

FRIDAY CHURCH NEWS NOTES

SOUTHERN GOSPEL: MIXING THE HOLY WITH THE PROFANE

As recent evidence of the worldly direction of Southern Gospel, we consider Ernie Haase & Signature Sound, one of the most popular contemporary Southern Gospel quartets. Their new CD, *Decades of Love*, covers 29 secular “love” songs, but secular “love” isn’t biblical love. The world’s love songs do not celebrate holy matrimony; rather they celebrate and encourage fornication and adultery. Secular rock bands covered by Ernie Haase include the Beatles, the Bee Gees, Frank Sinatra, and Johnny Mathis. Songs include “Everybody Loves My Baby,” “Taking a Chance on Love,” “Can’t Take My Eyes Off You,” “I Can’t Help Myself,” “Can’t Help Falling in Love,” “Even the Nights Are Better,” “Can You Feel the Love Tonight,” and “All of Me.” By the titles, it is obvious that the “love” this Southern Gospel quartet is celebrating is pop culture eros love. It is something you “fall into” and “can’t control.” It is lust, not love. Our friend Jeff Royal observes, “Keep in mind that Ernie Haase & Signature Sound are promoting this CD for churches. If you want to see where Southern Gospel is heading, look no farther than Ernie Haase & Signature Sound. They love to mix the holy in with the profane and that combination as we know is disastrous.” “Her priests have violated my law, and have profaned mine holy things: they have put no difference between the holy and profane, neither have they shewed *difference* between the unclean and the clean, and have hid their eyes from my sabbaths, and I am profaned among them” (Ezekiel 22:26). For more on this subject see the free video set “A Plea to Southern Gospel Fans.”

https://www.wayoflife.org/s3/plea_to_southern_gospel_fans.php



BAPTIST UNION OF GREAT BRITAIN CONSIDERING SUPPORT FOR SAME-SEX “MARRIAGE”



An image of the 2022 Baptist Union of Great Britain assembly.

The Baptist Union of Great Britain is considering changing its rules to allow its ministers to contract marriage with people of the same sex. “In a communication with its churches, it confirmed a request was made in 2020 by 70 members--the majority of which are ministers. The request asked that the Ministerial Recognition Rules be changed to remove a line which says that marriage is defined as ‘exclusively between a man and a woman.’ ... In a long letter addressing the issue, Baptist Union general secretary Lynn Green said: ‘A number of conversations and a consultation will take place in the coming months but no time scale has been provided. The Baptist Union has, however, confirmed that no decision will be made at the Council meeting in October’” (“Baptist Union to Consider,” *Premier Christian News*, June 22, 2022). This measure probably won’t be officially approved, but it would not even be entertained if Baptist Union pastors were true Bible

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BAPTIST UNION OF GREAT BRITAIN CONSIDERING SUPPORT...

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believers. This is the same Baptist Union from which Charles Haddon Spurgeon, pastor of Metropolitan Tabernacle, London, England, withdrew in October 1887. A few months earlier he wrote, "Believers in Christ's atonement are now in declared union with those who make light of it; believers in Holy Scripture are in confederacy with those who deny plenary inspiration; those who hold evangelical doctrine are in open alliance with those who call the fall a fable, who deny the personality of the Holy Ghost, who call justification by faith immoral, and hold that there is another probation after death. ... It is our solemn conviction that there should be no pretence of fellowship. Fellowship with known and vital error is participation in sin" (*The Sword and the Trowel*, Aug. 1887)." The Baptist Union has continued to pursue the path of apostasy. In the 1920s, 30s, and 40s, H. Wheeler Robinson, pastor of Baptist Union churches and principal of Regents Park College, denied the infallibility of

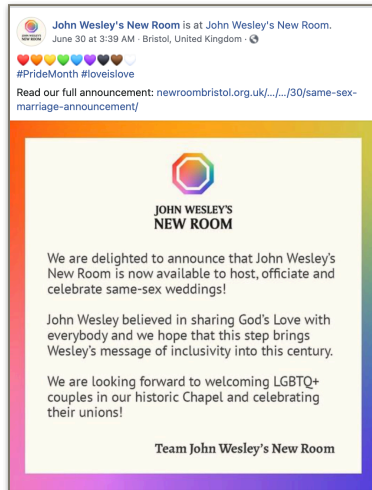
Scripture, considered the Old Testament a product of religious evolution, and denied the historicity of Adam and original sin. He blasphemously claimed that Jesus was not right in everything He said. "[T]he language and the thought of a particular generation [are] stamped upon His sayings" (Robinson, *Ancient and English Versions of the Bible*, p. 287). In 1971, Michael Taylor, principal of the Baptist Union's Northern Baptist College, addressed the London Baptist Assembly on the theme, "How much of a man was Jesus?" He denied that Jesus Christ is God. Though many protested the man's heresy, the Baptist Union refused to discipline him or remove him from office. In 2013, Lynn Green became the first female president of the Baptist Union. She received a standing ovation for her inaugural sermon. She proclaimed, "I believe that our union is ready for generational change ... It is time to ... embrace a new way of being for the 21st century." This is the philosophy of the emerging church.

WHO DECLARES MONKEYPOX A GLOBAL CRISIS

The following is excerpted from Israel365 News, July 25, 2022: "As the global COVID pandemic wanes, the World Health Organization has declared a new global health crisis; monkeypox. ... More than 16,000 cases of monkeypox have been reported across more than 70 countries so far this year, and the number of confirmed infections rose 77% from late June through early July, according to WHO data. Five deaths from the virus have been reported in Africa this year. No deaths have been reported outside Africa so far. More than

80% of confirmed infections have been in Europe, but the US has reported more than 2,891 monkeypox cases so far across 44 states. States reporting cases have received 370,000 vaccine doses. The disease has clear vectors of transmission, with male-to-male sexual contact accounting for the vast majority of cases. 99% of the cases reported outside Africa are among men, and 98% of the infections are among men who have sex with men, primarily those who have had multiple, recent anonymous, or new sexual partners."

WESLEY'S FIRST METHODIST CHAPEL TO ALLOW SAME-SEX "MARRIAGE"



The New Room in Bristol, the first Methodist chapel established by John Wesley, has announced that it supports same-sex "marriages." In a Facebook post, the church said, "We are delighted to announce that John Wesley's New Room is now available to host, officiate, and celebrate same-sex weddings!" ("John Wesley's First Methodist Chapel," *Premier Christian News*, June 30, 2022). In his commentary on Romans 1, John Wesley made the following statements about homosexuality: "*Therefore God gave them up to vile affections--To which the heathen Romans were then abandoned to the last degree; and none more than the emperors themselves. Receiving the just recompense of their error--Their idolatry being punished with that unnatural lust, which was as horrible a dishonour to the body, as their idolatry was to God. God gave them up to an undiscerning mind--To do things not expedient--Even the vilest abominations, treated of Rom. 1:29-31.*"

EVANGELICAL COLLEGES DESTROY STUDENTS' FAITH

he following is excerpted from "Christian Colleges Destroyed Children's Faith," *Lighthouse Trails Research*, June 27, 2022: "I am a Westmont College grad from the early 70s, and, with my husband, a Multnomah University alum as well. I grew up in a church closely associated with Multnomah when its slogan was: 'If you want Bible, you want Multnomah.' But no longer. We live near the school and have seen the apostasy firsthand. It breaks our hearts. Westmont was beginning to crack while I was there. Most of the older faculty were still OK but the administration was caving in to vocal students who were very rebellious, especially toward the Christian stance of the school. We sent a daughter to Trinity Western University in Langley British Columbia, in 2000, back when I still believed printed doctrinal statements. She went from respecting the Word of God and loving her parents to becoming a radical socialist activist who excises out of her life anyone who doesn't support her current values, including us. I don't know of any of

her friends from there who haven't followed the same path, either becoming indifferent to, or antagonistic toward, biblical Christianity. She goes to a social justice episcopal church. My niece, a pastor's daughter, went to Texas Christian University, graduating around 2006. She became a Unitarian a few years ago. The daughter of my husband's boss is an enthusiastic Biola grad. She is also a shaven head goth who spoke at her grandfather's funeral, calling up his spirit and having a lovely visit with him over a glass of wine! We pray for their salvation. I believe the reason our other children still walk with the Lord is because they eschewed college (and debt) for other kinds of career training. The Lord is blessing them." [Concluding Note: Biola, originally the Bible Institute of Los Angeles, began in 1908 as a fundamentalist school. The first Dean, W.E. Blackstone, was the author of *Jesus Is Coming*. The next Dean was R.A. Torrey (1912-1924). Today, Biola has a same-sex attraction club on campus.]

FROGS IN THE DESERT

The following is from creationmoments.com, December 1, 2021: “Even though many frogs live much of their lives out of the water, they need water to reproduce. This can be a problem since some frogs live in trees and some even live in the desert! For a tree frog, the trip from the treetops to a nearby pool is a long and dangerous journey. However, the Creator cares about all of His creatures. The leaves of the bromeliad that grows in the branches of many trees in the tropical forest form a private pool far above the ground. As a result, mama frog can raise her young without ever leaving the



Adult male vocalizing in a bromeliad leaf tank. Credit: Leo R. Malagoli

treetops! The desert would seem to offer an even greater challenge for a frog. However, since it pleased the Creator to place frogs in the desert--maybe to challenge the evolutionists--He has also provided for their needs. It may rain only once every two years in the deserts of central Australia. When it does rain, the water-holding frogs emerge from their underground hideaways to lay their eggs in the puddles. Before the puddles disappear, not only do the eggs hatch, but the young grow and develop into frogs that are able to store water until the next rain. As the desert again takes over, the frogs dig themselves back into the ground and go into suspended animation until the next rains come. A year or two later, the new generation will emerge after the next rain to raise their young. Neither chance nor the smartest frog in the world could design or create these abilities. Only a wise Creator could. And if the Creator has provided this much care for frogs, just think of how much more He cares about you and me in our everyday lives! Author: Paul A. Bartz. Ref: Wilder, Rachel, 1983, ‘Flying frogs,’ *Science Digest*, Nov. p. 120.”

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.