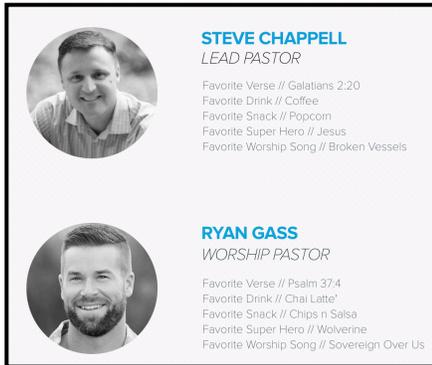


FRIDAY CHURCH NEWS NOTES

COASTLINE BAPTIST'S FAVORITE SUPER HEROES



The average Independent Baptist church is moving toward the world and a contemporary stance at a fast pace. We have been warning about this for years, but most preachers have their heads in the sand, and the problem grows worse by the year. Many men who should know better continue to support schools that are producing contemporary preachers who are starting contemporary churches, all the while pretending that they don't support a contemporary stance. Consider Coastline Baptist Church of Oceanside, California, which is pastored by Steve Chappell, the brother of Paul Chappell, senior pastor of Lancaster Baptist Church,

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CHRISTIAN ROCK FESTIVAL FEATURES MUSLIM CHANTS

This year's Greenbelt Festival, England's oldest and largest Christian rock festival, will feature an opportunity to learn Muslim "healing chants." The teaching will be given by the Ansari Qadiri Rifai Tariqa, a Sufi organization, "founded on the Holy Quran" and devoted to "guiding seekers of Allah" ("Christian worshippers at Greenbelt can learn Islamic worship chants," *ChristianToday.com*, Aug. 7, 2017). Further Muslim influence will come through Muslim Abdalhamid Evans, who is scheduled to participate in "a fun and thoughtful conversation around the music and lyrics that move us as spiritual people." Greenbelt is literally filled with heresies. The festival began in 1974 and today is attended by about 20,000 people. It has drawn the biggest names in CCM, including Cliff Richard, Steve Taylor, Amy Grant, Kevin Max, Randy Stonehill, Larry Norman, Graham Kendrick, Jars of Clay, Tim Hughes, Sheila Walsh, Sixpence None the Richer, Russ Taff, Newsboys, All Star United, and Delirious. The

"loosen up, don't be so strict, stop being judgmental" philosophy that permeates Contemporary Christian Music ultimately erases all boundaries. The world of Contemporary Christian Music, including the field of contemporary worship, is an ocean filled with every sort of spiritual and moral danger, and those who dabble with it are not wise and are opening a door of destruction to the next generation. Those who hold hands with the Gettys are holding hands with the Getty's friends such as Roman Catholic Matt Maher, and those who hold hands with Maher are holding hands with sacramental gospels, Mariolatry, contemplative prayer, veneration of saints and relics, and much more. There are no boundaries, which is open rebellion against God's Word. (We deal with this in the free video presentation *The Foreign Spirit of Contemporary Worship Music* -

<https://www.wayoflife.org/free-evideo/index.php>.)

"Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away" (2 Timothy 3:5).

COASTLINE BAPTIST'S FAVORITE SUPER HEROES

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Lancaster, California, and head of West Coast Baptist College. Paul's son Matt, who started the contemporary Rock Hill Church in Fontana, California, earlier this year, was youth pastor at Coastline for a few years after he left Lancaster and was thus mentored both by Paul and Steve. Paul ordained him for the new church plant on April 25, 2016, and has tweeted praise for the new work. In a blog at the founding of Rock Hill, Paul Chappell tweeted, "Thankful to hear from our son Matt tonight how the Lord is already working as they are planting Rock Hill Baptist Church in Fontana, CA." (The name "Baptist" rarely appears in connection with the church and appears to be trotted out only for show.) Robert Bakss, an out-and-out rock & roll pastor with an emerging philosophy who has caused a lot of confusion in Australian Independent Baptist churches,

spoke at Coastline on February 5 of this year. (See *Baptist Church on a Slippery Slope*, available in print or as a free eBook from www.wayoflife.org.) On Coastline's website under "Our Team," the ministers share their favorite super heroes. Worship Pastor Ryan Gass's is Wolverine; Assistant Pastor Jon Telles' is Captain America; Student Ministries Pastor J.J. Mordh's is Batman; Spanish Pastor Jairo Dominguez's is Spiderman; Office Secretary Lisa Chappell's is Wonder Woman. This type of thing is a huge green light for church youth to immerse themselves in worldly, sensual things that are forbidden by God's Word (Ephesians 5:11; 1 John 2:15-16). No wonder most churches have thrown away godly, modest dress standards when the minds of the leaders are filled with such garbage. (See also *Fantasy Dangers*, a free eBook available from www.wayoflife.org.)

USA TODAY REPORT SAYS "EVERYONE WILL BE IMPLANTED WITH A MICROCHIP"

In a recent *USA Today* article a professor of sociology argues that most humans will have a microchip implant in the future. Noelle Chesley of the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee says, "It will happen to everybody. ... Maybe not my generation, but certainly that of my kids" ("You will get chipped--eventually," *USA Today*, Aug. 9, 2017). Three Square Market, a company in Wisconsin, recently became the first firm in America to microchip their employees (in a volunteer program). About 3,000 people have embedded chips in Sweden to ride the national rail system without showing a ticket. Dangerous Things, a company in Seattle, claims to have sold "tens of thousands" embeddable chips via its website. It's difficult to know how far the embedded chips will be accepted, but we know that the antichrist will require all people "to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their

foreheads" (Revelation 13:16). This mark is not further identified, so it is impossible to know if it is electronic, but an electronic mark would make sense as it could contain a great deal of information about the individual. The antichrist is coming in the Lord's time, but the grace of God teaches me to look for the blessed hope, which is the appearing of Jesus Christ rather than the antichrist (Titus 2:11-14).



DESPISE NOT THE DAY OF SMALL THINGS

“For who hath despised the day of small things? for they shall rejoice, and shall see the plummet in the hand of Zerubbabel *with* those seven; they *are* the eyes of the LORD, which run to and fro through the whole earth” (Zechariah 4:10). One purpose of Zechariah’s prophecies was to

“the work of Christ’s churches is the most important business on earth, and the lowly saints of this present age will rule and reign with Christ in His glorious eternal kingdom.”

encourage the remnant that had returned from Babylon. The temple they were building was very inferior to Solomon’s, and the ministry of its few priests was as nothing compared to the hundreds of well-trained ones who ministered in the days of Solomon and Hezekiah, but the remnant was exhorted not to despise the day of small things or faint in the day of trouble. They were to look ahead to the glory of Christ’s kingdom when a “greater than Zerubbabel” would rule (Zec. 4:10). This is an important message to New

Testament saints. The work of the Great Commission appears small and insignificant in comparison to the great things of this present world; the progress is slow and the difficulties great. Most New Testament churches are small and lowly. Most New Testament believers are “the weak things of the world” (1 Co. 1:27). In most places and times, the response to the gospel has been small. But in truth, the work of Christ’s churches is the most important business on earth, and the lowly saints of this present age will rule and reign with Christ in His glorious eternal kingdom. New Testament believers have been translated into the kingdom of Christ spiritually (Col. 1:13), and believing churches are the outposts of Christ’s kingdom in this present world. Through gospel preaching and discipleship, the churches are gathering and preparing “a people for his name” from among the nations to exhibit the exceeding riches of his grace in future ages (Eph. 2:7). Therefore, when viewed from God’s perspective, which is the only right perspective, the office of a pastor is far more important than that of president or prime minister, and the faithful labors of the lowliest saint are more important than that of the captains of industry or the kings of technology. Like the remnant of Jews who built the temple in Zechariah’s day, the saints in the New Testament churches must not despise the day of small things. “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).

TREE GUILDS

The following is excerpted from “The Giving Tree: Israeli Researcher Discovers Trees Interact, Share Resources,” NoCamels.com, Feb. 9, 2017: “Trees are truly amazing. Besides producing nearly half the earth’s oxygen, providing habitat for millions of species, and creating the soil and timber resources we depend on, trees also do one more surprising thing: they share resources, Israeli researchers show. Weizmann Institute’s Dr. Tamir Klein recently made such a startling discovery that his supervisors at first declared that the finding must have been a mistake. In the forest, trees are known to compete for resources such as light and nutrients, but Klein found that the same trees also engage in sharing. Klein showed that the carbon molecules taken up by the canopies of mature spruce trees were passed through the soil in surprisingly large quantities to neighboring beech, larch and pine. As Klein recently reported in the prestigious scientific journal *Science* the carbon was being transferred via ‘underground highways’ formed by overlapping networks of root fungi. ‘Neighboring trees interact with one another in complex ways,’ Klein said in a statement. ‘Of course, there is a great deal of competition among them, but they also form communities, sort of “guilds,” within which individual trees share valuable resources. In fact, trees belonging to a “guild” usually do much better than those that don’t.’”

PASTOR DEFENDS USE OF CURSING RAP SONG

A pastor in Los Angeles, California, is unapologetic for showing a curse-filled rap by Jay-Z in his church. Marcus Murchinson, pastor of Tree of Life Missionary Baptist Church, said that not only does he support the use of cursing in rap music, he even curses in his prayers to God. He says, “I learned that God can handle that” (“Pastor Defends Use of Explicit Jay-Z Song,” *Christian Post*, Aug. 8, 2017). This is carnal, nearly blasphemous thinking. God can “handle” anything, but that is not the issue. God has specifically commanded that His people use wholesome language. “Let NO corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying, that it may minister grace unto the hearers. And grieve not the holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption. Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamour, and evil speaking, be put away from you, with all malice” (Ephesians 4:29-31). Observe that corrupt communication grieves the Holy Spirit. Peter cursed and swore when he denied the Lord, but it was sin and he repented of it (Matthew 26:74-75). The growing acceptance of cursing among professing Christians, in daily speech, in music, and in movies, is a sign of apostasy, not true liberty.

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.