

**NURSERY MINISTRY WORKERS FOR THIS WEEK**

10:50 a.m. Service ----- Cradle Roll 1: LeAnna White  
 Cradle Roll 2: Kaitlyn White  
 6:30 p.m. Service ----- Cradle Roll 1: Shirley White  
 Cradle Roll 2: Phailyn Crawford  
 Wed. Evening Service ----- Cradle Roll 1: Shirley White  
 Cradle Roll 2: Bertha Segebart

**AND THE PEOPLE CAME...**

*Week of September 2, 2018*

Sunday School ----- 14  
 Sunday Morning Service ----- 32  
 Sunday Evening Service ----- 32  
 Mon. Eve. Service, 09/03/18 ----- 31  
 Tud. Eve. Service, 09/04/18 ----- 16  
 Wed. Eve. Service, 09/05/18 ----- 12

**AND THE PEOPLE GAVE...**

*- Week of September 2, 2018 -*

Undesignated Tithes & Offerings ----- \$ 1,591.40  
 Love Offering, Rodney Woodcock ----- \$ 800.39  
**Total Received for Week of 09/02/18: \$ 2,391.79**

*- Week of August 26, 2018 -*

Undesignated Tithes & Offerings ----- \$ 807.45  
 Love Offering, Rodney Woodcock ----- \$ 80.00  
**Total Received for Week of 08/26/18: \$ 887.45**

*- Week of August 19, 2018 -*

Undesignated Tithes & Offerings ----- \$ 627.01  
**Total Received for Week of 08/19/18: \$ 627.01**

*- Week of August 12, 2018 -*

Undesignated Tithes & Offerings ----- \$ 621.00  
**Total Received for Week of 08/12/18: \$ 621.00**

*- Week of August 5, 2018 -*

Undesignated Tithes & Offerings ----- \$ 2,448.02  
**Total Received for Week of 08/05/18: \$ 2,448.02**

*- Week of July 29, 2018 -*

Undesignated Tithes & Offerings ----- \$ 122.12  
**Total Received for Week of 07/29/18: \$ 122.12**

**Average amount of Undesignated Offerings needed to operate the church EACH WEEK, as a minimum = \$ 1,400.00**

*Cradle Roll*

**OUR VERY NEWEST -**



*Kaliana Isabelle Crawford*

Born to Brian and Charity Crawford  
 August 28, 2018

**WHAT IT MEANS TO BE SAVED**

1. *Admit that you are a sinner.*
2. *Admit that God says all sins must be paid for.*
3. *Accept the fact that Christ took upon Himself the suffering necessary to pay for all your sins.*
4. *You must change your mind about sin and sinning (God calls this repentance).*
5. *By an act of your will, accept by faith the Lord Jesus Christ, who can save you from the penalty of sin. Then, tell God about this in a simple prayer. Believe that God keeps His promise to save you, and thank Him for His salvation.*



**Please Remember To Be Faithful to Give!**

As with everything else, the costs of keeping a church going never go down - they always go **up**. Bills wait for no one, and churches are no exception to this. An extra, sacrificial gift today by everyone present would go a long way...

We encourage all of our membership to practice obedience to God by being faithful every payday to give back to Him His tithe (10%). *If every family in our church would practice this one simple discipline, we would never have weeks where we have to put off paying some bills until the following week!*

Everything is expensive, especially for a small church like ours, but ours is a BIG God, and He LOVES to bless His children when they are obedient to Him!

If you are already a tither, we thank you, and encourage you to also give offerings as well. If you're currently not tithing, won't you please start **today - OK?** Thank you.

**Church Directory**

Todd W. White ----- Pastor  
 Mickie Shatwell ----- Pianist  
 Lois Mae Floyd ----- Pianist/ Organist  
**Volunteer Needed!** ----- Greeter  
 Shayne Hooper, Charity Crawford, LeAnna White ----- S.S. Teachers  
 Larry & Mary Byars, Dwayne English ----- Outreach  
 Bertha Segebart ----- Custodian  
 Flowers ----- Shirley White, Charity Crawford

SOUTH HEIGHTS BAPTIST'S WEEKLY  
**REMINDER**

Volume XXIII

September 9, 2018

Number 35



**Can A Christian Be A SJW?**

When we read our feelings and thoughts into the Bible (instead reading literally out of the Bible), we run the ever increasing risk and danger of torturing a passage into saying something not supported either in the immediate context or in the context of Scripture as a whole.

I suspect there are no heretics who would disagree with this statement. On its own, the statement is too obvious to be useful.

Let me, therefore, treat you with an example -

Any old earthers in the audience (those who believe the earth is billions of years old)? Shame on you. For the most part, I actually don't care what stance you take, so long as you don't twist Scripture to get there. However, there are two arguments old earthers primarily use to try to reconcile their faith in science with their enjoyment of the Bible:

**Argument 1:** "son of" could be read to be an indefinite offspring in the lineage of "so and so", so that millions of years could be accounted for.

**Argument 2:** "day" could mean an indefinite timespan in the poetic recounting of Genesis 1.

Before you get your hopes up, I'm going to leave the rebuttal of these points to people who have studied the original language and writing style. If you are interested, I would highly recommend you read John MacArthur's The Battle for the Beginning.

Whether you take the detour or not, what I do care about is a point MacArthur makes in his series which I too have witnessed first hand from this kind of hermeneutic, which is, **if a person is able to purposefully misread passages of Scripture to appease his faith in science or social justice, he will also torture other passages which disagree with his other gods.**

Thomas Jefferson is a good illustration of this. Jefferson was a deist and not a Christian; however, since Christianity was in vogue, he collected bits of the Bible he cut with a razor and glued into a book, the Jefferson Bible. His bible is a collection of "moral" teachings from the Bible, excluding anything requiring worship of or faith in Jesus Christ or reference to His divinity.

Before you think this unique to Jefferson, Mormons and Jehovah Witnesses do the same thing with the Bible. In fact, the JW's use several late manuscripts from disreputable sources (both are a no-no's to translators of any work) to exclude specific references to the divinity of Christ.

If you're breathing a sigh of relief because I've mentioned non-Christians and cultists, please rethink that relief.

When I was in Seattle, I was asked not to come back to one of the largest protestant churches after I called to attention that the church was promoting one of it's staff who was practicing witchcraft after removing **his** predecessor for practicing witchcraft. Of the many things that were said to me to try to make me comply with this sin, one was that they had to defend the "brand" (as though Jesus were a commodity being sold) and needed to provide stability for the people. At no point could any of their leaders or elders refute or respond to the passages of Scripture I used for my case; so, I was removed from the ministry I'd built and told not to come back to any function of that organization.

All the same, you're asking, "what does this have to with me?" Well, this topic came up in conversation when I was I asked what I think of Christian social justice warriors.

I don't.

Hmmm? Oh, I don't believe in Christian SJWs for the simple reason that the equation **Jesus-And** is the basic form for the torturing  
*(continued inside)*

of all Scripture and the beginning of idolatry.

To see this, let us combine Jesus *and* World Peace and see if that holds up. To evaluate this proposition, we need to see if Jesus speaks to this issue.

*“Think not that I am come to send peace on earth: I came not to send peace, but a sword” (Matthew 10:34).*

In this case, the idea of combining Jesus *with* World Peace is antithetical to His words. At best, such a combination reveals negligence for God’s Word; though, more often it reveals an idolatry where the second proposition in the Jesus-And formula is the **true** god of worship for this person.

To be clear, a Christian can and should promote peace; but you need to exclude Jesus from your examples and use other passages, since Christ was clear that peace was not His purpose.

In the case of Jesus specifically, Jesus’ purpose helps us to see that it’s impossible to use **Jesus-And** without molesting Scripture and falling victim to idolatry. So, what was the mission Christ purposed while He was here?

Fascinatingly, as mentioned above, Jesus did not come to bring peace. He also didn’t come to heal the sick, since we know He did not heal all who were sick. He did not come to end hunger, oppression, slavery or even the occupation of Israel.

**JESUS WAS NOT A SOCIAL JUSTICE WARRIOR.** Jesus didn’t even really care about the social or economic plight of the poor. He **did** care about the *salvation* of all men, because God takes no pleasure in the death of the wicked (Ezekiel).

*To be clear, the positions of SJWs cannot be defended or advocated based on the mission or teaching of Christ, since He is clear in saying that He has come to seek and save that which is lost (Luke 19:10).*

That leaves us with a broader question - *Can a Christian be an SJW and use the Bible to defend his views and actions on justice and equity?*

No.

If Jesus’ mission was to seek the lost and call them to Himself (and it was), then *that* is the mission of the Church and the Christian. There is no **And** to add to this. We do have commands for how we’re to go about this, for example the dividing walls in the flesh (such as being Jew or gentile) are erased in Christ so that we share only one position: co-heirs of the grace to come with all other Christians. However, this equality is not shared with those outside of the church.

It gets worse. Not only does God consider slavery to be useful and permissible (therefore not a sin, since God cannot sin); but the Holy Spirit goes on to say to us that if we are slaves, we should not seek our freedom (I Corinthians 7:21).

Since most of us are not slaves, either legally or philosophically, this might be unsettling but not a big deal. Instead, it might surprise you that the Bible tells us to lead quiet lives and to obey the rules of government, even when the

government is corrupt, idolatrous, unjust or even persecutes us (Romans and 1st Peter mention this). We are told even under this same kind of government to seek and pray for the welfare of the city and its leaders, because this promotes our own welfare (Jeremiah 29:7).

*On those lines alone, no tactics of SJWs can be defended or permitted according the Bible, unless such a person peacefully, legally, and unobnoxiously demonstrates.*

However, the risk is still there even without using Jesus or the Bible that such a person may be guilty of the Jesus-And equation.

To help illustrate this, here is a tragic story from my past -

One of the unsaved roommates I had while living in the Seattle area came up to me one day and asked me if I was a born again Christian. I knew he wasn’t asking the right question for whatever was on his mind, so I asked him what he knew about being born again. He happily shared with me that it meant someone who used to have sex but gave it up to serve Jesus.

You see, he came to this understanding because both he and our other roommate (also reprobate) had ex girlfriends who broke up with them after becoming “born again”; and this is what they collectively understood.

When Paul tells us that we are ambassadors for Christ, people associate with Jesus and Christianity the things they see us do. They do not see you as a sinner saved by grace (one of dozens or even hundred), but as someone solely representing this lifestyle. In turn, they make overly broad generalizations; and they are either turned on or off to Christianity because of your conduct.

It doesn’t matter how just you think your cause is, if you bring shame to Christianity. For example, you might save 1000 starving sea otters (or some other SJW issue); but if you detour even one person from the truth of the Gospel, I promise the sea otters were not worth any heavenly treasure and the soul of that one lost person is something God will hold you accountable for.

Before you get too concerned, the Bible doesn’t prohibit you from taking up just causes. It only prohibits you from doing it illegally or in a way where your ambassadorship would mar Christ’s mission to attract the lost to Himself.

*In truth, this is the justice and war Christians are called to be in: THE INJUSTICE OF SIN’S CHAINS DRAGGING PEOPLE TO EVERLASTING DAMNATION AND THE WAR OF THE FORCES OF DARKNESS OBSCURING THE FREEDOM IN CHRIST.* By contrast, of what concern are sea otters, the environment, so-called racism, higher driving tickets among minorities, or the continuation of slavery in the Middle East?

If you can pursue the one without giving up the other, by all means; however, I write to you because the association with non Christian SJWs always corrupts the Christian to compromise his faith to satisfy the idolatry of the SJW movement. ÷

- *graceministriesblog, a Southern Baptist writer in Seattle, Washington*

## NEWS OF INTEREST TO CHRISTIANS

**K MICHAEL W. SMITH LEADS CONCERT THAT “WILL BE THE BEGINNING OF THE NEXT GREAT AWAKENING”** - Michael W. Smith, one of the most influential contemporary Christian musicians, led a concert last week in Nashville that he believes “will be the beginning of the next great awakening through the US. and the world” (“Singer to Fulfill Prophecy over Nashville,” The Christian Post, Aug. 29, 2018).

The concert, called “Surrounded: A Night to Pray, Worship and Be Awakened,” was held in partnership with TBN (Trinity Broadcasting Network), which has spewed out heresy and worldliness since its founding by Paul Crouch in 1973. Smith claims that the concert is the result of “*dreams and visions.*” One of the major goals is to break down “all denominational lines,” which is the reason that Contemporary Christian Music is one of the chief elements in the building of the apostate “one world church.”

It is impossible to obey God’s Word and at the same time strive for Christian unity in an hour when the vast, vast majority of churches are either totally apostate or deeply compromised with the world, the flesh, and the devil. It is impossible to earnestly contend for the faith once delivered unto the saints, which is a command of God, and at the same time to strive for ecumenical unity. Michael W. Smith and his compatriots are deeply confused, tragically deceived people. The bottom line is that Contemporary Christian Music is just rock & roll, and there is nothing spiritual about it.

**K GONE CONTEMPORARY** - “Gone Contemporary” is the title of an article by Dave Mallinak exposing the error and danger of the contemporary music philosophy that is spreading rapidly among Baptists. We commend the entire report, which has links to Baptist contemporary worship services and a video dialogue between Josh Teis and Robert Bakss, author of *Worship Wars*.

The following is an excerpt from the report that gets to the heart of the issue and rightly calls for separation from those who are committed to the contemporary philosophy:

*“The contemporary music push is the death rattle of a dying church.* This style of worship is not becoming more popular because we are becoming more faithful. In our attempt to pander to the audience, we have forgotten that God is the audience. God now bores us. The more dependent we become on this kind of external approach to worship, the more we lose the very heart of worship.

*Eventually, Christians will find that they must have the contemporary kind of music or they cannot worship. (Our Pastor has coined the phrase, “TECHO-HYPE” to describe the type of “worship” that people are becoming convinced they MUST have or they are unable to worship God at all).*

Contemporary worship turns the congregation into and audience of spectators, and the music into a performance. It produces a low view of God, a delight in the experience of

worship rather than the God we worship, a superficial sense of passion that loses the passion of true worship, a growing dependence on the experience produced by the music itself, and the false idea that worship is easy, that devotion can be whipped up in a couple of choruses. True worship is challenging--it requires focus and diligence and depth, all things that CCM discourages.

Musical style indicates what a church thinks of God. Scripturally, we cannot pretend to be in good fellowship with churches who have chosen relevance over reverence. So, while we do not attempt to dictate the way another church should worship, we most certainly do have a God-given responsibility to determine the limits of our fellowship.

*The claim that musical style is nothing more than a “preference choice” demonstrates just how relativistic these men have become.*

They have purposely ignored the study of music theory. They believe that we do not need to study the Bible to see what kind of style is required. They remind us, somewhat condescendingly, that the Bible says nothing about syncopation or ‘beat anticipation.’ *So saying, they purposely ignore the clear message musical style sends about the occasion of worship.*

Their determined know-nothingness aside, style still informs us about the meaning of the occasion. Movie producers understand this. Most people know what music is appropriate for weddings, funerals, classy restaurants, backyard barbecues, military parades and basketball games. These men believe we can drag any style into the worship service, slap some sacred lyrics onto it, and somehow ‘redeem it.’

Style is the meaning. The music, dress, and trendy look of the contemporary Independent Baptists tell us less about their view of style and so much more about their view of God. The same can be said for most events. The way we dress and the music we play tells more about the way we view the event than it does about the way we view style.”

