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## FRIDAY CHURCH NEWS NOTES

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### THE NATIONAL QUARTET CONVENTION'S ROCK & ROLL FEST



*Ernie Haase & Signature Sound*

In recent decades, the National Quartet Convention (NQC) has become not much more than a rock & roll concert with a veneer of Christianity. They claim that “it’s all about Jesus,” but it appears to be more about sensual music and fleshly entertainment and money. Take away the rock & roll and the Hollywood-style glitz, and the crowds would doubtless disappear like a vapor. Consider Ernie Haase & Signature Sound, one of the big names in Southern Gospel today and one of the groups scheduled for the “evening concerts” at the 2018 NQC. His “signature” has the world written all over it, and it’s not only Haase. The NQC as an entity apes the world, with its rock & roll sound, colored lights, darkened hall, immodest dress, awards, red carpet interviews, and hero worship. The

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### 70% OF BRITISH YOUTH PROFESS “NO RELIGION”



According to a new report titled *Europe’s Young Adults and Religion*, 70% of youth in the United Kingdom self-identify as having “no religion” and 63% “never pray.” This is not surprising, and, fundamentally, it is not the result of Darwin or the Beatles. The fundamental issue is the apostasy and spiritual deadness of the churches. The Church of England was never a biblical “church.” It always held to the heresy of infant baptism. The majority of Anglicans, from Henry VIII to this present day, have trusted baptism for salvation. And over the past 100 years, the Church of England and most other denominations in the United Kingdom (including the Baptist Union) have become permeated with death-dealing theological modernism. The little leaven of C.H. Spurgeon’s day has leavened the whole lump.

## THE NATIONAL CONVENTION'S ROCK & ROLL FEST

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National Quartet Convention yokes together with Trinity Broadcasting Network (TBN) to broadcast its “Main Stage” program from the NQC. The scandal-ridden TBN, with its promotion of the likes of (the late) Paul Crouch, Benny Hinn and Joel Osteen, is at the forefront of spreading heresy worldwide in the name of Jesus Christ (e.g., kingdom now, seed faith, word faith, prophetic words, gibberish “tongues,” healing in the atonement, Jesus was rich, Jesus suffered in hell). It is impossible to obey Romans 16:17 and 2 Timothy 3:5 while holding hands with TBN, and TBN; and NQC are two peas in one pod. “Can two walk together, except they be agreed?” (Amos 3:3). For more on this see *A Plea to Southern Gospel Music Fans*, available for free viewing and downloading from [www.wayoflife.org](http://www.wayoflife.org). This is a multimedia report with 67 links to audio and video clips that illustrate musical and vocal styles. For evidence of the extreme and unquestionable worldliness of the National Quartet Convention see the follow example: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-Dl9Mcm6gXQ>

## PASTOR AND WIFE BRUTALLY ASSAULTED BY HINDU EXTREMISTS IN INDIA

The following is excerpted from “Ferocity of Hindu Extremist Attacks Stuns Christians,” *Morning Star News*, Mar. 21, 2018: “Before Hindu extremists attacking a church in southern India this month repeatedly kicked a pastor’s wife in the face, rendering her unconscious, they tried to snatch her Bible from her. Persia Jacob, 38, clasped the Bible close to her heart as they tried to seize it. ‘I will die, but I can’t do without the Bible,’ she said. They wrestled the Bible from her hands and, pushing and slapping her, they stripped her of her sari. When she pleaded with them to loosen their grips and let go of her sari, a state-provided security officer who accompanied Hindu extremist ringleader Thangam Venkatesh in the March 11 attack on the church in Tamil Nadu state told her to prostrate at Venkatesh’s feet and beg him to forgive her, she said. ‘If you and your husband convert back to Hinduism right here, we will spare you alive,’ one of the assailants told her. ‘If not, you will be brutally killed.’ When she struggled to keep them from applying vermillion to her forehead, a sign of

conversion to Hinduism, Venkatesh and his accomplices struck her in the face with the church building key, leaving a scar, her husband, pastor Ravi Jacob, told *Morning Star News*. ... From Sikandar Chavadi, the mob led by Venkatesh reached Koodul Pudur’s Bethesda Worship Centre, one of five churches they attacked that day, sources said. ... Pastor Jacob told *Morning Star News* that he went to Alanganallur police station in the evening after attending to the medical emergencies, but police refused to register the case. ... The hostile tone of the National Democratic Alliance government, led by the Hindu nationalist BJP, against non-Hindus, has emboldened Hindu extremists in several parts of the country to attack Christians since Prime Minister Narendra Modi took power in May 2014, religious rights advocates say. India ranked 11th on Christian support organization Open Doors’ 2018 World Watch List of countries where Christians experience the most persecution, up from 15th the previous year, and ahead of Saudi Arabia, Nigeria and Egypt.”

## THE ROMAN EMPEROR'S NOAH'S ARK COIN

During the reign of Roman Emperor Septimius Severus (AD 193-211), a coin was minted in Apamea, Phrygia, to commemorate the Bible's story of Noah's ark. One side of the coin features the image of the emperor. The other side has the images of Noah and his wife inside a box signifying the ark floating on waves. Noah and his

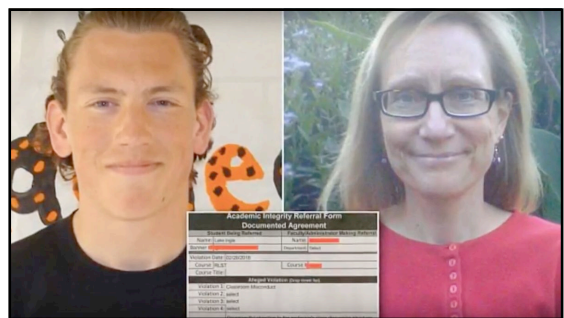


Septimius Severus 193-211 A.D. Æ 34mm 22.99g  
Noah and wife in arc (right); Noah and wife on dry  
land post-flood with dove above (left)

wife are also depicted standing outside the ark with raised hands in salutation to God, depicting their thanksgiving after the flood. Above them is the image of a dove clutching an olive branch. The Greek word for Noah is inscribed on the ark. This was long before the Roman Empire was Christianized. In fact, Severus was a bitter persecutor of Christians. The coin reflected the influence of Jews in Asia Minor and their Hebrew Scriptures. The coins continued to be minted through the reigns of Severus Alexander (222-235), Gordian III (238-244), Philip I (244-249), and Trebonianus Gallus (251-253).

## STUDENT BOOTED FROM CHRISTIANITY CLASS FOR TELLING PROFESSOR THERE ARE ONLY TWO GENDERS

The Following is excerpted from "Student Booted," DailyWire.com, Mar. 12, 2018: "In the current year, it's apparently permissible to ban a student from a class on Christianity for expressing inconvenient truths to a feminist professor. Lake Ingle, a religious studies major at Indiana University of Pennsylvania, was kicked out of Professor Alison Downie's Christianity class on February 28 for telling her that 'biologists don't agree that there's more than two genders' and that the supposedly sexism-caused 23-cent 'gender wage gap' is a myth. According to a report from *Fox News*, Ingle was 'silenced and punished' by Professor Downie after the senior pushed back on arguments made in a 15-min TED Talk she showed to the class. The TED Talk speaker was a transgender ex-pastor named Paula Stone Williams who discussed 'the reality of mansplaining, sexism from men, and male privilege.' Downie first asked only the women in the class to share their thoughts on the subject matter. When no women spoke up, Ingle says he challenged the notion that there are more than two genders and explained that even *The New York Times* has debunked the myth stating the 'gender wage gap' is caused by sexism. This did not sit well with the feminist professor. She booted Ingle from her class for his WrongThink and 'referred him to the public university's Academic Integrity Board (AIB),' reports Fox. The class Ingle has been barred from is one he needs to pass by the end of the semester if he wishes to graduate in May. 'You are barred from attending this class in accordance with the Classroom Disruption policy,' said a letter dated March 2 from IUP Provost Timothy Moerland to Ingle." [Note: Ingle was reinstated to the class after 18 days on order of IUP's president Michael Driscoll.]



IUP student fights ban from class

## MOVIE ABOUT MARY MAGDALENE DEPICTS HER AS AN APOSTLE

A new movie titled *Mary Magdalene*, directed by Garth Davis, depicts Mary as a strong, independent woman who was “an apostle in her own right” (“Think you know Mary Magdalene”? *BBC*, Mar. 13, 2018). The Mary of Scripture is a woman from the fishing village of Magdala on the northwest shore of the Sea of Galilee who became a follower of Jesus after demons were cast out of her. She was present at the crucifixion and was the first to see the resurrected Christ (Mark 16:9-10). In the sixth century, Pope Gregory I wrongly declared that Mary was the converted prostitute of Luke 7:36-50, and this has been a popular position ever since. Gnostic writings of the second and third centuries, such as the *Gospel of Mary*, depict her as a special disciple with deep spiritual understanding who was an instructor of the male disciples.



## GOD'S SHAKAM

“And the LORD hath sent unto you all his servants the prophets, rising early and sending *them*; but ye have not hearkened, nor inclined your ear to hear” (Jeremiah 25:4). The term “rising early” is from the Hebrew “shakam.” It describes someone who rises early to get busy with urgent work or to get an early start on a long journey, as Abraham rising early to see what happened to Sodom or to travel to Moriah (Ge. 19:27; 22:3). It appears 11 times in Jeremiah as a metaphor for God’s zeal in teaching and warning Israel (Jer. 7:13, 25; 11:7; 25:3, 4, 5; 29:19; 32:33; 35:14, 15; 44:4). God is like a man who gets up early and occupies himself with calling men to repentance. In

Israel He did this from the time of Moses (Jer. 11:7). He did this daily (Jer. 7:25). He rose early to teach (Jer. 32:33), to protest (Jer. 11:7), to call to repentance (Jer. 35:15). *Shakam* describes God’s compassion and persistence in seeking to save sinners. It is God as the Father longing for the return of the prodigal son. It is God as the Good Shepherd seeking the lost sheep. God’s *shakam* is a strong indictment against Israel and all men and justifies God in His judgment. For the 2,000 years of the church age, God has risen up early and sent His ambassadors to the ends of the earth to call poor lost sinners to salvation by the preaching of the gospel of Jesus Christ.

### 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).