

Science and the Bible E-Zine

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Motto: The Simple Truth

Mission: To reach the intellectually honest skeptic and critical thinker with an intellectually honest approach to the credibility of ancient scriptures, their credibility being attested to by their publication of information before its discovery, obscured for centuries, then independently discovered by modern science, verifying its reality and credibility.

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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.

What's in This Issue:

- 1) What's Happening at Science and the Bible?
 - 2) Depth of Information in Scripture - Continued
 - 3) Reprint Rights.
 - 4) Sign up for this E-zine.
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1) What's Happening at Science and the Bible?

By Max B. Frederick, AnOldScientist

Last month began a two part article on the depth of information in the bible.

To Recap Last Month's Article:

We found that much of the depth of information is obscured in modern translations in their attempt to make the surface information more easily understood. That is, to make it more easily understood to say what the translation team believes it is saying while they are oblivious to the information buried in the deeper levels.

The problem is, the only versions of the bible that most people ever see are the result of two problems. Either it is a re-translation biased toward what some theologian thinks the bible should say, or some re-interpretation to make the bible appear to say what some theologian already believes it should say.

And this has resulted in valid criticism of many of the things Christians say, things

that are in conflict with reality—in other words, reality and religion are not synonyms. In fact, religion has rightly achieved a reputation of being out of touch with reality.

Thus, an honest intellectual appears to have two choices.

Either one must reject reality and go with religion, or reject religion and go with reality.

It appears that one cannot embrace both.

But there is a third choice. That choice is to research and find what the bible really says—not simply re-translate or re-interpret to make it appear to say what you want it to say, or to make it say what you already believe. Do the research. Find out what it really says. There you will find accord with reality.

There is a lot theologians do not know about the bible.

And they don't even know that they don't know.

Much of what theologians don't know has to do with reality, not religion. Much of it is there to add to the credibility of that which has to do with stuff that is considered to be in the realm of religion, such as the prospects of eternal life. As Jesus said to Nicodemus quoted above, *“If you do not understand terrestrial things how shall you believe extra-terrestrial things?”*

Typically there are three levels of information. They include, starting from the deepest to the surface, the physical reality basis, the religious doctrine derived from that basis, and the surface level of application to our daily lives.

It is the surface level that is the most understood by theologians and the most preached.

To the masses, the realm most associated with reality is science. If science says it, it is generally believed to be in accord with reality—to be true.

Religion, on the other hand, has a poor track record in the realm of reality.

Regrettably, that poor track record of religion is erroneously perceived to be the track record of the bible.

Theologians not versed in reality just don't get it. The more they try to clarify it, the more muddled it becomes.

That is the concern Jesus had to address with the theologians of his time. And that is still true of religion versus the bible today.

Last month's article illustrated the depth of information in the one-hundred-fourth Psalm where the depth of information contains a chronology of events concerning the universe from eternity past to eternity future, yet, theologians in general are oblivious to the existence of that chronology.

Another example presented is found in II Corinthians 15: 35-55 where Paul begins with some pretty strong language where he calls someone who does not understand it a “Fool.”

2) Depth of Information in Scripture - Continued

By Max B. Frederick, AnOldScientist

“...[be] ready always to [give] an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you...” I Peter 3:15 (KJV)

“If you do not understand terrestrial things how shall you believe extra-terrestrial things?” Jesus to Nicodemus, ca. AD 25 John 3:12

Continued from last month...

To review go to:

<http://www.scienceandthebible.net/ezone/2012/SATB-Ezine-2012-03-31.pdf>

In last month's portion of this article we kept noticing that there was something Nicodemus did not understand that he should have understood, that Jesus chided him for not knowing.

Just what is it that Nicodemus did not understand?

Like many other sections of the bible, in the third chapter of John, where the Nicodemus story is found, there are multiple levels of information.

You might want to get out your bible and open it to the third chapter of John to see if you can follow along—it gets pretty deep.

The surface level presents the concept that there is something one must believe to become part of the eternal life crowd, and that is why Jesus came to earth. Probably the most memorized verse of the bible is the heart of it. “For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten son that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.” (KJV)

Many intellectual skeptics and critical thinkers see the concept of everlasting life as foolishness.

Maybe that is why the deeper levels of information are included in that part of the bible. It is these deepest levels of information, and their potential accord with reality, that lend credibility to the idea that Jesus did in fact know what He was talking about.

On the underlying level, there is information about a doctrinal issue that Nicodemus did not understand.

That is probably because Nicodemus just could not comprehend the next deeper level of information presented in that chapter—the third level deep.

Curiously, most theologians do not get it either—even to this day.

That second level contains the concept that there are two different kinds of life forms. For one to have everlasting life, one must be born of both of these different kinds of life forms.

One is the natural life form, the other is a higher form of life, one that is extra-terrestrial in nature.

On the deepest level of information, Jesus presented some physical properties of that extra-terrestrial life form. It is not something religious in nature, but more akin to

reality as in physical science.

Nicodemus opened the conversation with Jesus by making a statement about knowing that Jesus had to be from God because of some of the things Jesus did.

Jesus immediately cut to the chase and made a statement about the deepest level of information in this portion of scripture. Jesus made a profound statement about the physics of the eternal/extra-terrestrial life form. He said that unless one has experienced a higher form of birth, (unless one is of the extra-terrestrial life form) one cannot even see the extra-terrestrial kingdom. You see, the kingdom of God is extra-terrestrial in that it is both present here on this terrestrial planet, and also beyond the confines of this planet. To be a part of that kingdom, to be able to escape the confines of this planet, one must be an extra-terrestrial life form.

One must be born into this extra-terrestrial life form. Jesus used the Greek word, “another” to describe that different birth. That Greek word (typically mistranslated “again”) has nothing to do with any repetition of anything. It cannot honestly be translated, “again.” It is only in the context of the misunderstanding of Nicodemus that the idea of repetition became a part of the traditional theological misunderstanding of the discourse between Jesus and Nicodemus.

Jesus did not say this higher birth was a repeat of anything. It was Nicodemus in his misunderstanding when he asked the question as to whether he should enter again into his mother’s womb that birthed that popular theological phrase, “born again.”

So, Jesus made another attempt to get through to Nicodemus. This time Jesus stated that there are two different kinds of things to be born to. One kind is the natural hydrocarbon body that is born when the water breaks in natural childbirth. The other kind of life form is described by a Greek word meaning “invisible power.” Typically, that word is translated as either “spirit,” or “wind,” but it is this basic meaning of “invisible power” that describes the extraterrestrial life form that is the result of the alternate birth, and that can see the extra-terrestrial kingdom of God. Then, just to be extra clear, Jesus again says there are two different life forms, “flesh,” and “invisible power” (spirit.)

But that was too deep for Nicodemus to get.

And it also seems to be too deep for most theologians.

But it is not too deep for one who is an intellectually honest skeptic and critical thinker, and aware of the thinking and discoveries of modern science.

Jesus tells Nicodemus not to be stunned by this concept that one must be born “higher” (again, its that word typically mistranslated “again”.)

Then Jesus makes one last attempt to get Nicodemus to understand. Jesus attempts to describe the extra-terrestrial life form by saying that the “invisible force” (spirit) moves according to its own will, you can hear it, but cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going—that is a characteristic of everyone that is born of that “invisible force” life form.

It is then that Jesus gives up in exasperation. Nicodemus just doesn’t get it. And the exasperation continues to this day as theologians muddle up the translation by

assuming Jesus is switching back and forth between wind and spirit to illustrate some esoteric religious concept when it is simply the physics of the extra-terrestrial life form that He is explaining.

At this point Jesus quips something about knowing what he is talking about, in contrast to the inability of communicating with Nicodemus about extra-terrestrial things when Nicodemus cannot even understand terrestrial things.

Then Jesus changes the subject back up to a simpler, less deep level, citing a symbolic lifting up, and stating that for one to become a member of the eternal life population, one must believe in Jesus.

So, when we are talking about the deeper level of information, we are not talking about some esoteric religious far out concept, but about the basics of reality being the deeper level of information. What makes it deeper is the fact that much of this information about reality was not commonly known to humanity until thousands of years later after it was discovered independently by modern science.

This connection to reality that was not commonly known at the time of original publication. This information was pre-published thousands of years before such discovery by modern science. It is this pre-publication of the later discoveries of modern science that lends credibility to the teachings of the bible that cannot be confirmed by modern science.

Was it in frustration that Jesus asked His rhetorical question, “If I have told you earthly things, and ye believe not, how shall ye believe, if I tell you [of] heavenly things?” (KJV) Or was it in anticipation of future believers who believe because the “earthly” things He presented are eventually understood to be in accord with reality?

It seems that word “believe” which is so glibly thrown about by theologians has more to do with understanding than blindly accepting what has popularly become known as some “leap of faith.” It is something the intellectually honest skeptics and critical thinkers can sink their teeth into.

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