

[Note: February 12 is the birthday of Charles Darwin (he was born in 1809). In conjunction with this day many evolutionary publications are promoting their false doctrine even more. Brad Harrub of Focus Press (*THINK* magazine) has written a series of four articles to be used by congregations for bulletin publication during this time. For February, the Elders' Corner will feature these timely articles.]

RENEW YOUR MIND

BY BRAD HARRUB, PH.D.

Evolutionary Hoaxes

“Ontogeny recapitulates phylogeny.” This phrase, often heard in freshman biology classes, was coined by 19th century German biologist Ernst Haeckel to describe the idea that the human embryo replays the steps of evolution as it develops. Specifically, this theory says that human embryos pass through a progression of abbreviated stages in the womb that resembles primary evolutionary stages (e.g., fish, amphibian, reptile) during the course of development.

While Haeckel's name might not sound familiar to you, one of the drawings he used to bolster his theory probably is. This now-familiar illustration of embryos of fish, reptiles, birds, and mammals lined up side-by-side is a common staple in most biology and embryology textbooks. This single figure has altered the public consciousness and has become one of the best known “evidences” for evolution. Additionally, some individuals use this principle of “recapitulation” to justify abortion (they argue that after all, at various stages the human embryo is no different from a fish or reptile).

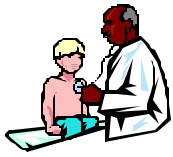
There is only one small problem. **Haeckel's illustration was a fake! He drew the human embryo to look just like the early embryo of the fish, amphibian, and reptile—but it doesn't.** Ironically, the fact that these drawings are a fraud is “old-hat” to biologists. History records that Haeckel was accused of scientific fraud by his peers. Recognition of his falsehoods still appears in scientific journals, as noted in a letter to the editor in the May 15, 1998 issue of *Science*.

We could ignore this pathetic chapter in the history of evolutionism—were it still so popularly used in American textbooks. Even Dr. Benjamin Spock saw fit to perpetuate Haeckel's recapitulation myth in his well-known book, *Baby and Child Care*. Spock confidently assured expectant mothers that “each child as he develops is retracing the whole history of mankind, physically and spiritually, step by step. A baby starts off in the womb as a single tiny cell, just the way the first living thing appeared in the ocean. Weeks later, as he lies in the amniotic fluid of the womb, he has gills like a fish” (1998, p. 223).

Make sure your children and grandchildren know when they see these drawings that they are fakes. Human beings never look like a fish, amphibian or reptile when they are growing in the womb. We were made in the image and likeness of God (Genesis 1:26-27), and we must make sure our young people know (and believe) this.

[Brad Harrub is a professional apologist who works with Focus Press. www.focuspress.org]

Sick



Continue to remember in prayer:
**Marguerite Charles, Lyn Anderson,
 Martha Keith, Miriam Majors,
 Betty Jenkins, WJ Wood, Steve
 Harrah, Margaret Kratz, Martha
 Keplinger, Sandra Wood, Ruth
 Cooke, Dan Collins, Norma Lugar, Rhonda
 Chetham, Amanda Brown.**

MT (Huck) Walker, Wayne Dixon's uncle, from Chesapeake, VA has been ill.

Dee House has started her treatments.

Buddy Martin is waiting on PET results to start his transplant procedure.

Several have been out with the usual illnesses this time of year.

Happy Birthday this week to:



Michele Nikkel—2/1
 Hazel Maness—2/2
 Lori Whitlow— 2/2
 Curtis Oakes—2/4
 Nathan Pelfrey—2/4
 Adam House—2/5
 Ruth Stanton—2/8



FEBRUARY ITEMS FOR THE STAFFORDS: Meringue powder and Sweet 'n Low packets. Give your items to Jeanny and she will ship them over!



MILITARY

In Iraq: Aaron T



Stricklin

Upcoming Events:



Team 2 (Garby) will be having a planning lunch today after morning services. Bring a dish and your ideas!

Team 3 (Valentine) will be having a Sweethearts Dinner at Tom & Melissa Rogers on February 7 at 5:30 pm. Sign up sheet on the board.

Teens



February Dates

2/7—WYD—at Christiansburg
 2/8—BB Study
 2/8—Teen Bible Study
 2/14—Mock Bible Bowl
 2/22—BB Study

Mark your calendars now for March 7. We will also be having the Bidy Bible Bowl for the kids ages 5-8.

Bi-Monthly Bible Bowl Study Sessions will be held in the large classroom at 5:00 on the following Sundays: February 8 & 22. Mock Bible Bowl will be held on February 14 at 9 AM. Breakfast will be provided. See Jim or Charlotte Harrington for details.



WOW

Please sign up on the WOW board for the video auto-biographies being done by Richard Simms.



Next WOW meeting will be on Tuesday, February 10, at 10:30.

Sign up on the board for the bus trip to the Maple Festival on March 14. Cost is \$10. Sign up by Feb. 15. See Don or the board for details!!

For Your Information

PLAN OF WORKS

The 2009 Plan of Works for West Side is located in the foyer if you were unable to attend last week.

SPRING QUARTER LADIES CLASS

There is a sign up sheet on the board if you want to order the book for the ladies class.

EDP MEETING

There will be an Elders, Deacons, Preacher Meeting today at 4:30.

TURN,TURN,TURN

There will be a T3 planners meeting on February 8 at 4:30.

CARDS& CRAFTS

The ladies will be meeting next Sunday at 4:30 to work on Valentines cards to send out.

AREA WIDE PREACHERS MEETING

The Area Wide Preachers Meeting will be on Monday, Feb. 9, at 10:30. All are invited.

SMOKY MOUNTAIN MARRIAGE RETREAT

The 2009 Great Smoky Mountain Marriage Retreat will be on February 11-14 in Pigeon Forge, TN. Brad Hurrab and James Watkins will be the guest speakers for the retreat. See the board for more details!!

FEBRUARY LNO

The February Ladies Night Out will be on Thursday, Feb. 12, at 7:00 pm. Marsha & Becky Cooke will be hosting.

MEN'S BREAKFAST

The February Men's Breakfast will be on Saturday, Feb. 14, at 8AM at Famous Anthony's.

EDUCATION BANQUET

ATTENTION ALL Bible class teachers, education workers, elders, spouses and friends of teachers and workers! Our annual education appreciation banquet is Saturday, February 21st at 5:45. PLEASE sign up by no later than Feb. 15th so I can give the caterers a count! EVERYONE PLEASE come! Thanks Danny!

MEN'S RETREAT

The 20th Annual Men's Retreat will be on March 20 & 21 at the 4-H Conference Center at Smith Mountain Lake. Registration forms are located in the tract rack in the foyer.

Weekly Reminders

Prayer list:

Lyn Anderson
Marguerite Charles
Steve Harrah
Dee House
Betty Jenkins
Martha Keith
Martha Keplinger
Margaret Kratz
Miriam Majors
Buddy Martin
Ruth Cooke
Amanda Brown
MT (Huck) Walker
Norma Lugar
Dan Collins
Rhonda Chetham

Activities:

EDP Meeting—2/1
Team 3 dinner—2/7
Winter Youth Devo—2/7
Bible Bowl Study—2/8
TBS—2/8



The Weather Report for Egypt

One of the things most of us do each day is to listen to the weather report. Since the weather has an impact on what we do in our daily lives, we keep an open ear to the radio, television, newspaper or computer to make sure we are prepared for what nature brings our way. We are blessed by modern technology to be able to predict with some degree of accuracy the approach of bad or potentially dangerous weather conditions in time to prepare accordingly.

Long before the invention of weather radar, weather forecasters or the Weather Channel, there was a weather prediction made in Egypt that had a tremendous impact. It was, however, more than a prediction- it was a guarantee. Moses told Pharaoh, "Behold, to morrow about this time I will cause it to rain a very grievous hail, such as hath not been in Egypt since the foundation thereof even until now" (Ex. 9:18). Interestingly, this weather phenomenon could have been prevented by Pharaoh's allowing the children of Israel to go and worship their God. Pharaoh, however, refused (Ex. 9:13-17). Another matter of interest about this weather forecast is the instructions that accompanied it. Moses said, "Send therefore now, and gather thy cattle, and all that thou hast in the field; for upon every man and beast which shall be found in the field, and shall not be brought home, the hail shall come down upon them, and they shall die" (Ex. 9:19). The next verse reveals that those who took God at His word sheltered their livestock and servants from the coming storm. But, the next verse reveals that those who gave no heed to God's word left his cattle and servants in the field (vs. 21); and that to their detriment (Ex. 9:25).

The moral to the story: If you believe God's weather report, you'll get your cows in. If we believe God's word regarding coming judgment we, too, will act accordingly (Jn. 7:17; 9:31; Heb. 5:9). If we disregard His will we, too, will suffer the devastating consequences (Jn. 12:48; Rom. 2:8, 9; II Thes. 1:8). The weather report for Egypt was for severe conditions; but there was a way out. The "weather report" for the world is destruction (II Pet. 3:10). The good news is: there is a way out (Jn. 6:35, 47; I Jn. 5:5; Mk. 16:16). Do you believe God's "weather report?"

-Eddy

Feb. 1 (Acts 4)

- Read Acts 4 three times today
- Pray today
- Memorize contents of Acts 4—Peter & John imprisoned
- Peter & John threatened and released
- Write a note or card this week
- *Increase your contribution by \$1 today

Feb. 2 (Acts 5)

- Read Acts 5 three times today
- Pray today
- Memorize contents of Acts 5—Ananias & Sapphira
- Apostles imprisoned
- Apostles beaten and released

Feb. 3 (Acts 6)

- Read Acts 6 three times today
- Pray today
- Memorize contents of Acts 6—7 men appointed to care for Grecian widows
- Dispute with Stephen

Feb. 4 (Acts 7)

- Read Acts 7 three times today
- Pray today
- Memorize contents of Acts 7—Stephen's sermon
- Stephen stoned to death

Feb. 5 (Acts 8)

- Read Acts 8 three times today
- Pray today
- Memorize contents of Acts 8—Philip at Samaria
- Philip & the Ethiopian eunuch

Feb. 6 (Acts 9)

- Read Acts 9 three times today
- Pray today
- Memorize contents of Acts 9—Conversion of Saul
- Peter heals Aeneas
- Peter raises Dorcas

Feb. 7 (Acts 10)

- Read Acts 10 three times today
- Pray today
- Memorize contents of Acts 10—Conversion of Cornelius' household
- Write a note or card this week
- Increase your contribution by \$1 Sunday

Those to Serve in February

Announcements: Charlie Gwaltney

Preside at Communion: Don Pettit

Opening Prayer: Barry White
Next Week: Tom Richardson

PM Song Leader: Adam House
Opening Prayer: Mike Durham
Next Week: Danny Guard

Serve Communion: Garrett Durham, Shawn Simms

Wednesday Song Leader: Josh Whitlow

Open/Close Bldg: Jerry Anderson
Ushers: Norris Gearhart, Curtis Oakes
Greeters: Peverall/Hartman

Last weeks attendance (1/25&28/09)

Bible Class: 119 Worship Service: 142

Contribution: \$7339

Song Leader: Eric Earnhart

Serve Table: Glenn Gabbard, Jim Bush
Herb Baker, Bradford Durham

Closing Prayer: Bob Garby
Next Week: Jim Cooke

Scripture Reader: Ethan Rogers
Closing Prayer: Mark Brooks
Next Week: Paul Mays

Prayer: Murphy Scott

Prepare Communion: Crowe/Garby
Cards/Pencils: Jimmy & Caroline Harrington
Nursery Attend: T. Gibson, Melissa Oldham

Sunday Evening: 124

Wednesday: 133

February 1, 2009

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