

Think & Believe

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“Race” and Politics

by *Dave and Mary Jo Nutting*

With the election campaign in full swing, we anticipate a very common question at our seminars this fall: “How do you explain the origin of the races?” Our answer to this question almost got us tarred and feathered one time. We had said that all “races” originated from Adam and Eve, and more recently from Noah and his family. Therefore, we aren’t so distant from our black brothers and sisters. Whew! Some of those in attendance didn’t want to hear that! It was a small church, but at that point the door really looked a long ways away! In this issue of T&B, we risk re-opening the bucket of tar and feathers and look at some Biblical and scientific topics relating to the origin of “races” and how we see “race” playing into the current “political race.”

Prejudice and judgments based on race, culture, and customs have long divided human beings. This has resulted in hatred, discrimination, conflict, wars, and even genocide. What is the root of these problems? Perhaps it’s because we have forgotten our Creator; we have forgotten our origin from one man and one woman; we have forgotten that we are all of “one blood;” and we have forgotten Jesus’ command to “love your neighbor as yourself.” In addition, racism received additional impetus and scientific respectability with the widespread acceptance of Darwinism.

Darwin’s book, **On the Origin of Species**, set off a whirlwind.

Few people realize that the subtitle of Darwin’s famous book was: **The Preservation of Favored Races in the Struggle for Survival**, nor do they know Darwin’s racist beliefs expressed in his later book, **The Descent of Man**. Few understand the impact of Darwinism on the spread of racism in modern times, including large-scale genocide in Australia, Rwanda, and, most commonly known, in Hitler’s Germany. For the most part, modern-day neo-Darwinists deny or distance themselves from Darwin’s racist views. Such views are not popular in today’s climate of “diversity,” “multi-culturalism,” and “tolerance,” and yet Darwin’s legacy and the blight of racism continues to our day.

Our founding fathers sought to establish a government based on fundamental Biblical truths. Therefore, our founding documents reflect that we are all **created equal** and endowed by our **Creator** with certain inalienable rights. Very little

is said in Scripture about “race” as we use the term today. Instead, God’s Word focuses on faith, character, and actions. It distinguishes between the wise and the foolish, the godly and the ungodly, the righteous and the unrighteous, the just and the unjust. God’s desire is

for people of every nation, tribe, and language, regardless of skin color, to worship and follow Him.

But the thorny question remains, what place does “race” play in the current political “race?” While some will vote for or against a candidate simply on the basis of skin color (including those who merely vote to demonstrate their “impartiality”), we urge you to look more deeply. This presidential race should not be about external characteristics, but about fundamental beliefs, expressed, not in rhetoric, but in actions. We encourage you to seek the Lord in prayer for an understanding of each candidate’s fundamental beliefs. Do they reflect Biblical values? Do they really

support the value that all people are **created equal and in the image of God** – regardless of race, sex, or age (including the unborn)?

No matter who is elected in November, we still long for the Biblical promise of a new heaven and a new earth where righteousness dwells (2 Peter 3:13). In the

meantime and in this day, may we all bow to our Creator and extend His work here on Earth as we let Him rule our hearts, minds, and actions. **T&B**

[Note: AOI as an organization does not endorse specific candidates.]



Gems From Genesis

How Did All the Skin Colors Arise?

by Mary Jo Nutting

A common question of skeptics of the Bible and even of some Bible-believing Christians is, "If we all came from Adam and Eve, why are there so many different skin colors?" There is a good answer, which is consistent with both the Bible and with well-known genetic principles. I will deal with the genetic principles on the next page, but let's review here the Biblical foundations for answering this question.

The early chapters of Genesis reveal the following things about the origin and early history of mankind:

1. Man was made in the image of God as a special creation – distinct from the animals.
2. Adam and Eve were the first two people of the human race.

3. Eve is called the "mother of all living."
4. Adam and Eve obeyed the command to be fruitful, multiply, and fill the earth.
5. Their descendents also obeyed this command.
6. God judged the world by a Flood because of wickedness.
7. Only Noah's family was saved.
8. God renewed his command to be fruitful, multiply, and fill the earth.
9. The whole earth was populated from the 3 sons of Noah.
10. Mankind multiplied but wanted to stay together.
11. The whole earth had one language and one speech.
12. God confused the languages, causing people to scatter out over the earth.

So, according to the Bible, all people have come from the

same two original parents; thus, we are all related. The various "races" came from the Dispersion. People did not descend from different types of apes (as Darwin taught) or even from a common ape-like ancestor as modern evolutionists teach today.

In Acts 17:26 we also read, "And He [God] has made from one blood every nation of men to dwell on all the face of the earth." And in that most familiar verse, John 3:16, we read, "For God so loved the world that whosoever believes. . . ." There

is only one Savior, there is only one way to the Father . . . for all mankind, regardless of skin color. **T&B**



Book Review: Darwin's Plantation

by Dave Nutting

Was Darwin a racist? Even though he was an abolitionist, most seem to agree that by today's standards, he certainly held racist views. You be the judge:

1. **The Origin of Species** is subtitled **The Preservation of Favoured Races in the Struggle for Life**,
2. A summary of some of Darwin's points from **The Descent of Man** include:
 - a. Humans are divided into sub-species (known as races)
 - b. Blacks and Aborigines are sub-species between Apes and Caucasians
 - c. Inferior races will be driven to extinction
 - d. Different sub-species have different characteristics, such as

mental capabilities

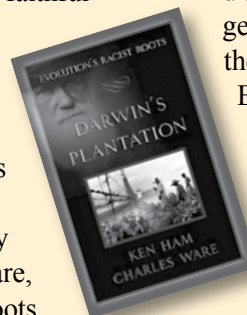
- e. Weak individuals should prefer not to marry in order to help the evolution of man.

Regardless of what the faithful followers of Darwin say, it is obvious how these ideas from Darwin's writings certainly contributed to many atrocities in the name of evolution.

Darwin's Plantation, by Ken Ham and Charles Ware, clearly shows the racist roots of Darwinian evolutionism and the devastating consequences when this philosophy is put into action. The book opens with the gripping account of Ota, a bushman from Central Africa

whose family and friends were massacred because of evolutionary racism. Later, Ota was actually exhibited in a zoo in New York. Charles Ware gives examples of how evolution became the scientific justification for racism, discrimination, euthanasia, and even genocide. Then, Ken Ham discusses the true origin of the species from a Biblical and scientific viewpoint.

The book ends with a note of hope on how Christians can be involved in bridging the gap through true Biblical knowledge, grace, and compassion. We highly recommend this clear and understandable book which offers solutions to a very complex topic. (Available from AOI for \$14.00. Free shipping and handling if ordered before November 15, 2008.) **T&B**



The Origin of the Races

by Mary Jo Nutting

The explanation of the origin of “races” is given by simple genetic principles. (For those of you who freaked out in high school biology, hang in there! I will try my best to make this understandable. Geneticists, please bear with the simplification!) All right, here we go!

Our “looks” are determined by genes. Genes coding for a particular trait (like skin color) can come in a variety of forms called “alleles.” Sometimes these alleles appear to be of equal strength, and a blending of the trait is found in the offspring. Often, however, one of these alleles is “stronger” than another. The “stronger” allele is called “dominant;” the “weaker” is called

“recessive.” Genes coding for dominant characteristics are usually expressed in a shorthand abbreviation as a capital letter (e.g. A or B), while recessives are expressed by a corresponding lower case letter (e.g. a or b).

Now, how does all this relate to skin color and the question of the origin of races? Although various factors moderate and impact skin tones, skin color is primarily determined by the amount and distribution of the pigment, melanin, which is present in the skin.

Melanin comes in two different forms, controlled by different alleles. For simplicity here, we will designate them A and a, B, and b. Darkness is determined by the number of dominant alleles in the offspring. Thus, if the genetic combination turns out to be AABB, skin color would be darkest dark. If it is AaBa, skin color is medium. If it is aabb, skin color would be lightest light.

Geneticists use a chart called a “Punnett Square” to illustrate the way in which these alleles can be distributed during sexual reproduction. The Punnett Square basically shows all the possible ways in which dominant and recessive alleles from father and mother can combine in their offspring. It gives a simplified way of predicting statistically what to expect as shown in the illustrations.

Now let’s explore what could happen when reproduction takes place. Note the 3 examples in Figures 1, 2,

and 3. In Figure 1, we see what happens if both parents have the genes necessary to produce the darkest dark skin color (AABB). Their offspring could inherit ONLY “A” or “B” varieties of the genes (not “a” or “b”).

Hence, all of their children would be very dark. Likewise, if two parents had the “aabb” combination (not illustrated), their offspring could inherit ONLY “a” or “b,” and all of them would be very light.

Figure 2 shows what happens when one parent is very dark and the other very light. All children will have medium skin color.

Things get very interesting if both parents have the AaBb combination, though. Figure 3 shows the possible combinations for their children. These two medium-skinned parents

could have children with skin colors ranging all the way from darkest dark to lightest light – in one family, in one generation! It doesn’t take millions of years or differing ancestry. It only takes the right combination of genes to begin with.

So why do some populations seem to have most people someplace in the middle? One way would be if the founders of a population both had the AaBb combination. Their children

would then all be of the AaBb skin type. The situation would be similar if two parents with aaBB got together. All of their children would be of the aaBB type. (Homework assignment: Make your own Punnett Squares to illustrate various combinations to see what would happen.)

Using the principles above, we could infer that both Adam and Eve probably had types AaBb, which gives the greatest possible variation in their children. It is likely that there was quite a genetic mixture among the human population, up through the time of the Flood until the Tower of Babel. After that, as family groups spread out

due to the confusion of languages, certain skin colorations might have become “set” within a family (or tribe) due to inbreeding. Isn’t it fun to see how modern science continues to confirm and shed light on the Truth of God’s Word? His

Word and His World agree! For more information, read *The Answers Book*, *Of One Blood*, and *Darwin’s Plantation* (all by Ken Ham); and *Creation: The Facts of Life* (by Dr. Gary Parker). **T&B**

Both Parents Darkest Dark: AABB x AABB

	AB	AB	AB	AB
AB	AA BB	AA BB	AA BB	AA BB
AB	AA BB	AA BB	AA BB	AA BB
AB	AA BB	AA BB	AA BB	AA BB
AB	AA BB	AA BB	AA BB	AA BB

All offspring are darkest dark.

Figure 1

**One Parent Darkest Dark: AABB
Other Parent Lightest Light: aabb**

	AB	AB	AB	AB
ab	Aa Bb	Aa Bb	Aa Bb	Aa Bb
ab	Aa Bb	Aa Bb	Aa Bb	Aa Bb
ab	Aa Bb	Aa Bb	Aa Bb	Aa Bb
ab	Aa Bb	Aa Bb	Aa Bb	Aa Bb

All offspring would be medium-colored.

Figure 2

Both Parents Medium with AaBb x AaBb

	AB	Ab	aB	ab
AB	AA BB	Aa Bb	Aa BB	Aa Bb
Ab	AA Bb	AA bb	Aa Bb	Aa bb
aB	Aa BB	Aa Bb	aa BB	aa Bb
ab	Aa Bb	Aa bb	aa Bb	aa bb

Dark (AABB), Medium (AaBb or aaBB)
Lightest Light (aabb)

Figure 3

Directors' Column

by Dave & Mary Jo Nutting



Fall is in the air, school is back in session, and our speakers are busy with their fall speaking schedules. Sometimes we all get tired of the heavy “on the road” schedule, but we know that students all over this land (and around the world) are still being taught that evolution is “science.” If creation is referred to at all, it is usually referred to as “religion” or “myth.”

The truth is that evolution is just as “religious” as creation. It requires lots of faith in time, chance, and natural processes! On the other hand, true science is consistent with the Biblical account, and we think it takes less faith to believe in the one powerful Creator than in millions of years of chance and accident.

We encourage you this fall to equip

students (and their parents and teachers) with a “different pair of glasses.” Talk with them about what is being taught in school. Make sure they have books and DVDs that give them answers to the evolutionary indoctrination. Bring them to a creation seminar in your area. And most importantly, pray for them to have a personal and growing relationship with God through faith in Jesus Christ.

You can make a difference. Through your personal involvement and through your support of creation ministries like AOI, you can help students, parents, and teachers stand for truth in a world that is inundated with lies and deception. *Since election years are particularly hard on ministries, please remember us.* May God bless you as you stand firmly on the Truth of His Word and share it with others. **T&B**

Plan Ahead!



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Creation Family Mountain Adventures

Redcloud 2009:
(August 2-7 and 9-14)

Upcoming Events

G= Galbraith, J=Johnson, N=Nutting, S=Stepanek

- 9/20, Preston, ID, Grace Fellowship, Pastor Bill Bagley, 208-852-3452 S
- 9/24, 9/28-10/1, Inkom, ID, Inkom Comm. Bible, Pastor Russ Blair, 208-775-4420 S
- 9/26, Downey, ID, Marsh Valley Bible Church, Pastor Steve Millermon 208-897-5124 S
- 9/27, Greeley, CO, Awana Leadership Training, Dave Farmer, (970) 434-6803, J
- 9/27-28, La Pine, OR, Cascade Bible, Jack Ebner, (970) 536-9310 N
- 9/30, Redding, CA, Trinity Lutheran Church, Stace Rollefson, (530) 221-6686 N, G
- 10/5, American Falls, ID, Congregational Church, Gary Howard 208-226-2520 S
- 10/5, Blackfoot, ID, Calvary Bible Church, Pastor Justin Gort, 208-785-4490 S
- 10/5-6, Littleton, CO, Red Rocks Fellowship, Jodi Shepard, (303) 954-8404 J
- 10/5, Eureka, CA, Sequoia Bible Church, Daniel Oriesenga, (707) 443-1372, N, G
- 10/6-10, Idaho Falls, ID, Phil Hartung S (Pending)
- 10/7, Greeley, CO, Awana Leadership Training, Dave Farmer, (970) 207-0826, J
- 10/8, Santa Rosa, CA, Rincon Valley Christian School, Stephanie W, (707) 539-1486, N, G
- 10/8-10, Franklin, NE, Franklin Missionary Church, Bryan Balasa, (308) 425-3163, J
- 10/9, Santa Rosa, CA, Santa Rosa Junior College, Jeremy Writebol, (707) 332-8279, N, G
- 10/9, Sebastopol, CA, Anala High School, Kyle Waggoner, (707) 823-8556, N, G
- 10/10, Windsor, CA, Windsor Christian Academy, Tad Thies, (707) 838-3757, N
- 10/10, Santa Rosa, CA, Christian Family Fellowship, Steve Wadleigh, (707) 571-0245, N, G
- 10/11, Idaho Falls, ID, Awana Conference, Jerry Berheim, 208-590-2282 S
- 10/12, Windsor, CA, Windsor First Baptist Church, Lance Wallace, (707) 838-6694, N, G
- 10/12-13, McCook, NE, McCook Evangelical-Free, Bruce Lester, (308) 345-1661, J
- 10/12, Soda Springs, ID, Soda Springs Baptist, David Zimmerman, 208-547-2530 S
- 10/13-17, Sandy, UT, Frank Mylar, 801-943-1213 S (Pending)
- 10/15-17, Gothenburg, NE, Gothenburg Evangelical Free, Rick Rehmer, (308) 537-2261, J
- 10/16, Taylorville, UT, Intermountain Baptist, Pastor Dean Shriver, 801-969-1593 S
- 10/18-19, Springville, UT, Grace Bible Church, Pastor Ben Cline, 801-491-8440 S
- 10/19-20, Lexington, NE, Lexington Evangelical Free, Duane Russel, (308) 324-3825, J
- 10/21-23, Broken Bow, NE, Lillian Church of Christ, Rodger Sloan, (303) 872-2618, J
- 10/26-27, Hamlet, NE, Hamlet Union Church, Rod & Joy Wheeler, (308) 872-2618, J
- 10/28, Iowa City, IA, University of Iowa, (319) 335-3500, N
- 10/28, Brush, CO, Riverview Christian School, Dave Mitchell, (303) 709-0220, J
- 11/2-3, Anoka, MN, Gracelife Church, Cass Shell, (763) 422-1482, N
- 11/4, Minneapolis, MN, University of Minnesota, Jonathan Bislew, (612) 644-0422, N
- 11/4, St. Cloud, MN, St. Cloud State, Atwood Memorial Center, (612) 644-0422, N
- 11/9, Farmington, MN, The River Community, Michael Ambrust, (651) 460-6570, N
- 11/9, South St. Paul, MN, Miracle Center, Dr. Tom Jestus, (651) 457-4338, N
- 11/9-10, Vernal, UT, Calvary Chapel, Bob Barton, 435-789-6834 S
- 11/11, DeKalb, IL, Northern Illinois University, Tom May, (815) 519-5214, N

Creation Resources Make Great Gifts!

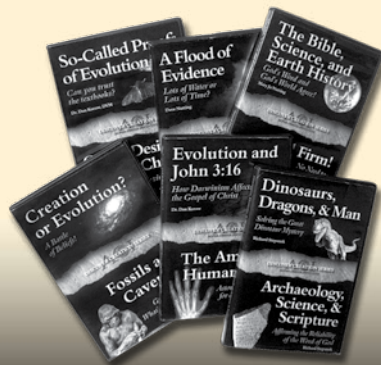
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