

O Timothy

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

A Monthly Newsletter for Spiritual Protection and Edification

Volume 42 - Issue 7 - July 2025

Cary Schmidt

More Contemporary Fruit of
LANCASTER

By David Cloud



"When Schmidt introduced Green to his church in 2017, he said he had been listening to Green's music since he was 18 years old and Green's songs 'kind of dot the high moments and low moments of my life. ... I have told many people, He's kind of the sound track of my spiritual growth.'" Page

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



IS HYLES A BYGONE ISSUE? ~ By David Cloud

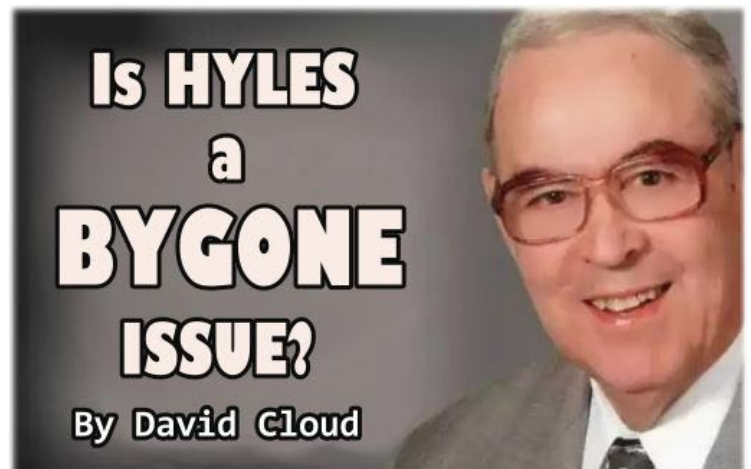
Recently a pastor wrote the following:

"My opinion is I wish you would move forward from Jack Hyles and those who probably 75% of struggling Christians today have never heard of and help us with those today on tv and the circuit who preach a false gospel."

A number of preachers have expressed to me the same thing in various ways.

I explained to this man that I have dealt with hundreds of men and heresies facing the churches and that "struggling Christians" need help with, and I have put most of that material online for free distribution.

I further explained that though Jack Hyles is dead, his influence among fundamental Baptist churches is vast.



We have documented this in the free eBook [The Hyles Effect: A Spreading Blight](http://www.wayoflife.org), www.wayoflife.org.

The book is a warning about a model of ministry that has spread very far. Hyles set the pattern for errors that remain rampant.

The book is a positive call to build biblical churches.

We desire to challenge preachers not to be man followers and man pleasers, to be Christ-centered rather than man-centered, to walk in the fear of God rather than the fear of man, to be serious Bible students and Bereans, to be Bible-bound rather than tradition-bound, to be passionate for Christ and Truth, and to reject pragmatism: whether it be contemporary church growth pragmatism or emerging pragmatism or Reformed pragmatism or fundamental Baptist pragmatism.



The book is a warning about the following:

- Quick Prayerism
- Promotionalism
- Numbers-ism
- The abuse of pastoral authority
- Blind loyalty to man
- Cover-up and deception and rampant immorality
- Neglect of church discipline
- The unrepentance heresy (characterized by the neglect of repentance or the re-definition of biblical repentance)

**O TIMOTHY Magazine
Volume 42 Issue 7**

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

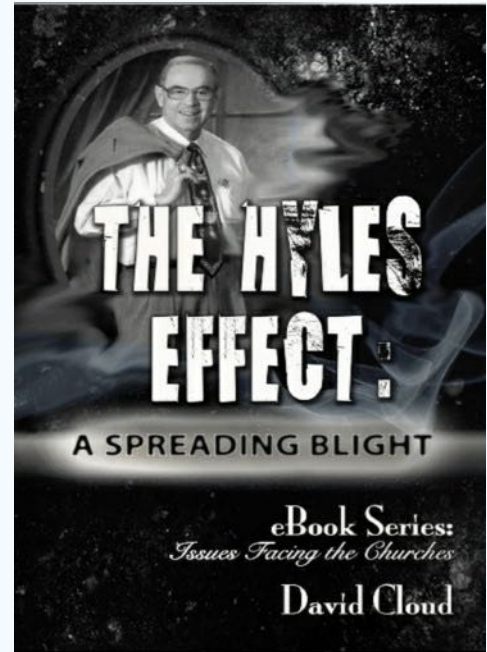
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The Hyles Effect- A Spreading Blight

by David W. Cloud



This book documents the life and ministry of Jack Hyles, who pastored First Baptist Church of Hammond, Indiana, for 42 years, and Jack Schaap, who took over the pastorate of the church when his father-in-law died in 2001. But the book is not merely about two men. It is a warning about a cultic model of ministry that has spread very far. Hyles set the pattern for errors that are still rampant. And the book is a positive call to build biblical churches.

A major motivation in writing this report is to challenge young preachers not to be man followers and man pleasers, to walk in the fear of God rather than the fear of man, to be serious Bible students and Bereans, to be passionate for Christ and Truth, and to reject pragmatism: whether it be contemporary church growth pragmatism or emerging pragmatism or IFB pragmatism.

The book is a warning about Quick Prayerism, promotionalism, numbers-ism, the abuse of pastoral authority, blind loyalty to man, cover-up and deception and rampant immorality, the neglect of church discipline, and unrepentant heresy.

Free eBook Available at:

https://www.wayoflife.org/free_ebooks/hyles_effect.php

Cary Schmidt

More Contemporary Fruit of

LANCASTER



By David Cloud

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"
www.wayoflife.org/reports/lancaster-baptist-church-contemporary-fruit.php

And the video "Lancaster's Roll in the Downgrade"
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 remained on Pastor Chappell's web site the last time we checked.

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? The reason is that Schmidt has been addicted to Christian rock since his teen years.

When Schmidt introduced Green to his church in 2017, he said he had been listening to Green's music since he was 18 years old and Green's songs "kind of dot the high moments and low moments of my life. ... I have told many people, He's kind of the sound track of my spiritual growth."

It is now clear that Cary Schmidt was a Christian rock enthusiast the entire time he was on staff at Lancaster Baptist Church and West Coast Baptist College. When the leadership told concerned pastors that everything was solid at the church and school, it was either a deceit or a statement of gross ignorance.

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, 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.

A Mindset of Guarding the EYE-GATE

By David Cloud



The following is excerpted from the new book/course [The Pornographic Age and Victory in Christ](http://www.wayoflife.org), www.wayoflife.org



God's people must cut themselves off from major channels of temptation. They must practice strict separation, but there is no possibility of spiritual victory if the individual is not willing to guard the eyes. The strongest filtering system and the most diligent accountability program will not protect you if you don't guard your eyes.

Temptations are not limited to the internet; they are everywhere. Pornography walks the streets today!

Guarding the eyes is a primary biblical way of protection. "I made a covenant with mine eyes; why then should I **THINK UPON A MAID**" (Job 31:1). "I will set no wicked thing before **MINE EYES**" (Ps. 101:3). "Turn away mine **EYES** from beholding vanity; and quicken thou me in thy way" (Ps. 119:37). "Let **THINE EYES** look right on, and let thine eyelids look straight before thee" (Pr. 4:25). "Lust not after **HER BEAUTY** in thine heart; neither let her take thee with her eyelids" (Pr. 6:25).

No one can do this for me. There is no anti-fat pill that works without watching what you eat, and there is no anti-lust pill that works without guarding what you look at. This means that I will not look at wicked things on Facebook, on Instagram, on TikTok, on YouTube. I will not look at wicked things in video games. I will not look at pornography, whether "hard" or "soft." I will not look at dancing girls and beach party girls. I will not look at sensual magazine covers. I will not look at the indecently clad women of Hollywood and Bollywood and the

fashion industry, the rock & rollers and hip-hopers, and the indecently clad ladies parading in society today.

Guarding the eyes is a choice of the heart. I can't always control what my eyes see, but I can control how I look at it and how many times and for how long. I can control what I *stare* at and what I *meditate* on. It's been said that you can't keep a bird from landing on your head, but you can keep him from building a nest there!

Emeal Zwayne uses the acronym **NOPE** - *Not One Peek Even*.

"I saw a couple of very scantily dressed women jogging near my car as I drove through my neighborhood. As soon as I caught sight of them in my periphery, I automatically exclaimed, 'Nope!' I instantly felt a strong resolve rise up in my heart, and it flooded my whole being with a mixture of unwavering determination and satisfying joy. I remember that as soon as this happened, I wished I could somehow come up with a meaningful acrostic that would help focus my mind and strengthen my resolve anytime I'm tempted to lust. About five seconds later, four words instantly popped into my mind--*Not One Peek Even*. ... Peeking is where it all starts. And peeking will definitely result in piquing your interest when it comes to the area of lust. ... If you think about it, you'll realize that there is an edgy flare associated with the word *nope*. It comes loaded with tenacity and attitude. ... No other attitude will do when dealing with the temptation to lust. A flavorless *no* is insufficient. Our will must bellow out a thunderous *nope*. When possible, I recommend saying the word aloud. ... If you're really serious about fighting like a man, brother, then you're going to ... need to be brutal about how you deal with what comes across your eyes and

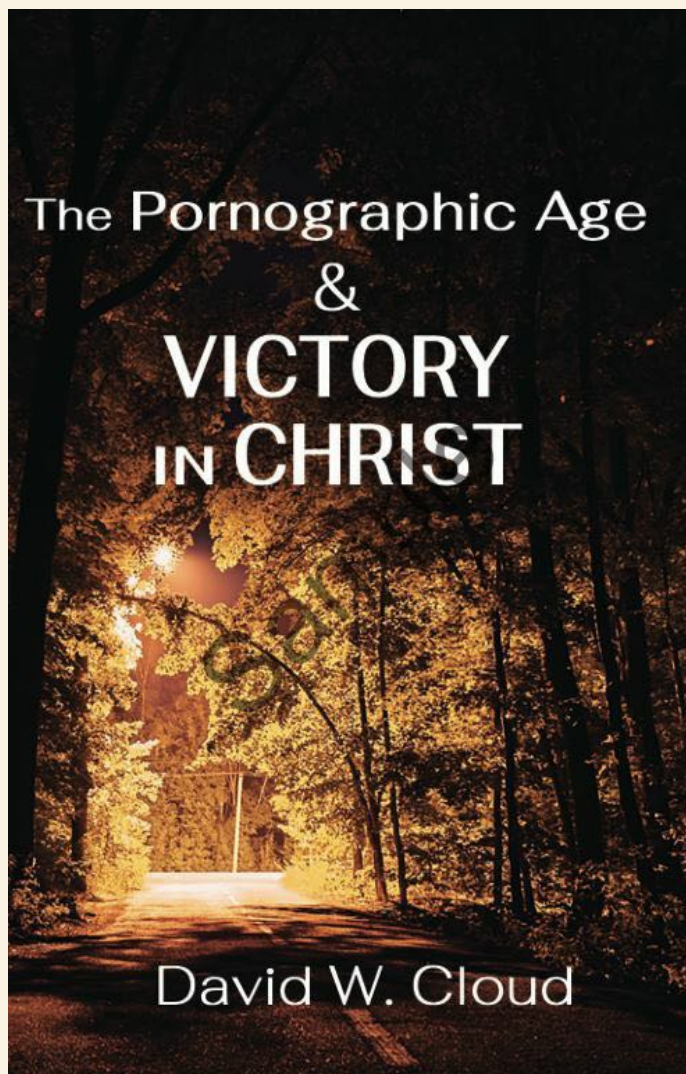
what crops up in your mind. ... When I say NOPE in times of temptation, I combine it with five declarations associated with love and directly correlated to five fingers on one of my hands. As a citizen of God's kingdom, I imagine myself extending my hand toward a plow, as Jesus referenced in Luke 9:62, and determining not to look back toward any sexual temptation that would lure me away from my God. As I envision myself reaching out to grab the plow, I say the following give things in successive order, as I systematically wrap each of my corresponding fingers,

one by one, around the handle: 'Not One Peek Even--because I love my *Lord*, I love my *lady* (wife), I love my *lineage* (my children and grandchildren), I love His *lambs* (other Christians), and I love the *lost* (unbelievers). and then I hold on tightly with a firm and unyielding grip" (*Fight Light a Man*).

The more you build up your spiritual life by abiding in Christ, immersion in God's Word, and such, the more strength you will have to guard your eyes.

The Pornographic Age & VICTORY IN CHRIST

David W. Cloud



This book/course is designed to fortify the New Testament church and the Christian home against the particular dangers of the internet age. The victory is not one or two things; it is not an addiction program; it is the full-orbed Christian life that we see in the New Testament Scripture.

The Pornographic Age and Victory in Christ is very practical. It aims to help the student to be sure of his salvation, to recognize the characteristics of a sound church, to be plugged into a New Testament church, to establish an effectual daily Bible study habit, to pursue a life-long Bible education, to become a teacher in order to help others, to walk in the Spirit, to put off the old man and put on the new, to have a biblical testing mindset, to put on the whole armor of God, to unplug from temptation. There is a chapter on accountability that describes accountability tools and an accountability program for churches.

Available at:

<https://www.wayoflife.org/publications/books/pavic.php>

21 STEPS TO A STRONGER CHURCH FOR THE 21ST CENTURY

By David W. Cloud

In a time when the average Baptist church is getting steadily, shockingly weaker, more carnal, more worldly, moving farther down the contemporary path with each passing year, we are intent on moving in a *much* stronger direction, and we are thankful for the churches that we know of personally that are on the same path.

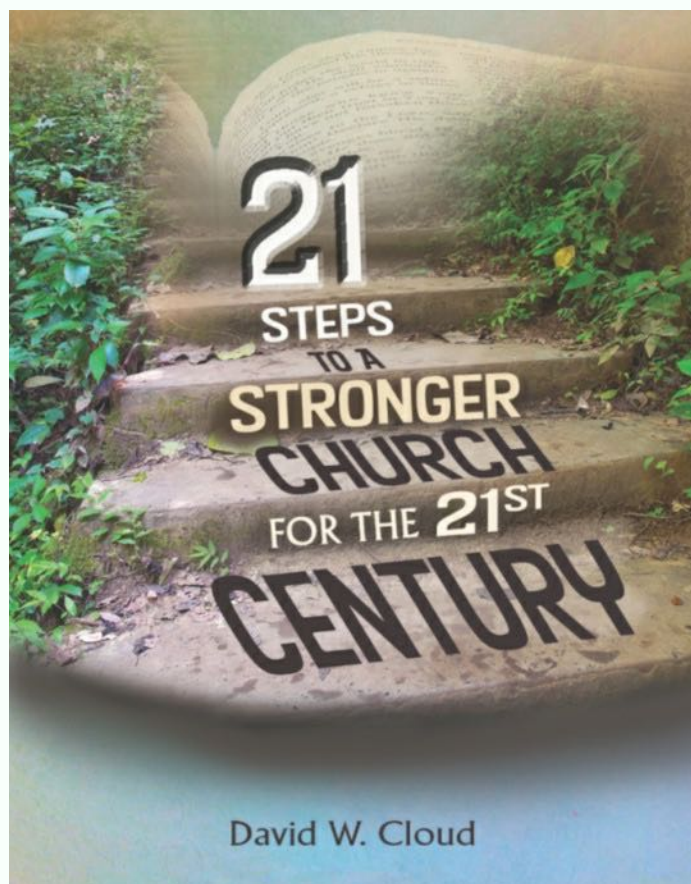
We have no intention of following the crowd, and we are not afraid of being in the minority.

The church we see in the New Testament is a church of born again disciples of Christ who are committed to serving Christ.

This book has two major sections.

First, **Looking at a Stronger Church**, which examines key Bible passages that provide the pattern for the church for the entire age. The pattern is not found in the church fathers, the Waldenses, the Lollards, the Anabaptists, the Lutherans, the Anglicans, the Reformed Presbyterianism, the Geneva Calvinists, the Brethren, Pentecostalism, Charismaticism, Fundamentalism, Evangelicalism, New Reformed Calvinism, denominational Baptists, or any of the streams of Independent Baptists. We examine the church as the pillar and ground of the truth of 1 Timothy 3:15; the spiritual house made of living stones of 1 Peter 2:4-5; the regenerate, faithful, growing church of Acts 2:36-42; the purifying church of 1 Corinthians 5:6-8; the turning, serving, watching church of 1 Thessalonians 1:8-10; the church that aims for perfecting every member of Colossians 1:25-28; the ministering body church of Ephesians 4:7-16; and the missionary church of Acts 13.

The second section is **21 Steps toward a Stronger Church, which are as follows:** The leaders must have spiritual revival; the leaders must be courageous; start with a biblical examination of the church; be ready to engage in a difficult battle; be patient; be confident



of God's help; pastors must be real leaders; pray for a ministry team; immerse the church in prayer; aim for a regenerate church membership; focus on the real disciples; strengthen the church covenant; set up biblical standards for workers; immerse the church in Scripture; disciple all of the people; deal with sin; emphasize separation from the world; emphasize Bible prophecy; double down on evangelism; have a strong vision for church planting and world missions; aim to incorporate all the biblical elements of a discipling church. - 130 pages.

Available in print and as a free eBook
https://www.wayoflife.org/free_ebooks/21_steps_to_a_stronger_church.php



Lord Adalbert Percival Cecil (1841-1889)

The following is from [*The Little Flock Hymnbook: Its History and Writers*](#) by Adrian Roach. This Brethren hymnbook was first edited by G.V. Wigram in 1856 and revised by John Darby in 1881.



“Lord Cecil was born the son of the second Marquis of Exeter on July 18, 1841. While little is available as to his early boyhood, he came as a young man in contact with William Haslam, an earnest preacher of the gospel in the Church of England.

“After he was saved he grew much in his soul and became active in proclaiming the gospel. He also ministered helpfully to the Lord’s people. Because of his position he was free to use his time and effort for the Lord’s work (1 Cor. 7:21).

“He was more interested in the heavenly family than in human distinctions. He mingled with rich and poor alike and through grace was at home with each. The testimony of one who knew him was: ‘Lord Adalbert Cecil was one of the most godly men we have ever known. Christ mastered his being. Rank, title, wealth, influence, society, and all that is valued in the world were cheerfully surrendered and laid at the feet of his beloved Savior and Lord.’

“The writer of this book has heard responsible brethren say that on one occasion it was said to him, ‘No wonder you are happy—you have wealth and position.’ He replied to this effect: ‘You can take all that from me and you will leave the source of my happiness untouched.’ ‘The Lord took him home suddenly in an unexpected manner. On June 11, 1889, he went on board a boat at

Belleville on Lake Ontario and sailed to a place where there was a group of Indian believers in whose welfare he was interested. On the return to Picton a strong wind made the boat a bit unmanageable. As he stood up to adjust the sails Adalbert lost his balance and fell overboard. He could have made the shore, but his concern (as supposed) about a young man named Churchill in the boat led him to swim after the boat. His strength gave out and he soon sank and did not rise again. He is buried at Napanee, Ontario, from where his body shall be raised and fashioned like unto Christ’s body of glory (Phil. 3:21).”



Oh! the Peace Forever Flowing (Perfect Peace) By Adalbert Cecil

Meter 8.7.8.7.

Sung to the tune Ovio by L. Mason

Cecil read this hymn to his mother on her death-bed and she was converted by putting her faith in Christ as only Saviour.

1 OH! the peace for ever flowing
From God's thoughts of His own Son,
Oh, the peace of simply knowing,
On the cross that all was done.

2 Peace with God, for Christ in heaven
Object is of faith to me:
Peace with God! the Lord is risen!
Righteousness now counts me free.

3 Peace with God --- for Christ's in glory,
God is just and God is love;
Oh! how blessed is the story,
That we're brought to God above.

4 Now free access to the Father,
Through the Christ of God, we have;
By the Spirit here abiding,
Promise of the Father's love.

5 Jesus, Saviour, we adore Thee!
Christ of God --- Anointed Son;
We confess Thee, Lord of glory,
Fruits of victory Thou hast won!

Music score

<https://i.ytimg.com/vi/H7yiLhQIN1k/maxresdefault.jpg>

Midi for Ovio

<https://www.stempublishing.com/hymns/ss/391>
<https://nrchapel.org/hymnal/pages/detail/Oh,%20the%20Peace%20Forever%20Flowing.html>

Voice edition

<https://www.brethrenarchive.org/hymnology/recordings/spiritual-songs-1978/391/>



Our Great High Priest Is Sitting **By Adalbert Cecil**

Meter 7.6.7.6. D.

Sung to Deutschland by W. Brockhaus

1 OUR great High Priest is sitting
At God's right hand above,
For us His hands uplifting,
In sympathy and love;
Whilst here below, in weakness,

We onward speed our way;
In sorrow oft and sickness,
We sigh and groan and pray.

2 Through manifold temptation,
My soul holds on her course,
Christ's mighty intercession
Alone is her resource;
My gracious High Priest's pleadings,
Who on the cross did bleed,
Bring down God's grace and blessings,
Help in each hour of need.

3 O Jesus blessed Saviour,
We hope to see Thee soon,
Who once on earth didst suffer,
Who soon for us wilt come.
'Twas God's most gracious favour
Gave Thee, His Son, to die;
To live our Intercessor;
To plead for us on high.

Music Score for Deutschland

<https://hymnary.org/page/fetch/HTLG2017/150/low/186>

Music Score for Meitronydd

<https://hymnary.org/hymn/PHLG2023/page/360>

Midi for Deutschland

<https://www.stempublishing.com/hymns/ss/178>

Singing edition

<https://www.brethrenarchive.org/hymnology/recordings/spiritual-songs-1978/178/>



**"Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly
in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing
one another in psalms and hymns and
spiritual songs, singing with grace in your
hearts to the Lord" (Colossians 3:16).**

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?



LEO XIV, ANOTHER BLENDING, MERGING POPE

(Friday Church News Notes, May 16, 2025, www.wayoflife.org, fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - The newly elected pope, Robert Prevost of Chicago, has named himself Leo XIV and expressed the desire to be an ecumenical pope, which could have been predicted by any right-thinking student of Bible prophecy and of the times in which we live. In his inaugural speech on a balcony above St. Peter's Square, Pope Leo said, "We must be a church that builds bridges and seeks dialogue" ("Catholics in Rome," *The Washington Times*, May 8, 2025). Cardinal Timothy Dolan of New York hailed the new pope as "a bridge builder," a "universal pastor," and "a citizen of the world." Leo is the first American pope, which is appropriate since America is the heart and soul of the one-world church that is unwittingly, but ever so diligently, preparing the way for Mystery Babylon. In the last half of the 20th century we entered the era of ecumenism, and the pace of advance has been breathtaking. In the 1950s, "evangelicals" pointed the way by renouncing separatism and embracing Billy Graham's ecumenical crusades. The Roman Catholic Church announced its intention to join the movement with the "Decree on Ecumenism"

published by the Second Vatican Council (1962-1965). It said, "The term 'ecumenical movement' indicates the initiatives and activities encouraged and organized, according to the various needs of the [Roman] Church and as opportunities offer, to promote Christian unity. ... This sacred Council is gratified to note that the participation by the Catholic faithful in ecumenical work is growing daily. ... Cooperation among Christians ... should be developed more and more." In the 1980s, the public friendship between Billy Graham and Pope John Paul II propelled the ecumenical movement to new heights. Leo is a product of this era. *Christianity Today* magazine, which was founded by Graham in 1956, documented widespread praise for the new pope by evangelicals. For example, Matthew Bates, professor of New Testament at Northern Seminary in Chicago, says, "[W]e see this as important for the future of the whole church--seeing Catholics as our brothers and sisters in Christ even if we don't see [Leo] as our head" ("How Evangelicals View the First US Pope," *Christianity Today*, May 9, 2025). The hour is very late. God's born again people must redeem the time for Christ's Great Commission while there is still opportunity (Matthew 28:18-20).

PREVIOUS LEO POPES WERE HATERS OF THE BIBLE SOCIETIES (Friday Church News Notes, May 16, 2025, www.wayoflife.org, fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - The newly elected pope has named himself Leo XIV. **Previous Leo popes were denouncers of the Bible societies and enemies of the distribution of the Bible.** LEO X (1513-1521), who denounced Martin



Pope Leo X

Luther, organized the fifth Lateran Council (1513-1517), which charged that no books, including Bibles, could be printed except those approved by the Roman Catholic Church. (**LEO XI** reigned only a few days in April 1605.) **LEO XII** (1823-1829) issued a bull to the Irish bishops, May 3, 1824, in which he affirmed the Council of Trent and condemned Bible distribution. He warned that “if the Sacred Scriptures be everywhere indiscriminately published, more evil than advantage will arise thence” (Richard Blakeney, *Popery in Its Social Aspects*, 1875, p. 136). The “evil” he referred to, of course, is the “evil” of men and women reading Scripture for themselves and learning that the Roman Catholic Church has no authority therein. **LEO XIII** (1878-1903) issued an “Apostolic Constitution” in 1897 stating, “All versions of the vernacular, even by Catholics, are altogether prohibited, unless approved by the Holy See, or published under the vigilant care of the Bishops, with annotations taken from the Fathers of the Church and learned Catholic writers” (Melancthon Jacobus, *Roman Catholic and Protestant Bibles*, 1908, p. 237). **The ecumenical age enveloped the work of Bible translation in the 1960s when the Second Vatican Council called for “cooperation” to provide “easy**

access to sacred Scripture for all Christian faithful” (Vatican II, “Constitution on Divine Revelation”). Since then, the popes have worked together with the United Bible Societies to produce interdenominational versions in multitudes of languages. These ecumenical Bibles are a major element of the one-world church. There is one version that no pope has ever approved, though, and that is the King James Bible. We find this fact significant. (For documentation, see the free eBook *Unholy Hands on God’s Holy Book*, a report on the United Bible Societies, www.wayoflife.org.)

AMERICAN POP CHRISTIANITY: HEART AND SOUL OF THE ONE-WORLD CHURCH (Friday Church News Notes, May 16, 2025, www.wayoflife.org fbs@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - Last week we reported on the one-world church represented by President Trump’s cabinet. There are Roman Catholics, Baptists, Foursquare Pentecostal, Word-faith Pentecostal, Episcopalian, Methodist, Huguenot, Reformed Evangelical, Lutheran, Coptic, a Hindu, a “secular Muslim,” a Jungist, and a Jew. What we are saying here has nothing to do with politics, by the way. Politically we like this cabinet. What we are focusing on here is the prophetic times. Having read *Trump’s Inner Circle*, Kristi Noem’s *Not My First Rodeo*, Tulsi Gabbard’s *For Love of Country*, and Pete Hegseth’s *America Crusade*, etc., I am reminded that in one-world Christianity, we all love Jesus and we’re all friends. Nothing can be allowed to hinder the unity. In disobedience to 1 Timothy 1:3,



Paula White - Donald Trump

doctrine matters little. In disobedience to Romans 16:17, 2 Timothy 3:5, etc., there are no clear boundaries. In disobedience to 2 Corinthians 11, false gospels, false christs, and false spirits are not identified and renounced. In contrast to James 4:4 and 1 John 2:15-17, separation from the world is not emphasized. In contrast to Jesus’ preaching, hell is almost never mentioned. In contrast to Matthew 7:13-14, vast numbers of people are saved and nearly everyone goes to heaven. In disobedience to Jude 1:3, there is no earnest contention for the faith. In contrast to Colossians 3:1-4, the affection is set on things on earth more than things above. Of course, pulling everything together and creating sensual feelings of oneness is contemporary Christian music. This is American pop Christianity; Trump Christianity; Fox News Christianity. It is apostasy, but it is very attractive; it seems right; it has a form of godliness. It is the Christianity of a lot of fundamental Baptist churches that are more in love with MAGA than the Bible, in practice. This is a major sign of the times.

ERIC WHITACRE AND MUSIC FOR A NEW AGE (Friday Church News Notes, May 16, 2025, www.wayoflife.org fbs@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - Eric Whitacre is a major figure in

new age music. (Also called post-modern, contemporary classical.) The philosophy is “we disregard any rules; we have free reign; there is nothing restrained” (Pastor Tim Kelly). Whitacre says, “I’m tapping into the deepest part of our collective psyche with my music.” He is creating music for the unity of mankind. He majors on unresolving chords and dissidence without resolution. The music flows but never ends. It is emotionally powerful but tense, not relaxing, not peaceful. There is expectation but no fulfillment. It is music fit for yoga and contemplative prayer. It asks questions but gives no answers. It is non-dogmatic. It is music to unite contradictory philosophies and religions. It is music for the new Babylon which will soon be led, in a brief global rein, by the new Nimrod. Whitacre is perhaps best known for his virtual new age choirs that unite singers from across the world through internet technology. Virtual Choir 01 in 2009 and 2010 featured 185 singers. Virtual Choir 06 in 2020 featured 17,572 singers from 129 countries. Whiteacre composed the soundtrack for NASA’s IMAX film, *Deep Field: The Impossible Magnitude of the Universe*. It features Virtual Choir 05. Pastor Tim Kelly has documented that this type of new age music is being used in advertisements by fundamental Baptist colleges. See the presentation “Evidence for Godly Music, 1b,”



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=98UxqSbVKsM&list=PLhj_mVg2WkitlwwFqP5OsmHnCFsAvA_7d&index=2

MANKIND’S DOUBLE HAUNTING (Friday Church News Notes, October 25, 2024, www.wayoflife.org fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - “Unregenerate man is doubly haunted! First he senses eternity, toward which he moves--finite speck that he is--as one strangely destined. Then he finds written upon his very heart a law which condemns him to miss his eternal destiny! No wonder Paul wrote elsewhere, ‘Woe to me if I do not preach the gospel’ (1 Co. 9:16). Nothing else can end this double haunting of man” (Don Richardson, *Eternity in Their Hearts*).

PIRATE’S COVE, THE ONE-WORLD CHURCH, AND THE CUSP OF FINAL APOSTASY (Friday Church News Notes, May 23, 2025, www.wayoflife.org fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - Pirate’s Cove, California, intimately associated with the birth of Christian rock, is back in the news in connection with “revival” and Christian unity. In 2023, 2024, and 2025, thousands were baptized at Pirate’s Cove and nearby beaches (Newport, Huntington), and Mark Francey said a major goal is unity (“Baptize California Pastor,” Crosswalk, May 16, 2025). Thousands of churches are participating, with the number growing each year, and no words of disunity are allowed, no contending for the faith, no warnings about apostasy, no separation from error, all of which are unity killers. To understand this we need to look back about a half century. Nothing has done more to build a one-world



“church” than contemporary worship music, which began at Calvary Chapel of Costa Mesa which was led by Chuck Smith and Lonnie Frisbee. It was called the Jesus People Movement and the Jesus Revolution by the media and made the front pages of magazines such as *Newsweek* and *Time*. Hundreds of hippies had conversion experiences of various sorts, a great many of which were lacking in biblical reality, many even drug induced and “vision” oriented, as our research has documented. (I was in California in late 1972 and again in early 1973 in my wandering days before I was saved in the summer of 1973.) Chuck Smith and his wife, Kay, were led astray by their acceptance of visions, tongues, and prophecies. Large numbers of the hippies were baptized at Pirate’s Cove and from the midst of these arose the first Christian rock bands, such as Love Song and Children of the Day. In 1971, Calvary Chapel founded Maranatha! Music to publish the first Jesus music albums. **By stepping back and viewing the scene from a broad perspective, we can see that it was a major changing of the times.** Technologically, it was the dawn of the computer era, the first personal computers appearing in 1975. Socially, it was the dawn of the rock & roll era and the music-driven global pop culture. Spiritually, it was the dawn of the new age with its

emphasis on mysticism and yoga. Religiously, it was the dawn of exploding ecumenism, spurred by the Second Vatican Council, which launched Rome into the ecumenical mania, and by the New Evangelicalism which was capturing churches at break-neck speed and replacing the black and white of Jude-like biblical dogmatism with the gray of compromise. **At the heart of the ecumenism is the new music, which has swept through practically all churches, from fundamentalist to Roman Catholic. It is the soundtrack of the one-world church.** Even the most conservative of contemporary praise musicians are ecumenical in philosophy and practice, including Steve Green and Keith Getty, as we have documented in the free eBook, [The Directory of Contemporary Worship Musicians](http://www.wayoflife.org), www.wayoflife.org. The leaders of Baptize California believe the mass baptisms, the unity, and the Christian rock concerts are “the cusp of revival.” When measured biblically, they are the cusp of final apostasy.

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION RESCINDS \$37 MILLION FINE AGAINST AMERICA’S LARGEST CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY (Friday Church News Notes, May 23, 2025, www.wayoflife.org, fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - The U.S. Department of Education (ED) has dismissed an unprecedented



\$37.7 million fine against the largest Christian university. This is probably the result of President Trump’s zeal to relieve Christians from the persecution that has been imposed under Obama and Biden. “Grand Canyon University, based in Phoenix, Arizona, was cleared of any wrongdoing by a Joint Stipulation of Dismissal order issued by ED’s Office of Hearings and Appeals, which said ‘there are no findings against GCU, or any of its employees, officers, agents, or contractors, and no fine is imposed.’ ... GCU was founded in 1949 as a nonprofit college by the Southern Baptist Convention but became a for-profit institution in 2004 ... The department alleged that the school misrepresented the cost of its doctoral programs on its website” (“Dept. of Education Rescinds,” *The Christian Post*, May 19, 2025). In addition to the massive fine by the Department of Education, Grand Canyon University was also hit with lawsuits from the Federal Trade Commission and a financial audit from the Department of Veterans Affairs, in an apparent effort by government agencies to target the school. “The American Principles Project, a conservative think-tank, published a report last year citing the Department of Education’s Office of Enforcement actions against Christian schools. Though Christian colleges and universities have fewer than 10% of students in the U.S., they make up around 70% of the penalties imposed by the Office of Enforcement, according to the report” (*The Christian Post*, May 19, 2025).

JESSE DUPLANTIS SAYS HE HAS SAME DNA AS GOD (Friday Church News Notes, May



23, 2025, www.wayoflife.org, fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - As a reminder of how weird and heretical the Word-Faith movement is we only have to consider Jesse Duplantis. In a recent sermon he said, “I want you to create your world and walk in it. A lot of people get mad at me because they never saw me sad, sick, disgusted, broke, busted, disappointed. Why? Because I am in my own world, and it’s a good world. Why? I created it. How can you create? **I have the same DNA as God Almighty. And so do you. You were created by God. You have His DNA.** ... In the beginning God said ... Let there be light. So if there is a darkness in your area, you say, let there be light. The same DNA that is in God is also in you” (Jesse Duplantis Ministries, 2025). The Word-Faith movement was founded by Kenneth Hagin, Sr., who was born in 1917 and died in 2003 when his word-faith power apparently fizzled. The chief principle is that what a believer claims by faith, he will have. Hagin said, “Your confession of faith in God’s Word will bring healing or whatever it is you need from God into the present tense and make it a reality in your life!” (Hagin, *The Word of Faith*, Dec. 1992). Hagin defined this in his book *How to Write Your Own Ticket with God*. Hagin’s positive confession teachings, which he derived at least partially from E.W. Kenyon, spawned an entire

movement within Pentecostalism, with its proponents having vast influence. Hagin taught that the Christian is an incarnation of God like Jesus. Hagin taught a health gospel, claiming that healing is promised by God. Prominent Word-Faith preachers past and present include Kenneth Copeland, Kenneth Hagin, Jr., Morris Cerullo, Marilyn Hickey, John Osteen, Robert Tilton, John Avanzi, Rod Parsley, Jerry Savelle, Creflo Dollar, Fred Price, Paul Crouch, and Charles Capps. (For more about these things see [*The Pentecostal-Charismatic Movements: The History and Error*](#), www.wayoflife.org.)

CARY SCHMIDT, LONG-TIME LEADER AT WEST COAST BAPTIST COLLEGE, HAS BEEN A CHRISTIAN ROCKER SINCE HIS TEEN YEARS (Friday Church News Notes, May 23, 2025, www.wayoflife.org fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - 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 remained on Pastor Chappell's web site last time I checked. 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 an out and out rock and roller 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. 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). Why would a fundamental Baptist pastor bring Steve Green to his church to build bridges to the very dangerous ecumenical movement? When Schmidt introduced Green to his church in 2017, he said he had been listening to Green’s music since he was 18 years old and Green’s songs “kind of dot the high moments and low moments of my life. ... I have told many people, he’s kind of the sound track of my spiritual growth.” It is now clear that Cary Schmidt was a Christian rock enthusiast the entire time he was on staff at Lancaster Baptist Church and West Coast Baptist College. In 2023,

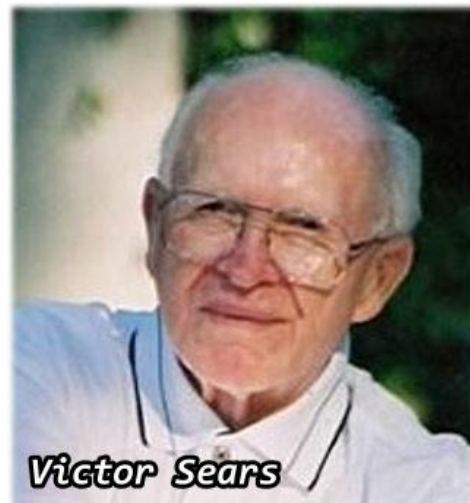
Cary Schmidt joined Bryan Samms at the Church Advanced conference. Samms is at the forefront of the movement to transition churches away from the King James Bible. In October 2024, Emmanuel Baptist hosted Keith and Kristyn Getty and others for a “Healthy Church Weekend.” The Gettys are ecumenical rock & rollers who associate closely with Roman Catholic musicians, such as Matt Maher, and are a bridge to the “broader church” with all of its heresies and spiritual dangers.

DESPERATE TIMES FOR INDEPENDENT BAPTIST CHURCHES (Friday Church News Notes, March 4, 2011, www.wayoflife.org fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - Over the past 30 years we have seen dramatic changes among independent Baptist churches. Everywhere I travel for Bible conferences, pastors tell me about churches in their areas that have capitulated to the contemporary philosophy and are now enemies of what they used to stand for, or they no longer exist. Consider Akron Baptist Temple of Akron, Ohio. It was founded in 1935 by Dallas F. Billington. By 1949, the church claimed 10,000 members and built a 2,800-seat auditorium. (Obviously most of the “members” were absentee, which was typical of the Quick Prayerism program.) In the 1960s, the church boasted the title “the world’s largest Sunday School” with high days of more than 5,700. In 1978, a 4,000-seat auditorium was built and the church claimed a (meaningless) membership of 15,000. The church, never biblically strong, began a downward slide after the death of the founder. The son, Charles, pastored from 1972 to 1996, when the founder’s grandson, Dallas R., took

the pastorate. The church relocated and renamed itself The Connection. Today the former Akron Baptist Temple is an emerging church offering a smorgasbord of worship “experiences.” There is a “traditional” service and a “modern service,” where a loud rock & roll band plays contemporary worship music in a darkened auditorium. The service is advertised as “creating an environment where people who are seeking God, can do so in a non-threatening, comfortable way.” This is the charismatic, new age lust for a feeling. It’s all about *me* and *my* tastes and *my* choices. How 21st century! How 2 Timothy 4:3-4! I was recently rebuked by a pastor who said, “Stop being critical of everyone.” My answer is that I am not being critical. I prove all things and hold fast that which is good; I warn and teach; I

reprove, rebuke, and exhort. Preacher friends, it’s not time to beat around the bush and to sit on the sidelines. This is spiritual warfare! We must fear Christ more than man and honor God’s Word more than tradition. “When thou sawest a thief, then thou consentedst with him, and hast been partaker with adulterers” (Psalm 50:18). “The best of them is as a brier: the most upright is sharper than a thorn hedge: the day of thy watchmen and thy visitation cometh; now shall be their perplexity” (Micah 7:4).

VICTOR SEARS SOUNDS ALARM OF FUNDAMENTAL BAPTISTS MERGING WITH EVANGELICALISM (Friday Church News Notes, May 30, 2025, www.wayoflife.org fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143)



- The late Victor Sears, pastor, evangelist, president of Baptist Bible Fellowship International (BBFI), sounded a sharp alarm against the dying out of warning voices among fundamental Baptists and the merging of fundamentalists with evangelicals. He said, “Forty years ago [1941] when I first

THE AMAZING PLATYPUS (Friday Church News Notes, May 23, 2025, www.wayoflife.org fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) The following is from CreationMoments.com, November 8, 2024: “Europe was introduced to Australia’s duckbill platypus in 1798. Because of the difficulties of travel in those days, scientists didn’t send a live platypus from Australia to the British Museum in London. They sent only a platypus skin. Scientists in London looked at the duck bill, the beaver tail and the webbed feet of this egg laying mammal and immediately denounced the creature as a hoax. Two hundred years later, the duckbill platypus continues to amaze scientists. Recently researchers discovered a surprising new ability the platypus uses to find food. It seems that the nerves in the platypus’s skin, which relay the sense of touch, are also able to sense electricity. Every time we or any living creature use a muscle, a tiny electric current is generated. When the shrimp that the platypus eats flick their tails, they generate about 200 millionths to 1,000 millionths of a volt of electricity. That small amount of voltage is enough to enable the platypus to sense and locate lunch. Modern biological research has also shown



another mystery about the platypus. (At least it’s a mystery for evolutionists.) While the platypus is classified as a mammal, it is genetically as different from all other mammals as mammals are from birds. Nor is the platypus genetically like the bird. This leaves the platypus with absolutely no evolutionary history, almost as if it had simply popped into existence. And that’s what the Bible says happened when God created the heavens and the Earth and everything in them during creation week!”

entered the ministry, the word ‘modernism’ was on the lips of every fundamentalist. The word [was understood to apply to] such organizations as the Federal Council of Churches (now the National Council of Churches and the World Council of Churches). Individual names such as Harry Emerson Fosdick, Harry Ward, E. Stanley Jones and others were called out in the exposure of modernism or apostasy. Many pulpiteers and Bible expounders became well known for their battle against modernism. Included among these were T.T. Shields, J. Frank Norris, Harvey Springer, Carl McIntyre, Bob Ketchum, Bob Jones, Art Wilson, Noel Smith, Archer Weniger, Henry Grubs, and a host of others too numerous to list. All these men have been very close friends. They fought seemingly insurmountable battles against apostasy and unbelief in denominations and councils. These men were giants in their day. They fought those who would bring false doctrine into our churches and those who would attempt inclusive policies of fellowship between fundamentalists and modernists. **The lines were definitely drawn so that people knew unequivocally the difference between fundamentalists, neo-evangelicals, and modernists. Today these lines are fast becoming obliterated**” (Victor Sears, “Modernism Takes a New Form,” 1981). This warning was issued nearly 45 years ago and the situation is *much* worse today. The vast majority of fundamental Baptist pastors have no clear “warning” ministry to protect their people in an even more dangerous time than the one in which Gordon Sears ministered. (Contrast Colossians 1:28, “Whom we preach, warning every man, and teaching every man in all

wisdom; that we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus.”) Woe unto the worldly, cowardly shepherds and dumb dogs that are “leading” a great many “Bible believing” churches today! Even the boldest of pastors, for the most part, are mousey quiet about the great compromise of their own brethren.

CHARISMATIC PROPHET CLAIMS HE VISITS HELL WITH GOD EVERY EASTER

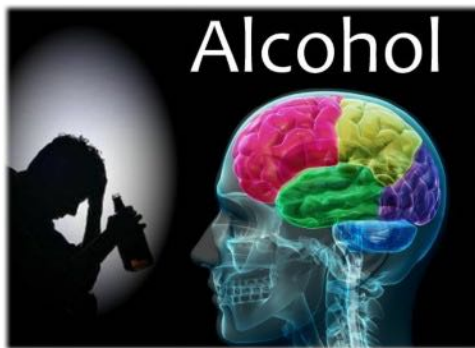
(Friday Church News Notes, May 30, 2025, www.wayoflife.org/fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - Micah Turnbo, prophetic minister at Vineyard Church Northwest, Cincinnati, Ohio, claims that God takes him on journeys to hell. He says, “Every Easter, the Lord will take me to Hell. Not my choice. He wants to do it and I don’t like it. The Lord allowed me to sit in front of demons and ask them questions. I’m with God. You know, the Father, on his lap and my hands are, I love his beard. I love his beard. I put my hands in his beard. ... God goes for walks. He walks around, you know. He has like favorite things. Like God loves spicy and salty food. Jesus has the sweet tooth. ... He took me back in time to where I watched him form Adam out of the dirt, and then He took the rib, and He formed [a]



Micah Turnbo

woman. I’ve talked to Abraham Lincoln before” (“Vineyard Church pastor defends ‘prophet,’” *The Christian Post*, May 7, 2025). Turnbo also claims that angels are male and female and reproduce, which was refuted by Christ in Matthew 22:30. After Turnbo was exposed as a false prophet by Mike Winger of the Bible-Thinker ministry, Turbo’s pastor, Luke Haselmayer, defended him. Among other things, Haselmayer said God confirmed Turnbo’s prophetic ministry in a dream in 2014. Vineyard churches have been messing around with the heresy of “new prophets” since the 1980s, and it has ruined many lives and led a great many astray. In the comments to Winger’s report on YouTube, one man said, “I’m grateful I’m out of Vineyard. Each of the 6 Vineyard churches I’d been part of or visited were about experiences, every one was connected to Bethel, IHOPKC [International House of Prayer Kansas City, which no longer exists because of the immorality of its founder], the contemplative movement and mysticism. There was also a fascination with recreating what happened at Toronto Airport Vineyard. I spent the first few years afterwards seeking to separate what was biblical and what was not. It had led me into occultic practices as a Christian. This [report about Turnbo] is absolutely disturbing.” The end-time “prophecy” movement is filled to the brim with heresy, spiritual delusion, and nuttiness. Beware! (For more about these things see [The Pentecostal-Charismatic Movements: The History and Error](http://The-Pentecostal-Charismatic-Movements-The-History-and-Error), www.wayoflife.org.)

NEUROSURGEON-LONGEVITY DOCTOR WARNS THAT ALCOHOL IS TOXIC FOR BRAIN AND BODY (Friday Church News



Notes, May 30, 2025,
www.wayoflife.org

fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143)
 - The following statement by Dr. Brett Osborn, Section Chief of Neurosurgery at St. Mary's Medical Center, Palm Beach, Florida, is excerpted from *Fox News*, Apr. 18, 2025: "In my longevity practice, we are constantly harping on the fact that alcohol is just no good for you. It's a toxin [poison]. I know the age-old adage that you can have a drink or two a day and it's good for your heart. No, it's not. It's not good for your heart. It's not good for your brain. It's not good for your waistline. Anything alcohol touches--your throat, your larynx, your esophagus, your stomach, your bowels, your rectum--those are all being exposed to a toxin. ... It contributes to metabolic dysfunction and visceral fat accumulation and increases the likelihood of type 2 diabetes. [Earlier this year the Surgeon General issued a warning that alcohol is a carcinogen, associated with higher rates of liver, breast, esophageal, colon and head/neck cancers--even with low levels of consumption.] ... Alcohol is a neurotoxin that disrupts neurotransmission, promotes neuroinflammation, and has been directly linked to an increased risk of neurodegenerative diseases such as dementia. ... We know that if someone has more than seven drinks a week, one drink per day, they are an alcoholic. One drink per day, you are

to a degree dependent upon it. I don't want it for my patients. I don't use it myself. It's bad. Get rid of it." Proverbs 20:1 - "Wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging; and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise."

THE MORAL CHARACTER OF PROFESSIONAL SPORTS

(Friday Church News Notes, May 30, 2025, www.wayoflife.org fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143)
 - For the most part, professional sports today is characterized by the following: drinking, gambling, covetousness, immodesty, arrogance, foolishness, anger, cursing, humanism (exaltation of man), unhealthy focus on bodily exercise, filthy rock and roll, homosexual rights, a party lifestyle, carnal addiction, and neglect of the house of God.

ATTEMPT TO PERFORM BREAD WAVING RITUAL ON THE TEMPLE MOUNT

(Friday Church News Notes, June 6, 2025, www.wayoflife.org fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143)
 - Levites associated with the Temple Institute attempted to perform a ritual on the Temple Mount on Saturday, May 31. Consisting of waving two loaves of bread, the ritual was interrupted by Muslim police. The Returning to the Mount movement said, "We salute the activists who renewed the Temple service for the first time in 2,000 years. Renewing the priestly service and the offering of sacrifices on the Temple Mount is the only solution to end the multi-front war and bring back the hostages. We call on the Israeli government to pass a government decision tomorrow to resume the order of sacrificial services." The waving of two loaves



of bread was part of the Feast of Weeks (Pentecost), but that occurred on Sunday, not Saturday (Leviticus 23:15-32). And there was no Levitical wave offering that consisted of bread alone. The most important aspect of the offerings was the blood sacrifice of goats and lambs for sin and peace offerings. The Temple Institute has constructed a sacrificial altar and has practiced blood sacrifices, but it is currently impossible to offer these on the Temple Mount itself. The Antichrist will facilitate the building of the Third Temple and the renewal of sacrifices, but after three and a half years he will cause the sacrifices to cease and will set himself up as God. "And he shall confirm the covenant with many for one week: and in the midst of the week he shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease, and for the overspreading of abominations he shall make it desolate..." (Daniel 9:27). See also Matthew 24:15; 2 Thessalonians 2:3-4; Revelation 11:1-7; 13:4-8.

PORNOGRAPHY A DOWNWARD SPIRAL INTO A BOTTOMLESS PIT OF FILTH

(Friday Church News Notes, June 6, 2025, www.wayoflife.org fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - The following is excerpted from "Porn is destroying our society," *The Bridgehead*, May 29, 2025: "There has been a fundamental shift in the public debate on pornography over the past

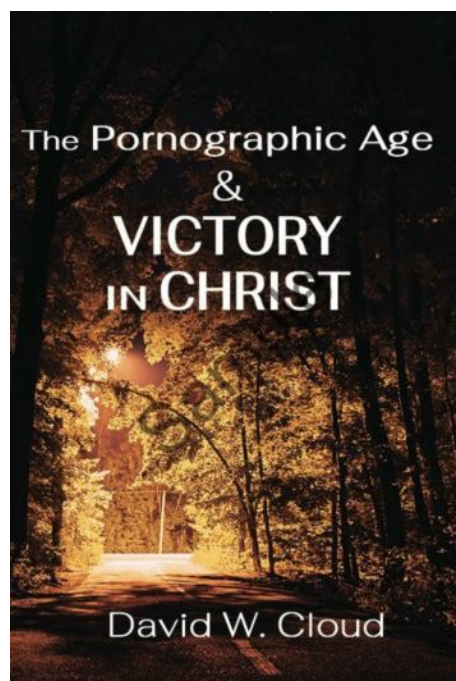
A TRULY STRANGE BIRD (Friday Church News Notes, May 30, 2025, www.wayoflife.org/fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - The following is from CreationMoments.com, April 24, 2025: "Though God created the entire living kingdom in only a few days, the variety and creativity of what He made seems nearly unlimited by our standards. One of the more unusual creatures He made was thought extinct until it was rediscovered in 1958. The kakapo parrot lives in New Zealand. The most unusual parrot on earth, it is one of only a few known parrots that prefers to sleep during the day and becomes active at night. Weighing in at five pounds, it is also the world's heaviest parrot. It is, perhaps not surprisingly, the world's only non-flying parrot. The Creator's unusual expression of inventive creativity in designing the kakapo did not end here. The mating habits of the kakapo are especially peculiar for birds. In mating season the males gather in locations that are used year after year for mate selection. Female parrots come to these places to inspect the males to select a mate. However, in most un-bird-like fashion, the males provide absolutely no help building the nest or



rearing the young. The kakapo is remarkable because of its many strange traits, most of which would make it least fit for survival. In other words, not only is it an unusual creature, but its more unusual characteristics seem to put it at a disadvantage as far as evolution is concerned. So while evolution would not have made the kakapo, our inventive Creator did, perhaps as a witness against evolution. REF: *Discover*, Mar. 1985, p. 36."

decade. ... Hardly a week goes by without some news story highlighting the devastating effects of ubiquitous porn use across the West and beyond. Two reports from May alone highlight this fact with chilling clarity. The first is a disturbing report in the *Guardian* by Harriet Grant on the growing phenomenon of men who do not have the profile of a typical pedophile--a sexual interest in children--nonetheless being arrested for viewing and possessing child abuse material. **These men ended up viewing child pornography when their addictions escalated and spiraled out of control. ... In England and Wales, 850 men are being arrested monthly for 'online child abuse offences.'** Similar trends are emerging elsewhere. Grant notes that we face 'a spiralling global crisis' with

law enforcement and child protection experts consistently pinpointing one culprit: 'the explosion over the past 10 to 20 years of free-to-view and easily



accessible online pornography.

... A growing body of research is beginning to warn of how problematic porn habits can be a pathway into viewing images of children being abused.' ... As one man related: 'You know it's wrong, but the dopamine hit from what you are doing overrides everything else. I think the pathways in my brain had been changed by all the porn I had watched. ... You feel sick and horrible.' Significantly, most of the men who eventually encountered child pornography did not actually search for it. ... Michael Sheath, who has worked with child abusers for more than thirty years, told Grant: **'I see men who have gone down what I call an 'escalating pathway.' The link is unambiguous. ... The threshold for abusive behaviour is through the floor. It used to be that child abuse material was hard to find**

and looking at it was extremely risky.’ Not anymore.”

CONCLUSION: Any church that is not aggressively fighting porn addiction is a church that has lost the battle for moral purity. We recommend [*The Pornographic Age and Victory in Christ*](#), a book Bible course consisting of textbook, video classes, a partnering program, a Bible memory program, and more, available from www.wayoflife.org.

CANADA TO MANDATE PSYCHOSIS WARNINGS ON CANNABIS PRODUCTS (Friday Church News Notes, June 6, 2025, www.wayoflife.org

fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - The following is excerpted from “Health Canada,” *Western Standard*, June 1, 2025: “Seven years after the legalization of recreational marijuana, **Health Canada is moving to require new warning labels on cannabis packaging, citing mounting evidence linking the drug to psychosis, schizophrenia, and brain damage—especially among people under 25.** ... Previously, federal research had downplayed cannabis-related harm, even suggesting it was less risky than underage drinking. ... The new proposed labels are explicit. ‘Cannabis can cause psychotic symptoms like severe paranoia and hallucinations that can lead to long term mental health problems,’ reads one. ... Other warnings include: ‘Cannabis can worsen your attention, concentration and memory especially when using higher strength tetrahydrocannabinol products every day’; ‘the higher the tetrahydrocannabinol content the more likely you are to experience harm to your mental health.’” **CONCLUSION:** A study published in the *Lancet* in March 2019 found

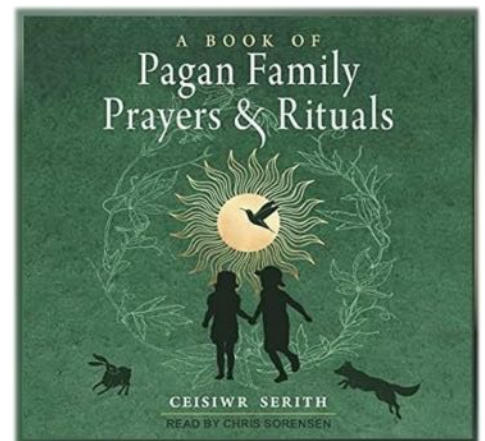


that “smoking high-potency cannabis, used daily, has been linked to diagnosis of conditions like schizophrenia, paranoia and other psychosis disorders” (UPI, Mar. 20, 2019). **There is a long line of evidence that marijuana is not an innocent relaxation drug. The legalization of recreational marijuana is a foolish experiment that will have serious repercussions.** I know this all too well, having been a drug user before I was saved, beginning with my Army tour in Vietnam in 1971-72. After my discharge, I was immersed in the hippy culture. Marijuana is a psychoactive drug with hallucinogenic properties. It can mess with the depths of a person’s soul. It affects people differently, but depression, intense anxiety, and paranoia are common side effects, and acute psychosis is not infrequent. It was definitely a “gateway” drug for me and for a lot of my friends. And the marijuana of today is vastly more powerful than the marijuana of the 1960s and 1970s, typically containing 15-20% THC (the psychoactive ingredient), and going as high as 37%, compared to 3 and 4 percent in the past. The rush to legalize marijuana is the fruit of the rock & roll pop culture that has been taking shape since the jazz era and came into full bloom in the 1960s. At its heart is the licentious philosophy of live as you please. It is

the product of a filthy entertainment industry, an educational system devoted to moral relativism, the apostasy of Christianity, a society that celebrates unrestrained self-expression, and the gross lack of wisdom typically reflected in mainstream media reporting. God’s command that His people be “sober” is repeated 12 times in the New Testament Epistles. It means to be in control of one’s mind and spirit so that nothing but God is in charge. “Sober” is the opposite of being under the influence of alcohol or recreational drugs.

PAGAN THINKING/RITUALS HAVE PERMEATED PUBLIC EDUCATION IN AMERICA (Friday Church News Notes, June 6, 2025, www.wayoflife.org

fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - The following is excerpted from “Forced to Do Pagan Rituals,” *Liberty Sentinel*, May 23, 2025: “After being caught red-handed forcing children to participate in Hindu rituals during class time, government schools in Chicago will be paying millions of taxpayer dollars to the victims. Unfortunately for other students across the nation, this scandal represents the tip of the iceberg of pagan indoctrination in American public education. The scandal in question involved a



partnership between the Chicago Board of Education and the David Lynch Foundation for Consciousness-Based Education and World Peace. Working together, government schools and the New Age foundation forced children to either participate in bizarre pagan rituals or remain silent as classmates chanted Hindu mantras. ... Children were told to especially avoid informing 'religious' parents about the indoctrination program. ... As *The Newman Report* has been documenting for years, paganism and anti-Christian religious indoctrination have become a staple of what passes for 'education' in government schools today, all across the nation. ... Islam is becoming increasingly popular in government classrooms too. All over the country, including some of the most conservative states in the union such as West Virginia and Tennessee, government schools have been caught forcing children in middle school or younger to declare their submission to the Islamic deity Allah. Countless students have been instructed to recite the 'shahada' conversion prayer as well. ... Just last week, *The Newman Report* exposed Pennsylvania Gov. Josh Shapiro's \$5 million 'grant' to further Islamic 'education' in the state. ... Even before the invasion of blatant paganism and Islam, children were being force-fed a dangerous false religion invented by U.S. public school system 'founding father' John Dewey and dozens of his allies. Dubbed 'humanism' by Dewey and his cohorts, the movement's manifesto rejects the existence of God and moral truth. ... This is one of the most urgent crises facing the nation. While the settlement in Chicago is a positive development, it barely represents a

chink in the armor. It is past time for a total rethink of education."

MICROSCOPIC ENGINEERS

(Friday Church News Notes, June 6, 2025, www.wayoflife.org

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- The following is from CreationMoments.com, May 16, 2025: "There are a number of species of bacteria that possess tiny chains of crystal particles called magnetosomes. Magnetosomes, as the name suggests, have iron in them to help the bacteria sense magnetic fields for navigation. They can also help the bacteria find food. These bacteria live in salty, sulfurous waters and sediments. Unlike most bacteria that have magnetosomes, the three species that prefer sulfurous waters don't make their tiny compasses out of iron oxide. Rather, they combine iron and sulfur to make a crystal called greigite. Now, it would seem astonishing enough to find bacteria that build their own compasses for navigation, but scientists had even more surprises coming as they learned about these three new species. They discovered that each of the species makes its own unique crystalline form of greigite. The bacteria seem to be able to build the crystals, molecule by molecule, at the normal temperatures and other conditions at which life exists. Scientists would like to know how these bacteria do this. Modern science can only make crystals under searing hot temperatures and other conditions that would kill anything alive. These amazing abilities were not designed and built by mutations and accidents. They show that our Creator provides for the needs of all His creatures--even bacteria--and that He does so with unlimited creativity. Ref: 'Crystal growers seek bacterial know-how,' *Science News*, v. 138."



DOWN SYNDROME

ABORTIONS (Friday Church News Notes, June 13, 2025,

www.wayoflife.org

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- The following is excerpted from "Scotland's shame," *The Bridgehead*, May 30, 2025: "According to a 2013 study, almost 99 percent of people with Down syndrome report being happy with their lives; 96 percent like how they look; 97 percent like who they are. While rates of mental illness, loneliness, and chronic misery are at all-time highs across many Western countries, people with Down syndrome are a happy exception. Despite that, babies with Down syndrome are being systematically targeted and killed in the womb specifically because they have Down syndrome. ... Every few years, there is another ugly story about the unseen and ongoing prenatal genocide of people with Down syndrome. In 2017, it was the news that Down syndrome has 'almost disappeared' in Iceland. In 2019, only 18 children with Down syndrome were born. In Norway earlier this year, parents spoke out against the pressure to abort babies with a Down syndrome diagnosis. This week, a new report indicated that Scotland has seen 'a dramatic rise in abortions involving Down syndrome diagnoses, with

government figures showing an 82% increase since 2021.' ... According to Lynn Murray of the advocacy group Don't Screen Us Out, the increase can be largely attributed to the roll-out of 'non-invasive prenatal tests' known as NIPT, which has made it easier to detect Down syndrome. ... In the United Kingdom, abortion is illegal after 24 weeks--unless the child is diagnosed with Down syndrome, in which case it is permitted up until birth. Healthy baby boys and girls with Down syndrome can be decapitated, dismembered, and disemboweled long past the point where they are capable of feeling excruciating pain simply because they have Down syndrome. ... As Charlotte Helen Fien once observed: 'You can try to kill off everyone with Down syndrome by using abortion, but you won't be any closer to a perfect society. You will just be closer to a cruel, heartless one.' She's right. We're already there."

MUSLIM TERRORIST ATTACKS IN EUROPE 2024-2025 (Friday Church News Notes, June 13, 2025, www.wayoflife.org/fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - *The European Conservative* recently published a list of 33 separate Islamic terrorist attacks in Europe and England for March 2024 to May 2025 ("A Timeline of Evil," May 28, 2025). In some cases, the attacks were thwarted, but at least 437 people were injured and 22 killed



in Austria, Bavaria, Belgium, France, Germany, Netherlands, Sweden, and England. *A European Conservative* report on the same day documented that "The EU Is Officially Becoming an Anti-Israel Bloc." Why? It makes no sense from a practical standpoint. It isn't the Jews who are causing mayhem in Europe, beating, stabbing, shooting, burning, raping, ramming automobiles into shopping crowds. In Gaza, Israel is simply trying to defend its tiny nation from the vicious enemies that have vowed her absolute destruction. On a practical level, Israel's only good choice is to try to root out these enemies from their hiding places in schools and hospitals and take control of Gaza, which is her God-given land. So why is Europe "officially becoming an anti-Israel bloc?" Because most of Europe, historically, has been anti-Israel, and today Europe is at war with God as never before. Europe is the bastion of apostate Christianity, Humanism, Existentialism, Darwinism, Marxism, Mohammedanism, atheism, agnosticism, and every other anti-God, anti-Bibleism on the face of the earth. It is a fulfillment of Psalm 2. While Israel today is spiritually dead, Israel is still God's chosen people and God's promises will be fulfilled to *a remnant* who will repent in the last days, perhaps in the very near future. After the Rapture of redeemed New Testament saints, the Antichrist will rise out of Europe as a peace superman, but it will be a lie. Europe and Israel's future is described in great detail in Bible prophecies. "For I would not, brethren, that ye should be ignorant of this mystery, lest ye should be wise in your own conceits; that blindness in part is happened to Israel, until the fullness of the

Gentiles be come in. And so all Israel shall be saved: as it is written, There shall come out of Zion the Deliverer, and shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob: For this is my covenant unto them, when I shall take away their sins" (Romans 11:25-27).

NEITHER CALVINIST NOR ARMINIAN (Friday Church News Notes, June 13, 2025, www.wayoflife.org/fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - We are convinced that biblical theology is neither Calvinist nor Arminian. We refuse to be forced to make a choice between John Calvin or James Arminius. Both were fallible men who attempted to describe biblical truth in a systematic theology. Both rejected biblical baptism and held the gross heresy of infant baptism. Neither man understood the New Testament church. Neither understood Bible prophecy. We have no obligation to follow either of these men. The only infallible systematic theology is the Bible itself. We believe in the everlasting consolation of the born again believer because this is what the Bible teaches, not because it is what John Calvin believed. We believe that Christ died to make it possible for all men to be saved and that all men *can* be saved, because that is what the Bible teaches, not



because it is what James Arminius taught. We believe that God is sovereign and “worketh all things after the counsel of his own will,” because the Bible teaches it, and we praise Him for it, and we believe in the wonderful doctrines of election and predestination, but we don’t believe what John Calvin taught as a disciple of the fifth century heretic Augustine. Calvinists claim for themselves the right to examine Calvinism and to define it in a multitude of ways. We claim for ourselves the same right, and we reject *all of it*.

CHRISTIANS ARRESTED FOR SIGNS SAYING “CHILDREN ARE NEVER BORN IN THE WRONG BODY” (Friday Church News Notes, June 13, 2025, www.wayoflife.org fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - The following is excerpted from “Pro-Life Christians Arrested,” *LifeNews*, June 9, 2025: “Yesterday in Brussels, Belgian police arrested Lois McLatchie Miller, a Senior Legal Communications Officer with ADF International, and Billboard Chris, a Canadian child protection advocate, for peacefully holding a sign that read: ‘Children are never born in the wrong body.’ An angry mob



surrounded them, yet it was the peaceful pair--not the agitators--who police arrested. They were transported to separate police stations, strip-searched, and detained for several hours. Ultimately, no charges were filed. But even after admitting no crime had been committed, police announced that the signs they had carried--signs peacefully expressing a viewpoint--would be destroyed. Let that sink in: No charges. No conviction. But property confiscated and destroyed by the government--all for the ‘crime’ of expressing an inconvenient truth in public. This happened in Brussels--the very heart of the European Union, not Beijing. In Europe, not North Korea. And it should alarm every American--especially Christians and pro-life advocates. **This is just the latest episode in a disturbing trend sweeping Western Europe. Peaceful, moral, fact-based speech is being punished under the guise of public order or tolerance.**”

A NATION’S RESPONSE TO GOD IS THE REALLY DETERMINING FACTOR IN ITS HISTORY AND DESTINY (Friday Church News Notes, June 13, 2025, www.wayoflife.org fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - The following is excerpted from J. Sidlow Baxter, *Explore the Book*, Studies on Chronicles: “Running right through the story of these kings, with its occasional reforms and ever-worsening relapses, is the solemn, vital, urgent truth that a nation’s response to God is the really determining factor in its history



and destiny. This was specially true of Israel, but it is universally true of the earth’s people today. ... This truth may not seem so immediately perceptible in our modern world with its international complicatedness; but when we look at processes over a period of time we find it still in operation. **Moral principles and spiritual convictions are the first-important things as regards national progress or decline, not politics and economics--as seems to be the fashionable thought in Government today.** The place we give to GOD is that which determines our prosperity or adversity, our history and our destiny. Israel of old--kings, leaders, people--deceived themselves into thinking that they could sin with impunity, imagining that because Jehovah could not be seen He could not see; but they did not deceive God; nor can we. **‘God is not mocked.’ He rules, He chooses, He forbears; but He will not spare the persistent exploiting of privilege. The abuse of high calling by low living always brings ruinous ending. Oh, that nations, leaders, peoples might realise that today!**” (J. Sidlow Baxter).

ALL PURPOSE FOOT/UNDERWATER SUPER GLUE (Friday Church News Notes, June 13, 2025, www.wayoflife.org fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - The following is from CreationMoments.com, May 26, 2025: “Nothing is more frustrating than glue that refuses to stick. And nothing is harder on an adhesive's ability to stick than water. Water can prevent adhesives from solidly touching the surfaces that are to adhere. Freezing and thawing temperatures can force glued surfaces apart. Yet, biological adhesives constantly work without fail in continual contact with water. The mussel is the champion in the creation and use of biological adhesives. When a mussel finds a suitable spot, it extends its all-purpose foot. The foot, which is like a rubber plunger, searches the surface until it finds the exact spot that will make the best bond. The foot then cleans the glue point. Next, the foot presses to the surface and, as the plunger-shaped foot flattens, water is pumped out. The mussel then lifts the center of its ‘plunger’ and creates a small vacuum. Now the ingredients for its adhesive are pumped down through the foot and into the vacuum. This material creates a foamy foundation for the individual glue threads. The glue itself is made of several proteins. They are mixed in various ratios to



provide just the right amount of strength, flexibility and resistance to compression needed for each unique anchoring spot. Some of these proteins are very unusual in structure. Scientists suspect that they change their properties in response to changing conditions--what scientists call a ‘smart’ material. The mussel is not only a wonder of design, but a sophisticated chemist as well. Modern science is still trying to learn what the Creator has taught the mussel about glue. Ref: Amato, Ivan, ‘Stuck on mussels,’ *Science News*, v. 139.”

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- Standing for the whole counsel of God. (Acts 20:27; Jude 3)
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