FRIDAY CHURCH NEWS NOTES

CANADIAN PASTOR ATTACKED BY ANTIFA IN PORTLAND

The following is excerpted from “Portland Cops Do Nothing,” PJMedia, Aug. 8, 2021: “If you wondered what it would look like when Nazi brown shirts went after the churches in Germany, wonder no more: it probably looked like Portland on Saturday when black bloc-outfitted antifa thugs burst into a waterfront prayer event featuring persecuted Canadian Pastor Artur Pawlowski. ... ‘Where is your God, now?’ taunted one of the attackers. ... Portland Police observed as the terrorist group bear-sprayed parents and their kids, lobbed ‘flash bombs’ into the sparse crowd, and reportedly threw the group’s sound equipment into the Willamette River. ... Pastor Pawlowski is known for being arrested and jailed [in May] for hosting in-person church services in defiance of local pandemic diktats in Calgary. Pawlowski, who fled from a communist country, famously ordered health inspectors and police from his church, calling them brown shirts and Nazis. ... Antifa watcher and author Andy Ngo curated some of the video from the event showing the attack, the destruction, and the injuries. ‘Shocking video recorded in Portland show a large group of antifa carrying shields & weapons move in to attack & shut down a family Christian prayer & worship event on the waterfront. Police did not intervene.’”

ARCHAEOLOGISTS UNCOVER EVIDENCE OF BIBLICAL EARTHQUAKE

The following is excerpted from “Archaeologists Unearth,” The Times of Israel, Aug. 5, 2021: “[1]n the first verse of the Book of Amos, the 8th century BCE biblical prophet referred to ‘two years before the earthquake’ as an anchor to the events he was about to relate. Two centuries later, the prophet Zechariah again referred to this destructive earthquake period, so deeply was it ingrained in the collective psyche. Now, for the first time, a team of Israel Antiquities Authority archaeologists in Jerusalem’s City of David report that they have found unprecedented concrete evidence of this 8th century BCE earthquake in the ancient capital. In an upcoming research paper, the archaeologists chart, for example, that in one particular 8th century BCE structure the destruction layer did not show signs of fire, yet other factors suggested the building had been damaged in a traumatic event, apparently an

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earthquake. ‘This was most notable on the earliest floor of the southernmost room,’ they write. ‘In this room, a row of smashed vessels was uncovered along its northern wall, above which fallen stones had been found. It appears that these stones were the upper part of the walls of the room, which had collapsed, destroying the vessels which had been set along the wall.’ ... Dr. Joe Uziel [excavation co-director] told The Times of Israel that although his team was the first to identify this destruction layer, in reviewing previous excavation reports, they have concluded that other areas of the eastern slope near the Gihon Spring where the team is excavating also exhibited similar destruction.’

AN EPIDEMIC OF MISINFORMATION

The term “epidemic of misinformation” is how Peter Salk, son of Jonas Salk, developer of the polio vaccine, described the anti-vax movement in a 2014 interview with The Atlantic. The interview begins with the following facts: “In the peak [polio] year of 1952, there were nearly 60,000 cases throughout America; 3,000 were fatal, and 21,000 left their victims paralyzed. Then, in 1955, American children began lining up for Jonas Salk’s new polio vaccine. By the early 1960s, the recurring epidemics were 97 percent gone.” When asked, “Do you remember when you first started hearing about widespread opposition to vaccines?” Salk replied, “I don’t remember exactly when, but it first came to my attention through some of my friends. I read some of the materials they sent me, and it just was really hard for me to follow some of the logic--particularly when it came to the polio vaccine, which I knew something about. People were claiming that it was all a myth, that the disappearance of polio had nothing to do with vaccines. The reality is that back in 1954, there was a huge double-blind study involving 1.8 million schoolchildren. The results were clear-cut: If you got the polio vaccine, you were protected; if you didn’t, you were not. When you have that kind of data, you just can’t say that the disappearance of polio is due to other things. What strikes me is--I don’t know quite how to put this, but it’s like there’s an epidemic of misinformation, and we’ve got to inoculate the public against it” (“The Anti-Vaccine Movement Is Forgetting the Polio Epidemic,” The Atlantic, Oct. 28, 2014).

THE WORLD COUNCIL OF CHURCHES’ APOSTASY

I receive text summaries of news from the World Council of Churches, and the reports are a continual reminder of the organization’s utter apostasy. The WCC has a false christ, a false gospel, and a false spirit, as Paul warned about to the Corinthian church (2 Co. 11:1-4). They don’t preach the gospel of eternal salvation for sinners through faith in the blood of Jesus Christ. They preach a gospel of salvation for the world through social-justice projects. These days they are busy trying to save the world from global warming and Covid-19. On the “eco” front, the WCC is promoting the United Nations upcoming climate change conference in Glasgow (COP21). For example, WCC-affiliated churches in Scotland are pushing “Climate Sunday” to “call on local churches across Great Britain and Ireland to hold a climate-
focused service” (“Climate Sunday,” WCC News, Aug. 3, 2021). On the Covid front, the WCC and the Pontifical Council for Interreligious Dialogue recently published “Serving a Wounded World” to encourage churches and Christian organizations to reflect on the importance of interreligious solidarity in a world wounded by the COVID-19 pandemic. All of this is blatant disobedience to the Bible which forbids “interreligious” projects. “Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness? And what concord hath Christ with Belial? or what part hath he that believeth with an infidel? And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? for ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you” (2 Corinthians 6:14-17). As for global warming, the only thing the Bible says along that line is the warning that God is going to destroy this present fallen creation and replace it with a new one, and He is going to do it with fire. “But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up. Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation and godliness, Looking for and hasting unto the coming of the day of God, wherein the heavens being on fire shall be dissolved, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat? Nevertheless we, according to his promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness” (2 Peter 3:10-13). For more about the World Council of Churches, see the free eBook by that title at www.wayoflife.org.

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COULD IT BE THE CROWNING DAY?
DEPENDS ON YOUR THEOLOGY

The following is from Pastor Steve Rogers: “One old staunch Pretrib Preacher used the old song ‘Is It the Crowning Day?’ to make a point about prophecy. The songs goes, ‘Jesus may come today, Glad day! Glad day! And I would see my friend; Dangers and troubles would end If Jesus should come today. Glad day! Glad day! Is it the crowning day? I'll live for today, nor anxious be, Jesus, my Lord, I soon shall see; Glad day! Glad day! Is it the crowning day?’ To drive home the point that only the pre-trib view is consistent with imminency, he loved to point out that if prewrath/mid-tribers or post-tribers sang this song they would have to say, ‘Jesus can't come today, Sad day! Sad day! And I won't see my friend; Dangers and troubles won't end Because Jesus can't come today. Sad day! Sad day! Today is not the crowning day? I won't live for today, and anxious I'll be, The Beast and the False Prophet I soon shall see, Sad day! Sad day! Today is not the crowning day.’ The Pre-Trib view is the only view that honestly holds that Jesus could come today. It is the Biblical view of the rapture!”
THE SPIDER AND THE FLY

The following is from CreationMoments.com, July 26, 2021: “One would never expect to find any insect sharing living arrangements with a spider. That’s why scientists were amazed to find a tiny fly in the rain forests of Central America who shares both room and board with a spider! The fly spends most of his time on the back of the golden web spider, who does not seem to object. This spider does not deal with its victims in the same way most spiders do. When a large insect gets caught in the tough web of the spider, the golden web spider injects the victim with digestive juices to prepare it for eating. The fly keeps track of meal preparations from the spider’s back. Just before the meal is liquefied to the spider’s satisfaction, the fly buzzes over and drinks its fill in a few seconds. By the time the spider approaches lunch, the fly is back napping on the spider. Both the spider and the fly are designed with special features to make this most unlikely arrangement work. If the golden web spider’s eating habits were like most spiders’, there would be no liquefied meal for the fly. The fly itself has a mouth that is specially designed to allow it to drink a full meal in seconds. This helps keep him out of the spider’s way. How can a spider and a fly live together? God can design a solution to any problem. Why design an arrangement between a spider and a fly anyway? So that we would know there is a Creator and that He can meet any challenge! There is nothing you cannot take to Him in the name of His Son, our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Author: Paul A. Bartz. Ref: ‘Random chance or intelligent design?’ Associates for Biblical Research Newsletter, Jan.-Feb. 1991. p. 2.”