FRIDAY CHURCH NEWS NOTES

SBC PRESIDENT TO SPEAK AT RADICAL CHARISMATIC CONFERENCE

Ronnie Floyd, President of the Southern Baptist Convention, is scheduled to speak in December at International House of Prayer’s OneThing 2015 (ihopkc.org/onething/speakers-worship-leaders). This demonstrates how deeply the SBC has drunk of the false charismatic spirit and how spiritually dangerous this denomination is. It is a fearful hodgepodge of truth and error. IHOP was founded in 1999 by Mike Bickle, joined by Bob Jones (not the Bob Jones of BJU), John Paul Jackson, Paul Cain, David Parker, and Francis Frangipane and other so-called prophets of a latter-day miracle revival movement. Bickle's emphasis is a Latter Rain signs and wonders ministry in preparation for Christ's return. IHOP hosts 24/7 prayer meetings which are mystical contemporary worship “encounters” powered by rock music. They are weird charismatic free-for-alls. IHOP's 24/7 prayer sessions have been described as “euphoric worship ... mesmeric, musical worship, repeating the same phrases over and over.” I can confirm this from my visit in October 2014 to an IHOP conference. IHOP’s continued on next page...

PASTOR OF SINGAPORE PENTECOSTAL MEGA-CHURCH SENTENCED TO PRISON FOR MISAPPROPRIATION OF FUNDS

Kong Hee, founder and senior pastor of a Pentecostal megachurch in Singapore, has been sentenced to eight years in prison for misappropriating church funds to support his wife's pop singing career. Five other church leaders were given sentences ranging from 21 months to six years. The sum misappropriated by the leaders of City Harvest Church (CHC) was a whopping $35 million. Corruption of this magnitude is rare in this city state which has a well-deserved reputation for law and order. Leave it to a charismatic pastor to set the bar of corruption high and make before the entire nation! The pop singer, Ho Yeow Sun, was recently ordained as a pastor of the church. She will be able to carry on the family business while her husband lives a pop star's lifestyle, complete parties, and very sensual rock information that helps with my continued on next page...
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24/7 “prayer” is not about thoughtful, biblical prayer or quiet, thoughtful meditation on Scripture. It is about charismatic mysticism whereby God is allegedly “encountered” in and beyond Scripture. It is about “experiencing” God. It is about bringing in the kingdom of God through signs and wonders. This is why IHOP is attracted to Roman Catholic contemplative prayer, as evidenced by the fact that their bookstore features dozens of contemplative titles. Contemplative prayer has the same mystical objective as IHOP’s 24/7 prayer: an experience with God and direct revelation from God beyond Scripture. But when you go beyond Scripture, you go beyond the God of Scripture, and you open yourself to angels of darkness masquerading as angels of light. This is why charismatic worship and contemplative prayer lead to association with Rome, the heart and soul of apostasy, and ultimately to universalism, pantheism, panentheism, and idolatry, as we have documented extensively in the book *The Pentecostal-Charismatic Movements: The History and the Error*. Last year, David Yonggi Cho, founder of Yoido Full Gospel Church in Seoul, South Korea, long billed as the world’s largest church, was sentenced to three years for breach of trust and corruption (“David Yonggi Cho,” *The Gospel Herald*, Feb. 21, 2014). Cho, one of Kong Hee’s mentors, was found guilty of causing $12 million in losses to the church by having officials buy stocks owned by his eldest son, Cho Hee-jun, at nearly four times market value. David Cho’s three-year sentence was suspended because of his age and prominence, but he was ordered to pay a penalty of US $4.7 million, and Cho Hee-jun’s three-year sentence was not suspended.

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her videos but could not present them because of their vile content.” A Baptist pastor friend in Singapore wrote, “It was just last weekend that I came to know that her horrible and slutty music video (‘China Wine’) was actually aired live in church at CHC when it first came out. It is hard to imagine any husband willingly showing off his wife in church dressed like a whore, dancing like one, and worse, a pastor’s wife.” Kong Hee and other leaders of City Harvest who have been convicted in Singapore’s no-nonsense courts still proclaim their innocence, though it was proven that they put millions of dollars into sham bond investments and tried to hide their deeds from the law. According to the *Gospel Herald* for Oct. 29, 2015, the church is standing with its crooked leaders (“City Harvest Founder Kong Hee Thanks Congregation for ‘Grace and Love’ as Wife Sun Ho Is Ordained as Pastor,” Oct. 29, 2015). This demonstrates a lack of integrity across the entire congregation. They have been blinded and morally numbed by a heaping dose of mindless demonic mysticism served up through rock music, charismatic experiences, and false doctrine. Kong Hee follows in the footsteps of many other prominent Pentecostal-Charismatic leaders who have brought reproach upon the name of Jesus Christ before a mocking world, as we have documented extensively in the book *The Pentecostal-Charismatic Movements: The History and the Error*. Last year, David Yonggi Cho, founder of Yoido Full Gospel Church in Seoul, South Korea, long billed as the world’s largest church, was sentenced to three years for breach of trust and corruption (“David Yonggi Cho,” *The Gospel Herald*, Feb. 21, 2014). Cho, one of Kong Hee’s mentors, was found guilty of causing $12 million in losses to the church by having officials buy stocks owned by his eldest son, Cho Hee-jun, at nearly four times market value. David Cho’s three-year sentence was suspended because of his age and prominence, but he was ordered to pay a penalty of US $4.7 million, and Cho Hee-jun’s three-year sentence was not suspended.
THE PARIS ATTACKS AND DANCING WITH THE DEVIL

The following is excerpted from “Dancing with the Devil” by Charles Gardner, *Israel Today*, Nov. 19, 2015: “Even before I learnt that the main target of the Paris massacre was a theatre until recently owned by Jews, I had been wondering whether we Westerners were reaping the consequences of ‘dancing with the devil’. ... London Mayor Boris Johnson referred to the perpetrators--Islamic State terrorists--as a ‘death cult’, which it certainly is. But what commentators seem deliberately to have missed--along with the Bataclan concert hall’s Jewish connection--was the link between such evil extremism and the dark nature of the concert that claimed most of the lives lost last Friday night. The *Eagles of Death Metal* band had apparently just started a song called *Kiss the Devil* when the gunmen opened fire and the auditorium morphed into the devil’s domain. Fantasy became reality, with one witness describing it as ‘hell’. ... Hardly anyone in the media talks of biblical prophecy. Yet that would shed an awful lot of light on this dark subject! Just one example of this is that the world would be full of violence--as in the days of Noah--in the time immediately preceding the return of Jesus to set up his kingdom of peace. Politicians have referred to the Paris massacre as an ‘attack on civilization’. But my response is: what civilization? We seem obsessed with dark and lurid fantasy, and with images of violence in our living rooms. We congratulate ourselves on our culture of ‘freedom’, bought at a great price in two world wars and, before that, with the blood of Christian martyrs who went to the stake for the cause of publishing God’s Word, now discarded and thrown to the winds, only to be replaced by moral relativism where there are virtually no rules for living; where we promote death (through abortion and euthanasia, for example) and set about ‘redefining’ marriage, family and society as a whole. Homophobia and Islamaphobia are among the many morally-correct *don’ts* to have replaced the Ten Commandments. ... Tragically, however, our moral defences are down, our walls have been breached, and the foundations of our Judeo-Christian civilization have been undermined. That is why we are wobbling as a society in grave danger of collapse. I can’t speak for France and the rest of Europe, but as far as Britain is concerned, time is running out. ... We were once a great nation sending missionaries around the world to share the life-changing (indeed, nation-changing) good news about Jesus. But now we have thrown out what was once most precious to us. Jesus told us to build on the rock. But we have built on sand.”

OBAMA IS FIRST SITTING U.S. PRESIDENT TO POSE FOR COVER OF A PRO-HOMOSEXUAL MAGAZINE

Barack Obama has made history again by being the first U.S. president to be featured on the cover of a homosexual activist magazine. He appears on the December cover of Out magazine as “Ally of the Year.” The magazine says, “The 44th President of the United States ... [has helped] us secure marriage equality, among other landmark initiatives that are transforming our place in America.” This is true. Obama is transforming the place of homosexuality in America, and it has spelled persecution for Bible-believing Christians. Obama has framed homosexual rights as civil rights, equating it with equal rights for blacks. But homosexuality is not a skin color; it is a moral act. It is an act that is condemned by the Bible as unnatural and sinful.

“For this cause God gave them up unto vile affections: for even their women did change the natural use into that which is against nature: And likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust one toward another; men with men working that which is unseemly, and receiving in themselves that recompence of their error which was meet” (Romans 1:26-27).
TALKING CATERPILLARS

The following is from CreationMoments.com, November 12, 2015: “Several recent Creation Moments programs have featured the sounds some ants make, called stridulation. Not only do some caterpillars also make such sounds, but also they appear to communicate with some types of ants. Many species of caterpillars of two butterfly groups secrete a sweet liquid that ants like. In return, the ants protect the caterpillar from its enemies while they collect their sweet treat. These caterpillars actually call the ants when the liquid is ready, using a variety of sounds. These calls range from a simple ‘bub…bub’ to more complex sounds, such as, ‘beep ah ah ah beep.’ Another type of caterpillar calls ants when it needs help. This species does a remarkable job of mimicking the ants’ sounds. Very young members of this caterpillar species frequently fall off the leaves on which they are grazing. When they do, they make ant noises until found by foraging ants. The caterpillar’s ‘ant talk’ apparently convinces the ants it is one of them. So they return it to their nest and place it in their nursery. There the caterpillar eats some of the young ants. Two ant species eventually figure out their mistake and kill the caterpillar, while a third species never seems to realize its mistake. Communication is a gift that God has given to many of His creatures. However, as beings made to have a relationship with God, our communication should be like His--never deceitful and always building others up. ‘Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying, that it may minister grace unto the hearers’ (Eph. 4:29).”

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/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, info@wayoflife.org.