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**June, 2015**

We at SABBSA hope you are safe and dry after the record rains we had this past May. Speaking of rain and our environment, that is the theme of our newsletter this month. We have two articles which reflect the different views of how our environment has affected speciation and extinction over Earth’s history as well as new insight on the global warming controversy from a 38 year veteran of the United States Environmental Protection Agency which says this whole green movement is a movement without any data!

We also will have a full rundown of the creation opportunities in our area and South Texas the coming months. We hope you have a good beginning to your summer!

**Is this the “Age of Extinction”?**

The last transformers’ movie was called the “Age of Extinction.” It portrayed an enemy which wanted to destroy all life on Earth. Environmentalists are often heard today lamenting the wide variety of species becoming extinct around the world. The International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) has a Red List of species likely to become extinct. In 2012, the IUCN Red List featured 3079 animal and 2655 plant species as Endangered worldwide. The figures for 1998 were, respectively, 1102 and 1197(data from Wikipedia). At present it is estimated that between 10 and 25 species of plants or animals become extinct somewhere in the world each year. This rate is on par with the great extinction events in history.

There are many reasons cited for this mass of extinctions including:

* Habitat destruction including human-induced climate change.
* Habitat destruction via human invasion and destruction of species habitats.
* Invasive species. Invasive/aliens species displace native species through predation, competition, and disease organisms.
* Pollution.
* Human overpopulation.
* Over-harvesting (hunting, fishing, and gathering). (<http://endangeredspeciesinternational.org/overview.html>)

Of course, as has been noted by us in this newsletter many times, there is a great amount of evidence that climate change is a topic which has been blown way out of proportion by those with an agenda to curtail man’s affect on the planet even thought they seem to have very poor data with which to back up their claims (read the next article in this newsletter). In spite of this it is possible that the warming trend the Earth has been going through for the last 200 years could well have contributed in some way to the high extinction rates we see today. But, we have had even greater warming periods in Earth’s history before this without all life on earth dying off, so to blame this all on global warming, or to say that global warming is threatening all life on the planet is a claim beyond the extreme.

Alas, extinction of endangered species is a problem, and one we as stewards and conservators of God’s creation should address. In fact, over 99% of all the species which have ever lived are now extinct! However, the view of what is occurring here changes dramatically depending on your worldview of the extinction event we are now a part of.

In the liberal and evolutionary worldview so prevalent today, man is the villain in this story. It is man who is throwing nature out of kilter. It is man who is killing other species and often it is suggested that the elimination of man is the answer.

There is a certain logic to this position from their view. If evolution is true, then it had to be true through history that more species evolved as time went past than went extinct. Otherwise we would not find the millions of species of animals, plants and bacteria we find in the world today. In fact, this premise must be true for this world to exist via the evolution story. But, as happens so often with evolution, that is not what we observe in nature. As the statistics noted at the start of this article attest, far more species are going extinct today than are being produced by variation in nature.

From the creationist worldview we see a very different tale. Instead of species constantly being created via evolution, we see that all kinds were created in the beginning. Over the time, before the fall, these kinds of life would have flourished and variation in this pristine environment would have produced lots of species. After the fall, God manipulated the genomes of many forms of life to allow them to survive and thrive in a world which will now be much more hostile, so in the days after the fall, with a world which still for the most part honored vegetarianism and had a near Edenic climate, species continued to be produced and extinction although occurring was not the norm. After the flood however, only representatives of each kind (somewhere between 2000 and 8000 land animals) were preserved and from this remnant and those species which survived the flood in the sea life was begun again. Due to God’s provision of His initial perfect creation and the adaptations He gave them at the fall, most animals and plants thrived and varied to create many new species after the flood, but not all.

Indeed, after the flood, animals and plants would have experienced challenges to life not before seen, such as variations in temperature, availability of water, availability of light, varied soils and ecosystems which would challenge some animals and plants to go extinct. In this scenario however there would never be any new kinds created. What came off the Ark is all there ever could be in terms of major body forms. Once one of those forms went extinct, it will be gone forever. The history we find in the fossil record supports this view of history, as it reveals many species and kinds which formally existed have gone extinct through the ages, but it does not show the development of new kinds of body forms to replace them. What it often shows is related species within a kind which still exists or develops as another species goes extinct and the skewed evolutionary view interprets this as evolution of new life forms instead of just the existence or development of variations upon the kinds already in existence.

Thus, we are presented with two scenarios to explain the mass extinctions of today. The evolutionary view is that man is the villain. It is our encroachment which is killing the natural order of life on Earth and if we would simply get out of the way (die off) then nature would return to producing more new species than those which go extinct each year.

The creationist view however is very different. It says that all there ever was is a set amount of kinds of animals (body forms at what we might call the family level of current classification). From that start we can only go downward. Since all the “creation” of kinds occurred in the beginning and none since then (only variation on those initial kinds) it goes without saying that once environments become too hostile for a species or a kind that it will die off and since there are no new creations, that the amount of kinds will dwindle over time as we inexorably move to a time when all animals will die off and there will be no life on Earth. This is a depressing story, but one which fits with the curse of the fall and its offspring the second law of thermodynamics (called “entropy”) which says that everything in this existence is wearing out. It says that everything that was once created (organized) will eventually wear out and become disorganized (die off). This is even true for humans. Current analysis by Dr. J.C. Sanford of Cornel is that at our current rate of mutations gathering in our genomes (about 100 per generation), humans will become nonviable as a kind in about 6000 years and go extinct.

In conclusion, we have choices both in our worldview and our conservancy of nature. Both the evolutionary and the creationist worldview see extinction of species as the natural order of this existence. In the evolutionary worldview this current extinction is one caused by us and will only be solved by either humans dying off as a species or limiting our numbers and habitats to such a small portion of the earth as to make us not the dominant species on the planet, but a very minor player. To do that we will have to either kill ourselves off through wars or by choosing genocide of our populations to preserve the rest of the earth’s life. Not a very hopeful scenario and not one which is necessarily supported by the facts of what we observe in nature.

From a creationist worldview however, the extinctions of today are a natural outgrowth of entropy demonstrated by the fact that there are no new creations and the life forms which were created in the beginning are slowly, but surely being taken to extinction by the corruption of this world as set up by the fall of man. Again, in this story man is the villain, but in this case his dying off will not solve the problem. If man disappears from the earth, life forms will continue to go extinct because everything in this existence is wearing out (as we observe every day of life). The most we can do is be good stewards and try to minimize how much we negatively impact other life on this planet as we sometimes try to do, but regardless of efforts all life on this planet will eventually succumb to entropy. Thus, ours and this planets only hope is renewal. Man finds renewal in Jesus Christ, who promises to make us all a new creation if we will only commit to His lordship and own up to the fact of His authority. It is also the promise of this Creator that in the end of existence this planet will be dissolved by fire and then reconstructed in the perfect form as it was in the beginning where nothing wears out and life can be supported on this planet forever without extinctions. Oh how we pray for that blessed day!

**Editor’s Note: The article below was graciously supplied by its author Anthony Watts and wattsupwiththat.com. This article is being reprinted with their permission. As we have said before, it is alarming how closely the green movement’s penchant to make claims with almost a total absence of data to support them and yet still be government funded mirrors what we see happen every day in the creation controversy. Today we hear from an EPA insider on this sad phenomena.**

# Leaving the Church of Environmentalism

[**Anthony Watts**](http://wattsupwiththat.com/author/wattsupwiththat/) / May 27, 2015

**By Alan Caruba**

In March 2009 while the Environmental Protection Agency was rushing to fulfill a presidential campaign pledge to document that carbon dioxide (CO2) and five other greenhouse gases endangered public health and the environment, a longtime employee, Alan Carlin, put out a 93-page report challenging the science being cited and the drift of the agency from its initial role to one captured by fanatical activists and alarmists, treating environmentalism more as a religion than based in science.

At the time Carlin was a 72-year-old analyst and economist who, as The New York Times put it, “had labored in obscurity in a little-known office at the Environmental Protection Agency since the Nixon administration.” His EPA career would span 38 years.

The website for his new book, [“Environmentalism Gone Mad”](http://environmentalismgonemad.com/) says, “Dr. Alan Carlin is an economist and physical scientist with degrees from Caltech and MIT and publications in both economics and climate/energy, who became actively involved in the Sierra Club in the 1960s as an activist and Chapter Chairman. This led to a career as a manager and senior analyst at the Environmental Protection Agency.”

As he says in the preface “The purpose of this book is to explain why I changed from my lifelong support of the environmental movement to extreme skepticism concern their current primary objective of reducing emissions of carbon dioxide.”

**“Although I and the many other climate skeptics are now referred to as ‘deniers’ by the climate alarmists, that does not change the science—and there is no valid scientific basis for the alarmists’ catastrophic climate predictions—or justify their fantastically expensive and useless ‘solution.**’”

Carlin went from being a dedicated environmentalist, based on its initial philosophy of conservation, to an observer of the movement that was taken over and distorted to advocate falsehoods about global warming and a transition from fossil-fuels to “clean energy” meaning wind, solar and bio-fuels. As an economist he understood how absurd it was to suggest rejecting fossil-fuels, the key element of modern industry and society.

“The climate alarmists,” says Carlin, “have now been making their apocalyptic predictions for almost thirty years and it is now possible to compare their predictions with actual physical observations.” Suffice to say all the predictions of a significantly higher temperature—the warming—have been wrong. In fact, the Earth has been in a natural cooling cycle since 1998 and shows no indication of warming

Predictions about the North and South Poles melting, a major rise in ocean levels, increased hurricanes and other climate events have been wrong along with countless other climate-related apocalyptic predictions.

**Having observed how the EPA has functioned for more than three decades, Carlin warns that its current “environmental policy has been hijacked by radicals intent on imposing their ideology by government fiat on the rest of us whether we like it or not…If environmental policy is based on government fiat or ‘green’ policy prescriptions the results have been and are very likely to continue to be disastrous.”**

At 625 pages, Carlin’s book takes the reader from his early days as a Sierra Club activist and chapter leader to being an EPA outcast, denounced for telling the truth about the false claims of global warming, climate change, and what is now being called extreme weather.

As an economist, Carlin is particularly upset that “the Obama Administration’s climate/energy policy is wasting very large sums on non-solutions to minor or non-problems.” The book has come along as President Obama has been flogging “climate change” as the greatest threat to the nation and the world.

“It has been long recognized that weather is chaotic,” says Carlin. While we operate within the four seasons, the weather that occurs can only be predicted in the most general terms. Suggesting that humans actually have any effect on the weather is absurd.

That is why the predictions made by the UN’s Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and all the others based on computer models are, by definition, worthless. Computer models cannot predict anything about the vast chaotic global climate system. Even today, meteorologists are mystified by the actions of clouds which can form and disappear in minutes.

It’s useful to keep in mind that climate is measured in *centuries*, while the weather is reported as what is occurring today and forecast, at best, for no more than a week. Weather records are maintained for purposes of comparison and within the larger context of determining the Earth’s climate cycles. Like those in the past, the present cooling cycle is based on a comparable one of the Sun that is producing lower levels of radiation. You don’t need a Ph.D. in meteorology to understand this.

Carlin does not hesitate to excoriate the blather put forth by the alarmists; particularly their claims that the weather is affected in any significant fashion by human activity and development in particular. “There is simply no evidence thus far that the normal activities of man have or will result in catastrophic outcomes for either man or nature.”

The actions the alarmists call for do nothing to enhance and benefit our lives. They drive up the cost of energy and food. They ignore how dependent modern life is on the use of fossil fuels.

“Despite all the lavish funding by liberal foundations and the federal government on their global warming doctrine-inspired programs, the radical environmental movement has long since gone so far beyond rationality that it is counter-productive in achieving its own ends.”

So long as it remains heavily funded and backed by the federal government, we must, like Carlin, speak out against environmental extremism. We must elect new people to govern in a more realistic, science-based fashion. We must urge our current legislators to rein in the rogue Environmental Protection Agency.

<http://wattsupwiththat.com/2015/05/27/leaving-the-church-of-environmentalism/>

# Science Increasingly Makes the Case for God

## The odds of life existing on another planet grow ever longer. Intelligent design, anyone?

By  **ERIC METAXAS** Dec. 25, 2014 4:56 p.m. ET Wall Street Journal

Follow Up. This article, printed first in the Wall Street Journal and in our newsletter last month seems to have hit a nerve. Last month atheist and cosmologist Lawrence Kraus, the Huffington Post and many others wrote rebuttal blogs, letters to the editor, articles and more trying to rebuff Eric Metaxas article. It’s amazing how fast they come out of the woodwork when you challenge evolutionary and atheistic dogma!

**In Memory of Karen Burroughs**

A tragic thing happened just after our last SABBSA meeting in May. Karen Burroughs, wife of long time SABBSA member, Paul Burroughs collapsed, stopped breathing, was resuscitated twice and finally died the next day in the hospital. Her husband Paul was comforted by the knowledge that it was later revealed that a brain aneurysm (which she knew she had) burst, that she was gone from her body when she was lying on the floor being resuscitated the first time at Jims and that she did not suffer through any of the prolonged “heroic” measures that went on the for the next several hours to try and save her. We also thank God that she did not suffer. We will miss Karen as she has been a stalwart member of our group for the last couple of years. We also pray for our brother Paul who has been greatly affected by her passing. Our thanks to God for letting us know this fine lady who was reflecting on the mysticism she perceived in the presentation that night just before her passing. In meeting her extended family at the hospital and at the viewing a few days later it is clear how many of her students and coworkers Karen positively affected with her life and work. She will be missed by all.

Paul and Karen Burroughs

**SABBSA at the 4th Annual**

**Rio Grande Valley Home School Conference**

***For the second year in a row SABBSA will have a booth, provide creation materials to those in the Rio Grande Valley and make creation presentations for home school families there. The location is the McAllen Creative Incubator****,* ***601 N. Main Street****,* ***McAllen, TX  78504on Saturday, June 13 from 8 am to 5 pm. Scott Lane will present “What If God Wrote the Bible” at 1:15 pm and “Animals that Defy Evolution” at 2:30 pm. Please pray for fruit from this endeavor. SABBSA Vice President Al Johnson has graciously volunteered to make the trip and help at our booth in the valley that day.***

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**SABBSA at CBC and RTB**

Thanks to **Community Bible Church** and the local **Reasons to Believe** chapter for allowing Scott Lane to present his premier presentation of “**What If God Wrote the Bible?”** at their May meeting. The presentation was well received and our hosts could not have been more gracious.

**Al(den) Johnson is our new SABBSA Vice President**



Long time SABBSA member, creation teacher, doctor of optometry, biology teacher and disdainer of global warming, Dr. Al Johnson has graciously accepted to serve out this year as our Vice President. Capt. Harry Jackson (USAF retired) had faithfully served in this capacity for the last couple of years but had to step aside for personal reasons and Al has stepped into the breach. Thanks Al!

**Prayer Needs and Praises!**

**John Morris**is recovering from a stroke as he continues a long term battle with MS. 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 and for her and Richard’s health and the Spirit’s support as they make the “Texas Swing” this week speaking in Houston, Dallas and at our monthly meeting in San Antonio!

**Answers in Genesis** and their Ark Encounter project have come under intense political attack and the state of Kentucky has now rescinded their rights to tax incentives provided to all tourist attractions such as them. AiG has had to sue the state of Kentucky to try and get back the tax incentives provided to all tourist attractions in Kentucky. Please pray that God will restore these tax incentives to Ark Encounter.

**Dr. Carl Williams** Dr. Williams and his wife Cindy are board members with SABBSA. Dr. Williams has learned of the return of his prostate cancer which had been in remission for the last four years. Please pray for healing and support for this brother and his family.

**Alpha Omega Institute (AOI)** is in dire need of funds to finance their speaker and support staff salaries, sponsor their summer programs and college seminars, as well as to support the “kick off’ of their new training institute. We ask that you both pray for their needs and the success of their ministry as well as pray as to whether you need to be one to support them financially.

**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.

**The Last Two Months at SABBSA**

**A 12,000 year Timeline for the Bible, Part II**

By Dr. Daniel Harris

Creationists have debates within their own ranks. One of those is just how young is the earth? Does the Bible give us any hints as to whether a strict 6000 year time frame is implied or whether a somewhat longer time frame could be reasonably applied to the text? To bring this discussion into sharp view, our March meeting focused on the 6,000 year time frame while April’s and May’s meeting investigated a longer discussion of this topic.

Last month, at our regular meeting on May 12, Dr. Daniel Harris gave us more on his views on how a 12,000 year timeline better fits scientific data, historical records and the Bible's text. This follows a great presentation on March 10th by Dr. Carl Williams who espoused a more traditional 6000+ year time frame for the Earth and Bible history.



**Next SABBSA Meeting:
Tuesday, June 9, 2015, at 7 pm**

**Coming to SABBSA in June**

**Formed out of Water and by Water**

In the first verses of Genesis, Earth was created with an apparently unbroken surface of water over the "deep". Later the water was divided into a part above and a part below by an "expanse" called "heaven". Still later dry land was brought up out of the waters below. Further in 2 Peter 3:5 we are told that the Earth **"was formed out of water and by water"**. So clearly water played a central role in the physical creation of Earth. Many of us have marveled at these things, but wondered about the details that might be involved.

In **1984 physicist Dr. Russell Humphreys** hypothesized that God might possibly have first created matter in the form of water, H2O, with the magnetic spin of the two hydrogen atoms aligned. That would establish a specific initial value of magnetic energy in the Earth or other planets. This initial value, along with the nature of the core of each planet, would determine each planet's magnetic field and decay rate. So Humphreys made estimates of the magnetic fields we should find as then future space probes made measurements. Over the years Humphreys' predictions have been validated with the measured values by space probes and on the whole very far better than the predictions made by evolutionary planet formation theories.

On June 9th, **Richard Stepanek from Alpha Omega Institute** will present his talk titled **Water, Water, Everywhere!** He will show us an abundance of amazing facts about the role of water in the creation around us that the materialists simply would not expect. This is an amazing and God honoring presentation for layman and scientists alike.

Please join us on Tuesday, June 9th for food, fellowship and good Christian science education! 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.