

O Timothy

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

A Monthly Newsletter for Spiritual Protection and Edification

Volume 42 - Issue 8 - August 2025



"...when we talk about modest dress, we are not talking about a cheap focus on externals to the neglect of the inner man. When Scripture deals with dress, it always focuses on the condition of the heart. Truly modest dress is a reflection of a modest heart. Modest dress does not make a carnal Christian or church acceptable to the Lord." Page 5.

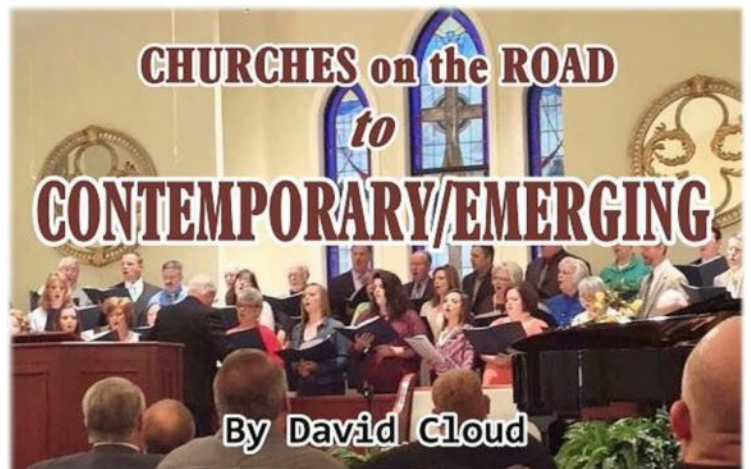
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CHURCHES ON THE ROAD TO CONTEMPORARY/EMERGING ~ By David Cloud

Over the last several years, I have become convinced that unless there is a deep-seated, far-reaching change in the average Independent Baptist church, the vast majority will be contemporary-emerging within a decade or two.

Take New Hope Baptist in Burlington, North Carolina, for example. It is a fairly conservative Independent Baptist church. The dress is conservative. They don't preach false doctrine. They pray for revival. They try to reach souls for Christ. They have all of the typical programs, such as Sunday Schools, youth ministries, and missions support. They preach holy living. They have special prayer meetings, which is more than most churches have today. There are doubtless many sincere and godly saints in the congregation. I have no doubt that the pastor is a sincere man who knows the Lord and truly wants to see spiritual revival. We have the same Lord and Saviour. We have the same Bible. From the bottom of my heart, I thank the Lord



for every good thing that is in this church, and there are many.

But all of the good things that this church represents are not sufficient to make it the church that it needs to be today to build the type of individual saints, families, and

youth disciples we need, and it is not sufficient to stop the slide toward the contemporary-emerging church.

That slide will be the result of such things as the following:

Contemporary Southern Gospel and general carelessness and ignorance about the music issue.

In the case of the churches that participated in the Burlington Revival, they say they are opposed to “contemporary Christian music,” but they love contemporary Southern Gospel. They don’t love the Gettys; they love the Gaithers (or people like the Gaithers). But there isn’t two cents worth of difference between the world of contemporary worship and the world of contemporary Southern Gospel. It is fleshly music that gets the people emotionally addicted to honky tonk, ragtime rhythms and even pure rock & roll.

Southern Gospel also yokes the listeners together with the likes of the Gaithers and the National Quartet Convention crowd, and a more radically ecumenical crowd does not exist. The Burlington crowd got offended at my suggestion that they are ecumenical, but anyone who is hooked into Southern Gospel is holding hands with and playing footsie with ecumenists and is on a fast road to full-blown ecumenism.

In a recent message on “How to Continue in Revival,” Pastor Randy Hobbs of New Hope Baptist Church said,

O TIMOTHY Magazine Volume 42 Issue 8

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Subscription information on
back page of the magazine

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“In too many churches you can’t tell the church song from the Honky Tonk.” Not being properly educated about sacred music, and not being willing to get educated with material that is readily and even freely available, the pastor doesn’t understand that he is talking about his own church.

About 20 years ago I preached at a church in Cowpens, South Carolina, and the music was raucous honky tonk S. Gospel powered by a white-haired grandmother pianist that would put any 1920s barroom ragtimer to shame. After the service, the elderly pastor asked me what I thought of the music, and I replied, “It is boogie woogie.” He exclaimed, “I don’t want boogie woogie!” I said, “That’s what you’ve got, pastor.” I never heard from him again.

There is not any significant difference between rock & roll and the specials that are sung at New Hope and the music that is sung by visiting evangelists such as C.T. Townsend. Having been born and raised in the South, saved in the South, educated in the South, and begun preaching in the South, I have watched as Baptist churches there have gotten ever weaker over the past 30 years, and one of the major reasons is the influence of Southern Gospel and the worldly, ecumenical baggage that it carries. I refuse to have anything to do with it.

Even 20 years ago, I wouldn’t have preached in the church at Cowpens had I known what their music was like. I feel much stronger about this today.

Biblical shallowness in the preaching and in the lives of the people.

I have listened to the preaching, and it is not the type of preaching that builds people up in God’s Word. Those who sit under this type of preaching do not grow strong in Bible knowledge. They are not even accustomed to trying to learn something new from the sermons, because there is not much biblical substance. It’s pretty much grabbing a text as a launching pad and then whooping and hollering. The people get almost zero education in context, word definitions, etc.

The fruit of this type of ministry is evident in the answer to the following question: How many of the church members are serious, effectual Bible students who know *how* to study the Bible, who know sound principles of Bible interpretation, who know how to use tools such as

Strong's Concordance and Treasury of Scripture Knowledge and a good Bible dictionary? How many of the young people are serious, effectual Bible students?

If a church is biblically shallow, it has a weak spiritual foundation that makes it impossible for it to stand against the spiritual, moral, and doctrinal dangers that are encroaching from all sides in this day and time. It might continue to stand for a while out of tradition, but the next generation will fold like a house of cards.

Quick Prayerism.

This is an evangelistic methodology that is quick to get people to pray a sinner's prayer after a shallow gospel presentation and usually without dealing with the necessity of repentance. It is quick to pronounce those people saved and give them "assurance" even if they give no biblical evidence of having been born again.

Quick Prayerism is characterized by soul winning reports that are grossly exaggerated, since the number of real, life-changing conversions are small compared to the overall statistics. Quick Prayerism was on display at the Burlington Tent Revival when the workers dealt with strangers for a few minutes during an invitation then pronounced these people saved. It is impossible to deal with a stranger properly in 10 or 15 minutes at an altar during a high pressured "invitation" atmosphere driven by hyped-up invitation exhortations and sensual, emotion-driving music.

Quick Prayerism is on display in these churches by the way that children are dealt with, in how they are pronounced saved and received into church membership without clear evidence of salvation, and how it is often even looked down on to doubt their salvation later on.

Ignorance about important issues facing the churches.

The prophet Hosea bemoaned the fact that "my people are destroyed for lack of knowledge" (Hos. 4:6). This is exactly what is happening in the average Independent Baptist church. There is widespread ignorance about important issues such as contemporary music, New Evangelicalism, the Southern Baptist Convention, Reformed theology, reconstructionism, charismaticism, Neo-orthodoxy, Darwinian and theistic evolution, contemplative mysticism, and the emerging church.

The average congregation isn't well-grounded and properly-taught. Rather, they are shallow and largely ignorant of important issues facing God's people today. The parents aren't properly educated by the church so they can effectually train, disciple, and protect their children.

This problem is a reflection on the pastors. Not only are they themselves ignorant of important issues, oftentimes they are willfully and boastingly ignorant. When a church member starts getting a proper education and approaches the pastor about various important issues, the pastor isn't challenged to become a more serious student and teacher. Rather, he treats the church member as a trouble maker.

About 15 years ago my pastor rented a table at the Southwide Baptist Fellowship annual conference for two or three years running. He offered Bible study books such as the *Way of Life Encyclopedia of the Bible and Christianity* and *Things Hard to Be Understood* and seriously-researched books on issues such as music and New Evangelicalism. Though the books were deeply discounted, there was pathetically little interest by the hundreds of preachers in attendance.

The apostle Paul was a passionate student to the end of his life. Even during his final imprisonment he urged Timothy to "bring the books" (2 Tim. 4:13). How far removed the average Independent Baptist pastor is from this godly example, and nowhere is this more true than in the South.

Ignorance is a recipe for apostasy. We desperately need preachers who will walk a different path than the typical "southern" traditional style preachers who will be serious students and serious teachers, both of God's Word and of every issue that is relevant to God's people today.

Serious training material is readily available. What is lacking is the will to pursue this business with sacrificial passion. God's Word is clear about a preacher's responsibility in this regard. See, for example, 1 Timothy 4:6, 13; 2 Timothy 2:15; 4:13; Titus 1:10-11; Jude 3.

Entertainment-oriented youth ministries.

Instead of serious discipleship and serious Bible training, the young people in the average Independent Baptist church are being entertained to death. Typically, the youth ministry is a Christianized version of the world. It

is a lot of entertainment shellacked with a veneer of Bible. At best, the average young person stands on the fence with one foot in the world. His daily life does not reflect passionate love for and obedience to Jesus Christ. If you look at what he loves to do and how uses his free time, you don't see a real disciple of Christ. You see a worldly young person who knows how to "talk the talk" when necessary. This is the rule, whereas it should be the exception.

Maligning warning and biblical reproof.

A friend in the South wrote recently to give the following observation in regard to the Independent Baptist churches he has visited over the years. The all caps are in the original.

"I don't think 98% of Independent Baptist churches have ANY type of warning ministry in their preaching and teaching. ... I'm talking about SIMPLE statements of warning here, not a ministry of warning."

My warnings about Burlington were treated as carnal junk and dismissed out of hand. Not only do most Independent Baptist preachers not give clear warnings, they believe that warnings are largely unnecessary and probably wrong. It is typical among fundamental Baptist churches today for godly reproof to be treated as "casting stones," "shooting the wounded," "touching the Lord's anointed," and other such things, none of which are principles that can be supported from Scripture.

A pastor told a friend recently that warnings such as those I give "probably do more harm than good." This pastor considers himself to be conservative and Scripturally solid, yet he thinks it is harmful to give warnings about preachers who are leading God's people astray.

When warnings are given about something like the downgrade of music standards or shallow evangelism methodology or the error of building an Independent Baptist "friendship unity" on the basis of treating certain biblical issues as "non-essentials," those warnings are despised and the reprover is maligned.

That is a recipe for spiritual destruction. When Israel demanded that the prophets preach smooth things, her downfall was already sealed (Isaiah 30:10).

Soft separatism.

Another reason why I am convinced that the average fundamental Baptist church will be well down the emerging path within 10-20 years is the prevalence of "soft separatism." Soft separatism is separatism that is ineffective to protect the Lord's people from spiritual dangers. It is characterized by professing to believe in separation but doing things that make the separation ineffective, such as avoiding "negativism and criticism"; avoiding dealing with "personalities"; refusing to issue clear warnings; refusing to educate the church about biblical separatism; refusing to distance oneself properly from those who are headed in a wrong direction in order to cut off the leaven of compromise from one's personal life and family and church; and messing around with dangerous things such as contemporary music, Southern Gospel, and compromised authors. Soft separatists are more concerned about the danger of "divisiveness" and are more desirous of getting along with the brethren than about standing for the truth, if such a stand proves to be unpopular.

For more about this see [Why Most Independent Baptists Will Be Emerging within 20 Years](http://www.wayoflife.org/why-most-independent-baptists-will-be-emerging-within-20-years), which is available in print and as free eBook from www.wayoflife.org.

For a video presentation on Southern Gospel see [The Satanic Attack on Sacred Music](http://www.wayoflife.org/s3/satanic-attack-on-sacred-music.php) series, "A Plea to Southern Gospel Fans." We deal with the history and character of Southern Gospel, its current influence, and the role of the Gaithers in the renaissance of Southern Gospel. The presentation is packed with audio, video, and photos.

https://www.wayoflife.org/s3/satanic_attack_on_sacred_music.php





That the preaching on modest attire is disappearing from churches is a sign of apostasy. Neglect of modesty is a major building block of the one-world church.

Modesty in dress is a Bible doctrine, and it is not a small issue. It is an issue of morality and godliness. When the American culture retained an influence from Scripture, it was reflected in modest attire, but this has changed in one lifetime. Modesty has been swallowed up by the last days rock & roll culture with its flaunting of moral relativism and its love for unisexism. The churches have followed in lockstep with the world while the pastors have largely kept quiet, loving man's acclaim above Christ's.

We would hasten to add that when we talk about modest dress, we are not talking about a cheap focus on externals to the neglect of the inner man. When Scripture deals with dress, it always focuses on the condition of the heart. Truly modest dress is a reflection of a modest heart. Modest dress does not make a carnal Christian or church acceptable to the Lord.

We deal with this issue extensively in the book [*Dressing for the Lord*](#).

Following are the chapter titles

- The Importance of Reproof
- The Origin of Clothing
- The Captains of the Fashion Industry
- Isn't This Basically the Man's Problem?
- Bible Guidelines for Clothing
- A Study on Biblical Modesty
- Worldliness and the Christian's Dress
- Pants and the Christian Woman

- Pushing the Edge on Dress Standards: Borderline Modesty vs. True Modesty
- Questions Answered on the Issue of Christian Dress
- Testimonies from Christian Women on the Issue of Modest Dress
- Survey of Men on the Subject of Women's Dress

The following summary of the biblical principles on modesty is excerpted from [*Dressing from the Lord*](#):

1. The woman's clothing is to be modest (1 Timothy 2:9-10).
2. The Christian's clothing is to be sexually distinctive (Ge. 1:27; De. 22:5; 1 Co. 11:14-15).
3. The Christian's clothing is to be identified with holiness and godliness and not to be identified with anything that is evil (1 Th. 5:22; Eph. 5:11).
4. The Christian's clothing is to be characterized by separation from the world (Ro. 12:2; 2 Co. 6:14-17; Tit. 2:12-13; Jas. 4:4; 1 Jo. 2:15-16).
5. The Christian's clothing is to mark him or her as peculiar unto the Lord, as one who has been redeemed from all iniquity and who is zealous for good works (Tit. 2:14).
6. The Christian's clothing should not cause others to stumble (Ro. 14:21).
7. The older Christians should be an example for the younger (Tit. 2:2-5).

1. The woman's clothing is to be modest (1 Timothy 2:9-10).

Modesty is described in the New Testament by the words "shamefaced" and "sobriety" (1 Ti. 2:9), "discreet" and "chaste" (Tit. 2:5), and "a meek and quiet spirit" (1 Pe.

3:4). Modesty is first of all a type of heart that reveals itself in the matter of dress.

The context is how we ought to behave ourselves in the house of God (1 Ti. 3:15). We see that modesty in dress is not a “non-essential” and dress is not strictly a matter of personal preference.

“**Modest**” is the Greek *kósmios*, which is also translated “of good behaviour” (1 Ti. 3:2). It means “decent and orderly” and describes “an inner self-control--a spiritual ‘radar’ that tells a person what is good and proper” (*The Bible Exposition Commentary*). 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 according to the principles of God’s Word.

The Christian woman should not wear anything whatsoever that would be characterized as NOT of good behaviour.

“**Shamefacedness**” is the Greek *aidós*, 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*).

Shamefacedness is exactly the opposite of the cheeky, pert, saucy, impertinent, flippant, insubordinate attitude that the world seeks to develop in women.

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.

A shamefaced Christian woman will not have the rebellious attitude that says, “Don’t tell me how to dress; 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!”

A shamefaced 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 do dress in such a way that men are enticed.

“**Sobriety**” is from the Greek word *sóphrosune*, which is also translated “sobriety” (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).

Sobriety means not to be drunk, neither with alcoholic beverages, nor drugs, nor 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 or social media celebrity is wearing and doing, and over the latest vain fashion or hair style or cosmetic.

Sobriety is the opposite of foolish, silly, flippant, careless, intoxicated, shallow, worldly, and vain.

“**Broided hair**” refers to braiding the hair. This does not mean that the Christian woman should not take care of her hair; it is a warning against spending a great deal of time adorning herself in the manner of the world, of making this her focus in 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.”

The mention of “**gold, or pearls, or costly array**” reminds us that it is God’s will that the Christian woman refuse to display an extravagant, showy, worldly appearance. The goal of this world’s godless fashion industry is to create a haughty, ostentatious, worldly-wise look, as well as a sexual look. The godly woman will reject such fashion and clothe herself and her daughters in “modest apparel.”

The meaning of 1 Timothy 2:9 (“not with broided hair, or gold, or pearls, or costly array”) is further explained in 1 Peter 3:3, “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.”

Modest clothing is not the type of clothing that draws undue attention to the wearer or that makes the onlooker think that the wearer is improperly consumed with fashion. Modest attire will not draw undue attention to the woman’s hair and clothes but will draw attention to her character. Those who see her will think about what a godly woman she is rather than what a “sexy” or “fancy” or “fashionable” one she is.

The modest woman “*adorns herself with good works*” (1 Ti. 2:10).

She 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.

The worldly woman focuses on the physical and the sensual and the prideful, while the spiritual woman focuses on the things of God. The worldly woman wants to please herself and to conform to society, while the spiritual woman wants to please God. While the spiritual woman dresses in a proper and respectable and feminine manner, this is not the main focus of her life. Her focus is pleasing the Lord and cultivating godliness. She puts on apparel, but she does not put on immodest apparel.

Again, we see from this passage that the Christian woman’s modesty must come from the inside out. It comes from a sober and shamefaced spirit. It is a matter of the heart, which reminds us that it is not enough to set forth dress standards. Every effort must be made to educate women so that they understand the biblical principles of modesty and know the reason for the church’s standards, and every effort must be made to reach their hearts, to challenge them to surrender themselves wholly to Christ and to live for His glory.

The immodest clothing industry understands these things very well and strives to dress women seductively rather than modestly.

Tight, clinging attire is as immodest as skimpy attire because the woman’s figure is emphasized and accented, and the man’s attention is directed to that which is forbidden outside of marriage. Men are strongly influenced sexually by the eye-gate and are attracted to the woman’s curves. The immodest clothing

industry understands these things and strives to dress women seductively rather than modestly.

It is important to understand that tight, form-fitting clothes can be just as sexually disturbing to a man as skimpy clothes.

In the book *For Women Only: What You Need to Know about the Inner Lives of Men*, Shaunti Feldhahn describes the following situation:

“Another husband with a happy twenty-year marriage described another typical scenario: ‘My wife and I recently went out to dinner at a nice restaurant with some friends. The hostess was extremely attractive and was WEARING FORM-FITTING CLOTHES THAT SHOWED OFF A GREAT FIGURE. For the rest of the night, it was impossible not to be aware that she was across the restaurant, walking around. Our group had a great time with our lovely wives, but I guarantee you that our wives didn’t know that every man at that table was acutely aware of that woman’s presence and was doing his utmost not to look in that direction” (p. 114).

In our survey of Christian men on the issue of women’s dress we found that tight clothing is at least as much of a potential problem for men as skimpy clothing. 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 statements:

“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!”

“You don’t even need to see skin; they provide all the curves.”

Another man said: “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.”

As we have seen, 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 in 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.

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.”

This is the pilgrim lifestyle that the contemporary churches have rejected.

2. The Christian’s clothing is to be sexually distinctive (Ge. 1:27; De. 22:5; 1 Co. 11:14-15).

The woman’s dress is to be distinctively feminine and the man’s distinctively masculine. The modern unisex movement is in rebellion against Almighty God and His Word, and the Christian should have nothing whatsoever to do with any fashion associated with it. Female pants are a unisex fashion statement and play a central role in the modern unisex movement.

Objections Answered:

Objection No. 1: Deuteronomy 22:5 is part of the law of Moses that has been done away in Christ.

Answer: While we know that the law of Moses is not the Christian’s law, it does contain lessons for Christian living. In 1 Corinthians 10 Paul recounts many things from the Pentateuch and concludes, “Now all these things happened unto them for ensamples: and they are written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the world are

come” (1 Co. 10:11). Deuteronomy 22:5 contains a moral principle that is written for our admonition. The principle is that there is to be a clear distinction between how men and women dress.

Paul emphasized this in 1 Corinthians 14:34 when he said, “Let your women keep silence in the churches: for it is not permitted unto them to speak; but they are commanded to be under obedience, as also saith the law.” Thus, according to Paul, the law of Moses does speak directly to Christian living in the matter of the created difference between male and female.

Objection No. 2: If we follow Deuteronomy 22:5 today we must also follow Deuteronomy 22:9-11, which says we should not sow different kinds of seeds in a garden or wear garments of mixed fibers.

Answer: Though we do not obey these commandments in the material realm today, we still must follow the principle that they teach in the spiritual realm. By giving these commands God was teaching Israel the principle of separation. Such laws were designed to teach them to “put difference between holy and unholy, and between unclean and clean” (Le. 10:10). Deuteronomy 22:9-11, then, reminds the New Testament Christian that he is to separate from everything that is evil and wrong before the Lord. Compare Mt. 6:24; 1 Co. 15:33; 2 Co. 6:14-17; 7:1; Eph. 5:11; 1 Jo. 2:15-16, etc.).

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

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

JOHN GILL (1697-1771): “The woman shall not wear that which pertaineth unto a man ... It being very un-

seemly and impudent, and contrary to the modesty of her sex. ... neither shall a man put on a woman's garment; which would betray effeminacy and softness unbecoming men ... since in nature a difference of sexes is made, it is proper and necessary that this should be known by difference of dress, or otherwise many evils might follow; and this precept is agreeable to the law and light of nature..."

ADAM CLARKE (1762-1832): "It is, however, a very good general precept understood literally, and applies particularly to those countries where the dress alone distinguishes between the male and the female. ... Were this to be tolerated in society, it would produce the greatest confusion." **ALBERT BARNES** (1789-1870): "The distinction between the sexes is natural and divinely established, and cannot be neglected without indecorum and consequent danger to purity (compare 1 Co. 11:3-15)."

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

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

Perhaps you have observed that many of these older commentators cross-referenced the principle of Deuteronomy 22:5 with that of 1 Corinthians 11 where Paul teaches that the woman and the man are to maintain a difference in appearance. "Doth not even nature itself teach you, that, if a man have long hair, it is a shame unto him? But if a woman have long hair, it is a glory to her: for her hair is given her for a covering" (1 Co. 11:14-15).

Paul says the distinction in appearance should be maintained because of the created order and the different roles that the man and the woman were designed to fill.

"For a man indeed ought not to cover his head, forasmuch as he is the image and glory of God: but the woman is the glory of the man. For the man is not of the woman; but the woman of the man. Neither was the man created for the woman; but the woman for the man" (1 Co. 11:7-9).

God made man and woman for different roles on earth.

"So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; MALE AND FEMALE CREATED HE THEM" (Ge. 1:27).

Thus, both the Old and the New Testaments teach that it is God's will for the man and the woman to dress distinctively. One woman made the following important observation:

"People seem to be playing 'pick-n-choose' with Old Testament verses. They want the twenty-third Psalm, the hundredth Psalm, and all the OT verses that won't affect their lifestyle, but then they try to explain away any OT verse that would have any effect on how they live. Well, 2 Timothy 3:16 says, 'ALL SCRIPTURE is given by inspiration of God, and IS PROFITABLE for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness'"

(<http://www.momof9splace.com/modesty.html>).

Why would the godly woman want to be identified with a fashion that is so intimately associated with a movement and philosophy that is in rebellion against God's created order?

Many men of God have observed that the popularizing of pants-wearing by women in the past 50 years has gone hand-in-hand with a shocking decline in female modesty. One pastor wrote:

"I believe it leads to a breakdown of the sexes, causes immorality and contributes to homosexuality. Pants cause a woman to act masculine. Women today do not know how to sit like a lady or to act modestly because of their pants. They no longer bend at the knees, but they bend at the waist, exposing their chest in even a modest garment. They do not sit with their knees together and the ankles crossed."

Another wrote:

“Are we godlier today than our grandparent’s generation? I think not! They were scandalized by women who wore pants and swimsuits and mini-skirts. Today, those things are commonly accepted among believers and even in churches.”

Another man said:

“I am 68 years old and have been married to a wonderful, modest lady for 49 years. I am appalled at how so many women dress even in church. My mother is 88 years old and worked in the cotton fields alongside my father back when we did it all by hand. I’ve never seen my mother or either of my grandmothers in pants or shorts and they all worked in the fields. Thank God for the example they were to me. By the way, they all washed their clothes by hand and I never saw any women’s undergarments hanging out on the clothes line for all that passed by to look at. This proves that their modesty went far deeper than what they put on their bodies. It was in their hearts.”

While we can’t turn the clock back to a bygone era, God’s people can hold to the old Bible paths and reject the dictates of this shallow, lascivious, and rebellious age.

3. The Christian’s clothing is to be identified with holiness and godliness and not to be identified with anything that is evil (1 Th. 5:22; Eph. 5:11).

If a clothing style is identified with rebellion against God’s laws, with anarchy, with sexual freedom, with blasphemy, with idolatry, with moral decadence, or with any other evil it should not be worn by a Christian. This would prohibit fashions, for example, that have come out of the world of punk and rap, such as long hair on men, tight masculine jeans on women, torn jeans, low-slung baggy jeans, and such. This would also prohibit tattoos with their identification with rebellion and paganism.

4. The Christian’s clothing is to be characterized by separation from the world (Ro. 12:2; 2 Co. 6:14-17; Tit. 2:12-13; Jas. 4:4; 1 Jo. 2:15-16).

The Christian’s clothing is not to be conformed to anything in the world that is associated with the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life. Examples of fashions that are worldly are indecent female

dress styles that flaunt her sexuality and ostentatious fashions that cry, “Look at me.”

5. The Christian’s clothing is to mark him or her as peculiar unto the Lord, as one who has been redeemed from all iniquity and who is zealous for good works (Tit. 2:14).

God’s people are to be separate, peculiar, different, set apart. “Peculiar” is *perioúsios*, meaning a possession. It describes a people owned by God for His special purposes. It is translated “purchased possession” (Eph. 1:14). The church has been purchased with Christ’s blood (Ac. 20:28). We must bear His stamp. We must stand out from the crowd because we are walking by heaven’s light. We must not fly the world’s flag. When God’s people are no longer peculiar they have compromised the Word of God. We must fear God more than man. We must be more concerned about pleasing God than people. We must not draw back from bearing Christ’s reproach in this wicked world. He said, “Whosoever therefore shall be ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation; of him also shall the Son of man be ashamed, when he cometh in the glory of his Father with the holy angels” (Mr. 8:38). Paul said that if we deny Christ, he also will deny us (2 Ti. 2:12).

6. The Christian’s clothing should not cause others to stumble (Ro. 14:21).

The Bible says that I am my brother’s keeper. Any clothing style that would cause others to lust or that would be a poor example for others to follow should be avoided. We would mention in particular SLIT SKIRTS AND SLIT DRESSES. One purpose for this fashion is to tease men with the flashing effect that is created. Even if the slit is below the knee the effect is very sensual. We once asked a group of young Bible college men if they were tempted sexually by slit skirts, and every one of them admitted that they are. This should speak volumes to Christian women and young ladies to avoid this immodest fashion.

Many women seem to think that the issue of modesty is basically the man’s problem and that if he would keep his eyes to himself that would be the end of the matter.

The fact is that both the man and the woman have a grave responsibility.

Christian men most definitely should keep their eyes in check and say, with Job, “I made a covenant with mine eyes; why then should I think upon a maid?” (Job 31:1).

This is not to say, though, that Christian women can dress as they please because they have no responsibility in the matter. If she knows that men are seriously tempted in the matter of sexual lust and if she knows that certain types of dress can cause more problems for men than others, why would a godly girl or woman not want to do everything she can not to cause a potential for stumbling?

As Richard Baxter wrote in the seventeenth century,

“Though it be their [the man’s] sin and vanity that is the cause, it is nevertheless your [the woman’s] sin to be the unnecessary occasion: for you must consider that you live among diseased souls! And you must not lay a stumbling-block in their way, nor blow up the fire of their lust, nor make your ornaments their snares; but you must walk among sinful persons, as you would do with a candle among straw or gunpowder; or else you may see the flame which you would not foresee, when it is too late to quench it” (Richard Baxter, 1615-1691).

David was a man after God’s own heart, the sweet psalmist of Israel, a man who had determined not to set any wicked thing before his eyes; yet look at what happened to him one evening when he saw a woman bathing on her roof.

Most women don’t properly understand how powerful the visual element is to the man in the realm of sex and sensuality.

One man wrote to say,

“I do believe most women just do not know how men think. Period. I BELIEVE THAT THERE IS A WHOLE SEGMENT, GROUP, CLASS OF WOMEN, WHO, IF THEY REALLY UNDERSTOOD MEN, WOULD CHANGE THEIR DRESS CODE, BECAUSE THEY DO WANT TO PLEASE GOD. ... They just need to understand it’s not just a list of do’s and don’ts set forth to force them in to ‘frumpiness,’ but a desire of godly men to gain their cooperation in helping them NOT lust, and to not be stumbling blocks, because they just want to please God.”

Another man wrote,

“THE BIBLICAL ISSUE OF MODESTY IS BEST

UNDERSTOOD BY AN UNDERSTANDING OF DEFRAUDING. No one should take any action whereby he causes desires to be raised in another that cannot be righteously satisfied. ... That our society drenches every inch of media in sexually explicit advertising is a source of much temptation, sadness and concern for this man. Facing that sort of issue with Christian sisters in a church setting is most grievous. I believe the phrase ‘long, loose and lots of it’ should be the motto of Christian women’s apparel.”

7. The older Christians should be an example for the younger (Tit. 2:2-5).

Older women might be able to wear certain clothing styles without causing men to lust, but they need to be examples to girls and to the younger women.

We have considered several biblical tests regarding clothing. In conclusion to this section on unplugging from the world’s fashions we quote the following statement by the late Bruce Lackey about the importance of the heart.

All of this is a matter of the heart. You might get somebody straightened out on the matter of the clothes they ought to wear and they still be just as lost as they were before you met them. Before I talk to anybody about clothes or anything else, the first thing I want to know is what about the heart? Have you been saved? Acts 15:9. Has your heart been purified by faith? Romans 10:9. Have you believed in your heart that God raised Christ from the dead? The first thing I want to know is about the heart and salvation. If you haven’t been saved, it’s not going to help your soul one way or the other to change your clothes. You first have to come to Christ.

If you are saved, it is still a matter of the heart. If I were talking to a Christian about this, the first thing I would want to talk to him about would be the heart. Is your heart right with God? If your heart’s not right with God, you are going to resent every argument and resent anybody even bringing up this discussion.

The Bible talks about the heart. Hebrews 10:22, ‘Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water.’

God is talking to Christian people there. And in verses 24 and 25, ‘And let us consider one another to provoke

unto love and to good works: Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.'

Dressing properly is a matter of the heart (Bruce Lackey, "Bible Guidelines for Clothing").

This study is excerpted from the book [*Dressing for the Lord*](#), which goes into this subject in great detail. It is available from Way of Life Literature.

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



**Brother Cloud spends most of his time overseas,
but he has a Bible conference schedule in the States for a few weeks each year.**

February 23-28, 2025

Independent Baptist Church of Belize City

Phillip Goldson Highway (#270 Bella Vista), Belize City, Belize

Pastor Rigoberto Blanco, pastorblancoibcbz@gmail.com, 501-634-7344

Theme: The Pornographic Age and Victory in Christ

April 6-10, 2025

Cornerstone Baptist Church

1210 East 62nd Street Chicago, Illinois 60637

Pastor Courtney Lewis, pastorlewisbc@gmail.com, 777-643-1865

Theme: Contender's Conference (co-preacher Don Whitecar of Pocatello, Idaho)

April 12-15, 2025

Beaver Falls Baptist Church

23632 Evergreen Rd., Clatskanie OR

Pastor Derek Seeley, derekseeleykjv@yahoo.com, 503-308-0801

Theme: Evangelicalism and End-time Apostasy

September 14-17, 2025

Cedar Crest Ind. Baptist Church

106 Pin Oak Lane, Mount Union, PA

Pastor James Barton, pastorofccibc@outlook.com, 814-386-4829

Theme: Missions

September 21-24, 2025

Friendship Baptist Church,

3367 Ritner Hwy, Newville, PA

Pastor Mike Downs, michaeldowns79@gmail.com, 410-920-4003

Theme: The Collapse of Fundamental Baptist and the Victory

September 25, 2025

Calvary Baptist Church

7321 Manchester Road, Dundalk MD 21222

Pastor Stacey Shiflett, pastorss@cbcdundalk.org

Guest Lecturer, Bible College (evening)

Theme: From Fundamental Baptist to the One-world Church

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?



RUSSIA SAYS IRAN'S NUCLEAR ARMAMENT WILL CONTINUE (Friday Church News Notes, June 27, 2025, www.wayoflife.org fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143)

- After Israel and America bombed Iran's nuclear facilities last week, Dimitry Medvedev, former Russian president, said, "The enrichment of nuclear material--and, now we can say it outright, the future production of nuclear weapons--will continue. A number of countries are ready to directly supply Iran with their own nuclear warheads" ("Russian leader claims," *Fox News*, June 22, 2025). (Medvedev is currently the deputy chairman of the Security Council of Russia.) It would be very surprising, indeed, if "a number of countries" are ready to supply nuclear warheads to a jihad-raging, madhi-expecting, terror-sponsoring nation like Iran. We observe, that Israel's enemies are now speaking outright about nuclear weapons, putting the lie to Iran's previous claims, though there is no hint in Bible prophecy that Israel will be nuked. We do know that Iran (Persia) will be a major partner with Russia in the Gog/Magog attack on Israel in coming days (Ezekiel 38-39). It is essential to understand that this event is not imminent. The only

imminent prophetic event is the Rapture of New Testament saints. It is "at hand" (Ro. 13:12; Php. 4:5; 1 Pe. 4:7). After that, the Antichrist will rise as a super impressive problem solver and man of peace. Israel will be deceived, the Jewish temple will be rebuilt, and the Two Witnesses will prophecy in Jerusalem, as described in Revelation 7. Israel will disarm, and sometime afterwards the Gog and Magog military coalition will attack from the north (Russia, Gomer, Togarmah), the south (Ethiopia, Libya), and the east (Persia) and meet their Waterloo on Israel's mountains. Presently, it is not Gog/Magog time; it is Great Commission time. God is in perfect control of the devil's mystery of iniquity program while He continues to work out His own program of worldwide gospel preaching, and no power on earth or in the heavenlies can hinder God's hand or shorten His program. Beware of an addiction to politics which rob the child of God of time for building godly homes and fruitful churches. "But, beloved, be not ignorant of this one thing, that one day is with the Lord as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance" (2 Peter 3:8-9).

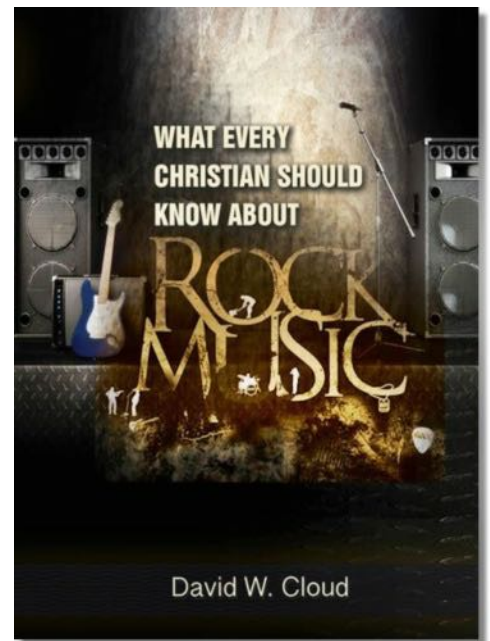
MIRROR MIRROR ON THE WALL (Friday Church News Notes, June 27, 2025, www.wayoflife.org fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - A great many preachers are man-centered rather than Christ-centered and tradition-bound rather than Bible-bound. This is seen in their actions and thinking rather than in their professions. Consider the prevailing philosophy that it is wrong



to critique fundamental Baptist leaders and the anger that is generated when such critiques are made. I was reminded of this after publishing “The No Criticism Doctrine” on June 4. It is an excerpt from my book *The History and Heritage of Fundamentalism and Fundamental Baptists* and deals with what I witnessed at Highland Park Baptist Church, Chattanooga, Tennessee, in the 1970s. I spend much time in that book describing Lee Roberson as a man of God and noting the great blessings that existed at Highland Park in its heyday. Yet a pastor called this “a hit piece” and said, “It must be real lonely at the top.” By his thinking, which he learned from fundamental Baptist tradition, to critique men like Lee Roberson or Jack Hyles or Paul Chappell could only be a matter of pride and jealousy. It is “touching the anointed” and “shooting the wounded” and “interfering with the local church,” concepts which have zero biblical basis as applied to critiquing preachers who have a public ministry. I replied to this pastor, “Independent Baptist churches are experiencing a great collapse. I am trying to help, but there are fundamental things that Ind. Baptists have inherited from their fathers that have made the churches weak and that must be re-evaluated,

though very, very few are willing to do so. Most have been taught to treat gracious biblical warnings as ‘criticism.’ They react in knee jerk fashion rather than reading carefully and prayerfully and calmly considering the matter. ... Actually, pastor, you proved my point. A man cannot critique Dr. Roberson (*et al*) without being assaulted. It is a knee jerk thing that has been ingrained in men.” I asked him to disprove the statements I made in the report, but he could not. He simply told me he was helped by Lee Roberson, loved and benefited from Highland Park, and wept when the building burned. That, of course, is not the point. I was helped in a great many ways by my years at Highland Park and Tennessee Temple, as I have often testified, but that doesn’t mean the institution is beyond biblical critique, not then and not now. I tried to explain these things to the pastor in question, but he abruptly ended the conversation with this: “Mirror mirror on the wall.”

WHAT EVERY CHRISTIAN SHOULD KNOW ABOUT ROCK MUSIC (Friday Church News Notes, June 27, 2025, www.wayoflife.org, fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - About fifty years ago, we published *Mom and Dad Sleep While the Children Rock in Satan’s Cradle*, our first exhortation to parents and pastors to protect their young people from the great spiritual enemy of rock & roll. (It is long out of print.) Since then, churches have grown strangely quiet about this danger. It must be the “frog in the pot” phenomenon. Rock music permeates society, and we have grown accustomed to it, even though the music and the culture it has helped create have



grown ever more sensually wicked. The power of rock to produce rebels and to build the one-world church has not lessened. Homes and churches that don’t give clear and persistent warnings about rock music in all of its forms should not be surprised if their young people are worldly and tend toward evangelical thinking. [*What Every Christian Should Know about Rock Music*](#) lays out nine essential truths. 1. Rock music represents a moral revolution. 2. It preaches a philosophy of narcissism and licentiousness. 3. It is permeated with blasphemy. 4. It is the music of false christs. 5. It is condemned by the Bible. 6. It is a fulfillment of Bible prophecy. 7. It is at the heart of the one-world church. 8. It is addictive. 9. The only sure protection is to avoid it. 70 pages. **It is necessary to understand rock music if one is to understand the Contemporary Christian Music issue.** Available in print and free eBook editions from www.wayoflife.org.

ANOTHER WARNING ABOUT ALCOHOL CONSUMPTION AND CANCER (Friday Church



News Notes, June 27, 2025, www.wayoflife.org fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - The following is excerpted from "Your favorite alcoholic beverage," *Fox News*, June 11, 2025: "Following the surgeon general's January advisory linking alcohol consumption to seven types of cancer, a new study from the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) has revealed another possible risk. The research, recently published in the journal *PLOS Medicine*, classified alcohol as a carcinogen, highlighting a particular increased risk of pancreatic cancer. The surgeon general's previous advisory named cancers of the breast (in women), colorectum, esophagus, voice box, liver, mouth and throat.... Senior study author Dr. Pietro Ferrari, head of the IARC Nutrition and Metabolism Branch, in a press release, [said,] 'Our findings provide new evidence that pancreatic cancer may be another cancer type associated with alcohol consumption, a connection that has been underestimated until now.' For the study, researchers recruited 2.5 million participants with a median age of 57, following them for about 16 years." Scripture warns, "Wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging: and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise" (Proverbs 20:1).

NEBRASKA BECOMES 29TH STATE TO BAN

TRANSGENDER MEN FROM WOMEN'S ATHLETICS (Friday Church News Notes, June 27, 2025, www.wayoflife.org fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - The following is excerpted from "Nebraska Becomes," *Christianity Daily*, June 13, 2025: "Nebraska has become the latest state to enact legislation requiring athletes to compete on sports teams that align with their biological sex rather than their stated gender identity. Governor Jim Pillen signed Legislature Bill 89 (LB 89) into law Wednesday, following its passage in the state's Legislature by a 33-16 vote last week. The law is also known as the Stand With Women Act and mandates that all public and private schools, as well as post-secondary institutions involved in athletic associations, designate sports teams as either for males or females based solely on biological sex. ... The law, which does not reference 'gender' or 'gender identity,' cites biological differences between males and females as the reason for prohibiting males from competing on women's teams. ... Currently, Nebraska joins 28 other states--including Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, New Hampshire, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Virginia, West Virginia, and Wyoming--that have enacted similar bans on transgendered males competing in women's sports." **CONCLUDING NOTE:** The feminist movement paved the way for the homosexual rights movement. Feminists demanded entrance into military fighting units, the Boy Scouts, and



other formerly all male domains, claiming to be manly. Now men are claiming to be womanly and are dominating female sports because of the simple fact that men and women are different.

BOTH PARTIES WANT A KING (Friday Church News Notes, July 4, 2025, www.wayoflife.org fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - America continues its steady march to totalitarianism. It began a long time ago, with the vast increase in federal bureaucracy during and after the Civil War, with the creation of a federal income tax, a national currency, a national banking system, the creation of the Department of Justice and the Department of Commerce and Labor. "They inserted the government into railroads, education, agriculture, immigration, the sciences, financial regulation [and] industry" (Roger Lowenstein, *Ways and Means: Lincoln and His Cabinet and the Financing of the Civil War*). Totalitarianism received a major push with President Franklin D. Roosevelt's New Deal and a steady stream of ever newer deals, such as Lyndon Johnson's Great Society. America has long been a socialist nation. In this area, the difference between Republicans and Democrats is in degree only, in exactly how large and powerful the government will be and what portion of the nation's wealth it will confiscate and how large the debt will be allowed to grow. Now we are wit-

ROCK CLIMBING CATFISH (Friday Church News Notes, June 27, 2025, www.wayoflife.org fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - The following is from CreationMoments.com, May 14, 2025: "It's not very pretty, nor is it graceful, but Colombia's rock-climbing catfish has a unique ability among fish. Perhaps there are days when a salmon, trying to make it up a waterfall, wishes that it could simply climb the rocks. The rock-climbing catfish's climbing equipment begins with a powerful sucker mouth. Once it attaches itself to a rock, it can stay stuck despite any torrent. The rock-climbing catfish also has a bony plate on its belly that helps it hold its place while it repositions its sucker a little further up the rocks. The plate has fins with tiny, backward-pointing teeth. These teeth dig into the rock and prevent slipping. The catfish's third special feature is a set of powerful muscles to control the plate. Once the rock-climbing catfish has attached its sucker to the rock, it pulls up its stomach plate and anchors it. With its body anchored, it moves its sucker up the face of the rock and repeats the process. Following this method, the rock-climbing catfish can walk its way up a 20-foot



rock wall against the torrent of a waterfall in about 30 minutes! Who gave the rock-climbing catfish that powerful sucker mouth? Who gave it such a clever bony stomach plate and the powerful muscles to control it? And who taught it to climb rocks? There are two opinions today. One opinion says that no one did it. The other says that it was the work of the Creator of worlds and stars and you and me. The Bible's claim of a Creator is the only one that makes sense! Ref: Hanson, Jeanne K., and Deane Morrison, 'The wonderful weird of flora and fauna,' *Star Tribune First Sunday*."

nessing a civil war between those who want to keep the old America, or what is left of it, and those who want to destroy the old America and establish a new "woke" one. There can be no compromise. Thus both parties want a king and are busy reconstructing the presidency for this purpose. Barak Obama and Joe Biden tried to be kings for the "leftist" agenda. Donald Trump is trying to be a king for the "conservative" agenda. The U.S. presidency was not designed for



this purpose. It is an abuse of constitutional power on both sides, but the die is set. Each president finds new ways to increase his power. Thus, the nation continues its rush toward totalitarianism. This fits Bible prophecy. The mystery of iniquity, which has operated for 2,000 years but is moving into high gear at the end of the age, is the devil's program to put his man on the throne of the world (2 Thessalonians 2:7-12). In its fulness, there will be a global government, a global economy, a global judicial system, a global everything, and that is exactly what we see playing out in real life on every hand. Bible prophecy is what most political conservatives do not understand, but it is impossible to know the times, to understand Israel and the Middle East crisis, and to know God's will for the saints apart from a right understanding of prophecy.

ISRAEL OFFICIAL SAYS TRUMP'S ATTACK ON IRAN COULD HERALD THE COMING OF THE MESSIAH (Friday Church News Notes, July 4, 2025, www.wayoflife.org fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - Israel's Communications Minister Shlomo Karhi told *Arutz Sheva* (*Israel National News*) that Trump's attack on Iran could herald the coming of the Messiah ("Trump," *Arutz Sheva*, June 23, 2025). He called Trump "the Cyrus of our times and even greater than that," referring to Cyrus the Great of Persia who in 538 BC opened the door to Israel's return from Babylon and the building of the second temple. Many ultra-orthodox Jews see Trump in this light. Karhi believes Benjamin Netanyahu, Israel's Prime Minister, enjoys "Saita D'Shmaya" (divine assistance) and "our ultimate victory is within reach



and depends on us, divine mercy, and the miracles we are witnessing in this war, and what [we] will continue to see.” In 2018, during Donald Trump’s first presidency, the Temple in Zion organization issued a memorial half shekel temple tax coin featuring the images of Persian King Cyrus and U.S. President Donald Trump on one side and the Third Temple on the other. In a speech at the Arutz Sheva conference in Jerusalem in 2014, Pete Hegseth (who was confirmed as Trump’s Secretary of Defense in January 2025), said, “There’s no reason why the miracle of the re-establishment 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 that it could happen” (*The Times of Israel*, Nov. 14, 2024). Mr. Hegseth was wrong in saying we don’t know how it will happen. God’s Word has told us. It will happen at the beginning of the reign of the Antichrist when he comes on the scene as a great peace maker and world problem solver and makes a seven-year covenant with Israel (Da. 9:27). The world will receive him as the harbinger of the Age of Aquarius. Operating under the power of the god of this world, he will make the building of the Third Temple possible. We see this in Revelation 11 which occurs during the first three and a half years of the Antichrist’s rule. The 42 months and 1,260 days are mentioned in verses 2 and 3. We see the temple

being measured in verses 1-2 and two miracle-working prophets preaching in Jerusalem in verses 3-12. A building is measured when it is built, and the temple will be built in a very short time as soon as the go-ahead is given. Everything is ready. Third Temple organizations have constructed the priestly garments, the high priest’s golden crown and breastplate with its 12 precious stones, a copper laver, an incense altar, silver trumpets, gold- and silver-plated shofars, harps, and the gold menorah. They are breeding red heifers in Shiloh. Rabbi Yisrael Ariel says all of the materials for the operation of the temple are “all ready in crates in the basement, so that when we reach Jerusalem there will be trucks that unload everything, and we can get to work” (“Ariel’s Jerusalem,” *Arutz Sheva*, May 7, 2015). The New Testament believer won’t see Revelation 11 fulfilled. Our blessed hope is Christ, not the Antichrist. Our expectation is an imminent (any time) return of Christ. “Let your moderation be known unto all men. The Lord *is* at hand” (Php. 4:5).

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MASSIVE “GAY PRIDE” PARADE IN BUDAPEST (Friday Church News Notes, July 4, 2025, www.wayoflife.org, fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - In a major sign of the times, an estimated 200,000 people marched in the Budapest Pride Parade on June 28, massively surpassing a previous turnout of 35,000. The parade was held in defiance of Prime Minister Victor Orban’s anti-LGBT march ban (*World Crunch*, June 30, 2025). “Why do the heathen rage, and the people

imagine a vain thing? ... Let us break their bands asunder, and cast away their cords from us” (Psalm 2:1, 3).

CANNABIS LINKED TO DANGEROUS HEALTH RISK

(Friday Church News Notes, July 4, 2025, www.wayoflife.org,

fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - The following is excerpted from “Smoking marijuana and eating cannabis gummies both linked to dangerous health risk,” *Fox News*, May 30, 2025: “In a new study, researchers at UC San Francisco determined that eating edible cannabis, such as gummies, has the same impact on cardiovascular risk as smoking marijuana. The risk stems from reduced blood vessel function, according to the study, which was published in *JAMA Cardiology* on May 28. The study included 55 people between 18 and 50 years of age who were ‘outwardly healthy.’ The participants were divided into three groups: those who regularly smoked marijuana, those who ate edibles containing THC (tetrahydrocannabinol), and those who didn’t use cannabis, according to a UCSF press release. ... In September 2024, the participants underwent testing to determine how well their blood vessels functioned and whether the cells lining the blood vessels were affected. **All cannabis users were found to have**



‘decreased vascular function,’ comparable to those who smoke tobacco. Their blood vessel function was roughly half compared to those who did not use cannabis. This side effect has been linked to a higher risk of heart attack, high blood pressure and other cardiovascular conditions, the researchers noted. ... **‘This study enhances the understanding of the potential risks to vascular health linked to cannabis use and provides more evidence that cannabis use is not benign.’**”

CANNABIS USE INCREASING AMONG SENIORS (Friday Church News Notes, July 4, 2025, www.wayoflife.org, fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - The following is excerpted from Dr. Marc Siegel, “Grandma and Grandpa,” *Fox News*, June 5, 2025: “[T]he elderly over 65 are using marijuana products more and more, an increase of close to 50% from 2021 to 2023, with a total of 7% of seniors current users, according to new research just published in the journal *JAMA Internal Medicine*. But it is clear to me there are several misconceptions feeding this increased usage, the first being that marijuana is somehow safer than alcohol or cigarettes ... Another misconception is that marijuana is safe for people who can’t sleep or are having anxiety



problems. In fact, cannabis can lead to IQ decline, poorer learning or processing, and tap cognitive reserves, especially problematic in seniors who may already be showing signs of cognitive decline. And regular cannabis use with higher amounts of THC can worsen anxiety and even lead to psychosis in those with underlying mental health problems. Another false idea prompting increased cannabis use is that the amount of THC in a cannabis product is a constant, when in fact the active psychoactive ingredient in cannabis keeps increasing in concentration. 20th century weed was far less potent than today’s 30-50% THC content weed. ... But the notion that bothers me the most as a practicing internist is, that cannabis is supposed to be medically useful for chronic pain or sleeplessness and that somehow this sanctions its use for everything. **In fact, even the medical uses of marijuana products have never been proven.**”

YOU ARE LEFT HANDED (Friday Church News Notes, July 4, 2025, www.wayoflife.org, fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - The following is from CreationMoments.com, April 11, 2025: “If I were to ask you whether you are left-handed or right-handed, you would probably answer with most people that you are right-handed. While that may be true, you are also left-handed, and your life depends on it. Biologists have absolutely no idea why molecules of living things are left-handed. You see, when biological molecules are made in ‘origin of life’ experiments, they are always a mixture of both left-handed and right-handed molecules--mirror images of each



other that won’t work together in living things. A right-handed amino acid can be chemically identical to a left-handed amino acid. But for some mysterious reason, a living organism will treat the right-handed amino acid as if it were useless, even though normal chemical reactions ignore the difference. **This tells us that living things are much more than just the result of chemical reactions.** As the Bible suggests when it describes the creation of life, living material is different in some very important ways from nonliving material. The fact that life uses only left-handed versions of biological molecules poses another problem for those who think that life formed spontaneously, without a Creator. While experiments show that some simple biological molecules can be formed in the laboratory, experiments always produce a mixture of left- and right-handed molecules. So **life’s origin, with its left-handed-only molecules, remains a mystery to those who reject the Creator.** Could this be why God designed life with left-handed only molecules in the first place? REF: Olson, Steve, “Why is life handed?” *Science* 84.”

IRAN DECLARES FATWAH ON TRUMP AND NETANYAHU (Friday Church News Notes, July 11, 2025, www.wayoflife.org, fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - The following is excerpted

from “Iran Just Declared,” *Israel365News*, July 3, 2025: “On June 29th, Iran’s most senior religious cleric, Grand Ayatollah Makaram Shirazi, issued a chilling fatwa calling for the global assassination of President Trump and Prime Minister Netanyahu. This isn’t just political rhetoric--this is a direct religious ruling urging Muslims worldwide to carry out targeted killings. Backed by a reward from Allah for anyone who dies attempting the assassination, and brutal punishments for anyone who supports the West, this fatwa reveals the true spiritual and ideological nature of Iran’s war against the West. It is not about land. It is not about borders. It is a religious war rooted in a vision to destroy Israel and America. [These] Islamic rulings have led to real [and attempted] assassinations--from Anwar Sadat to Salman Rushdie. This decree must be taken seriously. This signals a dangerous escalation.”

DALAI LAMA SAYS HE WILL REINCARNATE (Friday Church News Notes, July 11, 2025, www.wayoflife.org, fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - The week of his 90th birthday, the Dalai Lama (Tenzin Gyatso) said he will reincarnate to assure that the Tibetan Buddhist institution will continue after his death. He is supposed to be the 14th incarnation of Chenrezig, the Buddhist god of compassion. After the 13th incarnation died in 1933, Tibetan Buddhist monks searched the kingdom for the new incarnation according to various signs and oracles and settled on Tenzin in 1937 when he was two years old. When Chinese troops crushed a Buddhist uprising in Lhasa in 1959, Tenzin fled Tibet and established a



government-in-exile in Dharamshala, India. The Chinese government has vowed to control the appointment of the next Dalai Lama, which could result in competing lamas. When I met the man who led me to Christ in 1973, I believed in reincarnation, and it was one of the first things I brought up in our conversations. He replied, “The Bible says, And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment” (Hebrews 9:27). He showed me the verse. I was amazed at the clarity of the Bible’s teaching on this subject. If the Bible is true, reincarnation is a myth. There is one death, then judgment. I had grown up in a Baptist church, but I didn’t know the Bible. I thought it was basically a very old, pretty dull, largely incomprehensible book. I had no idea that it speaks clearly to the very things I was studying in modern times. I spent three or four days with this man, spouting my opinions, arguing, but also listening and pondering what the Bible said and praying to God for help. I was impressed by the man’s knowledge of Scripture and his ability to find verses that applied perfectly to the things I then believed (e.g., men should follow their hearts; there are many ways to God; if a man is sincere all will be well; hell is too severe; judgment is unfair for those who have never heard the gospel; why should we believe the Bible is God’s Word; Jesus learned from

gurus when he was young). Thankfully, at the end of that intensive Bible study, God had great mercy on a very foolish young man. I repented of my rebellion to God’s authority, believed 100% in Jesus as the only Lord and Saviour, and was born again. By God’s grace I have not doubted a word in the Bible since.

SINGING, DANCING ON THE TEMPLE MOUNT (Friday Church News Notes, July 11, 2025, www.wayoflife.org, fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - Under the direction of Itamar Ben-Gvir, Israel’s Minister of National Security, Jews have been permitted to sing and dance openly across the entire Temple Mount compound since June 26 (“Messiah in the air,” *World Israel News*, June 26, 2025). This is a first since Israel captured the Temple Mount at the end of the Six-day War in 1967. On June 7, Motta Gur, commander of the paratroopers, excitedly announced on the radio, “Har Ha-bayit beyadeinu!” (“The Temple Mount is in our hands!”) Within days, Israel’s secular-minded Defense Minister Moshe Dayan took it upon himself to return control of the Temple Mount to the Muslims (the Islamic Waqf). In *Moshe Dayan: Story of My Life*, he said he was worried that the Jews would try to build the Third Temple. Since then, Muslims worship freely on the Temple Mount while Jews (and Christians) have not been



allowed to engage even in quiet prayer. We don't know how long the current liberty under Ben-Gvir will last, but we do expect there will be a great celebration on the Temple Mount when the Antichrist announces the construction of the Third Temple!

AMERICA A VERY WICKED

NATION (Friday Church News Notes, July 11, 2025, www.wayoflife.org, fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - According to the latest Gallup Poll, only 40% of Americans consider abortion morally wrong ("Rise in Americans," *Christianity Daily*, June 18, 2025). That adds up to a very wicked nation before the Creator God who owns all souls. "Behold, all souls are mine; as the soul of the father, so also the soul of the son is mine: the soul that sinneth, it shall die" (Ezekiel 18:4).

BEWARE OF A REPROBATE

MIND (Friday Church News Notes, July 11, 2025, www.wayoflife.org, fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - Romans 1:21-32 describes the beginning of idolatry and the moral descent of mankind following the Tower of Babel. Instead of being thankful to God for preserving them from the destruction of the global flood, Noah's descendants glorified Him not as God, rejected holiness, and devoted themselves to the pursuit of the sins of the flesh. As a result, "God gave them over to a reprobate mind." Homosexuality is a product of allowing the mind to dwell upon filthy and wicked things. When a person allows his mind to dwell upon evil in the secret of his imagination, he opens the door to every evil thing, including child pornography and violence. FBI profiler Robert Kessler says, "My

research [into serial killers] convinced me that the key was not the early trauma but the development of perverse thought patterns. These men were motivated to murder **by their fantasies**. 'It is a development,' one killer reported, 'Getting tired of a certain level of **fantasy** and then going even further and even more bizarre.' ... All the murderers that we interviewed had **compelling fantasies**; they murdered to make happen in the real world what they had seen over and over again **in their minds** since childhood and adolescence. As adolescents, instead of developing normal peer-related interests and activities, where they couldn't completely control what went on, the murderers retreated into sexually violent **fantasies**, where they could, in effect, control their world" (Kessler, *Whoever Fights Monsters*, p. 110). This is a very loud warning in the internet age and the video game age, when every type of vile image is available at the click of a mouse or the swipe of a finger. We cannot always control what comes into the mind, but we can control what we willfully put into our minds, and we can control what we allow the mind to dwell upon. It has been said, "You cannot keep a bird from lighting on your head, but you can keep him from building a nest there." It is far better to be too careful than not careful enough. I am convinced that every church that does not have an effectual supervision program for pornography is a church that is filled with moral corruption and is on the path of destruction. (We recommend *The Pornographic Age and Victory in Christ*, www.wayoflife.org.)

WHY I HAVE WRITTEN AS I HAVE (Friday Church News Notes,

July 11, 2025, www.wayoflife.org, fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - "I do not set up myself to be better than other people, and if anyone asks, 'What are you, that you write this way?' I answer, 'I am a very poor creature indeed.' But I say that I cannot read the Bible without desiring to see many believers more spiritual, more holy, more single-eyed, more heavenly-minded, more whole-hearted than they (presently) are. I want to see among believers more of a pilgrim spirit, a more decided separation from the world, a conversation more evidently in heaven, a closer walk with God, and therefore I have written as I have" (J.C. Ryle).

MARY QUANT, THE FASHION REVOLUTIONIST

(Friday Church News Notes, July 11, 2025, www.wayoflife.org, fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - In 2019, the Victoria & Albert Museum in London had a major exhibit on Mary Quant (1930-2023), the revolutionary fashion designer of the Beatles era. She invented the mini skirt and hot pants. The focus of the exhibit was revolution, liberation from biblical sexual mores, and breaking down the biblical barriers between the sexes (unisex, androgyny). There was no attempt to hide this. Following are some of the quotes from the exhibit: "using fashion to question hierarchies and gender



rules”; “a rebellious approach to established gender norms”; “mocking religion”; “subverting menswear”; “trousers were considered inappropriate for women [but] Quant wears them anywhere she wants”; “androgynous style”; “an independent style”; “self-expression”; “freedom”; “the miniskirt became an international symbol of women’s liberation.” The exhibit acknowledged that unisex clothing was a major facet of homosexual rights. “[Quant’s] provocative styles reflected increasing relaxed attitudes in society towards sexuality in all its forms, reinforced legally by the decriminalisation of homosexuality in 1967.” Mary Quant’s fashions were more modest than some of those seen in the average church today.

PENTECOSTALS USING CHATGPT TO INTERPRET “TONGUES” (Friday Church News Notes, July 18, 2025, www.wayoflife.org/fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - The following is excerpted from “New Claims,” *Crosswalk*, July 11, 2025: “Self-professed prophet Shawn Bolz recently claimed that Charismatic and Pentecostal Christians have engaged in a trend where they can interpret speaking in tongues, also known as glossolalia, by using Chat GPT. Bolz, who was previously accused of fabricating prophecies, addressed the matter in a video titled ‘God, Technology & the Next 25 Years: the Prophetic Mandate for Innovation’ on his YouTube Channel late last month.”

CONCLUDING COMMENTS: This is just more Pentecostal nonsense. Even in the apostolic era, tongues were not to be spoken without interpretation (1

Corinthians 14:27), and this refutes the tongues movement from its inception at Charles Parham’s Bible school in Topeka, Kansas, in 1900, and William Seymour’s Azusa Street Mission, in 1906. Parham and Seymour have been called “the co-founders of world Pentecostalism” (Antonio Arnold, *We Are Living in the Finished Work of Christ*, p. 143). But the “tongues” were mere gibberish, and there were no interpretations. The participants at Azusa Street would be “seized with a strange spell and commence a gibberish of sounds” (Larry Martin, *The True Believers*, p. 58). Following is how Parham himself described the “tongues” at his Bible school: “The next day I went down town and upon my return found ALL THE STUDENTS SITTING ON THE FLOOR TALKING IN UNKNOWN TONGUES, NO TWO TALKING THE SAME LANGUAGE, AND NO ONE UNDERSTANDING HIS OR HER NEIGHBOR’S SPEECH” (*Topeka Mail and Breeze*, Feb. 22, 1901). Parham’s students not only claimed to speak in tongues but also to *write* in tongues. They said these writings were foreign languages, such as Chinese, but when they were examined by knowledgeable people, they were found to be mere indecipherable scratchings (James Goff, Jr., *Fields White Unto Harvest*, p. 76). We have an actual record of one of the “tongues” spoken by Parham’s students written by a reporter of the *Topeka State Journal*. I found a copy of this some years ago during a visit to the Kansas State Historical Society. “Mr. Parham called Miss Lilian Thistlethrate into the room and asked her if she could talk some. She ... began to utter strange words which sounded like this: ‘Euossa, Euossa, use rela sema

calah mala kanah leulla ssage nalan. Ligle logle lazie logle. Ene mine mo, sah rah el me sah rah me.’ These sentences were translated as meaning, ‘Jesus is mighty to save,’ ‘Jesus is ready to hear,’ and ‘God is love’” (“Hindoo and Zulu Both Are Represented at Bethel School,” *Topeka State Journal*, Jan. 9, 1901). Ligle logle lazie logle!!!! Ene mine mo!!!! This is exactly the type of “tongues” I have heard at Pentecostal and charismatic meetings in various parts of the world, but it is nonsense. “For God is not *the author* of confusion, but of peace, as in all churches of the saints” (1 Corinthians 14:33).

THE PENTECOSTAL-CHARISMATIC MOVEMENT: THE HISTORY AND THE ERROR (Friday Church News Notes, July 18, 2025, www.wayoflife.org/fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - The 6th edition of this book (and Bible course), August 2019, is enlarged and revised throughout and is accompanied by a series of eight multi-media PowerPoint presentations. The Pentecostal movement, with its offshoot the charismatic movement, is one of the major building blocks of the end-time, one-world “church.” The author has researched the movement ever since he was saved in 1973. He built a large library on the subject, interviewed Pentecostal leaders, attended conferences with



media credentials, and visited prominent churches and sites pertaining to the movement's history in many parts of the world. The book/course deals with the history of Pentecostalism beginning at the turn of the 20th century, the Latter Rain Covenant, major Pentecostal healing evangelists, Manifest Sons of God, the Charismatic movement, the Word-Faith movement, the Roman Catholic Charismatic Renewal, the new Pentecostal prophets, the Third Wave, recent Pentecostal "revivals" such as Toronto, Pensacola, and Lakeland, and prominent Pentecostal and charismatic scandals. There is also a section on the charismatic influence on Contemporary Christian Music. The course deals extensively with the theological errors of the Pentecostal-charismatic movements (exalting experience over Scripture, emphasis on the miraculous, the continuation of Messianic and apostolic miracles and sign gifts, the baptism of the Holy Spirit, baptism of fire, tongues speaking, physical healing guaranteed in the atonement, spirit slaying, spirit drunkenness, visions of Jesus, journeys to heaven, women preachers, and the ecumenical doctrine). The final section of the book answers the question, "Why are people deluded by Pentecostal-Charismatic error?" The textbook is 487 pages. It is accompanied by eight PowerPoint Presentations featuring 1,400 slides. There are photos taken firsthand at historic locations (such as John Dowie's Zion City and Frank Sandford's Shiloh community), Pentecostal-Charismatic conferences attended with media credentials (such as New Orleans '87 and Indianapolis '90), and churches we have visited for research purposes. Also included are video clips of Pentecostal-

Charismatic experiences such as spirit slaying, holy laughter, and spirit drunkenness. We urge every Bible-believing church and home to study this course as a Sunday School series or in some other forum. It is available from www.wayoflife.org.

IRANIAN ASSASSINS WORLDWIDE (Friday Church News Notes, July 18, 2025, www.wayoflife.org

fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - The following is excerpted from "Iranian assassins now target everyone," *World Israel News*, July 11, 2025: "Donald Trump and anyone else threatening the Supreme Leader of Iran is 'waging war against Allah' and must be 'punished with death,' according to a new religious fatwa by Ayatollah Naser Makarem Shirazi. ... Vidal-Quadras, a former vice president of the European Parliament and once a professor of Atomic Physics, was targeted by the Iranian regime, which is subcontracting murders to European criminal networks. 'They are recruiting mafia organizations to do their work.' He was returning home from a walk in the park around lunchtime. Just 30 meters from his apartment in Madrid's Salamanca district, a man called out, 'Hola, señor', making him turn. He was shot at close range with a 9mm Parabellum pistol ... The bullet shattered his jaw and narrowly missed his neck and brain.



... the *Wall Street Journal* revealed that Iran was accused of gathering intelligence on Jewish targets in Berlin in preparation for attacks. A Danish citizen named Ali S., working for Tehran, was arrested. Sweden thwarted two Iranian plots targeting Saskia Pantell, head of the Zionist Federation of Sweden, and Aron Verstandig, president of the Swedish Jewish communities. ... This week, the *Washington Post* revealed a foiled Iranian plot to assassinate Mike Pompeo in a Paris hotel. Robert O'Brien, Trump's former National Security Advisor, was also tailed by two Middle Eastern men in Paris. He was extracted from the Ritz hotel by his security detail. UK Security Minister Dan Jarvis disclosed about 20 Iranian plots targeting Britain. In London, Iranian journalist Pouria Zeraati was stabbed. Dissident singer Shahin Najafi was nearly killed in Hannover on the anniversary of the 'Woman, Life, Freedom' protests. The US has offered a \$20 million reward for info leading to the arrest of Shahram Poursafi, accused of trying to hire hitmen to assassinate John Bolton. ... Masih Alinejad, anti-hijab activist, escaped an assassination attempt in New York. Other targets: Salman Rushdie (almost killed by a Hezbollah-trained agent) and Irwin Cotler, ex-Canadian Justice Minister. ... Iranian diplomat Assadollah Assadi, [was] arrested in Germany for plotting a bombing at an Iranian opposition rally near Paris. He was sentenced to 20 years in Belgium."

SOUTHERN BAPTIST APOSTASY (Friday Church News Notes, July 18, 2025, www.wayoflife.org fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - J.D. Greear, senior pastor of

The Summit church, Raleigh-Durham, North Carolina, and former president of the Southern Baptist Convention, illustrates the apostasy of the Convention today. Greear has a goal of planting 1,000 new churches by 2050, and in the past 15 years the church has sent out more than 1,000 people to participate in church planting work. That would be encouraging, except these churches are modeled after The Summit, and that means they are frightfully apostate. They have a name that they live, but they are dead. The evidence is irrefutable. In 2024, *Revolt News* published seven video clips



demonstrating that Greear “is highly doctrinally compromised on homosexuality and social justice.” The clips are as follows: Clip 1 - Greg and Lynn MacDonald, founders of Embracing the Journey, testify how

Greear helped them understand that homosexuality does not send people to hell. Clip 2 - Greear says Christians should become the “fiercest advocates of LGBT people.” Clip 5 - Greear says women who have abortions, including those in his church, have a valid reason because of the social injustice they face. Clip 6 - Greear admits having abortion providers in his church. Clip 7 - Greear says homosexuality is not a sinful choice, it’s an affliction, morally neutral, like a sickness or a disease, and God most likely won’t change that. See “Seven Video Clips,” therevoltnews.substack.com.

THE SECRET OF BEE BREAD (Friday Church News Notes, July 11, 2025, www.wayoflife.org fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - The following is from CreationMoments.com, May 28, 2025: “Bee bread is a highly nutritional derivative, made from pollen by bees. Scientists have understood for some time that worker bees who have just emerged from the comb must eat bee bread so that their glands produce food for the queen and developing larvae. However, older worker bees get by on honey alone. So scientists suspected that bee bread must have a higher nutritional value than honey. Now, after painstaking work, researchers have learned how bee bread is made. Even as bees collect the pollen, they begin to work on the recipe. They add secretions from special glands, as well as microorganisms that produce enzymes which release a number of important nutrients from the pollen. Other microbes are added to produce antibiotics and fatty acids to prevent spoilage. At the same time, unwanted microbes are removed, and the bees add honey or nectar to the bread to get it to stick together. **The bees’ recipe for bee bread involves a highly sophisticated knowledge of**



microbiology, nutritional chemistry and biochemistry in general. Modern science, therefore, absolutely requires us to reject the idea that bees and their culture evolved by blind chance and ignorant natural forces. Only a perfect Creator could have made these wonderful creatures and taught them how to make bee bread!”

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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