

Science and the Bible E-Zine

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"Truth: That which is in accord with fact and reality."

This is written so that you may believe the bible because of science rather than in spite of science.

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1) What's Happening at Science and the Bible?

By Max B. Frederick, AnOldScientist

This Month's article is a little short. November has been a busy month. As time goes on, and as I advance in age, my favorite saying is becoming, "The hurrier I go, the hinderer I get." So, forgive the shortness of this months E-Zine. Just realize, the article may be short, but that does not mean I have not given it a lot of thought. The science of information recognition has a significant roll in the advancement of knowledge concerning just what the bible actually says. And political correctness continues to be the hinderer of that same knowledge.

2) Science, Religion, and the Freedom of Information.

By Max B. Frederick, AnOldScientist

The exciting thing about science is the freedom to push the frontiers of knowledge.

No so with religion.

Religion is restricted to rehearsing the dictates of some supreme human authority dictating what you are to think, what you are to do, and what you are to condemn in others.

Thankfully, the God of the bible does not require its followers to be religious...

But we must also be careful within science that we do not become religious.

Editors Note:

In this article the author touches on two topics, the science of information recognition as it applies to bible study, and the religious aspects of the peer review process as that religious aspect hinders both bible study and scientific investigation. Religion is incompatible with both science and true bible study.

If you will notice, the name of this publication, and the name of the associated web site is not "Science and Religion," it is "Science and the Bible." There is a big difference that should be kept in mind as you read this article.

Many people mistake the writings in the Judeo-Christian Bible for religion. It is not the bible that is religious. In fact, one of the problems with humankind that is pointed out in the bible is the tendency for people to substitute religion for the teachings of the bible.

Now you figure out the difference for yourself and keep it in mind as you read this article.

It is this exciting aspect of science, the pushing of the frontiers of knowledge, that has produced the technology we enjoy today.

From computers, to cell phone, to iPods and iPads, the communications of today would still be via quill pens, ink and writing on sheep skins and carrying them by animal powered transportation if it were left to religion rather than science.

What we can know about the bible today is due to the tools made possible by science pushing the frontiers of knowledge.

Today, we can know more about the original meanings of original words of the ancient Hebrew scriptures than ever was possible to be known by the translators of the Septuagint (LXX) over twenty two hundred years ago.

We know more about the ancient religions of the ancient Egyptians than even they could have possibly known.—where it came from and where it went into the other religions of the world. At our fingertips we have available knowledge never dreamed of by the ancients.

It is just as stated in the bible that in future times knowledge would increase.

During my thirty some years tenure within the intelligence branch of the military industrial complex, we, personally, pushed the frontiers of science in the field of *Information Recognition*.

When I first entered that field, *Information Recognition* was not universally recognized as a science. I am not sure it is yet, even today.

Within that restricted environment of publication prohibition, peer review of new ideas was not a part of the scientific method. Public disclosure was not permitted.

Peer review is the presentation of new discoveries to the experts in the subject for their opinion as to whether it is valid or not. Religiousizing of any science is where the peer review process results in opinions of renowned scientific personalities trumping factual reality.

In that restricted environment, where peer review of our new advances in the science of *Information Recognition* was prohibited, another check against reality—and to us a much better check of reality—was employed. We called it verification by *ground truth*. Such is the heart of the science of *Information Recognition*.

Verification of the predictions produced by advances in the science of information recognition by comparing such predictions to reality, was much faster, and much more effective than verification by the peer review process. But it depended greatly upon recognizing the information obviously available.

Just what is the science of *Information Recognition*?

And how is it applicable to the study of the ancient scriptures of the bible?

Most people stare at data forever and never recognize the information it contains.

Let me illustrate that with an example many of you may have seen, but not recognized.

In the movie, “Legally Blonde,” a law professor challenges the incoming class. She reads a profound statement from the chalk board, “The Law is reason free from passion.” Then she asks the class, “Does anyone know who spoke those immortal words?” A bright student attributes the saying to the ancient Greek philosopher, Aristotle. The professor asks the student if he would stake his life on that—more to the point, would the student stake someone else’s life on that? “The law leaves much room for interpretation, but very little for self doubt.” Then she goes on to confirm, “And you were right. It was Aristotle.”

I was waiting, but was disappointed, for someone to challenge them both. I was waiting for:

“I beg your pardon, professor, but isn’t every word in that phrase stated in the English language? Didn’t Aristotle live from 384 BC to 322 BC? If you will check the history of the English language, you will find it did not exist before the fifth century AD, about eight hundred years after Aristotle died. I stake my life and the life of my client on the fact that Aristotle never “*spoke* those immortal words.””

The obvious information, and the obvious conclusion was not recognized.

Everyone (including the author of the movie, and most of the audience) had overlooked the obvious information.

The science of information recognition points out obvious information, even in the simplest of forms, that most people fail to recognize as information at all.

So, you ask, "What does this technicality have to do with study of the bible?"

It is directly applicable. The word, "spoke" in the example, as we know, means to utter sounds containing those specific syllables. That is a far cry from what the professor implied by that word "spoke" in her phrase, "Who *spoke* those immortal words?"

Yet, when a theologian says God *spoke* the universe into existence, that is exactly what is generally imagined: There is some magic power in the properly uttered syllables of sound.

However, that is not what the original meanings of the words in the ancient scripture that have been converted to English when we read in our English translation, "...and God *said*, 'Let there be...'"

The information that is not recognized, the information that is overlooked, in the popular interpretation is the fact that sound did not exist in the setting described in this account.

The interpreters were blinded by the generally accepted (although false) information from their religious background that spoken words could contain and convey magical powers. (Also contributing to this error may be the fact that the science of sound was poorly understood at the time of the original interpretation. See, <http://asa.aip.org/pierce.html> for a history of the understanding of sound.)

The idea that if some specific, exact syllables of sound are correctly uttered, magic will happen, is a concept tightly associated with the religions of the occult.

You see, just as in the example from the movie where the English language did not exist when Aristotle spoke, neither did sound exist before there was matter, without which, sound cannot exist. You will notice in the biblical account, matter came into existence after God *said*, not before.

That original words that were translated into the English words such as *word*, *said*, *spoke*, etc., which we associate with syllables of sound, could more specifically refer to packets containing some form of intelligence—especially when thousands of years later, that same "Word" that existed from the beginning is said to have became flesh and dwelt among us.

Then how did that erroneous concept become engrained in our bible and our religious thinking. The answer is simple—the peer review system. Religious experts, having been versed in religious concepts (of the occult) agreed that is what the scripture was saying. However, the scientific method, utilizing ground truth process of verifying the meaning with all other usages of that same concept, comes up with another meaning.

Rather than referring to the physical vibrations in matter that transport the meaning contained in those sounds, the more correct meaning can be expressed as referring to the intelligence, the meaning, the knowledge, the organized planning, or whatever

form of logical sense might be listed that is carried in those spoken sounds—the non-physical intelligence. “And God *intelligenced* (maybe even *logiced*, or *planned*)...and it came to be.”

The Greek word, “logos” used in the first chapter of John where it says, “In the beginning was the word (logos), and the word (logos) was with God, and the word (logos) was God...and the word (logos) was made flesh and dwelt among us.” more correctly conveys the meaning. The word, “logos” is the ancient Greek word from which is derived our word, “logic.” So, the aspect of God that became the Jesus of the bible is more akin to logic than to some magical incantation of occultic verbiage.

Information recognition makes a great difference in bible study.

And ground truth overruled by peer review introduces religious bias.

So, let my warning stand. Do not let peer review introduce religious bias into the scientific method.

Recognize the information that is obvious.

Let not political correctness (religious bias) taint your understanding of the truth.

Ye shall know the truth and the truth shall set you free.

A major difference between science and religion is the freedom of information.

Science is associated with the freedom to seek the truth. (Whether or not that perceived freedom is reality is another question.)

Religion is associated with dictatorship of thought by the politically elite leaders of that particular school of thought.

Religion has always had that problem. The religious leaders of Jesus’ time were particularly prone to it. The religious leaders of Galileo’s time were particularly prone to it. And so are the religious leaders of today. They appear to think they have it all figured out—or at least attempt to give the masses that impression.

Science knows it does not have it all figured out.

But, science is coming dangerously close to being religiousized when, by politically correct edict, no science is valid unless it is approved by the peer review process.

Politically correct self appointed leaders in the field commonly recognized as science leaders, are in danger of religiousizing science. That is, they have assumed—or at least have attempted to assume—the dictatorial powers of thought police. They call it the peer review process.

There are many examples of this abuse stifling scientific advancement. Scientists are intimidated by it. And so are investigative theologians.

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