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CREATION MUSEUM OF THE OZARKS

NO. 24

A NEWSLETTER TO PROVIDE CHRISTIANS WITH UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION ABOUT THE CREATION/EVOLUTION ISSUE AND PROGRESS ON THE CREATION MUSEUM

AN URGENT NEED

The need for more ministries such as creation museums where people of all ages can be exposed to the truths of God's word, is more urgent than ever. For example, we know from recent studies by professional researchers that up to 80% or more of young people raised in church are choosing to leave as soon as they are free to do so. But not only young people, for membership rolls over recent years are showing dramatic decreases in numbers representing adult ages in several evangelical denominations.

Let me ask the obvious question: Why are these people, both young and old, choosing to depart from meeting together with fellow believers? Apparently they are ignoring or choosing to disobey the scriptural exhortation given in Hebrews 10:25, "Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as you see the day approaching."

From this scripture we see that the problem is not new. The following context of this verse goes on to warn of the dangers of disobeying when there is knowledge of the truth, and that there should be a healthy respect and reverential fear of God's judgment to come.

This should indicate to us that something has happened with respect to believing and accepting the Bible as God's supernatural Word of truth. Simply, if we truly believe that the God of all creation is speaking to us through His Word, and we are aware of negative consequences for not believing the Word, we would surely want to obey it.

My conclusion is that people have been influenced to doubt the Bible—that is, to doubt God's Word. Satan continues to use the same tactics he used when he caused Eve to doubt God's Word in the garden. How is Satan doing this today? Mainly, he is using secular, humanistic, evolutionary philosophy and bogus so-called science. In public education students are taught that evolution is fact, and therefore a Creator and supernatural creation is nonsense.

Unfortunately, the Church by and large is not dealing with these attacks against the Word of God. In fact, they typically compromise with them. It's time for us to seek God in earnest prayer, pool the resources God has blessed us with, and support ministries that uncompromisingly teach the truth.

God bless you, Rod Butterworth

Contact Dr. Butterworth to arrange meetings with the CMOTO team for your church or group.
866-771-TRUE (8783)



"If there is really a great personal Creator God behind the meaning and origin of all things, then we urgently need to know Him and to order our lives according to His will, as revealed in His inspired Word."

Dr. John Morris, *The Young Earth*, p. 4.

Condensed from a forthcoming book by Rod Butterworth

If Adam and Eve were not real literal people then the Genesis account is not real literal history, but just symbolic or figurative. This is how some Christians have unfortunately decided to understand the creation account in general and in particular the creation of Adam and Eve. However, to do this is to find oneself in conflict with other portions of Scripture that cannot be taken allegorically or figuratively, but that speak very clearly to the literal reality of Adam and Eve. In the first five chapters of Genesis Adam is mentioned 18 times. Also, the mention of Adam in the genealogical lists plus the recording of his age when his son Seth was born (Genesis 5:3), and his age of 930 years at his death (Genesis 5:4) can only speak logically and meaningfully of literal history. The following scriptures speak of either Adam alone or Adam and Eve together as real historical figures:

Adam, Seth, Enosh, Kenan, Mahalalel, Jared, Enoch, Methuselah, Lamech, Noah (1 Chronicles 1:1).

Have I covered my transgression like Adam, by hiding my iniquity in my bosom...? (Job 31:33; NASB).

“Haven’t you read,” he [Jesus] replied, “that at the beginning the Creator ‘made them male and female,’ and said, ‘for this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh’?...” (Matthew 19:4; also Mark 10:6).

Now Jesus himself was about thirty years old when he began his ministry. He was the son, so it was thought, of Joseph...the son of Enosh, the son of Seth, the son of Adam, the son of God (Luke 3:23,38).

Nevertheless, death reigned from the time of Adam to the time of Moses, even over those who did not sin by breaking a command, as did Adam, who was a pattern of the one to come (Romans 5:14).

For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive...So it is written: “The first man Adam became a living being”, the last Adam, a life-giving spirit (1 Corinthians 15:22,45).

Enoch, the seventh from Adam, prophesied about these men (Jude 14).

The last reference from the Book of Jude is especially interesting because it not only refers to Adam as a real person, but declares that he was the first of seven consecutive generations of real literal people. Therefore, this statement from Jude allows for no gaps of missing generations in the genealogy of the first seven generations from Adam to Enoch. Many have suggested that there are missing generations in the biblical genealogies in order to try and accommodate

AFTER EDEN

by Dan Lietha



In his first attempt to be romantic, Adam merely states the obvious.

long ages of time. However, regardless of whether this has any validity in generations following Enoch or not, we certainly cannot insert millions of years into the genealogical record—it just doesn’t make sense, and is in conflict with the overall historical record and message of Scripture.

We know that Jesus supported the authority of the Old Testament and its history by quoting from it many times as recorded in the gospels. One of these occasions is particularly significant. In one of Jesus’ post resurrection appearances He joined two disciples as they were walking toward the village of Emmaus. Luke records the incident:

He said to them, “How foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that *THE PROPHETS* have spoken! Did not the Christ have to suffer these things and then enter his glory?” And *BEGINNING WITH MOSES AND ALL THE PROPHETS*, he explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning himself...

He said to them, “This is what I told you while I was still with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the *LAW OF MOSES, THE PROPHETS AND THE PSALMS*.” Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures (Luke 24:25,27,44,45).

Jesus is God, and He made it clear that the Scriptures concerning creation and the beginning of life are

to be taken literally—particularly concerning the fact of Adam and Eve being real and literal figures of history. However, some Christians, obviously influenced and intimidated by the bold assumptive pronouncements of modern science, have suggested alternative interpretations for the understanding of creation and life which depart from a literal acceptance of Scripture. One such individual, Hugh Ross, a progressive creationist writes:

Starting about 2 to 4 million years ago, God began creating man-like mammals or ‘hominids.’ These creatures stood on two feet, had large brains, and used tools. Some even buried their dead and painted on cave walls. However, they were different from us. They did not worship God or establish religious practices. In time, all these man-like creatures went extinct. Then, about 10 to 25 thousand years ago, God replaced them with Adam and Eve (*Reasons to Believe* Web site, updated July 8, 1997).

This bold presumptuous statement picturing a millions-of-years scenario is one of total conjecture, and is an obvious attempt to gain the respect, acceptance, and recognition of evolutionary scientists by accommodating the current evolutionary thinking which seeks to explain origins without God or the Bible. It suggests that God purposely and knowingly took million of years of trial and error, suffering, disease and bloodshed, to work up to the time when He finally made Adam and Eve. When the suggestion is given that **“...God REPLACED them with Adam and Eve”** (emphasis mine), it would seem to indicate and imply that God was accepting the failure of His creative experiments over millions of years up to that time. Does this view of God inspire faith in Him and faith for the future? Absolutely not! As soon as one departs from the literal account of Genesis it always produces confusing theology and erroneous science.

Some Christians have not realized that if the typical evolutionary model of gradual descent over millions of years is accepted into one’s belief system, the biblical account of Adam and Eve in Genesis as the *first humans* created at the *very beginning* of God’s creation cannot be true history. If this were the case it would cast an ominous shadow over the remainder of biblical history, which is vital because it leads to the entering into literal history of a literal Jesus into a literal town of Bethlehem about 2,000 literal years ago.

In addition, what an absolutely presumptuous and unsupportable statement in the quote above is the claim that **“...they were different from us.”** Actually, it seems to me that the description given of these supposed human-like hominids would lead one to think that they were indeed human (all ancient remains unearthed of the human-like skeletal structural taxonomy or class have proven to be either completely human or completely ape). They were intelligent, made

tools and stood upright. They were artistic, and the fact that they ceremonially buried their dead has generally been accepted by anthropologists and archaeologists to indicate religious practice, contrary to the statement above. There is abundant evidence from archaeological studies of ancient cultures that death and burial customs were highly significant religious events. The reason the writer of the above quote speculates about pre-Adamic hominids is an attempt to gain approval and acceptability from the secular world. Denying or ignoring plain biblical truth and true operational science reveals a tendency to form independent opinions that result in a confusing mixture of ideas. Both Christians, who by various unsubstantiated theories try to harmonize the Bible with faulty science, and non-Christians who are determined to explain everything without God find themselves floundering in the uncertainties of fallible human opinion.

If Adam and Eve were not literal historical people, where do we make the break from the allegorical to the empirical—from mythological historical figures to real historical figures? For example, was Noah a real historical person, or were only those who lived after him real historical people? Such thinking leads to hopeless confusion with no hope of ascertaining accurate truth. But if we accept the biblical record as written we have a foundation that is actually supported by an abundance of empirical data. If human beings were created by God starting with one male and one female with perfect physical and mental attributes, it would make sense that from the beginning there should be a continuum of history—whether oral, written or both. In other words, since God told Adam and Eve, **“Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it” (Genesis 1:28)**, and we have a record of this first pair; why not expect a record of their descendants? Of course, there is such a record in the Bible if people would only believe it.

It is interesting that even though many have been influenced to think that the biblical story of creation has been disproved by science, still there will often be a challenge such as: If Adam and Eve were the first humans on earth, where did their son Cain find his wife? Finding it impossible to come up with an actual evidence to prove that Adam and Eve were not real historical figures and the first human pair, those looking for ways to discredit the biblical record will attack other sections of the history recorded in the Bible—the origin of Cain’s wife, the longevity of early man, the Flood, the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah, Jonah and the great fish, etc.

It is important that Christians have answers to these attacks upon the historical accuracy of the Bible. For example, the matter of where Cain’s wife came from has a direct bearing upon the question of whether Adam and Eve were truly the first two humans on

earth. Since God had instructed the first pair to produce offspring and even to “...fill the earth” (Genesis 1:28), it logically means that there would have to be interbreeding of the first generation. Henry Morris explains:

In order to get this process of multiplication started, of course, at least one of Adam’s sons had to marry one of Adam’s daughters. Probably, in the first generation, all marriages were brother-sister marriages. In that early time, there were NO MUTANT GENES IN THE GENETIC SYSTEMS of any of these children, so that no genetic harm could have resulted from close marriages...during the time of Moses [about 2,500 years later], such mutations had accumulated to the point where such unions were genetically dangerous, so that incest was thenceforth prohibited in the Mosaic laws (*The Genesis Record*, 1976, p. 143,144, emphasis mine).

The answer to the question about Cain’s wife is therefore very simple—Cain married his sister. This was perfectly acceptable to God at the time but seems contrary to God’s nature in the minds of many today. The fact that about 2,500 years after the creation of Adam and Eve God instructed Moses to forbid the marriage of close blood relatives is actually convincing evidence for the existence, wisdom, and all-knowing omniscience of a Creator God. God obviously knew that because of the Fall the process of genetic deterioration had begun which affected all of creation including men’s physical bodies. He was well aware of the fact that there would come a time when marriage of close relatives could result in physical and mental abnormalities cause by degeneration of the DNA genes. The fact that our genes continue to deteriorate to this present day (evidenced by genetically inherited physical and mental abnormalities) indicates that there was a previous time when they were perfect, and this points back to the biblical literal first pair—Adam and Eve.

Another area to consider that indicates an original first pair concerns the similarity of all humankind.

The Bible teaches that all humans have descended from Adam and Eve. Referring to the Genesis creation account Acts 17:26 reads:

And He MADE FROM ONE [common origin, one source, one blood] all nations of men to settle on the face of the earth, having definitely determined [their] allotted periods of time and the fixed boundaries of their habitation (their settlements, lands, and abodes) (AMPLIFIED).

Evolutionary theory, however, implies that primitive hominids with varying degrees of human likeness arose spontaneously in different geographical locations and at different times over a period of approximately one to three million years. This type of erroneous thinking has spawned the worst kind of racism and horrific persecution of those looked upon by some as inferior races. The real truth is illustrated by the fact that if a blood transfusion is needed to save a life, it can be obtained from any of the human inhabitants on earth. Blood types are the same in all humans, which again points to the reality of an original pair.

Evolutionists have tried extremely hard to link humans with animals so as to be able to ignore the biblical account of creation. Many museum exhibits around the world have signs displayed at areas depicting the origin of humans which make statements such as: “We are animals,” or “Recognize your relative in the animal kingdom.” However, the Bible is correct biologically when it makes a clear distinction between humans and animals. For example:

“Then God said, “Let us make man IN OUR IMAGE, IN OUR LIKENESS (Genesis 1:26).

All flesh is not the same; Men have one kind of flesh, animals have another, birds another and fish another (1 Corinthians 15:39).

For the Christian the message should be clear. God is a God of variety in His creation. The Book of Genesis is the foundation of truth and tells us that we are specially created by God to have fellowship with Him, and our first ancestors were two—Adam and Eve.

FIND MORE INFORMATION AT:

www.creationmuseumOTO.org
Or call: 866-771-TRUE (8783)
Donations can be made online or sent to:
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A WORD CONCERNING FINANCIAL ACCOUNTABILITY

Financial accountability is extremely important to us. To this end *Creation Museum of the Ozarks* has obtained 501(c)(3) tax-exempt status from the IRS. Donations can be claimed as charitable giving for tax purposes. We have engaged the services of Mr. Dan Wiser, Certified Public Accountant in Springfield, Missouri.

“CREATION MATTERS”

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