
FRIDAY CHURCH NEWS NOTES



UNITED NATIONS TO RAISE PAPAL AND PALESTINIAN FLAGS

The United Nations has announced that it will raise both the Vatican flag and the Palestinian flag (“Holy See Flag to Be Raised,” Zenit.org, Sep. 21, 2015). The Vatican flag will be raised this morning in honor of Pope Francis’ arrival to address the General Assembly, and the Palestinian flag will be raised on September 30 when President Mahmoud Abbas addresses the Assembly. This is an appropriate action, in our estimation, since both entities are enemies of God’s plan for Israel. In May, the Vatican officially recognized “the state of Palestine,” and in a papal audience on May 16, Pope Francis called Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas “an angel of peace,” which is nonsense. In March 2014, the Al-Aqsa Martyrs Brigade, part of Abbas’s Fatah organization, launched deadly rocket attacks

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ROME’S OPPOSITION TO ISRAEL

The Roman Catholic Church has long been opposed to Israel. Jews were slaughtered during the Catholic crusades and placed in ghettos in Catholic cities. The heresy of Replacement Theology, which replaces Israel with the Church, was fathered by Rome and borrowed from her by Protestants. In 1922, Cardinal Gasparri, Vatican Secretary of State, voiced concern that the British Mandate on Palestine might “give Israel a privileged position and might compromise the rights of the Catholic Church regarding the protection of the Holy Places” (“The Holy See and the Postwar Palestine Issue,” *International Affairs*, Spring 1984). In 1950, the Jewish Telegraphic Agency reported that the Vatican was “intensifying its campaign for the internationalization of Jerusalem” (JTA, Nov. 21, 1950). In the 1980s, the Vatican began to support the PLO and its goal of

making East Jerusalem its capital. In 1982, Yasser Arafat was received at the Vatican “with all the honor and dignity accorded a head of state.” With the 2015 treaty, the Vatican’s support shifts from the PLO to the Palestinian State. The Vatican is comfortable making treaties with Muslim terrorist organizations that hate Israel, vow her destruction, and persecute professing Christians because the Vatican is one of the devil’s chief instruments in human affairs. One day, Mystery Babylon will yoke together with the very Antichrist himself, according to Revelation 17, and Rome doubtless is at the heart of this end-time phenomenon. “And in that day will I make Jerusalem a burdensome stone for all people: all that burden themselves with it shall be cut in pieces, though all the people of the earth be gathered together against it” (Zec. 12:3).

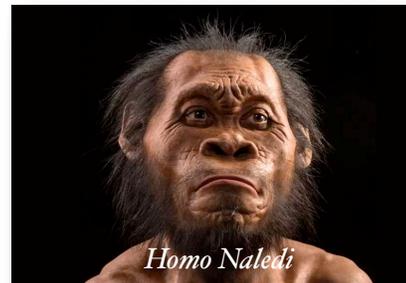
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against Israel. Any “peace” plan proposed by the Palestinian leaders is a lie to cover their longterm objective of destroying Israel. In 2013, Palestinian Authority Minister of Religious Affairs Mahmoud Al-Habbash, in an on-camera sermon at Friday prayers, likened their “peace deals” to Muhammed’s Treaty of Hodaybiyyah with the Arab Quraish tribe in Mecca. The “10 year truce” was merely intended to gain time, and was broken two years later when Muhammed conquered Mecca at the point of the sword. Muhammed taught that it is acceptable to lie to one’s enemies. The antichrist will make the ultimate deal with Israel, and in the midst of a seven-year peace program he will sit in Israel’s temple declaring himself as “God” and will unleash persecution against the Jews (Daniel 9:26-27; 2 Thessalonians 2:3-12). “Let no man deceive you by any means: for *that day shall not come*, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition; Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God” (2 Th. 2:3-4).

SOUTH AFRICANS SEE RACISM IN NEW EVOLUTIONARY FIND

Anti-apartheid activists in South Africa are criticizing those who are using the discovery of an allegedly new human ancestor (*Homo Naledi*) for racial jokes. African National Congress politician Zwelinzima Vavi tweeted, “I am no grandchild of any ape, monkey or baboon.” He described being called a baboon by white racists during apartheid. As with all of the ape-men drawings since the days of Charles Darwin, *Homo Naledi* is depicted as half ape, half black man. Racism was an integral part of Darwinianism until the racial aspect became politically incorrect well into the twentieth century. Darwin’s prominent German disciple Ernst Haeckel said the tribes of Africa “have remained, down to the present day, at the lowest stage of human development, and made the smallest advance beyond the ape” (Mario Gregorio, *From Here to Eternity*, p. 247). Some of Haeckel’s charts depicted the supposed evolution of modern man from the lower “race” (Negroid) to the higher (Caucasians, and especially, of course, Germans). Haeckel made a drawing of a tree populated by a gorilla, an orangutan, a chimpanzee, and a Negro. He strongly believed in racial superiority, considering it a natural product of evolution. Henry Osborn, president of the American Museum of Natural History and discoverer of “Nebraska Man,” said, “The standard intelligence of the average adult Negro is similar to that of the eleven-year-old youth of the species *Homo sapiens*” (“The Evolution of Human Races,” *Natural History*, Jan.-Feb. 1926). Osborn was one of the “experts” who presented evidence in favor of evolution at the Scopes Trial. For more on this see “Darwinian Racism” at the Way of Life web site.



DON'T ROCK THE BOAT FELLOWSHIP

The following is from “The Vanishing Ethics of the Ministry” by Buddy Smith, *Heads Up!* Sept. 18, 2015: “Closer to home, we observe pastors in Australia assisting other pastors in taking their brethren to court, or projecting one image at pastors’ conferences and another at their youth rallies, or calling themselves fundamentalists and then contradicting their profession by sitting admiringly at the feet of Emergent and charismatic CEO/pastors, disciplesd by charlatans on how to build a larger empire. ... Or maybe you’ve met the reverend gentlemen who fiercely reprove their reprovers arguing that reproofs are unloving? ... Oh, I know these things leave most of the brethren cowed and fearful, afraid not to hew to

the party line, fearful of making an enemy, but they ought to cause every true-hearted and valiant man to lie awake at night, asking over and over, ‘Why do so many men in ministry have very poor Christian ethics?’ We ought to do this to the point that we determine, by God’s grace, to find, to embrace, and to defend the ethics of the Son of God. Any day now I expect to receive in the mail an invitation to join the Aussie branch of the IBDRTBF. It is the new name for the Old Boys Club. It stands for **Independent Baptist Don’t Rock The Boat Fellowship**. It is for those anaemic preachers with timid souls. You know, the ones with bobble heads, always nodding yes to everything a reverend Doctor says.”

THE PROBLEM IS NOT THE SOFT ROCK ITSELF

The problem with what is happening at Lancaster Baptist Church in Lancaster, California, and *many* other places is not a few songs in soft rock style. If that were the issue, and if that would be the end of it, I would not waste my time and endanger my reputation warning about it. I would simply write it off to “style” differences. The issue is far more serious than that, though. The fundamental problem is two-fold. **First, soft rock is addictive and creates an appetite for sensual music.** History teaches us that soft rock leads to hard rock. That’s not debatable. It is why former contemporary worship leader Dan Lucarini, when he converted churches from traditional to contemporary, started with soft rock. It was a plan. He knew that the change had to be incremental. The contemporary

music had to start out soft so as not to shock the traditionalists. He describes this in chapter 17 of his 2002 book *Why I Left the Contemporary Christian Music Movement*. **Second, the contemporary songs they are using are bridges to the one-world church that is represented by the large majority of the contemporary worship musicians.** It is not possible in this day and time for a church to use contemporary worship songs without people going online to find out more about the songs and the musicians and thus to come into contact with the full-blown ecumenical rockers and the “real” renditions of the music. (For more on this see the free eBooks *Baptist Music Wars* and *The Directory of Contemporary Worship Musicians*, available from www.wayoflife.org.)

WILLOW CREEK ACCEPTING HOMOSEXUAL COUPLES AS MEMBERS

A friend sent me the following information about Willow Creek Community Church, located west of Chicago and led by Bill Hybels. Not only is Willow Creek one of the largest and most influential churches in the country, but it is also an association of more than 14,000 churches that are committed to the same philosophy. My friend wrote: “I called Willow Creek Community Church last fall (2014) and asked if a celibate homosexual could be a member. The person that answered didn’t know, so they directed me to one of their staff pastors--Chris Hurta. I asked him numerous questions about where Willow Creek stood. Until recently, they have been against gay marriage, but he said that celibate homosexuals and gay couples could be members. I asked if they could serve in the church. He said yes, but none could be in a leadership position. He also said same-sex attraction ‘is a beautiful thing.’

CHIMPANZEE Y CHROMOSOME RADICALLY DIFFERENT FROM HUMAN

The following is by Dr. Robert Carter, "The Chimpanzee Y Chromosome Is Radically Different from Human," Dec. 16, 2010, creation.com: "A new study published on the Y chromosome of chimpanzees has surprised many. After a lot of work, the chimpanzee Y chromosome has finally been finished. This may come as a surprise to many who thought the chimpanzee genome was completed way back in 2005. Actually, the original chimpanzee genome construction was less than optimal as they did not sequence it to the same standards of the human genome. ... Half of the chimpanzee ampliconic sequence, and 30% of the entire MSY, has no counterpart in the human MSY, and vice versa. These are sizable differences.... Finding this much difference in one of the sex chromosomes was huge. The 30% difference among human and chimp MSY regions was a shock. ... For the creationist, we now know that the old 'humans and chimps are 99% identical' canard is passé. Interestingly, a



significant paper appeared in 2007 calling the 99% rule 'a myth;' and claiming that we have known for decades that humans and chimps were much more different. But this has been a significant and powerful evolutionary argument. How many people had their faith wrecked on those 'mythical' rocks? Now we have half of the chimpanzee Y chromosome and learn that it is only 70% identical to human. This is evidence that humans and chimpanzees are very different. How different? To quote the famous geneticist, Svante Pääbo, 'I don't think there's any way to calculate a number ... In the end, it's a political and social and cultural thing about how we see our differences.' This statement was made before the chimp Y chromosome data became available. If the number is incalculable, can we not jettison every evolutionary story of chimp-human common ancestry based on genetics? The new data on the chimp Y chromosome makes the case for common ancestry that much worse."

INFORMATION

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, fbns@wayoflife.org.