• DAVE HUNT, FOUNDER • WWW.THEBEREANCALL.ORG



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

Ecumenism Update

T. A. McMahon

WHAT IS ECUMENISM, and why should it be updated? Ecumenism is a movement that began as an attempt to bring about unity within the denominations and groups that call themselves Christian. In the mid-20th century, however, a change took place (led, for the most part, by the Roman Catholic Church), expanding the goal of ecumenism to include all religions. That may seem like a worthy objective, but it is neither biblical nor possible. Nevertheless, the movement is alive today and growing exponentially. Yet most Christians do not recognize its deceptive nature. Hence this update.

Some would claim that the Bible calls for religious unity. No, it calls for Christians who are true followers of Jesus Christ to unite themselves in the truth of God's Word-the faith-once for all delivered to those who have put their trust in Jesus (Ephesians 4:1-6; Jude 3). For those who have not received Christ's offer of salvation, unity in the doctrine of Christ is impossible. What's more, many who have been redeemed by Jesus have drifted away from keeping the unity of the faith (John 17:20-23)—examples will follow below.

First, let's consider the religions of the world regarding this hoped-for unity. What might be the basis for that unity? It certainly isn't their belief in God or their gods or their doctrines. Why not? Judaism, Islam, Hinduism, and Buddhism serve as prime examples. Followers of Judaism worship one God, who calls the Jews His "chosen people"; Muslims worship Allah, who hates Jews. Hindus worship 330-million personal gods. The supreme deity of Buddhism is an impersonal Force that is in everything. Most Jews consider the material world as the epitome of life, while Hindus regard the material world as maya, an illusion. Muslims strive to get to paradise by doing good works in their lifetime-works that are satisfactory to Allah, with the most acceptable "work" being jihad (killing infidels). Hindus and Buddhists strive to reach nirvana or moksha, a state of perfect happiness, through an endless cycle of deaths and rebirths. These are only a few of the dissimilarities in the world's diverse religious belief systems, yet they clearly reveal that the popular belief that all paths lead to God is delusionary at best.

On the other hand, all the religions of the world will converge into a one-world religion under the control of the Antichrist, who will be worshiped as God (2 Thessalonians 2:3-4; Revelation 13:8) and offers the same godhood to humanity as did Satan in Genesis 3:5.

Of course, all religions must undergo major modifications, especially those that espouse doctrines that don't fit in with universal, acceptance which is a major part of the Antichrist's belief system. Islam, for example, is a religion of coercion and harsh Sharia law legalism, which cannot be reconciled with other religions, whose followers are regarded as infidels. Therefore, Islam cannot be included in the religion of the Antichrist and must be eliminated or drastically changed. That will very likely take place when Russia, in association with Muslim nations, attempts to plunder and destroy Israel. God, however, will obliterate the attacking armies in the battle of Gog and Magog (Ezekiel 38:18-22). In verse 23, God destroys any hope people have in Allah and Islam when He

declares, "Thus will I magnify myself, and sanctify myself; and I will be known in the eyes of many nations, and they shall know that I am the LORD." The result for over a billion Muslims and others who are affected by God's intervention and His protection of Israel will not turn many of them to the true and living God. Instead, the religion of the Antichrist will simply gain more followers.

Ecumenism within Christendom is another story and includes both professing Christians (not truly committed believers) and born-again Christians. For example, the cults that profess to be Christian, e.g., Roman Catholics, Mormons, Jehovah's Witnesses, Seventh-day Adventists, and Christian Scientists, do not hold to the biblical gospel which is mankind's only means of salvation! Yet they all call themselves Christian.

Ecumenism is not only a major factor in the development of the religion of the Antichrist, but it is also a leading movement that undermines the teachings of the Scriptures held by those committed to Christ. It dismisses the warnings given throughout God's Word regarding deception (Matthew 24:4) and the drifting away from biblical truth (Hebrews 2:1). Moreover, ecumenism's chief cause among believers is declared in 2 Timothy 4:3-4: "For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables [italics added]."

Ecumenism within Christendom over the last seventy-five years has centered around the involvement of evangelicals, Charismatics, and Pentecostals with the Church of Rome. In the 1940s, Billy Graham declared that the three greatest evils in the world of that day were Communism, Muhammadanism, and Catholicism. A few years later, Graham's crusades were endorsed and financially supported by the Catholic Church! Catholics who responded to Graham's gospel appeal were thus directed back to the Roman Catholic Church by nuns and priests who were utilized as counselors. Graham had a lifetime of association with influential Catholics such as Archbishop Fulton Sheen, Cardinals Cushing and O'Connor, and Pope John Paul II. He declared that his theological differences with the pope were minimal, none involving the essentials of the faith.

Evangelicals and Catholics Together (ECT) was a movement that called for cooperation in evangelizing the world, which was supported by influential evangelicals including Chuck Colson and Pat Robertson. Promise Keepers' main objective was to break down the theological walls between Catholics and Protestants. Charismatics and Pentecostals were drawn to Rome when the Catholic Church approved the teachings of David Du Plessis, who became known as "Mr. Pentecost." The so-called manifestations of the Holy Spirit among Catholics were said to increase their devotion to Mary and their commitment to the Sacraments, especially the Mass. All the above took place despite the fact of Catholicism's clearly false gospel of works salvation.

Freemasonry, with its ecumenical gospel that invites all religions into the worship of its Supreme "God" (the Great Architect of the Universe), drew many Christians into its fraternal organization, especially Southern Baptist pastors and their church members. Social and conservative political causes have also

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motivated "Christians" to work together for the "common good" of humanity regardless of their doctrinal differences. The Moral Majority, organized by Baptist minister Jerry Falwell, worked with Mormons and Sun Myung Moon of the Unification Church in order to achieve Christian Right objectives.

Ecumenism's widespread and rapid increase, however, can especially be accounted for because of the rise of Christian media, including radio and television programs. Many have adopted the format of secular talk shows, emphasizing the entertainment aspects with little concern for sound doctrine. This has resulted in a tsunami of false teachers, practices, and doctrines.

Following the popularity of the best-selling The Seduction of Christianity, Dave Hunt was invited to speak at the National Religious Broadcasters Convention in the late 1980s. Based upon the organization's statement of faith, he expected its leadership to be a watchdog of Christian programing, thereby safeguarding biblical orthodoxy. Since that was clearly not taking place, the Lord put it on Dave's heart to exhort his audience to take personal responsibility for what they allowed to be broadcast on their stations. In his NRB address, he went over what the Scriptures had to say about Hymenaeus and Philetus: "Who concerning the truth have erred...and overthrow the faith of some" (2 Timothy 2:17-18). He then posed the question, "What if Hymenaeus and Philetus had their own TV or radio show today?" Sadly, the answer isthey do, though under different names and in a myriad of formats. Popular "Christian" talk shows are overthrowing the faith of far more than "some." Dave's message apparently did not please his audience or the NRB officials; he was never invited back.

Nearly a decade later, Adrian Rogers brought a similar concern before the NRB after Dave Hunt's admonishment and exhortation went unheeded. Rogers stated: "It is better to be divided by truth than to be united in error. It is better to speak the truth that hurts, and then heals, than falsehood that comforts and then kills. Let me tell you something, friend, it is not love, and it is not friendship, if we fail to declare the whole counsel of God. It is better to be hated for telling the truth, than to be loved for telling a lie...." The NRB is obviously more concerned about "a multitude" than in standing for "the truth."

In 2009, the NRB issued a Declaration of Unity, "declar[ing] afresh our long-standing commitment to use every electronic medium available to proclaim the Gospel of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ....[T]aking this opportunity to expressly affirm the faith 'that was once for all entrusted to the Saints (Jude 3).... It is for us to *carefully* and *accurately* represent this message in our culture....We acknowledge that as Christian broadcasters, we bear a special responsibility in this area" (emphasis added).

In its preamble, the document declares, "We...reaffirm this day our devotion to the historic Christian faith and our longstanding commitment...." Really? The "historic Christian faith" has been malformed into "people of faith," meaning that anything religious or spiritual qualifies—unless, that is, it is critical of another faith. NRB's "Declaration" is a sham at the very least. But that was written a decade ago. Has anything taken place of late regarding NRB's "special responsibility" of biblical carefulness and accuracy? No. The "watchdogs" of Christian broadcasting are chasing their own ecumenical tails while hypocritically yapping "Jude 3!" The masthead for the NRB website features the words "Biblical Truth," yet the ecumenical organization's events continue to be antithetical to those terms.

The speakers for its upcoming 2019 NRB convention (Proclaim 19) include some big names in evangelical Christianity, while others have more to do with marketing strategies and the entertainment business of Hollywood, which, by the way, has found a lucrative audience in movies that appeal to "people of faith." For box office success to take place, the "faith" of the people must remain an *undefined* faith. The headliners are Rick and Kay Warren, Greg Laurie, John MacArthur, Charles Stanley, Joni Eareckson Tada, Devon Franklin, Alex Kendrick, and Kirk Cameron among others. Regardless of what one thinks about these individuals personally, they have all signed on to support NRB's alleged "Declaration of Unity... [and] to *carefully* and *accurately* represent this message [Jude 3] in our culture...."

Collectively they represent a mixed bag of true and false doctrines, yet they seemingly have no concerns regarding appearing together-which is what ecumenism is all about. The Warrens have promoted one heresy after another, from Celebrate Recovery to occult meditation to mysticism to overtures with Islam, and to insistently supporting Roman Catholicism (see TBC archives for documentation). Greg Laurie, an NRB Hall of Famer, is seemingly oblivious to Warren's heresies and has joined with him on many occasions, including at his Harvest Crusades. Laurie would seem to be at odds with John MacArthur's 5-point Calvinism, and MacArthur's Calvinist/Reformed cessationism would likewise be opposed to Laurie's and Calvary Chapel's view of the gifts of the Holy Spirit, which MacArthur has aggressively criticized. Other influential Christian NRB speakers such as Charles Stanley and Joni Eareckson Tada also have differing doctrinal views, with Eareckson Tada lining up with MacArthur's Calvinism, and Stanley quietly opposed to Reformed theology.

The point of all this is that the NRB Convention strongly conveys the message that doctrinal concern and biblical accuracy are really not critical in view of the overriding need for religious *unity*. That ecumenical mindset was reflected in the words of Rick Warren when he exhorted a gathering of diverse religious leaders in Davos, Switzerland: "Can't we all just get along?" From there, he moved quickly to working together with them to solve the world's problem of "spiritual emptiness" according to Warren's Global P.E.A.C.E. Plan.

The NRB has also been the chief marketplace for the promotion of Hollywood's attempts at interpreting the Bible for major theatrical productions. Staunch Roman Catholic James Caviezel spoke at the 2018 NRB Convention. He was the star of The Passion of the Christ (based on the Catholic ritual of the Stations of the Cross) and recently Paul, Apostle of Christ, another endeavor by a Hollywood screenwriter to interpret God's Word. Catholic/New Ager Roma Downey, producer of Son of God and A.D. The Bible Continues for NBC, corrupted the Scriptures in every frame. Nevertheless, she was given the platform to speak at the 2016 NRB Convention (see TBC archives for documentation). Other NRB promotions include "faith-based" movies with serious doctrinal problems such as *Heaven Is for Real*, produced by T. D. Jakes and Devon Franklin, a popular speaker at NRB (2017, 2019). Franklin is also a motivational speaker and a Seventh-day Adventist who strictly keeps the Sabbath in addition to adhering to other cultic SDA doctrines and practices.

Space limitations of this article restrict me from listing the multitude of other individuals who have contributed to NRB's rampant ecumenism. There are also numerous organizations that have been celebrated and awarded for their service by the NRB such as *Focus on the Family* and psychologist Dr. James Dobson's *Family Talk*. These, more than any other "Christian" establishments, have led followers of Christ to become followers of "science falsely so called" and "lovers of themselves" (1 Timothy 6:20; 2 Timothy 3:1-2). Even a cursory review of Christian radio from the 1970s through today brings to light the ongoing supplanting of biblical programing with so-called Christian psychology.

So what's to be done to turn back the flood of ecumenism that will culminate in the religion of the Antichrist? Nothing, globally. Nothing, perhaps, even for Christian organizations or ministries, unless a work of the Holy Spirit brings about conviction that leads to repentance. Individually, however? Everything—if we begin with a heart that has a "love of the truth" (2 Thessalonians 2:10). We exhort you to pray for all believers to that end.

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

Submit your own questions to: PO Box 7019 • Bend, OR 97708 or e-mail: editorial@thebereancall.org

QUESTION: A previous newsletter misquoted Revelation 17:9-10 to fit your interpretation. Would you correct this, please—your work is too important to be tarnished with such an error. [From our archives, 10/1/1993]

RESPONSE: Your accusation is a serious one, which I don't take lightly. Let me quote directly from the KJV so you can see that I have neither misquoted nor rewritten it: "The seven heads are seven mountains [Gr., lit. a rise of ground, hills, or mountains; and no city could sit on seven high mountains, so the meaning must be hills], on which the woman sitteth. And there are seven kings: five are fallen, and one is, and the other is not yet come; and when he cometh, he must continue a short space."

Certainly the King James doesn't say that the seven mountains are seven kings, nor does it even say that the seven heads represent seven kings, though that could be implied. It says, "...and there are seven kings...." NAS says, "They are seven kings...." It would make no sense to say (as you seem to assume) that the heads mean mountains and that the mountains really mean kings and not mountains. Then why mention mountains at all? The most one can say is that the heads (like many other symbols—the beast itself, for example, means Antichrist, Satan, and the revived Roman Empire) have a dual meaning: hills on which the city sits and also kings. No city sits (i.e., is located) on kings, much less upon kings who are no more or haven't "yet come."

The woman's identity is carefully established beyond mistake: 1) she is a city; 2) that sits or is built (to sit somewhere, a city must have been built there) on seven hills; 3) that rules over the kings of the earth; 4) that has committed fornication with the kings of the earth; and 5) is drunk with the blood of the martyrs. No city except Rome and particularly Vatican City qualifies. I hope this has been helpful.

QUESTION: What does Jesus mean when He says that all things are possible to him who believes? If He cannot make a square circle or sin, what does Jesus really mean?

RESPONSE: The Lord is not dealing with the hypothetical. He's meeting humanity at our point of need. Our greatest need as individuals is salvation. Certainly all things are possible for the Lord, and, if He desired to do so, he could easily take a mountain and cast it into the sea.

But that has no value to individuals. On the other hand, we do have "mountains" in our lives. These include our need for salvation, our emotional needs, physical provision, our relationships with family, friends, and spouses, and other issues of life. It's upon these that He directs His primary focus.

In John 10:10, Jesus declares, "The thief comes not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly." Again, He doesn't provide everything we *desire* (wealth, a new car, a huge home, or other material things). Rather, He provides everything we *need*. Likewise regarding healing—the Lord gives us what we need.

For example, in 2 Corinthians 12 Paul wrote of his "thorn in the flesh." We don't know exactly what it was, but it was clearly a physical issue that was painful. Nevertheless, by allowing this to continue, the Lord accomplished some things in Paul's life that he needed to experience.

So Paul writes, "And lest I should be exalted above measure through the abundance of the revelations, there was given to me a thorn in the flesh, the messenger of Satan to buffet me, lest I should be exalted above measure. For this thing I besought the Lord thrice, that it might depart from me. And he said unto me, 'My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness.' Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me. Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in necessities, in persecutions, in distresses for Christ's sake: for when I am weak, then am I strong."

We are all different individuals with many similar needs. The promise of Jesus addresses those things that are of importance to us.

QUESTION: I am confused about "the dead in Christ shall rise" what does that exactly mean? Does our physical body actually rise and meet our soul and spirit?

RESPONSE: Romans 8:23 tells us, "And not only they, but ourselves also, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting for the adoption, that is, the redemption of our body."

This explicitly speaks of the redemption (that is "resurrection") of our bodies. There is coming a time when our earthly bodies shall rise, and indeed, our spirit and soul will be rejoined to that body, now changed. In 1 Corinthians 15:51, Paul writes, "Behold, I show you a mystery: We shall not all sleep; but we shall all be changed...."

"Sleep" is a metaphor used in Scripture for death, in which the body is unresponsive, similar to a person sleeping. Paul noted that not everyone will experience physical death in this life, because at the Rapture, some will meet the Lord in the air. But all will experience the change to their bodies. Much as the Lord's human body was changed after the resurrection (He entered a room without using the door - Luke 24:36), so, too, shall our earthly bodies be raised.

Those who know the Lord can take encouragement from the testimony of the patriarch Job, who had an assurance of resurrection. "And though after my skin worms destroy this body, yet in my flesh shall I see God" (Job 19:26). And we can have the assurance that though our bodies may be "destroyed,...yet in [our] flesh shall [we] see God."

It's amazing how many cults and aberrant religions specifically deny the physical resurrection of the body. On Mars Hill, Paul was instructing the philosophers and religionists who gathered there. They listened to his message until, we read in Acts 17:32, "when they heard of the resurrection of the dead, some mocked: and others said, We will hear thee again of this matter."

Yes, indeed, our bodies *shall* rise and be inhabited by our spirit and soul. And until that time arrives, whether through death or life, Paul wrote, "[May] the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ" (1 Thessalonians 5:23).

QUESTION: Would you help me to understand this question from your March 2018 newsletter? You write that "this world had been delivered unto me [by God] and to whomsoever I will give it." Does this include the physical world?

RESPONSE: In Scripture, the term "world" (depending on context) often speaks of the "world system." Satan's emphasis during the temptation of Christ is seen in Matthew 4:8: "Again, the devil taketh him up into an exceeding high mountain, and sheweth him all the kingdoms of the world, and the glory of them." It was in this context that the adversary said in verse 9, "All these things will I give thee, if thou wilt fall down and worship me." In conclusion, Satan was speaking of his domination of this present evil world system. Psalm 48:1 says, "The earth is the Lord's, and the fulness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein."

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LETTERS

To connect with TBC, write: PO Box 7019 • Bend, OR 97708 or e-mail: editorial@thebereancall.org

Dear Friends at TBC,

I hope and pray that all are well. I thank you all for the year of your rock-solid newsletter. Also, thank you T. M., for carrying on when Dave went home, and we never felt a hiccup. Dave and Ruth would be proud. JG (NH)

Berean Call,

You said that [the late] Kim Clement's prophecies don't come true, yet Trump was elected. So my question to you, my good man or woman, or trans person, or whatever [expletive deleted] you are, when is it appropriate to realize that you are the problem with Christianity? The man is a servant of Jesus Christ and you're telling people that he's a false prophet? What Master do you serve? You need to do some research and realize that Clement was right on about Trump and what's going on in America right now—look it up. JM (PA)

Dear TBC,

I have been listening to your radio program with Keith Gibson. Some years back...I was a new Christian and ended up getting caught up in TBN...Paul Crouch...the health-and-wealth movement....In the middle of all of this a young couple invited us to dinner. During this time they pointed out in scripture that this is false teaching, but I did not listen.

During the next year...reading the Scriptures, praying and fasting, little red flags started popping up, and eventually God showed me through His Word that the young couple was right. I then became pretty angry because I realized I was duped, misled. Like you, I was astonished at how many people are misled. With that said, I also

TBC NOTES

What Is Biblical Christianity All About?

The answer is both very simple and very clear from God's Word. It has all to do with knowing and loving God. It's made clear in the "first and great commandment": "Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind" (Matthew 22:37-38).

Simple? Yes. Profound? Absolutely. It is also foundational to everything in the life of a believer in Jesus Christ. Yet who of us as followers of Jesus can make the claim that we truly love Him "with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind"?

If you are willing to ponder where you are in your love for the Lord, I highly recommend you read the articles in our latest Berean Bite titled *Loving God*. They are from Dave Hunt and I believe they are his anointed best writings. That belief comes most of all from the genuine convictions and wonderful encouragements I found personally in each article. I pray that you will be blessed, as I was, as you read.

T. A. MCMAHON EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR realize that greed and desires play a big role. James 1:14—"But each one is tempted when he is drawn away by his own desires and enticed." That was me—the antidote that kept ringing in my ears were the scriptures Matthew 6:24, 1 John 2:16, Matthew 19:16-22, to name a few. Thank you for your radio program. LO (email)

Dear TBC,

I was also deceived by the Roman Catholic Church when I was young. I was also an altar boy when I was growing up....I thank God Jesus Christ opened my eyes. I can acknowledge that the Roman Catholic Church has money and power "to destroy, to tear down kingdoms, and set up kingdoms to deceive many...." Even so "come Lord Jesus Christ." JM (Prisoner, PA)

Dear TA and Everyone at TBC,

We cannot express our gratitude and thankfulness enough for your ministry—so thankful that you all carry on even after the death of Dave Hunt. Our family enjoys reading the newsletter every month and appreciates the way it keeps us alert to the many false teachings that are creeping in! Keep up the good work, and may God strengthen, encourage, comfort, and protect you as you keep pressing on. MP (WA)

QUOTABLE ······

You hope to be saved, but what reason have you to give of the hope that is in you? Is it because you have done no harm? or because you have done much good? or because you are not like others, but wise, or learned, or honest, and morally good; esteemed by others, and of a fair reputation? Alas! All this will never bring you to God....Do you know Jesus Christ whom He has sent? Has He taught you that "by grace, we are saved through faith, and that not of ourselves: it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast"? (Eph 2:8-9). Have you received the faithful saying as the whole foundation of your hope: that Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners? Have you learned what that means, "I came not to call the righteous but sinners to repentance? I am not sent, but to the lost sheep"? Are you lost, dead, damned already? Do you know your deserts? Do you feel your needs? Are you poor in spirit? mourning for God and refusing to be comforted? Has the prodigal come to himself and therefore well content to be thought "beside himself" by those who are still feeding on the husks he has left? Are you willing to live godly in Christ Jesus? And do you therefore suffer persecution? Do men and women say all manner of evil against you falsely, for the Son of Man's sake?

O that in all these questions you may hear the voice that wakes the dead and feel that hammer of the Word which breaks the rocks in pieces! If you will hear His voice today, while it is called today, do not harden your hearts. Awake, you who sleep in spiritual death, so that you do not sleep in death eternal!...Leave your old companions in sin and death. Save yourself from this perverse generation. Come out from among them and be separate,...and the Lord will receive you. "Christ will give you light."

> —JOHN WESLEY The Essential Works of John Wesley

NEWSWATCH

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

DISCRIMINATION AGAINST CHRISTIANS IN EGYPT

MORNINGSTARNEWS.ORG, 12/3/18, "DIS-CRIMINATION AGAINST CHRISTIANS IN EGYPT REFLECTS DEEPER ISSUES" [EXCERPTS]: An effort to do away with the religious designation on ID cards in Egypt reflects the enormity of the discrimination Christians face in a country regarded as a leader of Middle Eastern Islam, rights advocates said.

ID cards are required for almost every aspect of public life in Egypt, and a Christian designation can cause problems for the approximately 10 percent of the population at police stops, checkpoints, hospitals and workplaces. Christianity, Islam and Judaism are the only three religion options...

"Whenever there is a situation that requires showing your ID...you would be categorized right away," Sherif Azer, head of policy for the Egyptian Commission for Rights and Freedoms [said.]

A bill calling for the elimination of the religious designation on ID cards quickly died in committee on Nov. 14, Azer said.

As in previous efforts to end the designation, Azer said, the main reason the bill died was that doing away with the religious designation could allow a Christian man to marry a Muslim woman. That is illegal in Egypt, as children follow the religion of the father.

(https://goo.gl/329BKq)

REPTILE FOOTPRINTS ADVANCE FLOOD EXPLANATION

RELIGIONNEWS.COM, 12/4/18, "REPTILE FOOTPRINTS ADVANCE FLOOD EXPLANA-*TION"* [EXCERPTS]: Salamander-like footprints preserved in sandstone have long fascinated Grand Canyon hikers and rafters. Insights from a new study of the track patterns intensify an old trackway mystery. But Noah's Flood can help solve this mystery.

It boils down to this: How could a four-footed track maker leave so many details of its foot if it was walking on windblown sand dunes? Footprints in dry sand leave shapeless divots that might not last a single day, let alone long enough to turn to stone. Wet sand grains, however, can hold together well enough to record details like toes.

Why does this matter? Uniformitarian geologists accept that all the rock layers exposed in Grand Canyon share watery origins—except the Coconino sandstone that preserves the reptilian tracks. Anyone who admits that the Coconino sand dunes were actually deposited by fast-flowing water opens the possibility for watery origins for all the Grand Canyon layers.

And that would leave Noah's Flood very much afloat. These detailed reptile tracks clearly refute a wind-deposited Coconino sandstone.

(https://goo.gl/PzLjg7)

WHY WOULD GOD MAKE MONSTERS?

ICR. ORG, 11/30/18, "WHY WOULD GOD MAKE MONSTERS?" [EXCERPTS]: After one of my dinosaur presentations in the Dallas area, a mother told me a question her son had asked. She didn't know the answer. If God is good and Genesis creation is true, then why did He create monstrous dinosaurs? After all, look at tyrannosaur teeth. What kind of good God would make monsters like that?

It took me a few seconds to find the flaw in the question. It was worded to sound like only one option exists—that God made monsters. But what if God didn't make monsters? In other words, the question has a logical error. It leaves out an option.

If God didn't make monsters—in this case, monstrous dinosaurs—then where did they come from? Since the first chapter of Genesis says that God created "the beast of the earth…and everything that creeps on the earth according to its kind," then He certainly created dinosaurs.

The same chapter says, "Then God saw everything that He had made, and indeed it was very good." Since monsters are bad, He didn't make them! Genesis 1:30 says the original animals ate plant matter, not each other. In the beginning, even T. rex used its teeth to tear into fruits and veggies.

So, the option the boy's question leaves out is that God made dinosaurs originally "very good" but that something turned them into monsters after creation.

The Bible says that God cursed creation because of Adam and Eve's sin. By the time God sent the Flood, both animals and humans behaved like monsters. God would no longer endure their extreme violence. The global Flood buried billions of creatures, including dinosaurs. God did not make monsters. The sin of mankind did.

(https://goo.gl/cxRQAj)

THE BEREAN CALL

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

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