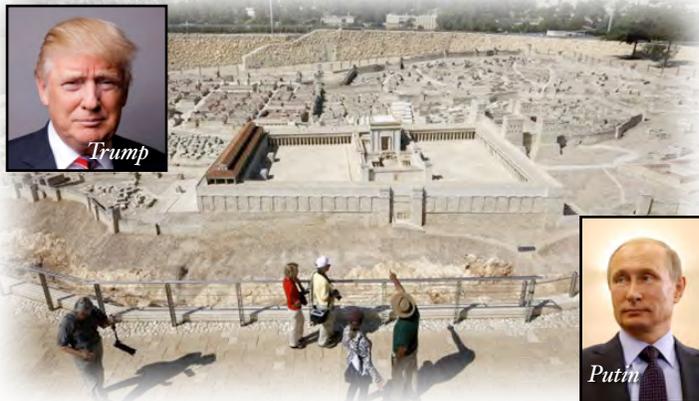


FRIDAY CHURCH NEWS NOTES

RABBIS ASK PUTIN AND TRUMP TO HELP BUILD THE THIRD TEMPLE

A group of leading rabbis in Israel have sent a letter to Russian President Vladimir Putin and U.S. President-elect Donald Trump urging them to work together to rebuild the Third Temple in Jerusalem (“Rabbis Urge Trump, Putin,” *Israel Today*, Nov. 15, 2016). Rabbi Hillel Weiss, a spokesman for the Sanhedrin, said Israel “is poised to rebuild the Temple.” He likened this present time to that of 2,500 years ago when Cyrus of Persia helped build the Second Temple. In truth, the Third Temple will be built during the early reign of the Antichrist. Revelation 11 describes the measuring of the Temple when the Two Witnesses preach in Jerusalem to proclaim Christ’s soon-coming kingdom. This is the first half of Daniel’s 70th Week (Dan. 9:24-27). The Antichrist will come on the scene with his unprecedented peace program and will make it possible for the Temple to be built. It will be occupied by the Antichrist half way through Daniel’s 70th Week when he proclaims himself as God. Christ said the Antichrist will stand in the holy place, referring to the rebuilt Temple (Matthew 24:15). Paul prophesied that the Antichrist will sit “in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God” (2 Thessalonians 2:4).



Model of the Third Temple

THE SELFIE BOTTLE



Coca-Cola has invented “the world’s first selfie bottle.” Actually it’s a device that attaches to the bottom of a 500ml plastic Coke bottle and snaps a photo every time you take a drink. The good news is that you can’t buy one of these gadgets, because it was developed and produced as a one-time promotional for Coca-Cola Israel’s Summer Love event. Coca-Cola, Pepsi, *et al*, aren’t content to sell products; they sell a philosophy of life. It’s all about being young and beautiful and very cool, which pretty much describes an individual with a distinct lack of wisdom and a corresponding excess of arrogance. “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).

CHINA'S FORCED ORGAN TRANSPLANT INDUSTRY

The following is excerpted from "China's Forced Organ," *Epoch Times*, June 26, 2016: "A decade ago, two Canadians released a report on illicit organ harvesting in China so shocking that many struggled to believe it. Since then, the investigation has continued and they've now updated their findings in a report that details the industry that has sprung up in China around the harvesting of human organs. David Kilgour, a former Secretary of State and federal Member of Parliament and international human rights lawyer David Matas released their initial report in July 2006. This Friday, June 24, the two returned to Ottawa with investigative journalist and author Ethan Gutmann, to release updated research that puts transplant volumes at up to 1.5 million in China. The source of those organs is not explained



officially and the Chinese regime claims only 10,000 to 20,000 transplants take place annually rather than the up to 100,000 estimated in the updated 817-page report. That new figure is based on primary source research from thousands of documents "indicating that the scale of organ transplants is much larger

than previously perceived by a large factor," said Kilgour. 'For the last 15 years, as you all know, across China there has been regime-sanctioned pillaging and trafficking in the vital organs of prisoners of conscience, overwhelmingly from practitioners of Falun Gong, but also Tibetans,

Uyghurs, and some house Christians, to fund an immensely profitable but despicable commerce with wealthy Chinese patients and organ tourists,' Kilgour said. ... The profits generated from the selling of the organs is in the billions of dollars."

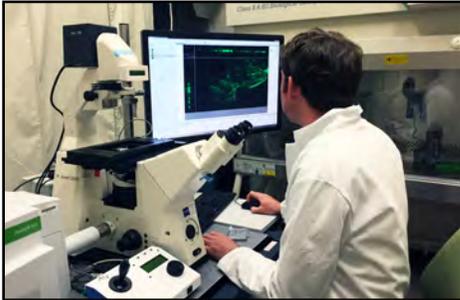
PUTIN TELLS THE UNITED STATES TO BE MORE LIKE ISRAEL IN FIGHTING TERRORISM

Russian President Vladimir Putin has advised the United States to look to Israel as an example for fighting terrorism. Speaking at the Valdai International Discussion Club, Putin criticized America's weak approach to combatting ISIS and other terror groups in the Middle East, suggesting that this has enabled the increase in terrorism ("Russia Tells US to Be More like Israel," *Israel Today*, Nov. 6, 2016). Putin said, "Israel never steps back, but always fights to the end, and this is how it survives. There is no alternative. We need to fight. If we keep retreating, we will always lose." That's good advice from an unlikely source. Israel is definitely the world leader in fighting Islamic terrorism.



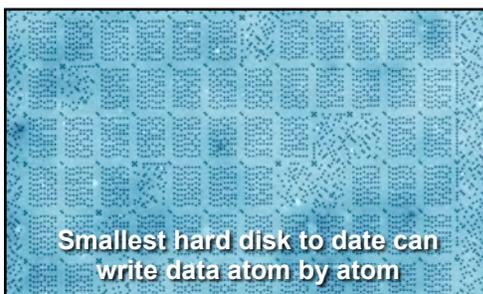
KNOWLEDGE SHALL INCREASE

About 2,500 years ago, during the Persian Empire, an angel told the prophet Daniel, “But thou, O Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book, even to the time of the end: many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall be increased” (Daniel 12:4). We are seeing a dramatic fulfillment of this in our day. Recent inventions include the following:



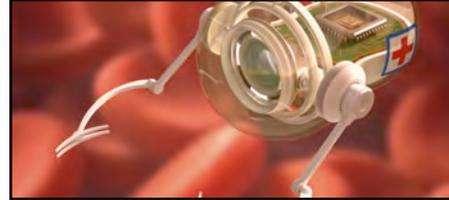
Scientists have invented a way to use tiny mirrors to capture detailed 3D images of cell structures.

“The new technology, dubbed MEANS (mirror-enhanced, axial-narrowing, super-resolution) microscopy, works by capturing layers of the cell at different focal points, giving the researchers the ability to see the changes in layers of the cell. The process works by growing cells on small, custom-made mirrors. A glass cover slide is placed on top of the cells, and then the mirror can be added in place of a usual slide in a confocal or wide-field microscope” (*Science Alert*, July 1, 2016).



Dutch scientists at the Delft University of Technology have found a way to read and write information at the atomic level, which would potentially allow the entire contents of the U.S. Library of Congress to be stored in a 0.1 millimeter cube (“World smallest hard drive,” *Newsmax.com*, July 20, 2016). Currently the memory can operate

only at liquid nitrogen temperature, so the marketing of the technology is not yet feasible.



Israeli scientists use nanobots and thoughts to control when drugs are administered (*Times of Israel*, Aug. 27, 2016). “Researchers at the Interdisciplinary Center in Herzliya and Bar-Ilan University in Ramat Gan have built the nanobots to which medication is attached and then are injected into the body. The nanobots have a ‘gate’ that opens or closes--thereby controlling drug release--depending on brain activity.”

SENTIMENTALITY VS. OBEDIENCE

“Sentimentality is an enemy of church discipline. Sentimentality is the love of man divorced from the love of truth. Under the specious guise of broadened sympathies it cloaks a big lot of hypocrisy and moral decay. The church sentimentalist is so kind to his fellow church member that he is willing to ignore the plain instructions of the Book of his faith rather than bring him to account for unchristian conduct. ‘Judge not that ye be not judged,’ he quotes, but he forgets to quote (1 Cor. 5:12, 13), ‘Do not ye judge them that are within, whereas them that are without God judgeth’” (Victor Masters, “Church Discipline,” *Baptist Courier*, South Carolina, Aug. 21, 1902).

LIVING HYMNS HYMNAL

Ofentimes I am asked for a recommendation on hymnals, and a couple of years ago I examined *Living Hymns* (second edition) and found a lot to like. It was first published by Al Smith in 1972 and is still copyrighted by Al Smith Ministries. The latest edition is published by Paul Chappell's Striving Together Ministries. It has a large selection, with 887 songs and hymns, which is a great benefit. There is no author index, but I tried to look at the author of every song. There are two by the Gaithers but none by any of the other contemporary worship artists, as far as I could see. It has hymns that are rarely seen, such as Charles Weigle's lovely "No One Ever Cared for Me Like Jesus." There are little-known hymns by old-time fundamentalists such as R.A. Torrey, James Gray, and

Lewis Sperry Chafer. Thousands upon thousands of sacred songs and hymns have been written just in the last couple of centuries, so any hymnal is just a sampling and no one hymnal will meet every church's needs, but *Living Hymns* seems to be a good all-around English hymnal. In light of such a wealth of truly sacred songs and hymns available in English, it's too bad that so many churches feel the need to mess around with contemporary worship music and thus build bridges to exceedingly dangerous waters. (For documentation of this danger, see the free eVideo presentations *The Transformational Power of Contemporary Praise Music* and *The Foreign Spirit of Contemporary Worship Music* at the Way of Life web site, www.wayoflife.org.)

BAPTIST BIG NUMBER-ISM AND PRAGMATISM IN 1877

The pragmatism that has characterized the vast majority of larger Baptist churches since the 1960s was already showing its ugly head in the 19th century. "While it is true that a Baptist church is, in theory, a body of regenerated, baptized believers, it can hardly be doubted that, in our wild scramble for numbers, we of this generation--preachers and people--are becoming less and less disposed to insist upon what our fathers used to call the marks of a genuine 'grace experience' on the part of those who offer themselves as candidates for baptism and church membership. ... If a long church-roll were any evidence of efficiency,

or if large numbers were indication of large graces, it would be easy to understand this all prevailing anxiety for numbers. But when it is perfectly clear to the dullest apprehension among us, that such is not the case, it must be confessed that this wild desire for counting up our hosts is too highly suggestive of David's sad sin in numbering Israel. Who, where, and of what value are the multitudinous hosts of Baptists that we put into the Associations and Conventions in the bounds of the Southern Baptist Convention?" (J.C. Hiden, "Looseness of Discipline," *Working Christian*, Mar. 22, 1877).

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.