
FRIDAY CHURCH NEWS NOTES



THE JUDGE NOT SOCIETY

A report in the *New York Post* last Saturday documented the “judge not” philosophy that has permeated American society. Titled “A massive, silent cultural revolution has changed America,” the report describes a “mass departure of moral judgment from public life.” The author observes that “we don’t want to judge others for anything, even if what they’re doing is destructive.” He offers statistics to prove that in contrast with a decade ago a majority of Americans no longer condemn marijuana use, out-of-wedlock child bearing, homosexuality, and homosexual “marriage.” The article is wrong, though, about when this happened and how. It begins with the words, “It happened without a Summer of Love...” In fact, the seeds of today’s morally relativistic, non-judgmental society were sown in the 1960s and even earlier, and it has taken a generation for the fruit to be evident. The major fault lies at the footsteps of America’s churches. Instead of being salt and light in society, the majority of churches have followed in lockstep with the world’s pop culture. How many churches preach plainly against

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SMART CITIES THAT WILL “KEEP TRACK OF EVERYTHING”

Hudson Yards in the west of Manhattan will be America’s first fully integrated smart community. Currently in Phase 1 development, the 17 million square foot project “will track data on air quality, pedestrian traffic, energy production and consumption, and the health and activity levels of workers and residents” (“In New York City and Chicago, the smart city is here,” *Business Insider*, Jun. 3, 2015). The community is scheduled for completion by the mid-2020s. Meanwhile, in Chicago, the Array of Things (AoT) project “has set out to ‘smarten’ the city by placing sensors everywhere.” In Songdo, South Korea, “sensors track roads, water, waste and electricity, and buildings have



computerized access and automatic climate controls.” And Lavasa, India, promises “smart metering, efficient parking and traffic management, a cashless retail experience and a technology supported transportation system.” The relentless move toward globalization and electronic integration is a major sign of the end times. Bible prophecy describes the antichrist’s kingdom as one with the ability to control global finance at the individual level and to observe Middle East events throughout the earth (Revelation 11:9; 13:16-17). “And they of the people and kindreds and tongues and nations shall see their dead bodies three days and an half, and shall not suffer their dead bodies to be put in graves” (Rev. 11:9).

CONSERVATIVE PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE RETRACTS STANCE AGAINST HOMOSEXUALITY



Dr. Ben Carson

The following is excerpted from “Noted Neuro Surgeon Retracts Strong Moral Stance,” *Fundamentalist Digest*, June-July 2015: “Dr. Ben Carson is a noted retired neuro-surgeon who has plainly stated in the past his firm belief in the inerrancy of Scripture and the Genesis record. He has officially declared himself a candidate for the U.S. Presidential office. Carson is generally noted for his clear cut rational thinking, his conservative political and religious views and his even handed non-inflammatory responses. In a morning March 2015 TV interview, Carson clearly delineated that he believed that homosexuality is ‘absolutely’ a choice, citing as his evidence that many men enter prison as ‘straight’ heterosexuals, but when they leave the prison doors, they have become homosexuals, a voluntary choice they made during their incarceration. However, the words had hardly

come out of Carson’s mouth, than a few hours later, he quickly backpedaled, apologized and retracted his remark after facing pressure from liberals who claimed that the ‘Gay Gestapo’ and ‘Gay Mafia’ was behind his remarks. Carson stated: ‘I realized that my choice of language does not reflect fully my heart on gay issues.’ He claimed that he didn’t know ‘how every individual came to their sexual orientation.’ Carson also declared that he ‘answered a question without really thinking about it thoroughly ... and I deeply regret my statement ... as a human being my obligation is to learn from my mistakes and treat all people with respect and dignity.’ ... The most likely explanation [for the change]? Carson’s campaign managers ‘told him he had to go into immediate damage control if he wants to be president.’ ... Carson said that ‘I’m not going to talk about that issue any more.’ Sadly, Carson’s last words concerning homosexuality are apparently going to be an apology for declaring that homosexuality is a choice, a disappointing stance for religious conservatives who had previously placed high trust in his apparent unwavering stance. In a later further so-called clarification of his stance, Carson wrote on Facebook: ‘While I remain opposed to same-sex marriage, I have and will continue to support recognition of same-sex civil unions. I have and will continue full recognition of same-sex marriage in state jurisdictions where the matter has been approved by a vote of the people or their representatives...’ From a Bible believer’s standpoint, the lesson to be learned is: Don’t put too much hope in so-called conservative politicians. The answer to America’s problems is not politicians but preachers! 2 Timothy 4:2 states, ‘Preach the Word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine.’”

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the world's music, sensual dancing, immodesty, the corrupt dating culture, and the filthiness coming out of Hollywood and Nashville? Even if you go back to the 1950s, the number of churches obeying biblical commands such as Ephesians 5:11 and 1 John 2:15-17 in a clear and unequivocal manner were few and far between. Such obedience wasn't evident in the Southern Baptist churches in which I grew up, and in those days Southern Baptist churches were the most conservative of the churches. The independent Baptist movement of the 1960s and 1970s did result in a movement of biblical separatism, but it was often polluted by biblical shallowness, man centeredness, and legalism, and today the average independent Baptist church is no different from a Southern Baptist church in spiritual character and separation. This is usually evident when you examine the youth department. Christians who don't reprove the Beatles or Beyonce won't reprove DeGeneres or Jenner. *American Idol*, with its vanity and moral sensuality, had as much support from supposed Bible-believing churches as from "the world."

LAWSUIT URGES THE U.S. GOVERNMENT TO DESIGNATE INDIAN HINDU GROUP A TERRORIST ORGANIZATION



RSS members training in Bangalore

The following is excerpted from "Radical Hindus to India's Christians: Convert or Get Ready to Die," CNSNews.com, June 1, 2015: "Radical Hindu nationalists closely aligned to the Indian government warned Christians in Punjab state late last year to prepare to convert to Hinduism 'or get ready to die,' according to a complaint before a U.S. federal court. A lawsuit filed in the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York calls on the U.S. government to designate as a foreign terrorist organization (FTO) a radical Hindu organization with close ties to Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his ruling party. Late last week attorneys filed an amended complaint in a case brought by an advocacy group called Sikhs for Justice (SFJ) against Secretary of State John Kerry. The amended document adds three additional plaintiffs, two Christians and a Muslim, who claim to be victims of a forced conversion campaign carried out by the Hindu group RSS (Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh, or National

Volunteer Corps). The three say that threats by RSS radicals determined to forcibly convert minorities to Hinduism have increased since Modi and his Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) won India's general election last year. Modi, a generally highly-regarded leader whose high-profile visit to Washington last fall was reciprocated when President Obama traveled to India in January, was once a full-time RSS activist, and the RSS is viewed as the BJP's parent organization. The complaint claims that Kerry ignored an SFJ appeal sent last December urging him to designate RSS as an FTO under U.S. law. It wants the court to issue a judgment declaring RSS to be an FTO, for 'practicing a fascist ideology and for running a passionate, vicious and violent campaign to turn India into a Hindu nation with a homogeneous religious and ethnic identity.' ... 'Prominent leaders of RSS have stated the party's policy, goal and aim as there won't be a single Muslim or Christian left in India,' the complaint says."

THE HAWAIIAN QUEEN WHO DEFIED THE “GOD OF THE VOLCANO”

The following is excerpted from “Christian Missionaries in Hawaii,” Bill Federer, TheMoralLiberal.com: “Hiram Bingham and Asa Thurston were sent to Hawaii by the American Board of Missions on the ship Thaddeus, arriving at Kailua on March 31, 1820. The missionaries not only spread Christianity, but also confronted drunkenness and vice which had been introduced into the islands by sailors, whalers, and convicts from Botany Bay. The missionaries created a 12-letter Hawaiian alphabet and reduced the Hawaiian language to writing. They translated the Bible, began a newspaper, set up schools and churches, and convinced the Hawaiian women to wear dresses. Idolatry and human sacrifice had previously been ended by King Kamehameha II and his Queen mother Ka’ahumanu. Queen Ka’ahumanu and six high chiefs requested to be baptized in 1823. She then banned prostitution and drunkenness, resulting in sailors resenting the missionaries’ influence. Queen Ka’ahumanu helped spread the Gospel in the islands, beginning a ‘Great Awakening.’ She was presented with the newly completed version of the New Testament in the



Hawaiian language just prior to her death. Her last words were, ‘I am going where the mansions are ready.’ Chiefess Kapiolani, the cousin of King Kamehameha I, in 1824 defied the volcano goddess Pele by saying a Christian prayer, climbing down into the lava crater and returning unharmed, then eating the forbidden Ōhelo berries. Chiefess Kapiolani praised ‘the one true God,’ proclaiming, ‘Jehovah is my God. He kindled these fires. I fear not Pele. All the gods of Hawaii are vain.’ This courage inspired many Hawaiians to be missionaries to other islands, such as Samuel Kauwealoha, who sailed in 1853 to the Marquesas Islands.” To this report we add the following from *Our Fascinating Earth* by Philip and Nancy Seff: “Priests, friends, and husband all prophesied a fiery doom for Chiefess Kapiolani. ... The gathering crowds gasped as she threw rocks and a slipper and emptied her washbowl into the sacred crater. ... Alfred, Lord Tennyson later paid homage to the brave queen by immortalizing her in a poem ‘Kapiolani.’ He wrote, ‘Great and greater, and greatest of women, island heroine, Kapiolani, climbed the mountain, and flung the berries, and dared the Goddess, and freed the people of Hawaii!’”

CONCLUSION

The Friday Church News Notes is designed for use in churches and is published by Way of Life Literature’s Fundamental Baptist Information Service. Unless otherwise stated, the Notes are written by David Cloud. Of necessity we quote from a wide variety of sources, but this obviously does not imply an endorsement. We trust that our readers will not be discouraged. It is God’s will that we know the times (1 Ch. 12:32; Mat. 16:3) and that we be as wise as serpents and harmless as doves. The News Notes remind us that the hour is very late, and we need to be ready for the Lord’s coming. Are you sure that you are born again? Are you living for Christ? “And that, knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep: for now is our salvation nearer than when we believed. The night is far spent, the day is at hand: let us therefore cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armour of light. Let us walk honestly, as in the day; not in rioting and drunkenness, not in chambering and wantonness, not in strife and envying. But put ye on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make not provision for the flesh, to fulfil the lusts thereof” (Rom. 13:11-14). This material is sent only to those who personally subscribe to the Fundamental Baptist Information Service mailing list. To SUBSCRIBE, go to <http://www.wayoflife.org/wayoflife/subscribe.html>. TO UNSUBSCRIBE OR CHANGE ADDRESSES, go to the very bottom of any email received from us and click “Manage My Subscription.” Way of Life Literature, P.O. Box 610368, Port Huron, MI 48061, 866-295-4143, fbs@wayoflife.org.