



Sovereign
Grace
church
NEWSLETTER

August-September
2010
Issue 1

JEFF SMITH

DARWIN'S CHALLENGE

Charles Darwin stated in *The Origin of Species*, “If it could be demonstrated that any complex organ existed which could not possibly have been formed by numerous, successive, slight modifications, **my theory would absolutely break down**” (emphasis mine). That was an amazing challenge from the father of modern evolution. Little did he realize that his challenge would be met head-on and vanquished. The amazing thing is that it came from the scientific community that so long has heralded Darwin’s theory as fact!

In the world of cells and molecular machinery, there is evidence of an “intelligent designer.”

The academic and scientific world has recently been shaken by Lehigh University biochemist Michael Behe who has written Darwin’s Black Box: The Biochemical Challenge to Evolution. Though not necessarily promoting the Genesis record of creation, Behe has, according to his book, proven that these complex organs do exist. In the world of cells and molecular machinery there is evidence of “an intelligent designer.”

Behe responded to Darwin’s challenge by asking himself which biological system could not be formed by slight, successive, modifications over an extended period of time. He believed it would be a system which he explains as “irreducible complexity.” That is, “a system composed of several well-matched, interacting parts that contribute to the basic function, wherein the removal of any one of the parts causes the system to effectively cease functioning.” He illustrates this with a simple mousetrap. All five components of the trap have to be in place simultaneously in order to function. The trap could never have “evolved,” but had to have been “made” by a designer. So it is with the basic cell in the world of biochemistry. Hence, for such a design, there is of necessity a master designer. We know Him to be God! Chance could never produce these complex “irreducible” systems.

Though the jury is still deliberating, is it possible that Behe’s book has dealt a death blow to evolution? Men and women of The Book have never doubted the veracity of the Genesis account. Such “proof” is unnecessary, yet it is a shot in the arm to Bible believers in this age of skepticism and “scientific discovery and advancement.” The Bible, unlike Darwin’s theory, has withstood all challenges. Unlike theories which come and go, Jesus Christ stands as a powerful, steadfast citadel to those who are called by His name. He is that “Intelligent Designer.” He is the Creator God!

GUESS WHO?

CATHY WATSON

This lady has been worshipping with us for several years. She comes regularly and is never late. When the children see her they greet her with a hug. She has been going to church and/or Sunday school since before she can remember and still makes it number one priority on Sunday morning. Although it is hard for her to pick out just one hymn, "Just a Closer Walk with Thee" is among her favorites. One of the verses she remembers from her childhood is John 3:16.

Recently her Uncle Jim (nickname Skeesix) passed away. Uncle Jim was the father figure in her life. It was a comfort to have many happy memories to recall as she was sad over this loss. He was a pilot in the 2nd world war and when he came back, he would fly a piper cub over her house and tip a wing at her.

Before coming here from California she worked as a policewoman (for 17 years) and as a manager for a trucking firm. She moved to be closer to her two sons, Danny and David. Her daughter, Pamela still lives in California and Danny has moved to Idaho. She also has 4 grandchildren and 3 great grandchildren. When visitors stop by she enjoys sharing stories of her family and has pictures on display.

Remember to wish Virginia a "Happy Birthday" on August 17th.

August 29th

Church Lunch
Hosted at the Watson's home

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sovereign Grace Church will be hosting a weekend conference May 7th and 8th in 2011. Featured speakers will be Jeff Crippen and Don Fowler.

FAVORITE recipes

rhubarb bread

JANINE BOWLING

- 1 1/2 Cups brown sugar
- 3/4 Cup vegetable oil
- 1 egg
- 2 1/2 Cups flour
- 1 Cup buttermilk
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- 1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 2 1/2 Cups chopped rhubarb (1" pieces)
- 1/2 Cup chopped walnuts or pecans

Topping: 1/2 Cup sugar
1 Tablespoon butter

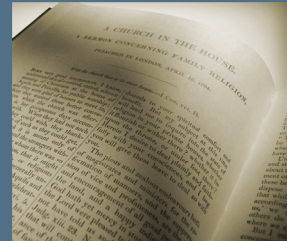
Preheat oven at 325* F.
In a medium bowl, mix brown sugar, oil and egg together. Add flour, milk, salt, baking soda, cinnamon and vanilla. Fold in rhubarb and nuts.
Place in 2 greased 9" X 5" loaf pans. Combine sugar and butter and crumble over tops of loaves.
Bake for 1 hour.

We decided it was too sweet with the topping, so this last batch, I made it without. Still very good. This bread freezes well.

Enjoy!

RECOMMENDED READING

ROBERT BOWLING



My book for review is *A Church in The House* by Matthew Henry. It is a sermon preached by pastor Matthew Henry on April 17 1704, reproduced by Vision Forum and slightly edited into modern English by Scott Brown.

It is the most encouraging and inspiring book I have read in the past ten years, maybe longer (excluding the scripture of course). Its sub title is a sermon on family religion. It is only 77 pages, and nine chapters long. It is a most tender exposition of scripture on the duty of fathers to lead their family in worship daily, "how to make their houses little churches."

Sometimes I was brought to tears to know what my duty really is and how ignorant and in neglect of it I had been. Yet I was encouraged to do what I could and trust to providence to improve upon it. I don't have time left to catch up with the Henry's as, "the Henry household was like unto the gates of heaven where the parents governed all family life by the Word of God".

Finally it is a story of multigenerational victory. You see, Matthew was trained in the practice of family worship by his father Philip and his Bible commentary was incomplete at his passing. It was completed using the notes his daughters had made in family worship. I am sure that we will not see reform of culture by complaint against the practice of the wicked but by obedience to our callings at home and the faithful instruction to them by elders. Oh that we would follow the Henry's as they followed Christ.