

Discover Creation...Worship the Creator

A Publication of Alpha Omega Institute

January/February, 2011; Vol. 29, No.1

# Released from the Burden of Evolution

by Dave Nutting

while Mary Jo and I were speaking at the University of Minnesota, a young lady from China shared a testimony with us that really struck home. She said she had attended our programs last year and they made a very real impact on her. She told us, "I've been released from the

## "I've been released from the burden of evolution!"

I can't think of a better way to put it. She hit the nail right on the head! Evolution is indeed a heavy burden. It keeps young and old alike from responding to the Gospel or from growing in their faith and relationship with God. Her response fits so well with others who told us, "I was relieved to know I can believe the Bible."

Another encouraging report came from a high school teen on the same speaking trip. She asked to give a testimony before our presentations at a Youth for Christ Rally in Minnesota. She told how one year before she was really struggling and on the brink of losing her faith in God because of all the evolutionary teaching she was receiving. However, she said that the presentations Mary Jo and I gave one year ago "changed all of that." She was thankful to have heard the truth of Creation! Praise the Lord! She too was "released from the burden of evolution!"

We have heard many other

testimonies of how God has used creation teaching to remove stumbling-blocks to faith. A longtime favorite was from a man in Estes Park, Colorado, He told us that he was an atheist when he came to one of our presentations seven years earlier. He said, "The evidence you presented blew my mind. I'm not sure you know it, but you are leaving a trail of blown minds across the country." No, we weren't using TNT, but in reality, the truth is dynamite in releasing people from the burden of evolution. Jesus said, "You shall know the Truth and the Truth shall make you free." (John 8:32)

Other AOI speakers have the joy of seeing the same thing. As Richard Stepanek reported in his Oct 12.

2010, AOI blog, "The teaching at Crawford, NE also went very well. On Sunday morning, I presented my intelligent design program along with Biblical evidence that Jesus is the Intelligent Designer (Creator). I finished with a Gospel

message and my own testimony. God blessed the service with

some of the adults trusting Christ as Savior. Praise the Lord!"

Yes, praise the Lord! People are being released as the Truth is shared! Sometimes we hear right away about God bringing the fruit – sometimes we don't hear until much later – sometimes we don't hear at all, but we trust that seeds are being planted, and some are taking root and growing. For that we are grateful!

Keep praying that many others will be released to believe! Pray further that with the heavy weight taken off, they will flourish and grow in a deep relationship with their Creator.

If you would like to be part of releasing students or adults to believe, please contact us. We need your help in your community!

> Please help spread the message - plant some seed. Contact us about further training and resources. Even if you don't think you're ready to talk with a university professor, perhaps you can share with children or forward our articles to others. Young and old alike are literally being crushed by the burden of evolutionary

indoctrination. The word needs to get out and you can help!



### Fertile Soil by Lanny Johnson

All of the AOI speakers minister to thousands of people every year both in groups and one-to-one. Because of the traveling nature of AOI's ministry, we share for a brief time, but then travel down the road to a new event. Mostly, all we are able to do is plant a seed of truth and encouragement, and pray that it falls on fertile soil. The Holy Spirit does the rest.

Occasionally, we are blessed to learn about an impact we had on the lives of individuals. Here is one of numerous examples: Several years ago, after a family Awana program, I was answering the questions of many youth. Standing at the edge of the group was a man probably in his thirties. A nonbeliever, he aggressively peppered me with questions about sea floor spreading and continental drift. His contention was the evidence pointed to an evolutionary old earth. Amazingly, I was well armed for his arguments ... just the month

before I had written a KT&B Too article on that very subject. (http://www.discovercreation.org/kids/documents/MarandApr2001KTB.pdf) After that evening, I shared

with my wife my "encounter" with this man, expressing, "I don't think he believed a thing I talked about tonight."

About two years later, we returned to the

same church for another program. The pastor asked, "Do you remember the man that heatedly argued with you the last time you were here? His mother, who was the only believer in the family, wanted him to accompany her that night. Reluctantly, he agreed. I had been trying to share with him for weeks, but was always met with a closed heart. I am not sure what you shared with him that night, but something struck home. Two weeks after you left, this hard-hearted man gave his life to the Lord! Since that time, he has become one of our church's strongest evangelists. Not only did he end up leading all

of his family to the Lord, but he is also reaching out to the whole community. Today he is a strong believer in Biblical creation. Something you said

really got through to him."

We were blessed to be told about this man's salvation. I know we only played a small part in this happening. It was not

my words that saved him, but the message of those words. It was the work of the Holy Spirit that actually led him to Christ. However, it is encouraging to know that even when we don't recognize it, a lot of fertile soil is out there ready for the seed of truth to be planted.

[This is taken and shortened from Lanny's blog (November 4, 2010). It really illustrates being "Released from the Burden of Evolution." The front page article also has elements from our blog. For those who are not regular visitors to AOI's website (I can't imagine not doing so!), I hope this entices you to go to our site for the blog which shares the personal side of this ministry, and for crucial articles for you to use to fortify your family and reach others.

– Dave Nutting]

#### **DVD: Dragons or Dinosaurs?**

Review by Dave Nutting

frequently trapped by evolution starting with their fascination with dinosaurs. Kids and adults, alike, need to be released from the burden that dinosaurs prove evolution. This DVD about dinosaurs can do it like no other I've seen.

The publisher writes:

his is a must have! Kids are

"Dragon images, legends and lore exist all over the world in many different cultures. But what if dragons were actually dinosaurs? Dinosaurs are often used to discredit the Bible. so what if

their existence actually helps prove its veracity? DRAG-ONS OR DINOSAURS? answers these and other questions that surround this controversial theory." This DVD is EXCELLENT! Your family needs to have it! This profession-

ally-produced, movie-grade documentary has footage showing many (plus many more!) of the pictures I use in my Dinosaur and Dragons seminar presentation establishing the dinosaur-dragon connection.

Many top creation scientists and well-known Bible scholars from around the world give their perspectives of dinosaurs, other

dinosaurs, other creation issues, and the truth of the Bible. Good for kids—adult. Available from AOI for S

from AOI for \$20 plus shipping and handling.

#### **Appendix - Not "Useless Junk"**

by Dave Nutting

We are amazed at the number of high school and college students who are still being taught that our appendix is a useless leftover from evolution. This "proof" for evolution then becomes part of the students' rationale for rejecting Creation and the Bible.

The teachers who present this false notion certainly haven't done their homework. It has long been known of its importance for immunity in the lower digestive track. Lesser known, but just as important, are two other functions.

The appendix is

already functioning in the developing baby at 11 weeks. At this stage it produces endocrine cells which then produce hormones which **Appendix** are pertinent to the baby's development. One might say this is limited function since it is such short term use; however, so is the umbilical cord! We likely wouldn't be here without the appendix, the umbilical cord, and the myriad of other important parts and systems which operate in that stage of life!

The appendix has now also been shown to keep us healthy in adult life. According to Journal of Theoretical Biology [249(4):826–831, 2007], the appendix is a "safe harbor" for the beneficial bacteria in our digestive track. After serious bouts of diarrhea

which clear the digestive track,

the appendix then restocks the track with these crucial bacteria to maintain health.

University students frequently tell us that people can live a perfectly good life without the appendix; therefore it is useless. Sorry, that argument doesn't fly! People can also

live a good life without one or two of their arms, legs, or eyes. Just because we can "get by" without them, doesn't mean they have no value.

Please help get the word out! Email the following links or copy the whole articles on that link and email/Facebook it to your friends, family, and teachers. http://www.DiscoverCreation.org/newsletters/appendix.htm

## **Dark Ages of Evolution**

ary Jo and I frequently hear the "scare tactic" that if Creation teaching were ever allowed back into the classroom, it would send science back

into the "Dark Ages." This, of course, is a lot of hype to scare parents, school boards, and lawmakers into thinking that only evolution should be taught.

I think it is evolutionary indoctrination that smacks of "Dark Age" philosophy and has kept science from advancing – especially in the area of medical research.

Think about the previous article on this page. For years, it was taught that the appendix was an evolutionary leftover. Hence many researchers never bothered to find its all-important functions. When I had an infection in my appendix, they told me it wasn't necessary (useless) and consequently removed it rather than treating it. Who knows? If people weren't burdened by evolutionary philosophy, perhaps they would have researched alternate methods to treat it.

Another well known example, which could qualify as medical malpractice due to evolutionary

ideas, was the routine removal of tonsils in children. Survey adults of my age and you will find that most of them have had their tonsils removed. Some were removed having only a hint of infection. (I am certainly glad they didn't remove my hand when I had an infected cut on it!) If you survey the younger generation, you will find that most still have their tonsils. The reason is that in my day, evolutionary bias that the tonsils were useless evolutionary leftovers prevailed. Fortunately some researchers cut through the evolutionary darkness and found that the tonsils are valuable in immunity. Therefore, doctors are less likely to remove them today.

Other organs, such as the thymus, pituitary gland (master gland of the body!) and over 100 other parts of the human body were considered leftovers and could have resulted in additional medical malpractice based on evolution. Virtually all of the "leftovers" have now been shown to have an important use.

If you hear that something is a useless evolutionary leftover, avoid the evolutionary dark ages, and think as a creation scientist: "It was created by God, so it likely has a function."

#### **Director's Column**

by Dave Nutting



Sooooo Easy! On page 3 of this issue, we included a web link to two of our articles in hopes that you

will pass them on. Think about it. It would be soooo easy for you to be an active part of this ministry. In a few minutes you can type the link or even copy the article from our web and paste into an email and send it out to your friends encouraging them to do the same. Within days the truth will get into the hands of thousands more people

than we can reach through our seminars and Think & Believe. WOW! This is a huge return for your investment of a couple of minutes.

You can also paste the link into Facebook®, Twitter®, etc. Within minutes you will reach a huge number of people. You may never know how many students and adults will be reached because you, as an active part of this ministry, extended the outreach by forwarding the link. Just think, who will be "released from the burden of evolution" because you took the time to forward a link? Who is on the verge of losing their faith that will grab hold of the truth? How about giving it a try right now?



**Our creation family camps** are extremely helpful in helping you fortify your family with the Truth of Creation. For many, our camps have been foundational for building their children's faith. For some, it has given a solid platform for families to launch out in a creation ministry to others. Join us this year as we celebrate 25 years of Creation Family Camps at Redcloud. AOI does not own the camp, but there has got to be a reason we and our participants keep coming back year after year! Find out the secret! Give it a try this year!

#### **Upcoming Events**

During the first part of 2011, our speakers are scheduled in Colorado (Dove Creek, Parachute, Grand Junction, Fruita), Texas (Sherman, Austin, San Antonio, Houston, etc.), New Mexico (Gallup and TBA), Nebraska, Minnesota, and Wyoming (Pinedale, Jackson, etc.). Rich Stepanek will be ministering for a full month in the country of India. Please pray for these events and notify others if they are in these areas. (See website for details.)

# Help Expand the Ministry

Twice in this issue we asked you to forward a link to an article to your friends, family or teachers. You can do this by email, Twitter®, Facebook®, or? We anticipate this will greatly expand AOI's ministry and get the message out to thousands of young people and adults across the globe. You may be the one who helps others keep from being indoctrinated into evolution! This is very IMPORTANT.

#### **Training May 23-27**

Would you like some training to become better equipped to share the creation message with children, teens, or adults? Contact us about an upcoming Training Week or Internship possibility. (See www. DiscoverCreation.org/Training for more information.)

# Please support the ministry of AOI.

If you see the importance of this ministry, please support AOI generously throughout 2011! Children and adults are struggling with their faith because of evolutionary teaching. Together, we can make a difference!



