



Think & Believe

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LIBERTY AND JUSTICE FOR ALL

by Dave and Mary Jo Nutting

When confronted with the scientific evidences surrounding the creation-evolution debate, some people respond with, "So what? What difference does it make anyway?" Over the years that we have been involved with the issue, we have become increasingly convinced that it is an important issue indeed, with both eternal and temporal ramifications.

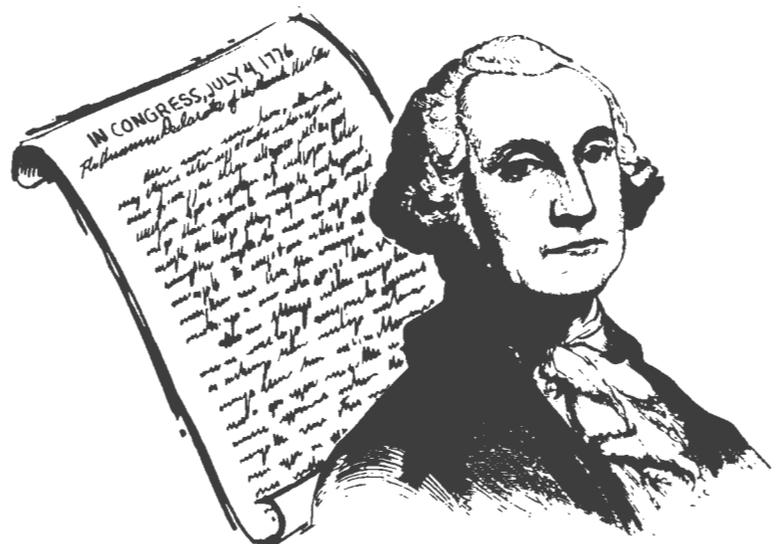
For many people, evolutionary teaching is a major stumbling block to accepting the truth of Scripture. As one student told us, "Evolution is a fact. If God can't get the first book of the Bible right, how can I expect him to get anything else right." He had a good point, didn't he? Later, this science student studied the evidence for creation, and realized the Scriptures provide a consistent explanation for origins and earth history. This gave him the confidence to trust the rest of Scripture too, and within a short time he became a Christian. Many others have given similar testimonies.

Evolutionary teaching has also proven to be a hinderance to many professing Christians by hampering their ability to accept and apply to their lives all that God has revealed in Scripture. They then become confused when dealing with the many issues facing us today. However, an understanding of the foundational nature of beliefs about origins helps dispel most of the confusion.

If indeed God is Creator, then He sets the rules; however, if life is the result of time, chance and natural processes, the only rule is survival. Humanistic evolutionary teaching leaves man without absolute standards of morality, and allows man himself to set the rules. The trouble is, when man sets the rules, he must work on the basis of limited knowledge and fallible human nature. While it may seem for awhile that people could idealistically "cooperate for the good

of all," differences of opinion are bound to arise, and when they do, someone inevitably ends up exerting his opinion upon others. This leads eventually to anarchy by the mob (as recently witnessed in Los Angeles), or tyranny by a dictatorial elite. In either case, the individual loses freedom.

Yes, God is the Creator and has the right to set the rules. However as we learn to know this Creator as the all-knowing, all-powerful God who satisfied His own perfect justice by taking the penalty of our sin upon Himself, we realize that His rules are for our own protection and provision and actually gives us freedom. Submission to God's authority brings freedom, peace and order not only to individual lives, but also to nations. "Liberty and justice for all" can only be a reality as each of us first submits to the just and loving Creator and Ruler of the Universe.



Faith of our Fathers
See Notes and Quotes

NOTES & QUOTES

■ The Founding Fathers of this country knew that true liberty and justice for all could be a reality only when a nation acknowledges God as the Creator of mankind, the Giver of individual rights, and the Ruler of the Universe. They recognized that civil order would only be possible when individuals submitted first to God and governed themselves according to His Law. The Founder's dependence on God and their acceptance of His rule are clearly seen in the early writings of this country.

● We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness. (Declaration of Independence, 1776)

● I have lived, Sir, a long time, and the longer I live, the more convincing proofs I see of this truth: "that God governs in the affairs of man." And if a sparrow cannot fall to the ground without His notice, is it probable that an empire can rise without His aid? (Benjamin Franklin in the Constitutional Convention)

■ Not only did they acknowledge the Creator, but more specifically, they recognized the Deity and Lordship of Jesus Christ and **meant** to establish this country as a distinctively Christian nation. Quote after quote from their writings demonstrate their Christian beliefs and their desire to establish a government based on Biblical Christian principles and led by Christian leaders:

● It cannot be emphasized too strongly or too often that this great nation was founded, not by religionists, but by Christians, not on religions, but on the gospel of Jesus Christ. (Patrick Henry)

● Providence has given to our people the choice of their rulers and it is the duty as well as the privilege and interest of our Christian nation to select and prefer Christians for their rulers. (John Jay, First Chief Justice of US Supreme Court)

● Everyone appointed to public office must say: "I do profess faith in God the Father and in the Lord Jesus Christ his only Son, and in the Holy Ghost, one God and Blessed forevermore; and I do acknowledge the Holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be given by divine inspiration. (Delaware Constitution, 1776)

■ For years, Congress and the Supreme Court based their decisions on such views of the Founders and upon the Bible itself.

● Our laws and our institutions must necessarily be based upon and embody the teachings of the Redeemer of mankind. It is impossible that it should be otherwise; and in this sense and to this extent our civilization and our institutions are emphatically Christian. (US Supreme Court Case, Church of the Holy Trinity v. United States, 1892) [Note: According to David Barton, in **America's Godly Heritage**, they listed **87** different precedents to prove this.]

● [Christianity] ... was the religion of the founders of the republic and they expected it to remain the religion of their descendants. The great vital and conservative element in our system is the belief of our people in the pure doctrines and divine truths of the gospel of Jesus Christ. (House Judiciary Committee, March 27, 1854 in answer to a petition to separate Christian principles from government.)

■ In this century, our country has moved rapidly away from our Christian heritage. Under the smoke screen of "separation of Church and State," Biblical Christianity has been banned from schools, and replaced with godless, evolutionary humanism. For years, evolutionary scientists have been chipping away at the creation foundation. Their pseudo-scientific philosophy has permeated the fields of influence in society: education, politics, journalism and others. When the Supreme Court declared prayer and Bible reading in the schools unconstitutional in 1962 and 1963, the floodgates were opened. In effect, the nation's leaders were telling God, "Get out of our affairs. You are no longer welcome in public life." Since then, it's been a rapid downhill slide.

■ In his video, **America's Godly Heritage**, and also in his books, **America: To Pray or Not to Pray** and **The Myth of Separation**, David Barton clearly documents the Christian heritage of this nation and demonstrates the consequences of slamming the door on God. Through more than 40 charts and graphs he illustrates the dramatic rise in things like teen pregnancies, divorce, violent crime and the precipitous fall of academic achievement since the 1962-63 rulings. Most of the above quotes have been taken from his video. We highly recommend these books and videos for anyone who is concerned about the social and moral decay in our nation today. (See enclosed offer.)

■ **God is the Creator!** He sets the rules, and when we live according to His plan, we are blessed, both individually and as a nation. "Righteousness exalts a nation, but sin is a disgrace to any people. (Proverbs 14:34)

SPOTLIGHT ON SCIENCE

Swimming in a Limited Gene Pool Could Be Hazardous to your Health

by Mark McCalmon*

I've just finished reading a confusing article from the National Wildlife Federation magazine. It seems, because of close inbreeding, captive animals are losing "genetic variety" and, according to the article, "a species without enough variety-- the raw material of evolution-- may be doomed."

The article also indicated that wild species could be likewise "doomed." With the loss of habitat, "most of the natural world is becoming a mega-zoo; the numbers of so many species are so small and the populations so fragmented that they will suffer the same problem as captive populations," according to conservation biologist Thomas Foose of the International Captive Breeding Specialists Group. Foose also states, "Within a few decades, between 2000 and 2500 terrestrial vertebrates will be in trouble" -- "in large part," according to the article, "because of a loss of genetic diversity." "Without genetic variation they are highly susceptible to disease or environmental change."

So what's the confusion? If the natural process known as "genetic drift erases some gene forms from the population" with each generation and, according to zoologist, Georgina Mace, of the Zoological Society of London, "Loss of genetic variation is inevitable in small populations," how could evolution occur in small isolated populations as Stephen J. Gould would have us to believe?

We see the scientific facts: the loss of genetic information and extinction; and the science fiction: increased genetic information and speciation. Which are we to believe? Though I do indeed desire to become a being of higher intelligence, I don't believe I would take a dip in the limited gene pool, lest I become extinct.

(*Mark lives in Overland Park, KS, and has attended Alpha Omega's Camp Redcloud Family Mountain Adventure.)

[Editor's Note: Several years ago, our biologist guide at the San Diego Zoo lamented that a major problem with captive breeding programs is that continual inbreeding leads to lack of vitality because of the limited genetic variability. Despite this observable data, many evolutionists continue to support the idea that evolution takes place in isolated gene pools. Whatever happened to observational, reality-based science?]

Extrapolation

According to Webster's Dictionary, extrapolation is estimating or inferring beyond the known range on the basis of certain variables within the known range. Statistical formulas have been derived which indicate the probability that the estimate is reliable based on characteristics of the known data. Generally, to carry much weight statistically, extrapolation must be within a close range and based on large sample sizes. We find it amusing, then, to see the wild extrapolations often used by evolutionists.

The assumption generally used to justify such extrapolations is the idea popularized by Hutton in the late 1700's called the "Principle of Uniformity," or the idea that "The present is the key to the past." This concept can get us into trouble when we assume that present rates and intensities have remained unchanged for thousands or millions of years. For example, the ages of sedimentary rocks have been estimated by extrapolation from known sedimentation rates, the age of the oceans has been estimated based on the rate at which salt is accumulating in the oceans today, and the age of the moon was determined based on the accumulation of meteoritic dust. Numerous other examples could be given from geology, biology, and physics, since the method is so common.

The main problem with all of these methods based on extrapolation is that the basic assumption is unprovable -- we can never know **for sure** that the rate or intensity of a process has been constant throughout the period of time proposed by evolutionists for the age of the earth and universe. A major catastrophe may have greatly increased both the rate and intensity, throwing off the calculations, or even "re-setting" the clock in some instances.

A thorough grasp of the underlying assumptions involved is extremely important when dealing with any method for dating the earth. Unfortunately, most students never consider these assumptions, and blithely accept the dating methods as accurate or even "absolute."

As creationists, we realize that every dating method relies on certain assumptions which may or may not be accurate. Scientifically we can never "prove" how old the earth is, though using the same methods as long-age evolutionists, we can point to a variety of measurements which seem to indicate that the earth is quite young. Well then, how can we be sure? -- Only through the testimony of a reliable witness.

EVENTS

(Call local contact for time and place.)

July 17-19: Los Angeles, CA, Teen Track, State Convention, California Home Educators. Contact 714-537-5121.

July 29: Grand Mesa High School Camp

Contact us: 303-245-5906

Aug 9-14: Twin Peaks Family Science Adventure

A full creation seminar for the whole family plus time to explore western Colorado's famous dinosaur country, Colorado National Monument, and beautiful Grand Mesa.

Contact us: 303-245-5906.

Aug 16-21: Redcloud Family Mountain Adventure

An action-packed week of mountain activities plus a full creation seminar in Colorado's beautiful San Juan Mountains near Lake City, CO. Contact us: 303-245-5906.

Aug 24-28: ICR Summer Institute/Summit Ministries

In-depth week of creation teaching with Dr. Duane Gish, Dr. Richard Bliss, and the Nuttings in historic Manitou Springs, CO. Contact Summit Ministries, 719-685-9103.

Aug 31-Sept 4: YWAM Discipleship Training School,

High Park Ranch, Cimarron, CO. Contact 303-249-7004.

Sept 20-Oct 19: Northwestern Circuit, Montana, Idaho,

Washington and Oregon. Details TBA. Call immediately if you would like to have a seminar in your church or school. 303-245-5906.

Oct 24: Breckenridge, CO, Colorado Christian Convention.

Booth and workshops. Call Rick Rusaw, 303-776-2927.

PLEASE KEEP THIS SCHEDULE AND PRAY FOR US!

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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

AMERICA'S GODLY HERITAGE

The biggest roadblock we have to getting into more public schools is the cry, "Separation of Church and State." Many Americans falsely believe that it is unconstitutional to teach even the science relating to creation in the public schools, even without the Biblical account. Americans, we need to wake up! As a nation, we have been robbed of our godly heritage and duped into believing a lie.

David Barton in the video, **America's Godly Heritage**, clearly sets forth the beliefs of many of the famous Founding Fathers concerning the proper role of Christian principles in education, in government, and in the public affairs of the nation. He quotes from numerous court cases demonstrating that for 160 years Christian principles were officially and legally inseparable from American public life, and then graphically displays statistics showing what has happened to America since the courts have begun rejecting the Founders' beliefs.

This video is a real eye-opener! **YOU NEED TO SEE IT!** We highly recommend it for use in homes, churches, and schools. We'd encourage you to buy several and loan them to as many people as possible, and especially to teachers, school board members, and other public officials.

Two companion books, **The Myth of Separation** and **America: To Pray or Not to Pray**, contain the same basic information plus much more. They are helpful, quick references to supplement the video.

Special Offer:

If you order **America's Godly Heritage** (\$20.00) and **The Myth of Separation** (\$8.00) at the regular price before September 15, we will include **America: To Pray or Not to Pray** (regularly \$7.00) free! (Please include \$2.00 for shipping. Colorado residents add 3% state sales tax.)

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- America's Godly Heritage -- Get this Video!**