



CSA News

The Creation Science Association for Mid-America

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

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The Bible vs Darwin:

Why Creationists Are Wrong

A Hopefully Helpful Review of a Class Taught at
The Kansas City Center for Inquiry

by Tom Willis

This "class" was taught at the United Labor Building at 63rd and Rockhill Road, Kansas City, Mo. for 6 weeks during June and July, 1997. The class was conducted by the "Center for Inquiry," also called the "Skeptics Association," the "Evangelical Agnostics Association," and "Eupraxophy Center" (which supposedly means: The Good Life Without Religion).

The "textbook" was titled In the Beginning: A Scientist Shows Why Creationists Are Wrong by Chris McGowan, Curator in Charge of the Department of Vertebrate Paleontology at Toronto's Royal Ontario Museum and Associate Professor of Zoology at the University of Toronto, with a Ph.D. in Zoology from London University.

The class itself was on some six hours of videotape. The "instructor" was Michael Shermer, Ph.D., Director of the Skeptics Society and Adjunct Professor of History of Science at Occidental College. At the prodding of Mark Matthews, he, Glenn Kailer and I attended, though other commitments prevented me from attending three of six sessions. I took notes as rapidly as I could and though the text was unavailable at first, I finally purchased one for \$20.00. It is as shallow as the class.

Thoughts on the Class

The class was taught by a historian/philosopher from Occidental College, but throughout the class he stood behind a lectern with the sign "CAL TECH" emblazoned across the front. The fact he was neither "tech" nor connected with Cal Tech was not mentioned while I was there. About a dozen, usually less, attended, with about the same number in the class on video. The local moderator did a fairly good job of balancing video lecture with group discussion.

The class began with this statement: "Everything evolves, even Mickey Mouse." His proof was pictures of early and later versions of Mickey Mouse, early bicycles and later ones. He was not jesting. This is a frequent tool of teachers of evolution. They ask students to line up cars in evolutionary order. It never seems to occur to them that Mickey Mouse, bicycles and cars are products of intelligent design and manufacture. If words have any meaning at all, these are created objects. If objects, which result from acts of creation by one or more intelligent living beings, are not created, then words have no meaning and discussion cannot proceed.

In his opening remarks Shermer also stated categorically the old evolutionist shibboleth that "Darwin never said we came from apes," but from ape-like creatures. This statement, trumpeted by evolutionists the world over, demonstrates that they have never read Darwin. Darwin said it not once, but at

CSA Safaris Are Underway

Over 50 attended Fossil Hunt #1 in East KC. We found many great specimens, including ideal evidence a child could use to support belief in the flood. About 75 attended the Ha Ha Tonka Outing, though a minor injury shortened the stay of several. The general impression was that it was the best ever. Only 19 attended the Western Kansas outing, but the smaller group enabled us to all become better acquainted. The fellowship was sweeter and the opportunity to share ideas was better.

Coming up:

- KC Fossil Hunt #2 August 16
 - Astronomy Safari - Jupiter, Aug 29, 8:00PM
 - Ozark Cave Outing - Sept 20 - 21
 - Astronomy Safari - Saturn/Jupiter, Sept 26, 7:00PM
 - KATY Bike Trail (Mo. River Bluffs) - Oct 18
 - Astronomy Safari - Jupiter, Oct 24, 7:00PM
 - Squaw Creek Game Refuge & Fossil Hunt - Nov 22
- Call (816) 618-3610 or write for details

least twice, in published works (like The Descent of Man) that man descended from the "Southern Apes." In fact, that is why *Australopithecus* is the favorite name for our "ancestors," it means "Southern Ape."

He then gave an hour review of "Before Darwin." The most profound aspects of this review was that it went back less than a hundred years, yet evolution theory is at least 5,000 years old originating (apparently) in Babylon. To not even mention the hedonist classical poet Lucretius who wrote a 4-volume treatise on evolution complete, with life from the sea and man from ape (**over 2000 years ago**), in a history of evolution lesson, clearly marks the class as shallow.

Interestingly, in his entire "before Darwin" roster, the only **scientists** were creationists, and all of them opposed evolution (which he admitted). The others were a motley crew of lawyers, philosophers, canal builders and apostate theologians (e.g., Darwin).

He spent more than a little time promoting his support for a new book which claims to prove that whether you will or will not break with traditional ideas depends on your birth order.

In session 2 he breezed through Darwin's cruise on the H.M.S. Beagle. He seemed to be attempting to build a case for the idea that Darwin was in the process of converting from Christian to "truth" based on evidence. He covered in a sentence or two ideas like: *Earthquake dropped a few inches of sediment. Things are happening, but slowly.* [That may be true recently, but geologic evidence clearly indicates lots of earthquakes, volcanos and water produced **rapid deposition and erosion**]. *Penguins - are wings vestigial?* [See discussion of *vestigial organs* below]. *Sea Lions - cannot touch them or mother will abandon, playful. Darwin wrote a whole book explaining it* [Gee Whiz, and sports announcers explain why team A won and B lost. Whether their explanations are true is another

question]. *Frigate bird expands throat. Darwin wrote about sexual selection.* [Yes, Darwin had opinions on lots of things, but neither Darwin, nor the class connected the opinions to truth]. *Geographical isolation seems to have "created" different kinds, but how? Darwin's answer: "Descent with modification."* [Why not planned diversification and adaptation by an artful, wise and proficient creator? At least that is a sane explanation of how such complexity can arise. Cold weather does not construct warm fur unless a plan and mechanism is in place to build it]. *Dove has protective coloration, why?* [Evolutionists always make a big deal about protective coloration and beauty/behavior for sexual success. They never seem to connect with the fact that the most beautiful creatures have no protective coloration (parrots, red birds, etc.) yet they succeed, and they have been proven to mate correctly, even when painted brown. Furthermore, one of the most beautiful creatures, the Star of India, is a mollusk that cannot see its mate. Even if it could, it wouldn't see beauty because it doesn't become beautiful until it dies. This strongly indicates it's beauty serves someone other than mollusks].

One of the most interesting statements in this session was that the *"Origin of Species is a massive scientific book... very detailed... don't bother reading it."* Apparently the students had all dutifully obeyed, I was the only one who had read it. And I found it to be the worst reasoned piece of trash I had read, on a par with the poets and fiction writers I was required to read in High School, the philosophers in college, and the monthly comic section "This View of Life," by Stephen Gould of Harvard, in Natural History magazine. But think of it. **He actually advised his proselytes not to read the seminal book of their faith!!!**

While there were certainly other interesting points, space compels me to concentrate on those I consider most important:

First: the behavior of the attendees. As each introduced himself and his/her lack of scientific knowledge but commitment to evolution. I said I had two degrees in science and felt evolution was totally lacking in scientific support. Pandemonium broke loose. One jumped to his feet and screamed that he was a theologian for 40 years and the Bible doesn't even teach creation, and there are many conclusive proofs of evolution like vestigial organs. I asked him to name one. After a pregnant pause, I asserted that over a hundred were listed in the last century, but a purpose has been found for all. I then said that, if we do find one, it will be evidence for **Biblical Creation**, not evolution. Confused, he asked "How?" giving me time to say that the Bible speaks of a perfect creation followed by a curse which it describes as *"The Bondage to Decay."* A decayed organ is what one would expect from the Bible, not from evolution. He got much quieter and said "That's a good argument." I then asked him to show us how the Bible does not speak of creation. Next week he came with a list of Scriptures (as I suspected, the same ones used by Gap Theorists) that he said showed there were people and cities before Adam. I asked him privately to sit down and read them with me. He did. I simply suggested that the passage is "in a complex allegorical prophecy involving Satan and the King of Tyre. Your interpretation is a possible one, but strained. For example, Satan was in fact cast down before kings. But that does not mean the kings were there the instant he was cast down." He said he really enjoyed the conversation. He did not scream again that I recall. The same cannot be said for others.

One kept loudly asserting we were illogical, but never uttered a sentence illustrating his claim. Another sprinkled four-letter words among claims that we used science words but knew nothing about it. He also offered no explanation of his claim. Two others said they were frightened by us. Amazing! Jesus taught us to love your enemy and Darwin's disciples have murdered well over 100 million people in this century. But they were *frightened* by us. They were afraid of God, not us.

One Major Idea - How Evolution Wins in Court

The truly interesting session was an "inside story" about how evolutionists won the Supreme Court case involving the Louisiana Balanced Treatment for Creation Science Act. Purportedly we were getting private scoop on how Stephen Gould concluded they were being beaten badly, not by the attorney for the Creation statute, but by their own attorney and by Judge Rehnquist, who was making a fool of them. Gould, we were told, put together a small team and a strategy to win. They wrote a "Friend of the Court" brief which they got 72 Nobel winners to sign. The gist of the brief was: **a definition of science which excluded the supernatural, and demanded that all science be tentative**, i.e., a search for truth in which you never arrive at it! They then documented that the prominent creation scientists were all committed to the Bible and it's precedence over man's science. [Thus, you see, Creation Scientists have arrived at truth, therefore they cannot be scientists!] What the teacher did not say is that Byrd, supposedly **our** attorney, also shot himself in both legs. He built his entire case around the **totally false** idea that, "by *creation*, we merely mean *sudden appearance*." To which the opponent simply replied that he was unable to find that definition of *creation* in a dictionary. Byrd furthermore tried to avoid the religious implications of creation. The truth is that **Creation is not religion!** The Bible is clear that **"even demons fear and tremble,"** i.e., know that God exists, and that Jesus is God; but they do not worship him. Therefore, belief in the existence of God alone is not religion. Furthermore, just as the Bible claims in Romans I, Byrd should have argued that only a fool would know from the evidence that God exists, but refuse to serve him and place His Word above a passel of notions that, by definition, must change at least annually!!! Byrd may not have won the case with this argument, but he would not have made such a liar of himself, and by association, all of us connected with the cause.

Conclusions from The First Three Hours:

- 1 While the class itself was billed as "Why Creationists Are Wrong," the three hours I attended contained no significant attempt to even stab at this topic. A few claims were made, but only in passing.
- 2 The Historical overview of evolutionary thought was incredibly shallow, particularly when you consider it was conducted by a fellow who is supposedly an expert in the History of Science.
- 3 The behavior and intellectual arguments of the attendees of the class were roughly equivalent to the mob action during the French Revolution, or the Crucifixion of Jesus.
- 4 **Evolutionist thought remains today where it began: a desolate wasteland of scientific, spiritual and intellectual poverty.**
 - They have repeatedly demonstrated this poverty in public. For example, their public presentations are generally artfully designed to convey their *superior*

scientific (and even *moral*) stature. But, when confronted, they always resort to vehement attacks, rather than reasoned arguments. No matter how hard you try to help them, they cannot defend their positions with reason and evidence!

- The most profound concession of the poverty of their position was the admission they had to arrange a desperate last minute "Friend of the Court" shenanigan to win the Supreme Court battle over the Louisiana Statute. This strategy has, I believe important implications. **First: Evolutionists cannot win the battle on the scientific merits of their cause,** they must win it on diversions, like a distorted definition of *science*: "a search for truth but a refusal to find it," plus the hackneyed phrase "*separation of church and state*." They should not be allowed to maintain that the state must separate itself from truth! **Second: those "Creationists" who try to separate Creation from God** should be allowed to speak their piece, but sane Christians should realize that they do not represent truth, nor do they help the cause of truth by lying about our motives. My motive is to help people find and receive the truth that I believe I have. Henry Morris and many others are about the same business. **The cause cannot be helped by those who are afraid to stand for truth, nor does deceit build great legal arguments.**

5 The behavior of the class attendees, and the poverty of the evidence for evolution, you might suppose, sent us away with joy. It did not. Each of us left every class in a mood that a psychologist would call "depressed." Not because our position had been weakened. Rather, because we were (even though I have been in this work for over 16 years, even I was) appalled at the total poverty of the *proofs* offered by the enemies of God. Every time you encounter it, you are struck with amazement that apparently intelligent people can be so blind to the absurdity of their position. The only way I can describe my own feelings is to draw a parallel to the so-called *Triumphal Entry* of Jesus into Jerusalem. Only the parade participants and Bible footnotes call it a "*triumph*." **Jesus wept(!!!)**, not because of his coming pain, but because he knew that the *triumph* meant nothing to the countless citizens of Jerusalem who had rejected Him. Yes, **we had a "Triumphal Exit"** from the classroom, once again knowing they had nothing for us to fear. Still, like Jesus, we wept, knowing that most refused to be gathered under His wings.

6 In spite of bad manners, there probably were some victories. Several "students" One said he would attend our meetings (and did, bringing a friend), one secretly requested my phone number, and even one of the worst

early attackers showed promise of seeing some light. Please pray for these people... soon.

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by: Bob Farwell

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**Book of the Month:
The Leavening:
A New Age Primer for Christian Parents**

by: Willy Peterson

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

Two blocks East of 69 Highway (or Switzer) on North side of 95th

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

CSA Meeting Tuesday, Sept 2, 1997

The Basic Institute in Creation Science

The Age of the Earth

Evidence for a Young Earth

by: *Bob Farwell*

Charles Darwin often admitted in print that it was "evidence" for an old earth that had primarily caused him to discard his Bible. Of course, we suspect he was engaged in self-deception, nevertheless, claims for an old earth are a stumbling block for many. This is one of several sessions we do to help rectify this false notion. A professional teacher, Bob is thorough, entertaining, and communicates well with all ages.

The Advanced Institute in Creation Science

A Biblical Geological Model

A Video from the International Conference on Creation

by: *Tasman Bruce Walker, Ph.D.*

Another approach to resolving the supposed difficulties with the Bible and geology. (T94007)

CSA Meeting Tuesday, Oct 7, 1997

The Basic Institute in Creation Science

The Origin of Fossils & Rock Formations

or, The Myth of Uniformitarian Geology

by: *Tom Willis*

As stated for the September meeting, Darwin depended on age as his foundational apologetic for evolution, and he emphasized often that he owed all this brilliant new light to *Charles Lyell*, a gadfly British attorney whose disciples call "*The Father of Modern Geology*." Interestingly, while you can spend a lifetime and never figure out how all the rocks got the way they are, you can refute the major tenants of "*Modern Geology*" in practically no time at all. And you, like virtually all *modern geologists*, will not need to read any of Lyell's three volumes on the subject.

The Advanced Institute in Creation Science

Biblical Naturalism:

A Time for a Paradigm Change

A Video from the International Conference on Creation

by: *Robert W. Harsh, M.S.*

Harsh has toiled long and thoughtfully in the vineyard. A leader of the Pittsburgh Creation Science Foundation, his ideas are often fresh and generally merit thoughtful consideration. (T94008)

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