Strong), "habitual inner self-government" (Trench), "the well-balanced state of mind arising from habitual self-restraint" (Ellicott), "moderation of the desires and passions, opposed to all that is frivolous and to all undue excitement of the passions" (Barnes). A sober mind is a mind controlled by God's Spirit and God's Word.

Sobriety means not to be drunk, neither with alcoholic beverages, or drugs, or any other thing. Many professing Christian teenage girls and young women are drunk with the fashions and fads and ways of the world. They are drunk with television, and Hollywood movies and sensual magazines and pop music and YouTube and social media. The Bible and the things of Christ do not excite them, but they are giddy over what some worldly movie star or pop singer is wearing and doing, and over the latest vain



fashion or hair style or cosmetic, and over what their friends are doing and saying.

Sobriety is the opposite of foolish, silly, flippant, careless, intoxicated, shallow, worldly, and vain. It is the opposite of the spirit of the modern pop culture.

We will apply the first two standards (shamefaced, and sober) to specific types of dress.

A modest, shamefaced, sober woman will not dress indecently. She will not dress in a sensual way to attract men's lust. Jesus warned, "whosoever looketh on a woman to lust after her hath committed adultery with her already in his heart" (Mt. 5:26). That warning is addressed to men, but the modest woman will not want to dress in such a way that men are enticed.

A modest, shamefaced, sober woman will not wear clothing that exposes those parts of the body that have particular sex appeal. God replaced Adam and Eve's aprons with "coats" (Ge. 3:21). This Hebrew word (*kethôneth*) is translated "robe" in Isaiah 22:21. In 2 Samuel 13:18 it describes Tamar's robe of many colors. Because man's heart was now fallen and corrupt and because the man, in particular, is enticed sexually by the eye (Pr. 6:25; Mt. 5:28), proper clothing consisted of covering. Since men find women's breasts very desirable (Pr. 5:19), the woman needs to take special care to cover that part of herself properly. And the robes God made for Eve doubtless also covered her legs and thighs. In Isaiah 47:2-3 we find that uncovering the leg and thigh is nakedness by God's standard. Types of clothing that improperly expose the body include short skirts and short dresses, shorts, slit skirts (this is a teasing fashion), low blouses, short blouses that bare the midriff, deep V-necked dresses, backless dresses, halter tops, sleeveless blouses, and *any* modern swimsuit.

A modest, shamefaced, sober woman will avoid clothing whereby her figure is sensually accentuated. Tight, clinging attire is as immodest as skimpy attire because the woman's figure is emphasized and accented, and man's attention is directed to that which is forbidden outside of marriage. The immodest clothing industry understands these things and strives to dress women seductively rather than modestly.

In a survey of Christian men on the issue of women's dress (for the book [Dressing for the Lord](#)), most of the

men indicated that tight skirts and tight blouses and form-fitting jeans hold a "VERY great potential" for lust. Consider the following examples of the feedback we received:

"You don't even need to see skin; they provide all the curves."

"I would say the Number One problem is any garment that is form fitting, be it jeans, pants, skirt, dress, shirt, whatever. Anything that is tight, no matter how long it is, leaves nothing to the imagination, and that defeats the whole purpose of covering the skin in the first place!"

"One thing I see in my church is tight clothing. Oh, it may very well be covering but it is revealing the shape in a woman. This can be even more tantalizing to a man."

"The point is that it is not merely the type of clothing that can trip a man up; rather it is the amount and the level of cling to the body."

Tight pants or skinny jeans were designed by Calvin Klein, a bisexual fashion designer. When his super tight pants appeared in 1974, they sold 200,000 pairs the first week ("Calvin Klein: A Stylish Obsession," *Entrepreneur*, Oct. 10, 2008).

Tights worn as pants were designed by Gianni Versace, a homosexual fashion designer who was murdered by a homosexual in 1997.

Godly women who understand what a temptation tight clothing is for men will be careful to avoid this type of attire.

**3. Modest dress is dress that is not ostentatious or extravagant ("not with broided hair, or gold, or pearls, or costly array," 1 Ti. 2:9).**

"**Broided hair**" refers to braiding the hair. This does not mean that the Christian woman should not take care of her hair or style her hair. It is a warning against *extravagance*. It is a warning against trying to draw undue attention to herself. It is a warning against spending a great deal of time adorning herself in the manner of the world, of making this the focus of her life. We agree with the Barnes commentary, which says: "It cannot be supposed that the mere braiding of the hair is forbidden, but only that careful

attention to the manner of doing it, and to the ornaments usually worn in it, which characterized worldly females.”



**Examples of the extravagant types of braided hair in Paul's day can be seen in museums.**

This also does not mean the Christian woman is forbidden to wear any type of jewelry. Again, it is a matter of modesty and propriety. It is a matter of not drawing undue attention to oneself. “It is not to be supposed that all use of gold or pearls, as articles of dress, is here forbidden; but the idea is that the Christian female is not to seek these as the adorning which she desires, or is not to imitate the world in these personal decorations. It may be a difficult question to settle how much ornament is allowable, and when the true line is passed. ... It is, that the true line is passed when more is thought of this external adorning, than of the ornament of the heart. Any external decoration which occupies the mind more than the virtues of the heart, and which engrosses the time and attention more, we may be certain is wrong” (Barnes).

The meaning of 1 Timothy 2:9 (“not with broided hair, or gold, or pearls, or costly array”) is further explained in 1 Peter 3:2-5, “Whose adorning let it not be that outward adorning of plaiting the hair, and of wearing of gold, or of putting on of apparel; But let it be the hidden man of the heart, in that which is not corruptible, even the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of God of great price.”

If this were to be taken in a strict literal manner, it would mean the woman should not put on apparel, which is obviously not the meaning. The meaning is that the Christian woman is *to put the emphasis on godliness and simplicity* rather than on adornment.

It doesn't mean it is wrong for a woman to fix her hair or to wear any jewelry or makeup whatsoever or to dress in attractive clothes. Elsewhere in Scripture we are told that the virtuous woman “maketh herself coverings of tapestry” (Pr. 31:22).

Paul in 1 Timothy 2 and Peter in 1 Peter 3 are contrasting the way of the world with the way of Christ.

The worldly woman focuses on the physical and the sensual and the prideful, while the spiritual woman focuses on the things of God, the spiritual, humility.

The worldly woman wants to please herself and to show herself off and to conform to society, while the spiritual woman wants to please God and have a godly influence. Her focus is on pleasing the Lord and cultivating godliness. She puts on apparel, but she does not put on immodest apparel. She takes care of her hair and might wear some item of jewelry and some modest makeup, but she does not do so ostentatiously or in a “sexy” manner, and such things do not captivate her heart or characterize her testimony. Her testimony and reputation is that of a modest woman of God. This is what she is most concerned about.

There is a danger of taking the teaching of 1 Timothy 2:9 to an extreme. I have observed this many times. In such cases, there is a strict banning of all jewelry and makeup and a tendency toward drabness and plainness of dress. And often, the standards are arbitrary.

I think of a preacher who teaches that it is wrong for women to cut their hair (at all), but he allows earrings. I think of a family that left a church because a woman in the choir wore shoes with low heels, which they considered immodest. God looks on the heart (1 Sa. 16:7), so in God's eyes, a woman with some makeup and jewelry might be more pleasing than a woman with none. It depends on her heart's condition toward God. It is the meek and quiet spirit that is in the sight of God of great price (1 Pe. 3:4). This is not to say that it doesn't matter how we dress. It matters very much, as we are seeing.

What we are warning about here is the danger of becoming hyper-focused on the minutiae of dress and losing sight of the big picture of true spirituality. Paul's emphasis is on modesty, sobriety, shamefacedness, godliness, all of which are heart conditions.

“This was no plea for women to make themselves unattractive; it was simply an exhortation to reject the world's yardstick for measuring beauty and adopt heaven's standard (1 Sa. 16:7). One should expect nothing less from women who profess to worship God” (*Bible Knowledge Commentary*).



#### 4. Modest dress is dress that is fitting for “women professing godliness” (1 Ti. 2:10).

This one standard would be sufficient. Every item of the woman’s attire should be fitting for a woman professing godliness, a woman who knows Christ in salvation and who is on the path to please Him by godly living. It is the opposite of dress that is ungodly, unholy, worldly (“the lust of the flesh, and the lusts of the eyes, and the pride of life,” 1 Jo. 2:16).

#### 5. Modest dress is dress that is fitting for a woman who adorns herself “with good works” (1 Ti. 2:10).

God’s woman should be known for her obedience to God and her service to Jesus Christ, rather than for her extravagance in dress or her devotion to sensuality and pleasure. “There is great beauty in this direction. Good works, or deeds of benevolence, eminently become a Christian female. The woman’s nature seems to be adapted to the performance of all deeds demanding kindness, tenderness, and gentleness of feeling; of all that proceeds from pity, sympathy, and affection... God seems to have formed her mind for just such things, and in such things it occupies its appropriate sphere, rather than in seeking external adorning” (Barnes).

One man wrote: “When I see a woman in a store in town and she is dressed a certain conservative way, I always think, ‘I bet she is a Christian.’ It says a lot about the character of a woman when she shuns the styles of this world and walks in such a way that she wants to let people know that she is different.”

#### The modest woman is in direct contrast with the strange woman (Pr. 7:6-23).

- *They are different in where they go.* The strange woman goes out “in the black and dark night” (Pr. 7:9). Her “feet abide not in her house; now is she without, now in the streets” (Pr. 7:11-12). The modest woman, on the other hand, is cautious about where she goes and when she goes and with whom she goes. She avoids going to places where moral temptations lurk; she avoids being alone with men other than her husband and brothers; she avoids situations that could place her in the way of moral harm. The modern pop culture would applaud the strange woman as “liberated,” but the liberty to do evil is actually enslavement and the path of moral and spiritual corruption.

- *They are different in their attire* (Pr. 7:10). The immoral woman has “the attire of an harlot”--skimpy, tight, suggestive; clothing that draws attention to herself sexually and

that lures men to her *on that basis*. The modest woman, on the other hand, is clothed in such a way so as NOT to draw men’s attention to her in a sexual manner. She doesn’t want to be “hot.” She wants to be modest.

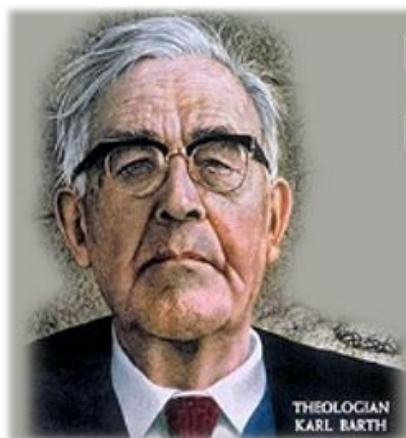
- *They are different in spirit* (Pr. 7:10-11). The immoral woman is “subtil of heart ... loud and stubborn.” No one can tell her what to do, where to go, how to dress. In contrast, the modest woman has “a meek and quiet spirit” (1 Pe. 3:4). The modest woman is characterized by “sobriety” (1 Ti. 2:9). “Sobriety” is from the Greek *sophrosune*, which is translated “sobriety” in Acts 26:25. It means “soundness of mind, self-control” (Strong), “habitual inner self-government” (Trench). A sober mind is a mind controlled by God’s Spirit and God’s Word.

- *They are different in countenance* (Pr. 7:13). The immoral woman has “an impudent face.” The modest woman, on the other hand, is “shamefaced” (1 Ti. 2:9). This is the Greek *aidos*, which “has the idea of downcast eyes” and means “bashfulness, i.e. (towards men), modesty or (towards God) awe” (Strong). It implies “a shrinking from trespassing the boundaries of propriety” (William Hendrickson, *New Testament Commentary*).

- *They are different in their religion.* The strange woman makes religious offerings and attends to religious duties (Pr. 7:14), but her heart is far from God. She goes to church, but she is a hypocrite. Her true and real life is devoted to doing whatever she pleases. The modest woman, on the other hand, serves God from the heart. She is the same person on Saturday night as she is on Sunday morning.

- *They are different in their definition of love.* The strange woman confuses love with lust, thinking that “love” is romance and the fulfillment of sexual desire regardless of one’s marital status (Pr. 7:18). This is the definition of love promoted by Hollywood and rock & roll. “If it feels so right, it can’t be wrong.” The modest woman, on the other hand, knows that genuine love is godly commitment *in* marriage. True love is keeping God’s commandments (1 Jo. 5:3). True love “doth not behave itself unseemly” (1 Co. 13:5).

- *They are different in the way they look at life.* The strange woman lives only for the moment, only for this world. She does not look at the end of things, only at the beginning. She does not think about God’s judgment, only about the pleasure of sin (Pr. 7:22-23). The modest woman, on the other hand, knows that sin is pleasurable only for a season and she focuses her attention on the eternal rather than the temporal (Heb. 11:24-26). She sets her affection on things above, not on things on the earth (Col. 3:1-4). She lives her life as a pilgrim who is journeying in a strange land, and she lives by the precepts of her heavenly country rather than those of this fallen world (Heb. 11:13-16; 1 Pe. 2:11-12).



# EVANGELICALS

## Praise Heretic

# KARL BARTH

By David Cloud

**K**arl Barth (1886-1968) was a thorough-going heretic, yet he has wielded great influence among “evangelicals.”

The December 11, 1995, issue of *Christianity Today* contained a review of Karl Barth’s *Critically Realistic Dialectical Theology: Its Genesis and Development 1909-1936*, by Bruce McCormack, Oxford University Press, 1995. The review was by Roger Olson of Bethel College. Note the praise heaped on heretic Barth by this publication which professes to believe the Bible:

“When chroniclers of twentieth-century theology look back one hundred years hence, there is little doubt that one name will overshadow all others as THE GIANT OF THIS CENTURY’S THEOLOGIANS--KARL BARTH. Thinkers of Barth’s stature provide a framework within which countless others carry out their own work, and thus a change in the paradigm governing interpretation of a Barth or a Hegel or an Edwards or a Thomas Aquinas has consequences that ultimately extend far beyond the inner circle of scholarly debate. ...

“In contrast to the reigning conservative paradigm, however, Barth’s governing assumption dialectically (paradoxically) emphasized the other side of divine revelation--that even in Jesus Christ, God’s self is veiled in the historical particularity of a man, and in Scripture the veiling is in the use of human language. Thus, human flesh and propositions can never be God’s Word directly, but only vehicles for God’s self-communication. God remains radically free even as he gives himself in revelation. ...

“Barth has been a source of controversy among evangelicals for much of his century. Perhaps McCormack’s demonstration of a basic continuity in Barth’s theology--”God is God!” yet really comes to us in self-communication--will help evangelicals appreciate Barth more as an ally in our struggle to discover a balanced account of the God-world relationship” (*Christianity Today*, Dec. 11, 1995, p. 42).

The reviewer admits that Barth was not orthodox, that he denied the biblical view of inspiration, yet he believes he was a great theologian.

A more discerning view of Barth was given by Raymond Waugh in *Baffling Karl Barth’s Neo-Orthodoxy*. Waugh concludes: “Those who never bother to analyze Karl Barth at this point, and who go on to assume that he developed a valid view of the Bible, God, Christ Jesus, the resurrection, truth, or salvation will be in for a sad delusionment if they are honest with themselves. He began his career with his *Romans* and concluded his academic career with his lectures which were later published as *Evangelical Theology: An Introduction*. In these volumes, and in every volume in the interim, his approach to the Scriptures is the same; a rejection of them as the Word of God.”

Consider some excerpts from the writings of this “great theologian” Karl Barth:

“THE WORD WHICH ENTERS HUMAN EARS AND IS UTTERED BY HUMAN LIPS, IS THE WORD OF GOD--ONLY WHEN THE MIRACLE TAKES PLACE. OTHERWISE, IT IS JUST A HUMAN WORD LIKE ANY OTHER. ... What stands there, in the pages of the Bible, is the witness to the Word of God ... God can be called truth only when ‘truth’ is understood in the sense of the Greek word ‘aletheia’” (Barth, *Romans*).

“The prophets and apostles as such, even in their office ... were ... Actually guilty of ERROR IN THEIR SPOKEN AND WRITTEN WORD” (Barth, *Church Dogmatics*).

“The assumption that Jesus is the Christ (1.4) is, in the strictest sense of the word, an assumption, void of any content that can be comprehended by us” (Barth, *Romans*, p. 36).

“THIS TOMB MAY PROVE TO BE DEFINITELY CLOSED OR AN EMPTY TOMB: IT IS REALLY A MATTER OF INDIFFERENCE.” (Barth, *The Resurrection of the Dead*, p. 135).

*Christianity Today* has no excuse for promoting Barth. At a luncheon in Washington D.C. May 25, 1960, Barth was asked by *Christianity Today* editor Carl Henry if the virgin birth and the resurrection of Christ were events which occurred in a normal historical sense.

“In a later letter to Gordon W. Clark, Carl F.H. Henry gave a pointed account of the occasion. When he, Henry, asked Barth whether the resurrection event was of such a nature in covering it, that it would have been regarded in the same sense in which the man on the street understands news, Barth became visibly angry and asked, sarcastically, ‘Did you say Christianity Today or Christianity yesterday?’ He then continued by saying that ‘the resurrection of Jesus had significance only for His disciples,’ implying that it had no significance to the world. The religious editor of United Press International, Louis Cassels, said upon leaving, ‘We got Barth’s answer; it was ‘Nein’ [the German word for ‘no’]’ (Gordon H. Clark, *Historiography--Secular and Religious*, The Craig Press, 1972, reprinted in *Christian News Encyclopedia*, Vol. 2, p. 1480).

Karl Barth almost always spoke obscurely so that it is often difficult to know what the man meant. Barthian experts disagree among themselves as to what his theology signified. I doubt the man even understood himself!

It is this very obscurity that attracts those who fancy themselves to be intellectuals and scholars. Consider this lucid excerpt from Barth’s writings:

“If you ask about God and if I am really to tell about him, dialectic is all that can be expected from me. ... Neither my affirmation nor my denial lays claim to being God’s truth. Neither one is more than a witness to that truth which stands in the center, between every Yes and No. And therefore I have never affirmed without denying and never denied without affirming, for neither affirmation nor denial can be final. If my witness to the final answer you are seeking does not satisfy you, I am sorry. It may be that my witness to it is not yet sufficiently clear, that is, that I have not limited the Yes by the No and the No by the Yes incisively enough to set aside all misunderstanding-- incisively enough to let you see that nothing is left except that upon which the Yes and the No, and the No and the Yes, depend. But it may also be that your refusal of my answer arises from your not having really asked your question, from your not having

asked about God--for otherwise we should understand each other” (Karl Barth, *The Word of God and the Word of Man*, Pilgrim Press, p. 209).

This is Barth, the “giant among theologians.” You say, I don’t understand the man. Neither does anyone else, if they would be honest. The Bible, on the other hand, comes to us with plain speech.

The Apostle Paul warned the puffed-up Corinthians that it is the devil who complicates the simplicity of Bible truth.

“But I fear, lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled Eve through his subtilty, so your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ” (2 Cor. 11:3).

He also warned, “Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ” (Colossians 2:8).

Barthianism is philosophy. It is also wicked, Christ-denying heresy. Beware of the Barths of this world AND of those who speak highly of them.

### Barth’s Adultery

The following is from Eberhard Busch, *Karl Barth: His Life from Letters and Autobiographical Texts*, translated by John Bowden, Philadelphia: Fortress Press, 1975:

“In 1924 Georg Merz introduced Charlotte von Kirschbaum to Barth [she was 13 years younger than he]; she soon became a loyal assistant and joined his household in 1929. ... In September 1925 Barth stayed at the Bergli (a remote cottage) again. This time he got to know Charlotte (‘Lollo’) von Kirschbaum more closely. ... Many people, even good friends, and not least his mother, took offense at the presence of ‘Lollo’ in Barth’s life, and later even in his home. There is no question that the intimacy of her relationship with him made particularly heavy demands on the patience of his wife Nelly. Now she had to retreat into the background. Nevertheless, she did not forsake her husband. .... However, it was very difficult for the three of them to live together. .... The result was that they bore a burden which caused them unspeakably deep suffering. Tensions arose which shook them to the core. To avoid these, at least to some extent, was one of the reasons why in future Barth and Charlotte von Kirschbaum regularly moved to the Bergli during the summer vacation.” (pp. 158,164,185-86)





# Reply to Bryan Samms' Position on the King James Bible Being Too Hard to Understand

The following is from Ian Whitlock of Washington state:

"I am a Baptist minister in the U.S. and have been deeply blessed by your ministry! I read with deep interest and sadness your article on Oct. 16th regarding churches transitioning to new versions. Once again you have been a watchman in Zion who has faithfully blown the trumpet with a certain sound.

"I can't imagine what those ministers are thinking! I especially was disturbed with how Bryan Samms used his son as an example of modern children not being able to understand the King James Bible. I would like to share my experience.

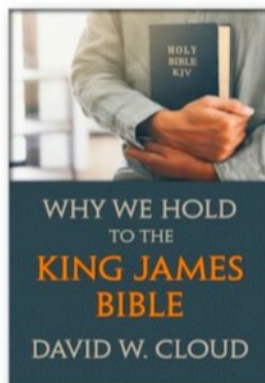
"I have a daughter (Nadilie) who is nine and a half. She learned to read when she was five and started reading a chapter out of her King James Bible every day when she was six. (She is currently halfway through your [History of the Churches from a Baptist Perspective](#).) I asked her, after reading Samms' statement regarding his son, if she feels her Bible reading from the KJV is any harder to understand than her other reading and her answer was no. That is the testimony of a nine year old today.

"What is the difference between a child who finds the KJV strange and hard to understand and the child who has no problem? May I suggest that it could be several things. First, Samms uses his son as an example to prove that children can't understand the KJV. However, Samms also states that he was having doubts and leaning towards the new versions at that time. Children do not live in a vacuum. They are very prone to picking up on the attitude of their parents. The attitude of Samms himself could have contributed to his son's attitude. But even more importantly is the fact that they were not, it would seem, having these discussions until age eleven regarding

reading the Bible. Why were these discussions not taking place years before? It seems to reveal a lazy dazy attitude regarding his son's religious education.

"This is an attitude I have found, to my great sorrow, to be prevalent to a frightful degree among Independent Baptists and other Christians. As parents we cannot expect to feed our children Hollywood, Disneyland, worldly styles of music, picture 'bibles' that have no real Bible text in them, etc., and expect them to become born again, healthy Christians. We parents can't keep putting our career first with both parents working out of the home thus depriving the children of the quality time they need. Let's be real! Let's be honest. If we want children that will be an honor to God, if we want children who can love and understand their Bible we must invest the time and effort and then pray hard for God's blessing. The problem is not with our KJV Bible; it is with us as parents who will not spend the time to give our children the loving nurturing that only we can give so they can grow into His image.

"May God help us to change before it is forever too late!"



## Why We Hold to the King James Bible

David W. Cloud

If you are new to the Bible Version issue and want to understand it or if you want to increase your knowledge, we believe this is the book for you.

Available at:

[https://www.wayoflife.org/publications/books/why\\_we\\_hold\\_to\\_the\\_kjb.php](https://www.wayoflife.org/publications/books/why_we_hold_to_the_kjb.php)

## 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?

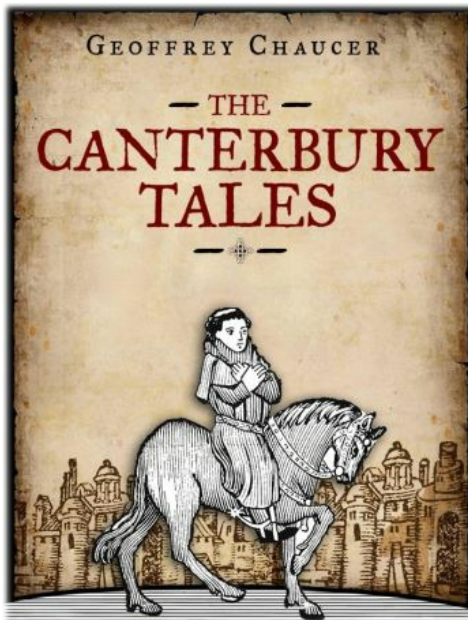


**TRUMP AND AMERICA'S FUTURE** (Friday Church News Notes, October 25, 2024, [www.wayoflife.org](http://www.wayoflife.org), [fbns@wayoflife.org](mailto:fbns@wayoflife.org), 866-295-4143) - I am very thankful that God protected Donald Trump from assassins and have prayed much that he would win the U.S. presidential election in a few days. I have prayed earnestly that new birth salvation in Jesus Christ will come to the Trump family. A Trump presidency would be endlessly better than a Kamala presidency. I also understand that Donald Trump can't make America great again and anything he does will be like putting a bandaid on a terrible cancer. Trump can't change any of the fundamentals that are destroying America and will continue to destroy America during and after his term. He can't wake up lukewarm, disobedient pastors. He can't make the churches biblical and holy. He can't root out theological liberalism. He can't heal corrupt evangelicalism or resurrect dying "fundamentalism." He can't make Christian homes pilgrim homes. He can't rebuild the "nuclear family." He can't heal the endless ills of the public school system. He can't root out Marxism from the university system. He can't change the progress of the multitude of pagan isms that are leavening

society. He can't correct the constitutional balance of power that has been lost. He can't destroy the welfare system. He can't change the leavening of society by moral reprobation. He can't conquer the "do your own thing" filthy pop culture in all of its varieties, white, black, hispanic, etc. He can't fundamentally change the deeply corrupted judicial system. He can't "drain the swamp." God's redeemed people can do things Trump and the Republicans and political conservatives cannot do, which is preach the gospel and build godly individual lives, homes, and churches. This is what Christ has commanded, and it will make more difference in the country than barrels full of political commentary and action.

**UNIVERSITY PUTS TRIGGER WARNING ON "EXPRESSIONS OF CHRISTIAN FAITH" IN CHAUCER** (Friday Church News Notes, November 1, 2024, [www.wayoflife.org](http://www.wayoflife.org), [fbns@wayoflife.org](mailto:fbns@wayoflife.org), 866-295-4143) - The following is excerpted from "University Puts Trigger Warning," *The European Conservative*, Oct. 15, 2024: "A leading UK university has been strongly criticised for putting a trigger warning on Geoffrey Chaucer's *Canterbury Tales* advising students that the work contains 'expressions of Christian faith.' Critics say the University of Nottingham is 'demeaning education' for warning students that the Medieval collection of stories of pilgrims on their way to Canterbury Cathedral may contain Christianity. ... *The Canterbury Tales* is one of the most famous works of Medieval English literature. It is a collection of stories about various characters on their way to the tomb of Saint Thomas Becket, then one of the most popular pilgrimage sites in

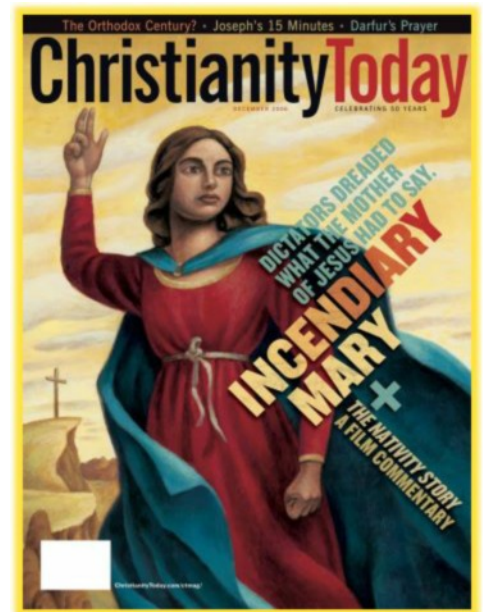




Europe. The stories also contain explicit references to rape and antisemitism, neither of which the university's warning mentions. ... Frank Furedi, director of MCC Brussels and an emeritus professor of sociology at the University of Kent, added, 'Warning students of Chaucer about Christian expressions of faith is weird. Since all characters in the stories are immersed in a Christian experience there is bound to be a lot of expressions of faith. The problem is not would-be student readers of Chaucer but virtue-signalling, ignorant academics.'" **CONCLUDING NOTE:** The "Christianity" promoted by Chaucer is Roman Catholicism, which is not biblical Christianity, but the authors of the trigger warning in this report do not know that.

**CHRISTIANITY TODAY'S APOSTASY** (Friday Church News Notes, November 1, 2024, [www.wayoflife.org](http://www.wayoflife.org), [fbns@wayoflife.org](mailto:fbns@wayoflife.org), 866-295-4143) *Christianity Today* (CT) has been on the cutting edge of evangelical compromise and apostasy since its inception. Founded by Billy Graham in 1956 to "express evangelical

Christianity to the present generation," it quickly moved from a fairly conservative biblical stance to going beyond any semblance of biblical soundness: promoting the most radical ecumenism, defending "evangelical Catholics," questioning the infallible inspiration of Scripture in countless ways, crowning the heretic C.S. Lewis as "Superstar," defending Pentecostal gibberish, concluding that self-esteem guru Robert Schuller was not a heretic, promoting secular and Christian rock, and glorying in neo-orthodoxy. All of this is the product of evangelicalism's "renunciation of separatism." At the National Pastor's Conference in San Diego, February 2009, a forum I attended with media credentials, Andy Crouch, a senior CT editor, engaged in a positive interview of **William Young**, author of *The Shack*, a man who makes no claim of saving Christian faith, a man who rejects the God of Scripture and defines God as a woman who does not exercise wrath toward sin, does not send unbelievers to an eternal fiery hell, does not require repentance and the new birth, puts no obligations on people, does not accept the Bible as the infallible Word of God, and does not mind if the early chapters of the Bible are interpreted as "myth." Crouch did not even hint that there might be a damnable theological problem with the way that God is depicted in this book. (See "[The Emerging Church Is Coming](#)," Fundamental Baptist Information Service, March 3, 2009, [www.wayoflife.org](http://www.wayoflife.org).) Most recently, *Christianity Today* hired **Amisho "Sho" Baraka**, a cussing, radical ecumenist and marijuana promoter, as director of the "Big Tent Initiative." Big Tent means "navigating between differences"



and "bridging between cultures." It means radical ecumenism. It means building the "one world church." Baraka says, "I joined *Christianity Today* to contribute to the wonderful weirdness of building the kingdom." ("Christians Are Peculiar, and That's Okay," *CT*, Aug. 19, 2024). He calls himself a "theological nomad" and labels John the Baptist "a pre-modern hipster wandering the desert." Baraka was featured at a hip-hop concert sponsored by The Master's College in 2011.

**TATTOOING AND CUTTINGS** (Friday Church News Notes, November 1, 2024, [www.wayoflife.org](http://www.wayoflife.org), [fbns@wayoflife.org](mailto:fbns@wayoflife.org), 866-295-4143) - "*Ye shall not make any cuttings in your flesh for the dead, nor print any marks upon you: I am the LORD*" (Le. 19:28). God forbade the Israelites to cut or tattoo their flesh because it was an identification with paganism and idolatry, and the New Testament contains the same principle. See Ro. 12:2; 1 Co. 10:20-22; 2 Co. 6:14-16; Eph. 5:11; 1 Th. 5:22. This law forbids the practice of pagan mourning rites. They cut themselves, wailed,





refused to be comforted, shaved their hair, etc. The child of God mourns the loss of loved ones, but he does not mourn like the world. He has hope in God's promises. **Tattooing is still intimately associated with idolatry, paganism, moral debauchery, and rebellion.** An article by Clay Thompson in the *Pacific News Service* for July 27, 1996, was titled "Pagan Fashion's New Frontier--Facial Tattoos." Note that the author, who in this article makes no claim to be a Christian, associates tattoos with paganism. He connects it with a "new reverence for pagan beliefs." A prominent book on tattooing is *Pagan Fleshworks*. "Body modification" is the practice of burning, inking, cutting, piercing, and otherwise desecrating one's God-given body. A July 2003 survey of more than 2,000 people in the United States, reported in the AFP for Oct. 11, found that among women who get tattoos, 34% "feel sexier," and 29% overall "FEEL MORE REBELLIOUS." One woman interviewed by the *Vancouver Sun* admitted that she got a tattoo "PARTLY OUT OF REBELLION against the normal Christian stereotype of 'You can't do this, you can't do that.'" She admits that her mother did not want her to get a tattoo and did not like it ("For the Love of God," *The Vancouver Sun*,

Vancouver, British Columbia, Feb. 1999). Such rebellion is forbidden in God's Word. **Another reason against tattooing is that the believer's body is not his own;** it is the temple of the Holy Spirit. "What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own?" (1 Co. 6:19). For the born-again Christian, tattooing is graffiti on someone's else's temple.

**ANOTHER COMPANY DITCHES DEI** (Friday Church News Notes, November 1, 2024, [www.wayoflife.org](http://www.wayoflife.org), [fbs@wayoflife.org](mailto:fbs@wayoflife.org), 866-295-4143) - The following is excerpted from "Caterpillar makes policy changes," *Fox Business*, Sept. 20, 2024: "Heavy equipment maker Caterpillar is making changes after reviewing its diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI) policies amid mounting scrutiny of such initiatives at corporations around the country. A memo sent by Caterpillar executives to the company's employees that was reviewed by *FOX Business* explained that the DEI changes include requiring that all corporate training be oriented to focus on business operations, as well as requiring approval from senior leaders for bringing in external speakers or participating in external surveys and awards. The changes come as anti-DEI activist Robby Starbuck said he had been in



discussions with the company about his plans to 'expose their woke policies' which resulted in the preemptive changes, which he outlined in a social media post. Caterpillar said in the memo that going forward, 'All training, both formal and informal, must be focused on our business and designed to foster high performance and execution of our enterprise strategy.' ... Caterpillar's DEI rollback follows similar moves at Molson Coors, Lowe's, John Deere, Ford and Tractor Supply [and Harley-Davidson]."

**WHY DON'T YOU RUST?** (Friday Church News Notes, November 1, 2024, [www.wayoflife.org](http://www.wayoflife.org), [fbs@wayoflife.org](mailto:fbs@wayoflife.org), 866-295-4143) The following is from CreationMoments.com, October 21, 2024: "Did you ever wonder why you don't rust? Before you laugh, remember --iron is not only a major part of your blood, it is used to attract the oxygen that is carried by your blood to the rest of your body. And you know what happens when oxygen meets the iron in your car or a tool that is left outside overnight--rust! So, why don't we rust? Part of the reason is that the molecular structure of hemoglobin is very cleverly designed so that the iron in your hemoglobin attracts oxygen and holds it but, at the same time, is prevented from rusting. There are many designs that hemoglobin could have--but the actual structure prevents rust from forming. But 200 billion of your red blood cells die every day. The iron in those cells is no longer prevented by the hemoglobin from forming rust. So your body collects iron from these cells and stores it in tiny protective containers made up of the protein ferritin, where it is prevented from



combining with oxygen and turning into rust. Actually, these rust proofing systems in the body can go wrong because of a rare genetic defect called bronze anemia. People suffering from this defect actually do develop rust like deposits in their bodies, and sometimes the rust actually discolors their skin. The careful planning and intricately related systems that make life possible speak loudly of a Creator. No wonder discoveries in the biological sciences have caused some scientists to defect from evolution and see creation as the better explanation.”

**THE 2024 U.S. ELECTION** (Friday Church News Notes, November 8, 2024, [www.wayoflife.org](http://www.wayoflife.org), [fbns@wayoflife.org](mailto:fbns@wayoflife.org), 866-295-4143) - For our part, we see the election as a good day for America and an answer to many prayers. We know America’s wickedness and that of the new president, as well, but we also know the One who “removeth kings, and setteth up kings,” and we know His great mercy. The reason we are told to pray for those who are in authority is so that we can lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty and proclaim the

gospel to sinners for whom Christ died (1 Timothy 2:1-6). Along that line, a pastor friend wrote, “I told our church tonight we better use every minute of at least these next four years to advance the gospel and the cause of Christ while we still can.”

**GETTYS PURCHASE \$5.5 MILLION HOME IN NASHVILLE** (Friday Church News Notes, November 8, 2024, [www.wayoflife.org](http://www.wayoflife.org), [fbns@wayoflife.org](mailto:fbns@wayoflife.org), 866-295-4143)

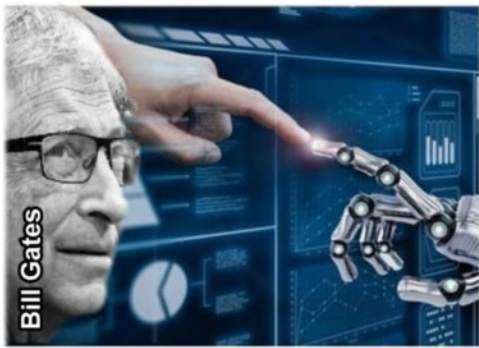
- The profit for contemporary worship music can be massive. Keith and Kristyn Getty have purchased a \$5.5 million mansion in Nashville. This information was provided to us by a Re-Max agent based on information available online. The Gettys partner with Stuart Townend in Getty-Townend Music (GTM). The Getty-Townend hymn “In Christ Alone” has become one of the most famous hymns ever written, with an estimated 40 to 50 million people singing it in church services each year. The Gettys host massive, rocking music programs at Nashville’s Opry House. Purposefully bridging sacred and contemporary music, they are drawing large numbers of “fundamentalists” into the contemporary orbit. Many of the Getty-Townend songs are included in Majesty Music’s *Rejoice Hymns*. Twenty-nine of their songs are featured in *Hymns Modern and Ancient*, pub-



lished by Heart Publications, a ministry of Steve Pettit Evangelistic Association and compiled by Fred Coleman who heads up Bob Jones University’s Department of Church Music. Both Crown Baptist College and West Coast Baptist College, the two largest independent Baptist Bible colleges, have performed Getty-Townend material in their services. Since the Gettys have no clear boundaries in music or association, they are a bridge to the “broader church” with all of its great dangers. The Gettys don’t believe in separation. They are positive-only, non-judgmental. They are representative of evangelicalism today, at the heart of which is “a renunciation of separatism,” as Harold Ockenga stated it in the 1940s. The Gettys are people that say they love sound doctrine, but they don’t separate from heresy, yoking with Roman Catholics and others who hold “damnable heresies” (2 Peter 2:1). They don’t draw clear lines as the Bible requires. They don’t speak out against error and issue warnings as the Bible demands. “Therefore I esteem all *thy* precepts *concerning* all *things to be* right; and I hate every false way” (Psalm 119:128). “And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove *them*” (Ephesians 5:11). “Now I beseech you, brethren, MARK THEM which cause divisions and offences contrary to the doctrine which ye have learned; and avoid them” (Romans 16:17). Instead, they keep everything on an upbeat, positive note. Obviously this is a financially profitable path. (See “[The Gettys: The Pied Pipers of Contemporary Worship Musicians](http://www.wayoflife.org),” [www.wayoflife.org](http://www.wayoflife.org).)

**BILL GATES PROPOSES NEW RELIGION OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE** (Friday Church





News Notes, November 8, 2024, [www.wayoflife.org](http://www.wayoflife.org), [fbns@wayoflife.org](mailto:fbns@wayoflife.org), 866-295-4143) - In a recent interview, Microsoft founder Bill Gates proposed that AI (artificial intelligence) will solve the world's problems and possibly become a new religion. He said, "The potential positive path [of AI] is so good that it will force us to rethink how should we use our time. **You can almost call it a new religion** or a new philosophy of how do we stay connected with each other, and not be addicted to these things that will make video games look like nothing in terms of the attractiveness of spending time on them. ... **It's fascinating that issues of disease, and enough food, and of climate--if things go well--those will largely become solved problems**" (Gates, "Possibility, AI, and Humanity," Reid Hoffman's *Possible* podcast, Oct. 31, 2024). Bill, whose net worth is said to be \$104 billion, is one of the prominent examples of Jesus' warning about a man who gains the whole world and loses his own soul. A voracious reader, he has neglected the one Book that really matters, which is the Bible. It is filled with prophecy, and the key to understanding Bible prophecy is the normal-literal method of interpretation. The same Book that described Christ's first coming in great detail--including His birthplace and lowly condition, miracles, preaching, ministry in Galilee, rejection by Israel, corrupt trial, beating,

crucifixion, mocking, sacrificial suffering and shedding of blood, death, resurrection, and ascension--describes Christ's second coming in just as much detail. That the prophecies of His first coming were fulfilled literally and perfectly is irrefutable evidence that the prophecies of His second coming will be fulfilled in like manner. His coming will be preceded by a time of global trouble greater than that of any previous time. In the very opening scenes of that time "there shall be famines, and pestilences" (Matthew 24:7-8), debunking Gates' fantasy that disease and lack of food will no longer be realities. As for climate, the earth will be the scene of massive destruction: "The first angel sounded, and there followed hail and fire mingled with blood, and they were cast upon the earth: and the third part of trees was burnt up, and all green grass was burnt up. And the second angel sounded, and as it were a great mountain burning with fire was cast into the sea: and the third part of the sea became blood; And the third part of the creatures which were in the sea, and had life, died; and the third part of the ships were destroyed. And the third angel sounded, and there fell a great star from heaven, burning as it were a lamp, and it fell upon the third part of the rivers, and upon the fountains of waters; And the name of the star is called Wormwood: and the third part of the waters became wormwood; and many men died of the waters, because they were made bitter" (Revelation 8:7-11). That is only a small part of what Bible prophecy describes for the future. We pray that Mr. Gates will bow his knees to the God who gives him "life, and breath, and all things" (Acts 17:25) and will put his confidence in

Jesus Christ as the only Lord and Saviour (John 14:6) and in the great atonement He has made for mankind. "And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for *the sins of the whole world*" (1 John 2:2).

**1,000-YEAR-OLD SEED POSSIBLY THE BALM OF GILEAD** (Friday Church News Notes, November 8, 2024, [www.wayoflife.org](http://www.wayoflife.org), [fbns@wayoflife.org](mailto:fbns@wayoflife.org), 866-295-4143) - "*Is there no balm in Gilead; is there no physician there? why then is not the health of the daughter of my people recovered?*" (Jeremiah 8:22). A 1,000-year-old seed found in the region of ancient Gilead has produced a plant that might be the healing "balm of Gilead." The following is excerpted from "Biblical Tree Resurrected," *Patterns of Evidence*, Oct. 11, 2024: "In the 1980s a mysterious 1,000-year-old seed was discovered during archaeological excavations of a cave in the Judean Desert. Now scientists have revived the seed, and the tree that has grown from it could belong to a lost lineage mentioned in the Bible, according to the researchers. Dr. Sarah Sallon, a researcher at the Hadassah Medical Organization in Jerusalem, retrieved the seed from storage and successfully germinated it in 2010, nicknaming the plant 'Sheba.' It has taken almost 14 years for the ancient seed to grow into a tree with fully





fledged characteristics that can be scientifically studied. DNA sequencing and chemical analyses have revealed that the tree is part of the *Commiphora* genus, within the frankincense and myrrh family. ... The seed, from which Sheba grew, dates to between AD 993 and 1202. ... Before Sheba, Dr. Sallon had previous success resurrecting ancient plants, such as a date tree using 1,900-year-old seeds, which produced Judean dates in the region for the first time in centuries. ... The resin from the tree's bark could be the source of 'tsori' extract associated with healing in Genesis, Jeremiah and Ezekiel. ['Tsori' is the Hebrew word translated 'balm' in Ge. 37:15; 43:11; Jer. 8:22; 46:11; 51:8; and Eze. 27:17.] The substance is linked with the historical region of Gilead, which sits to the east of the Jordan River between the Yarmuk River and the northern end of the Dead Sea, close to where the seed was found. ... The Sheba tree has not flowered yet, so it remains unclear what specific species it belongs to. Hopefully, it will flower soon and scientists will be able to carry out even more detailed analyses of the tree's reproductive material narrowing down its particular species."

**HOMESCHOOLING CONTINUES TO GROW IN AMERICA** (Friday Church News Notes, November 8, 2024, [www.wayoflife.org](http://www.wayoflife.org), [fbns@wayoflife.org](mailto:fbns@wayoflife.org), 866-295-4143) - The following is excerpted from "1 in 3 Homeschooled by 2030," *Liberty Sentinel*, Oct. 9, 2024: "With the ongoing exodus from government schools continuing to gather momentum, a new forecast by education researchers predicts that almost one third of school-age children will be homeschooled by the



year 2030. Just half of the student population will remain in government education by then, the analysts found. The organization behind the predictions, a research institute known as The Learning Counsel, considered a wide array of factors in developing its forecasts of looming 'significant shifts in the landscape and structures of education by 2030.' ... The largest shift is predicted to take place in 2025 and 2026, with millions of students being removed from government schools. ... The Honorable Diane Douglas, who served as state superintendent of public instruction for Arizona until 2019 but has since been urging parents to remove their children from government education, celebrated the predictions as 'incredible.' However, she had a strong warning, too. **'I caution parents to beware of homeschooling with government vouchers,'** she told *The Newman Report*. ... Douglas, who now works with Public School Exit after holding virtually every leadership position possible in public education within Arizona, sounded the alarm. **'My biggest fear is that these voucher programs will be used to entice homeschoolers to surrender their educational freedom back into the hands of the government,'** she continued."

**THE FACT OF HUMAN LIFE** (Friday Church News Notes, November 8, 2024,

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

The following is from CreationMoments.com, October 28, 2024: "The infamous Roe v. Wade Supreme Court decision that legalized abortion on demand was made in 1973. Today, Creation Moments will look at what science knows about the miracle God performs as He forms a new human being within a mother's womb. Even though the fertilized egg is only one cell, it is a unique cell. The fertilized human egg is unlike any other fertilized egg because it is genetically human. Its 46 chromosomes and 30,000 genes have all that is needed to make an adult human being. Within 18 days, long before most mothers are even aware that they may be carrying a child, the heart starts the first of the 3 billion beats it will make in a lifetime. Only 22 days later, brain waves can be recorded, and the unborn child is already moving. By eight weeks these movements will include swimming motions and grasping with fingers that already have unique fingerprints. At four months the unborn baby is growing at a rate which, if continued, would leave him weighing 14 tons at birth. Studies show that by the 28th to 32nd week, the unborn child is actually able to remember things. Science knows that even though the child is unborn, it is uniquely human from the day of conception. The womb is the Creator's workshop in



which He forms another human being He loves. We pray that the unborn may soon be universally seen as just one more stage of human existence, no less human than infants, adults or the elderly.”

that President Trump will institute the building of the Third Temple. Hillel Weiss, chairman of the group, says, “The Trump Declaration must continue with a declaration of the role of the Jews in establishing the

News Notes, November 15, 2024, [www.wayoflife.org](http://www.wayoflife.org), [fbns@wayoflife.org](mailto:fbns@wayoflife.org), 866-295-4143) - The following is excerpted from “Catholic woman fired,” *Fox News*, Nov. 11, 2024: “A Catholic woman who was fired for refusing the COVID-19 vaccine was awarded close to \$13 million in damages after suing her former employer, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan. Lisa Domski, who worked at the insurance company for 38 years as an IT specialist, was awarded the massive payout after a federal jury in Detroit ruled in favor of her religious discrimination case. She argued that the company denied her request for an exemption from its 2021 COVID vaccine policy despite her insistence that it conflicted with her Catholic faith. Domski's lawyer Jon Marko told *Fox News Digital* that she had worked remotely during the pandemic and was on a hybrid arrangement prior to the COVID outbreak. ‘Her remote work arrangement should have excluded her from the vaccine policy as she posed no risk to others,’ he said. ... The payout comes months after Blue Cross Blue Shield of Tennessee paid a woman nearly \$700,000 in a settlement after she was similarly fired for refusing to comply with its COVID-19 vaccine requirement.”



**THIRD TEMPLE COIN FEATURING IMAGE OF TRUMP** (Friday Church News Notes, November 15, 2024, [www.wayoflife.org](http://www.wayoflife.org), [fbns@wayoflife.org](mailto:fbns@wayoflife.org), 866-295-4143) - In early 2018 the Temple in Zion (Hamikdah Betzion) organization issued a half shekel temple tax coin featuring images of Persian King Cyrus and U.S. President Donald Trump on one side and the Third Temple on the other. This was in recognition of Trump's support for Israel and his public recognition of Jerusalem as Israel's capital. Currently there is no Jewish temple, of course, but the Temple in Zion is one of the groups preparing to build the third temple. Others are the Temple Institute, the Temple Mount Faithful, and Women for the Temple (who are practicing to bake shewbread and to dye and weave priests' vestments, among other things). In 538 BC, Cyrus issued a proclamation ordering the rebuilding of the Second Temple. The Temple in Zion and associated groups hope

Temple in its place. Only then will President Trump's international ambitions come true in the Middle East” (“Israeli Group Issues Temple Tax Coin,” *Israel Today*, Feb. 26, 2018). Scripture indicates that the building of the Third Temple will be facilitated by the Antichrist in his *Mr. Peace* incarnation. Revelation 11 describes the measuring of the Third Temple in the time when the Two Witnesses prophesy in Jerusalem during the first half of the Antichrist's reign. The next major event on God's prophetic calendar is the Rapture of church age saints. This will mark the beginning of the Day of the Lord and the rapid rise of the Antichrist as a man of peace and a great problem solver. The hour is very late. We see the day approaching! It is possible that the redeemed saints won't be here when Trump's term ends, but until then we have our marching orders in Matthew 28:18-20.

**WOMEN FIRED FOR REFUSING COVID VACCINE WIN LAWSUITS** (Friday Church

**FREEDOM OF SPEECH DISAPPEARING IN BRITAIN** (Friday Church News Notes, November 15, 2024, [www.wayoflife.org](http://www.wayoflife.org), [fbns@wayoflife.org](mailto:fbns@wayoflife.org), 866-295-4143) - The following is excerpted from “Dead girls, Islamic terror and government crackdown,” *World Israel News*, Nov. 6, 2024: “On August 8, Bernadette Spofforth, a 55-year-old British Twitter user, was dragged out of her home, arrested and



held for 36 hours for posting that the murderer of three girls in Southport was a Muslim terrorist. The charge she was held under was ‘posting inaccurate information.’ Bernadette was one of thousands of people arrested in a massive crackdown by the Starmer government aimed at suppressing political dissent over its open borders migrant policies. After Axel Rudakubana, a Muslim terrorist, entered a children’s Taylor Swift dance workshop and stabbed 11 little girls, killing 3 of them, British authorities declared an emergency. The emergency was not the latest act of horrifying Muslim terrorism targeting local children. It was that some of its citizens had noticed the latest Muslim terror attack and were outraged. ... The Southport stabbing at a Taylor Swift dance workshop fit the pattern. So did the immediate torrent of media disinformation accompanied by police threats and government crackdowns. ... Even as PM Starmer demanded censorship of ‘misinformation’ and Justice Minister Shabana Mahmood, a Pakistani Muslim with her own extremist views, unleashed a ruthless crackdown on the British people, the regime was undoubtedly aware of the truth about the terrorist. **After denying that Axel Rudakubana was a Muslim terrorist and arresting people for saying that he was, the police have finally admitted that he possessed an Al Qaeda manual titled ‘Military Studies in the Jihad’ and, like a number of previous Al Qaeda terrorists, had been making Ricin in an attempt to produce a biological weapon. ... The Southport crackdown was one of the ugliest periods in British history in this century. And it was all based on a government lie.”**

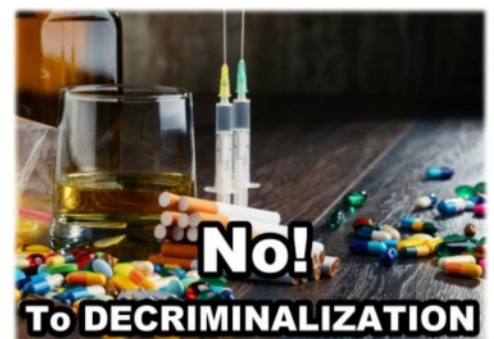
**ELECTION PORTRAYS A FRIGHTFULLY WICKED NATION** (Friday Church News Notes, November 15, 2024, [www.wayoflife.org](http://www.wayoflife.org),



[fbns@wayoflife.org](mailto:fbns@wayoflife.org), 866-295-4143) - The 2024 U.S. election, though encouraging from a conservative political and liberty angle, portrays a frightfully wicked nation. About 72 million Americans cast their approval of the Biden-Harris agenda: the brazen, interminable lying, the gross misrepresentation of and murderous spite toward their opponents, the murder of unborn babies, the wide-open border, the defunding of police, the perversion of the justice system, the woke-dei agenda, the anarchist Black Lives Matter, insane transsexualism, governmental control of the media, the anti-God, Marxist doctrinaire Department of Education, the wretched corruption of the university system, and a great many other evils. The only thing that can roll back such entrenched wickedness *to any degree* is effectual prayer (holy, focused, persistent, fervent), the laser-focused building of holy pilgrim homes and churches, and the zealous preaching of the gospel. This is the business that Christ has assigned to His redeemed people, and they need to focus on it while there is time. The Lord’s churches will not be rewarded for how politically-minded they were or how well their thinking aligned with that of unregenerate “conservatives.” “The wicked shall be turned into hell, *and* all the nations that forget God” (Psalm 9:17).

**MASSACHUSETTS AND FLORIDA DEFEAT BALLOTS TO DECRIMINALIZE PSYCHOTIC DRUGS.** (Friday Church News Notes,

November 15, 2024, [www.wayoflife.org](http://www.wayoflife.org), [fbns@wayoflife.org](mailto:fbns@wayoflife.org), 866-295-4143) - The citizens of Massachusetts voted down a ballot that would have legalized psychotic drugs, including psilocybin, and Florida voted down a ballot that would have legalized recreational marijuana (cannabis). The latter is currently legal in 24 states, but so far, only Oregon and Colorado have decriminalized psilocybin (In 2023, California Governor Gavin Newsom, of all people, vetoed a bill that would have decriminalized psilocybin, mescaline, and DMT.) The deceptive concept of “medical marijuana” is the tool that advocates have used to break down citizens’ natural resistance to legalization of this dangerous drug, and they are attempting the same thing with psilocybin. For example, it was recently reported that a trial found that “a single 25-milligram dose of synthetic psilocybin combined with psychotherapy led to a marked reduction in depression symptoms” (“Mushrooms hit the ballots,” *The Washington Times*, Nov. 1, 2024). But Dr. Joshua Siegel, a psychiatrist at Washington University in St. Louis, rightly called mushrooms “dangerous and destabilizing to those people, who are generally in great need of stability. People can partly or completely lose touch with reality and behave in irrational and potentially dangerous ways.” Clinical trials use tiny amounts of the substance, but when it is legalized there is no control of the quantity that is ingested. When Navy vet Gregg Mollenhauer turned to psilocybin for





depression, he found that “you go from feeling completely happy to completely miserable, and that’s a dangerous place to be.” Indeed. **He said, “mushrooms kind of goes to your body, like physically, mentally and, like, spiritually, and just kind of ruffles it all up--and then you’re sick.”** The mental and spiritual “ruffling up” is exactly what I experienced in the early 1970s before I was converted. In 2023 an off-duty Alaska Airlines pilot accused of trying to bring down a plane mid-flight said he had consumed “magic mushrooms” before boarding (*The Washington Times*, Nov. 1, 2024).



**TRUMP’S PICK FOR DEFENSE SECRETARY BELIEVES THIRD TEMPLE WILL BE BUILT** (Friday Church News Notes, November 22, 2024, [www.wayoflife.org](http://www.wayoflife.org), [fbns@wayoflife.org](mailto:fbns@wayoflife.org), 866-295-4143) - Pete Hegseth, Donald Trump’s pick for Defense Secretary, has stated that the Third Temple will be rebuilt in Jerusalem. He also believes Israel should annex the so-called West Bank (Judea and Samaria), which is claimed by the “Palestinians” but belongs to Israel by God’s eternal covenant with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob (Ge. 12:7; 13:14-17; 15:7, 18; 17:8; 24:7; 26:3; 28:4, 13). Speaking at an Arutz Sheva conference at the King David Hotel in 2018, Hegseth said, “1948 was a miracle; 1967 was a miracle; 2017--the declaration of

Jerusalem as the capital of Israel--was a miracle; and there is no reason why the miracle of the reestablishment of the temple on the Temple Mount is not possible. I don’t know how it would happen; you don’t know how it would happen; but I know it could happen.” He also said, “If you walk the ground today, you understand that there is no such thing as the outcome of a two-state solution. There is one state.” Hegseth has called for “a wholesale purge of military officials who have supported DEI policies,” has said that transgender soldiers are “not deployable” because they are “reliant on chemicals,” and has argued “that men are more capable in combat roles because of biological factors” (“Pete Hegseth’s plan to overhaul America’s military,” *ABC News*, Nov. 14, 2024). Hegseth has also called the United Nations a “farce.” The Bible tells us how the Third Temple will be rebuilt. Its measuring is described in Revelation 11 in connection with the beginning of the Antichrist’s reign as Mr. Peace when the Two Witnesses will testify in Jerusalem and performs signs. They will be killed at the 3.5 year mark of the Antichrist’s reign when his true character as the Man of Sin will be revealed and he will install himself in the temple as God. (See [Understanding Bible Prophecy](#), a book and a Bible course, [www.wayoflife.org](http://www.wayoflife.org).)

**HARVARD CHURCH “READING TAYLOR SWIFT AS A SACRED TEXT”** (Friday Church News Notes, November 22, 2024, [www.wayoflife.org](http://www.wayoflife.org), [fbns@wayoflife.org](mailto:fbns@wayoflife.org), 866-295-4143) - On October 29, Harvard Memorial Church hosted a study of Taylor Swift lyrics as “sacred.” The church announced the event as follows: “Discover a new way to engage with



the Taylor Swift canon that honors the important emotional and spiritual role her work plays in many peoples’ lives. Bring your favorite Taylor Swift song and we’ll bring the sacred reading practices!” ([memorialchurch.harvard.edu](http://memorialchurch.harvard.edu)). The gospel of Taylor Swift is the gospel of mocking holy marriage and thumbing the nose at the divine law “thou shalt not commit adultery” (Exodus 20:14). A major theme of her “canon” is the pleasure and pain of serial dating (fornication). Consider the lyrics to “Blank Space” (1989): “Nice to meet you, where you been? I could show you incredible things, Magic, madness, heaven, sin ... Grab your passport and my hand, I can make the bad guys good for a weekend.” Harvard College was founded in 1636 with the motto *Veritas Christo et Ecclesiae* (“Truth for Christ and the Church”), and a major objective was training Christian ministers in the Bible, which was held to be God’s infallible Word. The first Harvard Chapel was built in 1744 as a non-denominational Protestant church. By then Harvard was already infiltrated by liberal theology and was on the path toward complete apostasy. Today Harvard Memorial Church claims to be “rooted in the good news of Jesus Christ,” but in reality it preaches the false gospel of Humanism which has no saving power. Harvard Memorial Church is a fulfillment of a 2,000-year-old

**DON JASMIN WITH THE LORD** (Friday Church News Notes, November 22, 2024, [www.wayoflife.org](http://www.wayoflife.org), [fbns@wayoflife.org](mailto:fbns@wayoflife.org), 866-295-4143) - Don Jasmin, pastor, evangelist, author, and Bible conference preacher, went home to be with the Lord on Nov. 8, 2024. "He was called to the ministry in his youth while attending Van Dyke Baptist Church, Warren, MI, when it was pastored by Anton Behnken. His father, Frank Jasmin, was head deacon there for many years. Frank also had God's gift of spiritual discernment, which is often so lacking in church leadership these days" (Harold Roberts, Nov. 17, 2024). He had a B.D. from BJU and an honorary D.D. and L.L.D. Jasmin's ministry was based for some years in Maranatha Baptist Church of Elkton, Maryland, under Pastor Allen Dickerson. From 1986 to 1990, he was editor and research director of the *FBF News Bulletin* (Fundamental Baptist Fellowship), distribution about 2,000. In this



capacity he issued well-documented, clear warnings about compromise and error. Dr. Jasmin was a gracious man of God who was also a spiritual warrior and didn't refrain from naming the names of heretics and compromisers in a public magazine. This is a ministry that was modeled by none other than the apostle Paul himself. Jasmin was the editor of the bi-monthly *Fundamentalist Digest*, which was packed with sound

biblical education and timely warnings. Brother Jasmin pastored churches for 27 years and labored in full-time evangelism for decades. The burden of his ministry was the Old Paths and the Old Book. He aimed to be "a Slave to Christ, a Pastor's Helper, and a Servant to Local Churches." In the *Fundamentalist Digest* for January/February 1995, Dr. Jasmin testified, "In 34 years of public ministry, both in the pastorate and full-time itinerant labors, he [Jasmin] has maintained an implicit confidence in the accuracy and reliability of the KJV text, NEVER wavering from that stance. He is NOT going to change that stance now simply to avoid the erroneous label and libel as a 'Ruckmanite,' whose heretical teachings he has vigorously exposed from their inception!" Dr. Jasmin was forced to cease publication of the *Fundamentalist Digest* a few years ago due to ill health and spent recent years in a special care facility in Bay City, Michigan. He is survived by his wife, Mary Cline Jasmin.

prophecy: "Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away" (2 Timothy 3:5).

**ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY PRAISES HINDU FESTIVAL** (Friday Church News Notes, November 22, 2024, [www.wayoflife.org](http://www.wayoflife.org), [fbns@wayoflife.org](mailto:fbns@wayoflife.org), 866-295-4143) - On October 31, Justin Welby, Archbishop of Canterbury (highest office in the Church of England), tweeted a praise of Hinduism, calling it "light." "May the light of Diwali bring hope, peace, and unity to your



homes and to our communities, reminding us all of the power of light to overcome." In fact, there is only spiritual darkness in Diwali. It celebrates the false gods Rama and Ganesha (the elephant head god) and the goddess Lakshmi, the supposed benefactress of good fortune and

wealth. God's Word condemns every form of idolatry and identifies it as darkness. "To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, *it is* because *there is* NO light in them" (Isaiah 8:20). The Church of England, never biblically sound in whole, is entirely apostate today and forms a major part of the rapidly forming one-world "church" in preparation for the final manifestation described in Revelation 17. "Evangelicalism," with its renunciation of separation since the 1950s and subsequent lack of boundaries, is a path to this "broader church" with all of its heresies and

spiritual/moral dangers. (See the report “Fifty Years of Anglican Liberalism” and the eBook [\*The Treacherous Waters of Evangelicalism\*](#), [www.wayoflife.org](http://www.wayoflife.org).)

**JOHN BUNYAN AND CHURCH MEMBERSHIP** (Friday Church News Notes, November 22, 2024, [www.wayoflife.org](http://www.wayoflife.org), [fbs@wayoflife.org](mailto:fbs@wayoflife.org), 866-295-4143) - John Bunyan, author of *Pilgrim's Progress*, pastored a Baptist church

but didn't believe in the necessity of scriptural baptism for church membership or communion. Bunyan's weak treatises defending this practice were answered by William Kiffen in *A Sober Discourse of Right to Church-Communion* (1681). Kiffen rightly argued that open membership and communion “destroys order and flatly contradicts the practice of the primitive Christians,” stating that “the right Gospel order” is found in Acts 2:41-42. Michael Haykin

observes, “Although Bunyan is currently one of the most celebrated Christian authors of the seventeenth century, in his own day he had little influence amongst his fellow Baptists. His strong commitment to open communion and open membership put him out of step with most seventeenth-century Calvinist Baptists, who favoured closed communion and closed membership” (*Kiffen, Knollys, and Keach: Rediscovering Our English Baptist Heritage*).

### REPLICA OF ARK OF THE COVENANT DISPLAYED IN ISRAEL

(Friday Church News Notes, November 22, 2024)

A replica of the Ark of the Covenant is being displayed in Jerusalem and other parts of Israel as part of the Third Temple movement. Weighing 85 pounds, the Ark was constructed of Egyptian Acacia and 23.75 carat gold by a team of 17 volunteers who labored three-and-a-half years. It has been fitted with a refurbished Torah scroll. When it was displayed at the King David Hotel on October 20, several members of the Knesset were present. It is slated to be displayed in Jericho, Israel's first stop after crossing into the Promised Land, and Shiloh, the location of the Tabernacle for 369 years (“With eyes on winning war, building third Jewish temple,” *World Israel News*, Oct. 21, 2024). In a reminder of



Israel's current apostasy, the orthodox Jews involved in this project are steeped in rabbinical Judaism (Talmud and Kabbala) and incorporated Kabbalistic numerology concepts, which are occultic. (See [\*Jews in Fighter Jets: Israel Past, Present, and Future\*](#), chapter 13 “Kabbalah,” [www.wayoflife.org](http://www.wayoflife.org).)

## 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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