
FRIDAY CHURCH NEWS NOTES

SCHOOL FOR TEMPLE PRIESTS OPENS IN JERUSALEM



The following is excerpted from “School for Temple Priests,” Israel Today, Aug. 11, 2016: “The Temple Institute has announced the opening of a school to train descendants of the Tribe of Levi for their eventual return to service in the Third Temple. ‘We are extremely excited to announce this new step towards the restoration of the Holy Temple service. We call first and foremost upon Kohanim [Levitical priests] worldwide to support this special project, which signifies a return to their birth right,’ read a statement from Temple Institute

director Rabbi Chaim Richman. In a separate comment, Rabbi Richman noted that ‘preparation for the Temple is no longer a dream, it’s a reality, in which everyone can play a part.’ ... The Temple Mount in Jerusalem is currently occupied by the Dome of the Rock and the Al Aqsa Mosque, which Muslims now claim as their third holiest site. Many Jews and Christians believe a Third Temple will one day take the place of the Muslim holy sites in accordance with several biblical prophecies.”

SATANIST LEADS INVOCATION AT ALASKA ASSEMBLY

The following is excerpted from “Satanist Leads,” mrctv.org, Media Research Center, Aug. 12, 2016: “A debate over religious freedom has led to a Satanist leading an invocation at one Alaska borough’s assembly meeting. Following a discussion over



Satanist Leads Invocation at
Alaska Assembly Meeting

whether to do away with invocations entirely, the Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly decided to open invocations up to all religions. According to Assembly President Blaine Gilman, a group of pastors used to previously lead the assembly’s invocation. Under the new rules, however, anyone can choose to lead an invocation in the name of his or her religion. During Tuesday’s assembly

meeting, Iris Fontana led an invocation in the name of Satan on behalf of the Satanic Temple. KSRM reports Fontana said: ‘Let us stand now, unbowed and unfettered by arcane doctrines, born of fearful minds in darkened times. Let us embrace the Luciferian impulse to eat of the tree of knowledge and dissipate our blissful and comforting delusions of old. Let us demand that individuals be judged for their concrete actions, not their fealty to arbitrary social norms and illusory categorizations. ... That which will not bend must break and that which can be destroyed by truth should never be spared its demise. It is done. Hail Satan.’” The Bible says Satan is a defeated foe: “Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he [Jesus Christ] also himself likewise took part of the same; that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil; And deliver them who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage” (Hebrews 2:14-15).

CALIFORNIA'S ASSISTED SUICIDE LAW

The following is excerpted from "California Says It's Okay to Target the Disabled with Assisted Suicide," LifeNews.com, Aug. 11, 2016: "[California's assisted suicide] law, currently under litigation, has been allowed to remain in effect for all other Californians until a ruling expected later next month. But in the meantime it is proposed that no prisoner, no matter how ill, may avail of the 'right' that other ill people have been offered; the supposed 'right to be dead.' ... Individuals in California are currently 'free to be dead' when given a terminal diagnosis and an MD approximates that within 6 months they could die. If

despondent and 'hopeless' in their own judgement, the patient is free to simply 'get things over with.' And 'accommodating individuals' may attend. They may be given a lethal dose of medicine. No psychological evaluation or counseling is required for those patients. As in Oregon and elsewhere, only certain physicians who view mercy killing as benign, are inclined to employ medicine in a deadly manner. As in Oregon, no investigation is launched into the intentional killing, and as in all 'assisted suicides,' the 'assistant,' the third-party agent, is free to go, unquestioned and unhindered, even if he or she is an heir or should they in some other way benefit from the intentional killing. ... Perhaps the experience of



Belgium can give us insight into the Brave New World our voluntary euthanasia laws are attempting to impose on both the vulnerable as well as murderous prisoners. There, 'assisted suicide' via medicine is authorized even for the non-terminal, provided the patient themselves feel their lives have no purpose.

This 'freedom' was given new meaning in January 2015 when serial-rapist and murderer Frank van Den Bleeken was denied execution at trial, though he desired it, as the death penalty is outlawed in Belgium. Several years later and diagnosed with incurable illness, van Den Bleeken did not wish to spend the remainder of his life in prison.

Initially the courts ruled that he indeed could kill himself at his own hand, since anyone can in Belgium. Grieving family members of his victims were content with the 'self-execution'—justice would finally be done. But it was not to be. The courts in their newfound sense of justice ultimately ruled that what Mr. van Den Bleeken needed is what all despondent and suicidal individuals should always be offered, psychological intervention and counseling. In Belgium only innocent people may be killed. Murderers must get counseling and protection. Today capital criminals cannot be killed in California even if they desire it. The finest counseling and interventions are instead offered."

EVIDENCE FOUND OF HUMAN SACRIFICE TO ZEUS IN ANCIENT GREECE

The following is excerpted from "Chilling Mountaintop Find May Confirm Greek Legend," Associated Press, Aug. 10, 2016: "Archaeologists have made a sinister discovery at the top of a Greek mountain which might corroborate one of the darkest legends of antiquity. Excavations this summer on Mount Lykaion, once worshipped as the birthplace of the god Zeus, uncovered the 3,000-year-old skeleton of a teenager amid a mound of ashes built up over a millennium from sacrificed animals. Greece's Culture Ministry said Wednesday that the skeleton, probably of an adolescent boy, was found in the heart of the 30-meter (100-foot) broad ash altar, next to a man-made stone platform. Excavators say it's too early to speculate on the

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EVIDENCE FOUND OF HUMAN SACRIFICE TO ZEUS IN ANCIENT GREECE ...continued from previous page



Ancient skeleton may confirm
Greek sacrifice legend -

nature of the teenager's death but the discovery is remarkable because the remote Mount Lykaion was for centuries associated with the most nefarious of Greek cults: Ancient writers—including Plato—linked it with human sacrifice to Zeus, a practice which has very rarely been confirmed by archaeologists anywhere in the Greek world and never on mainland Greece. According to legend, a boy was sacrificed with the animals and all the meat was cooked and eaten together. Whoever ate the human part would become a wolf for nine years. 'Several ancient literary sources mention rumors that

human sacrifice took place at the altar, but up until a few weeks ago there has been no trace whatsoever of human bones discovered at the site,' said excavator David Gilman Romano, professor of Greek archaeology at the University of Arizona. 'Whether it's a sacrifice or not, this is a sacrificial altar ... so it's not a place where you would bury an individual. It's not a cemetery,' Romano told The Associated Press. A very unusual detail, he said, was that the upper part of the skull was missing, while the body was laid among two lines of stones on an east-west axis, with stone slabs covering the pelvis. The mountaintop in the Peloponnese region is the earliest known site where Zeus was worshipped..."

LUTHERANS DRAWING CLOSER TO UNITY WITH ROME

The following is excerpted from "US Lutherans approve document recognizing agreement with Catholic Church," Religion News Service, Aug. 17, 2016: "Nearly 500 years after Martin Luther nailed his 95 theses to the Castle Church door, the largest Lutheran denomination in the U.S. has approved a declaration recognizing 'there are no longer church-dividing issues' on many points with the Roman Catholic Church. The 'Declaration on the Way' was approved 931-9 by the 2016 Evangelical Lutheran Church in America Churchwide Assembly held last week at the Ernest N. Morial Convention Center in New Orleans. ELCA Presiding Bishop Elizabeth A. Eaton called the declaration 'historic' in a statement released by the denomination following the Wednesday (Aug. 10) vote. 'Though we have not yet arrived, we have claimed that we are, in fact, on the way to unity. ... This Declaration on the Way helps us to realize more fully our unity in Christ with our Catholic partners, but it also serves to embolden our commitment to unity with all Christians,' Eaton said. The declaration comes as the Lutheran and Catholic churches prepare to kick off a year of celebrations to mark the 500th anniversary of the Protestant Reformation. ... Most notably, the 'Declaration on the Way' includes 32 'Statements of Agreement' where Lutherans and Catholics no longer have church-dividing differences on issues of church, ministry and the Eucharist. Those statements previously had been affirmed by the U. S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' Committee on Ecumenical and Interreligious Affairs. ... the Vatican and the Lutheran World Federation released a joint document in 2013 titled 'From Conflict to Communion' that focused on the progress made in Lutheran-Catholic dialogue in the past 50 years, rather than centuries of conflict.



ELCA approves historic agreement
with Roman Catholic Church

SCIENTISTS DISCOVER THAT BIRDS SLEEP ON LONG FLIGHTS

The following is excerpted from “Scientists have just seen birds sleep during flight for the first time ever,” ScienceAlert.com, Aug. 4, 2016: “Scientists have been able to observe birds falling asleep mid-flight for the first time--an ability that’s long been suspected but never been proven. ... The new research found both the expected and the unexpected. By measuring the brain activity of frigatebirds--seabirds known to fly for weeks at a time over the ocean in search of fish--researchers showed once and for all that birds can shut down one hemisphere at a time during flight, as expected. But they can also rest both hemispheres at once--something scientists didn’t expect them to be able to do while remaining airborne. To figure this out, a team from the Max Planck Institute for Ornithology in Germany developed a small device that was able to measure electroencephalographic (EEG) changes in birds’ brain activity. ... they attached it to 15 adult female frigatebirds. The team recorded their brain activity over 10 days and more than 3,000 kilometres of flight, while a GPS device also tracked the birds’ position and altitude. ...

More often than not, the birds just rested one hemisphere at a time, which is something the researchers had expected. ... But the EEG recordings also showed both hemispheres going into slow wave sleep at the same time, which unexpectedly suggested that birds were able to maintain aerodynamic control even when their entire brain is asleep.”



Frigatebird

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.