

“[The Bereans] . . . searched the scriptures daily,

[to see] whether those things were so.” —Acts 17:11

Back to Biblical Basics—Part One

T. A. McMahon

BIBLICAL BASICS: why are they so important to revisit?

First and foremost, if I don’t know the fundamentals of what I claim to believe, I can’t live it out in truth. I can’t understand it, nor can I teach it or share it.

Men who are biblical Christians, Scripture declares, are to be the spiritual heads of our households (Ephesians 5:22-23). This means that we are to teach our wives and children what the Word of God says.

If I don’t know the fundamentals of the faith, I can’t teach the faith with any sense of accuracy. If what I’m sharing is not accurate, then it’s not *the faith* that Jude tells us was “once for all delivered unto the saints.”

Knowing the fundamentals, therefore, is critical in just about every area of life. How so? Let’s begin with mathematics.

Suppose I were to come up with an investment deal that I say is guaranteed to make you rich. My secret is based upon my unique mathematical formula: 2 plus 2 equals 5!

While that may improve my income (through those who fall for it), that fundamental error will certainly not enrich anyone enticed by it.

It’s interesting that when sports teams, including those that are at the highest skill level and performance, have a bye week during their season (which is usually a week off before having to play their next opponent), their practices rarely focus on clever new plays or strategies but rather on returning to the fundamentals of their sport.

The reason for this is because an athlete’s most skilled performance is best attained when his or her fundamentals are correct, and those can get sloppy or diminish throughout a season of competition.

Making sure one’s fundamentals are correct is a good thing in sports, but it’s even more important in one’s walk as a biblical Christian. The fundamentals are simply the essential truths and practices that God has communicated to us in His Word, the Bible, to which we must hold fast.

The letter to the Hebrews gives us a sober warning: “Therefore we ought to give the more earnest heed to the things which we have heard, lest at any time we should let them slip” (2:1).

Peter, knowing that his death was near, exhorted his brothers and sisters in Christ to keep in mind and in practice what they had been taught: “I stir up your pure minds by way of remembrance: That ye may be mindful of the words which were spoken before by the holy prophets, and of the commandment of us the apostles of the Lord and Saviour” (2 Peter 3:1-2).

Biblical fundamentals make clear the simple yet vital truths of Scripture in our day of widespread deception, and we need to be continually reminded about them. Furthermore, they also supply what Jesus has done on our behalf . . . and how profound those things truly are.

In the 1920s and ’30s Christianity in the US was far less complicated than it is today, at least superficially. The spiritual battle back then was said to be between the fundamentalists and the modernists.

The modernists rejected—or at least compromised—the basic tenets of biblical Christianity, such as the authority of Scripture, its inerrancy, and salvation by faith alone in the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ in full payment for the sins of all mankind.

Since that time, the errors among Christians have, like leaven,

worked their way through the entire loaf of Christianity. They have increased exponentially today to the extent that describing yourself as an evangelical Christian is next to meaningless, and worse.

No one can tell you what being an evangelical stands for because of the mixed beliefs held by those who call themselves evangelicals.

For example, one of the major evangelical magazines, *Christianity Today*, was started in the mid-1950s by Billy Graham, who at that time was known as a fundamentalist. If you are a subscriber, I recommend that you cancel your subscription and throw your back issues in the nearest dumpster.

For the last two decades, I have been referring to the so-called evangelical magazine as *Anti-Christianity Today*. Why would I do that?

Because it has promoted nearly every heresy and false practice that has come into the church over the last half-century. And Billy Graham has to take the blame for most of it, being the one who started it off.

Graham initially was regarded as a fundamentalist, as I mentioned. But before too long, fundamentalism was looked upon as narrowmindedness and exclusionary by the modernists.

For example, in the 1940s, Graham stated that the chief evils in the world at that time were Communism, Muhammadanism, and Roman Catholicism. No argument there.

Then, in the 1950s, for a number of reasons, he did not want to be called a fundamentalist, especially with its exhortation to separate oneself from those promoting teachings contrary to biblical truth. There was also the increasing accusation that fundamentalism was built upon ignorance and bigotry.

In the spirit of ecumenism, he turned to the Catholic Church for support for his crusades, which was exemplified by his having Catholic priests and nuns as crusade counselors. Catholics who came forward because of Graham’s invitation to receive Jesus for their salvation were encouraged by the Catholic counselors to return to their local Catholic church!

Mr. Graham has stated in numerous interviews that he saw no significant theological differences between his “good friend” Pope John Paul II and himself.

The litany of Billy Graham’s denials of the fundamentals of biblical doctrine are shocking, to say the least. He received the Templeton Financial Award for Progress in Religion from the founder, the late John Marks Templeton, whose stated goal was to transform all the religions of the world into a *one-world religion*. That, of course, would be the occult religion of the Antichrist.

Graham ultimately rejected biblical creation in favor of theistic evolution. He said he wasn’t sure whether or not the flood of Genesis was a global event.

When asked if there would be sex in heaven, he replied that there would be if it were important to our happiness! No. That clearly contradicts what the Bible teaches (Matthew 22:30).

Sadly, I could go on and on regarding Billy Graham’s flight from sound biblical doctrine, which only increased throughout his lifetime.

In preparing this message and running it by some folks I respect, a few were concerned that it might be viewed as denigrating a man regarded as an American icon of evangelization. I have no doubt that many people were saved through the Billy Graham crusades when the biblical gospel was preached by him and others.

At the same time, there is no doubt that Graham was a prime

example of ecumenicalism, which is the acceptance of various religions and religious beliefs that are not scriptural and which, in fact, undermine biblical truth.

It was also suggested to me that since Billy Graham is no longer living, he ceases to be influential among this generation, especially the youth of today, and therefore, why mention him? That is an approach I usually follow unless the false teachings of the deceased continue to be promoted, as in Billy Graham's case.

Lou Engle, a false teacher and prophet of the Healing and Prosperity movement and one of the leaders of The Send (a gathering that brought 50,000 young people together to a stadium in Orlando, Florida), declared that the movement was fostered by the mantle of Billy Graham, which Engle said would fall upon the nation right after Graham's death.

This message simply points to Billy Graham as one example, albeit an important one, of what will naturally take place when anyone drifts away from sound biblical doctrine, which is what the Bible prophesies will take place as the Lord's return draws near.

Second Timothy chapter 4 warns us that "the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine." Who can reasonably deny that we are in such a time?

What can be done about it? How about ascertaining that we ourselves have not slipped away from the basics, the fundamentals of the faith?

It seems like a simple solution, right? Well, yes and no.

Yes, for some—but not so simple for others. One's answer is dependent upon the believer's maturity as a Christian, his or her knowledge of the Word of God, and one's walk with the Lord.

Where those things are lacking, building or restoring them is certainly achievable, but it may take some doing. However, in any case, the solution I'm recommending is this: Let's get back to the basics of biblical faith.

And I mean the *very basics*, as you'll see in the two I'm addressing in this and the following article.

Certainly, the gospel is right at the top of the list. In Acts 16:30, the Philippian jailer asked a very basic question that every true Christian *must* be able to answer: "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" The response of the Apostle Paul and his associates was this: "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved...."

Although the above discourse is given in the Book of Acts, it lacks the details that explain what it means to "be saved" and "to believe on the Lord Jesus Christ." These details, nevertheless, are provided throughout the Word of God.

Saved from what? Believe *what* regarding our Lord Jesus Christ? Also, who is the gospel for? Why is it critical? How is it received? What exactly is received? Can salvation, once received, be lost?

Again, the answers to these fundamental questions are found and explained throughout the Scriptures.

You men who are believers, can you answer these questions? You men who are the spiritual heads of your household, can you, and have you, taught your family members the answers?

On a side note to this, if you know the answers, have you ever considered asking each family member those questions? If you can't readily communicate the answers, you are not living up to the responsibility in which God has placed you.

If you are well aware of the answers, my suggestion is that you have a private one-on-one meeting with each family member and ask each one to give you his or her understanding of what constitutes the biblical gospel.

Why privately? This will prevent family members from simply copying and repeating what another member has articulated rather than each one giving his or her own understanding.

Whether or not the individual believes the biblical gospel is a matter of each one's heart's commitment. What will be made clear by questioning family members is each one's own knowledge of the gospel, something that is critical when it comes to one's personal acceptance or rejection of it.

Although I just referred to the responsibility of men as the spiritual heads of their households, women have their own responsibilities as teachers (Titus 2:3-4), as was exemplified by Timothy's mother Eunice and grandmother Lois (2 Timothy 1:5).

Scripture commands believers to know *what we believe* and *why we believe it*. This begins with our understanding of the gospel regarding our own salvation and is absolutely necessary in order for us to share it with others.

First Peter 3:15 instructs us: "But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear."

I hope every believer rejoices at the opportunities God provides when an unbeliever—or even a believer young in the faith or one who is ill-informed regarding biblical truth—asks "a reason of the hope that is in you."

Sadly, even for many true believers, that opportunity is lost because the *reasons* amply supplied by God's Word are not given. Instead, too often, when a response is given, it is not based upon "the faith" (Jude 3) but rather on responses steeped in human emotions and subjective information that requires a leap of faith rather than faith that has been verified by the content of Scripture.

Dave Hunt addressed the erroneous idea that reason undermines biblical faith in one of TBC's Q & As. To the questioner, he responded, "You are struggling with a serious misunderstanding that has brought multitudes throughout history into religious bondage."

"The Bible puts *belief and faith* on an equal footing, with no difference between them. Common sense itself and a little reflection will tell you that faith must have as sure a factual foundation as belief. Faith is not a leap in the dark. Furthermore, faith in God and His Word, because it involves eternal matters, is far more important than belief about things of this life."

"Faith, therefore, ought to have an even more solid basis than mere belief. One may be willing to allow some uncertainty in earthly matters, but only a fool would be comfortable with even the smallest degree of doubt in things that affect him eternally. No wonder the great Apostle Paul wrote, *Prove all things; hold fast to that which is good* (1 Thessalonians 5:21)."

"Luke tells us that during the 40 days Jesus spent with His disciples after His resurrection, He 'showed himself alive . . . by many *infallible proofs*' (Acts 1:3). Clearly, Christ did not consider it enough merely to show Himself to His disciples without providing irrefutable evidence of His resurrection."

"He considered it both legitimate and essential to *prove* that He was the very same One who had been crucified and that He had risen from the dead in the same body (but now in a new and glorious form) that had been placed lifeless in the grave."

"Behold my hands and my feet, that it is I myself," Christ told the shocked disciples the first time He came to them after His resurrection. 'Handle me and see, for a spirit [ghost] hath not flesh and bones, as ye see me have' (Luke 24:39).

"They had thought they were seeing a ghost, but He proved otherwise to them. To doubting Thomas, who had not been present on this first occasion, Christ declared later: 'Reach hither thy finger and behold my hands; and reach hither thy hand and thrust it into my side...' (John 20:27). Here was irrefutable, tangible evidence."

"It is only common sense that strict proof should be demanded before making a commitment or an investment in this life. How much more important, then, to be absolutely certain, based upon solid proof, before accepting by faith those things which affect one's eternal destiny. True 'faith,' can only be founded upon fact—not upon feelings, intuition, or emotion. Much less does faith arise out of blind submission to some religious authority."

The gospel therefore must be *understood* in order to be *received*—in order for a person to be saved. That is basic to biblical Christianity.

Yet there is a fundamental aspect of the gospel for every believer who commits himself to it, which too few recognize and emphasize in their lives. It is the first and great commandment. That will be the focus of part two in this series.

TBC

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

Submit your own questions to: PO Box 7019 • Bend, OR 97708

or e-mail: editorial@thebereanall.org

QUESTION: Paul wrote that “the spirits of the prophets are subject to the prophets” (1 Corinthians 14:32). Wouldn’t that mean that a prophet can prophesy at will? If so, wouldn’t that substantiate the belief that those who have received this gift can speak in tongues at will?

RESPONSE: It is “the spirit of the prophets,” not the Spirit of God, that is subject to the prophets. Thus a prophet could *prevent* himself from prophesying but could not *initiate* genuine prophecy.

In stating restrictions upon the manifestation of the gifts, Paul makes this statement to let the Corinthian believers know that the Holy Spirit does not force Himself upon anyone. It is the flesh or the devil, not the Holy Spirit, that will cause disorder. No one can say, “But I *had* to prophesy. I couldn’t resist the Spirit!” Each person is able to obey Paul’s guidelines. One of the clearest indications that much of today’s alleged “exercise of the gifts” is not of God is the disregard for these biblical injunctions, leading to the fleshly, even demonic, manifestations that Paul sought to prevent.

Paul is *not* saying that a prophet can prophesy any time he so desires. Not Jeremiah, Ezekiel, nor any of the other prophets could do so! When Jeremiah desired to prophesy to the people, he had to wait upon God: “And it came to pass *after ten days*, that the word of the LORD came unto Jeremiah” (Jeremiah 42:7). Clearly, prophecy comes only by the empowerment and direction of God, and not by the whim of man, as some enthusiasts would have us believe. Nor can the gift of prophecy be taught and learned in a seminar, as John Wimber led people to believe for years. Peter declared, “For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost” (2 Peter 1:21). No one can initiate, mandate, or activate the moving of the Holy Spirit! Nor is there any distinction in this regard among the various *charismata*.

Whatever the “gift of the Spirit,” it is given in specific instances to effect God’s purpose *at that time*. It does not become a power possessed by an individual that he can wield at his discretion. If someone lays hands upon a sick person, prays, and the person is instantly healed, that was a manifestation of the “gifts of healing” according to God’s will. The person who prayed was the instrument God used at that time, but he does not now possess the gifts of healing so that he can heal anyone whenever he pleases.

To imagine that to be the case is one of the basic errors in the charismatic movement. Consider those who imagine they have a “healing ministry” trying mightily (on TV or during some so-called revivals) to manifest what they imagine is a gift they *possess*—and ultimately falling into error and bringing reproach upon the Lord as a result. If the great prophets in the Bible had to wait until God, in His own time and way and for His own purpose, gave them a word, then it is a delusion for anyone today to imagine that he *possesses* any gift of the Spirit and can exercise it whenever he so desires—and that includes tongues.

To think that a “prayer language” can be “practiced” any time one wants is the great error of what is rightly (because of the obsession with that one gift) called by its critics “the tongues movement.” There is no indication that “tongues” are in a category by themselves, but, like all spiritual gifts, if genuine, can only be a “manifestation of the Spirit” (1 Corinthians 12:7) operating “as he will” (v. 11). Beware, then, of a “tongue” or “prophecy” or other “gift” that is initiated or possessed by the human spirit!

We must thank God for any healing, miracle, or tongue that is a genuine manifestation of the Holy Spirit. Very clearly, however, those are in grievous error who promise a “miracle service” at a

particular time in a church or on TV and purport to do “miracles” or give seminars to teach how to do “signs and wonders,” or claim that one can speak in tongues whenever one desires. Whatever purports to be the manifestation of a “gift of the Spirit” and is not initiated by Him but comes by the will of man is not of God.

We do well to heed God’s warning through Jeremiah: “The prophets prophesy lies in my name: I sent them not, neither have I commanded them, neither spake unto them: they prophesy unto you a false vision and divination, and a thing of nought, and the deceit of their heart” (Jeremiah 14:14). This indictment stands against many who claim to manifest gifts of the Holy Spirit today.

QUESTION: I’ve heard you on radio and read your newsletters, etc., and wondered whether you might be too sharp with the tongue and too quick with the pen when it comes to acknowledging the deeds and misdeeds of others in the faith. Didn’t Christ say, “Judge not, that ye not be judged” (Matthew 7:1)?

RESPONSE: I am particularly sensitive to that sentiment, which often translates into admonitions to be more careful about “wounding our brothers and sisters in Christ.” However, I think the notion that we should not tell the truth because it can be painful has become “too gracious” by at least half. It is not wrong to wound brothers: “Faithful are the wounds of a friend, but the kisses of an enemy are deceitful” (Proverbs 27:6); and “As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten” (Revelation 3:19).

Beyond that, I am not in the business of condemnation but of correction. It is much easier to ignore or gloss over error than it is to correct it. One doesn’t gain friends or become popular by engaging in the necessary ministry of correction, which all too few are willing to involve themselves with in spite of Paul’s admonition: “Preach the word; reprove, rebuke, with all long-suffering and doctrine; for the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine....” It takes much love to be willing to correct. It would be far easier not to do so, and I would really prefer not to have been called by the Lord to this ministry. Yet Jesus said, “As many as I love I rebuke and chasten.” I would consider it a favor and a help, not a condemnation, were you to point out any doctrinal error in my teaching and practice. If you could show me from God’s Word where I have been wrong and have not followed my Lord, it would be a kindness. Paul wrote that the Bible itself is to be used for doctrine, correction, instruction in righteousness.... I have sought to be faithful to that admonition.

QUESTION: Do you ever worry that you’ve become a legalist, constantly holding others to the letter of the law as you see it?

RESPONSE: I understand what you mean about legalism. The letter kills, while the Spirit gives life. One can be as clear as crystal on doctrine and just as cold and hard in applying it to others. That fact, however, is no excuse for disregarding sound doctrine but a reminder that truth is to be spoken in love, while not compromising. Of course there are peripheral matters upon which there can be disagreement—but not when it affects the salvation of souls. Unfortunately, a false gospel is being preached today, and Paul said that those who do so are under God’s curse. We must each be convinced in our own hearts. We are to study to show ourselves approved unto God, not unto men. I am personally accountable to God, and though many church leaders may stand against me, I must be and say and do what I truly believe is God’s will and according to His Word.

LETTERS

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Dear TBC,

[Concerning your email “Are You Ready for Christ’s Return?”]

Amen! But many are not, which is why we cannot stop preaching the Gospel and praying and instructing all who will renounce sin/the works of darkness; and continue teaching God’s written word about how to grow in grace and the knowledge for our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory both now and forever. Amen (2 Peter 3:18). CW (email)

Dear TBC,

Thanks brothers in The Berean Call. For the time being I do not have the time and desire to subscribe. However, I love to visit your website for help and refuting error. Thanks again for such a marvelous work for the glory of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of the truth. WK (Malaysia)

To All Who Assist at The Berean Call,

I am so blessed by *The Berean Call*, especially in this day and age when so many have fallen away to pursue their own pleasure or a false religion. This nation’s churches have either watered

down the Scriptures or teach only that which seemingly brings them comfort. This [encourages] a lot of prayer for our country, those in authority, and the lost. May God continue to bless you all as you print the Truth of the God-breathed Scriptures. BB (CA)

Dear T. A. and Team,

Thank you for the bold and biblical teachings on the evils of psychology in the church. I know you have a unique background on this, so where can I find the resources that you talk about growing up exposed to this profession? SL (AZ)

To All at TBC,

Thank you for your dedication and faithfulness in getting out the true Word of God. He has used you in a mighty way to spread the Gospel—giving us hope and encouragement in these troublesome times. RU (NM)

Dear Friends,

Thank you for your encouraging letter each month. We first heard Dave at Word of Life at Schroon Lake, New York. You have kept the faith, and Dave would be “well pleased” by your letter. We thank you. RB (FL)

Dear Berean Call,

I confess I have been watching a lot of YouTube lately. In fact, I’ve been watching Dave Hunt lectures. I watched his talk entitled, “The Occult Invasion of the Church,” and when I listened to (it), I realized that the church seems almost totally affiliated with this invasion. I have also seen prominent Charismatic leaders that only confirm what Dave Hunt has said concerning the occult infiltrating the church. TM (NY)

Dear TBC,

In a world where churches have “dropped the ball” in so many ways and become more worldly than secular institutions, we are reminded that while so many things change, God remains the same. LC (PA)

QUOTABLE.....

And Jesus said unto them, Come ye after me, and I will make you to become fishers of men.—Mark 1:17

Only by coming after Jesus can we obtain our heart’s desire and be really useful to our fellow man. Oh, how we long to be successful fishers for Jesus! We would sacrifice our lives to win souls. But we are tempted to try methods which Jesus would never have tried. Shall we yield to this suggestion of the enemy? If so, we may splash the water, but we shall never take the fish. Sensational methods, entertainments, and so forth—are these coming after Jesus? Can we imagine the Lord Jesus drawing a congregation by such means as are now commonly used? What is the result of such expedients? The result is nothing which Jesus will count up at the last great day.

We must keep to our preaching as our Master did, for by this means, souls are saved. We must preach our Lord’s doctrine and proclaim a full and free gospel, for this is the net in which souls are taken. We must preach with His gentleness, boldness, and love; for this is the secret of success with human hearts. We must work under divine anointing, depending upon the sacred Spirit. Thus, coming after Jesus, and not running before Him, nor aside from Him, we shall be fishers of men.

—CHARLES HADDON SPURGEON

TBC NOTES

The Leaven of Works Salvation

If I were to pick the most popular heresy believed throughout Christendom it would be “works salvation.” This is the belief that a person can merit heaven either fully or in part because of his or her good works. The Roman Catholic Church, whose numbers exceed one-and-a-quarter billion followers, is the chief advocate of works salvation. Yet throughout the numerous denominations that make up the rest of the billions who profess to be Christian, that false teaching is either held in total by some individuals or felt to be true even though it’s not the official doctrine of their churches.

“I’m basically a good person,” “I’ve done enough good things to get me in,” and “I believe the scales of my good will outweigh my bad”—these are among the delusions of the heart that permeate the thoughts of many men and women. For the Christian-in-name-only, his self-deception is leading him on a course headed directly for the Lake of Fire—forever. For the immature believer in Jesus, his ignorance (if indeed he is saved) gives him little or no motivation for a fruitful temporal life.

Both need to heed the words found in Isaiah 64:6: “... we are all as an unclean thing, and all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags [before God].” And Ephesians 2:8-10: “For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that [salvation is] not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto [not *due to*!] good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.”

T. A. McMAHON

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

NEWSWATCH

News stories are selected for reader awareness and as an exercise
in discerning the times from a biblical perspective.

UNITED METHODIST DRAG QUEEN CANDIDATE

RELIGIONNEWS.COM, 4/15/21, "FIRST DRAG QUEEN CERTIFIED AS A CANDIDATE FOR UNITED METHODIST MINISTRY 'SPEAKING IN A NEW WAY TO NEW PEOPLE'" [EXCERPTS]: A few things were different about Sunday's virtual service at Hope United Methodist Church in Bloomington, Illinois.

For one, there were a few more wigs on screen. There also was "a little bit more makeup," said Ms. Penny Cost, that Sunday's preacher."

Hope Church celebrated Drag Sunday on Sunday (April 11) with a message by Ms. Penny Cost and music, readings and prayer by other drag artists...

"It is our way of celebrating and uplifting the voices of drag artistry within the church," Ms. Penny Cost said during the service.

The service also came in response to pushback and questions the church has received over the past few weeks.

The Illinois Great Rivers Conference's Vermillion River District Committee on Ordained Ministry recently unanimously certified Hope Church's director of operations, Isaac Simmons—who goes by Ms. Penny Cost in drag—as a candidate for ministry in the United Methodist Church.

(<https://bit.ly/3g8eM6f>)

CATHOLIC CONFERENCE: ET, A.I., NONHUMAN LIFE

THEBRIEF.ORG, 4/19/21, "CATHOLIC CONFERENCE TO DISCUSS ET, A.I., AND OTHER LIFE 'BEYOND HUMAN'" [EXCERPTS]: The Society of Catholic Scientists has scheduled their 2021 SCS conference, and this year's topic is literally out of this world. Titled "E.T., A.I., and Minds Beyond the Human," the conference will be held at the Hilton Hotel in Washington D.C. from June 4th thru 6th. It will feature a full range of education and theology experts covering topics related to the theme.

"There'll be 13 talks," said Dr. Stephen Barr, president of the Society of Catholic Scientists, in an interview with the Catholic News Agency (CNA). Half of the talks are going to be about extraterrestrial life, and there's going to be talks by some big experts on that subject."

"There's a lot of excitement because in recent years, astronomers have discovered large numbers of planets orbiting other nearby stars," said Barr.... Also, according to Barr, the conference's goal is to address

the perceived stigma that science and religion don't mix.

"I think if people see that there's a large organization of a large number of scientists [who are] devout, practicing Catholics, I think it has a witness value and is stronger evidence for people in the science department."

(<https://bit.ly/356wCAi>)

[TBC: As Dave Hunt wrote in the April 1995 TBC newsletter, "Couldn't God have created intelligent life on other planets? Yes, but the Bible declares that this earth alone has intelligent physical life. It is to this earth that Satan came to spread his rebellion; and to this earth Christ came to die for man's sin. The battle between God and Satan for the universe is centered here. Christ's sacrifice on the cross purified the entire universe and heaven itself of sin.]

BACTERIAL PROTEINS USE QUANTUM MECHANICS

ICR.ORG, 4/8/21, "BACTERIAL PROTEINS USE QUANTUM MECHANICS [EXCERPTS]: Researchers have found a dimmer switch inside a protein. It tunes the protein's configuration to take advantage of quantum mechanics during photosynthesis. Two parallels with human engineering leave no doubts about the engineered origins of this light collector.

University of Chicago scientists found an elegant sensor connected to the dimmer switch. Two critical chemical parts of the protein together act "as a trigger," according to University of Chicago news.

Gregory Engel is a chemist at the University of Chicago and senior author of results published in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences (PNAS). His group described when the trigger senses oxygen. Too much oxygen would damage the light-harvesting machines faster than the bacteria could rebuild them. The trigger acts as a failsafe. High oxygen levels trip the trigger, which then uses quantum mechanics to redirect light energy away from the most sensitive energy transfer equipment.

Today's triggers don't happen by chance, they happen on purpose. Could these bacteria come with purpose baked into the protein?

It looks like these bacteria were crafted from the top-down instead of bottom-up.

(<https://bit.ly/3x41htM>)

THE BEREAN CALL

Founder: Dave Hunt
Executive Director: T. A. McMahon

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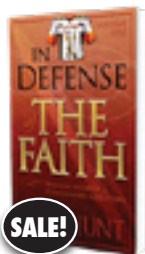
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