Communique'

President - Scott Lane 599-7240 Vice President – Ed Salzwedel
Secretary – Clarence Johnson Treasurer – Carl Williams, M.D.
[website – [www.sabbsa.org](http://www.sabbsa.org) ] [P.O. Box 34478, San Antonio, TX 78265]

**January 2020**

Happy New Year! We hope and pray the New Year finds all of you well.

This month’s **Communique’** has articles with a theme which show how our society is being impacted on many fronts by unbiblical thinking and a total rejection of God’s Word. and even the basic tenets of western civilization, including an all-out assault on young children’s minds and hearts.

We have another installment of our **Genesis Commentary series on Genesis 3:1-11** which starts to detail man’s first fall into temptation. As always, we include a full run down of creation events in our area including our own creation seminar at CVBC . We hope you enjoy this month’s **Communique’** and we pray you are having a Happy New Year!.

**“Upright Apes” and Making a Boy a “Girl”** by Terry Read

     On Tuesday, October 22, on my drive home, I heard Joe Pags discussing how in court a mother won a verdict against the boy’s father to have her seven year old son transition to a “girl.”1 This would involve the boy taking hormone blockers to prevent puberty.2.

       The mother says that James “identifies” as a girl and chooses to wear girls’ clothing.  The father says that James wants to wear boys clothing around him.  There are a number of points to be made here. Even if the mother is correct in that James identifies as a girl, should a seven-year-old be allowed to make that decision?  We know from athletes that using hormones to change your body has long term health consequences.  And hormone blockers would preclude James from someday being a biological parent.  Is James old enough to understand this and make those decisions?  If I let my son make decisions for himself; he would have driven a car when he was five.  He would just eat candy, never brush his teeth, never go to school, never do his homework, never take a bath, and just play video games and watch YouTube videos of people playing video games all day.

      The second point (and more important point) is that James cannot be a girl.  Taking hormones and having surgery will make James a male who has taken hormones and had surgery. Joe Pags really gets this. Joe correctly points out that if you have a Y chromosome, you are male.  If you have all X chromosomes, you are female.  You cannot change that.

     But while Joe is spot on in that James is a male and trying to make him female is wrong; Joe is totally perplexed as to how a judge and a jury could agree with the mother to have James transition to “Luna.”  One caller, Robert from Austin, was on the right track.  Robert talked about how in jury selection people with traditional values or a Christian faith were “winnowed out” and secular humanists were on the jury “that would go along with this craziness.”  Joe agreed. But why has post-modernism and secular humanism been so widely accepted?

     Another story in the news, which superficially seems unrelated, really explains what is going on. On Friday, November 8, I received an e-mail from a college friend that I still correspond with.  It was a link to an article titled:  “Ancient upright ape 'Danuvius' that had human legs discovered by scientists.”3   My friend sent me the link because he knows what I do. He asked me questions about it and wanted to get my take on it.

     This is just one more example of how Darwinism is everywhere, just like Chickenman4 for those that can remember.  This story was on Fox News, which is the “conservative” news network.  The term “conservative” is relative.

     Starting when they are children, people are constantly bombarded with stories like this news article.  People are taught that they cannot believe the Bible – the very foundation of truth that tells us “So God created human beings in His own image.  In the image of God He created them; male and female He created them.” Genesis 1:27 NLT.  But yet we expect people to get it right on the issue of sexuality?  If you reject the foundation of truth, you may very well reject that there is truth; hence post-modernistic philosophy.

     I was able to discern some things from the “Upright Ape” article having watched Dr. David Menton with Answers in Genesis.5 Here is the response that I sent to my friend:

     ‘I am not a paleoanthropologist.   But I have learned a little bit about what to key in on.  The key here is admittedly they have over 15,000 bones and yet they claim “Among the remains they were able to piece together were primate fossils belonging to four individuals.”  Are you kidding me?  They do not have any idea what they have.  They do not know that the bones they put together really go together.  They are piecing something together based on their Darwinistic presuppositions.  They had over 15,000 bones to choose from.  And they know that they can make a name for themselves if they come up with some “new finding” that supports a Darwinistic worldview.  And yet people think that these scientists know what they are talking about.

      There are three ways to make an ape-man:

1.  Upgrade an ape to a man – Lucy

2.  Downgrade a man to an ape – *Homo erectus*, Neanderthal man

3.  Mix ape and man bones together – Piltdown man

     It may take some time to vet (debunk) this latest finding.  But by the time that happens, the Darwinists will have moved onto another “proof” of Darwinism.’

     Most people do not have a friend that is a member of a biblical creation organization that they will go to when they see a news story like this.  Most people will just accept it.  The same evening as the Pags’ October 22 program, my minister shared a link to an article – “In U.S., Decline of Christianity Continues at Rapid Pace”6 The article stated that the percentage of Americans that “describe themselves as Christians” is down to 65%.  Is this because more people are just honest enough with themselves to know that the Bible – the foundation Christian teaching – is inconsistent with what they are being taught everywhere else?

     What is your church doing to teach people that they can believe the Bible?  If you are a church leader, you can reach out to your nearest biblical creation organization for help with this.  If you are a church parishioner, you can tell your church leadership that help is available.  And you can pass on the news to other people that they can believe the Bible.

1. <https://podbay.fm/podcast/1253082887/e/1571792983>

2. <https://nypost.com/2019/10/23/texas-jury-rules-against-divorced-dad-trying-to-stop-7-year-old-sons-gender-transition/>

3. <https://www.foxnews.com/science/ancient-upright-ape-that-had-human-legs-discovered-by-scientists>

4. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XDrBH_OekU8>

5. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HxLMyqJfX0Y>

6. <https://www.pewforum.org/2019/10/17/in-u-s-decline-of-christianity-continues-at-rapid-pace/?fbclid=iwar2dl1kaktuptyyllokl2yoqct53oasmyj3_ubdv7rea5_dmnnmosz6bfmi>

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**The BBC—teaching British school children to celebrate “more than 100 genders”**  **using excerpts from an article by *Gavin Cox***

Gender confusion arises when God’s clear instructions about His creation of male and female (Genesis 1:27) are ignored. The BBC have released nine online videos titled “The Big Talk” for use in British schools as part of the UK’s new Relationships and Sexuality Education (RSE) curriculum, which came into force in September 2019. In these films, typically running to four minutes, children are taught that sex is unrelated to gender, that people can go to prison for “being disrespectful or hateful” (to others with different sexual orientations), and that there are “over 100 different gender identities.” …

The unpalatable truth is that a radical, dangerous philosophy is now being forced upon the young and vulnerable as part of the advancement of an **extreme political ideology**. It is of grave concern that the BBC is preaching this new ‘all-inclusive doctrine’ to children as young as 9–12 years of age. However, they have no lower age limit in practice. The *Coalition for Marriage* reports children as young as four are being instructed in transgenderism—this is a gravely concerning situation.

Recently, Canadian academic Christopher Dummitt, a leader in the field of historical gender studies, bluntly admitted: “Everyone was (and is) making it up. That’s how the gender-studies field works.” Dummit confesses that his field is driven by the underlying, unproven, ideological belief that gender is socially constructed, that it is non-binary (i.e. not restricted to male and female), and that traditional masculinity empowers men to oppress women. Such thinking has dominated the liberal arts in Western academic institutions since the 1990s. But such an ideology Dummit admits is “bankrupt”, [not based on biological fact](http://www.creation.com/male-and-female-he-made-them).

**Gender confusion**

One question in the video series for kids is **“What are the different gender identities?”** Head teacher Kyra replies with enthusiasm, “That’s a really, really exciting question to ask!” However, it is far from exciting because, normally, children don’t even think to ask such questions. They readily recognize there are just two genders, male and female. ‘RSE’ teacher Kate Daniels answers with a revelation:

Do you know, there are so many gender identities! So we know we’ve got male and female, but there are over 100, if not more, gender identities now.—Kate Daniels, BBC schools video.

That such an answer should be given to a child by a trusted adult, is highly concerning, and runs the significant risk of leading him/her to [confusion and psychological damage](https://creation.com/gender-confusion).

**Confusing identity and orientation**

The next question moves seamlessly from gender identity to sexual orientation, without distinguishing between psychology and practice. The children ask Leo: **“Why are there so many letters in LGBTQ?”** Leo spells out what the five letters stand for, making for uncomfortable viewing: “lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer.” A dad called Michael adds, “‘Q’ stands for queer and questioning”. By opening the door to alternate sexual orientations, who becomes arbitrator of this ever-growing list? The [sexual revolution, started within academia](https://creation.com/kinsey-darwin-and-the-sexual-revolution), has thrown wide the door to accepting ever-increasing behavioral aberrations.

It is very surprising that a headteacher should be personally espousing homosexuality to young children, but it’s happening now, in our schools. The last question of the video drives home that contradicting this doctrine makes one a social outcast, this likely carries the implication that, if you don’t agree, you are unkind, and therefore unwelcome. Here’s what is in other videos in the teaching series.

**Video: “Body image—what is perfect?”**

Children ask, what is ‘body image’? Leo explains she was born female, but now lives as a ‘man’ (presumably, after sex reassignment surgery). The discussion, oddly, is focused on freedom to wear make-up. Growing up as a woman, Leo confessed to “really enjoying wearing make-up”. When Leo came out as a ‘trans-man’ it concerned Leo that “wearing make-up wasn’t something that boys do”. Leo says, “but then I realized, boys can do whatever they want—so I’m gonna wear make-up!” It appears that, on the day of filming, Leo appeared masculine, sporting a moustache, black t-shirt, jeans and trainers. The children listening to Leo nod approvingly. The normalization of transgenderism is not something to be celebrated with children.

Within the same video, the conversation then switches, insidiously, from make-up to plastic surgery. Children ask, “Do some people want to get plastic surgery to have body parts bigger or smaller?” Teacher Kirsty explains that, if someone is not “comfortable with their body as they start to grow up … when they are older they … might decide to get some things changed … [after a] lot of consideration”. This is dangerously irresponsible advice to give to a minor, showing complete disregard to children’s physical and emotional welfare. Head teacher Billy offers all-embracing sentiments that to be “truly happy” is to accept “who you are” and that someone who “really loves you, loves you for the person you are, rather than for the outside appearance.” But surely, love should warn and reprove; to encourage children to accept harmful behavior without question is not loving.

Teacher discussion notes involve class activities, including an art exhibition, “celebrating the beauty of diversity in all its forms (could be focused on body image).” Thus, the children would be required to celebrate all kinds of unbiblical and ungodly practices, regardless of their conscience, family or religious backgrounds.

**Video: “What is sexual health?”**

In another video, teachers promote unrestrained sexual behavior, without reference to abstinence, sexual purity, or life-long commitment in marriage.

Tragically, sexual promiscuity is being normalized and promoted to young children. The consequences of such lifestyles are presented as merely being a matter for the health professionals, without regard for how it might harm young lives or further erode society.

**Video: “Sex—what it’s all about?”**

This segment is an explicit discussion of sexuality, avoiding any reference to morality and marriage. Much of what is discussed is too graphic to remotely consider as being ‘age appropriate’ for the children. Furthermore, same-sex activity is celebrated as a perfectly normal lifestyle. The video ends with the question, “How do some teenage girls get babies so early?” The answer given is that it’s not because of immorality, but because of failing to take the “right precautions”. The question of legal age of consent is briefly explained as being 16 years old.

**Video: “Different families, same love.”**

The first question asked is, “How many types of family are there?” A mum called Rachel replies with the absurdity, “Millions and trillions of types of family”. She explains to two children, one presumably her own, that she didn’t give birth to the children in her family, but that nevertheless, “we are a very strong family … [but] you could have two dads that are a family, or two mums”.

To the question, “Can two people of the same sex have a baby?” head teacher Kirsty replies: “People of the same sex can have a baby. They might go to an adoption agency, or they might foster a baby, or there’s different routes that they might go down in having a baby.”

Not only that, but it is giving the children the impression that the LGBTQ behavior being presented is common, whereas it is rare, perhaps only 1% of couples wanting to raise children. A family consisting of mum, dad and the kids is still by far the norm, which is not the impression being given to the children who are the target of this indoctrination.

**Video: “Respecting myself and others”.**

The first question is “what is respect?”8 The answers given are so generalized that no one can take issue:

* “being able to accept everybody for exactly who they are.”
* “treating someone the way that you would want them to treat you.”

But as with the rest of this video series, viewers are being set-up. The next question is a loaded one, “why do some people hate others because they are different?” Mum Rachel explains that people shouldn’t hate anyone because of the color of their skin for example—we all agree. Then a trap is set for the viewer, as Leo explains: “People write some horrible things on the internet about transgender people. But I know those people just don’t know any better yet and that they would say mean things about anybody that they don’t understand.” …

Here the equivocation is seen in conflating disagreement with ‘hate’, and ‘respect’ with *celebrating* behaviors that one disagrees with. These ideas are not the same, leading to conflicts of conscience, curbing of the freedom of speech, and the imposition of totalitarianism.

**The Fallout has begun**

The consequences of this video series and the new RSE curriculum are being felt already, and look to get worse. The new government curriculum has allowed LGBTQ activists to infiltrate education to an alarming degree, focusing on primary (elementary) children. For instance, the ‘No Outsiders’ program is a radical teaching course promoting LGBTQ doctrine to schools. In March 2019, this led to mass protests outside the gates of a Birmingham school (UK), mainly by Muslim parents who were concerned about the indoctrination of their children with homosexuality, contrary to their firmly held religious convictions. This was a big story in the UK’s national news. Similar things are happening in other western countries.

Recently, two ten-year-old Christian schoolgirls, Kaysey and Farrell, were severely punished for asking to be excluded from LGBTQ-month-inspired lessons and the school’s ‘pride-march’. The Christian Institute has taken up their case. They were held in isolation for five hours, before being expelled for five days, a punishment normally reserved for pupils who have physically assaulted teachers or have committed some other serious offence. The girls have not been able to return to that school, due to safeguarding issues surrounding their brave stand.

The first-hand testimony of Kaysey is heart-rending to watch and is available on YouTube. She explains that other pupils felt distressed at the LGBTQ teaching in subjects as diverse as math, English, and sports. They were even forced to watch videos promoting the sex reassignment of a young girl transitioning to become a ‘boy’. Furthermore, parents were not informed about the lesson content that was shown to their children.

**Driven to pray—and resist!**

The response of concerned Christians should be, firstly, to pray, and to prayerfully and wisely resist.

Of course, what has been related in this article, while specific to the UK, is being mirrored in many other western nations. It should drive Christians to their knees in prayer. But it has been a long time coming, with the warning signals having been seen a long time ago. The spiritual state of western nations reflects the spiritual state of the Church, which allowed unbiblical thinking to erode theological foundations. When the mainstream Church forsook the history in Genesis in favor of evolutionary thinking, many decades ago, the moral authority based on the historical reality of humankind’s creation (Genesis 1 and 2) was lost. We must boldly and bravely insist that man was created male and female—equally in the image of God—that this is the fundamental basis for marriage, sexual ethics, and gender identity.

What can Christians do, now that the floodgates of ungodliness and anti-biblical thinking have been opened wide? Christians must pray for their nations, for political leaders, Christian leaders, teachers and many more in positions of authority and influence (2 Chronicles 7:14). Christian parents should carefully consider how they act when their children face such indoctrination contrary to their faith. For instance, the Birmingham schools’ protests, mentioned above resulted in the ‘No Outsiders’ program being pulled from the curriculum (although there are other moves to restore it). There is every place for peaceful, civil protest, and for parents to make their feelings known to their representatives on town councils, in local and national government and so on.

Should Christian parents consider alternatives to state-run schools, such as Christian schools or home-schooling? This is becoming an ever more attractive option. At least for now, it is still a legal option to home-school in many countries (though not strictly legal in all European countries). Whatever choices parents make, CMI seeks to support parents and educators by providing many Christian based educational materials—see for example CMI’s Parent’s Corner. It is clear that Christians need to make their voices heard, to stand up and be counted, despite the cost, as society increasingly turns away from biblical standards. But Christ has promised, “I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it” (Matthew 16:18). As the darkness becomes more intense, so shall the light shine even brighter—“Come Lord Jesus” (Revelation 22:20).

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Attacks on Young Kids Minds in the U.S.**

2020 brings two new attacks on young kids minds and our society.

Mattel has just introduced a new line of Barbie dolls which are “gender inclusive,” which means it comes with clothes and wigs so the child can make the doll whatever gender and sexual orientation they want. This is yet another attempt to “normalize” the LGBQT lifestyle and separate our children from a foundation of God’s Word and reshape our society away from traditional values.

Also new in 2020, a new children’s book will come out in July titled “The Magic School Bus Explores Human Evolution.” In this book, kids are magically sent back hundreds of millions of years to visit their ancestors. This follows a 2010 book in this series which promoted “climate change “ to kids which in 2017 Netflix made into a film.

The opponents of God’s Word and western values know they must start early and shape young minds. We need to heed God’s Word as in Proverb’s 22:6 and do the same.

**THOUGHT SHAKER INPUTS FOR 8 DEC 19** from **Dave George, Mission City Church**

*And without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is and that He is a rewarder of those who seek Him*. - Hebrews 11:3

**BELIEF REQUIRES FAITH**
There is a battle going on today between those who believe in Biblical creationism and those who believe in naturalistic evolution.  (Granted, there are some who try to harmonize the differences in this battle with theistic evolution, but the logic in trying to bridge the gap simply cannot stand up under scrutiny, but that is addressed in the articles mentioned below.)  Notice that I stated that both sides have to *believe* in something, because the evidence can be stated in such a way to suit either side of the debate.  God has given a clear picture as to our origins in Genesis 1-11 (after all, He was the only eyewitness!), but we must accept what He says by faith.

On the other hand, those who reject this hypothesis point to what they believe to be scientific evidence refuting God’s account.  Again, each side chooses to believe in one account or the other.  This requires faith on each side.  On the one hand, faith that God exists and accurately describes what He did; on the other hand, faith that God does not exist and only natural causes are responsible for what we see today.

Now, I have no doubt that most naturalistic evolutionists would say that they do not trust in their faith for their beliefs, but in scientific facts.  However, I have shown in past articles that it is the interpretation of the scientific evidence that is the crux of the problem.  Biblical creationism harmonizes beautifully with the facts, whereas naturalistic evolution must stretch the facts to make them fit their hypothesis.  Indeed, naturalistic evolutionists must have more faith then Biblical creationists, a lot more, because they must accept the following impossibilities as axioms:

1. Nothing produces everything.
2. Non-life produces life.
3. Randomness produces fine-tuning.
4. Chaos produces information.
5. Unconsciousness produces consciousness.
6. Non-reason produces reason.

I have faith, but not that much faith!

It is obvious that we do not see any of these processes taking place today; in fact, in each case, just the opposite is observed.  However, all of these absurdities must be accepted *by faith* in order to be a naturalistic evolutionist.

Here is my point: we all live by faith, every one of us.  It is the object of our faith that differentiates us.  Christians have as the object our faith God and His Son Who died in our place so that we can have forgiveness and life.  Atheists have as the object of their faith essentially themselves as the only person who can make sense out of their current situation.  Considering how many times I in my own strength have failed to properly direct my life, I am eternally grateful to Almighty God for the privilege of knowing Him and trusting His hand to guide me.  The degree to which I have successfully done that is the degree to which my life has made sense.

Have faith in God and His Word.  It makes much more sense to do so, and the benefits are eternally wonderful! *“True faith rests upon the character of God and asks no further proof than the moral perfections of the One who cannot lie.  It is enough that God has said it.”* – A.W. Tozer

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**50 Million-Years-Old or just 4500?**

The picture shown below is of a group of very small fish captured in time as they were entombed in rock by a huge deluge of sediment. The question is whether this happened 50-million years ago (as dated by conventional strata dating) or just about 4500 years ago in the Noahic Flood, which would have had just the right type of deluge of sediment to form this fossilized remnant of the past.

For a group of swimming fish to be caught and imprinted into limestone in this way, fossilization would have had to happen extremely quickly. The authors posit that a sand dune could have collapsed onto the shoal in shallow waters, catching the moment in time and preserving the fish in formation. But save for future research, their true demise will remain a mystery. Or has God’s word already told us their story?

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

United Methodist Church Announces Proposal to Split Over Gay Marriage

A rainbow flag representing LGBTQ pride flies below the U.S. flag in front of the Asbury United Methodist Church in Prairie Village, Kan., on April 19, 2019. *Charlie Riedel/AP*

The United Methodist Church announced a proposal Friday to split the denomination over what it called "fundamental differences" regarding its beliefs on same-sex marriage and LGBTQ clergy.

The proposal, signed by 16 church leaders from around the world, will be voted on at the church's 2020 general conference in May. If passed, it would allow for a "traditionalist" denomination to separate from the United Methodist Church, the second largest Protestant denomination in the U.S., with more than 12 million members worldwide.

Currently, ordained pastors are not allowed to perform same-sex marriages, risking disciplinary action if they do, and "practicing" LGBTQ people also cannot become ordained pastors, according to the church's book of discipline.

After Disagreements Over LGBTQ Clergy, U.S. Methodists Move Closer To Split

The new traditionalist denomination, once separate, would open the door for the existing United Methodist Church to repeal the church's ban on same-sex marriages and LGBTQ clergy.

"If this actually passes, it will be a great relief," says Rev. Tom Berlin, a pastor at the Floris United Methodist Church in Herndon, Va., who signed the protocol and described himself as representing groups who hold a centrist view in the ideological conflict.

"What this proposal allows us to do is be a more inclusive United Methodist Church," Berlin says. "It also allows us to put a controversy to rest. The controversy itself has been a stumbling block toward our larger mission."

The nine-page plan, dated on Dec. 17, 2019, was mediated by Kenneth Feinberg, a well-known lawyer who oversaw the September 11th Victim Compensation Fund and other high profile compensation programs. And it largely focused on the distribution of financial assets.

Under the plan, the church's General Council on Finance and Administration would provide $25 million to the new traditionalist denomination over a period of four years. An additional $2 million is allotted in the plan for any other new denominations that might be created. Pension plans for current clergy and lay employees would also remain in place.

Local churches would be able to choose whether they want to stay in the United Methodist Church or join a new denomination. Those decisions must be made by the end of 2024, according to the proposal, and any church moving to another Methodist denomination would maintain its assets and liabilities.

The question of whether or not to allow LGBTQ marriage and clergy has existed almost since the founding of the United Methodist Church in 1968, says Rev. Keith Boyette, president of the Wesleyan Covenant Association, who signed the protocol representing traditionalist views.

"Every other mainline denomination in the United States has faced this conflict," says Boyette. "This agreement models how a conflict can be addressed in an amicable way." He said the separation was bittersweet for him, but that each faction can now move forward "unhindered by the other."

The conflict came to a head last February at a special session of the church's general conference, when 53% of church leaders in attendance voted to uphold the ban on same-sex marriage and clergy. Leaders at that conference also introduced tougher measures against clergy who officiate same sex marriage: a one-year suspension for the first offense and removal from the clergy after that. Those measures were set to go into effect on Jan. 1, 2020.

The vote and measures introduced at that conference signaled a growing divide between Methodists in the United States and those in less-developed, more socially conservative countries, particularly in Africa and Asia. In the U.S., 60% of United Methodist members say homosexuality should be accepted, according to a 2014 survey by the Pew Research Center.

**Editor’s Note: If we do not recognize that we are in a battle for our cultural heritage, our basic beliefs and our vey souls it is only because we are willfully ignorant. This battle is going on in the media, our schools, our churches, our businesses and in our homes and families. Pray to God that a remnant exists in America which will pray for and be active in revival and turning from this godless trend toward Satan and against God’s Word.**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Genesis Commentary**

**Ch. 3:1**Now the serpent was more crafty than any other beast of the field that the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, “Did God actually say, ‘You shall not eat of any tree in the garden’?” **2**And the woman said to the serpent, “We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden, **3**but God said, ‘You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the midst of the garden, neither shall you touch it, lest you die.’” **4**But the serpent said to the woman, “You will not surely die.”

There are things which bother critics here. Why does Satan take the form of a serpent? Did we really have a talking serpent? First, let’s tell you that in this brand-new created environment they existed in, it would just be the way it was that a serpent could walk and talk. If taken literally, it was a different reality. Why would Satan take this form? You would have to ask him about that. But, he did choose one in which he could communicate with humans or it is the form given to him by God due to his rebellion. At the curse, this form will be changed by God as a penalty for his actions.

This reference of Satan as a snake (or a snake like creature) being a problem at the creation is a **very common** theme in creation accounts from all across the world. The Delaware Indians, Greeks, Sumerians, Egyptians, the Koran, African tribes, Chinese writing, Koreans, Mayans, Aztecs, Aborigines and more than two hundred-seventy creation accounts from across the world talk of a snake or serpent as the “bad guy” or negatively involved in the creation.

Again, we remind you that Satan here tells the half-truth that they will not die immediately when he says “muwth”. Eve will state it correctly in her half of the conversation when she says “muwth muwth” meaning we will “begin to die and surely die”. But, she will not discern the difference and be sucked in, giving in to temptation.

5 For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.” **6**So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate. **7**Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked. And they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves loincloths.

Again, the serpent tells a half-truth-lie. Their eyes will be opened, and they will know things they did not know before, but they were things God was protecting them from. Eve obviously liked the thought of being like God, but did not consider that this being like God would only be in the very limited sense of this set of knowledge. She did not consider the consequences of this sin; not being God with all of His other abilities or how she and Adam would handle it.

There is deep truth here in terms of how to resist sin. Like Joseph did with Pharaoh’s wife, we need to run from temptation. Not stay around it and contemplate it and discuss it at length as she and Satan do here. Joseph was able to resist the huge temptation given him by the beautiful wife by running from it, since he knew that if he stayed and even thought about doing it, that it was too great a temptation and he would rationalize it and give in to his carnal desires. Likewise, Eve here looks at the fruit, sees that it both looks pleasing and imagines that it will taste good and give her new knowledge like God’s. Because she continues to contemplate it, she talks herself into it.

A great analogy for this is if we have a chocolate cake placed in front of a person on a diet. That person can tell themselves all they want “I will not eat that cake”, “I will not eat that cake”. But, the more they focus on the cake, the more they are attracted to it, and the more they will tend to rationalize eating a piece. What they need to do is run from it, either get up and leave the room or take the cake and put it out of sight. If we stay around temptation and continually consider and dwell upon it, we as weak souls will eventually give in to just about any temptation. Eve sinned because she did not run from this whole temptation and conversation.

Some people jokingly say our whole fallen condition is all women’s fault since it was Eve and not Adam who first ate the fruit (mythologically an apple, but which fruit is not identified in scripture). Note however that immediately after eating, Eve gave Adam some to eat, which the Bible says Adam “was with her”. Adam was supervising this whole event and was at least equally responsible. Theologically, Adam as the first created human and Eve being made as his helpmate, it is thus Adam who is most responsible here. Thus, guys, we cannot get out of this one by saying “she did it”!

8 And they heard the voice (or sound) of Jehovah God walking in the garden in the cool of the day: and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of Jehovah God amongst the trees of the garden.

Verse 8 demonstrates one of many differences with the early creation situation on Earth and our fallen condition. We do not hear God walking around today, nor do we talk to Him face to face. These are facets of the intimate communion with God which we forfeited at the fall of man. Remember that it is told to us through the rest of the Bible that man cannot even look at God’s face without dying. We were very different, privileged and immortal beings before we first sinned. We look forward to a restoration of that form and close communion with God when we go to Him in death or at the second coming.

The hiding themselves in their sin here either shows their naiveté of not realizing God already knew of their sin, or desperation of knowing what they had done. In either case they were ashamed and hid themselves.

9 And Jehovah God called unto the man, and said unto him, Where art thou? **10**And he said, I heard thy voice in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself. (ASV)

God of course knew where they were and what had happened, but He always gives us the chance to come clean with Him. He always gives the opportunity for confession (agreement with Him that what we have done is wrong).

11 He said, “Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten of the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?” (ESV)

Again, knowing the answer to both questions, God not only allows us to confess our sins, but He also questions us to get us to analyze and examine ourselves and our actions. All too often we act and sin without thinking, without considering what we are doing nor the consequences. This was very true in this first instance of sin on Earth.



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

January 2020 - **"The Truth of the Genesis Flood",** Dr. Timothy Cleary

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.

**Jan. 12 - Introduction to Creation Theories
Jan. 19 - Darwin and Radiometric Dating
Jan. 26 - Underpinnings: Fossils, Physics and Genetics
Feb. 2 - Young Earth Evidences
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

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Prayer Needs and Praises!**

**Dave Nutting –** with the **Alpha Omega Institute** who is recovering from bile duct blockage surgery and the removal of stones.

**Buster Fisher family** – Buster was the stepbrother to Scott Lane and died December 1 from complications to gastric bypass surgery. Please pray for his wife Soine and their kids who are left behind.

**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:

**1/4 Distant Starlight**

**1/11 Jay Seegert, Creation Education Center, part I**

**1/18 Jay Seegert, part II**

**1/25 No Junk DNA**

**2/1 Dr. Doyle Holbird, part I**

**2/8 Dr. Doyle Holbird, part II**

**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)

**FEAST Science Workshops in 2020**

Fourth Monday of each month in January, 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:

January - **Prescience in the Bible**
February - **Young Earth Evidences**
March - **What is Science and What is Political Propaganda?**
April - **Underpinnings - Fossils, Physics and Genetics**



**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**

**Seven C's of History**

The **Seven C's of History** is a PowerPoint program made for kids in the 3rd through 12th grades, but which has great meaning to us all. This presentation was given by Dr. Carl Williams who has training from Answers in Genesis on this topic.

The topics Include:
**Creation
Corruption
Catastrophe
Confusion
Christ
Cross
Consummation**

This program reveals to all of us how the world as we know it was created and shaped by seven great events in history. It gives us a biblical perspective for our world and world history. Most of all, it gives us an understanding of why Christ came into the world and truly gave us the Reason for the Season! \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Next SABBSA Meeting: Tuesday, Janaury 14, 2020, at 7 pm**

**Coming to SABBSA in January**

**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.

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.