

CSA News

The Creation Science Association for Mid-America

"It is better to trust in the Lord than to put confidence in man" Psalm 118:8

Volume 22 (1) Jan - Feb, 2005

CSA Completes 21st Year

In 2004, CSA conducted seventeen Creation Safaris, twelve monthly meetings, several seminars and numerous individual talks, attended by hundreds. We began posting events on the Web only a couple months ago, so the list is incomplete for 2004, but will give you some idea of our activities.

One of the most exciting developments is seeing the growth of new and future CSA leaders. We began in 1983 with six. Three dropped out shortly and one left town leaving only two of the founders. This left a serious void and lots of work for a few years. But perseverance of those and faithfulness of the Lord turned that all around. Besides Larry Rink and Tom Willis, the Lord also added (in rough order):

- Ken Carlson (a fuels consultant),
- Bob Farwell (a High School science teacher),
- Glenn Kailer (a pastor),
- Cal Myers (a Medical physicist/consultant/educator),
- Doug Dexheimer (a power systems consultant),
- Bruce Scoggan (an engineer),
- Mark Matthews (an environmental specialist with a degree in nuclear engineering),
- Mary Jefferson (teacher and student of archaeology and Egypt),
- Lynn Lemons (an avid student of pre-colonial America),
- Mark McCalmon (a financial consultant),
- Others made contributions but are currently inactive.

This is only a list of those who have prepared seminar and/or meeting presentations. It does not include those who have helped in many other ways.

With this list of speakers, CSA expects even more in 2005 than in previous years. We should be able to fill virtually any requests for teaching or seminars. We hope to sponsor some large seminars, including one conducted jointly by CSA and the Institute for Creation Research.

We must be candid about one concern. Financial support of many ministries has slumped considerably and CSA is no exception. We have never sent out envelopes or countless reminders to support our work, yet the Lord has always provided. Now I feel compelled to inform you that, for the first time ever, we finished 2003 and 2004 in the red. We have tried to develop a list of possible reasons. One item is the sustained attack on young earth creationism within Christianity itself. It is fascinating that, just at the time when we have God's enemies on the run in their last bastion, an old earth, the supposed believer community has produced an extensive list of "Biblical and scientific" arguments for why the church should cave in to the world on this crucial issue. While I am not certain attack from "Christian" old earthers is the sole, or even the main, reason for reduced financial support, I did choose to devote an article to this subject in this issue of CSA News because the problem is a serious threat to the cause of Christ.

Your help with the financial issue would be greatly appreciated.



CSA Creation Safaris for 2005

Fun, Educational, Recreational, God-Honoring

By the time you receive this CSA News, the last Creation Safari for 2004 will be over. The Lord willing, Creation Safaris for 2005 will be announced on the Web in January and be summarized in the March - April CSA News which you should receive about February 15. Meanwhile, the 2004 Safari Info on the Web will reasonably represent the Safaris for 2005.

See www.csama.org - "Safaris," call, write or e-mail.

Christmas in America

How Should We Then Live?

By Tom Willis

There has been much ado in Christian circles lately about the ACLU, public schools, courts, etc. eliminating Nativity scenes, and/or various monuments or plaques containing the Ten Commandments. Likewise, there has been concern about "hate crime" laws in which people are to be punished for verbalizing something regarded by the world as "hateful." An example of the latter was a Canadian pastor punished by the state for preaching that homosexuality is a sin.

These concerns imply that God will not honor nations that do not honor Him. Strangely omitted by the Christian leaders raising the decibel level so high is the fact that God tends to punish the guilty, not the innocent, as amply illustrated by the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah with no harm to Lot (Genesis 13-19).

Consider Nativity scenes. Half of Americans claim to be Christians, but you can drive for miles viewing "Christmas trees," millions of lights, Santa Claus, red-nosed reindeer, snow men, and sundry other "Christmas" junk, all of which have nothing to do with the incarnation of God. But you will see precious few Nativity Scenes, and virtually no narratives of the incarnation much less its meaning displayed on the private property of ministries, churches or individuals.

Ministries, families and countless churches have "Christmas" gift exchanges. These enjoy not one whit of Biblical support. The gifts at the birth of Jesus were given to Jesus. Jesus taught us a simple way to repeat this tradition. Give gifts to "the least of these," thus giving them to Jesus. I doubt very seriously that Jesus had in mind more presents for the top 1% of richest kids in the world. Only a modest percent of these ministries, churches and families will organize significant efforts to give meaningful gifts to those who are truly among "the least of these."

All the heat generated by the removal of the Ten Commandments from a courthouse is also instructive. I feel confident that what I am about to say will also generate a lot of heat. Consider, for example, “psychologist and author, Dr. James Dobson” the one who made the most noise about the removal of the Ten Commandments from a courtroom. If Christians are really concerned about keeping the Ten Commandments before the world, why is not a copy on display in front of millions of Christian ministries, churches and homes? I suggest that, like Dobson, most don’t even believe the Ten Commandments!

*“Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days shalt thou labor, and do all thy work: But the seventh day is the sabbath of the LORD thy God: in it thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates: **For [because] in six days** the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day: wherefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day, and hallowed it.” (Exodus 20:8-11 KJVA)*

This passage clearly certifies the obvious six-day reading of Genesis 1, indicating we work six days and rest one because God did that, therefore he blessed and hallowed the seventh. Since the late 1700’s, “theologians” have scrambled to outdo each other in encouraging compromise with the abominable “science” of Hutton and Lyell. See our meetings for Jan and Feb, 2005.

Dobson says he is fascinated by astronomy, which gives him license to “reject the commandment of God, that ye may keep your own tradition.” (Mark 7:9)

Hank Hanegraaff says he is a young earther half the week and an old earther the rest, helping explain why his exegesis of Genesis in Statement DA060 qualifies him as a grammar school exegete. He claims that “yom” is used in a “poetic manner” in Genesis 2:4 (it is not, it just clearly means a time period as it, and the English word “day,” often do). Ignoring the 2200+ occurrences of “yom” where there is no disagreement, Hanegraaff assumes freedom to interpret each “yom” as he pleases. This “evidence” allows him to conclude the Bible agrees with what “modern geology affirms.” He (falsely) claims that Genesis genealogies are agreed by even most young earthers to show lines of descent not strict chronology. Presumably God inserted a double-entry bookkeeping system with explicit numbers of years just to affirm the numbers really don’t mean anything. He implies that only Bishop Ussher believed God taught history accurately and that the notion of a young earth is only “as some evangelical scientists and theologians are now maintaining.” When did Luther, Calvin and D. James Kennedy become “evangelicals?” Also, Ussher stands as a giant among Christian scholarship, Hanegraaff coming roughly to the top of Ussher’s toes.

John Ankerberg abolishes six day creation with exegesis like Hebrews 4:3-5 says that God is still resting on the seventh day, therefore the six days are also long, making a mockery of Exodus 20:11 above. He also asserts other “evidence” like the use of “yom” in Genesis 2:4 as a period of time. He quietly overlooks the obvious fact that he knows what it means by the context, just as we do the other 2200 uses of “yom.” But nowhere does Biblical context give him billions of years.

He seals a long list of profoundly “Biblical” arguments with a list of four “Scientific Evidence for Long Days in Genesis,” which includes only four brief phrases that he doesn’t even discuss. It would take a blindfolded creationist, with both hands and feet bound, about 5 minutes to dispose of that “scientific evidence.” Ankerberg’s 84 endnotes refer mostly to atheist and agnostic works, a few Deist and old-earth Christians, and one

young earth Christian, apparently because the book did not treat the age of the earth, but did agree with Ankerberg.

Dr. Norman Geisler blithely asserts, “The old earth view seems to fit the evidence better and causes no problem with the Bible.” One wonders if Geisler ever read Genesis 1 and compared the order of appearance to the order in the so-called “geologic column.” Fact: “Old earth Christianity” creates serious problems with real science. Consider a billion years of mutations. Life, rather than being nearly perfect, would be gone from the earth.

Each of these proponents of an old earth seem willfully ignorant that the global floods of Genesis 1 and 7 destroy the “scientific evidence of modern geology” for an old earth. A local flood must ignore the text. They also conveniently omit the fact that all New Testament references affirm a six day/young earth/global flood reading of OT history, e.g., Matt 1, Matt 24:38,39, Luke 3, Luke 17:26,27, 2 Peter 2:5, Gal 3:17, Jude 1:14.

It is my conviction that **not one Bible passage can be honestly cited as requiring a long day or an old-earth interpretation.** The few that are cited by old earthers must be distorted to mean (as they routinely do 2 Peter 3:8), claimed to “allow,” or require the “science” of the claimant to support, an old earth. Example: Ankerberg twists Genesis 1:12 to mean that God created plants and they grew “from seeds to maturity” on the third day. With exegesis like that, we should believe God created Adam as a fetus and he grew to maturity on the sixth day so he would know, and be able, when he saw Eve, to say “wow” rather than “gurgle!” Such reasoning leads to the claim that too much happens on day six for a 24-hour day. Now we know what God meant when he said “It was very good” in Genesis 1:31. Adam could think much clearer and faster than Ankerberg!

For a list of charming “biblical” and “scientific” arguments supporting an old earth, and those who declare them, see: www.geocities.com/vr_junkie/NotableOldEarthCreatinists.htm.

Now, my point is **not** that these guys are all “bad guys,” that is God’s job. But, so many “leaders” of the church don’t support a solemn celebration of the incarnation, nor have a faith commitment to Genesis, or a sound reading of the Ten Commandments, that it seems silly to invite pagans to believe the Bible.

Pagans are doing exactly what is expected of them... behaving like pagans. Christians are supposed to be salt, not writers of pop bestsellers that agree with the world’s flimsiest convictions. Why should the pagan world take the Bible seriously when so many popular “Christian leaders” do not. Christmas has become a time to have parties, give gifts and shore up multi-million dollar ministries with multiplied book sales, rather than a time of celebration of the incarnation of the living God.

Rather than demanding that government support Christmas, it would be better if Christians kept a meaningful version of these before the world in their front yards, churches and ministries. If public display of God’s commands is so important, why are they not on display in front of one ministry or church in a thousand? It would be really nice if those agitating the loudest for government display of the Ten Commandments, actually believed and defended them. Regarding “hate crime laws,” what fantastic opportunities for the great theologians of megabuck ministries to organize hundreds of busloads of believers going to Canada to preach on the abomination of homosexuality and salvation exclusively in Christ. Golly, a giant hate-crime, a trip I would actually consider purchasing from a megabuck ministry.

Unrepentant pagans will get their due, but it may, as Newton suggested, again be time to nail a list of the largest problems in modern culture to the door of some other Churches.

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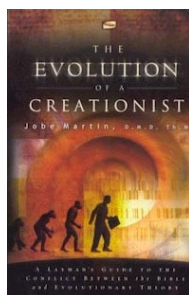
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The CSA Lending Library
(Librarian: Larry Rink)

8904 Mastin, Overland Park, Ks 66212, (913) 492-6545

Are You Participating in *CSA* As Much as You Should?

"The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few." Are you doing all the Lord has called you to do in the war for the minds and hearts of our citizens... especially our youth? *CSA* is not a closed fraternity. Any born-again believer who is abiding in the words of Jesus, and has been gifted in research, computers, speaking, clerical activities, writing of articles or book reviews, etc., and who has heard a call to serve in an origins ministry should consider and pray about serving with us. Write or call for more information.

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**The Creation Science Association
for Mid-America**

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CSA Monthly Meeting Location: Westbrooke Church 9898 West 95th, Overland Park, KS

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Fellowship & Book Table: 6:15PM - Meeting: 7:00PM Nursery Available: \$2.50 per child (Reservations required for nursery)

CSA Meeting - Tuesday, Jan 4, 2005

**The Age of the Earth
Using Radiometric Dating**

By: Tom Willis

By the 1850's, long before the invention of "radiometric dating," those hating God and those pretending to like God, but who invented their own version of God, had largely accepted the "proofs" of Hutton and Lyell that the earth was of virtually limitless age. The "science" of radiometric dating served them by "confirming" what they already believed. But, has "radiometric dating" really told us anything about the Age of the Earth, and what has it told us? It may come as a shock to many to learn that the most believable proofs from "radiometric" dating are that the earth must be very young.

[Order Video Special: A0244/V0244 \$14.00]

CSA Meeting - Tuesday, Feb 1, 2005

**The Age of the Earth
Using Geologic Formations & Processes**

by: Tom Willis

James Hutton, a Scottish farmer who failed at law and medicine, began in 1785, to expound his theory that rocks and formations were the result of continuous recycling over virtually infinite time. Charles Lyell, a British lawyer, who also seemed to never work for a living, began his campaign to unseat Moses as a competent historian, by "proving" that all geologic formations could be "explained" in terms of presently operating processes. These men, both with no formal training in geology, are virtually worshipped as the "fathers of Geology." Are any of their principal claims now, or were they ever, credible?

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