Communique'

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**February 2020**

80˚ one day and 40˚ the next. The weather cannot decide whether its winter or spring. We hope and pray this newsletter finds you warm and safe.

This month’s **Communique’** has articles informing you: of the death of an icon in the Intelligent Design movement; about a new movie from the Pattern’s for Evidence people called “The Red Sea Miracle” (in theaters this month); how weak faith and liberal interpretation of scripture can lead to the weirdest of accommodations by Christians including praying to “potted plants”; Terry Read’s article asking us to keep up the fight for biblical truth; and a discovery of a shark fossil in Kentucky which fits well within the biblical flood account.

We have another installment of our **Genesis Commentary series on Genesis 3:12-16** which further details man’s first fall into temptation and the inception of the curse. As always, we include a full run down of creation events in our area including our own creation seminar at CVBC and the FEAST Science Workshops. You will also find included information on a host of family and informational creation camping opportunities available from the **Alpha Omega Institute** (AOI) We hope you are edified by this month’s **Communique’**.

Phillip E. Johnson (1940-2019)

Phil Johnson died Saturday, November 2, 2019. He was ID movement’s chief architect and guiding light. Here are some thoughts on this pioneer of Intelligent Design from his friend Dr. William Dembski. This article will also inform you on the state of the ID movement.

The title ***Darwin’s Nemesis***applies to Johnson’s roles as fearless leader, trusted friend and far-seeing visionary. Professionally and publicly, Johnson stepped into the controversy over intelligent design at just the right time as the fledgling movement’s field marshal. Later, eschewing authoritarianism and any desire to become a cult figure, he made room for a new generation of ID scholars, stepping back so that the movement could flourish, not through a top-down chain of command but through its own inner vitality.

**Strategist, Teacher, Prophet**

Johnson’s first book on the subject of Intelligent Design was ***Darwin on Trial****.* It is hard to overestimate the impact of that book. In my view the book’s primary importance is as the beachhead that finally put effective criticism of Darwinism on the map. Beachheads by themselves are not enough. They are the means toward greater ends. Johnson, as a master strategist, saw how to make this beachhead into the start of a comprehensive intellectual program for reforming science and revitalizing culture.

The first glimmers of Johnson’s grand designs could be seen in 1992, the year following the publication of *Darwin on Trial.* Several events that year and the next foreshadowed the juggernaut that Johnson would unleash. The highlight was a symposium organized by Jon Buell, Tom Woodward, and Steve Sternberg, which took place at Southern Methodist University (SMU) in the spring of 1992, and had as its stated topic Johnson’s critique of evolution. Phil Johnson and Michael Ruse were the star attractions and key antagonists at this symposium, but it also included other key people on both sides of this debate. It was at this event that I first met **Phil, Mike Behe and Steve Meyer.**

Why was this event so significant? Here, for the first time, a radical non­materialist critique of Darwinism and naturalistic evolutionary theories was put on the table for a high-level, reasoned, academic discussion without anyone promoting a religious or sectarian agenda. In particular, this symposium was not about reconciling science with the Bible or about showing that evolution is inconsistent with traditional views about religion or morality. It was about looking at the merits of design and Darwinism on their own terms.

This symposium legitimized the debate over evolution at the highest levels of the academy. With that legitimization came an openness to think new and hitherto forbidden thoughts. And with that openness came converts and volunteers to the cause of intelligent design. Within a year following that symposium, Phil had gathered a band of such converts and volunteers, mainly scientists and philosophers.

The next step was to organize that band. This Phil did in 1993. Two moves on his part proved crucial for organizing the fledgling ID movement. The first was to organize a private several-day meeting of potential leaders in the ID movement at Pajaro Dunes, south of San Francisco. (This event is described in the opening segment of the video ***Unlocking the Mystery of Life****.)* The second, which followed that meeting, was to insist that the participants get on email and be part of a listserv that he would run from U.C. Berkeley. The meeting at Pajaro Dunes was critical for getting all of us on the same page. The listserv was critical for keeping us networked and for building momentum.

Phil’s listserv brought us together, continually increased our talent pool and, most importantly, gave us a support network. One reason nothing like an ID movement critical of Darwinian naturalism had blossomed previously is that critics of Darwinism were typically isolated; thus the Darwinian establishment could go after them mercilessly without anyone coming to their aid. With Phil’s virtual community that was no longer the case. To see this, contrast the case of Dean Kenyon with that of Percival Davis. Both were co­authors of the ID supplemental textbook *Of Pandas and People.* Davis, as it turned out, was also a coauthor of the bestselling basal biology textbook known simply as *Villee* (after Claude Villee). Someone complained to the publisher of *Villee* about Davis also being the author of an ID textbook. The publisher immediately dropped Davis as an author for subsequent editions of *Villee.* As a consequence, Davis now has little to do with ID and makes his living as a computer programmer.

Dean Kenyon likewise faced pressures for expressing views favorable to ID. But Kenyon, unlike Davis, had the benefit of Phil’s support network. Kenyon’s department chair tried to prevent him from teaching freshman biology at San Francisco State University even though Kenyon was a full professor in the biology department. Why? Because Kenyon had expressed doubts about Darwinism and a preference for intelligent design in his classes. In this case, however, the persecution backfired. Steve Meyer wrote an op-ed for the *Wall Street Journal* detailing the biology department’s assault on Kenyon’s academic freedom. Within days the university called the biology department on the carpet and reinstated Kenyon’s right to teach freshman biology.

While all of this was going on, two lesser events happened that to this day characterize the main challenges facing the ID movement.

The first is an encounter between Phillip Johnson and Howard Van Till at Trinity Evangelical Divinity School in 1992. Phil had hoped that his message would be received warmly by evangelicals, and it largely was among the rank and file. But among evangelicals teaching at Christian colleges and universities, Phil found that he faced considerable opposition. A view of divine action in which God plays no evident role in nature had taken root in Christian higher education. Thus, rather than being welcomed for critiquing Darwinian naturalism, he found himself attacked for proposing an outdated and ill-conceived theology of nature. Howard Van Till epitomized this position and strongly objected to *Darwin on Trial.* Phil in turn characterized Van Till’s position as “theistic naturalism.” At the time Van Till rejected that designation. Nowadays he accepts it, having embraced the process theology of David Ray Griffin.

Similarly, **Dr. Henry Morris** of **ICR** was critical of ID, not for the excellent evidence it revealed in God’s design, but in the attempt to divorce the designs from the designer.

If the Council for Christian Colleges and Universities was divided over Johnson’s message, the secular elites, notably in the academic and scientific establishments, were not. As far as they were concerned, Johnson was a threat to science and needed to be stopped.

Johnson was a *radical skeptic,* insisting, in the best Socratic tradition, that everything be put on the table for examination. By contrast, most skeptics opposed to him are *selective skeptics,* applying their skepticism to the things they dislike (notably religion) and refusing to apply their skepticism to the things they do like (notably Darwinism). On two occasions I’ve urged Michael Shermer, publisher of *Skeptic* Magazine, to put me on its editorial board as the resident skeptic of Darwinism. Though Shermer and I know each other and are quite friendly, having debated each other many times, he never got back to me about joining his editorial board.

Finally, I want to consider Phillip Johnson in his role as prophet. This may seem like a strange designation for Phil, but I contend that it fits. A popular stereotype conceives of prophets as wild-eyed individuals, living unconventionally, out of touch with the practicalities of life and offering enigmatic utterances about strange unseen worlds. But in fact, a prophet is anyone who holds up a mirror to the culture and forces it to acknowledge the idols it has constructed.

Old Testament passages speak eloquently of the idols as being useless, unable to do anything, unable to support their people; instead, having to be carried around and being a burden to them. But Isaiah puts his finger on a far more dangerous characteristic: they have the power to delude and deceive their makers.

The work of those attempting to craft a god of their own making, the god *we* want, and for whom ***we*** can provide the job description, is rampant within the church today.

The trouble with Darwinian naturalism is that it turns nature into an idol, making brute material forces rather than the all-wise God into the source of creativity in nature. Moreover, it tries to justify this idolatry in the name of science. To the Darwinian naturalist, Johnson the prophet says, “Your idol cannot support itself because it is founded on a false philosophy and a biased construal of scientific evidence.” Moreover, to the theistic evolutionist, Johnson the prophet says, “You have avoided turning nature into an idol, but at the cost of requiring God to act hiddenly in nature; yet what if nature reeks of design and our best scientific understanding confirms this, demonstrating that design is manifest in nature?”

Like Francis Schaeffer a generation before him, Phillip Johnson has put his finger on the key place where our generation has forgotten God. For this generation it is the place of our origin. To a generation that regards God as increasingly distant, with nature as all there is and humans as mere appendages of nature, Johnson the prophet points us to the true God, the one in whose image we are made and to whom we must ultimately render an account.

**Life After Dover**

On December 20, 2005, Judge John E. Jones III delivered his verdict in the first court case involving intelligent design. In *Kitzmiller v. Dover,* also billed as Scopes II, Judge Jones not only struck down the Dover school board policy advocating intelligent design but also identified intelligent design as nonscientific and fundamentally religious. Accordingly, he concluded that the teaching of intelligent design in public school science curricula violates the Establishment Clause and therefore is unconstitutional.

It is hard to imagine that a court decision could have been formulated more negatively against intelligent design. Even so, let me suggest that this decision is a bump in the road and that Phillip Johnson’s program for dismantling Darwinism remains well in hand.

Without an explicit Supreme Court decision against intelligent design, we can expect continued grassroots pressure to promote intelligent design and undercut neo-Darwinian evolution in the public schools. Because of *Kitzmiller v. Dover,* school boards and state legislators may tread more cautiously, but tread on evolution they will — the culture war demands it!

It is therefore naive to think that this case threatens to derail intelligent design. Intelligent design is rapidly gaining an international following. It is also crossing metaphysical and theological boundaries. I now correspond with ID proponents from every continent (save Antarctica). Moreover, I’ve seen intelligent design embraced by Jews, Muslims, Hindus, Buddhists, agnostics and even atheists [atheist philosopher Bradley Monton, for instance, published a book favorable to ID in 2009 titled *Seeking God in Science*]. The idea that intelligent design is purely an “American thing” or an “evangelical Christian thing” can therefore no longer be maintained.

Even if the courts manage to censor intelligent design at the grade and high school levels (and with the Internet, censorship means nothing to the enterprising student), they remain powerless to censor intelligent design at the college and university levels. Intelligent design is quickly gaining momentum among college and graduate students. Three years ago, there was one IDEA Center at the University of California at San Diego (IDEA = Intelligent Design and Evolution Awareness). Now there are thirty such centers at American colleges and universities, including the University of California at Berkeley and Cornell University. These centers are fiercely pro-intelligent design.

Ultimately, the significance of a court case like *Kitzmiller* v. *Dover* depends not on a judge’s decision but on the cultural forces that serve as the backdrop against which the decision is made. Take the Scopes Trial. In most persons’ minds, it represents a decisive victory for evolution. Yet, in the actual trial, the decision went against evolution (John Scopes was convicted of violating a Tennessee statute that forbade the teaching of evolution).

That said, I would say we’re still far from having won the day. A decade or so ago, I still harbored the hope that Darwinism would collapse and in much the way the Berlin Wall came tumbling down in the late 1980s. But that hasn’t happened and many cultural forces run counter to design in nature, preferring to view humans as machines or as infinitely malleable social constructs or anything but creatures made in the image of a holy God who commands that we live our lives in keeping with our divine image. Of course, intelligent design doesn’t entail Christian theism, but for those intent on defeating Christian theism, banishing intelligent design first ends up being a convenient prophylactic.

Phil led the intelligent design movement until his stroke in the summer of 2001. That stroke was a big blow to our movement, which was perhaps no longer fledgling at the time but also still not mature. It was sad to see the toll that the stroke took on Phil.

…to this day, the ID community is, by and large, unconvinced of common descent (and not just skeptical of the power of natural selection). It’s not that common descent is inimical to ID (Mike Behe, a key ID proponent, accepts both common descent and ID). It’s just that, to a hard-nosed criminal attorney like Phil, common descent, to be credible, requires compelling evidence and not a handwaving argument to the effect that reasonable minds must needs explain biological similarity in terms of evolutionary connectedness.

Phil’s habit of mind of following the evidence where it leads and not being misled by assumptions that are suspect is perhaps Phil’s greatest gift to the ID community. We see it in Steve Meyer’s book ***Darwin’s Doubt***. We see it everywhere in the ID community to this day!

*Excerpt Cross-posted with permission from Dr. Dembski’s blog, Freedom, Technology, and Education.*

**Patterns of Evidence: The Red Sea Miracle - Part 1**

THE RED SEA MIRACLE is the first in a new two-part film series by **Patterns of Evidence’s** award-winning filmmaker, **Timothy Mahoney**. In this investigation he examines the journey to the crossing location, looking at two competing views of the Red Sea Miracle. One he calls the “Egyptian Approach,” which looks near Egypt. The other he calls the “Hebrew Approach,” which looks far from Egypt to the Gulf of Aqaba where divers have been searching for the remains of Pharaoh’s army on the seafloor. The investigation raises giant questions about the real location for the crossing site and its implications on your view of God. The answers to these questions point to one of two very different realities.

On **February 18th, 2020** the new[**Patterns of Evidence film, *The Red Sea Miracle***](https://patternsofevidence.com/redsea/)**,** will be featured in over 800 theaters across the US. Running time 2 hours, 30 minutes. **Part II of this series will run in theaters May 5th, 2020.**

**Praying to Potted Plants????**

New York’s non-denominational and very liberal Union Theological Seminary (UTS) held a ceremony Tuesday where members of the community placed plants in the center of the chapel and confessed their sins to them.

“Today in chapel, we confessed to plants,” UTS tweeted, together with a picture of the ritual. “Together, we held our grief, joy, regret, hope, guilt and sorrow in prayer; offering them to the beings who sustain us but whose gift we too often fail to honor.”

On Wednesday, after receiving a fair amount of derisive feedback, the seminary sent out a flurry of tweets defending its actions.

“When Robin Wall Kimmerer spoke at Union last year, she concluded her lecture by tasking us—and all faith communities—to develop new liturgies by which to mourn, grieve, heal and change in response to our climate emergency,” one UTS tweet said. “We couldn’t be prouder to participate in this work.”

“So, if you’re poking fun, we’d ask only that you also spend a couple moments asking: Do I treat plants and animals as divinely created beings?” another tweet proposed in its ecological examination of conscience. “What harm do I cause without thinking? How can I enter into new relationship with the natural world?”

**Editor’s Note: Unless we are careful, it’s all too easy to slip from liberal Christianity into paganism. We are warned in scripture to worship the Creator and not His creation. Combine the climate change hysteria with people who do not take God’s word as inerrant and you get this. There is no science here, just false belief in mysticism and nature.**

**Percival Should Not Have Surrendered!**

     We can all learn a lot of from history.  “The Battle of Singapore” episode of *Generals At War* analyzed the decision making of Japanese General Tomoyuki Yamashita and British General Arthur Percival.1 Under Yamashita, the Japanese drove down the Malay Peninsula; and with the British surrender, captured Singapore. The reason given that Percival decided to surrender was that the British were running out of supplies, to include water.  However, when discussing surrender terms, what Yamashita did not want Percival to know was that the Japanese were almost out of bullets.  He did not want Percival to know the truth.  Yamashita pulled off a bluff and demanded unconditional surrender.  Percival gave in.

     I cannot help but to see comparisons in the fight for biblical truth.  The Darwinists and the philosophical materialists are “almost out of bullets.”  What they have are nice stories, assumptions, nice illustrations built on those assumptions, computer graphics, equivocation and extrapolation.   All of their “proofs” for Darwinian evolution fall apart under scrutiny.  “Evolution:  The Grand Experiment” by emergency room physician Carl Werner does an excellent job in bringing this out.2  Like General Yamashita, Darwinists do not want people to know the truth about how week their position actually is.

      In the same spirit that General Yamashita demanded unconditional surrender, Darwinists claim that Darwinian evolution is “settled science.”3 That is what the Dover trial was about.  The Dover school board wanted what was actually a very modest statement read to students that in effect said that Darwinian evolution was not settled science.  Darwinian evolution “is a theory.”  And the statement said that the book *Of Pandas and People* was available in the library as an alternative viewpoint.  Fortunately for the plaintiffs (and unfortunately for seekers of truth and fairness), the plaintiffs got a very sympathetic judge that was eager to be honored and knew he would be honored by siding in with the Darwinists.  And that is exactly what happened.4 The very fact that the plaintiffs in the case were so panicked about such a modest statement shows how desperate the Darwinists are to not have school children be presented with both sides of the debate.  They know that Darwinian evolution does not hold up under scrutiny.  The Darwinists want school children to be thoroughly indoctrinated before they are an adult where they might really start asking questions and challenging their teachers.

     Even as young adults in college, students have to be concerned about their grades and they do not want to get on the bad side of a teacher.  Even after college, if someone in academia challenges Darwinism, there is a price to be paid.  Mark Armitage was fired from California State University Northridge for showing and publishing soft dinosaur tissue from a triceratops horn.5   Mark Armitage won his lawsuit.  We do not hear about that like we hear about the Dover trial.  This shows how biased the so called mainstream media is.  Unlike the Dover Trial, the Public Broadcasting System (PBS) has not made any Nova documentaries about Mark Armitage winning his case.6

     This is a tactic used by one side when they are wrong.  They just do whatever they can to keep the other side from being heard.  In the House of Representatives, former President John Quincy Adams fought against the “gag rule” that kept anti-slavery petitions from even being heard.7 Even now, abortion providers oppose laws that require women seeking abortions to view sonograms of their babies first.  The abortion providers argue for “choice”; but not informed choice.8

     When Peter and John were preaching about the resurrected Jesus, they were called in by the Jewish Council which commanded Peter and John to stop - “So they called the apostles back in and commanded them never again to speak or teach in the name of Jesus.” – Acts 4:18 NLT.  What was Peter and John’s response?  - “Do you think God wants us to obey you rather than Him?  We cannot stop telling about everything we have seen and heard.” – Acts 4:19 NLT.

     This is why we must not surrender like Percival surrendered.  Unlike Percival, we know the truth.  And we know that our opposition is afraid for people to know the truth.  We need to get the word out that people can believe the Bible.  This could be expedited by churches and other civic organizations partnering with biblical creation organizations.  They have the freedom and the platform to teach people that they can believe the Bible rather than Charles Darwin.  But they for the most part are self censoring on this topic.  If you are reading this, please talk to your kids, grandkids, nieces, nephews, etc. about this.  But please also look for opportunities to talk to people in your church, and people in any church related group or civic group you may belong to, about this.  Our marching orders need to be from Jeremiah – You must influence them; do not let them influence you!  - Jeremiah 15:19 NLT.

Terry Read

1. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pbszSQaIGz8>

2. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_nf1XThX8VQ&list=PLrCQerz2L0Ifpe9QdbWBZ1ACbEa3kMO2g>

3.  <https://evolutionnews.org/2012/04/on_the_settled_/>

4.  <https://thecreationclub.com/platos-republic-here/>

5.  <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=We_XIq-k66c&t=301s>

6.  <http://peabodyawards.com/award-profile/judgment-day-intelligent-design-on-trial>

7.  <https://www.archives.gov/exhibits/treasures_of_congress/text/page10_text.html>

8.  <https://www.texastribune.org/2015/06/15/opponents-abortion-sonogram-law-considering-legal-/>

**Sharks in Kentucky? What explorers found in Mammoth Cave is blowing researchers' minds**

During a trip to Mammoth Cave National Park in November, paleontologist John-Paul Hodnett was stunned. Preserved in the walls of the cave were parts of a large, fossilized shark head — from a shark that he said lived about 330 million years ago.

The discovery began when Mammoth Cave specialists Rick Olson and Rick Toomey came across the fossils as they explored and mapped the cave system. They sent photos to Vincent Santucci, the senior paleontologist for the National Park Service in Washington, D.C., for help identifying the fossils.

Santucci then sent Hodnett, a paleontologist and program coordinator at Dinosaur Park in Maryland, to help with what became the "Mammoth Cave National Park Fossil Shark Research Project."

Some of the shark fossils in the photos were identifiable, but Hodnett said what got him really excited was something else. "One set of photos showed a number of shark teeth associated with large sections of fossilized cartilage, suggesting there might be a shark skeleton preserved in the cave," he said.

The back of the lower jaw of the Saivodus shark starts by the hand, and the front edge of the jaw sticks out at the opposite end. Fossils of shark skeletons are rare because cartilage does not typically survive fossilization. Shark teeth, however, are made of bone and enamel and preserve well. Since sharks replace their teeth throughout their lives, shark teeth are one of the most common fossils on the planet, Hodnett said. "I wasn't exactly sure what I was going to see in the cave during my trip in November," Hodnett said. "When we got to our target specimen my mind was blown."

The fossils weren't parts to a full skeleton, but parts of a head that belonged to a shark, about the size of a Great White Shark, which ranges in length from 11 feet to 21 feet. Based on what was exposed in the cave wall, Hodnett said the find includes a lower jaw, skull cartilage and several teeth. Hodnett determined the shark belonged to a species called "Saivodus striatus" from the Late Mississippian period, about 330 to 340 million years ago.

Editor’s Note: when I see an article like this, I immediately am aware of the secular worldview that it is written from. The paleontologist was amazed to find shark remains in a Kentucky cave due to his ideas about the evolutionary time scale as well as when seas covered this continent

From a creationist point of view this find takes on a very different evidentiary tale. The shark was likely buried in the Noachic Flood only about 4300+ years ago. Instead of evidence of this cave and this continent once being under a great sea for eons, it shows evidence of the deluge God brought in response to man’s sins. Preservation of soft cartilage only could have occurred through raid burial which the worldwide flood provided. If we look through the wrong evolutionary glasses, we get a wrong picture of the evidence in nature every time.

**Genesis Commentary**

3:12 The man said, “The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit of the tree, and I ate.”

This of course is not man’s finest hour as he throws Eve “under the bus” when he was there supervising and sinned with her. We all too often in our rationalizations and excuses fail to realize or remember that God sees it all and knows it all. Further, Adam here throws away the opportunity to confess and repent and thus start to re-establish a right relationship with God. We will look at this sad response by Adam and say these are the actions of a child, but all too often we adults act just this way (note what we see from our politicians, media and sports stars). It is not just kids who try to lie their way out of trouble nor are in denial of what they have done.

13 Then the Lord God said to the woman, “What is this that you have done?” The woman said, “The serpent deceived me, and I ate.”

God then talks to the woman and she also tries to scape goat her actions onto the serpent. Like Adam’s excuse, hers is a weak half-truth and ignores her responsibility in this situation.

14 The Lord God said to the serpent, “Because you have done this, cursed are you above all livestock and above all beasts of the field; on your belly you shall go, and dust you shall eat all the days of your life.

Here God assesses the first of many penalties for what we refer to as the curse upon creation. The serpent had been a walking, talking higher order creature. It is reduced here to a creature without legs and of low status. This is just the first of many genetic redesigns from the perfect design at the creation to the more imperfect fallen conditions we have today. There are many other genetic redesigns which occurred at the fall. One that is theorized is the change of most mosquitos sucking blood for substance as opposed to probably only sucking sap from plants (as some still do today). There will be environmental and physical changes to our universe as well.

15 I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel.”

This verse is called the “proto-evangelism”. It is regarded by most theologians as the first prophecy of the birth of the Messiah (Christ). “Enmity between serpents and woman” refers to a general disdain women have for snakes. Kids likewise often are afraid of them. It also can be interpreted as an enmity between man and demons which the serpent also was.

It says that the offspring of woman will bruise or otherwise stomp the snake (Satan) in the head, putting him down (which Christ as the offspring of woman will do with His life and sacrifice). It also describes how Satan will constantly be at war with the man (the offspring of woman).

There are as many as 366 predictions of Christ (the Messiah) in the Old Testament. This is just the first in the Bible. This prediction of the Messiah is somewhat figurative and could be debated. Many of the others are quite clear and unambiguous. This verse however, at the fall of man, as God is assessing punishment to Satan and man, shows that God already had a plan to reconcile us back to Him and restore us and His creation.

16 To the woman he said, “I will surely multiply your pain in childbearing; in pain you shall bring forth children. Your desire shall be **for** your husband, but he shall rule over you.”

Here is another of the many genetic changes and manipulations God made as part of the curse. Woman biologically are preprogrammed to have pain in childbirth. This is a penalty for sin which goes counter to evolutionary development. To push the species forward, we should have long ago have developed by selection the ability for women to have virtually pain free childbirth and not be so at risk for death as they are today. Neither condition makes the human species more viable, but less. The existence of this pain at birth is right in line with the biblical text, but goes against the logic of evolutionary theory.

In general, most species of animals don’t scream while giving birth and experience far less pain. If they are in pain, such a vocalization could attract predators. And, indeed, a female human giving birth unaided in an area where sound might attract the attention of predators would probably manage to stifle the sounds as well. Humans experience more pain than most species because our offspring have such enormous heads compared to our bodies.[[1]](#footnote-1)

One interesting side note is that the Hebrew verb (’el, not to be confused with El for god when used as a noun) when used as a preposition here is interpreted by almost all translations as “to, for, or towards” in the phrase “your desire shall be for your husband.” This sets up the hierarchy of man in the human family being placed over the woman, which is quite controversial in our society today. It says that women will have an affinity to be committed to a man and be submissive to him.

An almost comical alternative translation for this ‘el here used only in the English Standard Translation says “your desire will be contrary to your husband” rather than the traditional rendering of “your desire shall be for your husband.” Most Hebraists believe the normal “for” is the better translation, but “contrary to” seems to be the experience many men have of their wives.

**Seed of Woman**

Genesis 3:15 says, “And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and **her seed**; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel.”

This verse is called the proto-evangelism (or proto-evangelion) in that it the first verse theologians view as a metaphorical Messianic prophecy (i.e. “the seed of woman shall bruise the serpent’s (Satan’s) head”). But more to the biological point is that read literally, it says that there is a human seed in women. Biologically this is substantiated in that for human reproduction to occur, the male’s semen mixes with a female’s egg, each contributing 23 chromosomes of genetic information.

What is fascinating about this is the ancient view of a woman’s womb for two millennia was that she her womb was nothing more than a glorified incubator. At the time of Moses’ writing of Genesis, it was wrongly thought the seed of the human babies was contributed only by the male and his seed alone was what was being incubated and nurtured in the woman’s womb. This view will hold for more than a millennia as Pythagoras in the 6th century BC will specifically express this “male seed only” thesis. No doubt there were some misogynistic biases which supported this view. The discovery of the human female ovum and eggs will not occur until the 19th and 20th centuries AD. [[2]](#footnote-2)

How did Genesis get this right when it will not be discovered by man for over 3300 years?

**Family and Creation Experience Camps from AOI**

Richard Stepanek would like to announce that the Alpha Omega Institute (AOI) will be starting up a family camp again at Twin Peaks Bible Camp (more information is on the web and in the attachment).  The subject matter will be different then the past AOI family camps.   The theme will be Genesis/creation science.  The Genesis presentation started in Africa, and then evolved into a series in India ( I will give more deals about the development of the series at camp).  The Genesis series was well received in India, so I thought it would also work in the U. S.

**New Family Camps Added This Year! Click any of the links or pictures for more information.**

[**AOI Creation Family Camp – Nebraska!**](https://www.discovercreation.org/camps-tours/aoi-creation-family-camp/)

  Alpha Omega Institute Creation Family Camp at Camp Witness May 22 – 25 Memorial Weekend     This Creation Camp held at Camp witness in North Central Nebraska is meant to fortify you and your family with the Truth of God’s Word beginning from Genesis 1:1. Come alone or bring your kids! Grandparents w/ grand-kids are welcome, too. They need to hear the Biblical and scientific evidence that God is their creator not evolution....

[**Click for more information**](https://www.discovercreation.org/camps-tours/aoi-creation-family-camp/)

****[**AOI Creation Family Camp – Colorado!**](https://www.discovercreation.org/camps-tours/family-camp-colorado/)

@ Twin Peaks Bible Camp June 21-26, 2020       Alpha Omega Institute is excited to offer a unique opportunity to join us for a special Creation/Genesis themed family camp located on the beautiful Grand Mesa, near Grand Junction, Colorado. This will include creation teaching as well as tours to an elaborate dinosaur museum and the Colorado National Monument (amazing redrock canyon lands!)   For the middle-school level through adults, there will be in-depth verse...

[**Click for more information**](https://www.discovercreation.org/camps-tours/family-camp-colorado/)

****[**Discover Creation Costa Rica Christian Tour**](https://www.discovercreation.org/camps-tours/costa-rica-creation-adventure/)

AN UNFORGETTABLE TRIP. March 1st - 11th, 2020 with optional outreach following. This Creation tour, offered by Alpha Omega Institute, is not your ordinary “tourist” trip. Not only will you see many popular sights that nobody would want to miss, but you will also hear about and see the wonders of our awesome Creator! You will say, “This is why I came to Costa Rica!” You will be taken off the beaten track to experience the real Costa Rica with its volcanoes, beautiful rainforest environments and birds that many bird watchers long to see. Marvel at tropical mammals, fish, reptiles, and amazing butterflies such as the Blue Morpho that defy evolutionary explanations and point to the amazing wisdom of our Creator!

[**Click for more information**](https://www.discovercreation.org/camps-tours/costa-rica-creation-adventure/)

****[**Creation Action Adventures – Rock & River Adventure**](https://www.discovercreation.org/camps-tours/creation-action-boot-camp-rock-river/)

Available upon request (Please contact AOI) -- Serious fun and learning for teens (and adventuresome families)! Combo trip whitewater rafting, inflatable kayaks, rock climbing, and hiking. Learn about Creation while experiencing Colorado’s exciting Arkansas River and beautiful Sangre de Cristo Mountains. \*Call for other date options

[**Click for more information**](https://www.discovercreation.org/camps-tours/creation-action-boot-camp-rock-river/)

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[**Yellowstone Creation Christian Tour**](https://www.discovercreation.org/camps-tours/yellowstone-national-park-creation-tour/)

Camp 1 - August 28th - September 1st, 2020 and Camp 2 - September 4th - September 8th. See the marvels of Yellowstone in the light of God’s Word with experienced creation teachers. Great for families, singles, and retirees!

[**Click for more information**](https://www.discovercreation.org/camps-tours/yellowstone-national-park-creation-tour/)

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[**Western Colorado Creation Tours**](https://www.discovercreation.org/camps-tours/western-colorado-creation-tours/)

Visit western Colorado’s beautiful gateway to the Canyonlands at Colorado National Monument, learn how to find evidences of creation in the secular Dinosaur Valley Museum, or see Black Canyon of the Gunnison in light of the truths of Genesis. Contact us to arrange a tour for your group.

[**Click for more information**](https://www.discovercreation.org/camps-tours/western-colorado-creation-tours/)

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[**Custom Camps & Tours**](https://www.discovercreation.org/camps-tours/custom-camps-tours/)

Take a trip that is perfectly planned for your group! Are you tired of only hearing about the “millions of years” of supposed Earth history at every museum or national park? Learn how all of these sites do have evidence that better fits Global Flood Geology thus confirming the Bible! AOI staff has developed dynamic and educational teaching with a Creation focus to many sites including the Grand Canyon, Yellowstone National Park, Mt. St. Helens, and many more! Inquire today!

[**Click for more information**](https://www.discovercreation.org/camps-tours/custom-camps-tours/)

**Prayer Needs and Praises!**

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

**Search for the Truth Ministries** – pray for them as they are in Fiji right now speaking to thousands of school children and teachers.

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

February - **Human Design: Divine Engineering** (Guliuzza)
March - **Creation Science Evidence Overview** (Bruce Malone)

April - **Replacing Darwin** (Dr. Nathaniel Jeanson)
May - **Quick Answers to Tough Questions** (Bryan Osborn)

**Local Creation Seminar to start the New Year!**

Continuing each **Sunday at 4:00 pm** for at least nine Sundays, **SABBSA** and **Cibolo Valley Baptist Church** (5500 FM 1103, Schertz, Texas, 78108) will put on a nine-part **Creation Science Seminar** showing God is the Creator!

The churches' AWANA program will be going on at the same time as this seminar, providing a positive spiritual program for young children as older teens and adults enjoy this seminar. Each session will feature **multimedia sessions presented by SABBSA President Scott Lane**, as well as the availability of hundreds of books and videos on the subject. The order of seminar topics is shown below.

**Feb. 9 - Biology and Intelligent Design: Animals that defy Evolution!
Feb. 16 - Biology and Missing Links: Lucy Unveiled
Feb. 23 - Dinosaurs and the Bible
Mar. 1 - The De-Faithing of America: Creation and the Courts
Mar. 8 - Extra presentation of participants choice**

We had a great turn out at our first session! Please join us. For more information call Scott Lane at 210-861-0454

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**FEAST Science Workshops in 2020**

Now Designated Mondays in February, March and April 2020, from 6:30 - 8pm. We will meet this year at the new **FEAST Campus** at **7735 Mockingbird Lane, San Antonio, TX 78229**.

We have a very special set of programs for the **FEAST Science Workshops** this coming year. SABBSA in partnership with FEAST will provide us with a new set of multimedia presentations covering a wide breadth of creation science issues.

Below is our schedule of multimedia presentations in 2020:

February 16 - **Young Earth Evidences**
March 9 - **What is Science and What is Political Propaganda?**
April 20 - **Underpinnings - Fossils, Physics and Genetics**

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| **MAKING A DIFFERENCE.**After three days on the island, our team has already presented in 12 schools throughout Fiji. It's a blessing to be able to offer students a broader perspective into Creation and intelligent design. Please take a moment today and pray for our team to continue to have the strength to keep going as each day presents multiple opportunities to teach at schools. Pray also that the students would have ears to hear the good news! |

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**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:



**2/15 Living Fossils**

**2/22 Bacterial Flagellum**

**2/29 Vestigial Organs**

**3/7 David Rives, part I**

**3/14 David Rives, part II**

**3/21 Dinosaurs and the Bible**

**3/28 Where Evolutionists & Creationists Agree**

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)



**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.



**Were our Founding Father’s Deists?**

**Presentation by SABBSA’s Terry Read at Kirby Baptist Church**

Date:  Wednesday February 12, 2020

Time:  Dinner at 6:00 PM  Presentation starts at 6:45 PM

Address:  5114 Old Seguin Rd, Kirby TX 78219

**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.

**Rio Grande Valley: Keaton Halley** with **Creation Ministries International (CMI)** will be doing a series of four presentations March 8 through 11 in four different locales in the Texas Rio Grande Valley. Go to[**https://creation.com/events/us/**](https://creation.com/events/us/)for details.

**Last Month at SABBSA**

**The Truth of the Genesis Flood**

Using oil-well data, **Dr. Tim Clarey with the Institute for Creation Research** (ICR), explains his extensive research into the geological structure of the earth. He concludes that the data strongly supports the Genesis Flood as a historical event. With this information, Dr. Clarey shows how this massive flood shaped the earth's surface, forming the continents and leading to the geologic formations we see today.

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**Next SABBSA Meeting: Tuesday, February 11, 2020, at 7 pm**

**Coming to SABBSA in February**

**Human Design: Divine Engineering**

**Evolutionists say everything evolved through random mutations and any appearance of design in nature is just illusion, but how does that stack up to reality?**

Just consider the human hand. Nothing else comes close to its fluid precision and control. Our hands enable every level of human activity, from the work of artists, surgeons, concert pianists, professional baseball pitchers, to a mother brushing her daughter's hair. Such great engineering could only result from great design.

**Dr. Randy Guliuzza**, a professional engineer and medical doctor, explores the wonders of the human hand, demonstrating the precise interactions of our nervous systems and muscles that provide its powerful grasp, precision grip, and exquisitely controlled finger movements. Join Dr. Guliuzza as he unwraps the astounding design features that testify to the engineering genius of our Creator, the Lord Jesus Christ.

Dr. Guliuzza is ICR's National Representative and a former board member with SABBSA. His presentations have become a favorite with some of our newer members and they requested this very special program.

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. https://www.quora.com/Do-animals-scream-and-go-through-pain-like-humans-when-giving-birth [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Lopata, Alex (April 2009). "History of the Egg in Embryology". Journal of Mammalian Ova Research. 26 (1): 2–9. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)