

# LSI Journal

The Lutheran Science Institute

May-June, 2009



## Mount St. Helens, Surtsey and the Age of the Earth

- ☀️ “Boiling a Young Goat in Its Mother’s Milk”
- ☀️ The Real Danger in Subscribing to Darwinism
- ☀️ Gallup Poll: Still Doubts About Darwin

## LUTHERAN SCIENCE INSTITUTE, INC.

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<http://www.lutheranscience.org>

The mission of the Lutheran Science Institute is to learn, share, and promote the glory of God as revealed in His holy Word and demonstrated in His created world, beginning with

the pastors, teachers, and laity of the WELS (Wis. Ev. Lutheran Synod) and the ELS (Ev. Lutheran Synod).

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LSI JOURNAL

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The Annual Meeting of the Institute is held the Saturday *after* Thanksgiving. At least three other meetings are held during the year at locations selected by the president. Meetings are open to the public and announced in the LSI JOURNAL and/or on our web site.

### **MEETING SCHEDULE\***

- ◆ 4th Saturday in January, 1:00 p.m.
- ◆ 2nd Saturday in June, 1:00 p.m.
- ◆ Last Saturday in October, 1:00 p.m.
- ◆ Saturday *after* Thanksgiving in November, 1:00 p.m.

\*Dates, times, and locations subject to change. Additional meetings may be scheduled. Check with the president, secretary, or editor or see our web site for verification.

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#### **Mount St. Helens, Surtsey and the Age of the Earth — Part 2**

Some dating methods show the earth's age must be measured in thousands of years, not billions.

#### **Weird and Wonderful—Sharks and Sea Slugs**

Sharks and sea slugs show evidence of having been designed by a Creator.

**MOUNT  
ST.  
HELENS,**

**SURTSEY**

## **AND THE AGE OF THE EARTH—PART 1**

**BY WARREN KRUG**

**O**n May 18, 1980 there was a tremendous explosion on a volcanic mountain in the state of Washington. Initiated by an earthquake and a rockslide involving one-half cubic mile of rock, the top and north slope of Mount St. Helens (picture, above) slid off the mountain, releasing pressure in the form of steam, with energy equal to 20 million tons of TNT.

In six minutes 150 square miles of forest were knocked over. In Spirit Lake, north of the volcano, the blast caused a huge water wave to strip trees as high as 850 feet above pre-eruption

water levels. The total energy output, on May 18, equaled 400 million tons of TNT, about the

The author is the editor/president of the Lutheran Science Institute.

same energy as 20,000 Hiroshima-size atomic bombs could have produced.

As interesting as the volcanic eruption at St. Helens was in itself, what was even more interesting was what geologists found after studying the site once the mountain simmered down. Major geological changes had occurred in a very short time. As Dr. Steven Austin says, the eruption and the processes involved “serve as a miniature laboratory for catastrophism.” The potent geologic processes have challenged the traditional uniformitarian way of thinking regarding how the earth works.<sup>1</sup>

### **Rapidly Formed Stratification**

Since 1980 about 400 feet thickness of strata have formed at Mount St. Helens. These deposits were created by forces such as the initial air blast, the landslide, waves on the lake, mudflows, hot ash flows, etc. One 25-foot-thick deposit accumulated in less than one day, on June 12, 1980, and contains many very thin layers of sediment and beds.

Conventional thinking assumes that long seasonal variations or annual changes would be necessary for such layers to slowly form. Mount St. Helens though has taught us that stratified layers can form very rapidly by flow processes.

### **Rapid Erosion**

During the volcanic eruptions on Mt. St. Helens, erosion was caused by the steam blast as well as by the landslide, water waves, pyroclastic flows (hot pumice ash flows) and mudflows. Additional erosion has since occurred due mainly to sheet flooding and channelized flow of water with some mud flows.

Less than five days after the initial explosion, rills and gullies over 125 feet deep and resembling badlands topography had already formed. Geologists had assumed it would take hundreds and thousands of years for such features to form on earth.



North Fork Toutle River valley showing debris avalanche caused by the volcano.

The most significant erosion was caused by mudflows. A mudflow on March 19, 1982 eroded a canyon system up to 140 feet deep in the Toutle River Valley. This little “Grand Canyon of the Toutle River”



Spirit Lake

resembles the Grand Canyon of the Colorado River but is only one-fortieth the size. Its formation provides clues as to how the bigger canyon could have been created. Although the Toutle River canyon looks like it should have taken long periods of time to form, it obviously was created in a very short time.

### Upright Deposited Logs

Powerful waves were generated on Spirit Lake by the landslide. These waves stripped forests adjacent to the lake and created an enormous log mat made up of millions of trees and covering two square miles of the lake's surface. Although most of the trees in the mat were in a prone position, many were seen floating upright, the root ends submerged and the opposite ends sticking out of the water.

A research team a few years after the volcanic eruption surveyed the lake bottom using sonar and scuba. Hundreds of

upright, fully submerged logs were found in Spirit Lake. As of August in 1985 the survey team estimated there were 19,000 of these stumps on the floor of the lake with an average height of 20 feet. Some of the randomly spaced trees were already solidly buried by sediment while others had no sediment around their bases, indicating they were deposited at different times.

If found in the stratigraphic record, the trees would likely be interpreted according to current theories as having grown at different levels from multiple forests and been buried over thousands of years of time. However, the Spirit Lake experience means the ages of "petrified forests" need to be reevaluated.

### Peat Layer in Spirit Lake

Already only a few years after the eruption, layers of peat moss were found in Spirit Lake. The Spirit Lake peat resembles certain coal beds found in the eastern United States. Both these coal beds and the Spirit Lake peat are dominated by tree bark and appear to have accumulated beneath floating log mats.

Supposedly coal is formed from organic matter in swamps. Because the accumulation of peat in swamps is a slow process, conventional geologists have estimated it takes about a thousand



Surtsey eruption

years for each inch of coal to form.

The Spirit Lake peat, which texturally is very similar to coal, shows that all that is needed for coal formation is burial and slight heating. Coal was already forming in Spirit Lake only a few years after the Mt. St. Helen's eruption!

### **Surtsey Island**

Surtsey (picture above) is an island which in 1963 was born as a result of an undersea volcano off the coast of Iceland. Surtsey is also a bundle of surprises to geologists who have been studying it. One geologist wrote, "On Surtsey, only a few months sufficed for a landscape to be cre-

ated which was so varied and mature that it was almost beyond belief."

A 2006 article in *New Scientist* magazine commented, "The island has excited geographers, who marvel that canyons, gullies and other land features that typically take tens of thousands or millions of years to form were created in less than a decade."

Biologists too have been amazed by Surtsey. Researchers who reached the island in 1965 didn't find the flora consisting of simple plants such as lichens and mosses, as they had expected, but were instead greeted by the green shoots and white flowers of the sea rocket, its roots sunk into the ash and in full bloom. Soon to appear were lyme grass, sea

sandwort, cotton grass and ferns. It took a couple of more years for the mosses to arrive, and it wasn't until 1970 that lichens made an appearance. This is noteworthy because according to standard evolutionary theory, mosses and lichen should have appeared before any more complex plant. The New Scientist article indicated there was no evolutionary logic to what has happened on Surtsey or neighboring islands. "What came, came," it said.

As for animal life, early arrivals included flies, spiders flying through the air on silken threads, mites riding on a floating gatepost, and other insects traveling on clumps of grass. Seabirds arrived and began nesting in 1970, producing chicks just three years after the lava stopped flowing. Other birds brought seeds which grew rapidly thanks to the bird droppings. Now a regular cycle has been established: plants supporting insects which attract birds which bring more plants. The Icelandic Institute of Natural History says, "We now have a fully functioning ecosystem on Surtsey."

Something else to consider about Surtsey is how rapidly it is eroding. It now is only half the size it was in 1967 when the eruptions stopped. One geologist says Surtsey's ash plains will be totally washed away within a

century or so. Fast erosion testifies to the fact that the Earth is young.<sup>2</sup>

### **The Problem With Conventional Dating Methods**

Why have these recent events produced features that appear to be thousands or millions of years old according to the conventional way of looking at things?

Dr. Austin tells of a lava sample he obtained from Mount St. Helens after the eruption, a rock that couldn't have been more than eleven years old. He sent the sample to a laboratory that specializes in dating rocks, but, of course, did not tell the laboratory where he had gotten the rock. The dates the laboratory gave for the minerals in this eleven-year-old rock were up to 2.8 million years!

How could this happen? Conventional radioisotope dating looks at the decay of certain minerals in rocks into other minerals, for instance uranium into lead or potassium into argon or rubidium into strontium,

Scientists determine how much of the new mineral is in a rock and, assuming there was none in the rock to begin with, they determine the age.

The weaknesses of these dating techniques are the assumptions involved: 1. that the begin-





Mount St. Helen's  
Before the Blast

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ning quantities are known; 2. that there has been a constant rate of decay, and 3. that the decaying process has happened in a closed system.

The following story might show how such assumptions can lead to false conclusions:

Suppose you are returning to your home from a flight across the country and find it raining “cats and dogs.”

Being curious as to how long the rain has been falling, you go outside with a yardstick and do some measuring. It appears the rain is falling at a rate of 1 inch per hour.

You notice a barrel sitting by the side of the house. You put the yardstick into the barrel and find 36 inches of water in it. “Okay,” you say to yourself. “At a rate of one inch per hour, it must have been raining for 36 hours.”

It is easy to see that our assumptions could lead to a conclu-

sion that could be way off. First, how do we know there wasn't water, perhaps a considerable amount of water, in the barrel before the rain started falling? How do we know the rain has been falling at a constant rate? How do we know that nobody for some reason could have added tap water to the barrel after the rain had started?

Errors in radioisotope dating are likely for the same reasons. Dr. Austin tells of having rocks from the same area of the Grand Canyon. Using different radioisotope methods, he came up with widely varying dates as to the age of the rocks, from 0.84 billion years to 1.4 billion years.<sup>3</sup> ❧

## Next

**Why evolutionist scientists need long ages.**

**Some dating methods that show the earth's age must be measured in thousands of years, not billions.**

## References

1. <http://www.icr.org/article/mt-st-helens-catastrophism/>
2. <http://creation.com/surtsey-still-surprises>
3. <http://www.answersingenesis.org/media/video/ondemand/radioisotopes/radioisotopes-age-of-the-earth>

# Boiling a Young Goat in Its Mother's Milk



“Do not cook a young goat in its mother’s milk.”  
Exodus 23:19b (NIV)

**E**x. 23:19 (and Deut. 14:21) states: “Thou shalt not boil a kid in its mother’s milk.”

For centuries this prohibition baffled Bible scholars. In the early twentieth century, Canaanite texts were unearthed at the coastal Syrian town of Ugarit. One of them seemed to explain the mystery; it referred to a pagan ritual that involved cooking a kid (baby goat) in milk and a lamb in butter. Thus, it appeared that the Biblical prohibition was to keep the Israelites away from pagan rituals.

A recent re-translation of the text showed that it has been mistranslated, and had nothing to do with boiling a baby goat in milk. However, even more recently, ethnoarchaeologist and pottery expert Gloria London, director of

the Tall al-’Umayri Teachers’ Institute in Seattle, has come up with a much more plausible explanation of the Biblical text, which has nothing to do with the Ugarite tablets, but with health and hygiene. She writes: “. . . I have observed working potters all over the world. . . My time in Cyprus was particularly illuminating” regarding the mysterious Mosaic prohibition (London 2008: 66).

She recounts that while observing Cypriot women make pottery, she noticed that these women made yogurt by pouring new milk into jars that had previously contained old yogurt. The traces of the old, sour milk that remained in the porous walls of

Reprinted from the January 26, 2009 issue of *The Christian News*.

the clay pots were the “starter” that caused the new milk to turn into yogurt. One of the women told Lond: “Of course, you never put meat into a clay pot with milk.” The reason, she told the scholar, was that the sour milk still clinging to the insides of the clay pot would spoil the meat (London 2008: 68).

London concludes: “My ethnoarchaeological fieldwork in Cyprus may now offer a better explanation for not cooking a kid in milk. In times when people used porous clay pots to cook, everyone avoided cooking meat in containers used for milk products. . .To this day, traditional Cypriot

potters make a goat-milking pot used



by women, the galaftiri [after the Greek word for milk, *galaktos*]. . .These pots are never used for meat. Nor are cooking pots ever used for dairy. . .Rather than a dietary restriction limited to a single group of people, it was common practice to keep all ceramic pots used for milk verses meat separate. . .It’s possible that the Bible’s commandment to separate eat and milk boils down to good housekeeping.” (2008: 69)

This would certainly be in keeping with the Mosaic Law, since many of its restrictions were for the ultimate health of the Israelites. For example, Ex. 29:14 requires the burning of animal dung outside the camp. Lev. 3:17 prohibits eating blood (which can contain parasites), Lev. 7:24 prohibits the eating of carrion, Lev. 11:31-38 emphasizes the necessity of clean water, Lev. 13:45 commands lepers to cover their noses and mouths, Lev. 15:2 gives orders on how to safely deal with bodily discharges that might prove contagious. Lev. 15:13 mandates the use of running water (which is the cleanest kind) when treating a person with such a discharge, Num 19:15 warns against using uncovered vessels, and Deut. 23:12-13 commands that human waste be buried. It is thus entirely reasonable to conclude that the Mosaic prohibition against cooking meat and milk in the same vessel falls into the same category of hygiene-based regulations.

—Stephen Caesar  
Associates for Biblical  
Research

### Reference

London, G. “Why Meat and Milk Don’t Mix.” *Biblical Archaeology Review*, Nov/Dec., 2008, vol. 34, no. 6.



# NUGGETS

## Medical Myths Debunked

The British Medical Journal's annual Christmas issue has concluded the following are baseless fears:



☆ **Eating poinsettias is deadly.** A review of numerous reports to poison control centers regarding consumption of poinsettias uncovered no serious problems.

☆ **The number of suicides rises at the time of major holidays.** A study of suicides in the United States during the last 35 years uncovered no such trend. Suicides peak during summer and are lowest in winter, and social contacts at the time of holiday celebrations may actually help minimize suicidal thoughts.

☆ **Sugar makes children hyperactive.** Research doesn't support such an idea. Parents were likely to rate their kids as hyperactive even after concluding wrongly that their children had just eaten sugar. Other myths:

☆ **Not wearing a hat can cause one to lose excessive body heat.**

☆ **There is a cure for a hang-over.**

☆ **Eating at night makes one more likely to become obese.**

*Source: Milwaukee Journal-Sentinel (12/21/08)*

A hint of Babel: "One of the greatest mysteries of prehistory is how people in widely separated places suddenly and spontaneously developed the capacity for language at roughly the same time. It was as if people carried around in their heads a genetic alarm clock that suddenly went off all around the world and led different groups in widely scattered places on every continent to create languages."

—Bryson, B. *Mother Tongues*, Penguin Books, London, England, p. 14, 1991, quoted in *Creation*, December 2008-February, 2009.

## Where Did That Expression Come From — Part 2

▶ “*Having a screw loose*”—from the invention of the cotton gin, early versions of which frequently broke down due to loose screws.

▶ “*Caught red-handed*”—from criminals who were caught still having the blood of their victims on their hands.

▶ “*Soup to nuts*”—In the 16th and 17th centuries, seven-course meals were not uncommon. Often, soup was the first course and the meal ended with wine and nuts.



—*American Profile* (Oct. 5-11, 2008)

## Typo Causes Problems for Brigham Young's Student Newspaper

Thousands of copies of BYU's student newspaper had to be pulled off newsstands because of a major blunder.

A photo caption called Mormon leaders “apostates” when it meant to say “apostles.” An *apostate* is someone who has abandoned a religious faith or its principles.

The Daily Universe showed a photo of the Quorum of the Twelve

Apostles, a governing body of the Mormon church.

The mistake happened because of a computer spell check which suggested “apostates” as a replacement word for a misspelled “apostles” and the editor mistakenly clicked on that word.

The newspaper accepted responsibility for the error which it said should have been caught. No one is expected to be disciplined by the university.

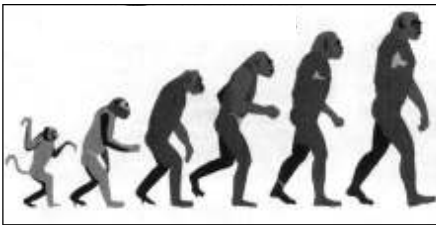
—*Milwaukee Journal Sentinel*  
(4-8-09)

Friday, February 27, 2009

## Still Doubts About Darwin—Gallup Poll

Fewer than 40% of Americans say they are sure about the theory of evolution.

**Web page:** <http://www.icr.org/article/4529/>



**SUMMARY:** Two centuries after his birth, Charles Darwin's theory of evolution is supported by less than 40% of Americans according to a recent Gallup survey. Over 1,000 adults were asked to state whether they believe in evolution, disbelieve it, or had no opinion. Thirty-nine percent said they did, 25%

said they didn't, and 36% had no opinion.

Belief in evolution is significantly higher among people with a college degree while those with only a high school education or less were more likely to have no opinion. Of those with a high school education or less who did give an opinion, more were non-believers in the theory than believers.

Creationists would say that the relationship between higher levels of education and acceptance of evolution is due to the one-sided presentation of Darwin's theory that most students in high school and college get to hear.

Americans who seldom if ever attend church were slightly more likely to associate Darwin with the theory than those who are regular church goers. Overall, only 55% of the people surveyed were able to make the link between Darwin and evolution with 29% of the non-believers in evolution being able to do so. Evolution was opposed 41% to 24% among regular church goers while non-church-goers supported the theory 55% to 11%.

**COMMENT:** The results of this poll conducted earlier this month isn't that much different from similar polls taken in recent times. It does demonstrate that supporters of Darwin's theory are in large part still failing to make their case that "evolution is as much a fact as the law of gravity." This failing is due to the truth that there is not much of a case to be made.

One wonders what the results of the poll would have been if over the years all high school and college science textbooks and all high school and college science instructors would have provided both sides of the argument.

Looking at it negatively, this Gallup poll does show 75% of Americans are not sure that God created the world and all living things in it as He said He did in Genesis. This means the fields are still ripe for mission work. A lot of work needs to be done to inform people that our original parents, Adam and Eve, fell into sin, were promised a Savior, and that the Savior came to Earth in the person of Jesus Christ. If someone doesn't believe in original sin, it is more difficult to convince that individual that he/she needs a Savior. And, of course, belief in Jesus as our Savior from sin is the only way to salvation.

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Monday, April 13, 2009

## **Bird Has Human-like Eyes**

Jackdaws may be the only animal able to understand the role of eyes in communicating.

**Web page:** <http://news.nationalgeographic.com/news/2009/04/090407-birds-human-eyes.html>



**SUMMARY:** Crow-like birds called jackdaws may be the only animal able to understand the role of eyes in seeing and perceiving things as do humans, according to a new study. Jackdaw eyes, like those of humans, are very conspicuous, with dark pupils surrounded by silvery white irises. The similarities suggest jackdaws may use their eyes to communicate just as do humans, said zoologist and study leader Auguste von Bayern of the U. of Oxford.

Her study of hand-reared jackdaws shows the birds can use a human's gaze to tell what that person is looking at. In one test, she and a colleague timed how long a jackdaw took to retrieve food if a person was also looking at the food. The birds did equally well whether they could see both eyes of the person or only one eye. That test suggests that what was most important was a person's eye motion and not other cues such as the direction of the human's head. In a second test, the birds were able to use a human's altered eye gaze to find food hidden from view. However, the jackdaws did less well if the person involved was not familiar to them.

Previous studies have shown that other intelligent animals such as chimpanzees and dogs do not have this ability. Additional tests will be needed to determine if the jackdaws' talents are a natural tendency or a learned behavior from being raised by

humans.

**COMMENT:** A natural question after reading a story like this one might be to ask if the similarity in the eyes and visual talents of jackdaws and people means that humans have evolved from jackdaws. All jokes aside, how can the theory of evolution explain such a talent as the one here described evolving in two such distant species when it is not known in any other creature?

The truth is that the Creator gave features and talents to humans and to the various kinds of animals according to His own plans, without regard to any supposed evolutionary relationship. For another example, he gave most birds the gift of flight but he also gave the bat, a mammal, the ability to fly. Still another example: although most fish lay eggs, some give birth to live babies as do most mammals.

This article does strike a low blow when it calls jackdaws "the only animal aside from humans." The idea that humans are just another animal unfortunately is par for the course in secular science articles. Humans are not animals. We are creative and inventive, have been given the gift of language, and experience a wide range of emotions. The main difference, of course, is that alone among God's creatures we have eternal souls, which also means that we alone must stand before our Creator on Judgment Day to answer for our sins. Now is the time for every person to confess his or her transgressions and to believe in the forgiveness which Jesus won for every human when he died on the cross. All believers can look forward to a resurrection to heaven just as surely as Jesus himself came back to life on the first Easter Sunday. Hallelujah!

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## QUESTION OF THE DAY

Biologically speaking, which of the following are NOT vegetables: lettuce, green beans, tomatoes, carrots, corn, cabbage?



Green beans, tomatoes, and corn are not vegetables. According to biologists, vegetables cannot contain seeds. Vegetables must come from the root, stem or leaf of a plant to be classified as vegetables. Supermarkets and nutritionists though may define vegetables differently.

Source: *Exploring the World of Biology*, by John Hudson Tiner



## ► LSI News

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### Next Meeting

The next meeting of the LSI Board of Directors has been scheduled for **1 p.m.** on Saturday, June 13. We have reserved room at Trinity Lutheran Church and School, 7900 Nicholson Road, Caledonia, Wisconsin.

To reach this site via I-94, exit at the Seven Mile Road exit and drive east about three miles. Trinity is located at the southwest corner of Nicholson Road and Seven Mile Road.

### Need a Topic for Your Next Meeting?

Need a good program for your next meeting? We have a number of DVDs and videotapes that could form the basis for an excellent program for meetings of parent-teacher groups, men's clubs, women's societies, or any other social gathering.



These are available for any WELS, ELS or LSI group or member to rent—\$4 for non-members, \$3 for members.

Write for more information or go to our Web site and click on the “In ‘Honor’ of Darwin” or the

“LSI Library” links. Teachers may want to consider one of these tapes or DVDs as a good fill-in activity or a way to close out a class in science this spring.

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## ► E-Mails

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### Another Case Of a Bone Healing Without Surgery

Re: LSI Blog-April 8: Repairing Damaged Bones Without Surgery

Interesting. I healed from a broken ankle without surgery, wearing a boot for eight weeks. God did the healing.

Ralph Lohrengel  
Michigan

### News Travels Faster Now

RE: LSI Blog-Jan. 28: World Will End in 2012, Some Say

Enjoy your blogs. One difference between then and now. During WWII it took some time for the news of the world to be brought to the public. Now, we watch the airplane land in the Hudson River as it is happening. Through TV we know so much of what is happening as it is happening. I think we are closer to that end time. The Lord may even come before you get this message.

William Bein  
Arizona

# ► News

## Poll Shows Christians Are Less Superstitious

A recent Gallup poll indicates traditional Christians are much less likely than the general population to engage in superstitious practices such as astrology, clairvoyance, and UFOs. On the other hand, the irreligious, people who have read *The Da Vinci Code*, and liberal Christians are more likely to believe in the occult, in the paranormal and in pseudoscience. This survey supports a 1980 *Skeptical Inquirer* study that found anti-theistic college students were by far more likely to entertain paranormal beliefs than born-again Christian students.—*Creation* (March-May, 2009)



## Geneticists Surprised

Geneticists were surprised when they discovered the human genome has only 20,000 to 30,000 genes, about the same as that of a worm. However, it turns out our genetic code is much more complex with our genes much better able to “multitask.” A single human gene by a process called “alternative splicing” can produce multiple RNA transcripts which, in turn, can produce very different protein machines with widely varying functions.—*Creation* (March-May, 2009)

## Study Links Abortions to Depression in Women

Woman having an abortion face a 30% increase risk of experiencing common mental health problems such as depression and substance abuse. The New Zealand study shows abortions raise the risk of severe depression and anxiety by one-third.—*Clearly Caring* (First Quarter, 2009)

## Polls Shows 82% Want Abortion Limits

Abortion should either be illegal or more strictly limited than it currently is, said 82% of respondents in a nationwide survey. Only nine percent said abortion should be legal for any reason at any stage of pregnancy.—*Clearly Caring* (First Quarter, 2009)

## Stay Calm and Avoid Arthritis

If you're stressed out at work, your chances of developing rheumatoid arthritis are increased, according to Lars Alfredsson, a Swedish scientist. Smoking, drinking alcohol and family history are also linked to an increased risk.—*Bottom Line Personal* (3/15/09)

## Adult Stem Cell Success

Adult stem cells transplanted in lab rats have been found to reverse paralysis associated with spinal cord injuries. Spanish researchers took stem cells from the lining of the rats' spinal cords and transplanted them into some with serious spinal cord injuries. Within one week, the injured rats recovered significant motor activity. Up to 400,000 people in the U.S. are thought to suffer from spinal cord injuries.—*livescience.com* (1/29/09)

## Vegetarian Youth

About 1 in every 200 children, as many as 367,000, are vegetarians according to the government's first estimate of how many kids avoid meat. The rate could be even higher among older children who have more control over what they eat. The rate appears to be increasing because of YouTube animal slaughter videos that may be affecting young people.—*Yahoo News and AP* (1/11/09)

## Positive Lives for Churchgoing Children

Children who live with their married biological parents and attend church frequently have positive home and school experiences. A Family Research Council project revealed these children are five times less likely to repeat a school grade and have fewer behavioral problems at school or home.—*Clearly Caring* (First Quarter, 2009)

## Noises Bad for Animals

Manmade noises are interfering with the ability of whales and dolphins to communicate, orient themselves and find mates, U.N. officials and environmental groups meeting in Rome in December said. The “sound pollution” includes increased commercial shipping, seismic surveys, and new military sonar. Even climate change may be at fault, causing sounds to travel farther through seawater. Suggestions for dealing with the problem include rerouting shipping, installing quieter engines, cutting speed, and banning tests and sonar in sensitive areas of the ocean.—*Milwaukee Journal Sentinel* (12/4/08)

## U.S. Face Transplant

The first face transplant in the U.S. involved a 22-hour operation that transplanted most of the face of a dead woman onto a recipient whose own face was severely disfigured. A 30-member team at the Cleveland Clinic replaced 80% of the woman's face including lower eyelids, nose, cheeks and upper jaw along with supporting bones, muscles, nerves and arteries. Although she is gradually regaining normal skin sensations and control of her facial muscles, she still has a long, potentially treacherous road ahead. The first ever face transplant took place in France.—*Milwaukee Journal Sentinel* (12/18/08)

## Face Transplant Patient Regains Self-confidence

The first U.S. patient to receive a near-total face transplant says she has regained her self-confidence. The unnamed woman can now breathe through her nose, smell, eat solid foods, and drink out of a cup. In a 22-hour procedure at the Cleveland Clinic, she received her new face from a donor cadaver. To date there have been four facial transplants worldwide.—*cnn.com* (2/16/09)

## New Land Speed Record

The world land speed record for a wind-powered vehicle has been broken by a British engineer. Richard Jenkins reached 126.1 mph on the dry plains of Ivanpah Lake in Nevada. Called the Greenbird, the car is made of carbon fiber composite and uses metal only in the wing bearings and the wheel unit. It uses a solid wing rather than a sail to generate movement.—*BBC News* (3/29/09)



## Many Animals Learn While Still in the Egg

Studies have shown that many animals can learn important lessons while still in the egg. Embryo salamanders and frogs were taught to fear certain enemies when their eggs were exposed to scents of those enemies. Also, zebra fish learned to recognize their kin only six days after fertilization and embryo cuttlefish were led to prefer certain prey which they could observe through their transparent embryonic sacs.—*Discover* (March, 2009)

## Some Moth Larvae Can Medicate Themselves

Moth larvae called woolly bear caterpillars are the first insects known to self-medicate to rid themselves of parasites. Parasitic flies lay their eggs inside the woolly bears. When the fly larvae hatch, they feed on the woolly bears and then explode out of their abdomens. However, if the caterpillars eat leaves from senecio and other plants, they fill their bellies with toxic drugs called alkaloids which either kill the fly larvae directly or boost the woolly bear's immune system.—*national geographic.com* (3/13/09)



## Many Hospital Patients Become Infected

More than 7,100 hospital patients daily become infected with the bacterium *Clostridium difficile*, and as many as 438 of them can expect to die. A report released in November last year found that the infections were 20 times more common than previously thought. One study found 60% of doctors and nurses who cared for infected patients had the organism on their hands. The problem can be reduced if health care workers wash their hands frequently and avoid giving unnecessary antibiotics which can kill off disease-fighting bacteria.—*Consumer Reports OnHealth* (March, 2009)

## Ginkgo Ineffective In Preventing Dementia

Ginkgo (*Ginkgo biloba*), a popular medicinal herb, appears to be ineffective in preventing dementia. A study published in the Nov. 19, 2008 *Journal of the American Medical Association* found that two groups of participants had the same rates of dementia or Alzheimer's disease. One group took 120 mg of ginkgo extract twice daily while the other group took identical-looking tablets with no active ingredients.—*Mayo Clinic Health Letter* (March, 2009)

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## Bread

Jesus answered, "It is written: 'Man does not live on *bread* alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.' " **Matthew 4:4 (NIV)**

Jesus was very hungry after going without food for 40 days when Satan came to him. Satan tempted Jesus by suggesting He turn some stones into bread for food.

Jesus didn't need Satan's advice. He quoted a Bible verse (Deut. 8:3) to remind the devil that there is something more important than bread or food, that being the Word of God.

**What is bread?** Bread is a baked food made from a powdery substance, flour. Flour is made from a grain.

**Is there more than one kind of bread?** The most common kind of bread in

our country is made from wheat, but other kinds of grains such as rye or corn can also be made into bread.



**How is bread made?** Bread can be made most simply by using only flour, water, salt, and yeast. Yeast is a product that



causes the bread to rise. A soft dough is first made by mixing these items together. The dough is then kneaded, which means it is stretched and pressed until it is completely mixed. Next the dough is allowed to sit for a while so that the yeast can cause it to rise. Finally it is baked in an oven. Many other types of bread can be made using different ingredients.

**How is whole wheat bread different from regular bread?** Whole

wheat bread is heavier and darker in color than regular white bread. It is made using whole wheat kernels. Parts of the kernels are removed in making white bread flour. Whole wheat bread is considered a healthier bread than regular white bread.

**What is pumpernickel bread?** Pumpernickel is a very dark and tough bread made from whole rye kernels instead of wheat.

**What is enriched bread?** Most white bread sold today has vitamins added to it during the baking process. This vitamin-rich bread is called enriched bread.

**What type of bread did Jesus pass around during the Last Supper?** The Last Supper took place during a religious festival called the Feast of Unleavened Bread. “Unleavened” means nothing like yeast was used. So the bread he passed out to His disciples was a flat

bread made without leaven.

Jesus reminds us that as important as bread is, the Word of God is much more important. Without bread or other food, we will soon die in this world. However, without the Word of God, which tells us that Jesus is our Savior, we must face eternal death

—Source: Grolier Multimedia  
Ency.

### Activities

1. Probably all of us have seen moldy bread. Mold is made by growing things called fungi. **Don't do this activity if you are allergic to mold.** To grow mold on a piece of bread, put a small amount of water on it. Let it sit for a few days in a warm, bright room. You should soon see the mold.

2. You can make sugar in your mouth. Put a piece of bread into your mouth and chew it well. Soon the bread will begin tasting sweeter as your saliva changes something in the bread into a type of sugar.



### The Real Danger in Subscribing to Darwinism

**M**y closing comments in my recent interview with *Forward in Christ* magazine (Feb, 2009) could, I feel, benefit from some further explanation.

At times I am somewhat puzzled by answers some creationists give when asked why true Christians can't be evolutionists.

For instance, they might first explain that Scripture contradicts evolution in the order that things and animals came into existence. As an example, the Bible says the earth was created before the sun and stars; evolution says the opposite. The Bible says birds came before land animals; evolution says the opposite.

Creationists get a little closer to the heart of the matter when they point out the Bible teaches that there was no death prior to Adam's sin, but according to Darwinism death existed for millions of years prior to the arrival of man.

It is fine and good to show that evolution theory if accepted destroys our faith in the inerrancy of God's Word. But why is this

so important? The Gospel, of course, hangs in the balance.

In my interview I explained that according to evolution theory mankind over vast ages has been progressively getting better on its own through natural means. It is an upward progression from lower forms of life to the current "king of the hill," *homo sapiens*. The Bible though shows mankind was created "in the image of God" already at the highest of levels, holy and without defect, only then to fall into a deep abyss of sin. From this deep pit we can be rescued only by the intervention of Jesus Christ. There is no "deep pit", no original sin, in Darwinism theory from which man needs to be rescued.

Some creationists have advised that in evangelism programs we should start with the first chapters of Genesis. People first must see the need for a Savior before they can come to faith in Him. As Jesus said in Matthew 9, "It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick."

So, I believe the first answer to the question "Why can't Christians believe in evolution?" should be "Because it destroys the need for Christ." Then we can go on to contrast evolution with Scripture and real science so that Satan can't use science to discredit God's Word. 📖

—Warren Krug, editor

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