

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) How Supernatural is the Bible?

By Max B. Frederick, AnOldScientist

Some people believe there is nothing supernatural about the bible. They believe it was written by wise men of the past and that it contains some truth, and some imagination, but that imagination is constrained only by the wisdom of those very intelligent men.

Others believe every word of the bible as we have it today, (at least their favorite version, such as the King James Version,) is not only inspired by God and inerrant in the truth contained therein, but was also protected by God through translation so that every word is in accord with reality, and means exactly what was originally intended.

Many theologians believe somewhere in between.

A few years ago, in the fall of 1978, the International Council on Biblical Inerrancy issued what has become known as "The Chicago Statement on Biblical Inerrancy." According to that statement, the scripture of the bible is supernaturally inerrant. That is not to say that in all translations, but only in the original version of the ancient

autographs, it is inerrant. See the web page, <http://www.spurgeon.org/~phil/creeds/chicago.htm> for that actual publication.

Many other different opinions are held that are somewhere between the two extremes.

As for me, I have made some interesting observations that tend to sway the opinion toward the supernatural end of the continuum.

It appears that God has provided hard scientific evidence of the supernatural origin of the bible (at least, in the original language form) by pre-recording a wealth of scientific information contained therein before it became known through natural processes. One supernatural nature of the pre-recording rests in the statistical impossibility of duplicating the exact sequence of events by the random chance of the fanciful daydreams of some pseudo-scientific, super religious gurus.

The bible, at least the ancient scripture version, appears to be scientifically true, indicating some supernatural source may have guided the men who recorded it. That source is claimed in the bible to be God. The ancient scripture of the bible contains overwhelming quantities of scientific truths that were unknown to mankind prior to the time of the writing. Those scientific truths are so accurate, so specific, so chronologically correct and so abundant, when checked against true scientific discovery of modern science, that it is scientifically impossible for that information to have been written down at the time it was without supernatural intervention.

And it was published thousands of years before the discoveries of modern science.

This is particularly powerful evidence because that scientific information could not have been humanly known at the time it was recorded. Now that the same scientific information has been independently discovered by modern science, it appears obvious. But, at the time, that information was not available from any source, other than from some non-human eyewitness who had to have been there when it happened—an eyewitness that had to be present at a time when there was no human in existence to be that eyewitness.

And for thousands of years that information remained unavailable from any other source. It is as though that pre-publication remained as predictions of the future discoveries to be made by modern science of today.

One of the basic properties of the scientific method is the prediction of future discovery.

That is exactly what the ancient writings of the bible are currently doing. It has been thousands of years since the facts of science were first pre-recorded in the bible. Now, thousands of years later during these modern times in which we live, the truth of these scientific facts that were pre-recorded in the bible are being discovered and we can personally witness their discovery.

Just how precise, or accurate is the wording of the original language ancient scriptures?

Examples indicate the precision of the information is such that it could not have been handed down for many generations before it was actually written down.

One example is where the bible describes the initial filling of the oceans to the point that there were no landmasses above sea level. All the mountains were covered by ocean. Following this, the same multiple biblical accounts describe the emergence of the continental landmasses from below sea level.

It is no wonder that most theologians do not recognize the biblical statement, “and the earth was without form and void,” Gen 1:2 (KJV) to be the exact same communication as recently discovered, that at one time in ancient pre historic times, the earth (i.e., continental dry land) was not formed, dry land did not exist (was void.) Yet, that is exactly what the bible said in the introduction to the description of that significant developmental stage in preparation for life to exist. It is no wonder that in times past, most theologians did not recognize the meaning of this statement. The concept that at one time this planet was completely covered with water and no earth (i.e., continental dry land) existed above sea level was only recently discovered by modern science.

Yet, when looking at it with a critical scientific eye, the details are so explicitly spelled out that one cannot help wondering if the ancient scripture is in fact, from a supernatural source. In Psalms 104, when describing this same event of the emergence of the dry land (i.e., continental earth) from below sea level, it is even explicitly stated that (as equilibrium is being established,) mountains rise and valleys fall to a pre-determined level. So foreign a concept was this to theologians that translated early versions of the bible that they fudged the meaning to imply that it was the water that went up by the mountains and down by the valleys. Of course, since the discovery of the principle of isostasy around 1900, a little over a hundred years ago, about three hundred years after the King James Version was translated, theologians quietly and without fanfare now translate it properly.

There are other examples of exactitude. Not only is the exact wording in accord with the modern science discovery that the oceans were filled by the atmosphere capturing water from outer space, other details examples state exact details. The detail of the direction of the separation of the water from outer space above, into the oceans below, is obvious, “So God made the expanse and separated the water under the expanse from the water above it. And it was so.” Gen 1:7 (NIV) The water of the oceans below the atmosphere came *from* the water of outer space above the atmosphere.

Suffice it to say, details such as these, in abundance such as these, cannot be the product of human imagination. Many other examples of such details are discussed in my book, “*Eyewitness to the Origins, Third Edition.*”

The point that human imagination cannot invent scientific details that are in such accord with reality is aptly illustrated by the abundance of religions that are not in accord with the reality of science. Indeed, even the pseudo-scientific details according to traditional interpretations of Christian theologians, are illustration of the impossibility of well meaning theologians not inspired by some supernatural force to invent details of science that are in accord with reality.

There has to be something supernatural about the origin of the ancient scriptures of

the bible.

2) What's Been Happening at Science and the Bible:

By Max B. Frederick, AnOldScientist

This month I have become acutely aware of something that is very bothersome to me. There are religious church leaders, even in Christendom, that believe there is nothing at all supernatural about the bible.

At first I could not believe it. How could someone be a pastor of a church in the Christian religion, and not believe the bible? How could someone be a theologian, publishing in a major denomination, and believe the bible is nothing but a collection of writings by very smart, intelligent, men of the past?

I do not mean they simply have doubts. That is common to all humans. We look around and see the evidence. Is there really life after death? How can we know for sure? It is natural to have doubts.

We depend on the credibility of the bible.

What we believe about life after death depends on what we believe about the credibility of the bible.

A lot depends on whether or not the bible is true. It is as Paul said, "If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men most miserable." 1Cr 15:19 (KJV)

But there are church leaders who do not believe there is anything supernatural about the bible. They believe there is some truth in it, but they do not believe we can trust what it says.

If we cannot believe what it says in realms we can verify, such as science, how can we believe what it says about things that cannot be verified, such as life after death?

On the other hand, if we can verify what it says in the realm of science, how can we doubt what it says about things that cannot be verified, such as life after death?

Why am I writing about this?

I ran into this in the past, but could not believe what I was hearing. Several months ago I visited a pastor of a local church and was telling him about my findings that scientific fact recently discovered by modern science had been pre-published in the bible thousands of years earlier.

I was told my work in the realm of science and the bible was irrelevant because anything I found that looked like science could verify the bible would be just coincidence. He would not even look at it because, he had obviously made up his mind that the bible was not supernatural. As he put it, the bible is just a collection of writings by very wise men of the past; there is nothing supernatural about it. To present evidence to the contrary is just a waste of time. There is no such thing as supernatural.

At the time I dismissed it as an isolated aberration, a pastor of a church that actually believed there is nothing supernatural about the bible.

This month I had a revealing experience.

A while back I found a “Call for Papers” on the Internet. A major denomination was seeking speakers for a convention at a major Christian college institution. They were asking for anyone who so desired, to propose a paper to be presented early next year at their annual conference. The subject was concerning the influence of scripture in religion of today. (I am trying to not identify that institution by carefully using words to describe it so it does not pop up in a simple Google search.)

One sub-category was on the subject of science and theology.

This seemed like an ideal place to present a paper promoting scientific evidence of the supernatural origin of the ancient scripture.

In these days of political correctness declaring all religions to be equally the product of the evolution of human imagination, such scientific evidence should be welcome. There is need to reassure those who believe in the bible that it really is credible. Science has been seen as destroying the credibility of the ancient scripture, and thus, the influence of scripture on our daily lives has been diminished. Contrary to political correctness, modern science has been verifying the facts contained in the bible concerning the origins, facts heretofore ignored or unrecognized by theologians, yet included in the ancient scripture indicating a supernatural source of information.

So I went to work preparing my proposal to present such a paper.

When the proposal was submitted, the first response seemed encouraging. But I had to wait for a decision as to whether it would be accepted for presentation or not.

While waiting I read other papers that had been presented at earlier conferences of the same organization.

The titles of the papers did not reveal the depth of despair prevalent among modern day theologians. But one paper was particularly revealing. Buried deep in the paper is the belief that the origin of the bible is just another chapter in the evolution of humanity; evolution, not creation, was attributed with the credit for all existence. According to that paper, there is no such thing as a creator god. The only creativity is the evolved creativity of the human mind. Religion, and therefore the concept of a universal God, is the product of the evolution of the creativity of the human mind. The Christ episode of history is just a product of that evolution and the creativity of the human mind in combining experience into logical explanation. The paper went so far as to questioning why we would put any effort into saving human souls, since the concept of the soul is only a concept that evolved in the minds of Greek philosophers. Our effort instead, should be put into saving human bodies. And all this was presented in a paper accepted last year in the category of science and theology where my paper was proposed, but with the opposite view.

As I waited for word as to whether my paper would be accepted, I began to realize it probably would not. When the word finally came, I was thanked profusely for my proposal; but, “Unfortunately, Your paper does not fit in the work the Science and

Theology section of [omitted] wants to engage. So we will not be accepting your proposal.”

Of course, I was beginning to expect such a response. But their explanation gave no indication as to what that “work” was in which they wanted to engage.

So, pressing it a bit further, I wrote back enquiring, “May I ask what is the work the Science and Theology section of [omitted] wants to engage? Is there a reference describing what you are interested in?”

Their response thanked me for the note, and said simply, “Your proposal didn't seem to fit the conference.”

What else could I expect? This is a major denomination and many of their followers remain in membership with the expectation that they are being taught by people who have faith in what the followers expect to hear, that their religion is in fact, true.

But the fact remains. Not only is there doubt among some theologians of that major denomination, there is outright declaration that the reason for their existence is a lie.

So they debate the question: What is the roll of scripture in the formation of a dedicated people? The unstated part of the question appears to be an underlying assumption: Since there is nothing supernatural about the scripture, just what roll can it be expected to play?

As readers of this E-Zine know, my work reveals evidence that the bible is in fact supernaturally credible in the realm of science.

Is the real problem that they did not want to hear any dogma about the bible being supernatural? Had they already made up their mind that science has shown that religion, even God, can be explained by evolution, that there is no need for anything supernatural, such as creation, God, or even a supernatural bible?

All this is to demonstrate the current day importance of the admonition made by Peter in the first century, “... [be] ready always to [give] an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear.” 1Pe 3:15 (KJV)

In my mind, there is no greater evidence of the credibility of the bible in the realm of things hoped for, such as the hope for eternal life, than the demonstration of supernatural credibility in the realm of scientific details concerning the origins. That evidence is in the form of pre-publication of the knowledge of myriads of scientific facts thousands of years before their actual discovery by modern science.

In my mind, the demonstration of verifiable credibility in the realm of pre-publication of scientific details concerning the origins is supernatural. And that credibility which is in a realm that can be verified lends credibility in realms that cannot be verified, such as the hope for eternal life.

As I have said many times before, there is no conflict between ancient scripture and modern science in the verifiable facts of detail. All the conflict is between the interpretations by theologians of what the bible says, and the interpretations by scientists of the facts they discover.

Request: If any of you readers become aware of any public forum where such a paper on science bolstering the credibility of scripture might be accepted, please let me know.

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