

FRIDAY CHURCH NEWS NOTES

TARGET SHOWS LACK OF CONCERN FOR FEMALE CUSTOMERS BY OPENING DOOR FOR A PERVERT TO USE WHATEVER RESTROOM HE PLEASSES



Target department stores has announced a weird new policy allowing men who “identify” as women to use the women’s restrooms, no questions asked. The company said, “Inclusivity is a core belief at Target. It’s something we celebrate. ... We welcome transgender team members and guests to use the

restroom or fitting room facility that corresponds with their gender identity.” There is no need for a gender change operation or even as much as a statement from a psychologist. It is enough that a man claim that he feels like a woman, or vice versa, and it is more than insanity; it is vile and perverted. Target supposedly has great compassion on “transgenders” but obviously has zero compassion on mothers, daughters, and granddaughters who might be exposed to the preying eyes of perverts, or even worse. Not even Sodom was this foolish. “And he answered and said unto them, Have ye not read, that he which made *them* at the beginning made them male and female” (Matthew 19:4).

ATHEIST PASTOR IN CANADA



Gretta Vosper

The following is excerpted from “Atheist Pastor Sparks Debate,” MSN.com, Apr. 24, 2016: “There is not one mention of God during the 70-minute service at Toronto’s West Hill United church. Bibles are nowhere to be seen. The large, steel cross--one of the few remaining religious symbols in this church--is hidden behind a cascade of rainbow streamers. But that is perhaps to be expected in a church led by an avowed atheist. ‘I do not believe in a theistic, supernatural being called God,’ says Gretta Vosper, the United Church of Canada minister who has led West Hill since 1997. ‘I don’t believe in what I think 99.99% of the world thinks you mean when you use that word.’ To her, God is instead a metaphor for goodness and a life lived with compassion and justice. Vosper’s outspoken commitment to a seemingly clashing set of beliefs has prompted turmoil in the open-minded United Church of Canada. A progressive Christian denomination that began ordaining women in Canada 80 years ago and for decades has allowed openly gay men and women to lead ministries, the church has been left questioning its boundaries. ...

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ATHEIST PASTOR IN CANADA

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Vosper was ordained in 1993, during which she was asked if she believed in God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. She said yes, speaking metaphorically. Some eight years later, vexed by the archaic language, imagery and stories of the Bible, she delivered an off-the-cuff sermon in which she deconstructed the idea of God. ... Many in the clergy privately share her view on God, she says, turning her into a sort of standard-bearer for a conversation that is already happening in the wider world.”

FLASH OF LIGHT MARKS MOMENT LIFE BEGINS



The following is excerpted from “Bright Flash of Light,” *London Telegraph*, Apr. 26, 2016: “Human life begins in bright flash of light as a sperm meets an

egg, scientists have shown for the first time, after capturing the astonishing ‘fireworks’ on film. An explosion of tiny sparks erupts from the egg at the exact moment of conception. Scientists had seen the phenomenon occur in other animals but it is the first time it has been also shown to happen in humans. Not only is it an incredible spectacle, highlighting the very moment that a new life begins, the size of the flash can be used to determine the quality of the fertilised egg. Researchers from Northwestern University, in Chicago, noticed that some of the eggs burn brighter than others, showing that they are more likely to produce a healthy baby.” “Thine eyes did see my substance, yet being unperfect; and in thy book all *my members* were written, *which* in continuance were fashioned, when *as yet there was none of them*” (Psalm 139:16).

NEIL ARMSTRONG WAS THRILLED TO WALK WHERE JESUS WALKED

Neil Armstrong, the first man to walk on the moon, died in 2012 at age 82. An astronaut, aerospace engineer, Navy fighter pilot (who flew 78 combat missions over North Korea), and university professor, Armstrong was famous as a man of few words, yet he uttered some of history’s most memorable ones. When he first stepped on the moon, he exclaimed, “This is one small step for [a] man, one giant leap for mankind.” He said something else that was very memorable, and I was reminded of it on a recent trip to Israel. Not long after the Apollo 11 moon landing of 1969, Armstrong visited Jerusalem and was being guided by archaeologist Meir Ben-Dov, one of the excavators of the southern Temple Mount. Armstrong asked him to point out a place where Jesus would have walked, and Ben-Dov took him to the Huldah Gates and showed him the recently excavated southern steps. Armstrong asked if these were the original steps, and Ben-Dov replied, “Yes.” Armstrong said, “So Jesus stepped right here?” and Ben-Dov again confirmed it. To this, Armstrong said, “I have to tell you. I am more excited stepping on these stones than I was stepping on the moon.” This account is part of Israel’s official two-year training program for guides, and it also appears in *From Beirut to Jerusalem* by Thomas Friedman.

BEN FRANKLIN ON INDUSTRY AND DEBT

The following is from Benjamin Franklin's *The Way of Wealth*, 1758, collated from *Poor Richard's Almanac*: "God gives all things to industry. Then plough deep, while sluggards sleep, and you shall have corn to sell and to keep, says Poor Dick. Work while it is called today, for you know not how much you may be hindered tomorrow, which makes Poor Richard say, one today is worth two tomorrows; and farther, have you somewhat to do tomorrow, do it today. ... When you run in debt; you give to another power over your liberty. ... If you cannot pay at the time, you will be ashamed to see your creditor; you will be in fear when you speak to him, you will make poor pitiful sneaking excuses, and by degrees come to lose your veracity, and sink into base downright lying; for, as Poor Richard says, the second vice is lying, the first is running in debt." Proverbs 6:9-11 -- "How long wilt thou sleep, O sluggard? when wilt thou arise out of thy sleep? *Yet* a little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to sleep: So shall thy poverty come as one that travelleth, and thy want as an armed man." Proverbs 22:7 -- "The rich ruleth over the poor, and the borrower *is* servant to the lender."



THE GOSPEL IS THE SEED OF SALVATION

There is no salvation apart from the hearing of the gospel, which is why Jesus commanded that the gospel be preached to every soul (Mk. 16:15). The Parable of the Sower teaches us that the seed of the gospel must be planted before the work of salvation can be accomplished in a sinner's life (Lk. 8:11). The gospel, which is the power of God unto salvation (Rom. 1:16), is the instrument the Spirit uses to awaken the sleeping sinner so he can believe. We see this on the day of Pentecost. It was after Peter preached the gospel that the Spirit of God pricked the hearts of the people with conviction and they repented and believed (Acts 2:36-37). We see this in John 16:7-8. The Spirit's work of conviction is tied in with His work in the believer. Verse 7 says the Spirit will come to the believers, and verse 8 says the Spirit will convict the world. This process happens as the

believer preaches the gospel. The Spirit's reproof is in conjunction with the believer's preaching. He indwells believers, and He reproves the world through the gospel they preach. The convicting knowledge of sin, righteousness, and judgment comes only by the gospel, not by natural light. Natural light (the light of creation and conscience) provides enough light to condemn man and to cause him to seek God (Romans 1:20; 2:14-15), but it does not provide enough light for salvation. Only when the gospel comes is there conviction of sin and faith in Christ. We see the same thing in Acts 1:8. We see it, too, in 2 Corinthians 5:18-21. Christ speaks salvation through His ambassadors. The country of Nepal illustrates this. Nepal sat in spiritual darkness for two millennia after Christ. There were no believers, because the country was shut up against gospel preaching. The rulers protected Hinduism as the official religion, because it provided them with

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their position of wealth and power at the top of the Hindu caste system. With no gospel preaching, there was no salvation. The only Nepalis who came to Christ in this period were those who went to India and heard the gospel. In the 1950s, King Tribhuvan opened the doors to foreign aid and influence and with that open door the gospel entered, and it was only since then that the saving power of Christ came to Nepal. Note Jesus' amazing statement in John 20:21-23. The context is evangelism. This is a companion passage to Matthew 28:18-20; Mark 16:5; Luke 24:44-48; and Acts 1. The context is Christ's teaching to the believers between His resurrection and ascension, and He emphasized the worldwide preaching of the gospel. The remission of sins spoken of in John 20:23 is through the reception of the gospel. If the believers do not preach the gospel there is no remission of sins.

SMELLING UNDERWATER



star-nosed mole

The following is from CreationMoments.com, April 15, 2016: "Can mammals that spend time in the water smell odors under water? Of course

they can, but no researcher is going to take a big sniff under water to find out! Being able to smell helps us to learn important information about our surroundings – smells can attract or warn of danger. But it has always been thought that semi-aquatic animals could never smell odors under water. Animal researchers at Vanderbilt University were aware that water shrews and star-nosed moles release bubbles constantly when they are under water, but they didn't know why. The star-nosed mole is amazing by itself. Its nose has 16 pink tentacles, giving this strange-looking creature its name. So they watched the animals under water on high-speed

video. They saw the creatures exhaling and then re-inhaling the bubbles at the rate of ten times a second. That led them to wonder whether the animals could be detecting odors under water. As a test, they placed food in the tank but separated it from the test subjects with a screen so there was no physical contact. As the animals were tested, they excitedly targeted in on the food source, demonstrating that they were indeed detecting the odor of wanted food. Since these creatures make their living under water, God has given them the amazing and surprising ability to smell under water."



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.