

would win approval. However, when the vote was taken by the seven board members, evolutionists were stunned to learn they **Continued from front page**: had been defeated by a four to three margin. They were not a little angry. Not willing to accept defeat they threatened to take their cause to the state legislature and have the ruling overturned (*which request we have since learned was rejected*).

Brother Bogle had followed closely the controversy before the State Board of Education and rejoiced at the victory for truth, then when he learned of the pro-evolution strategists' threat to take their demands to the state legislature he said to himself, "I'll be waiting on the steps." He has received a number of positive responses from state

ABILENE CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY LECTURESHIP

"A SUMMIT FOR APOSTASY"

Jim E. Waldron

September 21-24, 2008 will be the days that ACU holds its 91st annual lectureship, which it is calling an "Annual Lectureship Summit." Speakers include, Leroy Garrett, David Fleer, Kevin Murray, James Thompson, Eric Wilson, Christ Seidman, Brian D. McLaren, J. Matthew Sleeth, Sam Solomon, Rubel Shelly, Randy Harris, Rick Atchley, Jeff Walling and others. The last four named above are well known as change agents with an agenda to restructure the churches of Christ. For example, brothers Rubel Shelly and Randy Harris are co-authors of the infamous book, *The Second Incarnation* (Howard Pub. Co. 3117 N. 7th St., W. Monroe, LA 71291), exposed by brother Curtis Cates in 1992 as "A Pattern For Apostasy" (5512 Cottonwood Road, Memphis, TN 38115).

Brother Atchley's duplicity in compromising the truth by adding machinery with sacred hymns and observing the Lord's supper on the Sabbath (Saturday) was clearly documented in April 2007 by brother Alan Highers (Spiritual Sword, Vol. 38, No. 3, 1511 Getwell Rd., Memphis, TN 38111). As far back as 1991 efforts to compromise the truth by Jeff Walling, Rick Atchley and Rubel Shelly were well documented by brother Goebel Music in *Behold The Pattern* (5114 Montclair, Colleyville, TX 76034). Perhaps the oldest change agent on the "summit" lectureship is the brother named first above, Leroy Garrett, who for more than 50 years has been known for his efforts to undermine the faith of those churches determined to "hold fast the pattern of sound words" (II Tim. 1:13) and the simplicity of worshipping in "spirit and truth" (John 4:24). One thing they do not like is "pattern theology" (cf., II Tim. 1:13; Heb. 8:5; Rom. 6:17; Titus 1:9; Jude 3).

This "summit" further illustrates that the ACU Board of Directors, the administration and staff have "gone out from us" (cf., I John 2:19) because their heart and minds are not set to "speak as the oracles of God" (I Pet. 3:11). The apostle Paul encouraged "pattern theology" in his time against those who were the enemies of such: **"Brethren, join in following my example, and note those who so walk, as you have us as a pattern. For many walk, of whom I have told you often and now tell you even weeping that they are enemies of the cross of Christ"** (Phil.

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EVOLUTION IN FLORIDA

"THEORY" OR "FACT"?

Jon Gary Williams

The feathers of those who promote the tattered and torn theory of Darwinian evolution have again been ruffled; this time in Florida. Earlier this year advocates of evolution set out to have their state's textbooks boldly affirm that evolution is fact. Their demand was that the word "theory" not be used, instead the phrase "fundamental fact" be inserted into the text. The Florida Department of Education held meetings to have this issue discussed at which time those from both sides were allowed to present their case. In conjunction with this, the Department of Education received many emails from people on both sides.

Now enters ninety-three year old brother Fred R. Bogle of Orlando, Florida. For many years brother Bogle was with the Space Administration at the space center at Cape Canaveral in contract administration. Though long retired he is still held in high regard. Over the years he has been an active member of the Lord's church. Even at ninety-three he still travels and attends lectureships across the country. He has authored two valuable booklets, *Who Is Saved?*, Volumes I & II (Both are free of charge from *Bulletin Briefs*).

In order to help state officials see the unscientific nature of evolution he mailed (at his own expense) copies of the book, *The Other Side of Evolution*, to all 158 members of the Florida legislature. Along with the books he included a timely, well-written, personal letter. He mailed the book and his letter to those in the general assembly, the governor, lieutenant governor, commissioner of education, Orange County mayor, court commissioner, superintendent of education and all school board members. 208 in all!

Proponents of evolution were confident their appeal

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THE STANDARD OF VALUES AND ETHICS

Jim E. Waldron

The gospel of Jesus Christ of Nazareth is the universal standard of spiritual values, morals, ethics, and right conduct. The gospel being the story of the individual, Jesus, who is the one example for all men in every culture and His teaching. Simply put, the fullness of the gospel is the 27 books of the New Testament which describe Jesus' life and His teaching. In other words, the gospel is **"the perfect law"** (James 1:25) to which the universal brotherhood of all God's servants must conform (cf. Romans 12:1-2). The Old Testament's relationship to this **"perfect law, the law of liberty"** being that of a divinely inspired history. It is a sacred history to be learned by Christians to build up their appreciation for God's promises **"through patience and through comfort of the scriptures"** (Romans 15:4), while they regulate their lives according to the spiritual and moral precepts found in the gospel, i.e. the New Testament of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.



King Jesus has been enthroned at **"the right hand of the Majesty in the heavens"** (Hebrews 8:1); the right hand of the throne being the power position in heaven. For Jesus himself testified before the Israeli high court in the Spring of 30 A.D., **"...ye shall see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of power"** (Mark 14:62).

Based on the fact that He was to occupy this seat upon His return to heaven the Messiah said, **"All authority hath been given unto me in heaven and on earth. Go ye therefore, and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them into the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit; teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I commanded you: and lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world"** (Matthew 28:18-20). Observe that Jesus affirmed His universal sovereignty over heaven and earth (His Father being the only exception, I Cor. 15:27). This simply means that all peoples, nations and tongues must conform to His teaching if they would see the Father.

To Jesus' ascension and coronation as sovereign of heaven and earth the prophets agree, for Daniel testified beforehand of the Messiah's return to the Father and of His being given **"dominion, and glory, and a kingdom, that all the peoples, nations and languages should serve Him"** (Dan. 7:13-14). Not only does the Christ have universal dominion, but it is **"unto the end of the world."** In this case the word *world* is the Greek, *aionos*, also meaning age, Jesus is sovereign throughout the present age (the Messi-

anic age) until He returns the kingdom to the Father at His second coming (I Cor. 15:24-25) and the end of the world.

King Jesus also said to His servants, **"Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to the whole creation"** (Mark 16:15-16). This passage plainly says that the gospel must be preached to the whole of creation. There is no hint of the message of Jesus being a gospel. This gospel is one for the whole world.

By God's providence we have great freedom in America and the gospel is widespread in this land, yet we must not think that the gospel is American. We must remember that the gospel was given to the world **"when the fullness of time had come God sent forth His son, born of a woman, born under the law"** (Gal. 4:4). This was a time when a tyrant, Augustus, ruled the earth from the Thames to the Persian Gulf, including two little obscure villages in West Asia called Bethlehem and Nazareth in a despised land called Israel. We must not forget that the living God conveyed this gospel to all mankind through men who grew up in poverty in a primitive underdeveloped country. It is also well to point out that the one who is the heart and center of this message we call the gospel spent His first night on earth in a feeding trough, not in an incubator of a 21st Century American hospital.

Again, it is important to note, when the gospel message of **"repentance and remission of sins"** began to be preached among all nations at Jerusalem (Luke 24:47), it was first preached in many languages (Acts 2:4-6). Muslims are fond of saying that no one can really understand the Koran unless they read it in the original tongue (Arabic) in which it was first recited by Mohammed, but when the gospel was first proclaimed on Pentecost at the beginning the hearers cried **"how hear we, every man in our own language wherein we were born?"** God never intended His message of salvation and right conduct for all men to repose in one language or only take root in one culture. Jesus said, **"go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to the whole creation"** (Mark 16:15). That is one gospel for one whole world. Even the apostle Paul testified by the Spirit that the Colossian Christians were to continue in **"the faith,"** which had come to them because of **"the gospel"** which **"was preached in all creation under heaven"** (Colossians 1:23).

The gospel is, therefore, the one universal standard God has provided for spiritual values, morals, ethics and right conduct. Jesus' personal life and the message of the apostles to the church (Acts 2:42), based on that life, is the standard for the world. To this very thing the prophets testified, for Isaiah wrote in the eighth century before Christ, **"And in that day (the Messianic Age) there shall be a root of Jesse (the Messiah, Jesus), which shall stand for an ensign (standard or banner) of the people; to it shall the Gentiles seek: and**

His rest shall be glorious" (Isaiah 11:10). And again he testified that God would **"set up an ensign (standard) for the nations"** (Isaiah 11:12).

The prophets visualized the gospel as a universal message that would leaven all nations. As Isaiah testified: **"And it shall come to pass in the last days, that the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established in the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills; and all nations shall flow into it. And many people shall go and say, Come ye, and let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; and He will teach us of His ways, and we will walk in His paths; for out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem. And He shall judge among the nations, and shall rebuke many people; and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more"** (Isaiah 2:2-4).

This passage teaches that many peoples from all nations were to flow **"unto the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob"** in the Messianic Age. The term nations is the Hebrew *goim*, which is translated by *ethnos* in the *Septuagint*. The word was applied to small tribal groups, e.g. the seven nations in Canaan (Deut. 7:1; Acts 7:19), as well as to larger nations (Genesis 15:14). The English word *ethnic* comes from the Greek *ethnos*.

Based on this evidence, it is apparent that the Messianic prophets of the Old Testament and the apostles and prophets of the New Testament clearly affirmed that the gospel: the life and teaching

A CHALLENGE FOR YOU

You can do for your state what brother Bogle did for his. Only eternity will tell how much influence brother Bogle had, but he stepped forward just at the right time with the right tool. Let me challenge you to do the same for your state. You may go on the internet and get the names and addresses of your state, national and local officials. We will provide the ammunition (copies of ***The Other Side of Evolution***) if you will send them to your government officials. This is urgent because evolution continues to be the God-hating and anti-Christ doctrine that is destroying the moral, religious and cultural fiber of our nation. I urge you, do not say to yourself "someone else will do this," because you know that is the attitude of so many i.e., **"let George do it."** Write to:

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