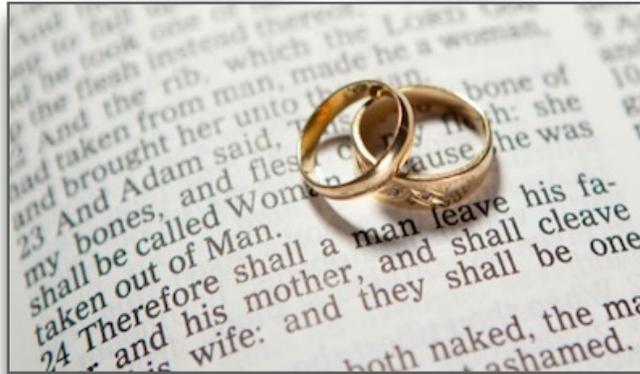


U.S. SUPREME COURT SIDES WITH LOWER COURT AGAINST RELIGIOUS LIBERTY

The following is excerpted from “Christian B&B Owner Forced to Serve Gay Couples,” CBNNews.com, Mar. 19, 2019: “The US Supreme Court refused to hear an appeal from a Christian bed and breakfast owner who was ordered by a lower court to serve a lesbian couple despite it being a violation of her religious beliefs. The Supreme Court rejected the appeal Monday, thus upholding the lower court’s ruling in favor of the lesbian couple. Now, litigation will continue to determine what penalty the Christian business owner must face. Phyllis Young, the owner of Aloha Bed & Breakfast in Honolulu, Hawaii, refused to rent a room in her home to Diane Cervili and Taeko Bufford in 2007 due to her religious beliefs about marriage. Cervili and Bufford sued Young over her actions and accused her of discriminating against them because of their



sexuality. Alliance Defending Freedom represented Young and argued that because she ‘only rented 1-3 rooms in her personal home she did not fall under the Hawaii public accommodations law that makes

sexual-orientation discrimination unlawful.’ The conservative law firm also pointed out that the Constitution protects Young’s right to not promote behavior that violates her faith or associate with people unwilling to respect her convictions. However, a state court found Young in violation of Hawaii’s

Civil Rights Commissions’ public accommodation law. The law applies to hospitality, entertainment, and transportation services. The law makes it ‘illegal to deny a person access to or to treat them unequally in a place of public accommodation’ because of a person’s ‘religion,’ ‘sexual orientation,’ and ‘gender identity or expression.’”

JOURNALIST FACES POSSIBLE JAIL TIME IN BRITAIN FOR “MISGENDERING”

The following is excerpted from “Can you go to jail for ‘misgendering’?” *Spectator*, Mar. 19, 2019: “Another woman in Britain is facing a police investigation—and potentially, a jail sentence—because she wrote things online about sex, gender and a person who changed gender. So far, so familiar, but this tale has a significant feature. The woman is a journalist. A British police force is investigating a journalist over words that she published. Caroline Farrow, 44, is the subject of an investigation by Surrey Police over tweets she sent referring to the adult child of Susie Green, head of Mermaids, a charity concerned with transgender children. Farrow

says the investigation arises because she ‘misgendered’ the child, who was born male but now identifies as female. Farrow is a columnist and occasional TV commentator. She writes and speaks from a Catholic perspective about a number of issues including education, family policy, euthanasia and gender. ... Farrow told me that on Monday this week an officer from a police station in Guildford had contacted her to tell her she was to be interviewed under caution in relation to tweets she sent last year some time after September, when she appeared on ITV’s *Good Morning Britain* with Susie Green of Mermaids, a charity. Farrow said: ‘I am being

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IRANIAN CONVERT FROM ISLAM REFUSED ASYLUM BY UK BECAUSE BIBLE IS TOO VIOLENT

The following is excerpted from “Iranian Convert Refused,” *The Daily Caller*, Mar. 21, 2019: “An Iranian man applying for asylum to the U.K. had his application denied because he converted from Islam to Christianity. According to a report from *The Times*, U.K. immigration officials wrote back to the man after he sent in his applications, explaining why they were discriminating against him. Immigration officials cited biblical passages from the books of Revelation and Leviticus. The *Times* reports: Immigration officials wrote to the man citing violent passages from the Bible to prove their point. They said that the Book of Revelation was ‘filled with imagery of revenge, destruction, death and violence.’ According to the report, the immigration officials were condemned by the Church of England for their ‘lack of religious literacy.’ Iran is one of the most hostile countries in the world toward Christians. Last year, Iran arrested more than 100

Christians shortly before Christmas as the faithful were celebrating the birth of Jesus. Iran has also made a point to target pro-Israel Christians. In 2017, four Iranian Christians were arrested and sentenced to ten years in prison for ‘promoting Zionist Christianity.’ Arrests for vague crimes such as ‘blasphemy’ are also frequently used by the theocratic state to target Christians.” In conclusion, John Zmirak made the following comments about this report: “Whoever made the decision to send back that helpless, harmless Iranian Christian to a regime that executes apostates from Islam? He did it out of malice, and spite. He did it to make a political point. To mock the legitimate worries of Westerners at the influx of Islamists. I’m sure when he signed the order, he snickered to himself all the way home. He’s lucky there was no jihadist on his tram” (“Iranian Christian Barred,” *The Stream*, Mar. 22, 2019).

CHINA’S CITIZEN MONITORING CONTINUES TO RISE TO NEW LEVELS

The following is excerpted from “Not Paying Attention in Class?” *Futurism.com*, May 17, 2018: “China’s mass surveillance operation has a new target: distracted high school students. In March, Hangzhou Number 11 High School in east China installed a ‘smart classroom behavior management system’ (or ‘smart eye’) in one of its classrooms. The smart eye uses facial recognition technology to monitor students, and by this summer, administrators plan to install the Big Brother-esque system in every classroom. Here’s how it works. Every 30 seconds, three cameras



installed in the front of the room scan each student’s face to determine their expression: surprised, sad, antipathy, angry, happy, afraid, or neutral. The cameras also record each student’s actions throughout the class, noting whether they are reading, listening, writing, standing up, raising hands, or leaning on the desk. Smart eye then notifies the teacher in real-time if it notices that a student appears distracted. The teacher can also view a report at the end of the class that provides an average of each student’s expressions.”

BEHOLD, I COME QUICKLY

Christ's quick coming is repeated three times in the last chapter of Revelation (Re. 22:10, 12, 20), and once in Revelation 3:11. Twice in Revelation we are told that these things will "shortly come to pass" (Re. 1:1; 20:7). And twice we are told that "the time is at hand" (Re. 1:3; Re. 22:10). The eight-fold repetition is divine emphasis. Christ is coming! Christ is coming! The words "quickly" and "shortly" and "at hand" emphasize the imminency of Christ's coming. It is an emphasis on the importance of ever watching. The Bible is saying, "Wake up! Be ready! Look up!" This is a major theme of the New Testament from Matthew to Revelation. It must be a major theme in every believer's life, and it must be a major theme of every

church. It must be a major theme of preaching. Any preaching ministry that lacks the theme of the imminent coming of Christ

"Wake up!
Be ready!
Look up!"

is not a biblical ministry. The fading away of imminent Second Coming preaching is evidence of a slide toward apostasy.

JOURNALIST FACES POSSIBLE JAIL TIME IN BRITAIN FOR "MISGENDERING" *continued from page 2.*

interviewed under caution for misgendering Susie Green's daughter. It's all rather Orwellian and rather scary.' ... Susie Green said, 'At four years old, my child told me that God had made a mistake, and that he should have been a girl.'" [Concluding comment from *Friday News Notes* editor: Susie Green's son,

Jack, underwent sex change surgery in Thailand at age 16 and he and his mom insist that the boy is now a girl named Jackie, and it is Susie's position that anyone calling her "daughter" a "son," or "her" a "him," they are "misgendering" and should be punished.]

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.