Evolutionism, World War 1, and the Prince of Peace
By Dr. David Demick

The year 2014 saw the start of centenary observances of World War 1. Lectures, writings, films, and battlefield tours, continued for almost five years until June 28, 2019 – the centenary of the Treaty of Versailles, which ended the fighting. Much was said in these observances about the war itself, but little about what started it. Virtually nothing was said, in particular, about the role of Darwinist politics in causing the war.

Dr. Henry Morris in his landmark book *The Long War Against God* includes analyses by several historians who found a relationship between social Darwinism and the late 1800s politics of national and racial supremacy. This included a constant refrain of “survival of the fittest” to justify imperialism and warfare. It was Darwinist ideology that set the stage for the savage, fight-to-the-finish atrocities which raged until Europe had exhausted itself – along with its supply of young men.

One historian noted: “...in every European nation between 1870 and 1914 there was a war party demanding armaments, an individualist party demanding ruthless competition, an imperialist party demanding a free hand over backward peoples, a socialist party demanding the conquest of power, and a racialist party demanding internal purges against aliens – all of them, when appeals to greed and glory failed, or even before, invoked Spenser and Darwin, which was to say, science incarnate...Race was biological, it was sociological, it was Darwinian.”

Because of its unprecedented horror, it was hoped that the First World War would be “The War to End All Wars.” Sadly, it was not. Someday, however, the Battle of Armageddon will end ungodly, violent world rule and bring the reign of Jesus the Prince of Peace. “He maketh wars to cease unto the end of the earth; he breaketh the bow, and putteth the spear in sunder; he burneth the chariot in the fire...And he shall judge among the nations, and shall rebuke many people: and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more. (Psalms 46:9, Isaiah 2:4).”

World War 1 Christmas Truce by Dave Nutting

With the celebration of the holidays, we frequently take more time for reflection and find our thoughts turning to friends, family, faith, and fellowman. During these times, it is good to remind ourselves that, even though we live in a fallen world, God can still bestow blessings.

History marks a special event during the initial year of World War 1 where a spontaneous truce occurred between German and British soldiers. On Christmas Eve, all was quiet. Then, instead of artillery or rifle fire, singing was heard. From the trenches, soldiers on both sides began singing Christmas carols. As Christmas day dawned, it was reported that soldiers on both sides cautiously emerged from their trenches to engage the enemy in friendship. In the no-man’s land, soccer games and even gift exchanges ensued. Along some sections of the lines, the truce lasted through New Year’s Day. In other parts, however, it was only hours before the shooting resumed.

It is so sad that these soldiers could lay down their differences, enjoy each other’s company, and then be firing at one another shortly afterward. What an unusual scenario! While this show of goodwill was instigated by the remembrance of Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace, the drive for Darwinian-type supremacy (see Dr. Demick’s article on page one) forced many a reluctant soldier back to his post.

Mary Jo and I have had the privilege to speak on creation in many foreign lands and we’ve always enjoyed meeting the people. I remember watching one family of four like ours. They were very friendly even though we could not speak their language. What troubled me, though, was the realization that given a ruthless leader (perhaps fueled by Darwinian racial politics), the boys in this family could someday be forced to perform acts of violence or terrorism – aimed directly or indirectly at our own kids.

While we are thankful for periods of relative peace and moments of providential reprieve, we live with the tension of life in a world affected by sin. We long for the day that the Prince of Peace will reign and the whole world will be blessed with His truth, authority, and justice!

Think & Believe
November/December, 2019
www.DiscoverCreation.org

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Johnsons blessed by response to Gospel

It was an exhausting year, but we were blessed to see 39 children and youth respond to the gospel of Jesus Christ this summer. We also are encouraged by testimonies like these:

“One of the reasons I became an atheist was because I didn’t believe in the Bible, but after hearing what Mr. Johnson shared this morning, I am seriously doubting my unbelief. I would like to learn more about this Messiah he was talking about.”

Another young man told me that he had heard me speak back in 2015. At that time, he was a junior in high school and had only recently become a believer. “The subjects you spoke on four years ago answered a lot of questions about creation that I was still struggling with. Because of that, my faith was tremendously strengthened and I am an avid creationist today.”

Praise God! It’s great when people start “doubting their unbelief!” Yes! Creation teaching makes a difference!

Nuttings train guides in Costa Rica

We praise God for continued opportunities to share the wonders of God’s creation and the truth of His Word wherever people will listen. Highlights this year include:

- Teaching creation in Israel and watching the kids get excited by the amazing evidence that validates God’s Word;
- Training tour guides in Costa Rica – seeing the lights come on for them and watching them grapple with how to include evidences of design in their tours; and
- Watching participants get excited by the amazing geysers – the beauty of the sites, and the wonderful wildlife they saw on our back-to-back tours of Yellowstone. One of the biggest highlights, though, was hearing from a Yellowstone tour participant: “…the Yellowstone sights were amazing, but the teaching on creation was transforming.” Praise God! That’s what we like to hear!

Scott Mauser shares in local schools

What stands out most to me from 2019 are the recent opportunities in local public high schools where I engaged with approximately 150 students for 1½ hours. Most of the attendees were either unbelievers or unsure in their faith. I had the occasion, through my life experiences and apologetics, to show them the viability and reliability of Christianity in an age where few even see it as a viable option. I even had one atheist return to faith after further discussion.

Praise God! It was also exhilarating to teach on dinosaurs at a large conference for church workers in Phoenix. I plan to do an additional talk on flood geology this year.

College and kids keep Marianis busy

We are very thankful that we have been blessed with another happy and full year. As a young family, we have made special memories ministering on cross-country trips to visit family and to share the truth with churches and individuals along the way. Brian has had some great conversations with students as we continue to build our college ministry outreach. Our little family of five added a new puppy in September and is excited to add a new little baby this December! Life is busy but we encourage you too, to make the most of it for God’s glory!

Stepaneks: "Genesis strengthens faith"

It is always good to hear how teaching on Genesis and creation has changed peoples’ lives. Recently, a couple shared these words with us concerning the expository teaching of Genesis and how it correlates to scientific evidence: “I had read Genesis many times, but never like this! All of a sudden, each verse and sometimes each word, was being analyzed in context and scope. Genesis finally made sense! And more importantly, it was easily believable! It has been truly amazing to see scripture come alive and absolutely strengthen our faith! We are so thankful for the ministry and the many lives you have touched, including ours!”
Have you read the ministry highlights on the inside of this issue? If not, please do so. We think you will be encouraged to hear praises and testimonies from the AOI speaking staff. In addition, we’d like you to think about this message from Gail, on the “home front.”

“Because I am the office manager, I am not exposed to the people the speakers come into contact with. However, I do get to hear the stories of children accepting Jesus as Lord and Savior; how, after a presentation, a participant will come up to one of the speakers and tell them how their talk impacted their life.

We wish you a very special Thanksgiving and Christmas season! Remember the Prince of Peace as you celebrate!

Costa Rica Creation Adventure March 1-11, 2020

Combine a once-in-a-lifetime experience with creation teaching! You will be amazed by the beauty, design, and culture of this Latin American paradise. Whether you’re active or can barely walk, there’s something for all ages and abilities.

Camp Witness, NE

Creation family program + activities

• May 22-25, 2020

(Friday PM through Monday lunch) Call to sign up or for more information.

If you are a supporter of AOI, thank you sooooo much! We really appreciate your standing alongside us in bringing the Truth to churches, schools, university campuses, and wherever people will listen. All these efforts take place because you, our supporters, are concerned enough to get behind this ministry. Since year-end giving is crucial to AOI’s ministry, please consider giving generously as this year draws to a close. You are an important part of helping us reach students and adults in 2020! God bless you and have a great, God-centered Thanksgiving and Christmas.

Alpha Omega Institute • PO Box 4343 • Grand Junction, CO • 81502 • (800) 377-1923 • www.DiscoverCreation.org

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