

eSalt Alert 20306



eSalt Alerts are a timely way to help educate the Christian community through a Biblical Worldview on spiritual and moral issues affecting today's family in the 21st Century so that we each may effectively "engage the culture with the timeless truth of God's Word." **eSalt Alerts** are a free ministry resource from **Christian Impact Ministries (CIM)**.

For more information on CIM, or to contact us for ministry scheduling, please refer to the end of this **eSalt Alert** edition.

Sanctity of Life...

Partial-Birth Abortion Ban Struck Down Twice By Judicial Tyrants: A pair of recent federal appeals courts struck down the Partial-Birth Abortion Ban Act of 2003, making it increasingly likely that the U.S. Supreme Court will step in to settle the issue of the law's constitutionality. The Partial Birth Abortion Ban Act of 2003, passed by Congress and signed by President Bush in 2003, has never been enforced because of legal challenges. The act reads: "A partial-birth abortion is never necessary to preserve the health of a woman, poses serious risks to a woman's health, and lies outside the standard of medical care. There is no credible medical evidence that partial-birth abortions are safe or are safer than other abortion procedures." In this recent ruling, a three-judge panel of the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals, considering a challenge to the law filed by abortion activists in San Francisco, unanimously upheld a lower-court finding that the ban didn't pass constitutional muster. The law, the panel said, placed an "undue burden" on a woman's right to an abortion. Hours later, the 2nd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals ruled similarly in a case originally out of New York. This time, though, the three-judge panel voted 2-1, with Judge Chester J. Straub issuing a sharp dissent. "Allowing a physician to destroy a child as long as one toe remains within the mother would place society on a path toward condoning infanticide," Straub wrote. "I find the current expansion of the right to terminate a pregnancy to cover a child in the process of being born morally, ethically and legally unacceptable." In July 2005, a third appeals court, the 8th Circuit, upheld another lower court ruling that found the ban unconstitutional. That case, out of Nebraska, has been appealed to the Supreme Court - and these latest rulings are likely to be as well, according to Carrie Gordon Earll, Focus on the Family Action's senior analyst for bioethics. "The presence of newly confirmed Justice Samuel Alito may tip the balance in favor of the high court hearing these appeals," Earll said. "It's also possible that Alito's vote on the constitutional question of the partial-birth abortion ban will be different than that of his predecessor, Justice Sandra Day O'Connor, who voted against the Nebraska law. "There is no constitutional right to stab a nearly born baby in the back of the head," Earll added. "Partial-birth abortion is brutal, gruesome and an assault against mother and child. It's time for the Supreme Court to allow this federal law to go into effect." - **CitizenLink, 1.31.2006**



Study Deuteronomy 30:19-20, Psalms 82:3-4 & 127:3, 139:13-16, 106:38; Jeremiah 1:5, Exodus 20:13, Isaiah 5:20, Isaiah 3:11

Mark of the Beast Technologies...

Security experts have found a weakness in the technology to be used for the British Government's biometric ID cards. A Dutch security company has successfully cracked the encryption on a prototype biometric passport, according to NO2ID, an anti-ID card lobby group. Experts from Riscure security lab in Delft, the Netherlands, claim to have been able to "skim" the data from a passport at a distance of 11 yards using a hi-tech gadget. They then decrypted it on a computer within two hours, accessing personal information including fingerprints, a digital photograph of the passport-holder's face and date of birth. The proposed British ID card will use similar technology to store biometric information about every adult in the country. Unless the security flaws were successfully rectified on the British ID cards project, some experts, including NO2ID, claim that it could be an "absolute bonanza" for identity fraudsters. The introduction of "chip and pin" credit cards with pin numbers - which will become



compulsory replacements for signatures on February 14th - is already being credited with cutting the fraud associated with lost, stolen or counterfeit cards in 2004. - Timesonline.co.uk (a secular website), 2.2.2006
Study Revelation 13:6-18, 14:9-10 <Note: We @ CIM are not 'demonizing' biometric technology, nor added security measures in this new age of global terrorism, for we acknowledge the potential benefits they may hold. However, in light of scriptural teaching, we are monitoring/tracking this and similar technologies as they develop and their potential to be used "prophetically" in implementing the necessary conditions for the 'Mark of the Beast'>

Judicial Justice & InJustice...

'Jesus Christ' Not Welcome at Public Meetings: Any reference to "Jesus Christ" during a prayer at a government meeting is deemed "unconstitutional" says the Jewish defense group, the Anti Defamation League (ADL), which is urging a Florida community to adopt a policy banning sectarian prayers making reference to any specific deities. "If invocations are done, they have to be, according to (a 1983) Supreme Court decision, such that they do not advance any particular faith or belief," ADL spokesman Andrew Rosenkranz told the Palm Beach Post. "The reason being, you try and make as many people included as possible so that nobody feels that they're being left out of any particular prayer." The New York-based ADL is focusing its attention on Wellington, Florida, where the issue of inclusiveness came up at the suggestion of a councilmember last year. Local clergy have been permitted to recite prayers at the start of village meetings, and some reportedly mention Jesus Christ by name. Rosenkranz wrote Mayor Tom Wenham, saying the allowing of Jesus' name "sends a clear message of exclusion to citizens not of that faith." Despite the objections of the ADL, the Florida-based Liberty Counsel says it would be unconstitutional to have a policy restricting prayers. - WorldNetdaily.com, 2.2.2006

Study Matthew 10:22 & 16:18, Mark 13:13, Luke 6:22 & 21:17, John 7:7 & 15:18-20, Psalms 37:32-33 and 1 Chronicles 16:11

Lone Star State Students Can Pray at School...Again! Students at Berkner High School in Richardson, Texas, will be allowed to pray again on campus after the Becket Fund for Religious Liberty recently stepped in to help. When Berkner's Muslim students sought permission to have a time of prayer, the school's students and staff were told prayer was not allowed on school grounds because it was a violation of the separation of church and state. Derek Gaubatz, director of litigation for the Becket Fund, said school officials are often under the impression that a campus must be free from any kind of religious expression. "We wrote a letter pointing the school at the relevant legal authorities," he said. "In fact, religious expression of students is fully compatible with the school's other missions. Students have a right under the free-speech clause and the free-exercise clause to engage in religious expression in schools." District officials now say students can pray during school at lunch or during a 10-minute period of class. "The First Amendment is alive and well again at Berkner High," Gaubatz said. - CitizenLink, 2.1.2006



See related scriptures above

Media Waves...

NBC Arrogance & Pride Remains Strong: NBC has announced it will stream unaired episodes of recently canceled "The Book of Daniel" on NBC.com. The controversial series was abruptly canceled recently in response to the thousands of families who denounced the show's anti-Christian theme. According to MediaPost, three remaining episodes will be made available online for free beginning February 3rd, with each appearing for a week on the Web site. Several affiliates had declined to air the program, and many other affiliates had begun dropping the show due to the negative feedback/comments of local viewers. - [Media Post Publications \(http://publications.mediapost.com\)](http://publications.mediapost.com), 1.31.2006



NBC Sets Out to Mock Christians Again! Forced to recently pull its highly touted new show "The Book of Daniel" because of charges its portrayal of Jesus was blasphemous, NBC is pushing the envelope again with news Britney Spears will guest star on "Will & Grace" as a conservative who hosts on a Christian TV network a cooking segment called "Cruci-fixin's." The pop singing star will appear as a sidekick to the regular character Jack, who hosts his own talk show on the



fictional homosexual network Out TV, which is bought by a Christian TV network. The episode is scheduled to air April 13th - the night before Good Friday! "Will & Grace" is in its eighth and final season on the network. The appearance by Spears is being billed as "her first prime-time television episodic appearance." The show is being taped later this month. "Will & Grace" airs Thursdays at 8 p.m. Eastern. - **WorldNetDaily.com, 2.1.2006**
Study Matthew 10:22 & 16:18, Mark 13:13, Luke 6:22 & 21:17, John 7:7 & 15:18-20, Psalms 37:32-33 and 1 Chronicles 16:11



"A Pinch of Salt & A Beam of Light:" Pray for God's strength & boldness and get involved - go out & eNgage today's culture with the love and truth of our Lord Jesus Christ! ... make an iMpact for Christ upon others! Take a few moments and contact NBC's Chairman, Bob Wright with your concerns regarding their TV programming.

Bob Wright, Chairman
NBC

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PC "Political Correctness" Power...

Citgo Sales Go Back to Venezuelan Government: The pro-family group, American Family Association, has launched a boycott of the Citgo oil company because it is run by the Venezuelan government, which is led by U.S.-bashing President Hugo Chavez. "Sales of products at Citgo stations send money back to Chavez to help him in his vow to bring down our government," said American Family Association founder Don Wildmon in a statement. AFA notes Chavez told a television audience recently: "Enough of imperialist aggression; we must tell the world: down with the U.S. empire. We have to bury imperialism this century." On his nationwide TV program, Chavez was hosting anti-war activist Cindy Sheehan and providing photo-ops as they embraced in a warm hug. The socialist dictator, who is close to Cuban leader Fidel Castro, recently met with American entertainer Harry Belafonte, who called President Bush "the greatest terrorist in the world" while in Venezuela. "Regardless of your feelings about the war in Iraq, the issue here is that we have a socialist dictator vowing to bring down the government of the U.S. And he is using our money to achieve his goal!" warned Wildmon. According to Citgo's website, the company is "owned by PDV America Inc., an indirect, wholly owned subsidiary of Petróleos de Venezuela, S.A., the national oil company of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela." Thus, the Venezuela government is the sole owner of Citgo gas company. Sales of products at Citgo stations send money back to the dictator Chavez which help him in his vow to bring down our government. - **WorldNetDaily.com, 1.31.2006 and AFA Action Alert, 2.1.2006**



"A Pinch of Salt & A Beam of Light:" Pray for God's strength & boldness and get involved - go out & eNgage today's culture with the love and truth of our Lord Jesus Christ! ... make an iMpact for Christ upon others! Take a few moments and contact President Hugo Chavez with your concerns regarding the growing anti-Americanism

from the Venezuelan government and its officials.

Hugo Chavez, Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela President

President Hugo Chavez

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Airline bans Bibles to avoid offending Muslims: A British airline has banned its staff from taking Bibles and wearing crucifixes or St. Christopher medals on flights to Saudi Arabia to avoid offending the country's Muslims. British Midland International also has told female flight attendants they must walk two paces behind male colleagues and cover themselves from head to foot in a headscarf and robe known as an abaya. Teddy bears or other cuddly toys also are also not allowed. Airline officials, who have sparked outrage,



explain the Islamic kingdom's strict laws - enforced by religious police - prohibit public practice of Christianity and figures of animals. BMI spokesman Phil Shepherd said: "In providing air services people want, demand and use, we have an obligation to respect the customs of the destination country." An airline employee who asked not to be named told the Mirror: "It's outrageous that we must respect their beliefs but they're not prepared to respect ours." The employee said his grandmother gave him a crucifix shortly before she died that he wears at all times. "It's got massive sentimental value and I don't see why I have to remove it," he said. The airline's staff handbook says: "Prior to disembarking the aircraft all female crew will be required to put on their company issued abaya. It will be issued with the headscarf which must be worn." The employees' union wants staff members to be able to opt out of the flights, but the airline says the only option is to transfer from overseas staff to domestic flights, which could mean a loss of about \$30,000 a year in wages. About 40 staff members have filed complaints since the route began in September. Some of the male members who are homosexual have called in sick, because they are afraid of traveling to Saudi Arabia, where homosexual activity is punishable by flogging, jail or death.

- WorldNetDaily.com, 1.9.2006

Study Matthew 10:22 & 16:18, Mark 13:13, Luke 6:22 & 21:17, John 7:7 & 15:18-20, Psalms 37:32-33 and 1 Chronicles 16:11

Sexual Immorality & Obscenities...

Church Unhappy With Gay Marriage Stance: As many as 25 United Church of Christ (UCC) congregations have made a decision to separate from the denomination in response to a UCC General Synod meeting that voted to support same-sex marriage. The biennial meeting of UCC delegates recently produced the opinion that churches should affirm "equal rights for couples regardless of gender." Members were asked to oppose efforts to define marriage as between one man and one woman. For the Rev. Michael Halley, minister of Suffolk Christian Church in Suffolk, Virginia, the move was enough for members of his congregation to vote to leave the UCC. "Whatever they do, we have to wear," he said. "If we carry the name out front, people are going to associate us with whatever actions our national church body has taken." - CitizenLink, 1.9.2006

Study Leviticus 18:22 & 20:13, Romans 1:16,24-27,1 Corinthians 6:9-11, Ephesians 4:15, Isaiah 5:20, Genesis 13:13, Psalms 5:4 & 10:4 & 11:2 & 37:32-33, Mark 12:28-31, John 13:34, Hebrews 13:4

Sony Launches Gay Music Label: Sony Music has launched the first major music label dedicated to nurturing lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender artists. The label, , is a joint venture with Wilderness Media & Entertainment, the company led by Matt Farber, who has founded MTV's new gay and lesbian channel LOGO. "It's an idea whose time has come," Mr. Farber said. "Only now are media and entertainment brands being created for the gay and lesbian audience following the success of brands for other minorities," he said. Mr. Farber says the success of brands dedicated to the African American and Hispanic audiences has helped talent in those communities cross over well beyond their core audiences. Music With a Twist's roster will feature gay artists who have mass appeal and hit potential across all musical genres. The label also plans to release various compilations geared toward gay and bisexual audiences, featuring hit songs by established artists that have been embraced by gay, bisexual and transgender audiences, as well as tracks from emerging gay artists.



- ABC.net.au, 1.11.2006

Study related scriptures in above story

Health & Holiness...

New Study Shows Why Meat May Increase Cancer Risk: A new study published in the Journal Cancer Research has scientists stating that they may have found a reason why eating too much red meat increases the risk of colorectal cancer. By studying cells from volunteers eating different diets, they discovered that red meat raises levels of compounds in the large bowel which can alter DNA and increase the likelihood of cancer. "It is the first definite link between red meat and the very first stage in cancer," said Professor Sheila Bingham, of the Medical Research Council Dunn Nutrition Unit in Cambridge, England. In earlier research, Bingham and her team showed there was a strong correlation between eating red and processed meat and the risk of colon cancer. The chance of developing colorectal cancer was a third higher in people who regularly ate more than two portions of red or

processed meat a day compared to someone who ate less than one portion a week. "We looked at whether eating red meat alters the DNA of these cells," Bingham told Reuters. They found that red meat consumption was linked to increased levels of substances called N-nitroso compounds, which are formed in the large bowel. The compounds may stick to DNA, making it more likely to undergo mutations that increase the odds of cancer. The DNA damage may be repaired naturally in the body, and fiber in the diet may help the process. But if it isn't, cancer can develop, Bingham said. The scientists said the findings could help to develop a screening test for very early changes related to the disease. Colorectal is one of the most common cancers in developed countries. A diet rich in fat, animal protein and refined carbohydrates and lack of exercise are risk factors for the illness. Most cases are in people over 60 years old and about 5% of them are inherited. Health experts estimate that about 70% of colorectal cancers could be prevented by changes in diet and nutrition. About 135,400 new cases of colorectal cancer will be diagnosed in the United States this year and 56,700 patients will die. - **MSNBC.com, 2.2.2006**

Study 1 Corinthians 6:19-20, Genesis 1:29-30 & 9:1-3, Leviticus 11:1-30, Deuteronomy 14:3-21

War & Rumors of Wars (Matthew 24:6-8)...

Iran warns US, Britain of Military Reprisals: Iran's Revolutionary Guards chief recently warned the United States and Britain that Iran would respond with its missiles if attacked, a clear threat to Israel, which lies within easy range of such a launch. "The world knows Iran has a ballistic missile power with a range of 2,000 kilometers (1,300 miles)," Gen. Yahya Rahim Safavi said on state-run television. Iran's improved version of Shihab-3 missile can strike more than 2,000 kilometers (1,300 miles) from their launch site, putting Israel and US forces in the Middle East in easy range. "We have no intention to invade any country. We will take effective defense measures if attacked," he said. "These missiles are in the possession of the Guards." The Guards were equipped with the missiles in July 2003. "We are producing these missiles and don't need foreign technology for that," he said. Iran announced last year that it had fully developed solid fuel technology for missiles, a major breakthrough that increases their accuracy. Iran's Revolutionary Guards are a separate organization from the regular armed forces. Founded after the 1979 Islamic Revolution, the Guards have their own air, naval and ground components.

- **The Jerusalem Post (www.mideast.jpost.com), 1.28.2006**



An Iranian Shihab-3 missile, capable of striking Israel with a nuclear warhead, is regularly paraded in Teheran.

The State of Today's Church...

Recent Survey Finds 1 in 4 churches Neglect Ministry Potential of the Internet:

One out of every four Protestant churches in the United States has virtually no involvement with the World Wide Web despite the emergence of the Internet as a leading communication medium in the 21st century, according to a new study conducted for LifeWay Christian Resources of the Southern Baptist Convention on how churches use Web technology. Findings from the study revealed: 27% of all churches have no connectivity at all - no staff e-mail, no website and no Internet connection; only half of all churches provide staff with e-mail, and just under half maintain a website; 23% of Protestant churches use e-mail prayer chains, 18% have an e-mail church newsletter and only 4% have an online member directory. The proportion of churches making some use of the Internet is lower in the South, where just 65% of churches are connected, than it is in other parts of the country. The smallest churches, those with less than 100 in the congregation, are much less likely to use the Internet (60%) than are midsize (100-199 people; 86%) or larger churches (200 people or more; 96%). The study found that Churches led by older ministers are also much less likely to be connected than are those with a pastor under the age of 60. The study also explored Web content among churches with active Internet sites. Only four types of content are provided by a majority of all Protestant churches with a website: 70% provide a map and/or directions to the church, 65% provide a calendar of upcoming events, 60% post a statement of beliefs, 56% have pages for specific ministry departments, 50% provide staff e-mail addresses, 43% provide denominational information, 42% list staff biographies, 42% post special pages for youth, 38% carry a church newsletter online, 27% provide an electronic way to submit prayer requests and 25% give information about joining a small group. Among content less likely to appear on a church website are Bible study material or helps, sermon transcripts,



upcoming sermon titles or topics, sermons available in streaming audio, a bulletin board, forum or chat room, sermons in streaming video, testimonies and a way to donate online. The study found that most churches infrequently take advantage of the many ways the Internet can truly impact ministry and communication.

- Baptist Press (www.bpnews.net), 1.9.2006

Study Ephesians 4:11-13, Jeremiah 3:15 & 23:1-4 & 50:6, Matthew 28:19-20, Acts 1:8



Spiritual Snapshots from Today's Culture...

The parking lot at Ford Motor Company's Dearborn Truck plant just got a little more exclusive. Plant manager Rob Webber announced that starting February 1st, the parking lot may be used only by employees who drive vehicles built by Ford or one of its subsidiaries. Webber's move came the same day Ford announced a restructuring plan under which it will cut up to 30,000 jobs and close 14 facilities by 2012. Ford said the plan is designed to make the company's North American division, which lost \$1.6 billion last year, profitable by 2008.

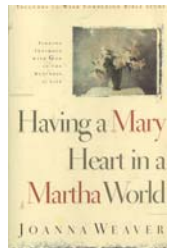
- MSNBC.com, 1.27.2006



The Shepherd's Staff's goal is to prayerfully help genuine members of "The Way" (Acts 9:2; Christians), in their personal walk (growth) in the Lord. It may consist of a truth principle obtained through Christian books, personal Biblical study and/or preaching messages, quotes or any other means the Lord so leads me to share so that we each may faithfully live out the faith which we say we hold (James 1:22):

"Jesus chose men without résumés, without formal education, with no previous evangelical work experience. To the rest of the world, they seemed unimpressive.

Unwashed, untaught, and sometimes uncouth. But Jesus saw in them exactly what He needed - followers with the potential for (genuine) transformation." - Joanna Weaver, Writer, excerpted from *Having a Mary Heart in a Martha World*, 2002, pp. 138.



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This eSalt Alert is a periodic ministry resource from *Christian Impact Ministries* (CIM) located in Concord, North Carolina. The ministry focus of the e-Salt Alerts is to evangelistically share the Gospel truth of Jesus Christ as we address the current moral and social issues affecting today's families - issues requiring both a prayerful and concerted response from the Christian community (*James 1:22 & 5:16*). CIM networks with local, state and national ministries/organizations in researching timeless biblical truth/principles in application to the issues facing families across our communities and throughout the world today as we share the unchanging gospel of Jesus Christ. There is no charge in receiving this e-mailing nor for our monthly ministry newsletter "Savior's Seasonings." It is through the sacrificial financial and prayer support of families, churches and Christian businesses/organizations each month that we are able to share all of our ministry resources *free of charge* (i.e. no subscription fee). Please feel free to contact us by e-mail at cim@carolina.rr.com or by way of snail mail at the address cited above for questions, comments and/or to share testimonials.

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Our God-Given Vision...

Engaging today's culture with the timeless truth of God's Word.

Our Spirit-Led Mission Purpose ...

"Operating from a biblical worldview, we provide Christians with a genuine understanding of the moral and social issues facing society today and evangelistically equip them with both scripture and biblically-based resources so that we each may obediently serve as the Savior's Seasonings in being 'doers of [His] Word, and not hearers only' (James 1:22)."

Pastors & Church Leaders: CIM encourages you to prayerfully consider contacting our ministry for speaking-guest preaching-revival engagements, pulpit supply opportunities, seminars and/or bible studies for church leaders, layleaders, and small group studies such as home-based bible studies. Please contact Rev. David W. Haltom (Vocational Evangelist-Revivalist) at the ministry address above for scheduling details for 2006. Ministry resume and references are freely available to inquiries upon request. As the Lord so leads, we encourage you to share testimony of the work/mission of this ministry with your pastor, church family, co-workers, neighbors and others as the Lord so leads! We ask you to prayerfully considering sharing our ministry resources (e.g. eSalt Alerts, monthly ministry newsletter - Savior's Seasonings) with others who God lays upon your heart.

Prayers & Financial Support Dearly Needed & Deeply Appreciated: Please know that we are so very grateful for your faithful and dependable partnership with this Christian ministry through your prayers and financial gifts which enables us to continue impacting families for the Cause of Jesus Christ daily! It is through your faithful gifts, ***no matter the size***, that this ministry can continue to fiscally operate, producing ministry publications & resources such as our monthly newsletter and these eSalt Alerts; evangelistically ministering to those without a personal love relationship with Christ; providing spiritual counsel to hurting families and preaching/teaching God's inerrant Word in today's generation. If you regularly receive our ministry resources (monthly newsletter, e-Salt Alerts, etc.) and find them helpful/useful, and our able, we would ask that you prayerfully consider financially supporting the Kingdom work of Christian Impact Ministries. As a §501(c)(3) non-profit ministry, all financial contributions and in-kind gifts are tax-deductible as allowed by law. May God Bless You & Your Family As You Serve Him Daily! We look forward to hearing from you very soon! Please take a moment and write/e-mail us to let us know what this ministry means to you and your family and how God has used it in your personal walk with Jesus Christ. ***Shalom!***

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