

Origins Insights

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Human Value Cannot Exist Without God

By Bruce Malone

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The value of anything must always be set by something outside of that object. A coin is no more valuable than a pebble except by common agreement that it can be exchanged for something else. Humans are unique in their ability to assign abstract values to inherently non-functional and otherwise useless objects. A diamond ring, a thousand dollar bill, or a gold bar have no more value to an animal than a smooth pebble, shiny rock, or fuzzy leaf. Animals cannot even assign value to their own lives. Apart from survival instincts and some mutually beneficial biological relationships, animals either ignore or eat one another. Tears are never shed as one group of animals seek to destroy another in their own quest for survival. Animals make no judgments concerning the value of biological life. Only man is capable of recognizing the value of animal life and seeking to protect it. But who is capable of assigning value to human life?

If human value is set by the mutual consent of other humans, it is subject to change at any time. This has happened countless times throughout history. Many ancient cultures sacrificed live children in attempting to

CSF Meetings

CSF South

New Wine Harvest Church
268 Old Clairton Road, Pleasant Hills

Sunday October 23, 2005, 7:00 PM

The DVD *The Hearing Ear* by Dr. David Menton will be shown.

This is truly an amazing presentation. Dr. Menton presents the complexities of the human ear in a way that all can understand and remember. Using an electron microscope Dr. Menton shows structures in the ear that could not have developed by chance.

For more information call: **412-653-9077** (M-F, 9am-2pm) or **412-655-0543** (evenings).

CSF North

Mars Alliance Church, Rt. 228

Tuesday October 18, 2005, 7:30 PM

Creationism and the Declaration of Independence

By Phil McCaffrey

Phil will take an in-depth look at creationism as the basis of The Declaration of Independence and our "unalienable rights." How can it be that Thomas Jefferson is both the author of the phrase "separation of church and state" and "endowed by their Creator?" (Notice the capital "C"). Do these two have more to do with each other than the ACLU will let us think. As a nation full of people with "God-given rights," protected by a Constitution let us examine the document that the United States set in motion.

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economically prosper. Not all that long ago the U.S. Supreme Court declared slavery legal, effectively removing human status from Negroes. Aborigines in Australia were shot and skinned less than 200 years ago because they were not considered human. In the last 3 decades the abortion industry has profited from the destruction of 35 million unborn children whose rights, value, and lives were eliminated by the Supreme Court.

The founding fathers of our country clearly understood both human nature and the sordid history of mankind. They realized that only a source outside of mankind could assign a lasting value to human life. That is why the Declaration of Independence has, as its most basic assumption, the existence of certain inalienable rights such as: "...life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness." Inalienable rights must be granted by someone greater than the writers of the documents, otherwise the rights could be changed by the next set of people to come into power. However, this does not imply that all forms of life are of equal value. Man has special value because he has free will and is not controlled almost exclusively by instincts. Man has special value because he is the only creature created in God's image. Most important, man has special value because his Creator has demonstrated His love for him through natural revelation (creation); special revelation (the Bible and the earthly visitation of Jesus Christ); and personal revelation (the personal knowledge and peace which come with accepting Him as Savior).

There is a war of values raging in our country. Most of us are aware of the surface skirmishes, but all too few are aware that the basis of the war is a deep philosophical difference about reality. The basis of America's cultural war is the question of man's relationship to God. Either life's value is based on God's personal existence (meaning absolute values do exist) or man sets the standards. There are no other possibilities. The consequence of 150 years of indoctrination with evolutionary principles is the acceptance that man is part of the natural forces which shaped us. The inevitable result of this line of reasoning is the removal of an objective basis for determining the value of anything. Thus, mankind either arbitrarily assigns value to things (including people) or all life becomes of equal value. In the case of the former, atrocities such as human sacrifice or passive acceptance of abortion occur. In the case of the latter, absurdities occur such as animal rights groups equating the murder and mutilation of humans with the slaughter of chickens¹. Both of these responses are inevitable outcomes of following the evolutionary humanist philosophy to its logical conclusion.

Christianity is rooted in the fact that a personal God exists. Thus, life is inherently valuable. Furthermore, we have no right to do with life as we arbitrarily please. There is something special about all humans and no one has the right to remove their value by murder, abortion, or euthanasia.

1. Charles Nicoll & Sharon Russell, "Animal Rights Literature", *Science* 244:903 (May 26, 1989).

ICR RATE Conference

Date: Nov 5, 2005 Time: 8:30 AM to 3:00 PM

Speaker: Dr. Larry Vardiman, Dr. Russell Humphreys, Dr. Andrew Snelling, Dr. John Baumgardner

Location: Shadow Mountain Community Church 2100 Greenfield Drive El Cajon, CA 92021

Contact Information Name: Denise Prock Phone: 619-448-0900 x6020 Email: dprock@icr.org

Museum Tour

Phil reports that the tour on Sept. 24 was fun as always, even though The Carnegie Museum has taken down the dinosaurs while they are remodeling.

The weather cooperated and we were able to go outside to the full scale model of "Dippy" and take a look at the Biblical description of Behemoth.

There were probably 40 people who attended about a dozen of whom registered through the internet. One family traveled over two hours to come and visit with us.

Independence

Jefferson, Adams and Franklin as a committee submitted The Declaration to the Continental Congress with these phrases: "the Laws of Nature and of Nature's God," "all men are created and endowed by their Creator," "the Supreme Judge of the world," and "reliance on the Protection of Divine Providence." (emphasis added) What did our founding fathers mean in these statements and why is creationism the very core of our political system.



Laptop Computer Needed

Many of you have benefited from the presentations at our monthly meetings. These presentations are often enhanced through the use of Power-Point visual aids. Several years ago CSF purchased an LCD projector but we have been making use of borrowed computers. Your CSF board has determined that it is time for CSF to acquire their own laptop computer. As you probably know from visits to your local computer retailer or seeing ads in the paper, these computers are expensive. We are therefore asking that you consider making a donation to CSF for the purpose of obtaining a laptop computer. Any amount will greatly appreciated.

Checks or money orders can be made out to CSF and sent to:

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CREATION SCIENCE FELLOWSHIP, INC.
P.O. Box 99303
Pittsburgh PA USA 15233-4303
Phone: (412) 341-4908