



Creation Matters

A NEWSLETTER PROVIDING CHRISTIANS UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION ABOUT THE CREATION/EVOLUTION ISSUE AND THE MUSEUM AT CREATION MINISTRIES OF THE OZARKS

NO. 49

THE GIFT OF HOPE

Christians have hope for a good future. The Bible makes it clear to the reader that this physical life is not all there is to existence. Eternal destiny is to be decided by how we live and what we believe in this life. However, the person who is not a Christian does not have such a hope. In fact, some persons don't want there to be a hope. For example, philosopher Thomas Nagel writes:

"I want atheism to be true and am made uneasy by the fact that some of the most intelligent and well informed people I know are religious believers. It isn't just that I don't believe in God and naturally, hope there is no God! I don't want there to be a God; I don't want the universe to be like that" (Nagel, T., *The Last Word*, Oxford University Press, New York, 1997, p. 130).

Why does this professor want atheism to be true? I believe the root cause is because he is struggling with the sinful nature that we have all inherited from Adam. Self-centeredness and selfishness are a big part of this nature, and it leads to the desire we have all naturally had to have complete control over our lives. In the spiritual blindness of our sinful natures we would not want any God to tell us how we should live. We would even profess to believe that the Ten Commandments are too restrictive.

How sad that people like professor Nagel feel "uneasy" because of the faith and hope other people have for the future. The Scripture is familiar to most of us that says, **"The fool has said in his heart, 'There is no God'"** (Psalm 14:1). But the Christian with faith in Christ lives **"In hope of eternal life which God, who cannot lie, promised before time began"** (Titus 1:2).

Only the Holy Spirit and the power of the Word of God can change someone like professor Nagel. No matter what a person believes who visits Creation Experience Museum, our aim is to share the Christian hope with His help. RB

Contact Dr. Rod Butterworth to hold meetings at your church or group. 866-771-TRUE (8783)

Attend Our Monthly Creation Class Monday, May 14, 2012

Presenter: Dr. Rod Butterworth

AT THE MUSEUM

112 PINE STREET, STRAFFORD,
MO 65757

2ND MONDAY OF EACH MONTH

6.30—8.00 P.M.

Looking ahead:

Monday, June 11, 2012

Presenters: Curtis & Sherry Baker

You can now listen to Dr. Butterworth's keynote address given at our recent Pastors' and Church Leadership Conference online at:

CMOTO.ORG

Just click the link on the home page.

VISIT THE MUSEUM AT:

112 E. Pine Street, Strafford, MO 65757
(Just a few blocks off Interstate 44)

SPRING HOURS:

Fridays and Saturdays
10.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m.

OR BY SPECIAL APPOINTMENT

SUMMER HOURS:

AFTER JUNE 1st

Mondays, Fridays and Saturdays
10.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m.

OR BY SPECIAL APPOINTMENT

AFTER EDEN

by Dan Lietha

**ADAM'S AGE**

The recorded age of Adam (Genesis 5:5) creates a problem for those who have been influenced to believe that the creation days were vast periods of time—the day/age theory.

If day six and seven of the creation week were long periods of time, just how old was Adam really? For example, if each day of the creation week was a thousand years long, Adam could have been about 2000 years old when he died!

Question: Since the same Hebrew word for *day* is used both for the creation week and the rest of the Old Testament, when did the word “day” transition from meaning a long day to a regular 24-hour day?

SCIENCE OVER THE BIBLE?

According to the Bible, before day four of the creation week the only matter that existed in space was planet earth. The universe of the stars and galaxies as we are aware of it today did not exist until after God created the sun, moon and stars on day four.

Since the days of the creation week were normal 24-hour-days (Exodus 20:9-11), God must have created the universe either instantly or in a matter of a few hours during day four. Several times in the Old Testament God says He *stretches* out the heavens (e.g. Isaiah 42:5). While we may not yet understand exactly what this means, it surely indicates that the universe started out small and then became bigger as it was stretched out by God.

Whatever the truth is about this, we can be sure that from the Bible text itself there is absolutely no justification for vast ages of millions and billions of years before the creation week. Therefore, standard Bible exegesis totally discounts the secular science idea of vast aeons of deep universe time. “Start with the Bible” is the best advice for staying true to truth.

AFTER EDEN

by Dan Lietha

**Star wars**

“The universe is said to be expanding. Thus, when the motion picture of the universe is put into reverse, logically and mathematically it reaches a point where it is nothing (i.e., no space, not time, and no matter). So the universe literally came into being out of nothing” (Norman Geisler, *Systematic Theology*, Vol. 1, Bethany House Publishers, Bloomington, Minnesota, 2002, p. 28).

“Things which are seen were not made of things which do appear” (Hebrews 11:3).

Adam and Eve: Were They Real Historical People?

By Rod Butterworth (Continued from previous newsletter. Selection from *Did God Really Say That?*)

In addition, what an absolutely presumptuous and unsupportable statement in the quote above is the claim that “...**they were different from us.**” [Hugh Ross’ idea of pre-Adamic hominids] 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 as I said 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 any 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 laws² (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. Ham, Sarfati, and Wieland explain further:

Many people immediately reject the conclusion that Adam and Eve's sons and daughters married each other by appealing to the law against brother-sister intermarriage. Some say that you cannot marry your relation. Actually, if you don't marry your relation, you don't marry a human! A wife is related to her husband even before they marry because *all* people are descendants of Adam and Eve—all are of "one blood." The law forbidding marriage between close relatives was not given until the time of Moses (Lev. 18—20). Provided marriage was one man to one woman for life (based on Gen. 1 and 2), there was no disobedience to God's law originally when close relatives (even brothers and sisters) married each other.³

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 caused 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)...

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.

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Creation Ministries of the Ozarks (Make checks payable to "CMOTO")
c/o Secretary Treasurer
316 N. Dogwood
Strafford, MO 65757

A WORD CONCERNING FINANCIAL ACCOUNTABILITY

Financial accountability is extremely important to us. To this end *Creation Ministries 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"

You can hear the two-minute spots live on:
KWFC 89.1 FM at 10.57 a.m. in the southwest MO area CST Monday thru Friday each week coming from Springfield, MO. Or, hear previous recordings at our online radio archive anytime at: www.creationmuseumOTO.org
Now also on **KCNW 1380 AM Kansas City, 8.58 a.m. & 3.58 p.m. Monday through Friday.**