Creation or Evolution?
Observations by the Editor

Creationism

Dr. David R. Reagan

Until the mid-19th Century, the biblical account of the creation of life and the universe was widely accepted within Christendom. In other words, Christians accepted the biblical revelation that the material world was created in six literal days about 6,000 years ago.

The Christian Surrender

But when Darwinism exploded on the scene, Christian leaders sold out quickly to the theories of scientists that the universe is billions of years old. To accommodate that supposition, Christian theologians developed the Gap Theory and the Day-Age Theory.

The Gap Theory argued that there are millions of years between the first two verses of Genesis. In other words, God created the universe and then it was deploied by the revolt of Satan, and millions of years later, God re-created the universe.

The Day-Age Theory postulates that the creation days of Genesis were really days that lasted millions, if not billions, of years each.

The Revival of Genesis

The man who almost single-handedly revived the biblical view was Dr. Henry Morris (1918-2006). Dr. Morris graduated from Rice University with a bachelor’s degree in civil engineering in 1939. Later, in 1950, he earned a doctorate in hydraulic engineering from the University of Minnesota. He then served as a professor of applied science at Southern Illinois University (1956-1957), and subsequently as professor of hydraulic engineering and civil engineering at the Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University (Virginia Tech), where he also served as the department chair.

In 1961, Dr. Morris teamed up with a theologian named John C. Whitcomb, and the two of them wrote The Genesis Flood, which advocated supernatural creation by God and attributed the fossil record to the Noahic Flood.

In 1963, Dr. Morris and nine others founded the Creation Research Society which was committed to reaffirming the biblical story of creation. In 1972, he established the Institute for Creation Research, which produces scientific studies that affirm a young earth and refute the Theory of Evolution.

The Situation Today

In recent years, many other Creation ministries have been established and the number of scientists speaking out against evolution and in behalf of a young earth has steadily increased.

The time is long overdue for Christian leaders to join that chorus of voices. Unfortunately, most of those leaders today are either silent about Creation, or else they continue to try to conform the biblical revelation about the Creation to the opinions of scientists.

The primary purpose of this issue of our magazine is to emphasize the fact that a belief in the biblical story of Creation is very important theologically. A second purpose is to point out that a belief in Creationism is not something limited to a few “Fundamentalist preachers.” Rather, the concept of a young earth (together with a refutation of evolution) has been embraced by many with advanced degrees in science.

The fact of the matter is that the Theory of Evolution is on the ropes, and its advocates are scurrying around like mad trying to find an alternative theory.

In my opinion, the Theory of Evolution and its assumption of a Creation that is millions of years old is the greatest fantasy ever conceived by the depraved mind of Mankind.
Creation or Evolution?
Does it really make any difference?
Observations by Dr. David R. Reagan

For 30 years I didn’t think so. I just couldn’t understand what the fuss was all about. What difference did it make whether God created instantly in a matter of a few days or gradually over millions or billions of years? I was a Theistic Evolutionist — one who believes in evolution, but believes that it was God directed.

One of my problems was that I had grown up in a church that focused its study of the Bible almost exclusively on the New Testament. I had never really read and studied all of God’s Word. When I did, I immediately dropped my flirtation with evolution.

A Matter of Integrity

The first reason I did so is because I discovered the integrity of God’s Word is at stake on this issue. People dismiss the Genesis account of creation rather flippantly by saying, “The Bible is not a book of science.”

But think for a moment: if we cannot trust what the Bible tells us about the creation of Man and the universe, then what part of the Bible can we believe? Was there really a worldwide flood? Did a man named Abraham really exist? Did Jesus die on the Cross for our sins? Was He resurrected from the dead? If you start picking and choosing what part of the Bible you are going to believe, how are you going to determine what is true and what is false?

W. A. Criswell, the pastor of First Baptist Church in Dallas for almost 50 years (1944 to 1993), always characterized those who picked what parts of the Bible they wanted to believe as “Leopard Theologians.” He called them that because he said they believe the Bible is inspired only in spots, and they think they know which spots.

Symbolic Language?

I tried to deal with the Bible’s creation account by arguing that it used symbolic language. But there is no basis for drawing that conclusion.

Adam and Eve are never dealt with as mythical figures by later Biblical writers. And there is a passage in the book of Exodus that makes it very clear that the “days” of Genesis 1 and 2 are literal, 24 hour days (Exodus 20:8-11): Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days you shall labor . . . but the seventh day is a sabbath to the Lord . . . in it you shall not work . . . for in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested the seventh day.

Good or Evil Creation?

Another problem I found with Theistic Evolution is that it demeans the character of God. The Bible says God created instantly and majestically and that the creation was “good.”

Theistic Evolution presents an entirely different picture. It holds that God used a very vicious and violent method of creation — “the survival of the fittest.” In other words, creation occurred in a dog-eat-dog atmosphere that was anything but good.
The Origin of Death

Theistic Evolution also makes a lie of what the Bible teaches about sin and its consequences. According to the Bible, sin came into the world through the rebellion of Adam and Eve against God’s will. One of the results was physical death. Another was the curse which God placed upon nature.

Theistic Evolution turns the Biblical picture upside down, for it portrays all of creation as being involved in a death struggle *before* the evolutionary appearance of Man — and thus *before* Man could ever have sinned. Did death exist from the beginning of life, or was it the consequence of Man’s sin, as God’s Word says?

Tough Questions

When I decided to believe God’s Word, I had to junk evolution in any form — both the theistic and scientific forms. That raised new and tough questions for me. Is the earth only six to seven thousand years old? What about the fossil record? What about stars that are so far away that it has taken millions of years for their light to reach the earth?

Fortunately for me, as I began to wrestle with these tough questions, I ran across the voluminous publications of the Institute for Creation Research, an organization of scientists who are Christians and who accept the Genesis account as literal. Through their writings I began to find answers to my new questions.

For example, they point out a simple but often overlooked truth: special creation always carries with it the appearance of age. Think about it. If I were to instantly create an adult man and then present him to you as my miraculous creation, you would respond by saying, “But, David, this man is 30 years old!”

The same would be true of a full grown tree. If I created it that way, I would have a tough time trying to convince you that it did not grow from a seed.

The same is true of our universe. When God created it, He created it in maturity. The light from the most distant stars did not have to travel hundreds of millions of miles over millions of years to reach the earth. The stars were created with their light already reaching the earth.

More Tough Questions

But what about the dating techniques that indicate a very ancient age for the earth? The fact is that all of them are based upon evolutionary assumptions to begin with, and thus they produce highly distorted, untruthful results that conform to their built-in evolutionary bias.

What about the fossil record? The truth is that Evolutionists themselves do not like to talk about the fossil record anymore. The reason is that, despite the discovery of millions of fossils, they have not yet found even one that represents a transition form in the theorized evolutionary process. Dogs are still dogs in the fossil record. Cats are still cats. No one has yet found a “Dat.”

Scientific Denial

One of the strangest things about the modern Theory of Evolution is that it denies one of the fundamental axioms of science! Consult any physics book and you will find what is called the Second Law of Thermodynamics. It holds that everything in the universe is running down — that all of creation is moving from order to disorder.

This law of physics is nothing but an expression of common sense. If you don’t believe it, just look in a mirror! Your body is aging, and there is nothing you can do to stop it. You can camouflage it, but you can’t stop it!

This law of physics is the reason we have to have maintenance programs for cars and buildings. If we don’t maintain them, they will stop running or fall down.

Now, the point is this: evolution contends that all living things in the universe are moving in exactly the opposite direction — from disorder to order, from simplicity to greater complexity. Evolution contradicts one of the fundamental rules of science!

Logical Denial

Evolution also contradicts common sense. The complexity of the universe demands a designer. How could the human eye have developed by chance? To say it did is equivalent to saying that a Boeing 747 is the accidental product of a tornado blowing
through a junkyard!

Scientists tell us that the whole universe came into existence as the result of a “big bang.” Again, this contradicts common sense. How many explosions have you ever witnessed that produced order instead of chaos?

**Prophetic Fulfillment**

The development of the Theory of Evolution is prophesied in Scripture as one of the signs of the end times. The prophecy is found in 2 Peter 3:3-7. It says that “scroffers will arise in the last days” and that they will mock the promised return of the Lord by saying, “Where is the promise of His coming? For ever since the fathers fell asleep, all things have continued as they were from the beginning of creation.” Peter says that these people will deliberately ignore the fact that God created the world and then destroyed it with water.

The scientific principle prophesied in this passage is what is called Uniformitarianism. It is one of the cornerstones of Evolution. It is the idea that things have always been essentially the same, changing only minutely over billions of years. This idea denies what the Bible teaches about special creation out of nothing. It also denies the Bible’s historical record of a world-wide flood and the Bible’s promise that one day God will destroy the earth again with fire.

**Courting God’s Wrath**

The Bible says that God pours out His wrath on nations that “suppress the truth in unrighteousness” (Romans 1:18). We are doing that today in America. Our public schools are not allowed to teach children the true origin of the universe. Only the lie of Evolution can be taught.

The same passage in the Bible says God’s wrath is also poured out upon those nations whose people “serve the creature rather than the Creator” (Romans 1:25). The teaching of the Theory of Evolution has led this nation to the point where we are now worshiping the creation rather than the Creator. Our god is “Mother Earth,” not Father God.

**A Call to Action**

Christian parents who have their children in the public schools need to take upon themselves the responsibility to teach their children the truth about the origin of the universe and life.

The **Institute for Creation Research** has prepared teaching materials for all ranges of age, from pre-school through adult, including graduate level materials. You can secure a copy of their publication catalogue by calling 800-337-0375. Their mailing address is P. O. Box 59029, Dallas, Texas 75229. Their web site can be found at www.icr.org.

Another good source for Creation study and teaching materials is the ministry called **Answers in Genesis**. Their mailing address is PO Box 510, Hebron, KY 41048. You can find their website at https://answersingenesis.org. This is the ministry that has built a full sized replica of Noah’s Ark in Kentucky.

And if you want to learn how to teach Creation and counter the attacks on it, you need to get in touch with the **Creation Training Initiative** which holds seminars all over the nation. You can contact them through their website at www.creationtraining.org.

**D**r. Reagan presents arguments as to why the books of Genesis and Revelation should be interpreted in their plain-sense meaning regarding what they have to say about the creation of the universe and the return of Jesus. This 50 minute video will challenge you to think deeply about how you interpret the opening and closing of the Bible.

One of the points Dr. Reagan drives home is that if you cannot believe what the Bible says about Creation, why should you believe what it says about the Resurrection of Jesus? He warns repeatedly about the abuse of the Scripture through spiritualization and points out that those who insist on spiritualizing the Scriptures are playing God by saying that the Bible means what they want it to mean.

He emphasizes that the beginning and ending of the Bible are the two sections of God’s Word that have been abused the most through spiritualization, rendering them meaningless. He calls for people to trust God’s Word for its explanation of Creation and its promise of Jesus’ return.

DVD album. $20, including the cost of shipping.
I want you to know right up front that I used to be what you would call a Theistic Evolutionist. That’s a Christian who thinks God used evolution and millions of years of death and suffering to get us to where we are today. You won’t find that God in the Bible. Fortunately, someone straightened me out, and that’s what I now try to do for others — to help people understand their origins.

The Bible tells us that all scripture is given by the inspiration of God — all scripture. Now, that should make being a believer extremely easy. You read God’s Word, and you believe the Word of God. Sounds pretty easy doesn’t it? But the problem is that Satan and his minions are throwing out all kinds of stumbling blocks to get us off the narrow path and into the broad path that leads to destruction.

I get a lot of weird e-mails. Here’s one: “You’re such an idiot!” And I thought, “My wife’s in the next room. Why is she e-mailing me?” And then I thought, “Oh, I see, this actually came from a Liberal Christian.” And he goes on to say, “The Bible is not God’s inspired Word. It contains man-made stories that hold moral and spiritual lessons.” And hence begins the slide onto the broad path.

A favorite saying among Liberal Christians is, “We take the Bible seriously, but not literally.” Well, you know, the problem with not believing what it says is that you end up inventing what you want it to say. I mean, literally, you invent your own teachings, your own doctrine. And that is a dangerous place to be, my friends.

In 2 Timothy we are told, “A time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine. They will heap to themselves teachers that will teach their itching ears what they want to hear” (2 Timothy 4:3). This prophecy is being fulfilled before us today in the lies being told by liberal churches. Let’s consider what I believe are the top ten lies.

1 The first of these lies is that “we should ignore what the Bible teaches about Creation because it is divisive.” In fact, these liberal churches tend to avoid all biblical issues that might be divisive. They don’t want to step on any toes, so they focus on presenting inspirational, psychological, self-help lessons.

This leads to very little spiritual growth among the members of these churches. Thirty years down the road, their members are about as mature as the first day they accepted Jesus. They are always fed nothing but milk. And the result is that they don’t know what the Bible says about much of anything.

2 The second lie liberal churches teach is one that you will find shocking. It is the idea that “the biblical concept of the Gospel constitutes ‘cosmic child abuse.’”

The foundation of the Gospel of Jesus Christ is found in Genesis 1 through 3. Right up front God lays down the foundation for the Gospel message. If you are going to build a structure you start out by laying a solid foundation, and then you build upon it. When the quality of the foundation is ignored, then the structure built upon it will be flawed and unstable.

The initial chapters of Genesis explain the origin of sin and...
its resulting corruption of the Creation. They also reveal God’s plan "the world was made by God’s own hand and is full of myths and superstitions.” They think that secular science proves the Bible is not the inspired Word of God, leading them to make up whatever they want it to say. They believe that it is full of errors, and therefore it is not authoritative.

Now, one of the main things I want to emphasize to you is that real science is a believer’s best friend. Have you ever heard that if you believe the Bible, you are “anti-science”? That’s all propaganda. Don’t fall for that. Real science is your best friend. Real science is knowledge derived from the study of observable, testable evidence. Most people don’t realize that more than 80% of the branches of modern science were started by Christians to study God’s creation.

The fourth creation-related lie of liberal churches is their contention that “there never was a global flood.” They claim it was just a local flood.

Well, Moses told us through the inspiration of the Holy Spirit that God has judged man’s sin once already with a flood of waters that covered all the high hills under the whole heaven — and that would certainly be a global flood (Genesis 7:19-20).

Now, if God’s Word is really true, and there was a global flood that covered all the high hills under the whole heaven, wouldn’t there be evidence that would be hard to argue with? And wouldn’t you expect the evidence to be overwhelming?

I mean if there had really been a global flood, I would expect the outer crust of the earth that we live on and walk on would be made up of sedimentary layers of rock that have been stratified out by moving water — separated by grain size, weight and density. So, you would have all shale layers, all mudstone layers, all sandstone layers, separated by grain size, weight and density. And I’d expect those layers to be full of billions of dead things. You would expect to find things that were buried so quickly they didn’t even have time to rot away or get eaten by scavengers.

So, what do we actually see today? Well, the outer crust of the earth averages a mile deep of sedimentary layers of rock stratified out by grain size, weight and density. And those layers laid down by water are full of billions of dead things that we call fossils — dead animals that were buried so quickly they didn’t have time to rot away or get eaten by scavengers.

I live in northern Arizona, and a few weeks ago, I left my home driving to a church in California where I was scheduled to speak. About two miles down the road someone had run over a raccoon right in the middle of the road. Squashed it. Deader than a door nail. When I returned home four days later, scavengers had already eaten the thing. I thought it was going to lay there for millions of years, waiting for strata to build up around it. You see, things have to be buried immediately to be preserved if they are to become fossils.

The Word of God says that in the last days “scoffers will be willingly ignorant,” and they will deny that the ancient world “perished when it was flooded” (2 Peter 3:6). This prophecy says point blank that scoffers in the last days will deny the global flood.

In fulfillment of this prophecy, starting just 200 years ago, scientists began to deny that a global flood ever occurred, and out of that denial, Old Earth beliefs were born. And Liberal Christians, who compromise God’s Word with Secular Atheist beliefs, began to argue that the global flood was really only a local flood.

So, let’s consider for a moment where this “scientific” view of the flood comes from. It is based upon the man-made geological column, which is also where the Old Earth concept comes from. This column was invented about 200 years ago.

What they did was to make a drawing of twelve primary geological layers. The drawing was based on the belief there was never a global flood and that the layers formed slowly and uniformly over millions of years of death and suffering. They gave each of the twelve layers a name, assigned an age to the layer, and assigned index fossils to the layer. The index fossils supposedly went extinct while that layer was forming, so they wouldn’t be found in the newer layers above because they were what?
Extinct. Exactly.

Now, where did they come up with the ages that they assigned to their column? They made them up. Where else could they have come up with them? And the fossils in each layer are the key to the chart. I have a science textbook here that tells the reader, “We date the rock layer by the fossils in it.” That’s why they are called “index fossils.”

Okay, fair enough, but where do they get the date for the index fossils? The book says, “We date the fossil by the rock layer it’s in.” So they date the rock layer by the fossil, and the fossil by the rock layer. It is a total circular argument, all based on the man-made geological column or time scale.

For instance, lobe-finned fish are index fossils for rock up to 325 million years old. So, if a layer is found with a lobe-finned fossil in it, everything in the layer is dated up to 325 million years old. But, unfortunately, lobe-finned fish have been found alive today — not extinct for 300 plus million years. In fact, there are index fossils showing up alive today by the dozens. These discoveries have totally destroyed the reliability of the Old Earth dating methods.

This brings us to a crucially important point. People ask me all the time, “Russ, what evidence do you have that the Bible is true?” I always say, “Well, the same evidence Atheists use to say it’s not true.” Don’t we all live in the same world? Don’t we have the exact same evidence? It’s never been about the evidence. It is about who gets to interpret the evidence.

The geologic column, with the twelve primary layers in the correct order and with the correct order of index fossils in them, has only been found in three places in the world: school textbooks, museum displays and in Liberal Christian theology.

In like manner, the radiometric dating techniques are based on multiple wild guesses that throw off their dates by millions and billions of years. They have to get a date that matches the column to have it published. All the dates really just come from the column.

And then there is the sacred mantra of carbon dating. This process attempts to measure the age of something by analyzing the amount of Carbon 14 it contains. The determination is based on the fact that C14 decays over time, so the less C14 in an item the older it dates. That makes sense right? But considering its rate of decay, all C14 should be gone in less than 100,000 years in measurable amounts. So, you can’t carbon date something older than a few thousand years because there wouldn’t be any C14 left.

But recent studies show that organic materials down to the bottom of the geological column — which we are told is up to 600 million years old — still have Carbon 14 in them. Oh, and better yet, from a biblical standpoint, it’s in the same range of amount from the top layer all the way through to the bottom layer. What does that mean? That means all those layers had to form in the same event — and recently. Only a global flood viably explains that, my friends. And that’s why I point out that a global flood wipes out every Old Earth belief.

The fifth lie about Creation that is espoused by liberal churches is, of course, that “Darwin got it right.” They think Darwin, through human wisdom, logic and what they refer to as “science” got it right, proving the Bible is incorrect.

Now if you ask me, “Hey, Russ, do you believe in Evolution?” I would say, “Absolutely. I believe in micro-evolution.” You see, the word evolution has many meanings. Darwinian Evolution would be best described as macro-evolution.

So, let me just explain the difference between micro and macro. Micro changes happen within the same kind, the same family. For example, if you start breeding dogs and do so for the next 100 years, you might come up with all 350 types of dogs we have on earth today. Those would just be micro changes — dogs producing dogs.

Now, this is different from Darwinianism or macro-evolution which would be a dog producing a non-dog like a whale, a porpoise or a turnip. After 100 years, how many examples of macro would you get if you are breeding dogs together? Exactly, none. Doesn’t even make sense.

After millions of scientific experiments regarding these issues, the only thing that’s been found — and it has been found in every single experiment — is that kinds will only bring forth after their kind. And the changes are caused by the loss of genetic information. It is called gene depletion.

Why is it vital for Christians, especially kids still in school, to understand it is a scientific fact that kinds bring forth after their kind? Well, ten times in the book of Genesis we are told that plants or animals will bring forth after their kind. And here we are a few thousand years later, and after millions of scientific experiments, the only thing ever found is kinds bring forth after their kind. Real science a Believer’s best friend.

In secular school books kids are given lots of examples of biblically correct micro change. But then they switch the discussion to Darwinian macro-evolution. It is the old bait and switch con game, and they fool kids by the millions into thinking Darwinism is a fact. When the real fact is that it goes against scientific law and principle. That’s why there is zero evidence that macro-evolution ever took place. They focus on biblically correct micro because there is no evidence of macro to show anybody.

If you ever go through a Biology book, up to the PhD level, you’ll notice one consistent thing about their proofs for Darwinism — they are almost always drawings. There is an old saying that goes like this, “Darwinists are experts at drawing things that never existed to support their theory that never took place.” Honestly, you take away their box of crayons, and they’ve got nothing.

The Bible says, “Professing to be wise they are going to become fools” (Romans 1:22). That doesn’t mean they are stupid. We can all be fooled. After all, I used to be a Theistic Evolutionist. The context of this verse makes it clear that it is talking about idolatry. And the highest form of idolatry within the Church is to think you can put your beliefs and your knowledge above the Creator of the Universe and make up a different form of Christ (2 Corinthians 11:4).
I used to speak on college campuses, and the professors would give the kids extra credit to come and harass me. When I would walk up to the podium, the whole auditorium would just be glaring at me with their arms crossed. Just hatred. Which I always thought was weird. After all, I was just going to talk to them about truth, but they’re all mad about it because they have been so indoctrinated.

I’d begin by saying, “I want to ask you guys some questions: How many of you have been taught Biblical Creation is a religious belief?” All of them would immediately raise their hands. They were not going to tolerate religion. Then, I’d say, “Okay, Creationism is a belief in how we came about. So, how many of you have been taught that Darwinian Evolution is science?” Up would go all the hands again. Then I would say, “Wow, well, I’m kind of confused because when I ask you about Creation, you indicated it is a religious belief, but when I ask you about Darwinianism, you said it is science. But, aren’t they both the exact same thing?”

At that point, everyone would get a puzzled look on their face. I would then explain: “Aren’t they both beliefs on how we came about? Neither one is science. Science is knowledge derived from the study of evidence.”

I would then proceed to crush Darwinism in four seconds flat. Would you like to hear that? Gene depletion plus natural selection makes it impossible. Sorry, that was two seconds.

Have you ever heard that 98% of your bio-chemistry is the same as a chimpanzee? This supposedly proves we are close relatives to chimps. But, real science, a Christian’s best friend, shows there is as much as a 30% difference, so why are the advocates of Darwinism still saying it’s 2%? And furthermore, if similar bio-chemistry proves our evolutionary past, they should teach that we evolved from worms. After all, your bio-chemistry is 75% the same as that of some worms. And, oh yes, your bio-chemistry is 50% the same as that of a banana. Anyone evolve from a banana?

Yet only 2% of pastors will allow me to show their people that Darwinism is a fraud and the Bible is true. That’s because of their compromises with Old Earth beliefs. They don’t want to upset the Old Earthers in their congregations, most of whom are themselves.

The sixth lie perpetrated by liberal churches is that “Adam never existed.” This is, of course, a natural corollary to the belief that humans evolved out of millions of years of death and suffering.

Thomas Huxley, famous Darwinist and Christian hater stated, “If Adam may be held to be no more a real person than Prometheus, what value has Paul’s dialectic?” What he is saying is, “If Adam is just a mythical creature, Paul’s writings are worthless.” And he is absolutely correct! No wonder the Bible says, “Prove all things and hold fast that which is good” (1 Thessalonians 5:21).

You ever hear of the “Y Chromosome Adam”? You see, males have the XY chromosome. The Y is passed down from father to son. And a study of men from around the world indicates we’ve all descended from one man known as the “Y Chromosome Adam.” Again, real science is a believer’s best friend.

The seventh lie of liberal churches is that “there was no original sin.” The Bible says God gave us a perfect creation but man’s sin corrupted it, allowing death to enter, spiritually separating us from God. We get our redemption through Jesus Christ. All Old Earth believers say, “Oh, no, no, no! It was billions of years of death that brought us into the world.” So, they can’t accept an original sin bringing in death. But the Bible says, “Therefore, just as through one man sin entered into the world, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men, because all sinned.” (Romans 5:12 – italics added).

Here is a biblically correct quote from American Atheist magazine: “Destroy original sin and in the rubble you’ll find the sorry remains of the Son of God.” I agree with that statement 100%. The issue really comes down to this question: Did Adam’s sin bring death into God’s perfect world, separating us from God and requiring our redemption through Jesus, or did millions of years of death bring man into the world?

The eighth lie of liberal churches is the belief that “any old Jesus we want to believe in is sufficient for our salvation.” Incredibly, this is a belief that is even creeping into what we call conservative churches today. So, I hope what I have to say here will wake a few folks up, especially pastors who have bought into this heresy.

You see, thinking that millions of years of death brought us here results in liberal Christians rejecting Biblical Creation, and the Biblical Creator. The true Jesus found in the Bible is the second person of the Triune God, and He created in six days and rested on the seventh. But Adam’s original sin destroyed the perfect creation. So, after that sin separated us from God, our Creator became our Savior and died on a cross, shedding His precious blood to cover our sin. That my friends is the Gospel message. The Gospel message is that our loving Creator sacri-
satisfied Himself to be our loving Savior.

In Christendom today, many churches have adopted the “Gap Theory Jesus.” This is the Jesus who made a different creation, not found in the Bible. I call it the “non-biblical creation.” According to this unbiblical concept, after God created the universe, Satan and his minions messed it up so bad that God destroyed it and then made the current creation, calling it very good, while leaving Satan and his minions in it! That doesn’t make any sense to me.

And then, of course, there is a “Theistic Evolution Jesus” and a “Progressive Creation Jesus.” They are both very similar. One says Jesus used millions of years of death and suffering to slowly evolve us. The other says Jesus used millions of years of death and suffering to slowly create us.

All three of these Jesus’ have two things in common: none are found in the Bible and each put death before Adam.

In 2 Timothy 3:1-5 we find this warning: “But realize this, that in the last days difficult times will come. For men will be lovers of self . . . boastful, arrogant . . . treacherous, reckless, conceited . . . holding to a form of godliness, although they have denied its power; Avoid such men as these.” These are the people who today are saying, “We believe in God, but not one who could create the universe in six days. And He certainly could never have judged the world with a global flood.” You need to turn away from such people. Put your trust in the real Jesus. The one found in the Bible who produced the Creation in six days.

The ninth lie circulated by liberal churches is that “our Creator is a Radical Progressive.” They downplay the Gospel because they are embarrassed by it. They are embarrassed by the shed blood of Christ. So, they focus instead on promoting social justice and good works — which evidently include abortion, euthanasia, gay marriage, radical environmentalism, prostitution and Socialism bordering on Communism.

The approach of these people to Bible believing Christians is to marginalize them with the intention of isolating them and getting them to stand on their own. How do you do that? By ridicule. By name calling. The person who will stand and not compromise will be called intolerant, a racist, a homophobe. a fundamentalist and an unloving idiot, among other derisive names.

And certainly, one of their favorite methods of ridicule is to mock the Bible’s creation account. So, they ask sarcastic questions like, “Did God really mean six days?” “Surely you are not so naive as to believe in a global flood, are you?” “And don’t you understand that so-called Bible prophecy is just inspirational poetry with no specific meaning?”

The final lie I’d like to mention that is being preached by liberal churches is one that is rapidly growing in popularity today, mainly because of the emphasis our society is placing on tolerance. The myth is that “all roads lead to Heaven.” Actually, there is a sense in which that statement is correct. Yes, my friends, all roads do lead to God, but only one is for salvation. All others will be for judgment and condemnation. Jesus Himself said, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father but through Me” (John 14:6).

Liberal Christian theology is a lot like rat poison. It can seem very enticing. After all, doesn’t everyone want to get along? Can’t we just get along? Do you think I like having to go against the flow all the time? It is so much easier to sit back and just go with the world. Why cause trouble? Can’t we just go along in order to get along? No! Not when the truth and authority of God’s Word is at stake. Furthermore, an attack on God’s Word is an attack on the deity, dignity and trustworthiness of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Believers need to get equipped so we can use God’s Word to discern truth and thus guard ourselves, our families, our friends and our churches from heresies. We need to move past the milk and get to the meat because Satan is devouring the Church today.

Let me end with this verse: “Henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive” (Ephesians 4:14 – KJV). My friends, read God’s Word. Put your trust in the Word of God, and I mean word for word and cover to cover.

Russ Miller is a former Theistic Evolutionist who gave up his business career in 2000 to form a creation ministry located in Arizona (creationministries.org).

This article is an abridged version of a dynamic presentation that he made in March of 2018 at the Steeling the Mind Conference that was held in Coeur d’Alene, Idaho.
Holes in the Gap Theory

Mike Riddle

(Editor’s note: The Gap Theory represents an artificial attempt to conform the Scriptures to the theories of modern science. Many Christians have bought it hook, line and sinker. Mike Riddle is an outstanding Creation expert who has served in the past as a spokesman for the ministry, Answers in Genesis. In 2002 he formed his own Creation ministry called “The Creation Training Initiative.” Its purpose is to train people to teach and defend the literal Genesis account of Creation. This article is a condensation of one that he wrote especially for this magazine. You can find his ministry’s website at www.creationtraining.org.)

The first chapter of Genesis provides us with a clear account of God’s creation and what was created on each of the six days. However, not all Christians agree on some of the details. For example, many start with the assumption that scientists have proven the earth is billions of years old, and then they try to integrate this claim into the framework of the Bible. The Gap Theory is one of these attempts to reinterpret the plain reading of Genesis chapter one.

What is the Gap Theory?

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Why the Gap Theory?

The Gap Theory was a method of reconciling the secular teaching of long ages by the geologists of the time with the Bible. Gap theorists wanted a way to insert millions of years into Scripture and still maintain a literal account of a 6-day creation.

Not all gap theorists agree on the details of the theory, but the one unifying principle between the different versions is that there was a large gap of time (generally millions of years) between the first two verses of Genesis.

According to most gap theorists, the original creation in Genesis 1:1 was perfect. It included all the plant and life forms we currently find in the fossil record. Because of Lucifer’s rebellion and fall, God brought judgment on the creation in the form of a “Lucifer Flood.” This rebellion and judgement took place in the gap between Genesis 1:1 and 1:2 and destroyed all life. It is what is responsible for the geologic ages and fossil record we observe today. Starting in Genesis 1:3 restoration began with a 6-day re-creation.

Challenging Questions

Needless to say, there are some serious theological issues with the Gap Theory. Below are ten questions I would pose regarding the validity of the theory.

Question 1: Does a belief in the Gap Theory mean no one understood the biblical account of creation until modern day secular geologists figured it out for us (the popular belief in millions of years)?

Question 2: If most fossils found in sediments were laid down by a “Lucifer Flood” during the gap, why does the Bible spend three chapters teaching about the Genesis Flood and says nothing about a gap flood? And if all the fossils were laid down by the gap flood, what was the impact of Noah’s Flood?

Question 3: If the Gap Theory is true, why does the Bible spend two chapters in Genesis teaching about the “re-creation” and none about the “original” creation before the gap?

Question 4: Did God’s judgment during the gap also destroy the sun, moon and stars? If not, then why did God have to create them again on day four of the “re-creation”? To state that they could not be seen before day four of the re-creation because they were hidden by clouds — as some gap theorists claim — is making up a story and inserting it into the Bible. How many stories not mentioned in the Bible have to be made up to defend the Gap Theory?

Question 5: Why did God take so long as millions or billions of years (the supposed length of the gap) before He re-created...
everything? Was God confined to wait for billions of years of natural processes before His re-creation? What was the purpose for waiting so long? God’s judgment of the Genesis Flood took just over a year.

**Question 6:** Proponents of the Gap Theory, as well as many other supporters of long ages, claim they do not believe in Evolution. However, long ages (billions of years) is the very foundation for Evolution. The Bible is not dependent on billions of years. It allows for everything in a span of about 6,000 years. In addition, nowhere in the Bible is there any account of billions of years. So, where do they get their long time spans?

**Question 7:** Romans 5:12 teaches that “... through one man sin entered the world, and death through sin ...” However, the Gap Theory allows for death, disease and struggle before sin. Since the fossil record is claimed to be the result of what happened during the gap, this would include all the animal fossils and Neanderthals which have been confirmed to be fully human. This means the Gap Theory includes animal and human death before sin. Does this mean Romans 5:12 is wrong?

If the Bible is incorrect concerning how and when sin and death entered the world, why should anyone believe what it says about how sin and death can be remedied through the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus?” (Ed Hindson and Ergun Caner, *The Popular Encyclopedia of Apologetics*, 2008, page 154.)

**Question 8:** Genesis 1:31 states that God declared all that He had made (created) was “very good” or perfect. Does this mean God called all the dead things from the gap “very good”?

**Question 9:** Is God’s Word complete or should we allow for the discovery of new scientific knowledge (“new revealed knowledge”) to be inserted into Scripture?

**Question 10:** If we use modern science to interpret Scripture, then we can never know for sure what the Bible teaches. Fifty years from now we will have new scientific knowledge. Does this mean we will have to reinterpret Scripture again?

**Conclusion**

A major problem with the Gap Theory is that people are starting with man’s fallible wisdom and using it to change God’s infallible Word.

*Compromise with the world should never be an option.* The Gap Theory can and has caused great damage in the Church. Because so many youth are being taught the first chapter of Genesis does not mean what it plainly states, many are losing confidence in the Bible. The problem is not science, but rather man’s interpretation of the scientific evidence.

Too many in the Church are starting with their understanding of the scientific theories rather than starting with God’s Word as their authority. They fail to recognize that as scientists make new discoveries, we continue to find that modern science (DNA research, geology, origin of life research, the fossil record, and dinosaurs) all confirm exactly what the Bible states and we do not have to (and are commanded not to) change or add to God’s Word.

The Gap Theory is not an accurate account of what the Bible teaches. It is just another attempt to reconcile the Bible to comply with the world. Jesus had an answer for this type of thinking:

> For if you believed Moses, you would believe Me; for he wrote about Me. But if you do not believe his writings, how will you believe My words? (John 5:46-47)

Likewise, God’s Word teaches we are to have discernment and correctly handle His Word:

> Beware lest anyone cheat you through philosophy and empty deceit, according to the tradition of men, according to the basic principles of the world, and not according to Christ (Colossians 2:8).

> “Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth” (2 Timothy 2:15). ✿

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A n interview with Carl Gallups, author of the best-selling book, *The Magic Man in the Sky.* “Carl uses logical illustrations as well as Scripture to prove God’s existence and discusses the irrationality of evolution. Carl is a highly articulate pastor from Florida. He hosts a nationally broadcast radio program that focuses on providing biblical insights concerning national and international events.

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Alpha and Omega: The Author of Creation and Our Soon-Returning King

Colonel Tim Moore

As we turn the page to begin another new year, it is fitting that we go back to the beginning with a focus on Creation and the Creator. From the first verses of Genesis to the end of Revelation, the history of the world really is His story. That is why examining the Creation account lays an important foundation for Bible prophecy.

The foundations of the entire gospel message are laid in just the first three chapters of Genesis. The Bible tells us that God created the heavens and the earth, declared them good, and appointed man—made in His own image—to rule over the natural order. When man’s subsequent disobedience led to his downfall, God provided a sacrificial covering for man’s shame in the third chapter of Genesis. He also foretold the final sacrifice that would cover over his sin forever (Genesis 3:15).

We accept that truth by faith. As the writer of Hebrews recognized, “By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was not made out of things which are visible” (Hebrews 11:3).

Multiple New Testament writers further specify the Son as the agent of Creation—acting on the will of the Father.

- “All things came into being through Him, and apart from Him nothing came into being that has come into being” (John 1:3).
- “. . . the world was made through Him . . .” (John 1:10).
- “For by [Jesus Christ] all things were created, both in the heavens and on earth, visible and invisible . . .” (Colossians 1:16).
- “God [appointed the Son] heir of all things, through whom also He made the world” (Hebrews 1:2).

Jesus’ very first miracle proved His authority over time and matter and space. By merely speaking instruction, He changed water into wine. All of nature follows a regular order, but the Author of Creation has both the power and the authority not only to create but also to intervene in time and matter and space.

A Seismic Shift in Belief

For many centuries, Christendom recognized the Sovereignty of God and the Lordship of Jesus. And because it believed in the factual authority of the Bible, it accepted the validity of the biblical account of Creation.

But late in the 19th century, the western world became ena- mored with its own enlightenment. Too wise in its own estimation to remain grounded in biblical truth, it rejected God’s account of Creation for a fanciful theory of atheistic origin based on eons of time, random chance, and widespread death.

This sad state of affairs is a fulfillment of Bible prophecy as foretold by the Apostle Paul. In Romans 1, he recognized the age-old pattern of humanity’s rejection of truth and foretold its tragic ramifications:

18) For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men who suppress the truth in unrighteousness,

19) because that which is known about God is evident within them; for God made it evident to them.

20) For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes, His eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly seen, being understood through what has been made, so that they are without excuse.

21) For even though they knew God, they did not honor Him as God or give thanks, but they became futile in the speculations, and their foolish heart was darkened.

22) Professing to be wise, they became fools,

23) and exchanged the glory of the incorruptible God for an image in the form of corruptible man and of birds and four-footed animals and crawling creatures.

24) Therefore God gave them over . . .

What did He give them over to? To lusts and impurity, degrading passions, and a depraved mind (verses 24-26). A glance at the news of the day will demonstrate that our society has indeed been given over!

An Age of Deception

That last “giving over” explains the current susceptibility of the world to false doctrines and God-denying theories like evolution. What is most surprising is the willingness of so many within the church to embrace the lie of evolution over the Word of God. Once again, in 2 Timothy 4, Paul foretold this inclination even among those who call themselves Christians:

3) For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but wanting their ears tickled, they will accumulate for themselves teachers in accordance to their own desires,

4) and will turn away their ears from the truth and will turn aside to myths.

That is exactly what has happened — and that growing apostasy is a dramatic sign of the times pointing to the Lord’s soon return. Many churches refuse to teach Creation because they are ashamed that it contradicts the world’s evolutionary theories. And, as every public school and our culture in general bombards young people with an evolutionary worldview, teens tend to be dismissive of occasionally presented Bible stories.
Ungrounded in biblical truth and forced to choose between these conflicting truth claims, research demonstrates that many teenagers are “already gone” from the Christian faith even before they leave home for college. (A book by that title written by Ken Ham & Britt Beemer documents this sad reality.)

The tendency to stray from biblical truth is nothing new. The people of Israel were judged by God because they rejected Him and followed other gods and false teachings. The writer of Kings declared, “They followed vanity and became vain” (2 Kings 17:15). Or, put another way, they followed foolishness and became foolish.

As the world lurches toward the Day of the Lord, the great deceiver has redoubled his efforts. He is eager for many to stray from the truth — for when they do they wander from the Savior. And, since Jesus was the person of God who facilitated Creation, the effort to discount biblical Creation is really an attack on Him as Creator. Evolution is a lie meant to discredit God.

So what can we do to resist this lie?

**We who have put our faith in Jesus must push back with truth.** Jesus told Pilate that He came into the world to testify to the truth (John 18:37). We testify to the truth by bearing witness of Him as Savior, Lord, and Creator.

We must instill this truth in our children and grandchildren. If you feel inadequate to that task when it comes to refuting the deception of evolution, realize that ministries like Answers in Genesis and the Institute for Creation Research have wonderful resources to raise up the next generation in biblical truth.

Just as he wants to discredit God’s account of Creation, Satan is also spreading lies about the end of times. He has convinced much of the world that Jesus is not coming again, or at least distracted people from recognizing the signs pointing to His soon return. But the Word of God tells us otherwise. In Revelation 21:5, He who sits on the throne says, “Behold, I am making all things new . . . These words are faithful and true.”

Having trusted in Jesus, the Holy Spirit testifies to our own spirit that He is coming soon. Most of you reading this magazine will testify that you long for his arrival. The Bible says that all of Creation also longs for that glorious day when He will return to this world and restore it to its glorified perfection (Romans 8:19-22).

One last word of caution. Speaking of the idolaters of old, Isaiah wrote, “He feeds on ashes; a deceived heart has turned him aside. And he cannot deliver himself, nor say, ‘Is there a lie in my right hand?’” (Isaiah 44:20) Even as we resist the deception being foisted upon the world, let’s remember to have compassion for the deceived. Jesus wept for those steeped in falsehood 2,000 years ago — and died for them too.

Join me in praying that the Holy Spirit will move on dark and hardened hearts — melting them so they can receive the truth. In the end, Truth is a person — Jesus — who also provides the way to eternal life (John 14:6). He said of Himself, “I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end” (Revelation 22:13).

Jesus was the Author of Creation who spoke the universe into being, beginning with “Let there be light.” So as the world turns away from Him and descends into darkness, we can trust and proclaim His final promise: “Yes, I am coming quickly” (Revelation 22:20).

**Colonel Tim Moore** is a Lamb & Lion Associate Evangelist who leads our pilgrimages to Israel — both our “Footsteps of Jesus” tour and our new “Battle for Israel” tour. With two engineering degrees, he is a strong advocate of the biblical account of Creation. He is available to present messages concerning any aspect of Bible prophecy. Email him to schedule a speaking engagement or to inquire about pilgrimage details at tmoore@lamblion.com.
The Rapture Under Attack

Dr. David R. Reagan

Noah preached for 120 years before the Lord delivered on His promise to destroy the world with water. I’m sure that in the final years before the flood came, he must have been severely mocked as a false prophet and a mad man. But God was faithful to His promise, and Noah was vindicated in the end.

Likewise today, people are scoffing at the promise of the Pre-Tribulation Rapture, and they are mocking those who are preaching it. I keep hearing comments like this: “People have been preaching the Lord’s imminent return for a hundred years, and nothing has happened.”

The irony is that this attitude is one of the signs that we are living in the final days of the end times, for the Bible says “that in the last days mockers will come with their mocking, following after their own lusts and saying, ‘Where is the promise of His coming?’” (2 Peter 3:3-4).

The Common and Frequent Criticisms

Let’s consider for a moment some of the criticisms that are being aimed at the concept of a Pre-Tribulation Rapture.

1. The concept is not in the Bible. The word, Rapture, is not mentioned anywhere in the Scriptures.

First, there are many biblical concepts and words that are not found in the Bible — like Trinity, Atheism, Divinity, Incarnation, Monotheism, Shekinah Glory, and even the word, Bible.

But the word, Rapture, is found in the Bible — in the Latin version, which was the Bible of the Western world for over 1,000 years (from 400AD to 1517). The word appears in 1 Thessalonians 4:17 where, in English, it says that a day will come when the living and dead in Christ will be “caught up” to meet Him in the sky. In the Latin, the term, “caught up,” is expressed as “rapiemur,” which is a declension of “rapio,” meaning snatch, or grab or abduct.

More importantly, the concept of the Rapture is clearly taught in the same passage (1 Thessalonians 4:13-18) as well as other passages, such as John 14:1-6 and 1 Corinthians 15:51-58.

2. None of the Church Fathers believed in a Rapture that was separate and apart from the Second Coming.

It depends on your definition of “Church Fathers.” All the true Fathers of the Church definitely believed in a Rapture that was distinct from the Second Coming. I’m speaking, of course, of Jesus who taught the Rapture in John 14:1-6; the Apostle Paul who wrote about it in 1 Thessalonians 4:17; the Apostle Peter who described the principle of it in 2 Peter 1:4-9; and the Apostle John who does not mention the Church being on earth during the Tribulation (Revelation 6-18).

The later Church Fathers, who lived between 100 and 400 AD, were nearly all Premillennial in their Eschatology, but none of them seemed to pick up on the teaching of the Rapture. And when the Catholic Church endorsed Augustine’s concept of Amillennialism around 400 AD, all discussion of end time prophecy became taboo. That viewpoint pictured only one return of Jesus at the end of the Church Age.

Thereafter, You either accepted Amillennialism or you were burned at the stake, together with your writings.

3. The concept of the Pre-Tribulation Rapture is too new to be true.

This is exactly what the defenders of Roman Catholicism said to Luther about his biblical concept of “salvation by grace through faith.”

It is true that the concept of a Pre-Tribulation Rapture was not crystalized in its final form until the writings of Englishman John Darby in the early 1800s, but we now have overwhelming proof that the concept was being discussed by Bible prophecy students for over 200 years prior to the time of Darby. (See William C. Watson’s book, Dispensationalism Before Darby, published in 2015.)

But then, how could there be any development of eschatology prior to the Reformation which began in 1517? During the Middle Ages, most people could not read, and even if they could, printed Bibles did not exist, nor were there translations available in the common languages of the people.

Once people obtained printed Bibles in their own languages, they quickly realized that the Amillennial view of the Catholic Church was based upon a spiritualization of the Scriptures. That’s when a revival of the Premillennial view occurred because it is based upon the plain sense meaning of the Bible’s prophecies. And that is also when Bible students began to notice that the Rapture is an event that is separate from the Second Coming.

Nor should the late development of the Pre-Trib Rapture concept be a surprise to anyone because the Scriptures themselves tell us that end time Bible prophecy will not be understood until the time comes for its fulfillment. For example, the prophet Daniel did not understand the end time prophecies that were given to him. And when he complained about this to the Lord, he was told, “these words are concealed and sealed up until the end times” (Daniel 12:9).
Many end time prophecies are being understood today for the first time because their fulfillment depended on either historical developments (like the re-establishment of the state of Israel) or technological inventions (like the atomic bomb and satellite television).

4 The concept of the Pre-Tribulation Rapture originated with a demon-possessed teenage girl in Scotland in the early 1800s who conjured up the idea in a vision.

This is pure myth. The idea comes from the writings of a man named Dave MacPherson who has made a cottage-industry of writing books in which he makes this ridiculous claim.

It is true that there was a teenage girl named Margaret MacDonald who had seizures and visions about the Lord’s return. And it is true that years later, after the concept of a Pre-Trib Rapture had gained acceptance, her husband claimed that she had originated the idea in one of her visions. But this claim can be disproved quickly and decisively by the fact that there is not even a hint of a Pre-Trib Rapture in any of her recorded visions.

And furthermore, as I have already pointed out, William Watson has proved that the idea of a Pre-Trib Rapture had been circulating among Bible prophecy scholars and writers for 200 years prior to Margaret MacDonald. Also, even if it were true that she mentioned such a concept in one of her visions, it would prove nothing. The test of any biblical doctrine is not who originated it but whether or not it is biblical. And the concept of a Pre-Trib Rapture certainly stands the test of the Scriptures.

5 The Rapture and the Second Coming are a combined event that will take place at the end of the Tribulation when Jesus returns to earth.

How could this be? These two events have nothing in common except that they both focus on Jesus. Consider the radical differences:

- At the Rapture, Jesus appears in the heavens, but at the Second Coming he returns to earth.
- At the Rapture, Jesus appears for His saints; at the Second Coming, Jesus returns to earth with His saints.
- At the Rapture, Jesus appears as a Deliverer; at the Second Coming, He returns as a Warrior.
- At the Rapture, Jesus appears in Grace; at the Second Coming, He returns in Wrath.
- At the Rapture, Jesus appears as a Bridegroom; at the Second Coming, He return as a King.

These obviously are not the same event. We must conclude, therefore, that the return of Jesus is going to be in two stages: first, the Rapture, and then the Second Coming.

6 If the Rapture is an event separate from the Second Coming, then it will most likely occur sometime during the Tribulation, either in the middle or near the end.

But the Bible teaches that the Rapture is imminent (Matthew 24:36,44 and 25:13), meaning it could occur at any moment. If you place the Rapture anywhere inside the Tribulation, then you render it non-imminent, for there are prophecies that must be fulfilled before it occurs. Furthermore, we are told to live looking for Jesus Christ, not the Antichrist.

Also, keep in mind that believers are promised exemption from the wrath of God. One of those promises is found in 1 Thessalonians 1:10 where it says that believers are waiting “for His Son from heaven, whom He raised from the dead, that is Jesus, who delivers us from the wrath to come.” The promise is repeated in the book of Revelation before it describes the horrors of the Tribulation. You will find that promise in Revelation 3:10 where it says, “Because you have kept the word of My persever-
ance, I also will keep you from the hour of testing, that hour which is about to come upon the whole world, to test those who dwell on the earth."

The seven years of Tribulation which the world is facing is the period of time when God will pour out His wrath, and believers are promised immunity from His wrath. Some of the critics of the Pre-Trib Rapture argue that the Church needs to be cleansed by the suffering of the Tribulation before its members are called to the Lord. This is nonsense. The members of the Lord’s Church have already been cleansed by the blood of Jesus. Another problem with this concept is that it creates a Protestant form of Purgatory. An additional problem is that it pictures the Bridegroom beating up on his Bride for seven years before He marries her!

Other critics argue that the Seal and Trumpet Judgments constitute the wrath of Satan and not God. Therefore, the Church is immune only to the Bowl Judgments that will be poured out at the end of the Tribulation. This argument constitutes a serious challenge to the sovereignty of God — as if Satan is free to do as he pleases. Furthermore, the book of Revelation clearly pictures all the judgments of Revelation as coming from God’s throne, and the Bowl Judgments are referred to as the completion of God’s wrath, not the beginning (Revelation 15:1).

Conclusion

The Bible refers to the Rapture as our “blessed hope” (Titus 2:13). When Paul completes his detailed description of it in 1 Thessalonians 4:13-17, he concludes by saying, “Comfort one another with these words.” (Verse 18).

At the Lamb & Lion annual Bible conference in 2017, one of our guest speakers, Ron Rhodes, pointed to these comforting words when he demonstrated how ridiculous it is to believe that the Rapture and Second Coming are all one event that will occur at the end of the Tribulation. He pointed out that if this were true, then Paul’s great passage about the Rapture in 1 Thessalonians 4 would read something like this:

You will go through seven years of God’s wrath. You will also suffer through Satan’s furious wrath. You will experience the agonizing Seal, Trumpet and Bowl Judgments which grow progressively worse and are incredibly painful. And many of you will die horrible deaths as martyrs. Therefore, comfort one another with these words.

What? I don’t think so. Would that encourage and comfort you? It just doesn’t work.

The great American pastor, Adrian Rogers (1931-2005), once said, “The world is growing gloriously dark.” What he meant by that, of course, is that the Bible prophesies that in the end times society will become as immoral and violent as it was in the days of Noah.

We are witnessing the fulfillment of that prophecy before our very eyes today. It is difficult to watch, but at the same time, it is a sure sign that we are living in the season of the Lord’s return. As the world is falling apart, the signs of the times are falling into place. In the midst of the growing darkness, we need hope, and the Bible’s promise of a Pre-Trib Rapture is a great source of that hope. ✯
Contending for the Faith

- Kelly Shackelford - First Liberty Institute
- Dave Reagan - Lamb & Lion Ministries
- Ron Rhodes - Reasoning from the Scriptures
- Eric Barger - Take a Stand Ministries
- Mike Gendron - Proclaiming the Gospel Ministries
- Mike Riddle - Creation Training Institute

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Our Annual Conference

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The theme for 2019 is “Contending for the Faith.” Christianity is under attack in this nation as never before, and we therefore decided to focus our conference on defending the fundamentals of our faith.

The conference is scheduled to be held at the Plano, Texas Event Center on July 12-13. Plano is a suburb of Dallas.

We have lined up a stellar group of speakers.

**Kelly Shackelford** will present the keynote address on Friday evening. He is the founder and CEO of First Liberty Institute, the largest legal firm in the nation dedicated exclusively to protecting religious freedom for all Americans. He has served in this role since 1997, leading First Liberty’s efforts to defend religious freedom in the courts and in the public arena. Under his leadership, First Liberty’s legal team has participated in cases before the United States Supreme Court, federal courts of appeals, federal district courts and various state courts, where they have won more than 90 percent of their cases.

Shackelford is a constitutional scholar who has personally argued before the United States Supreme Court, testified before the U.S. House and Senate, and has won a number of landmark First Amendment and religious liberty cases.

He was recently named one of the 25 greatest Texas lawyers of the past quarter-century by Texas Lawyer and is the recipient of the prestigious William Bentley Ball Award for Life and Religious Freedom Defense for pioneering work protecting religious freedom.

He has spoken at our conferences before, and he is back by popular demand. His topic will be “Defending Christian Freedoms.”

Other speakers and their topics:

- **Mike Riddle**: “Defending Creation as the Origin of the Universe”
- **Mike Gendron**: “Defending the Bible and the Gospel”
- **Ron Rhodes**: “Defending Jesus’ Promise to Return”
- **Eric Barger**: “Defending the Church from the Emergent Church Movement”
- **Dave Reagan**: “Defending the Deity of Jesus”

We will be featuring each of these speakers and their ministries in upcoming issues of this magazine.

The conference is free of charge, but registration is required. When you register, you will be provided with information about hotel accommodations.

Marty Goetz

Marty Goetz is a Messianic Jew who has been called a “modern day psalmist.” His songs are scriptures beautifully set to music, leaving listeners spiritually moved, inspired and educated. With melodic and fresh acoustical and classic arrangements, Marty has the ability to lead you into a place of true intimacy with God.

And unlike his appearances at two of our previous conferences, this year Marty has agreed to stay over all day Saturday to sing a song before each speaker. Marty has just completed a new video album, together with his daughter, that was shot in Jerusalem. It can be ordered at http://martygoetz.com.

![Marty Goetz](image)

Marty Goetz & Misha

Live from Jerusalem

[Link to video album]

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The Lamplighter

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First, go to ProphecyAtSea.com, fill out the short form and we’ll email you a PROMO CODE entitling you to a special bonus when you book your cruise. After you’ve filled out the form, take a look around the cruise website, which will give you lots more information regarding this exciting event.

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, FEEL FREE TO CALL US AT 888-470-1879, AND WE’LL BE HAPPY TO ASSIST YOU.
LAMB & LION MINISTRIES REGIONAL CONFERENCE

RUSSELL  REAGAN  MOORE  JONES  CRONE

04.26 - 04.27 2019

POWER - PACKED PRESENTATIONS!

SOUTHERN RAISED

ANointed PRAISE & WORSHIP!

end time
TRUTHS

SANCTIFY THEM BY YOUR TRUTH.
YOUR WORD IS TRUTH. JOHN 17:17 NKJV

GRACE BIBLE CHURCH
250 N MAIN ST WINCHESTER KY 40391
FREE! No registration required.
Our Next Regional Conference

Site: Grace Bible Church in Winchester, KY
Dates: April 26-27 (Friday evening thru Saturday afternoon)
Theme: End Time Truths
Theme Verse: “Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth” (John 17:17 — NKJV).

You are invited to attend our Spring 2019 regional conference. Like all our conferences, it is free of charge.

The conference will focus on defending the truth of the promises of end time Bible prophecy. One of those prophecies that has come true in our day and time is found in 2 Peter 3:

3) Know this first of all, that in the last days mockers will come with their mocking, following after their own lusts,
4) and saying, “Where is the promise of His coming? For ever since the fathers fell asleep, all continues just as it was from the beginning of creation.”

In fulfillment of this prophecy, Christendom today is full of scoffers who are mocking Bible prophecy. Some have written it off as a “distraction.” Others are poking fun at the concept of the Rapture. Many deny that Jesus will ever return to reign on this earth. And then there are the spiritualizers who argue that prophecy never means what it says.

This conference is going to take on the scoffers and refute their unbiblical claims.

The conference will begin on Friday evening with a one hour musical concert by one of Christendom’s most anointed bands — Southern Raised. This is a group of award winning kinfolk, trained in classical music but raised in the bluegrass soaked Ozark Mountains. They have created a Southern Raised trademark sound where classical meets bluegrass and city streets meets country roads. They have morphed a progressive sound that spans Christian Country, Bluegrass, Celtic and Classical. They’re talented, they’re energetic and they’re southern raised.

They will be followed Friday evening by our keynote speaker, Bob Russell, the former pastor of Southeast Christian Church in Louisville, one of our nation’s largest churches. Bob’s topic, “Your Word is Truth,” will focus on the integrity of God’s Word.

On Saturday, our three evangelists will speak, together with another guest speaker — Billy Crone. Billy is the pastor of a church in Las Vegas, Nevada, and he is an Internet sensation. Just google his name and watch some of the many videos he has posted on the Internet.

The Saturday speakers and their topics are as follows:

- Dave Reagan: “The Destiny of the Nations”
- Billy Crone: “The Destiny of Israel”
- Tim Moore: “The Destiny of America”
- Nathan Jones: “The Destiny of Islam”
- Dave Reagan: “The Destiny of the Church”

Again, the conference is free, and registration is not required for this conference.
Television Update

New Stations

Dr. David R. Reagan

Effective the first week of November, we added two new stations to our broadcast schedule — one in Pittsburgh, PA, and the other in Knoxville, TN. We praise the Lord for enabling us to continue expanding our television outreach.

We continue to conduct interviews with fascinating people concerning various aspects of Bible prophecy. And we are in the process of producing a whole series of programs in which we respond to frequently asked questions.

Television Broadcast Schedules

National Networks:

Daystar — Wed. 6:00pm CT, DirecTV 369, Dish 263, cable, broadcast stations, satellites and web streaming (daystar.com).

Word — Tues. 12:30pm CT, DirecTV 373, Cable, AT&T U-verse, cable, satellites and web streaming (thewordnetwork.org).

Angel One — Mon. 8:00am CT, DISH 262 (www.angelone.tv).

CTN — Wed. & Fri. 12:30pm CT, DirecTV 376, Dish 267 and web streaming (ctnonline.com).

GEB — Sat. 5:00pm CT, DirecTV 363 and web streaming (gebamerica.com).

GodTV — Thurs. 8:30am CT, DirecTV 365 and web streaming (god.tv).

NRB — Sun. 4:00pm CT, DirecTV 378 and web streaming (nrbtv.org).

TCT — Sun. 7:30pm CT, DirecTV 377, ten broadcast stations in the Midwest, and web streaming (tct.tv).

Upliftv — Mon. & Fri. 9:30am CT, DirecTV 379 (upliftv.com).

WHT — Sat. 7:00pm CT, DirecTV 367 and web streaming (lesea.com/wht).

Regional Networks & Area Stations:

Arkansas:

VTN (The Victory Television Network) — Covering the state of Arkansas.,Tues. 10:30am CT, Sat. at 2:30pm, and Sun. at 10:00pm (vtntv.com).

Florida:

WTOG-TV — Tampa and St. Petersburg, Sun. 8:30am ET, channel 44 (cwta Tampa.cbslocal.com).

Georgia:

WATC — Atlanta, Sun. 8:30am ET, channel 57 (http:// watc.tv).

Kentucky

WBNA — Louisville, Sun. 8:30am ET, channel 21 (wbna21.com).

Louisiana

FVN — Southern Louisiana broadcast stations and cable, Sun. 12:30am CT, Mon. 8:30am, and Wed. 7:00pm, (familyvisiontv.com).

Missouri

KMCI — Kansas City, Sun. 7:30am, CT, channel 38 (kshb.com/38-the-spot).

KFJX — Joplin, Sun. 7:30am, CT, channel 14 (fox14tv.com).

North Carolina

WCCB — Charlotte, Sun. 7:00am ET, channel 18 (ccbc harlotte.com).

Pennsylvania

WPCW — Pittsburgh, Sun. 7:30am ET, channel 19 (https:// cwpittsburgh.cbslocal.com). New!

Tennessee

WNAB — Nashville, Sun. 7:00am CT, channel 58 (http:// cw58.tv).

WBXX — Knoxville, Sun. 8:00am ET, channel 20 (wvlt.tv/cw/ home — WVLT is a sister station). New!

Texas

CFNT — Wichita Falls, broadcast station, Fri. 3:00pm CT (cfnt.org).

KCEN — Waco & Temple, broadcast station, Sun. 6:30am CT, channel 9 (kcen tv.com).

KDAF — Dallas-Ft. Worth area broadcast station, Sun. 8:00am CT, channel 33 (cw33.com).

KSCE — El Paso, broadcast station, Sun. 10:30am MT, DirecTV & DISH Local 38, AT&T U-verse 38, (ksce tv.com).

KUBE — Houston, Sun. 8am CT, channel 57, Comcast cable 53, DirecTV & DISH local 57 (http://kube57.com).

Internet Networks:

Our programs are available on demand on these websites:

HisChannel — hischannel.com

YouTube — youtube.com/user/ChristinProphecy

GodTube — godtube.com

Truli — truli.com

Vimeo — vimeo.com

DailyMotion — dailymotion.com/us

Roku — roku.com

Lamb & Lion — lamblion.com
For many years now we have been partnering with a wonderful man of God in Pakistan. His name is Nazir Gill. Over the years he has translated and published most of our books into Urdu, the main language of Pakistan. He has also published our materials in a variety of other languages, including Arabic and Farsi, the language of Iran.

Brother Gill celebrated his 50th year in ministry in 2015. Despite constant threats of death, he conducts Bible prophecy conferences for pastors all over Pakistan.

In recent years, through the generosity of our supporters, we have supplied Bro. Gill with a new computer, printer and digital projector. We also provided him a motorcycle. He says he is too old to ride a motorcycle by himself, so he rides it with his son doing the driving. His son is his assistant evangelist.

Bro. Gill continues to translate and publish our books in a variety of languages. He is also actively engaged in evangelistic work, preaching the Gospel constantly and bringing many people to faith in Jesus, despite the dangers associated with conversions from Islam to Christianity.

To make a special donation for Nazir Gill’s ministry, just designate it for Pakistan.

Another great foreign ministry we have been supporting for many years is Revival Literature Fellowship in Bangalore, India.

The leader of this ministry is a remarkable man named John Ishmael. The ministry was founded by his father in 1973. Like Bro. Gill in India, John works in a very hostile environment where Christian persecution is increasing rapidly.

John translates and publishes many of our materials in several languages, but primarily in Telegu. He holds Bible prophecy conferences for pastors in all parts of India. He also supplies a lot of humanitarian supplies to persecuted minorities in India, like the rickshaw drivers.

John recently held a prophecy conference in India’s western most state of Gujarat. The pastors there had never had any teaching about God’s Prophetic Word. They were so enthusiastic about what John taught them that they requested copies of our book, The Basics of Bible Prophecy, in the Gujarati language. That book is in preparation now.

John publishes an abridged version of our Lamplighter magazine. He is currently working on the publication of our Basics book in both Telegu and English. He is also publishing our book, Israel in Bible Prophecy, in Telegu.

Special donations to his ministry should be designated for India.
This 90 minute video presentation contains the basic message of this ministry.

It points out that no one can know the date of the Lord’s return, but we can know the season because the Bible has given us many signs to watch for.

Dr. Reagan presents an overview of all the signs of the times, divided into six categories. He asserts that although the re-establishment of the state of Israel is the cornerstone prophecy indicating that we are living in the season of the Lord’s return, there is a sign that is even more important. That sign is “convergence,” meaning that for the first time ever, all the end time signs are coming together.

Thus, as Jan Markell has said, “even though it may appear that the world is falling to pieces, what we are really witnessing is all the end time pieces falling into place.” This means the world is growing “gloriously dark,” as Adrian Rogers once put it, because there are key end time prophecies that say the Lord will return when society worldwide becomes as depraved as it was in the days of Noah.

DVD album. $20, including the cost of shipping.

This 150 minute album, containing two DVD discs, is very much needed today.

That’s because the nearer we get to the day of the Lord’s return, the more viciously Satan is inspiring attacks on Bible prophecy because he does not want anyone to be aware that we are living in the season of the Lord’s return.

Thus, we have Christian leaders who are dismissing Bible prophecy as a “distraction” or as “irrelevant.” The result is that the average Christian has no awareness that we are witnessing the fulfillment of end time prophecies made thousands of years ago by biblical prophets.

This album contains six presentations made by Dr. Reagan before a live audience. They provide a comprehensive introduction to all of the fundamentals of Bible prophecy:

- The Abuse of Prophecy
- The Interpretation of Prophecy
- The Importance of Prophecy
- The End Time Viewpoints
- The Variety of Prophecy

This is an excellent resource for Bible study groups. DVD album. $25, including the cost of shipping.

This 45 minute album will provoke you to think deeply about Hell and will drive you into the Scriptures.

Is Hell real? Or, is it just a symbol of the suffering we experience in this life? If it is real, do unbelievers go directly to Hell when they die? Or, do their spirits go to a temporary holding place called Hades? Are Hell and Hades the same place? Is there anyone in Hell now, or will the unsaved be consigned to Hell at a later date?

Dr. Reagan addresses all these questions in this fascinating presentation that is completely based on what the Scriptures have to say about Hell.

Another important issue that Dr. Reagan considers in detail is the nature of Hell. Specifically, he deals with the question of whether the unsaved will experience an eternal punishment or eternal punishing.

Or, in other words, will their eternal punishment consist of proportional suffering followed by destruction, or will it be in the form of unrelenting, everlasting torment?

DVD album. $20, including the cost of shipping.

Special Sale: Purchase any two of the DVD albums above for $40, including shipping cost, and get the third album free of charge! This offer is not available on our website. So, to order, you must call our office Monday through Friday, 8am to 5pm Central time. The phone number is 972-736-3567.
Ministry News

Schedule of Activities —

January:

Vic Batista & Nathan Jones radio program in Miami, FL at 5:30pm ET on 102.3 FM. Also streamed on Facebook & Twitter. (9,16,23,30).

Bible Prophecy Conference at Christ Community Church in El Centro, CA [Reagan] (11-13).

According to Prophecy Regional Conference at Love and Unity Christian Fellowship in Compton, CA [Reagan] (20-21).

First Baptist Church in Canton, TX (evening) [Reagan] (27).

February:

Steeling the Mind Conference in Coeur d’Alene, ID [Reagan] (16).

March:

Midwest Bible Prophecy Conference sponsored by Calvary Chapel in Lafayette, IN [Jones] (30).

The Brookhaven Church in McKinney, TX [Reagan] (31 — evening only).

April:

Lamb & Lion Regional Conference at Grace Bible Church in Winchester, KY [Reagan, Jones & Moore] (26-27).

Grace Bible Church in Winchester, KY [Reagan] (28 — morning only).

May:


2019 Calendar —

The Lamb & Lion Holy Land calendar for 2019 is ready for distribution. The calendar features 14 full color photos of scenes in Israel (counting the front and back covers). It sells for $10, including the cost of shipping. To order, call 972-736-3567 Monday through Friday, 8am to 5pm Central time.

Holy Land Pilgrimages —

We have three Holy Land trips scheduled for 2019. The first, our “Footprints of Jesus” pilgrimage, will be conducted from May 13 to 24. This is our basic introductory pilgrimage that focuses on the life of Jesus and sites related to His First and Second comings. It will be limited to 60 pilgrims, and it is already almost full. If you are interested in it, please contact the tour host directly — Colonel Tim Moore at tmoore@lamblion.com.

This “Footprints of Jesus” pilgrimage is scheduled to be repeated from August 31 thru September 11. If you are interested in it, call our office at 972-736-3567, and we will put you on a list to receive a brochure as soon as it is ready.

The third pilgrimage is set for November 2-13. It will be our “Battle for Israel” tour that will focus on battle sites in Israel, including ancient, modern and future ones (like the Valley of Armageddon). Again, if you are interested in this trip, please contact our office.

An Award —

Charity Navigator (www.charitynavigator.org) is the number one monitor of non-profit organizations in America. We recently received their annual letter of evaluation in which we were informed that we had received their highest rating for financial accountability for the 14th year in a row! Less than 1% of the charities evaluated have received such a rating for 14 consecutive years. Their letter concluded with these words: “This exceptional designation from Charity Navigator sets Lamb & Lion Ministries apart from its peers and demonstrates to the public its trustworthiness.” Praise the Lord! ☀
Fantastic New Bible Prophecy Video

The Inspiration Television Network has produced a 3 hour 47 minute video about the book of Revelation that is superb. It is titled, *Apokalypsis: The Final Warning*.

The video takes the viewer through the events of the book of Revelation, with interviews along the way with Bible prophecy specialists like Gary Frazier, Ed Hindson, Don Perkins, Ron Rhodes and Dave Reagan — together with others.

The video was produced with state-of-the-art techniques by award-winning executive producer Rudy Landa. It was 18 months in the making. The special effects are spectacular!

It seeks to answer some of the most frequently asked questions about the book of Revelation: What are the signs that we are living in the last days? Will there be a Rapture when born-again Christians are suddenly taken to Heaven? Why is Israel so pivotal to end-time events and God’s prophetic timetable?

Other questions the video deals with are: What roles do America, Europe and Russia play in the end times? What is the mark of the beast, and what will happen to those who receive it? What is Armageddon? What will bring it about?

Dr. Reagan says he was “spell-bound” when he saw the finished product, calling it one of the most professional Christian productions he has ever seen. “Rudy Landa has brought honor and glory to the Lord and His Word with this amazing production. I want to do everything I can to encourage people to watch it.”

It is a video that will bring hope to believers. And it should drive unbelievers to their knees in repentance when they realize what it will be like to be left behind at the Rapture to experience the horrors of the Tribulation.

We are providing the video at a special price of $25, including the cost of shipping.

To order, call 972-736-3567 Monday through Friday, 8am to 5pm Central time. Or, place your order through our website at www.lamblion.com.