ANCIENT GARDENS FOUND IN PETRA

Archaeologists have discovered the ancient gardens of Petra with its amazing aqueduct system. “Recent excavations at Petra have revealed a startlingly advanced irrigation system and water storage system that enabled the desert city’s people to survive—and to maintain a magnificent garden featuring fountains, ponds and a huge swimming pool. The engineering feats and other luxuries attest to the ancient Nabatean capital’s former splendor and wealth some 2,000 years ago” (Monumental forgotten Gardens of Petra, “Haaretz, Sept. 28, 2016). The water, channeled from a spring located in the hills outside of Petra, irrigated a large garden with trees, date palms, plants, fountains, and a 44-meter wide...continued on next page...

THE PASSION: MIXING HOLY WITH UNHOLY

“And that ye may put difference between holy and unholy, and between unclean and clean” (Leviticus 10:10). God’s Word commands separation between the holy and the unholy, yet that is exactly what is not found in contemporary Christianity. It is a dangerous, heretical mixing of sacred and secular, and any Bible-believing church or home that messes with contemporary Christian music in any fashion is most foolish. Consider The Passion, a two-hour FOX television special scheduled to air on March 20. It purports to “tell the story of the last hours of Jesus Christ’s life on earth through passages from the Bible and a variety of well-known pop songs” (“The Passion: New Orleans Soundtrack Set for Release,” Fox.com). One of the actors is Michael W. Smith, a prominent CCM artist. Jesus Christ is played by Jencarlos Canela, a sensual rocker, dancer, and actor who announced in 2011 that he and his girlfriend, Gaby Espino, were expecting a baby out of wedlock. Canela rose to fame for his role in the morally filthy soap opera Más Sabe el Diablo (The Devil Knows More), which was recorded in 2009-2010. Canela played the part of Angel, though he is known as El Diablo (the devil), who supposedly has a good heart even though he is a foul-mouthed thief, fornicator, etc. The violent series “features lovers embroiled in intrigue, betrayal, vengeance and unbridled passion.” In The Passion, Mary, the mother of Jesus, is played by the thrice-divorced Trisha Yearwood. The soundtrack to The Passion...continued on next page...
ANCIENT GARDENS FOUND IN PETRA
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swimming pool. Petra was located in the midst of
the mountains of Edom, and the Edomites who built
the mysterious city were called Nabateans. Later the
Romans controlled Petra when they conquered the
Negev and part of Arabia. Petra was a wealthy city
on the Spice Route from southern Arabia to Egypt,
Israel, and beyond. The distance from Southern
Arabia to Israel is 2,400 kilometers (1,490 miles).
This is the distance the queen of Sheba journeyed on
her visit to Solomon. There were 65 camel stations
along the way, and the Nabataeans controlled them
in their day. The Nabateans engaged in trade and
collected taxes from the camel caravans that traveled
across the deserts. Petra had idolatrous temples
devoted to many false gods. They worshipped a
goddess called Allat, which was similar to the
immoral Roman goddess Aphrodite. They also
worshiped the sun. The altar to the sun is located
high above Petra at the top of 600 steps.

THE PASSION:
MIXING HOLY WITH UNHOLY
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is by Adam Anders and Peer Astrom, who have
previously produced the Backstreet Boys and the
incredibly filthy, anti-Christ singer Madonna.
Songs for The Passion include hits by exceedingly
unholy musicians. Consider Katy Perry, whose
“Dark Horse” promotes ancient Egyptian occultism
and idolatry, complete with serpents, demonic
animals, spells, the god Horus, and the filthy
goddesses Isis and Aphrodite. Perry says that her
album Prism was influenced by the New Age
universalist Eckhart Tolle’s The Power of Now
“Be ye not unequally yoked together with
unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness
with unrighteousness? and what communion hath
light with darkness?” (2 Cor. 6:14).

STUDENT DEMANDS TO BE CALLED “HIS MAJESTY”
The following is from “Preferred Pronouns
Done Right,” Truth Revolt, Sept. 30, 2016: “A
conservative student at the University of
Michigan brilliantly worked the school’s new
pronoun policy in a way that shows just how
absurd things have gotten on college campuses.
From now on, Grant Stroble’s professors have to
address him as ‘His Majesty.’ It’s genius, really.
Recently, U of M caved in and announced a
policy of inclusiveness through allowing
students to choose the preferred pronouns with
which they’d like to be addressed: ‘Students can
designate pronouns in Wolverine Access
through the new Gender Identity tab within the
Campus Personal Information section. This
page can be used to enter, update or delete
pronoun information. Designated pronouns
will automatically populate on all class rosters
accessed through Wolverine Access.’ Stroble, a
member of Young Americans for Freedom, saw
an opportunity to capitalize on the absurdity
and entered ‘His Majesty’ as for how he would
like to be addressed on campus.”

THE ISLAMIZATION OF EUROPE CONTINUES
Denmark and Germany have overruled their
own marriage laws to favor Islamic law and
practice. Though the legal minimum age for
marriage in Denmark is 18, its immigration
service has ruled that immigrants can have
brides as young as 14. German courts have
made the same ruling, allowing more than
1,000 child brides to immigrate (“Denmark
Allows Migrants to Break Law,” Breitbart, Sept.
29, 2016).
MAJORITY OF EVANGELICALS IN U.S. BELIEVE “EVERYONE WILL GO TO HEAVEN”

According to a new survey by LifeWay, 64% of “evangelicals” say everyone will go to heaven. But the survey also found that 84% of “evangelicals” believe that “hell is a place of eternal judgment, where God sends all people who do not personally trust in Jesus Christ.” Among non-evangelical Americans, 30% believe this (“More US Evangelicals,” Christian Post, Oct. 3, 2016). The survey shows that American “evangelical” Christians are confused about their faith and that “contradictory and incompatible beliefs are OK for most people.” This is the fruit of 70 years of compromise and apostasy and compromise. Among other findings, about 70% of all Americans disagree that those who do not trust in Jesus Christ go to hell, 44% say sex outside of traditional marriage is not a sin, 40% say that abortion is not a sin, and 42% believe that the Bible’s condemnation of homosexual behavior doesn’t apply today.

FARRAKHAN BLAMES SIN ON WHITE MAN

The following is excerpted from “Farrakhan to black congregation: White Americans Made You,” Christian Examiner, Sept. 19, 2016: “Blacks kill other blacks, push drugs, rape and lie because white Americans have made them do it, Louis Farrakhan, leader of the Nation of Islam, told a packed and enthusiastic audience at a church in Washington, D.C., Sept. 18. During the hour-and-a-half address at Union Temple Baptist Church, Farrakhan said the idea that the white man is responsible for the sins of black people did not originate with him, but with his predecessor, Elijah Muhammad—whom he holds up as the messiah who will one day return to earth on a vehicle like a spaceship. According to Farrakhan, Muhammad said blacks were not violent and not guilty of the sins associated with whites until they were forced to ‘sojourn’ among them for nearly half a millennium. That is why Jesus didn’t come to save blacks from their sins, but from the sins of the white man. ...

The selfie generation was on full display at an appearance of U.S. presidential candidate Hillary Clinton in Orlando, September 21. The backs of all of the supporters in the first rows were turned to the candidate so they could take selfies of themselves with her. The selfie generation doesn’t take photos of things; it takes photos of itself with things. It’s all about me, which is a fulfillment of Scripture. “This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come. For men shall be lovers of their own selves... (2 Timothy 3:1-2).
“Eternity of penalty rests on eternity of character, and if Scripture gives no hope of any change after this life, then equally is there no hope of limitation of penalty--varied however as this is by the measure of privilege enjoyed”.

_F.C. Jennings_  
_Studies in Isaiah_

“There is no success without sacrifice. If you succeed without sacrifice it is because someone has suffered before you. If you sacrifice without success it is because someone will succeed after”.

_Adoniram Judson_  
_missionary to Burma_

“Discipline is the soul of an army. It makes small numbers formidable; procures success to the weak and esteem to all”.

_George Washington_

“... public utility pleads most forcibly for the general distribution of the Holy Scriptures. Without the Bible, in vain do we increase penal laws and draw entrenchments around our institutions. ... Bibles are strong protections. Where they abound, men cannot pursue wicked courses and at the same time enjoy quiet conscience” (James McHenry, signer of the U.S. Declaration of Independence, cited from _One Hundred and Ten Years of Bible Society Work in Maryland_, 1921, pp. 13, 14).

“I love those that thunder out the Word. ... The Christian world is in a deep sleep. Nothing but a loud shout can awake them out of it”.

_George Whitefield_

**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](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.