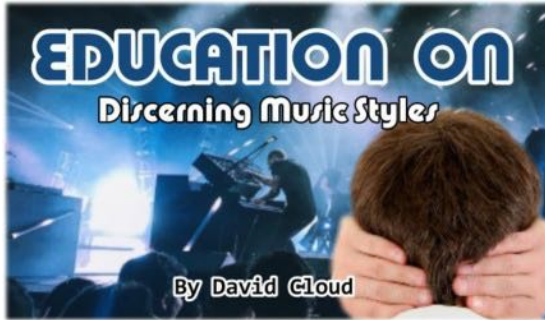


O Timothy

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

A Monthly Newsletter for Spiritual Protection and Edification

Volume 42 - Issue 9 - September 2025



"Few things are more dangerous doctrinally, philosophically, and spiritually to a Bible-believing church than contemporary Christian music and contemporary worship music. It is at the heart of the blending and merging that is creating the end-time, one-world 'church' which will come into full bloom in the day of the Lord. Contemporary worship music is a bridge to extremely dangerous things." Page 8.

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



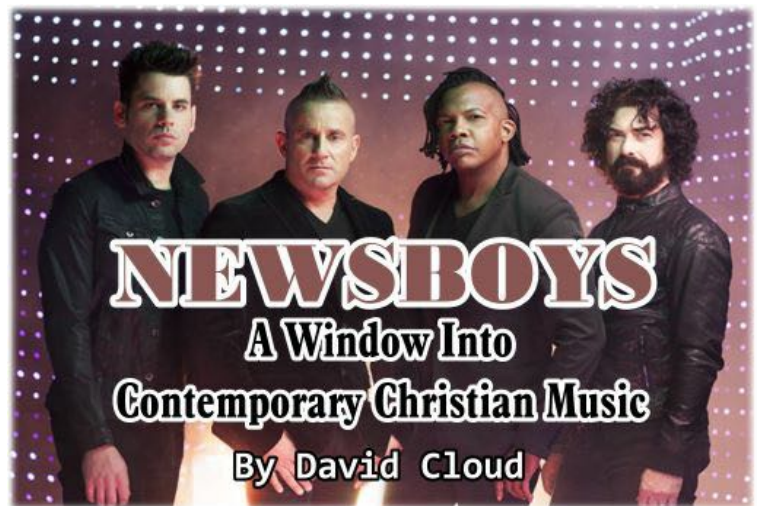
NEWSBOYS: A WINDOW INTO CONTEMPORARY CHRISTIAN MUSIC ~ By David Cloud

The Newsboys, whose history stretches across five decades, well represents the character of that genre: its worldliness, its covetousness, its ecumenism, its theological corruption, its hypocrisy, its moral degradation.

Don't think that the Newsboys are an exception, that they are somehow part of a radical fringe of Contemporary Christian Music. No, they are mainstream. They well exemplify the entire thing.

It will become obvious in this report that at least one of the Newsboys had no real faith in Christ, at least two were theological heretics, and two were moral reprobates of the first order.

The Newsboys was founded in 1985 in Australia by Peter Furler and George Perdakis, joined soon by John James and Sean Taylor. The band came to America in 1987 and signed with Refuge Communications. The Newsboys



lineup has changed frequently. Members past and present include Phil Yates, Corey Pryor, Jonathan Geange, Vernon Bishop, Kevin Mills, Phil Joel, Bryan Olesen, Paul Colman, Jody Davis, Duncan Phillips, Michael Tait, Jeff Frankenstein, and Adam Agee.

In a 1996 interview, Peter Furler said: “Our first three or four records weren’t very deep, but neither was our experience in the faith” (*CCM Magazine*, February 1996). Novices have no business in “ministry.”

Newsboys began to achieve recognition in 1992 with their fourth album, *Not Ashamed*, which sold 400,000 and received a Grammy nomination.

In 1995, their fifth album, *Going Public*, won a Dove Award for “Rock Album of the Year” and produced four “No. 1 hits.” In 2006, the single “Shine” was rated in the top 10 of the “Greatest Songs in Christian music” by *CCM Magazine*. The band has had six certified gold albums.

In 1991 Steve Taylor began to partner with Newsboys as producer and lyric writer. From 1991 to 1996 their albums were produced by Taylor. He provided vocals for the song “Yo Ho Hero” in 2008 and co-wrote all the songs for the album *In the Hands of God* in 2009. Taylor also sang on one song.

In 2003 and 2004, the Newsboys entered the praise and worship field with albums entitled *Adoration* and *Devotion*, and co-authored a book of devotions with Jim Laffoon.

Newsboys has collaborated on multiple projects with VeggieTales.

The mainstream position of Newsboys is evident by the following list of CCM bands and artists that have performed with Newsboys since 2000: Audio Adrenaline, Rapture Ruckus, Steven Curtis Chapman, Natalie Grant, Selah, Anthem Lights, David Crowder Band, Kutless, Red, KJ-52 NewSong, Brother’s Keeper, Sonicflood, Beanbag, Third Day, Hawk Nelson, Krystal Meyers, ZOEgirl, TobyMac, Michelle Tumes, Freddie Colloca, Stellar Kart, Fireflight, Tenth Avenue North, Francesca Battistelli, Natalie Grant, Britt Nicole, Thousand Foot Krutch, Plumb Cotton Dixon, Ryan Stevenson, Jeremy Camp, Family Force 5, Citizen Way, DC Talk, Capital King, Ryan Stevenson, Hollyn, Sidewalk Prophets, 7eventh Time Down, Blanca, Derek Minor, Mandisa, Rend Collective, Ledger, Michael W. Smith (2019), Kevin Max, We Are Messengers, MacPowell, Jeremy Rosado, Cochren & Col, Adam Agee, Mercy Me, and David Leonard.

The Commercialization

The following is from the investigative report “Newsboys Scandals Show Christian Music Has Few Moral Guardrails,” *Christianity Today*, July 17, 2025:

“‘The Newsboys is a brand,’ said John. J. Thompson, founder of the Christian-music magazine *True Tunes*. ‘Wes Campbell created a show, and the show is the priority.’ Once just the band’s manager, Campbell registered the trademark for the Newsboys in the US in 1994. Since 2009, when founding member Peter Furler left, Campbell has also been sole head of the company. As owner, he has worked to keep the Newsboys going despite major disruptions.

“The Newsboys transitioned from James to Furler in 1997, moving Furler up as frontman, and from Furler to Tait in 2009, with Furler literally handing his microphone to Tait during a live performance. When Tait stepped down, it didn’t take Campbell long to find a new face for the Newsboys. He brought on another singer, Adam Agee, a CCM veteran who previously played in Christian rock bands Stellar Kart and Audio Adrenaline, which Campbell has also managed since 2012. ...

“Campbell has been involved in the management of a roster of other Christian musicians—including Tasha Layton, Cochren & Co., Rhett Walker, and

O TIMOTHY Magazine Volume 42 Issue 9

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

Copyright 2011 by D.W.Cloud
Way of Life Literature
PO Box 610368, Port Huron, MI
48061
866-295-4143 (toll free)
fbns@wayoflife.org
<http://www.wayoflife.org>

Bethel Baptist Church
4212 Campbell St. N.
London, Ontario, N6P 1A6 Canada
519-652-2619

7eventh Time Down—through a management company he cofounded. ...

“The model allows a single successful band to live in its own ecosystem. Campbell cultivated the Newsboys’ close connections with nonprofits and formed two limited liability companies, Thriving Children Advocates and Thriving Charity Advocates. They function as broker agencies between the Newsboys and nonprofit organizations seeking to sponsor events or promote child-sponsorship programs at concerts.

“Campbell also developed and maintained the brand’s relationships with labels and publishing companies. He oversaw the band’s close affiliation with the God’s Not Dead film franchise, including the group’s appearances in three of the five movies. Campbell benefits from the success of the Newsboys’ music on radio and streaming platforms and with church-licensing providers. He holds songwriting credits on over 40 Newsboys songs and publishing rights on others” (“Newsboys Scandals Show Christian Music Has Few Moral Guardrails,” *Christianity Today*, July 17, 2025).

When asked whether the band members saw his moral deterioration, John James replied that commercialization is blinding:

“I think they did but sometimes, you know what? We can see stuff but sometimes we don’t want to admit it. Because you’ve got to understand that we’re a part of a big machine. It’s our career. It’s our livelihoods. Actually you’ve got many families involved. Many people involved. Their livelihoods, their careers. **It’s a big moneymaking machine**” (“Newsboys: Ex-lead Singer John James Speaks about His Fall and Restoration,” *Cross Rhythms*, Jan. 26, 2007).

The Culture of Fear

The apostle reprovved the church at Corinth for taking one another to law.

“I speak to your shame. Is it so, that there is not a wise man among you? no, not one that shall be able to judge between his brethren? But brother goeth to law with brother, and that before the unbelievers. Now therefore there is utterly a fault among you, because ye go to law one with another. Why do ye not rather take wrong? why do ye not

rather *suffer yourselves* to be defrauded? Nay, ye do wrong, and defraud, and that *your* brethren” (1 Co. 6:6-8).

This clear and most solemn scriptural exhortation is widely ignored in Contemporary Christian Music circles. Rather than a culture of humility, spirituality, and godliness, it is a culture of a secular business character.

“*Christianity Today* spoke with others within CCM who said they feared speaking out would lose them business or lead to lawsuits. Sheena Hennink, a concert promoter in Canada, said a lawyer representing the Newsboys sent her an intent-to-sue letter in response to an Instagram video she posted explaining why she canceled a series of concerts following Tait’s departure” (“Newsboys Scandals Show Christian Music Has Few Moral Guardrails,” *Christianity Today*, July 17, 2025).

The Worldliness

Newsboys has always had a foot in the world.

The very music itself is of the world. In complete disregard to the Bible’s unequivocal command “be not conformed to the world,” Newsboys were “influenced by everyone from the Police, Cure, and Rolling Stones” (*Jesus Rocks the World: The Definitive History of Contemporary Christian Music*, vol. 2, p. 101). Their music “has run the gamut from punkish rock to a turn at rap and Euro-flavored techno pop.”

“Initially they played for the rowdy patrons of the local clubs and pubs, who threw beer bottles at them if they didn’t meet their standards” (Ibid., vol. 2, p. 100). This is not Christian ministry; this is ungodliness.

Newsboys concerts feature all of the trappings of amoral secular rock and roll: darkened theater, spotlights on the musicians, smoke, screaming into mics, tossing long hair, pulsating guitars, pounding drums, emotions raging and mind in neutral (a complete lack of sober mindedness), dancing, prancing, moshing, stage diving, crowd surfing. There have been numerous accidents relating directly or indirectly to moshing at Newsboys concerts (“To Mosh or Not to Mosh,” *CCM Magazine*, February 1996).

After he left the band, John James described the concert lifestyle, and it was anything but godly:

“The success, the fame, the money, the screaming girls, the autographs. It’s like, how do you deal with that? How do you process that? You’re in this schizophrenic lifestyle where you’re surrounded by thousands of fans that are wanting to touch the very sweat that falls from your brow. They’re wanting your autograph. They’re wanting to reach out and grab you. ... I don’t care who you are, you put ANYBODY in that sort of environment for long enough and unless you have countermeasures to help you process and deal with that, man it’s gonna mess you up big time!” (“Newsboys: Ex-lead Singer John James Speaks about His Fall and Restoration,” *Cross Rhythms*, Jan. 26, 2007).

This is not a description of biblical Christianity. It is worldly apostasy.

The Newsboys’ 1998 album, *Step Up to the Microphone*, was promoted both in Christian (via Star Song) and in secular markets. The latter was done through Virgin Records which produces for the filthy groups such as Rolling Stones, Spice Girls, and Sex Pistols. Danny Goodwin, Vice President of A&R for Virgin, describes their philosophy of music: “Our position is, whether these artists are Christians, Jews, Moslems, black, white, Albanian or whatever, they’re making great music. And that’s what Virgin does--we’re in the market to sell what we call quality music to the largest number of people we can” (*CCM Magazine*, August 1998, p. 25).

Many CCM musicians are comfortable working hand-in-hand with people who produce and distribute the vilest God-hating rock and roll, whereas the Bible says, “Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you” (2 Co. 6:17), and, “And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove *them*” (Eph. 5:11).

Obedience to these divine commands would cause CCM to fold like a house of cards.

The Theological Corruption

When Peter Furler lived in Brentwood, Tennessee, where the Newsboys were based, he held a position at the charismatic Bethel World Outreach Center, which is affiliated with the Pentecostal Every Nation Ministries (“Peter Furler,” Zoominfo). Peter Wagner lists Every Nation as part of the New Apostolic Reformation that

seeks to restore the offices of prophet and apostle to the churches.

Furler loves the writings of Frederick Buechner, a neo-orthodox theologian who was trained at the ultra-liberal Union Theological Seminary under heretics such as Reinhold Niebuhr and Paul Tillich, who rejected Christ’s divinity, virgin birth, and bodily resurrection. Tillich called the Christmas story a “legend” in the December 1977 issue of *The Lutheran*. Buechner was “inspired to ordination” by George Buttrick while attending Buttrick’s Madison Avenue Presbyterian Church. In his book *The Christian Fact and Modern Doubt*, Buttrick wrote: “Literal infallibility of Scripture is a fortress impossible to defend. ... In retrospect it seems incredible that the theory of literal inspiration could have ever been held” (pp. 162, 167). Literal inspiration is not a theory; it is a doctrine taught by the Lord Jesus Christ, who said “the Scripture cannot be broken” (Joh. 10:35).

Michael Tait, who replaced Furler as lead singer of Newsboys in 2009, played the lead part in the 2003 *!Hero* rock opera tour, which depicted Jesus as a cool black man. In *!Hero*, the Last Supper is a barbecue party and “Jesus” is crucified on a city street sign. (Other CCM artists who performed in *!Hero* were Mark Stuart of Audio Adrenaline, Rebecca St. James, John Cooper of Skillet, Matt Hammitt of Sanctus Real, T-Bone, and GRITS.)

The Ecumenism: False Christianity and the One-World Church

The Bible prophesies a false Christianity that rejects sound Bible doctrine, loves fables, and lives by its own lusts (2 Ti. 4:3-4). It has “a form of godliness” but denies the power thereof (2 Ti. 3:5). It entertains “damnable heresies” (2 Pe. 2:1). It is filled with merchandising (2 Pe. 2:3). It is given over to seducing spirits and doctrines of devils (1 Ti. 4:1) and false Christs, false gospels, and false spirits (2 Co. 11:1-4). It turns the grace of God into lasciviousness (Jude 1:4). It causes the way of truth to be evil spoken of (2 Pe. 2:2).

False Christianity is a field sown with tares (Mt. 13:24-30). It is a tree filled with heretical birds (Mt. 13:21-32). It is a loaf of meal being leavened throughout the age “till the whole was leavened” (Mt. 13:33).

This false Christianity slithered onto the scene in the days of the apostles and has grown throughout the centuries.

A major aspect was the formation of the Roman Catholic Church over the early centuries. Another major turning point was the onslaught of heresies and unbelief in the 19th century: unitarianism, textual criticism, theological modernism, Darwinism, Christian cults, Tractarianism, Marxism, and psychology. In the 20th century came the explosion of ecumenism and the New Evangelicalism that has been effectual in a great blending and merging. Rome joined the ecumenical movement with the Second Vatican Council in the 1960s.

Today false Christianity is in full bloom. It is “the church” that the ecumenical crowd talks about. Most individuals, churches, and organizations today that call themselves Christian are part of the false Christianity.

It is being built by such things as the ecumenical philosophy that unity is more important than doctrinal purity, by the false interpretation of Christian’s high priestly prayer in John 17, by the unscriptural principle of “essentials and non-essentials,” by contemporary Christian music, by charismaticism’s emphasis on experience, and by the “renunciation of separatism.”

All of the Contemporary Christian Music bands and artists are ecumenical one-world church builders. I don’t know of one that publicly and unequivocally contends for the faith once delivered unto the saints (Jude 1:3), marks false teachers (Ro. 16:17), and preaches and practices biblical separatism (Ro. 16:17; 2 Co. 6:14; 1 Ti. 6:20-21; 2 Ti. 2:16-18; 3:5; Tit. 3:10-11).

We have documented this extensively in [*The Directory of Contemporary Christian Musicians*](#), available as a free eBook from www.wayoflife.org.

The Newsboys are a prime example.

In 1997, Newsboys’ Phil Joel joined Roman Catholic Kathy Troccoli and 40 other CCM artists to record *Love One Another*, a song with an ecumenical theme: “Christians from all denominations demonstrating their common love for Christ and each other.” The song talks about tearing down the walls of denominational division. The broad range of participants who joined Troccoli in recording “Love One Another” demonstrates the ecumenical agenda of Contemporary Christian Music.

In July 2012, Newsboys was one of the bands featured at the 14th annual Lifest in Oshkosh, Wisconsin.

Christian rock’s one-world church building enterprise was in full steam at this event. Other popular groups and artists participating were Switchfoot, Underoath, Building 429, Norma Jean, Steven Curtis Chapman, Tammy Borden, Love & Death, Casting Crowns, and Disciple. 15,000 enthusiastic fans gathered to celebrate ecumenical unity through the sensual power of rock & roll. Participants could choose from three worship service venues, including a Catholic Mass led by Bishop David Ricken, who officially approves of the “Marian Apparitions” at the Shrine of Our Lady of Good Help in northern Wisconsin. The apparition appeared to Adele Brise in 1859 and said, “I am the Queen of Heaven, who prays for the conversion of sinners,” plainly identifying itself as a demon, since the only Queen of Heaven mentioned in Scripture is an idolatrous goddess that was condemned by the prophet Jeremiah (Jer. 7:18). **That Christian rock is intimately associated with such things is clear evidence of its apostasy.**

In January 2015, Newsboys was one of the headliners of the “We Will Stand” concert. The theme was unity: “CCM United: one message, many voices.” The concert title was from Russ Taff’s song “We Will Stand,” which says, “You’re my brother/ You’re my sister/ So take me by the hand/ together we will work until He comes.” The concert featured “33 of the greatest CCM artists in history” (“We Are United,” thefishomaha.com). These included Michael W. Smith, Amy Grant, Newsboys, Don Moen, Mark Schultz, Sandi Patti, Travis Cottrell (Beth Moore’s worship leader), Steven Curtis Chapman, Steve Green, Dallas Holm, Russ Taff, The Imperials, Don Francisco, First Call, Michael Omartian, Francesca Battistelli, Kari Jobe, Jaci Velasquez, Laura Story, Petra, 4Him, Point of Grace, Carman, and Nicole Mullen. We Are United was the brainchild of Stan Moser, one of the fathers of Contemporary Christian Music. Board members of the Gospel Music Trust Fund, one of the major beneficiaries of the concert, include Bill Gaither and National Quartet Convention President Les Beasley. **Billed as “the greatest night in the history of contemporary Christian music,” it demonstrates unequivocally the one-world church character of this movement.** It’s not a biblical unity in truth and righteousness, but an abominable “unity in diversity.” Roma Downey played a prominent role in the concert. Downey is the Roman Catholic co-creator (with her husband) of the History Channel’s popular “The Bible” miniseries and *The Son of God* movie. She called Pope Francis “a new pope of hope” (“Roma Downey,” *Christian Post*, April 4, 2013). She says, “I have prayed

to Mary and loved her my whole life” (“The Bible: An Epic Mini-Series,” Catholiclane.com, Feb. 28, 2013). She promotes the use of the rosary as a meditation practice by which she prays to Mary as the Queen of Heaven. The Catholic Mary is sinless and can hear and answer the prayers of every petitioner, thus having the divine attributes of mediatorship, omnipresence, and omnipotence. But Roma Downey’s heresies exceed Rome’s papacy, sacramental gospel, and communion with a demon masquerading as Mary. Roma graduated from the University of Santa Monica with a graduate degree in Spiritual Psychology, which is described at the school’s web site as “the study and practice of the art and science of human evolution in consciousness.” The benefits of Spiritual Psychology include “experiencing enhanced spiritual awareness through knowing yourself as a Divine Being” and “learning to relate to yourself with greater compassion and awareness of yourself as a Divine Being having a human experience.”

Roma Downey’s false gospel, false christ, and false spirit are welcome within the broad tent of CCM, and Bible-believing churches that play around with contemporary worship music are building bridges to this most dangerous world.

The Nasty Fruit

False Christianity has bad fruit. It is the fruit of lusts and heresies and fables, and this is evident in the Newsboys.

In 1997, John James left Newsboys because of his moral reprobation. “At the time, the Newsboys said James was returning to Australia to preach. That was not the truth. The truth, as James later said publicly, was that he was getting drunk before noon, spending hundreds of dollars on cocaine, and wrecking his marriage with serial infidelity. He left the Newsboys because he couldn’t hide the disaster of his life anymore” (“Newsboys Scandals Show Christian Music Has Few Moral Guardrails,” *Christianity Today*, July 17, 2025).

In January 2015, Newsboys co-founder George Perdikis came out publicly as an atheist. He had not been involved with the band since the late 1990s, but in his testimony Perdikis made it clear that he had never been a man of faith in God’s Word. He said that he was only ever really interested in rock & roll and living as he pleased. He says,

“I always felt uncomfortable with the strict rules imposed by Christianity. All I wanted to do was create and play rock and roll ... and yet most of the attention I received was focused on how well I maintained the impossible standards of religion. I wanted my life to be measured by my music, not by my ability to resist temptation. I left the band in 1990 and went back to Adelaide. There, I got married, taught guitar, played pubs and clubs, built homes, and had two beautiful daughters. As I carved out a life for myself away from the church, I began my own voyage of inquiry into what I believed. My perceptions started to transform when I became interested in cosmology in 1992. I soon found myself fascinated by the works of Carl Sagan, Neil deGrasse Tyson, Lawrence Krauss, Brian Cox, and Richard Dawkins. I learned so much and was blown away by all the amazing scientific discoveries and facts. When my marriage dissolved in 2003, I turned my attention to human psychology. By 2007, I renounced Christianity once and for all and declared myself an atheist” (“Co-founder of Newsboys: ‘Now I’m an Atheist,’” *standupforthetruth.com*, Jan. 22, 2015).

To believe that Carl Sagan and Richard Dawkins are men who deal in scientific facts is evidence of the grossest sort of spiritual blindness, which, according to Scripture, is driven by the desire to walk after one’s own lusts (2 Pe. 3:3).

Having never been born again, having given the Lord Jesus Christ mere lip service rather than heart surrender and true faith, this Christian rocker is like the dog that returns to his vomit.

“For if after they have escaped the pollutions of the world through the knowledge of the Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, they are again entangled therein, and overcome, the latter end is worse with them than the beginning. For it had been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than, after they have known *it*, to turn from the holy commandment delivered unto them. But it is happened unto them according to the true proverb, The dog *is* turned to his own vomit again; and the sow that was washed to her wallowing in the mire” (2 Pe. 2:20-22).

Perdikis concludes his testimony by saying, “The truth is--from someone who knows what went on then and what goes on now--the Newsboys aren’t as holy as they profess.”

That Perdikis is doubtless correct in this observation is obvious by the Newsboys' history.

In June 2025, Michael Tait left Newsboys under a cloud of moral reprobation.

In June 2025, Newsboys denounced Tait "amid sexual misconduct, drug abuse allegations" (*The Washington Post*, June 6, 2025).

"Christian rock group Newsboys is distancing itself from former lead singer Michael Tait following allegations of sexual misconduct and drug use, saying the band was 'horrified, heartbroken and angry' over the revelations. In a June 5 *Instagram* post, the Nashville, Tennessee-based group responded publicly to the claims, expressing support for the alleged victims and revealing that Mr. Tait had confessed to leading a 'double life' before his departure from the band earlier this year. ... A nearly three-year investigation by *The Roys Report*, a Christianity podcast, identified three men who accuse Mr. Tait of sexual misconduct, including incidents that allegedly occurred while the band was touring with Christian music festivals in 2004, 2010 and 2014. The men say they were each 22 years old when they first met Mr. Tait, who was roughly two decades older. The allegations include claims of unwanted sexual contact while the men were under the influence of alcohol, as well as an incident involving an offer of illegal drugs aboard the band's tour bus. ... 'The accusations, according to *The Roys Report*, had circulated privately in Nashville's Christian music community for years and **were widely regarded by some in the industry as an open secret.**'"

The Newsboys' response is probably a deception, since Tait's debauchery was "an open secret." Surely they knew that he drank and used drugs and suspected he was a homosexual. Surely it was more than mere "suspicion," and if it was suspicion only, why didn't they investigate?

On June 10, 2025, Tait confessed the following on Instagram:

"Recent reports of my reckless and destructive behavior, including drug and alcohol abuse and sexual activity are sadly, largely true. For some two decades I used and abused cocaine, consumed far too much alcohol, and, at times, touched men in an unwanted sensual way. I am ashamed of my life

choices and actions, and make no excuses for them. I will simply call it what God calls it--sin."

A subsequent report by *The Guardian* cited seven men who testified of unwanted sexual advances by Tait ("He stole a piece of our souls," *The Guardian*, June 13, 2025). Two men believe they were drugged and sexually assaulted. ***The Guardian* said their sources claimed Tait's alleged drug use and abusive behavior were the "biggest open secret in Christian music."**

"*The Guardian* has interviewed 25 people in the Christian music industry, most of whom say they had prior knowledge of allegations that Tait had engaged in abusive behavior. The men who have come forward and shared their alleged experiences--two agreeing to go on the record with their names, while the rest spoke on the condition of anonymity--were aged 13 to 29 at the time of their alleged experiences. All grew up in evangelical churches where Tait's music was the premier soundtrack of their youth groups, summer camps and mission trips. Having taken the message of Tait's songs to heart, they were naive about sex and drugs throughout their youth. All were starstruck when meeting their childhood hero, but quickly saw their image of him as a role model of Christian piety dissolve as they were taken on a bumpy ride of rock'n'roll debauchery. ... According to four people who were interviewed, some of them on the condition of anonymity, Tait would allegedly invite them to parties at his house in Nashville, encouraging them to drink alcohol and use drugs before making sexual advances" (*The Guardian*).

Michael Tait is one of the biggest names in contemporary Christian music. Since 1988, he has been a major part of three prominent bands (DC Talk, Tait, Newsboys). He has sold millions of songs and albums. In December 2023, he performed in Carnegie Hall with Amy Grant and Michael W. Smith, two of the biggest names in CCM. He contributed to the popular books *Jesus Freaks*, *Under God*, and *Living Under God*.

Christian rock is worldly music. In the fourth chapter of his epistle, James pronounced Ichabod and Tekel (1 Sa. 4:21; Da. 5:27) over the entire field of Christian rock with the following words:

"Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God" (James 4:4).

EDUCATION ON

Discerning Music Styles

By David Cloud



Few things are more dangerous doctrinally, philosophically, and spiritually to a Bible-believing church than contemporary Christian music and contemporary worship music. It is at the heart of the blending and merging that is creating the end-time, one-world “church” which will come into full bloom in the day of the Lord. Contemporary worship music is a bridge to extremely dangerous things.

The victory is not merely “keeping the hymnal.” **The victory is in proper, ongoing education for the entire assembly.** Tradition and ignorance will not do.

[*The Satanic Attack on Sacred Music*](#) consists of a textbook and a video series with about 18 hours of teaching, packed with photos, graphics, audio and video clips. One previewer commented, “The series is broad and deep with serious factual analysis according to properly interpreted Scripture.”

We study the Bible’s most important teachings on the issue of music.

We look at the amazing changes that are happening among fundamental Baptists and the role of contemporary music in these changes.

We learn about the following dangers represented by Contemporary Christian Music: the Pentecostal/charismatic movement, the ecumenical movement, theological liberalism, Evangelicalism, the Emerging Church, modern Bible versions, contemplative prayer, cultural liberalism, the encyclopedic view of the Bible, the New Reformed Calvinism, the Jesus People movement, theistic evolution, homosexual Christianity, the downgrade in hell, secular rock, Matt Maher the Roman Catholic apostle of unity, Hillsong, Rick Warren, *The Shack*, C.S. Lewis, and Chuck Swindoll’s heretical doctrine of grace. We show that these things are not “out

there” somewhere; they are a very near danger to every church.

We consider the soft style of Christian music vs. the more militant style. We learn how to discern the elements of the worldly sound in contemporary music.

We learn how to discern soft rock.

We learn how chords are used in contemporary music to create an unresolving sound and “feel.”

We examine vocal singing styles that have been borrowed from secular music (scooping and sliding, improvisation, breathy, vocal fry).

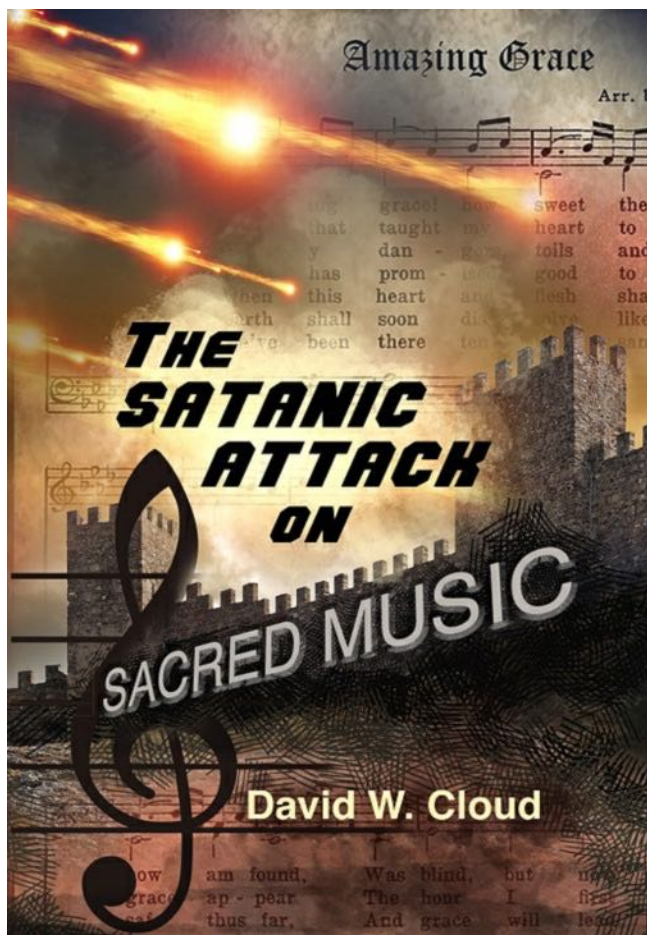
We consider why contemporary music always transforms churches.

We document the great change in music philosophy at Bob Jones University and Majesty Music.

We document the influence wielded by the Gettys and Getty/Townend music as a bridge from old-fashioned Bible-believing churches to the world of contemporary music and the “broader church,” including Roman Catholicism.

We document the major role that Lancaster Baptist Church of Lancaster, California (West Coast Baptist College) is having in the move from fundamentalism to contemporary. We give evidence of the many contemporary-style churches that are being founded by West Coast graduates and close Lancaster associates.

We show that conservative evangelicals are not safe partners. We document how that the Southern Baptist Convention is more corrupt than ever.



We examine the great changes in Southern Gospel today.

We consider why we should be concerned about “little” changes in music.

We show that trying to deal with the music issue alone won't work well; it won't save the church from apostasy. Unless we have spiritual churches and spiritual homes, the battle is already lost.

We look at the role of good congregational singing in protecting a church from CCM.

The course includes a book that contains the entire text of the videos plus much more material. one section of the book contains a detailed study of every major passage in the bible on the subject of music. Another section is a song leading training course.

The course includes review questions and tests.

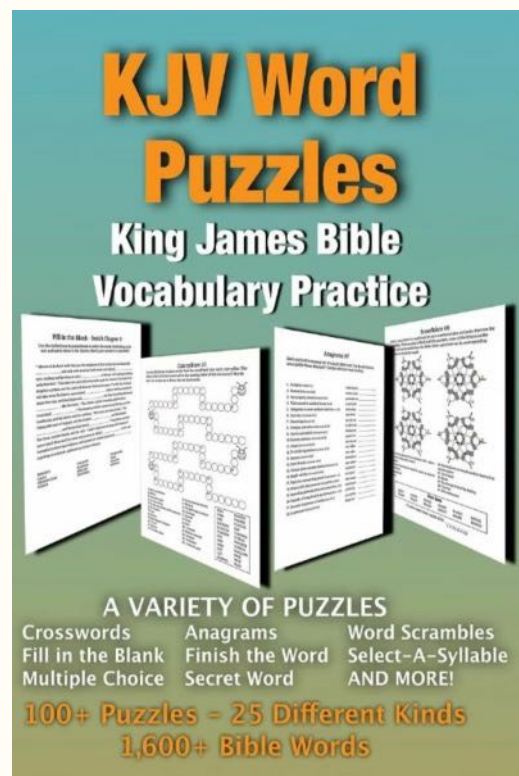


[The Satanic Attack on Sacred Music](http://www.wayoflife.org/s3/satanic_attack_on_sacred_music.php): the video series and the book (255 pages) are available at:

www.wayoflife.org/s3/satanic_attack_on_sacred_music.php

KJV WRITING PRACTICE BOOKS/WORD PUZZLES

(Friday Church News Notes, August 22, 2025, www.wayoflife.org fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - Good and Right Publishing has released a KJV Word Puzzle book which is designed to help students and adults learn difficult words in the KJV. The book features a variety of types of puzzles that are entertaining while at the same time reminding or teaching through context the proper definition of Bible words. Entries are not limited to antiquated or obscure words, but also include words that are no longer used or may be more difficult for new readers. Included are words like: foreordained, pernicious, variableness, purloining, propitiation, abate, supplant, hewn, tenor, ligure, gerah, stacte, quick, bason, scapegoat, dispossess, amerce, and many more. The various puzzles include almost 1,700 words. Good and Right Publishing also produces other materials in support of the KJV including a number of writing practice books based on KJV verses and designed for students. These materials are available through Amazon - <https://a.co/d/fJXzMnY>. Bookstores who are interested may order through Ingram or by contacting Good and Right Publishing through their website, www.goodandrightpublishing.com.



NORTHERN FUNDAMENTAL BAPTISTS

Today

By David Cloud



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



The Northern Fundamental Baptists that we have discussed in this history have *largely* been captured by contemporary evangelicalism. The same thing has happened to the interdenominational and non-denominational fundamentalists, as we saw in “Fundamentalism Captured by New Evangelicalism” in the chapter “Interdenominational Fundamentalism.”

This is true for the Fundamentalist Fellowship, the Baptist Bible Union, the Conservative Baptist Foreign Mission Society, the Conservative Baptist Fellowship, the Fundamental Baptist Fellowship, the Union of Regular Baptist Churches, the General Association of Regular Baptist Churches, Association of Baptists for World Evangelism, Central Baptist Theological Seminary, and Pillsbury Baptist Bible College.

Most of the schools that were originally approved by the GARBC are either new evangelical or defunct. These include Los Angeles Baptist College (today The Masters College), Grand Rapids Baptist Bible College (today Cornerstone University), Western Baptist College (today Corban College), and Baptist Bible College of Clarks Summit, Pennsylvania (today Clarks Summit University).

Consider Wealthy Street Baptist Church of Grand Rapids, Michigan, the church of those fighting fundamentalists Oliver Van Osdel and David Otis Fuller. When Fuller died in 1988, Wealthy Street Baptist moved to the suburbs and changed its name to Wealthy Park Baptist Church. There was a gradual change in stance through the 1990s. In

2015, William Swem, who was associate pastor from 2011, became senior pastor. He is a graduate of Pensacola Christian College. In 2018, the church relocated again and was renamed Plainfield Baptist Church. The young pastor is leading in a contemporary, evangelical, non-fundamentalist direction. Browsing through 283 sermon titles at Swem’s SermonAudio page in 2019, we could find nothing on separation. There is nothing that could not be found at a conservative evangelical church. **It must be understood that the great error of New Evangelicalism is not the heresy it preaches but the truth it neglects.** There is silence on separation. There is no fight, no aggressive defense of the faith. The music at Plainfield Baptist, the 21st century edition of Wealthy Street Baptist, is “blended,” part sacred and part contemporary, which always moves toward a heavier emphasis on contemporary. The dress is “as we feel most comfortable.” The church announces, “There is no ‘dress code’ here.” Of course, that isn’t true. There is a dress code, but it is the world’s dress code as opposed to one based on the principles of God’s Word for holy pilgrims that characterized the church in its former days.

Consider Fourth Baptist Church of Minneapolis, Minnesota. In the 21st century, Fourth Baptist is no longer the fundamental Baptist church of its former days. It has a soft, evangelical-style mood and program. In *Winning People to Christ: Lost Secrets of the Past*, David Sorenson compared Fourth Baptist Church of the 1960s and 1970s with Fourth Baptist today. The numbers are still up, but the fighting fundamentalist fervor *for* truth and *against* error is gone and the evangelistic fire is gone.

“Today, Fourth is consumed with intellectualism (thanks to Central Seminary). Though not publicly identifying themselves as Calvinists, it is just be-

neath the surface. When we were there, I surely heard Calvinistic buzz words when an assistant pastor got up to pray. When the rather ‘deep’ sermon was completed, the pastor just prayed and said, ‘We are dismissed.’ No invitation of any sort. The music is technically conservative--piano, organ, etc. But the hymns they sang surely had a distinct contemporary flavor. It is my understanding they no longer have evangelistic meetings (which were a fixture of the past), and heaven forbid call such a meeting a revival meeting. There is no bus ministry of any size. We used to have humongous VBS when I was on the staff there, bussing in over a 1,000 kids each day, not including church kids. Today, there is just a little VBS program for the church kids. And of course, they do not use the KJV. Their radio station (WCTS--which originally stood for ‘Witnessing Christ To Sinners’) today leans clearly in a ‘conservative’ evangelical direction with new evangelical or Southern Baptist preachers. I used to work there 50 years ago and back then we were not allowed to even play anything by George Beverly Shea because of his association with Billy Graham. Doc Clearwaters was a separatist of the separatists. They sold their camp which had been an evangelistic ministry” (David Sorenson, *Winning People to Christ*).

These are just the briefest examples of how that the old Northern fundamental Baptists have morphed into Evangelicalism.

Everything is merging, blending, homogenizing. The black and white of an uncompromising stand for truth is merging into gray.

We see the “graying” in the omnipresent emphasis on being positive and non-judgmental, the neglect of separation, the dislike of separation, the mocking of separatists, the growing silence of clear rebuke and warning. We see it in the downplaying of “denominational” distinctives, the generic church names. We see it in the spread of charismatic and contemplative mysticism and psychology. We see it in the coalescing around the new music and the new Bibles.

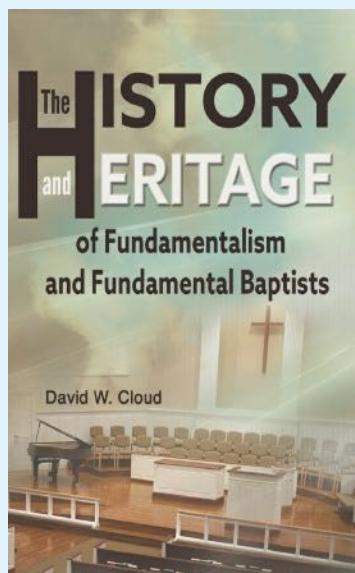
The blending is a fulfillment of prophecy; it is the spirit of the age, but we don’t have to yield to it.

Thankfully, there are many churches that are still standing in the old paths. They are boldly, forthrightly, unhesitatingly standing *for* white and *against* black on every biblical issue.

We consider examples in the chapter “Where Are Fundamental Baptists Today?”

There we also look at Scriptures that refer to the end of the church age. God has given promises to those at the end who follow the Word of God instead of capitulating to the compromise and apostasy of the times.

I don’t know what others will do, but with whatever remaining days God gives me, I intend by His grace to stand *stronger* in the Word of God, not weaker, to be more outspoken than ever, and to let the chips fall where they may! On the authority of God’s promises, I am sure that I won’t regret it.



THE HISTORY AND HERITAGE OF FUNDAMENTALISM AND FUNDAMENTAL BAPTISTS by David W. Cloud

The chief purpose of this book is to understand the past so that we can properly evaluate the present and be stronger for the future. It has been said that those who do not learn from the mistakes of the past are destined to repeat them. God has given His people the right and responsibility to “prove all things; hold fast that which is good” (1 Th. 5:21), and that is what we want to do. We aren’t critical-minded; we are biblical provers. Our chief goal is not to find things that are wrong, but to find things that are good to which we can hold fast for the glory of God.

This book contains an extensive history of Fundamentalism in general and of fundamental Baptists in particular. It is packed with fascinating biographical sketches.

Available from [Way of Life Website](http://www.wayoflife.org/publications/course/history_and_heritage_of_fundamentalism_course.php) at:
[https://www.wayoflife.org/publications/course/history_and_heritage_of_fundamentalism_course.php](http://www.wayoflife.org/publications/course/history_and_heritage_of_fundamentalism_course.php)

~ FREE POWERPOINTS ~ CITIES AND PLACES OF THE BIBLE

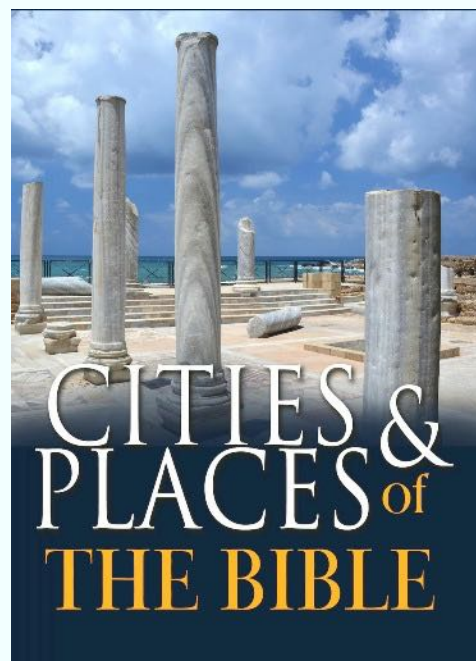
This new series covers 55 major cities and places in the Bible.

For each site, we include the history, geography, biblical facts, archaeology, reconstructive drawings, and prophecy (if any).

The 55 multimedia presentations with more than 2,700 slides are available in PowerPoint (Windows) and Keynote (Apple) formats.

They are priceless aids for church institutes, Sunday Schools, home schooling, Christian schools, Bible colleges, etc.

https://www.wayoflife.org/free_slides/cities_places_download_pg.php



Ai	Chorazin	Gath	Laodicea	Sardis
Alexandria	Colosse	Gezer	Magdala	Sea of Galilee
Antioch of Syria	Corinth	Gerizim and Ebal	Megiddo	Shiloh
Ashkelon	Dan	Gilboa	Mount of Olives	Smyrna
Athens	Dead Sea	Hazor	Nazareth	Tabgha
Beth Shean	Eilat	Hierapolis	Negev	Tarsus
Bethsaida	Elah Valley	Jericho	Nineveh	Thessalonica
Caesarea Maritima	Engedi	Jerusalem	Pergamos	Thyatira
Caesarea Philippi	Ephesus	Jezreel	Philadelphia	Tiberias
Capernaum	Eziogaber	Joppa	Philippi	Tyre
Carmel		Lachish		Ur of the Chaldees

62% OF AMERICAN JEWS DO NOT BELIEVE IN LIFE AFTER DEATH (Friday Church News Notes, August 15, 2025, www.wayoflife.org/fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - A recent survey of Jews found that a large percentage do not believe in life after death: 62% in America and 42% in Israel ("Survey Finds," *The Times of Israel*, May 7, 2025). The Pew Research Center survey "included more than 12,000 respondents, including an oversample of Jews." The prophecy of dry bones in Ezekiel 37 describes a two-fold restoration of the Jews. First they will be raised in a spiritually dead condition; after that, they will be converted and given new life (Ezekiel

37:7-14). The first part of the prophecy has been fulfilled, and we are waiting for the last part, which will occur during the day of the Lord and the rampages of the Antichrist.



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).

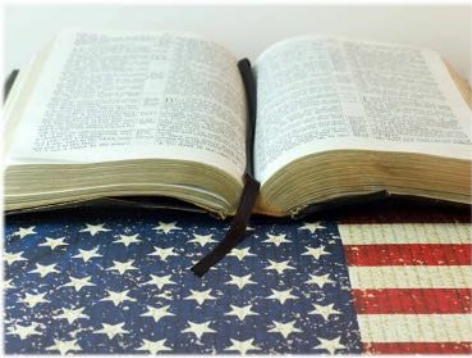
As in Ezekiel's day much of the apostasy of our hour is hidden from the view of the average Christian. We intend by God's grace to "dig in the walls" of modern ecumenism and to expose and cry out against the things we find. In this section we also report on secular events which are relevant to Christians. May God give us ears to hear, minds to understand, and hearts to obey. Is the truth of God not worthy of defense?



EMBRYO RESEARCH: NO FEAR OF GOD (Friday Church News Notes, July 25, 2025, www.wayoflife.org, fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - Researchers in the United Kingdom are creating babies from the DNA of three people. Eight such babies have been born in the last five years. The goal is supposedly to "spare them from mitochondrial disease," but Catherine Robinson, spokesperson for Right To Life UK, warns, "In the creation of a three-parent baby, two other embryos are destroyed, which means two individual human beings have their lives ended to create a third" ("Creation of '3-parent babies,'" *The Christian Post*, July 20 2025). The Human Fertilization and Embryology Authority (HFEA) is requesting to "extend the point at which human embryos can legally be experimented on from 14 days to 22." But Right to Life observes, "At around 22 days, the central nervous system is formed and by 28 days, the developing heart can sometimes be seen beating, the brain has begun to develop, and a baby's eyes, ears and nose have begun to emerge." In Psalm 139, the prophet David described the formation of the baby in the womb as a personal act of God and medical researchers would do well to take heed. "I will praise thee; for I am fearfully *and* wonderfully made: marvellous *are* thy works; and *that* my soul knoweth right

well. My substance was not hid from thee, when I was made in secret, *and* curiously wrought in the lowest parts of the earth. Thine eyes did see my substance, yet being imperfect; and in thy book all *my members* were written, *which* in continuance were fashioned, when *as yet there was* none of them" (Ps. 139:14-16).

AMERICA THE REPROACH (Friday Church News Notes, July 25, 2025, www.wayoflife.org, fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - "Righteousness exalteth a nation: but sin *is* a reproach to any people" (Proverbs 24:34). Next year will be America's 250th anniversary, and there will doubtless be parades and fireworks and parties and speeches, but the America of the 21st century is nothing to celebrate if one is looking at things through a biblical lens. America is a sinful nation, and sin is a reproach, and a reproach is nothing to celebrate. The nations have a Judge, who is the righteous God, and He judges them on the basis of righteousness. He hates sin and will not overlook it. There was a time when America's laws and judicial system and the principles that guided men's daily lives were greatly influenced by the Bible. Speaking generally, "old America" was a nation of reverence to God, of Bible-believing churches, of gospel preaching, of sermons, of thanksgiving, of law and order, of low crime, of peaceful neighborhoods, of benevolence, of neighborly kindness. The government was a minister of God to bless the good and "to execute wrath upon him that doeth evil" (Ro. 13:3-4). But America has become a nation of irreverence, blasphemy, apostate churches, worldly churches, injustice, lovers of pleasure more than lovers of God, lovers of money,



lovers of moral perversion, fornicators, adulterers, effeminate, unthankful, unholy, boasters, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, liars, trucebreakers, murderers of babies, incontinent, despisers of those that are good, having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof. America's sin is great, and the reproach is great. America is a nation of massive debt. Its money is corrupted by inflation. It is visited by an unending deluge of billion dollar disasters, hurricanes, earthquakes, tornadoes, floods, and wildfires. Its cities are violent, dangerous, and crime-ridden. Its public schools squander outrageous sums of money while producing ignorant citizens steeped in ungodliness and humanistic philosophy. Its enemies are multiplying and increasing in power. Politically, America is engaged in a civil war. How can America be made great again without addressing the sin issue, and how can politics address the sin issue? Foundationally, the sin issue is an issue of the church and the home. The inner city problems, the education problems, the crime problems, the economic problems, they can be addressed fundamentally only at the level of the church and home. God's redeemed people need to focus on the fundamentals and let the unredeemed focus on politics.

N.T. WRIGHT'S NEW PERSPECTIVE ON PAUL (Friday

Church News Notes, July 25, 2025, www.wayoflife.org, fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - N.T. (Tom) Wright, an influential Anglican theologian, defends the historicity of Jesus against liberal views, but all considered he is no friend of the truth. He does not hold the Bible to be the infallible Word of God which is warning enough for those who have ears to hear. To deny the infallibility of biblical inspiration is a damnable heresy. Wright's "new perspective on Paul" in the book *What Saint Paul Really Said* is a heretical leaven that has confused many and resulted in the overthrow of the faith of some. Wright bases his "new perspective" on the teachings of rank heretics such as Albert Schweitzer. Wright audaciously claims that the old Protestant and Baptist confessions on justification were wrong. Wright claims that the Jews of Paul's day actually believed in salvation by grace alone and did not believe in works justification and Paul was not dealing with how to be right with God but "how you define the people of God." If you think those things make no sense in light of the clear teaching of Scripture, you are right, but multitudes of professing Christians are not born again, do not have the light of the Spirit, are not effectual students of Scripture, and are easy prey for the heresies that proliferate in these last days. Phil Johnson warns, "[W]herever you find the influence of N.T. Wright and the New Perspective, you will find the historic formulations of the doctrine of justification under fire. Wherever you find a proponent of the New Perspective on Paul, you will find a critic of the classic Protestant stance on *sola fide*" ("What's Wrong with

Wright," ligonier.org). **Johnson also warns that Wright's New Perspective leads to "a debate over the issue of whether Christ's sacrifice on the cross was actually a penal substitution."** This is a clear and loud warning of the evil of Wright's influence, for the Pauline (biblical) doctrine of justification, which is the doctrine of "penal substitution," is the very gospel itself, which is salvation by grace alone through faith alone without works *on the basis of Christ's propitiatory blood atonement*. This is plainly and unquestioningly taught in Acts 15:7-9; Romans 3:19-28; Romans 4:1-6; Galatians 3; Ephesians 2:8-10; Titus 3:4-8; among other Scriptures. That Christ's sacrifice was substitutionary and penal (referring to punishment required by the law) is plainly taught in Isaiah 53; Romans 3:25; 4:25; 5:6, 8, 10; 6:10; 8:32; 1 Corinthians 5:7; 15:3; 2 Corinthians 5:14-15, 18, 19, 21; Galatians 2:20; 3:13; 4:4-5; Ephesians 1:7; 2:13, 16; 5:2, 25; Colossians 1:14, 20-22; 2:14; 1 Thessalonians 5:9-10; 1 Timothy 2:6; Titus 2:14; Hebrews 7:27; 9:12, 15, 26, 28; 10:12; 1 Peter 1:18-19; 2:24; 3:18; 1 John 2:2; 3:16; 4:10; Revelation 1:5; 5:9. There can be no legitimate debate on these things. N.T. Wright is a clever heretic and the wise will mark and avoid him in obedience to Romans 16:17-18.



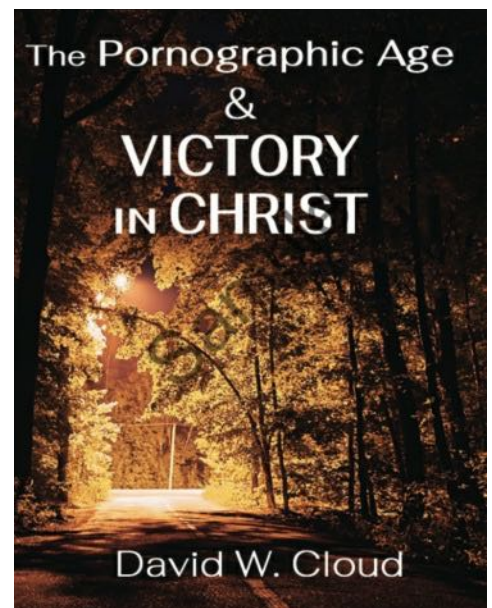
N.T. WRIGHT UNBIBLICAL COUNSEL (Friday Church News Notes, July 25, 2025, www.wayoflife.org

fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - N.T. (Tom) Wright, an influential Anglican theologian, refused to tell a self-identified trans-woman that she needs to repent. In the podcast, *Ask N.T. Wright Anything*, May 18, a caller, who said she is a “lover of Christ” who has undergone surgery and been living as a “man” for 10 years, asked Wright, “What would the Bible have to say to someone in my case?” Wright refused to speak plainly about the Bible’s command to repent of sin. He said, “God meets us where we are and loves us as we are,” and that is true, of course, but God demands repentance in no uncertain terms. “... except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish” (Luke 13:3, 5; see also Luke 24:47; Acts 17:20; 20:21; 26:20; 2 Peter 3:9). The Bible tells the woman to repent of her sin in rejecting what God made her (a woman), of her capitulation to the fallen culture’s false philosophies, of living by her feelings rather than by divine truth, of her sinful uncleanness and lusts. Wright said in a case such as this woman’s there should not be “condemnation” and saying, “Oh, you’re a sinner; you shouldn’t be doing this, that, or the other.” But the Bible does condemn sin and does command sinners that they shouldn’t be doing this, that, or the other! The law of God is the necessary schoolmaster to show men their sin and God’s holiness and justice and to bring them to Christ for salvation (Galatians 3:24). Wright should have warned the woman that she is deceived if she thinks that she “loves God,” because Scripture says, “For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous” (1

John 5:3). On June 3, in an interview on the *Premiere Unbelievable* podcast, Wright discussed the late Marcus Borg, who denied Christ’s deity and bodily resurrection. Wright said Borg was “a muddled Christian,” but a Christian nonetheless. In fact, Paul addressed this matter in his epistles. In 1 Corinthians 15, he said the bodily resurrection of Christ is an essential part of the gospel of salvation and it was attested by hundreds of eyewitnesses. Paul warned that some were saying even then “there is no resurrection of the dead” and he treated this issue as damnable heresy. He called such people “fools” and said, “if Christ be not raised, your faith is vain; ye are yet in your sins” (1 Co. 15:17, 36). He said those who deny the resurrection “have not the knowledge of God” (1 Co. 15:34). In 2 Timothy 2:16-18, Paul addressed some in his day who were spiritualizing the resurrection, which is what Borg did, and Paul said such err concerning the truth and “overthrow the faith of some.” Beware of “theologians” who do not speak with the same clarity and forthrightness as Scripture!

WHAT YOU CAN LOSE THROUGH PORNOGRAPHY (Friday Church News Notes, July 25, 2025, www.wayoflife.org

fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - The strange woman of Proverbs leads to great loss. “Remove thy way far from her, and come not nigh the door of her house: Lest thou give thine honour unto others, and thy years unto the cruel: Lest strangers be filled with thy wealth; and thy labours be in the house of a stranger; And thou mourn at the last, when thy flesh and thy body are consumed, And say, How have I hated instruction, and my heart



despised reproof; And have not obeyed the voice of my teachers, nor inclined mine ear to them that instructed me! I was almost in all evil in the midst of the congregation and assembly” (Proverbs 5:8-14). An article in the Baptist Press that described two ministers who became addicted to pornography, concluded with these words: “Both of the guys I’m dealing with right now, here’s what they’ve lost: They’ve lost their marriage. They’ve lost their job. They lost a lot of friends in the sense it will never be the same. They’ve lost custody of their children and now they are both doing something that they don’t really want to do or feel called to do, and they’re just trying to get by” (“Flood of Pornography Breaching the Church,” *Baptist Press*, Jul. 6, 2007). (We recommend [The Pornographic Age and Victory in Christ](http://www.wayoflife.org) which is both a book and a Bible course, www.wayoflife.org.)

OZZY OSBOURNE THUMBED HIS NOSE AT GOD YET BELIEVED EVERYTHING WOULD BE FINE (Friday Church News Notes, August 1, 2025, www.wayoflife.org

fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - Ozzy Osbourne, original frontman for the Black Sabbath rock band, has been all over the news since his death on Tuesday, July 22, at age 76. He has been eulogized on a vast number of news outlets and on social media by a whose-who of media personalities, rock idols, and Hollywood stars. Osbourne was a founding member of Black Sabbath in 1968. Known as “the Beatles of heavy metal,” the band screamed out dark lyrics of rebellion, nihilism, and moral filth accompanied by relentless, grinding, depressing noise posing as music. Drummer Bill Ward said, “We were rebelling and we were rebelling against just about everything” (Mike Stark, *Black Sabbath An Oral History*, p. 9). That has been the heart and soul of rock & roll since it slithered out of the world of blues/jazz in the 1950s and 1960s. **No other one entity has done more to destroy the moral fiber of western nations than rock & roll in all its aspects.** Osbourne was a drug-crazed wild man in his Black Sabbath days. He dressed in women’s garments, stripped off his clothes during concerts, chopped down every door in his house with an axe, and dragged his first wife, Thelma, around by the hair. By 1979, he was so incoherent from drug and alcohol abuse he could not function. He had used LSD every day for years and was spending \$1,000 a day on drugs. He was rescued from certain destruction when Sharon Arden visited him, talked him into accompanying her back to England, got him back on his feet, and managed him in a solo rock career. He divorced his first wife, married Arden, and maintained some semblance of doddering normalcy by means of self-help psychology and Prozac. Osbourne thumbed his nose

at the God of the Bible, mocked God’s holy laws, and defiled the very air he breathed by a constant stream of cursing, blasphemy, and incredibly filthy language, and yet figured everything would be fine. That is the rock & roll way, but it is a delusion. Alice Cooper dedicated a concert to Osbourne and said, “Rest easy Ozzy and we’ll see you on the other side!” But the Bible says, “The Father loveth the Son, and hath given all things into his hand. He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him” (John 3:35-36). God and Jesus Christ, angels and demons, heaven and hell, judgment and salvation are not theater.

OZZY OSBOURNE’S FAITH IN GOD (Friday Church News Notes, August 1, 2025, www.wayoflife.org, fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - Ozzy Osbourne, the late founding member of Black Sabbath, claimed to believe in some sort of God, but whatever religious faith he had was that of his own devising and empty of saving power. It was a rock & roll type of “faith” and “spirituality.” He prayed before his concerts; he talked about God; he talked about being christened as a boy; he said he was not a Satan worshipper; he wore a cross; he prayed “the serenity prayer”; he had a Bible on his nightstand. Ozzy said, “Today I



believe in a higher power; you can call it ‘God’ if you like” (X, @watchchad). The rest of his reply was too filthy to print. He said, “My idea of heaven is feeling good” (“Ozzy Osbourne Revealed If He Believed in God,” MSN, July 26, 2025). There are countless evidences that the Bible is God’s Word to man, and according to the Bible there is one almighty, all-wise Creator and one way of salvation. All men have sinned against God, and all sin will be punished with the second death, which is eternal suffering in the lake of fire. It is impossible for man to save himself, but God loves man and at great expense and effort has purchased salvation through the sacrifice of His Son Jesus Christ. Religion is man trying to come to God, man doing things for God, but biblical salvation is God coming to man, God doing things for man. The Bible says salvation is received by “repentance toward God, and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ” (Acts 20:21). “And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men every where to repent: Because he hath appointed a day, in the which he will judge the world in righteousness by *that* man whom he hath ordained; *whereof* he hath given assurance unto all *men*, in that he hath raised him from the dead” (Acts 17:30-31). **Repentance is to turn to God, to surrender to God, to stop fighting God, to stop living in rebellion to God. It is to renounce false religion and false gods and false gospels.** Had Ozzy Osbourne repented and put his faith in Jesus Christ, he would have found a way to publicly renounce his wicked life and false thinking and would have urged his followers to do the same. The Lord Jesus Christ said, “Whosoever therefore shall confess me before men, him will I confess

also before my Father which is in heaven. But whosoever shall deny me before men, him will I also deny before my Father which is in heaven" (Matthew 10:32-33). It's too late for Ozzy Osbourne one way or the other, but it is not yet too late for those who are reading this report.

BLACK SABBATH'S

BLACKNESS (Friday Church News Notes, August 1, 2025,

www.wayoflife.org

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

Of his occult imagery, Ozzy Osbourne said, "It's theater. It's just a role I'm playing." The surviving members of Black Sabbath echo this sentiment, but the reality is that the band has spewed forth a constant stream of hatred toward God, Jesus Christ, and Bible-believing Christians and praise for the devil, and God is not laughing. See Proverbs 1:24-33. One of their albums was titled "We Sold Our Soul to Rock 'n' Roll," and that is exactly what they did. You don't have to be a Satanist for that; you simply have to buy into rock & roll's anti-God philosophy that I can live as I please. Ozzy Osbourne called himself "the Prince of Darkness" and sat on a black throne decorated with skulls for his final concert just a few days before his death. That's not entertainment, that's self-destruction. The "prince of the power of the air" is Satan (Ephesians 2:1-2). He is a fallen angel. He is also called the devil, the god of this world, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience, and that old serpent. He's no joke. He led one-third of the angels in rebellion, and currently deceives the world (Revelation 12:9). Hell was made for him (Matthew 25:41), and those who serve him will have their part in his terrible destruction. Black Sabbath's 1990 tour was called the *Headless Cross*,



which is blasphemy against Jesus Christ. Tony Martin, Black Sabbath's lead singer at the time, said, "With *Headless Cross* I went as far to the dark side as I could possibly get away with..." (Mike Stark, *Black Sabbath: An Oral History*, p. 84). Black Sabbath had inverted crosses on the platform during concerts. (Witchcraft uses inverted crosses to symbolize blasphemy against Christ and rejection of His saving atonement.) At a concert in Ontario, Black Sabbath gave an altar call to Lucifer, inviting the audience to commit their lives to Satan (H.T. Spence, *Confronting Contemporary Christian Music*, p. 99). In the Black Sabbath song "Master of Reality," Satan sings, "You made me master of the world where you exist/ The soul I took from you was not even missed/ Lord of this world ... Evil possessor ... He's your confessor now!" In the Black Sabbath song "N.I.B.," Satan sings, "[M]y name is Lucifer/ Please take my hand." The 1981 album, *Mob Rules*, depicted Lucifer etched in blood. Ozzy Osbourne's song "Mr. Crowley" glorifies the filthy Satanist Aleister Crowley. Osbourne said he dedicated *The Blizzard of Oz* album to Crowley

(Eric Barger, *From Rock to Rock*, p. 133). Black Sabbath guitarist Tony Iommi "was fascinated with black magic and ... an avid reader of occult literature, along with being obsessed with Nostradamus, reincarnation, past lives, meditation, and acupuncture" (John Muncy, *The Role of Rock*, p. 360). Black Sabbath bassist Geezer Butler gave the following testimony in 1996: "What sparked my interest was when I was in London around 1966-67. There was a whole new culture happening and this one guy used to sell these black magic magazines. I read a magazine and thought, 'Oh yea, I never thought of it like that'—Satan's point of view. I just started reading more and more. ... I found out Satanism was around before any of it and was putting upside-down crosses on my wall and pictures of Satan all over. I painted my apartment black. I was getting really involved in it and all these horrible things started happening to me" (Geezer Butler, interview with Steve Blush, *Seconds* magazine, 1996, Issue 39, p. 64). Butler said he gave up the occult out of fear of what was happening, but you wouldn't know that from his music. Ronnie James Dio, Black Sabbath lead singer after Ozzy, gave the satanic salute at their concerts, and at that moment a cross onstage would burst into flames. He blasphemously named himself Dio (his real name was Padavana), which means "God." On his albums, he spelled Dio upside down, referring to the devil (*Creem*, Oct. 1985, p. 8). He said he studied the occult and attempted to contact the spirit world via seances (*Birmingham News*, Sept. 26, 1985; *Hit Parader*, Feb. 1985, p. 17; *Faces*, Feb. 1985, p. 17). The stage for Dio's *Sacred Heart* album tour

featured a leering, red-eyed creature symbolizing Satan. The cover to Dio's album *Holy Diver* depicted a priest or a preacher in chains being thrust into the sea by the devil. Of course, none of these rockers make a distinction between true and false Christianity.

WHAT EVERY CHRISTIAN SHOULD KNOW ABOUT ROCK MUSIC (Friday Church News Notes, August 1, 2025, www.wayoflife.org fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - About 50 years ago, we published *Mom and Dad Sleep While the Children Rock in Satan's Cradle* to exhort parents and pastors to educate and protect their young people from the great spiritual enemy of rock & roll. Since then, churches have grown strangely quiet about this danger. It must be the "frog in the pot" phenomenon. Rock permeates society, and we have grown accustomed to it, even though the music and the culture it has helped create have grown ever more wicked. Today our warning about rock is just as fervent as it was 50 years ago. The power of rock to produce rebels and to build the one-world church has not

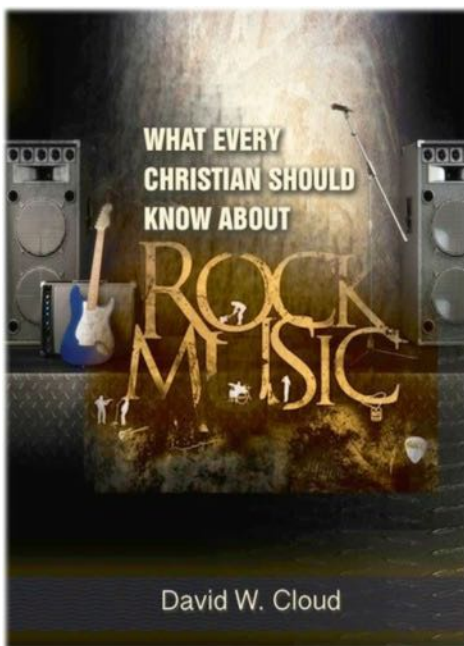
lessened. Homes and churches that don't give clear, effectual, and persistent warnings about rock music in all of its forms should not be surprised if their young people are worldly and tend toward evangelical and emerging church thinking. This book lays out nine things that every Christian should know about rock music. 1. It 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. [What Every Christian Should Know about Rock Music](http://www.wayoflife.org) is available as a free eBook from www.wayoflife.org. 70 pages.

THOUSANDS OF JEWS WORSHIP ON THE TEMPLE MOUNT (Friday Church News Notes, August 8, 2025, www.wayoflife.org fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - Thousands of Jews worshipped on the Temple Mount on Tisha B'Av (the ninth day of Av, August 2-3 this year) and sang about the return of the Messiah to "build the temple." Tisha B'Av marks the day of the destruction of the first temple (586 BC) and the second temple (AD 70). National Security Minister Itamar Ben-Gvir spoke to the crowd and called for Israel to "conquer all of Gaza, declare sovereignty over the entire Strip, take down every Hamas member, and encourage voluntary migration" ("Thousands of Jews," *World Israel News*, Aug. 3, 2025). It is Ben-Gvir who has allowed Jews to pray, 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 the first time this has happened since Israel captured the Temple Mount at the end of the Six-day War in 1967. Within days, Israel's secular-minded Defense Minister Moshe Dayan took it upon himself to return control of the Temple Mount to the Islamic Waqf. Since then, Muslims have worshipped freely on the 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!

ISRAEL KNESSET SUPPORTS ISRAEL'S SOVEREIGNTY OVER JUDEA, SAMARIA, AND THE JORDAN VALLEY (Friday Church News Notes, August 8, 2025, www.wayoflife.org fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - "In a landmark decision on July 23, 2025, the Israeli Knesset passed a powerful resolution supporting the application of Israeli sovereignty over Judea, Samaria, and the Jordan Valley. The vote--71 in favor and only 13 opposed--marked the first official endorsement of such a move since the aftermath of the Six-Day War in 1967. This decisive parliamentary act, backed by Prime





Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and supported by members from both coalition and opposition parties, signals a transformative moment in Israeli policy. It's not just symbolic. The resolution urges the government to take swift and concrete steps to implement full Israeli law, jurisdiction, and administration over Jewish communities across the contested territories" ("Historic Decision," *Israel365News*, July 24, 2025). Israel should never have relinquished control over these areas, which were promised to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, and their seed by an eternal covenant (Ge. 12:7; 13:15-17; 15:7, 18-21; 17:7-8; 26:1-3; 28:12-15; 35:9-12). It's God's land, and it was deeded to Israel, even apostate Israel. Ezekiel 37 describes Israel returning to the land in a spiritually-dead condition before being revived. "So I prophesied as I was commanded: and as I prophesied, there was a noise, and behold a shaking, and the bones came together, bone to his bone. And when I beheld, lo, the sinews and the flesh came up upon them, and the skin covered them above: **but there was no breath in them**" (Eze. 37:7-8). This is where we are today. Israel is back in her own God-given land, not in

fulfillment of the Messianic kingdom prophecies, but in preparation for the Antichrist and the Third Temple and the day of the Lord (Daniel 9:27; Matthew 24:15-28; 2 Thessalonians 2:3-12).

LONDON DISPLAYS 300 "PRIDE FLAGS" (Friday Church News Notes, August 8, 2025, www.wayoflife.org, fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - The mayor of London promoted a display of 300 "gay pride" flags on Regent Street in July. Sadiq Khan, a Muslim who has served as mayor since 2016, tweeted, "Tomorrow at Pride in London we'll send a message to the world: in our city you are free to be whoever you want to be, and love whoever you want to love. We must take a stand against those seeking to roll back hard-won rights." London is given over to moral perversion and godlessness, thumbing its nose at Almighty God and His holy laws. It is a major sign of the times. "Why do the heathen rage, and the people imagine a vain thing? The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the LORD, and against his anointed, *saying*, Let us break their bands asunder, and cast away their cords from us. He that sitteth in the heavens shall laugh: the Lord shall have them in derision. Then shall he speak unto them in his wrath, and vex them in his sore displeasure. Yet have I set

my king upon my holy hill of Zion" (Psalm 2:1-6).

NO MORE PREACHING AGAINST ROCK & ROLL (Friday Church News Notes, August 8, 2025, www.wayoflife.org, fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143)

- In the 20th century, many voices were raised among Bible-believing churches against rock & roll via sermons, books, and videos, but these voices have become largely silent in the 21st century. When I made this observation to a friend recently, he replied, "You're right. Nobody would even think of having a session or a message geared towards that, like they did in the 70s 80s." Rock & roll has only gotten more wicked by biblical standards, so what has happened? Following are three of the reasons why the preaching against rock & roll has largely ceased. **(1) The churches have capitulated to worldliness.** Look at the majority of the young people and what they truly love and how they live during the week. Examine their video games, their social media, their movies, their music, their dress, their friends, their Bible study habits, and their prayer lives. **(2) Professing Christians are non-critically immersed in rock & roll** (e.g., via movies, social media, college and professional sports, video games) **and have become accustomed to it and accepting of it, like the frog in the slowly heated pot.** **(3) Preachers have stopped preaching.** Reproof, rebuke, and warning have largely disappeared, except in vague generalities. We are glad for the exceptions, but for the most part, the preaching is soft. Sinners are encouraged; worldlings are comforted; there is no bold call to repentance; the convicting element is dull or non-existent. As a result, the



churches are growing ever more lukewarm and worldly as they move toward complete apostasy, even as some of them still hold to the King James Bible and the “old hymns”!

THE FRUIT OF ROCK & ROLL

(Friday Church News Notes, August 8, 2025, www.wayoflife.org fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143)

- Jesus Christ said you can know the character of a tree by its fruit. “[E]very good tree bringeth forth good fruit; but a corrupt tree bringeth forth evil fruit ... Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them” (Matthew 7:16-20). By that infallible standard, rock & roll is found out to be *very* evil. The fruit is cursing, blasphemy, lawlessness, lasciviousness, fornication, adultery, nakedness, unisexism, homosexuality, alcoholism, drug abuse, broken marriages, out-of-wedlock pregnancies, fightings, arrests, incarceration, broken health, automobile wrecks and motorcycle crashes, shootings, knifings, suicide, covetousness, bankruptcy, lawsuits, deafness, loneliness, insanity, and untimely deaths--to name a few.

CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP ARTIST EXPOSES THE SLEEZE

(Friday Church News Notes, August 8, 2025, www.wayoflife.org fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143)

- Responding to the Michael Tait scandal, wherein the lead singer of the Newsboys was exposed as a moral reprobate, Cory Asbury, once “a chart-topping artist” in the Bethel Music celebrity machine, made the following statement on TikTok: “Marketing yourself is antithetical to the way of Jesus. Every Christian artist has a camera on themselves, or a camera crew team videoing everything they do. Scripture tells us



don't let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, and yet we hire entire promo teams to tell the world how great we are. ... A lot of what pushed me away from the Christian music industry was people writing worship songs knowing that they're going to get a big fat CCLI check if it does really well, and I'll have another video on CCLI. I personally have made tons of money, I mean millions and millions of dollars from CCLI, which is when churches put your lyric up on the screen [and] they sing your song. But what happens is people see that success, or they hear about that success, and they go, I wanna do that. I need to write a worship banger, and it becomes formulaic; it is not from the heart, inauthentic garbage, drivel not from God but from man.”

NO SECOND CHANCE AFTER DEATH

(Friday Church News Notes, August 8, 2025, www.wayoflife.org fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143)

- The Bible warns that “now is the day of salvation” (2 Corinthians 6:2). Shortly before his death, Benjamin Franklin wrote the following to Ezra Stiles, president of Yale University: “As to Jesus of

Nazareth ... I have, with most of the present Dissenters in England, some doubts as to his divinity; though it is a question I do not dogmatize upon, having never studied it, and think it needless to busy myself with it, when I expect soon an opportunity of knowing the Truth with less trouble” (*The Writings of Benjamin Franklin*, Boston and London, 1722-1726). This letter was written on March 9, 1790, and Ben Franklin died on April 17. He thought he could wait until after death to decide who Jesus is, but that is too late. Only in this present life can we bow the knees in a saving manner to Jesus Christ and His gospel, and it is imperative that every person give his fullest attention to this matter and not put it off.

THE SOLAR POWERED PUMP

(Friday Church News Notes, August 8, 2025, www.wayoflife.org fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143)

- The following is from CreationMoments.com, July 22, 2025: “When you look at a tall tree with good green leaves on the topmost branches and it hasn't rained in a week, did you ever wonder how those leaves get their water in order to stay green? On a nice, warm summer day, a large tree may pump over a thousand gallons--that's four tons--of water from the ground up to its leaves. The water is collected by the roots, a drop at a time. But the real work of pumping tons of water 30, 60 or 100 feet into the air comes from the top of the tree. As water is pulled toward the treetop, it passes through vessels that have negative pressure in them, pulling the water up. Negative pressure in these vessels, high in a tree, has been measured as low as negative 20 atmospheres. This very low pressure is created as water

evaporates from the leaves of the tree, creating a vacant space in the vessel that must be filled with more water from below. The pump in every tree can pull water up from more than 32 feet, which is the limit for man-made pumps. The engineering excellence and power of the silent pump that delivers water within the tree is a witness for our Creator God and against chance evolution!”

CATHOLIC MUSICAL MISSIONARY RETURNS FROM ROME AND PRAISES UNITY (Friday Church News Notes, August 15, 2025, www.wayoflife.org fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143)

- Nothing is more effectual in building the one-world “church” than contemporary Christian music. Consider Matt Maher, a Roman Catholic who is an influential contemporary worship artist. He recently spent a week in Rome participating in the Youth Jubilee and enjoying “a historic vigil with the Holy Father” (Leo XIV). He has led worship in the presence of three other popes (John Paul II, Benedict VI, and Francis). Maher calls himself a “musical missionary,” but he’s a missionary for Rome. *Christianity Today* says “Maher is bringing his music--and a dream of unity into the Protestant church” (“Common Bonds,” CT, Oct. 27, 2009). Maher’s wife is Methodist, and they are raising their son “in the Catholic Church,” while also taking



him to Methodist services “so he can experience both traditions” (“Charismatic Catholic Rocker Finds Crossover Appeal with Evangelicals,” *Charisma*, May 20, 2013). That is the perfect recipe for building a one-world “church.” David Wang says Maher is “**one of the most successful Catholic artists to cross over into mainstream Christian rock and find an audience among evangelicals**” (“Catholic Rocker Matt Maher,” Religion News Service, May 17, 2013). Stuart Townend and Keith Getty (GTM) have affiliated with Maher and other Roman Catholics in ecumenical endeavors. Maher says that touring with Protestants like Michael W. Smith produces ecumenical unity because people come to the concerts and find themselves standing beside a priest or nun, and they learn that “we’re all in this family together.” But what family? The New Testament warns loudly and often of a great apostasy, of false Christianity, of widespread spiritual deception, of the leaven of error. These warnings were first given by Christ Himself (Mt. 7:15-23; 13:24-25, 31-33; 24:4-5, 11, 24) and were continued through the ministries of the apostles and prophets (e.g., Acts 20:28-31; Ro. 16:17-18; Eph. 4:14; Php 3:17-19; 2 Co. 11:1-4, 13-15; Col. 2; 1 Ti. 4:1-6; 2 Ti. 2:16-28; 3:1-13; 4:3-4; 2 Pe. 2; 1 John 4; 2 John 1; Jude). The apostles warned that there will be false christs, false gospels, and false spirits, and taught the churches to be perpetually on guard, testing everything by the absolute standard of God’s Word (Acts 17:11; 1 Th. 5:21; Heb. 5:12-14). They warned that false teachers would be deceptive, appearing as wolves in sheep’s clothing and ministers of righteousness. They

warned about the “cunning craftiness” of false teachers and their ability to deceive through “good words and fair speeches.” These clear biblical warnings are typically ignored throughout the world of Contemporary Christian Music, and those who take them seriously are dismissed as unloving, judgmental Pharisees and divisive troublemakers who are encroaching on “liberty” and hindering God’s work.

PLANNED PARENTHOOD BEGINS CLOSING CLINICS (Friday Church News Notes, August 15, 2025, www.wayoflife.org fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-

4143) - The following is excerpted from “Planned Parenthood,” Standing for Freedom Center, Aug. 7, 2025: “As pro-life Americans, we have long argued that taxpayer dollars should not support abortion providers. In 2025, that reality is finally catching up to Planned Parenthood. The nation’s leading abortion provider has announced that **at least 38 facilities will close this year ... and a total of as many as 250 clinics will be shut down by next year**. These clinic closures follow substantial cuts to Medicaid reimbursements and Title X funding and are a direct consequence of the ‘One Big Beautiful Bill’ that was signed into law on July 4. ... the closure of



dozens of Planned Parenthood clinics in a single year is a historic moment in the fight for life. For decades, Planned Parenthood has operated with near-untouchable status in many states, benefiting from billions of dollars in taxpayer funding while performing the majority of abortions in the country. In fact, Planned Parenthood performed over 402,000 abortions in 2022-2023, according to its annual report, nearly 25 percent more than it did in 2013. The fact that more than one-third of Planned Parenthood clinics could be boarded up by 2026 is a signal that the pro-life movement is finally moving from defense to offense.”

MORE MOVES TO BAN MEN FROM WOMEN SPORTS (Friday Church News Notes, August 15, 2025, www.wayoflife.org

fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - The following is excerpted from “Wagner College to Ban Men,” *Standing for Freedom Center*, Aug. 6, 2025: “On Friday the U.S. Department of Education (DOE) announced an agreement with Wagner College after the school allowed a male student to compete on its women’s fencing team, leading to a protest by female fencer Stephanie Turner. ... In April, video emerged of Turner taking a knee and removing her mask, refusing to compete against Sullivan in the women’s division of the Cherry

Blossom Open in Maryland. Turner received a black card, the highest penalty in fencing, and was disqualified. She later received a 12-month probation from USA Fencing for her protest. ... On Friday, the DOE and Wagner reached a resolution agreement that will prohibit men from competing on the school’s women’s teams. ... Additionally, Wagner will also issue a personalized letter of apology to each female fencer from Wagner College, and to any female competitor from another school, who was forced to compete against a male. The agreement follows a similar settlement reached earlier this year with the University of Pennsylvania, which agreed to end its policy allowing male athletes to compete against females and to apologize to all women affected by the policy. In July, USA Fencing also updated its policies to align with U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Committees, both of which adopted similar changes to comply with President Donald Trump’s executive order banning men from women’s sports.”

INDIAN LAWMAKER OFFERS CASH REWARDS FOR VIOLENCE AGAINST PASTORS (Friday Church News Notes, August 15, 2025, www.wayoflife.org

fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - On June 17, Gopichand Padalkar, a lawmaker with the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), offered cash rewards for violence against Christians. “We should keep prizes for those who bash up missionaries coming to convert people. Rs 5 lakh (500,000 rupees or \$5,756 USD), should be declared for the first person thrashing such a missionary, the second one to be



given Rs 4 lakh (400,000 rupees or \$4,605 USD), while the third one to be given Rs 3 lakh (300,000 rupees or \$3,454 USD) as prizes.” He also offered 11 lakhs (1.1 million rupees or \$12,663 USD) for violence against Christian leaders (“Indian Lawmaker’s Cash Rewards,” *Christianity Daily*, July 31, 2025). Padalkar also called for the destruction of “unauthorized prayer houses.” Though he accused Christians of forced religious conversions, “he provided no evidence for such claims.” No criminal charges were made against Padalkar, but thousands of Christians demonstrated in Mumbai and Pune. “Religious rights advocates point to the hostile tone of the National Democratic Alliance government, led by the Hindu nationalist BJP, which they say has emboldened Hindu extremists across India since Prime Minister Narendra Modi took power in May 2014.”

LESBIAN APPOINTED ARCHBISHOP OF WALES (Friday Church News Notes, August 15, 2025, www.wayoflife.org

fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - In the latest news from the extreme edge of end-time apostasy, Cherry Vann, a lesbian who lives with her “civil partner Wendy,” has been elected the 15th Archbishop of Wales. She is the first woman and





the first “gay” to hold the office. Her predecessor, Andrew John, stepped down last month after evidence “involving sexual misconduct ... and excessive drinking,” not on his part but under his watch (“Christian group blasts Church,” *Christian Post*, Aug. 3, 2025). It is difficult to understand what would constitute “sexual misconduct” in a “church” that ordains lesbians. As for the drinking, choir members and priests were getting “catastrophically drunk” at pubs following services (“Former Archbishop of Wales Lament,” *Christian Post*, July 9, 2025). The Church of Wales is part of the worldwide Anglican Communion, together with the Church of England, the Episcopal Church in America, and Anglican denominations in 165 countries. The

Church of England was a man-made institution from its founding by King Henry VIII for the purpose of divorcing his first wife and marrying a second one.

GOD’S OPTIC FIBERS (Friday Church News Notes, August 15, 2025, www.wayoflife.org/fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - The following is from CreationMoments.com, July 1, 2025: “One of the areas in which modern technology is advancing most rapidly is fiber optics. Crystal clear telephone messages are carried on cables of special fibers that conduct messages in digital form, using laser light. Offices and industries now use computer systems in which processors are linked with fiber optic cables in order to increase speed. But man has only discovered this technology--he has not invented it, for God used fiber optics in providing for the needs of certain plants. Scientists have learned that sprouting oat, corn and mung bean plants use the principles of fiber optics so they can grow. When the



tip of a young seedling first pokes its nose above ground, it gathers and sends light to the growth center--which may be half-an-inch, an inch or more below the ground. The conducted light then stimulates the growth center, providing energy for growth. Without this provision, the seedling could die, or at least growth retarded. Scientists have learned that the seedling stem is such an efficient optic fiber that it will even faithfully conduct a focused image of the light source. We are learning that just about every technological breakthrough made by man was already used by the Creator when He made the creation. There is hardly a stronger argument than this in favor of belief in an intelligent Creator! Ref: ‘Plants pipe light,’ *Science* 82, pp. 10-11.”

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)



O TIMOTHY MAGAZINE

Way of Life Literature

P.O. Box 610368, Port Huron, MI 48061-0368

866-295-4143 (toll free),

fbns@wayoflife.org (e-mail)<http://www.wayoflife.org> (web site)

NONPROFIT ORG
U.S. Postage
PAID
PORT HURON, MI
Permit No. 1061

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

SUBSCRIPTION INFORMATION

- **ONLINE EDITION: FREE!** - To access the online edition, go to www.wayoflife.org, click the **O Timothy** tab, then click the words "online edition" to select the issue you wish to view or download.
- **UNITED STATES:** The annual subscription is **US \$15**. Payment can be made by:
CHECK – payable to Way of Life Literature (NOT O Timothy) and designated for O Timothy on the memo line
CREDIT CARD – call toll free 866 295 4143 Monday through Friday
ONLINE – with credit card or PayPal at www.wayoflife.org
- **CANADA:** The annual subscription for Canada is \$31.50 Canadian (GST included). Checks or money orders should be made payable to Bethel Baptist Church and designated for O Timothy. Payments should be mailed to Bethel Baptist Church, 4212 Campbell St N, London, ON N6P 1A6.

SUBSCRIPTIONS (O Timothy is a monthly publication)

USA - One Year Subscription.....**\$15 US.** - Payable To **WAY OF LIFE LITERATURE**

CANADA\$31.50 Canadian (GST Included)

DATE _____
 NAME _____
 ADDRESS _____
 CITY, STATE, ZIP _____
 COUNTRY _____
 PHONE, EMAIL _____

PRINTED IN CANADA