



January 25, 2013

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Feature Article – The Greatest Creation in Genesis 1 & 2

A Clear Progression –

There is a clear progression in God's creative work from the first day to the sixth. It moves from simple to complex, from small to large (in importance, if not in size), from lesser to greater, and from mundane to sublime. There ought to be a holy curiosity among Bible believers that craves an ever increasing

grasp of truth about God and all His works so that we have more and more cause for worshipping Him. When we read of His mighty works in Genesis 1 and 2 one of our adoring questions ought to be, "What is God's greatest creation? What is at the top? What does He reveal as being at the apex, what is the climax of all His created work?"

When I ask my congregation these questions it usually only takes about thirty seconds before a man replies, "Man, of course! We are the apex of His creation! We were the last thing made! Man is the greatest!" (We don't like to admit it, but in our pride we often DO think that. We can even quote verses that speak of dominion over creation and verses that affirm our place as the head of the wife and the head of the woman. [Eph. 5:23 & I Cor. 11:3] but in doing so we neglect the greater truth that this very headship teaches something even more important.)

Then the brother's wife will chime in and say (and it only takes her about five seconds to correct his love of headship), "Oh no, you aren't the last and best thing God made! Woman was created after man! Eve is greater than Adam! We women are better than men!" (And they don't want to admit it, but their claim to supremacy over their husbands is actually an expression of a carnal desire to usurp authority over man.)

So I like to say to them, "You are both mistaken! There is one thing God made AFTER man, and AFTER woman! There is one thing that is bigger and better than either man OR woman! Mr. and Mrs. Adam were not the last things created by God."

God's Crowning Achievement -

What is that one thing he made last and best? What is God's crowning achievement at creation?

It was His creation of relationships.

God saved the best creative act till last.

Note that there is only one thing in all of God's creation that he described as being "not good!" [Genesis 2:18-21](#) *"And the LORD God said, It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him an help meet for him."*

Ten times God inspected His handiwork and approved it as being good, even very good, but there was one thing "not good." It was man without someone to have and hold as an equal. Man being without God ordained relationships was not good. We should not understand this to mean that Adam was evil, it was just that he was incomplete. So God remedied that shortfall by creating an help meet for him and bringing her to him to be his wife. An "help meet" is literally "a helper perfectly suitable" for Adam.

Dominion over all the lesser created things could never fill that place in man's heart which God made for a wife. The verses that describe Adam's naming of the animals tell us that he did not find an help meet among them all. *"And out of the ground the LORD God formed every beast of the field, and every fowl of the air; and brought them unto Adam to see what he would call them: and whatsoever Adam called every living creature, that was the name thereof. And Adam gave names to all cattle, and to the fowl of the air, and to every beast of the field; but for Adam there was not found an help meet for him."*

Two Aspects of Relationships -

This "heart emptiness" God corrected in not one, but two divinely created relationships, one earthly and one heavenly. God made us to be partakers in relationships, both manward and Godward. He intended there to be life's greatest fulfilment in being rightly related to our spouse and to their creator.

1) Manward - [Genesis 2:21-25](#) *"And the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon Adam, and he slept: and he took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh instead thereof; And the rib, which the LORD God had taken from man, made he a woman, and brought her unto the man. And Adam said, This is now bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh: she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man. Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh. And they were both naked, the man and his wife, and were not ashamed."*

There is no earthly relationship like that between a man and his wife. Actually, it ought to be stated that there is no joining of mind, heart, and body like that of God's choice of man being joined to God's choice of woman in marriage. Nothing else on earth, no other person to person relationship equals that one, but it must be in the Lord to fulfill all its potential.

2) Godward - Genesis 3:8 *"And they heard the voice of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day: and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God amongst the trees of the garden."*

There is no heavenly relationship like that between a person and his God. No ministry of angels to the heirs of salvation, no fellowship of saints in heaven at present or in eternity, and if there be any other beings we may meet in Heaven, no other relationship whatsoever will ever equal that of God and His redeemed ones through Christ.

The entire Bible was given to us to define and order and repair and maintain that greatest of all created things, our relationship to God and to man.

No wonder He told us that the two Great Commandments had to do with love, for God and for man. No wonder His laws all spring from those two great commandments. No wonder God defines love as being the sending of His Son to be the propitiation for our sins. No wonder we are given the ministry of reconciliation between sinful man and a holy God! No wonder the marriage of a man and a woman pictures Christ and the church.

The Holy Bible is the Relationships Handbook.

The Glorious Culmination of the Greatest Creation -

The older I get the more I delight in meditating on seeing my dear Saviour with my own eyes. All else pales into relative insignificance, all the glories of Heaven, as marvelous as they are! All the privileges of inhabiting the New Jerusalem with the saints of the ages seem but an elusive and mystic dream compared to the glorious eternal reality of worshipping my Lord and Saviour firsthand forever! In a body like His, with the Life of God in the soul of man, without a need for restraint in praising and glorifying Him, and with no limitations imposed, whether in time or in ability to know Him, I want to see my Saviour first of all!

No wonder A. W. Tozer said that worship is the adoring gaze of the soul upon the face of God!

God made man in the beginning to know and to be known, all the while intending for it culminate at His feet!

How great is our God!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!"

Bro. Buddy Smith

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Deacon True Sez -

We could always tell, years ago, when the sermons at church were gonna get hot. The preacher's knees started getting dusty.

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Singing Yourself to Sleep –

by Joye Binstead

When I was young, I used to make my sister extremely annoyed by singing in bed when I felt happy. I would warble away (or wobble away - depending on how high the tune went), and she would growl and mutter and bury her head under the pillow to block me out. Happy times! It sounds like an anti-social activity, especially if you have to share a room with a sibling. I might even put forward the disclaimer, "Don't try this at home," except that the Bible tells us it is a very good idea!!

Singing in bed? Yes! Listen to this, "Let the saints be joyful in glory: let them sing aloud upon their beds." - Psalm 149:5. "My soul shall be satisfied as with marrow and fatness; and my mouth shall praise thee with joyful lips: when I remember thee upon my bed, and meditate on thee in the night watches." - Psalm 63:5,6. "Yet the LORD will command his lovingkindness in the daytime, and in the night his song shall be with me, and my prayer unto the God of my life." - Psalm 42:8.

The Bible advocates singing in bed, and not just because we are happy (although that is one good reason). It is not singing to annoy the person who shares our room, or to show them how spiritual, and/or musical we are. These psalms were written, and these songs were sung, when things were going tough for the psalmist. In Psalm 42:7b he writes, "...all thy waves and thy billows are gone over me." In Psalm 63:9, the psalmist speaks of those that seek his soul, to destroy it; and Psalm 149 tells of a time when the ungodly nations are being judged of God.

The most important time to sing yourself to sleep is when there doesn't seem to be anything to sing about. Have you ever noticed, and I am sure you have, that problems assume gargantuan proportions at night? From the time you were a child, and the shadow of the tree outside your window became the stuff of which nightmares were made, to the present day when shadows are the very least of your worries - night is the time when your troubles grow teeth and claws and scary green eyes that glow in the dark. In the daylight hours, we keep our problems at bay to some degree with fortresses of busyness and clamorous noise. At night, these recede and leave us lying there in bed - in our pyjamas, unarmed and defenceless - or so we thought!

Psalm 77 is a beautiful example of the biblical principle of singing yourself to sleep. Asaph begins his psalm with, "I cried unto God with my voice, even unto God with my voice; and he gave ear to me. In the day of my trouble I sought the Lord: my sore ran in the night, and ceased not: my soul refused to be comforted. I remembered God, and was troubled: I complained, and my spirit was overwhelmed. Selah. Thou holdest mine eyes waking: I am so troubled that I cannot speak." Does this sound like you? I know that I have been in the same place as Asaph, where there seemed to be no help, no comfort. I was overwhelmed, I was so troubled that I had no words. You have been there too. But Asaph did not camp for long at that place, he upped sticks and moved on to greener parts.

Asaph began to consider the days of old, stories told again and again of God's deliverance and His intervention in the lives of men. He called to remembrance his 'song in the night'; a specific time when God had shown Himself at work in Asaph's life. He called that time 'his song', it was a sweet and precious memory. It warmed him on cold days. He began to commune with his own heart; his mind had the words of his song but his heart had the melody, and they began to harmonize together. He then began to ask himself some serious questions.

"Will the Lord cast off for ever? and will he be favourable no more? Is his mercy clean gone for ever? doth his promise fail for evermore? Hath God forgotten to be gracious? hath he in anger shut up his tender mercies? Selah." - Psalm 77:7-9. These were the teeth and claws of the glowing eyed monster; these were the thoughts that had been ravaging his heart and mind. But with his song weaving through the

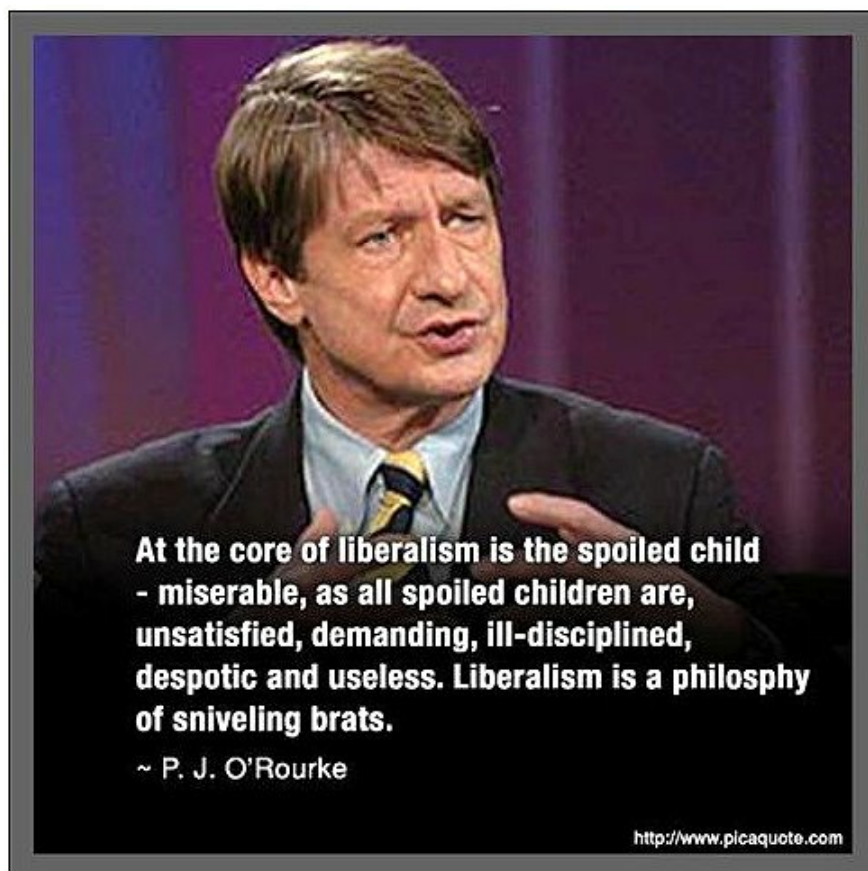
background of the night, he put the beast under the microscope - and saw it for what it was. It was a fabrication of lies and fear, and he said, "This is my infirmity." He knew it was weakness, his weakness, that had brought him to this place. There are times when every one of us has a huge drop in our trust levels, and most of us must confess that these are pretty low already. Asaph behaved in the same manner as Peter, when he stepped out of the boat and onto the sea. He had looked around himself, at the sea and the storm, and felt the tug of the wind, and knew he was gone. All they did, and all we do, is take God out of the equation.

"But...", Asaph grasps hold of God's outstretched hand, pulls Him back into his equation, and says, "But I will remember..." And he does. He remembers the years of the right hand of the most High; he remembers the works of the LORD; he remembers God's wonders of old, he meditates on all His works, and talks of His doings. And as these thoughts and remembrances well up and up inside him, the joy builds and swells until he bursts forth with, "...who is so great a God as our God? Thou art the God that doest wonders!"

Now the darkness recedes, and God's glory shines in. Asaph's voice rises and falls, as he sings aloud upon his bed of God's great power and His gentle leading, and his wife smiles to herself, gives his hand a squeeze and pulls the covers over her head.

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Pensive Posters –



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C. T. Studd and the Hindrance of Money -

C. T. Studd "decided to give his entire fortune to Christ, and to take the golden opportunity offered him of doing what the rich young man had failed to do. . . . It was simple obedience to the black and white statements of God's Word. After distributing thousands to the work of the Lord, he reserved the equivalent of \$9,588 for his new bride. She was not to be outdone by her husband.

"Charlie," she asked, "what did the Lord tell the rich young man to do?"

"Sell all," he replied.

"Well then, we will start clear with the Lord at our wedding."

And off went the money to Christian missions.

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Blinded Minds -

(I would encourage every pastor to read Roger Oakland's book *Faith Undone*. It describes the roots of the Emergent Church and its development under the hand of men like Rick Warren. - Ed)

ANOTHER JESUS MOVEMENT -

"Emergent" Rob Bell spells out his teachings. - "The Emerging Church has a whole new way of looking at Christianity"

Commentary by *Roger Oakland*
www.understandthetimes.org



Reaching the present generation with the gospel of Jesus Christ is a challenge for pastors today. Young people growing up in the 21st century have a completely different world-view than their parents. Education and society in general have programmed their minds so that they believe there are no absolutes. We now live in a pluralistic, relativistic society. Wrong can be right, and right can be wrong. It really doesn't make any difference! So how does the gospel of Jesus Christ rate in a post-modern society that claims the word 'truth' should have remained in the dark ages? Since this generation has now been enlightened, how do you tell a sinner he or she needs a Saviour?

For pastors who are looking for numbers and attendance as a sign of success, the Emerging Church is the answer. The Emerging Church has a whole new way of looking at Christianity. Rather than dwelling on sin, death, and hell, the Emerging Church promises peace, hope, and sensual experience. Rather than being concerned about spending eternity with Jesus, the Emerging Church promotes the kingdom of God here on earth and right now.

This is why Christianity, according to Emerging Church proponents, must be reinvented. Those who try and warn that such a view can easily lead to apostasy are labelled narrow-minded, old-fashioned, “resisters or “haters” who need to be silenced.

Since writing the book 'Faith Undone', I have discovered that taking a stand for the Jesus of the Bible in the midst of Emerging Church propaganda can create a lot of opposition. I have received many comments from the “brethren” who say standing against this “new thing God is doing” is divisive and counter-productive. For example, I spent over twenty years associated with a fellowship of pastors who are presently debating the issue of the Emerging Church. There are some of these pastors who believe the Emerging Church is just another way of “being relevant.”

They say this new wave that has hit Christianity like a tsunami is similar to the Jesus Movement of the ‘60s and ‘70s.

I disagree with this view. While they may be correct in saying that the Emerging Church is “another Jesus” movement, I believe it is a movement that is following “another Jesus.”

The Jesus Movement of the past was based on pointing people to the Word of God, the gospel of Jesus Christ and the soon return of Christ. The Emerging Church is headed in a direction that will soon eliminate the gospel for the sake of building the kingdom with anyone of any religion who will participate.

While I too believe it is important to reach this generation, the issue is; what is it that we are going to reach them with? If we lead this generation away from the truth, we will not be reaching them - we will be deceiving them. The Bible calls this apostasy.

Another way to describe apostasy is – faith undone. - from the Apostasy Alert

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Manna In The Wilderness –

In every issue of Heads Up we try to include a website address where those who live far from a Bible believing church can find good sound doctrinal preaching from the King James Bible. Pastor Kent Brandenburg (Bethel Baptist Church, El Sobrante, California) has a number of good sermons on his church's website - http://www.pillarandground.org/home/?page_id=15&page=1. - Ed

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2 Timothy 4:7-8

“But refuse profane and old wives' fables, and exercise thyself rather unto godliness. For bodily exercise profiteth little: but godliness is profitable unto all things, having promise of the life that now is, and of that which is to come.”

Fresh Quills – Our Trustworthy Bible

By Samuel Harris

Can we be confident that we have the written Word of God? The answer is yes! God has given us many proofs for the Bible's credibility. Two major proofs would be its unflinching accuracy in the areas of prophecy and science.

Scientific studies have shown that the probability of someone accurately prophesying eight specific prophecies about someone, fifty years before the person is even born to be 1 in 1,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000th of a chance! This could be illustrated by filling Western Australia with fifty-cent coins up to a man's knee, marking one coin with an X, mixing them all together, letting a blindfolded man wander through all of Western Australia, and the first coin that he picks up being the one marked with the X! Against these amazing odds, one might think that all of the Biblical prophecies about the Messiah could never come to pass, but amazingly, Christ fulfilled not just 8, but at least 300 to 350 prophecies! Here are only ten of the many prophecies that Christ fulfilled:

1. The Messiah would be born of virgin. - Prophesied in Isaiah 7:14 - Fulfilled in Matthew 1:18 and Luke 1:26-33
2. The Messiah would be born in Bethlehem. - Prophesied in Micah 5:2 - Fulfilled in Matthew 2:1 and Luke 2:4-6
3. The Messiah would be meek and mild. - Prophesied in Isaiah 42:2, 3; 53:7 - Fulfilled in Matthew 12:15-20; 26:62-63
4. The Messiah would minister to the Gentiles. - Prophesied in Isaiah 42:1; 49:6 - Fulfilled in Matthew 12:18, 21; 15:21
5. The Messiah would be betrayed by a friend. - Prophesied in Psalm 41:9 - Fulfilled in John 13:18, 19, 21
6. The Messiah would be betrayed for thirty pieces of silver. - Prophesied in Zechariah 11:12, 13 - Fulfilled in Matthew 26:15; 27:3, 7-10
7. The Messiah would be forsaken by his disciples. - Prophesied in Zechariah 13:7 - Fulfilled in Matthew 26:31, 56
8. The Messiah would be crucified. - Prophesied in Psalm 22 - Fulfilled in Matthew 27:22, 23, 26
9. The Messiah would be raised from the dead. - Prophesied in Psalm 16:10 - Fulfilled in Acts 13:35-37
10. The Messiah would sit at the right hand of God. - Prophesied in Psalm 110:1 - Fulfilled in Hebrews 1:3

Throughout history, sceptics have tried to present the Bible as a book of fairy tales with many mistakes in it, but it has been said that although the Bible is not a science book, whenever it speaks on science, it is completely accurate. In fact, in many cases science caught up with the Bible! Here is a list of ten scientific accuracies in the Bible.¹

1. The earth is spherical in shape. - Isaiah 40:22
2. The earth rotates upon its axis. - Job 38:13, 14
3. The earth is suspended in space. - Job 26:7
4. The stars cannot be numbered. - Jeremiah 33:22
5. The stars travel in certain paths. - Judges 5:20
6. The stars are a great distance from the earth. - Job 22:12
7. The ocean has currents. - Psalm 8:8
8. The universe is running down. - Psalm 102:25-26
9. The blood sustains life. - Leviticus 17:11
10. The chemical composition of man and the earth is identical. - Psalm 103:14

We have seen two of the many proofs that the Bible is trust-worthy- fulfilled prophecy and scientific accuracy- but what good does it do us if we do not read the Bible? In John 17:17, the Lord Jesus said, "Sanctify them (speaking of His followers) through thy truth: thy word is truth." Christ wants us to be sanctified (set apart) and he gives us the means of obeying Him! The only way for us to be different from the world and to look more like Christ is to be saturated in God's Truth, the Bible.

Let me close with a challenge to my readers to be daily reading God's Word. In our Western world, we have the freedom to read God's Word and not suffer any consequences, so let's use this time of freedom while we can! In Psalm 119:103-105, the psalmist says, "How sweet are thy words unto my taste! Yea, sweeter than honey to my mouth! Through thy precepts I get understanding: therefore I hate every false way. Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path." These verses show us that we can enjoy and understand God's Word, and then we can have security in being in God's will. God has given us a wonderful gift, read it!

¹ADAPTED FROM BIBLE DOCTRINES FOR TODAY, PAGES 32-33

Samuel Harris is the son of Pastor Kevin Harris who has been pastoring faithfully in Wollongong, New South Wales for a good number of years. Samuel has a sincere heart and desires to serve the Lord with his life.

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Last Heads Up Article on Country Music-

In the last issue of Heads Up we published an article by Jeff Royal on country music called "Is It An Alternative To Rock Music?" The complete article has been posted on our church's website. It can be viewed at <http://www.gracebaptistmalanda.net.au/PDF/Country%20Music.pdf>

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Therapy For the Funny Bone -

Old Jake is as eccentric as they come. He told me they won't let him shop at K-Mart any more. When I asked him why he told me he was standing in line at the check out one day last week and had a big bag of dog food under his arm. A woman behind asked him if he had a dog. He said he wanted to ask her if she thought he had an elephant, but he didn't.

He's been retired for twenty years and has toooooo much spare time on his hands so he's always thinking up eccentric things to tell people, so he told her he didn't have a dog, but was just starting up his dog food diet again. He told her he just fills a pocket full of dry dog food and then nibbles on it when he gets hungry. He said it is a good diet and that he'd lost fifty pounds last time, but he ended up in the hospital with tubes sticking out everywhere.

The lady was horrified and wanted to know if the dog food poisoned him. He told her no, but that he had run across the street to bite the post man and got hit by a car.

He said the fellow standing behind the lady nearly had a heart attack, he laughed so hard.

And that's when the manager at K-Mart told him he needed to shop elsewhere.

The police officer got out of his car, and the kid who was stopped for speeding rolled down his window.

"I've been waiting for you all day," the officer said.

The kid replied, "Well, I got here as fast as I could."

When the officer finally stopped laughing, he sent the kid on his way without a ticket.

President Obama ordered the cabinet to cut \$100,000,000.00 (\$100 million) from the \$3,500,000,000,000.00 (\$3.5 trillion) federal budget. I'm so impressed by this sacrifice that I decided to do the same thing with my personal budget.

I spend about \$2,000 a month on groceries, household expenses, medicine, utilities, etc., but it's time to get out the budget cutting axe, go through my expenses, and cut back. I'm going to cut my spending at exactly the same ratio (1/35,000) of my total budget. After doing the math, it looks like instead of spending \$2,000 a month, I'm going to have to cut that number by six cents. Yes, I'm going to have to get by with \$1999.94, but that's what sacrifice is all about.

I'll just have to do without some things, that are, frankly, luxuries – six cents worth.

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Heat Wave in Australia – It was hotter in 1790

Piers Akerman Tuesday, January, 15, 2013, (12:03am)

Card-carrying members of the global warming brigade have paid for a fear-mongering advertisement warning about the dangers of coal exports on global temperatures. I can only thank them for ensuring a positive cash flow for some in the media. Their ad is self-serving load of cods wallop for all that. None of these alarmists can explain the nexus between carbon dioxide and the inevitability of climate change nor can they account for the lack of global warming, or why their dire predictions are counter to

those of the British Met Office which downgraded its predictions under cover of the Christmas holiday. But they have been busily trying to convince Australians that the Tasmanian bushfires and others on the mainland are all linked to man-made causes.

Therefore it was instructional to receive a far more balanced view from Liberal MP Craig Kelly (Hughes), who follows the debate with a keen and astute eye. This is what he sent: "It's been a scorcher. With the mercury soaring to 42.3 C in Sydney last week and the city in meltdown, the papers screamed, 'This is climate change. It is here. It is real. Even the taxpayer funded Climate Commission could not hide their excitement declaring, 'it was hotter than before' and that 'climate change' was responsible for the 'unprecedented' extreme heat Sydneysiders were experiencing.

And with the satellites unable to detect any global warming for the last 16 years, and the IPCC computer modelled predictions failing to come to fruition, Labor Government ministers were quick to exploit the situation to claim the 'extreme heat' was evidence of why the Carbon Tax was needed to 'do the right thing by our children'. Yet they failed to detail how, when, or by how much (even to the nearest 0.0001° C) that the Carbon Tax would change the temperature.

But I wonder if any of these people actually knew that Sydney's so-called a record hot day' on Tuesday 8th Jan this year, that had them screaming 'Global Warming', was actually COOLER than the weather experienced by the convicts of the First Fleet in Sydney way back in the summer of 1790/91? For while the mercury peaked at 42.3 C last Tuesday at Observatory Hill in Sydney, more than 222 years ago at 1.00pm on the 27th Dec 1790 (measured at a location just stones-throw from Observatory Hill) the mercury hit 108.5 F (42.5 C) before peaking at 109 F (42.8 C) at 2.20pm.

The extreme heat of Sydney's summer of 1790/91 is detailed by Watkins Tench (1758 - 1833) in his book *A Complete Account of the Settlement at Port Jackson* published in 1793. (Available to download from the Internet for free). Watkins Tench was the British marine officer who accompanied 88 male and 20 female convicts on the First Fleet ship the *Charlotte* which arrived in Botany Bay 20th January 1788. Watkins then stayed in Sydney until December 1791 when he sailed home to Britain and later went on to fight in the Napoleonic Wars where after a naval battle he was taken prisoner by the French and imprisoned on a ship in Brest Harbor.

Of Sydney's weather of 27th December 1790, when the mercury hit 42.8 C (109 F), half a degree Celsius higher than last Tuesday, Tench wrote: "It felt like the blast of a heated oven'. But the extreme heat wasn't restricted to the 27th Dec 1790. The following day the temperature again surpassed the old 100 Fahrenheit mark, hitting 40.3C (104.5 F) at 12.30pm. And later that same summer, in February 1791, the temperature in Sydney was recorded at 42.2 C (108 F). Tench commented; 'But even this heat (of 27th Dec 1790) was judged to be far exceeded in the latter end of the following February, when the north-west wind again set in, and blew with great violence for three days. At Sydney, it [the temperature] fell short by one degree of what I have just recorded [109F]: but at Rose Hill, [modern day Parramatta] it was allowed, by every person, to surpass all that they had before felt, either there, or in any other part of the world. Unluckily they had no thermometer to ascertain its precise height.' Tench also speculated on the cause of the extreme heat of the summer of 1790/91, and he didn't blame global warming, coal mining, or failure to pay homage to a pagan god. Tench deduced: 'Were I asked the cause of this intolerable heat, I should not hesitate to pronounce, that it was occasioned by the wind blowing over immense deserts, which, I doubt not, exist in a north-west direction from Port Jackson, and not from fires kindled by the natives.'

Now global warming devotees may be sceptical of Tench's records. After all, scepticism is a healthy thing. They may even seek to deny Tench's measurements and have them purged from our history, sent down a memory hole - as the global warming texts & prophecies deem it heresy for it to have been warmer in Sydney way back in summer of 1790/91 than it is in the 'unprecedented' extreme heat of Sydney's 'globally warmed' summer of 2012/13. However, Tench's meteorological recordings were undertaken following strict scientific procedure using a 'large thermometer' made by Ramsden, England's leading scientific instrument maker of the day. Tench also left a message for those that might seek to question the accuracy of the records: 'This remark I feel necessary, as there were methods used by some persons in the colony, both for estimating the degree of heat, and for ascertaining the cause of its production, which I deem equally unfair

and unphilosophical. The thermometer, whence my observations were constantly made, was hung in the open air, in a southern aspect, never reached by the rays of the sun, at the distance of several feet above the ground.'

It also worth noting that in 1790, Sydney (population 1,715) was still surrounded by mostly natural bushland, where modern day Observatory Hill in Sydney (population 4,627,000) is now surrounded by the concrete, steel and glass of a modern city, not to mention the tens of thousands of air-conditioners pumping out hot air into the surrounding streets, nor the 160,000 cars & trucks that cross the Sydney Harbor Bridge daily and pass within 100 meters of Observatory Hill. Further, the contemporaneous notes of the day concur with the empirical measurements. Lieutenant-Governor David Collins (1756-1810), in his book 'An Account of the English Colony in New South Wales' published in 1798 also commented on the incredible effect of the extreme heat of 1790/91 summer on the local wildlife: Fresh water was indeed everywhere very scarce, most of the streams or runs about the cove being dried up. At Rose Hill (Parramatta), the heat on the tenth and eleventh of the month, on which days at Sydney the thermometer stood in the shade at 105°F (40.6°C), was so excessive (being much increased by the fires in the adjoining woods), that immense numbers of the large fox bats were seen hanging at the boughs of trees, and dropping into the water during the excessive heat many dropped dead while on the wing... In several parts of the harbour the ground was covered with different sorts of small birds, some dead, and others gasping for water.'

Tench also recorded the effects of the extreme heat of Feb 1791: 'An immense flight of bats, driven before the wind, covered all the trees around the settlement, whence they every moment dropped dead, or in a dying state, unable longer to endure the burning state of the atmosphere. Nor did the perroquettes, (parrots) though tropical birds, bear it better; the ground was strewn with them in the same condition as the bats.' And even Governor Arthur Philip noted the effects of the extreme heat of the summer of 1790/91: 'from the numbers (of dead bats) that fell into the brook at Rose Hill (Parramatta), the water was tainted for several days, and it was supposed that more than twenty thousand of them were seen within the space of one mile.'

Yet 222 years later, reports of the mass death of birds and bats are more like to come from those sliced & diced by industrial steel wind turbines, than the heat.

Finally, Watkins Tench concluded on climate change' in Sydney back in 1790's; "My other remarks on the climate (of Sydney) will be short; it is changeable beyond any other I ever heard of.

Fortunately for the convicts and settlers of the new colony, Governor Arthur Philip and later Governors didn't believe they could change that with a new tax."

The clear message from Kelly and Tench is don't be conned by those who claim to know what the weather is doing, let alone what the planet is doing!

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Poems That Preach -

THE CROSS WAS HIS OWN

*They borrowed a bed
to lay His head
When Christ the Lord came down;
They borrowed the ass
in the mountain pass
For him to ride to town;
But the crown that He wore
And the Cross that He bore
Were his own.*

*He borrowed the bread
when the crowd He fed
On the grassy mountain side,
He borrowed the dish
of broken fish
With which He satisfied.
But the crown that He wore
And the Cross that He bore
Were his own.*

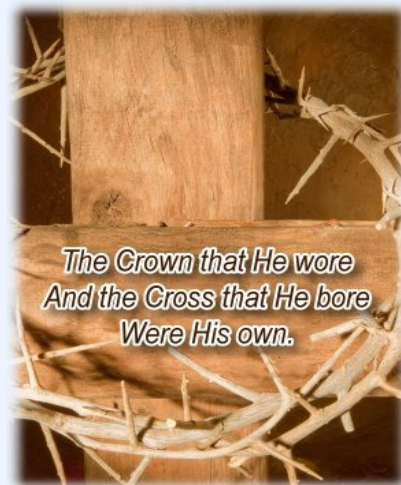
*He borrowed the ship
in which to sit
To teach the multitudes;
He borrowed a nest
in which to rest----
He had never a home so rude;
But the crown that He wore
And the Cross that He bore
Were His own.*



*He borrowed a room
on His way to the tomb
The passover lamb to eat:
They borrowed a cave,
for Him a grave,
They borrowed a winding sheet.
But the Crown that he wore
And the Cross that He bore
Were his own.*

*The thorns on His head
were worn in my stead,
For me the Saviour died;
For guilt of my sin
the nails drove in
When Him they crucified.
Though the crown that He wore
And the cross that he bore
Were His own...*

*They rightly were mine, instead.
Anon.*



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Our Worst Mistakes in the Twentieth Century –

"One of our greatest mistakes was making the churches' into businesses, with a focus on Empire Building, or schools with the main emphasis on Education, or night clubs to provide Entertainment rather than churches whose focus is on Evangelism and Edification." *Bert Ferraro*

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Cartoons For Wise Men –



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Notable Quotes and Quotable Notes –

- True non-judgmentalism is a logical impossibility. To forbid or exclude a value judgement is to assume, unconsciously, that the highest value is to have no values. - *Selected*
- The law is a storm which wrecks your hopes of self-salvation, but washes you upon the Rock of Ages. - *Charles Haddon Spurgeon*
- Prayer, indeed, is often spoken of, especially by those who wish to bring it into ridicule, as if it consisted of nothing but a series of demands addressed to God-to give fine weather, or to take away disease, or in some other way to alter our circumstances in accordance with our wishes. But it is not by those who pray that prayer is thus spoken of. In the prayers of those who pray most and best, petitions proper, I venture to say, occupy only an inconsiderable place. Much of prayer expresses the fulness of the soul rather than its emptiness. It is the overflow of the cup. Prayer at its best is, if one may be allowed the expression, conversation with God, the confidential talk of a child who tells everything to his father. *James Stalker*

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Eddy-Torial -

Why Are We So Afraid Of Certain Bible Words? - Part 1

Philologists should never be allergic to good words. I emphasise "good." They ought to be allergic to bad words. Profanity, blasphemy, crude words, immoral words, and slanderous words ought to provoke in us a violent reaction, a negative reaction. *"Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying, that it may minister grace unto the hearer."* (Eph. 4:29)



You ask, "What is a philologist?" A philologist is a lover of words. Every preacher ought to be a Bible philologist, a lover of all God's words, all Bible words, every single one of them. We must echo the psalmist's words, *"Oh how love I thy law!"* Speaking of the words of God he wrote, *"More to be desired are they than gold, yea, than much fine gold: sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb."* My motto as a pastor ought to be *"Every word of God is pure..."* (Proverbs 30:5a) We must say with Job, *"Neither have I gone back from the commandment of his lips; I have esteemed the words of his mouth more than my necessary food."* (Job 23:12)

All of which brings me to a place of great puzzlement. Why is it that we preachers who claim to know and love Christ are so allergic to certain of His words? We do not believe in partial inspiration, or do we? We say we believe in verbal, plenary inspiration. "Verbal" means "every word." "Plenary" means "every part." So why the great disconnect between what we profess and what we preach? Why do we SAY we believe (and love?) every single word of Holy Scripture, and then avoid many of them like the plague? Oh, I see, as long as we hold to the "Westcottian and Hortian" view that it is the doctrines, not the very words of Scripture we are to cling to and preach, it will be ok if we jettison certain words from our Bibles! Is that how it works? It must be, because I hear the lovers of modern Bible versions defending their "play bibles" with just such arguments. ("It doesn't hurt if the Nearly Inspired Version leaves out hundreds of words just as long as the doctrines are all still there...") And then we find our puzzlement increasing because of what God Himself says about the very words of the Bible.

- God testifies to the importance of every word He has ever spoken:

"And the LORD said unto Moses, Write thou these words: for after the tenor of these words I have made a covenant with thee and with Israel." - Ex. 34:27

- Our Lord Jesus Christ also bore witness to the permanency of His words,

"Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away." Matt. 24:35

- God inspired holy men to affirm the importance of His words:

1. Moses - *"And Moses came and told the people all the words of the LORD, and all the judgments: and all the people answered with one voice, and said, All the words which the LORD hath said will we do."* - *"And Moses wrote all the words of the LORD, and rose up early in the morning, and builded an altar under the hill, and twelve pillars, according to the twelve tribes of Israel."* Exodus 24:3 and 24:4

2. Joshua - "And Joshua said unto the children of Israel, Come hither, and hear the words of the LORD your God." - Joshua 3:9

3. Samuel - "And Samuel told all the words of the LORD unto the people that asked of him a king." - 1Sam. 8:10

4. Ezra - "Then were assembled unto me every one that trembled at the words of the God of Israel, because of the transgression of those that had been carried away; and I sat astonished until the evening sacrifice." Ezra 9:4

5. Nehemiah - "And Nehemiah, which is the Tirshatha, and Ezra the priest the scribe, and the Levites that taught the people, said unto all the people, This day is holy unto the LORD your God; mourn not, nor weep. For all the people wept, when they heard the words of the law." - Neh. 8:9

6. The writers of the psalms -

"Because they rebelled against the words of God, and contemned the counsel of the most High:" - Psalms 107:11

"The words of the LORD are pure words: as silver tried in a furnace of earth, purified seven times." - Psa. 12:6

"All the kings of the earth shall praise thee, O LORD, when they hear the words of thy mouth." - Psa.138:4

7. Isaiah - "As for me, this is my covenant with them, saith the LORD; My spirit that is upon thee, and my words which I have put in thy mouth, shall not depart out of thy mouth, nor out of the mouth of thy seed, nor out of the mouth of thy seed's seed, saith the LORD, from henceforth and for ever." Isa. 59:21

8. Jeremiah - "And it came to pass, that when Jeremiah had made an end of speaking unto all the people all the words of the LORD their God, for which the LORD their God had sent him to them, even all these words," - Jer. 43:1

9. Ezekiel - "Therefore say unto them, Thus saith the Lord GOD; There shall none of my words be prolonged any more, but the word which I have spoken shall be done, saith the Lord GOD." - Ezek.2:28

10. Amos - "Behold, the days come, saith the Lord GOD, that I will send a famine in the land, not a famine of bread, nor a thirst for water, but of hearing the words of the LORD:" - Amos 8:11

11. Zechariah - "Yea, they made their hearts as an adamant stone, lest they should hear the law, and the words which the LORD of hosts hath sent in his spirit by the former prophets: therefore came a great wrath from the LORD of hosts. - Zech. 7:12

11. John - "For he whom God hath sent speaketh the words of God: for God giveth not the Spirit by measure unto him." - and, "He that is of God heareth God's words: ye therefore hear them not, because ye are not of God." John 3:34 and 8:47

12. Simon Peter - "Then Simon Peter answered him, Lord, to whom shall we go? thou hast the words of eternal life." - John 6:68

13. Paul - "I have shewed you all things, how that so labouring ye ought to support the weak, and to remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he said, It is more blessed to give than to receive." - Acts 20:35

"If any man teach otherwise, and consent not to wholesome words, even the words of our Lord Jesus Christ, and to the doctrine which is according to godliness;" - 1 Tim. 6:3

Whenever we hear men who profess to be experts in theology say that the words of Scripture are not important, only the doctrines, it would do them good to be reminded that God disagrees.

And when we who profess to love every word (including the jots and tittles) of the Bible then proceed to neglect certain words, we should ask ourselves why. Is it because that neglected word teaches truth we do not believe? Is it because it does not agree with our theology? Is it because of the fear of man? Is it because of our slothfulness in reading and studying our Bibles? Is it because someone will think we belong to a cult if we preach the truth they have distorted?

J.K. Van Baalen once wrote that the cults are the unpaid bills of the church. He meant that we neglect Bible truth to our own detriment. Take, for an example, the great errors of the Word Faith movement and its offspring, the false gospel of the Health, Wealth, and Prosperity teachers. How did these errors ever come to infiltrate so many churches and take over so many denominations? It happened through pastors not teaching the Bible words about the Holy Spirit and about sanctification, and about the two natures of the believer. We neglected certain words (and doctrines!) that are clearly laid out in the Bible and are now reaping the fruit of our folly.

In the next issue of Heads Up we will list some Bible words that we ignore and neglect.

All the words of God need to be known and loved and preached.

Bro. Buddy Smith

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Welcome to the Website of Grace Baptist Church - Malanda, North Queensland, Australia



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