

FULTON COUNTY GOSPEL NEWS

THE 72554 EDITION - MARCH-APRIL 2021

A BI-MONTHLY PERIODICAL OF MAMMOTH SPRING CHURCH OF CHRIST

A Seminar on Grief Management

**Saturday, April 10 and Sunday, April 11
with Keith Mosher Sr.**



Saturday, April 10 (9AM)

Session 1 - The Christian's Approach to Grief

Session 2 - Grief is a Normal Experience

Session 3 - Things to Say and Not to Say

Lunch Break

Session 4 - "Therapy" Session

Sunday, April 11 (10AM)

Class - Why Do Bad Things Happen to Good People?

Sermon - Securing the Heart That Grieves

***Event will be live streamed on our public Facebook page
Church of Christ at Mammoth Spring***

Keith A. Mosher, Sr. was born in Waterford, Pennsylvania. An alumnus (1975) of the Memphis School of Preaching, he returned in 1978 to begin part-time, and in 1984 to full-time teaching.

Brother Mosher served in the United States Navy and received his early education at Cleveland State University and the University of Louisville. He was then employed as a metallurgical lab technician in Fort Wayne, IN.

He and his wife, Dorothy Carol, from Louisville, Kentucky, have been married since 1961, and have three children.

Keith has held Gospel Meetings all over the United States and in several foreign countries. He is also a widely published writer. He also serves on the staff at Memphis School of Preaching.

The Mammoth Spring church of Christ invites all in our community to attend. If you plan to attend, please let us know by contacting us. All of our contact information is on the back page.

***Due to the virus, social distancing will be practiced and masks are required when inside the building.
Thank You!***

It is not uncommon to hear Christians in the 21st century claim to believe in evolution. I have read, corresponded with, and met many people in the past decade who professed to believe both in the inspiration of the Bible **and** in many aspects of macroevolution. Some claim that the multi-billion-year Big Bang theory is valid, but that God played a part in it. Others assert that the Earth's layers represent hundreds of millions of years of time, and that the fossils found therein are many millions of years old. Some "Christians" even think that God made man from monkey-like creatures. They believe that humans evolved from lower life forms, while God supposedly directed the process.

I am continually baffled by such claims from alleged Christians for three different reasons. First, as we have addressed many times in the past, the Bible clearly teaches that the Earth is only five days older than man, and even atheistic evolutionists do not believe that man has been on Earth for billions of years (cf. Lyons, 2006). Christians can choose to believe the multi-billion-year evolutionary time scale, which claims that people evolved approximately 13.996 billion years after the beginning of the Universe, or they can believe what Jesus and Paul taught—that man has been on Earth since the foundation of the world (Luke 11:49-51; Mark 10:6; Romans 1:20). You cannot logically or scripturally believe both views.

Second, macroevolution has never been proven. Many Christians have accepted evolution even though the entire theory is based upon assumptions. Evolutionists **assume** that because there are certain similarities between humans and animals, humans must have evolved from animals. In truth, however, these similarities prove no such thing. (They more accurately point to a common Creator Who made living creatures with many similarities because we live on the same planet, breathe the same air, eat the same kinds of food, drink the same water, etc.). Furthermore, neither geology nor paleontology proves macroevolution. All methods of dating rocks are based upon built-in assumptions (see Riddle, 2007). Evolutionary geologists and paleontologists have not "proven" that the layers of the Earth and the fossils in the Earth are millions of years old, they merely **assume** that the **assumption**-based dating methods are accurate. Moreover, there are no evolutionary family trees in the fossil record, but only **evolutionists' interpretations** of the fossils. Simply put, macroevolution has never been observed

or confirmed.

Finally, many Christians seem willing to defend evolution more blindly than some atheistic evolutionists. For example, even though many professed Christians have swallowed Big Bang Theory hook, line, and sinker (e.g., a senior biology major at a Christian University once informed me that all of her science professors "believe in the validity of the Big Bang"), some of the world's most decorated evolutionary astrophysicists freely admit that "we are still as confused as ever about how the universe began" (Coles, 193[2593]:37). In short, while Big Bang Theory is falling on hard times within some atheistic evolutionary circles (cf. Brooks, 2008, 198[2659]:31; Coles, 2007, 193[2593]:33-37), it is still propagated among some "Bible believers" as factual. Unbelievable! "Christian" evolutionists are even known to accept alleged "missing links" as proof of human evolution. Another Christian college student once told me about one professor's espousal of the idea that "Lucy" (*Australopithecus afarensis*) was likely one of our hairy, half-human, half-ape ancestors who lived a few million years ago. In truth, the idea of Lucy being our ancestor has been known for years to be riddled with problems, which even some atheistic evolutionists have acknowledged (see Harrub and Thompson, 2003, pp. 41-57).

Sadly, many professed Christians have bought into Darwin's damnable doctrines despite (1) it never being proven, (2) notable atheistic evolutionists having doubts about, and problems with, many aspects of evolution, and (3) Scripture clearly teaching that the Earth is relatively young and not billions of years old. Scripture and science do not disagree with each other, but God's Word and the General Theory of Evolution do. May God help His people stop kowtowing to evolutionary scientific elitism and start accepting God at His Word.

**"May God help His people stop
kowtowing to evolutionary
scientific elitism..."**

References

- Brooks, Michael (2008), "Inflation Deflated," *New Scientist*, 198[2659]:30-33, June 7.
- Coles, Peter (2007), "Boomtime," *New Scientist*, 193 [2593]:33-37, March 3.
- Harrub, Brad and Bert Thompson (2003), *The Truth About Human Origins* (Montgomery, AL: Apologetics Press).
- Lyons, Eric (2006), "Man Has Been on Earth Since..." [On-line], URL: <http://apologeticspress.org/articles/3068>.
- Riddle, Mike (2007), "Does Radiometric Dating Prove the Earth is Old?" [On-line], URL: <http://www.answersingenesis.org/articles/nab/does-radiometric-dating-prove>.

In 1802, William Paley published his famous book *Natural Theology*, in which he presented the watchmaker analogy. He explained that if a person were to stumble across a well-designed watch in the middle of the woods, the complexity of the watch would be evidence that an intelligent designer made the machine. His analogy is an extension of the more formal teleological argument, which simply states that if there is design in nature, that design demands the existence of a designer. The Hebrews writer used the same line of reasoning when he wrote: “For every house is built by someone, but He who built all things is God” (Heb. 3:4).

Cutting-edge biological research has added some fresh insight to this ancient wisdom. Malcolm Ritter recently reported on work done by Akhilesh Reddy of Cambridge University and Joseph Bass of Northwestern University (2011). Their research, published in *Nature* centers on the built-in clocks that are housed in the cells of the human body. Ritter wrote, “even the cells throughout our body have their own 24-hour clocks to coordinate activities at the cellular level. Now new research suggests these internal timepieces may be more complicated than scientists thought” (2011).

How interesting! Our body is filled with trillions of cells that contain complicated clocks. Man-made clocks are complex and effective. If a person found such a device in the middle of the forest, he would be forced to conclude it was intelligently designed. The same is true of the biological clocks found in the body.

Reference

Ritter, Malcom (2011), “Study of Cell ‘Clocks’ Looks at What Makes Us Tick,” http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20110126/ap_on_sc/us_sci_body_clocks/print.

Without It, Christianity Falls Apart

Barry O'Dell

The apostle Paul wrote, “*Now if Christ be preached that he rose from the dead, how say some among you that there is no resurrection of the dead? But if there be no resurrection of the dead, then is Christ not risen: And if Christ be not risen, then is our preaching vain, and your faith is also vain. Yea, and we are found false witnesses of God; because we have testified of God that he raised up Christ: whom he raised not up, if so be that the dead rise not. For if the dead rise not, then is not Christ raised: And if Christ be not raised, your faith is vain; ye are yet in your sins. Then they also which are fallen asleep in Christ are perished. If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men most miserable*” (1 Cor. 15:12-19). Without the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, the entire Christian system falls apart. The New Testament authors wrote frequently about the fact that Jesus died, was buried, and that He rose from the dead. Prior to those events, His disciples and even His own family members neither believed nor understood His mission. For example, read Matthew 16:21-23 and John 7:1-5. Yet, after His death, burial, and resurrection, everything changed! The apostles - men who previously doubted - witnessed the events and were even willing to (and did) die to proclaim the truthfulness of those events. Think about this - if the resurrection of Christ is a lie - then those men, and many others, were either wholly evil or insane! Who would willingly suffer as they did in order to

perpetuate something they *knew* to be false?!

The former atheist, Lee Strobel, who was an investigative journalist, set out on a search for *The Case for Christ*. He looked at four categories of evidence for the resurrection: (1) did Jesus die on the cross?; (2) the early accounts of the resurrection; (3) the empty tomb; (4) the eyewitnesses. His approach is meticulous! While Mr. Strobel used many extra-biblical sources, consider what the Bible says about each of these categories...

Jesus died. People did not survive the Roman practice of crucifixion! The soldiers in charge saw that Jesus was dead (Jn. 19:33-34).

Early accounts of the resurrection. Read the account recoded in Luke 23:13-35!

The empty tomb. Matthew 28:11-15 records the lie that government officials used in an effort to keep people from believing. Even the enemies of Jesus could not deny the empty tomb!

The eyewitnesses. First Corinthians 15:5-8 records that there were, at a minimum, 513 eyewitnesses!

Any honest person, who is willing to do the necessary work, can come to faith in Christ. Faith in Him is not a magic trick. God does not force it upon us. Rather, faith is produced when one hears and believes the inspired word of God (Rom. 10:17). There is more than enough evidence - both biblical and extra-biblical of the resurrection of Jesus from the dead. Do you believe?

LOCAL POSTAL CUSTOMER

Unique features of the Church of Christ

- We use the Bible only (2 Pet. 1:3). We have no creed book, convention, or central headquarters.
- Our name is after the One who died to establish His church (Rom. 16:16).
- The church of Christ began in Jerusalem (Isa. 2:2-3; Acts 2:1-4).
- Jesus promised to establish His church (Matt. 16:18).
- That church was purchased with Jesus' blood (Acts 20:28).
- The church is married to Christ (Rom. 7:4).
- It was established in the first century (Acts 2:47).
- Jesus the one and only Head of the One Body (Eph. 1:22-23; 4:4; 5:23).
- You can only be added to the church by God Himself (Acts 2:41, 47).

What about being saved?

- All people are saved by grace, though faith (Eph. 2:8-9).
- No one is saved by faith alone (Jas. 2:14-26).
- No one is saved by grace alone (Matt. 7:21).
- Jesus said that belief plus baptism will produce salvation (Mk. 16:16). That is a promise, not a command.
- The Bible teaches that repentance plus baptism produces remission of sins (Acts 2:37-38).
- Belief, confession, and baptism is seen in the account of the Ethiopian eunuch (Acts 8:37-38).
- The Corinthians heard, believed, and were baptized (Acts 18:8).
- Christ is "put on" in baptism (Gal. 3:26-27).
- The apostle Peter said that "baptism does save us" (1 Pet. 3:21).

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Send us an email with your Bible questions - mscoc251@gmail.com

The FCGN Podcast is now on Podbean and Spotify

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