Communique'

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**April 2020**

Spring is here, but so is COVID-19. Who could have guessed just a month ago how our world would be turned upside down and our lifestyles altered so incredibly fast? It is also true that we will not have a normal Easter. I do not fret over less Easter Egg hunts (Our kids will.), nor my wife not buying a new dress, but I am concerned over not making the “Sacrifice of our Lord” for us the major event it deserves to be. **Please consider prayerfully Christ’s sacrifice and His gift to us on April 12.**

This month’s **Communique’** features an article in coordination with our April 4 radio program informing you about the **Corona outbreak** and stressing that while there is real reason for concern, there is still no reason to panic, and remember that God is in control! We also have an article on whether **Creation Science** is just a side issue which we may need to ignore in church since it could be divisive, or is it a key to modern evangelism? This second article is coordinated with our May 2 radio program which discusses this question.

We have another installment of our **Genesis Commentary series on Genesis 3:21-4:10** which covers the first murder on Earth, as well as God’s interactions with Cain. As always, we have full rundown of all creation education opportunities coming up, but please note that everything except our radio programs are tentatively set due to the uncertainty of our times in “lockdown mode.” We pray this newsletter finds you well and gives you good information and something to ponder as you, like most of us have “cabin fever” at home.

“Nothing to Fear, but Fear Itself!”

Those were the immortal words of President Franklin D. Roosevelt, said in his inaugural address going into his first term as President of the U.S. in 1933. At the time, America was in the midst of the Great Depression. Those words should ring well and loud in the ears of Christians in these weird times when it seems the “world has stopped turning.”

We are all sequestered in our homes for another month. Afraid of human contact. Afraid for our jobs, our economy, our 401K’s, our health, where our next paycheck is coming from, whether there will be food in the stores and even whether we will have toilet paper! (Someone please explain that to me?) Not surprisingly, domestic violence calls to the police are up 18% in San Antonio.[[1]](#footnote-1)

I hope you tuned into our April 4 radio program as we talked through the facts of the Coronavirus Crisis. It is our belief that this is probably not God’s Final Judgment on the World, but just another in a long line of mutated viruses which strike us every so often in a fallen world. Neither is this virus proof of positive evolution. Nor is it the start of the “Zombie Apocalypse” and we aren’t all going to die. It is a time however for us to take healthy precautions and keep our heads.

According to the US Centers for Disease Control (CDC), this past year’s flu season killed more than 23,000 Americans. The year before an estimated 60 to 80 million were infected and 80,000 Americans died in the worst flu season in four decades. Each year between 12,000 and 60,000+ Americans die from the flu and resulting complications. The many strains of influenzas have a death rate between 0.1 and 0.15% annually. Currently, the Coronavirus death rate is about 3% in the U.S. (about 6% worldwide) which is alarming, but SARS death rate was 10% and MERS was 34%.

Coronaviruses are a large group of viruses that are common among animals**.** In rare cases, they are what scientists call “zoonotic”, meaning they can be transmitted from animals to humans, according to the CDC.

SARS killed 774 people during its 2002-2003 outbreak (but none in the U.S.), while MERS 2012 outbreak lead to 858 deaths worldwide, with a handful of cases still arising every year. Both of these were COVID strains like Coronavirus. The new Coronavirus is said to be more genetically similar to SARS than any other strain of that class.



It is believed that COVID-19 (**CO**rona**V**Irus**D**isease-**2019**) is a bat disease which transferred from bats to humans in China. Similarly, the H1N1 Influenza virus that caused the **swine flu** is believed to have come from pigs. The first cases of SARS (severe acute respiratory syndrome) were reported in Asia in 2003. From November 2002 to July 2003, more than 8,000 probable SARS cases were reported to the World Health Organization from 29 countries. **There were only eight laboratory confirmed cases of SARS in the U.S.!**

Most people with SARS became ill within 2-10 days after exposure. The death rate was nearly 10% but increased to over 50% in adults older than 60. No cases of SARS have been reported anywhere in the world since 2004.

MERS (Middle Eastern respiratory syndrome) was first reported in Saudi Arabia in 2012. Of the 27 countries affected globally, 10 countries are in or near the Arabian Peninsula and 17 countries are outside of the Arabian Peninsula. Only 2 patients in the U.S. ever tested positive for MERS. To date, there have been nearly 2,500 laboratory confirmed cases of MERS with a death rate of about 34%.

The swine flu, or influenza A (H1N1) virus caused the 2009 global pandemic. An estimated 151,000-575,000 people worldwide died from the H1N1 virus in 2009. Of those, there were an estimated 12,400 deaths in the U.S. The estimated global death rate was very low at 0.02%. This strain continues to circulate as a seasonal flu virus each year, but can be prevented with a flu vaccine.[[2]](#footnote-2)

Note that although we had over 12,000 people die in the U.S. and hundreds of thousands worldwide from the Swine Flu in 2009, our government and other world governments did not react to this outbreak as we have for Corona.

As of 4/9/2020, we have over 450,000 people who have tested positive for COVID-19 in the U.S. out of over 2-million people tested. That is the amount that have tested positive. It is estimated there are probably another 150,000 to 450,000 Americans who are infected but are asymptomatic (show no symptoms) out of 330 million Americans. We now have over 16,000 dead ( a number which grows each day) which is sad, but small compared to the flu each year. So why all the fuss when we had an estimated 20 million Americans infected with the flu this past flu season and over 23,000 deaths?

Coronavirus as we have shown, has a death rate around twenty times than that of flu viruses. It, like the flu is highly infectious and can spread rapidly as we have seen around the world. SARS and MERS presented symptoms very quickly and more severely. Thus, the people infected were more quickly identified and isolated. This along with these viruses much higher mortality rates and lower infectious rates meant that they were easier to identify and contain.

COVID-19 on the other hand while highly infectious, does not affect everyone with severe symptoms. It is estimated that 80% of those who get the Coronavirus will not be hospitalized and will get through it with few symptoms or have a period of 14 days with mild cold or flu symptoms. But all the while, these people are highly infectious via personal contact. The only good news is the fact that this virus is larger than the normal flu viruses and when we cough, talk or sneeze is normally projected only about 5 feet (as opposed to the flu which can be projected 20 feet). This is the background for the 6-foot spacing we are being asked to keep from people.

If we had done nothing and not put in social distancing, we could easily have 60 million+ people infected in the U.S. at some point which would overwhelm our medical system and pump the mortality rate up to at least the reported China average of 4% which would have resulted in more than 2 million deaths. We have closed the casinos and the churches. When Heaven and Hell agree we must have a problem.

With this in mind, world governments have taken the drastic measures of spacing ourselves out (called “social distancing”), closing all mass gatherings, closing schools and restaurants and bars, and massive self-quarantines to get two things done. The first is to try and prevent the spread of this highly infectious disease to the elderly and others with compromised immune systems for which this disease does appear to be very dangerous. The second is to slow the amount of infections and rate of infections so that our hospitals and ICU’s do not become inundated and overrun with so many patients that they cannot care for them all as is happening today in Italy and Spain.

Interestingly, this is not the first time San Antonio has experienced a “shelter in place “ order for a serious contagion. For a period of 6-weeks starting in May 1946 in San Antonio, people were asked to stay home and not mix in large groups as a polio epidemic was circulating around town. Schools were closed in mid-May and did not reopen that term. In the summer of 1946, all swimming pools in San Antonio were closed. **Young people (the most at-risk population for polio) were prohibited from attending any public gatherings at churches, schools or theaters.** Officials sprayed insecticides throughout the city in an earnest effort to wipe out pests.

This polio scare had another thing in common with Coronavirus on top of the fact that it happened in San Antonio and kept everyone home. There was no vaccine available for polio in 1946 and would not be widely available till 1955.[[3]](#footnote-3)

The lack of a vaccine and any proven treatments for COVID-19 have underlined the importance of trying to get as few people exposed as possible. It is starting to appear like we may have three treatment options which will be more widely used in the coming weeks which give us hope for effective treatment tools. We are also racing to develop a vaccine, not for this year, but so if it returns next season or in future years as H1N1 has, that we will be able to immunize people against it and not have to go through all of this again.

Schools and public gatherings were suspended for longer than in 1946 back in 1918 when the Spanish Flu Pandemic hit. In 1918, San Antonio was the largest urban center in Texas, with a population that would exceed 160,000 by 1920. Even then, the city had a large military presence at a number of bases, including Camp Travis and Fort Sam Houston.

Throughout the month of September 1918, residents read reports of Spanish Influenza cases spreading across the northeastern United States. Local officials were confident the city could escape the epidemic. A headline that month in the San Antonio Light shared Dr. W. A. King's claim: "NO CONTAGIOUS DISEASES HERE." King, the city's health officer, called the S. A. the nation’s cleanest city!

San Antonio native Ana Martinez-Catsam, an academic at The University of Texas of the Permian Basin, details what happened next in an article titled **"Desolate Streets: The Spanish Influenza in San Antonio."** (Does this title sound familiar?)

*The Associated Press reported influenza had struck Camp Travis in late September. Col. Alexander Wetherill denied the report, but medical authorities announced influenza cases at the base a week later.*

Headline from 1918

*By Oct. 1, Camp Travis and Fort Sam Houston reported hundreds of troops with influenza. San Antonio officials prohibited soldiers from visiting the city.* Another decision they made might have echoes for our current leaders. *Concerned a large gathering might facilitate the spread of disease, even though there had not been an abundance of cases in the city, officials denied Barnum & Bailey Circus the permit to hold a performance.*

***Schools, churches, and theaters were closed on Oct. 16****. A public service announcement advised residents to* ***"keep away from other people. Do not kiss anyone."*** *Contemporary newspaper accounts provide a fascinating glimpse at daily life. Workers toiled all day in the local Red Cross workroom making face masks. Every able-bodied San Antonio woman was urged to assist that effort, while the governor appealed for women throughout Texas to care for soldiers.*

The San Antonio Express carried the story of a San Marcos mother who could not attend her daughter's funeral because she too had fallen ill. Two days later, the paper described a scene from Boston where caskets containing bodies of influenza victims were piled high on top of each other while they waited for burial.

Cases declined in late October and the public gathering ban was lifted on Nov. 11 in San Antonio. Kids returned to school. But another rise in new cases forced officials to re-institute the ban in early December. New cases continued to appear throughout the following year, but never equaled October 1918 level. All told, the influenza epidemic killed an estimated 550,000 to 670,000 Americans and 21 million people worldwide.[[4]](#footnote-4)

Today one doctor at New York’s premier hospital, who now has nothing but COVID-19 patients in their hospital says he finally has real hope of controlling this thing since they now feel they have a good handle on its transmission. While it can hang in the air for a time and you shouldn’t be in a closed room or in close contact with an infected person, their data shows that most infections are by hand to face contact. With that in mind, the doctors at that hospital and the CDC emphasize that if you keep your hands and home clean and sanitized, DO NOT TOUCH YOUR FACE WITH YOUR HANDS, and keep the surfaces you touch sanitized you stand a good chance of not being infected. Doing all of this is not easy, as most of us touch our face often without thinking about it. But it can be done.

We pray that you are well and that you try to stay well by following the guidelines our governments are putting out for self-distancing, sanitizing surfaces, wearing a mask in public and washing your hands. The news channels have sensationalized this crisis for ratings and have sparked a fear level which is not healthy or at times useful.

Based on what occurred in 1918 and what we are getting from the federal government, and the CDC, it is likely we will see a “phased in” lifting of this “lockdown” sometime in May. Once antibody testing is easily accessible, we will probably start testing anyone returning to the workplace and if they have positive COVID antibodies (supposedly immune) they will be cleared to go back to work as well our younger generations while still practicing social distancing in the workplace and wearing masks. Full normal transition to public life may not occur this year, just as it did not in 1918.

If we get lucky, and this virus starts to die out and wane in July when the average daily temperatures rise above its 80˚ tolerance threshold, then maybe we will see a more full return to work and society for a while by late summer, but this virus is forecast to return in the fall. Hopefully when it does so, even though we will not have a vaccine by then, we will hopefully have a number of therapies now being trialed which have proven effective such as Hydroxychloroquine and Antibody Therapy which will help make this disease less lethal and we can move about without as much fear. Even then, we don’t envision air and sea travel, restaurant use, and large societal gatherings returning completely to normal till next year when a vaccine is available.

There are 365 times in the Bible God has told us “Do Not be Afraid!”, “Be not afraid”, “fear not” or words to this effect. Jesus himself in the midst of a heavy storm in which His disciples thought they would die at sea told them (Matthew 14:27) “Be not afraid”.

We need to keep all of this in perspective and know God is in control. He can help you through this time of trouble. If you are stuck at home without supplies and no one to turn to, please tell us and we will get some to you. That is a ministry my church and many others are devoted to during this time of trial. In fact folks, this crisis has given us an amazing opportunity to minister to and help others. Further, no better witness for Christ could be shown to our neighbors at this time than by our respecting governments directives (which sadly was not done by “spring breakers” in Florida), helping others in need and providing for others. Rather than be of fear, let’s use common sense at this time, but also do not quake in fear at home, but actively look for how we can minister to others in this time of need for many Americans.

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**Creation Science: A Side Issue or a Key to Evangelism?**

SABBSA’s and other creation science organizations biggest problem with access to many churches is the idea that our ministry is divisive and a side issue. They say they only want to “preach Jesus” and do not want to get caught up in any fights over a young earth or 24-hour day. They point out that people are not saved by creation science, but by the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

To be sure, their focus has merit as the Gospel of Jesus Christ is what needs to be transmitted to people and it is this message with the help of the Holy Spirit which saves people. Our question is whether the youngest generations will even listen to the Gospel of Jesus or give it any credence in a world devoted to naturalism and scientism.

The Apostle Paul was faced with this same dilemma on Mars Hill with the Greeks. When talking to Jews in Israel he could count on their knowledge of the Old Testament scriptures and their belief in the authority of scripture as 100% accurate to give him a basis for talking to these people about Christ. But, with the Greeks he had no such shared knowledge of the Old Testament, nor any belief in biblical authority. That is precisely the dilemma we have today with the younger generations. Due to the evolutionary dogma which has been engrained in them and the secular shifts of our society, they neither know what’s in the Bible, nor do they honor it as God’s infallible words. So, what do we do?

Paul’s answer on Mars Hill was to use something from their culture to bridge the gap and make them see a different worldview than their own. We need to do the same.

There are many testimonies of how **Creation Evangelism** did not save individuals but led them to Christ. On such person is **Joe Zigusrski**, now a deacon at Cibolo Valley Baptist Church. Joe spent most of his life in a secular lifestyle devoid of any belief in a god. In fact, he was openly contemptuous of such beliefs. Showing how God can work through any situation for good, one day an atheist friend suggested he watch the videos of creation evangelist **Kent Hovind** as a form of comedy to see just how dumb, ignorant and crazy creationists were.

Zigurski got a hold of a 12-hour seminar by Hovind and sat down one day to pass the time and he envisioned to laugh at this crazy creationist. Over the length of these 12 sessions Joe began to see a completely different worldview which seemed to make sense to him. By then end of the sessions, he had a Bible out checking what Hovind was saying. This 12-hour creation seminar, which Joe watched on a lark with the intent to ridicule bridged the gap between his totally secular worldview and that of the biblical worldview. Further it showed him that he needed a savior and caused him to search for and find Christ. Joe will be a special guest on our May 2 radio program, and we invite you to listen in.

Joe’s story is not a unique one. The Lord has used science and skepticism many times in our modern times to convert atheistic skeptics to a saving knowledge of Christ. Dr. J. C. Sanford (born 1950) is a Professor Emeritus at Cornell University. Dr. Sanford is a researcher in genetics and is currently looking at the theoretical limits of mutation and selection. He is noted as one of the foremost plant geneticists in the world.

Dr. Sanford was an atheist. According to him, he fully rejected Darwinian evolution in 2000 as he had for years been overwhelmed by the load of intelligent design, he saw in plant genetics. The science he was doing on plants convinced him that the evolutionary worldview was wrong.

His faith in God’s creation is now so strong that Dr. Sanford was involved in the 2005 Kansas evolution hearings. He denied the principle of common descent and testified ..."that we were created by a special creation, by God."

As an inventor, Dr. Sanford holds more than 25 patents including the biolistic process known as the "**biolistic gene gun**." He started two biotech enterprises derived from his research, Biolistics, Inc., and Sanford Scientific, Inc. In addition to his genetic contributions, Dr. Sanford and his colleagues developed the quantitative forward genetic modeling program called **Mendel's Accountant**. Sanford et al. published two peer reviewed papers dealing with genetic entropy in computing journals concerned with modeling methodology.

Dr. J. C. Sanford

Based on quantitative modeling evidence developed using Mendel's Accountant and from his research into mutations, Sanford holds that the genome is deteriorating and therefore could not have evolved in the way specified by the modern evolutionary theory suggests.

His research into the genetic limit of the genome, and its devolution has led to his publishing of "**Genetic Entropy & the Mystery of the Genome**". After mostly retiring from Cornell, Dr. Sanford has started a small nonprofit, the Feed My Sheep Foundation, which focuses on supporting science and technology research initiatives in the area of life sciences. He is also a fellow with the “Logos” creation evangelism organization. Science literally pushed this atheist into being a believer in the creator!

The list of people who have been turned to faith by their research of science and the veracity of the word of God is a long one and includes such names as Sir William Ramsey, Josh McDowell, and Lee Strobel among hundreds of others.

But, there are many more which have gotten a spark of faith when introduced to the ideas they never had before of a biblical worldview via a creation science presentation, book or video. One of the most active creation science evangelists of our time is **Dave Nutting, co-founder of the Alpha Omega Institute**. Dave was an evolutionist and a college geology teacher who taught evolution and deep time till he stumbled upon the book **“Evolution, the Fossils say No!”** by Creationist Dr. Duane Gish.

Australian Sai-Chung went to a creation science talk at an Australian church many years ago so he could heckle and undermine the proceedings. He had much the same attitude approaching creation science that Joe Zigurski did. But, after attending that creation science presentation by creationist Warwick Armstrong in 2003, he did more research on the topic and was soon converted to Christianity.

“Growing Pains” child star Kirk Cameron was brought up in an atheistic home which never went to church and never discussed a place in their life for God. He converted to Christ however as a young man shortly after going to church meetings which gave him a biblical worldview.

According to the Barna Research Group, only 14% of millennials believe that the Bible is the word of God.[[5]](#footnote-5) A 2017 Gallup poll showed that only 12% of Americans 18 to 29 years of age believed the Bible was the literal “Word of God.” 30 to 49 year olds in this country were only somewhat better at 24% and the overall average of all Americans was just 24% in belief that the Bible is the actual “Word of God.”[[6]](#footnote-6) This is a fight over the “Authority of God’s Word” and we are losing it.

No wonder we are losing the millennials, as well as generations X, Y and Z. They have been taught in school their entire lives that they are just evolved animals and an accidental chance product of nature. Scientism today (The idea that there are natural explanations for all phenomena and eschews supernatural and paranormal speculations. It values empirical evidence and our own reason above any supposed religion or scriptures.) tells our newest generations that the Bible is only myths and fables and cannot be trusted and thus do not read it or have interest in it.



Author and noted youth evangelist, Mark Cahill, says, “The number one reason students give for not responding to the gospel is evolution.” Creation Evangelist Dave Nutting says they find the same thing as they tour the country talking to youth and college students.

To fight back against all of this, creation groups such as Answers in Genesis do hundreds of presentations each year, put out tons of videos and literature to educate the public on the biblical worldview and to show these younger generations that science and the Bible are fully compatible and they don’t have to “check their brains at the door” to adopt a biblical worldview.

Mark Cahill

An example of this teaching which Answers in Genesis often uses is the “**Seven C’s of History**.” They teach that rather than slow uniformitarian processes forming the world over billions of years; Our history can be seen as being unfolded in seven distinct big events, the Creation, Corruption (the Fall), Catastrophe (the Flood), Confusion (Babel), Christ, the Cross and Consummation (the 2nd Coming).

By these and the many other intelligent design, young earth evidences, Bible is real history, geology, anthropology, astronomy and so many other presentations, books and videos we endeavor to show a very biblically uneducated set of generations how a biblical worldview can make sense even is this modern world dominated by scientism. And that knowledge often makes them open to the Gospel of Christ! In a nutshell, this is why we do what we do.

**Genesis Commentary**

3:21 And Jehovah God made for Adam and for his wife coats of skins, and clothed them.

Don’t miss the theological idea of animals were killed, their blood spilled to give animal skins to cover Adam’s and Eve’s nakedness, just as it will be Christ’s blood which was spilled to cover our sins. The animal sacrifices of the Old Testament Jews were to symbolize this ultimate sacrifice by the Messiah. This verse is the first with this symbolism.

22 And Jehovah God said, Behold, the man is become as one of us, to know good and evil; and now, lest he put forth his hand, and take also of the tree of life, and eat, and live forever— **23**therefore Jehovah God sent him forth from the garden of Eden, to till the ground from whence he was taken. **24**So he drove out the man; and he placed at the east of the Garden of Eden the Cherubim, and the flame of a sword which turned every way, to keep the way of the tree of life.

For our sin we were thus barred from Eden, separated from the perfect existence God had created for us, and separated from eternal life both physically and spiritually. Note the angel (Cherubim) sent to keep us out of Eden. It was very normal in the Bible to see angels perform extraordinary and violent tasks (Sodom and Gomorrah, Death Angel, etc.). This is no different and one reason why people when they encountered angels in the Bible were most often afraid.

**Chapter 4**Adam(Hebrew “the man”) made love to his wife Eve, and she became pregnant and gave birth to Cain (Hebrew “brought forth”). She said, “With the help of the Lord I have brought forth a man.”

Note how Adam and Eve gave credit to God for the conception and life of their sons.

2a Later she gave birth to his brother Abel.

Note that we do not have a time frame for these births, nor how relatively old each son is. Neither do we know whether girls were born in intervening times due to the culture in which the Bible was written emphasized only males. This coincides however with the spiritual appointment of whatever occurs is the responsibility of males since they were given greater hierarchical responsibility by God.

Jewish tradition (not the Bible) says that Adam and Eve had 56 children (believable since Adam lived 930 years). But there is no mention of the other 53 if they existed beyond the three (Abel, Cain and Seth) mentioned in the Bible. The normal writing style of the time was to only mention the major male players in a story, thus it is very possible that there were female babies mixed into this lineage from Adam and Eve and other male babies who did not figure prominently in this account which were not mentioned in the Bible, but were their offspring.

2b Now Abel kept flocks, and Cain worked the soil. **3**In the course of time Cain brought some of the fruits of the soil as an offering to the Lord.**4**And Abel also brought an offering—fat portions from some of the firstborn of his flock. The Lord looked with favor on Abel and his offering, **5**but on Cain and his offering he did not look with favor. So Cain was very angry, and his face was downcast.

**6**Then the Lord said to Cain, “Why are you angry? Why is your face downcast? **7**If you do what is right, will you not be accepted? But if you do not do what is right, sin is crouching at your door; it desires to have you, but you must rule over it.”

This section of scripture has often been misinterpreted as a message from God that Cain’s offering was unacceptable because it was grain and not an animal sacrifice. Thus, it was not foreshadowing Christ’s sacrifice for our sins.

But, such a surface interpretation misses the point God was making. It was not that all animal sacrifices were approved, and all grain sacrifices disapproved. Both types of sacrifices will be used and authorized by God within the sacrificial system for the next four thousand years (throughout the Old Testament).

The difference was between bringing first fruits (our best) and offering just anything (or leftovers). Note that the text says Abel offered the “**fat portions** from some of the **first born** of his flock.” He brought and gave his best to God. Cain’s offering was described alternately as **“some” fruits** of the ground (not necessarily his best). This is what was disapproved of, his attitude and quality of the offering, not its specific content.

These verses also describe the way sin is always lurking and trying to take hold of us and how we can avoid it only with great care. We cannot “dabble” in sin without getting hurt.

8 Now Cain said to his brother Abel, “Let’s go out to the field.” While they were in the field, Cain attacked his brother Abel and killed him.

(Please note that these words *“Let’s go out to the field.”* are in the Samaritan Pentateuch, Greek Septuagint, Latin Vulgate and Syriac texts. However, the Hebrew Masoretic Text does not have *“Let’s go out to the field.”)*

Regardless of whether the quote from Cain is an insertion by copyists or not, the message is clear. Sadly, here we have the account of the first murder in history and worse yet the first murder of a family member by another. In spite of God’s warning, Cain allowed himself to be ruled by sin and it led him to subterfuge and murder of his brother. God foresaw this and tried to warn him, but God leaves us to decide our fates.

9 Then the Lord said to Cain, “Where is your brother Abel?” “I don’t know,” he replied. **“Am I my brother’s keeper?”**

Here God again is in teaching mode. He knows all that has occurred, but He asks the question of Abel to try to get him to understand the depth of his sin and confess it (agree that it was sin). Cain, as his father and mother did before him, feigns ignorance and denies what he did. We as humans most often try to fool God (as if we could), lie our way out of trouble (a ploy which often works with men, but not with God) and avoid the consequences of our sins. It never works, but we do it anyway.

At the end of this verse, we have the well-known rhetorical question, **“Am I my brother’s keeper?”** by Cain. This phrase shows the depths of Cain’s intentional misunderstanding of how we are supposed to live. The answer to his question is a clear and simple yes! But Cain and our philosophers have asked this question over the intervening centuries as if it is a crucial and debatable question to be pondered. The fact that Cain asked it as if it could be true that he was not his brother’s keeper shows his intentional ignorance of how we are supposed to live. Our debate of this quote as to whether it is true or not shows we continue to try to sidestep our responsibilities towards all others as our brothers.

10 He (God) said, “What have you done? The voice of your brother’s blood is crying to Me from the ground.**11**Now you are cursed from the ground, which has opened its mouth to receive your brother’s blood from your hand. **12**When you cultivate the ground, it will no longer yield its strength to you; you will be a vagrant and a wanderer on the earth.”

God responds to Cain’s feigning ignorance with a flat statement to him that there is no way God could not know what Cain had done and the incredible seriousness of the offense. Part of Cain’s punishment is to no longer be able to have the ground yield produce for him (his joy and chosen profession) and him to be a wanderer and a vagrant.

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**Prayer Needs and Praises!**

**Richard Stepaneck –** with the **Alpha Omega Institute** who is recovering hip replacement surgery.

**Our medical professionals across the world.**

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**Coming to SABBSA on the second Tuesday of each month at Faith Lutheran Church**

April 14 – **Meeting cancelled due to Coronavirus**
May 12 - **Replacing Darwin** (Dr. Nathaniel Jeanson)

June - **Quick Answers to Tough Questions** (Bryan Osborn)

**FEAST Science Workshops in 2020**

We have postponed our April 20 meeting and rescheduled it for May 18 at 6:30 pm (tentative). We will meet at the new **FEAST Campus** at **7735 Mockingbird Lane, San Antonio, TX 78229**.

If the pandemic allows, SABBSA in partnership with FEAST will provide the last of our FEAST Science Workshops on May 18 entitled

**Underpinnings - Fossils, Physics, Genetics and Babel**

We invite you to attend.

**SABBSA on KSLR**

Please join the **San Antonio Bible Based Science Association** “on the air” each Saturday afternoon with “**Believing the Bible!”** Join us **Saturday afternoons at 1:45 pm on radio station KSLR 630 AM in San Antonio and airing for 9-million people across the U.S. in 10 major markets.**

Here is our schedule of upcoming program topics-



**4/4 Corona Virus is not the Apocalypse**

**4/11 Belief in God's Word in Israel, part I**

**4/18 Belief in God's Word in Israel, part II**

**4/25 Belief in God's Word in Israel, part III**

**5/2****Creation Science: A Side Issue or a Key to Evangelism?**

**5/9  Single Cell on Multicellular Organisms**

**5/19  Scholars and Skeptics (William Ramsey)**

**5/23  Caveman Language**

**5/30  Prosecutor for Evolution**

**6/6    Has Language Evolved?**

**6/13  Comb Jellies**

**6/20  Squid Octopus Alien DNA**

**6/27  Am I made Out of Stardust?**

If you cannot tune in on Saturday afternoons, or would like to sample our program or hear previous shows, they are available on podcast on the KSLR website (kslr.com). Click on the link below to go to the KSLR podcast page and scroll down till you find "**Believing the Bible**."

 ["Believing the Bible" - SABBSA on KSLR Radio](https://am630theword.com/radioshow/local)

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**Cartoon Corner**

Thanks to **Answers in Genesis** who provides these cartoons each month for our newsletter and our presentations. Please think about donating to them in gratitude for this and all the ministries they give us.

**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 143. After the presentation, there will be refreshments, fellowship and creation science materials for all to enjoy. Their meetings can be streamed live! 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 Evidence Museum just outside Glen Rose, TX. This 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:**

The Museum of Earth History uses the highest quality research replicas of dinosaurs, mammals and authentic historical artifacts to not only lay out for the visitor a clear and easily understood connection between Genesis and Revelation, but will do so in an entertaining and intellectually challenging way. Open M-F 9 to 6. <http://visitcreation.org/item/museum-of-earth-history-dallas-tx/>

Of course, the **ICR Discovery Center for Science and Earth History** open 10 am to 5 pm Monday thru Saturday is the foremost creation history museum in the Southwest. For information on this exceptional facility go to <https://discoverycenter.icr.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 on the first Tuesday of each month. <http://dfw-mios.com/>

**Abilene:**

The Discovery Center is a creation museum/emporium that exists primarily to provide scientific and historic evidence for the truthfulness of God’s word, especially as it relates to the creation/evolution issue. It also features some fascinating “Titanic Disaster” exhibits. <http://evidences.org/index.html>

**Lubbock Area (Crosbyton):**
All year: Consider a visit to the Mt. Blanco Fossil Museum, directed by Joe Taylor. The Museum is 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 creation audio programs 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**

**Creation Science Evidence Overview**

Every area of science has evidence showing that life did not happen by accident. When seen by students, their faith in God skyrockets!

Our friends at "**Search for the Truth Ministries**" are now in third year of visiting schools in **Fiji, Vanuatu and the Philippines**. They have had the extraordinary opportunity to speak to hundreds of thousands of students on these islands and give each student a copy of a creation science devotional much like the ones we sell, which all come from "Search for the Truth Ministries."

After each presentation and book distribution, they leave a DVD with the school for use in assemblies or science classes giving a creation science evidence overview.

On Tuesday, March 10 we showed the video they are leaving with each school on these South Pacific Islands. It gave all of us a fine overview of creation science, but also a vision for the impact this ministry is having in the South Pacific.

Prayer Alert – The person in Fiji who has acted as **Search for the Truth’s** primary coordinator has had the extension for their visa denied. It will be almost impossible to finish their commitment to Fiji without him there. Please pray for God’s intervention in this situation!

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**Next SABBSA Meeting: Tuesday, May 12, 2020, at 7 pm** (Tentative)

**Coming to SABBSA in May**

**Replacing Darwin (Dr. Nathaniel Jeanson)**

Our planned program for April was **"Replacing Darwin"**, a concept developed by
Dr. Nathaniel Jeanson as a worldview and counter concept to the prevailing "primary axiom" of Darwinian Evolution.

Due to the **Coronavirus Crisis**, we have postponed this presentation till May 12. We hope and pray that some sense of normalcy will have returned by that time. If not, we will postpone again and notify you on our website through this newsletter and via eblasts to our membership. We thank all of you for your patience with us and with this trying situation for us all.

Please join us the second Tuesday each month for creation science and biblical apologetics teaching you will find nowhere else in Bexar County. We meet at **Faith Lutheran Church**, 14819 Jones Maltsberger Rd., San Antonio, Texas 78247 at 7pm.

1. Reported on Channel 4 (WOAI) TV 10 pm newscast on 4/7/20 from the SAPD. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. https://abcnews.go.com/US/coronavirus-compares-sars-mers-recent-viral-outbreaks/story?id=69329364 [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. https://www.expressnews.com/news/local/article/1946-The-year-a-polio-scare-closed-schools-early-11192703.php [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. https://www.msn.com/en-us/news/us/heres-what-happened-during-san-antonios-spanish-flu-epidemic-100-years-ago/ar-BB116hsX [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. https://www1.cbn.com/cbnnews/us/2018/september/most-millennials-believe-the-bible-is-just-a-book-ndash-what-this-group-is-doing-about-it [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
6. https://news.gallup.com/poll/210704/record-few-americans-believe-bible-literal-word-god.aspx [↑](#footnote-ref-6)