

# Think Believe

Discover Creation...Worship the Creator

A Publication of Alpha Omega Institute

July, August 2022; Vol. 40, No.4

## A Shocking Conversation with a Pastor

by Brian Mariani

**W**hile hiking in the Grand Canyon with Jackson Hole Bible College students, I heard one of the students talking with a gentleman on the trail. "I am an evolutionist," the man said, and that got my attention! As we talked with him, we were surprised to learn that he is a pastor of a church. While he agreed that the sequence of earth's development proposed by evolution doesn't fit with what's recorded in the Bible, he disagreed about how to read Genesis. He said that as Christians, we can believe different things, but the main point is that we love and care for others.

At this, we asserted that if people get the first chapters of the Bible wrong, it could drastically affect their understanding of everything else – especially the gospel. Our words seemed to make little impact until the student next to me asked a question that I hadn't even considered: "What about the resurrection of Jesus? How do we understand that?" I thought to myself, "That's kind of a silly question to ask. He's a pastor. Of course he'll believe in the resurrection – and that it matters."

His answer SHOCKED ME!!  
"Oh, the resurrection!" he said. "I

preached a sermon on that yesterday at my church. You know, different people have different beliefs about what is true and everyone has their own spiritual path. I work with Imams and Rabbis and as long as we all love and care for people...[that's what's important.]"

So basically, a pastor...with a congregation following his teaching... believes that Jesus' death and resurrection don't matter!! It soon became clear that his beliefs elevated man and disregarded the man's sin and God's holiness. To him, it didn't seem to matter what one believes about Jesus!

We asked him about John 14:6 where Jesus said, "I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me." Another student added 1 John 5:12, "He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life." To this, the pastor replied, "Well, some things in Scripture can be difficult to understand and there can be many ways to..."

We both politely, yet boldly, interrupted him and restated the above Bible passages. The pastor seemed to have a hard time with that

and appeared very resistant to accept what the Bible clearly states about the person and work of Jesus Christ.

For the sake of time and circumstance, we soon agreed to end the conversation and move on with our respective hikes. As I walked, I mulled over the fact that some people, even in positions of leadership, actually lead people astray (2 John, 2 Peter, Jude, etc.). In addition, I couldn't help but ponder our interaction and how we, as humans, are faced with a decision. Do we take God at His Word as it is clearly written or do we attempt to tweak God's Word to create a reality that is more accommodating or acceptable to the world?

We have to stand up boldly for the Word of God – especially Genesis. If the Bible is not completely reliable, then it brings up all kinds of questions. Why did Jesus die? Does He even matter?

Let me be clear: Yes! The Bible is True. It is Trustworthy. It is Reliable. There is evidence for that! Jesus died for my sins and for yours and He rose from the dead – conquering sin and death. Repentance and trust in Jesus' work on the cross is the only way for the forgiveness of sins. "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved..." (Acts 16:31). **AOI**



# Yellowstone Tour *by Dave Nutting*



We encourage you to bring your family on a faith-building creation tour of Yellowstone! If you have never been there, you will be amazed at this National Park. If you have been there, it may be time to go once again – this time to get the creation tour! Yellowstone is dynamic, so every time you go, you will likely have new and wonderful experiences!

**Some have asked about recent flooding.** Springtime flooding did catch national

news. However, according to Park information, both the north and south loops are now open. Yes, we are still planning Yellowstone tours for you! Also, we've received reports from sources close to us that their visit to Yellowstone in late June was "beautiful" with minimal amounts of people.

**Gas prices?** Don't let that keep you from coming. It should not be a game-stopper. Even if you have to pay \$2.00 per gallon more for gas, and live 500 miles away, the total extra cost for a round trip may only be

\$67 – \$100 (based on 30 and 20 mpg). Keep in mind, **your family is worth it!**

Before you go, make sure to download the Yellowstone Creation Tour App. AOI's app team, who did such a wonderful job developing the Colorado National Monument App, have done it again – this time for Yellowstone. To our knowledge, there is no other app available like this. See below for download info.

There is still room to join us, so register today! **AOI**

## Yellowstone App!

*by Mark Sonmor*

Yellowstone! Intriguing geysers, dazzling thermal pools, magnificent waterfalls, and virulent wildlife. There's something truly magical about this region – everything just feels more alive. There's no other place like it on earth.

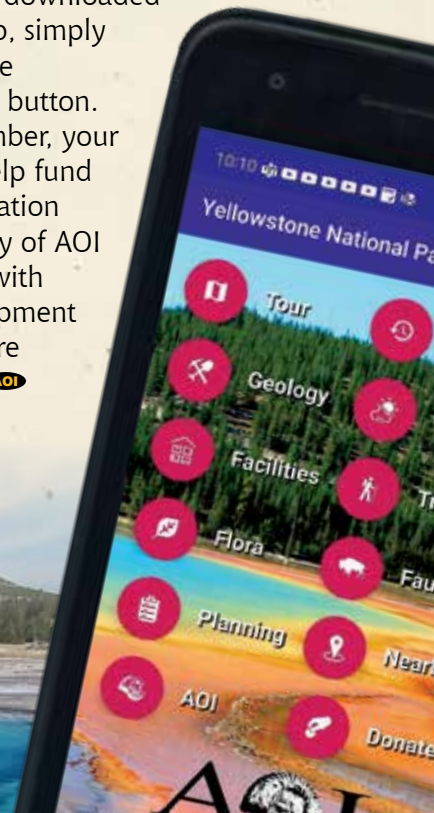
Although I have driven through Yellowstone several times, my understanding was limited to what I saw and the information offered by the parks service. I never understood what was happening on a grand scale and certainly not in the context of Creation and the Flood. By using AOI's amazing Yellowstone



Creation Tour App, I believe you'll expand your knowledge and gain an even deeper appreciation for the park. Not only will you receive creation-

based responses to standard, mainstream geology's explanations, but information regarding hikes, area history, and design features of local flora and fauna.

Whether going in person or just taking the virtual tour from your armchair, you'll see truly amazing views and gain an immense amount of creation knowledge. The app is keyed to GPS and features a hands-free voice mode. It is available from [www.DiscoverCreation.org/Yellowstone-App/](http://www.DiscoverCreation.org/Yellowstone-App/) for \$1 plus a donation of any amount. Once you've downloaded the app, simply click the donate button. Remember, your gifts help fund the creation ministry of AOI along with development of future apps. **AOI**



# Coffee Drinkers: Take heart!

by Dave Nutting

Recently, I read an article written by my friend and creationist colleague, Frank Sherwin, D.SC. (HON.), touting the benefits of coffee. Now, just to be clear, I don't think Dr. Sherwin was trying to justify a coffee habit, and neither am I. In fact, I can count on 2 fingers the number of times I've had coffee. I know you might say I'm strange since I go against a high number of coffee lovers who are rarely seen without their cups or mugs. That being said, I do enjoy the aroma even if I can't handle the taste. For those who do like it, I certainly won't discourage them from drinking it – especially if they were up late the night before and want to be alert in my creation lectures!

Citing research done by scientists in Duesseldorf, Germany, Frank Sherwin reported surprising benefits of caffeine in coffee. Caffeine consumption has been associated with lower risks for multiple diseases, including type II diabetes, heart disease, and stroke.

The Research cited was reported in **PlosBiology**, as well as in **Science Daily** with a title that states, "Caffeine from four cups of coffee protects the heart with the help of mitochondria."

Dr. Sherwin writes, "Another caffeine benefit has been recently discovered regarding structures within our cells. These are the mitochondria – organelles that are the body's energy powerhouse. Basically, the more active a cell is (such as a liver cell), the more mitochondria it contains. Interestingly, caffeine in your latte improves the migration of a fascinating regulatory protein into

these mitochondria, improving their function as well as shielding critical cardiovascular cells from injury. The protein is called p27 (or CDKN1B) and is an inhibitor of the cell cycle; ... but p27 is also present in heart-cell mitochondria and undergoes three beneficial functions resulting in the repair of the myocardium (heart muscle) after a heart attack. This protective

effect was attained at a caffeine concentration equal to four cups of coffee (the average American drinks more than three cups of coffee a day), encouraging the movement of p27 into mitochondria and initiating this beneficial chain of events." <https://www.icr.org/article/coffee-drinkers-take-heart/> accessed 6/1/2022]

On our Creation tours of Costa Rica, we like to take people to a coffee plantation. Once there, participants are amazed at the intricate operation – from the initial planting to the careful cultivation. It takes skill and precision during the harvesting, drying, and then roasting process to give you that perfect brew.

When we study plants, in general, we find all kinds of uses, not only for food, but for healing. I wonder what plants in my backyard, let alone in the tropics of Costa Rica, are totally overlooked and waiting for someone to discover them and reveal another marvel of God's creation.

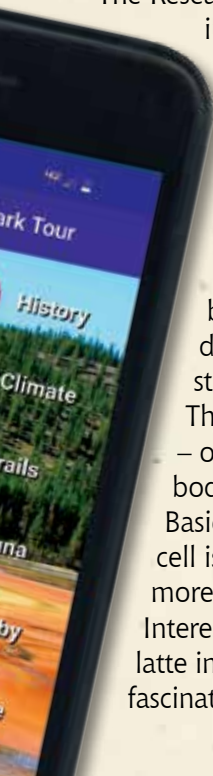
It is a wonder to me that God not only created the coffee plant

with such healthful benefits, but reveals to us just exactly what to do with it. Who would have considered that caffeine could lead to longer lifespans? More importantly, who would think it could lead to a longer *healthspan*? According to research, caffeine promotes protection and repair of the heart muscle which can result in longer years of healthy life. As near as I can tell, this is not coming from the coffee-growers association.

**Note:** You might see our logo and information on a coffee website or on a bag of coffee. Why? A new company called One One (1:1) Coffee (OneOneCoffee.com) desires to promote creation and support AOI's outreach ministry! PTL! It is easy to figure out the company's name from Genesis 1:1 and echoed in John 1:1. The coffee company has a mission to proclaim the Truth of God and Creation with its coffee! See Page 4 (Directors Column) about this.

So, check them out online. When you get a bag of their high-quality coffee, enjoy that healthy "cup of joe" as you read some of AOI's material! **AOI**

The above article is intended for informational purposes only. It is not intended as a substitute for medical advice or instructions from a physician.



## Director's Column

by Dave Nutting




As you read page 3, you might ask, "What does AOI have to do with a coffee company?" (1:1 Coffee)

Organizationally, nothing! It is because of their bold stance for God and Creation and their desire to help expand AOI's creation ministry outreach. Their purpose is to support the truth of the Bible including the Genesis account starting in 1:1. Few companies would be so bold in doing that since a lot of coffee drinkers, including Christians, are evolutionists and could potentially be turned off by their bold statements in support of creation.

We at AOI appreciate that type of boldness. They have requested literature from us to be placed into each of their coffee shipments. Also, on each bag of

coffee, they want a creation message along with our website directing people to more information. They have asked permission and plan to use our creation-centered blog posts to be reproduced on their website. All of this can help AOI increase its outreach to a new and broader audience.

AOI has no thought of becoming a coffee company. We have no intention of slacking off on our crucial Creation ministry. The world needs AOI's message even more than ever!

Of course, besides supporting Creation and the Bible, 1:1 Coffee does hope to make a profit with their coffee business. Amen to that! We hope God blesses their business not just because they also want to share those profits with AOI, but that He will bless them as a company willing to take a stand for the truth. 

## Twin Peaks Family Mountain Creation Vacation

Canyons and Dino Museum tours included!  
July 31 – August 5



Last Chance!



Contact AOI or visit:  
[DiscoverCreation.org/camps-tours/family-camp-colorado/](http://DiscoverCreation.org/camps-tours/family-camp-colorado/)

**Please remember AOI in your summer giving.**

## Costa Rica Creation Adventure

Spring 2023

Please call us ASAP to let us know your interest!



## Yellowstone Creation Tour 2022

Aug. 26-30, & Sep. 2-6



Great one-of-a-kind adventure for the entire family!  
Only \$295 per person – including lodging and food!

For more info visit: [www.DiscoverCreation.org/camps-tours/](http://www.DiscoverCreation.org/camps-tours/)



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