

# 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]

**August 2023**

It's August, it's Texas, and it's hot. So, what's new!

This month's **Communique'** has an article showing how the out-of-control trans movement is endangering the unborn. We have another piece revealing how "Planned Parenthood" is pushing to demean virginity. We have a follow up article on "Why we don't live to 900+ years like Methusaleh." We include an article quoting evolutionists that the current evolutionary theory is untenable. We have a story of a Nobel laureate who was cancelled from a public speech because he dared to say the Climate Change hysteria is based on "Pseudoscience." And we have an article discussing how to witness to a person who believes there is no God! All of these will inform the believer on how to make their way through a culture which is at war with God.



Our **Genesis Commentary** this month features the story of **Esau and Jacob** and the birth of the nations of Israel and Edom. As always, we have a full rundown of all the creation education opportunities coming up in our area. This includes a summer long creation seminar at Crestview Baptist Church on Wednesday evenings. We pray you find something in these pages to encourage and enlighten so that you can operate with a truly biblical worldview.

---

## Sacrificing Pre-Natal Wellness for Gender Ideology

Excerpted and adapted from an article by Wesley J. Smith

The president of the Center for Bioethics and Culture co-authored a piece criticizing a professional journal article that advocates allowing females who identify as men to remain on testosterone during pregnancy. The idea seemed so crackers, so grotesque, that I decided to read it for myself. All I can say is: Good grief!



The article, published in the professional journal *Qualitative Research in Health*, places the feelings of pregnant females who identify as men above the wellbeing of gestating infants:

One nuts article said – "Social justice activists, said... "safety first" approaches result in additional social control over women and their everyday lives, often despite equivocal empirical evidence supporting the benefits of such precautions..."

These approaches reinscribe binarized notions of sex, resulting in social control in their attempts to safeguard against non-normative potential future outcomes for offspring. These offspring-focused risk-avoidance strategies and approaches are, we argue, part of the gendered precautionary labor of pregnancy and pregnancy care itself, and not without potentially harmful consequences for trans people and society more broadly. “ (What a lot of word salad!)

### **Allow Me to Translate**

So, by taking pregnant women who identify as men off testosterone during pregnancy, doctors are placing the safety of babies above the feelings of the mother. This, despite a lack of empirical data about the impact of testosterone on gestating babies. Hence, applying a precautionary principle to protecting gestating babies is transphobic and akin to eugenics.

Throughout their essay, the authors — who are all university professors, of course — validate my analysis of their odious ideological advocacy. For example, this paragraph:

“The logics guiding current medical advice around precautionary testosterone cessation in pregnancy involve potentially troubling assessments of the sorts of risks testosterone exposure in the prenatal and postpartum environments may pose for later child and adult development: namely, **potentially heightened likelihoods of autism, obesity, intersex conditions, being lesbian and/or trans**. In this way, precautionary practices of protecting the offspring of trans people become, paradoxically, a method of social control through safeguarding against reproduction of some of the very same characteristics held by some trans parents themselves. ...”

### **Standing Up for Human Experimentation**

The authors propose what would be unethical human experimentation:

“We also find that, despite relatively standard precautionary medical advice for trans people to stop or pause testosterone administration prior to conception, during the gestational period, and across the duration of chestfeeding/breastfeeding, there remains little empirical evidence guiding this advisement, particularly in the context of testosterone microdosing. As Shuster (2016, p. 321) notes: Much of trans medicine has been built on the assumption of binary genders ... [T]rans people’s understandings of their selves and bodies have become more fluid, and ‘cross’-gender transitioning is not always the ultimate goal.’ Indeed, future medical research might approach continuation of testosterone during pregnancy among trans people not as a binary yes/no question or a topic to approach for the purpose of developing one-size-fits-all medical standardization (Timmermans & Almeling, 2009), but one that investigates the potential impacts (on trans patients and their offspring) of continuing various dosages of testosterone across pregnancy.” These are all philosophical conjectures from a trans viewpoint with no scientific evidence with which to back them.

Of course, there is a lack of data. Putting gestating mothers on testosterone during a normal pregnancy is a novel concept that no doctor would have proposed until the intellectual corruption of gender ideology infected the medical and intellectual establishments. It would have zero benefit for the baby and could cause great harm. Moreover, doing these studies and gathering the data would be unethical human experimentation. Babies are not guinea pigs. Protecting their wellbeing during gestation is a paramount purpose of prenatal care. Whatever feelings the pregnant transgender mother might have about it should be a secondary concern...

The practice of gender-ideological medicine around pregnancy must be rejected out of hand. Like abortion, this elevates the selfishness of the individual mother above the life of the baby to a horrifying degree. This is “witch doctor” science which abandons any sense of decency or common sense.

Wesley J. Smith is Chair and Senior Fellow at the **Discovery Institute’s Center** on Human Exceptionalism.

## **Planned Parenthood claims virginity is a ‘patriarchal’ Social Construct**

Abortion giant **Planned Parenthood**, who makes its money by killing unborn babies often formed out of promiscuity, is now insisting the concept of virginity is derived from patriarchy.



Planned Parenthood billboard promoting casual sex.

Planned Parenthood / Twitter

(LifeSiteNews) — Planned Parenthood tweeted a picture yesterday of one of its billboards that reads, “Virginity is a social construct,” adding that it believes it is a “patriarchal” and harmful idea.

“The idea of virginity comes from outdated — let’s be real, patriarchal— ways of thinking that hurts everyone,” the country’s

largest abortion provider tweeted Thursday.

More than a few commentators suggested Planned Parenthood considers it to be in their best business interests to promote sex resulting in babies that “need” to be aborted, with one noting that this is despite their “presumed” goal that people only become parents when “planned.”

“We know you need promiscuity to make money. It’s gross,” commented Jessica O’Donnell.

“Funny how an organization named ‘planned parenthood’ (presumably to advocate for people to only become a parent when they plan for it) would tweet something that seems to suggest that abstaining from sex comes from a ‘patriarchal way of thinking that hurts everyone,’” noted Matt Antar, finance chairman of the New York Young Republican Club.

In response to Planned Parenthood’s tweet, Josie Glabach, known on Twitter as the “Redheaded Libertarian,” remarked, “Sounds like something a pedo would say.”

When “theater artist” and “dog mom” Molly Lyons protested that Planned Parenthood’s message made no mention of minors, Glabach replied, “If virginity is a social construct (it’s not) then why protect girls from pedos at all if it’s all make believe? It can’t be emotional innocence if you’re also okay with letting males into girl’s spaces.”

Many feminists argue that characterizing virginity (until marriage) as a positive ideal disproportionately “polices” women, curbing their “freedom” for “pleasure,” while men are unfairly held to a lesser standard of sexual purity. Thus, they see virginity as an ideal derived from a “patriarchy.” However, evidence shows that women and their children overwhelmingly bear the brunt of suffering when women flout the ideal of virginity before marriage.

Upon the introduction of the contraceptive pill in countries like the U.S. and the U.K., many women became uninhibited about sex before marriage, since they felt the prospect of pregnancy was “removed.” The result was that by the mid-1970s the “majority of newly married American couples had experienced sex before marriage,” according to the Journal of the European Economic Association.

The social fallout since then has been enormous. Most egregiously, demand for legal abortion spiked, and then actual abortions skyrocketed after Roe v. Wade, which enabled the killing of at least 64 million preborn babies. This fact alone turns on its head Planned Parenthood’s idea that virginity is a harmful construct.

Disregarding the importance of virginity until marriage has also resulted in countless numbers of women forming deep emotional attachments to men who don’t want to commit to them for life or father their children; and who to varying degrees treat their women as objects, for their own self-gratification. Women who

insist on keeping “accidental” babies they made with such a man are often abandoned by their partner, leaving the child to a fatherless home.

Upholding virginity until tying the knot also makes for happier marriages. Nicholas Wolfinger, a sociologist at the University of Utah, has found that Americans who “have only ever slept with their spouses are most likely to report being in a ‘very happy’ marriage.” The percentage of those who report the same drops significantly for just one additional sexual partner, and gradually gets lower overall as the number of partners increases.

Wolfinger also “found that women with zero or one previous sex partners before marriage were also least likely to divorce, while those with 10 or more were most likely.” Notably, virginal brides had a much lower chance of divorce than the rest: “Just 6 percent of their marriages dissolved within five years, compared with 20 percent for most people,” The Atlantic reported.

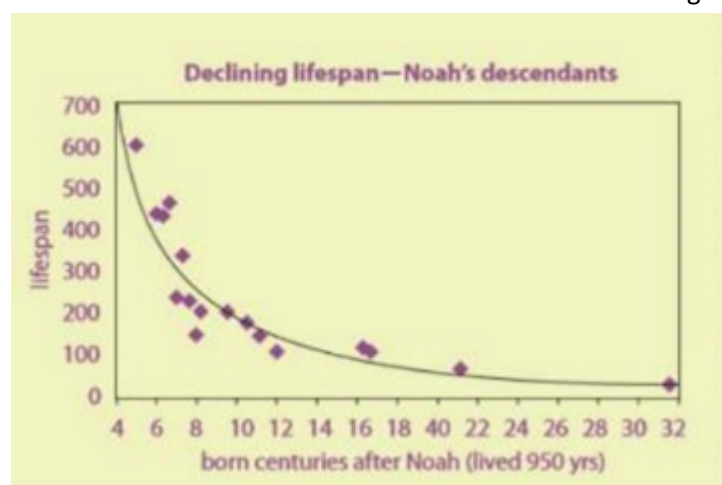
**Editor’s Note - Satan is hard at work attacking every facet of society. He entices us to throw off every commandment of God and allow our own selfish desires to reign and at the same time usher in our own destruction.**

---

## Why don’t we Live to 900 Years like Adam and Noah?

The answer to this question has changed in Creation Science circles over the years. Initially, in the 1960’s creationists were blaming our lack of longevity on the collapse of the water canopy surrounding the Earth which may have been suggested in Genesis 2:7. This canopy theory is no longer in vogue.

The canopy theory itself gave us many more problems than it solved with the heat and pressure generated in our atmosphere and on the surface by this canopy pressing down on the atmosphere. Today it is recognized that the canopy is not only problematic, but not needed as the x-ray, gamma ray, and ultraviolet radiations we were hoping it filtered out to give us longevity could have been equally filtered by the magnetic field around the Earth which at the time of the creation was 20 times greater than today.



Noah lived to 950 (350 years after the flood) so his longevity was in no way curtailed by the elimination of a canopy nor by a weakening magnetic field.

Figure 1: Noah’s son Shem lived to only 600. This fact along with the other data from the chart shows a rapid loss of longevity after the flood which was not occurring before the flood. Something changed.

What occurred was a genetic bottleneck which can be exemplified by going to Dr. J.C. Sanford’s

“Mendel’s Accountant” website.

Not only did humanity start over with the genetic load (accumulation of mutations in the genomes of Noah’s three sons and their wives being carried forward) but it can be assumed that their genetic load was greater than normal since Noah had all three sons after he was 500 years old. Today, having children in your old age equates to multiple mutations in gametes.

God may also have programmed our cells with a 'stop' mechanism' at this time telling them to "turn off" (die) after a limited number of reproductions. While there is programming in our cells which does tell them to turn off after a specified number of reproductions, it is debated as to whether this coding was inserted at the time of the flood.

## Decreasing lifespans

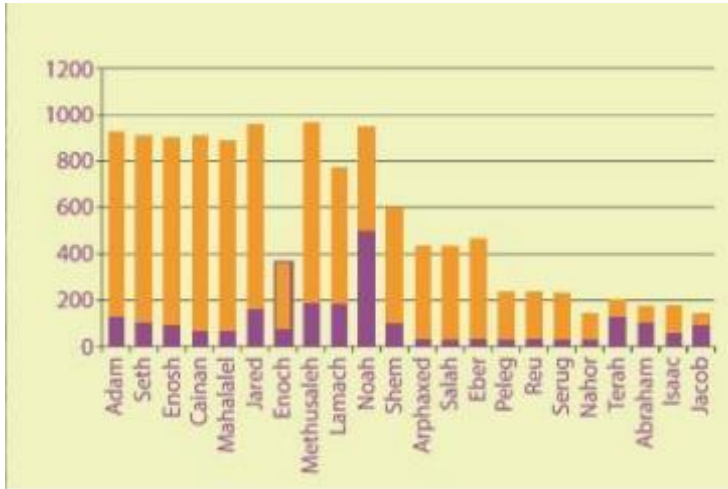


Figure 2: Patriarch ages at death (light column) and recorded fatherhood (dark column); courtesy of Dr Robert Carter.

Since the change in environment is inadequate, in the 1990s, it was proposed that the decline in lifespans had *genetic* causes.

Indeed, a genetic basis for longevity has been demonstrated in animals, e.g., fruit flies, such that genes for longevity can be lost from a population. Recent research on

the accumulation of mutations in the human genome has provided further support for the idea. One of the problems with old-earth belief is that humans add over 30 new mutations every generation. The overwhelming majority of these are not eliminated by natural selection. This should cause an exponential decay in fitness. So, if humans had been around for as long as evolutionists claim, we should have become extinct from the huge mutational load long ago. That we have *not* become extinct is strong evidence that humans have not been here for longer than a few thousand years.

Recent advanced computer simulations vindicate this proposal, showing that an exponential decay of lifespans fits well with accumulating mutations after the catastrophic population bottleneck at the Flood. This can be seen from comparing the decay curve produced by the computer simulation with the recorded lifespans from Noah to the present day (Figure 1).

## Why was Shem's lifespan much shorter than Noah's?

As shown, genome decay after a population bottleneck explains the general trend of lifespan decay after the Flood. But what about Shem, born before the bottleneck, but he lived only  $\frac{1}{3}$  as long as most of his ancestors? (The lifespans of his brothers, Ham and Japheth, are not recorded.)

There is of course the ever-present possibility in any individual of a non-aging-related cause of death such as disease or accident. But there is also a plausible genetic explanation: he was born when his father was 502, i.e., over half-way through his lifespan. His ancestors were much younger when they fathered their named sons. It has long been known that children born to aged

mothers have a higher risk of developing non-hereditary genetic disorders such as Down's Syndrome, and it is plausible that Mrs. Noah was about the same age as Noah. But even if she were much younger, more recent research points to aged *fathers* as a major source of genetic disorders. This should not be surprising since men keep producing sperm throughout their lives from the division of stem cells (some 840 divisions by age 50). In theory, the risks of spontaneous mutation increase with each round of sperm cell division, so the sperm of older men are more likely to carry mutations.

So, it is not surprising that Shem, while very fit by today's standards, would have been considerably less fit than his parents, and carried extra heritable mutations. So, Shem and all his descendants had much lower lifespans than the pre-Flood patriarchs.

---

## Peer-Reviewed Paper: “Neo-Darwinism Must Mutate to Survive”

Excerpted from an article by Casey Luskin in Evolution News

A peer-reviewed paper published towards the end of last year in the Elsevier journal Progress in Biophysics and Molecular Biology has a provocative title: “Neo-Darwinism Must Mutate to Survive.” The paper's abstract opens with points that few would dispute:

Darwinian evolution is a nineteenth century descriptive concept that itself has evolved. Selection by survival of the fittest was a captivating idea. Microevolution was biologically and empirically verified by discovery of mutations (not completely). However, there then comes a major “but”:

There has been limited progress to the modern synthesis. The central focus of this perspective is to provide evidence to document that selection based on survival of the fittest is insufficient for other than microevolution (variation).

And according to authors Olen R. Brown and David A. Hullender, just what is the basis for saying this? It's calculations showing that the likelihood of microevolutionary processes adding up to macroevolutionary (one kind changing into another kind) changes is highly improbable:

Realistic probability calculations based on probabilities associated with microevolution are presented. However, macroevolution (required for all speciation events and the complexifications appearing in the Cambrian explosion) are shown to be probabilistically highly implausible (on the order of 10-50) when based on selection by survival of the fittest. We conclude that macroevolution via survival of the fittest is not salvageable by arguments for random genetic drift and other proposed mechanisms.

They go on to state, “We are critical, as previously explained, of the position that macroevolution is sufficiently explained by the processes useful for microevolution — in



Casey  
Luskin



particular that mutations and survival of the fittest are adequate to the task,” and argue that “Microevolution does not explain speciation — only smaller changes.”

## **A Familiar Critique**

Thus, these evolutionists clearly share a critical perspective on Neo-Darwinism that is very similar to that of the intelligent design community. Consider this striking passage:

Survival of the fittest is adequate to select for such changes (gains) which occur within one genome primarily by single fixed mutations (and perhaps sometimes by horizontal gene transfer). Macroevolution, however, requires major changes necessitating multiple changes that logically most frequently occur in multiple genomes. Therefore, the concept survival of the fittest is inadequate to conserve individual changes in multiple genomes where the individual changes generate no increased fitness. ... Thus, survival of the fittest is illogical when proposed as adequate for selecting the origination of all complex, major, new body-types and metabolic functions because the multiple changes in multiple genomes that are required have intermediate stages without advantage; selection would not reasonably occur, and disadvantage or death would logically prevail.

What they are saying is that when some feature requires multiple changes before providing an increase in fitness, the changes cannot be produced by mutation and selection alone. Their subsequent comments, read carefully, almost sound like an implicit endorsement of intelligent design:

“It is our perspective that the burden is too great for survival of the fittest to select evolutionary changes that accomplish all evolutionary novelty. Thus, evolution lacks a sufficient mechanism for multifactorial selections because a process that looks forward, is nonrandom, deterministic, or occurs by an unknown biological process, is required. The position of mainstream biologists regarding this aspect of evolution is that nature is always non-purposeful and, therefore, the proposed selection (process, force, tendency), could not possibly be natural (scientific). However, our perspective is that this is a supposition of necessity rather than an established principle. Logic demands that it be open to investigation. This first requires an openness to ideas and science must be open to new ideas. “

They thus propose that evolution is only possible if it is “nonrandom, deterministic, or occurs by an unknown biological process” — something that some would reluctantly conclude “could not possibly be natural.” They continue:

‘Darwin wrote in *On the Origin of Species*... : “If it could be demonstrated that any complex organ existed, which could not possibly have been formed by numerous, successive, slight modifications, my theory would absolutely break down. But I can find out no such case.” Today, Darwin’s missing cases are abundant including each complex transition to a new body type, metabolic cycle, or metabolic chain. Multi-step processes are routinely required at every evolutionary step.’

They then perform a probability calculation which shows that the likelihood of producing a necessary pathway would require such multi-step processes leading to probabilities below the plausibility bound they had previously set.

## Origin of the Krebs Cycle

They use a case study of the origin of the Krebs cycle — a metabolic pathway involving 12 enzymes that are necessary for life. They believe that this is a useful test for evolution. They assume that the genome is “ripe” to produce each enzyme where a minimal number of mutations is needed for a gene to suddenly become functional. They therefore choose an incredibly generous value of 0.00001 as the probability that a given enzyme can be created by a single mutation.

They calculate the likelihood of producing all 12 enzymes needed to produce a selectable function as  $10^{-51}$ . They note this is below  $10^{-50}$ , a probability that was called “negligible” by Émile Borel, the French mathematician, who stated “this process of evolution involves certain properties of living matter that prevent us from asserting that the process was accomplished in accordance with the laws of chance.” (i.e., anything lower than 10 to the 50<sup>th</sup> power chance is mathematically guaranteed not to happen.)

They also reject co-option and exaptation as possible explanations for the origin of the Krebs cycle: “The idea that the complete, functioning Krebs cycle arose by purloining each intermediate step from other uses (Meléndez-Hevia, 1996) lacks empirical support. The discoveries that genes can be switched on and off, that codes read forward and backward, gene duplication, and the homeobox, are helpful but inadequate to save evolutionary theory without modification.”

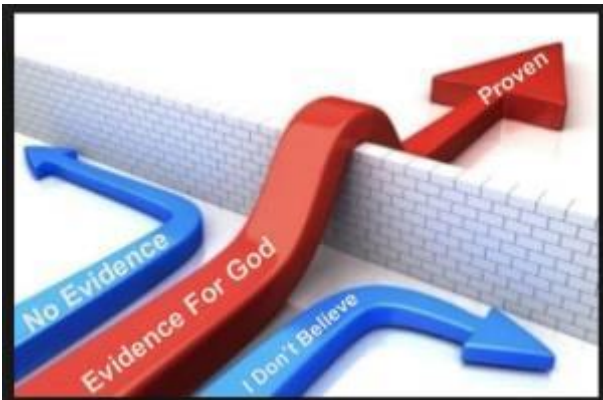
In the end, producing a complex feature like the Krebs cycle is just too improbable because “Selection based on survival of the fittest, for anything beyond single mutational changes in a genome, is insufficient scientifically and biologically.” They conclude, “there is something besides mutations and survival of the fittest needed to explain evolution.”

---

## How would you respond to the claim that “there is simply no evidence God exists”?

... there’s no guarantee that there’s something wrong in us just because a skeptic won’t accept an argument we find convincing.

### No evidence for God?



The ‘no evidence for God’ claim, though, is an interesting one. It often works to frame the discussion in such a way that only we have a burden of proof. It allows the unbeliever the comfortable position of the skeptic: they get to poke holes in our case without ever having to make a case for anything themselves. This however sets up a false dilemma: either we can convince them that God exists, or our faith in God isn’t reasonable. But there’s practically always a way to doubt any argument for God



(or practically any argument for any philosophically interesting conclusion, for that matter) that's not obviously wrong to all rational people. Plus, skeptics regularly demand airtight arguments practically anyone would have to accept before they would believe in God (Agnosticism). As such, we almost certainly won't convince them. But then that supposedly means that our faith in God isn't reasonable. The game is rigged from the start. Heads, the skeptic wins; tails, we lose.

How can we counteract it? First, we don't have to prove God's existence to the point of convincing a trenchant skeptic like this to be rational in believing in God. First, there's a big difference between knowing that God is real and showing that God is real. For instance, I know how chocolate tastes to me, but I can't really show others how it tastes to me. Does my inability to show how it tastes to me undermine my ability to know how it tastes to me? Of course not. Likewise, someone showing us that God is real through publicly accessible evidence and arguments is only one way to know that God is real. And it may not even be the best way to know. We may have reason to think God is there that isn't publicly accessible, such as a person's own experience with God. That probably won't be much help in convincing others that God is real, but it can still be rightly convincing to that person.

Moreover, a "diehard" skeptic is not the picture of objectivity. Take your friend, for instance. He's not a blank slate; he left the church. In other words, he was a convert to his skepticism. Converts can easily feel like they were 'duped' by their former ideology, and manifest powerful anger and disgust towards it as a result. Do you ever wonder why skeptics in the West tend to direct hatred toward Christianity more than any other religion? They're reacting to what they rejected. Most of them came out of the church, not the synagogue, mosque, or temple. Does this sound like cold, dispassionate reason? No. Does it sound human? Yeah.

Of course, converts to Christianity do it too. But the point is that skeptics are just as susceptible to the same biases, failures, and foibles as the rest of us. But if so, why think their views are correct, especially if we find some arguments for God convincing even after considering the best objections to them? We're not irrational for disagreeing with them. Sane and smart people can disagree rationally about such things. Thus, there's no guarantee that there's something wrong in us just because a skeptic won't accept an argument we find convincing. So, don't fall into the trap of thinking that, since you failed to convince someone that God is there, your faith is somehow faulty.

### **How to respond**

So, then: how should you respond to your friend? ...Don't play his game. Flip the script. Instead of you presenting a case for God, make him present what he thinks a case for God should look like. The simplest way to do this is to ask him: 'What sort of evidence would you expect God to give?' After all, absence of evidence is only evidence of absence if we're lacking evidence we'd expect God to leave behind. But, for me, there's more than enough evidence for God to convince me that He's there (Philosophical arguments for God). I don't need any more convincing. Why does the skeptic?

### **Getting cagey?**

Don't be surprised if he gets cagey at this point, trying to avoid giving some sort of evidence that would convince him. Many skeptics will say things like, 'Well, none of the arguments I've seen convince me.' Or he may just continue to demand that you convince him. But if he does this, don't let him off the hook. Hold his feet to the fire. Say something like: 'Well, if I don't know what would convince you, why should I bother trying? How do I know that anything I might say wouldn't just fall on deaf ears?'

You want him to give you something concrete. But, failing that, your goal is to make him feel the irresponsible dogmatism of his skepticism. If skeptics hate anything, it's looking like a gullible dogmatist. After all, that's (supposedly) the very thing they escaped in leaving the church, right? Hopefully, he will feel the sting, and then

give you something concrete: something he would accept as evidence for God. Or he might say: 'I'm not sure right now. I need to think about it.' Either response is really good. If he does the latter, happily give him all the time he needs, even if it means you have to pick up the conversation at another time. (And don't keep bugging him for a response to you! You don't want to come off as pushy; that plays into the 'religious' stereotype. Let him come back to you.)

But if he continues avoiding the question, walk away. It's a waste of time trying to engage with him, because he either doesn't want to be convinced, or doesn't think he ever could be. But even if he does this, don't despair; it may sow a seed of doubt in him about the reasonableness of his extreme skepticism. Instead, pray.

### **Concrete evidence?**

But if he gives you something concrete, then play the skeptic. Show that even the case he expects would convince him has the same sort of holes he thinks exist in more standard cases for God.

For instance: many skeptics will say things like: 'Well, if I saw an amputee healed in response to prayer, that would convince me.' Respond with: 'Really? How do you know God would've done it?' 'The prayer', they'll respond. Your response: 'That could just be a coincidence. Besides, it's just a one-off event. What if it never gets repeated? That doesn't sound scientific. Plus, how do you know something other than God didn't step in to heal the amputee? Maybe aliens did it! At least we know aliens can exist, since we exist. But God? You're just linking events that have no demonstrable link and labelling it with 'God did it' to cover for your lack of a scientific explanation.' This sort of a response is a real stinger because it's exactly how most skeptics respond to cosmological and design arguments for God.

Some of them might say, 'Well, if God appeared to me right here and said, "Here I am, believe in me!" then I would.' To this you could respond: 'So, you'd bow your knee at a vision that may very well just be a dream? How would you know for sure you didn't hallucinate?'

Some might say, 'If the stars read "God exists. Worship him", I would believe.' Response: 'That would only be useful to people who knew the language the message was written in. Nevertheless, how do you know the stars don't say that in a language you've never encountered? At any rate, why not other beings that want to deceive us? It's not something we could say that only God could do, so why should we trust a message in the sky with practically no context? Besides, why should you expect God to arrange the stars just to sate your curiosity about his existence? Is that really reasonable to expect of God? Are we the center of his universe?'

### **Doubting his doubts**

And remember—with such responses, you're not trying to show that God doesn't exist. Rather, you're trying to show that we can always come up with reasons to doubt that will sound plausible to someone, no matter what evidence is put forward. And if they say, 'Well, that's what would convince me.' Respond with: 'So what? You can't guarantee that it would convince every rational person. You didn't say, "There's no evidence for God that convinces me"; you said, "There's no evidence for God", period. If all you're aiming to do is convince yourself, how can anyone else be sure that you're really looking for the truth? And this isn't just about trusting you. This is also about whether you're even competent to look for the truth about God.'

At this point, they might start saying things like, 'Well, all I can do is look at the evidence and do my best to figure out the truth. You have to do that for yourself, too.' At which point you can respond with: 'Exactly! That's all I'm trying to do, too. But I genuinely think that things like the following are best explained by the existence of God.'

The universe had a beginning.

The universe exists rather than nothing at all.

The universe is fine-tuned for life.

Morals are real.

Living things exhibit ingenious designs.

Humans are capable of reason.

‘I see those things and more as evidence for God. I’m not saying that other explanations can’t be offered, or even that smart and sane people can’t disagree with me. Maybe you don’t find these to be conclusive proofs, but it’s a gross overstatement to say that they don’t qualify as evidence. Furthermore, when I look at them as honestly and critically as I can, I still think God is the best explanation for them. But when you say, ‘there’s no evidence for God’, you seem to imply I’m less than rational and/or honest when I say that there is. Is that fair?’

After all, that’s the real effect of this ‘no evidence for God’ claim. If they hold it consistently, they have to admit that you’re essentially irrational just for being a theist. But hopefully, by this point, he’s felt the unjustified dogmatism of his view, and walked it back a bit to admit that theists aren’t necessarily failing to reason properly when they believe in God. If you manage to do that, then you’ve won a huge victory. And that might be a good place to end the discussion for the time being. People often need time to process these sorts of things, so bombarding them with everything in our arsenal all at once is just unhelpful. For a start, he’s probably not ready to hear most of it with an open mind. Rather, we try to deal with the person where they are, and try to nudge them a little bit in the right direction.

But, if he’s really committed to his view, he may bite the bullet on this right to your face. He may admit that he has to conclude that you’re irrational for believing in God. If he pushes that far, then there’s one last thing that may help him to walk back his dogmatism: a bigger atheistic brain than his who disagrees with him. Here’s a quote from atheist philosopher of religion Graham Oppy where he says that theists can be rational in their theism, even though he thinks we’re wrong:

“I am very firmly of the belief that there are no supernatural entities of any kind; a fortiori, I am very firmly of the belief that there are no orthodoxly conceived monotheistic gods. I am also pretty firmly of the belief that, even by quite strict standards, those who believe in the existence of orthodoxly conceived monotheistic gods need not thereby manifest some kind of failure of rationality.”

Here’s a ‘translation’: ‘I’m very confident there are no supernatural beings. I’m even more confident God doesn’t exist. But I’m also pretty confident theists aren’t necessarily irrational just for believing in God.’

Graham Oppy is Professor of Philosophy at Monash University in Australia (equivalent to the rank of Distinguished Professor in most American universities) and is widely considered to be one of the foremost philosophers of religion in the world. If he can grant that theists aren’t necessarily irrational just for believing in God, then your friend should be able to as well. If he still won’t, then you should ask him: why should I trust your opinion on the reasonableness of belief in God over perhaps the foremost atheistic expert on these questions in the world? Even if he can’t see you as anything but irrational, it’ll be very hard for him to say that you have to agree with him rather than Oppy without looking like an arrogant fool. Which, again, may sow just a sliver of doubt in his extreme skepticism.

## **Conclusions**

As you can see, there are myriad ways to attack this sort of topic. And no doubt there are possible responses I haven’t covered here. But the point is to focus on his position, not yours. Ask him questions about his position. React to his position. This is about him, not you. You want him thinking about (and questioning) where he is at,

not where you're at. Apologetics is largely a reactive discipline; it addresses people where they're at and seeks to move them toward (or strengthen them in, for believers) a rationally justified commitment to Christ.

As for resources, see especially Agnosticism and Atheism; Philosophical arguments for God (especially the opening section) is also useful. The Creation Answers Book, chapter 1: Does God exist? has an introductory treatment of some of the evidence for God. For more articles, see our Atheism and God Q and A pages. Our books Evolution's Achilles' Heels and Christianity for Skeptics will also be useful. Also, Scott Lane's book, "What if God Wrote the Bible?" was written for just this purpose.

Excerpted and adapted from an article by Shaun Doyle with Creation Ministries International

## **'We Are Totally Awash in Pseudoscience': Nobel Prize-Winning Physicist on Climate Agenda** - His speech 'postponed' by the IMF, John Clauser speaks out.

Excerpted from an article by Nathan Worcester with the Epoch Times



Nobel Prize-winning physicist John Clauser isn't afraid to go against the flow... Today he's violating a taboo that has slowly but surely become one of the biggest in science and politics. "I am, I guess, what you would call a 'climate change denialist,'" Mr. Clauser told The Epoch Times.

His training in science makes him "a little bit different" from some others, he said.

The physicist, who also won a third of the Wolf Prize for his quantum mechanics contributions, shared some of his views on climate during a recent speech in South Korea soon after his election to the CO2 Coalition's board of directors.

### **'Dangerous Misinformation'**

"I believe that climate change is not a crisis," Mr. Clauser told the audience at Quantum Korea 2023. He also described the United Nations' Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) as "one of the worst sources of dangerous misinformation."

Mr. Clauser elaborated further on his views in his interview with The Epoch Times.

Contra the IPCC and other major institutions, he argues that climate is primarily set by what he refers to as the "cloud cover thermostat," a self-regulating process whereby more clouds start to enshroud the Earth when the temperature is too high and vice-versa. Although he accepts observations showing that atmospheric carbon dioxide is increasing, he said he believes that gas's effect on heat transfer is swamped by a great natural cloud cycle.

"[The carbon dioxide] may or may not be made by human beings," Mr. Clauser said. "It doesn't really matter where it comes from." The physicist said he believes that objective science on climate has been sacrificed to politics. The preeminence of politics is all the worse, he said, because so much money has already gone to climate initiatives.

"We're talking about trillions of dollars," he said, adding that powerful people don't want to hear that they've made "trillion-dollar mistakes." Concerns about such mistakes may have been relevant after Mr. Clauser was slated to speak before the U.N.'s International Monetary Fund (IMF) on July 25.

In recent years, the international economic and monetary agency has focused heavily on the climate. Officials have laid particular stress on international carbon taxes. "The latest IMF analysis finds that large emitting

countries need to introduce a carbon tax that rises quickly to \$75 a ton in 2030,” the agency’s website on climate mitigation states.

Just days before his talk was to take place, the Nobel laureate received alarming news. Mr. Clauser told The Epoch Times he had received an email indicating that the IMF’s Independent Evaluation Office (IEO) director, Pablo Moreno, didn’t want the talk to go forward that day.

In an email, an IEO senior official told The Epoch Times that Mr. Clauser’s speech “has been postponed to reorganize it into a panel discussion.” “We are working to reschedule it after the summer,” the official wrote.

### **No New Date Set**

For now, a new date hasn’t been set.

Mr. Clauser pointed out that a past attempt at a vigorous, transparent debate over climate change—namely, the “red team, blue team” exercise proposed by Obama administration veteran Steve Koonin in 2017—was ultimately scuttled during the Trump administration. When Environmental Protection Agency Director Scott Pruitt sought to carry out the exercise, White House Chief of Staff John Kelly reportedly shot the idea down.

In the eyes of some observers, the stated postponement looks more like a straightforward cancellation.

“Dr. John Clauser, Nobel Prize Recipient for Physics, 2022, & Board Member of the CO2 Coalition, has been summarily canceled as a confirmed speaker on July 25 at the International Monetary Fund. They say his speech is ‘postponed’. Don’t hold your breath!” Patrick Moore, co-founder of Greenpeace and now a high-profile climate skeptic, wrote on X, formerly known as Twitter. Mr. Moore is a former chair of the CO2 Coalition.

“Whatever you do anon, you must not question ‘The Science,’ even if you are a Nobel laureate,” Joshua Steinman, a cybersecurity entrepreneur who served on the Trump administration’s National Security Council, wrote on X.

If the IMF’s IEO re-invites Mr. Clauser, his remarks could make a bigger splash than his initially scheduled talk. Like Robert F. Kennedy Jr., however, Mr. Clauser may find it hard to get his message out there if the opposition remains sufficiently entrenched. For now, the physicist doesn’t sound likely to yield. **“We are totally awash in pseudoscience,”** he told The Epoch Times.

**Editor’s Note – This story makes the point again how we are awash in pseudoscience both in the fields of climatology and origins. It also underscores yet again that when anyone, regardless of their credentials questions the reigning propaganda, they are summarily dismissed, ridiculed, and silenced. These are frightening times, and the father of lies is having a “heyday!”**

## **Genesis Commentary**

---

### **Jacob and Esau**

<sup>19</sup> This is the account of the family line of Abraham’s son Isaac. Abraham became the father of Isaac, <sup>20</sup> and Isaac was forty years old when he married Rebekah daughter of Bethuel the Aramean from Paddan Aram (Northwest Mesopotamia) and sister of Laban the Aramean.



<sup>21</sup> Isaac prayed to the LORD on behalf of his wife, because she was childless. The LORD answered his prayer, and his wife Rebekah became pregnant. <sup>22</sup> The babies jostled each other within her, and she said, "Why is this happening to me?" So, she went to inquire of the LORD.

<sup>23</sup> The LORD said to her,

"Two nations are in your womb, and two peoples from within you will be separated; one people will be stronger than the other, and the older will serve the younger." (This is one of the 2000+ prophecies in the Bible which have already come true as you will see as this narrative progresses.)

<sup>24</sup> When the time came for her to give birth, there were twin boys in her womb. <sup>25</sup> The first to come out was red, and his whole body was like a hairy garment; so they named him Esau. (Esau may have meant "hairy.") <sup>26</sup> After this, his brother came out, with his hand grasping Esau's heel; so he was named Jacob. (Jacob means "he grasps the heel", a Hebrew idiom for "he deceives", which you will see is prophetic.) Isaac was sixty years old when Rebekah gave birth to them.

<sup>27</sup> The boys grew up, and Esau became a skillful hunter, a man of the open country, while Jacob was content to stay at home among the tents. <sup>28</sup> Isaac, who had a taste for wild game, loved Esau, but Rebekah loved Jacob.

<sup>29</sup> Once when Jacob was cooking some stew, Esau came in from the open country, famished. <sup>30</sup> He said to Jacob, "Quick, let me have some of that red stew! I'm famished!" (That is why he was also called Edom.) (Edom means "red.")

<sup>31</sup> Jacob replied, "First sell me your birthright." <sup>32</sup> "Look, I am about to die," Esau said. "What good is the birthright to me?" <sup>33</sup> But Jacob said, "Swear to me first." So, he swore an oath to him, selling his birthright to Jacob. <sup>34</sup> Then Jacob gave Esau some bread and some lentil stew. He ate and drank, and then got up and left. So, Esau despised his birthright.

Thus, we have the history of the birth of the Edomites who will harass Israel for centuries and the nation of Israel. Esau's descendants will become the Edomites and Jacob's descendants the nation of Israel (the Hebrew). This is history in the making!

---

## Prayer Needs and Praises!

- Pray for spiritual healing in our nation.
- Pray for SABBSA's Public Seminars
- Pray for our Radio Ministry
- Pray for our effectiveness of monthly meetings and speakers
- Pray for how we can get the gospel out better
- Please pray for Mrs. Cindy Williams who is battling cancer.



## Coming to SABBSA on the second Tuesday of each month in 2023

August – The Discovery of Genesis in Chinese



September – **Supposed Contradictions in the Bible?**

October – **“The Rocks Cry Out” #7 – “Science is a Tool”**

November – **“Discovering Dinosaurs” with Dr. Brian Thomas ICR**

December – **“The Rocks Cry Out” #8 – “Grand Canyon”**

## 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 13-million people across the U.S. in thirteen major markets and internationally in 120 countries on WWCR.**

Here is our schedule of upcoming program topics

8/5 **Bendewald - Awakening book**

8/12 **Creation Accounts**

8/19 **Bedbugs**

8/26 **Am I a Mutant?**

9/2 **Youth Questions**

9/9 **What are the Darwinists Afraid of?**

9/16 **Science in the Bible?**

9/23 **Whale Evolution**

9/30

**Young**

**Moons**

10/7 **Quotes from Evolutionists #1**

10/14 **Quotes from Evolutionists #2**

10/21 **Is the Earth Special?**

10/28 **We came from Ape-men?**

11/4 **Distant Starlight**



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](#)

## Cartoon Corner

Thanks to Answers in Genesis, who provides many of 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.



## Summer Long Creation Seminar at Crestview Baptist Church

Scott Lane will present a complete Creation Science seminar on Wednesdays at 6:30 pm this summer at Crestview Baptist Church (located at **8101 Eagle Crest Blvd., Windcrest, TX 78239**). All This seminar is open to the public and childcare is provided. The schedule for this summer's seminar presentations are as follows:

- 7/5 **Underpinnings: Fossils, Physics, Genetics and Babel**
- 7/12 **Young Earth Evidence**
- 7/19 **Incredible Creatures that Defy Evolution - Intelligent Design**
- 7/26 **Dinosaurs and the Bible**
- 8/2 **Biology and Symbiotic Relationships**
- 8/9 **Lucy Unveiled and Bad Examples of Evolution**
- 8/16 **How did we get Here? – The De-faithing of America**



If you miss one of the seminar programs this summer or wish to preview each week's material, they are on **YouTube** and linked on SABBSA's website at [www.sabbsa.org](http://www.sabbsa.org)

---

## Around Texas

### **Houston:**

The **Greater Houston Creation Association (GHCA)** meet at Houston's First Baptist Church at 7 pm every first Thursday, in Room 143. Their meetings can be streamed live by going to [www.ghcaonline.com](http://www.ghcaonline.com).

### **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/>

**Greater San Antonio area:** Listen to **Answers with Ken Ham** online at the address below.

<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.

### **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/>

## ICR in Dallas:

Of course, the **ICR Discovery Center for Science and Earth History** is the foremost creation history museum in the Southwest. They are open from 10am to 5 pm Tuesdays through Saturdays. For more 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/>

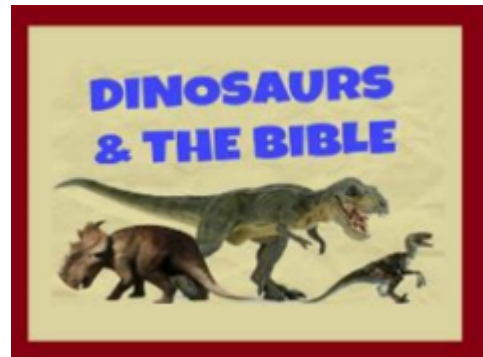
## Abilene:

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. <https://evidences.org/>

## Last Month at SABBSA

Most people are taken aback by this title. Don't be, we are talking about real history.

We saw accounts from the Bible of encounters of man with dinosaurs like the Brachiosaurus and the Plesiosaur. We showed evidence for both the lack of "missing links" between dinosaur kinds and the incredibly weak evidence for the supposed evolution of dinosaurs into birds. We saw how Noah could have taken dinosaurs onto the Ark.



The vast dinosaur graveyards found round the world give great evidence for this deluge and how the bulk of all life on Earth died in it. We saw evidence from South America and around the world showing man lived with dinosaurs very recently. All of this evidence was shown to fit within the creation account from the Bible. This is our most popular program with kids and for schools.

If you missed our last meeting its on YouTube at <https://youtu.be/Vblz9ydKXHA>

**Next SABBSA Meeting:  
Tuesday, August 8, 2023, at 7 pm**

**Coming to SABBSA in August**

## **The Discovery of Genesis in Chinese**

Based on the book "**The Discovery of Genesis**" by Reverend C. H. Kang and Dr. Ethel Nelson. We present 118 examples of Chinese pictographs which give unmistakable evidence the ancient Chinese had extensive knowledge of Genesis some 4500 years ago when the Chinese written language was invented. This was 1100 years before Moses penned Genesis!

It shows how the development of this language fits well within the biblical history of the dispersion after Babel. We also show the Chinese were once a monotheistic people who knew of the God of the Bible, and had intimate and detailed knowledge of His Word.

Please join us in August for creation science and biblical apologetics teaching you will find nowhere else in Bexar County. We meet at **Faith Lutheran Church** just **south of the corner of Jones Maltsberger and Thousand Oaks**. The address is 14819 Jones Maltsberger Rd., San Antonio, Texas 78247.

