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**Merry Christmas to all from the San Antonio Bible Based Science Association.** We wish all of you to experience the warmth of this season, with good fellowship with family and friends. We also pray that while we are getting and wrapping gifts, as well as partying with friends and loved ones, that we remember that it was the gift of the Christ child from our God which is the reason for the season. And remember also that it was a gift with a promise, that this child would sacrifice himself for us all. It is a respect for our Lord’s sacrifice for us that is behind all we do at SABBSA to honor His word and His creation.

The Bible tells us that Christ’s birth was announced to shepherds and that they would find the baby with a sign. He would be wrapped in swaddling clothes. Swaddling clothes were strips of cloth. They were carried by travelers for many reasons. But, two of them related to the fact that traveling was dangerous in those times and mortality high. Swaddling strips could be used to wrap wounds or to wrap the body of someone who died. Such strips would not be used to clothe a newborn unless nothing else was available. Thus, this was a significant sign for the shepherds and an even greater one for us. It was not accidental that the clothing Christ was first wrapped in foretold of the suffering and death he would bear for our sins. Let us remember Him this Christmas season for what He has done for us!

This month’s **Communiqué** includes an article on the latest way evolutionists are trying to answer for the **Cambrian Explosion**. We will examine how this new idea does not even begin to explain this deadly shortcoming for evolutionary theory. We also have an article where evolutionary scientists now proclaim that **record snowfalls** that we are now experiencing are a sign of **global warming**. We will examine the fallacy of such arguments. Finally, we have an article inspired by **Answers in Genesis** which examines how the modern church is abandoning biblical doctrine, compromising with New Age beliefs and how its congregants may be the most illiterate on what the Bible says in American history.

Of course we also have a full run down of creation presentation opportunities coming up in the greater San Antonio area. We hope this newsletter blesses you and yours during this joyous holiday season.

**US scientists may have resolved 'Darwin's dilemma'**

**Editor’s Note: This article, reported on FOXNEWS, shows an incredibly feeble attempt by secularists to explain the unexplainable by naturalism. We will detail its flaws after you read the news release.**

Charles Darwin worried about a possible hole in his theory of evolution, but some American scientists may just have plugged it. For about a billion years after the dawn of life on Earth, organisms didn't evolve all that much.

Then about 600 million years ago came the "Cambrian explosion." Everything changed relatively quickly, with all kinds of plants and animals emerging—which doesn't quite seem to fit with Darwin's theory of slow change, hence "Darwin's dilemma." Now, within a few days of each other, two new studies have appeared that could explain the shift. ABC News reports that scientists at Yale and the Georgia Institute of Technology, suggests that oxygen levels may have been far less plentiful in the atmosphere prior to the Cambrian explosion than experts had thought.

The air may only have been 0.1% oxygen, which couldn't sustain today's complex organisms, indicating a shift had to happen before the "explosion" could take place.

In a separate study, a University of Texas professor explains where that oxygen burst may have come from: a major tectonic shift. Based on geological evidence, Ian Dalziel believes what is now North America remained attached to the supercontinent Gondwanaland until the early Cambrian period, in contrast with current belief, which has the separation occurring earlier.

That shift would have put more oxygen into the atmosphere, per a press release, and brought nutrient-rich water from the deep ocean to shallow waters, helping to foster new life forms.

**Editor’s Note: This article tries to do many things and accomplishes none of them. The first thing it tries to do is explain away the “oxygen paradox” in nature. You see, we and most life on earth need oxygen to live. However, if life evolved naturally three billion years ago in an organic soup, then the oxygen we depend on could not be there since it would not allow for any of the chemical reactions necessary for the building of amino acids.**

**The scientists in this study are claiming that the early Earth had virtually no free oxygen and thus would allow for the accidental creation of life by its absence and would also inhibit such life from becoming complex due to the lack of oxygen.**

**Problem is that the data does not in any way conform to this theory. The data they are relying on for low oxygen levels in the Precambrian environment is “cherry picked” data. Which means they only looked at results which supported the theory they wish to be true and ignored other data which shows that there has been a large oxygen content in our atmosphere from the creation of the world.**

**Even if we give them that early Earth oxygen levels were low or nonexistent, this study does not even begin to answer the question of how complex organisms and almost all the major body forms we see today “sprang up” in the fossil record fully formed with no hint of transitional forms beneath them or even any types of complex life in the strata below. The Cambrian Explosion, as it always has, points to a massive creation of life in a very short period of time which conforms perfectly with the Bible’s creation account and is damning for evolutionary theory!**

# Global warming proven by snow? Scientists make their case

**Chris Woodward   (OneNewsNow.com) Friday, November 21, 2014**

**Claims continue that cold and snowy weather can occur in global warming but one principal research scientist begs to differ.**Dr. Roy Spencer, principal research scientist at the University of Alabama in Huntsville, says both sides of the debate use climate models. The global-warming believers, he says, use models that include both warming and cooling, and water vapor evaporating from the ocean surface.

**Spencer**

"When it's all said and done," he says, "the climate models end up saying that there should be less snow, not more."

One example of the cold-weather-proves-global-warming argument comes from the The Los Angeles Times in a story published on Wednesday. That article focuses on the massive lake-effect snowstorm in Buffalo.

The Washington Post published a blog in January making a case for cold weather during global warming. Atmospheric scientist Katharine Hayhoe told OneNewsNow in 2014 that cold and snowy weather can occur in global warming.

She explained at the time: "When the earth gets warmer, more water evaporates into the atmosphere. Warmer air holds more water, and if you look around the planet, our humidity at a global scale has increased already by over four percent. So, there is more water up in the air. That's why our rainfalls are often getting more extreme, especially in the warmer part of the country, because there is much more water in the air. Well, what happens when it's below freezing? It gets dumped out as snow."

Spencer tells OneNewsNow, however, that you can't have it both ways.

It's well known that if man-made global warming is happening, it's happening slowly, he says, and it's probably stronger during the winter months.

"And we have seen winters warm somewhat since the 1970s, but what that's going to lead to is generally less snow," Spencer further explains. " You can't claim that global warming is causing more snow. It just doesn't work that way. Yet those that promote the whole global warming fear-mongering point of view, they try to blame everything on global warming."

**Editor’s Note: According to global warming theorists we should also be experiencing unusually violent hurricane seasons, and yet the last two years have been two of the mildest hurricane seasons ion record??In another conundrum, their models both say that we should have more violent storms and more rainfall, but they also blame current droughts on global warming. Which is it???**

**Indeed, the truth is as we have said here before is that while we have experienced warming trends on the Earth both in the last 200 years and most recently in the last three decades, the data suggests that this phenomena is more closely tied to sunspot activity that to any human effects. That point is underscored by the fact that during the last 16 years we have poured more carbon into our atmosphere than any time in human history and yet the temperature of the planet during that period is unchanged and in fact we experienced a “global cooling period” from 1998 to 2008. This story illustrates the frenzy of how warming alarmists will blame any and all things on global warming and how divorced their claims are from the data. This is very analogous to the evidence we see presented for evolutionary theory.**

The following article was adapted from and added to from an article on the **Answers in Genesis** website on the topic of the state of the church in America. To read their full article, go to https://answersingenesis.org/christianity/church/state-of-church-in-america/

# State of the Church in America

The doctrine of the American church has historically been largely based on the Scriptures. Since they believed that Scripture was the ultimate authority, it was Scripture that dictated what they were to believe. For that reason, the fundamentals of Christian doctrine were firmly accepted and a high standard of morality permeated churches and, by extension, much of the culture. 1

## An Alarming New Trend

*AMERICAN CHURCHGOERS OF TODAY DO NOT UNDERSTAND WHAT THE BIBLE BEING GOD’S WORD ACTUALLY MEANS.*

Today, while many churches and denominations still give lip service to the old creeds and catechisms, the state of the American church shows that they interpret these affirmations of truth in a much different way than did generations before them. According to a Lifeway survey, eight out of ten churchgoers in America think that the Bible is God’s Word and that it is accurate.[2](https://answersingenesis.org/christianity/church/state-of-church-in-america/#fn_2) While on the surface, this looks like a great statistic, a closer look into churches shows that American churchgoers of today do not understand what the Bible being God’s Word actually means.

Scripture is clear that the Bible is to be our standard for living (*2 Timothy 3:16*,*John 17:17*,*Psalm 119:142*). Yet, according to a Pew Forum survey, only four in ten churchgoers rely on the Bible and religious teaching to determine right from wrong.[3](https://answersingenesis.org/christianity/church/state-of-church-in-america/#fn_3) Instead, nearly half rely on their own common sense and experience. Sadly, not even half of churchgoers read their Bible outside of church! The result of this biblical illiteracy is a staggering decline in belief in traditional, biblical doctrines and rampant immorality. For example, one of the foundational doctrines of the Christian faith is that salvation is found in Christ alone (*Acts 4:12*,*Romans 10:9*,*Ephesians 2:8–9*) and yet the Lifeway and Pew Forum surveys show that as many as eight in ten Christians who attend mainline denominations think that other religions can lead to God and four out of ten think that salvation can be achieved by works.[4](https://answersingenesis.org/christianity/church/state-of-church-in-america/#fn_4) Obviously, many churches are largely no longer basing their thinking on the Word of God.

This shift from the Bible as the foundation for theology and doctrine has also led to the Bible no longer shaping the church’s morality. According to a Barna Group survey nearly four in ten Christians think that abortion is morally acceptable, well over half think that cohabitation (living together before marriage) is fine, and a significant minority have no problem with pornography.[5](https://answersingenesis.org/christianity/church/state-of-church-in-america/#fn_5)And these are just some of the completely unbiblical moral views within the church!

*A STRONG STAND ON BOTH BIBLICAL DOCTRINE AND BIBLICAL MORALITY GO HAND IN HAND.*

It makes perfect sense that a strong stand on both biblical doctrine and biblical morality go hand in hand. *James 2:20* says that “faith without works is dead.” Real faith is believing in the person and work of Jesus Christ. James says that faith is accompanied by works, and a lack of works demonstrates a dead faith. Jesus also said “a tree is known by its fruit” (*Matthew 12:33*). It should be obvious then that a strong stand on the fundamental doctrines of the faith, as revealed in Scripture, will be demonstrated by a strong stand on biblical morality. A significant decline in one most likely includes a decline in the other.

According to research done by America’s Research Group and published in AIG’s book, *Already Gone*, two-thirds of young people are deserting the church and often the faith. This is largely because they began to doubt the accuracy of the Bible and their lingering questions were never answered. The church has drifted away from its biblical moorings and the next generation is recognizing the hypocrisy and bailing out.

These alarming statistics highlight a problem that is pervasive across denominations. Christians do not know what the Bible teaches and what they believe. Theology has become a pick-and-choose based on what feels right and comfortable, not on what God’s Word actually teaches. This change has come because we have rejected the authority of God’s Word in many areas. Instead of allowing God’s Word to dictate our beliefs and practices, we have allowed the humanistic philosophy that man determines truth to be our guide. The tragic result of this compromise is a quick slide downwards into utterly wrong theology, rampant immorality, and the hesitation to call anything wrong.

The old catechisms of churches highlighted that “the supreme judge, by which all controversies of religion are to be determined, and all decrees of councils, opinions of ancient writers, doctrines of men, and private spirits, are to be examined, and in whose sentence we are to rest, can be no other but the Holy Scripture delivered by the Spirit.” In other words, Scripture alone was to be the authority. Sadly, this is no longer true for American church as a whole. Instead of allowing the Scriptures to be our ultimate authority, we have added man’s words from outside Scripture into the pages of Scripture. This is largely evident in Genesis where God’s Word clearly teaches that He created everything fully formed and functional in six, literal, 24-hour days around 6,000 years ago. However, man’s evolutionary and old-earth ideas teach the exact opposite and, rather than accepting God’s Words, the church has largely adopted man’s words. Ideas completely outside of Scripture have been forced into it, instead of allowing the Scriptures to be the measure of truth. Of course, as can be expected, compromising God’s Word with man’s didn’t just stay confined to *Genesis 1–11*. It is spreading all throughout the Bible and the results are disastrous. After all, if God’s Word isn’t true in the beginning, where does it begin to teach the truth? Sadly, this has resulted in many who simply do not trust the Bible.

In the two decades following the removal of prayer and Bible reading from the public schools in the 1960s along with a rapid expansion of the teaching of evolution in those same years we saw massive deteriorations in our society. During the two decades following the 1960’s we saw the nations’ divorce rate increase by 100%, drug use increased 500%, violent crimes increased 350%, unwed pregnancies climbed 500%, standardized test scores dropped for 18 years in a row, premarital sex zoomed up by 1000% and suicide increased by 250%.6 These effects continue to sky rocket up to this day. A return to our moral past and roots is not only good reverence of the Bible, it is essential to the both the preservations and re-establishment of our way of life.

*WE NEED TO BASE OUR THINKING ON GOD’S WORD IN EVERY AREA AND TEACH OUR YOUNG PEOPLE TO DO THE SAME.*

So what should the church do about this? We need to get back to our foundation! After all, we can only be the salt we are called to be if we are still salty (*Matthew 5:13*). We need to be bold in proclaiming God’s truth to this generation, the church, and to our lost culture. So many churches have compromised on biblical teaching, especially in Genesis. But Genesis lays the foundation for every biblical doctrine from why Jesus is the only Savior to why abortion is wrong. We need to base our thinking on God’s Word in every area and teach our young people to do the same. It is God’s Word—not man’s humanistic philosophies—that is “living and powerful, sharper than any two-edged sword” (*Hebrews 4:12*) and that is “truth” (*John 17:17*). As God’s church, let’s uncompromisingly proclaim the Word and the gospel “that is the power of God unto salvation” (*Romans 1:16*).

## Footnotes

1. See “[The Westminster Confession of Faith](http://www.pcaac.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/11/WCFScriptureProofs.pdf)” and “[The Philadelphia Confession of Faith](http://www.spurgeon.org/~phil/creeds/phila.htm#1).”
2. Rankin, Russ. “Research: Spiritual Maturity Tied to Strong Doctrinal Beliefs.”<http://www.lifeway.com/Article/research-spiritual-maturity-strong-doctrinal-beliefs>.
3. “Religious Beliefs and Practices,” <http://religions.pewforum.org/pdf/report2religious-landscape-study-chapter-1.pdf>.
4. “Americans Draw Theological Beliefs From Diverse Points of View,”<https://www.barna.org/barna-update/5-barna-update/82-americans-draw-theological-beliefs-from-diverse-points-of-view#.VFoRjlPF8SR>.
5. “Morality Continues to Decay,” <https://www.barna.org/barna-update/article/5-barna-update/129-morality-continues-to-decay#.VGz52ovF98E>.
6. “America to Pray? Or Not to Pray?” pages 4-106

**Prayer Needs and Praises!**

**John Morris**is recovering from a stroke as he continues a long term battle with muscular dystrophy. John is the long time President of the Institute for Creation Research, a PhD Geological Engineer, and one of the most prominent writers, researchers, and leaders in creation science. Pray for miraculous healing! Dr. Morris is also giving up his post as President of ICR due to his health and we ask for prayer for the leadership ICR as they go forward.

**Sue Stepanek** is battling cancer. Surgery went well but recovery is slow due to her also having Celiac Disease which was discovered only after surgery. Sue is the wife of Richard Stepanek who speaks for Alpha Omega Institute. Pray for complete recovery.

**Jobe and Jenna Dee Martin** have both had recent surgery. Jenna Dee is recovering from back surgery and Jobe is having a second cataract surgery on Nov 6. Pray for healing and enabling.

**Two exciting creation seminars in February 2015**

**SABBSA** has been asked to give almost two full days of presentations at the **Castle Hills First Baptist Church School on February 5th and 6th of 2015.** We are currently discussing and praying about which presentations which will go to elementary, middle school and high school groups. We will publish the schedule of these presentations next month as these arrangements are finalized. We thank Castle Hills for this opportunity and their trust in us to spread God’s truth to our young!

**SABBSA President Scott Lane** will conduct a 12 week seminar on **Biblical Creationism at Cibolo Valley Baptist Church starting on Sunday February 8, 2015 at 4:30 pm** and continuing each Sunday afternoon thereafter through February, March and April. Our first presentation on February 8 will be the always popular **“What If God Wrote the Bible?”** We will publish the rest of the schedule for this seminar in next month’s **Communiqué.**

******New ICR video series to be shown at FEAST!

 This year our FEAST Science Workshops will feature the new 12-part series from the Institute for Creation Research entitled “Unlocking the Mysteries of Genesis.” Viewing this series, you’ll walk away with a fresh understanding of the sometimes difficult-to-comprehend issues surrounding creation. Our dynamic host will lead you through discoveries of truth in awe-inspiring locations around the country. We will visit gardens and nature sites throughout Texas, the Grand Canyon, Dinosaur National Monument in Utah, and the Matanuska Glacier in Alaska.

From discussions on dinosaurs to the Ice Age, the series covers the origin of the universe, the origin of man, design, fossils, Noah’s Flood, the age of the earth, ancient civilizations, and more. We invite you to spend fourth Mondays with us at 6:30 pm for this series of videos with two episodes shown each night along with expert commentary and question and answer sessions from the staff of the **San Antonio Bible Based Science Association.**

Our first two sessions this fall were attended by groups of more than 50 people with a host of young kids in each seminar. We are viewing two episodes each night with very engaging question, answer, and discussion sessions following both videos.

Below is the list of topics to be covered this spring:

**January 26, 2015 Noah’s Flood.**  **Age of Earth.**

Young Children’s topic: **"How do you feel?"** We'll explore a touchy subject: the
tactile world.

**February 23, 2015 Dinosaurs.** **The Ice Age.**

Young Children’s topic: **"Fossils: Can you dig 'em?"** The annual chocolate fossil blow
out.

**March 23, 2015 Ancient Civilization. Origin of the Universe.**

Young Children’s topic: **"Wind beneath my wings"** Demonstrating the power of the air.

**April 27, 2015 Uniqueness of Earth. The Big Picture**

Young Children’s topic: **"The strength within"** Unleashing the power within common
substances.

**Humor Corner**

**Around Texas**

**Houston:**
The **Greater Houston Creation Association** (**GHCA**) meets the first Thursday of each month. They meet at Houston's First Baptist Church at 7 pm, in Room 258. After the presentation, there will be refreshments, fellowship and creation science materials for all to enjoy. For more information go to [www.ghcaonline.com](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?llr=bztaencab&et=1103662222545&s=545&e=001xF-6WOYzM5Yyre44Ea_qUjH5EOT_fFIGjrfpfa5h-rD53IlUVbz3Vc0Dp47_VEwW3iQQ6F1b6K0EtKc_vUxYKpzN_8V2upXFbsOScvUeD92nJdUTjDIFeg==).

**Glen Rose:**
Dr. Carl Baugh gives a “***Director’s Lecture Series***” on the first Saturday of each month at the Creation Evidences Museum just outside Glen Rose, TX. The new and improved museum is also a great and beneficial way to spend any day. Presentations are at 11 am and 2 pm. For more information go to [www.creationevidence.org](http://www.creationevidence.org)

**Dallas-Ft Worth:**
The Metroplex Institute of Origin Science (MIOS) meets at the Dr. Pepper Starcenter, 12700 N. Stemmons Fwy, Farmers Branch, TX, usually at 7:30 pm of the first Tuesday of each month.

**Lubbock Area (Crosbyton):**
All year: Consider a visit to the Mt. Blanco Fossil Museum, directed by Joe Taylor. The Museum is definitely worth the visit if you live near or are traveling through the Panhandle near Lubbock. If you call ahead and time permitting, Joe has been known to give personal tours, especially to groups. For more information, visit [http://www.mtblanco.com/](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?llr=bztaencab&et=1103662222545&s=545&e=001xF-6WOYzM5bqqt6T1G_CwJWJosrOSIhLAagtnP0Z504J-gEROEBe22S3gq720x6ofjFVqK-AfJcsjrsuQyRtoepYiAQVVUFC-cF56fLwwBJ0SQ-44KlLmw==).

**Greater San Antonio area:**

Listen to **Answers with Ken Ham** online at the address below. (No nearby station for this broadcast). <http://www.answersingenesis.org/media/audio/answers-daily>

To hear program from the **Institute for Creation Research**, listen online at this address. <http://www.icr.org/radio/>

Also, tune in KHCB FM 88.5 (San Marcos) or KKER FM 88.7 (Kerrville) for **Back to Genesis** at 8:57 AM Mon-Fri, then **Science, Scripture and Salvation** at 1:30 AM, 8:00 AM and 4:30 PM on Saturdays.

**Last Month at SABBSA**

**Brian Mariani of Alpha Omega Institute**

***The 5 Common Deceptions in Our Culture***

regarding God, the Bible, science, and Creation. This presentation created a lot of audience interaction in covering questions like:

*Why is Creation important?*

*Do we really believe God and the Bible?*

*What can you do about spreading Creation?*

*How Big is Your God?*

Within this presentation, AOI speaker, Brian Mariani shared his personal testimony and passion for Creation Training. He explained why he is in the creation evangelism ministry and presented Alpha Omega Institute’s vision for their new training program, the Discover Creation Training Institute (DCTI). We thank Brian and Aimee for their faithfulness in this endeavor as well as AOI.

Brian and Aimee Mariani

We were honored to have at our meeting the French family, who live just north of San Antonio and whose son is planning to attend DCTI and become perhaps their first student!

**Next SABBSA Meeting:**

**Tuesday, December 9, 2014, at 7 pm**

**Coming to SABBSA in December**

**The Case for Faith**

In this video journalist **Lee Strobel** investigates two of the most emotional objections to Christianity. Barriers to faith confronted by believers and skeptics alike: Why is Jesus the only way to God? And, how could a loving God exist if there is evil and suffering in the world?

Skeptics of Christianity are everywhere, boldly asking tough questions in order to disprove the faith. Doubt no more! Author Lee Strobel, a journalist, investigated the toughest objections to Christianity and found solid answers. Whatever intellectual or emotional objections one has to the Christian faith are directly refuted by Strobel's honest and thorough discoveries.

Please join us in December for this Christian apologetics classic.

As always, we will meet at the Jim’s Restaurant at the corner of San Pedro and Ramsey at 7 pm. Please join us for good food, fellowship and impactful Christian apologetic teaching.