



Think & Believe

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Teach Them the Truth

(by *Dave and Mary Jo Nutting*)

Psalm 111:10 says, "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom." Unfortunately, everywhere children go, they are hit with evolutionary teaching—in school, on TV, in books, in museums, sometimes even in church. Parents have a big job to counteract this powerful anti-God indoctrination. How do you do it?

Parents and teachers first need to be informed themselves to accurately present the truth of Creation to their children. It is vital to prayerfully and diligently study God's Word for yourself. As you submit to the Holy Spirit, He Himself will be your Teacher and show you "great and wonderful things which you do not know." (Jer. 33:3). Let Him also lead you to other people and resources to help you understand the scientific aspects of the topic.

As you are learning, you can share with your children what God is teaching you. You don't need to be a rocket scientist to do this. What you need most is to believe God's Word and trust Him to help you. As you grow in your own knowledge and relationship with God, it will be natural for you to talk freely with your children about God as our Creator and about our dependence upon Him.

Start early. Young children can readily understand that it took a Maker to create the world and everything in it. Help them learn to distinguish between things that God made, things that people made, and things that are the result of chance and accidents.

Talk to them about the truth of God's Word; that "in the beginning" there were no people around, so the only way we can know for sure what really happened is for God

to tell us. Help them understand that Genesis is not just a "story," but real history. Teach them to love and honor God and His Word, and to give thanks to Him in all things.

In addition, use opportunities that come up naturally to discuss evolution. Help children understand that some people don't believe God's account of creation and that they believe an idea called evolution. Teach your children to recognize evolutionary teaching. Help them learn to distinguish between facts and assumptions; between artwork and evidence, and between observation and imagination.

Make sure they understand that science is an activity that people do to try to understand the world they live in. Science is not bad; in fact it is very useful in helping us to fulfill God's command to "subdue the earth and have dominion over every living thing." (Gen. 1:28) Science can help us discover better ways to take care of the Earth God created for us; however, science is limited. It cannot really tell us what happened in the past. In addition, science is always changing, because people are always learning new things; but the Word of the Lord endures forever.

Finally, introduce your children to some of the many excellent books and videos available. Bring them to Alpha Omega's creation seminars, camps, and Vacation Bible Schools! Perhaps you can even make plans to attend AOI's Creation Training Center some time in the future.

It's a big job to train children in the ways of the Lord, but worth every minute and penny. Our world is actively seeking to discredit the truth of God's Word and destroy our faith in God. Colossians 2:8 says, "See to it no one takes you captive." By the grace of God, you and your children can "shine as 'lights' "in the midst of a "crooked and perverse nation." (Phil. 2:15) Stand firm!



Notes & Quotes

■ We got a chuckle out of this article. Sorry we couldn't track down the original author. (Let us know if you know!) Makes you wonder what Noah REALLY went through!

Noah in the 90's

(Author Unknown)

And the Lord spoke to Noah and said: "In six months I'm going to make it rain until the whole earth is covered with water and all the evil people are destroyed. But I want to save a few good people, and two of every kind of living thing on the planet. I am ordering you to build Me an Ark."

And in a flash of lightning He delivered the specifications for an Ark.

"OK," said Noah, trembling in fear and fumbling with the blueprints.

"Six months, and it starts to rain," thundered the Lord. "You'd better have my Ark completed, or learn how to swim for a very long time."

And six months passed. The skies began to cloud up and rain began to fall.

The Lord saw that Noah was sitting in his front yard, weeping. And there was no Ark. "Noah," shouted the Lord, "where is my Ark?" A lightning bolt crashed into the ground next to Noah.

"Lord, please forgive me!" begged Noah. "I did my best. But there were big problems. First, I had to get a building permit for the Ark construction project, and your plans didn't meet code. So I had to hire an engineer to redraw the plans. Then I got into a big fight over whether or not the Ark needed a fire sprinkler system. My neighbors objected, claiming I was violating zoning by building the Ark in my front yard, so I had to get a variance from the city planning commission.

"Then I had a big problem getting enough wood for the Ark because there was a ban on cutting trees to save the Spotted Owl. I had to convince U.S. Fish and Wildlife that I needed the wood to save the owls. But they wouldn't let me catch any owls. So no owls. Then the carpenters formed a union and went out on strike. I had to negotiate a settlement with the National Labor Relations Board before anyone would pick up a saw or a hammer. Now we have 16 carpenters going on the boat, and still no owls.

"Then I started gathering up animals, and got sued by an animal rights group. They objected to me taking only two of each kind. Just when I got the suit dismissed, EPA notified me that I couldn't complete the Ark without filing an environmental impact statement on your proposed flood.

They didn't take kindly to the idea that they had no jurisdiction over the conduct of a Supreme Being. Then the Army Corps of Engineers wanted a map of the proposed new flood plain. I sent them a globe.

"Right now I'm still trying to resolve a complaint from the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission over how many Croatians I'm supposed to hire, the IRS has seized all my assets claiming I'm trying to avoid paying taxes by leaving the country, and I just got a notice from the state about owing some kind of use tax. I really don't think I can finish your Ark for at least another five years," Noah wailed.

The sky began to clear. The sun began to shine. A rainbow arched across the sky.

Noah looked up and smiled. "You mean you're not going to destroy the earth?" Noah asked, hopefully.

"No," said the Lord sadly. "Government already has."

■ Pray that we fare better than poor old Noah did in this imaginative exposition! No, we're not building an Ark, but we are proceeding with development of the Training Center announced in the last issue of T & B. (Check it out if you missed it.) Fortunately, in my personal dealings with building departments, even though the codes can be very stringent, I have found the people to be very helpful. As a do-it-yourselfer, I appreciated that! Please pray that God will give us favor in the eyes of the authorities and that our relationship with them will be one of helpful cooperation. (DIN)

** Valuable New Book **

Henry Morris' new book, *That Their Words May Be Used Against Them*, provides abundant evidence against evolution and for creation. Note what Dr. Morris says in the Foreword:

"One of the reasons why I became a creationist many years ago was the fact that I began reading books and articles written by evolutionists. ... my reading in the evolutionary books and articles convinced me that evolutionism was nothing but a philosophical belief with no scientific proof whatever. ... As much as anything, therefore, the evolutionary literature convinced me of the necessary truth of primeval special creation. This, of course, was also what I had found the Bible to teach."

This book consists of 3500 quotes from Dr. Morris' personal collection painstakingly gathered over the past 50 years. It is a valuable resource for students and anyone else involved in the creation-evolution debate. (Available from AOI for \$25.00 including S/H.)

Spotlight On Science

New Theory on the Origin of Life

Just when you think it's proven, someone changes the "facts." When I was in school, it was the current "fact" that life popped into existence from lightning zapping the air. The lightning produced amino acids, the building blocks of life. These got together to form proteins which in turn got friendly with many other chance products of nature and (presto!) produced the first living cell. It was all very simple, albeit loaded with scientific difficulty. (The difficulties weren't mentioned in the textbooks.) Now they are saying that wasn't a fact -- just a theory with many holes.

How can a fact so easily be demoted to a mere, disease-ridden theory? Its because there is a new theory in the neighborhood. Old naturalistic theories are clung to even though scientists know they don't work until a "better" non-supernatural theory emerges. Newspaper headlines stated it like this: "In the goo below lie primordial secrets," and "Life may have originated in the sludge at the bottom of the sea, scientists say." The idea is that deep in the ocean in underwater volcanic vent systems or possibly in ancient geyser basins like at Yellowstone National Park, the chemicals for the first amino acids and other essential ingredients for life cooked in a hot primordial soup. After just the right amount of incubation, life crawled out of the gooey ooze.

Even though this sounds like something out of the late night horror movies, and even though most of the problems that plagued the first theory are not answered by the new one, one article called this theory of life the theory for the 21st century. I wonder if they will tell students that the chance of evolving even a single bacteria naturalistically by accident is one chance in the number 1 followed by 100 billion zeros (*Sky & Telescope*, June 1997). Not too likely, is it? More likely, the books won't choose to disclose this pertinent information. If this theory 'incubates' long enough, no doubt school children in a few years will be memorizing this new origin of life scenario as the latest fad "fact." That will leave old guys like me back in the dark ages with our outdated, memorized "facts." I wonder when the "fact" of evolution is going to become one of those "crazy ideas" of the past?

Science is always changing, isn't it? But remember, when it comes to this kind of speculation, it is not even science. It is nothing but a philosophy of how we got here. Wouldn't it be just as scientific to say, "In the beginning, God created the heaven and the earth?" Wow! What a phenomenal idea!

Brain Dead??

Evolutionists have told us that we must be "brain dead" to believe in creation. They say, "All reputable scientists believe in evolution." Actually, many competent scientists do NOT accept evolution. Instead, they recognize that the natural world clearly shows evidence of a great Creator, just like it says in Romans 1.

Talking about being brain dead, did you catch the television program regarding research on the last few seconds before death? I know this is not a very real pleasant topic, but it shows how evolution is given credit for all sorts of things that should instead give honor and glory to God. Since I don't watch TV, I have to rely on what several people have told me.

Apparently, researchers have discovered that just prior to death, certain chemicals are released in the brain. These chemicals supposedly produce a pleasant sensation, making death a pleasant experience. (It's easy to see how this will be used to support euthanasia and assisted suicide, isn't it?) They attributed near-death experiences of people who say, "I see Jesus coming for me," as nothing but a psychological phenomenon produced by these chemicals. (I wonder what chemical causes some people to have the opposite reaction and be so terrified by what they see that if they don't die, they live for Jesus the rest of their life?)

Here is where the researchers on the TV program crossed over to what we would call a "brain dead" idea. They said that this phenomenon was produced and refined by evolution. **Wait a minute!** How could evolution and natural selection (survival of the fittest) have had any effect on the production of chemicals to give sweet sensations at death? Natural selection supposedly preserves favored genes. Those with the favored genes are more likely to survive and reproduce more offspring. Since there is no reproduction after death, how could a gene producing chemicals at death be favored?

If this research is correct and there really is such a system that produces sweet sensations in the final seconds, it is likely one more signature of a loving Creator who designed and cares for us in every detail. Perhaps it is also a physical reminder of Psalm 23:4-5 -- "*Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me. Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.*" !

The Back Page...

** Upcoming Events **

(N=Nutting; J=Johnson; S=Stepanek)

Please pray for these events. Thanks!

Aug 4-8: Pittsburgh, PA: International Conf on Creationism (N)

Contact Bob Harsh 412-452-9670

Aug 9-14: Lake City, CO: Redcloud Family Mtn. Adventure I (NJS)

Contact AOI 970-523-9943

Aug 16-21: Lake City, CO: Redcloud Family Mtn. Adventure II (NJS)

Contact AOI 970-523-9943

Sep 10-18: ICR Yellowstone Tour (N)

Contact ICR 619-448-0900

Sep 27-Oct 8: Oregon Speaking Trip (N)

Contact our office 970-523-9943

Oct 10: Tulsa, OK: Tulsa Creation Symposium (N)

Contact Tom Sharp 1-888-578-7884

Late Sep - Oct: Speaking Trip to Kansas & Nebraska (JS)

Contact our office 970-523-9943 (Still a few open dates)

** Training Center Update **

In the last issue of **Think & Believe**, we announced that 60 beautiful acres of land are being donated to AOI for a Creation Training and Retreat Center. The Center will provide instruction and hands-on experience for individuals desiring to do creation-based ministry in churches and schools both at home and abroad. It will also provide a secluded setting where youth groups, families, couples, pastors, teachers, etc. can spend time learning and getting to know their Creator.

It is thrilling to see people's excitement about this project. A project manager and a crew of volunteers including engineers, architects, surveyors, & a botanist are already at work. Others are offering their services.

As soon as necessary permits are received, we will be needing builders, electricians, plumbers, landscapers, road builders, and lots of other willing workers as well as all sorts of materials and supplies. Would you like to help? Many hands for even a little bit of time can accomplish great things. (P.S. Some of you have said you'd like to help with a training center. Well now's the time. Call us!)

You Can Help!

1. PRAY! PRAY! PRAY!
2. Call if you have connections with a foundation or granting agency which might help financially.
3. Donate to get this project off the ground. It takes \$\$ for planning, permits, and other initial expenses.
4. Please continue with your on-going support to keep AOI's current ministries in full swing and the bill collec-

** Prayer and Praise **

- Praise God for the hundreds of children and adults who have attended creation camps and VBS this summer. Pray for lasting fruit.
- Pray for health and stamina for AOI staff as they complete the busy summer schedule.
- Pray for wisdom and open doors in scheduling classes and seminars for fall and on into 1999.
- Praise God for progress on the Training Manual. Pray for grace to complete the project.

Would you like to host an exciting
"Discover Creation" seminar in your area?
Contact us for more information.
970-523-9443

** 1998 Creation Vacations ** LAST CALL!

Gorgeous Colorado Mountain Setting
Creation Teaching for Children and Adults
Horses, Canoeing, Fishing, Ropes Course,
Rappelling, Mountain Bikes, 4 Wheel Drive Trips.



HURRY!
JUST A FEW OPENINGS!
Camp Redcloud, Lake City, CO
Aug 9-14 or Aug 16-21
Don't Miss Out!
Call TODAY!

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