

The Baptist

CHALLENGE

a voice of independent Baptists

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The Baptism of John, Was It From Heaven or of Men?

“And it came to pass, that on one of those days, as he taught the people in the temple, and preached the gospel, the chief priests and the scribes came upon him with the elders, and spake unto him, saying, Tell us, by what authority doest thou these things? Or who is he that gave thee this authority?”

“And he answered and said unto them, I will also ask you one thing; and answer me: The baptism of John, was it from heaven, or of men?” (Luke 20:1-4).

Scriptural Baptism

What is scriptural baptism? We say (1) it is the immersion in water, (2) of a proper subject, (3) by a qualified administrator.

1. Baptism is immersion in water. “And Jesus, when he was baptized, went up straightway *out of the water* ...” (Mt. 3:16). “And he commanded the chariot to stand still: and *they went down both into the water, both Philip and*

the eunuch; and he baptized him” (Acts 8:38). “Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death” (Rom. 4:4).

2. A proper subject is one who has repented toward God and accepted Jesus Christ as personal

By J. A. Hulse

Savior — a regenerated person. When the Pharisees and Sadducees came to John for baptism, according to the third chapter of Matthew, John required that they bring forth fruits to prove their repentance (Mt. 3:8). While Peter was

A Critique of the Theory of Evolution The Final Challenge to the Evolutionist!

By Charles George Bauer

If evolution is true, then why do we need to go back nearly 2,000 years to find the one perfect Man? The one perfect Man is the God-Man, our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. I challenge the evolutionist to produce a better man than the Lord Jesus Christ, if you can! Listen to what He says: “And no man hath ascended up to heaven, but he that came down from

heaven, even the Son of man which is in heaven” (Jn. 3:13). He is the great proof against this godless doctrine. Someone may ask: “What difference does it make if I believe in evolution? Does it do me any harm?” Yes, it does harm. It is atheistic in tendency. Let us ask a few pertinent questions.

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preaching, on the day of Pentecost, that Jesus was the Messiah, the people were “pricked in their heart” by the Holy Spirit and cried out: “Men and brethren, what shall we do?” Peter told them: “Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins” (Acts 2:38). “For,” in this place, means because of the remission of sins. Peter continued to preach and, “... they that gladly received his word (of repentance,) were baptized; and the same day there were added unto them about three thousands souls” (Acts 2:41).

After Peter had preached to the household of Cornelius and they had believed, Peter said, “Can any man forbid water, that these should not be baptized, which, have received the Holy Ghost as well as we? And he commanded them to be baptized in the

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Quiz The Pastor

What Does The Bible Say About Life On Other Planets?

By the late Nick Michalinos

Question: Do you believe there is intelligent life on other planets?

Answer: Since no scientific evidence has been presented thus far to prove there is intelligent life forms on any other planet other than earth, then I must say "no." I don't believe intelligent life as we know it exists on other planets.

It seems that the scientific mind of man is prone to speculate with regard to finding intelligent beings on other planets. Even today, our space program is aimed in this direction. The Gamma Ray Observatory was launched from the space craft Atlantis in April, 1991, in hope among other things, of finding out "What created us?" This is a flat, public denial of the Genesis record of creation. It is not "What created us" that should draw our interest, but "Who

created us!" (Gen. 1:1, 26).

The unbelieving mind pushes God completely out of the picture because man does not naturally "like to retain God in his knowledge" (Rom. 1:28). He does not want a God he will eventually have to give account to at some sort of future judgment, so he does away with Him, and by so doing, he also does away with the idea of a Creator God. This, then, leads him to the conclusion that things that exist now actually came about on their own, via the "big-bang" theory, or such like.

Now, taking this a step further, he reasons that if earth and its inhabitants came about as per evolutionary thinking by accident, then if it could happen this way in our galaxy, then the same set of developments could have taken place in other places

in the universe. So, he takes billions of tax dollars, and goes about searching for extraterrestrial life on some other planet. They are constantly sending out signals from earth hoping to contact someone or something out there in the vast universe that might respond in some way. Their search will prove to be in vain.

The scriptures tell us that only earth was uniquely created to be the dwelling place for man. "The heavens, even the heavens are the Lord's: but the earth hath he given to the children of men" (Psa. 115:16). "God hath made of one blood all nations of men to dwell on all the face of the earth, and hath determined the times before appointed, and the bounds of their habitation" (Acts 17:20).

Of all the billions and billions of heavenly bodies, God Himself, in the person of Jesus Christ, visited tiny planet earth as a new-born babe, and as a man, and suffered and died on the cross for man's sins. There is no other planet like earth with all its complex environmental factors suited to sustain divinely-created human life.

An astronaut on one of our space crafts remarked about the beautiful colors of earth he observed as he looked down from space on this unique globe. There's none like it. One day it will be renovated by Divine power, and the redeemed of the Lord will dwell on it forever with their Creator.

JOHN . . .

(Continued from page 1)

name of the Lord" (Acts 10:47-48). A proper subject, then, is a regenerated, or saved person.

3. A qualified administrator is one who has authority from heaven. John had authority from heaven, according to the Word. "There was man *sent from God*, whose name was John" (Jn. 1:6) who sent him to baptize.

John the Baptist Was Sent From God

"The baptism of John, was it from heaven, or of men?" This text shows clearly that this baptism could not be from God and from man too. John was *sent from God* to baptize. "The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God; as it is written in the prophets, Behold, I send my messenger before thy face, which shall prepare the way before thee. The voice of one crying in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. John did baptize in the wilderness, and preach the baptism of repentance for the remission of sins. And there went out unto him all the land of Judæa, and they of Jerusalem, and were all baptized of him in the river of Jordan, confessing their sins" (Mk. 1:1-5).

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THE BAPTIST CHALLENGE

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God's Masterpiece: The Human Body -- Message #48

Your "G.H.Q."

By Arthur I. Brown

Today I ask you to begin with me a survey of the Nervous System which dominates the entire body. We may think of that mysterious "G.H.Q." sitting in the lookout position somewhere inside the skull, receiving information constantly from all parts of the organism. Here is situated the control and regulation of the body functions which must proceed under all changing conditions of environment. In order that "G.H.Q." may be aware of these conditions, there must be a continuous system operating as an intelligence department which is always alert and strictly on the job. As rapidly as the wires to headquarters carry the information, commands are issued over another set of wires going to the various muscles and organs which respond instantly to the Master Control.

The functions of some organs and systems are exercised consciously and under voluntary control, others, only partially as in the case of the muscles of the extremities and those associated with respiration. Still others are quite beyond our control, as: the heart, stomach, intestine, etc. Therefore, we are prepared

to find in the nerve centers of the body a wonderful plan that will bring all parts of the body, all organs and tissues, into one harmonious whole.

And this is the case, made possible by two systems of cable-like conducting nerve fibres, one going to the central nervous system, the other from the center to all parts of the body organism. That which makes this communication possible is the function of irritability possessed by certain types of sensory cells located at thousands of points on the surface or even within the body. Impulses from these sensory areas travel with great speed to "G.H.Q.", are there interpreted, so that outgoing impulses necessary to perfect functioning of the organs and parts may be transmitted over a separate set of nerve fibres to the proper destination. Thus this basic function of irritability, which is common to all living matter, is largely assigned to the nervous system. The higher functions of consciousness, memory, intelligence, and volitional thinking reach their great prominence in the human brain.

It is not difficult to

understand, then, that in order to receive the sensory impulses or communications and to control and coordinate the activities of muscle and other tissues, the nervous system must have direct connections through definite nerve fibres with all the co-operating organic systems, in fact, with all structures and cells. This makes necessary an exceedingly intricate arrangement, far beyond anything we have yet studied.

The body functions are classified as voluntary and involuntary, and accordingly the nerve system is arranged in two divisions, controlling voluntary and involuntary processes: the *cerebro-spinal division*; and the *sympathetic division*.

The foundation cells of which nerve tissues are composed are microscopic in size and called neurons. A *neuron* consists of a cell body possessing a central nucleus, an axon, and terminal divisions. The *cell body* has short branches called *dendrites*, one or two of which grow longer to form an *axon* or *axis cylinder* which becomes a *nerve fibre*. The axons or nerve fibres terminate in

fine branches, which connect them with various organs or with the dendrites of other cell bodies.

The name *afferent neuron* is given to the fibre and cell which transmit impulses *to* the body, the word afferent meaning to bear forward. If the nerve conducts the impulse away from the cell body, it is known as an efferent (away from) nerve.

The distinguishing characteristics of nerve tissue are *sensitiveness* or *irritability* and *conductivity*; and I begin with the *cerebro-spinal division* of the Nerve System, which consists of the brain and spinal cord with their nerves. This division is often called the Central Nerve System. The nerve tissues in this system are of two kinds: *gray* and *white*, the first composed of cell bodies and their branches, the second of fibres belonging to the cells, and covered with a white sheath or medulla. A nerve consists of many fibres bound together and resembles in appearance a white cord. It may be so small as to be distinguished with difficulty or as large

(See **BODY** on page 22)

Oregon's 'Gay'-rights Bill Lets Court Define Church's "Purpose"

Most sweeping and culturally devastating law in Oregon history, establishing pagan morality.

A plan being shoved down a fast track in the Oregon Legislature would give homosexuals a vast range of new state laws they could use to impose their moral perspective on Christians across the state, according to opponents who fear for their speech and religious expression rights.

Senate Bill 2, on its face, is written to enshrine in state law special protections for homosexuals by classifying them as a protected civil rights group. But hundreds of pastors – whose churches include tens of thousands of evangelical Christians – are horrified by what they see advancing virtually without opposition.

“Senate Bill 2, in the Oregon House of Representatives, if passed, will limit your free speech rights and rights of conscience; require public schools to teach that homosexual/lesbian/bisexual behavior is ‘okay’ and ‘moral’; impact your rights as a business owner; and put judges in authority on certain church matters,” according to David Crowe, of the Christian ministry called Restore America.

“This bill is arrogantly,

defiantly and deceptively crafted to accomplish a lot more than what it is saying,” he told WND. “It definitely adds sexual orientation to the list of protected civil rights groups.

“But there is verbiage in the bill and the verbiage has to do with the primary purpose of a church. They’re seeking really to gain a foothold for homosexuals into the Christian church with the court’s approval,” he said.

“It’s more than the nose of the camel, they want the whole camel in the tent to ruminate around however they would like,” he said. “The word we’ve gotten from attorneys is that of all the bills around the country this is the worst,” Crowe said.

“The bottom line this is a total effort by the left to subvert our morality, our Judeo-Christian morality and impose on us a morality they consider superior. What it is really is challenging everything we as Christians stand for.”

The bill would affect churches even though it has a so-called church exemption, he said, because it would require every church operation that isn’t directly in support of its primary mission goal to be subject to mandatory homosexual hiring requirements and

other restrictions.

And it would leave the determination of what is in support of a church’s primary mission to be determined by a secular judge. It is possible, for example, that a lesbian could sue a church if not hired to be a pastor’s secretary.

For Christian business owners, it would require them to hire and promote homosexuals irrespective of the religious beliefs the owner might hold — or whether the employee agrees with the products, in a Christian bookstore for example.

For parents, it means their children in public schools would be subject to the state-sponsored and

state-required indoctrination that the homosexual lifestyle choice is moral – even if the parents hold religious beliefs that contradict that.

“The law – and this is onerous – has a clause that talks about developing a program of education to change our attitudes,” Crowe said. “To change our attitudes? Is it the government’s business to change attitudes? But that’s precisely what’s in the bill.”

“They want to put into law [their] view of morality, and that’s a small minority view of morality. They are seeking to impose that on the rest of us,” he said.

Nearly 500 Christian pastors from across the

(See **BILL** on page 6)

The Bar

A Bar to heaven, a door to hell;
Whoever named it, named it well.
A Bar to manliness and wealth;
A door to want and broken health.

A Bar to honor, pride and fame;
A door to grief and sin and shame.
A Bar to hope, a bar to prayer;
A door to darkness and despair.

A Bar to honored, useful life;
A door to brawling, senseless strife.
A Bar to all that’s true and brave;
A door to every drunkard’s grave.

A Bar to joys that home imparts;
A door to tears and aching hearts.
A Bar to heaven, a door to hell;
Whoever named it, named it well.

The Pastor: A Prophet Or A Promoter — Which?

By Charles H. Stevens

Life in every aspect becomes more complicated with the passing years. The impact of such has not failed to alter greatly the Christian ministry. In the New Testament days the "Seven" were appointed for the express purpose of relieving the apostles in order that they might give themselves "continually to prayer, and the ministry of the word."

It seems we have greatly improved upon this New Testament arrangement in days of late; at least we seem to think we have. Under present arrangements the preacher is engaged in matters more important than that of prayer and the ministry of the Word. The modern preacher, according to the public standards, must be a thoroughly educated person, trained and proven as an executive, schooled as a social diplomat; skilled as an efficient organizer; groomed as a specialist in counseling. Besides he must be a good mixer, a fluent speaker and a ready member of all committees whether civic or denominational.

With all our would-be improvement there is no question but that the preacher has lost something of inestimable value. Today

he could better be characterized as "a man of the people" rather than a "man of God"; a promoter rather than a prophet. Instead of being a prophet, a man who goes in to receive his message from God and goes forth to speak for God, he is a master mechanic appointed to keep up the machinery of the local church and the denomination.

Nowhere has the transition from a prophet to a promoter of programs been more evident than in our denominational life. The overhead machinery is now so enormous and so complicated and the denominational program so stereotyped as to leave little room or time for prayer and the ministry of the Word.

If the average pastor carries out the full program handed down to him, keeps up with all the special days, attends all the special rallies; reads all the special promotional literature, formulates, promotes and oils all the suggested organizational machinery, there is not much time left for outside mischief.

The average pastor today is in danger of becoming a cog in a man-made set-up which holds as the highest virtue the ability to cooperate without asking

questions. It is a sad day for the ministry when the preacher accepts the assignment as a handyman, forgetful of the fact that he is called and ordained to be

a servant of Almighty God, a preacher of the unsearchable riches of Christ and a minister of the mysterious (See PASTOR on page 15)

What God Doesn't Know

By Pastor Ronnie Wolfe - March 27, 2007

It's hard to know what God doesn't know;
It's hard to bring it to mind.
But if we consider what God wrote down,
It shouldn't be far from your mind.

Omniscience reigns in Heaven, you see,
With Him no fact passes by
.And all the things we don't understand
He need not question the why.

But some things God on purpose, you know,
Have never entered His thought,
Like which other way he might want to save
And eternal life should be brought.

Just one way He considers to be
The one and only command:
That Jesus would come as our Substitute
And meet the Law's great demand.

Surrendered to Father, assured of success,
Christ marched on t'ward certain demise
With purpose straightforward and eyes set ahead,
He drinks the darkness and dies.

No other way the Father could know
To redeem his children from sin
.And when we all stand in his wonderful presence,
We'll know why we've all been brought in.

I'm thankful to know that God could not know
Another way to redeem.
He has only one purpose and one grand design
And I'm grateful to be on His team.

Ford Says Will Continue Supporting the Homosexual Agenda

Well, it looks like we got our hopes up only to have Ford knock them down.

Last week we reported that we could not find Ford advertisements in the homosexual magazines or events. We spoke too soon. Immediately after we released our findings, Ford said it will continue to support homosexual publications. They also turned

up as a sponsor of the 2007 Motor City Pride festival.

According to the Detroit News, "Ford denied it dropped the sponsorship (of the GLAAD Media Awards) because of the AFA. The automaker also said it continues to advertise in gay and lesbian publications."

Ford spokeswoman Kristen Kinley said, "We buy advertising to put

Ford's message in front of as many customers as possible and include customers of all walks of life—customers who have a lot of other options given the competitive marketplace."

The implication is that Ford's support of the homosexual agenda is simply a matter of numbers and not content. Interestingly, Ford refuses to advertise in either Playboy

or Penthouse — not because of numbers but because of content. Both porn publications have a greater circulation than the homosexual publications OUT and The Advocate.

Every homosexual publication and organization Ford supports has as their top priority the legalization of homosexual marriage. — AFA □

Communists Plan For America

"Israel Cohen, a leading Communist in England, in his **A Racial Program for the 20th Century**, wrote:

'We must realize that our Party's most powerful weapon is racial tension. By propounding into the consciousness of the dark races that for centuries they have been oppressed by the whites, we can mould them to the program of the Communist Party.

'In America, we will aim for subtle victory. While inflaming the Negro minority against the whites, we will instill into the whites a guilt complex for their exploitation of the Negroes.

'We will aid the Negroes to rise to pro-

minence in every walk of life, in the professions and in the world of sports and entertainment. With this prestige, the Negro will be able to intermarry with the whites and begin a process which will deliver America into our hands'." — Congressional Record, United States Government Printing Office, Proceedings of the House, 1957, page 8559. □

BILL . . .

(Continued from page 4)

state recently gathered with representatives of the Legislature to express their opposition to the proposal, and afterwards issued a statement that the law, if approved, would be "the most sweeping and culturally devastating law in Oregon history, establishing pagan morality under the guise of a 'civil right,' and

imposing it upon all Oregonians under the cover of 'law'."

Crowe noted that of the 14 states that have added "sexual orientation" to their protected classes, all except Senate Bill 2 provide clear protection for churches. "Not one includes wording that allows courts to determine the 'primary purpose' of a church, but SB 2 does," he noted.

"The majority of our legislators have chosen to believe the lie that those who engage in homosexual activity cannot help themselves, and that they are being unjustly and wrongly discriminated against, when in fact, neither is true," Crowe said.

The proposal "clearly opens the door to liberal judges to redefine and decide the 'primary purpose' of a church, and

violates the rights of everyone," said Crowe, who recommends people sign a petition to encourage legislators to oppose the plan.

The governor had appointed a commission to study the issue, but included only representatives of liberal or "gay" churches, leaving members of 2,500 Bible-believing and teaching churches unrepresented on the panel, he said. Individual leaders from Christian organizations already have begun contacting not only their lawmakers, but Gov. Ted Kulongoski too. A letter from Vernon M. Marks, superintendent of the Oregon Assemblies of God churches, told Kulongoski that the more than 30,000 members of those churches are urging the rejection of the plan.

(See **BILL** on page 21)



“That alcoholism is not caused by alcohol, is a sententious, but untrue, paradox, widely disseminated by pro-liquor propaganda,” declares a statement made public by the American Business Men’s Research Foun-

Alcoholism Comes Out Of A Bottle

dation, in a carefully analyzed appraisal of the assertion.

“Take all potable alcohol out of the world, and there would be no alcoholics,” is the conclusion pointed out by the Foundation statement on this popular ‘Wet’ claim. The Foundation analysis called attention in the striking contrast between alcoholism and polio, or any

other serious disease of the day.

“While great financial interests are concerned in selling the virus that causes alcoholism, there is no interest of like character concerned in selling even a mild polio virus for profit.

“As a result of a selfish attempt to protect a great commercial interest, aided and abetted by the selfish

desire by some individuals to enable them to continue to drink in ‘moderation’, the public is being bombarded with propaganda that ‘it is not alcohol but the individual who is responsible for being an alcoholic’.

“But, despite all attempts to evade it, the fact cannot be obscured that alcoholism, before all else, does come out of a bottle.” □

Alcoholism Is A Sin

If there is one thing above all others that the present-day liquor-backed educational program is stressing, it is that “alcoholism is a disease”. The liquor business has more than one trick up its sleeve in making such a classification. As this “disease” idea is getting a foothold in this country, all sorts of unheard-of things are coming to pass. Our governments, state and federal, are being urged to appropriate funds to provide medical care for those afflicted with this dread ailment. The public is appealed to for financial assistance, and insurance benefits are sought under disability policies.

Alcoholism is being classed with diabetes, tuberculosis and cancer, and unless we come to our

senses and prevent it, some day the radio, television and press will announce to the gullible public — “Your dimes have made our drives to exterminate polio, cancer and tuberculosis a success. We now appeal to you to give your dollars to stamp out alcoholism” (while retaining alcohol).

The Bible makes it very clear that no drunkard shall inherit the Kingdom of Heaven. What keeps people out of Heaven? Sin. Therefore, alcoholism is a SIN. *Nowhere in the Bible do we read that persons suffering from diabetes, tuberculosis or cancer shall not go to Heaven.* In fact these diseases may be the means of getting them there sooner than they anticipate. Thus we conclude that alcoholism has

no business in the column labeled “disease”.

Another reason for making “alcoholism” a “disease” instead of a sin is to relieve both the liquor industry and the drunkard of the uncomfortable feeling that accompanies wrongdoing. Moderate drinking is to be regarded as a sign of good breeding, dignity and refinement. However, if the moderate drinker, because of the habit-forming quality of alcohol eventually finds himself a slave to the bottle,

he must then be comforted by being assured that he is not a sinner, but is only suffering from a “disease”, for which he is not responsible. The liquor gang is hereby also attempting to excuse its own waywardness. Even the name “alcoholic” is intended to nullify the sting inherent in the term “drunkard”.

This whole wicked mess has been elevated to a dignified, respectable plane by a gang of racketeers whose greed for gold is insatiable. □

Obstacles are those frightful things you see When you take your eyes off the goal

“And when Peter was come down out of the ship, he walked on the water, to go to Jesus. But when he saw the wind boisterous, he was afraid; and beginning to sink, he cried, saying, Lord, save me.”

— Mt. 14:29-30



Texas Senate Prayer Excludes Christians Pro-Khomeini — Imam Seeks Protection From ‘Those Who Have Lost the Way.’

— A controversial Texas imam who at one point participated in a “tribute to the great Islamic visionary” Ayatollah Khomeini, has offered a prayer to open the state Senate that excluded both Christians and Jews. “Oh, **Allah**, guide us to the straight path, the path of those whom you have favored, *not of those who have earned your wrath or of those who have lost the way,*” prayed Imam Yusuf Kavakci of the *Dallas Central Mosque*. Islam, of course, teaches that Jews and Christians both have earned the wrath of Allah by failing to follow Islam, and also have lost the way by following the teachings of the Torah for the Jews or the Bible for Christians. Kavakci concluded “with an Islamic chant that sounded eerily like it was coming over the loudspeakers in Tehran,” according to a statement from the U.S. Pastor Council. “Ironically, it was a Jewish **Republican**, Sen. Florence Shapiro, who

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invited the imam to give the prayer that specifically excluded those of her faith as well as Christians.” “Imagine if an evangelical Christian pastor prayed in Jesus name, *only for Christians*, before the government of Iran, Iraq, Saudi Arabia, etc., during Ramadan,” the statement said. TG: Imagine if a Christian prayed in Jesus’ name and said the Muslims have earned the wrath of God. The imam introduced what he was going to do: “We will pray by reading from first chapter, opening chapter, Al-Fātehah, from holy Quran, followed by recitation, traditional way of recitation of text from holy Quran, with an addition.”

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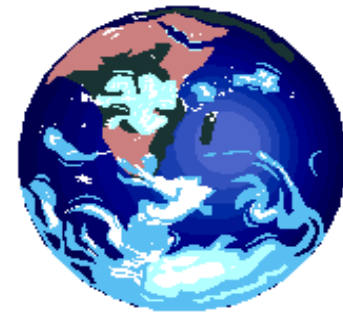
Homosexuality ‘Immoral,’ Top Military Official Says.

— A “gays-in-the-military” advocacy group is demanding an apology from the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. General Peter Pace told the *Chicago Tribune*, “I believe homosexual acts between two individuals are immoral and that we should not condone immoral acts.” He also said adultery is immoral. “I do not believe the United States is well served by a policy that says it is OK to be immoral in any way,” Pace told the newspaper. Servicemembers Legal Defense Network — a group that is pushing to

end the military’s ban on openly homosexual troops, called Pace’s comments “outrageous, insensitive and disrespectful.” “Our men and women in uniform make tremendous sacrifices for our country, and deserve General Pace’s praise, not his condemnation,” said SLDN Executive Director C. Dixon Osburn. “As a Marine and a military leader, General Pace knows that prejudice should not dictate policy. It is inappropriate for the Chairman to condemn those who serve our country.” Osburn also called on Defense Secretary Gates to condemn Pace’s remarks. SLDN points to research showing that an estimated 65,000 homosexual Americans are currently serving on active duty and the reserves. Another 1 million homosexual Americans are veterans of the armed forces. Rep. Martin Meehan (D-Mass.) recently introduced legislation to reverse the military’s ban on homosexual service members. The Military Readiness Enhancement Act died last year in the Republican-controlled Congress. But with Democrats in charge, Meehan is more optimistic about passing the bill.

* * *

Columnist Says Obama’s Church Has ‘Black Supremacist’ Agenda.



— Presidential candidate Barack Obama’s home church in Chicago pushes a black separatist agenda, says columnist, author and speaker Erik Rush. According to the conservative Christian writer, Senator Obama’s congregation — Trinity United Church of Christ in Chicago — “is not simply Afrocentric, it’s African-centric.” Rush says when visiting Trinity’s website, he was disturbed to learn that Trinity United Church of Christ professes a commitment to the “Black Family,” the “Black Community,” and the “Black Work Ethic,” and “pledge[s] allegiance to all Black leadership who espouse and embrace the Black Values System.” “The first thing that I did was that I went through the list and I substituted the words white for black in it,” the columnist notes. “And I, in addition to being disturbed, wondered just how far a white candidate with beliefs like that would get. It looked like it was either being overlooked or excused, and I thought that it

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La Voz Del Desierto



La Biblia Como La Unica Regla De Fe Y Práctica

Por C. L. Neal

Si todos los hombres en todas las épocas hubieran aceptado y seguido la Palabra de Dios como su única regla de fe y práctica, como debían haberlo hecho, no tendríamos en el día de hoy, mas que una sola denominación en el mundo. Debemos saber que la Iglesia no es la regla de fe y práctica, ni las ideas de algunos hombres sabios, sino la Biblia y sólo la Biblia.

La Iglesia no tiene derecho de hacer leyes y doctrinas, porque tal cosa es contraria a las enseñanzas de la Palabra de Dios. Cristo confirmó esta doctrina cuando dio la Gran Comisión a Su Iglesia, y una parte es como sigue: “enseñandoles que guarden todas las cosas que os he mandado” (Mateo 28:20). En esta frase hay un mandamiento positivo, el que la Iglesia debe enseñar las cosas que Cristo ha mandado. No deja lugar para introducir ceremonias, tradiciones o mandamientos de hombres, y los que

hacen tales cosas son rebeldes y muestran el espíritu del error.

Es indiscutible que el Dios del cielo reconoció en Cristo el Legislador de Su iglesia cuando dijo en el monte de la transfiguración: “*Este es mi Hijo amado, en quien tengo complacencia; a él oid*” (Mateo 17:5). No estamos bajo la obligación de escuchar y obedecer ninguna otra autoridad, en cuestiones religiosas, sino a Jesucristo. Acerca de esto mismo, Moisés profetizó a los hijos de Israel (Deuteronomio 18:15).

La exhortación de Pablo a Timoteo fue: “... *que prediques la palabra*” (2da Timoteo 4:2). Esta es una declaración que excluye toda predicación que no es la de la Palabra de Dios. Pablo explicó la razón por la cual se debía predicar por la Palabra de Dios: “*Toda la Escritura es inspirada por Dios, y útil para enseñar, para redargüir, para corregir, para*

instruir en justicia, a fin de que el hombre de Dios sea perfecto, enteramente preparado para toda buena obra” (1ra Timoteo 3:16-17). Estos pasajes de la Biblia nos muestran verdaderamente que la Palabra de Dios es

divinamente inspirada por Él. A Dios sea la gloria siempre.

[Resumen Extraido del libro: “**Los Bautistas a Través de los Siglos**” de C.L. Neal. Por Hno. Luis Alicea, Redactor.] □

Demasiado Barato

Un evangelista bajó a una mina de carbón, durante la hora de reposo que tenían los mineros, con el propósito de anunciarles el evangelio de salvación por medio de Jesucristo.

Después de haberles relatado la hermosa historia del amor de Dios, el estado de perdición del hombre y la salvación sola y exclusivamente por los méritos de Cristo; concluida la hora de descanso, volvió el evangelista al ascensor que debía subir de la mina a la claridad otra vez. Entablando una conversación con el capataz le preguntó: “¿Qué le parece a usted el modo de salvarse

por la gracia de Dios?”

“¡Ah!, me parece demasiado barato; yo no puedo creer en una religión como esa.”

Entonces, preguntó el evangelista “¿cómo sube usted de esta mina?”

“Sencillamente, metiéndome en el ascensor. ¿Y se necesita mucho tiempo para llegar arriba?”

“Solamente unos cuantos segundos. Bien, veo pues que eso es muy fácil y sencillo; ¿pero tiene usted que tabajar y esforzarse por subir?” preguntó el predicador.

“Por cierto que no, no

(Vea **BARATO** en la pág. 10)

Noticias Alrededor Del Mundo

Clinton Y Carter Apoyan Grupo Bautista Liberal. — Los ex-presidentes Jimmy Carter y Bill Clinton están pres-tándole su ayuda a la reunión del año entrante de los autodenominados Bautistas moderados. Su meta, dicen, es mejorar la imagen de los Bautistas y ampliar la agenda de las Iglesias Bautistas. En una reunión reciente en la Universidad Mercer en Atlanta, Georgia; Clinton y Carter le dijeron al grupo que buscarán la unidad en asuntos tales como la diversidad religiosa, la ecología y el racismo, según señalado en un informe reciente de “Enfoque en la Familia” por Russell Moore, Decano de la Escuela de Teología de los Bautistas del Sur. Señaló además que el grupo está compuesto por miembros anteriores insatisfechos con la Convención Bautista del Sur. Estos no tienen de-claración confesional. Realmente están unidos más en lo que no creen que en lo que creen.

Iman Conduce a Demócratas En Oración. — “*Con las cabezas bajadas en signo de reverencia, un Iman (líder congregacional musulmán), condujo a los demócratas en oración y esencialmente pidió que Alá asistiera en convertir a los miembros del partido Demócrata al Islam.*” Según indicara un erudito y autor Roberto Spencer, director de la organización Vigilancia Jihad, dijo: “*Imaginece si un sacerdote o un ministro cristiano hubiese orando en una reunión de la Convención Demócrata Nacional que los asistentes fuesen dirigidos a alejarse de la trayectoria de aquellos condenados por Dios.*”

* * *

Pare de Interferir Con Nuestros Monumentos de los Diez Mandamientos. — En las pinosas planicies del condado de Dixie, un lugar donde las iglesias exceden

el número de semáforos, la última batalla en la Florida entre Dios y el gobierno se está llevando acabo en las escalinatas del edificio de la corte de 40 años. Al final de las escalinatas está localizada una pieza de seis toneladas de granito inscrita con los diez mandamientos y la advertencia, “*Ama a Dios y guarda sus mandamientos.*” El masivo monumento gris, aprobado por los comisionados del condado e instalado el pasado mes de noviembre, es el blanco de un pleito sometido por la Unión Americana de las Libertadas Civiles (ACLU, siglas en Ingles). El ACLU dice

BARATO . . .
(Vino de la pág. 9)

tengo más que entrar en la cabina y apretar un botón.”

“Mas si a usted esto le es bien barato, a los que han arreglado toda la maquinaria, ¿les habrá costado trabajo y gastos? Al propietario le ha costado muchísimo, y sin este gasto, ¿cómo saldríamos de la mina?”

“¡Justo, justo!, pero escuche usted: cuando la Palabra de Dios le dice que todo aquel que creen en Cristo tiene vida eterna, en seguida exclama usted: ¡es demasiado barato! Pero es que se olvida usted de que la obra de Dios para sacarle del hoyo de destruc-

que el monumento es anti-constitucional porque viola una disposición en la Primera Enmienda que prohíbe al gobierno establecer una religión preferida. Pero lo que los abogados de ACLU ven como una violación de la ley, muchos locales la ven como un tributo apropiado a la herencia cristiana del condado. Y estos locales no están contentos. “No pienso que tienen el derecho de venir aquí y decirnos qué hacer,” dijo Wanda Wester, 68 años, natural del condado de Dixie. “*Todos creemos en Dios. Se no les gusta, pueden permanecer lejos de aquí.*” □

ción y de la muerte, se ha realizado mediante un enorme costo, nada menos que la muerte de su Hijo Unigénito.

No piense nadie que la salvación vale poco. “*No somos redimidos con cosas corruptibles como oro o plata, sino con la preciosa sangre de Cristo.*” Lo que ahora toca al pecador es colocar su confianza en Él, entregarse a Él, como el minero entra en la cesta y se entrega a una fuerza fuera de él para subir de la mina (1ra Pedro 1:18-19).

[De: Enciclopedia de Anécdotas e Ilustraciones 1" — Samuel Vila, Recopilador.] □

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Marcos A. Curet, Pastor

JOHN . . .

(Continued from page 2)

John baptized Jesus. "Then cometh Jesus from Galilee to Jordan unto John, to be baptized of him. But John forbid him, saying, I have need to be baptized of thee, and comest thou to me? And Jesus answering said unto him, Suffer it to be so now: for thus it becometh us to fulfill all righteousness. Then he suffered him" (Mt. 3:13-15).

Jesus Established His Church, Using The Baptism of John

John also baptized many others, some of whom followed him as "disciples," and who later left John and became disciples of Jesus (Jn. 1:37 — 2:2). Jesus set these disciples together as His church. "And it came to pass in those days, that he went out into a mountain to pray, and continued all night in prayer to God. And when it was day, he called unto him his disciples: and of them he chose twelve, whom also he named apostles" (Lk. 6:12-13). Paul, in writing to the Corinthians, said: "And God hath set some in the church first apostles" (1 Cor. 12:28). So we see that when Jesus ordained apostles he must have had a church. And in the third and fourth chapters of John we see the church baptizing. "After these things came Jesus and his disciples into the land of Judæa; and

there he tarried with them, and baptized" (Jn. 3:22). John was baptizing near by and the Jews disputed with John's disciples about purifying. They tried to make John jealous of Jesus, but he answered them that that which Jesus was doing was authorized by heaven (vs. 27); and that Jesus was the Christ and that group which was with him was the church or bride; that the Christ must increase but John the Baptist must decrease. John continued, and said he was rejoicing because he was the friend of the bridegroom and was permitted to hear His voice. We see in John 4:1-2, that Jesus Himself did not baptize, but the disciples, or the church, did the baptizing, and that by authority from Him.

Jesus Commissioned His Church

When Jesus met the disciples after His resurrection He again commissioned them to preach the gospel, to baptize and to teach: "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost: teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world (Mt. 28:19-20).

Just before His ascension, which was after He had been with the

disciples for forty days after His resurrection, His parting words were: "But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judæa, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth" (Acts 1:8). This was spoken to the "they" and the "them" of the first chapter of Acts. This "they" and "them" was His church — the 120 which received the baptism of the Holy Ghost on the day of Pentecost. That baptism of the Holy Ghost which Jesus had promised them (Jn. 14:16-17 and Acts 1:5), made this called out assembly *a living organism*, and it and none other, has John's baptism, which is from heaven. Any other baptism is of men and cannot be scriptural. When Jesus Christ had finished giving the disciples (the church) the commission to preach, baptize and teach the doctrines, He added, "And, lo, *I am with you always, even unto the end of the world*" (Mt. 28:20). I believe that there has never been a moment of time since then that the Lord has not been present in His churches in the world.

His Church Had None Other Than the Baptism Of John

You remember that when John the Baptist was in prison and greatly

discouraged, he sent disciples to Jesus and asked Him: "Art thou he that should come? or look we for another?" (Lk. 7:20). Jesus performed miracles before them, proving who He was, and after the messengers left He spoke to His congregation concerning John, saying: "What went ye out into the wilderness for to see? A reed shaken with the wind? But what went ye out for to see? A man clothed in soft raiment? Behold, they which are gorgeously appareled, and live delicately, are in kings' courts. But what went ye out for to see? A prophet? Yea, I say unto you, and much more than a prophet. This is he, of whom it is written, Behold, I send my messenger before thy face, which shall prepare the way before thee. For I say unto you, Among those that are born of women there is not a greater prophet than John the Baptist" (Lk. 7:24-28). Now what result did this testimony of John bring? "And all the people that heard him, and the publicans, justified God, being baptized with the baptism of John" (Lk. 7:29). Since John was in prison at that time, who gave them the baptism of John? We say the Lord's church did. These people declared the justice of God by being baptized with the baptism of John at the hands of the Lord's church,

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the only authorized administrator of scriptural baptism.

John's Baptism Was Never Abolished

Now someone may say, "But John's baptism was done away and we now have Christian baptism," and will give Acts 19:1-5 as proof. We say that these "disciples" did not have John's baptism, even though they thought they had. After Paul told them that John baptized "with the baptism of repentance, saying unto the people that they should believe on him which should come after him, that is, on Christ Jesus," they acknowledged their immersion was in error, by accepting valid baptism, believing on the Lord Jesus as Savior. John's baptism is *Christian baptism*. It was good enough for Christ and the apostles, so let's not do away with it.

There is not one bit of Scripture to justify the argument that John's baptism was abolished. The first church, in selecting an apostle to take the place of Judas, laid down this prerequisite to apostleship — that is, "he must have companied with us all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, beginning from the baptism of John, unto the same day that he was taken up from

us, must one be ordained to be a witness with us of his resurrection" (Acts 1:21-22). In other words, he must have been baptized by John the Baptist and have been with the company (the church) all the time since — a charter member, if you please.

True Churches in All Ages Since Christ

We believe that the Lord Jesus has had churches with the baptism of John, here on this earth every day — yes, every minute of every day, since He established the first one while He was here in person. We believe that for a church to be a true church of His today, it must have come through the genealogy or lineage of the church which Jesus established. Somebody will immediately say, "But you cannot trace the genealogy of your church back to Christ." Suppose I cannot. Neither can I trace my genealogy back to Adam, but I know I am a son of Adam. Baptists have plenty of history which was written by our enemies, which proves that Baptist churches have been here in every century since Christ, and all that we have to do is to prove that we came from a true Baptist church. Yes, we know that we have not been called Baptists all the time. Historians have traced us by various names, but always by the same

doctrines since the time of Christ on the earth.

Counterfeits, and Why

Why do we have counterfeit money? Because there is genuine money. If there were no genuine there would be no counterfeit, but since there is genuine money there is imitation money. The same is true with churches. Since there are true churches, there are also imitation churches who have imitation or counterfeit baptism, which looks just like the baptism of John.

Apostate Churches

In the early life of the Lord's churches some became apostate — that is, they departed from the faith, and in 251 A.D. the true churches declared non-fellowship with those who had departed from the faith and were practicing infant baptism, etc. Those apostate churches lost John's baptism, for John did not baptize unbelievers, infants, as they did.

The Catholic hierarchy grew out of those churches and their first pope was chosen in about 606 A.D. The Roman and Greek Catholic churches are both without authorized baptism, therefore not true churches of our Lord. All other major denominations in the world have come directly or indirectly from the Roman Catholic church,

therefore they cannot have the baptism of John. The Lutherans were the first to split off and that was in 1530. The Church of England was established next, by Henry VIII, in 1531, because the pope wouldn't let him divorce his wife and marry another woman. In 1541 the Presbyterian church was established by a reformed Catholic priest. The Congregationalist church came into being in 1602, directly from the Catholic. In the eighteenth century Methodist societies were organized in England and in America, which, in about 1784, grew into what is now the Methodist church. This group came from the Church of England, or Episcopal church, as it is known in America.

In 1810 the Cumberland Presbyterian church came out of the Presbyterian, and in about 1811 to 1827 the Disciples of Christ, or as they call themselves, "The Church of Christ," better known as Campbellites, came on the scene, coming also from the Presbyterians. The Disciples of Christ split into two groups, the other calling themselves "The Christian Church."

There are hundreds of so-called churches which have come into existence in the last hundred years or less, that have direct and indirect connection with these. They are all far too

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young to be the true church which our Lord established. I don't know if the Lord had this in mind or not, when He had Isaiah pen the following: "And in that day seven women shall take hold of one man, saying, We will eat our own bread, and wear our own apparel: only let us be called by thy name, to take away our reproach" (Isa. 4:1).

Some people believe that anything that calls itself a church is all right, and that we should accept it as such. If somebody pops up and calls himself a god, are you going to accept him as such? No! Well, why not look into the church matter and be as careful about the Lord's bride as you would be about the Lord?

One Lord, One Faith and One Baptism

The Book says: "There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling: one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all" (Eph. 4:4-6).

We believe that there is *one* body and only one — not several, so we can take our choice. We believe that there is *one* Spirit who dwells in the Lord's true church. We believe that there is *one* Lord, even Jesus Christ, the head of the *one* body. We further

believe that there is but *one* faith — "the faith which was once delivered unto the saints." There is not a multitude of faiths that we may take our pick. We believe that there is but "*one* God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in you all." And last, but not least, we believe that there is but *one* baptism — *John's baptism*, and it is from heaven. Do you have it? If not, why not? It is available to all regenerated persons. ▣

BAUER . . .

(Continued from page 1)

1. Did man fall downward or upward?

2. Can man save himself by climbing up, or must God save him by coming down?

3. Is evolution the way to the glory of Heaven, or is the Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God, the way to glory? What is the chief end of man? "To glorify God, and enjoy Him forever" (Westminster Catechism).

It is said: "Man's sinful tendencies and acts are the remains of brute instincts inherited from his beastly ancestors. Give him sufficient time, and by education and civilization and the Law of Progress, he will improve morally and spiritually, and finally reach the goal of his glory, a perfect man." You may ask, "What about the prehistoric man, the cave man?" The Word of God gives the infallible answer.

It is found in the following Scriptures: Psalm 14; Psalm 53; Romans 1:19-32; 5:12-14. "For the wages of sin is death: but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord" (Rom. 6:23). What harm does it do?

The Rev. A. P. Gouthy inquired the results of the teaching evolution in five colleges. At the end of the first year, 40% of the students became agnostics; at the end of the second year, 60% became infidels; at the end of the third year, 80% became atheists.

What is the Verdict From the Supreme Court of Heaven?

Evolution is not true, but false, because it eliminates God, the Creator of the universe. What is the truth? It is not evolution, but devolution in man's progress morally and spiritually, until God intervenes in our behalf; for

a revolution of our life and nature is necessary for salvation and the way to Glory. "Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and the renewing of the Holy Spirit; which he shed on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Saviour" (Tit. 3:5-6).

Evolution Is Irrational, Untenable, and Impossible

The Lord Jesus Christ is the only way to Glory. He said: "Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. In my father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you, and if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; (See **BAUER** on page 14)

The Presence

By Ralph Spaulding Cushman

There is a peace that passeth understanding;
There is a joy the world can never know,
There is a light, you will not find it burning
On any land or sea where'er you go.

This joy of mine is not of earthly making,
Though you may find it in the sunset's blush;
Above the noise and din of human striving
There is a Presence and a holy hush!

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that where I am, there ye may be also. And whither I go ye know, and the way ye know. Thomas saith unto him, Lord, we know not whither thou goest; and how can we know the way? Jesus saith unto him, *I am the way, the truth, and the life*: no man cometh unto the Father but by me” (Jn. 14:1-6).

It is not goodness that saves mankind, although goodness is the result of faith in Christ. It is “bloodness” that saves. “Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers: but with the precious blood of Christ, of a Lamb without blemish and without spot” (1 Pet. 1:18-19).

“For by grace are ye saved through faith: and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: not of works, lest any man should boast for we are his workmanship [masterpiece, Greek], created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them” (Eph. 2:8-10).

If evolution were true, there would be no Gospel. “For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first,

and also the Greek [Gentile]. For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, the just shall live by faith” (Rom. 1:16-17).

Evolution Is An Unproven and Unprovable Hypothesis

A final word to young people. “Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth, while the evil days come not, nor the years draw nigh, when thou shalt say, I have no pleasure in them” (Eccl. 12:1).

The word Creator is in the plural, implying unity in majesty, plurality in creativity [Creative action]. The three Persons of the Godhead created the universe and all life, including man, the climax of Creation. God, the Father, created all things by and through His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ, and by His Holy Spirit He garnished [beautiful] the heavens. Read Genesis 1:1; John 1:1-5; Colossians 1:15-18; Hebrews 11:1-3.

Christians are the New creation of the Lord Jesus Christ. “Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creation: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new” (2 Cor. 5:17).

The Latest Discovery of Modern Science

Did this vast universe

just happen, as the evolutionists believe, or did God create it? Herbert Spencer’s definition is now exploded. Biological evolution is also out-moded by the law of biogenesis. The only logical conclusion is Divine creation (Heb. 1:1-4).

“The universe was born in a matter of minutes, in a single tremendous act of creation. With this startling announcement, a group of famous scientists has dramatically told the world that their discoveries provide a striking scientific background to the great story in Genesis.

“It provides a documented story of the universe right back to the utterly incredible moments of all — Time, Zero — the moment when there was no universe.” — Dr. F.J. Meldau, Christian Victory.

This epochal memento was made by Dr. Ralph A. Alpher and Dr. Robert C. Harman, of the Applied Physics Laboratory of Johns Hopkins University, and Professor George Garnow of George Washington University.

To piece together the gigantic jig-saw puzzle of the creation story they drew on the work of hundreds of physicists, astronomers, geologists, and chemists. The few missing pieces in their revelations have been filled in by astronomers like Bart J. Bolt and Frank L. Whipple, both of Harvard Observatory. There were three acts in this Drama of

Science. “In the beginning God and His Son.” “Who hath ascended up into heaven, or descended? who hath gathered the wind in his fists? who hath bound the waters in a garment? who hath established all the ends of the earth? what is his name, and what is his son’s name, if thou canst tell? Every word of God is pure; he is a shield unto them that put their trust in him. Add thou not unto his words, lest he reprove thee, and thou be found a liar” (Prov. 30:4-6).

“By the word of the Lord [Jehovah] the heavens were made; and all the host of them by the breath of his mouth ... For he spake, and it was done; he commanded, and it stood fast” (Psa. 33:6-9).

“Lift up your eyes on high, and behold who hath created these things, that bringeth out their host by number: he calleth them all by name by the greatness of his might, for that he is strong in power; not one faileth” (Isa. 40:26). The atomic and electronic theory of the universe is also hidden in the Word of God in the original languages, Hebrew and Greek.

I quote Dr. Arthur S. Way’s translation of creation: which is not a paraphrase, but an amplified translation: “It is through faith that we discern that the epochs of our earth’s development were molded by the fiat of God; that it

(See **BAUER** on page 15)

BAUER . . .

(Continued from page 14)

was not his design that the world which we now look upon should not be the outcome of a mere process of evolution from nothing, but matter palpable to our senses" (Heb. 11:3).

This amplified translation of all the meaning of the original Greek words gives its full meaning refuting evolution. This verse reveals the truth that God created the universe by His living Word, spoken by the Lord Jesus Christ, so that things which are seen were made of invisible things — Atoms, infinitesimal solar systems, consisting of protons, neutrons, and electrons (2 Pet. 3:10-14)."

"O the depths of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! how unsearchable are his judgments, and his ways past finding out! For who hath known the mind of the Lord? or who hath been his counselor? Or who hath given to him, and it shall be recompensed unto him again? For of him, and through him, and to him are all things: to whom be glory for ever. Amen" (Rom. 11:33-36).

Appendix Concerning The Creation of Man

A chemist discovered that there are things containing 16 elements in 17 combinations: a handful of earth, whole wheat, and the

human body. If 16 elements are required to nourish the human body, we have also discovered in the Word of God that there are 16 spiritual elements required to nourish the human soul when saved: and these are also in 17 combinations (See Genesis 2:7; Jeremiah 15:16; Psalm 119:11).

Concerning the Creation of the Universe And Matter

"God who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, hath in these last days spoken unto us by [in] his son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds, who being the brightness of his glory, and the express image of his person, upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high; being made so much better than the angels, as he hath by inheritance obtained a more excellent name than they" (Heb. 1:1-4).

The wonderful implications of this passage of Scripture could only be understood since the discovery of atomic energy. Dr. Albert Einstein formulated the equation of energy matter in 1905. Matter is composed of molecules, atoms electrons, protons, neutrons, and numerous other submicroscopic par-

ticles, and is now known to be nothing really substantial at all, but composed fundamentally of tremendous energy. E equals MC^2 . Energy equals matter multiplied by the speed of light per second, squared.

Energy is now known to be a fluid form of matter. Atoms have a tendency to disintegrate. What power holds them together?

"The Lord Jesus Christ is the ultimate Source" The Lord Jesus Christ is the ultimate source of infinite power (or energy) which revealing itself through its outworking (the Word) is the energy by which all the physical universe is upheld." — Dr. Kenneth S. Wuest.

The Lord Jesus Christ is the Power which holds the universe together. "And he is before all things, and by him all things consist (are held together)." See Colossians 1:15-18, the secret of the creation of the universe.

Concerning the Geological Ages. The rebellion and fall of Lucifer, caused the ruin of the pristine Creation. □

PASTOR . . .

(Continued from page 5)

teries of divine grace.

In this field there is no competition. The servant of God stands alone. In this particular he must stand apart and alone from the world if he would please his Lord and serve his day and generation. If you desire

advancement and the approbation of men, be a promoter; but if you would be obedient to the heavenly calling, be a prophet.

History and experience have proven that in the same ratio as churches and denominations move away from a simple New Testament faith and dependence upon divine guidance, they move in the opposite direction of a formal, cold, and lifeless efficiency, characterized by an ever-growing complexity in human organization. What man loses in divine power, he seeks to make up in human accomplishment.

This is certainly no argument for "sloppiness" and inefficiency in the Lord's work but a warning and an appeal to keep the human element thoroughly under subjection to the Spirit's control. Every preacher and, for that matter, every believer, is a priest of God and as such, finds no need to go to man-set-up headquarters to get his orders but rather with the veil where a sovereign God speaks to men and makes known His will. Such a practice does not exclude co-operation but promotes it with a direction and freedom that is from above. Let not the servants of Christ come down from their high estate and prophets and bond slaves of Jesus Christ become promoters of a human juggernaut.

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WNR . . .

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needed to be brought to light." One could argue that Obama's church "worships things African to a far greater degree than they do Christ," Rush contends. Meanwhile, he says the writings and speech of Trinity United's pastor, Jeremiah Wright, appear to be more Marxist than Christian. Rush formed this opinion of Wright "after doing some digging and then seeing him appear on Fox News the night after I did," the columnist points out. He says he became convinced that the pastor's views are "nothing short of militant; and he complains about living in the United States of white America and ... talks about giving back to the black community, et cetera." Rush says "like the Nation of Islam, a white separatist church, or the Branch Davidians, Trinity United Church of Christ more resembles a cult than a church." Senator Obama's office did not return calls seeking comment.

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Department of Justice Seeks to Protect Religious Freedoms.

— A new program has been introduced by the U.S. Department of Justice to educate Americans about their religious liberties. During the past decade, complaints of religious

discrimination regarding employment practices rose 69 percent — which is one reason why the Justice Department has unveiled the "First Freedom Project." Wan Kim is assistant attorney general with the Justice Department's Civil Rights Division. He says not only will the First Freedom Project educate citizens about their religious rights and freedoms, but the initiative is being backed up with action. "We filed a brief in a case in New Jersey where, during a talent show, a girl was prohibited from singing the song that she wanted to sing to demonstrate her singing talents," Kim notes. "The song was 'Awesome God,' and the school censored her because of the religious content of that song," the assistant attorney general says. Now that's just out and out viewpoint discrimination," he says, "and we're fortunate that a federal judge agreed with us and allowed the girl to go forward free of that type of discrimination." Recently, Attorney General Alberto Gonzales asked Southern Baptist Convention leaders to help when it comes to identifying and reporting cases where the rights of Christians have been violated. Kim says there are many common issues that lead to discrimination against believers. "We see in many school districts across the country where school officials stop kids from

handing out candy canes with a religious message," the Justice Department official points out. "And they do so because they think that that's impermissible, when in fact just the opposite is true," Kim adds. "It's impermissible for them to bar that type of viewpoint from being disseminated — that's viewpoint discrimination. That's forbidden." As part of the First Freedom Project, the U.S. Department of Justice has set up a Web site, <http://www.firstfreedom.gov>, to provide information including how to file a religious discrimination complaint. Also, Attorney General Gonzales has said he plans to create a Religious Freedom Task Force to review religious discrimination cases and policies and help make people more aware of their First Amendment Rights.

* * *

Florida County Sued Over 10 Commandments Monument.

— Dixie County in Florida is being sued after allowing a local company to erect a Ten Commandments monument near the county courthouse. A spokesman for Liberty Counsel, the pro-family law firm representing the defendant, insists the county is within its rights, despite the American Civil Liberties Union legal challenge. The black granite Ten Commandments monument, which weighs about six tons,

was purchased by the Anderson Columbia highway construction company, donated to Dixie County, and placed near the courthouse in Cross City, Florida. In its lawsuit, the ACLU claims the monument is a violation of the Establishment Clause of the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution and has asked that the monument be removed.

* * *

Atheists Celebrate, Christians Lament Lawmaker's Stance On God.

— A U.S. Congressman has caused a stir by becoming the first member of the legislative body to declare himself not to believe in God. The announcement by Rep. Pete Stark (D-Calif.) was celebrated by atheist and humanist groups Tuesday, while one Christian group described his proclamation as "unfortunate." Stark, a member of Congress since 1973 and a senior member of the House Ways and Means Committee, made the unprecedented disclosure in response to an

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PASTOR . . .

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"The Holy Spirit does not flow through methods, but through men. He does not come on machinery, but on men. He does not anoint plans, but men — men of prayer." □

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inquiry by the Secular Coalition of America (SCA). Stark acknowledged that he was a Unitarian — a creedless system that does not require belief in a deity.

* * *

Ninth Circuit Decisions On Religion, Hate Speech To Be Appealed.

— Two controversial decisions by the 9th Circuit Court forbidding religious activities in public libraries and branding such terms as “natural family” and “marriage” as hate speech are being appealed to the U.S. Supreme Court, two conservative legal organizations have announced. The Alliance Defense Fund said this week it would appeal a ruling in a case denying a Christian ministry access to community meeting rooms that are open to other groups at a California library. Last Friday, the court declined to rehear the case after the ADF appealed an earlier decision favoring the library’s policy prohibiting “religious services.” Library officials should not be allowed to discriminate against Christian community groups by treating them differently than they treat other community groups,” said ADF Chief Counsel Benjamin Bull. “Once a library opens up a community room to the public,

it is then unconstitutional for librarians to discriminate against patrons.”

* * *

Gideons Will Press For Dismissal of Charges. — Two members of The Gideons International missionary organization who were arrested for handing out Bibles on a sidewalk outside of a public school are moving to have their cases dismissed in a Florida court. In their defense, the two men are making a case that they were simply exercising their right to free speech.

* * *

New Board Game Seeks to Debunk Theory of Evolution. — A board game that seeks to help educate players about the truth of biblical creation is now on the market. The game is called “Intelligent Design vs. Evolution” and was created by Ray Comfort and Kirk Cameron, hosts of the television show *The Way of the Master*. Comfort says the game is an entertaining way to teach Christians and atheists about the origins of life. He explains that the game is unique in that it uses brains to play the game — literally and figuratively — as each team moves around the board represented by a small rubber “brain.” “And the team with the most brains [at the

end of the game] wins,” says Comfort. “What we want to do is have the players use their [real] brains, because what I find about evolutionists is that is what they don’t use — their brains aren’t evolved properly, or something, because they don’t think very deeply,” he says. Explaining his comment further, Comfort says “an evolutionist thinks everything began with a big bang and there was no intelligent design behind it — [but] think about what a big bang does; it doesn’t produce order, it produces chaos.” Comfort explains that the game highlights the order behind a biblical view of creation. “Transitional form — that’s what it’s based on,” he says. “[According to the theory of evolution] there was a big explosion, then there was a mud puddle and up from the mud puddle came this amoeba and it grew hands and legs, and it started to crawl and then evolved into different creatures and it took millions of years. “The whole thing is absolutely ridiculous because there’s no transitional forms,” he states. “Creation itself shows every animal brings forth out of its own kind.” Reaction from atheists to the game has been strong, according to Comfort. “They really hate it. I took five or six of [their quotes and put them on our website] — they said things like, ‘If you think Bush is

bad, check out Comfort and Cameron’s new game — this is horrible.’ Real great quotes from atheists about the Evolution game,” he says. “We’re excited to have their endorsement,” he adds tongue-in-cheek. But most importantly, says the evangelist, the game is evangelistic — and can be used to tell others how to have a relationship with Christ.

* * *

Effort To Hide Homosexual Indoctrination Uncovered in Illinois School. — Concerned Women for America is blasting an Illinois high school for urging students not to tell their parents about its mandatory homosexual indoctrination program. Deerfield High School in Chicago has a class called “Freshman Advisory,” in which ninth-graders are required to attend a panel discussion led by the Gay-Straight Alliance Network. The panel features homosexual upperclassmen telling students about their sexual experiences. This year, students were required to sign a confidentiality agreement saying they would not tell anyone about the discussions, including their parents. Matt Barber, policy director for cultural issues at Concerned Women for America (CWA), says

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school officials showed complete disregard for the rights of parents and students who believe homosexuality is immoral. "This is just another example of activists within our public government schools — homosexual activists — circumventing parental authority, parents rights, in order to indoctrinate impressionable young children. They know the propaganda all too well," Barber asserts. "You get hold of the minds of these young people, and you spoon feed them your dogma and indoctrinate them," he says; "then you control the future, and you help to further the homosexual agenda."

* * *

U.S. Court of Appeals Rules Against Christian Freedom of Speech. — In an amazing (but not surprising) ruling this month, the very liberal 9th Circuit Court of Appeals in America concluded that words such as "marriage" and "family values" constitute hate speech that could frighten homosexual employees. The ruling restricts the right of free speech of Christian employers of the city of Oakland, California, arguing that "public employees are permitted to curtail employee speech as long as their legitimate adminis-

trative interests outweigh the employee's interest in freedom of speech" ("9th Circuit Endorses Censoring Christians," WorldNetDaily, March 8, 2007). The ruling was against two Oakland city employees who attempted to organize the "Good News Employee Association" as a forum for "people of Faith to express their views on the contemporary issues of the day with respect for the Natural Family, Marriage and Family values." This was in response to the continual assault of homosexual propaganda by Oakland's Gay-Straight Employees Alliance (GSEA), which is supported by the city. The GSEA is allowed to attack the Bible and to describe Christians as hateful in e-mails that are widely disseminated and on the city's bulletin board, but when some employees attempted to counter this propaganda they were ordered to cease and desist and their statement in favor of Family, Marriage and Family Values, which they had posted to the bulletin board, was deemed "homo-phobic" and a form of "sexual-orientation-based harassment." As we have often warned, when homosexuals are given their "rights," Bible-believing Christians lose theirs. The Pro-Family Law Center, which is defending the plaintiffs, has vowed to take the case to the Supreme Court. — FBIS

9th Circuit Again Tramples First Amendment Religious Speech.

— Liberty Counsel attorney Mary McAlister says another ruling by the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in California has gone against U.S. Supreme Court precedent. Last week, the 9th Circuit upheld the policy of a California public library that made meeting rooms available to the public for educational, cultural and community activities, but denied their use for religious services.

* * *

Oregon Teacher Fired for Bringing Bible Into Biology.

— Trying to get his students "thinking" by including biblical references in his high school biology lessons, a part-time school teacher in Central Oregon this week found himself without a job. Kris Helphinstine taught part-time at Sisters High School in Sisters, Ore., before the school board fired him after complaints that he had deviated from the school's curriculum on evolution. Helphinstine reportedly made references to Bible verses during his lessons. He was also said to have given a Power Point presentation linking the theory of evolution with Nazi Germany and Planned Parenthood. (Although the details of his presentation were not clear — Helphinstine could not be reached for comment this week —

he may have referred to the fact the founder of Planned Parenthood, Margaret Sanger, favored *eugenics* or "selective breeding," as did the Nazis.) Despite accusations that he was presenting a creationist view in his lessons, Helphinstine was quoted by Oregon's Bulletin newspaper as saying he "went out of his way not to teach it" and was only trying to make his students think in new ways. — CNS

* * *

Messianic Jews Persecuted In Israel.

— Persecution continues against Messianic Jews in Israel by ultra-orthodox Jews, the modern-day Pharisees who are still enraged that any Jew would believe in Jesus as the Messiah. The following is excerpted from "Messianic Jew Attacked, Arrested in Israel," Baptist Press, March 14: "The arrest of a Messianic Jewish evangelist in Israel reflects the strife that often confronts Messianic Jews despite Israel's guarantees of religious liberty and without any repercussion from law enforcement officials, the leader of a Messianic congregation told Baptist Press. Messianic evangelist Eddie Beckford was arrested outside his business, the Chess and Bible Shop in Arad, after a mob of ultra-Orthodox

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Haradim Jews surrounded his van in the parking lot and beat him Feb. 25. Beckford's arrest followed a call to police when the confrontation with the ultra-Orthodox mob broke out. The Haradim complained that Beckford attacked them, according to an e-mail from Beckford's wife Lura. '[The police] blame us for the disturbances the Haredim cause,' Lura Beckford wrote in a message posted at israelprayer.com. 'They tell us, If you weren't here, we wouldn't have to deal with this trouble. So, they arrested Eddie and put him in leg irons and took him to jail. They completely ignored the Bedouin's testimony that Eddie did nothing and the Haredim attacked him. He spent the night in a small filthy cell with five other men, and in the middle of the night they transferred him to another filthy cell,' Lura added. 'I had the privilege of being hit by the chief rabbi of Arad. Why? Just because I believe in Y'shua as the Savior of the Jewish people and the world,' she wrote. 'A visiting friend of ours, has been terribly harassed while giving out literature, including being beaten and spit upon. All this because we have committed the crime of being believers.' Beckford's arrest preceded the introduction of a bill by an Orthodox political party

seeking to sentence proselytizers in Israel to one year in prison." — FBIS

* * *

Homosexuals In France To Appeal Legality of Their "Marriage" To European Court. — Two French men who were "married" in June 2004 will appeal the legality of their relationship to the European Court of Human Rights now that it has been declared void by France's highest court. The homosexuals were "married" in a ceremony officiated by Noel Mamere, the mayor of the town of Begles. The French Supreme Court ruled that "under French law, marriage is a union between a man and a woman" and refused to try to make law from the judicial bench. Mamere claims that in performing the ceremony he was enforcing the European Convention for Human Rights which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex. It will be interesting to see what the European Court rules in this case, seeing that France is a member of the European Union. — FBIS

* * *

BBC World Service In Arabic. — The British Broadcasting World Service is planning to start an Arabic television service this fall. It has been broadcasting in Arabic on

the radio for more than 60 years and has a large audience, but it is very anti-Western. Frank Stewart, a professor of Islamic and Middle Eastern Studies at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, warns: "For example, that a 50-minute BBC Arabic Service discussion program about torture discussed only one specific allegation, which came from the head of an organization representing some 90 Saudis imprisoned at Guantanamo. This speaker stated that the prisoners were subject to horrible forms of torture and suggested that three inmates reported by the United States to have committed suicide were actually killed. Another participant insisted that the two countries guilty of torturing political prisoners on the largest scale were Israel and the United States. The authoritarian regimes and armed militants of the Arab world get sympathetic treatment on BBC Arabic. When Saddam Hussein was in power, he was a great favorite of the service, which reported as straight news his reelection to a seven-year term in 2002, when he got 100 percent of the vote. President Bashar al-Assad of Syria enjoys similar favor. When a State Department representative referred to Syria as a dictatorship, his BBC interviewer immediately interrupted and reprimanded him. The Arabic

Service not only shields Arab leaders from criticism but also tends to avoid topics they might find embarrassing: human rights, the role of security forces, corruption and censorship. ... If the BBC models its Arabic television service on its Arabic radio service, yet another anti-Western anti-democratic channel will find its place on the Arab screen" ("Bad News for the US," Frank Stewart, New York Times). — FBIS

* * *

Islamic Terrorist Attacks In America. — The following is excerpted from The Berean Call, March 9, 2007: "While it is true that in the US the danger of home-grown jihadists to national security is lower than it is in Britain, it is also true that there is a growing phenomenon of jihadist violence being perpetrated by Muslim men against American civilians in the name of jihad. The Investors Business Daily published an editorial enumerating a partial list of acts of terrorism carried out by Muslim men against their fellow Americans since the September 11 attacks. Most recently, Sulejman Talovic entered a shopping mall in Salt Lake City, murdered five and wounded four unsuspecting shoppers before being killed by an off-duty police officer. As was the case

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when Derrick Shareef, another Muslim male, was arrested in early December for plotting to carry out a similar attack at a shopping mall in Illinois just before Christmas, the media and the law enforcement agencies covering the Salt Lake City massacre have made light of the fact that the perpetrator was a Muslim. While Talovic is dead and so cannot explain his motives to authorities, Shareef was arrested after telling an FBI informant of his plans to murder Jews specifically and Americans in particular for Allah. As Shareef told the informant, 'I swear by Allah man, I'm down for it too. I'm down for the cause. I'm down to live for the cause and die for the cause, man.' [Yet upon] announcing Shareef's arrest, US Federal Prosecutor Patrick Fitzgerald insisted that he was acting on his own and that he had no outside inspiration for his decision to commit mass murder for Allah. As was the case with Talovic and with Naveed Afzal Haq, who murdered one woman and wounded five during his shooting rampage at the Seattle Jewish Federation last July, the media and federal authorities have hushed up and failed to investigate the jihadist motives for the Illinois attacker or link him to any larger phenomenon." — FBIS

Mississippi Passes What-If Abortion Bill.

— The governor signed a bill Thursday that would criminalize abortion in the event that the U.S. Supreme Court overturns the 1973 decision that legalized the procedure. The measure, signed by Gov. Haley Barbour, would ban nearly all abortions in the state if the court were to overturn Roe v. Wade. In that event, anyone performing an illegal abortion in Mississippi would face one to 10 years in prison. The bill also tightens consent laws for minors and requires abortion providers to perform a sonogram and give the pregnant woman an opportunity to listen to a fetal heartbeat. The only exceptions to the state ban would be in cases of rape or if the pregnancy threatened the woman's life. The bill has no exception for pregnancies caused by incest. — AP

* * *

German Judge Stirs Protest By Citing Quran.

— A German judge has stirred a storm of protest by citing the Quran in turning down a German Muslim's request for a speedy divorce on the ground that her husband beat her. In a ruling that underlines the tension between Muslim customs and European laws, the judge, Christa Datz-Winter,

noted that the couple came from a Moroccan cultural milieu, in which it is common for husbands to beat their wives. The Quran, she wrote in her decision, sanctions such abuse.

* * *

Oklahoma Senate Prohibits Use Of State Funds For Abortions.

— Taxpayer dollars in the Sooner State soon may no longer be used to kill unborn children, thanks to the efforts of a pro-life Republican state senator and his colleagues in Oklahoma City. The Oklahoma Senate has made history by passing a bill that prohibits the use of state funds, facilities, or employees to perform abortions. Republican Senator James Williamson of Tulsa, who wrote the bill, explains the legislation is historic "because it's the first time in the 30 years I've been involved in the Legislature that we actually were able to get a pro-life bill out of the Senate, through the committee process, and over to the House." Williamson says this bill had to be passed because many taxpayers in the state do not want to pay for the killing of unborn children. "The main point that we're trying to deal with is the use of state taxpayer dollars to ... abort the unborn, and we're trying to stop that," the long-time state lawmaker says. "My

pro-life constituencies and [because of] my personal beliefs, we cannot support that use of taxpayer dollars." Williamson says taxpayers should also be outraged that the federal government funds Planned Parenthood, the world's largest abortion-provider. — ONN

* * *

Pregnant Pageant Winner Quitting Scandal Grips Miss Jamaica.

— The decision by Miss Jamaica World 2006 to give up her crown rather than have an abortion has sparked a row over 23-year-old Sara Lawrence, a safe-sex advocate who placed sixth in the Miss World pageant last year. Lawrence, who also won the Miss World Caribbean title and is the first Miss Jamaica to lose her crown, shocked the nation March 13 when she announced she was pregnant. Her statement said she had "taken a deeply personal decision to face up to my responsibilities as one who expects to become a mother later this year" and added: "I believe . . . it is my moral obligation to do what I believe to be ethically correct and follow what I believe in my heart to be right." Miss Jamaica World pageant authorities called her pregnancy the result of "an error of judgment" and raised the

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issue of abortion in this way: "There was another way out of the predicament that Sara found herself to be in, and many, perhaps most, young women would have chosen that path." Mickey Haughton-James, the pageant promoter, praised Lawrence. "As is typical of her, she is doing so in a forthright manner, with class and in keeping with her moral dictates," he said. — Miami Herald.

* * *

Parents Banned From School's Homosexual Seminar. — A Massachusetts pro-family activist is angered because parents were barred from observing a homosexual indoctrination seminar at a high school his child currently attends. Newton North High School in Newton recently hosted "ToBGLAD," an acronym for "Transgender Bisexual Gay and Lesbian Awareness Day." Brian Camenker of the group Mass-Resistance says he was told by the school's principal that no parents were allowed to attend the all-day lectures and workshops facilitated by homosexual activists. Camenker, who currently has a child attending the school, calls the event "ghastly," noting students were told that homosexual acts are natural and were en-

couraged to get involved in homosexual student clubs. "They also apparently had discussions on transgenderism. Apparently a girl who had her breasts removed and is now a 'boy,' supposedly because this girl apparently has been taking hormones and now grown facial hair, gave a lecture," he says. — ONN

BILL . . .

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His letter told the governor the bills will: Violate the very moral and ethical foundations of our culture.

Restrict the rights of our citizens to make moral distinctions and to speak freely.

Disregard fundamental biblical guidelines for the sanctity of traditional family.

Promote dysfunctional family structures that will rob the next generation.

Ignore the overwhelming vote of Oregonians to preserve traditional marriage.

Discriminate against parents raising mentally and physically challenged adult children.

Provide special rights for a few and ignore the civil rights of the majority of Oregonians.

Discriminate against parental moral values and convictions.

Promote behaviors that clearly violate common sense and social stability.

Will create a huge strain on Oregonians economi-

cally.

Will elevate the already taxed judicial system in dealing with lawsuits over these issues.

Infringe on the constitutional protection of the free exercise of religion.

John Fortmeyer, publisher of the Christian News Northwest reported that the Legislature has given the appearance of allowing public input, but it doesn't appear to impact any decisions.

Nick Graham of the Oregon Family Council told him a March hearing on the plan lasted seven hours and had 126 people register to oppose it. Sixty-five supported it.

"We had fantastic testimony in opposition, such as from legal firms and executive pastors," Graham said. "But to no avail, that evening, the bill was passed

out of committee and sent to the floor of the Senate ... We were given the appearance of public input, but ultimately it meant nothing."

"Also, PRAY!" said a message from Marks to the church group's pastors. "This is possibly the most dangerous piece of legislation to come from Oregon's legislature." The **Constitution Party** said the plan is a "recipe for civil war."

"Everyone should read this legislation. It clearly gives those who choose non-traditional sexual behavior preference over those with traditional moral values," said state Chairman Jack Brown. "This legislation will lock religious people inside their church buildings and let perversion occupy the rest of the landscape. □

My Bible

This Holy Book I'd rather own
Than all the gold and gems
That e'er in monarch's coffers shone,
Than all their diadems.
Nay, were the sea one chrysolite,
The earth one golden ball,
And diamonds all the stars of night,
This Book outweighs them all

Ah, no, the soul ne'er found relief
In glittering hoards of wealth:
Gems dazzle not the eyes of grief:
Gold cannot purchase health.
But here a blessed balm appears
To heal the deepest woe.
And those who read this Book in tears,
Theirs tears shall cease to flow.

BODY . . .

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as a child's finger, like the greater sciatic nerve which passes down the back of the thigh and leg.

Nerve centers are the gray bodies to which nerves belong and which are necessary to the life of the fibres. The name signifies a collection of cells whose fibers form nerves having a special function, or which preside over a group of movements. Another name given to a definite collection of gray cells is *ganglion*. It will be understood that *sensory* nerves transmit impressions from various parts of the body to the centers which receive them while *motor* nerves transmit orders from centers to muscles. It is common to speak of motor nerves as running down, while sensory nerves run up, referring of course to the spinal cord and brain.

The *Spinal Cord* lies within the spinal canal in the spinal column, being continuous with the brain. It extends from the base of the skull to near the end of the vertebrae, where it shades off into a fine terminal filament which continues into the sacral region. The cord is 17 or 18 inches long, about three-quarters of an inch in diameter, and weighs less than two ounces. The interior of the cord is grayish in color, while the outside is white. A *Central Canal* runs through the

center of the gray portion, and contains cerebro-spinal fluid. The spinal cord has three distinct coverings or membranes: the first, delicate and closely applied to the surface, known as the *Pia Mater*. Outside of this is another membrane covered with cells which secrete a fluid like serum. This covering is called the *arachnoid* (web-like). The fluid within it protects the cord from friction and vibration. The outer covering is called the *Dura Mater*, and is a strong *white fibrous* membrane, tubular in shape, in which the cord is closely suspended. It is attached above to the opening at the base of the skull, known as the foramen magnum — large opening.

The space between the dura and arachnoid is the subdural space; that between the arachnoid and pia is the subarachnoid space — both containing cerebro-spinal fluid. The membranes are also called the meninges and their blood vessels are the meningeal vessels. *Spinal Meningitis* is inflammation of the coverings of the cord.

When *Lumbar Puncture* is performed, a hollow needle penetrates the space between the dura and the arachnoid — the sub-dural space in order to draw off a certain amount of cerebro-spinal fluid.

Spinal Nerves issue from the cord, thirty-one pairs of them, each with a posterior sensory root

carrying impulses *to* the center, and an anterior motor root, carrying impulses *from* the center. It follows then that injury to the posterior portion will cause paralysis of sensation and injury to the other, paralysis of motion. As these nerves are *mixed* nerves, injury to them, unless very minor and localized, will bring about loss of both motion and sensation in the parts to which the nerve belongs.

I am passing over many marvelous features of these nerves, since an understanding of them is somewhat difficult without going into considerable detail, and this is not the purpose of these articles. However in the next article I shall take up several very interesting phenomena which I am sure are very much worth while. Then we shall discuss the brain and some of its wonders.

An irritated nerve cell has the power to communicate news of its condition to its center. This center is always listening and invariably responds to the limit of its ability so as to bring relief or make possible the successful carrying out of functions for which the organ to which the nerve is attached has been placed in the body. Without this ability to communicate with one another there would be speedy disaster.

How this reminds us of our dependence on our Heavenly Father, who

“knoweth our frame and remembereth that we are dust” (Psa. 103:14). Not only does He know all about our physical condition and need, but He knows every thought and hears every word. The 139th Psalm puts it this way: “O Lord, Thou hast searched me and known me. Thou knowest my downsitting and mine uprising. Thou understandest my thought afar off ... and art acquainted with all my ways. For there is not a word in my tongue but, lo, O Lord, Thou knowest it altogether. Thou hast beset me behind and before, and laid Thine hand upon me. Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is high, I cannot attain unto it ... How precious also are thy thoughts unto me, O God; how great is the sum of them! If I should count them, they are more in number than the sand: when I awake, I am still with thee.”

We are able to communicate our needs to Him in thought and in the spoken word. We are able to know His will, not through any audible voice from Heaven; but the Holy Spirit who dwells within us can bring to us the knowledge of the will of God for us. The sensitive voice of conscience bring us warning and admonition and God especially speaks to us through His Word. The trouble is we are to dull of hearing, partly because we

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Procter and Gamble Wins \$19 Million Suit

For those who needed any more reasons to discount the decades-old rumor that one of America's largest and oldest consumer-products companies was in league with Satan, a federal jury recently provided about 19 million of them.

The Procter and Gamble Co. announced March 19 a jury had awarded it \$19.25 million in damages, after a trial in the Utah Federal District Court. The jury entered the judgment against distributors for the Amway Corp., another household-products firm that competes with Procter and Gamble, for spreading the rumors about satanic affiliations with the company.

The case began in 1995 when four Amway distributors circulated a message via a company voice mail system with the false claim that Procter and

Gamble had donated some profits to the Church of Satan. Although Amway soon retracted the rumor, the messages made their way to hundreds of Amway clients, who further spread the false claim.

Procter and Gamble, makers of Ivory soap, Tide laundry detergent and a host of other household products, sued the distributors and Amway. While Amway successfully argued it had acted quickly to quash the rumors, the jury found they had, nonetheless, likely cost Procter and Gamble millions in lost sales.

It's not the first time the company has gone to court to defend itself against devilish rumors.

Since at least the early 1980s, stories have spread about Procter and Gamble's supposed association with Satanism. Many focused on the company's

logo, which features a crescent man-in-the-moon image, facing leftward over a field of 13 stars against the night sky. The Web site snopes.com, which investigates urban legends, debunked any satanic symbolism in the logo.

Procter and Gamble was founded by two businessmen who began selling soap and candles in 1837. The moon-and-stars logo was introduced to mark boxes of Procter and Gamble candles in 1850. By the 1860s, it was used on all the firm's products and letterhead.

The company filed similar lawsuits — some of which also were against Amway distributors — in the 1980s.

According to snopes.com, the rumor reappeared in the mid-1990s in a different form, alleging that Procter and Gamble's CEO had appeared on a talk show and mentioned that the company contributed to the Church of Satan. That rumor also proved false.

The company has several pages on its Web site devoted to debunking the sinister rumor. — ABP

BODY . . .

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do not like to be reproved. So we close our ears to the "still, small voice," and refuse the guidance which would lead us in the right way.

This precious communion between God and man is mysterious but very real. Those who have experienced it have come to know *the voice*, and have reveled in the thrilling companionship with the Almighty, which has been made possible through the infinite might and love of God. He is our Creator; also He is our Protector. "Many are the afflictions of the righteous but the Lord delivereth him out of them all. He keepeth all his bones: not one of them is broken (Psa. 34:19-20).

Have you experienced this two-way system of communication? Does it appear foolish and impossible to you? It *is* impossible, if you are not a Christian. One who is not a child of God cannot experience this fellowship, because he is not permitted to enter the "inner circle." That secret place is only for those who have become "new creatures in Christ Jesus." We do not require nerves of connective tissue or wires of steel to reach God. We can touch Him instantly with an unspoken thought and the astonishing thing is that *He hears*.

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How God Changed A Bit of Mud

A learned "higher critic" spoke scornfully about God's taking "a piece of mud in hand, breathing on it, and changing it into a man."

There sat one in his audience who knew the saving grace of God. He

had the opportunity of replying to the critic of God's Word, and said:

"I will not discuss the creation of man with you, but I will tell you this: God stooped down to our town and picked up the dirtiest bit of

mud in it. He breathed upon it by His Spirit; it was newly created; changed from a wicked wretch into a man who hated his former sins and loved the God who had saved him. I was that bit of mud." □



Napoleon's Tribute To Christ

A keen student of human nature, Napoleon confessed: "Between Christ and whoever else in the world there is no possible term of comparison. I know men, and Jesus Christ is not a man. Superficial minds see a resemblance between Christ and the founders of empires and the gods of other religions. That resemblance does not exist. There is between Christ and all other religions whatsoever the distance of infinity; from the first day to the last He is the same, always the same, majestic and simple, infinitely firm and infinitely gentle."

Once on St. Helena he turned to a friend with the inquiry, "Can you tell me who Jesus Christ was?" Receiving no reply, Napoleon said, "Well, then, I will tell you." Whereupon he made this memorable statement:

"Alexander, Caesar, Charlemagne, and I have founded great empires, but upon what did these creations of our genius depend? Upon force! Jesus

alone founded His empire upon love, and to this very day millions would die for Him ... I think I understand something of human nature, and I tell you all these were men and I am a man. None else is like Him. Jesus Christ was more than a man ... I have inspired multitudes with such a devotion that they would have died for me, ... but to do this it was necessary that I should be visibly present, with the electric influences of my looks, of my words, of my voice. When I saw men and spoke to them I lighted up the flames of self-devotion in their hearts ... Christ alone has succeeded in so raising the mind of man toward the unseen that it becomes insensible to the barriers of time and space.

"Across a chasm of eighteen hundred years Jesus Christ makes a demand which is, above all others, difficult to satisfy. He asks for that which a philosopher may often seek in vain at the hands of his friends, or a father of his

children, or a bride of her spouse, or a man of his brother. He asks for the human heart, He will have it entirely to Himself. He demands it unconditionally, and forthwith His demand is granted.

"Wonderful! In defiance of time and space, the soul of man with all its powers becomes an annexation to the empire of Christ. All who sincerely believe in Him experience that remarkable supernatural love toward Him. This phenomenon is unaccountable; it is altogether beyond the scope of man's creative powers. Time, the great destroyer, it is powerless to extinguish the sacred flame; time can neither

exhaust its strength nor put a limit to its range. This it is which strikes me most.

"I have often thought of it. This it is which proves to me quite conclusively the divinity of Jesus Christ."

BODY . . .

(Continued from page 23)

Listen! "And it shall come to pass that before they call, I will answer; and while they are yet speaking, I will hear." Would you like to hear His voice? Would you like to be able to call Him Father? There is but one way, and Jesus is the Way. Will you come? HE'S WONDERFUL!

[Next month: "The Spinal Cord."] □

For Sale

One Cross, nearly new. I cannot carry it and keep up with the world and its crowd.

One Talent, new except slightly shelf worn. It has been laid away in a napkin for years.

One five-piece set of Armour. All pieces are in good shape, only needs polishing.

One bundle of Christian Opportunities. Contained in this bundle is one of the greatest opportunities in the world, that is going to my church every Sunday. Another one is the opportunity of being a soul winner. I seldom use these opportunities, so have decided to let them go in

this sale.

One badly used Christian Influence. Buyer may be able to repair this influence if handled carefully.

One group of old records of my conversations where I have been gossiping about my fellow Christians. These records will be good to play Sunday morning when you decide to stay at home from church.

The above mentioned items are stored in the basement of my home, located on the corner of Careless Avenue and Neglect Street.

— Signed: A Lota Christians. □