

Psm. 11:3

Baptists For Liberty

Prov. 29:2

"Stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free, and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage." Galations 5:1

NEWS LETTER

Issue #25

October 2014

Monthly Verse: *"O Timothy, keep that which is committed to thy trust, avoiding profane and vain babblings, and oppositions of science falsely so called:"* ~ I Timothy 6:20

"The Problem With Science?"

by Bro. Donnie Burford



The Problem is not with Science or Scripture, The Problem is in the many Erroneous Theories regarding both! Truth is Truth, Theory may or may not be Truth!

Romans 1:19; *"Because that which may be known of God is manifest in them; for God hath shewed it unto them. For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse."*

"All truth is God's truth, wherever it might be found."
- Clement of Alexandria

JOHANNES KEPLER described science as "merely thinking God's thoughts after Him."

"My religion consists of a humble admiration of the illimitable superior spirit who reveals himself in the slight details we are able to perceive with our frail and feeble minds" - ALBERT EINSTEIN

In this Month's issue:

Sermon: "The Evolution Of Deceit"

by Bro. Timothy Works, page 2

"In The Beginning"

by Bro. Todd Bryant, page 4

"Questions Without Answers"

by Bro., page 4

News

October News Blitz, page 5

"Heavy"

by Bro. Jeff Short, page 6

The Forum: "Culture & Discernment"

(cont. from Sep.), page 7

Book Review: "Five Evidences for a Global Flood"

by Sis. Regina Duncan, page 8

"Lassoing Cats"

by Bro. Jeff Short, page 10

"We Are Not Alone"

by Bro. Timothy Works, page 11

"Halloween"

by Bro. David Green, page 12

"Cancer and Cashews:"

A Brief Response to Bill Nye's Video"

by Bro. Jeff Short, page 13

"Lovingly Drawn"

by Bro. Todd Bryant, page 14

Sermon: "The Evolution Of Deceit"

by Bro. Timothy Works



II Peter 3:1-7

*"This second epistle, beloved, I now write unto you; in both which I stir up your pure minds by way of remembrance: **That ye may be mindful of the words which were spoken before by the holy prophets, and of the commandment of us the apostles of the Lord and Saviour:** Knowing this first, that there shall come in the last days **scoffers**, walking after their own lusts, And saying, Where is the promise of his coming? for since the fathers fell asleep, all things **continue** as they were from the beginning of the creation. For this they **willingly are ignorant** of, that by the word of God the heavens were of old, and the earth standing out of the water and in the water: Whereby the world that then was, being overflowed with water, perished: But the heavens and the earth, which are now, by the same word are kept in store, reserved unto fire against the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men. "*

Introduction

Context for Peter's statement is a society that holds the scriptures as the authoritative word of God. Vs. 2 (New Testament Church) America was once a society (Judeo-Christian) that accepted the Bible as God's authoritative word.

Our children, brought up in Church and Sunday school, in the "nurture and admonition of the Lord" once believed the Bible to be the authoritative word of God. But something has happened in America to change that.

Men of God communicated the faith of previous generations to the next... Gill, Kiffin, Knoles, Spurgeon, Graves ect.

Not only is the Bible authoritative when it speaks of spiritual things; sin, salvation and godly living but just as authoritative when it speaks of History, Geology, Anthropology or the origins of Life and the Universe.

All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: II Timothy 3:16

SCOFFERS (vs. 3)

A scoffer is an unbeliever who actively mocks and ridicules God, God's Word and those who are believers. Scoffers are said to be motivated to do so because of their "Lust."

John 3:19

And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil.

President Obama has been quoted as saying, "Whatever America was, it is no longer a Christian Nation." I hate to agree with him but he is correct. America has become a nation of unbelievers. America has become a nation of "Scoffers."

Act 17:24 "God that made the world and all things therein, seeing that he is Lord of heaven and earth, dwelleth not in temples made with hands;" speaking to a Greek not Jewish society, lay the foundation of creation to identify God!

II Cor. 11:3

But I fear, lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled Eve through his subtlety, so your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ.

"Hath God said?"

Gen. 3:1-6

*Now the serpent was more subtle than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said unto the woman, Yea, **hath God said**, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden? And the woman said unto the serpent, We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden: But of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die. And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die: For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil. And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat.*

Satan's attack centers on sowing a **seed of doubt** concerning the accuracy and veracity of God's word; "**Hath God said?**"

Without the authority of God's word to direct our steps we are left with only our own reasoning to light our way, which is darkness. ("...*did that which was right in their own eyes*") Once that seed has been sown one becomes vulnerable to Satan's Lies. "Ye shall not surely die...ye shall be as gods."

Also notice Satan did not attack Adam to get him to eat but used Eve to convince him to eat of the forbidden fruit. To put it in present day terms you may better understand; It is one thing when a teacher or some stranger seeks to undermine your faith, however it is something else altogether when it is your best friend or someone you want to be your best friend who seeks to convince you the Bible is wrong. Can you stand to lose them?

Doubt becomes disbelief, disbelief becomes unbelief.

"God's word can not be trusted...Trust your own reasoning...you are a god...**No God.**" "Captain of my own destiny." = Atheism

*Because that, when they knew God, they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful; but became **vain** in their imaginations, and*

their foolish heart was darkened. Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools. **Rom. 1:21-22**

The fool hath said in his heart, there is no God. **Psm. 14:1**

A scoffer is a militant **atheist**, who denies God's word, denies God and hides behind "**Science**" to stifle debate and intimidate those who would question their belief system.

I Tim. 6:20

Avoiding profane and **vain** babblings, and **oppositions of science falsely so called**: Which some professing have erred concerning the faith.

Some professed believers have bought into some form of evolution (millions of years, Gap Theory, Day-Age Theory) God used evolution as the means of creation over millions of years.

II Thess. 2:8-12

And then shall that Wicked be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming: Even him, whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders, And with all **deceivableness** of unrighteousness in them that perish; And for this cause God shall send them **strong delusion**, that **they should believe a lie**: because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved. That they all might be damned who believed not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness.

Evolution is not science it is a lie!

Some who profess faith in Christ have been intimidated into accepting the false teachings or some of the principles of evolution. This is a real danger and stumbling block for Christians.

And this problem begins "**Millions of Years Ago**". (Gap Theory, Day-Age Theory)

The number one problem is the age of the earth.

A strict and literal understanding of the Bible teaches the earth is 6,000 years old from the fall of Adam to the present. However the Evolutionist requires millions and billions of years (they have to keep adding more and more) to allow even the remotest chance that evolution could have taken place. 10 to the 40,000th power, a mathematical impossibility no matter how much time, however the evolutionist clings to the notion that there is a **chance** that it could have happened that way. That takes more faith than to simply believe the Bible.

Point 1 Uniformitarianism

How accurately Peter described the evolutionist's principle, which is known as Uniformitarianism when he said, "all things **continue** as they were from the beginning of the creation." How did Peter, a 1st century fisherman, understand such a modern concept?

Could it be because he was speaking under the inspiration of God?

A.) **1st. Law of Thermodynamics** / all matter is made up of energy.

A finished creation, no uniformitarianism, current processes not the ones which produced this world. (First Cause / ex nilo, to bring out of nothing) **Gen. 1:1**

B.) **2nd. Law of Thermodynamics (entropy)** disorder, randomness, decay, death

Entropy, no evolution, less complexity. **Rom.**

8:19-22

C.) **Age of the Earth**

The problems with carbon dating and other evidences of a young earth

The Evolutionist completely disregards any evidence that does not agree with his belief in evolution, a very unscientific attitude. In fact Peter says they are willingly ignorant!

Point 2 Willingly Ignorant

A.) **Creation**

Intelligent Design

A literal 6-day (24 hour) creation, no gaps, no day-

age.

When finished, mature, functioning universe.

On day 7, how old was Adam? How old was the light from the stars? Apparent age was millions or billions of years, but actual age was 1-7 days for everything.

B.) **Fall**

Man is not evolving upward but is in fact degenerating downward.

The curse is placed upon creation and entropy is introduced to the world.

Rom. 1:19-32

C.) **Flood**

God is not only the creator of all the earth but he is also the judge of all the earth. Death and suffering is the result of sin and disobedience.

Rom. 5:12

The geological evidence is not proof of evolution but that the Genesis account of creation and the flood is true. Man did not evolve millions of years after the Dinosaurs but lived at the same time as the dinosaurs. Dinosaurs were on the ark with Noah and were known to man after the flood.

Point 3 When Dinosaurs Roamed the Earth (in Job's day)

A.) **Behemoth – Job 40:15-24**

Possibly a Stegosaurus or Brontosaurus. Not a Rhinoceros or elephant.

B.) **Leviathan – Job 41:1-10 & Isa. 27:1**

Possibly an aquatic dinosaur may be a Plesiosaurus. Not an Alligator or Whale.

C.) **Coelacanth**

The living fossil. Not extinct and not evolved.

Summary

Do not be deceived by the false claims of Evolution. Evolution is not supported by genuine science. The more we learn about the

universe, genetics, DNA, etc. the more difficult it becomes to maintain faith in evolution. More and more scientists are being forced by the evidence before them to question what they have been taught and told to believe concerning the origins of life and this universe. The Bible gives a far more reasonable explanation for the science of the universe than evolution.

Conclusion

Evolution is not just a denial of God, but by extension it is a denial of "SIN" and therefore the gospel.

II Cor. 4:3-6

But if our gospel be hid, it is hid to them that are lost: In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them. For we preach not ourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord; and ourselves your servants for Jesus' sake. For God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts, to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

Invitation

May God lift the veil of unbelief from your eyes that you may see the light of the glorious gospel of Christ.

"In The Beginning"
by Bro. Todd Bryant



"In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth" –
Genesis 1:1

In this verse, we find the foundational truth of all things. God is the Creator and we are creatures. Even nature reveals that there is a Creator (Romans 1:20; Psalms 19:1). It is simply foolish and illogical to believe that everything we see every day – such an intricate design – is nothing more than a cosmic burp, or accident. It's little wonder that God's Word tells us that the atheist is a fool (Psalms 14:1).

Every foundational truth of science is denied in evolution. Scientifically, nothing can arise from nothing. Yet, many scientists today are willing to embrace such an unscientific theory even though it contradicts what they claim to promote.

The most basic definition of "science" is "the investigation of facts". And yet there is not one shred of evidence to support evolution. Charles Darwin predicted that the fossil record would either prove or falsify his theory. In the 140 years since his death, scientists have uncovered more fossils than ever before.

What has happened? Certainly, no missing links have been found. The gap between man and beast has actually widened. So, archaeological discoveries have done nothing to prove evolution. On the contrary, the Biblical truth of creation has been proven if we merely "investigate the facts."

So, if scientists are really searching for the truth, why aren't they embracing Creationism and the belief in a young Earth? The truth is simple. Sinful men would rather embrace a ridiculous theory like evolution than believe there is a Creator. Without doubt, if there is a Creator, He has every right to enforce a standard. Depraved humans do not want to hear of such a standard.

George Wald, evolutionist and professor at Harvard said, "There are only two possibilities as to how life arose; one is spontaneous generation arising to evolution, the other is a supernatural creative act of God, there is no third possibility. Spontaneous generation that life arose from non-living matter was scientifically disproved 120 years ago by Louis Pasteur and others. That leaves us with only one possible conclusion, that life arose as a creative act of God. I will not accept that philosophically because I do not want to believe in God, therefore I choose to believe in that which I know is scientifically impossible, spontaneous generation arising to evolution." You see friend, evolutionists know their theory is impossible. They simply embrace evolution by faith (which, by the way, makes it a religion) because they refuse to believe in the great Law-Giver, the God of the Bible.

Dear reader, perhaps you have been deceived by the promoters of such a silly theory. Let me assure you that no scientist has proven or will prove evolution. In fact, no reputable scientist believes that evolution is possible today. They simply choose to embrace it because the only other alternative is to believe in special Creation by God.

God is real. He is the Creator. He requires us all to keep His perfect, holy standard. There really was a Garden of Eden and we all fell in Adam. The only Hope for mankind is through the meritorious work of Jesus. Do you trust Him today?

"Questions Without Answers"
by Charles H. Spurgeon

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Possibly, once more, some may be much beset on the road to heaven by mental difficulties. I do not often say much about these things; because there are plenty of preachers who, by mentioning difficulties, are really spreading them. Certain clever gentlemen of the cloth may think it their duty to sow doubts among their hearers; but I have no such ambition. They may imagine that they are answering the questions which they suggest, but it seems to me that they are merely advertising them to many of those who were previously unaware of them. This is an age when men assail the inspiration of the Bible, the atoning sacrifice, and

the election of grace. I need not enlarge. Everything is now attacked. There is no part of the Bible which some critic would not take away from us.

It may be, young friend, that you cannot answer all the objections which you hear. Do not wonder if you cannot. You would be wiser than Solomon if you could reply to all objections that cavillers may invent. A friend came to me with a great difficulty, supposing that I could answer it off-hand; but I replied, "He who fashioned this piece of criticism took time in the making of it, and you must allow me the same time to demolish it. I will do my best with it; but remember, if you find a thousand difficulties which I cannot meet, that fact will not prove that they cannot be met; for I do not profess to be omniscient, nor do I assert that faith is a grace which has no difficulties to surmount." If there were

a thousand more objections which could not at this present be answered, they might confuse our feeble minds, but they would not shake the eternal truth itself. God's Word is sure, be the difficulties what they may. Know what you do know, and believe what you do believe, and get a firm grip of undoubted verities; and though, when you are worried with the doubts and hypotheses of philosophers and the like, Satan will say, "They are entangled in the land," let him see that your worry is soon ended by a childlike faith in the living God. Real faith will find a way out of perplexity, or will make one. True faith will sooner set aside the conclusions of human reason than the declarations of God: in fact, faith teaches reason to be reasonable by setting before it the highest of all reasons, namely, the testimony of God. God send us such a childlike faith, and then we shall not be "entangled in the land"!

News

October 2014 News Blitz: Underlined texts are links to news stories from various sources. If reading this as a printout you can find the links to these stories on our home page. <http://baptistsforliberty.weebly.com> or <http://baptistsforliberty.weebly.com/news-blitz-archive> Due to some computer trouble most of the work done earlier this month for the blitz was lost and I didn't have the hours to put into redoing all of it so forgive the sparseness of this edition. We will try to post an extended Blitz on the website at a later date.

Life In The U.S.

(Local & State news stories)

Oct. 8th ["Beavercreek Police Department Occupied by Activists over John Crawford's Murder"](#)

Oct. 21st ["Drugs & Money Seized on Rosebud Indian Reservation"](#)

Oct. 22nd ["Autopsy of Michael Brown Suggests He Was Shot in the Hand at Close Range"](#)

Oct. 31st ["Maine Obtains Court Order To Place Temporary Restrictions On Nurse Kaci Hickox"](#)

["Breaking: Maine Judge Lifts Ebola Quarantine on Nurse"](#)

Economy

Oct. 4th ["The Bad Economics of the Minimum Wage and the Fast Food Protests"](#) (Audio)

Oct. 8th ["Poverty"](#)

Misc. U.S. Politics

Oct. 22nd ["Gun groups can now sue municipalities in Pennsylvania over gun laws"](#)

U.S. Elections

Oct. 29th ["Rep. Justin Amash Says Americans Are Becoming More Libertarian—And Congress Will Too."](#)

["2014 midterms: Why the 'bums' \(in Congress\) won't be thrown out this year"](#)

U.S. Foreign Policy & Foreign Relations

Oct. 9th ["Why bombing Iran is an absolutely awful idea"](#)

Oct. 15th ["Cracks in American Jewish community's support for Israel"](#)

Oct. 20th ["Bush Derangement Syndrome"](#)

["Netanyahu hangs hopes on US midterm elections"](#)

["Mustafa Barghouti: US-Palestinian ties strong"](#)

Oct. 30th ["Blackwater Contractors Found Guilty But Will It Prevent Future Violence?"](#)

The Western World

(Canada, Europe, & Australia)

Oct. 28th ["Israel, Poland remember but also rebuild"](#)

U.S. Surveillance & Security

Oct. 29th ["Cover Up: U.S. Agencies Used 1,000 Nazis for Cold War Spying"](#)

Oct. 30th ["FBI Caught Creating Fake Associated Press Article"](#)

U.N. News & Globalization

Oct. 23rd ["Georgia Guide-Stones: Satanic Ten Commandments of the New World Order"](#)

The World At Large

(Africa & Asia, etc.)

Oct. 13th ["Woman saves three relatives from Ebola"](#)

The Middle East

Sep. 29th

["Lapid's budget a betrayal of social justice"](#) (Israeli politics)

["Abbas' speech warning siren for Israel"](#)

Sep. 30th

[“Kurdish forces push back against ISIS, reclaim occupied territory”](#)

[“Netanyahu's rhetoric brings same old message”](#)

Oct. 1st [“Shas Party is losing its electoral base”](#)

Oct. 3rd

[“Despite diplomatic stalemate, Livni clings to her seat”](#) (Israeli politics)

Oct. 6th [“Ya'alon misses lessons of Yom Kippur War”](#)

[“The facts about buying land in Jerusalem's latest settlement”](#)

Oct. 7th [“Lapid could end up paying for the price of pudding”](#) (Israeli politics)

Oct. 9th [“Former Labor politician faults the left for supporting Netanyahu”](#)

Oct. 10th [“Asylum seekers pawns in political power struggle”](#) (Israeli politics)

Oct. 13th [“Netanyahu prefers right-wing electorate to new Middle East”](#)

Oct. 14th [“Former Israeli defense minister says conflict looms](#)

[with Hamas”](#)

Oct. 15th [“Will Gaza donors conference encourage multilateral talks?”](#)

Oct. 16th [“Israeli social justice protests still alive, just not in streets”](#)

[“Has Israel accepted the Palestinian unity government?”](#)

Oct. 17th [“Rabin's son says Israelis ready for regional agreement”](#)

Oct. 20th [“Will Ehud Barak return to politics?”](#)

Oct. 21st [“Israeli soccer team honors alleged spy for Hezbollah”](#)

Oct. 22nd [“Kahlon's new party will challenge Likud, Shas”](#)

[“Israeli left shuns Rabin's legacy”](#)

[“Decoding Iran's economic indicators”](#)

Oct. 24th [“Neglect, provocation feed East Jerusalem unrest”](#)

Oct. 28th [“Kafir Qasim still waiting for Israeli apology”](#)

Oct. 29th [“Arab Knesset member threatens to leave parliament”](#)

Oct. 30th [“Iraq's Christian paramilitaries split in IS fight”](#)



It is good for a man that he bear the yoke in his youth. ~
Lamentations 3:27

What do fifty pound bags and a wooden garage door have to do with spiritual maturity?

There are some epochal firsts in a young man's life. These are the big boy moments that signal growth and maturity. The first time you pump gas into the car. The first time you mow the lawn. The first time you carry the groceries to the kitchen from the back of the car. All exciting events until you realize that you must rinse and repeat endlessly throughout the rest of your life. Then you start longing for the day you have a son of your own and he can do all that stuff. “You're a man, buddy, you're a man,” you tell the four-year-old while he looks like he's actually going to throw his back out to get a five pound bag of sugar into the house.

I grew up in a larger than average size family, not huge but larger than average, but I was the only son. When the grocery wagon pulled up in the drive, (no wait, I think they used to call those station wagons), it was literally loaded with goods. There were so many bags, boxes, bottles, and cans it looked more like you were opening your own store rather than bringing in the family foodstuffs.

Being the only son, I had the responsibility to transfer the hoard from the car to the kitchen. Keep in mind this is a job the state would pay three workers for eight hours to accomplish. You stared into the back of the wagon and it usually played out one of two ways. You moaned and groaned and carried in one or two things at a time and the job took about four hours to complete. Or, your mind shifted into high gear to think of every way you could do this to get done as fast and with as few trips as possible.

Once I was into the job, I wanted to be done as quick as possible. One of the greatest grocery innovations were the plastic bags with the loop handles. I could get anywhere from one to three bags per finger. This meant bringing in fifteen bags at a time. Of course, you had to be extra careful not to drop any and at the end your hands looked like they belonged to a ninety-year-old arthritic.

With the advent of bulk item, wholesale, warehouse stores the game has changed a little bit. We now have to carry fewer total items, but each item is bigger. You can get beans, rice, sugar, flour, and such in fifty pound bags and a box of toilet paper so big it nearly defies placement in the back of the van. So we have less things to carry overall, but the ones we do carry are heavier.

Not too long ago I was participating in just such an unloading. Let's just say I was a little cranky that day. To start, I had to open the garage door, which is a heavy wooden door without an electric opener or the proper spring tension. I am just guessing about the tension, but it seems it ought to be easier to open than it is. Then we had to haul the heavy items up the ramp and into the kitchen.

My joints were sore and complaining with every tug, lift, and pull. In my mind I was complaining and wishing it were easier. If we had an electric opener, the garage would be opened by pushing a button. If I had some sort of cart, I could save some of the carrying and transfer more at one time. If I had more sons . . .

Then I got to thinking. What if everything were easy? In other words, what if I reduced the friction, or resistance to every physical task. Would I be better off? I realized I would not be better off. I might save some time and energy here and there, but I would also be losing. If I live long enough, there will come a day when I am physically unable to open a manual garage door, or carry a fifty pound bag. The truth is: If I set about to reduce all the friction in my life, that day will come sooner than later.

Muscles are funny things. They are always increasing or decreasing. Do nothing and you will lose muscle. It requires a certain amount of work to maintain what you have. If you want to increase them, it's going to take more work. You guessed it, muscles need resistance to grow. Spiritual growth is very similar.

Hebrews 5 mentions some folk who had sufficient time that they should have grown and become stronger. Instead, they were weak.

"For when for the time ye ought to be teachers, ye have need that one teach you again which be the first principles of the oracles of God; and are become such as have need of milk, and not of strong meat. For every one that useth milk is unskilful in the word of righteousness: for he is a babe. But strong meat belongeth to them that are of full age, even those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil."
~ Hebrews 5:12-14

The Word says they were "unskilfull" as opposed to those who were mature. How had they matured? The writer says it was "by reason of use." The use is of the Word. So by using the Word skilfully, they had their senses exercised and as a result could "discern both good and evil."

It takes work to get that point. It takes work to use the Word, exercise our senses, and discern good and evil. We should not expect it to be easy, nor should we look for ways to reduce the friction. Keep lifting, tugging, pulling, carrying, and straining and you will become stronger. Be glad for the struggle for you are profiting greatly from it.



1. *What are some of the differences between Christian culture in general (the collective ideas, view of history, arts, books, media, politics etc of people claiming to be Christian) and Baptist culture? Are there certain areas that Baptist lean more towards general Christian culture rather than Biblical principles & truth?*

Bro. Todd Marks (*Pastor & missionary [Iglesia Misión Bautista la Familia](#)*): "One of the things that we face here in Peru as so many others do in Latin America is the Catholic culture. So many people claim to be Christians, but do not have any idea of what that really means. As a whole Baptist seem to be holding to the majority of Biblical principles and truth, but do vary in certain aspects such as the importance of church membership, church attendance and modest dress. Most Baptist have eliminated Sunday evening services, although I do recognize that there is no mandate from God to hold these services, I do believe that it is important to continue to feed Christians on the Lord's day and not allow the Lord's day to convert into a half day. As far as membership, many are allowing people to be "part" of their churches without demanding church membership. A non-member can participate in roles that normally would only be allowed to members. Unfortunately this is due I believe to many going toward the universalistic idea of the church, sad, but true. As far as dress, there has been two extremes. Basically there is one group that believes that a lady cannot be saved if she wears slacks and a man cannot preach in a shirt that is any other color than white. While there is another group that has gone to allowing girls to wear bikinis in their church camp (unbelievable!). Unfortunately, these views make it hard to have fellowship with others because of these extreme and incorrect views."

2. *What are the greatest challenges facing God's little ones in your county? Are there legal & biblical avenues believers should be taking in your country combating these challenges?*

Bro. Marks: "The greatest challenges facing our little ones is the lack of outreach. We praise the Lord that we are able to bring them in on buses and teach them, but we are not seeing that with many others. Most importance has been placed on youth groups and not on children. The other issue that they face is poverty. This is a hinderance because once they are old enough to have jobs, many of the children that we have instructed in the Word of God, end up out of church due to the obligation of working and helping out their family financially. The only thing I believe we can do is continue to guide them as long as the Lord allows them to be under our teaching and care."

Book Review: "Five Evidences for a Global Flood"

by Sis. Regina Duncan

Title: "Five Evidences for a Global Flood"

Author: Brad Forlow

Publisher: Institute for Creation Research (ICR), 2011

Genre: Non-Fiction, Theological

Page Count: 40

Overview:

I. Genesis Teaches a Global Flood

- a. The Cause of the Flood: The water to flood the earth came from three different sources: Water Reservoirs under the ocean floor, Water Reservoirs from the sky, and Rain that fell for 40 days and 40 nights (7:11-12).
- b. The Depth of the Flood: The water raised above even the highest of mountains. Mount Ararat was one of the highest mountains in the world at 17,000 feet, but the water was above it (7:20; 8:4).
- c. The Duration of the Flood: The Bible specifically tells how many days the rain lasted and how many days the flood lasted. The rain lasted 40 days, and the flood lasted over a year, 371 days to be exact (7:11, 16, 24).
- d. The Need for the Ark: The ark's inside capacity was 1.5 million cubic feet (6:15) which would have been way over the amount needed for a local flood. Actually, if it was only a small area that flooded, there would have been no need of an ark or another such boat at all since Noah and his family could have just moved to higher ground.
- e. Genesis Explicitly Describes a Global Flood: There are numerous references in Genesis chapters 6-9 that prove this was a global flood. One of these references (7:23) said that "Noah only remained alive, and they that were with him in the ark." Another reference states that the waters were on "the face of the whole earth" (8:9).

II. God Judged the World Through a Global Flood

- a. The Reason for the Flood Was Judgment of All Mankind: God was grieved at the wickedness upon the earth as was told repeatedly in Genesis beginning in chapter 6. God judged all mankind with a flood because they were evil and wicked continually (6:5).
- b. The Purpose of the Flood Was the Destruction of All Life: The penalty for sin is death, so all of the people and even the animals had to die. This seems unfair to us, but God's punishment for sin is death (7:21-23). Man had dominion over the earth, so the earth was also destroyed in the flood (6:13).

- c. God's Promise confirms the Global Flood: God promised to never again judge the earth with a flood (9:11-13). We see this promise today when after a rain; God paints a rainbow in the sky.
- d. Noah's Ark Is a Picture of Salvation: The ark was a type of salvation since it saved Noah and his family and animal life from the flood's destruction. God told Noah to cover the ark with pitch (6:14) which made the ark waterproof and kept it from sinking. This same word used for pitch is later translated as atonement in Leviticus 17:11 - this word in the Hebrew language is kopher, kaphar.

III. All Scripture Testifies of a Global Flood

- a. The Old and New Testaments Validate the Global Flood: Both the Old & New Testaments of the Bible speak of the great flood in Noah's day. Numerous authors wrote about it so that if we can't believe Genesis, neither can we believe the rest of the Bible.
- b. Jesus Spoke of the Global Flood: Jesus compared the sin of Noah's day to the sin in the day when the Son of man will return to the earth. He also said that when the flood was upon the earth it "destroyed them all" (Luke 17:27), which again speaks of a universal flood (Matthew 24:36-39).
- c. Peter Writes of the Global Flood: The world we live in today is different from the world before the flood as Peter stated in 2 Peter 3:5-7. It is understandable that the earth would change a lot with such a catastrophe as a worldwide flood. This scripture also states that the earth that overflowed with water, in the last day will be burnt up. If only part of the earth had been covered with water, only part of the earth will "melt with fervent heat" (2 Peter 3:10, 12).

IV. Geology Reveals the Fact of a Global Flood

- a. The Rocks Reveal a Global Flood: We often hear of Evolution as if it's a fact; however, it is still just a theory since it has never been proven to be true. On the other hand, there is extensive scientific evidence that there was a global flood according to rock formations. The rock formations that are drawn in textbooks are very inaccurate since they divide each particular rock into each particular layer. How the rock formations are actually made is with many types of rocks in many different layers, which would come about from a global catastrophic flood. If things had progressed over millions and billions of years, there is no way that a log would be found upright and entirely preserved. If it had taken many millions of years for the earth to become as we know it, a log would have rotted before it could be preserved in the earth's layers.
- b. Mountain Ranges Attest to a Global Flood: Not only do

the rocks plainly display the global flood, but so do the mountains. Fossils of animals that live in the sea (clams) have been found at the Summit of Mount Everest. How could something from the sea possibly get to the top of the highest mountain in the world unless it was during the time that the mountains were under water? Some people may say that there could not have been enough water to cover all of the mountain ranges we have today, but the earth looked vastly different before the flood and may not have had very high mountains at all compared with what we have today. The great Flood of Noah's day caused all of the high mountain ranges and deep oceans that we have today.

- c. Earth's Geological Features Demand a Global Flood: The Grand Canyon is believed by evolutionary scientists to have formed over billions of years; however, there was a little Grand Canyon in Washington that was formed in a just few days after the eruption of Mount Saint Helens in 1980. This leads me to believe that the Grand Canyon could have easily been formed in a year during the flood of Noah's day.

V. The Fossil Record Requires a Global Flood

- a. The Fossil Record Shows Global Watery Burial: Contrary to popular belief (of Evolutionists), there are very few (less than 1%) of fossils found today that are of vertebrates (animals containing more than one bone in their bodies). However, when Evolutionary scientists are talking about fossils, they always talk about finding dinosaurs and other such animals. What is actually prevalent (95% of fossils) throughout the layers of rocks are shallow water invertebrates - mostly shellfish. What this tells us is that there had to have been a major catastrophic event, namely a global flood.
- b. The Fossil Record Indicates a Rapid and Catastrophic Event: A rapid catastrophic event (not millions or billions of years) needed to happen to preserve fossils in their entirety. There would have been nothing left of the animal carcasses to be discovered if they had been exposed for long periods of time where scavengers could have gotten to them. The flood happened so fast that many fossils were able to be left intact. Often the fossils that are discovered are found in a death pose as if they died violently and suddenly. Dinosaur fossils are even found encased in water-deposited sediments. Strangely enough (if one doesn't believe the flood occurred), animals of all different species are found clumped together, the land animals, sea animals, and plant life are found buried together.
- c. Dinosaur Soft Tissue Supports a Recent Cataclysmic Event: Soft tissue such as skin, connective tissue, blood vessels, and blood cells have recently been found in over 40 fossils. This leaves scientists trying to come up with a reasonable evolutionary explanation as to how this could happen. Soft tissue wouldn't be preserved

beyond a maximum of 100,000 years; collagen can't survive longer than 10,000 years. Yet a T Rex was discovered with blood vessels, but was supposed to be 70 million years old.

Positives:

A positive for me, since I won't use any version besides the KJV was that the author used only Bible references from the King James Version.

Negatives:

I really cannot think of a negative with this book. I think it is an awesome book with lots of great information in it.

Other Books by this Author:

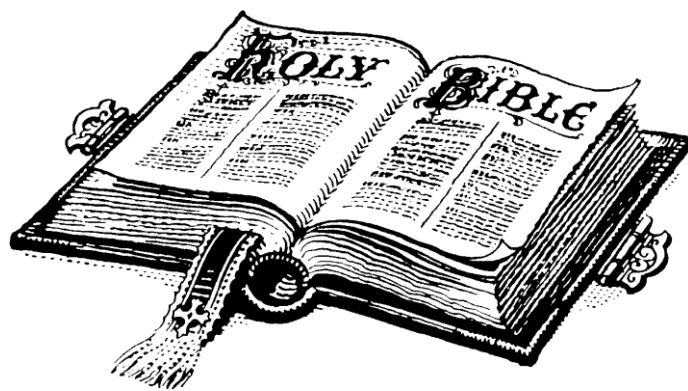
"Biology and the Bible"; "7 Creations of Christ"

Final Words:

It is not a matter of Science versus the Bible. No, the Bible and Science actually agree that there was a major flood. The issue is that the public doesn't always get the full report; it is often skewed to what the reporter wants us to believe. If this reporter believes in the Theory of Evolution, then certain key points are left out. How often do news reporters do this in regards to Christian events? We hear all the time about how at a Homosexual Movement there were thousands of people, when there may have been only hundreds. Or how a Pro-Life Organization had only a few hundred people when, in reality, there were thousands.

Sadly, not only is it that non-Christians don't believe in the Flood, but even some Christians have begun to disbelieve it as the whole truth. If the Flood didn't happen the way the Bible says, then there could very well be other fallacies in the Bible. Whether or not the Flood happened is not just an unimportant scientific or theological debate. The Bible and Science both clearly prove that it did happen, and as Christians, we should fight to uphold that incredibly significant truth.

"If I profess, with the loudest voice and the clearest exposition, every portion of the truth of God except precisely that little point which the world and the devil are at that moment attacking, I am not confessing Christ, however boldly I may be professing Christianity. Where the battle rages the loyalty of the soldier is proved; and to be steady on all the battle-field besides is mere flight and disgrace to him if he flinches at that one point."



“Lassoing Cats” by Bro. Jeff Short

In the multitude of words there wanteth not sin: but he that refraineth his lips is wise. ~ Proverbs 10:19

The 5 stages of internet comment grief.

We had high hopes for the internet. We could all log on and access the same things no matter where we were in the world. Web 2.0 emerged with even more hope. Not only could we access the same things, but now we could all comment and share. We could interact with people hither and yon around the same topic.

Did we at last have this free marketplace of ideas we had dreamed of? Did we at last have a platform for elevated discussion, enlightened reasoning, and collegial exchanges of ideas that made us all better people? Not so much.

Though I'm sure there are some cobwebbed corners of the interwebs where high-brow discussions are the order of the day, I have yet to find them or become entangled therein. I am particularly disappointed with the “Christian” discussions. Yes there are helpful, worthwhile articles being posted, but the comment sections of the same leave much to be desired.

After years of scientific observation and study of Christian discussions of the Bible and all things relevant, here are my generalizations of the 5 stages of internet comments that cause grief.

The intellectual red herring. Every good Bible discussion usually has someone who resorts to jargon in order to slam on brakes. They deliberately make abstract statements with high-sounding words in order to imply inferiority in their opponent. They try to stop the discussion by making the other commenter look unqualified to speak on such topics.

This tactic is closely akin to the enlightened condescension ruse. The above commenter's brother uses his combox space to pity the poor simpletons in the discussion. They are not as enlightened and will continue to toy about until they arrive at the same plane.

The starving children dodge. How could you all spend time discussing this topic while children are starving in Tierra del Fuego? Or, insert whatever issue demands supreme urgency over whatever is being discussed. If while feeling convicted you query the dodger about where you might put finger oil on a pamphlet or tractate to wisen up about such urgency, you will probably only get a weak muttering about Googling. Turns out they're not that all-fired concerned about the Fuegian indigenous after all, and their own information seems to have had no update since the days of Captain Cook.

No matter the subject, there always seems to be those who suggest there are more important things to discuss. I do not deny there are things of greater and lesser importance, but it seems if all Scripture is inspired and profitable, that we should get around to discussing all Scripture at some point.

The ad hominem. Comments don't go far before someone goes to-the-

man. When someone disagrees with this commenter's position, they are immediately labeled a heretic and their motives for holding such a position can only be wicked cruelty that puts them in company with the sort who enjoys lassoing cats and tying them in a sack.

These commenters can be quick to assign ignorance to anyone disagreeing with them. If someone holds a different position, it is because they have never studied the issue and do not have any reason why they hold their position. Could it be possible that through study, thought, and reasoning someone has come to a different conclusion? Nah . . . it has to be the cats-in-a-sack thing.

The proof-texter. These commenters will not be convinced of any teaching unless they can be supplied with reference to a single verse that makes a direct statement with relevant key words to prove that teaching. I guess their Bible must look a lot more like a dictionary or an OSHA code book. The Bible just doesn't work that way and Jesus didn't proof-text when proving the resurrection (Matthew 22:31-32).

Where's the love? Without fail, whenever a discussion takes place and at least two people are not speaking the same thing, someone will stand up to proclaim that we should all just love each other. It seems to them there is never any place to discuss where we differ. There is no time when we should examine a public teaching critically. It's unloving.

I guess we will just forget about all of Paul's disputing in Acts. We should probably expunge the council at Jerusalem and Paul's correcting of Peter from our minds. All that iron sharpening iron stuff should probably just be taken figuratively for back-patting and side hugs.

The list could go on. I don't quite know what to call this post. A rant? A plea? I see so many discussions going exactly nowhere and it is disappointing. I don't advocate angry arguing. I don't scotch for ill-spirited flamings. But I do love a good discussion and I don't mind at all if it's impassioned. In fact, I downright like it. I wish there was more of it. You may say I'm a dreamer, but I think we would be better off for it.



“We Are Not Alone”

by Bro. Timothy Works

Ezekiel 1:1-5 *“Now it came to pass in the thirtieth year, in the fourth month, in the fifth day of the month, as I was among the captives by the river of Chebar, that the heavens were opened, and I saw visions of God. In the fifth day of the month, which was the fifth year of king Jehoiachin’s captivity, The word of the LORD came expressly unto Ezekiel the priest, the son of Buzi, in the land of the Chaldeans by the river Chebar; and the hand of the LORD was there upon him. And I looked, and, behold, a whirlwind came out of the north, a great cloud, and a fire infolding itself, and a brightness was about it, and out of the midst thereof as the colour of amber, out of the midst of the fire. Also out of the midst thereof came the likeness of four living creatures. And this was their appearance; they had the likeness of a man.”*

& Ezekiel 1:15-20 *“Now as I beheld the living creatures, behold one wheel upon the earth by the living creatures, with his four faces. The appearance of the wheels and their work was like unto the colour of a beryl: and they four had one likeness: and their appearance and their work was as it were a wheel in the middle of a wheel. When they went, they went upon their four sides: and they turned not when they went. As for their rings, they were so high that they were dreadful; and their rings were full of eyes round about them four. And when the living creatures went, the wheels went by them: and when the living creatures were lifted up from the earth, the wheels were lifted up. Whithersoever the spirit was to go, they went, thither was their spirit to go; and the wheels were lifted up over against them: for the spirit of the living creature was in the wheels.”*

Living creatures, flying wheels.

Many have read the scriptures seeking to bolster their own ideas. Some have said Ezekiel was describing Aliens and flying saucers. This reveals as question that men have been asking for a long time now, “is man alone in the universe?” (Gen. 2:18 “it is not good that man dwell alone”)

With all the billions of stars in the universe, isn’t it possible that there is life out there some where?

This is a serious question and deserves serious attention and discussion.

First we must determine what is the origins and nature of life.
Genesis 1:1 *“In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.”*

Genesis 2:7 *“And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul.”*

This establishes the fact that life originates with God. Man was created and given life by God.

So life in the universe (Cosmos= the sum total) is the result of the creative material universe. Act of God. (life begins at conception) the creation).

We have touched upon this fact before when speaking about Creation vs. Evolution.

Actual physical evidence and true science fits far more

harmoniously with the creation model than with evolution!

Evolution is based upon speculation given enough time (billions of years) the random coming together of the necessary circumstances and elements could produce life! They say “could have” or “may have” and demand that we accept it as a fact!

The belief that there could be life “out there” goes hand in hand with the belief in Evolution! People conclude that “if” life evolved here on earth then considering the billions of stars in the galaxies and years they have existed, surely some form of life “could” have evolved out there as it did here.

However, again this is based upon speculation not any special evidence or science.

I Timothy 6:20 *“O Timothy, keep that which is committed to thy trust, avoiding profane and vain babblings, and oppositions of science falsely so called:”*

According to the laws of probability, which is a math medical science, Evolution is not possible! Scientists know this but are not allowed to speak of it. (See the documentary “[Expelled: No Intelligence Allowed](#)”)

Since Evolution is not possible and did not occur on Earth, neither did it or could it occur else where in the “created” universe. (“Cosmos”)

Notice how that vast universe is included in key statements in scriptures:

Gen. 1:14-18 *“And God said, Let there be lights in the firmament of the heaven to divide the day from the night; and let them be for signs, and for seasons, and for days, and years: And let them be for lights in the firmament of the heaven to give light upon the earth: and it was so. And God made two great lights; the greater light to rule the day, and the lesser light to rule the night: he made the stars also. And God set them in the firmament of the heaven to give light upon the earth, And to rule over the day and over the night, and to divide the light from the darkness: and God saw that it was good.”*

Rom. 5:12 *“Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned:”* (“Cosmos” = Sum total of material universe)

Rom. 8:19-22 *“For the earnest expectation of the creature waiteth for the manifestation of the sons of God. For the creature was made subject to vanity, not willingly, but by reason of him who hath subjected the same in hope, Because the creature itself also shall be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God. For we know that the whole creation groaneth and travaileth in pain together until now.”*

If there were any other intelligent life forms in the cosmos why would Adams sin bring them under the curse?

God created all forms of life on Earth and man uniquely created in the image and likeness of God is the only “intelligent” being, life form in the cosmos – with one exception.

Man is created for the exclusive purpose of

fellowship/companionship with God.

Heb. 2:6-8 *“But one in a certain place testified, saying, What is man, that thou art mindful of him? or the son of man that thou visitest him? Thou madest him a little lower than the angels; thou crownedst him with glory and honour, and didst set him over the works of thy hands: Thou hast put all things in subjection under his feet. For in that he put all in subjection under him, he left nothing that is not put under him. But now we see not yet all things put under him.”*

(Angels ministering Spirits Heb. 1:13-14)

No, we are not alone in the vastness of the universe, there are angels (Spiritual beings, living creatures)

Rev. 4:6-8 & Ezek. 1:1-5

Man was created to fellowship with God and angels were created to minister to God and man. We are not alone, God is with us.

Acts 17:24-28

However Satan led a rebellion in Heaven and 1/3 of the angels fallowed after him and became demons. Satan engineered the Fall of man seeking to enlist man in his rebellion against God.

Eph. 6:10-12

Satan would divert mans affection away from what God says will happen, by speculation upon what might have happened or could happen.

II Thess 2:9-12

Demonic activity will increase in the last days and so will scientific speculation and reports of aliens and U.F.O.s

We however knowing the truth, need to stay focused on what God says:

Men have sinned. Jesus died that men may have the forgiveness of sin. Satan wishes to blind the understanding of men to the truth, the end of the world is approaching.

Are you ready? Is everyone you wish to be saved saved?

“Watch and pray”



Galatians 4:1-11

“Now I say, That the heir, as long as he is a child, differeth nothing from a servant, though he be lord of all; But is under tutors and governors until the time appointed of the father. Even so we, when we were children, were in bondage under the elements of the world: But when the fulness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law, To redeem them that were under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons And because ye are sons, God hath sent

forth the Spirit of his Son into your hearts, crying, Abba, Father. Wherefore thou art no more a servant, but a son; and if a son, then an heir of God through Christ. Howbeit then, when ye knew not God, ye did service unto them which by nature are no gods. But now, after that ye have known God, or rather are known of God, how turn ye again to the weak and beggarly elements, whereunto ye desire again to be in bondage? Ye observe days, and months, and times, and years. I am afraid of you, lest I have bestowed upon you labour in vain.”

Halloween is just around the corner. Already children are excited, trying to figure out what they want to dress up as. Halloween candy is on the shelves of stores, and soon will be handed out to children dressed up as witches, goblins, ghosts, etc.

Is this a holiday that is nothing more than “fun?” Or, is there more to it?

Our text is from a letter to a church in Galatia. As Paul wrote these words, he said “Ye observe days, and months, and years. I am afraid of you, lest I have bestowed upon you labour in vain.” Halloween is a day many people observe. Today, we want to look at what it really is all about.

A CELEBRATION OF DEATH:

Halloween is a celebration of death. It is a day ‘witches’ celebrate above all other days. It is the end and beginning of the witches year. It marks the beginning of the death and destruction associated with winter. At this time, the power of the underworld is unleashed and spirits are supposedly freed to roam about the earth. It is considered the best time to contact spirits.

Witchcraft is not something to joke about or take lightly. The Bible speaks much about witchcraft:

Exodus 22:18

Deuteronomy 18:10-12

II Kings 9:22

II Chronicles 33:6

Micah 5:12

Nahum 3:3-4

Galatians 5:19-21

What exactly is witchcraft? It is the practice of dealing with evil spirits, the use of sorcery or magic. Is it alive today? Yes, and doing very well.

From 1575 to the 1700s people were burned at the stake in Europe and America for their real or suspected involvement in witchcraft. Yet, today it is an accepted form of religion. Even the IRS has allowed the Church of Wica to have tax exempt status, just like the churches of Christ have tax exempt status. To the US government, there is no difference between the two!

Similar to a witch is a *wizard*. Wizards have been a part of Halloween festivities for ages. They have even been brought into children’s shows and cartoons. Yet, what does the Bible say about wizards?

Exodus 22:18

Leviticus 19:31; 20:6, 27

Deuteronomy 18:11

II Kings 17:17

II Kings 21:6; 23:24

II Chronicles 33:6

Isaiah 8:19; 19:3

A wizard, by definition, is “one skilled in magic; a sorcerer; male witch.” We already read of what God’s attitude is toward them...Should we take that lightly?

Associated with Halloween are enchantments...magic spells. Are those for real?

Deuteronomy 18:10
Exodus 7:11, 22; 8:7
Numbers 23:23; 24:1
Leviticus 19:26
II Kings 17:17; 21:26
II Chronicles 33:6
Ecclesiastes 10:11
Isaiah 47:9, 12
Jeremiah 27:9

Sorcery, the use of power gained from the assistance or control of evil spirits.

Exodus 7:11
Isaiah 47:9, 12; 57:3
Jeremiah 27:9
Daniel 2:2
Malachi 3:5
Revelation 9:21; 18:23; 21:8; 22:15

What can we do? Is it ok for us to send our children out dressed up and do things at Halloween even though we are not witches? NO! (Exodus 23:22)

I Corinthians 10:31 *“Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God.”*

“And I will walk at liberty: for I seek thy precepts. I will speak of thy testimonies also before kings, and will not be ashamed.” ~Psalm 119:45 & 46

Tuesday, November 4th is election day. Please take the time to prayerfully vote. Also we’d like to encourage you to take up The Challenge, send a track to your elected officials!

<http://baptistsforliberty.weebly.com/challenge.html>

“Cancer and Cashews: A Brief Response to Bill Nye’s Video”

by Bro. Jeff Short

NOTE: Ken Ham hosted Bill Nye on February 4, 2014 at the Creation Museum for a debate over the thesis: “Is creation a viable model of origins in today’s modern scientific era?” The origins of this debate, however, began with Bill Nye’s YouTube video: Creationism is not Appropriate for Children, in which he condemned the teaching of the biblical account of creation.

Al Mohler posted a deft assessment of the debate here. The debate was more equal-time presentations with a little interaction. I was hoping for more interaction, but I am thankful that faithful, biblical truth was presented well and respectfully.

In response to Bill Nye’s original video, the Sovereign Grace Baptist Church of Northport, AL asked a few pastors to respond to the video for a page on their website. You can find that original page here: here. I have included my response to the video below.

Originally written & published September 8, 2012

Bill Nye’s major premise in this clip is, “Evolution is the fundamental idea in all of life science, in all of biology.” In his estimation, evolution is what enables people to live consistently “with everything we observe in the universe,” and without it you cannot do science, “You’re just not going to get the right answer.” He also deems evolution necessary for a stable developing society with “scientifically literate voters and taxpayers . . . engineers that can build stuff, solve problems.” From this, Bill Nye draws a moral imperative that children should not be taught the biblical account of creation, but rather they should be taught evolution as truth and fact.

Nye refers to the “intellectual capital” we have today and believes evolution is necessary for building that capital in the future. This is historically untenable. The capital we have today was contributed to significantly by professing Christians, believers in the Bible. If evolution is the only way to get the right answer, how can we account for the work of Francis Bacon, William of Ockham, Nicolaus Copernicus, Johannes Kepler, Galileo Galilei, Blaise Pascal, Robert Boyle, Gottfried Leibniz, George Boole, or Michael Faraday to name a few? Did these men and others like them get the right answer?

When anyone does empirical science across all the branches, biology included, it is not on the basis of evolution. Why do we not treat cancer with honey-roasted cashews? Why not? If we are doing science on the basis of random processes, matter in motion, unobserved and unrepeatable events, then cashews, malted milk balls, and chemotherapy are all just as likely to “work,” or not.

We don’t do science on the basis of evolution, but rather on the basis of order, cause and effect, and uniformity. We use observation, experimentation, and reason while presupposing the order and uniformity of natural laws, which are a part of the Christian worldview. No part of the empirical process is dependent on a theory of origins that is itself ever evolving.

Further, why should we treat cancer at all? In a materialist universe,

evolution does not care and offers no basis for the judgment: it is good to save life. In a Christian worldview, we have the basis for development of treatments and the moral imperative to do so. Random processes and matter in motion just do not care and do not provide any reason for anyone to care.

I am not impugning his character nor questioning his motives. I believe Bill Nye wants to see the advancement of science, engineering, and technology and that he wants this for the good of the human race. But if evolution is the fundamental idea by which he lives life in consistency with the universe, he has no foundation to care about any of this nor what parents teach their children. Evolution does not care. If there is no design or motive, then it simply does not matter what happens.

“Lovingly Drawn”

by Bro. Todd Bryant

“No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent Me draws him” - John 6:44

In a way, the inability of the natural man seems so strange to those of us who have been drawn to Christ. Though we can all surely remember when we had no interest in the things of God, we can also remember the heartfelt desire to know Christ...when the Father drew us. It's difficult for many on this side of regeneration to comprehend the inability of the lost because they judge the salvation experience by their feelings rather than the infallible Scripture. Do not misunderstand; we, as believers, surely had a desire to come to Christ by faith and it's easy to assume this is a natural feeling. However, the Bible says this desire was a gift from God.

God's Holy Word tells us that “the natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned” (1 Corinthians 2:14). Child of God, you can most certainly look back to a time when you did have a desire to know Christ in a personal way. However, you must see that the Bible affirms that this desire was not “natural”. It was not a part of your wicked heart (Jeremiah 17:9). In fact, the Scripture here tells us that you could not know the things of the Spirit of God because you naturally considered them foolish. The Spirit of God was not present inside of you in your depraved condition. But, praise the Lord, He lovingly drew you to Christ. Your faith in Christ is a super-natural gift (Ephesians 2:8)!

The Scripture surely paints a miserable picture of the natural man. Romans 8:7 says, “Because the carnal mind is enmity against God; for it is not subject to the law of God, nor indeed can be.” Perhaps man is not as bad (morally) as he could be. We know God is restraining sin. However, man is as bad off (spiritually) as he can possibly be. He is totally separated from God. He is God's enemy by nature and practice (Colossians 1:21). He cannot save himself. But, it's worse than that. He doesn't want to save himself. He is an enemy of God and rejoices in it. What can bring a person from this state to a desire to know Jesus? Simply, the grace of God! Child of God, you were surely at enmity with God. However, He drew you to Christ!

It can be so easy to base our theology on our experiences. I could easily look back to the time that I was 21 years old and became

convicted of my sins. I could easily recall my desire to know Christ and believe that this desire came from somewhere inside of me due to my conviction. Considering this, I could hold to the belief that this is something all men naturally possess. However, the Word of God tells me differently. God's Word tells me that He saved me in spite of what I wanted.

Child of God, perhaps you have never considered that God gently led you to the cross. Perhaps you have never understood that the change wrought within you was not from you. It may be that you are just now realizing that the Scripture teaches that you trust Christ today because God, in His infinite grace and mercy, lovingly drew you to Christ. Take this very moment to thank Him for His wonderful gift of faith right now.

Baptist For Liberty can be found online at

<http://baptistsforliberty.weebly.com>

You can also look us up on Facebook

Send letters to the Editor at worksjoanna@yahoo.com

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