



THE INSIDE RUNNING

The most common time for people to lose their faith is as young adults, especially when they enter higher education.

I have always been a bit counter-cultural and my faith was reinforced at university because I was forced to choose what I really believed in.

Western education has largely stripped out any spiritual component and runs solely on logic. In psychology, I was taught that belief in spiritual power as a factor in mental health ended 200 years ago with witches being dunked in ponds. It was a rather clumsy way for the lecturer to write off spirituality.

I survived university by telling them what they wanted to hear. There is no real tolerance for alternative worldviews. Instead there is intellectual pride which claims that dissenters must be uneducated.

I think that is what I enjoy most about our contributors this issue. Chuck Missler and Dr Craig Heilmann are extremely articulate and well educated.

Interestingly, a crunch point in worldview comes around the human brain with self-awareness and "soul". However it was that man arrived at this point, how did we come to actually possess this unique awareness?

How we interpret the start of the Bible affects how we relate to the remainder.

With gratitude

John Subritzky



God the Creator

August 2015

by Dr Craig Heilmann



The basic Christian Creed affirms God the Father as the Creator of heaven and earth. So what does it mean to be a *creationist* today?

We see all around us what happens to creation when very few people are truly creationists. The world gets trashed! If you're not sure I'm right, go visit Mumbai or Shanghai.

After the Industrial Revolution, creation suffered when human beings became technological masters of the planet and expressed their own self-alienation through domination over other people and things - which is the heart of almost every false religion and secular ideology.

Our technological dominance - turning nature's causes against itself and towards corrupted and greedy human ends - is destroying the earth, which God gave us as His choice gift and the theatre of His glory.

Creation is a complex of matter, which God made and to which He then gave form. "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth" (Genesis 1:1) but the next Hebrew words in Genesis tell us the earth was *tohu wa-bohu* - chaotic, formless, uninhabitable and lifeless. God then took the rough matter and turned it to order and system, full of abundance of wisdom and law. Chaos became cosmos (ordered creation) when God spoke for seven days.

Whether these days are literal or figurative is a moot point. The claim is this: God created it all by His command. What was disordered became ordered, became a creation, an exquisite work of art over which we humans have been given care.

Whether any of this occurred by development or evolution is also a moot point and again does not matter an ounce. Not one element of the theological claim of creation is in jeopardy from evolutionary theory.

Indeed, if evolution were true (more on that in a moment) in any of the theoretical forms in which it is dressed, then the author of Genesis would look pretty clever and far-sighted, since the biblical order of creation mirrors what Darwinians think the basic order of life on the planet has been - from ocean to air (day five) ➤



and land, and finally to man (day six) as the end product. The Darwinists have beautiful theories but bad science.

By contrast with our creation story, the popular secular views of creation are twofold. Evolution is not the only or even necessarily the most important game in town any longer.

In the first secular view, matter is god with a little "g". Matter, not spirit, pre-exists and explodes into an evolving, developing and ever-complexifying order in a Big Bang, governed by chance and contingency. The miraculous is taken away from a personal God who is Spirit-being, and given to randomness as its highest power. The random "miraculously" and inexplicably produces order.

This is the basic scientific-modernist account of the world and the universe, our home. The production of spirit (human consciousness) is unplanned, unpurposed, and accidental. Life is pretty well meaningless.

The second secular view I call pantheistic (meaning 'everything is god'). This view is emerging from the incoherence and inconsistencies of the former one. Here matter is given the power of spirit which complexly organises itself from chaos to cosmos, in a self-unfolding of its spirit. Matter is not dead any longer but complex, alive and full of spirit. This is quite an old view really, for even the Greeks said "everything is full of gods".

What distinguishes this emerging secular view is that it unites matter and spirit so that the evolution of the universe is geared toward the emergence of consciousness: the cosmos wants to "know" and evolves our brains so it can know itself. Every form of green paganism (nature religion) and humanist religion will inevitably inhabit this emerging view, but it does have the decided benefit of being ultimately deadly to the neo-Darwinian myth. Some theorists predict that within several generations this myth will be fully debunked.

In reintroducing intelligence and creativity, this new view does come very close to what we Christians would call the Intelligent Design (ID) movement, which affirms a more traditionally theistic account (ie the view of a personal God creating the world we know). What the ID movement sees in nature is evidence of intelligent purpose at its base and infers the necessity of a Creator from this.

But both these groups agree that the world doesn't just appear random and chaotic but intelligently organising and organised.

In any case, Christians will still exist who witness to the deepest truth: all creation is God-made by one Word which He spoke, the Word who became flesh through Mary. Creation screams His glorious name. He created it and He will be its completion. As the Victorian Jesuit poet Gerard Manley Hopkins once put it, "This world is Word, expression, news of God".

Sola Gloria Deo.



What's on the DVD

FEATURED SPEAKER: Chuck Missler - Creative Power of God There is such a depth of information packed in here you will probably need to watch it twice to get a good understanding of it! Chuck adds layers in a well-constructed argument for the creation account in Genesis. 36 min

DRAMA: Walk the Talk 5 min 25

BONUS FEATURES:

- **Beating Cancer: Peter Goulter** - The seven year faith story of how Peter approached a cancer diagnosis from a biblical perspective. 7 min

- **PK Music: Above All** 4 min 50

- **Heartbroken** - Real life story that transcends time. 2 min

- **Tell Her** 4 min

- **Saving Innocence: Child Trafficking** - NZ is starting to look into combating child sex trafficking. Kim Biddle has been rescuing children in the USA for several years. 13 min

- **GO 2015 Event Promo** 1 min 20

HUMOUR CLIPS: The end of the world has come; Lighting a bonfire the Westie way; How real men hula; Boat launch fail; Jumpy cat 3 min 30

BETTER WORK STORIES: Will It Float? 1 min

DVD EXTRA RESOURCES:

Access these using Windows Explorer (PC) or Command F (Mac)

ARTICLES:

Including Francis Frangipane *Army of Worshipers, Mercy Triumphs Over Judgement*; Kevin Forlong *The Spirit of Faith*; Nikki Bray *Grace Based Parenting*; Phil Wagler *Don't Feed the Greed*; Cindy Beall *Hope After Porn*; Pat Morley *A Guide to Having a Healthy Argument*; Derek Prince *Words*; Tom O'Neil Stance Blog *Where is Your Plumline*

RESOURCES:

Including *Weekly Studies* for Men's Groups with Facilitator Guidelines; *Men's PK Stories* AKL 2014; *GO 2015 Event Brochure & Group Leaders Resources*; Chuck Missler *Study Questions & PowerPoint*; *Bible Reading Plans* and more...

MP3s:

Including Derek Prince *A Man Prepares for Marriage* 75 min; Paul Jefferies *Raising Sons: Training Boys to Be Men* 54 min **PK Canada:** Ian Dunn *Praying Powerfully for Your Wife* 54 min; Stu Weber *Brave Hearts* 34 min **PKNZ Classics:** Ivan Bezzant *Known by Name* 28 min; Ian Grant *Coaching Juniors* 32 min

Finding the help & the hope



MEN'S EVENTS 2015

GO STRONGER...

GO HIGHER...

GO FURTHER...

CHRISTCHURCH 21-22 AUGUST

WELLINGTON 11-12 SEPTEMBER

AUCKLAND 2-3 OCTOBER

PROMISE #1

A Promise Keeper is committed to honouring Jesus Christ through worship, prayer and obedience to God's Word in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Next Issue: ADDICTION