

AND THE PEOPLE CAME...

Week of May 9, 2021

Sunday Morning Service -----	25
Sunday Evening Service -----	20
Wed. Evening Service, 05/12/21 -----	12

AND THE PEOPLE "TUNED IN"...

Week of May 9, 2021

- Number of people who connected with our services on Facebook -

Sunday Morning Service:		
225 Views	93 Engagements	441 People Reached
Sunday Evening Service:		
70 Views	76 Engagements	70 People Reached
Wednesday Evening Service:		
49 Views	73 Engagements	55 People Reached

AND THE PEOPLE GAVE...

- Week of May 9, 2021 -

Undesignated Tithes & Offerings -----	\$ 3,430.00
Church Insurance Fund -----	\$ 40.00
TOTAL RECEIVED FOR WEEK OF 05/09/21:	\$ 3,470.00

- Week of May 2, 2021 -

Undesignated Tithes & Offerings -----	\$ 984.00
Church Insurance Fund -----	\$ 27.00
TOTAL RECEIVED FOR WEEK OF 05/02/21:	\$ 1,011.00

- Week of April 25, 2021 -

Undesignated Tithes & Offerings -----	\$ 1,022.31
Church Insurance Fund -----	\$ 66.00
TOTAL RECEIVED FOR WEEK OF 04/25/21:	\$ 1,088.31

- Week of April 18, 2021 -

Undesignated Tithes & Offerings -----	\$ 921.28
Church Insurance Fund -----	\$ 10.00
TOTAL RECEIVED FOR WEEK OF 04/18/21:	\$ 931.28

- Week of April 11, 2021 -

Undesignated Tithes & Offerings -----	\$ 1,025.21
Church Insurance Fund -----	\$ 30.00
TOTAL RECEIVED FOR WEEK OF 04/11/21:	\$ 1,055.21

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

**PLEASE BE FAITHFUL TO GIVE,
- ESPECIALLY NOW**

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.*



THANK YOU For Your Continued Faithfulness In Giving!

During the early part this pandemic, we were unable to meet in the church-house. But - that did not mean that the expenses of having a church-house were suspended. We still had bills to pay - electricity, gas, water, trash pickup, phone, internet, facility insurance, copier lease, office supplies, etc., and, praise the Lord, His people kept praying, watching online, & supporting their church with their giving.

Sadly, some people only give when they are in attendance at church - sort of like paying for "services rendered" - but the truth is that they are robbing **THEMSELVES** of God's blessings when they withhold their tithes and offerings and only give when they are here (see Malachi 3:10). Thankfully, most of our people have remained faithful, in so many ways, during this crisis, including financially.

WE HAVE 3 WAYS YOU CAN GIVE:

1. **By mail** - 23 East Wells Blvd., Sapulpa, OK 74066
2. **Drop it off** - call the Church Office to arrange it. 224-1924
3. **Online** - Go to the link below and give electronically:

<https://tithe.ly/give?c=433047>

**WE ARE GLAD WE CAN NOW GATHER TOGETHER TO PRAISE GOD &
STUDY HIS WORD TOGETHER IN THE CHURCH-HOUSE!
YOUR FAITHFUL AND GENEROUS GIFTS WILL HELP US KEEP UP WITH
THE BILLS AND CONTINUE OUR RENEWED OUTREACH EFFORTS!**

Church Directory

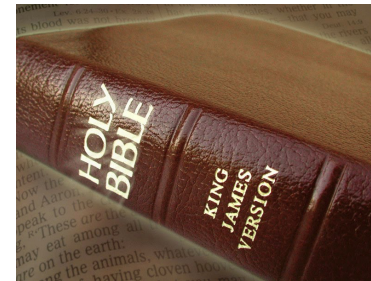
Todd W. White -----	Pastor
Lois Mae Floyd -----	Pianist/ Organist
Mickie Shatwell -----	Evening Pianist
Derek Quinnelly -----	Greeter
Larry Byars -----	S.S. Teacher
Larry & Mary Byars, Susan Strain -----	Outreach
Bertha Segebarr -----	Custodian
Flowers -----	Shirley & Brenda White
Sound/Video -----	Seth White

SOUTH HEIGHTS BAPTIST'S WEEKLY REMINDER

Volume XXVII

May 16, 2021

Number 18



Isn't The King James Bible Too Difficult To Understand?

by Evangelist David Cloud
First published Feb. 3, 2004 & Enlarged April 28, 2021
(continued from last week)

VIII. PART OF THE ANTIQUATED FEEL OF THE KING JAMES BIBLE IS ITS USAGE OF THE SECOND PERSON SINGULAR PRONOMINAL FORMS, "THEE," "THOU," "THY," AND "THINE."

A large part of the antiquated feel of the King James Bible is due to the retention of the old English distinction between the singular and plural second person pronoun (thee, thou, thy, thine - ye, you, yours). This was done to enable accurate translation of the Hebrew and Greek. Modern English has lost this distinction.

Pronouns beginning with "t" are singular (thee, thou, thy, thine), and those beginning with "y" are plural (ye, you, yours). One way to remember this is that a "t" resembles one stick, while a "y" resembles two sticks. ("Thy" and "thine" correspond to "your" and "yours." If the noun placed after "thy" begins with a vowel sound, use "thine" instead: thy book; thine eyes.)

The King James translators did not adopt thee, thou, thy, thine because these were common to their day, but because they wanted to faithfully translate the original Scripture into English. These expressions had already dropped out of common English by 1611 when the King James Bible was published. This is obvious from the translator's Preface and other writings by the KJV translators. The distinction between the singular and plural in English began in the late 13th century and continued commonly until the 1500s.

The British biblical scholar J.B. Lightfoot wrote, "*Indeed, we may take courage from the fact that the language of our English Bible is not the language of the age in which the translators lived, but in its grand simplicity stands out in contrast to the ornate and often affected diction of the literature of the time*" (*The Divine Original*, Trinitarian Bible Society, London, England).

"It is often asserted or assumed that the usage of the AV represents the speech of 300 years ago, and that now, three centuries later, it should be changed to accord with contemporary usage. But this is not at all a correct statement of the problem. The important fact is this. **THE USAGE OF THE AV IS NOT THE ORDINARY USAGE OF THE EARLY SEVENTEENTH CENTURY: IT IS THE BIBLICAL USAGE BASED ON THE STYLE OF THE HEBREW AND THE GREEK SCRIPTURES.** The second part of this statement needs no proof and will be challenged by no one. It is undeniable that where the Hebrew and Greek use the singular of the pronoun the AV regularly uses the singular, and where they use the plural it uses the plural. Even in Deuteronomy where in his addresses, and apparently for rhetorical and pedagogical effect, Moses often changes suddenly, and seemingly arbitrarily, from singular to plural or from plural to singular, the AV reproduces the style of the text with fidelity. **THAT IS TO SAY, THE USAGE OF THE AV IS STRICTLY BIBLICAL**" (Oswald T. Allis, "*Is a Pronominal Revision of the Authorized Version Desirable?*").

Linguistic scholar Dr. A.T. Robertson made the following observation about the King James Bible: "*No one today speaks the English of the Authorized Version, or ever did for that matter, for though, like Shakespeare, it is the pure Anglo-Saxon, yet unlike Shakespeare **IT REPRODUCES TO A REMARKABLE EXTENT THE SPIRIT AND LANGUAGE OF THE BIBLE***" (*A Grammar of the Greek New Testament*, p. 56).

The style of the King James Bible goes back to the masterly work of William Tyndale in the early 16th century. British historian James Froude observes: "The peculiar genius—if such a word may be permitted—which breathes through it—the mingled tenderness
(continued inside)



CHURCH INSURANCE FUND

Monthly Premium, Due 06/05/21-----	\$ 537.92
Amount Received To Date -----	\$ 40.00

TOTAL STILL NEEDED BY JUNE 5, 2021: ----- \$ 497.92

Thank You For Your Faithful Help With This Need!

and majesty—the Saxon simplicity—the preternatural grandeur—unequalled, unapproached in the attempted improvements of modern scholars—all are here, and bear the impress of the mind of one man—William Tyndale. Lying, while engaged in that great office, under the shadow of death, the sword above his head and ready at any moment to fall, he worked, under circumstances alone perhaps truly worthy of the task which was laid upon him—his spirit, as it were divorced from the world, moved in a purer element than common air” (Froude, History of England from the Fall of Wolsey to the Defeat of the Spanish Armada, III, p. 84).

Following are some examples of how important it is to retain the distinction between second person singular and plural:

Genesis 18:3-4. “And said, My Lord, if now I have found favour in THY sight, pass not away, I pray THEE, from thy servant: Let a little water, I pray YOU, be fetched, and wash YOUR feet, and rest YOURSELVES under the tree.” In verse 3 Abraham is speaking to and of the Lord (thy, thee), but in verse 4 he is speaking of all three of the persons who appeared to him, including the two angels (you, your, yourselves).

Exodus 4:15. “THOU shalt speak unto him, and put words in his mouth; and I will be with THY mouth, and with his mouth, and will teach YOU what YE shall do.” THOU and THY refer to Moses, but YOU refers to the nation.

Exodus 29:42. “This shalt be a continual burnt offering throughout YOUR generations at the door of the tabernacle of the congregation before the LORD where I will meet YOU, to speak there unto THEE.” YOU, referring to the children of Israel, is explained in the following verse, but THEE refers to Moses, who had the holy privilege of hearing the words of God directly (Leviticus 1:1).

I Samuel 17:46-47. “This day will the LORD deliver THEE into mine hand; and I will smite THEE, and take THINE head from thee; and I will give the carcasses of the host of the Philistines this day unto the fowls of the air, and to the wild beasts of the earth; that all the earth may know that there is a God in Israel. And all this assembly shall know that the LORD saveth not with sword and spear: for the battle is the LORD’S, and he will give YOU into our hands.” In verse 46 David is speaking of Goliath (thee, thine), but in verse 47 he speaking of the Philistine people (you).

II Samuel 7:23. “And what one nation in the earth is like THY people, even like Israel, whom God went to redeem for a people to himself, and to make him a name, and to do for YOU great things and terrible, for THY land, before THY people, which THOU redeemedst to THEE from Egypt.” Here David is in prayer to God, thus accounting for the singular words THY and THOU, referring to God. David turns his attention to the people Israel when he uses the plural YOU. If “you” were used throughout, the reader would not understand who David was addressing.

II Chronicles 7:17-19. “And as for THEE, if THOU wilt

walk before me...and do all that I have commanded THEE...Then I will establish the throne of THY kingdom...But if YE turn away, and forsake my statutes and my commandments...and shalt go and serve other gods...” God is first speaking to Solomon (thee, thou, thy), then He is speaking to all of the people (ye).

Isaiah 7:14. “Therefore the Lord himself shall give YOU a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.” There is a long-running debate by liberal and even New Evangelical scholars that Isaiah 7:14 is only secondarily a Messianic prophecy and that its primary fulfillment was in Isaiah’s day. For example, the note in the NIV Study Bible says of the word virgin: “May refer to a young woman betrothed to Isaiah (8:3), who was to become his second wife (his first wife presumably having died after Shear-jashub was born).” In fact, the prophecy is not directed to Isaiah personally but to the nation Israel as a whole, and this is clear in the KJV, because it indicates properly that “YOU” is plural, not singular. This important information is lost in the modern English versions, including the New King James.

Jeremiah 5:14. “Wherefore thus saith the LORD God of hosts, Because YE speak this word, behold, I will make my words in THY mouth fire, and this people wood, and it shall devour them.” The people (ye) were speaking this word, and God would make Jeremiah’s (thy) mouth fire. By comparing the NKJV we can see that this distinction is lost in the modern versions: “Therefore thus says the LORD God of hosts: "Because you speak this word, Behold, I will make My words in your mouth fire, And this people wood, And it shall devour them.”

Matthew 26:64. “Jesus saith unto him, THOU hast said: nevertheless I say unto YOU, Hereafter shall YE see the Son of man sitting on the right hand of power, and coming in the clouds of heaven.” The singular THOU refers to the high priest, but the plural YOU refers to all who will see Christ in the day of His glory (Rev. 1:7).

Luke 5:24. “But that YE may know that the Son of man hath power upon earth to forgive sins, (he said unto the sick of the palsy,) I say unto THEE, Arise, and take up THY couch, and go into THINE house.” Jesus was saying that it was for the purpose of showing all of Israel (ye) that He would command the sick man to be healed (thee, thy, thine).

Luke 22:31-32. “And the Lord said, Simon, Simon, behold, Satan hath desired to have YOU, that he may sift YOU as wheat: But I have prayed for THEE, that THY faith fail not: and when THOU art converted, strengthen thy brethren.” In verse 31, Jesus says that Satan wanted to sift all of the disciples (you), and in verse 32 he focuses on Peter alone (thee, thy, thou).

John 3:7. “Marvel not that I said unto THEE, YE must be born again.” The message was spoken to the individual (THEE), Nicodemus, but it encompasses all men (YE).

John 3:11, 12. “Verily, verily, I say unto thee, we speak that we do know, and testify that we have seen; and YE receive not our witness. If I have told YOU earthly things, and ye believe

not, how shall YE believe, if I tell YOU of heavenly things?” By using the plural pronoun, Christ is addressing Israel as a whole and Israel’s religious leaders as a whole.

John 14:9. “Jesus saith unto him, Have I been so long time with YOU, and yet hast THOU not known me, Philip?” Jesus first refers to all of the disciples (you), then to Philip personally (thou).

Acts 13:34. “And as concerning that he raised him up from the dead, now no more to return to corruption, he said on this wise, I will give YOU the sure mercies of David.” God is not speaking to Christ but to all of His people.

I Corinthians 8:9-12. “Take heed lest ... this liberty of YOURS... if any man see THEE which hast knowledge ... through THY knowledge ... But when YE sin.” Paul first addresses the whole church at Corinth and believers in general (yours), then focuses on the individual believer and his individual responsibility (THEE).

II Timothy 4:22. “The Lord Jesus Christ be with THY spirit. Grace be with YOU.” The singular THY refers to Timothy, to whom the epistle was written (II Tim. 1:1), but the plural YOU refers to others who were also included in Paul’s final greetings, “Priscilla and Aquila, and the household of Onesiphorus” (II Tim. 4:19).

Titus 3:15. “All that are with me salute THEE. Greet them that love us in the faith. Grace be with YOU all.” Here, the singular THEE refers to Titus, but the plural YOU refers to the church in Crete (Tit. 1:5), and to all who loved Paul in the faith

Philemon 21-25. “Having confidence in THY obedience I wrote unto THEE, knowing that THOU wilt also do more than I say ... I trust that through YOUR prayers I shall be given unto YOU ... There salute THEE ... the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with YOUR spirit.” The singular THEE refers to Philemon, but as this short letter was also addressed to “Apphia ... Archippus ... and to the church in thy house” (v. 2), the plural form YOU, YOUR is used in verses 3, 22, and 25.

IX. PREVIOUS GENERATIONS EDUCATED THE PEOPLE UP TO THE BIBLE, AND THAT IS WHAT WE SHOULD DO TODAY.

It is my conviction that we don’t need a new translation today; we need to renew our study of the excellent one that we already have.

“Instead of lowering the Bible to a lowest common denominator, why should we not educate people to rise to the level required to experience the Bible in its full richness and exaltation? Instead of expecting the least from Bible readers, we should expect the most from them. The greatness of the Bible requires the best, not the least. ... The most difficult of modern English translations--the King James--is used most by segments of our society that are relatively uneducated as defined by formal education. ... research has shown repeatedly that people are capable of rising to surprising and even amazing abilities to read

and master a subject that is important to them. ... Previous generations did not find the King James Bible, with its theological heaviness, beyond their comprehension. Nor do readers and congregations who continue to use the King James translation find it incomprehensible. Neither of my parents finished grade school, and they learned to understand the King James Bible from their reading of it and the preaching they heard based on it. We do not need to assume a theologically inept readership for the Bible. Furthermore, if modern readers are less adept at theology than they can and should be, it is the task of the church to educate them, not to give them Bible translations that will permanently deprive them of the theological content that is really present in the Bible” (Leland Ryken, The Word of God in English, pp. 107, 109).

X. THOUGH THE TERMS “THOU” AND “THINE” HAVE BEEN OUT OF COMMON USAGE OF THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE FOR MORE THAN 400 YEARS, IT WAS ONLY A FEW DECADES AGO THAT PEOPLE STARTED COMPLAINING ABOUT IT.

Even then it was done largely at the prompting of Bible publishers greedy to make ever larger profits by introducing an ever more bewildering smorgasbord of “up-to-date” Bibles. Believers of the 1600s, 1700s, 1800s, and even most of the 1900s, loved the “quaint” old English of the King James Bible. They did not think it strange that their Bible did not sound like the morning newspaper. ***It is the Bible!*** It was written thousands of years ago! It is the Word of the eternal God! It is nothing like the morning newspaper; why, pray tell, should it sound like one? “I believe that it is correct for an English translation to preserve an appropriate archaic flavor as a way of preserving the distance between us and the biblical world. Joseph Wood Krutch used an evocative formula in connection with the King James Bible when he spoke of ‘an appropriate flavor of a past time’” (Ryken, The Word of God in English, p. 182).

XI. THERE IS NO TRANSLATION IN ENGLISH THAT CAN REPLACE THE KING JAMES BIBLE.

The King James Bible is superior to every modern version. We concur with the Baptist leader John Dowling who opposed a new translation in 1850 and said, “I say, brethren, sisters and fathers, cling to your old-fashioned Bible,” and, “to attempt to supplant it by a new version would be like gilding refined gold” (The Old-Fashioned Bible, or Ten Reasons against the Proposed Baptist Version of the New Testament, pp. 27, 36).

The modern versions are based upon a corrupt Hebrew and Greek text that was produced by the modernistic, naturalistic principles of textual criticism. This includes the ***American Standard Version, New American Standard Version, New International Version, Today’s New International Version, English Standard Version, Evangelical Heritage Version***, and the (***Holman***) ***Christian Standard Bible***.

Most modern versions are products of corrupt translation methodologies (e.g., dynamic equivalency). These include the

Living Bible, New Living Bible, Today's English Version, the New International Version, the New International Reader's Version, the Contemporary English Version, and The Message.

The New King James Bible loses accuracy by dropping the use of thee, thou, and thine and contains many translation and textual corruptions. And it opens the door to the loss of one standard Bible and the acceptance of the textually corrupt modern versions.

As of 2020, the King James Bible remains the second best-selling Bible in America (“Top Ten Best-selling Bible Translations,” Christian Post, June 22, 2020). Oxford and Cambridge Press still sell 250,000 copies of the King James Bible per year.

For our part, we don't want a modern Bible and we don't want modern worship, not because we love old things for old things' sake, but because we are convinced, from much study, that the old Bible and the old style of worship are superior.

XII. THERE ARE MANY TOOLS AVAILABLE TO HELP PEOPLE UNDERSTAND THE KJV. FOLLOWING ARE A FEW OF THESE:

* The **BELIEVER'S BIBLE DICTIONARY**, available from Way of Life Literature. This volume is based upon the King James Bible and is written from a dispensational, Baptist perspective. The studies are thorough, practical, devotional, and designed to be used by preachers, teachers, and homeschoolers. The Believer's Bible Dictionary is designed to be more affordable and transportable than the Way of Life Encyclopedia of the Bible & Christianity. We are convinced that this is one of the best Bible dictionaries available today. There are eight ways it can help you: (1) It can help you understand the Bible. The first requirement for understanding the Bible is to understand its words. (2) It can help you understand out-of-use words and phrases from the King James Bible, such as blood guiltiness, die the death, and superfluity of naughtiness. (3) It can help you to do topical studies. The student can study the full range of Bible doctrines by following the thousands of cross references from entry to entry. (4) It can help you to study issues relating to morality and practical Christian living, such as capital punishment, child training, cremation, and divorce. (5) It can help you to study Old Testament types of Christ, such as day of atonement, high priest, Melchizedek, passover, and tabernacle. (6) It can help you to find the meaning of Bible customs and ancient culture, such as agriculture, idolatry, military, money, music, and weights and measures. (7) It can help you to study Bible places and geography, such as Assyria, Babylon, Caesarea, Ephesus, and Jordan River. (8) It can help you in preaching and teaching. The doctrinal material in this dictionary is presented in a practical manner with outlines that can be used for teaching and preaching, in the pulpit, Sunday Schools, Bible Colleges and Institutes, home schools, family devotions, prisons and jails, nursing homes, etc. Missionary author Jack Moorman calls the dictionary “excellent” and says, “The entries show a ‘distilled spirituality.’”

* **STRONG'S EXHAUSTIVE CONCORDANCE.** We believe the Strong's Exhaustive Concordance is the most important single Bible study tool ever published. Not only is it exhaustive in its treatment of the words of the English Bible, but it also links the English words to an exceptional dictionary of the Hebrew and Greek terms underlying the English. One does not have to know the Greek and Hebrew alphabets to use Strong's dictionary; he developed a masterly apparatus whereby each Greek and Hebrew word is assigned a number, and the student can thus search for Greek and Hebrew terms by numbers. The dictionary gives a concise definition of the Greek or Hebrew word as well as a list of how the word is translated at various places in the English Bible.

The Strong's Concordance was produced in the time of a great revival. It was the Bible conference movement, the Bible prophecy movement, the fundamentalist movement, the Bible institute movement, the evangelistic-revivalist movement, the world missionary movement, the hymn writing movement.

James Strong worked on the English Revised Version translation committee with Westcott and Hort and others, both conservative and liberal. Some King James Bible defenders refuse to use Strong's because of his association with modern textual criticism. We don't reject Strong because of this, but we do warn that Strong's definitions should not be blindly followed. *This is true for any dictionary.* Bible words must ultimately be interpreted by their own context, not by a pre-designated dictionary meaning. And Strong's word definitions enables the student to examine the context of the words in the King James Bible. This ability alone is an invaluable resource even without the definitions in Strong's Greek and Hebrew dictionaries.

For example, in John 21:15-17 Jesus commissioned Peter to feed the sheep. By using Strong's we learn that the word “love” is two different Greek words in this passage. In verses 15 and 16, Jesus used *agapao*, which is godly love, the highest love, unselfish love, giving love, John 3:16 love. It is the word used for the first and second commandment - love of God and love of neighbor (Mr. 12:30-31). But Peter used *phileo*, which is love of a friend, fondness, affection, to delight in something, something that is dear. In verse 17, Jesus uses *phileo*. Both words are used of the Father's love for the Son (*agapao* John 3:35; *phileo* John 5:20).

If nothing else, Strong provided an immeasurable benefit for Bible students by producing a numbering system for every Hebrew and Greek word so that those who cannot use Hebrew and Greek lexicons directly can still study the words. This numbering system became the basis for a wealth of other Bible study tools (Vine's Dictionary of Bible Words, Englishman's Hebrew and Greek Lexicons, Theological Dictionary of the Old and New Testament, New Analytical Greek Lexicon, Thayer's Greek English Lexicon, Complete Word Study Dictionary). Strong's numbering system became a fundamental part of the electronic Bibles that began to proliferate in the late 1980s.

Strong's Concordance was an invaluable tool for the Bible

institute movement that began in the late 1800s and spread quickly in the 20th. The Bible Institutes were based on the English Bible and produced countless preachers and Christian workers who were zealous Bible students but were not necessarily well trained in the Biblical languages. (See *The History and Heritage of Fundamentalism and the Fundamental Baptists*, www.wayoflife.org.)

* The **WAY OF LIFE ENCYCLOPEDIA OF THE BIBLE & CHRISTIANITY.** (The above-mentioned Believer's Bible Dictionary is based on the Way of Life Encyclopedia.) This lovely hardcover Bible encyclopedia contains 650 pages (8.5X11) of information, over 5,500 entries, and over 6,000 cross-references. Twenty-five years of research has gone into this one-of-a-kind reference tool. It is the only Bible dictionary/encyclopedia written by a fundamental Baptist and based strictly upon the King James Bible. It is a complete dictionary of biblical terminology, plus it features many other areas of research not often covered in a single volume Bible reference tool. Subjects include Bible versions, Denominations, Cults, Christian Movements, Typology, the Church, Social Issues and Practical Christian Living, Bible Prophecy, and Old English Terminology. The Christian will be helped and fortified in his faith through this Encyclopedia. It does not correct the Authorized nor does it undermine the fundamental Baptist's doctrines and practices as many study tools do. 7th edition October 2020. Many preachers have told us that apart from Strong's Concordance, the Way of Life Bible Encyclopedia is their favorite study tool. A missionary told us that if he could save only one study book out of his library, it would be our encyclopedia. An evangelist in South Dakota wrote: “If I were going to the mission field and could carry only three books, they would be the Strong's concordance, a hymnal, and the Way of Life Bible Encyclopedia.” Missionary author Jack Moorman says: “The encyclopedia is excellent and will meet a real need. The entries show a ‘distilled spirituality.’” Way of Life Literature, P.O. Box 610368, Port Huron, MI 48061. 866-295-4143, fbns@wayoflife.org, http://www.wayoflife.org.

NEWS OF INTEREST TO CHRISTIANS

❑ **KENTUCKY PROPOSES REGULATIONS DISQUALIFYING CHRISTIANS FROM ADOPTING OR FOSTERING CHILDREN** - In the midst of a battle with Sunrise Adoption agency, Kentucky's oldest adoption agency, and a Baptist organization, the state has proposed new regulations which would essentially disqualify Christians from adopting or fostering children through the state's programs.

According to the Courier-Journal, “the state is proposing sweeping new regulations for private agencies that accept children who have experienced abuse or neglect that include rules against promoting any particular religion and ensuring a child's sexual orientation or gender identification is respected.”

“The proposed regulations,” the report continues, “subject to legislative review, include detailed requirements that children not

be forced to pray or attend religious services as well as protections for LGBTQ children.”

The regulations would also ban any “programming,” including religious teaching, that would characterize LGBTQ as “immoral, unnatural, unacceptable or invalid” while also requiring access to “gender-affirming medical care by medical and mental health providers.”

❑ **MONTAGE OF SOUTHERN BAPTIST CHURCHES TURN TO WOMEN PREACHERS ON MOTHER'S DAY** - The Southern Baptist Convention is facing a crossroads at this moment in history and must decide on its future. The denomination has taken up numerous causes—from racialist ideology to feminism to homosexuality—that many churches are deeply divided over.

At the top of the list right now for Southern Baptists is the future of churches in the denomination that are not only allowing women to preach from their pulpits, but ordaining women to the pastorate—a practice that is forbidden by both Scripture and the denomination's official statement of faith. Just this past week, the second largest Southern Baptist Church in the nation ordained its first three women pastors.

Tom Buck, a Southern Baptist pastor and an outspoken critic of the liberal drift, has been following this movement closely and has pointed out a list of Southern Baptist Churches that he found who had women fill the pulpit this past week for Mother's day.

* The first is the obvious, **Beth Moore**, the leader of the rebellion in the Southern Baptist Convention. She preached at LakePointe Southern Baptist Church in Rockwall, TX

* **Anne Graham Lotz** preached at 2nd Baptist Houston.

* Elevation Church, arguably the most apostate church in the denomination which is led by Steven Furtick in Charlotte, NC, had women preach on Mother's Day.

* Fellowship Church, one of the largest Southern Baptist churches, had **Lisa Young** fill the pulpit.

* And **Kay Warren**, wife of pastor, Rick Warren at Saddleback Church – which just ordained three women pastors, preached on Mother's Day there.

Dr. Al Mohler, arguably the most influential leader in the denomination, has stood dormant for years while these progressives have taken the reigns. Now, to his credit—albeit, likely too late—he is speaking out on the issue. Yet, he is mocked and ridiculed by Beth Moore for doing so. ***This is what happens when you let apostasy creep in—it eventually takes over.***

❑ **IRISH INTRODUCE BILL TO MANDATE PAIN RELIEF MEDS TO UNBORN BABIES BEFORE MURDERING THEM** - In what can only be described as a sick joke, eleven members of the Irish Parliament have introduced legislation that would require unborn children to be administered pain relief medication before murdering and extracting them from the womb.

❑ **US ARMY RECRUITING AD FEATURES LESBIANS MARCHING AT GAY PRIDE AND GETTING MARRIED** - U.S. Army has released a new recruitment ad that highlights an LGBTQ parade, a lesbian wedding, and woman with two moms who joined the Army to "shatter stereotypes".

❑ **HILLSONG DALLAS COLLAPSES** - Hillsong Dallas has been shut down due to the worldliness of its leaders, husband-wife “pastor team” Reed and Jess Bogard. It has been reported that the leadership “has been using church money to fund their lavish lifestyle, including insanely expensive designer clothing, frequent stays at expensive Airbnb rentals, and thousands of dollars on single meals” (“Hillsong Caving in on Itself,” Reformation Charlotte, Apr. 12, 2021).

This is the latest in a long list of Hillsong scandals. The following is only the tip of the iceberg:

According to the New York Times for October 17, 2014, a homosexual couple, Josh Canfield and Reed Kelly, sang in choirs at Hillsong New York City, and Canfield was a volunteer choir leader. Canfield and Kelly were billed as the “Broadway Boyfriends” on the reality show Survivor: San Juan del Sur.”

In May 2016, Hillsong New York City hosted a Hillsong Women’s Conference that featured, among other things, scantily-dressed ‘cheerleaders,’ an Elvis impersonator, and a naked cowboy wearing only a cowboy hat, boots, and a guitar. The cowboy was Hillsong NYC’s own youth pastor, Diego Simla.

In 2017, Hillsong NYC pastor Carl Lentz and pop star Justin Bieber were photographed in New Zealand drinking heavily and partying in a tavern. Lentz baptized Bieber in 2014 in the bathtub of a pro-basketball player.

In 2019, Yelp identified Hillsong Los Angeles as one of the top ten “gay friendly churches” in the city.

In November 2020, Lentz was fired as pastor of Hillsong NYC after having been caught in an affair with a Muslim fashion designer.

According to the Religion News Service (RNS), multiple reports have also described money mismanagement at Hillsong NYC.

Observers need to understand that Hillsong is not true biblical Christianity. It is a fake.

❑ **CREATOR OF VEGGIE TALES SUPPORTS HOMOSEXUAL CHRISTIANITY** - VeggieTales creator **Phil Vischer** has tweeted a series of messages supporting homosexual Christianity and the holding of heresies.

He says, “I’ve been listening to stories of people who left the Church or left their faith entirely, and so often it comes down to a point where they just wanted to be loved, but we couldn’t love them because they asked the wrong question or doubted the wrong tenet of our faith or reconsidered their own gender or sexual identity and for us, it was a bridge too far. This child of God was no longer ‘us.’ They are now ‘them.’ And because they

were ‘them,’ we now denied they were ever truly ‘us’” (@philvischer, Apr. 25, 2021).

Vischer, like a great many so-called “evangelicals,” is a confused individual who is lacking spiritual discernment and following the mores of society more than the Word of God. He doesn’t understand repentance or discipline. The Gospel of Jesus Christ is God’s expression of love for all sinners, but it demands repentance and saving faith. The Lord Jesus Christ, love incarnate, preached, **“I tell you, Nay: but, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish,”** and He repeated it for emphasis (Luke 13:3, 5). The apostle Paul preached, **“God ... now commandeth all men every where to repent” (Acts 17:30).**

The first churches were composed of members who were formerly idolaters, adulterers, thieves, drunkards, and homosexuals, but they did not continue in their sins and demand that they be accepted in that condition. They were accepted as members of Christ’s church because they had repented and been born again.

The following passage refutes Vischer’s theology: **“KNOW YE NOT THAT THE UNRIGHTEOUS SHALL NOT INHERIT THE KINGDOM OF GOD? Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind, Nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God. And SUCH WERE SOME OF YOU: but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God” (I Cor. 6:9-11).**

Further, if a church member returns to a wicked lifestyle, he is to be disciplined. **“But now I have written unto you not to keep company, if any man that is called a brother be a fornicator, or covetous, or an idolater, or a railer, or a drunkard, or an extortioner; with such an one no not to eat” (I Co. 5:11).** This is to bring the individual to repentance and also to preserve the moral purity of Christ’s church. **“Your glorying is not good. Know ye not that a little leaven leaveneth the whole lump? Purge out therefore the old leaven, that ye may be a new lump, as ye are unleavened. For even Christ our passover is sacrificed for us” (I Cor. 5:6-7).**

❑ **ISRAEL PREPARING TO OPEN FOR TOURISM AFTER 14 MONTHS OF LOCKDOWNS** - The following is excerpted from **“Israel lifts outdoor mask requirement,”** The Times of Israel, Apr. 17, 2021:

“With fewer than a hundred new coronavirus cases diagnosed Friday, and just 201 Israelis in serious condition with the virus, Israel was set Sunday to lift the requirement for wearing masks outside, and to fully reopen all schools. The latest Health Ministry figures showed 95 new cases were diagnosed on Friday, accounting for just 0.7% of the 14,182 samples tested. There were 2,680 active cases, and the death toll since the start of the pandemic stood at 6,315. ... After suffering a severe third wave of the pandemic, Israel’s situation has rapidly improved in recent

months as it has carried out the world’s fastest per capita vaccination drive. Over half of the population is fully inoculated against COVID-19, and the results have shown, with daily new cases and serious cases dropping to levels not seen in long months. ... The national virus czar Prof Nachman Asch has said the entire economy will be able to fully reopen next month if there is no new rise in contagion.”

CONCLUDING REMARKS: In 2020, democratic countries were ruled by elected officials. Now they are ruled by czars! The prophetic hour is very late, as the world prepares for the coming of the Czar of czars! Israel is planning to open for tourism on May 23, focusing on group tours. The new regulations are still being finalized, but they will probably require a negative Covid test and proof of vaccination or evidence of antibodies produced by the virus itself.

CRITICAL RACE THEORY, DESCRIBED IN A NUTSHELL

by David Lewis

“Critical Race Theory” seems to be popping up in various states, but, many of those states are also banning it.

If you don’t know what it is - side note: I do. I’ve read it - then feel free to read up on it for yourself.

Here it is, in a nutshell: It is **NOT** at all like the Civil Rights movement. The American Civil Rights Movement sought to work **within** the structures of American democracy. **Critical Race** theorists challenge the very foundations of the liberal order, such as rationalism, constitutional law, and legal reasoning.

“It’s an approach to grappling with a history of White supremacy that rejects the belief that what’s in the past is in the past, and that the laws and systems that grow from that past are detached from it,” said Kimberlé Crenshaw, a founding critical race theorist and a law professor who teaches at UCLA and Columbia University.

According to Critical Race Theory, hard work, critical thinking, logic, individualism are **bad**. In other words, the current USA system **MUST** be overthrown. It must be overthrown and replaced.

But, with what?

To answer **that** question, you need to understand what and how **Marxism** (communism) began.

Karl Marx believed the problem with societies was the imbalance of power between capitalists and workers. So, he promoted class conflict which resulted in **Communism**. But, Communism consistently failed, with millions of dead bodies piled up all over the globe to show for it.

But the worst part is, according to socialists, class conflict did not happen in Western nations such as USA.

Why?

Because most people believe in the American dream: Hard

work, education, and good citizenship transcends cycles of poverty and despair.

So, the Marxists (Communism) updated their efforts and, **Voila!** Out came this thing called **Critical Race Theory**. All you have to do to make it work is to get people angry at each other based on how they look (ie: the color of their skin).

Now, for a bit of reality:

Science (remember - we’re supposed BELIEVE “science”) says there is only **one** race: **the Human Race**.

In fact, all humans are 99.9% identical. Thanks to DNA research, genetics proves this.

The dominant eye color is: **Brown**.

The dominant hair color is: **Brown**.

----- **are you seeing a trend yet?**

And the dominant skin tone is: **Brown**.

Not “black” and not “white”. **BROWN**.

Of the roughly 8 billion people living here on planet dirt, we are all a variant shade of brown.

In other words, racism (prejudicisms) is crappy science. And it’s just plain lazy.

One Additional Fact:

If you truly believe that Teachers can NOT talk about “Race” because Critical Race Theory has been banned, then you are **wrong**. And, you have no idea what the legislation says that actually prevents it from being part of a school curriculum.

Science has brought us a long ways... so I’ll stick with the Science. or maybe it wasn’t just the Science?

“So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them” (Genesis 1:27).

- adapted

