

ICR & DARWIN IN BRITISH ISLES

The British Islands have witnessed numerous true revivals through the years. From the Wesleys to Spurgeon to Whitfield to Knox, the clear voice of Christianity has been heard for centuries.

Yet it was England which produced Charles Darwin, heralded as the Father of evolution by natural selection, a system which dominates British thinking. Naturalism has gone so far that this country, with deep Christian roots, is almost devoid of any Christian voice.

ICR has just returned from a September study creation tour of south England which attempted to address the questions: What sequence of events allowed this formerly Christian country to readily accept godless evolution? And what can be done in America to avoid the same fate?

About 40 tour participants joined Drs. Larry Vardiman, Ken Cumming, Andrew Snelling, John Morris, and tour host Tom Manning for two weeks visiting a variety of museums and geologic sites with these questions in mind. They consulted with British creationists to get their input, studied library holdings, and scoured museum exhibits. But such difficult questions involve a number of disciplines over decades of time and defy simple solutions.

The consensus involves the acquiescence of the Church of England in the late 1700s to higher criticism and its



abandonment of the doctrine of Biblical inerrancy. This opened wide the door to naturalistic thinking through which Darwinism entered mainstream culture. Scientists of his day opposed evolution on scientific grounds, but the church's embrace of evolution eventually won.

The group concluded that America needs strong Christian leaders who will uncompromisingly teach all of Scripture, especially its creation foundation. America also needs informed Christian laymen fully able to present a convincing creation apologetic, a systematic defense of this vital doctrine.

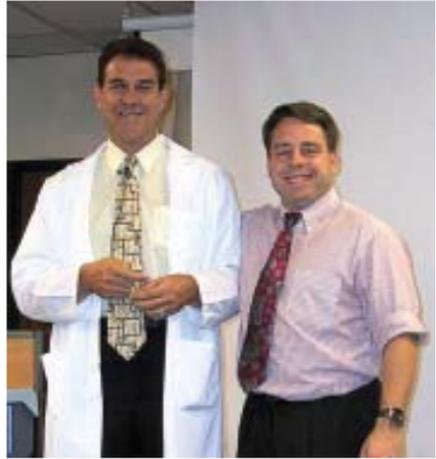
The trip which was highlighted by a visit to the Metropolitan Tabernacle in London (formerly pastored by Charles Spurgeon) and a meeting in the study of its present pastor, Dr. Peter Masters, himself a strong creation advocate. It ended with a celebration banquet addressed by Dr. David Rosevear, President of the Creation Science Movement in England. 

ICR SPANISH MINISTRY EXPLODING ACROSS THE WORLD!

For many years, ICR has been producing the 60-second daily radio program, “Back to Genesis,” which highlights evidences of God’s wonderful creation. Many radio stations throughout the world carry “Back to Genesis” with more coming on-board all the time. Approximately nine years ago, through God’s orchestration and the partnership of Dolly Martin, member of the Hispanic National Religious Broadcasters and Spanish Program Director for radio station KHCB-Radio Amistad in Texas, “Back to Genesis” was translated into Spanish.

With that decision, a new Spanish program was born. “De Regreso a Génesis,” which is Spanish for “Back to Genesis,” started reaching many Spanish-speaking countries with God’s truth. In addition to Dolly Martin, Elia María Knapp began translating each “Back to Genesis” program into Spanish. Elia had been a volunteer for KHCB working with Dolly. Elia also translated the book, “What is Creation Science?” by Henry Morris and Gary Parker. “De Regreso a Génesis” has now become the fastest growing radio program that ICR produces and is carried by over 200 radio stations. Elia and Dolly have brought their joy and servant attitudes to “De Regreso a Génesis,” and it has become a huge success.

Now one might ask, how do people in Spanish-speaking countries contact us about the “De Regreso a Génesis” programs? That’s where missionary John Pendleton comes in. He lives and ministers in Zacatecas, Mexico. In 1999, he began answering correspondence that came from the Spanish-speaking world. Each year John gets more correspondence than the previous year. This year, he will be dealing with more than 400 letters and e-mails from Spanish listeners. His help



L: John Pendleton.

R: Pat Roy, Director of Broadcast Media.

has been quite valuable in promoting “De Regreso a Génesis,” and he has become an important resource to ICR.

The following is a list of the countries around the world that carry “De Regreso a Génesis”: Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, Bolivia, Chile, Paraguay, Uruguay, Argentina, Belize, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Panama, Venezuela, Antigua, Barbuda, Spain, and Mexico. And of course, “De Regreso a Génesis” is carried throughout the U.S. including Puerto Rico. God has indeed opened many doors for Spanish ministry. ICR is reaching more and more of the world with the creation message! 

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RATE SURVEYS YOSEMITE NATIONAL PARK FOR RADIOHALOS

Drs. Andrew Snelling and Larry Vardiman traveled to Yosemite National Park over the Fourth of July holiday this past summer to collect samples of granite for the RATE project. More than two dozen fist-sized samples were collected across



the Sierra Nevada from Fresno to Mammoth Lakes, California. Most of the one hundred pounds of rock collected during the field trip will be analyzed for radiohalos.

Yosemite National Park straddles the Sierra Nevada, a mountain range which runs about five hundred miles north and south along the eastern border of California from near Bakersfield to Mt. Shasta. The Sierra Nevada were formed during the Genesis Flood and exhibit hundreds of granite bodies which cooled from molten rock. Large masses of magma were sequentially intruded to near the earth's surface and cooled to form the interlocking bodies of granites in Yosemite. This region is one of the best exposures on earth of granites formed during the Flood and exposed by erosion when the Flood waters retreated.

Granite is a coarse-grained, intrusive, igneous ("fire") rock composed of varying concentrations of quartz, orthoclase,

and plagioclase. Usually imbedded in granites are biotite (black mica) flakes which contain zircons (small, difficult-to-melt crystals of zirconium silicate). These zircons generally contain radioactive elements like uranium, thorium, and polonium which form radiohalos in the biotites, the target of this sampling expedition. (See the *Impact* article by Dr. Snelling in this issue for a detailed explanation of radiohalos and the encouraging evidence which RATE is uncovering.)

Dr. Snelling was granted a permit by Yosemite National Park to collect granite samples in the Park. Drs. Snelling and Vardiman hiked No-name Trail from Glacier Point to the valley floor collecting samples along the way. The two pictures show Dr. Snelling gathering a specimen from No-name Trail and recording the location and characteristics of an outcrop. The two scientists also collected samples from west to east and over Tioga Pass. A large 25-pound sample was collected at an outcrop of Half-Dome granite named after the most famous geological feature in Yosemite National Park. In addition to



a study of radiohalos, this sample will also be analyzed for its content and the diffusion rate of helium.

The rock samples from Yosemite will be processed during the next two years to complete the survey of radioisotopes identified by the RATE group. Those who wish to help RATE financially may write or call ICR for a RATE brochure or request it online [www.icr.org/ratebrochure/]. 



USING GOD'S WORD IN CREATION AND POLITICS

by John D. Morris

Recently I attended a convention and struck up a break-time conversation with a Christian sociology professor at a State University. Eventually the conversation turned to creation, which he assumed from his professional background was foolishness, but about which he knew nothing. Imagine his surprise when he learned that my well-formulated scientific position was fully supported by Biblical teaching, literally interpreted.

Feeling the heat, he suddenly changed the subject. "Well, what are you, liberal or conservative, Democrat or Republican? Why are so many Biblical literalists political conservatives?"

The professor seemed to have a heart for God, but as with most university professors, all his training had been in humanistic thought and he was immersed in a heavily Marxist environment. He could have been a Christian light in a dark place, a guide for young students, but instead, he seemed not to know how to let the Bible form his worldview. He was shocked that I used Scripture as my interpretive framework in science, especially as creation made better sense of the data than evolution. But surely I wasn't also a political conservative!

I assured him that while I had registered with one particular party, I had, over the years, tried to "vote kingdom votes," to select that candidate which best reflects Biblical thinking. I stressed that the Bible should be our guide for every decision, personal, professional, and political.

Biblically, a capitalistic system, where a man lives by the fruit of his labors, where enterprise and entrepreneurship are encouraged, is to be preferred to a Marx-

ist or socialist state where all power is centered in the hands of an elite few. Conservatives are much more aligned with this than liberals. Similarly, a more Biblical approach in employer/employee relations is one where treatment is fair and personal achievement is rewarded. Again, a conservative strength.

Conservatives more often agree with Scripture in taking a high view of human life, at every stage. They also are more consistent at holding a person accountable for wrong choices, and restraining excess governmental taxation, both Bible teachings. However, conservatives sometimes err in cut-throat business practices, leftovers from Social Darwinism—a wicked outplay of Darwinistic thought. "Might makes right" in business cannot be justified Biblically. Neither can a haste to make war. While the Bible specifically teaches that the times and boundaries of nations are ordained by God and that can legitimately defend themselves, war for the monetary gain of the wealthy is not a godly mindset.

Conservatives normally favor strong families, useful education, and religious freedom. However, liberals often seem to do a better job of championing the cause of the poor and downtrodden, a Christ-like attitude. A Christian goal is not just to help the poor, however, but to serve and reach them with the gospel. These are not often compatible with liberal goals. Conservative Christians have, on the other hand, been responsible for many of the hospitals, homeless shelters, and colleges of the country.

All-in-all, I'm a political conservative because I'm a Biblical conservative. As Christians we must submit to Scriptural principles in all things, even politics, and never yield our minds to any other philosophy. Individual Christians may differ from me on specific issues, but our job is to guard and transmit the truth, and foster a godly way of thinking, as based on the teachings of Christ. ☞

Meeting Highlights

Georgia

The Cobb Galleria was the host site of the HEEA convention, August 8–10, 2002. About 6,000 attendees had the opportunity to participate in various workshop sessions. Several sessions featured ICR speaker, Mike Riddle, who delighted both youths and adults with topics on the Genesis Flood, dinosaurs, and creation apologetics. Convention Coordinator, Randi St. Dennis, reported to ICR that Mike caused many to rethink the origins and young-earth issues.

Massachusetts

“In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you” (I Thessalonians 5:18).

A great desire of Biblical teachers and parents is to have their children doing the will of God in Christ Jesus, their Creator and Redeemer. Part of the evidence of doing that will is the giving of thanks for every thing. Does every thing include a science camp which you really do not want to attend but for which your parents or grandparents have signed you up? Yes—every thing would include those events.

Several times now ICR Creation Science Camp instructors have heard a testimony related to that very act of giving thanks. Campers, signed up for a Creation Science Camp, expressed great reluctance or dismay at the idea of attending the camp. Did a week of hands-on, Creation-based science activities change their minds? Yes! At the end (or even before the end) of the camp, the upper elementary and junior high campers have voluntarily given thanks to their parents and grandparents for having them participate. That change of heart reveals just a part of the excitement held by campers and adult counselors who have spent a week



exploring God’s handiwork—from light to soil to fish to man.

ICR camp instructors give thanks as well. We give thanks for the opportunity of teaching God’s awe-inspiring, fascinating creation, and for the interaction we enjoy with campers and counselors like those attending Calvary Creation Day Camp at Calvary Baptist Church in Easthampton, Massachusetts, during this past August.

We also give thanks knowing that God’s eternal power and divinity will be revealed to our campers through the things He made (Romans 1:20) and pray that that knowledge will be shared at home, next door, and even in foreign countries. Three of our campers this summer, the grandchildren of the hosting pastor, John Volante, left soon after camp for their mission home in Ghana, Africa. May God’s word not return void! (Isaiah 55:11). ☞

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"And this is the law of the sacrifice of peace offerings, which he shall offer unto the LORD. If he offer it for a thanksgiving, then he shall offer with the sacrifice of thanksgiving" (Leviticus 7:11–12).

The Peace and Thanksgiving Offering

Israel was under Mosaic Law, of course, and the New Testament Covenant has freed us from the obligations of those liturgical instructions. However, they were a "schoolmaster" (Galatians 3:24) to teach us about the relationship of God to His people.

This voluntary offering was designed to be given at various times and for many reasons—but if offered in "Thanksgiving" it was to be specially performed, as explained below.

The drama tells the story of Thanksgiving to God.

"By placing his hand upon the head of the animal, which had been brought to the altar of Jehovah for the purpose, the offerer signified that with this gift, which served to nourish and strengthen his own life, he gave up the substance of his life to the Lord, that he might thereby be strengthened both body and soul for a holy walk and conversation. To this end he slaughtered the victim and had the blood sprinkled by the priest against the altar, and the fat portions burned upon it, that in these altar-gifts his soul and his inner man might be grounded afresh in the gracious fellowship of the Lord. He then handed over the breast-piece by the process of waving, also the right leg, and a sacrificial cake of each kind, as a heave-offering from the whole to the Lord, who transferred these portions to the priests as His servants, that they might take part as His representatives in the sacrificial meal." (*Biblical Commentary on the Old Testament; The Pentateuch, vol. II; Keil & Delitzsch, Eerdmans, Grand Rapids, p. 330.*)

Our "offerings" should be as honestly committed.

Think of the obvious comparisons: that which is used to "nourish and strengthen" our lives is offered in "thanksgiving" on the Lord's altar—to the Lord—which the Lord then gives a portion back as subsistence to those who serve Him. These voluntary "offerings" are freely given in thanksgiving to others who serve the Lord.

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