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Happy New Year! We hope that you and yours had a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Research says that by January 6th a New Year sadness sets in for many, because by that time the holiday spirit has worn off, the bills for Christmas are coming due and you may have already failed on a New Year’s resolution. We hope that you are not experiencing such sadness, but if you are, analyze it for what it is, an emotional response to our lingering dream of not returning to the day to day realities of life. We have an article in this month’s **Communiqué** which examines how our society has this self same dream of fleeing reality and how it pushes society to delude itself.

We have article on **Baraminology** (the study of “kinds”) which introduces to a new brother organization in the creation cause. We also have an article on how what a new PEW report says on American beliefs on their origins.

We of course have a full calendar of creation events listed in this newsletter along with a preview of our program for the month, **“Set in Stone.”** We hope you both enjoy and are enriched by this newsletter.

**The Power of Denial**

People will deny the reality of a situation for all sorts of reasons. A person will deny they are at fault in an auto accident both because it will cost them financially and for reasons of ego. A drunk will deny they have a drinking problem for reasons of ego and the price of facing that problem means they will have to face the realities of life without the mask of drink. Drug addicts seek to “make” their own reality by leaving this reality. The problem is that when they resurface from a drug trip, that same reality is still here and therefore they try to sink into deeper and deeper trips away from a reality they are running from. When a spouse or child dies, the other spouse or parent will of course mourn, but sometimes they withdraw from society, deciding that life is now over and not worth living. We as a society recognize that when denial turns to all of these and many other nonrealistic manifestations that it is unhealthy for that person to persist in such a denial position.

However, when our society chooses to do the same thing and deny reality, who has the perspective and position to talk them out of their denial. We in America are digging ourselves into a debt hole that will not be resolved without dire consequences for our country, our people and our society as is being played out in Greece, France, Spain and many other countries around the world today. But, we choose not to face that reality because it is unpleasant and does not conform to the preferred wish that we live in stable existence and that we can make any choices we want without consequences. That is not reality, but it is consistent with man’s “denial syndrome. “

When haters of Jews deny that the “holocaust” ever occurred and the mountain of evidence and living testimonials have no effect on them, it is because they are not evaluating this situation objectively, but running from a truth. When people deny the reality of Jesus Christ they have to ignore that he is one of the most verified people in human history via historical records. But, again their denial is not about the facts, but about what they do not want to face about Christ’s existence.

In the field of creationism we face such societal denial all the time. It does not matter that all forms of radiometric dating for rocks has been falsified and that there are more than twenty scientific ”clocks” which show that the Earth is less than 20,000 years old. Society as a whole is committed to deny this fact, because to do otherwise destroys their world view of a reality created without God. It does not matter that the ordered three dimensional structure of DNA with its more than three billion bits of advanced computer code attest to no other answer but that a Creator designed it as we have not the capability to do so even in our advanced state today. Most biologists deny this because their rules of biology precluded a designer from the start, because if He exists it destroys their world view of their mind and judgments being pre-eminent. So it is not just the masses of society who are subject to this neurosis of denial, but the scientific community which espouses that only empirical evidence drives their evaluations and conclusions are found to often abandon such empiricism in the realm of historical science because to do otherwise puts their world view at risk.

Some of the worst catastrophes of all time were spawned by the ability of individuals and society to lie to themselves. Hitler could not have done what he did without his denying the humanity of all people besides the Aryan race and without the German people deciding to go along with such a premise. God has got to look at us and shake his head. It is because of not only our sin natures, but also our almost unlimited ability to delude ourselves that we are in desperate need of His guidance and His truth. Without His truth there is no truth since without Him everything is relative and so too is reality. We crave order and safety in society for ourselves and those we love, but there never will be such a safe reality on this planet until we give in to the will of the one who created it. Any other pursuit is pure delusion. Unfortunately, we are very talented in the practice of deluding ourselves. Pray to God that He sees fit to overcome our seeming commitment to destroy ourselves and deny that we are doing it. This applies both to our individual lives in not recognizing our need for God and a Savior as well as our society’s denial that it needs a Creator and Director.

**Introduction to Baraminology**

How do we define a kind? How do we study created kinds in science? Can we mix modern taxonomy with the concepts of Created Kinds?

Evolutionism has spread rapidly in the last several decades. At the same time, Creationism has been slow in responding. Baraminology, the scientific study of created kinds, is one of the responses that is now forming and challenging the Theory of Evolution. The more we study kinds, the more evidence that forms to show that science supports Creationism.

Evidence for Created Kinds

Interestingly, the very fallacies given earlier for the Theory of Evolution actually follows exactly what would be expected within the Theory of Created Kinds.

One of the major expectations is that life would come from life. This is known as the Law of Biogenesis. This is true of what we witness with reproduction and it is true of what we would expect by the Living Creator in making life. He is living and produced life. He also put it into place so that what He created could continue producing life.

The natural processes of the universe, solar system, Earth, and life itself all show a young creation only thousands of years old instead of the billions required by the processes of evolution. A chronology built on Scripture would suggest that creation is approximately 5,900 years old. The physical evidence of natural processes agrees with this type of dating.

Due to the fall and the curse, Creationism expects that life is getting worse and not better. In the physical this is certainly demonstrated as harmful mutations are continually being added to the genetic load. This brings with it increased diseases and problems and not new or beneficial information. Without care and effort, things fall apart on every scale.

The Theory of Created Kinds would expect large gaps in the fossil record (without transitional fossils) showing the distinction between kinds. This is what is found in the fossil record. Furthermore, what has been called the Cambrian Explosion, the sudden appearance of many diverse and developed forms of life shown through fossils, is good evidence for the Flood of Noah’s time as this is likely when many of the fossils were laid down.

The second Law of Thermodynamics states that things are continually wearing down and getting worse. Once again, the effects of the fall and the curse can be seen playing out in the realm of physics. What creation was like before the fall and will be again after it is restored is a matter of conjecture.

Defining a Kind

Within Scripture, there is not much detail given to describe or define a kind. Kinds are able to reproduce which means they must be similar types of plants and animals. However, when trying to study and define the limits of a kind, one must make choices as to what a kind means.

There are a few examples of kinds given within Scripture. In particular, there is a list of animals (related to clean and unclean meat) given in Leviticus 11 and basically repeated in Deuteronomy 14. These lists are difficult to work with because the individual animals involved get translated into a variety of animals. However, it can be noted that most of the animals listed generally belong to different Genera and even different Families. For example, a number of predatory birds are listed. Within modern classification the hawks and eagles belong to the same Genus while falcons belong to a different family. These could still likely be within the same kind. There also seems to be several types of locust, cricket, and grasshopper. If so, these would represent different families. If they are translated as different types of locust they could be the same family but different Genera.

Although hybridization is a useful tool in determining kinds, it has many drawbacks and uncertainties as well. Successful hybrids show that two species are from the same kind. Unsuccessful hybrids are less conclusive as many barriers exist to inhibit reproduction of simply an unsuccessful attempt at mating. One of the greatest barriers is a large geographical distance which would cause the animals to never, or seldom, meet. Similar to this is the distance of time as fossils cannot be used in hybridization.

Where similar species do meet is the place to observe. For example, in Puerto Rico a hybrid formed between two species in the genus of Citrus that is known as the Chironja. It is a hybrid between the china (a type of orange) and the tironja (a type of grapefruit). The resulting hybrid was appreciated because it was sweeter and easier to peel than a standard grapefruit. However, it was found to typically be infertile. Through methods of grafting, it has become an established food in some parts of the world. That they were able to hybridize shows that these two citrus fruits are likely from the same created kind.

History of Baraminology

The field of Baraminology makes an attempt to determine what the original created kinds were as well as connect different species within a kind today. One method of this work deals with reproduction, which is a very strong indication that two plants or animals are related. A second method is statistical analysis of characteristics of the plants or animals to determine if they are similar. The statistical approach is not as strong for evidence, but is especially useful in working with fossils.

Although the term Baraminology did not exist in his time, Carolus Linnaeus was a believer who thought the Creator must have used an orderly system in creation. The modern and now evolutionary, taxonomic system using binomial nomenclature is based on Linnaean taxonomy. He based his early work on characteristics and he tried to define a species / kind as organisms that could interbreed among themselves, but not with other organisms. Later he used hybridization and realized that the species level was too narrow and suggested the Genus level might represent kinds.

It is worth noting, that at the time of Linnaeus, the words ‘species’ and ‘genus’ were used in the Latin Vulgate translation of the Scriptures in place of the Hebrew word ‘min’ or kind. It is this reason that he used those words in his classification. At that time, species and kind were basically synonymous. It was much later that the definition of species changed from being a kind to something much more specific. Instead of a rose species encompassing all roses, there were suddenly many individual rose species as it is used today.

Harold Clark was one of the first official writers in the field of Baraminology. His concept of ‘after his kind' was a moral rule that should not be broken. He was an advocate of natural selection within orders, families, and genera.

Frank Marsh is credited with coining the term 'baramin' which is a combination of the Hebrew words 'bara' (to create) and 'min' (kind). . For Marsh, 'after his kind' was a biological law (rather than a moral law) and emphasized the importance of reproduction and successful hybridization. He emphasized interbreeding as a method of determining kinds. This, in effect, defined a created kind at the highest taxonomic level which could interbreed. He changed in his later years when he followed morphological considerations more than reproductive ones. Quite often, though, he found differences in morphology and reproduction went together.

Walter ReMine brought the concept of Discontinuity Systematics into the realm of Baraminology. Discontinuities are described as "large scale morphological gaps and an absence of large-scale phylogeny”. Simply put, this means that there were big differences in appearance and no line of distinct ancestral lines from which it came. This was an important concept since the Theory of Evolution has no place for discontinuities. In fact, quite the opposite is true in that Evolution must look for connecting relationships. This work also brought the phrase ‘successive approximation’ in as studies come closer and closer to the proper boundaries of created kinds.

Siegfried Scherer also worked with hybridization, but he took it in a different direction. He allowed either two animals to hybridize with each other (as others did above) or each with a third organism. In other words, if A can breed with C and B can breed with C then A and B can be considered as the same kind along with C. He also suggested that true fertilization must go past the early stages of embryogenesis. He suggested that fertilization is not enough to be considered successful because the first few divisions of the cell can be strictly through maternal control. He suggested that there must be a successful expression of both paternal and maternal genes.

Roger Sanders added the concept of Cognitum, or a grouping of creatures that seem to naturally go together by use of the senses. However, this type of grouping can be both inside and outside of a kind. For example, one would likely group all of the birds together because of their feathers, yet this is much greater in scope than a single kind. The general differences between cows, horse, and pigs would be enough evidence to the senses to tell that they belong to different kinds. Although imprecise, it does find usefulness where hybridization data is lacking.

In an attempt to find a way to determine baramins without reproduction, David Cavanaugh introduced the Analysis of Patterns (ANOPA) technique. This technique makes characteristics of the animal a distinct statistical dimension which is placed into a multidimensional space. It is later simplified to a three dimensional grid. Different kinds should come out to different spaces on the grid and show the distinct groups.

Similarly, Todd Wood created the use of multidimensional scaling (MDS) which also statistically measures the distance between one baramin and another. This method has typically shown a large baraminic distance around the rank of family. This strongly suggests that the most common comparison of a kind with modern taxonomy is the family level.

Kata Genos Species Concept

The Kata Genos Species Concept (KGSC) is being proposed by Todd Elder. It combines the terminology of Linnaean classification, Baraminology, and breeding techniques into a unified whole. It is an attempt at defining both kinds and species while allowing for a discontinuity between kinds and a continuity between animals or plants within a kind.

In the KGSC, a species is defined as a breed with a specific set of defined characteristics that is able to reproduce with others of the same breed and sometimes able to hybridize with others of the same kind. This basically equates a breed with a species and allows for hybrids with other breeds/species or other genera within the kind. It generally assumes that much of current scientific classification is correct from the family level down and ignores the order level and up. However, as further research is done, the exact boundaries of kinds should be found and some changes to current classification are expected.

As mutations cannot be the driving force for the change found in plants and animals, another mechanism must be introduced. In the KGSC, the mechanism that is focused upon is communication for which two types are currently being considered. First is the favorable communication in selecting a mate. This is the ability of two plants or animals to recognize each other enough to induce mating behavior. The second level is the successful communication in regards to genetic reproduction. This means that the chromosomal arrangement within the individuals is similar enough to have offspring. Obviously, the closer the genetic compatibility, the more likely the offspring will be fertile and continue a breed.

New breeds / species form when individuals within the same breed become separated or unable to communicate. The inability to communicate can have many causes such as geographical separation. When this happens the selective process of breeding out certain characteristics will move faster. This is basically equivalent to the processes of natural selection and speciation. However, it can occur rapidly as already existing traits are chosen.

Extinction typically comes when a very selective or specialized breed can no longer maintain its specialized niche and is unable to mate with others of its breed or go back and hybridize with others of its kind. Sometimes, a breed might be able to hybridize with another of its kind, but because of changes in vocal patterns, appearance, or other method of mating recognition favorable communication has been lost and mating will not have a chance to occur.

The article above was reprinted with the permission of its author, Todd Elder. His organization, the **Creation Science League** puts out a newsletter of good quality. This article is an introduction to this organization and their newsletter. If you would like to view their full newsletter on “Created Kinds” or learn more about the this group go to [www.creationleague.info/advocate.htm](http://www.creationleague.info/advocate.htm)

# This Ought to be Entertaining! Bill Nye Debates Ken Ham



7:00–9:30 PM ET on February 4, 2014

## Watching the Nye/Ham Debate Live—An Update

Because of the huge media interest in the Bill Nye/Ken Ham debate at the Creation Museum on February 4 (seats sold out in two minutes online), as well as the general buzz that has been generated nationwide about the event, the live streaming option is being put on hold as we are looking into other exciting opportunities for people to watch the debate live. Ultimately, these other possible options would allow even more people to view this historic debate.

With the debate selling out, we are committed to the very best ways by which as many people as possible can also watch the debate live.

## Is creation a viable model of origins in today’s modern scientific era?

Leading creation apologist and bestselling Christian author Ken Ham is joined at the Creation Museum by popular TV personality and evolution apologist Bill Nye.

Ham, a former science instructor who emigrated to the USA from Australia over 25 years ago, is joined by the popular children’s program personality Bill Nye “the Science Guy” for this first and only scheduled debate. Each man delivers what he believes is the best information currently available for his case. Each then has an opportunity for rebuttal and afterward answers questions submitted by the audience.

Watch at home, or organize to show the live stream to your small group, or your entire church.

The debate is to be held in the 900-seat Legacy Hall lecture arena at the Creation Museum (sponsored by Answers in Genesis). The live event is *not* expected to be televised but is being streamed live on the web and recorded for DVD and digital download distribution to help offset significant costs in organizing and sponsoring the debate.



**Survey: Views on evolution driven by religion more than education**

[Sarah Pulliam Bailey](http://www.religionnews.com/author/sarahpulliambailey/), RNS

Processes of Human Evolution, by Religion graphic courtesy of Pew Research Center

 (RNS) As evolution remains a contentious issue for many public schools, a new survey suggests that views on the question are driven by Americans’ religious affiliation more than their level of education.

Overall, six in 10 Americans say that humans have evolved over time, while one-third reject the idea of human evolution, according to a new [analysis](http://www.pewforum.org/2013/12/30/publics-views-on-human-evolution/) by the Pew Research Center. The one-third of Americans who reject human evolution has remained mostly unchanged since a 2009 Pew survey.

About one in four American adults say that “a supreme being guided the evolution of living things for the purpose of creating humans and other life in the form it exists today.”

While education matters, the new analysis suggests that religion appears to have more influence than level of education on evolution. The 21-point difference between college graduates and high school graduates who believe in evolution, for example, is less stark than the 49-point difference between mainline Protestants and evangelicals.

Evangelicals are four times as likely to reject human evolution as mainline Protestants, with 64 percent of evangelicals saying that “humans have existed in their present form since the beginning of time.” Half of black Protestants say humans have not evolved, compared to 15 percent of white mainline Protestants who share the same opinion.

Those with more years of formal education are more likely than those with less education to say that humans and animals have evolved over time. Seventy-two percent of college graduates say humans have evolved over time, compared with 51 percent of high school graduates who say the same thing.

The gap between Republicans and Democrats on belief on human evolution has grown by 10 points since 2009, with 43 percent of Republicans and 67 percent of Democrats saying humans have evolved over time.

Even those who hold views on evolution differ in how it may have happened. The belief that evolution occurred as a natural process (not necessarily one guided by God) is still a minority view. At 57 percent, only people who have no religious affiliation hold a majority view that says humans evolved due to natural processes.

Among those who express a belief in human evolution, just 32 percent of them take the view that evolution is “due to natural processes such as natural selection.” For Protestants who say that humans have evolved over time, the group is divided over whether evolution is due to natural processes or whether it was guided by a supreme being (36 percent each).

Meanwhile, the Creation Museum in Kentucky that promotes a literal reading of the Bible that God created the earth in six days will begin offering free admission to children in 2014. Seeking a wider audience, the museum rolled out displays this year that contain no religious messages as total attendance since the museum’s 2007 opening approached about 2 million.

**Editor’s Note: Does this data really show that the less educated believe in creation and the more educated do not, or does it also point to the type of education they have had? Either way this data says that the creation ministry across the country of which we are included is making a real impact!**

**Science Workshops at FEAST in 2013 - 2014**

The **FEAST Science Workshops** will begin again in January on the 4th Monday of each month at 6:30 pm at the **Family Educational Alliance for South Texas**. Below is the schedule of multimedia presentations we will present for the home school community this school year.

Each one of these titles represents a multimedia presentation with embedded films and pictures to enhance each presentation. We will offer a companion young children's program to go along with the youth and adult's program described.

September, 2013 - **Biology and Missing Links: Lucy Unveiled** (We had a great crowd on hand for our first workshop!)
October, 2013 - **His Wisdom in Our Cells** (Another great crowd on hand.)
January 27, 2014 - **Biology in a Created World**
February 24, 2014 - **God, Man and Dinosaurs**
March 24, 2014 - **What If God Wrote the Bible?**
April 28, 2014 - **Audience's Choice of Creation presentation**

Synopses of each of these presentations are available on our resources page.

**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. See our special article about this month’s meeting at the top of the previous page.

**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**

**Flight - The Genius of Birds**

**FLIGHT: The Genius of Birds** marks the launch of Illustra Media’s new documentary series The Design of Life. Each episode explores a different realm of the animal kingdom and the remarkable biological systems that make life on Earth possible.

Filmed in North America, England, Peru, Greenland, and Antarctica, FLIGHT probes the mysteries and mechanisms of a bird’s anatomy, instinct, and embryology to reveal stunning provisions essential for life in the skies.

We marveled at a hummingbird’s unique skeletal, muscular and metabolic systems—all vital to its spectacular aerial acrobatics… The endurance and navigational abilities of an Arctic tern as it travels from pole to pole during the longest migration on the planet… The instinctive strategies that enable a flock of 300,000 European starlings to evade predators at break-neck speeds… The elaborate network of a million component parts that make a feather an aerodynamic masterpiece. And much more.

The poet William Blake wrote that to see an eagle in the air is to observe “a portion of genius.” In FLIGHT the ingenuity of a bird’s behavior and biology showcase unmistakable evidence for design, purpose, and plan. They are displays of genius best explained by intelligence and mind. They are the unmistakable marks of our Creator! We at SABBSA evaluated this as an excellent film and perhaps the best film Illustra has done for the general public. We highly endorse it!

**Next regular meeting:** **Tuesday, January 14, 2014, at 7 pm**

**Coming to SABBSA in January
Set in Stone**



"**Set in Stone**" from Truth in Science and Illustra Media, takes the viewer on a visual odyssey of discovery shot in high definition on location around Britain. It takes us to spectacular scenery, awe inspiring landscapes and beautiful coastlines. It presents evidence for Earth's catastrophic past to enable the viewer to ask important questions.

According to modern geology, our world is over four and a half billion years old, and its geological features have been sculpted over vast eons of time. Everyone knows that Planet Earth is unimaginably ancient. It's common knowledge that geological forces have acted slowly over millions of years to form the rocks beneath our feet. **But what if what everyone 'knows' is wrong?**

Were the rocks around us formed slowly and gradually - or suddenly during catastrophic events? Did the history of the world unfold over vast eras of time or much shorter periods? And what do the rocks really tell us about the geological history of our world?

Please join us on January 14 for this provocative program, good food and warm Christian fellowship! **Note to board and members, we will have annual elections after the presentation as well as collection of annual dues.** As always, we meet at the Jim’s Restaurant at the corner of San Pedro and Ramsey.