

The Oologah Informer

February 2nd, 2013

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Service Times

Sunday

Bible Class: 9:30 A.M.
Worship: 10:30 A.M. & 5 P.M.

Wednesday

Bible Study: 7 P.M.

Preacher:

Russ Earl

AM Sermon:

What will your answer be?
(Mt 12:36-37)

PM Sermon:

Why I am a member of the church of Christ - Lesson 12 – because salvation is only in the church of the Bible. (Acts 4:12)

Sunday AM Bible Class:

The Book of Job – D. Jackson

Wednesday Bible Class:

Judging - Swearingen

In SEARCH of the Lord's Way

Tulsa KWHB TV 47
Sunday mornings at 7:30am

For the Record: 1/26

AM Bible Class: 24
AM Worship: 30
PM Worship: 25
Contribution: \$2934
Weekly Budget: \$2748
Wednesday Night Bible Class: 23

Richard Dawkins – God Hater

By Wayne Jackson
(Part 2)

Dawkins's Focus

The English author takes aim at four needs that religion is believed to satisfy: explanation, exhortation, inspiration, and consolation. These items are worthy of analysis.

Explanation

Dawkins alleges that religion does not provide an explanation as to the origin of the universe and man, any more than it explains: “who created God?” The biblical answer is: no one created God. God is an eternal being (Psalm 90:2). No atheist, of course, would grant credence to the Bible testimony. The fact is, however, plain logic reinforces the scriptural affirmation.

If something exists now, something must always have existed, for something cannot come from nothing. Something does now exist; thus, something has existed always.

The “something” that has existed always must either be matter or mind. But the eternally existing “something” is not matter, for matter is conceded to be temporal, not eternal (as evidenced by the Second Law of Thermodynamics). Thus, the eternal “something,” by default, must be “mind.”

If the universe is characterized by order (kosmos) or “design,” then the cause that produced it must be intelligent. Intelligence implies personality. Hence there must be a personal cause responsible for the universe.

While this argument is abbreviated, and limited, it is sufficient for the moment to reveal the folly of the “explanation” quibble.

In one of his books Dawkins concedes that the complexity of living organisms manifests “apparent design”; and then exclaims, “If anyone doesn’t agree that this amount of complex design cries out for an explanation, I give up” (1986, ix). He might as well raise the white flag, for materialism has no solution to the problem.

Later the professor wrote that “design” is “probably the most powerful reason for the belief, held by the vast majority of people that have ever lived, in some kind of supernatural deity” (1986, xii).

So the “vast majority of people that have ever lived” have been wholly irrational, while the miniscule cult of atheists are the only ones capable of reasoning. Incredible!

Exhortation

Dawkins contends that religion cannot be exhortative since it is not a legitimate source for re-enforcing morality. Get this stunning statement: “If it were, Jews would still be executing those who work on the Sabbath” (The Economist).

The author reveals that he knows virtually nothing of the Book of which he is so critical. The Jewish economy was a temporary system designed by God to prepare the Hebrews (and others through their influence) for the coming of Christ,

the Savior. There were strict measures enforcing the concept that God is the sovereign ruler of mankind, and that his revealed will must be obeyed. That law system, however, was abrogated with the implementation of the Christian economy. The Sabbath is not even a requirement for today, much less is the penalty for violating it still operative.

Announcements

2nd Sunday Fellowship

Our second Sunday fellowship meal is next Sunday, February 9th.

Men's Meeting

Our monthly men's meeting has been moved to Sunday, February 9th after evening services.

Food Pantry

Our next food pantry is Saturday the 15th. Please keep this work in your prayers.

Luggage

The ladies need luggage to use to mail clothing to those in need in Honduras. If you can help please let one of the ladies know. (Please keep in mind that the luggage will not be returned)

Recent Prayer Requests

Joyce Cash – has a high white blood cell count and had a cyst removed on Monday.

Jerry Creek – (Ed's son in law's brother) is taking radiation for cancer.

Bentley Lay – (Granddaughter of Steve Lay) is 4lbs 4 oz and is still in the hospital after surgery on the 29th.

Please keep all of these in your prayers.

Please keep the following in the prayers.

Ed & Barbara Coats

Allen & Joyce Cash

Mary Ann Haugh

Emma & Ruth (Darla's sister)

John Babb

Kennedy Cox

Larry Brown

Roxy (Ed's brother's wife)

Clare Beaman

Dave Preston