

Think Believe

Discover Creation...Worship the Creator

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Seeing Through the Fog of Indoctrination

by Dave Nutting

Paul Weiland, a long-time friend of AOI, shared this testimony with us in hopes it would be an encouragement to many of you. He wrote:


“Being raised in a Christian home, I was taught that God created the world and everything in it as the Bible teaches in the Book of Genesis. As I grew, I heard about Darwin’s idea of evolution. At this point I wish I could say that I believed God and took Him at His word rather than believing the word of man. However, I became what you would call a “theistic evolutionist” (although I didn’t know the term for it at that time). That is, I believed God used evolution to create. If you’ve not tried that position, take my word for it, it is a waste of time. It cannot be reconciled with Scripture.

*Anyhow, I entered college as a theistic evolutionist. I thought evolution had pretty-well been proven. Maybe a few problems here and there, maybe a few “missing links,” but by and large, **“they” know** it happened and **“they” know** pretty much how it happened. As a college freshman, I recall a question on the 2nd semester biology final exam.*

*There were not many questions on that exam and this was going to be a long answer so I knew it would count quite a bit toward my grade. The question asked us to explain how an animal such as an echinoderm (echinoderms include sea urchins, sand dollars, star fish, sea cucumbers) could evolve into a mammal. As I sat there writing the answer trying to remember what the professor said, I found myself using phrases like “we think this could have happened;” “perhaps that happened;” “somehow, this happened.” Well, I must have written something the professor liked because I got an “A” for the course, **but “We think?” “Perhaps?” “Somehow?”** Hmmm. That began to open my eyes. The more science courses I had, the more I began to realize that Darwinian Evolution, although cloaked with scientific terminology, was not really science at all but a made up story of the past. ”*

I am so thankful that Paul saw through the foggy smokescreen. He has since become a strong advocate for Creation! Sadly, many students **don’t** think and just go along with what they are being fed. This is partly

because many of those “learned” professors (and influential friends) can appear to be so nice and so caring in helping students “see the light” but are slowly and surely undermining their faith and everything they have been taught at home. Ever heard of wolves in sheep’s clothing? Many times, those students end up becoming one of the many unfortunate statistics. (According to several polls, up to 85% of students from evangelical church homes leave the church by the time they graduate from college.)

You likely know family members or children of close friends who are in the midst of the battle in high school or college. Even if you are a creationist homeschooler, your family members are not exempt from the onslaught of evolutionary indoctrination they will face. We encourage you to stay in close communication with them to see how they are doing. Ask them what they are learning, what is challenging them, what pro-evolution arguments, supposed Bible contradictions, and other faith-destroying mantras they are hearing. If you can’t answer these, please call AOI. We would love to help you and your family members navigate through the dense fog of indoctrination! 



Cancel Culture and AOI by Dave and Mary Jo Nutting

We advertised our online **Science Cries Out: Creation!** seminar on our Facebook group. However, when we decided to “Boost” the announcement to a greater audience, we noticed something different from last time we boosted on Facebook. “Creation,” “Christian,” and “Bible” categories were now missing! Also, this time, we received a bunch of anti-creation and atheist attacks saying how “anti-science,” “stupid,” and “ignorant” we were, and accusing us of wanting to put science back in the “horse and buggy age.”

This current age of cancel culture promotes open ridicule of anyone who goes against the status quo

of “accepted dogma.” We remember an interchange with a self-proclaimed Marxist Atheist university student. We mentioned how challenging evolution caused college instructors (including Dave) to lose their positions. His response was, “You **should** have been fired! You’re stupid to believe in creation.”

To understand the increasing bias on Facebook and in the culture in general, ask yourself if you have ever seen a pro-creation (rather than pro-evolution slanted) report in any newspaper, on major news channels, or in a university class? Even years ago, polls revealed the pervasive anti-God, leftist bias of mainstream media (90-95th percentile).

Is it any wonder that the firing of creationists and an active bias against Biblical standards and Bible believers are now actually being applauded?

Ironically, the “**horse and buggy science age**” included Darwin’s lifespan and his racist ideas that various “races” of humans descended from different types of apes and monkeys. He also thought that a cell was no more than a blob of a gelatinous substance. In reality, the amazing complexity of cells really demonstrates that modern **(true) science cries out: Creation** (see T&B Nov/Dec 2018 pg.3).

Replays of this online seminar are available at:
www.discovercreation.org/science-cries-out-creation-2/ **AOI**

New Devotional: Without Excuse: The compelling Evidence for Creation

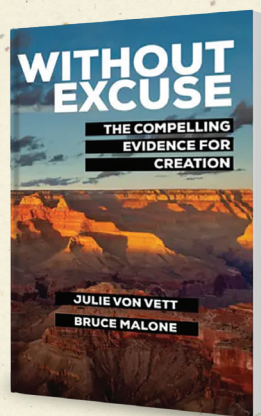
Review by Dave Nutting

In past issues of **Think & Believe**, we highlighted the daily creation devotional books, **Inspired Evidence** and **Have You Considered** by Julie Von Vett and Bruce Malone. Our readers have enjoyed them immensely! Many reordered multiple copies to give as gifts. (Remember, Christmas is coming!) Now, a third creation devotional in this series by these authors is available!


Without Excuse covers 365 additional evidences for creation and for our awesome Creator from various sciences of biology, geology, botany, genetics, anatomy, history, microbiology, and design. Also included with

each day’s topic is an appropriate Bible verse.

This beautifully illustrated **color** devotional is technically accurate, indexed, referenced, **and easy to understand for young and old!** Many readers do one devotional per day, while others find the evidence so fascinating, they read the whole book right away.



You can do your Christmas shopping right now. This would make a great gift or use it yourself to provide 365 devotional gifts for your own family! (Hardback, 465 glossy, 5.5” x 8.3” pages). Remember: Your purchase from AOI helps us spread the creation message to your family and others! **\$15 + shipping/handling** **AOI**

The following selections are from **Without Excuse: The Compelling Evidence for Creation** by Julie Von Vett and Bruce Malone (January 2022, Search for Truth Ministries. Used by permission). We highly encourage you to get this excellent book of daily devotions for yourself, your family, and friends. (See page 2 of this newsletter for more information.) 

ASTRONOMY: SEPTEMBER 5

ASTRONOMY

Is there life on planets outside our solar system? Recently, about 4,000 extrasolar planets were examined to see if they were in the habitable or Goldilocks zone. Planets in the habitable zone need the distance to be “just right” from its star to have liquid water; if too close it would boil away, and if too far it would freeze. Also, the amount of UV light had to be “just right” to believe in life spontaneously appearing. If there was too much UV light the molecules would be sterilized. After examining the 4,000 known exoplanets, only 49 were assessed to be in the habitable zone. Closer analysis revealed only 8 were possible, but 7 of the 8 were “gas giants” that would not support life. The only remaining planet was Kepler-452b discovered in 2015. This planet also has several problems – an unknown atmosphere, composition, and density. Scientists are now debating whether it might be a gas planet. One of the astrobiologists working on this research, Marcos Justino-Maldonado wrote, *“It’s getting harder to find origins of life. It seems very unlikely.”*

When we examine Earth, we find it is “just right” for life. It is a rocky planet with an atmosphere consisting of mostly nitrogen and oxygen. Pure oxygen would be very volatile. Our Sun is very stable, it is not a variable star. Earth is the perfect distance from the sun with a minor elliptical orbit. If it was wildly elliptical, we would have periods of freezing temperatures and boiling heat. Earth is a unique planet, with many more attributes which make it made “just right” for life: it’s the Goldilocks principle. And who put this habitable zone together? Our Creator God!



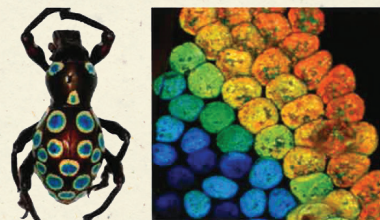
... he who created the heavens, he is God; he who fashioned and made the earth, he founded it; he did not create it to be empty, but formed it to be inhabited – he says: “I am the LORD, and there is no other.” – Isaiah 45:18 (NIV)

BIOLOGY: SEPTEMBER 16

BIOLOGY

The Philippine snout weevil is a small beetle that has rainbow-colored circles on its wing casings and thorax. These circular patches start with a blue center changing to yellow and then to red with all the colors of a rainbow represented. **The colors stay the same regardless of the angle from which the Philippine snout weevil is viewed.** This is because the colors are not produced by pigments, but by structure.

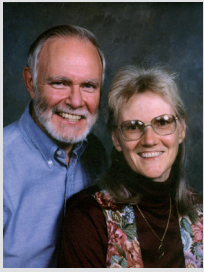
The circular patches are made from microscopic protein chitin “scales” and it is the three-dimensional size, structure, and volume of these scales which determine the color displayed. Smaller scales (with smaller crystals) reflect blue light, while the larger scales (with large crystals) reflect red light. The crystalline structure splits the sunlight like a prism, creating the rainbow of colors. If human engineers could copy this, they could apply it to paint and cosmetics. If this were possible, the hue of colors on a wall or cosmetics would remain the same regardless of the viewing angle and lighting. Human engineers have not even come close to achieving such true color fidelity. Nature’s engineering has outdone human engineers. And Who is nature’s Engineer? God Himself!



Our help is in the name of the LORD, who made heaven and earth. – Psalm 124:8 (KJV)

Director's Column: Building Update

by Dave Nutting




The conversion of AOI's upper office level into apartments is in full swing! Our goal is to have students staying in those apartments

who will be part of our training and discipleship program and outreach to Colorado Mesa University (1/2 block away). When students are not occupying the premises, we plan to use these units as rentals.

If you have ever done building projects, you know it takes longer and costs more than anticipated. After all, city, county, and fire departments all add their requirements. One unanticipated cost was when the city charged us \$11,000 for a sewer plant "fee" due to a change-of-use of the

upstairs. Fortunately, we were able to avoid paying another \$18,000 for an additional water meter and tap which neither AOI's architect nor engineer had called for. Our contractor and I were glad we caught that in the nick of time!

We still have a lot to finish for our projected early winter completion, but steady progress is being made. If you are in Grand Junction, call to stop by and see the progress! Meanwhile, AOI's speakers are busy sharing the truth of Creation and the gospel through camps, VBSs, seminars, tours, and online classes. If you know students who would be interested in our training, discipleship, or internship programs, please have them contact us. 

Prayer Needs

- Good progress on the remodel
- Affordable building costs
- Donations to cover the costs
- Qualified students for our training, discipleship, and internship programs.



Website and Social Media

Check out our posts on FaceBook, Twitter, YouTube, and our website (DiscoverCreation.org).



Please remember AOI in your giving.



Costa Rica Creation Tour March 5-14, 2023

Please call us ASAP to let us know your interest!

For more Information visit: www.discovercreation.org/camps-tours/costa-rica-creation-adventure/



What a great gift idea!



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