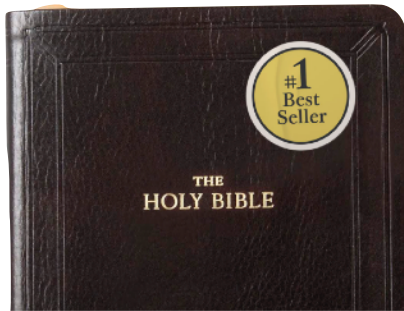

FRIDAY CHURCH NEWS NOTES



THE BIBLE: THE WORLD'S BEST-SELLING BOOK

The following is excerpted from “Best-selling Book,” *Guinness World Records*, 2021: “The best-selling book of all time is the Christian Bible. It is impossible to know exactly how many copies have been printed in the roughly 1500 years since its contents were standardized, but research conducted by the British and Foreign Bible Society in 2021 suggests that the total number probably lies between 5 and 7 billion copies. ... In the 50 years that followed the Gutenberg Bible in 1454, it has been estimated that European printers produced 15 million books, the majority of which were Bibles. ... By 1815, the total number of Bibles printed numbered around 1.3 billion. One key milestone in the history of the Bible comes in the early 19th century, when the first Bible Societies were founded. These organizations ordered Bibles in huge numbers, but gave them away or sold them at cost as part of their Christian mission. ... A study produced by the British and Foreign Bible Society (founded in 1804) calculated that 2,458,000,000 Bibles were printed between 1815 and 1975. ... In the 21st century, Bibles are printed at a rate of around 80 million per year.” The following is excerpted from “The Good Book Business,” *The New Yorker*, Dec. 10, 2006: “The familiar observation that the Bible is the best-selling book of all time obscures a more startling fact: the Bible is the best-selling book of the year, every year. Calculating how many Bibles are sold in the United States is a virtually impossible task, but a conservative estimate is that in 2005 Americans purchased some twenty-five million Bibles--twice as many as the most recent *Harry Potter* book. The amount spent annually on Bibles has been put at more than half a billion dollars.”

JUDGE REJECTS TEACHERS UNION’S EFFORT TO CANCEL VOUCHER PROGRAM

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 could always spell 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. We believe it is an answer to prayer. The following is excerpted from “Judge Tosses,” *Fox News*, Nov. 19, 2023: “The New Hampshire Superior Court on Wednesday dismissed a teachers union’s challenge to the state’s voucher program, which argued that the use of public money to fund

**“TEACHERS
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JUDGE REJECTS TEACHERS UNION'S EFFORT...

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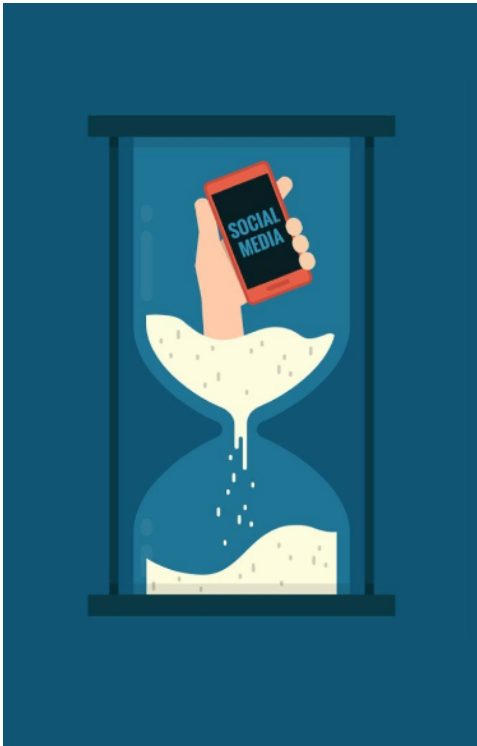
private schools was unconstitutional. Merrimack County Superior Court Judge Amy L. Ignatius ruled that the AFT [American Federation of Teachers-New Hampshire] failed to prove the measure violates the Constitution. According to In Depth New Hampshire, who procured notes from the case, Ignatius said that 'the burden of proof is on Howes to prove it is unconstitutional.' Howes had failed to do so. ... The Education Trust Fund, which was established to distribute education grants to school districts, was amended this year to include vouchers. The vouchers are facilitated through Education Freedom Accounts [EFA]. ... Reacting to the outcome of the case, American Federation For Children Senior Fellow Corey DeAngelis told *Fox News Digital* that 'power-hungry teachers unions were just dealt a major L[oss] in New Hampshire.' 'Education freedom is here to stay, and there's nothing Randi Weingarten and her union stooges can do about it,' he said. He went on to say, 'Teachers unions should hang their heads in shame after this attempt to trap kids in their failing government schools. Parents deserve the right to direct the upbringing of their own children, and school choice gives them real power. Kids don't belong to the government. With this win in New Hampshire, parents will continue to be in charge.'"

ANTHROPOLOGICAL SOCIETIES ENTER FANTASY WORLD BY DENYING BIOLOGICAL STANDARD FOR MALE AND FEMALE

12, 2024, www.wayoflife.org, fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - The following is excerpted from "Conference cancels panel," *Fox News*, Sept. 29, 2023: "Anthropologists from the largest associations of anthropologists in the world canceled an event discussing the importance of biological sex in the context of studying the human skeleton while citing 'transphobia' as the reason for the panel being cut. The American Anthropological Association (AAA) and The Canadian Anthropology Society (CASCA) were skewered for walking back their approval for a panel event at its 2023 conference discussing biological sex. The AAA and CASCA said that it was now tightening its review process to ensure such an event wouldn't recur in the future. The event in question discussed 'Sex identification whether an individual was male or female--using the skeleton is one of the most fundamental components in bioarchaeology and forensic

anthropology.' One of the speakers who was slated to attend, Elizabeth Weiss, an anthropology professor at San José State University, said in an interview with *FOX News Digital* that the field has been nose-diving into an 'off the rails' agenda, with activists pushing for some facts to be replaced with feelings. As anthropologists have developed more precise metrics to determine the sex of the human skeleton they study in the field, the more they get attacked for knowing and being able to determine those differences, she said. '**So just as we are getting better and better at identifying what is male and what is a female and the skeletal record, we are getting more and more attacked for knowing how to do this,**' she said. "Truth is not necessarily considered an objective goal and the victims' narrative is more important than facts. Who tells the story is more important than the data, which we obviously know is not true."

SOCIAL MEDIA THE GREAT TIME WASTER



Social media is *designed* to grab your attention and keep it. It has been called “engineered addiction.” One man said, “Facebook is like a black hole sucking productivity away.” Another said, “YouTube is a trap. Instagram is a trap. Facebook is a trap. ... they have been designed to hook you. I went for a 10-day retreat and realised how much time I had been wasting on these platforms. They distort the perception of reality and above all eat up the precious time that you have.” Even the *London Telegraph* warns about this: “There is no better late-night activity than trawling through the dregs of Twitter, Instagram and Pinterest to see what your followers have been up to. You’ll find things you never knew or wanted to discover: arty photographs of colleagues’ Christmas dinners overlaid by ridiculous filters, endless irritating videos of cute animals, and catty exchanges between TOWIE celebs accused of stealing each others’ boyfriends. Problem is, IT’S A BOTTOMLESS PIT. There is, quite literally, no end to the meaningless waffle of the web--and, once you start...” (“The 7 best ways to waste time on the internet,” *The Telegraph*, Dec. 30, 2014). [TOWIE refers to “The Only Way is Essex, a popular British TV program followed by multitudes of young social media addicts.”]

THE GLORIES OF LEVITICUS

Leviticus is a neglected book of the Bible. It is one in which Bible readers typically get “bogged down,” but Leviticus is full of glory because it is all about Christ and His vicarious atonement. Christ is the burnt offering, the meal offering, the peace offering, the sin offering, and the trespass offering. Every detail points to Christ. He is the lamb and the ram and the ox. He is the poor man’s sacrificial dove. He is the atonement, the propitiation, and the redemption. He is the justifier and the sanctifier. He is the priest who offers the offering, and He is the offering itself. He is the scapegoat who carried our sin far away. He is the priest who cleanses the spiritual lepers. He is the Holy One who imputes His own perfect holiness to the unholy. He is the passover and the unleavened bread. He is the sabbath rest. He is the firstfruits from the dead. His eternal kingdom is the Jubilee of jubilees. (We recommend the Leviticus studies in *Mastering the English Bible*, “Old Testament History - Genesis to the Silent Years,” https://www.wayoflife.org/publications/books/mastering_ot_history.php)

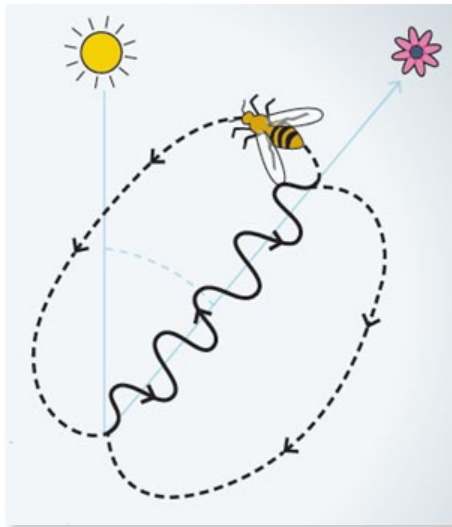


THE HONEYBEE DANCE

The following is excerpted from “Honeybees-- Always on the Move,” *Answers Magazine*, Apr. 1, 2011: “Once our forager bee finds a new source of pollen or nectar, she returns to the colony to tell others about it. First, she waggles her body in a straight line; then she loops back in a semicircle to waggle again. This waggle dance is quite accurate at giving her fellow bees the direction and distance to the food source. It also describes the quality and type of food source. The honeybee’s dance communicates to other workers a new source of pollen or nectar. Variations in the dance communicate

the distance, quality, and direction of the new source. The greater the distance to the food, the slower she dances and the longer she moves along the line. To communicate better food quality, she increases the vigor and intensity of her waggles. She describes the source’s direction by the angle of her waggle on the honeycomb’s surface. If her waggle moves upward on the comb (toward 12

o’clock), the food is toward the sun. But if she waggles toward the right (toward 3 o’clock), the food is 90° to the right of the sun’s position. If much time has passed, she will alter her dance to accommodate the change in the sun’s position. ... While the dance has been observed throughout history, it wasn’t until the twentieth century that Austrian scientist Karl von Frisch decoded its meaning. He was awarded a Nobel Prize in 1973 for his discoveries. Scientists now believe that smell plays a role in the dance as well. But how did such behavior originate? The dance conveys information from



one party to another in complex ways, almost like a language. It is hard even to imagine how such communication could have arisen over millions of years of slow change, since the entire colony has to understand the dance in order for it to be effective. It makes more sense to believe that a sovereign Designer created honeybees with the innate instinct to communicate with each other in this way.”

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.