

Friday Church News Notes

HOLLYWOOD'S MORAL PERVERSION

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The Oscars were a blatant homosexual-fest, which is not surprising in light of Hollywood's prominent role in the moral downfall of modern society. The pro-homosexual film "Milk," which glorified Harvey Milk, the first openly homosexual to be elected to a major public office in America, was awarded for best original screenplay and for best actor. The screenwriter, Dustin Black, said: "if Harvey had not been taken from us 30 years ago, I think he'd want me to say to all of the gay and lesbian kids out there tonight who have been told that they are less than by their churches, by the government or by their families, that you are beautiful, wonderful creatures of value and that no matter what anyone tells you, God does love you and that very soon, I promise you, you will have equal rights federally, across this great nation of ours" ("Oscars Turn into Blatant Homosex-fest," *WorldNetDaily*, Feb. 22, 2009). In his pride, Black thinks he knows more about God than the authors of the Bible and all of this nation's godly forebears. Sean Penn, who played Harvey Milk in the movie, greeted the audience (correctly) as "you Commie, homo-loving sons of guns," and said, "We've got to have equal rights for everyone." But for homosexuals to gain their "rights," Bible-believing Christians must lose theirs. (See the article "What Will Be Illegal when Homosexuality Is Legal" at the Way of Life web site.)

Below, members of the "Milk" film crew applaud as the movie wins an Oscar.



RUSSIA'S PRIME MINISTER WARNS AMERICA ABOUT SOCIALISM



Russian Prime Minister Vladimir Putin has advised America against socialism. Speaking at the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland, Putin said: "In the 20th century, the Soviet Union made the state's role absolute. In the long run, this made the Soviet economy totally uncompetitive. This lesson cost us dearly. I am sure nobody wants to see it repeated. Nor should we turn a blind eye to the fact that the spirit of free enterprise, including the principle of personal responsibility of business people, investors, and shareholders for their decisions, is being eroded in the last few months. There is no reason to believe that we can achieve better results by shifting responsibility onto the state" ("Putin Warns US about Socialism," *Therightperspective.org*, Feb. 11, 2009).

PASTOR SENTENCED TO JAIL FOR PEACEFUL PROTEST AGAINST ABORTION

The following is excerpted from OneNewsNow.com, Feb. 20, 2009: "California pro-life counselor and pastor Walter Hoyer has received a jail term for peaceful work outside an abortion clinic to try to save the lives of unborn babies. Hoyer was found guilty of violating a local ordinance that dictates that he must stay at least eight feet away from anyone entering the clinic. He was found guilty, even though video demonstrated

that he did not violate the law. Dana Cody of Life Legal Defense Foundation says Hoyer was ordered to jail for 30 days, fined \$1,130, and placed on probation for three years. ... Hoyer next appears before the judge in March. Cody is challenging the ordinance in federal court. ... His approach was simply to carry a sign that said 'Jesus Loves You; Can We Help?' and offering those who wanted it some information about alternatives to abortion."



OBAMA'S RHETORIC IS THE REAL CATASTROPE

The following is excerpted from Bradley Schiller, "Obama's Rhetoric," *The Wall Street Journal*, Feb. 13, 2009: "President Barack Obama has turned fearmongering into an art form. ... As he tells it, today's economy is the worst since the Great Depression. Without his Recovery and Reinvestment Act, he says, the economy will fall back into that abyss and may never recover. This fearmongering may be good politics, but it is bad history and bad economics. It is bad history because our current economic woes don't come close to those of the 1930s. At worst, a comparison to the 1981-82 recession might be appropriate. Consider the job losses that Mr. Obama always cites. In the last year, the U.S. economy shed 3.4 million jobs. That's a grim statistic for sure, but represents just 2.2% of the labor force. ... 1981-82 job losses totaled 2.2% of the labor force, the same as now. ... In 1930, the economy shed 4.8% of the labor force. In 1931, 6.5%. And then in 1932, another 7.1%. ... The latest survey pegs U.S. unemployment at 7.6%. That's more than three percentage points below the 1982 peak (10.8%) and not even a third of the peak in 1932 (25.2%). ... Real gross domestic product (GDP) rose in 2008, despite a bad fourth quarter. The Congressional Budget Office projects a GDP decline of 2% in 2009. ... It is nothing like 1930, when GDP fell by 9%, or 1931, when GDP contracted by another 8%, or 1932, when it fell yet another 13%. Auto production last year declined by roughly 25%. That looks good compared to 1932, when production shriveled by 90%. The failure of a couple of dozen banks in 2008 just doesn't compare to over 10,000 bank failures in 1933, or even the 3,000-plus bank (Savings & Loan) failures in 1987-88. Stockholders can take

some solace from the fact that the recent stock market debacle doesn't come close to the 90% devaluation of the early 1930s. ... A more cool-headed assessment of the economy's woes might produce better policies."



HILLARY CLINTON VOWS TO SUPPORT CHINA IN SPITE OF HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS

The following is excerpted from "Activists Shocked at Clinton Stance," AFP, Feb. 20, 2009: "Amnesty International and a pro-Tibet group voiced shock Friday after US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton vowed not to let human rights concerns hinder cooperation with China. Paying her first visit to Asia as the top US diplomat, Clinton said the United States would continue to press China on long-standing US concerns over human rights such as its rule over Tibet. 'But our pressing on those issues can't interfere on the global economic crisis, the global climate change crisis and the security crisis,' Clinton told reporters in Seoul just before leaving for Beijing. ... T.

Kumar of Amnesty International USA said the global rights lobby was 'shocked and extremely disappointed' by Clinton's remarks. 'The United States is one of the only countries that can meaningfully stand up to China on human rights issues,' he said. 'But by commenting that human rights will not interfere with other priorities, Secretary Clinton damages future US initiatives to protect those rights in China,' he said. Students for a Free Tibet said Clinton's remarks sent the wrong signal to China at a sensitive time."

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SECOND BAPTIST PASTOR CONVICTED ON TRUMPED-UP CHARGES IN AZERBAIJAN



The following is excerpted from the Associated Baptist Press, Feb. 20, 2009: “A Baptist pastor in the South Caucasus country of Azerbaijan has been found guilty of what supporters say are bogus weapons charges and given ‘a two-year corrective labor sentence,’ according to a worldwide Baptist group. The Virginia-based Baptist World Alliance announced Feb. 20 that Hamid Shabanov, who pastors a house church of approximately 60 members in the town of Aliabad, had been convicted. He was arrested on June 20, 2008, after police claimed to have found an illegal weapon in his home after a raid. Denying the allegations against Shabanov, and claiming that the weapon was planted by the police, Baptist Union of Azerbaijan General Secretary Elnur Jabiyev said the arrest ‘was a provocation by the police’ and that it was ‘a deliberately targeted action,’ according to a BWA press release. Jabiyev claimed ‘the police’s aim is to halt Baptist activity and close the church in Aliabad.’ ... Shabanov is the second Baptist pastor in Aliabad to be convicted of a crime. Zaur Balaev was arrested in May 2007 and given a two-year sentence after being convicted in August of that year for beating up five policemen and damaging a police car door. Members of Balaev’s church and residents in the town also disputed the charges against Balaev, who was released in March 2008 after protests from officials of the BWA, the European Baptist Federation and former United States President Jimmy Carter.”

God Uses All Kinds of Music

The following is by Brian Snider <bksnider@gmail.com> -- “We often hear from the Christian rock crowd that God must love all kinds of music because He invented it all. This takes away from Satan any power that he might have in this realm. After all, even Christian rockers would probably admit that the devil is a crafty fellow. But when it comes to the area of music, they want us to believe that the devil has no power and no tools that he might use to take men away from God. Why wouldn’t the devil use music to lead men into sin? He uses pornography, doesn’t he, or would they have us believe that God also created every kind of magazine? The devil uses greed, doesn’t he? He uses lusts of every kind, doesn’t he? Why not music? We don’t believe it’s reasonable to deny the influence of Satan in every area of life, so let’s give the devil his due and think a little about what kind of music Satan would create. If the devil created a form of music, it

would surely appeal to the flesh, for we know from Scripture that the flesh and the spirit are already in a vicious war with each other (Galatians 5:17). If the devil had a kind of music, it would probably promote sexual sin, as that is one of the great destroyers of men. If the devil had his own music, without a doubt it would glorify drugs and alcohol. Drugs have always been associated with paganism and witchcraft and what heathen debauch would be complete without alcohol to fuel the flames of lust? If the devil had a kind of music, it would be loud and brash and exciting, as opposed to quiet and humble and uplifting. If the devil created music, it would have an attitude of rebellion at its very heart, for he is the first and greatest rebel. The devil doesn’t write music? Those who believe that seem to have a little too much sympathy for the devil.”



Obliteration is a Christian metal band from Oklahoma City. There is certainly a god behind Obliteration, but it’s not the right god.

...all they that hate me love death. Proverbs 8:36

LUTHERAN TASK FORCE SUPPORTS HOMOSEXUAL PASTORS

(Friday Church News Notes, February 27, 2009, www.wayoflife.org fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - A task force for the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America has proposed that the denomination allow homosexual pastors who are "in committed same-sex relationships" to be called by churches. The panel, called the Task Force for ELCA Studies on Sexuality, noted that there are various "conscience-bound" views held by its members on the subject of sexuality and these should be authenticated ("Lutheran Task Force Proposes Process," Associated Baptist Press, Feb. 20, 2009). Thus, the standard for truth has become man's conscience. That is a perfect definition of anarchy and apostasy. The acceptance of homosexuality in churches is a sign of the end times. Sodom is mentioned three times in the New Testament in the context of prophecies of the end of the age (Luke 17:28-30; 2 Peter 2:4-6; Jude 7-8).

HE BROUGHT ME UP OUT OF A HORRIBLE PIT (Friday Church News Notes, February 27, 2009, www.wayoflife.org fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - "I waited patiently for the LORD; and he inclined unto me, and heard my cry. He brought me up also out of an horrible pit, out of the miry clay, and set my feet upon a rock, and established my goings. And he hath put a new song in my mouth, even praise unto our God: many shall see it, and fear, and shall trust in the LORD" (Psalms 40:1-3).

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