FRI DAY C HURCH NEWS NOTES

THE DEATH OF AN ASTRONAUT WHO BELIEVED IN GOD

John Glenn, one of the original seven American astronauts, died on December 8 at age 95. In 1962, he was the first American to orbit the earth, and in 1998 he was the oldest person to go into space (age 77). Glenn was one of many American astronauts who talked about their faith in God. The following interesting overview was published in the Orlando Sentinel, Nov. 7, 1998. Orlando is only a few miles from Florida’s Kennedy Space Center. “From high above Earth, John Glenn saw the face of God. He is not alone. There is something about the beauty of space, Earth and the universe that touches many astronauts’ spirits. Logic-oriented scientists and daring pilots turn spiritual, some even evangelical, after their space flights. Glenn and most of his Mercury astronauts strongly testified about how faith helped with their groundbreaking flights. The crew of Apollo 8 punctuated the first flight around the moon with a moving reading from Genesis. The first liquid poured and food eaten on the moon occurred when Buzz Aldrin took communion. Apollo astronaut Jim Irwin became an evangelist before his 1991 death. Astronaut Tammy Jernigan talked about her Christian faith in a live broadcast from a shuttle three years ago. Shannon Lucid, the daughter of missionaries, took a minister’s sermons up to the Russian space station Mir. When that space station was damaged in a crash, one of the cosmonauts’ first broadcasts back to Earth was to thank God that they survived. John Glenn … summed it all up last week …continued on page 3

A WORLD FILLED WITH FAKE NEWS

The American media is abuzz with talk about “fake news.” According to “the left,” fake news emanates from “the right,” and according to “the right,” it emanates from “the left.” Fake news is the publication of lies and distortions, and according to the Bible, the world’s media is filled to the brim with “fake news” on all sides of the political spectrum, because we live in a fallen, spiritually-dark world. Fake news includes positive references to and support for Darwinian evolution, the big bang, the right to abortion, the right to die, homosexual rights, animal rights, man’s innate goodness, atheism, humanism, universalism, pantheism, panentheism, the force, self-esteemism, astrology, the Age of Aquarius, theological liberalism, JEDP, alcoholism as a disease, the power of positive thinking. Everything contrary to God’s Word is fake news. Thankfully, the good Lord has given unworthy sinners a Book of pure truth containing Good News. “To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them” (Isaiah 8:20).
The following is excerpted from “Hundreds of Muslim No-Go Zones,” PoliZette, Dec. 13, 2016:

“Filmmaker Ami Horowitz recently encountered the all-too-real brutality to be found in a Muslim ‘no-go’ zone in Sweden. ... ‘The rules of engagement are if [police are] chasing a subject, no matter what this guy did, once they cross that threshold [into a Muslim area], they stop pursuit, and if they want to actually go in they have to call an entire armed convoy,’ Horowitz said. ... Horowitz recently recounted his whole story in an op-ed published by The Hill. ... As Horowitz noted, liberals love to pretend that Muslim no-go zones--Muslim neighborhoods to which even the authorities are afraid to venture and in which Sharia law is the rule and non-Muslims are attacked on sight--are little more than a figment of paranoid conservative imaginations. But as Horowitz would find out for himself, they are very much a horrifying reality. ‘Literally moments after I stepped into the town, a gang of five clearly Islamic men approached my crew, and they attacked me without provocation,’ he continued. ‘They repeatedly punched, kicked and choked me, as a number of bystanders watched. Eventually they dragged me into a building, which at the time I assumed was to finish me off. Once inside the apartment building vestibule, they resumed their vicious attack. But seconds later someone opened an apartment door directly above us, and it luckily spooked them enough to run away,’ wrote Horowitz. The truth, however, is that there are neighborhoods like Husby scattered across Europe. These ‘no-go’ areas stand as a damning testament to the utter devastation wrought on Europe by multiculturalism and mass Muslim migration. While it is nearly impossible to gauge the full extent of the no-go zone problem, it is safe to say there are hundreds of no-go areas scattered throughout Europe. A March 2016 report published by the Hungarian government found 900 areas across Europe. ... As Muslim migration into Europe shows no real signs of slowing, the number of Muslim no-go areas will only continue to grow. ... No-go areas are also a ‘significant threat when you consider the high birthrate of the Muslim community,’ Hamid said. Indeed, the existing no-go zones coupled with Muslims’ high birthrate and the flood of Muslim migration into Europe could see the development of entire no-go regions. ... ‘It’s like when you see a cancer cell that is not causing any harm now, but later on if it is left without intervention it can cause very serious trouble,’ said Hamid.”
The following is excerpted from WorldNetDaily, Dec. 11, 2016: “The young girl’s fingers fly over the piano keyboard in ways that impress even the judges of international competitions, so much so that she’s scheduled in a few weeks to appear at Carnegie Hall. But the talent that Anni Zhang puts on display, if China had had its way, never would have been. She was the No. 2 daughter of her family in China during a time when the one-child policy, now two-child but still forcing abortions, limited family sizes. According to Reggie Littlejohn, president of the Womens Rights Without Frontiers organization, which has been fighting China’s deadly mandatory abortion policy for years, Anni’s family had to endure persecution to keep their daughter. ‘Family planning police came daily to pressure Anni’s mother to abort her,’ a statement from Littlejohn explained. ‘Anni’s father was able to get permission for Anni’s birth only after a long and difficult struggle.’ ... She arrived in the United States only a few years ago, with her older sister, after having been detained as ‘China’s youngest prisoner of conscience.’ It was because her father, Zhang Lin, was sentenced to prison for standing up for Anni’s right to go to school. ... ‘We are so proud of Anni. She is flourishing, both as a pianist and as a top student. Her father, Zhang Lin, was trained as a nuclear physicist, and Anni has inherited his strength in math and science. Her story is an example for all those who struggle against the odds. Through our help and her own hard work, Anni is a witness to the hope of a new beginning and to the beauty, brilliance and infinite value of Chinese girls,’ Littlejohn said. ... ‘Anni could easily have been one of the 400 million lives ‘prevented’ by China’s One (now Two) Child Policy of coercive population control. Or she could have been selectively aborted because she is a girl, as happens to so many second daughters in China.’ ... ‘The fact that the Chinese government refuses to give Zhang Lin a passport under these circumstances underscores their inhumanity,’ Littlejohn said. ‘It is pointless and cruel that they are depriving Zhang Lin and Anni of the joy of his attendance at her Carnegie Hall performance.’ To hear Anni practice Chopin’s Étude Op. 10, No. 5, see www.wnd.com/2016/12/girl-who-was-not-supposed-to-be-born-heading-to-carnegie/?cat_orig=diversions

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while in orbit. ‘To look up out at this kind of creation and not believe in God is to me impossible,’ Glenn said in a Sunday news conference, responding to a reporter’s question. ‘It just strengthens my faith.’ Glenn, a devout Presbyterian, said he was praying every day in orbit. An enhanced faith ‘is pretty common,’ said former astronaut Bryan O’Connor, who used to run the space shuttle program for NASA. ‘I can tell you I felt a sense of awe out there looking at the Earth that I never had before, and it’s easy to relate that to a spiritual kind of thing. It’s almost natural. ... It’s really an accentuator.’ Astronauts usually don’t talk about faith much at work, said three-time ex-astronaut Mike Mullane. However, there was an active Bible study group among the astronauts when he flew several years ago. ... ‘It is so incredibly beautiful that it does stir your soul into thinking that there does have to be some Supreme Being,’ Mullane said Monday. Astronaut Dom Gorie ... has vivid memories of looking out the window and thinking there is ‘no other way it could have formed without a creator’” (“Astronauts Faith Isn’t Lost in Space,” Orlando Sentinel, Nov. 7, 1998).
THE LORD IS A GOD OF GRACE AND JUDGMENT

“And therefore will the LORD wait, that he may be gracious unto you, and therefore will he be exalted, that he may have mercy upon you: for the LORD is a God of judgment: blessed are all they that wait for him” (Isaiah 30:18). The Lord is a God of grace and a God of judgment, but the judgment cannot be blamed on God anymore than a court’s conviction of a thief can be blamed on the court. God repeatedly called Israel to repentance and offered salvation, sending His prophets one after the other, but Israel rejected God’s law and refused His grace. The same is true for all men. The Lord loves mercy and has provided for mercy through the atonement that was purchased at great cost to God and has sent His people to the ends of the earth to proclaim the sweet gospel of Christ, but those who reject His grace will surely suffer His judgment. There is no other means of salvation, as Christ Himself said, “He that believeth not shall be damned” (Mark 16:16). Any God that is preached that is not a God of grace and judgment is not the true God revealed in Scripture: “for the LORD is a God of judgment” (Isa. 30:18).

SCREWS AND NUTS IN A WEEVIL’S LEGS

The following is from CreationMoments.com, November 22, 2016: “On a previous broadcast, we told you about a small hopping insect with gears in its legs, allowing both legs to jump at the exact same moment. Today, I bring to your attention the first animal ever found to have a screw-and-nut mechanism in its body. I’m talking about the weevil. A few years ago, New Scientist reported how a scientist made this discovery while studying CT scans of a weevil species from New Guinea. He was ‘surprised to find that its legs appeared to be screwed into its body’ (Michael Marshall, ‘Beetles beat us to the screw and nut,’ New Scientist, Jun. 30, 2011).

That’s right! The top segment of each leg is attached to a small part called the trochanter ... and the trochanter attaches the leg to the insect’s body by screwing into a part called the coxa. On the inside of the coxa and on the outer surface of the trochanter, the scientist ‘found ridges just like those on screws and nuts.’ So we see that our Creator invented screws and nuts, not mankind. But, of course, the New Scientist article claims, ‘The weevils are another example of evolution coming up with the same solutions to problems as human engineers.’ Oh really?! The screws and nuts you’d buy in a hardware store were designed and made by intelligent beings. In the same way, the screws and nuts in the weevil’s legs must have been designed and made by an intelligent being as well.

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.