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# FRIDAY CHURCH NEWS NOTES

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## SBC PRESIDENT ONE IN SPIRIT WITH CHARISMATIC MYSTICS AND CATHOLICS

I want to revisit the upcoming event discussed in last week's Friday Church News Notes, which is SBC President Ronnie Floyd's scheduled ministry at IHOP's OneThing conference December 28-31. For those who have eyes to see, this is an irrefutable witness to the spiritual deception that has permeated the Southern Baptist Convention. At the International House of Prayer, Floyd will join hands with one of the world's most radical groups of charismatic mystics, as well as with Roman Catholic praise musician Matt Maher. The International House of Prayer is most assuredly one in the spirit



with Matt and his love for the mass and prayers to Mary. IHOP is passionate about "Jesus," but it is a false christ and a deceiving spirit masquerading as the Spirit of God. And this frightful reality is created by the soul-blinding power of contemporary worship. Even the most conservative elements of the Southern Baptist Convention have long been drunk on this music, unwittingly drinking of a deceiving spirit, an ecumenical spirit, a non-judgmental spirit, unwittingly building a bridge to the one-world church, so that today there is no ability to resist it. Even the most conservative Southern Baptist leaders,

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## TWO GENERATIONS OF BAPTIST PASTORS: THE CONSERVATIVE AND THE EMERGING

Charles Stanley and his son Andy represent two generations of Baptist pastors, one conservative and one emerging. Charles, 82, is the long-time pastor of First Baptist Church of Atlanta, while Andy, 56, is the cool pastor of North Point Community Church in Alpharetta, an Atlanta suburb. One of their fundamental differences is their view of homosexuality. Charles believes that homosexuality is a sin and that homosexual marriage is absolutely wrong, based on the Bible, while Andy holds a broader, more "tolerant" view based on a "consensus." In the book *The New Rules for Love, Sex and Dating*, Andy says, "My purpose in writing this book was not to push a religious or even my Christian agenda." So much for God's command to "preach the Word" (2 Timothy 4:2)! At an event in April promoting his "change maker's" organization called Catalyst, Andy

said, "We need to decide, regardless of what you think about this topic [homosexuality], no more students are going to feel like they have to leave the local church because they're same-sex attracted or because they're gay. That ends with us" ("Dr. Charles Stanley and Son Andy," *The Gospel Herald*, Apr. 23, 2015). "Conservative" Charles Stanley built the bridges to the emerging church on which the second generation is treading, particularly by his broad-tent SBC philosophy and acceptance of contemporary worship music. I visited First Baptist of Atlanta in the 1990s and they were rocking even then. Many older independent Baptist preachers are building the same bridges and the result will be the same. Already many of the younger independent Baptist preachers have crossed the bridges of compromise and are walking in dangerous territory.

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from Al Mohler to Charles Stanley, by their silence, support the bridge building done through contemporary music. Matt Maher, who will join the SBC president at the IHOP conference, leads the “Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament” at Catholic Churches, such as Our Lady of Mount Carmel in Tempe which is devoted to Mary, “the Mother of Life.” The “Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament” refers to the worship of the consecrated host of the mass. Because of the supposed power of the Catholic mass to transform bread into the very body and blood of Jesus, the host is “adored” as Christ Himself. This is the type of apostasy with which every lover of contemporary worship music joins hands. Stuart Townend and the Gettys, whose music is promoted now by Bob Jones University, Frank Garlock, and the Hamiltons, are friends with Matt Maher and have joined him in ecumenical ventures. “Now I beseech you, brethren, mark them which cause divisions and offences contrary to the doctrine which ye have learned; and avoid them” (Romans 16:17).

## DESIGNER BABIES



Genetic research has made fantastic strides in the past 20 years, and a new technology has opened the door for modifying DNA that was undreamed of not long ago. CRISPR/Cas9 is a technique of “cutting and pasting” pieces of

DNA that holds the potential for biologists to cure genetic defects, eradicate diseases, and even create designer babies “whose genes have been carefully selected to make them smarter, stronger, or more beautiful” (“Scientists may soon be able to ‘cut and paste’ DNA,” *Business Insider*, Nov. 19, 2015). The fear that biologists will “play God” is very real, since so many of them have no fear of God, claiming, in fact, to be agnostic at best. Hank Greely, a bioethicist at Stanford University, says, “There’s this idea that the human genome is the sacred essence of our species, but that’s nonsense, because we share most of our genes with other species.” This frightful level of arrogant spiritual blindness is the rule rather than the exception in science today, and it is a fulfillment of Bible prophecy. “Knowing this first, that there shall come in the last days scoffers, walking after their own lusts” (2 Peter 3:3).

## THOUSANDS OF SYRIAN REFUGEES HAVE POSITIVE VIEW OF ISLAMIC STATE

According to a 2014 study, 13% of refugees from Syria have a “positive” view of the Islamic State. The study was done last November by the Arab Center for Research and Policy Studies, based in Doha (“Poll: 13% of Syrian refugees,” *AEIdeas*, Nov. 20, 2015). Though 73% of the refugees were found to have a negative view of ISIS, this still would mean that there are thousands of ISIS sympathizers among the refugees flooding into Europe, America, and Canada.

## BIOWEARABLE TATTOOS

A prototype biometric tattoo is being tested for use in the military and elsewhere to monitor body functions and collect and transmit electronic data. Designed by the software firm Chaotic Moon, “the tattoos are part of a new trend of ‘biowearables’” (“Biometric Military Tattoos,” Breitbart, Nov. 26, 2015). The immediate objective is to create a biometric tattoo that monitors body temperature, hydration, and stress levels and uploads this information to military networks. Of course, some sort of technology like this could be used by the Antichrist to control the economic activity of every individual on earth. “And he causeth all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads: And that no man might buy or sell, save he that had the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name” (Revelation 13:16-17).



## 40% OF MILLENNIALS ARE OPPOSED TO FREE SPEECH IF IT IS OFFENSIVE

The following is excerpted from “Study: 40%,” Charlie Nash, Breitbart, Nov. 23, 2015: “A new study conducted by Pew Research came out on Friday, revealing the depressingly sorry state of today’s youth and the respect that they have for the 1st Amendment and freedom of speech in general. When asked whether the government should intervene if citizens say something that might be considered offensive to minorities, 40% of millennials agreed. This is, of course, still a minority of respondents, but when compared to those of the previous generations (even just the last), it is still an incredibly significant figure. Only 27% of Gen Xers, 24% of Baby Boomers, and 12% of Silent Generation respondents agreed that the state should control and limit potentially offensive speech, so the comparative increase among the youth of disregard for the First Amendment should be a major cause for concern. This is simply the result of what most journalists on the right have been saying for years. Freedom of

speech is under attack, not by direct legislation, but by erasing the value of freedom of expression in schools and colleges. Just 10 to 20 years ago, college campuses were places defined by their open debates, easy access to learn new things, and free student discussion. College campuses are now defined by ‘safe spaces,’ authoritarian student unions, and bourgeoisie middle-class-but-I’m-down-with-the-poor protesters. Students of today do not want a free discussion if anything said could hurt someone’s feelings (unless you’re straight, male, and white; then fire away). ... Despite the worrying increase in those against free speech, the United States of America turned out to be the most freedom-loving country on its own, with only 28% in favor of government regulation on speech, while Germany had a troubling 70% in favor, the most out of the all countries in the study. The United Kingdom was the most freedom-loving country in Europe, with 54% favoring free speech.”

## THE LOVE OF GOD IS INCLUSIVE OF ALL THAT IS GOOD

The following is from the *Biblical Illustrator's* comment on James 4:4 -- "When desire is normal it centres in God, and the soul comes into harmony with the universe. When we love the Creator supremely, we must receive delight from every part of the creation in the degree its Lord designed. The love of God is inclusive of the love of all that is good. Instead of narrowing, it expands infinitely our capacity of happiness. It awakens the dullest soul to a consciousness of the beautiful and the sublime in nature. It sanctions with the loftiest motives the pursuit of knowledge, it pronounces a blessing even on those lesser gifts which minister to the gratification of bodily appetite. All these contribute to his pleasure whose chief delight is in the Maker of all. Godliness has not only the promise of the world that now is, it has

whatever is excellent in that world. Lovely as this earth may appear to the believer, his controlling impulse is not love of the world, but the love of God. If, on the other hand, our desires turn away from the great Father, they must rest on something He has made. It may be a person, it may be wealth, art, pleasure, fame; in any case the result is the same. We have wrecked the universal order; we have assailed the symmetry and splendour of the cosmos. We have turned things upside down. We have put the less in the place of the greater. We have deified the material and dethroned the eternal. Such an affection is in its essence exclusive and intolerant. We may love God and enjoy all else, but the converse of the proposition is never true; the friendship of the world is enmity with God."

### 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](mailto:fbns@wayoflife.org).