

AND THE PEOPLE CAME...

- Week of September 25, 2022 -

Sunday Morning Service	-----40
Sunday Evening Service	-----28
Wednesday Eve., 09/28/22 Service	-----20

AND THE PEOPLE GAVE...

- Week of September 25, 2022 -

<u>Undesignated</u> Tithes & Offerings	----- \$ 1,385.00
Lighting for church street sign	----- \$ 50.00
TOTAL RECEIVED FOR WEEK OF 09/25/22:	\$ 1,435.00

- Week of September 18, 2022 -

<u>Undesignated</u> Tithes & Offerings	----- \$ 1,160.00
Lighting for church street sign	----- \$ 40.00
TOTAL RECEIVED FOR WEEK OF 09/18/22:	\$ 1,200.00

- Week of September 11, 2022 -

<u>Undesignated</u> Tithes & Offerings	----- \$ 1,375.20
Love Offering, Dan & Jennifer Charland	----- \$ 130.00
TOTAL RECEIVED FOR WEEK OF 09/11/22:	\$ 1,505.20

- Week of September 4, 2022 -

<u>Undesignated</u> Tithes & Offerings	----- \$ 2,212.00
Lighting for church street sign	----- \$ 40.00
TOTAL RECEIVED FOR WEEK OF 09/04/22:	\$ 2,252.00

- Week of August 28, 2022 -

<u>Undesignated</u> Tithes & Offerings	----- \$ 950.50
TOTAL RECEIVED FOR WEEK OF 08/28/22:	\$ 950.50

Average amount of Undesignated Offerings needed for church operating expenses EACH WEEK, as a minimum = \$ 1,400.00



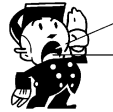
LISTEN TO -



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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 & Mary Byars	----- Outreach
Bertha Segebart	----- Custodian
GinaMarie Shufelt	----- Flowers
Seth White	----- Sound/Video

**SOUTH HEIGHTS BAPTIST'S WEEKLY
REMINDER**

Volume XXVIII

October 2, 2022

Number 39



Dr. Robert L. Sumner
1922 - 2016

A Sermon From Hell!

by Evangelist Robert L. Sumner

Bring to you today a sermon from Hell, a message from the pits of the doomed and the damned, a warning which describes a man who knows terrible reality, a man who is at this moment suffering the unspeakable torments of a lost soul in the lake of eternal fire. This is the most solemn, the most serious sermon ever preached about the woes of the wicked. I beg of you to give the most earnest attention, to stop whatever you are doing and carefully, prayerfully heed these words of warning.

This sermon from Hell is no ordinary sermon; it is no commonplace message. This sermon from Hell has the authority, the integrity, the honesty of the Son of God behind it declaring its truthfulness! Doubters, skeptics, unbelievers of this story-type sermon must have their argument with God! God declares that as "thus it is written," "thus it is so," "thus it is true." This sermon from Hell is recorded in the Holy Bible, in the 16th chapter of the Gospel according to Luke, verses 19 through 31. Listen to what our Lord Jesus Christ said here:

"There was a certain rich man, which was clothed in purple and fine linen, and fared sumptuously every day: And there was a certain beggar named Lazarus, which was laid at his gate, full of sores, And desiring to be fed with the crumbs which fell from the rich man's table: moreover the dogs came and licked his sores. And it came to pass, that the beggar died, and was carried by the angels into Abraham's bosom: the rich man also died, and was buried; And in hell he lift up his eyes, being in torments, and seeth Abraham afar off, and Lazarus in his bosom. And he cried and said, Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus, that he may dip the tip of his finger in water, and cool my tongue; for I am tormented in this flame. But Abraham said, Son, remember that thou in thy lifetime receivest thy good things, and likewise Lazarus evil things: but now he is comforted, and thou art tormented. And beside all this, between us and you there is a great gulf fixed: so that they which would pass from hence to you cannot; neither can they pass to us, that would come from thence. Then he said, I pray thee therefore, father, that thou wouldest send him to my father's house: For I have five brethren; that he may testify unto them, lest they also come into this place of torment. Abraham saith unto him, They have Moses and the prophets; let them hear them. And he said, Nay, father Abraham: but if one went unto them from the dead, they will repent. And he said unto him, If they hear not Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded, though one rose from the dead."

This is a sermon from Hell, a warning to you who are lost from the region of the damned. Some folks do not like to be warned; sermons from Hell anger them. Since I began reading my text this morning undoubtedly there have been those who quickly turned their radio dials to another station - not because this is a religious broadcast, but because they had rather hear some other sermon telling of the love of God, rather than His wrath. They foolishly say, "I do not like to hear about Hell, it makes me feel so bad!"

But suppose I were to see your house on fire and rushed into your home crying, "Your house is on fire! Your house is on fire! Get out at once! Flee for your lives!" Would you reply, "Shut up; you are making me feel bad"?

If I had just witnessed you swallow a bottle of poison by mistake and cried, "Man, that will kill you! Rush to the hospital with me and let them pump out your stomach," would you answer, "Don't talk like that, it makes me nervous"? How foolish to even suggest such an answer! Yet what exceeding greater folly it is when men and women refuse to face the fact of the Bible Hell.

Psalm 9:17 declares, **"The wicked shall be turned into Hell."** Isaiah 14:9 states, **"Hell from beneath is moved for thee to thee"**
(continued inside)

to meet thee at thy coming.” Job 21:30, the oldest preserved book in the world and one penned by divine inspiration, says, *“The wicked is reserved to the day of destruction. They shall be brought forth to the day of wrath.”* Second Peter 2:9 has this contrast of reality: *“The Lord knoweth how to deliver the godly out of temptation, and to reserve the unjust unto the day of judgment to be punished.” Revelation 21:8 bears this witness: “But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake of fire which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death.”*

These are just samples of the warnings of Hell found in Sacred Scriptures. Someone has counted that of the 264 chapters in the New Testament, God makes mention of eternal punishment 234 times. In just 27 books, Hell is referred to 234 times. If life’s road 27 miles long had on it 234 sign boards saying, “This road leads to Hell,” I think I would turn around and take another road.

Listen to God! Believe what is written! Believe this sermon from Hell in the 16th of Luke which is our text for today. Let us examine afresh this burning sermon from a burning sinner in a burning Hell.

The first thing we note is,

I. Hell Is A Place of Bitter Torment

Verse 23 says, *“And in hell he lifted up his eyes, being in torments.”* Verse 24 declares, *“I am tormented in this flame.”* Verse 25 carries the Lord’s thrust, *“Thou art tormented.”* Verse 28 pleads, *“lest they also come into this place of torment.”* Hell is a place of torments! God did not make Hell to salvage souls; He made Hell to punish them.

Someone says, “I cannot see how it would help for God to send a soul to Hell.” Who said God was trying to help the soul He sends to Hell? He is not trying to help them; He is punishing them for their wicked sin and their awful unbelief and rejection of His Son, Jesus Christ. Do you think the State of Texas is trying to help a criminal when it puts him in the electric chair and turns on the juice? They are not trying to help the killer, not trying to reform him; they are punishing him, getting him out of the way because of his crime against society and his influence for evil.

As awful as it may seem to unregenerate hearts – and many times there is nothing so awful as Truth – if God puts you in Hell it will not be to reform you, not to cleanse you, not to purify you, not even to help you, but to punish you, to torment you for your sins! You may call Him a ‘dirty bully’ who must have His ‘shylockian pound of flesh’ if you wish, as did one leading liberal, modernistic Methodist Bishop, but that does not alter the fact. If you think Hell is unjust you simply do not know or understand the horribleness of sin, especially the rejection of Jesus Christ! But if you shut God and His Christ out of your heart in this life, God will shut you out of His Heaven in the life to come.

Yes, Hell is an awful, but literal reality. Our text boasts no less of an authority than Jesus Christ. Who dares dispute, deny or

disregard His Word? Even if all men are liars, He will tell you the Truth. And in our text He speaks of Hell as being a place of torment some four times. The torments of Hell!

- ☛ There is the torment of association with the wicked: with Satan, the demons, the fallen angels, the Hitlers, the Dillingers, the Al Capones, the Judas Iscariots, the harlots, the drunkards, the liars, the fornicators, the idolaters, the murderers, and all the other garbage and refuse in this world of immoral characters.

- ☛ There is the torment of eternal separation from redeemed loved ones who will be in Heaven with Christ.

- ☛ There is the torment of eternal darkness, death and despair.

- ☛ There is the torment of unspeakable sorrow and anguish where the inhabitants weep, wail and gnash their teeth in untold, indescribable agony.

- ☛ There is the torment of unsatisfied lustful cravings as the appetites you fed on earth will cry unsuccessfully for gratification and appeasement.

- ☛ There will be the torment of despair in Hell – no hope, doomed and damned forever!

- ☛ There is the torment of the unquenchable flame of brimstone and fire in Hell, the fire of which Jude 7 says Sodom and Gomorrah was but a sample: “Even as Sodom and Gomorrah, and the cities about them in like manner, giving themselves over to fornication, and going after strange flesh, are set forth for an example, suffering the vengeance of eternal fire.”

What more should I say? The torments of Hell are so terrible that God Himself does not want a single sinner to go there. It you go to Hell it will be over the myriads of blockades God has placed on the broad road which leads to destruction. He has done everything humanly possible, everything divinely possible, to keep poor sinners out of Hell. But hear me now, although God does not want you in Hell – He wants you in Heaven – even God Himself cannot keep you out of Hell and retain His holiness if you refuse to turn from your sin, and refuse to receive Jesus Christ as your personal Lord and Saviour.

The poet has written:

***“HELL! The prison house of despair.
Here are some things that won’t be there:
No flowers will bloom on the banks of Hell,
No beauties of nature we love so well’
No comforts of home, music and song,
No friendship of joy will be found in that throng;
No children to brighten the long, weary night;
No love nor peace, nor one ray of light;
No blood-washed soul with face beaming bright,
No loving smile in that region of night;
No mercy, no pity, pardon nor grace,
No water, O God, what a terrible place!
The pangs of the lost no human can tell,
Not one moment’s ease – there’s no rest in HELL!
“HELL! The prison house of despair.
Here are some things that will be there:***

***Fire and brimstone are there, we know,
For God in His Word hath told us so;
Memory, remorse, suffering, and pain,
Weeping and wailing, but all in vain;
Blasphemers, swearers, haters of God,
Christ-rejecters while here on earth trod;
Murderers, gamblers, drunkards and liars,
Will have their part in the Lake of Fire;
The filthy, the vile, the cruel and mean,
What a horrible mob in Hell will be seen!
Yes, more than humans on earth can tell,
Are torments and woes of eternal HELL!”***

The next thing we note in this sermon from Hell, given by our Lord Jesus Christ in Luke 16, is that,

II. Hell Is A Place of Memory!

Verse 25 tells us that Abraham said to that rich man in Hell, *“Son, remember!”* In Hell lost sinners will be eternally tormented by the scorpion sting of memory and the bitter, biting, burning remorse or a gnawing, guilty conscience. Daniel 12:2 says, *“Many of them that sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt”.*

Men here commit suicide to escape facing shame. But in that abode of the damned there will be no suicides; no escaping the haunting shame and contempt forever! Memory in Hell! What a bitter thought!

You will remember every Gospel sermon you ever heard. You will remember every opportunity you ever had to be saved and turned down. You will remember your mother’s prayers, you will remember your wife’s tears, you will remember your friend’s pleas to turn to Christ for life and pardon. In Hell the funeral dirge will be the ballad, “It might have been!” You will have an endless, limitless eternity in which to regret your folly, your sin, your indecision, your failure to trust Christ and be saved.

And you will remember your sins! The skeletons of your secret closets will come out to haunt you forever. The chickens of every wicked thought, word and deed will come home to roost. The Cains will remember their acts of murder. The Belshazzars will remember their drunken parties. The Herods will remember their dances. The rich young rulers will remember their choice of gold over God. Rich fools will remember their folly in trying to build bigger and better barns before getting right with God. The Judas Iscariots will remember their tragic betrayal of the Savior for silver. The men of Athens will remember laughing at Paul on Mars Hill for speaking of the resurrection and saying, “We will hear thee again of this matter,” instead of getting saved right then. King Agrippa will remember hearing Paul preach and then foolishly saying, *“Almost thou persuadest me to be a Christian.”* And all will realize afresh that to be almost persuaded is still to be altogether lost.

The Felixes will remember their Drusillas and how they turned down a passionate preacher’s plea of righteousness, temperance and judgment to come with the words, *“Go thy way*

for this time; when I have a convenient season, I will call for thee” – but no convenient season ever came and there will be no convenient seasons in Hell! Unsaved church members will remember that the Bible warned of profession without possession. Baptized unbelievers will remember the Scriptures were plain in stating that baptism could not save – that salvation came only by faith in the Lord Jesus Christ!

Yes, Hell is a place of memory. This rich man of our text remembered Lazarus; he remembered that he had five brothers on earth, and he remembered especially that they were all still unsaved. To me, one of the most terrible torments of Hell is this scorpion sting memory, this burning of a gnawing, guilty conscience.

Another thing which we learn from our Lord’s sermon from Hell is that,

III. Hell Is a Place of “No Mercy!”

This man in Hell cried for mercy, but his prayer was denied. Not even that prayer for a drop of water – actually a moist finger touching the tip of his tongue – could be answered. Dear friend, in Hell all mercy is for ever gone! NOW is the time to cry to God. Isaiah 55:6, 7 well says, *“Seek ye the LORD while he may be found, call ye upon him while he is near: Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the LORD, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.”*

God will have mercy upon you today, but if that mercy is scorned and rejected, do not expect Him to have mercy upon you in Hell. He will not! God will abundantly pardon your sin today if you will come to Him through Christ, but if His way of salvation is spurned and ignored, do not expect Him to have mercy upon you in Hell’, for He cannot!

No mercy in Hell! *“No mercy, no pity, pardon or grace, no water, O God, what a terrible place!”* as the poet said. Does that sound cruel or unjust of God? Then go again to Calvary and witness the broken, battered, bloodied, form of God’s Only Begotten Son. Behold what manner of love was bestowed to keep sinners out of Hell!

So do not blame God if sinners go to Hell. Do not point an accusing finger at the Heavenly Father if you end up in that place or never ending torment. No one will be to blame but YOU! You can be saved; provision has been made; Christ died for you! This very moment, if you will right now receive Jesus Christ as you personal Lord and Savior, you can make CERTAIN that you will never end up in the unquenchable fires of Hell! John 3:19 says, *“He that believeth on him is not condemned.”* John 3:36 adds, *“He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life.”* Trust Him today!

Another thing we learn from this sermon from Hell is that,

IV. Hell Has a Great Gulf Fixed!

When Abraham was replying to the rich man’s request for water in Hell, verse 26 says, *“And beside all this, between us and you there is A GREAT GULF FIXED: so that they which would*

pass from hence to you cannot; neither can they pass to us that would come from thence.” Folks that go to Hell never get out! This is the plain teaching of the Word of God! The rich man knew that he could not get out—he did not even ask to get out—he merely asked for *water*.

Folks in Hell know their doom is sealed. They know that there is no “second chance.” They know that there is no “universal reconciliation.” They know that there is no refining and purging and “purifying” by the fires of Hell. They know that there is no “annihilation.”

Your eternal destiny will be forever sealed at death. As Hebrews 9:27 warns, ***“It is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment.”*** At death the saved go directly to Heaven, never to leave. At death the lost go directly to Hell, never to leave. Matthew 18:8 describes it as ***“EVERLASTING*** fire.” Isaiah 33:14 speaks of it as ***“EVERLASTING*** burnings.” Matthew 25:46 refers to it as ***“EVERLASTING*** punishment.” Matthew 3:12 calls it ***“UNQUENCHABLE*** fire.” Mark 3:29 says, ***“ETERNAL*** damnation.” Revelation 20:10 states, “and shall be tormented day and night ***FOR EVER AND EVER.***” Revelation 14:11 says, “And the smoke of their torment ascendeth up ***FOR EVER AND EVER:*** and they have no rest day nor night.” Daniel 12:2 calls it shame and ***EVERLASTING*** contempt.” Three times in Mark 9 Jesus referred to it as “the fire that ***NEVER SHALL BE QUENCHED.***” Jude 13 speaks of those “to whom is reserved the blackness of darkness ***FOREVER.***” Hebrews 6:2 refers to ***“ETERNAL*** judgment.” And Jude 7 speaks of the “vengeance of ***ETERNAL*** fire.”

Anyone who is willing to take the Bible’s plain statements at face value will believe that the torments of Hell are eternal for those who go to that place of the damned. As another has so well written: *“Scriptural statements indicate that Hell itself is eternal, everlasting, unchangeable. Small towns that never have an arrest tear down their jails. Penitentiaries turn off the electricity from the electric chair when it is not in use. Firing squads cease firing when there are no more victims. But the torments of Hell go on for ever.”*

In New Jersey in days of yore the guard at the whipping post did not go on flailing air when the criminal had been removed. Why should God maintain the fires of Hell burning with brimstone; why should the smoke of torment ascend for ever and ever; why should the worms never die in Hell; if the victims will have all been taken out, carried to Heaven and been reconciled to God? (Or if the dream of annihilation be true?) To express the thing shows how silly is such a question. The smoke keeps ascending from Hell because the fire keeps burning. The fires keep burning and the worms keep living in Hell because lost sinners remain there forever! If the punishment of Hell were over, if the judgment on sin were done, if the shame and contempt were forever ended, then God would not continue to maintain Hell forever. If Hell is everlasting, then the punishment of Hell logically will be everlasting.” There is a great gulf fixed and folks who go to Hell never get out!

Lee Scarborough tells of preaching one time on this very text

of the fixed gulf. He said, “I am speaking to some man tonight, some unsaved man sitting by the side of his Christian wife. Someday you are both going to die – you without Christ and she with Christ. You are going to Hell and she is going to Heaven and you will be eternally separated. There was a man and his wife in that audience; he was an unsaved man and she a saved woman. They lived out two or three miles in a beautiful home on a big ranch and farm. After the service they drove home. He told the story the next day in a great meeting.

“On the way home,” he said, “not a word was spoken. We got to the gate. She got out and went in and turned on the light. I put up the team, came in, and we retired.” Not a word was said. Neither one of us could sleep. About two o’clock she finally said, ‘What’s the matter?’ I said, ‘Wife, we have been living together 40 years. We have raised our children. You have been a good wife. I do not want you to leave me. That preacher said that when I die I will go to Hell and that when you die you will go to Heaven and he said we would be separated eternally.’ He said, ‘I cannot sleep for thinking about it.’ She said, ‘Yes, and I cannot sleep either.’ He said, ‘Wife, I want to know whether that preacher told the truth.’ She said, ‘Yes, it so. If you do not believe it, I will read it for you in the Bible.’”

And she turned to this 16th chapter and read it to him. It said, “Between us and you there is a GREAT GULF FIXED.” She looked into his face and said, “Husband, that is the Word of God.” God’s Spirit took the message and sent it to his soul and he said, “Wife, I want to get on your side of” that gulf.” They knelt there on their knees by the side of the bed and he received Jesus Christ as his Savior from sin.

The next morning, in telling story, he said, “Bless God, I have gotten on my wife’s side of the gulf.”

Oh, friend, on which side of the gulf are you now? That gulf is FIXED. The moment you die your destiny is sealed. It cannot be changed. How vitally important it is that you be on the right side of that gulf! And the only way to get on the right side is by receiving the Lord Jesus Christ as your personal Savior. Acts 4:12 reminds us, ***“Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.”***

One last word: This rich man in Hell summed up his sermon to you today in the words:

V. “Don’t Come Here!”

His final plea to Abraham was that someone might go to his five brethren and “testify unto them, lest they also come into this place of torment” (Vs.28). That plea couldn’t be granted, of course, but it does show that the lost in Hell are unanimous in their plea to you that you let nothing cause you to end up in Hell and miss out on Heaven. The most import thing in this entire world is that you make sure you miss Hell. More important than anything is it that you be saved.

Are you saved? If not, cry out to Him this moment, “God be merciful to me, the sinner, and save me for Christ’s sake.” If you mean business, He will. ■

NEWS OF INTEREST TO CHRISTIANS

□ ***T. D. JAKES ANOINTS DAUGHTER TO BE SUCCESSOR OF HIS WOMEN’S MINISTRY*** - On Sept. 24, T.D. Jakes, pastor of Potter’s House church in Dallas, anointed his daughter, Sarah Jakes Roberts, with oil to “empower” her to take the reins of the Woman, Thou Art Loosed ministry with its annual conferences (now called Woman Evolve). Jakes said, “As Samuel’s horn of oil anointed David, I so anoint you.” She was “slain in the Spirit” and lay on the stage while Jakes said to the crowd, “I want every woman in this room to lift up your hands and to receive the anointing of God.”

Sarah co-pastors two branches of the Potter’s House (Los Angeles and Denver) with her husband Touré Roberts. She had an out-of-wedlock pregnancy at age 13, and her first marriage at age 19 ended in divorce (“T.D. Jakes’ Daughter,” Church Leaders, Sept. 26, 2022). Jakes is a Church of God in Christ motivational speaker and pastor of a megachurch in Dallas, Texas. His book *Woman, Thou Art Loosed* has sold millions of copies. He preaches a positive, self-esteem, “it’s all about you” message. Jakes preaches the prosperity gospel, falsely claiming that Jesus was rich and that God wants us to be rich, too. He lives in a \$1.7 million mansion. He babbles in unintelligible mutterings he calls “tongues.” In a 2015 interview with the Huffington Post, Jakes described his views on homosexuality as “evolved and evolving” (“T.D. Jakes Comes Out for ‘Gay Rights’ and ‘LGBT Churches,” Christian News Network, Aug. 7, 2015).

□ ***ATHEISM ON THE MARCH AMONG PROFESSING CHRISTIANS*** - Atheism is on the march among professing Christians. In 1994, it was reported by the Sunday Times (July 31) in London that at least 100 Anglican priests are atheists who do not believe in “an external, supernatural God.” On May 16, 2009, the bells of the Anglican Cathedral of Liverpool pealed out John Lennon’s hypnotic, atheistic song “Imagine” three times (“imagine there’s no heaven ... no hell ... no religion”). A spokesperson for the cathedral stupidly said, “We feel this performance has inspired many people to think about their relationship with God in their lives” (“Imagine That,” The Daily Mail, May 17, 2009).

In 2007, George Perdakis, co-founder of the Christian rock band Newsboys, “renounced Christianity once and for all and declared myself an atheist” (“Co-founder of Newsboys,” standupforthetruth.com, Jan. 22, 2015). In August 2019, Marty Sampson, song writer and worship leader for Hillsong, said he no longer believes in God. That same year, Joshua Harris, author of the best-selling I Kissed Dating Goodbye, renounced his faith in Christ. He is divorcing his wife. He says he is following his “heart” and is happy and at peace.

In May 2020, Jon Steingard of the Christian rock band Hawk Nelson, declared on Instagram that he is an atheist. Steingard said, “I am stunned by the number of people in visible positions within Christian circles that feel the same way as I do. Like me, they fear losing everything if they’re open about it.” In 2021, Kevin Max, formerly of the Christian rock bands DC Talk and

Audio Adrenaline, said that he was “deconstructing” his Christian faith and believes in a “universal Christ.” He says that he hasn’t given up “the faith,” but it is a “faith” filled with doubts. He calls himself an “exvangelical.” On May 17, 2021, Max tweeted that he is “pro-LGBTQIA, pro-BLM, pro-open mindedness, anti-narrow mindedness...”

In January 2022, Christian rapper Brady Goodwin (aka Phanatik) said he was leaving “the universal church” and “denouncing the Christian faith.” Goodwin made the point of saying, “I’m good; I’m where I think I’m going to be.” In September 2022, Rhett McLaughlin, a Christian comedian and singer, announced that he no longer believes the Bible, but is a “hopeful agnostic.” In his album Human Overboard, he tells God that they are breaking up.

These men make the point of saying that everything is wonderful now that they have renounced the Bible. It is nonsense.

□ ***WAL-MART EXPANDS ABORTION COVERAGE FOR IT’S EMPLOYEES IN THE WAKE OF ROE V. WADE DECISION*** - Wal-Mart has told employees that it will expand abortion and related travel coverage, according to an internal memo. The change came about two months after the Supreme Court struck down the federal right to access the procedure.

Effective immediately, Wal-Mart’s health-care plans will cover abortion “when there is a health risk to the mother, rape or incest, ectopic pregnancy, miscarriage or lack of fetal viability,” according to the memo to employees.

Employees and their family members who are insured through Wal-Mart will also have travel costs covered, if they cannot access a legal abortion within 100 miles of their location, according to the email, which was sent by Wal-Mart’s chief people officer, Donna Morris.

□ ***THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA’S OWN PROJECTIONS SHOW ATTENDANCE DECLINING 98% BY 2041*** - The pro-LGBTQ, pro-choice, pro-heresy Episcopal Church predicts that, by 2041, their attendance will be down 98%. At present, the irrelevant denomination has a median congregational age of 69. With no new blood coming in, and the majority of churches now having less than 40 members, the churches that are surviving are kept open and paying the bills only because congregants keep on dying and willing part of their estates to the church, but soon that well of corpse funding will dry up. This is also true for the Presbyterian Church in the USA, whose congregants are almost as old and whose doctrine is equally left-wing.

The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) is in a similar boat. Having lost nearly half its members since its founding in 1988, and are in real trouble, according to Dwight Zscheile of Luther Seminary. He explains:

“According to projections from the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America’s (ELCA) Office of Research and Evaluation, the whole denomination will have fewer than 67,000 members in 2050, with fewer than 16,000 in worship on an average Sunday by 2041.”

According to the denomination’s own studies, in less than 20 years the denomination’s numbers will drop precipitously, losing over 98% of their average weekly worshippers and baptized members.

❑ ***ELCA CONSIDERS EXPELLING ALL CONSERVATIVE, ANTI-LGBTQ PASTORS FROM THEIR MIDST*** - During their recent convention, the Evangelical Church of America (ELCA) passed a resolution pledging to reexamine its 2009 decision which allowed both conservative and liberal views on homosexuality, setting up the circumstances that will make it impossible for any remnant conservative pastors to remain.

Memorial C3 – Human Sexuality: Gift and Trust Revision: Authorizes (741-59) a reconsideration to revise the social statement “Human Sexuality: Gift and Trust (2009)” so its wording reflects current church understanding, church policy, civil law, and acceptance of marriage of same-gender and gender non-conforming couples. The action includes identifying the cost of revision and the revenue source for such work, which could be considered as early as the 2025 Churchwide Assembly.

Whereas, at present, each church is free to operate according to its conscience, revising the statement would take away this freedom and make it so that only pro-sodomy pastors would be allowed to lead.

As the denomination becomes increasingly apostate, many in the church feel this policy needs to be amended so that LBGTQ members will feel welcome and accepted in all ELCA churches they attend, not just the affirming ones. Given the trajectory these Lutherans are on, its eventual approval and ratification is already a done deal.

❑ ***SBS TRUSTEE SAYS THERE WAS “WIFE-SWAPPING” GOING ON AT SOUTHEASTERN BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY IN THE ‘80S*** - Conservative Southern Baptist pastor and trustee of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Tom Rush, says that when he attended the seminary during the ‘80s, there was a huge disconnect between what was being taught in the churches and what was going on at the Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary which he attended in during that time.

“One of the things that was being pushed really hard at Southeastern when I was there,” Rush said in a podcast, “is what’s known as the Documentary Hypothesis interpretation of the Old Testament. And some of the behaviors I saw among the students that were at the seminary were not Christian behaviors.”

“There was wife-swapping going on in the student housing,” he said. Rush said he heard worse language in the seminary classroom than he’d ever heard in the Navy. Randall Lolley was president of Southeastern during that time and is now presided over by Danny Akin, who is graduating transgender-affirming feminist women with pastoral ministry degrees.

❑ ***LGBTQ ACTIVIST SAYS REVELATION 7:9 IS PROOF THAT GOD INCLUDES LGBTQ PEOPLE*** - “After this I beheld, and, lo, a great multitude, which no man could number, of all nations, and kindreds, and people, and tongues, stood

before the throne, and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, and palms in their hands” (Rev. 7:9, KJV).

Apparently, according to some, this is now a prooftext of LGBTQ inclusion in the church. Of course, this text has nothing to do with including unrepentant rebellious sinners in the Church and everything to do with God’s wider mercy extending grace not only to the Jews first but also to the Gentiles.

In a recent video, Pastor Woodrow “Woody” Dixon, of Ontario’s Jubilee CRC, made as part of a 5-part vlog series advocating queer affirmation in the church in the months leading up to the Christian Reformed Church’s synod, made this assertion. The group conclusively shot down that proposition.

❑ ***DRAG QUEEN “IDENTIFIES” AS A CHILD*** - The drag queen story hour phenomenon has exploded like nobody’s business and taking children and handing them over to sex perverts has become a staple for leftist parents. Understanding only that God’s Word describes the people who do this as morally depraved and given over to a debased mind, it’s difficult to wrap one’s mind around how parents could act so irresponsibly. But they do.

But here was the inevitable: once people, groups, and organizations capitulated to “preferred pronouns,” no logical basis remained to reject the notion that one could identify as anything else they choose, including race, species, and even age. And that’s what these drag queen perverts are doing now.

Recently a drag queen named Yuhua Yamasaki explained to children in a video that he identifies as the “same age as you” to them. And, if the laws in our nation are beginning to legally recognize one’s preferred gender, what reason do we have not to legally recognize their preferred age? See where that’s going? If you identify as a 5-year-old and molest a 5-year-old, you’re not going to go to jail...

❑ ***SHE SELLS SEA SHELLS*** - The following is from CreationMoments.com, Sep. 20, 2022:

“British comedian Milton Jones tells this one-liner: It’s difficult to say what my wife does for a living. She sells sea shells on the sea shore. However, the famous tongue-twister actually refers to a young woman who never married. Mary Anning was born in 1799 to Richard, an impoverished furniture maker, and his wife, Molly, in Lyme Regis, England. This coastal town is now famous for its discoveries of dinosaur fossils, discoveries that began with Mary. Richard would take the young Mary and her older brother Joseph out on to the cliffs and the beach looking for fossils, and they would sell these to visitors. The teenagers discovered what would later be named the ichthyosaur, and this was the first of many discoveries made by Mary.

One biographer of Anning has stated that her many discoveries of so-called prehistoric animals paved the way for Darwinism. Mary was mostly self-taught, having learned to read and write only in Sunday School. Nevertheless, her extensive knowledge of her finds did not cause her to lose her faith, despite her many hardships. She was not allowed to join the Geological Society because she was a woman and also because she and her

family were members of a Dissenting Chapel, not the Church of England. It is of note that her most prized possession was a volume of the Dissenters’ Theological Magazine and Review. Her pastor, James Wheaton, had contributed two articles to this journal. One urged his flock to get interested in geology. The other emphatically taught the biblical truth that God had made the world in six literal 24-hour days. Author: Paul F. Taylor. Ref: Encyclopedia Britannica, biography/Mary-Anning, accessed 7/25/2017.”

❑ ***PEPPERED MOTHS AGAIN AND AGAIN*** - The following is from CreationMoments.com, July 26, 2022:

“Every so often, we need to return to the topic of peppered moths, which we have featured a number of times before. Previous Creation Moments have explained why Peppered Moths are not an example of evolution, and how, in the 1980s, it was found that the famous photos showing light and dark moths on light and dark tree trunks had, in fact, been staged. The moths do not normally settle on the trunks, so the photos were taken by gluing dead moths on to the trees. What we want to note at the moment is that teachers continue to perpetuate the peppered moth myth. One evolutionist has stated that this is because the concept of what happened to these moths is easy to understand, and more recent studies have suggested that the population of dark moths is indeed higher in urban areas than that of light moths. As creationists have often pointed out, this is not really the point, because, even if the accounts were correct, this is not an example of Darwinian evolution, as no new genetic information has been made. It is, however, an example of bad experimental technique, led by a desire to prove a particular outcome, rather than genuine investigation. It is disturbing, therefore, to look at that portion of the BBC’s website, where they publish notes for high school students. An up to date science review page for students, with the heading ‘Evidence for Evolution,’ once again publishes the faked moth photos. For us, this constant re-publication of error aptly illustrates the paucity of evolutionary science. Author: Paul F. Taylor. Ref: BBC Bitesize Science notes, accessed 4/25/2017.”

❑ ***MIRACLE OF SMELL*** - The following is from creationmoments.com, November 25, 2020:

“It’s commonly known that many animals are able to detect extraordinarily weak odors. The real mystery is how they can smell scents that are 1,000 times too weak to produce the chemical reactions necessary to make a scent signal. From the chemist’s point of view, our sense of smell shouldn’t work as well as it does. When you smelled that wonderful dinner a few days ago, a marvel of chemical reactions was taking place in your nose. Scientists still aren’t sure how we sense such a wide range of smells. It was while investigating this question that scientists may have stumbled across the answer to another question. The receptors in our noses have to detect a certain number of scent molecules before they can trigger the chemical response that makes the signal that tells us we have smelled something. When air is drawn into your nose, an organ called Steno’s duct sprays a fine mist. Scientists always thought this mist simply humidified the incoming air. Now they’ve discovered that the duct also

makes proteins that grab onto odor molecules. Sprayed into the incoming air, the proteins collect odor molecules. Then, with their load of odor molecules, they settle onto receptors that trigger your sense of smell. As a result, even scents that are too weak to smell are concentrated by this ingenious system so that we can sense them. Our sense of smell helps protect us, gives our food flavor, and adds richness to the experience of living. It’s truly a marvel of our Creator’s design. Ref: Vaughan, Christopher. 1990. ‘Molecular odor eaters.’ Science News, v. 133. p. 348.”

IT’S ALL ABOUT AUTHORITY...

A DEA officer stopped at a farm and said, “I need to inspect your farm for illegal growing drugs.”

The farmer said, “Okay, but don’t go in that field over there.”

The DEA officer verbally exploded saying, “Mister, I have the authority of the federal government with me!”

Reaching into his rear pants pocket, the arrogant officer removed his badge and shoved it in my face. “See this badge?! This badge means I am allowed to go wherever I wish - on ANY land! No questions asked or answers given! Have I made myself clear?”

The farmer nodded politely, apologized, and went about my chores. A short time later, he heard loud screams, looked up, and saw the DEA officer running for his life, being chased by a big old mean bull in the field. With every step the bull was gaining ground on the officer. The officer was clearly terrified.

The farmer threw down his tools, ran to the fence and yelled at the top of his lungs, “***Your badge - show him your BADGE!***”

Many Are Asking -

“What Happened To America?”

