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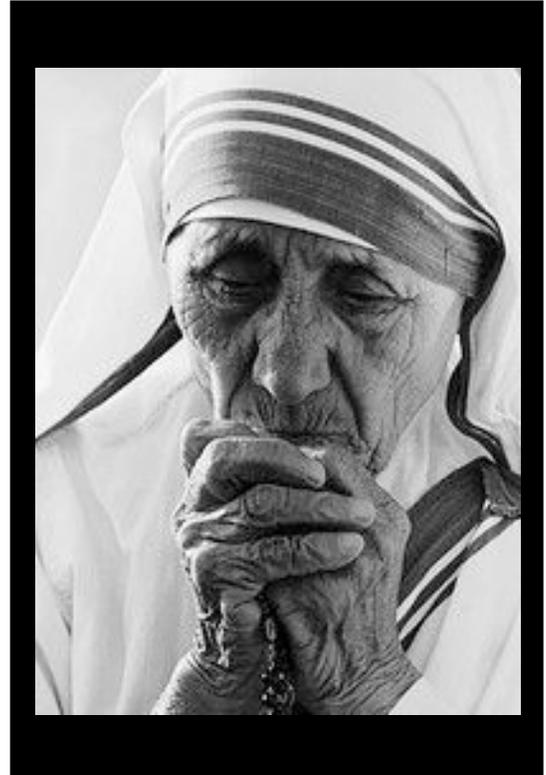
# FRIDAY CHURCH NEWS NOTES

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## SAINT MOTHER TERESA

The late Mother Teresa was pronounced a Catholic saint on Sunday, September 4, by Pope Francis. Sainthood requires the documentation of two miracles attributed to the deceased individual. The first, in 1998, the year after her death, was the cure of a stomach tumor in an Indian woman. Though the bishop declared this a miracle performed by the dead nun, the woman's husband said he believed that medicine had cured his wife. The second case, in 2008, was the "inexplicable" recovery of a Brazilian man who woke from a coma after his wife prayed to the nun. By her own admission, Mother Teresa found only darkness in her spiritual life and practice. This is documented in the shocking book *Mother Teresa: Come Be My Light, the Private Writings of the Saint of Calcutta* (2007), which contains statements made by the nun to her confessors and superiors over

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## A TRUE SAINT

The Roman Catholic doctrine of sainthood proves its heretical character. Nowhere do we find Christians in the New Testament churches praying to saints. The Bible instructs us to pray to God the Father through Jesus Christ, the one Mediator between God and men (1 Tim. 2:5). To pray to a mere man or woman is blasphemy. In the New Testament the term "saint" is applied to all born again Christians, not to a special class of deceased Christians. See Acts 9:13, 32, 41; 26:10; Rom. 8:27; 12:13; 15:25, 31;

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16:2, 15; 1 Cor. 6:1, 2; 14:33; 16:1, 15; 2 Cor. 8:4; 9:1, 12; 13:13; Eph. 1:1; Phil. 1:1; Col. 1:2, 4; Phile. 7; Heb. 6:10; 13:24. Even the carnal Christians at Corinth are called saints (2 Cor. 1:1). Born again Christians are not saints because they are especially holy; they are saints because they have a sinless Saviour and He has removed their sin before God (Rev. 1:5, 6; 1 Pet. 2:9, 10). In the sight of God, through Jesus Christ, the believer is "holy and unblameable and unreprouvable" (Col. 1:22). This is why we can be called saints. Praise His holy name!

SAINT MOTHER TERESA ...continued from previous page

a period of more than 65 years. In March 1953, she wrote to her confessor: "THERE IS SUCH TERRIBLE DARKNESS WITHIN ME, as if everything was dead. It has been like this more or less from the time I started 'the work.'" In 1979 she wrote: "THE SILENCE AND THE EMPTINESS IS SO GREAT--that I look and do not see,-- Listen and do not hear." Her private statements about the spiritual darkness she encountered in contemplative prayer continued in this vein until her death, and they are the loudest possible warning about the danger of the Catholic contemplative mysticism which is sweeping through evangelicalism. Contemplative practices, such as the Jesus Prayer, breath prayers, visualizing prayer, centering prayer, and *lectio divina* are exceedingly dangerous. They are vehicles to bring practitioners into contact with demons. Many who engage in these things end up believing in a pagan concept of God such as pantheism (God is everything) and panentheism (God is in everything). Practitioners typically become increasingly ecumenical and interfaith in thinking. See *Evangelicals and Contemplative Prayer*, available in print and free eBook editions from [www.wayoflife.org](http://www.wayoflife.org). For a much more extensive look at this subject see *Contemplative Mysticism: A Powerful Ecumenical Bond*.

## PARIS' PUBLIC SCHOOLS NO-GO ZONES FOR JEWS

The following is excerpted from "In Paris, Jewish Students Find Public Schools a No-Go Zone," *The Times of Israel*, Aug. 25, 2016: "Twenty-five years after he graduated from a public high school in the French capital, Stephane Tayar recalls favorably his time in one of the world's most thorough education systems. As for many other French Jews his age, the state-subsidized upbringing has worked out well for Tayar, a 43-year-old communications and computers specialist. ... 'You learn to get along with all kinds of people--Muslims, Christians, poor, rich,' Tayar said in recalling his school years. ... But when the time came for Tayar and his wife to enroll their own boy and girl, the couple opted for Jewish institutions--part of a network of dozens of private establishments with state recognition, hefty tuition and student bodies that are made up almost exclusively of Jews. 'Enrolling a Jewish kid into a public school was normal when I was growing up,' Tayar said in a recent interview as he waited with two helmets in hand to pick up his youngest from her Jewish elementary school in eastern Paris. 'Nowadays forget it; no longer realistically possible. Anti-Semitic bullying means it would be too damaging for any Jewish kid you put there.' ... The increase in schoolyard anti-Semitism in France, first noted in an internal Education Ministry

report in 2004, coincided with an increase in anti-Semitic incidents overall. Prior to 2000, only a few dozen incidents were recorded annually in France. Since then, however, hundreds have been reported annually. Many attacks--and a majority of violent ones--are committed by people with a Muslim background, who target Jews as such or as payback for Israel's actions in what is known as the 'new anti-Semitism.' In 2012, payback for Israel's actions in Gaza was the stated motivation of a jihadist who killed three children and a rabbi at a Jewish school in Toulouse. Since then, Jewish institutions across Europe and French Jewish schools especially have been protected by armed guards--most often soldiers toting automatic rifles."



Children peering out from a doorway as armed soldiers patrol outside their school in the Jewish quarter of the Marais district in Paris, France, January 13, 2015. (Jeff J Mitchell/Getty Images/via JTA)

## THE CAVE MEN OF SPAIN

There has never been a cave man or stone age, but cave men do exist. They are simply people who live in caves. The largest collection of cave men in one place today is Guadix, Spain, where there are 2,000 underground dwellings, including homes, churches, restaurants, hotels, and government buildings (“The cave dwellers of southern Spain,” BBC, Aug. 15, 2016). Some of the inhabited caves date back 1,000 years to the Islamic (Moors), who ruled from the 8th to the 15th centuries. Other towns near Guadix also have cave districts.

## THE BIBLE, VEGETARIANISM, AND MEAT EATING

Adam was given herbs to eat (Genesis 3:18). But this does not mean that vegetarianism is superior to meat eating either in health or spirituality. After the Flood, God instructed Noah to eat meat (Genesis 9:3-4). Under the law of Moses, meat eating was allowed but regulated (e.g., clean and unclean animals in Leviticus 11). In fact, the eating of certain meats was commanded (e.g., the Passover lamb in Exodus 12). In the church age, there is dietary liberty, and we are warned that those who make dietary laws are following doctrines of devils (1 Tim. 4:4-5), though there remains a restriction against eating blood (Gen. 9:4; Acts 15:29).



## WIFE OF NAZI LEADER JOSEPH GOEBBELS' HAD JEWISH FATHER

The following is excerpted from “Goebbels wife had Jewish father,” *The Times of Israel*, Aug. 21, 2016: “The wife of Nazi propaganda minister Joseph Goebbels had a Jewish father, according to a new document discovered in the Berlin archives. The document was published in the German newspaper *Bild*, the London-based *Jewish Chronicle* reported. It shows that the father of Magda Goebbels was a Jewish businessman named Richard Friedlander, who married Magda’s mother, Auguste Behrend, when Magda was about 7 years old. ... Friedlander died in the Buchenwald concentration camp in 1939; his daughter did not attempt to help him. The Goebbels had been portrayed by the Nazis as the ideal Aryan family. Joseph and Magda Goebbels and their six children committed suicide on April 30, 1945, a day after Adolf Hitler took his life.”

## MOURNING OR FEASTING

“And in that day did the LORD God of hosts call to weeping, and to mourning, and to baldness, and to girding with sackcloth: And behold joy and gladness, and slaying oxen, and killing sheep, eating flesh, and drinking wine: let us eat and drink; for to morrow we shall die. And it was revealed in mine ears by the LORD of hosts, Surely this iniquity shall not be purged from you till ye die, saith the LORD God of hosts” (Isaiah 22:12-13). When Isaiah delivered this prophecy, Judah was in a desperate situation. Assyria had either already destroyed the northern kingdom or was on the verge of doing so. The land was filled with idolatry and moral filthiness. In that dire time, God graciously but forcefully called upon His

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## MOURNING OR FEASTING ...continued from previous page

people to mourn and repent and seek His face, but instead they partied and proclaimed that there was no hope for help or revival. This is exactly what is happening in America, Canada, and other Western nations today. Politically, morally, and economically, the situation is dire, but instead of calling for repentance and earnest prayer as per 2 Chronicles 7:14 and 1 Timothy 2:1-4, most Bible-believing churches are content with their lukewarm spirituality, their infantile discipleship, their shallow biblicism, their smooth preaching, their entertainment agenda. They blame the moral reprobates, the atheists, and the liberal politicians for the nation's problems, but it is more likely that the root of the problem lies at their own doorsteps. America and Canada don't fear God because 99% of the churches don't preach the fear of God. "I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, *and* giving of thanks, be made for all men; For kings, and *for* all that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty. For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour; Who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth" (1 Timothy 2:1-4).



## HUMAN EYE CAN DETECT SINGLE PHOTON OF LIGHT

A new study has found that the human eye can detect a single photon of light. Alipasha Vaziri, head of the Laboratory of Neurotechnology and Biophysics at Rockefeller University, said, "If you imagine this, it is remarkable: a photon, the smallest physical entity with quantum properties of which light consists, is interacting with a biological system consisting of billions of cells, all in a warm and wet environment. The response that the photon generates survives all the way

to the level of our awareness despite the ubiquitous background noise. Any man-made detector would need to be cooled and isolated from noise to behave the same way" ("Human eyes can detect the smallest units of light," United Press International, July 21, 2016). The scientists want to figure out how such "systems could have evolved," but what they should do is back up and take a long, hard look at the doctrine of evolution itself. Every feature of the human body screams out "design." In fact, it screams out "divine design." The human eye, which is so complicated that it bewilders the world's top scientists, could not have come into being by any evolutionary mechanism. "For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, *even* his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse" (Romans 1:20).

### 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).