



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. 52

YOUNG EARTH OR OLD EARTH?

Many good Christians are afraid to identify themselves with the teaching that the earth is young and not billions of years old as is commonly taught. One of the main reasons for this is that they do not want to appear foolish to their ministerial, academic and professional peers who have been willing to identify themselves with the idea of an extremely old earth. Let me be plain: I believe the Bible and real empirical science reveal that the idea of an old earth is **a false idea!**

Some Christians would say, "What difference does it make. Why make an issue out of it?" But if these same Christians realized and really understood the powerful negative impact this false scientifically unsupported idea is having on our generation they would surely change their attitude and begin to boldly stand up for the truth.

Many hide behind the excuse that whether you believe in an old or young earth it is not a salvation issue, so they feel justified in keeping themselves at a safe distance from the debate. **However, surely a genuine Christian would be concerned about any influence in current society that affects people (especially the young) so powerfully that it leads them to doubt the Bible as God's inspired and true revelation to this world.**

Careful studies and surveys have shown that this is exactly what has been happening, and apparently is increasing exponentially even as I write. Young people who have been raised in conservative evangelical environments are walking away from their churches in droves once they get old enough to decide for themselves.

Let me again speak plainly: If the false teaching of millions and billions of years is a significant influence causing a person to doubt the Word of God, and thus draw them away from accepting Christ, **it does become a salvation issue.**

The truth is, when the false idea of millions and billions of years is given legitimacy in the minds of Christians, it is inevitable that some form of compromise with evolution will be in-

cluded in a world view. Evolution and millions of years are bedfellows. The Bible does not speak of millions of years or any scheme of evolution. I would encourage all Christians to stay uncompromisingly with the Bible. Read more about this subject in the rest of this issue. Thanks to all for your continued prayers and support. RB

Attend Our Monthly Creation Class Monday, September 10, 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, October 8, 2012

Presenter: Dr. Dale Scheusner

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

CMOTO.ORG

VISIT THE MUSEUM AT:

112 E. Pine Street, Strafford, MO 65757
(Just a few blocks off Interstate 44)
866-771-TRUE (8783)

FALL & WINTER HOURS:

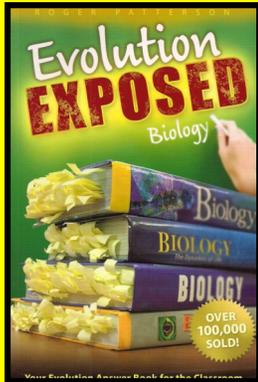
Fridays and Saturdays
10.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m.

OR BY SPECIAL APPOINTMENT

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

Monthly
Special

“Do you know
what’s really being
taught in science
class?”



This is a great
in-store buy for
those able to
visit the Crea-
tion Experience
Museum in
Strafford.

Discount Price: \$8.00

**COME VISIT OUR
RESOURCE CENTER**

WE HAVE A WIDE SELECTION OF
CREATION BOOKS, DVDs, AND
CHILDREN’S CREATION ACTIVITIES

**This has been called a
“survival guide” for students!**

“Evolution textbooks substitute
stories about how evolutionists
think evolution happened for evi-
dence that it did happen. This
thoughtful book will help students
survive abuse at the hands of evolu-
tion advocates in the classroom.”

Dr. John Morris, President
Institute for Creation Research



NO PLANTS—NO HONEY

Then God said, "Let the earth bring forth
grass, the herb that yields seed, and the fruit
tree that yields fruit according to its kind,
whose seed is in itself, on the earth"; and it was
so (Genesis 1:11).

As Charles Darwin was trying to formulate his
theory of evolution, he was mystified when thinking
about how to explain the thousands of different
kinds of plants and flowers that exist all over the
world. In fact, he called his dilemma an “abominable
mystery.” He could not discover any evidence for non-
flowering plants to evolve and begin producing
flower petals with all the amazing variety of colors
and shapes that we see today.

Also, the same problem that exists for evolution-
ists regarding the lack of transitional forms (missing
links) in the fossil record for invertebrate and verte-
brate life, also exists for the plant and flower life.
There is no fossil record of intermediate plants in the
process of changing or evolving into different plants.

Think of it! If there were no flowers there would
never have been bees to make honey from the pollen.
I would never be able to enjoy a teaspoon of honey in
my cup of hot tea. God obviously
knew what He was doing when He
created all the plant life—just like
He said of all other life that He cre-
ated—“**after their kind.**”



THE INCREDIBLE POWER OF LOVE

“You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself” (Matthew 22:37-39).

As we deal with biblical creation issues that are important to us and to the credibility and trustworthiness of the Bible, it is crucial that we not forget the most challenging of all commandments given to us by Jesus Christ. We should never be interested in merely winning arguments! We should seek the help of our Lord through His Spirit to enable us to put into practice what the Apostle Paul wrote that we should be doing: **“...but, speaking the truth in love, [you] may grow up in all things into Him who is the head—Christ—from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by what every joint supplies, according to the effective working by which every part does its share, causes growth of the body for the edifying of itself in love”** (Ephesians 4:15,16).

There is much in this one scripture that will help us when we are faced with difficult witnessing situations. At Creation Experience Museum we have found ourselves seeking to convey biblical and scientific truth to such persons as aggressive atheists and various cult members, and this might seem pretty challenging to most. But I believe it can be even more difficult to reason with professing Christians who have fallen prey to false teachings related to evolution, and who have come to accept them into their personal philosophy of belief.

Paul writes that as followers of Christ we need to **“grow up...into Christ.”** In other words, we should be growing spiritually in maturity in our relationship with Him. If we lack in this area we will not be able to do *our part* in edifying other members of the body of Christ which should be accomplished with a genuine unfeigned spirit of love.

How is this done? Simply put, it can become a reality by fostering an intimate relationship with the Lord on a daily basis—something that I suspect many professed Christians are not doing consistently. Jesus said, **“If you abide [remain] in Me, and My words abide in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you”** (John 15:7). It comes down to what many have called the basics of Christianity: The need to spend quality time with the Lord each day in prayer and feeding upon His Word.

Expressing Christian love to a fellow believer who we may discern has veered away from the truth of God’s Word, is not love if nothing is said to encourage that individual to examine what they profess. In fact, we should all be willing to continually examine what we profess to believe by putting ourselves under the searchlight of the Word of God. With His help, and by a moment-by-moment reliance upon Him in the midst of our daily encounters, we can minister truth effectively.

Today, interacting with Christians who have espoused different viewpoints regarding biblical creation, the age of the earth, and other related issues, can certainly be challenging while attempting to maintain a true spirit of Christian love. As I said above, just to feel that you have won an argument or discussion about an issue like *old earth verses young earth* is not the goal. The goal should always be to avoid building a wall of resistance between you and the person with whom you are talking. However, the challenge is to arrive at a balance without compromising with what you believe to be the truth of God’s Word. Paul writes:

“Let each one of you speak truth with his neighbor,” for we are members of one another” (Ephesians 4:25).

And James exhorts: **“So then, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath”** (James 1:19).

Also, Proverbs 27:6 certainly gives us some wise and necessary counsel with the words, **“Faithful are the wounds of a friend.”**

Well, these scriptures are clear enough, but how many of us who profess Christ are applying them in our daily lives? In plain English, what these scriptures are telling us to do is to speak the truth lovingly, even if it treads on the toes of the one to whom we are speaking. Another way to think of this is to say that **our ultimate goal is truth at all costs.** The Bible makes it clear to us that God is a God of love. Yet, because He is a God of love He tells us plainly that His love is balanced by His justice—there is a heaven and there is a hell.

The Bible also makes plain the truth that people are responsible before God for the very words they choose to speak. Jesus said, **“But I say to you that for every idle word men may speak, they will give account of it in the day of judgment”** (Matthew 12:36).

In view of these scriptures and others like them, how should those of us who identify ourselves as biblical creationists proceed to interact with professed Christians who express belief, for example, in billions of years of history? According to Proverbs 27:6 above we should be willing to “wound” them if we are a true friend. But we should trust the Lord for His help that we do so lovingly and with the right attitude. It is one thing to have a *defensive attitude* about something, but another to *defend the truth with love*.

Jude tells us in no uncertain terms what our course of action should be concerning some who have departed from the truth. He writes:

“I found it necessary to write to you exhorting you to contend earnestly for the faith which was once for all delivered to the saints” (Jude 3).

What is this **“...faith which was once for all delivered to the saints”**? At *Creation Ministries of the Ozarks* we believe it is the entirety of God’s Word, the Bible, from Genesis to Revelation. We take Proverbs 30:6 very seriously: **“Do not add to His words, Lest He rebuke you, and you be found a liar.”** Simply put, we believe the right approach to understanding the truth is to accept the inspired text of the Bible for the plain meaning of the words, just as they are written. It is not difficult in most cases to discern what the writer intended the reader to understand. Of course, we know that the Holy Spirit was the agent of God inspiring the individual writers.

We at CMOTO believe that the creation account in Genesis is very clear. In fact, we don’t see how God could have made it clearer. It stands for exactly what it means and says in plain language: The creation of this world and universe took place supernaturally about 6000 years ago in six literal approximate 24-hour days. We will stay true to God’s Word and refuse the fallible opinions of those

who try to go beyond what God has said. Peter writes:

“And above all things have fervent love for one another, for love will cover a multitude of sins” (1 Peter 4:8).

Dr. Rod Butterworth is president and founder of *Creation Ministries of the Ozarks*.



WILLING HELPERS

There is always plenty to do around a creation ministry museum. We appreciate so much willing and enthusiastic helpers like Gary B pictured below. If you live locally in the Springfield, Missouri area and would be interested in helping, we would like to invite you to visit and experience for yourself some of the activities and ministries that take place here. Perhaps the Lord might lead you to be a volunteer for Him in this ministry.



FIND MORE INFORMATION AT:

www.CMOTO.org

Or call: 866-771-TRUE (8783)

Donations can be made online or sent to:

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.**