ICR JOINS AiG TO FACE “GIANTS” AT NEA!

by Mark Rasche, Director of Outreach

There may not have been real “giants in the land” at the recent National Education Association (NEA) Convention in Los Angeles, but over a dozen creationists (formally registered as the “Creation Science Educators’ Caucus”) had a small taste of what the 12 spies must have felt like when Moses sent them to Canaan. Equipped with creation tracts, books, and videos, selected ICR staff joined forces with AiG and other creation enthusiasts to distribute Bible-based materials among “giants” like Planned Parenthood, the PTA, the Gay and Lesbian Caucus, and many other not-so-likeminded groups. The objective was simple—to talk to anyone interested in hearing about the Biblical truth of creation and the Gospel.

For two solid days, the Creation booth attracted thousands of people with opposing viewpoints. To stimulate conversation, some creationists wore t-shirts with strong creation messages. Probably the most effective tool in attracting the attention of passers-by was a very realistic life-size tyrannosaurus rex dinosaur head, supplied by AiG.

Numerous ICR resources were given away, including 1,500 Mount St. Helens videos. While there were many engaging conversations about origins, there were very few complaints or rude comments. Most discussions were conducted with mutual respect. Particularly encouraging were the remnant of Christian teachers who expressed their appreciation for ICR and AiG educational ministries.

It is unfortunate that such a large educational institution like NEA is embracing homosexuality, abortion, distribution of condoms to our students, and other evil practices. However, we are truly thankful for the opportunity to be salt and light and participate in this massive creation evangelism effort among an estimated 15,000 attendees at the Los Angeles Convention Center.

Please pray that the planted seeds of God’s truth will turn many hearts to Christ, our Creator, Lord, and Savior!
LOOP TOURS—CREATION ACROSS AMERICA

by Mike Riddle

For the past two years my wife (Lesley) and I have been traveling across the country doing “loop tours” for ICR. The month-long tours cover one or more states with over 70 presentations speaking to many scientists, teachers, pastors, lay people in other professions, and students of all grade levels. We have found that many are in great turmoil on the issue of evolution because of the stronghold it has in schools, society, and in many of our churches. Christians often compromise their belief in the veracity of Scripture to accommodate what they perceive to be true about evolution. On loop tours we present Biblical and scientific information that will break down the strongholds that cause this compromise. Our observation is that many people (even in good churches) have never heard the scientific evidence for creation. Reactions vary: some get angry at the education system for teaching false information to support evolution; some need time to sort through what they hear with what they have believed to be true for so long; some have their faith in the creation story strengthened; and some can’t wait to use the information to help share the Gospel.

Many of the churches where we speak, advertise and invite other churches to attend. However, the pastors in many of these other churches do not see evolution as an issue and remain out of touch with what is happening to their youth who remain unequipped to survive the onslaught.

How can we equip ourselves with Biblical and scientific truth? I realize that just hearing one or two hours of information will not equip people to discuss the topic of origins completely. Real equipping takes study and practice where we not only become hearers of information, but also learn to write it and speak it.

We need to train ourselves to ask good questions that will cause the person believing in evolution to realize that they do not have scientific support for what they believe. Our job is not to get into great scientific arguments, but to present the truth and let the Holy Spirit change lives. It is our hope that they will think about what they believe and see that there are many holes in evolution; to help them see that they believe in evolution because of faith, not scientific facts. We need to train teachers to teach students to challenge evolution by asking good science questions and recognize when false information or assumptions are being made. Once we do that, we can begin to see positive change in our families, churches, and society.

Mike and Lesley Riddle.
DR. MORRIS PUBLISHES BOOK ON SOLOMON

The Remarkable Wisdom of Solomon is the title of a new 240-page book by Dr. Henry Morris and published by Master Books (Green Forest, Arkansas). The book sells for $11.99 and can be ordered either from ICR or Master Books.

With an introductory chapter on the life of King Solomon, stressing a number of interesting and little-known facts about this enigmatic king, the book then follows with full commentaries on the three Bible books written by him, in chronological order as they were written—Song of Solomon, Proverbs, and Ecclesiastes.

The book could also be considered as a companion book to two other commentaries by Dr. Morris, The Remarkable Record of Job and Treasures in the Psalms, the five comprising the so-called “Wisdom Literature” in the center of the Bible.

The Remarkable Wisdom of Solomon, like other commentaries by Dr. Morris, assumes verbal inspiration and inerrancy in the three books written by Solomon, and follows the literal method of interpretation. The expositions include a number of insights not found in other commentaries on these unique books.

DR. TIM LAHAYE NAMED MOST INFLUENTIAL CHRISTIAN LEADER

Dr. Tim LaHaye, a long-time friend of ICR, was recently named “the most influential evangelical leader of the last quarter century,” being chosen even over such nationally known Christian leaders as Billy Graham, Bill Bright, James Dobson, and Pat Robertson. This was the verdict of the Institute for the Study of American Evangelicals, located at Wheaton College in Illinois, as announced in their periodical, The Evangelical Studies Bulletin.

Among several reasons cited for this selection was the fact that Dr. LaHaye “pioneered and helped popularize creationism” in the early 1970s. He was one of the co-founders in 1970 (with Dr. Henry Morris and Dr. Art Peters), as well as first president, of Christian Heritage College, of which the Institute for Creation Research was originally a special division before it became an independent graduate school in 1981.

Dr. Tim LaHaye at ICR’s 35th Anniversary celebration and building dedication.
Southern California Tour
Zoologist Frank Sherwin and Bruce Wood were privileged to minister to hundreds of believers during almost two weeks of traveling and speaking in various churches throughout the southland and beyond. The pair traveled from churches at Big Bear Lake to Korean believers in Los Angeles; from Santa Barbara to Palm Springs.

Presentations of the tour included the popular “Evidence for Creation,” “Dinosaurs and the Flood,” and “Creation, Evolutionism, and the Bible.” Attendees understood that God’s creation is “clearly seen” (Romans 1:20) and learned that even 48% of science teachers polled agree or strongly agree that there is much scientific evidence for creation. There were many questions, especially regarding the age of the earth. There are several unproven and questionable assumptions that go into uranium/lead dating techniques of igneous rock. Furthermore, we read that according to the priest Zacharias, God has been speaking through His prophets ever since the world began—not beginning 18 billion years after it allegedly began (see Luke 1:70 and Acts 3:21).

Frank and Bruce were thankful for journey mercies and look forward to serving in churches again soon.

This month on “Science, Scripture, & Salvation”:

Weekend of: Title/Topic:

Sept. 1 “Atheists & College”
College—establishments of higher learning—bastions of knowledge AND in most cases—evolutionary indoctrination. What happens to so many high school students entering college—believing in God—only to graduate without Him four years later? Tune in to find out!

Sept. 8 “Aging”
So many people today are determined to “age gracefully.” This desire to be “forever young” has spawned a whole industry that makes millions by promising to slow down this process. But isn’t aging just a natural part of life?

Sept. 15 “Computers & the Human Brain”
So many areas of our lives are influenced by computers—and the future points to increased use and growing sophistication. But will the computer’s intelligence ever match the incredible complexity of the human brain? Listen and learn!

Sept. 22 “Animal Migration”
At the end of Noah’s Flood, animals dispersed from Ararat to fill the earth—attempting to find a suitable habitat in the newly changed world. Today we take it for granted, but is animal migration as simple as it seems? What can we learn from it? Don’t touch that dial!

Sept. 29 “Evolution x 2”
The likelihood of evolution creating anything is sometimes compared to a tornado sweeping through a junkyard and assembling a 747. Some evolutionists also claim evolution actually happened more than once. Why?
Dear John from I.C.R.,
Thank you for giving us a tour at the I.C.R. Before I visited, I thought I would see pictures of Heaven, but I was wrong. What I liked best was the tower of Babel.

Sincerely,
your friend
Matthew

Dear John from I.C.R.,
Thank you for giving us a tour at the I.C.R. Before I visited, I thought I would see pictures of trees and means and suns. My favorite room was the green room. In the green room, my favorite part was the animals. The most amazing ones were the snake and the birds. The snake felt like rubber and soft. The move was amazing especially the part when they fed the bears were not one million years old! I really enjoyed it. I think I will let a friend know about it. Thank you!

Sincerely
Alyssa
Papers published in the 12 July, 2001 issue of *Nature* including, “Return to the Planet of the Apes,” has led several widely read magazines to write articles relevant to human origins. This has prompted many to question the significance of the find to creation. The authors claim that a group of hominids older than Lucy (the famous *Australopithicus* fossil) has been found giving us evidence that bipedalism evolved earlier and for different reasons than had been thought. The fossils found include 11 tooth and bone fragments (one of which was a toe bone) thought to represent five individuals. The associated fossil flora and fauna indicate that the animals lived in a forest habitat. The primary researcher claims that, based on tooth shape and wear patterns, the animals were more primitive (i.e., more ape-like) than *Australopithecus*, but more like a hominid (ancestor of man) than like a chimp. These fossils have been tentatively classified *Ardipithecus ramidus kadabba*.

What are the facts? First, there was nothing really anatomically new reported in this find. Paleontologists have found remains of several ape-like animals—including the Australopithecines, which evolutionists generally believe walked somewhat upright, at least part of the time. However, there are some evolutionists, such as Charles Oxnard and Lord Zuckerman, whose studies convinced them the Australopithecines did not walk upright in the human manner and thus were not human ancestors. The significance seems to be more in the supposed age of this find and the evidence of the climate in which the animal lived. We do not think that the dating method is reliable (for reasons discussed in other articles), and the evidence of living in a wooded area, while interesting, is insignificant to creationists’ interpretation.

An article in *Time* magazine (July 23, 2001) written about this find mentions comments by Donald Johanson (discoverer of Lucy) in which he questions whether the toe bone, which is the *most significant* bone mentioned in this find, was even associated with the other fossils listed, because it was found 10 miles away and was assigned an age of several hundreds of thousands of years younger than the other bones and teeth. But it is this bone which leads to the conclusion of upright posture.

Bernard Wood, professor of human origins at George Washington University, said that maybe we should not think of bipedalism as that which separates man from apes. His example is that “birds have wings, but not all creatures with wings are birds.” (See *Time* by Lemonick and Dorfman, page 61.) Though not a creationist, his idea fits well in a creationist’s interpretation. Even if *Ardipithecus* walked upright (an idea for which the evidence is both scanty and questionable), it still does not prove an ape ancestry for humans.
Some time ago I came across the above headline and heard myself say, “Amen, Brother! But you are forgetting something . . . having only a will at the time of one’s mental or physical incapacity can be hazardous to the physical and emotional health of one’s family as well.” The article carefully listed all of the financial hazards to which an estate is subject (the high cost and long delay of probate, etc.), whether or not one has a will. The article failed to point out an even greater hazard which cannot be avoided by a will—that of providing for one’s physical and financial care by family or friends in the event of an incapacitating illness or injury prior to death. A will serves one’s estate only after death. A wonderfully simple and highly efficient alternative to protect from all of these hazards is a Revocable Living Trust—also known as a Family Trust.

An article in the Wall Street Journal stated that “More and more Americans are putting their assets into a Revocable Living Trust . . . while (they are) still alive. (They) can act as their own trustee so that there is no loss of control. They can change the trust at any time.” Individual(s) placing their assets into such a trust are also able to direct who will care for them and their resources in the likely event that they will not be able to care for themselves at some point in the future. A properly drawn trust:

- Keeps the infirmed person from the often-humiliating process of having a conservatorship established for his or her care by the Probate Court.
- Makes it unnecessary for loved ones to hire an attorney and go through the emotionally devastating job of placing their family member into a conservatorship.
- Enables parents with minor or otherwise dependent children to provide for the “by whom” and the “how” of their ongoing care in the event of the disability or death of the parent(s).

Many attorneys counsel their clients to have a living trust prepared only if they have a large estate ($675,000.00) or more. As Christians who acknowledge that whatever we have is ours on loan from the Lord to provide for our care and that of others, doesn’t it make sense that our possessions need to be predirected no matter how much or how little we have? That is to say, in light of our responsibility to God for their use in life and after death, shouldn’t we take whatever steps we can to insure that the people (including ourselves) whom God intends to benefit from “our” possessions will benefit whether or not we are able, personally, to see to it? From my personal understanding of Scripture and experience, I believe we should.

If these thoughts interest you, I urge you to see an attorney to discuss his/her drawing a Revocable Living Trust for you. If you don’t have an attorney, I have prepared a single page to help you locate one. It is yours for the asking. Simply write “Attorney” on the enclosed envelope and we will get it on its way to you.

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