

FRIDAY CHURCH NEWS NOTES

THOUSANDS PROTEST REMOVAL OF CHILDREN FROM CHRISTIAN HOME



The following is excerpted from “Thousands Gather to Protest,” *ChristianHeadlines.com*, Apr. 21, 2016: “Thousands of Norwegian Christians are protesting the government’s removal of five children from a Christian family. *Christian Today* reports that the Bodnariu family, including father Marius, a Romanian, and mother Ruth, a Norwegian, had their five children taken from them after Norway’s child welfare service, the Barnevernet, deemed them unfit to

raise the children. The government’s intervention began when officials asked the children at school if their parents spanked them. Corporal punishment is against the law in Norway. The children responded affirmatively and were consequently taken from their parents, who have been accused of parental child abuse and religious indoctrination. The Bodnariu’s fight to regain custody of their children has not gone unnoticed, however. Tens of thousands of protesters joined together to petition the government to restore the children to their family. Cristian Ionescu, a spokesman for the family, said that their case has been a ‘catalyst that united’ conservative Christians ‘in a common cause that inspired us to witness for the values that represent us.’ ... Thus far, a judge has ruled that the Bodnariu may regain custody of their youngest child, Ezekiel, and that the two older boys can see their parents twice a week.”

GLOVES TRANSLATE SIGN LANGUAGE INTO SPOKEN ENGLISH

The following is excerpted from “Nifty Gloves,” *DiscoverMagazine.com*, Apr. 20, 2016: “Two sophomores at the University of Washington have been recognized for an invention that could break down communication barriers for the deaf. Their invention, the SignAloud, is a pair of sensor-filled gloves that interpret the hand movements American Sign Language users use to communicate, and converts them into speech or text that the rest of us can understand. The two students, Navid Azodi and Thomas Pryor, designed the gloves inside the CoMotion MakerSpace, a collaborative workshop on campus. They recently received the Lemelson-MIT Student Prize for their work, which is a yearly award given to undergraduates for innovative inventions. They won in the ‘Use It’ category, and received a \$10,000 grant along with the prize. Their gloves rely on a combination of sensors that interpret hand movements and position to send detailed information to a computer via Bluetooth, where a statistical regression chooses the most likely word or phrase from a database of ASL signs. The computer then outputs the speech as spoken words or text. ‘Our gloves are lightweight, compact and worn on the hands, but ergonomic enough to use as an everyday accessory, similar to hearing aids or contact lenses,’ Pryor said in a press release.”



Thomas Pryor and Navid Azodi

A MOTHER'S HANDS

The following is excerpted from Elizabeth Lane's book *Our Uncle Charlie*, and we thank Pastor Buddy Smith for passing this along: "What wonderful hands Mother had. They told the story of her nature, the story of her whole life. Mother (was) one of those do-it-yourself persons. There was nothing, absolutely nothing, she couldn't or wouldn't turn her hand to. What a homemaker! Her hands were very large hands, beautifully formed, with full, wide nails; the sort of hands that never went red, never went brown. They were protected by an underlying layer of flesh that held a soft creaminess, smooth to the touch, but were as firm as a water-washed stone is firm. And yet her hands, the thumb and every finger, the backs and the palms, were criss-crossed with deep, countless little creases and furrows; every little crease and line being a little bit of



the ground-plan of our struggling farm. One of her hands had a black spot deeply embedded in the flesh of one finger where a piece of burnt wood once pierced her hand. The wood came out all right, but the spot of charcoal stayed where the skin closed over it. On one thumb was a white scar that stood up like a knitted

ridge; this was the mark made during an encounter with a fierce, nesting goose, old White-eye or Greyback. It made no difference, cooking, cleaning, washing, ironing, scrubbing, mending, sewing--in our earlier years all by hand, and later by machine--heeling and half-soling our boots, making jams, pickles and sauces, salting meat, making bread, and making butter were all part of a day's work to Mother. She took them in her singing stride. What wonderful hands Mother had!"

DR. GARLOCK'S WARNING AGAINST CCM THEN AND NOW

Many independent Baptist churches that still have any sort of conviction against CCM are "adapting" it by using the words while toning down the rhythm. They are trying to take the rock out of Christian rock. They think they can tame the beast and turn charismatic praise music into fundamentalist praise music. This results in the gradual acceptance of and increasing use of CCM, the gradual allowance for sensual rhythms, a continual pushing of the boundaries. Many discerning men have issued warnings about this slippery slope, including Dr. Frank Garlock, as follows: "IF A CHURCH STARTS USING CCM IT WILL EVENTUALLY LOSE ALL OTHER STANDARDS" (Garlock, Bob Jones University chapel, March 12, 2001). Notice that

fourteen years ago, Dr. Garlock was dogmatic on this issue, saying that if a church starts using CCM it WILL eventually lose all other standards. He didn't say that there is a way to "adapt" CCM to avoid this slide. Sadly, he has since changed his position to allow for the adaptation of contemporary worship music by one-world church builders such as Stuart Townend and Keith Getty. He stated this new position in the "Postlude" to *Why I Don't Listen to Contemporary Christian Music* by his daughter, Shelly Hamilton. (This confusing book is supposedly against CCM while recommending CCM.) Dr. Garlock recommends some of the "conservative" and "biblically rich" music of Getty/Townend, failing to take into account the fact that these men represent

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the “one-world church” (with their ecumenical philosophy and close, non-judgmental relationships with Roman Catholics) and that to use their music is to build a bridge to the extremely dangerous world they and their friends represent. **“Fundamentalists” who build these bridges will bring the corruption of that world into their churches. It has been happening for two decades, and the pace of change is increasing before our very eyes. The corruption can be seen in the next generation at churches such as Lancaster and schools such as West Coast, Crown, Bob Jones, and Pensacola.** In the Internet age, it is impossible to use materials by contemporary musicians without building bridges that our church members will inevitably cross, particularly young people. They are going to Google “Getty/Townend,” etc., and many will be influenced by them, and some will be influenced deeply. While Getty/Townend do write some “conservative contemporary hymns,” they are out-and-out rock and rollers and ecumenists in their lives and ministries. **While I have never known of a Baptist church becoming Lutheran by singing Luther’s hymns, I have known of dozens of churches that have become contemporary by messing around with contemporary music, EVEN THOUGH THIS PATH INVARIABLY STARTS IN A “SMALL” AND “CAUTIOUS” MANNER.**

THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN INTERPRETATION AND APPLICATION

Bible students and preachers must be exceedingly careful to handle God’s Word properly. There are errors and pitfalls on every side of a proper interpretation, and every teacher should understand the difference between interpretation and application. *Interpretation* refers to the basic meaning of a Bible passage gleaned according to the sound rules of interpretation, chiefly context and comparing Scripture with Scripture. *Application* refers to applying a passage to daily living. It has been said that there is “one interpretation and many applications.” That is true except for those cases in which the meaning of a passage is ambiguous enough to allow for more than one interpretation. One of the errors commonly committed is to focus on an application of a passage without having first understood and emphasized the basic interpretation or meaning. Only after the basic interpretation of a passage is clear and only after it is explained can an application be drawn from it. For example, I once heard a message on Song of Solomon 1:1-2. Instead of beginning by explaining that the interpretation of this Song is about the love of a man and a woman, which is very clear from the literal meaning of the words, the preacher immediately applied the Song of Solomon to love between God and the believer. At best, that is an application. To support his teaching that the believer should “kiss” Christ, the preacher used Psalm 2:14. But again, he pulled this from its context and made the *application* into the *interpretation*. Psalm 2:14 refers to submission to Christ as Lord and coming King. That is the *interpretation* according to the clear context. Only very secondarily is there an *application* to the believer’s intimate relationship with Christ.

THE SEA HORSE'S SQUARE TAIL



The following is from CreationMoments.com, January 19, 2015: “Evolutionists and creationists alike enjoy gazing upon the elegant seahorse swimming lazily about the aquarium. However, only creationists are able to see that the seahorse bears the unmistakable stamp of design – all the way from the top of its horse-shaped head to the tip of its unique square tail. Yes, I said square tail. This striking design makes the seahorse considerably better at gripping and grasping than if it had curved sections in its tail. When you look closely, you will see that the tail is made up of about 36 square-like segments that progressively taper off in size along the length of the tail. By using a 3D printer to duplicate the tail and submitting it to crushing

tests, an international team of researchers has now discovered that the squared sections also provide the seahorse with much better armor than a cylindrical tail. ‘Almost all animal tails have circular or oval cross-sections--but not the seahorse’s,’ said Michael Porter, lead investigator and assistant professor in mechanical engineering at Clemson University. Porter’s research group is now using 3D printing to help them develop new structures and robotic systems. Although evolutionists will tell you that the seahorse’s unique tail only appears to be designed, they act as if the tail really was designed! After all, how intelligent would it be for them to pursue new technologies based on the tail of a seahorse that has no intelligence behind it at all?”

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.