

Traveling

Jerry and Andrea McDonald will be going to South Carolina for the debate between Kyle Butt and Dan Barker on February 12, 2009. They will be back on Saturday. Pray for Brother Butt.

Videos

Don't forget about the videos "Obsession" and "Expelled" that are available to the congregation. You can find them in the church's library.

Cleaning The Building

We clean the building after the evening services this evening. All who can stay and assist will be greatly appreciated.

Daily Bible Reading Schedule

Date	Morning	Evening
02/09/09 Monday.....	Exodus.....29-30	Mark.....12
02/10/09 Tuesday.....	Exodus.....31-32	Mark.....13
02/11/09 Wednesday.....	Exodus.....33-34	Mark.....14
02/12/09 Thursday.....	Exodus.....35-36	Mark.....15
02/13/09 Friday.....	Exodus.....37-38	Mark.....16
02/14/09 Saturday.....	Exodus.....39-40	Luke.....01
02/15/09 Sunday.....	Leviticus.....01-02	Luke.....02

The Informer is a weekly publication that is published and overseen by the Belle church of Christ located at the corner of 8th 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. His cell number is (573) 578-5931. Thomas McDonald is the associate preacher. His email address is 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. 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 3rd 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 18

February 08, 2009

Number 06

HOW WELL DO YOU KNOW YOUR BIBLE? (4)

Jerry D. McDonald

The Bible critic holds that the angels came down and took human women as wives and these human women bore children that became giants in the land. Their basis for this certainly isn't the Bible because, as we have already seen the Bible doesn't teach any such thing. Their basis is a book called *The Book of Enoch*:

"[Chapter 6] 1 And it came to pass when the children of men had multiplied that in those days were born unto 2 them beautiful and comely daughters. And the angels, the children of the heaven, saw and lusted after them, and said to one another: 'Come, let us choose us wives from among the children of men 3 and beget us children.' [Chapter 7] 1 And all the others together with them took unto themselves wives, and each chose for himself one, and they began to go in unto them and to defile themselves with them, and they taught them charms 2 and enchantments, and the cutting of roots, and made them acquainted with plants. And they 3 became pregnant, and they bare great giants, whose height was three thousand ells"

(http://wesley.nnu.edu/biblical_studies/noncanon/ot/pseudo/enoch.htm).

I have cut out most of the quotation because of its length and irrelevancy to this point. However one can follow the link above and read it for themselves. They try to match what the book of Enoch said with what the Bible says:

"And it came to pass, when men began to multiply on the face of the earth, and daughters were born unto them, That the **sons of God saw the daughters of men that they were fair; and they took them wives of all which they chose.** And the LORD said, My spirit shall not always strive with man, for that he also is flesh: yet his days shall be an hundred and twenty years. **There were giants in the earth in those days; and also after that, when the sons of God came in unto the daughters of men, and they bare children to them, the same became mighty men which were of old, men of renown**" (Gen 6:1-4).

Now if you will, notice carefully that the bold print has the sons of God (not angels, but the sons of God, the men who followed God) going in to the daughters of men and taking wives. Then there is the statement that there were giants in the earth in those days. Then in italics the scripture reads that when the sons of God came in to the daughters of men that they bore children to them, and the same became mighty men which were of old, men of renown. This says nothing about them being giants, it says that they were mighty men. In Joshua 1:14 Joshua took the mighty men of valour. In 2 Sam. 10:7 David sent Joab and all the mighty men. In Numbers 16:2 we see that there were 250 men of renown in Israel that rose up before Moses. Were any of these giants? No, they weren't! The fact that the statement "There were giants in the land in those days" is inserted in Genesis 6:4 has nothing to do with the offspring of the sons of God and the daughters of men.

Another problem is that the giants in the book of Enoch were 3000 ells, or about 450 feet tall while the giants in the Bible were any where from 9 to 13 feet tall. Goliath was 9 to 9 and a half feet tall and I think King Bashan was 13. The Biblical description is more realistic than the book of Enoch, it is more likely and it is true while the book of Enoch is fanciful and totally unrealistic. No giant in the Bible was ever said to be 450 feet tall! But didn't the 10 spies say that they looked like grasshoppers in the site of the giants? Yes, they did! However, (1) that was an excuse to keep from going in and taking the land, and (2) if you had to go up against people were were 9 to 13 feet tall you might feel like a grasshopper too. Have giants ever existed? Yes they have: (1) "Robert Pershing Wadlow (February 22, 1918 – July 15, 1940. Wadlow reached 8 feet 11.1 inches (2.72 m)[1][2] in height and weighed 490 pounds (220 kg) at his death" (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Robert_Wadlow). (2) William Bradley (February 10, 1787 – May 30, 1820), known more commonly as Giant Bradley or the Yorkshire Giant is the tallest recorded British man that ever lived, measuring 7 feet 9 inches" ([http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/William_Bradley_\(giant\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/William_Bradley_(giant))). If you go to the internet and look at the pictures of these men they are standing beside normal men and the normal men do look sort of small in their sight. Just think what the Israelites would look like in the sight of men like Goliath and King Bashan.

Mr. Barker knows, or at least should know, that the Bible giants were nothing like the giants in the book of Enoch, and that the Bible giants were not caused by angels marrying the daughters of men. What causes gigantism?

"Typically, oversecretion of human growth hormone (hGH) produces changes throughout the body, resulting in acromegaly and, when oversecretion occurs before puberty, gigantism. Eosinophilic or mixed-cell adenomas of the anterior pituitary gland may cause this oversecretion but the etiology of the tumors themselves remains unclear. Occasionally, hGH levels are elevated in more than one family member, which suggests the possibility of a genetic cause.

The earliest clinical manifestations of acromegaly include soft-tissue swelling of the extremities and coarsening of facial features. This rare form of hyperpituitarism occurs equally among males and females, usually between ages 30 and 50. Annually, it affects 3 to 4 people per every million.

In gigantism, proportional overgrowth of all body tissues starts before epiphyseal closure. This causes remarkable height increases of as much as 6"(15 cm) per year. Gigantism affects infants and children, causing them to attain as much as three times the normal height for their age. As adults, they may

ultimately reach a height of more than 80"(203 cm). Gigantism is rare; there have only been 100 reported cases" (<http://www.wrongdiagnosis.com/g/gigantism/causes.htm>). More to come

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 Dreyse, Elnora Shanks, Dawn Tivoli, Richard Massey, the Bill Habermehl family, Savannah Shanks, Taylor Shanks, Adrian and Jean Swindler, Chesley Shanks, Gary Wallace. Sandy Sarchette has ovarian cancer and will have to start taking treatments every week for six months. Jerry McDonald has a yearly check up at St. Louis on Monday. He and Andrea will be out of town Sunday evening.

<p>THOSE TO SERVE February 8, 2009 A.M.</p> <p>Greeters.....Gary Wallace & Elwood Runge Announcements.....Andy Shanks Song Leader.....Danny Keeney Opening Prayer.....Gary Wallace Lord's Supper.....Jerry & Thomas McDonald Sermon.....Jerry McDonald Closing Prayer.....David Shanks</p> <p>P.M.</p> <p>Song Leader.....Danny Keeney Opening Prayer.....Leroy Thomas Sermon.....Thomas McDonald Closing Prayer.....David Shanks</p> <p>WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY</p> <p>Song Leader.....Danny Keeney Opening Prayer.....David Shanks Devotional.....Thomas McDonald Closing Prayer.....Elwood Runge</p>	<p>THOSE TO SERVE February 15, 2009 A.M.</p> <p>Greeters.....Thomas McDonald & D. Keeney Announcements.....David Shanks Song Leader.....Andy Shanks Opening Prayer.....Leroy Thomas Lord's Supper.....Elwood Runge & Tex Kinman Sermon.....Jerry McDonald Closing Prayer.....Gary Wallace</p> <p>P.M.</p> <p>Song Leader.....Andy Shanks Opening Prayer.....Elwood Runge Sermon.....Jerry McDonald Closing Prayer.....Thomas McDonald</p> <p>WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY</p> <p>Song Leader.....Andy Shanks Opening Prayer.....Danny Keeney Devotional.....Jerry McDonald Closing Prayer.....Elwood Runge</p>
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FAIR HAVEN CHILDREN'S HOME

The items for Fair Haven Children's Home this week are "Rol-Tel Tomatoes," and Trash Bags."

Sermons for the Next Two Weeks

A.M. For February 08, 2009: "Bio Ethics-Where Must The Christian Stand?" The P.M. lesson will be "What Will You Tell Jesus?"

A.M. For February 08, 2009: "Helps In Overcoming Sin." The P.M. Lesson will be "Paul, A Prisoner For Jesus Christ."