



TTW Truth To Wonder

Ministries Magazine

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Jonathan Badger

Welcome & Opening Prayer

All praise and glory to God for bringing us through another winter and bringing us to warmer, sunnier days of nearing Spring. It is this calming but humbling consideration that all is within glorious His sovereign power and rule as we look on at a world unravelling at the seams. Not a day goes by without another report surfaces that sends shivers through the spine of the onlooking world, whether it be news of wars or rumours of wars, financial meltdown fears, pandemics, cost of living etc, etc. The world is reaping what it has sown in it's wilful abandonment of God and His Word. Interestingly it was noted by Vladimir Putin in a recent interview on Russian TV, that in his estimation the West is seeing the inevitable collapse of society as a result of it's determination to kick God out from it's midst.

Well let it never be said that God does not give people what they want. He has listened to the request of the

world and removed His goodness and blessing from it's days. Instead mankind has been given over to itself, as God warned He would, and so the brutality and wickedness of sinful man under the influence of Satan and his demons is running amok.

As you will read in this issue, the evil tide is rising, bringing it's foul practices out of the shadows and into the mainstream, seeking ever greater numbers of souls to lead away from salvation in Christ and lead them instead to eternal hell fire.

Yet as we look on at such rapidly escalating evil, we are to remember that the same God who brings such delicate delights as gentle Spring days, is the same God who moves everything according to His perfect will. This means that as troubling as current events are, we are to be excited also as all things are unfolding just as the Scriptures have revealed they will. The world will descend into ever greater wickedness and chaos, God's wrath will pour out as man sins in increasing defiance of His merciful warnings of coming judgement, and the AntiChrist's rise to power.

Whilst all this is to come and could come swiftly, we are to remember and watch for Our Lord's return. We are to be marking the days we are in and look up as The King is coming! We are to be busy about Our Master's work, labouring to warn as many as possible that Judgement is near but there is still hope even in these late hours that salvation is at hand. Let us pray for this now.

Dear Lord and Merciful Father. Use us we pray according to your will in the spread of the Gospel, so that many souls may be saved from the great Day of Wrath that is soon to come. Give us hearts of strength and conviction of faith so that we stand steadfast against this rising tide of evil and that we do not grow faint and weary under the challenge. Bless us we pray with the guidance of the Holy Spirit, so that we witness not just in our words but in our deeds as well. Give us the words to speak and let them be moved in truth and love so that all who hear may hear the love of God in how He has given His only begotten Son as a propitiation for our great sins. This we ask in Jesus name. Amen.

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New website under construction – stay tuned for further updates! (truthtowonder.org)

Abundance In The Little Things

Contained within the pages of the historical account of ancient Israel as depicted within the Book of Judges, are two lives who pass by with barely a note. Whilst many will know the names of Gideon, whose great stand for Israel with but 300 men against the hordes of Midian; or a Samson, whose staggering strength laid waste to thousands of wicked Philistines; or maybe even a Deborah, whose devoted service to the Lord instructed and guided Barak to lead Israel's armies to defeat a fearsome enemy in the form of the Canaanites.

In the midst of these giants of leadership, two other Judges named Tola and Jair bring to us a brief yet mighty message of how Christ's future perfect rule in His millennial kingdom will be punctuated not by dramatic events of to-ing an fro-ing with evil, but with a consistent and wondrous peace that leaves the record books of blood and turmoil untroubled.

In the previous chapters of the Book of Judges as seen in chapters 7-10, we read of the Israelites fall into idolatry, their judgement by God and their delivering into the hands of oppression under the cruel Midianites. Yet after years of bitter struggle and oppression the Israelites cry out in repentance and plead unto the Lord for a deliverer and in the grace of God, Our Lord sends the outwardly unremarkable Gideon to lead them to freedom.

Yet one of Gideon's sons (one of seventy he fathered) named Abimelech rises up after his fathers death to murder his brothers save one, Jotham, and crowns himself King, something his father Gideon refused to do even when invited to do so by the nations elders. During Abimelech's reign, the nation falls away again into wickedness and warfare is the daily activity of this nation under judgement of God. However the Lord is rich in mercy and where the sins of His people abound, His grace abounds all the more and following the death of the wicked Abimelech, Israel is blessed with the rule of Judges Tola and Jair.

The judge Tola follows the rule of Abimelech, a member of the tribe of Ephraim, whose other notable leaders include none other than the great Joshua. Contained within the very brief historical content on Tola there still remains an enormous wealth of knowledge to be mined, especially in reference to the greatest Judge of All that is Jesus Christ.

Firstly note how verse 1 begins with "there arose to defend Israel Tola the son of Puah". It does not take a great and learned mind to see how Our Lord Jesus is

foreshadowed in this very opening statement. Who else is the defender of Israel than Christ Jesus? As the prophet Isaiah speaks in Isaiah 47:7, He, Jesus Christ, is the one who shall deliver Israel and shall establish it forever by the might of His power. It is interesting to note that it is the prophet Isaiah that speaks so consistently and so explicitly of the identity of the Messiah and any Bible believer will agree wholeheartedly that this Messiah is non-other than Jesus Christ. So in the very brief opening historical context of the overseeing judgeship of Tola, we are gifted a glimpse of the coming defender of Israel who shall be a blessing unto all people and nations, the One whom shall bring the gift of the eternal life first to the Jew and then the Gentile.

The name Tola means 'Crimson worm' or 'Scarlett stuff'. Now the significance of this name is tremendous. If we rewind two chapters in the Book of Judges to chapter 8 and verse 27, we read of Gideon making an ephod from the great spoils of war he has requested from the people of Israel. This beautifully guilded and produced piece of clothing, similar to a beautifully ornate waistcoat, is referenced elsewhere in the Bible in the Book of Exodus 28:1-8 as part of the dress of the High Priest. If one reads this passage you will see how the colours red, purple, blue, white and gold are to be used to construct this beautiful and intricate piece.

The Crimson Worm

(scientific name: *Coccus ilicis* or *Kermes ilicis*, *Cermes vermilio*)
(Hebrew name: *tola*, *tola'at shani*,)

• The Crimson Worm looks more like a grub than a worm. In the lifecycle of this worm is found a remez (hidden meaning) that points to the sacrifice of Jesus on the cross.



The gold was to be literal gold that was to be beaten into thin sheets and then cut into exceedingly thin strips so that it could be woven into the fabric of the ephod. The gold was to reflect the kingship of Jesus Christ, the eternal King of Kings, the full revelation of the Godhead. The purple was also to reflect this authority of rule over all Creation and eternity as purple is synonymous with kingly authority and rule, even to this day. The blue represented Jesus' rule over the heavens and the white linen represented His faultless and sinless life as a man. The red represented the blood of His sacrifice that was made for the sins of man. Thus within this one piece of apparel worn alone by the High Priest, we witness a brilliant and pure reflection of the Lord Jesus Himself, One who is fully God, fully man, King of Kings, with all authority in

heaven and earth, whose perfect sinless blood was given up as sacrifice for the sins of man. Interestingly the red for this ephod that Moses and Aaron were instructed to produce, was extremely difficult to come by in the wilderness with the only source coming from a particular type of worm in the which when crushed provided the suitable red dye for the ephod. Therefore the name of Tola refers to this particular worm that was used to produce a part of the High Priests clothing that represented the wondrous nature of Jesus Christ Himself! Further, note how in Psalm 22, the heart rending psalm that foreshadows the very words Our Lord uttered on the cross, the Psalmist refers to himself as a worm, before continuing in vivid description of the coming sacrifice of Jesus Christ on the cross at Calvary. This one who arose to defend Israel is the same whom Isaiah spoke of in future reference to the Messiah, the same Messiah whose blood was sacrificed for our transgressions; the same Messiah whom shall defend, deliver and re-establish His people the Jews when they cry out in repentance over the fact that they murdered their Messiah as they face annihilation by the forces of the Antichrist.

such an initially unremarkable verse as verse 1 of Judges chapter 10.

Yet we continue to delve into the mystery of the eternal wisdom of God and His magisterial Word. Tola was a member of the tribe of Issachar, the ninth son fathered by Jacob and was blessed by Jacob in Genesis 49:14-15 that Issachar and his descendants would be a “strong ass couching down between two burdens: and he saw that the rest was good, and the land that it was pleasant; and bowed his shoulder to bear, and became a servant unto tribute.” Clearly this blessing refers to the fruitful land that the tribe of Issachar was given in Canaan, the richly fertile land east of the Valley of Jezreel, with Mount Tabor to the north and the River Jordan to the East. This tribe was a strong military force, fielding 54,400 fighting men at the first census of the people as outlined in Numbers 1:29. It was this same tribe that joined with later the Judge of Israel Deborah and Barak to defeat the Canaanites in battle in the valley of Jezreel. In this same region both Gideon and Saul went to battle to defend Israel and it shall also prove to be the seen of the great battle of Armageddon where Jesus Christ, The Lord of Hosts and Captain of the Heavenly Army will fight to defend Israel from the assembled world forces of AntiChrist as outlined in the Book of Revelation.

Hence we see how this fighting people, located in strategic point in Israel militarily, has been used by God to bring forth Tola, an easily overlooked Judge who on closer inspection reflects many wondrous attributes and features of Jesus Christ Himself.

Still we continue with verse 1 of Judges chapter 10 as we read that Tola dwelt in Shamir, in Mount Ephraim. Shamir means ‘thorn’ in Hebrew. It does not take a straining eye to see the imagery and symbolism in the One who would be crowned as a ruler of His people with a crown of thorns! The mountainous region of Mount Ephraim contained the cities of Shiloh and Shechem. Shiloh was the location of where the people of Israel congregated before the Lord on conquering the land and set up the tabernacle in Joshua 18:1. This place is where God met with His people as they found peace in the Promised Land, who else is the provider of peace than Jesus Christ and the mediator between God and man! Furthermore consider how Shiloh is used by Jacob in Genesis 49:10 to refer to the One named Shiloh who will assume the rule of the people from the hands of Judah, the royal tribe of Israel. The name Shiloh also has links to the term of ‘peace giver’ or ‘rightful Messiah’ and this inference is marked in Ezekiel 21:27 as Ezekiel speaks of the coming Messiah whose right it is to rule the people of Israel, a day still yet to transpire but surely shall.



Next consider the meanings of the names Puah, and Dodo; the father and grandfather of Tola. Puah means ‘splendid’ and Dodo means ‘His beloved’. So put the three generations together (note 3, a rather important number throughout Scripture) and what do you have? A remarkable representation of Jesus Christ as He is The Father’s beloved, in whom He was well pleased and His perfect blood was offered for our sins so that we might be delivered from judgement. One cannot help but be overwhelmed by the incredible detail and imagery of Christ Jesus contained within



Region of Mount Ephraim

Mount Ephraim was the burial place of numerous Biblical figures such as Joshua, Aaron, Eleazar and the resting place of Joseph and Jacob after their bones were taken out of Egypt and laid to rest in the Promised Land. In this note constructed by the Holy Spirit and given for our edification, we are shown that the Judge Tola, ruled the people from a region that is the resting place of one of the Patriarchs, one whose name was consistently used by God to assure the people of His faithfulness and eternal care as He spoke to figures such as Moses by saying, "I am the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob." Furthermore, mountains are consistently depicted as a meeting point between God and man throughout Scripture (Mount Sinai, Mount of Transfiguration, Mount Hebron, etc), hence why Satan's answer to this is man made mountainous constructions such as Pyramids and Ziggurats as seen in idolatrous nations such as Egypt and Babylon.

Finally consider how the other of the main cities in this region of Mount Ephraim was Shechem. This was a city of refuge for those who had been accused of unintentional manslaughter. So anyone so afflicted could find safety in such cities as Shechem, safe from reprisals from angry family members of the deceased until a suitable trial could be conducted. This is an incredible image of the very nature of Jesus Christ and the refuge He offers to all sinners. We are able to run to Christ for refuge even though we are the cause of His blood being shed because we acted in sinful ignorance. Hence why Our Lord speaks those incredible words to the Father, 'forgive them Father, for they know not what they do.' (Luke 23:34). Jesus is our refuge, and in this simple little addition by God within His Word, we see if we dare to work and labour to discover the wondrous depths of His wisdom, how the Lord Jesus is stitched through every fabric of the Scriptures like the gold was interwoven within the fibres of the ephod worn by the High Priest.

The name Shechem means 'shoulder'; whose else but the Lord Jesus can carry on His divine shoulders the heavy burden of mankind's vile sin against God? Who else could take the full wrath of The Father in judgement of sin at the Cross of Calvary so that those who believe and trust in Him might find refuge in the hour of judgement? None other than Jesus Christ of course.

Next month Lord willing, we will have a look at Jair and how this similarly forgotten Judge also reveals an incredible foreshadowing of Our Lord Jesus Christ and His future reign in all power and glory.

By Jonathan Badger

The Importance of Selection

A few weeks ago we saw the celebration of Valentines Day, the ever popular celebration of romantic love with it's mass marketed love hearts, roses, cards and gifts exchanged between loving hearts, we must pause and bear consideration as to God's outlining as to the correct nature of romantic love and it's leading to Godly marriage. Such considerations are increasingly alien to a world that is at odds with it's own self over this very question. The young are being surrounded with messages from all walks of life, whether it be school, friends, non-believing family members, TV, internet, music etc, that love is cheap and easy and that physical intimacy is not to be guarded and treasured but to be flaunted and abused. Yet on Valentines Day we are surrounded by cards, gifts, decorations etc that assert the singular, special, prized and reserved love for one other person by the heart of the sender/gifter.

So the young are being told on a daily basis to not value their chastity and honour, yet they experience a deep longing for a vital and valuable connection to another heart in the wondrous bonds of a singularly directed love. Such differences of approaches to love, it's expression and securing of it for a lifetime is a bewildering question for many, and is often answered extremely poorly. As many throw away their innocence and tamper with physical 'love' far too early in their lives (this however is not love but lust), they make the false link that physical lust is equal to heart felt love. The two are not the same and so as the harsh days of life come and batter a young couple, the foundations that are built on mere lust inevitably come crashing down, leaving a great bitterness in the heart. This often then stagnates into a horrid anger against the opposite sex, the so called source of the afflicted's heartache, and prompts them to further ruin any future hope of true security in love towards

another through their lack of obedience, trust and honouring of the other party.

So how are those looking for love or those considering greater demonstrations of love such as marriage, to know what is the right and good course of action to take so as to secure a joyful and blessed union? Firstly there must be a realisation of the utmost importance this one decision has upon a lifetime. The following observation by C.H Spurgeon says it all on the importance of making a good selection in regards to marriage and it's effect on not just a lifetime but on generations to come. The observation was as follows:

"When men and women are about to be married how much of life then trembles in the balances! Upon the choices of a partner in life the fashion of that life may depend. Whether self or Christ, the word of God, shall be the master-motive household, may be decided by the finger which wears the plain gold ring."

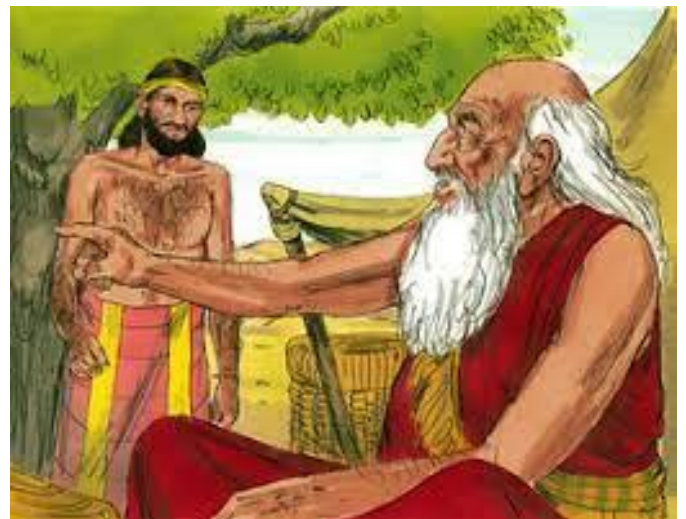
Embarking on any relationship is not to be dealt with lightly, particularly marriage. As Spurgeon notes, this one decision, this one selection may very easily have enormous consequences that can shape an eternity! There is far too little awareness of this central point in the young and single of today. Easy 'loving' in a hyper-sexualised society has disregarded this key truth to a happy and blessed union and replaced it with empty lust filled dalliances that shatter when the sinful physical desire and fleshly lusts have past their sell by date. So we witness the aforementioned collapse of marriages everywhere, as the cheapening of love and physical intimacy between a man and what should be his wife comes home to roost.

Yet there will be those who will doubtless object to this assertion made by Spurgeon as being nothing more than the words of a Victorian prude who lived and speaks from a bygone era that has no bearing on our present day. Is this a claim with merit? Well as with all great life issues and questions there are just two options to ultimately select from. Do we take our cue from man's opinion and interpretation or from God's Word? This question of ultimate authority has been the central issue since the dawn of Creation, with man rebelling against God and siding with Satan in standing against the absolute authority of God Almighty in the Garden of Eden. This is how ancient the battle is and how vitally important it is to how every life is to be lived.

So the options available are to follow man's opinion, that ever shifting sand where the boundaries of what is acceptable to society is always moving further and further into the extreme. We have witnessed as already stated, the fruits yielded when one follows

this teaching; 1:2 divorce rates, alarming teen pregnancy rates; horrific numbers of abortions taken place each year; rampant sexually transmitted diseases; confusion and perversion over gender and sexuality; etc etc. The statistics surrounding these events cannot be argued with no matter how much one may protest against them.

Now what does the alternative, God's Word lay out to be the right and good approach to love and marriage? An excellent example of an answer to this question is depicted in the marriage of Issac and Rebekah in the Book of Genesis. Beginning with Genesis 24:1, we read of an aged Abraham, one who is nearing death and so is heavily burdened to find a wife for his treasured son Issac. This urgency is a common consideration for some parents even to this day; that particular parental hope that one's beloved child finds a suitable partner whom that they shall marry.



Abraham instructs his servant to find Issac a wife

Abraham calls his most trusted servant and ensures that his instruction is followed without alteration or delay by making his servant swear by an ancient oath of placing the servant's hand under his thigh. Abraham is unshakeable from his desire that his servant travels back to his homeland and to his family so as to find a suitable wife for his son Issac. Abraham is acutely aware that the selection of wife for Issac is of the utmost importance and not to be done out of convenience by choosing a wife from the land of Canaan, the place where they are currently residing in accordance with God's call unto Abraham. The Canaanite women were daughters of idolatry and were alien to the worship of the God of Abraham and so Abraham rightly discerned that for Issac to marry such a godless woman would bring about dire consequences. If Issac was to marry such an idol worshipper as were the Canaanites, then the son gifted to him by the grace of God, the son through whom would come the great blessing and promise unto Abraham made by God, would be likely led

astray from service of the One true God. The future of not only his immediate son but of generations to come would be affected by this one singular decision and selection.

Abraham therefore, understood the mighty weight placed upon this selection for his dear son and would not have it left to the parameters which modern individuals select their future spouse, ie. physical lust, hopeful romantic sentiment or short lived infatuation. No, he entrusted this great decision and selection unto the will of God. In short he obeyed the path laid out by his Lord and Master. Abraham may have tasked his servant to perform the travelling and find the wife in the physical state, but Abraham was the true servant here as he placed his will beneath the will of God and instead followed the plan of God with swaying or deviation.

Note that this consideration by Abraham is not from a 'bubbled existence' (an accusation thrown at many Christians by non-believers), a life hidden from the real world and therefore unsuitable as a guide and reference point for modern living. Indeed not as Abraham had personally experienced the familial suffering and heartbreak that comes when God's ordination for Godly union in scriptural marriage is mistreated and abused. Abraham had fallen previously fallen prey to that great sin of impatience as he and his wife Sarah took it upon themselves to assist God in achieving the desired son that He had promised them decades before. The result was a son through Abraham's concubine Hagar called Ishmael, a son who would go on to father the Arabic people, the ever raging enemy of the descendants of Abraham, the Jews.

This sin of impatience is often a powerful driving factor in the impulsive securing of a relationship in either physical union or marriage or indeed both! So many times lives are brought together in haste and so enter into lands of carnal sin that are prohibited by God. Such relationships are not blessed by God and instead draw His anger and judgement for the perpetrators of said sin have corrupted something so special and pure for it reflects the eternal, pure and wondrous union of Jesus Christ and His beloved, the Church.

Yet one may argue that Abraham is again acting in impatience as he instructs his servant to go and find a wife and that if she doesn't agree to come back and marry his son Issac quickly then she is not to be the one selected. Here though is the great difference between sinful impatience and Godly urgency. The act of sinful impatience comes from a heart that has already determined it's own course of action and acts

upon it. Sometimes one may be self righteous enough to make their decision and then 'put it in prayer' as a means of having God rubber stamp their already determined decision. There are those who have entered into pre-marital physical relationships under the rationalised thought that as they are going to get married anyway then what is the harm in beginning physical relations before the wedding night? Well we are expressly told in Scripture to not tempt the Lord thy God with such actions and thinking. Consider how this express instruction is given by Our Lord when He rebukes Satan himself during His temptation in the wilderness (Matthew 4:7). Do you see the severity of transgression in such a rationalised justification of sin?!



So Abraham's quest is not determined by impatience but by Godly urgency; a deep desire to do what is right according to the will of God and have His Lord lead the way throughout and that his own will and consideration are irrelevant. We do not read of a list of desirable traits either physical or character given by Abraham to his servant to look out for when he tasks him with finding a wife for Issac. His sole concern is finding a Godly wife. When we live in such a manner, then God in His wondrous grace blesses us with the desires of our heart for they are brought in line with His own. This blessing is evidenced later in the chapter when we are told that Rebekah, Issac's future wife chosen by God, is a beautiful virgin with a loving, caring and Godly nature. God not only answers the prayer but He honours and blesses the earnest desire of His servant Abraham in great abundance.

Therefore we are given the outline, the blueprint for a blessed marriage, a strong relationship bonded in the love of God. Now there will be numerous detractors who will say 'I don't believe in God or the Bible so why should I follow what it says?' Well the answer is simple, you are free to not believe it but you are not free from the consequences of not believing it. We outlined earlier the fruits of man's approach to love and marriage; it is nothing short of devastation and heartbreak. Yet look back in our country not even that

long ago. Those of us who are in our 30's and 40's will remember a world where it was still unusual for parents to be separated. There was hushed playground talk of the rare but sad occurrences of divorce. The family unit was still the typical 'nuclear family' as Judeo-Christian morality was still held by the populace and it's fruits were evident in a far greater number of stable homes. Now though, 20 years or so on as I drop my child off at school it is worryingly unusual now to hear of and see a happily married couple dropping off or collecting their child. The Scriptural outlining of the importance of marriage cannot be understated as it does indeed shape not only your own lifetime but generations to come.

So this Valentines, be careful to not only ensure that your heart loves Christ Jesus above all else but that you act upon this love and follow His will as outlined in Scripture in respect to how you approach and live regarding this enormously important issue of love and marriage. The decision you make as to who you give a gold ring to is one that WILL shape not only your life but theirs also and will most likely affect the lives of generations to come. So if the reader was wise, they would follow the lead of Abraham and call on God to lead them to their future spouse. Furthermore that if the one they personally desire is not to be the one selected by God, that they will trust Him to lead them to the one hand selected by the same God who in His eternal grace delivered them from the fires of hell and gifted them a place in paradise forever.

By Jonathan Badger

The Great Deception- Part Seven

We now leave behind the 19th century with the likes of Westcott and Hort and as we enter the 20th century and the 21st we can witness the 'evolution' of their Revised Version into an endless stream of 'more reliable' modern bibles. Every one of these modern bibles is based on corrupted manuscripts to a greater or lesser extent. Bible publishers (with a tiny exception), make a lot of money out of falsehood. They lead believers into thinking that they must spend out on the latest updated versions which are supposedly more accurate than the last 'most accurate version ever produced'. It's a CON. What are their FRUITS? An endless parade of believers whose knowledge of the Scriptures wouldn't match that of a well taught Sunday School child of 70 years ago. If it wasn't so serious it would be funny.

Today, for this modern educated generation of Church goers and purveyors of modern bibles we have the buzz words 'Dynamic Equivalence'. How did God ever

function without this 'science' for 2000 years? The likes of the NIV, NASV, NKJV etc have adopted a dynamic equivalence type of translation. 'Dynamic' means 'change' or 'movement'. So, we have a sort of idiomatic rendering from Hebrew or Greek into English. It is idiomatic in the sense that they didn't take a word-for-word method (even when it made good sense), trying to make the words in the Hebrew or Greek equal to the words in the English. Instead they **added** to what was there, **changed** what was there and /or **subtracted** from what was there. They just don't care.

Ferdinand de Saussure was the father of modern linguistics, his influence in this field is very like that of Darwin in biology, Marx in economics, Freud in psychology and Durkheim in sociology. Saussure's theories in language destroy any idea of a non-material essential nature being expressed through physical language. Meaning he argued was not something to be recovered, but something we create for ourselves and interpretation does not recover the past but should transform the world today. So, recovery of something in the mind of God is impossible. This leaves us with a God who cannot speak to us in 2022 from a book with meaning locked into the words written 2000 years ago in the past. Verbal inspiration is supposedly irrelevant. If God speaks today at all, it is in a 'dynamic' way using the words as clues to give a fresh meaning for the world today. Thus God's 'word' is what comes to me when I am reading not something once given, revealed, inspired and preserved in a book of eternal truth, such a thing does not exist.

In Saussure's world language is surreal and not stable. Modern bibles largely follow Saussure. We need to understand that in the field of structured linguistics Saussure has a massive effect on the science of translating. The theories he put forth are a source of 'dynamic equivalence' translating methodologies behind the likes of the NIV. These theories underline modern bibles and thus we have the work of godless men. This modern view of language does nothing to make God's word more understandable, the Holy Spirit does that (1 Cor 2:11-12, 14).

The Lord, the living Word, was made flesh, entered the temporal, physical, objective world of men. Likewise the written Word came from the heart of God and enters the temporal physical world. In this way, both become accessible to us. The only way we can know God is through Christ. The only way we can know Christ is through the Bible. To be continued....

By Dr David Badger

The Blood of Our Saviour

What great agony was laid upon Him,
Such depths of pain unknown.
How in the gardens darkness He prayed
In turmoil as His grieving spirit did groan.

Heavy under the burden of the weight of cup to bear,
Our Lord Jesus sat alone in the cold night air.
How blood did stream down His brow,
Knowing the fulfilment of His Father's will was now.

So brought low He lamented seeking another way to go,
Yet all the while knowing His will has made it so.
In obedience He took of that bitter cup to drink,
Seeing that soon into the tomb He would sink.

Yet such strength of love no evil could defy,
Though the wrath of God descended from on high.
Such weight of judgement came upon Him,
That even the mourning sun grew deathly dim.

As the earth trembled the pain of God cried out,
The torn veil now revealed an eternal love poured out.
No Father had ever loved their Son so purely,
And in His sacrifice sins debt had been paid assuredly.

His perfect blood a ransom for the sins of wicked man,
A fulfilment of a great and loving eternal plan.
Risen up in power and glory and brought unto His throne,
Now He prays for those He whom He has called His own.

So bend the knee in worship unto a love pure and true.
For the blood of Our Saviour was spent for sinners like you.

By Jonathan Badger

Has The Palace of Joseph Been Found?

The world of Egyptology is an ever shifting one with new discoveries being made frequently as archaeologists search for more clues as to the events of the past. As secular history and archaeology denies the historical veracity of the Biblical record, it is willingly omitting a tremendous source of information as to the makeup of the ancient world.

In the Genesis record we read of the governorship of Joseph over the mighty Egyptian empire after having amazed Pharaoh with his interpretation of Pharaoh's troubling dreams. His status as a blessed leader by the Lord God is cemented as Joseph is given the wisdom to direct the nation of Egypt to prepare for times of famine and hardship during times of plenty, thereby saving countless lives from starvation and destitution.

Yet many secular historians claim that this account is nothing more than fiction, a morality tale dreamt up to please the Jews during their dark days in Babylonian captivity. Recent archaeological findings however does not support this notion and instead provides tantalising clues as to the possible location of Joseph's palace during his time as governor of Egypt.

In Tell el-Dab'a, Egypt, excavations have revealed a once prosperous region in the Northwest of Egypt, a region populated by Semitic people (or *Aamu* in the Egyptian historical recordings). This people group alien to Egyptian culture, whose main occupation was sheep herding, built Syrian style homes, buried their dead in traditional Asiatic manner, used perfumes, jewellery, luxury goods and even weapons that had been imported from Shri-Palestinian sources (ie. Canaan – the land of the Jewish Patriarchs, Abraham, Issac and Jacob). This impressive evidence supports the Biblical account of the Jewish people prospering in the Goshen (Northwest) region of Egypt during and after Joseph's time as depicted in Exodus 1:7 and Deuteronomy 26:5.

The earliest Asiatic/Semitic settlements discovered in this region of Tell el-Dab'a indicate that this community was begun towards the end of the 12th Egyptian dynasty, a very rich and powerful era for the empire. During this period, a huge canal system for irrigation was constructed and is still known to this day as the Bahr Yussef (the Waterway of Joseph).

Furthermore in the same period, there is evidence that the native Egyptian governors fell from power suddenly. Interestingly if we look at the Biblical account we read that Joseph was a shrewd businessman and politician and bought

up all the land, livestock and people in Egypt for Pharaoh (Genesis 47:13-26). Such political events outlined in Scripture marries up easily with the known secular history of Egypt at this time.

During other excavations at Tell el-Dab'a, a remarkable limestone statue of a powerful Asiatic official was found in the earliest cemetery discovered in the region. The statue depicts a man of Asiatic/Semitic features wearing a striped coloured coat reminiscent of the coat given to Joseph by his father Jacob (Genesis 37:3). The statue also bears a throw-stick, an Asiatic/Semitic symbol not normally found amongst such wealthy and noble Egyptian burial sites. Surrounding this statue were Asiatic style homes near to a small burial pyramid reserved for wealthy and powerful nobleman of the Egyptian royal court.

Such findings have lead some scholars to believe that this location could be the palace and initial burial ground of Joseph whilst his body was placed in Egypt. This would make sense as it would be a well known location for the Jews to visit and remove the bones of Joseph so as to fulfil his request that his bones were to be taken back to Canaan when the people left Egypt during the Exodus.



Statue of a Ruler of Egypt – Joseph perhaps?



Computer image of Semitic home in Egypt

By Jonathan Badger

The King is Coming

“The world is falling apart”. These words, and phrases very much like it, are ones I hear on an increasingly frequent basis as I converse in my daily job with the clients I see. These people are not Believers; they simply recognise a world in decline all around them.

To me this is one of the greatest signs of the times. We are not ‘ushering in the Kingdom’, be this the millennial kingdom of Postmillennial day dreams, or indeed the evolutionary belief of “onward and upward”. Even the ‘heathen’ who now more than ever before have a world of their choosing, where the God of the Bible is virtually completely absent from just about every sphere of life, including the ‘spiritual’, are recognising that the fabric of society is tearing at the seams. There is now such a rent in the garment of civilisation that it will never humanly be repaired.

I see this every day. People of my generation and older are weary and confused by the world around them, which is so far away from even the world of their childhoods only 30 or so years ago that they no longer recognise it. The younger generations are just plain confused, and completely unequipped by a Godless education system to navigate the journey from childhood to maturity. Hence the term “snowflake generation”. This is the reward of the post-modern world. Relativism has reached such an apex that as one of my colleagues course notes for a work qualification said, ‘remember everyone has their own map of reality’. This is seen as somehow laudable, and desirable. To embrace one’s own reality as the pinnacle of existence.

But what this actually leads to is madness. If 100 years ago you had said I have my own map of reality, or I identify as an Elf, or as an ‘adult baby’, or as the opposite sex to the one you are, they would have locked you up in a padded cell faster than you could have shaken your imaginary stick. But today such statements as these are affirmed and as a result mental health issues are skyrocketing. Takeaway a Biblical foundational basis of truth – a single basis of authority – and there is no certainty to anything.

Certainty is critical to our mental wellbeing. If truth is relative, and truth individualised, madness and societal collapse are the ultimate end result. Lines are blurred and grey scales become an infinite palate of murk where no absolutes exist to anchor our minds, and as a result they simply unwind. For this reason, authority is a loving act. God's word as the final authority, as an anchor of absolute truth is not an means of oppression, but a loving act. Without an unchanging God in whom we can place our trust, every day is a new and terrifying prospect, where doubt and fear, distrust and confusion lay in wait, and as we read in Luke 21:26 *"Men's hearts fail them for fear"*. The suicide statistics are terrifying, and the Covid crisis merely highlighted this in a new way with self isolation. A sinful mind in isolation without the Holy Spirit as the comforter is a destructive thing.

This fear is not just in the human realm. I was having a discussion with one of our longest serving veterinary nurses and we both agreed that the animals we see in our clinic now by comparison to even 20 years ago, show markedly increased anxiety and fear. I see owners that physically cannot cope with separation from their animal for even a moment and animals that are likewise bound to their owners, not out of love but born out of fear of the world around them. For those of you that know cartoons it can be like watching Scooby Doo and Shaggy frantically hugging one another for safety.

In the last month I have had two clients, both of whom work in teaching at different levels say to me that they feel sorry for me having a young child that will have to enter the schooling system. The teachers are so disillusioned with their own system, that when I said in reply that my wife and I will be home schooling our son, both immediately and rapturously said it was a wonderful idea and that they would not put any child of their own in the system that exists today. As one said to me recently 'the school system is not about educating anymore – its about conditioning'. Children are deliberately confused at an early age, in order to enforce the new norms, from gender identity to critical race theory, social justice and just plain old fashioned socialism. And this includes so called 'Christian schools'. There was a recent report in the

Daily Mail of a Church of England school that sent a letter home to the parents of a six year old boy warning them that their child could be considered 'transphobic' for not using the 'desired pronouns' when he became confused by another boy in his class inconsistently wearing a dress and identifying as a girl.

As this world deteriorates towards its ultimate fiery end, Satan is becoming less subtle in his means and is placing ever more occultic practices and symbolism in the mainstream. Why is this? Because the human mind in its fear and confusion when it has rejected the God of the Bible still yearns for a spirituality. There is still the desire for 'something more' and Satan is more than willing to oblige.

I walked into HMV – the music and video store – with my daughter only last Saturday for the first time in over a year to be faced at the entrance with a table covered in occultic t-shirts. I could not believe what I was looking at initially. The imagery on these t-shirts would once have only been found in occultic book shops, but here it was on a table at a height that any child over the age of 5 could have seen. Shirts with tag lines such as "sell your soul" with the image of a child in a booth with a pentagram on the side, or "let summon demons" with again a child laying in a candle lit pentagram surrounded by other children. Or what about "Lets Sacrifice Toby" with the image of one child raising a knife above another. Then there was the much more to the point, "See you in Hell". I could go on but you get the picture.

Even 10 years ago such subject matter would have been top shelf material or on the album covers of some obscure heavy metal or death metal band. But now it is high-street material being sold without age restriction as harmless fun. It makes my blood run cold.

Is it any wonder that the world will eventually rally around a 'saviour' in the form of the Antichrist? So desperate will this world become for some form of 'hope, peace, restored spirituality' – a great unity for all nations and all peoples, until he shows his true

colours and brings suffering on an unimaginable scale.

But whilst we as believers are appalled by what we witness in the world today, we do so with a sense of excitement and the truest of hopes as it signals our Kings return. These things do not hold us captive in fear for we are on the side of the victorious, and Satan can do nothing to remove us from His hand. We can watch these world events in the sure and certain knowledge that the future is known to us and that the clock is ticking ever faster and closer to the hour of our Lord's coming. I am excited literally every day, wondering if today is going to be the day I am raptured home on high. I spend brief moments just wondering what it will be like to be suddenly caught up and find myself in the air with millions of other souls on our way to meet our Saviour in the air.

So when you see wickedness all around and fear and confusion rule the day, rejoice; for our King is coming!

By David J Badger

Women – be who you want to be – so says the world

Women, be who you want to be, do what you want to do/when you want to - you're your own person, live for yourselves, you don't have to answer to your husbands - you can even take charge of the household - you can be head, you can lead. These are just some of the things women are told now and hear in this modern, sin filled world we live in. Men are told the opposite - you can't take charge of the household, you can't tell your wife what to do - you can't lead her - you don't need to, she can even be the boss. It is seen time after time in society now, on TV shows is just one example. Couples go on together and it's stated very early on that the woman 'wears the trousers' and this is seen as acceptable by modern society. How unbiblical this is! Sadly the majority of couples out there live this exact way, and do not know or choose to not follow scripture and obey their Lord's words/commands. Women, submit to your husbands, your husband is the head - this is what scripture tells us in Ephesians 5:22-23, *Wives, submit yourselves unto the own husbands, as to the Lord. For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church.*

Amanda Peacock, a Christian woman, wife and mother talks about this in a woman's conference talk

that Answers In Genesis hold yearly, this particular one being 2019's. It is an excellent conference and can be found on Answers TV. It is something my husband and I watched together and would recommend to every couple out there. It is titled Marriage, Complementarity and the Gospel. She talks for over an hour about this very topic. It is so, so worth the watch, what is an hour out of your time to be walking correctly with the Lord and not sinning daily in how you live your life. Read your scriptures – Ephesians chapter 5 goes onto the end of the chapter about wives, their husbands and the church.

Let's go back to the very beginning of scripture - Genesis 2:18, *And the LORD God said, It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him an help meet for him.* Notice the word help, and also the fact that the man was made first, not the woman - woman was taken from man, not the other way round. We read on in further verses that the Lord brought forth every beast of the field and every fowl of the air to ADAM to name.

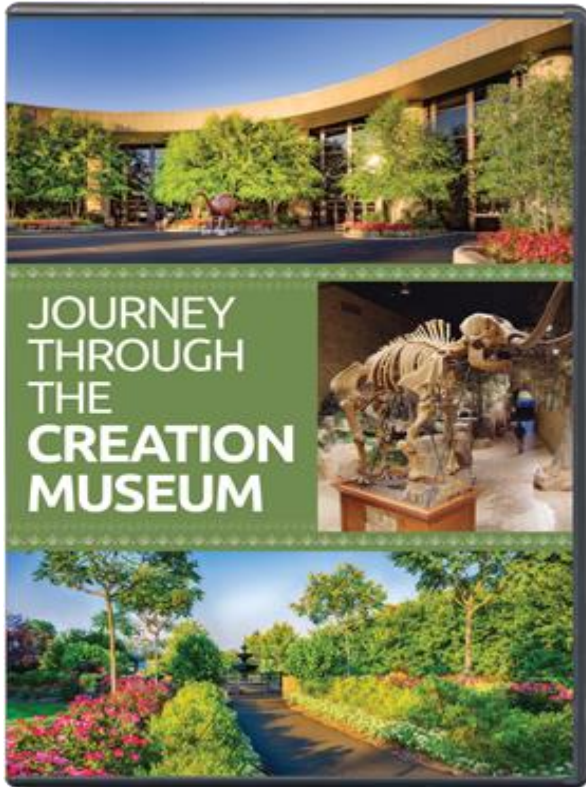
Reading on again into chapter 3 after the serpent had tricked Eve into eating from the forbidden tree, we notice God called out to Adam asking him where he was, not Eve - Genesis 3:9, *And the LORD God called unto Adam, and said unto him, Where art thou?* The Lord punished Adam and Eve for choosing to not listen to Him. He said unto Adam – Genesis 3:17, *Because thou hast hearkened unto the voice of thy wife,.... cursed is the ground for thy sake.* Notice that sin came into the world after Adam sinned after he was pulled into Eve's initial sin. Women are still doing this today, time and time again, sadly just like Eve did thousands of years ago, pulling our husbands into sin also. It is no wonder we continue today with struggles and hardships as we continue to test our Lord and live in sinful ways, not obeying our master by living under our husbands and letting them take charge. By living in such a way, we wives are bringing great glory to God as we are living in obedience to His commands. We are to submit to our husband's leadership as the Church submits to Jesus Christ. Then we can enjoy the blessing of having the protective love of our husbands who honour the Lord by sacrificing themselves for our welfare as Our Saviour Christ Jesus did for the Church.

This is the importance of this issue, it is not a side issue as it reflects a truly eternal relationship sealed by the blood of Jesus Christ! This is why God takes such consistent and considered care in instructing us that the man is to lead the household. In another example, if we fast forward to the New Testament, we are told in 1 Timothy 2:13 and 14, *For Adam was first formed, then Eve. And Adam was not deceived, but the woman being deceived was in the transgression.*

God is being so loving to us that He has set a protective plan in place for Godly households to help protect them from the attacks of the devil; an attack that was so successful and destructive that it set into motion the Fall of mankind!

By Donna Badger

Resource Corner



Journey Through The Creation Museum

Millions of people have toured the Creation Museum. Now you can see and learn from the one-of-a-kind displays and exhibits in this brand-new production featuring a walk-through with filmmaker Peter Schriemer..

Beginning with a brief welcome from Answers in Genesis and museum founder Ken Ham, this documentary "tour" overflows with faith-strengthening images and commentary about the amazing features found throughout the museum and grounds. Watch animatronic dinosaurs move and roar, hear the "inside story" about the exquisitely handcrafted Tree of Life, and take a chronological walk through history—including the worldwide flood of Noah's day and the amazing geological and climate changes that followed. As the events of the Garden of Eden and Noah's Flood are related before your very eyes, you will understand as never before the effect of sin on our world. And you will look forward as never

before to the soon-coming consummation of this part of eternity.

Watch visitors as they experience the 80-seat Stargazer's Planetarium, 200-seat Special Effects Theatre, a full-scale section of Noah's Ark, plus the beautifully landscaped museum grounds, delightful petting zoo, and so much more!

DVD available from answersinGenesis.co.uk

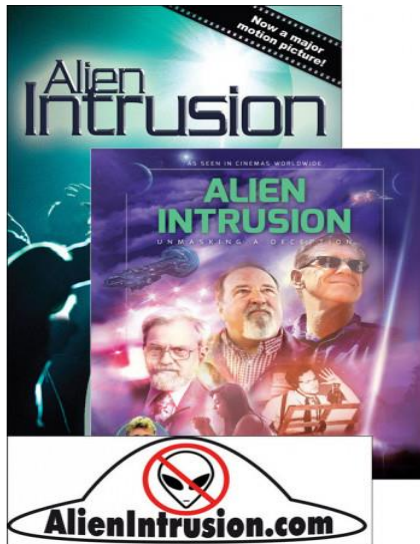


Fearfully & Wonderfully Made

Celebrate the wonder of life in this awe-inspiring book featuring photographs of the Fearfully & Wonderfully Made exhibit at the Creation Museum. Includes a 41.5" foldout timeline of The Journey of Life Before Birth.

God's handiwork in the womb, as he knits us together, is largely unseen until a child is born. Through lifelike models and a detailed foldout timeline of development, you (and your children) will be fascinated by the miracle of life—from fertilization through birth! Also included in the book is a behind-the-scenes timeline showing the process to create the exhibit.

Available from answersinGenesis.co.uk



Alien Intrusion

Pack includes ...

Alien Intrusion book (416 pages)

UFOs and the evolution connection

Gary Bates unravels one of popular culture's enduring and growing phenomena. UFOs, crop circles, Roswell, alien abductions—it's all answered! The well researched data leads the reader inexorably to one conclusion: there is an 'intergalactic' battle over the history of life in the universe, and for the souls of human beings. Its eye-opening insights have already won souls for Christ. This new edition contains more pictures and a new chapter about alleged abductions based on extra research Gary has conducted.

Alien Intrusion Blu-ray (109 minutes)

Unmasking a deception

Millions of people have seen UFOs and many even recall personal encounters with strange entities. The popular view is that these are advanced aliens visiting us from far away, but this compelling new documentary takes a deeper look at the events, the beliefs, the experts and the people who have shaped our views in the "otherworldly." When one examines this phenomenon, one of the most disturbing but powerful affirmations of the spiritual realm, Christianity and the Bible becomes clearer. This documentary seeks to solve one of the most haunting and persistent mysteries of our time by addressing UFO sightings in every country, things seen on radar, what happened at Roswell, alien abductions, government cover-ups, and even a "new" religion. The truth will surprise you!

Available from Creation Ministries International

Family Bible Quiz Corner

Words to find:

Jospeh, Journey, Creation, Issac, Tola, Jair, Judges, Christ, Submit, Love

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

Bible Quiz – Who Am I?

- 1) I'm the son of Hilkiah
- 2) Anathoth is my hometown
- 3) I was a priest
- 4) I was thrown in a well
- 5) I complained to God
- 6) I never married
- 7) I smashed a clay jar
- 8) I warned people not to go to Egypt
- 9) I bought a field
- 10) I went to a potter's house
- 11) I'm a major prophet
- 12) I wrote about a rebellious nation
- 13) Some call me the weeping prophet



Answer — I am Jeremiah

What Place Am I?

- 1) Adoni-Zedek was one of my kings
- 2) Shishak attacked me
- 3) I became a heap of ruins
- 4) I was allotted to Judah
- 5) Silver was as common here as stone
- 6) Mephibosheth lived here
- 7) Someday, I will be a city without walls
- 8) People assembled here as one man here
- 9) Nehemiah fixed my wall
- 10) Hosanna heard here
- 11) God's chosen city
- 12) Jesus wept over me



Answer – I am Jerusalem

A Final Thought

How easy it is to become hot blooded over life and those who we walk amongst during our days in this world of which we are no longer citizens. We step through each day, growing ever more weary at the daily battles against the powers and principalities of the air. Those foul demonic forces which seek to defy the will of God as they exist in constant rebellion against His thrice Holy throne. Under such spiritual strain we can become hard and cold in our approach to the lost, those poor souls who have not heard the good news of the Gospel. We listen to them speak on such matters as evolution, abortion, feminism, LGBTQ, education etc, etc, and we hear opinions and views born of a sin fuelled heart and unregenerate mind where all things are impure (**"but unto them that are defiled and unbelieving is nothing pure; but even their mind and conscience is defiled."** Titus 1:15).

As a result our witness to them can be very much well intended, a great desire to rid them of their sinful errors; yet it is delivered in such a roaring manner that the grace and love of the Gospel message is lost amidst the tirade. I have fallen into this trap all too frequently. I have heard obviously incorrect assessments made on important matters of life and

launched into a heated rant on the matter. Then when I have finished my great speech I have seen those whose presence I have taken aim at and seen their spiritually defiant walls of defence shoot up in response. Whilst my words were filled with truth, my manner lacked love, a love that Christ Himself has for those who are at enmity against Him. I have forgotten this simple fact that I was as such as these whom I am busily lecturing against. I have put aside meekness and gentleness in the heat of my temper and thrown damaging shade on the light of the Gospel as a result.

As Paul notes to Titus in Titus 3:2-7, that we are to be meek in our manner with those who do not know Christ Jesus as their Saviour; we are to be gentle because we were once just the same as those we sometimes rant against.

It is a powerful correction to sometimes heated characters such as myself that we are to be careful that we do not forget that we are saved from such foulness of existence purely by the grace of Christ. We have been delivered from hell by His mercy, His grace all for His glory.

I have watched debates online by men such as Professor John Lennox against militant atheists such as Richard Dawkins, and I have marvelled at how Professor Lennox holds himself and delivers his message. Whilst my own tempers bubbles and seethes at the sheer brazen defiance of men such as Richard Dawkins against the existence of God, Professor Lennox sits back in his chair listening intently to his opponent smiling gently. When he comes to speak, he speaks in such gentleness that it disarms the arrogant and proud, thus the truth of his words land beneath the armour of human pride and land a square blow for the Word of God.

As we go about our work in the Lord's name let us also be mindful of our manner, being gentle and meek in our ways as we labour amongst the unregenerate for we were once as they. We have been saved by His grace alone and so what justification do we have in becoming bitter and angry against others who we once were very much in the same boat heading for hell.

So let us pray that our gracious Lord ministers to us daily through the Holy Spirit so that His tender fruits grow strong in us. Then we shall speak with great truth in joyful gentleness of salvation in Christ Jesus with a wondrous conviction that breathes His eternal peace to all who we meet.

By Jonathan Badger