
FRIDAY CHURCH NEWS NOTES

DAWKINS: THE BLIND BOOKMAKER

Richard Dawkins, author of *The Blind Watchmaker*, claims that there is no evidence for intelligent design in nature. He ridicules the argument from design, claiming that design, though “apparent,” is not real, because Darwinian naturalism can explain everything. He says that atheists should be proud of their position because it is superior to and more reasonable than belief in a Creator God. The Bible says, “For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world ARE CLEARLY SEEN, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse” (Romans 1:20). If the invisible things of God are clearly seen in creation, why can’t Richard Dawkins see them? The answer is that he is spiritually blind. I have a blind preacher friend who lives in the Himalayan mountains and has preached in our church in Kathmandu. If he were to say to me, “Brother Cloud, I have heard that there are beautiful



Richard Dawkins

snow-covered mountains nearby, but I don’t believe it because I haven’t seen them,” I would say to him, “Prem, you can’t see them because you are blind. I can describe them to you, but you still won’t be able to see them.” Prem won’t be able to see until he has his resurrection body, and Dawkins won’t be able to see as long as he is spiritually blind. To obtain spiritual sight would require that he humble himself before the Almighty Creator God, admit his fallen condition and rebellion against God’s law, and cast himself upon God’s mercy in Jesus Christ. Dawkins is a poor blind bookmaker. Before the watchmaker argument, he can only huff and puff with Darwinian myths, but he cannot refute it. In fact, it is irrefutable. The mind boggling complexity and design we find in nature--the wing, the eye, the heart, the brain, the butterfly, DNA, pollination, metamorphosis, human intelligence--cannot be explained by “natural selection” or “chance mutations” or any other evolutionary mechanism that has been proposed.

PASTOR WARNS THAT FALSE CONVERSIONS ARE SUICIDE FOR CHURCHES

Speaking at the 2012 Together for the Gospel Conference, Mark Dever warned that churches that aren’t careful about conversion are committing suicide. The leaders of the conference were “conservative evangelicals” such as Dever, Al Mohler,

and John Piper. Dever, senior pastor of Capitol Hill Baptist Church, said that “thousands, if not millions, of church members sitting in America’s pews aren’t really born-again Christians” (“False Conversions,” Associated Baptist Press, April 11, 2012). “The

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A HAPPY HOME AND A DEVOTED HUSBAND

“Let thy fountain be blessed: and rejoice with the wife of thy youth” (Proverbs 5:18). “Live joyfully with the wife whom thou lovest all the days of the life of thy



vanity which he hath given thee under the sun, all the days of thy vanity: for that is thy portion in this life, and in thy labour which thou takest under the sun” (Ecclesiastes 9:9). “In all of the realms of their

marriage relationship, the husband is to rejoice and find joy with, in, through, and concerning his wife. He must not be filled with annoyance over her troublesome attributes, but must be filled with joy over her endearing qualities. He must not be regularly complaining about her faults and failures, but must be ever rejoicing over her efforts and accomplishments. He must not seek to avoid her company as much as possible, but must choose to enjoy her company. Yea, the husband must seek to make their time together upon this earth as happy and enjoyable as possible. He must live joyfully with his wife all the days of their life together. He must seek, as much as he is able, to create a happy, joyful, and enjoyable atmosphere within their marriage relationship, that he may find joy in and with his wife and that she may find joy in and with him. Let the husband then seek for ways to put a smile on his wife’s face, a bounce in her step, and a song in her heart” (Scott Markle, *God’s Wisdom for Marriage and the Home*, pp. 119, 120; this excellent book is available by contacting 810-378-5323 or www.shepherdingtheflock.com).

A HAPPY HOME AND A DEVOTED WIFE

“Nevertheless let every one of you in particular so love his wife even as himself; and the wife *see* that she reverence *her* husband” (Ephesians 5:33). “What then does it mean for the wife to reverence her husband? It means that she is to maintain a spirit and attitude of respect, esteem, and honor toward him. She is to hold him in an exalted place within her heart and to treat him with honor through her behavior. She is not to be critical of him, but to lift him up with honor. She is to adore him as her husband, to be attentive unto his thoughts and desires, and to be supportive of him and his pursuits. She is to be ever concerned to please him and to be ever cautious not to offend him. Though the wife will certainly be aware of her husband’s weaknesses and unworthiness, yet in her submission unto him she is to maintain a spirit of reverence toward him ‘as unto the Lord’” (Scott Markle, *God’s*

Wisdom for Marriage and the Home, p. 134; this excellent book is available by contacting 810-378-5323 or www.shepherdingtheflock.com).



PASTOR WARNS THAT FALSE CONVERSIONS ARE SUICIDE FOR CHURCHES

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problem I am pointing to is not just that of the occasional hypocrite lost in their own unrepentant sin," Dever said. **"I'm talking about systems which seem to produce false converts so much that it's not just one man ... but whole congregations that like Israel of old are typified and characterized not by holiness but by worldliness."** This is a perfect description of the Southern Baptist church in which I grew up in the 1950s and 1960s, but it is also a warning that is appropriate for the average Independent Fundamental Baptist church. The reason that churches become mixed multitudes populated with nominal Christians include a shallow Quick Prayerism soul winning program, carelessness

and hastiness in receiving church members, failure to preach the whole counsel of God, lack of a clear, forceful, consistent call to discipleship, and neglect of discipline. What Dever and his "conservative evangelical" friends do not see is that their own sensual, mystical "Christian" rock, their renunciation of separatism, their phony definition of "legalism," and their amillennialism are as suicidal to a church's spiritual life as carelessness about conversion. The allegorical approach to the interpretation of prophecy is no light matter in that it destroys the power of the prophetic Word and fails to produce a proper biblical worldview.

KNOWLEDGE SHALL INCREASE

About 2,500 years ago, during the Persian Empire, an angel told the prophet Daniel, "But thou, O Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book, even to the time of the end: many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall be increased" (Daniel 12:4). We are seeing a dramatic fulfillment of this in our day. Recent inventions include the following: **Scientists have tested nano-robots inside living rats for the first time** ("Scientists Implant," *Fox News*, Mar. 13, 2015). After researchers from the Department of Nanoengineering at the University of California, San Diego, introduced the zinc-based nano-robots into rats, "the zinc reacted with the animal's stomach acid, producing hydrogen bubbles that propelled the robots into the stomach lining. As soon as the robots attached to the stomach, they dissolved, delivering the medicine into the stomach tissue." **NASA's New Horizons spacecraft arrived for a flyby of Pluto on July 14, 2015, after a journey of nearly 10 years, capturing excellent photos of the dwarf planet and**



its moons. The historic three-billion-mile journey began with a launch from Cape Canaveral in January 2006. This is the last of the nine "classic" planets to be visited by spacecraft. Pioneer 10 and 11, launched in the early 1970s, visited Jupiter and Saturn. The technological brilliance of NASA's achievements is tainted by its unscientific evolutionary presumptions and its aspiration to find evidence for a mythical event (the Big Bang). **The global undersea cable system stretches 550,000 miles, enough to circle the earth 22 times** ("Animated map reveals the 550,000 miles of cable," *Business Insider*, Sep. 1, 2015). The cables transmit 99% of all international data. The longest has 39 landing points from Germany to Korea, spanning 24,000 miles. Some are laid 25,000 feet below the ocean's surface. The cables are less than three inches thick and house several optical fibers. **In December 2015, a 14-year-old boy received a 3D-printed nose transplant which has a fully functional sense of smell and taste** ("14-year-old receives fully

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KNOWLEDGE SHALL INCREASE

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functional 3D-printed nose,” UPI, Dec. 31, 2015). The landmark medical technology was performed at Mount Sinai hospital in New York City. Dallon Jennet lost his nose and part of his face at age nine when he fell onto a live power line. **Scientists at the University of Southampton have developed a five dimensional digital data storage mechanism that is capable of recording 360TB of information that can survive for 13 billion years.** The data is written by an ultrafast femtosecond laser in “three layers of nanostructured dots separated by five micrometers

(one millionth of a meter)” (“Eternal 5D data storage,” University of Southampton, Feb. 15, 2016). **Scientists have figured out how to store lines of computer code in living bacteria so that it is reproduced.** A team at Harvard successfully stored 100 bytes of data in E. coli bacteria, which passed along the information to its offspring. The scientists used the bacteria’s natural process of cutting and pasting a part of a virus’s DNA into its own genome, so it can recognize that virus again in the future. They disguised their own code as a virus, and the bacteria embedded the information into its DNA (“Scientists Turn Bacteria into Living Hard Drives,” *Popular Mechanics*, June 9, 2016).



JUSTICE IS COMING

“There is a statue of Blind Justice outside of the Albert Bryan Federal Courthouse in Alexandria, Virginia, that signifies true justice. The female statue is holding scales to signify the weighing of evidence righteously before the law. She is blindfolded to signify equality before the law. She does not see who is standing before her and therefore does not show favoritism. She is in a posture of running, signifying that she is hastening to do justice. Below the statue are the words “Justice delayed is justice denied.” Equality, righteousness, and swiftness of justice are not found in America today and lesser still in most nations, but these will characterize the justice system in Christ’s kingdom. “And in mercy shall the throne be established: and he shall sit upon it in truth in the tabernacle of David, judging, and seeking judgment, and hasting righteousness” (Isaiah 16:5).

INFORMATION

The Friday Church News Notes is designed for use in churches and is published by Way of Life Literature’s Fundamental Baptist Information Service. Unless otherwise stated, the Notes are written by David Cloud. Of necessity we quote from a wide variety of sources, but this obviously does not imply an endorsement. We trust that our readers will not be discouraged. It is God’s will that we know the times (1 Ch. 12:32; Mat. 16:3) and that we be as wise as serpents and harmless as doves. The News Notes remind us that the hour is very late, and we need to be ready for the Lord’s coming. Are you sure that you are born again? Are you living for Christ? “And that, knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep: for now is our salvation nearer than when we believed. The night is far spent, the day is at hand: let us therefore cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armour of light. Let us walk honestly, as in the day; not in rioting and drunkenness, not in chambering and wantonness, not in strife and envying. But put ye on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make not provision for the flesh, to fulfil the lusts thereof” (Rom. 13:11-14). This material is sent only to those who personally subscribe to the Fundamental Baptist Information Service mailing list. To SUBSCRIBE, go to <http://www.wayoflife.org/wayoflife/subscribe.html>. TO UNSUBSCRIBE OR CHANGE ADDRESSES, go to the very bottom of any email received from us and click “Manage My Subscription.” Way of Life Literature, P.O. Box 610368, Port Huron, MI 48061, 866-295-4143, fbns@wayoflife.org.