

## Videos

Don't forget about the videos "Obsession" and "Expelled" that are available to the congregation. Contact one of the McDonald's to find out about getting hold of a copy.

## New Years Gathering

We will get together after the Wednesday evening Bible study to see the Old year out and the New year on December 31, 2008. We will meet in the fellowship room. Bring finger foods.

## Daily Bible Reading Schedule

Date	Morning	Evening
12/29/08 Monday.....	Zechariah.....11-12	Revelation.....20
12/30/08 Tuesday.....	Zechariah.....13-14	Revelation.....21
12/31/08 Wednesday.....	Malachi.....01-04	Revelation.....22
01/01/09 Thursday.....	Genesis.....01-02	Matthew.....01
01/02/09 Friday.....	Genesis.....03-04	Matthew.....02
01/03/09 Saturday.....	Genesis.....05-06	Matthew.....03
01/04/09 Sunday.....	Genesis.....07-08	Matthew.....04

The Informer is a weekly publication that is published and overseen by the Belle church of Christ located at the corner of 8<sup>th</sup> and Oak in Belle, Missouri 65013. Our Mailing address is "P.O. Box 381, Belle, Missouri 65013. The church phone number is (573) 859-6616. Jerry McDonald is the pulpit preacher. His email address is [jerry@challenge2.org](mailto:jerry@challenge2.org). His cell number is (573) 578-5931. Thomas McDonald is the associate preacher. His email address is [thmcdonald10@hotmail.com](mailto:thmcdonald10@hotmail.com). His cell phone number is (573) 201-6093. We support U. John in Prakasam, India. We will also be supporting Jeremy Desjarlais in Sydney, Australia. We also support Ruben Williams as he studies to preach at the Memphis School of Preaching. Our church website is <http://www.bellecoc.com>. The email address is [bellecoc@bellecoc.com](mailto:bellecoc@bellecoc.com). Our services are as follows:

### TIMES OF SERVICE

Sunday Morning Bible Study.....9:30  
Sunday Morning Worship.....10:30  
Sunday Evening Worship.....6:00  
Wednesday Evening Bible Study.....7:00  
Ladies Bible Class 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday Evening of Each Month.....7:00

OUR PLEA:  
BACK-TO-THE-BIBLE

Belle church of Christ  
P.O. Box 381  
Belle, MO 65013

# The Informer

Belle church of Christ

Volume 17

December 28, 2008

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## WHAT IS OUR STANDARD?

**Jerry D. McDonald**

"We have a controversy going on in ... now about the acceptability of the Paluxy footprints in creationism. **The issue is that we are dealing with presuppositions. Creationists have accepted the presuppositions of evolutionists, and are trying to present evidence to them based on those presuppositions.** Creationists have abandoned the idea of God as ultimate reality, and think that there is some kind of secular standard outside of God on which reality can be judged. Western science has made itself irrelevant to reality; that is the problem here. We should not be trying to live up to the standards of Western science. We should be trying to live up to God's standards, and allow Western science to fall into the dustbin of history, if that is what its adherents want."

I have said, many times, that Christians are slipping into the idea of allowing science to become the standard of right and wrong rather than God's word. We want, so much, to be just like the world about us that we just give in rather than stand our ground. Now I read a lot of what Ed has to say (being on the same list he is on) and he has many good things to say. I want to take what he says in this paragraph and expand on it.

The first thing we need to understand is that when it comes to Western science we are dealing with presuppositions, and Christians have accepted those presuppositions. Evolutionary astronomers say that because there are stars that are 168,000 light years from earth that we can see then the universe must be at least 168,000 years old. Why? Because light can only travel so fast in a year and for us to see that light it will take time. There is the presupposition! Here is the Christian swallowing it: Yeah, that's right, how foolish could I have been. So now the Christian goes to the Bible and starts wresting the scriptures to his own destruction. But, you say, that is the way it is in nature! O, of course, in NATURE! But what about SUPERNATURE? In his book "*Starlight and Time*" Dr. Russell Humphreys gives very plausible argumentation for the idea that when God created the stars that he aged some of them even billions of years, just like he aged Adam to a certain age. Now he did all that in six literal 24 hour days.

This is where people get messed up. They don't understand how God can do such things because in their experience such things cannot be done. However, God is not confined to time and space as we are. Remember the scripture that said *"that one day is with the Lord as a thousand years, and a thousand years is as one day"* (2 Pet. 3:8). Some have tried to use that to show that the creation week was longer than six literal 24 hour days, but that is not what that verse says. That verse is teaching that God is not confined to time and space as we are. He is above time and space, he can manipulate time and space. He can do things to time and space that we can't because he is outside of it, above it and supercedes it.

We do not have to swallow the evolutionist's garbage and feed it to our young. The truth is out there and there are those who are teaching the truth. The fight is going on, the battle rages every day. However, I continue to see more and more people who refuse to accept the truth. More people are going towards evolution because they have swallowed the evolutionist's presupposition that evolution is science and it is truth.

Listen, evolution cannot be reproduced, it cannot be observed, it cannot be tested. Therefore it is NOT science. They can call it science all day long, that does not make it science. Looking at some of the latest theories is just down right laughable. Richard Dawkins informed Ben Stein in the movie "Expelled" that he could go along with Intelligent Design here on earth if (and only if) that intelligent designer had evolved over eons on some distant planet. Well, Stein's question still needs to be answered, where did the intelligent designer's ancestors come from. Well, that didn't work out too well, so then Dawkins and others went hog wild over (get this) "multiverses" (as though that is going to explain anything). Well, ok, we have multiple universes, but where did they come from? There had to be a starting point some where.

I remember a number of years ago listening to Brother Thomas B. Warren state that there are only two alternatives: "Mind" or "Matter." Mind would be God, and matter—well the first law of Thermodynamics would forbid that. Matter cannot create itself and it cannot be naturally created. It would take someone with supernatural powers to create matter. Some evolutionists have seen this problem and have tried to argue that the universe has always existed and that it is infinite, but recent evidence shows that the universe is expanding. How can something expand if it is infinite? The only logical alternative is mind which is God.

The Big Bang is based upon the idea that matter created itself, but they realize that such cannot be done, so they argue that there was a small particle of matter that exploded and everything came about as a result of that explosion. So where did that small particle of matter come from? No matter how they slice it, no matter what theory they come up with they are stuck with beginnings. Where did the first particle of matter come from? Or where did the first intelligent designer come from? They cannot answer these questions. Evolution has no answers to these questions because outside of God there is no answer. They counter with "Where did God come from?" That's easy, God is a necessary being, he is an eternal being. He has no beginning and no ending. As Brother Warren says "mind or matter" has always existed, and mind is the most logical alternative.

Why Christians follow the presupposition of evolution is amazing. They admit that God exists, but they want to go with what evolutionists call science. The problem is, if you have God, what do you need evolution for? Why would you need a system that would rely on chance when you have an intelligent being who could create by simply speaking? Next week we will continue looking at this subject.

## News & Notes

## THOSE TO REMEMBER IN PRAYER

We need to remember all those who are sick and afflicted in our daily prayers. We need to remember those who are in the nursing homes, and in the military. We also need to keep Doris Pendleton, Ruby Backus, Tex Kinman, Bill and Verna Butler, Gary Cooper, Lynna Shanks, Verma Long, Connie Gass, Nelta Brock, Cheryl Harris, Janet Patrick, Evonelle Calkins, Vera Dreysse, Elnora Shanks, Bill Habermehl, Dawn Tivoli, Savana Shanks, David Shanks, Richard Massey, Ben Smith Betty Brown, Elwood and Ethel Runge and Danny and Barbara Keeney in our daily prayers. Chesley Shanks continues to get better. He is now back with us. Danny & Barbara Keeney were both sick last week. Ethel Runge was also sick. Gale Snitker continues to improve from his surgery, and he is back with us. Gary Wallace is in the VA Hospital in Columbia. He had by pass surgery this past week. They did five by passes on him. The last word we had was that he was doing well. Also remember Taylor Shanks in your daily prayers. Also please remember Adrian & Jean Swindler in your prayers.

THOSE TO SERVE December 28, 2008 A.M.	THOSE TO SERVE January 4, 2009 A.M.
Greeters.....Danny Keeney & Andy Shanks	Greeters.....Tex & Lois Kinman
Announcements.....Elwood Runge	Announcements.....Danny Keeney
Song Leader.....Thomas McDonald	Song Leader.....David Shanks
Opening Prayer.....Leroy Thomas	Opening Prayer.....Thomas McDonald
Lord's Supper.....Danny Keeney & Tex Kinman	Lord's Supper....Andy Shanks & Elwood Runge
Sermon.....Jerry McDonald	Sermon.....Jerry McDonald
Closing Prayer.....David Shanks	Closing Prayer.....Leroy Thomas
P.M.	P.M.
Song Leader.....Thomas McDonald	Song Leader.....David Shanks
Opening Prayer.....David Shanks	Opening Prayer.....Andy Shanks
Sermon.....Jerry McDonald	Sermon.....Jerry McDonald
Closing Prayer.....Danny Keeney	Closing Prayer.....Elwood Runge
WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY	WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY
Song Leader.....Thomas McDonald	Song Leader.....David Shanks
Opening Prayer.....Andy Shanks	Opening Prayer.....Thomas McDonald
Devotional.....Thomas McDonald	Devotional.....Jerry McDonald
Closing Prayer.....Elwood Runge	Closing Prayer.....Danny Keeney

## FAIR HAVEN CHILDREN'S HOME

The items for Fair Haven Children's Home this week are "Marshmallows," and "Deodorant."

## Sermons for the Next Two Weeks

A.M. For December 28, 2008: "The Sons of Corruption." The P.M. lesson will be "The Sons of Corruption (Conclusion)."

A.M. For January 4, 2009: "I Am Resolved" The P.M. Lesson will be: "What Is Marriage?"

## Men's Business Meeting

The men's business meeting will be held on January 8, 2009 at 7:00 p.m.,. All the men of the congregation are invited to attend to help make the decisions for the church here at Belle.

