

Dear

Contemporary Comments

Subscriber:



Thank you for faithfully reading and using Contemporary Comments-- which uses a story from our current news to illustrate a theme for Bible topics--as a resource for your personal use, and for your small Sabbath school groups.

We are now shifting this resource to be more. We will be rebranding Contemporary Comments as Sharing Scripture, which will still contain the narrative you've come to appreciate--but now, with reflection questions (all free of charge)!

Soon, you'll see the name change and the rebranding for the weekly release of this newsletter.

If you appreciate using Contemporary Comments as a resource, and know others who may be interested, share these email newsletters with a friend. If you have any questions regarding our rebranding or Contemporary Comments in general, please call us at 800.272.4664 or email us at 2724664@gmail.com.

Paul Richardson
Executive Director

Contemporary Comments

"Judgment on Babylon"

March 16, 2019

Texts: Revelation 17; Jeremiah 51:13; Exodus 28:36-38; Revelation 13:1-8; 13:18; 16:2-12

The college prep expert behind the admissions scandal that authorities exposed last week helped parents set up fake profiles of their kids playing sports, and then Photoshopped teens' faces onto stock photos of athletes to help them fraudulently get into elite schools. One of Rick Singer's preferred scams to get the kids of his bribe-paying clients into the schools of their choice was to funnel a cut to college coaches, who would fast-track the students for admission using their recruiting slots.

To help the son of one co-defendant get into USC, Singer told him they would create a bogus athletic profile for the teen. "I'll pick a sport and we'll take a picture of him, or we'll put his face on a

picture," Singer told executive William McGlashan. "I've already done that a million times." In a voicemail to McGlashan, intercepted by a federal wiretap, he laid out his plan to pass McGlashan's son off to the USC football team as a special-teams whiz-even though his high school didn't even have a football team. "I'm gonna make him a kicker and they're gonna walk him through with football," Singer told McGlashan. "I'll get a picture to Photoshop, so we'll put a bunch of stuff about that on his profile."

In addition to Singer, McGlashan, and TV actresses Felicity Huffman and Lori Loughlin, the 50 people facing federal charges in Operation Varsity Blues include a number of prominent college coaches and athletic directors. Among the schools represented on the dubious list are the University of Southern California, Yale, Stanford, Georgetown, Wake Forest and the University of Texas. [1]

Just like them, Babylon is a fraud. It portrays itself as God's one and only true church, even though it merely puts a pious face on its blasphemies. This week's lesson explores how this scandal is exposed in the book of Revelation. One of the most accurate illustrations of the true nature of Babylon is that of a harlot. A prostitute deceives her clients by portraying an image of true love, but in the end, such a liaison winds up being empty and frustrating. Such is the spiritual experience of those caught up in Babylon's scam-anything less than the everlasting gospel of Jesus Christ is an empty and futile existence. Someday the illusion portrayed by Babylon will be stripped away. Babylon's "Photoshop" fraud will be exposed and those who are deceived by this swindle will see the true nature of the scandal. The best way to judge such frauds is to expose them to the light. God gives us everything we need to avoid falling for this deception by shining His light on the fraud right now in the prophetic messages in Revelation. Those who refuse to see and acknowledge that evidence now will, one day, be forced to accept the truth about Babylon when its mask is removed.

~cb

[1] <https://nypost.com/2019/03/12/college-scam-mastermind-photoshopped-students-faces-onto-athletes/>

About Us

Since 1988, the Center for Creative Ministry has been serving local church leaders and individuals around the world. Formerly known as the publishers of ABBA Newsletter and the Baby Boomer Ministries Resource Center, we have now broadened our generational/ministry focus to include our children. The Center for Creative Ministry took on its new name on June 1, 1996.

The Center for Creative Ministry, formerly Baby Boomer Ministries, is a privately funded and managed para-church ministry fully recognized by the Seventh-day Adventist Church in North America. We are dedicated to supporting the local church in outreach and nurture ministries by providing resources, information, training, and consulting.

