
FRIDAY CHURCH NEWS NOTES

ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER CALLS HEAVEN A “FANTASY”

The following is excerpted from “Arnold Schwarzenegger,” *Christian Headlines*, June 7, 2023: “Longtime Hollywood actor and former Republican California Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger dismissed the idea that people will see their loved ones in Heaven as a ‘fantasy.’ During a conversation with fellow actor Danny DeVito, which was published in *Interview* magazine, Schwarzenegger shared his response to DeVito’s question on whether humanity will endure in the future. ‘It reminds me of Howard Stern’s question to me: Tell me, governor, what happens to us when we die? I said, Nothing. You’re 6 feet under...’ Schwarzenegger recounted. DeVito refuted Schwarzenegger’s answer by insisting, ‘You don’t know.’ ...

Schwarzenegger said, ‘We don’t know what happens with the soul and all this spiritual stuff that I’m not an expert in, but I know that the body as we see each other now, we will never see each other again like that. Except in some fantasy. When people talk about, I will see them again in Heaven, it sounds so good, but the reality is that we won’t see each other again after we’re gone. That’s the sad part. I know people feel comfortable with death, but I don’t.’ Schwarzenegger also said he is not looking forward to his own death because he will miss ‘everything.’ ‘To have fun and to go to the gym and to pump up, to ride my bike on the beach, to travel around, to see interesting things all over the world,’ he said.”



THE BIBLE SAYS HEAVEN IS NO FANTASY

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“Heaven” is a clearly-taught Bible doctrine. The word “heaven” is used in three ways: First, the sky above the earth where the clouds exist (Ge. 1:7-8; Lu. 4:25; 17:24; Jas. 5:18). Second, the place where the stars are located (Ge. 1:16-17; 15:5; Mr. 13:25; Ac. 2:19; 7:42). Third, the place of God’s throne (Ge. 21:17; De. 26:15; Ps. 11:4; Mt. 5:16; 6:9, 20; Lu. 8:20; 15:7, 18). God is called “the God of heaven” (Ezr. 1:2; Ne. 1:4, 5; 2:4, 20). The third heaven is also called “paradise” (Lu. 23:43; 2 Co. 12:4; Re. 2:7), “glory” (Ps. 73:24; Col. 3:4), “the highest” (Lu. 2:14), “the Father’s house” (Joh. 14:2), and the “city of the living God” (Heb. 12:22). Hebrews 12:22-24 tells us who lives in heaven: God, Jesus Christ, angels

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innumerable, the church of the firstborn, and the spirits of just men made perfect. Jesus taught men how they can go to heaven. He said, "Ye must be born again" (John 3:7), and this is explained in John 3:16, "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." Mr. Schwarzenegger has no heavenly hope because he doesn't believe God's Word and doesn't have saving faith in Jesus Christ. "For our conversation is in heaven; from whence also we look for the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ: Who shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body, according to the working whereby he is able even to subdue all things unto himself" (Philippians 3:20-21). Mr. Schwarzenegger has all that this world has to offer, but he has nothing of eternal value. Jesus would say to him, "For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?" (Matthew 16:26).

FIRST RELIGIOUS CHARTER SCHOOL APPROVED IN THE U.S.

School choice is the only program that can have a significant impact in reducing the power of America's propagandizing public school system, and school choice is growing. At the same time, the government remains in ultimate control of the money in these schemes, which always spells danger at some point. The best thing Bible-believing parents can do, in our estimation, is to home school or church school and don't take a dime from the government. God has promised to take care of those who trust Him. At the same time, the school choice movement is an encouraging sign in these times. The following is excerpted from "First Religious Charter," *Christianity Daily*, June 6, 2023: "Oklahoma has approved what could be the first Christian charter school in the U.S., igniting a potential constitutional dispute. While raising concerns about the direct use of public money to support religious institutions, the ruling has been a huge success for Christian conservatives. The St. Isidore of Seville Catholic Virtual School is an online school that will be managed by the Catholic Archdiocese of Oklahoma City and the Diocese of Tulsa. Religious lessons will be incorporated into the school's curriculum. It sparked some controversy because taxpayer's money will be used since it is a charter school. ... Republicans in Congress, especially those in Oklahoma, have been pushing for private schools more and more in recent years, citing discussions about parents' rights. These substitutes include tax credits and vouchers, which give parents financial aid to help pay for private tuition, frequently at religious institutions."

CHRISTIAN AND MISSIONARY ALLIANCE APPROVES FEMALE ORDINATION

There should be no debate on the issue of female pastors, as the Bible clearly forbids it. The woman cannot teach nor usurp authority over the man (1 Timothy 2:12) and does not meet the twice-repeated pastoral standard of “the husband of one wife” (1 Timothy 3:2; Titus 1:6). The widespread acceptance of female pastors is a mark of end-time apostasy. The following is excerpted from “Christian and Missionary Alliance,” *Christian*

Headlines, June 6, 2023: “The Christian and Missionary Alliance denomination is now ordaining women and allowing them to use the title of ‘pastor.’ More than 60 percent of the delegates of Alliance’s general counsel voted in favor of the change, *Christianity Today* reports. ... The Alliance has about 2,000 churches across the country. Previously, women could be ‘consecrated,’ but not ordained and could not use the title of *pastor*.”

THE HOMELESS INDUSTRIAL COMPLEX

The following is excerpted from “The Sickening Political Reasons the Left Doesn’t Want to Solve the ‘Homeless Crisis,’” *PJMedia*, May 29, 2023: “For years the people running America’s woke cities pretended not to notice the swarm of tent-dwelling homeless addicts populating their sidewalks, freeway off-ramps, and parks. Now Leftists are making it even worse. Some on the far Left don’t want to solve this entrenched problem for one essential reason. ... Suddenly, franchises of Plans to End Homelessness in Ten Years appeared in cities in the 2010s. The programs would be re-upped. Eventually, they started calling it something else, probably out of embarrassment. President Obama announced a housing first model to end homelessness in 2013 and promised to have all homeless veterans housed by 2016. Homeless centers were opened, complete with stolen shopping cart parking, and ‘homelessness’ got worse. After denying for years that there was a homeless crisis--or something like it, the Left’s leaders in these cities

performed an about-face so pronounced it nearly shocked the conscience. ... Leftist leaders of San Francisco, L.A., Portland, Seattle and other cities decided to embrace these drifters who traveled there to smoke their rent money and live in a tent for free. ... Billions of American tax dollars have been thrown at the ‘housing first’ problem. And billions more have been promised. And the plunder continues. Non-profits, NGOs, and friends of grifting politicians got into the homeless business to get that government cheese to End Homelessness. But it hasn’t and it won’t. The issue is well on its way to becoming an entrenched political point. **‘What once was a cause is becoming a multimillion-dollar industry,’** drug counselor and homeless expert Kevin Dahlgren told me on my *Adult in the Room* podcast. ‘And because there are so many jobs and funding attached to ending homelessness, there’s no motivation to actually officially end it because everybody loses their jobs and loses the funding.’”



GOD'S OCEANS

“Rejoice in the LORD, O ye righteous: *for* praise is comely for the upright. Praise the LORD with harp: sing unto him with the psaltery *and* an instrument of ten strings. ... **He gathereth the waters of the sea together as a heap: he layeth up the depth in storehouses**” (Ps. 33:1, 2, 7). God is to be praised for the oceans, which are earth’s great water reservoirs. This is described in Genesis. The earth was first covered with water (Ge. 1:2), then God divided the waters and created the firmament of the sky for the clouds to inhabit (Ge. 1:6-8). He then created the seas and the dry land. “And God said, Let the waters under the heaven be gathered together unto one place, and let the dry *land* appear: and it was so. And God called the dry *land* Earth; and the gathering together of the waters called he Seas: and God saw that *it was good*” (Ge. 1:9-10). The oceans are a major part of the great hydrological system that provides water for life on earth. The oceans cover 70% of the earth’s surface and hold 96% of the earth’s water. They produce about 70% of the earth’s oxygen and contain 94% of earth’s animal life, including the blue whale which can reach 108 feet in length. The Pacific Ocean is five times wider than the moon. The average depth of the oceans is 12,000 feet, and the deepest known part is the Mariana Trench which is 35,000 feet deep. The oceans cover the world’s longest mountain range (the Mid-Oceanic Ridge stretching over 40,000 miles), the world’s tallest mountain (Mauna Kea, 6.8 miles high), the world’s deepest canyon (the Zhemchung Canyon in the Bering Sea, 8,520 feet), the world’s highest cliffs (near the Bahamas, 13,000 feet), and the world’s largest waterfall (the Denmark Strait Cataract with a drop of 11,000 feet and a flow rate of 123 million cubic feet per second, more than 50,000 times that of Niagara Falls). In the depths of the oceans are hydrothermal vents that release water up to 400 degrees Celsius (750 degrees Fahrenheit). The oceans have rivers and lakes and massive underwater waves called internal waves that can be 650 feet tall and travel for thousands of miles. The oceans contain most of the world’s active volcanos. Tsunamis can move across the ocean at speeds of 500 miles per hour. “He gathereth the waters of the sea together as a heap: he layeth up the depth in storehouses” (Ps. 33:7). (Most of this information is from “38 Ocean Facts,” bestlifeonline.com and “50 Fascinating Facts,” Divein.com.)



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.