

Morning Rundown: Where Does Your State Rank on the New Faith & Freedom Index?

Here's a quick summary of the top stories on :

Where Does Your State Rank on the New Faith & Freedom Index?

The Napa Legal Institute released their first annual Faith & Freedom Index on Wednesday, June 14, 2023.

This newly conceived report gives an in-depth look at how each state protects the religious freedoms of its citizens and the economic freedom of the state.

As reported by Fox News, "The report examined practical factors affecting faith-based groups in each state. States with explicit constitutional provisions for religious freedom were awarded more points in this category, while states that had 'well-developed nonprofit religious corporation laws' received more points in the regulatory category."

With All Hope Lost, John Tesh Turned to God and This Bible Verse

Famed musician and TV host John Tesh was depressed and had given up after doctors gave him 18 to 24 months to live. But perseverance and a deeper connection to faith transformed his perspective.

"I very quickly became a cancer patient, and so I started making plans for my demise," Tesh told CBN's Faithwire of the circumstances after his 2015 diagnosis. "It was 18 months to two years to live. It was a very aggressive form of prostate cancer."

The Emmy Award-winning and Grammy-nominated performer, who was

63 at the time of his diagnosis, said he quickly became depressed and downtrodden. Doctors told Tesh to get his affairs in order, so he focused on figuring out insurance and turning his attention to protecting his family after his death.

Eerie Wake: Woman Presumed Dead Knocks Inside Coffin

This was no horror movie. In fact, what happened in Quito, Ecuador, this past week turned out to be a fairytale for one grief-stricken family.

Gathered for the wake of Bella Montoya on June 9, friends and family suddenly heard a noise coming from the closed coffin of the woman who presumably had died at the age of 76. Her son, Gilberto Barbera, said the wake had begun only hours after doctors had declared Montoya dead, but were astonished when they heard strange sounds.

"There were about 20 of us there. After about five hours of the wake, the coffin started to make sounds," Barbera told the Associated Press. "My mom was wrapped in sheets and hitting the coffin, and when we approached we could see that she was breathing heavily. It gave us all a fright." {eo}