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**Truth To Wonder
Ministries Magazine**

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Matthew 5:14 KJV

***Ye are the light of the world. A city
that is set on an hill cannot be hid.***

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Welcome

As we enjoy the summer season many of us will be enjoying times of rest and relaxation by being on holiday. Stunning views like the one on our cover page will refresh many a weary body and invigorate us once more for the toils and tasks of everyday life. Whilst these wonderful times are of course blessings from the gracious hand of Our Lord, let us be quick in humility to remind ourselves that our great reward is not bound up in such pleasant but short lived periods of holiday excursions; instead they are bound up in the Lord Jesus himself.

A Scriptural reminder of this can be found in Genesis 15, as Our Lord reveals Himself to Abram in a vision. Not long before this awe inspiring revelation, Abram had endured battle whilst saving his nephew Lot from Canaanite adversaries and then experienced blessing from the mysterious priestly figure of Melchizedek in Genesis 14. Such are the hills and valleys in the life of any believer in Christ, as we step from times of trial to times of blessing. It is easy therefore for the Christian to become misguided in the thought that their reward is to be found within the trappings of this world. Wrongly we put such stock in the welcome days of rest and recovery that we often forget who gifted us these blessings, namely Our Lord God.

So we are to always remember what Our Lord said to Abram in Genesis 15:1, that He is our “exceeding great reward”. Let us be on guard against the errors of allowing dangerous distractions of the world to draw us away from waiting on the fulfilment of our reward that is sharing in the glory of Christ in that joyful day yet to come. As Abram drove away the birds from picking at the carcasses of the covenant offering in Genesis 15 so as to safeguard the preciousness of this sacrificial covenant, we are to be similarly vigilant that we safeguard the treasuring of our exceeding great reward that is bound up within Christ Jesus. This is to be achieved through obedient faith, trusting that all the things that God has said will be will most certainly be. Then we shall walk closely and joyfully with God, being able to enjoy the bounty of His gracious blessings in these days but never place them above the greatest reward of all that is yet to come.

Let us draw near now in this request to Our Lord and God.



Opening Prayer

Dear Lord and Heavenly Father, we do humbly thank thee for your many mercies and blessings that you pour out to us so graciously each day. How we marvel Lord at your constant provision for such weak and sinful beings as we. Yet Lord we give greater thanks that you do not look upon us with disdain for though we are worthy of such judgement in our own merits of sin; you look upon us and see the righteousness of your own Son in whom we do rest eternally.

So Lord it is in this great truth that we have our exceeding great reward, that in Christ Jesus we are counted righteous as was Abraham and so we may come boldly unto your throne of grace. Thus as Our Lord Jesus lives so shall we and we shall gaze upon Our Redeemer with our own eyes, seeing the fullness of our reward at long last. Hurry that day forward Lord we pray and yet all the while make use of we your servants so that the Gospel may reach others who are lost as we once were. This is we do ask in Jesus name. Amen.

Prophecy

Prophecy, what a fantastic field of study. However, it is an area fraught with dangers. Those dangers are often due to poor if any solid exegesis of the text, limited background knowledge and often been manacled by the prophetic camp you are in.

Books pour out on the subject that are often a re-hash of former material or sensationalistic prognostications. Such books are often written with a certainty that defies comprehension and gets very close to date setting the Return of the Lord. The whole subject of biblical prophecy is a mine-field where a little knowledge is a dangerous thing. Authors often cite texts that readers don't check or find a good biblical exposition of from some solid (preferably old) commentator.

Writers often give half a dozen texts (if that), to teach a 'doctrine', such is always a grave concern. I remember back in the 70's a famous paperback

that caused much division called, 'The Late Great Planet Earth' by Hal Lindsey. Today the Charismatic Movement is full of 'prophecy' (often to do with the Second Coming), it is usually banal, unbiblical and very prone to spreading doctrinal error. You must go to the Bible to test what you hear, read or are taught and if you cant find it, then suspect it, pray for light on the matter till you get an answer.



I am not trying to put anyone off this subject of study, it is a wonderful proof of the omniscience of God, however, it is also an area where novel ideas and interpretations can take the field. If a writer seems to lay out his argument so simply and clearly that you are astonished why others cannot see it then be on your guard, the interpretation of prophecy is not that simplistic usually. While it is true that some prophetic statements are profoundly apparent some require serious labour.

What a joy it is to believe that God has revealed so much in His word and how right it is that we should search the Scriptures 'for the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy'. Rev 19v10, but do not forget that there were and still are false prophets. Some 'prophets' are found in the Church and often 'minister' for gain to the confusion of God's elect.

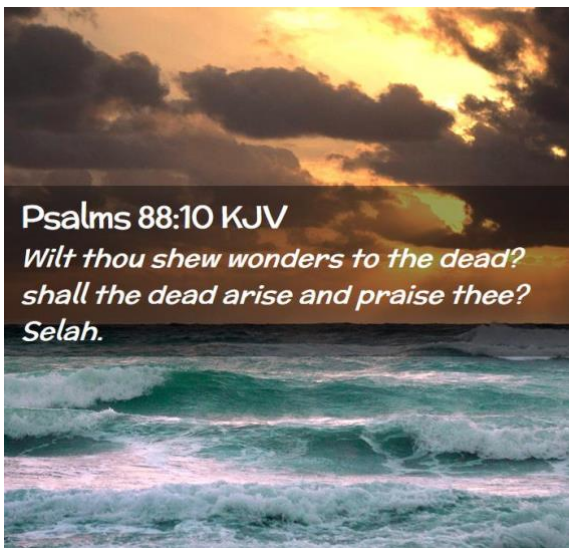
By Dr David Badger

Psalm 88 – Commentary Part 2

We return now to our look at the woe filled verses of Psalm 88. Whilst it's content is indeed filled with sorrow and lament, this recording of the heaviness of the Psalmist's heart and soul highlights to us that believers often face similarly dark days. If you are so burdened and troubled then be of comfort and read on, see how your

God knows the wounds of your life and as He led the Psalmist to peace eternal, He shall for you as well through saving faith in Christ Jesus.

Verse 10 commences a plea unto God as the Psalmist notes how can a dead man show the love of God to the world? He is thinking purely of this life and this world and petitions God that what good can a servant do if he remains dead? It is a understandable question to the mind of man but with the eyes of eternity the dead raised in Christ sing the sweetest of praises to God and bear the most brilliant of testimonies of His love.



As the verse continues we witness a familiar working pattern of the Holy Spirit in how He ministers to the broken hearted through their own words of lament. The Psalmist's question of shall the dead arise and praise God is answered already in the shed blood of Christ. Through faith in Christ Jesus the dead shall indeed rise and give their praise again. The Holy Spirit is assuring the heart of the troubled Psalmist through his own doubts. Herein is a great lesson to all troubled believers. Do not feel ashamed of your fears and laments, bring them to God in prayer and He shall send His Spirit to comfort you with wondrous truth to assure the doubting heart and bring peace to the troubled soul. Thus the verse ends with 'Selah' or rest. So does the soul rest for a moment when it sees the working of the Spirit within their own words. Whilst they are not healed of pain yet, the ever burning flame of the faith of Christ is being brought into view so that the weary soldier may find their direction unto rest once more.

Verses 11 and 12 continue this great petition unto God. Though assured by the Spirit, the mind of sinful man will still doubt, such is the sad situation of the soul which is fixated upon it's malaise. No doubt the Psalmist does not wish to be in this sad state, but he cannot summon up the strength of mind to take on such heavenly doctrine. Another great truth lies therein, that even the strongest and most able of minds cannot fathom the eternal wonder that are the doctrines of Christ's grace towards sinful man. It is revealed by God unto the pitiful sinner through the grace of Christ by the will of the Father and brought to light by the Spirit.

So the Psalmist continues his plea, appealing for worldly relief from his woes and broken spirit. Are we so different? I fear not. For so do we seek to find peace for the heavy heart within the pleasures of this world, hoping that some trinket of the flesh will bring peace to the soul. Of course it cannot, and the heart that walks with God knows this, yet when we fall into such heavy despair we feel so very far from God and so such heavenly wisdom is similarly far from our grasp. So we too repeat our claims against God and plead for Him to rescue us from our plight. How blind we are though that we forget that He has already done this in giving His only begotten Son for our redemption from the second death. His grace is truly sufficient and in His wisdom He allows such dark days to descend to remind us that He has long provided all we need, He is always with us and shall never depart us even if we drift from devoted service.

This three time repeated petition comes down to this great question, if a servant of God goes to the grave unblessed, how will God's honour be preserved and who will bear witness to His truth and righteousness? We have seen the heaviness of this question previously, in how the believer often becomes burdened with the notion that saving faith is upheld by THEIR faith in Christ. Thus because of their faithful service they should expect a good treatment from God. Such is the subtle entry of the work based salvation into the heart of man, it's gentle lie slips easily into the troubled ear and seeks to bring further misery to the soul. God does not owe any man anything, we are all wretched sinners with no hope of salvation outside of Christ. God does not need

our testimony to uphold His righteousness, He does not require our witness to speak of His honour, truth and glory! What a sinful thought and yet have not we all felt this wicked concept at some point in our lives. If such great men of faith can be so troubled who are we to even contemplate that we would not be so afflicted?

So we are to find our rest in the faith OF Christ; an eternal, unshakable faith that we partake in and enjoy it's security and strength through faith IN Him. It is a most beautiful of unions deep within the heart of each Christian, a marriage that speaks unceasingly of that great day to come of the marriage between the Bridegroom and the Bride, of Christ Jesus and His Church.

In Verse 13 we see the hallmark of the true believer, dedication of prayer even when it appears to be unanswered by God. The true believer does not rest until He has won the blessing of His Lord as Jacob continued to wrestle with God until he had obtained His blessing. Anyone can pray in fits and bursts, but continued prayer that waits on the Lord and chases after Him knowing that His goodness and mercy are abundant, that belongs only to the true follower of Christ.

Who cannot but see the lament of Our Lord Jesus on the Cross within verse 14. Those most heart breaking of words of why has God turned His face from me. This is the most bitter of all thoughts, of all states for any man, woman or child. To feel that the source of all goodness, all hope, all joy, all peace, all rest, all love has turned away from you leaving you alone in the blackness of death and despair. Some of you may know this shattering feeling, this utter dejection of spirit that is almost too great a burden to bear. Yet but for the faith OF Christ the believer is kept from it's lowest ebb, that thought that life itself is unbearable and must be ended. Have pity and

compassion on those who suffer so, the only true remedy for such complete despair is Christ so speak to them of His love.

Verse 15 reveals the tortuous nature of this sadness as it has been since the Psalmist's youth. This is not 'rough patch', a short lived hard spell; it is a deep and ongoing source of despair and depression that seemingly offers no consistent rest-bite. Those who are troubled so know well of what the Psalmist speaks. They have a character and nature that is frequently afflicted with such heavy times of heart and soul. Sometimes they may not even know the cause of the poor depression and yet the pain is so very real. This repeated pain becomes so awful after such a long period of time that death itself is seen as a sweet release, as all the while they cannot even maintain a consistent thread of thought for such is their great despair. I have known such dark days so very, very frequently. It is a terrible thing to not even be able to complete one thought without lurching onto another; there is no rest from it's soul deep restlessness and breaks every aspect of your being down to the dust.

Verse 16 again contains words and thoughts that many believers will have experienced; that awful thought that you are being laid low under the very wrath of God such is the pain and heaviness you are going through. Take comfort though Christian, for it is the heart that has had the truths of God revealed to it by the Spirit that is aware of His great and terrible anger against sinful man. The lost sinner has no awareness of his situation. Like those whose nerves are not able to sense physical pain, they are in danger of great injury because they cannot respond to the warning of bodily pain.

The truth for every believer to hold onto is that the atonement of sin has been made by Christ Jesus, the wrath of God has passed over us and we are not subject to it any longer. So the Psalmist speaks of God's anger 'going over him'. He/she senses it, He knows it to be true and just and he may even feel as though he is subject to it, yet he is not for he has been washed clean by the blood of Christ Jesus. Though the believer is still held in loving correction by their Heavenly Father at times, they are passed over from His fierce wrath.



But still the troubled heart contends with the assurance offered it. You may know this situation well, when the Lord has assured you of many great and wonderful truths within His Word and yet still there is unease and depression in the heart. Here it is reflected in the Psalmist's words as he speaks of himself being cut off by the terrors of the Lord. It may seem that way indeed, that all avenues for peace have been removed and all you feel is the weight of God on your soul. Yet rejoice Christian! The Lord is cutting all the ropes of security you have fastened onto the world, onto friends, onto family so that you may see that it is all weak, sinful and brief. He cuts you off so that you may see that it was Him and Him alone that you have always needed. Though He has been gracious to you in providing you with friends, family and the like, they should not be your ultimate rest. This sadly does become the case with each of us, as we get distracted by the world and we make the blessings of help given to us in His grace the objects of our worship and focus.

I know all too well how it can feel that He is requiring you to leave all behind and this can shatter the spirit. It brings a sharp focus to the heart of what is treasured by you, whether it is Christ, or other things, other people and Christ. We could die so very easily in a hundred different ways at any point of the day; and yet it is only when we see a car coming quickly at us and we have misjudged the crossing that we become aware of what is truly needed and treasured. So God in His wisdom may bring us dark days to bring us back to dependency of Him, not that He is cruel but that He sees our weariness and leads us to rest in Him. Have you ever wondered why in Psalm 23 it reads, "he maketh me lie down beside still waters"? It is because we fight against Him, the source of all peace and rest even though we desire it more than anything such is our rebellious spirit. So in His loving correction He makes us rest and this may be through times of struggle when we have wandered from Him and become bitter and cold in heart.

Verse 17 continues this image of being cut off from God, like rising waters that cut off the beachgoer from the safety of the shore. It can feel as though sadness is seeping into every part of your

being, like Gideon's fleece heavy with dew as Spurgeon so eloquently put it. Yet the Lord would have your spirit so troubled so that you would pour it out in trust unto Him so that He might fill you up again with the assurance of His eternal love for you. Therein lies the source of all peace and rest, that great comfort in times of such distress.

The psalm ends in verse 18 with a return to the thought that the stricken heart's dearest friends and acquaintances have long fled him. To feel so abandoned in the darkness is again one that many will be terribly familiar with as our malaise drives away the loving embrace we so crave for. When once we looked to friends to hold us and assure us of their affection for us, we fear their judgement and disapproval or are even subject to this awful predicament as Job endured. But beyond all this lies the greatest truth of all. That we have a friend in Christ Jesus who loved us for what we are, wretched sinners longing for His healing touch. We do not need to fear His judgement because He has paid the cost of our great debt of sin and done so lovingly in all accordance to the will of the Father. This joyous truth is assured us through the ministry of the Holy Spirit to our hearts. Yet as the Psalmist in this song of lament has shown our weak and frail natures often lose sight of this wonderful truth and so we sink into greatest despair.



However look to the first line of the following psalm, Psalm 89. "I will sing of the mercies of the LORD forever: with my mouth will I make known their faithfulness to all generations". That great fear of the troubled believer of being cut adrift from God did not transpire and never shall, for His mercies are eternal and they are secured by the shed blood of Christ, who loves us with an everlasting love. Amen.

By Jonathan Badger

Ask And You Shall Receive

As we have touched on many times, prayer is a much neglected wonder by very many Christians today. What has been rightly deemed as a lifeblood to the believing individual by many great preachers and theologians, today many treat it as an afterthought.

As Sinclair Ferguson noted, 'you show me someone's prayer life and it will show me the strength of their faith'. Prayer draws us close unto Our Heavenly Father and the more we commune with Him in prayer, the more we grow in a personal relationship with Him. Thus our faith and trust in Him grows daily and we go from approaching Him timidly with only our great concerns, to approaching His throne of grace boldly (Hebrews 4:16) with every hope and fear no matter how seemingly trivial and insignificant in joyful spirit knowing He delights to hear our prayers. This is the very essence of 'walking with God', the sharing of the smallest of thoughts as good friends exchange in such conversation with ease and are we not the friends of God as Abraham is? The Scriptures assure us so and so let us converse with Our Lord in such an open and trusting manner.

To give some encouragement in this venture, I'd like to share with you a recent situation that revealed to me how Our Father heeds even the smallest of prayers and moves to provide for His own so very graciously.

On walking down to my local Christian bookstore so as to provide them with some paper copies of Truth To Wonder magazine, it came to my mind how good it would be to have a Biblical DVD library that everyone in attendance at Truth To Wonder Church could share and enjoy. Given our restricted budget however I knew that such a hope would not be achievable by simply pulling on our financial capacity. For this hope to come to fruition it would take the blessing of the Lord Himself to provide. So as I walked I asked my Lord that He would provide somehow the means to enable such a DVD library to be enabled.

On entering the bookstore I handed over the magazines for distribution and then went through

to the first section of the store which houses the various Biblical DVD's and CD's for sale. I looked down at a section that was normally empty of stock, the clearance section. However on this occasion it was absolutely full of an amazing range of Biblical DVD's! The range featuring numerous Creation Ministries international and Answers in Genesis productions, covered everything from Radio Carbon Dating through to UFO sightings and various features on Creation science and Biblical archaeology. Each dvd was at a reduced to clear price so I eagerly set about building a collection. As my stack of purchases grew, the bookstore manager walked past and so I asked if he had a box I could use so as to carry the DVD's I was hoping to purchase. He grinned and went off to find the requested box. On his return he informed me that he had more clearance DVD's available that he hadn't got round to putting out yet but I was welcome to browse through in case I saw anything extra I could use. Excitedly I thanked him and looked through the extra supplies and continued to add to my stack of resources. On finishing my search I realised I had amassed quite the library of DVD's as the box I had asked for was quite full! Considering the cost of this new multimedia library and how I could afford this amazing array of resources, it came to mind that a member of the church congregation had wonderfully donated generously to the church just the week before.

My mind and my heart was full of praise unto God as He had moved so very swiftly to answer my simple prayer that I had uttered but minutes before. In His grace He had provided all that was necessary so that Truth To Wonder Church could provide everyone who attends a fantastic Biblical DVD library.



On placing the box of DVD's on the shop counter for payment I shared this amazing unfolding of the grace and provision of God with the manager and the store assistant. I could not help but stand there in stunned thanksgiving and testify of how Our Lord God hears and answers all sorts of prayers, from the small to the mighty. So next time you pause and hesitate to pour out your requests to God, remember how very good He is to each of His children and how He delights in giving good gifts (James 1:17) unto us so that His name might be glorified. Share your heart and soul with Him in all things in prayer and learn of how very good your God is always. Amen.

By Jonathan Badger

The Decline of the Church of England

As gender identity politics continues to rip the moral heart out of western society, one would've thought this would be a superb opportunity for the Church of England to make a strong statement for what God has clearly laid out in Holy Scripture, that there are only two genders, man and woman. A man is not a woman and cannot be made into one and a woman is not a man and cannot be made into one. You are born either a male or a female, that's it (apart from the very, very rare instances of those born as hermaphrodites) These boundaries are determined by the ordained will of God and revealed to all mankind in His Word alongside the physical attributes displayed at birth.

However this simple fact seems too hard to swallow for Archbishop Welby, whose recent comments that 'there is no official definition of what a woman is', has caused mass surprise and confusion even amongst secular media sources. How can a supposed man of God in such a position of spiritual responsibility say such an anti-scriptural comment on such an elementary matter? Sadly Archbishop Welby has preferred to attempt to please man than please God and so is dragging the Church of England further and further away from the very Word of God it stands to serve and defend.



Archbishop of Canterbury Justin Welby

Sadly this terrible decision has just compounded other serious missteps that the Church of England has taken recently under the leadership of Archbishop Welby. It was reported in a recent BBC news report that the Church of England was going to borrow money so as to fund its Carbon Net Zero drive. Whilst various governments are experiencing the immense financial pressure of pursuing such environmental ideologies and determining to postpone their ambitions due to the world wide cost of living crisis, the Church of England is placing itself in a financially vulnerable position to appease the 'woke' brigade. As the saying goes, 'go woke, go broke'.

As Archbishop Welby continues to oversee a continually compromising church (with increasing views that the Church of England should recognise and encourage gay marriage), he is overseeing the collapse of a church that was established not by the whims of a tyrant king (as modern historians propagate – Church of England just a body set up on the whims of Henry VIII) but by the blood of thousands of martyrs who gave no quarter to appeasing the fallen world. Instead they went to the stake to ensure that the Pure Word of God remained so, pure!

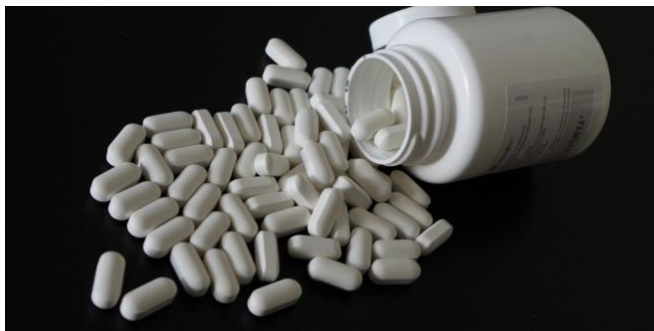
Pray earnestly that the Lord may deliver the Church of England from this ever nearing collapse for there are still many good and Godly men and women within its ranks who need and long for clear, strong Scriptural teaching.

By Jonathan Badger

Soul Therapy: A Puritans Antidepressant

Worryingly one in six adults in UK are on antidepressants. An ever increasingly fragile population has been told for decades that depression is most commonly caused by a 'chemical imbalance' in the brain. As a populace we have been told that low levels of serotonin is a primary factor in susceptibility to depression and thus can be easily corrected by chemical assistance provided by antidepressants. As a result one sixth of the adult population in the UK is now convinced that any hope to the depression they are experiencing can only be found through pharmaceutical help.

In a recent study reported on in numerous newspapers, many scientists are now unconvinced by this idea of 'chemical imbalance' fuelled depression. An article in the Guardian newspaper highlighted how recent investigations have shown that low serotonin has little impact on an individual's mental state. In the studies, Individuals that have naturally low levels of serotonin have not shown any disposition to a depressive state anymore than those with normal levels.



Joanna Moncrieff, a professor of psychiatry from University College London and lead author in the recent study into the effectiveness of antidepressants commented, "Many people take antidepressants because they have been led to believe their depression has a biochemical cause, but this new research suggests this belief is not grounded in evidence."

So if pharmaceutical help is not effective for many troubled individuals, what hope is there for them in finding some rest from their struggles? As always the Lord God is an ever present refuge

and sanctuary for all who are heavy laden (Matthew 11:28-29) and are longing for peace and consistency of nature. As the Prince of Peace (Isaiah 9:6), Jesus Christ is the unchanging source of all good and pure peace, the possessor and giver of such a strength of peace that it surpasses understanding (Philippians 4:6). No matter how low or troubled you may feel you are never low enough that Jesus cannot reach you and lift you up to share in His fullness of peace. He rests knowing that His work is done, the way for the redemption of mankind was opened by the shedding of His pure blood and He desires that you might know His same eternal peace.

Yet there may be those reading this who are safe in the hands of their Saviour and yet still struggle with great periods of depression. Such individuals may have hoped that antidepressants would lift them from their troubles yet still they feel a great heaviness of spirit. If you are such a soul remember that the Psalmist knew such depression of spirit (as studied in our look at Psalm 88) and did not seek comfort from any other source but from the love of God.

The spiritual struggles of mankind have not altered over the millennia and as the Psalmist knew that the Lord God was the source of their hope and strength so too did the Puritans in our nation just a few centuries ago. They knew that faithful believers in Christ sometimes struggled so with times of depression and so they would encourage those afflicted to engage in 'soul therapy'. This would involve careful study of Scripture and earnest prayer so that the troubled individual would be drawn towards an everlasting source of certain hope and eternal love held for them by none other than Almighty God. By focusing the afflicted person on Christ Jesus and reminding them of His unchanging compassion, love and provision for them, hope and purpose would be reestablished.

So as always follow Scripture and be as the young bride in the Song of Solomon who determined to seek after the one her soul loved (Song of Solomon 3:2) as she knew nothing else outside of His love would bring her peace and fulfilment.

By Jonathan Badger

Nelson Mandela - The man behind the myth

Nelson Mandela has achieved something akin to sainthood in the world's eyes sitting somewhere between Ghandi and Mother Teresa like the three "No evil" monkeys. As with all these bastions of worldly righteousness, freedom and justice however, the outwardly white painted sepulchre's hide a stinking corpse.

1) He was a terrorist and murderer signing off on the deaths of many innocent people. Nelson Mandela was the head of the UmKhonto we Sizwe (abbreviated to MK), and the terrorist wing of the ANC and the South African Communist party. Under his leadership and full knowledge, terrorist bombing campaigns were set in motion that killed many innocent men, women and children. In total, at his trial, he plead guilty to 156 acts of public violence, and it is of note that he absolutely refused to renounce violence. He was so adamant in this stand that Amnesty International refused to take his case stating "that it could not give the name of 'Prisoner of Conscience' to anyone associated with violence, even though as in 'conventional warfare' a degree of restraint may be exercised." Just a selection of his terrorist activities are noted below

Church street West, Pretoria on the 20th of May 1983 – 19 dead, 217 injured.

Amanzimtoti shopping complex 23rd December 1985 – 5 dead, 40 injured.

Durban Pick 'n pay shopping complex 1986 – 18 wounded.

Johannesburg Magistrates Court 20th May 1987 – 4 police dead, 15 injured.

Pretoria Sterland movie complex 16th April 1988 (limpet mine killed the ANC terrorist M O Maponya instead).

Roodepoort Standard Bank 3rd June 1988, 4 dead – 19 injured.

After his release from prison – he awfs far from reformed – he simply had a better PR and spin team

2) As President of South Africa he purchased billions and billions of Rands worth of military hardware. Mandela's government announced in November of 1998 that it was going to buy 28 BAE/SAAB JAS 39 Gripen fighter aircraft from Sweden at a cost of R10.875 billion – this equated to approximately \$65million per plane. But he was not finished there. In 1999 a R30 billion (\$4.8 billion USD) deal for weaponry was completed. The South African Defence's Strategic Defence Acquisition purchased a vast quantity of new armaments including submarines, corvettes, frigates, helicopters, fighter jet trainers and light fighter aircraft. All this whilst significant regions of the country he was governing was drowning in abject poverty and squaller. This a very familiar pattern to anyone ofay with communist leaders. Arm yourself to the back teeth, live in luxury and let the people fight to survive.

3) Nelson was very friendly with murderous dictators. Despite being held up as the symbol of democracy and freedom, Mandela was never shy to shake the hand of international tyrants and dictators, and was very careful not to say a bad word about them, primarily because he had received a great deal of funding from them during his days as the head of the ANC. In fact, two of the ANC's biggest donors were President Suharto of Indonesia, and the one and only Colonel Muammar Gaddafi. Nelson Mandela openly admitted in 1999 (April) to an audience in Johannesburg, that Suharto had given the ANC 60 million USD. The Telegraph newspaper reported that Gaddafi was known to have given the ANC



Mandela in prison

well over 10 million USD.

As a result of these gifts, not only did he refuse to say anything against either donor's horrific human rights violations, but awarded them both South Africa's highest honour. Suharto in fact was given a state visit, 21 gun salute and The Order of Good Hope!!



Mandela with dictator Colonel Gaddafi

If Nelson Mandela was the sepulchre hiding the corpse, then his wife Winnie Madikizela Mandela was the open grave in the basement. Something of her crimes came to light when her chief bodyguard started talking. Mr Richardson is the bodyguard who is best known for beating torturing 14- year old Stompie Seipei for days before finally killing Stompie with a pair of garden shears in 1989. Stompie was kidnapped with 3 other children as part of a scheme to discredit and ruin a young white minister from a church mission by getting them to state that he had sexually abused them. They were tortured and beaten until they died.

Mr Richardson states that Mrs Mandela had been part of the beatings using her hands, fists and a whip, though as with other killings took great care not to be the dealer of the final blow. He described beating or killing at the whim of "mommy" – his name for Mrs Mandela – whenever she requested, he did so. When he was brought before South Africa's Truth and Reconciliation Commission he said:

"My hands are full of blood today because I would be instructed to kill and I would do like I was told"

Winnie Mandela was acquitted of all charges other than the kidnap of Seipei. It is known that a key witness who was to testify that Mrs Mandela had been part of Seipei's death was grabbed

tortured and taken to Zambia by her supporters in order to prevent him appearing at the trial. As a result Seipei's death brought nothing more than a fine as punishment on Mrs Mandela.

She was implicated in at least 15 deaths during the 1980's but it is likely a lot more. She was also well known for her endorsement of the means of killing known as "necklacing". This practice involved the placement of a tire filled with petrol around the neck or the chest and upper arms of the victim which was then set on fire. In a speech on the 13th of April 1986 in Munsieville she stated

"With our boxes of matches and our necklaces we shall liberate this country."

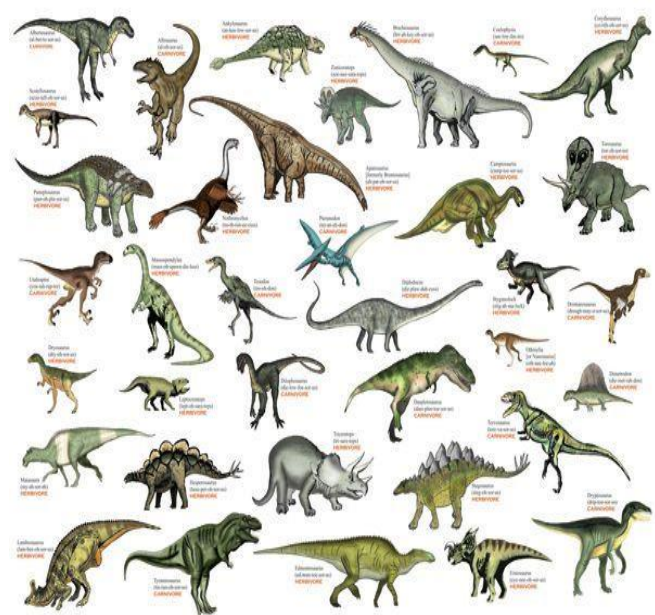
What place does this article have in this magazine? It aims to lay bare the truth behind the idols of the world. The symbols of truth virtue liberty and justice held up as the icons of our time that we should all strive to emulate. But just a little digging behind the façade constructed by the media reveals the reality of these modern day saints. Nothing more than wicked, power hungry self-centred tyrants. Sinners with no time for their maker, and who will be eternally separate from Him. Mark my words, you will not be walking the streets of heaven with Ghandi, or Teresa, Nelson Mandela or Martin Luther King, nor any Pope that ever lived.

By David J Badger

How Many Dinosaur Kinds Were There?

A common question posed to those of us who hold steadfastly to a literal interpretation of Genesis is 'how did Noah fit all the different kinds of dinosaurs in the Ark?' It is a very understandable question given how the vast majority of us have this conception that there are thousands of different dinosaur kinds and hence would pose a significant problem to Noah in housing the dinosaurs on the Ark let alone all the other creatures with them! Yet is this idea that there are thousands and thousands of differing dinosaur kinds actually correct?

The current classification system that palaeontologists use holds that there are well over 1000 different dinosaur kinds. This number is regularly being added to with 20-30 new 'kinds' being identified each year. There is a rush amongst palaeontologists to discover a new species and receive the recognition that comes from such a 'discovery'. As a result a new kind is hastily recorded so that another competing palaeontologist doesn't beat them to the punch. As Dr Tim Clarey observes in his excellent book, *Dinosaurs – Marvels of God's Design*, "most secular scientists are 'splitters' not 'lumpers'. Splitters name a new species on the basis on the slightest difference in anatomy". Dr Clarey continues by noting that by using the 'splitting' approach scientists are able "to get a journal publication from their discovery. More publications lead to more grants and more academic promotions, and possibly more fame. So there's an incentive to name as many new dinosaurs as possible".



How many dinosaur kinds were there?

Such a flawed approach has led to numerous mistakes and widespread use of synonyms. By this we mean that the same species has been named more than once (Brontosaurus and Apatosaurus are the same creature). This is not a new trend however as it began back in the 1800's with E.D Cope and O.C March competing to name new dinosaurs on the basis of very few bones. Furthermore they hardly ever published drawings of their discoveries meaning that comparisons between the similarities of their discoveries could

not be determined. Marsh named 80 differing species of dinosaur between 1870 and 1899 but only 29 percent were later found to be new or distinct. The remaining 71 percent were found to be synonyms or somebody else had already named the dinosaur in question. Eventually he ended up at the end of his career with only 23 distinct dinosaur discoveries to his name.

Cope managed an even less impressive rate of success in achieving a mere 14 percent success rate in naming 'new' dinosaur species, totalling just 9 dinosaur species discovered.

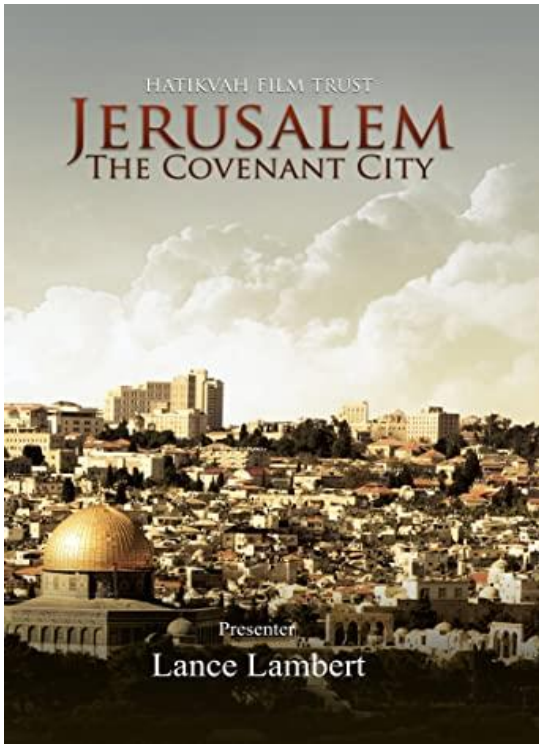
Dr Michael Benton has estimated that at best half of all named species of dinosaurs is actually an accurate labelling of their classification. Many of the species that have been labelled as distinct species are nothing more than already known species discovered in differing stages of their growth and development. For example a seemingly new species has been discovered; it looks very similar to a Stegosaurus but is smaller and has less armoured plates along it's spine. Some scientists would jump to the conclusion that this is a new species as opposed to patiently investigating the very plausible consideration that this 'new species' is nothing more than a juvenile Stegosaurus.

All this considered we can see that the enormous array of differing dinosaur kinds that Noah would've had to have found space for on the Ark is nowhere near the huge amount that was once conceived. Furthermore it would've been a wise and common sense approach for God to have sent Noah smaller juvenile dinosaurs to board the Ark. These creatures would've been smaller, taken less feed to keep nourished and would be entering prime stages of reproductive ability once the waters had receded from the land after a year on board the Ark.

As always when a calm, consistent and logical approach is applied to science and history and uses the evidence available without a preconceived bias, the result is a history of our world that very much matches the Biblical record as outlined in Genesis.

By Jonathan Badger

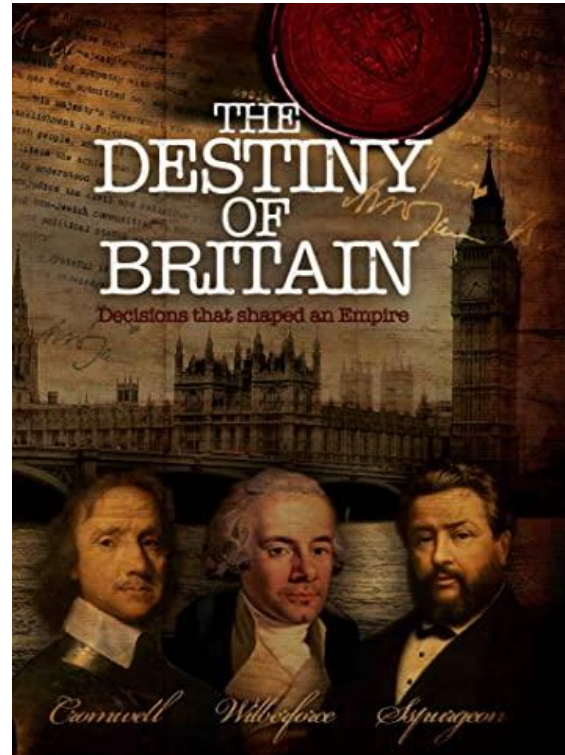
Resource Corner



Jerusalem- The Covenant City

Jerusalem, the Covenant City explores the past, present and future destiny of Jerusalem in the light of recorded history, the prophetic Scriptures and current events. This is the word of the Lord concerning Israel. "I am going to make Jerusalem a cup that sends all the surrounding peoples reeling." (Zechariah 12:1,2) Jerusalem, the Covenant City explores the past, present and future destiny of Jerusalem in the light of recorded history, the prophetic Scriptures and current events. Jerusalem is the only city in the world to have its history written in advance. It is the only city in the world that the Creator of the Universe has declared to be His dwelling place forever. And it is the only city in the world with an eternal destiny. Today the world is obsessed with the status of Jerusalem, just as Zechariah prophesied it would be. This is one of many signs that the end of the age and that the return of the Messiah - the Alpha and the Omega - is at hand. Through His ancient prophets and the current mounting conflict in the Middle East - particularly over Jerusalem - the God of Israel is speaking to the Jewish people, to the nations of the world, and to the Church. But who is listening? The feature-length documentary Jerusalem, the

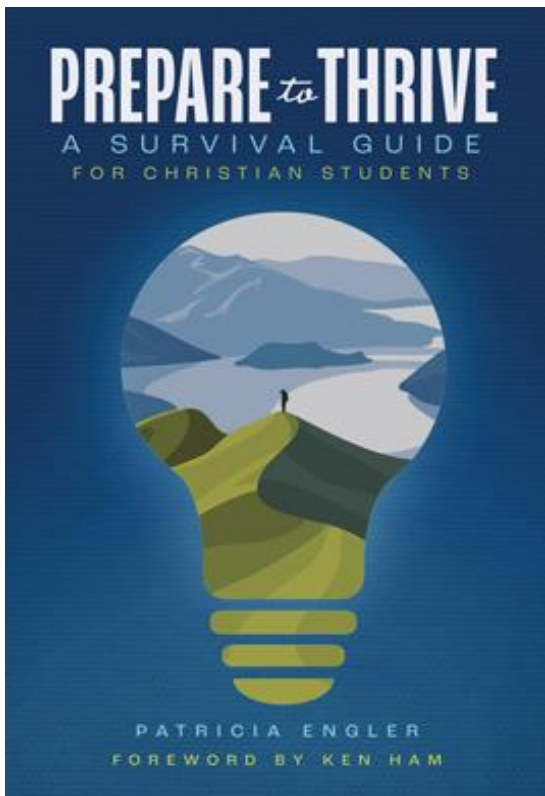
Covenant City, presented by Lance Lambert and written, produced and directed by Hugh Kitson, will impact its audience with a message of challenge and hope that they will not easily forget. Part 1 contains a broad sweep of Jerusalem's history, while Part 2 examines the present and future destiny of the Holy City. Available from Amazon



The Destiny of Britain

The Balfour Declaration of 1917 and the beginning of British rule over the historic Land of Israel was the culmination of a vision for the restoration of the Jewish people to their Biblical homeland which has developed in the Church in Great Britain over the previous three hundred years. This vision supported by the great Christian revivalists and Bible teachers such as the Wesley brother, Charles Simeon, Robert Murray M'Cheyne, C H Spurgeon and Bishop J C Ryle, was based on the covenants of promise and Scriptures found in the Bible. Leading academics and teachers explore and bring to life important little-known aspects of this period. Could Britain's destiny be intertwined with decisions of history? Produced and Directed by Hugh Kitson Presented by Kelvin Crombie Narrated by Ian Cullen

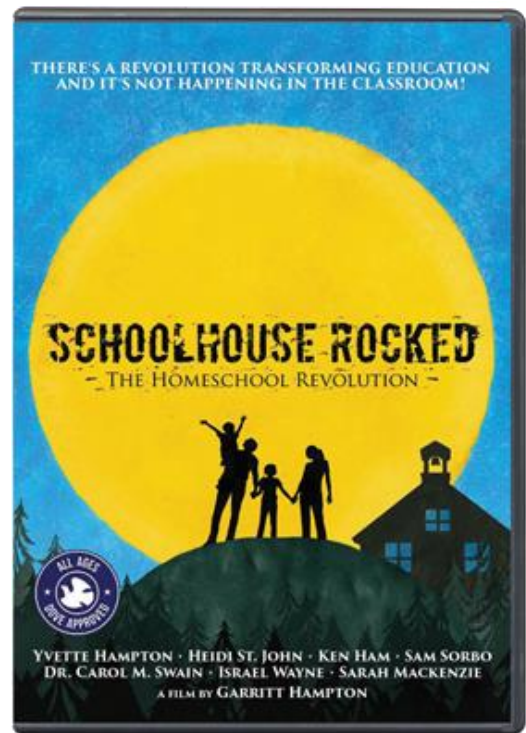
Available from Amazon



to think through faith-challenging messages, handle worldview questions, and resist “brainwashing.”

Whether you’re a current or future student, parent, pastor, mentor, or any other Christian engaging with the culture, Prepare to Thrive is for you. It’s more than possible for students to enter the battlefield of modern education and emerge not only a Christian—but a stronger one.

Available from answersingenesis.co.uk



Prepare to Thrive – A Survival Guide For Christian Students

It’s no secret that on the spiritual battlefield of colleges and universities, countless church-raised students walk away from their childhood faith before graduation. How can Christian students prepare for—and survive—the worldview battle in real classrooms? Discover field-tested strategies in this survival guide, Prepare to Thrive. After studying science as a Christian student at secular university, Patricia Engler backpacked around the world interviewing other Christian students. Those conversations revealed that while the problems students face often vary, the solutions they need are largely the same. Discover:

- Vital facts that reveal the alarming realities of much of modern education.
- Biblical strategies to build and maintain an uncompromised Christian worldview at university – and apply that worldview to impact culture.
- Practical tips to navigate the trenches of colleges and universities, including tools

Schoolhouse Rocked

Schoolhouse Rocked: The Homeschool Revolution is feature-length documentary intended to encourage and equip homeschool families to start strong and finish well. The movie follows host, Yvette Hampton as she travels the country with her family talking with education experts, curriculum developers, college and university faculty and administrators, and homeschooling families at every stage in the process, from kindergarten to college graduation and beyond. As viewers follow Yvette on this journey and share in her challenges and victories as a homeschool mom, they will gather the necessary resources and encouragement to homeschool their own children with excellence. Featuring: Sam Sorbo, Ken Ham, Heidi St. John, and Sarah Mackenzie.

Available from answersingenesis.co.uk

Family Bible Quiz Corner

Biblical Wordsearch

P	E	N	T	E	C	O	S	T	H
E	R	R	G	A	O	T	H	I	S
R	I	E	T	Y	L	D	V	M	O
T	E	D	A	B	R	A	M	O	H
E	Y	O	Y	C	M	Y	A	T	C
C	V	M	D	O	H	V	L	H	O
O	C	D	E	P	R	E	A	Y	S
S	A	T	V	A	T	I	C	A	T
G	I	L	E	A	D	A	H	Y	C
I	A	E	D	H	T	C	I	M	A

Words to find:

Pentecost, preach, Edom, Gad, Gilead, Eve, Malachi, Acts, Timothy, Abram

What Am I?

- 1) Hebrews 9:1-10 describes me
- 2) Ithamar directed me
- 3) I was covered with goat hair
- 4) I moved around a lot
- 5) I had 10 curtains inside and 11 outside
- 6) My frames were made of Acacia wood
- 7) My entrance faced eastward
- 8) A feast shares my name
- 9) Moses inspected me
- 10) God dwelt in me before the temple



Answer: I am the Tabernacle

Complete The Verse

Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake: for theirs is the _ _ _

Matthew 5:10

Looking for an A.V/KJV Bible Church?

Join us at **Truth To Wonder Church**

We are a family run church that focuses on the study of Holy Scripture and how His revealed Word is just as applicable to us all today as it has been throughout history.

Learn how good and unbiased scientific practice supports the Genesis account of world history.

See how archaeological discoveries uphold the Bible's claim to be recording of history and not just a collection of moral teachings and virtue filled myths.

Enjoy fellowship with other believers who love the God of the Bible and delight in His commands and precepts (Psalm 119:97).

Join us and be strengthened knowing that there are others who seek to glorify Our Lord God by sharing the Gospel with others so that they might know the love of God (Romans 1:16, 2 Timothy 4:2, Mark 16:15, John 3:16).

Sundays at 11am, Iford Scout Hut, Iford Lane, Bournemouth, BH6 5NE – for more information visit

truthtowonder.org