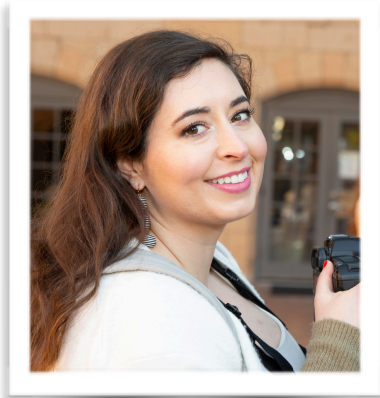

FRIDAY CHURCH NEWS NOTES

JUDGE RULES THAT CITY CAN'T FORCE CHRISTIAN PHOTOGRAPHER TO WORK SAME-SEX WEDDING



*Louisville wedding photographer
Chelsey Nelson*

The following is excerpted from “Louisville Can’t Force,” *Christian Headlines*, Aug. 14, 2020: “Saying ‘gay rights and freedom of speech’ can co-exist, a federal judge Friday sided with a Christian photographer in ruling the city of Louisville, Ky., cannot force her to work at same-sex weddings. The case involved a Christian photographer, Chelsey Nelson, who owns a studio that specializes in photographing, editing and blogging about weddings. She sued Louisville in 2019, claiming its anti-discrimination law would require her to photograph a same-sex wedding and thus violate her First Amendment rights. On Friday, U.S. District Judge Justin R. Walker sided with Nelson and issued a preliminary injunction prohibiting the city from enforcing the law against her in her photography and her blogging. Nelson will likely succeed in her

continued on NEXT PAGE

BLACK LIVES MATTER ADVOCATES MASSIVE LOOTING

Black Lives Matter, which is supported by major league sports, the Democratic mayors of major cities, including New York, Seattle, Minneapolis, and Portland, etc., openly advocates looting and destruction. On August 9, hundreds of rioters destroyed and robbed at least \$60 million in property in downtown Chicago, even attacking the Ronald McDonald House with sick children and their families resident. Thirteen police officers were injured trying to stop the mayhem, and a security guard and another person were shot and hospitalized in critical condition. Police arrested more than 100 rioters. On August 10, Black Lives Matter held a rally to support anarchy and to call for the release of the hoodlums. Ariel Atkins, a BLM organizer, said, “I don’t care if someone decides to loot a Gucci or a Macy’s or a Nike store, because that makes sure that person eats. That makes sure that person has clothes. That is reparations. Anything they wanted to take, they can take it because these businesses have insurance.” At the demonstration, protesters held a sign that read, “Our futures have been looted from us ... loot back” (“Black Lives Matter to Lightfoot,” *Chicago Sun-Times*, Aug. 10, 2020). BLM released a statement that read, “The mayor clearly has not learned anything since May, and she would be wise to understand that the people will keep rising up until the [Chicago Police Department] is abolished and our Black communities are fully invested in.”



JUDGE RULES THAT CITY CAN'T FORCE CHRISTIAN PHOTOGRAPHER...

continued from PREVIOUS PAGE

lawsuit, he ruled. Alliance Defending Freedom represented her. 'America is wide enough for those who applaud same-sex marriage and those who refuse to,' he wrote. 'The Constitution does not require a choice between gay rights and freedom of speech. It demands both. ... Forcing citizens to express ideas contrary to their deepest convictions is always demeaning. It doesn't matter if most people agree with the expression the government compels. Free thought includes both the right to speak freely and to say nothing at all.' The city, he wrote, is 'attempting to compel religious speech at the core of the First Amendment.' Photography is a form of art, he asserted, and art is speech protected by the U.S. Constitution. Miller quoted the Supreme Court's 2015 same-sex marriage Obergefell decision, which said affirmatively of religious freedom, 'The First Amendment ensures that religious organizations and persons are given proper protection as they seek to teach the principles that are so fulfilling and so central to their lives and faiths, and to their own deep aspirations to continue the family structure they have long revered.' 'We would do well to heed them,' he wrote of the high court's comments. 'They affirm that the same Constitution held by Obergefell to guarantee the right of same-sex couples to marry also protects religious and philosophical objections to same-sex marriage. That our society has largely accepted same-sex marriage is all the more reason to protect the First Amendment rights of those who wish to voice a different view. Although a sometimes hazardous freedom, free speech is a basis of our national strength.'"

Comment: The U.S. Constitution does *not* guarantee the right of same-sex couples, and the Founders would not have dreamed of granting such a right. It was created from thin air by activist judges, and it is this inventing of "rights" that has brought religious liberty and freedom of speech into jeopardy.

MANNING JOHNSON EXPOSED BLACK LIVES MATTER 60 YEARS AGO

*Manning Johnson*

Manning Johnson (1908-1959), a high-ranking Communist Party USA member, renounced communism in 1940 and dedicated himself to exposing its plans and methodology for the overthrow of America using racial strife. In 1958, he authored *Color, Communism and Common Sense*, the preface to which was written by Archibald Roosevelt, a son of President Theodore Roosevelt. Chapter one, "In the Web," begins like this: "Ten years I labored in the cause of Communism. I was a dedicated 'comrade.' All my talents and efforts were zealously used to bring about the triumph of Communism in America and throughout the world. To me, the end of capitalism would mark the beginning of an interminable period of plenty, peace, prosperity and universal comradeship. All racial and class differences and conflicts would end forever after the liquidation of the capitalists, their government and their supporters. ... Being an idealist, I was sold this 'bill of goods' by a Negro graduate of the Lenin Institute in Moscow. ... Little did I realize until I was deeply enmeshed in the *Red Conspiracy*, that **just and seeming grievances are exploited to transform**

continued on NEXT PAGE

MANNING JOHNSON
EXPOSED BLACK LIVES
MATTER...

continued from PREVIOUS PAGE

idealism into a cold and ruthless weapon against the capitalist system--that this is the end toward which all the communist efforts among Negroes are directed. Indeed, I had entered the red conspiracy in the vain belief that it was the way to a 'new, better and superior' world system of society. Ten years later, thoroughly disillusioned, I abandoned communism. The experiences of those years in 'outer darkness' are like a horrible nightmare. **I saw communism in all its naked cruelty, ruthlessness and utter contempt of Christian attributes and passions. And, too, I saw the low value placed upon human life, the total lack of respect for the dignity of man, the betrayal of trust,** the terror of the Secret Police and the bloody hand of the assassin, during and since, those fateful years when I embraced communism. ... My zeal, training, both theoretical and practical, combined with loyalty and willingness to sacrifice, changed me from a novice into a dedicated red--a professional revolutionist. Consequently, I climbed rapidly to the National Committee, the highest governing body of the Communist Party in America. ... Thus, **as a participant on the highest level of the communist conspiracy in America, I observed the cold, calculating, ruthless nature of red power politics and political warfare, stripped of all its illusory propaganda and idealistic cover."**

**JUDGE ALLOWS
MACARTHUR'S CHURCH
TO MEET UNTIL
HEARING ON SEPTEMBER
4, BUT HIGHER JUDGES
OVERRIDE**

The following is excerpted from "They Just Want to Shut Us Down," *Christian Headlines*, Aug. 17, 2020: "John MacArthur's California church gathered Sunday morning for worship in spite of a last-minute court order that upheld government restrictions on indoor worship due to the pandemic. 'We're not meeting ... because we want to be rebellious. We're meeting because our Lord has commanded us to come together and worship Him,' MacArthur, the pastor of Grace Community Church in Los Angeles County, said at the beginning of Sunday's worship service. Under current rules in Los Angeles County, churches are limited to outdoor gatherings, provided they social distance. ... On Friday, California Superior Court Judge James Chalfant ruled the church could meet indoors but ordered the congregation to social distance and to wear masks. ... But on Saturday, Los Angeles County filed an appeal with the California Court of Appeals, which late in the day blocked the judge's ruling and upheld the county's right to 'enforce the Health Order's ban on indoor religious activity.' The county had 'demonstrated a likelihood' it would win the lawsuit, the appeals court said in its unanimous 3-0 decision, citing two rulings by the U.S. Supreme Court this year denying emergency injunctions against government restrictions on churches. ... A survey by LifeWay Research showed that more than 70 percent of Protestant churches nationwide met in July."

SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY A SANCTUARY COUNTY FOR CHURCH WORSHIP

The following is excerpted from “DA declares,” *The Christian Post*, Aug. 10, 2020: “San Luis Obispo County District Attorney Dan Dow confirmed late last month he will not prosecute churches for holding worship services or for singing in church, which was deemed unlawful by an order from California Gov. Gavin Newsom. ... ‘I declare San Luis Obispo County a sanctuary county for singing and praising in our houses of worship,’ Dow said in a video shared via Twitter. ‘Inherent with my responsibility to enforce the law is the discretion I have ... to pursue only those charges that are warranted and are in the interest of justice.’ More than 30 counties in California are not allowed to gather for church services, according to Newsom’s order that places even greater restrictions on counties included in the state’s COVID-19 watch list. Gatherings of 10 people or more in

households in those counties are also banned, essentially prohibiting some in-home Bible study gatherings. Whether a church can legally gather or not, singing during worship is disallowed under Newsom’s order. ... In Dow’s Twitter announcement, he referenced an Independence Day speech he gave in which he spoke about the importance of the First Amendment. It was in the July 4 speech that he first declared that San Luis Obispo County would be a ‘sanctuary county for worship and praise in church.’ ... **‘Now more than ever in 2020, we need more people attending their houses of worship and seeking help from the Almighty for an answer to the coronavirus,’ Dow said. ‘In that spirit, I’m calling on people of faith in our county and across our state, across our country and across the world, to pray for peace [and] healing.’**”

THE ABOMINATION OF BIG BUSINESS

“‘Big business’ is an abomination. It will be the ruination of the world. We scarcely know how far we have drifted. Our forefathers were content with their living. They had domestic ties, ‘family reunions,’ quiet church affiliations, gladly worshipping in the same old church, generation after generation. They had deep, kind, loving patriotism. But the forgetting of God is fast falling upon earth under the soul-stifling power of universal greed. Everybody wants to be rich--which damns its tens of millions! ‘Get up in the world.’ ‘Get on in the world!’ What lies! what will-o’-the-wisps of Satan to be followed by folks whose feet shall shortly stumble into open graves!” (William Newell, *Revelation*, 1935).

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.
