

To Believe or Not to Believe — *That is the Question*

by Dr. Kent Hovind

The three previous articles argued for and against the propositions that America was (or should be) a “Christian Nation” and that Christians are therefore bound by scripture to always obey (or always resist) tyrannical government, no matter what. The arguments are interesting, but do they make a difference? Those who already believe America was and should be a Christian/ activist nation will be delighted to find evidence they are correct; those who reject the “Christian Nation” arguments will dismiss most of the evidence as more Biblical bull.

But what about the average American who regards himself as a religious, but not fanatically so? Do the pro- or anti-Christian arguments have any real political significance for him? Consider:

The headline for a recent article in the June 1, 1997 Dallas Morning News read: “Roommate ads could violate housing laws”. I.e., classified newspaper ads for roommates may violate antidiscrimination laws. For example, if a woman advertised, “Straight white nonsmoking female, over 25, to share home with same,” she might be violating federal antidiscrimination

laws as they apply to nonwhites, males, or homosexuals. If a homosexual (or straight) nonwhite male wanted to move in with her, but the white straight female refused, she might sue for discrimination. In fact, according to the article, in May, 1997, the U.S. Supreme Court “declined to review” a Madison, Wisconsin, case in which a woman who advertised for a roommate, “was ordered to pay \$3,300 in damages after refusing to accept a lesbian roommate.”

Sounds nuts, doesn’t it? How could a straight female be sued for refusing to share her home with a stranger who was a lesbian?

Easily.

Once society and government embrace a seemingly noble and democratic belief in nondiscrimination, the logic of that belief will inevitably extend itself into every area of human activity and ultimately influence, change, or even pervert that society. This is simply another way of saying the “road to Hell is paved with good intentions (or beliefs).” More precisely, *beliefs matter* and should never be embraced without a thorough evaluation of their long-term

consequences.

If it seems bizarre that a belief in nondiscrimination might ultimately compel us to share our homes with strangers whose values and background are not only different from our own, but personally offensive or even dangerous — how much more bizarre that a belief in Darwin’s Theory of Evolution might have significant and adverse impact our society and individual lives? But that’s exactly what’s argued by Dr. Kent Hovind.

Dr. Hovind has a Ph.D. in education and taught school for fifteen years. He is currently a “Creation Science Evangelist” who rejects Darwin’s theory of evolution and espouses the Biblical concept of Creationism (“Creationists” advocate a literal reading of the Bible and therefore believe God created the world in six literal days, about six thousand years ago). Dr. Hovind’s message is surprisingly well-received; he preaches 750 times a year and is booked two years in advance to speak to over 120 churches.

However, faced with the evidence of dinosaur fossils, starlight from billions of light-years away, and various geologic

formations, it appears that Creationism is in fact based on a mythological Genesis originally intended to explain creation to a primitive people. Of course, just because the Bible contains the Creation myth doesn't mean the Jewish or Christian faiths are false. It merely means you couldn't explain carbon-dating, dinosaurs and continental drift to Hebrew nomads 5,000 years ago.

Nevertheless, the Creation myth is a little embarrassing for most Christians because it seems to compromise any claim that the Bible is divine and filled only with God's absolute truths. If the six-day Creation in Genesis is a myth, Jews and Christians must face additional questions about what else might be a Biblical myth or half-truth: Did Moses really part the Red Sea? Was Jesus really resurrected?

Embarrassed by the unscientific aspects of Creationism, I suspect most Christians and Jews simply avoid considering the concept. It's like having a crazy Aunt up in the attic; we just don't talk about her very much.

But here comes Dr. Hovind and the rest of the Creationists, and they are determined to talk publicly about our "crazy Aunt". (Lord, what'll the neighbors say!?) And not content to merely expose our "crazy Aunt" to the world, they're shouting the old lady's not nuts! The Earth really was created in six days and really is only 6,000 years old! (Ohh, Lordy, now we're really humiliated!)

Aw, but what the heck. What difference does it make if a handful of Bible thumpers believe in Creationism? (If you think that's silly, the Hindus worship "sacred" cows!) Besides, like our crazy Aunt, a belief in Creationism is ultimately irrelevant, and therefore harmless, right?

After all, what difference could it make whether we believe in the Bible's Creationism or Darwin's Evolution (or even a Christian foundation for our country)? While the Evolution vs. Creation debate might intrigue pointy-headed intellectuals and dogmatic Bible-thumpers, who cares how many angels (or apes) can dance on the head of a pin?

Dr. Hovind cares.

Moreover, he offers a fascinating argument that the personal choice to believe in Evolution or Creationism (or a nation's Biblical foundation) has unexpected and extraordinary social and political consequences.

This article illustrates the connection between seemingly irrelevant personal beliefs and their unexpected social consequences. The text is derived from a May 4, 1997 radio interview of Dr. Hovind by Rick Donaldson and Alfred Adask. The interviewers' questions and

comments are in blue; Dr. Hovind's answers are in normal, black text:

Dr. Hovind: In my seminars, I defend the Biblical world view as scientifically accurate and show there is absolutely no scientific reason to reject Biblical creationism. I taught science 15 years and science has a long history of being wrong -- very dogmatically wrong. I'd stick with the Bible over science any day. In fact, for many years I've offered to pay \$10,000 to anyone with any scientific *proof* for evolution. I've had no takers. There simply is no proof.

Nevertheless, some people *want* to reject the Bible's absolutes for political or other reasons. A theory like evolution offers an attractive justification for immorality and the abuse of power. In this sense, life-style often dictates what we *choose* to believe. But more impor-

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tantly, our choice of belief can ultimately dictate our life-style.

What are the social implications of evolution? How does belief in evolution affect the average man or woman?

Let's take some practical decisions that people have to make:

Abortion. Is it right or wrong?

Before you answer, you need to ask, do you believe in creation or evolution? Is there an *absolute* standard someplace? Who decides what's right and wrong anyway?

I was speaking at a public school in Pennsylvania when one of the students told me he was an atheist. So I asked him, "How do you decide what's right and wrong?" He said, "I decide if something's right or wrong because *I'm* the god of my own universe."

I said, "Well, son, that's fine because I'm going to shoot you in five minutes." He said, "You

can't do that." I said, "Oh, yes I can, because *I'm* the god of *my* universe."

You see, if there's no God, then really it's the law of the jungle, only the strongest have a "right" to survive, and only while they remain strong. Nobody else does. Logically, if there is no God and man is just an "evolved" animal, then we get to decide who lives and who dies because we are the ultimate authority. I think that's a huge mistake.

I remember reading in the 1960's that the total mass of fossils able to support the theory of human evolution could fit in a footlocker and be carried by one man. In other words, there was very little physical evidence to support a belief in human evolution.

That's absolutely true, and it's even more true today. Most of those fossilized remains have been discredited. All the fossils we have are fully human or fully ape or unidentifiable fragments. For instance, Piltdown Man was used for 40 years as proof for evolution.

But that was a hoax.

Yes, someone took a human skull, an ape's jaw, and he filed them down to make them fit together. And it fooled the experts. Five hundred people got doctor's degrees writing dissertations on the Piltdown fossils.

Were they fooled or did they "want" to believe? Was evolution "political correct" in the 1800's?

Yes. I think it's still "politically correct" to believe in evolution when you teach at a university. If an American teacher stood up and said, "I don't believe in evolution," he'd probably lose his job. We've had censorship in America universities for a long time. This didn't happen overnight. The theory of evolu-

tion has been promoted for 150 years.

Back in the early 1800's, there were revolutions going on all over the world, the American Revolution, the French Revolution, and a lot of people were looking for a way to eliminate the idea that the king should be an authority. They were called "anti-monarchists". Because they believed the Bible said, "Honor the King," the Bible stood in their way. So guys like Charles Lyle — some of them were Christians — developed the theory of evolution even before Darwin did, but did so for political reasons to eliminate the scripture from being the authority.

There's been a conflict between government and God since time began because all governments despise alternative forms of authority. To the extent you believe in God and the Bible, you may be "Biblically correct", but you can't also be "politically correct". A faith in God lays a powerful foundation for resisting government authority and abuse.

Absolutely right. Christians have never "fit" in totalitarian regimes. Ask the Chinese Christians who survived the torture chambers or the Russian Christians. Even German Christians didn't do well during the Nazi era.

It's helpful to understand the social context in which Charles Darwin published his theory of evolution. Darwin — who was a dud at everything he did — started off in medical school but couldn't stand the sight of blood. Then he went to school to be a Anglican preacher because his dad didn't want him to be on the welfare rolls, and the Anglican preachers were state-supported.

Darwin was an unusual man. He couldn't find anyone

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to marry till he reluctantly married his first cousin, Emma Wedgwood. Of marriage, Darwin said "a married man is a poor slave. He's worse than a Negro." He was tremendous racist. He thought black people were inferior.

Was racism one of the reasons why he came up with this theory of evolution?

Oh yes. It's right in the *title* of his book. He said, "the origin of species by means of natural selection or the preservation of favored races in the struggle for life." Of course, back in 1859, when that book came out, racism was acceptable. We still had slavery in America.

Today we teach evolution without mentioning its inherent support for slavery and racism, and nobody even questions it. Then, in 1859, Darwin laid a "scientific" foundation for the preservation of slavery?

Right. He provided what he thought was scientific justification for racism.

Does the Bible promote racism?

I don't think the Bible does at all. In *Acts*, Chapter 17, it says that *all* nations are of *one blood*. There's no question that we're *all* descended from Adam and Eve and later from Noah's family.

Then while some people might argue that the Bible justifies separation of some races,

there is no Biblical foundation for racism or it's most terrible expression, genocide . . . still, racism and genocide would seem to be the logical political consequences, even goals, of evolution.

Yes. Sexual liberation is also a logical consequence of evolution.

After Darwin wrote his book on evolution, he ran and hid. But everyone else went wild pushing his theories. In the 1860's, Thomas Huxley was called "Darwin's bulldog" because he promoted Darwin's theory all over Europe. Huxley said, "We've accepted this evolution theory because it gives us sexual freedom."

I see. Evolution offered a philosophical alternative to the rigorous Biblical morality of the Victorian era and thereby sanctified adultery.

Sexual liberation is not the reason everyone currently believes in evolution, but it was a strong motivation in the 1800's for promoting the evolution theory. Moreover, without the underlying foundation of evolution, today's "sexual liberation" would be mild, perhaps unimaginable.

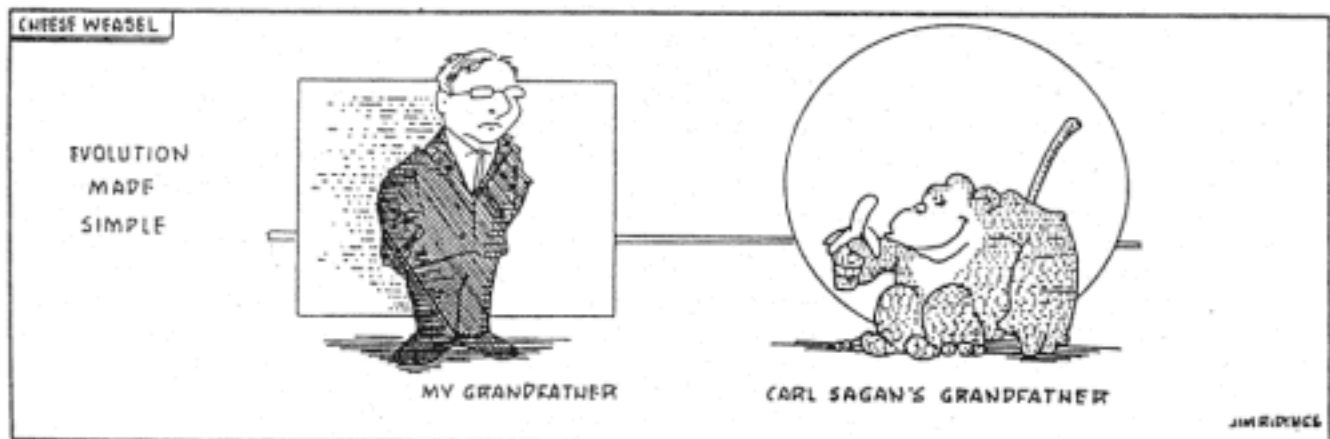
You are clearly critical of the theory of human evolution, but do you have any supporting facts? It's one thing to pledge your uncritical belief

in God, Moses or Jesus. But how do you explain the evidence of carbon dating and astrophysics which indicate the Earth and stars are billions of years old? This evidence refutes any idea that the Earth is just 6,000 years old.

I understand. But the creation view says that when God created the world about 6,000 years ago, it was fully formed, fully functioning, and He did it in six days. Adam and Eve were full grown. The trees were full grown, had fruit on them, everything was created *mature*. That creation would include the *star light*, and so the stars were already showing on the Earth regardless of their distance from the Earth. See, God made the stars and the *starlight* at the same time, not just the star.

Further, when scientists say the distance to a particular star is "15 billion light years," you need to ask them how they measured that. In fact, such distances simply *can't* be measured. I taught trigonometry for years, and if you have the length of one side and an accurate measurement of the two angles in a triangle, you can determine the third angle and the lengths (distances) of the other two sides. Any freshman or sophomore trig student can do that. Side-angle-side. Angle-side-angle.

So to measure distance to



a star, you need two separate observation points to look at that star in order to solve the triangle. If you get two people standing 50 feet apart, they both look at the star and measure the angle. Well, it's zero. They're not far enough apart. To measure enormous distances, you need an enormous separation between observers.

The furthest you can separate two observers is 186 million miles — the diameter of the Earth's solar orbit. First, look at a particular star in January, then wait six months until the Earth has gone half way around the Sun, and look at the star again. You now have a giant base on your triangle — 186 million miles. But if you translate that distance into light years, it's only 16 light minutes. This is equivalent to hiring two surveyors to set up their transits one foot apart to calculate the distance to a dot that's 6.2 miles away. That's a pretty

skinny triangle. So, the furthest distance scientists can accurately measure to stars is about four or five light years -- easily within the Bible's 6,000 year limit.

Are there alternative methods for measuring distance?

Sure. "Parallax trigonometry" goes a little further. If you hold your thumb out and you close one eye and then the other, you'll notice that distant objects appear to move back and forth relative to your thumb. That's called the "parallax effect" and it's used to measure distances up to 20 or even 50 light years — again, well within the Bible's 6,000 year limit. However, beyond 50 light years, they have to *guess*, based upon how bright the star is. They call it "luminosity". But the simple fact is they can't tell distances in *billions* of light years.

I'm not saying the stars are not that far away. There's no question they are. But we just

can't measure them. So the starlight question is not a problem for a Creationist if you understand, (1) we can't measure those great distances, and (2) the universe was created "mature", it was fully formed, fully functioning, and the starlight was already here.

OK, but right here on Earth, we can still take measurements that indicate the Earth itself is several billions of years old. How does that square up with the Bible's 6,000 year limit?

No problem. There's about seven or eight different dating methods now in use. Carbon dating is only one and it's only good for about 40,000 years. There's also potassium argon, rubidium strontium, uranium 235, uranium 238, etc.. But they're all based on fundamental *assumptions*.

For example, if you walked into a room and found a candle burning and wondered, "How long has it been burning?" — it would be difficult to determine since it was already burning when you walked in. Nevertheless, you could do some scientific testing. You could measure the candle very precisely. Let's assume the candle is exactly seven inches tall. How long has it been burning?

I couldn't tell. I'd have to measure it, let it burn a while, and then measure it again.

Alright, do that.

Then by comparing the two measurements relative to the elapsed time, I could project backwards . . . but even then, I'd need to know how long the candle was to start with.

Ah. Precisely my point. We can easily measure how fast the candle is burning. Let's assume the seven-inch candle burns an inch an hour. At this rate, we can project how long the candle might continue to burn (seven

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more hours), but that's all you can do scientifically.

After that, you have to rely on *assumptions*. And what is an "assumption"? A personal *belief*. To know how long a candle's been burning I have to *assume* how tall the candle was to start with — if our seven-inch candle was originally ten inches tall, it's been burning for three hours; if it was fourteen inches tall, it was burning for seven hours. But while we can guess, assume and believe how long the candle was, we don't *know*. Further, you must also *assume* (believe) the candle always burned at the same rate — which we also don't know.

We must even assume that it didn't burn for a while, go out, and reignite. There's a lot of unknowns concealed under the cloak of "assumptions".

Carbon dating, or any dating method, is based on the assumptions that: 1) the rate of observed atomic decay is constant; 2) we know the original chemical composition of our sample precisely; and 3) there's been no contamination of our sample. Just because uranium decays into lead does not mean all the lead in the universe came from uranium. God (or even the evolutionist's Nature) might have made some lead.

I do a lot of debates at uni-

versities and the professors always agree, "He's right. We can't tell how old things are based on any of these dating methods." There's just too many assumptions underlying the evolutionists' measurements of time and distance.

So the theory of evolution is based on presumptions no stronger than those found in the Bible? For example, some people read the Bible and presume (believe) Jesus Christ is a real historical figure; others read the Bible and argue Jesus did not exist. But the fact is, none of us were there in Israel two thousand years ago to see. Therefore, any belief for (or against) the existence of Jesus (or Moses) must be taken on faith — just like the theory of evolution.

Many things about the evolution theory must be taken on faith. The problem is, it's very difficult to get an evolutionist to admit that evolution is actually a *religion*, not a science.

For example, evolutionists have to assume and believe that matter has always existed. Although they'll claim the universe began twenty billion years ago with a "big bang" — what exploded? Where did it come from? Whatever exploded had to exist *prior* to the "big bang", which means the "big bang" was

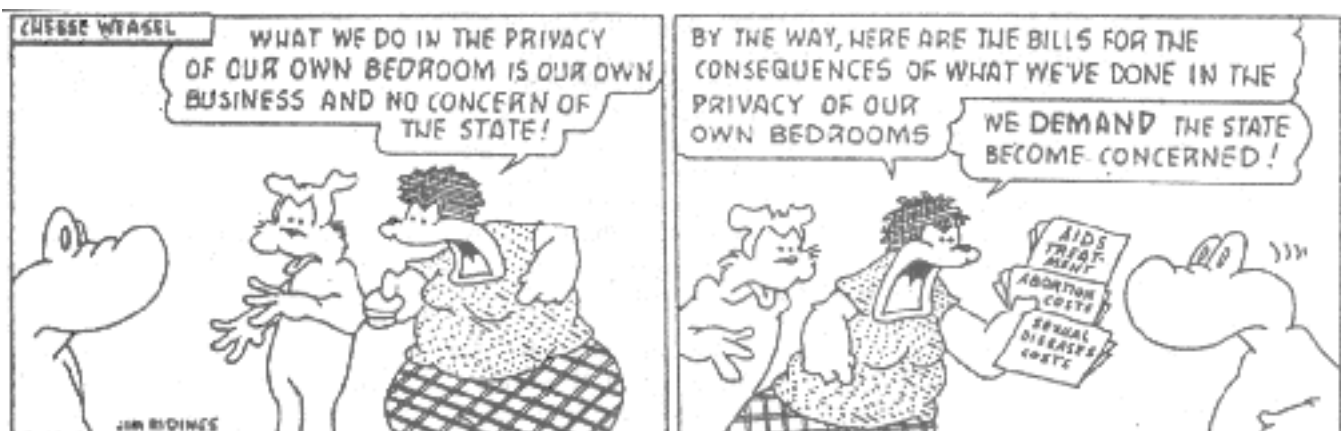
not the "beginning". Evolutionists must believe matter itself is either eternal or self-creating.

Evolutionists must also assume that the enormous energy necessary for the "big bang" that made all the stars came from nowhere. All these stars are burning zillions of tons of energy. Where did it come from? Where did space and time come from?

The flip side of your argument, however, would be if God created the universe, where did God come from?

That's unanswerable, at least by mankind. But this mystery means we must come in awe and worship our Creator, whereas the evolutionist "worships" matter and energy (power). Plus, the evolutionist has to believe that life evolved from nonliving matter. At bottom, the issue is not whether man evolved from an ape, but whether we evolved from a *rock*. Evolution ultimately advocates that our "common ancestor" with the apes is not a lemur or an amphibian — it's an inanimate rock.

Then according to evolution, all life — man, ape, fish, plants and bacteria — must've "evolved" from inert matter. And then there can't be an real equality between individuals, races, or nations since each



must necessarily be at a different level of "evolution" . . . and therefore, any question of human worth or rights must be ultimately determined according to which party is "more evolved", more powerful. Might alone makes right.

The issue goes back to Satan versus God. Satan hates God and, according to *Isaiah 14*, wanted to be God saying, "I will be like the most high." To deceive humanity, Satan started the lie in the Garden of Eden when he said, "Eve, if you eat off that tree, you can become like God."

That's really what evolution is all about: the idea that man can become a "god". In fact, evolution's philosophy that man is progressing (evolving) from slime toward godhood lays a foundation for the New World Order.

What? The New World Order is based on the theory of Evolution?

Yes. Life boils down to two basic choices. Either there is a Creator, or there isn't. If there is a Creator, then man is a fallen creature who needs a Savior. Of course, Satan doesn't want people to believe that, so if man "evolved," if we're a naturally "evolving" creature, then we're improving on our own — we don't need a Savior. Matter of fact, we'll be god ourselves one of these days.

In other words, we're improving (evolving) according to the changing forces of nature and natural selection rather than absolute Biblical values and principles?

Yes. Evolution presents the idea that man can progress on his own — improve himself, lift himself up by his bootstraps. But this idea has far-reaching effects. The philosophy that you *choose* to believe — be it creation or evolution — will effect how you behave in every other area of life.

For example, evolutionists advocate no absolutes but natural selection (external force) and change. But if there's no absolute right and wrong, if there's no absolute, preexisting standard (which only God can set), then how do you decide what's right and wrong about abortion, euthanasia, murder or even genocide?

Then, to the extent a society is influenced by the philosophy of evolution, individual survival is the highest goal, "survival of the fittest" simply means "might makes right" and "morality" only measures who's got the biggest club.

Exactly. And that's the fundamental difference between a democracy and a republic. A constitutional republic is based on *absolutes* like the idea that we are endowed *by our Creator* with certain *unalienable* rights that can't be taken from us. But in a democracy untethered to

any supernatural Creator, where do we get our "rights"? Government! Power! And if there's no force (like God) greater than government, what guarantees our rights remain "unalienable"? Nothing.

You're implying that a belief in evolution lays a foundation for Fascism and tyranny since without any reference to God, each of us is merely a mass of protoplasm that evolved from something insignificant into something unimportant. If we possess no soul or "divine spark", why not murder, rape or rob? If you've got the opportunity and the power, why not just knock each other down and take whatever you can?

Sure. Hitler believed the Jews had not evolved as far as the rest of humanity. He said the apes and the Aryan race had interbred and the Germans were close to pure Aryan and the Jews were close to pure ape and it was really best for the humanity if we could eliminate all the Jews. Right above Jews, he had the Blacks. He thought they were almost pure ape and would have eliminated the Black people next. He hated Blacks. Look what he did in the 1936 Olympics — Jesse Owens won all the gold medals — Hitler walked out of the stadium.

Then the Nazi notions of "master race", "final solutions" and even World War II might be viewed as logical consequences of a the theory of evolution.

Absolutely.

However, as a practical matter, Hitler probably did more to destroy the German nation than he did to destroy Blacks or Jews. We, too, can't merrily espouse a theory like evolution without also precipitating some unexpected, potentially nasty consequences. The choice we make to believe a particular

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faith, philosophy, or "science" lays a foundation for the kind of society we live in and the kind of rights we enjoy or forfeit. Beliefs matter.

Yes. Karl Marx wrote the ten planks of the Communist Manifesto which included, first, abolish private property (which by the way is the whole purpose behind the environmental movement). But the Bible is very clear: private property is extremely important because *if you don't own your property, you're basically a slave; you live for someone else.* So they had a system in the scriptures where if you lost your property because you were lazy or unfortunate, you or your heirs got it back in 50 years. You couldn't lose it forever. Ownership was extremely important.

Marx's second plank was the graduated income tax. The more you make, the more they take. President Reagan said, "There's no question Karl Marx invented the taxation system used in America."

You're saying communism is an ungodly system?

Yes. Knowing Marx's hatred for scripture and God, everything he did was to eliminate the Christian influence in the world. Read the ten planks in his Communist Manifesto and

you'll also see we've got a lot of American politicians who believe in communism.

[See the next article, "Are You A Practicing Communist?"]

But there's a bigger picture. Satan hates humanity because we're made in God's image and therefore remind him of God. So Satan's put it into the minds of some well-known people that we need to save the environment by reducing the human population. People like Jacques Cousteau and Peter Singer and some animal rights activists are very concerned about the environment — which we should be — but their idea is to reduce the world population from over five billion to roughly two billion by the year 2,000.

They also want to reduce our standard of living back toward that of a more primitive society.

Rice farmers for the elite. That's what we're supposed to be. Of course, the elitists will keep their homes and cars while we will all lose ours and everything else.

OK, you've at least implied that a belief in evolution can subtly encourage immorality, violence, rape, murder, racism, genocide and even war. Are there any concrete ex-

amples of the positive benefits of choosing to believe in Creationism?

Absolutely. We get calls and letters by the hundreds every day, from Christians who are suddenly excited because they finally have some answers, some Biblical ammunition to go with. I just supply the "bullets"; I give them a whole bunch of questions they can ask with my 13-hour video series.

I got a call recently, they said their 8-year-old kept asking so many questions, the teacher decided to *skip* evolution in the textbook. That's an *8-year-old* who just totally stumped the teacher!

Just imagine what that boy, his classmates and parents might do in the next five or ten years. Children like that won't only strengthen the belief in God, they'll also slow this nation's slide into the New World Order, and may even help lay a new spiritual foundation for a national revival.

Note that Dr. Hovind rejects, but does not refute, the theory of evolution. His argument is simply that both evolution and Creationism are equally unproven, equally based on presumptions rather than scientific evidence, and finally advocated

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or rejected based on subjective personal beliefs rather than objective reason.

In short, a reasonable person can choose to believe in either theory/ religion. Dr. Hovind, a Christian, chooses to believe in Creationism and therefore rejects evolution. Other people — including Christians and Jews — can just as reasonably reject Creationism and choose to believe in evolution. Although both sides can't be right, for the moment neither side need be embarrassed by the comparative logic of their belief.

But in either case, the decision to believe or not believe a particular faith or philosophy is a crucial personal choice that can have sudden and extraordinary consequences. For example, Hitler and the German people embraced evolution and within a generation, the logic of that choice reduced Germany to a smoking ruin.

Given our Freedom of Religion, Americans can choose to believe any of a long list of available faiths and philosophies. But since all religions (including evolution) are all finally based on scientifically unprovable presumptions, how can we know which belief is "right"?

Perhaps, "By their fruits, ye shall know them." In other words, although we can't prove the fundamental presumptions underlying our various beliefs, we can judge their comparative worth from the consequences that collectively accrue to their adherents.

Although individuals of any faith or philosophy may experience wonderful — or dreadful — personal lives, the value of their particular beliefs might be inferred from the general conditions (consequences) of their fellow advocates. If so, you

should be able to compare nations that embrace differing faiths over the course of decades or centuries to discover which belief systems are most conducive to the kind of life and society you'd like to experience.

Does the inner peace of the Buddhism attract you? Fine. Go chant. But don't forget the general social conditions of those nations that embrace Buddhism since there may be a correlation between Buddhism and Asian poverty.

Likewise, does evolution "set you free" to enjoy the excitement and pleasures of a sensual life-style? OK — but recognize it also increases the probability that you'll be mugged on a street corner, drafted into a foreign war, or laughed out of court when you argue that you have "rights".

I can't help noticing that most of mankind's material and political progress has taken place under a Biblical mantle. When we talk about the material and technological benefits of the "Western Civilization," some historians see our foundation in the Greek concept of democracy. Others point to Roman civil law as the Western World's cornerstone. However, I suspect that "Western Civilization" has been built primarily on a Biblical foundation and successfully propagated only to those other nations which allow a Biblical faith. Lose that faith, and it seems at least likely that you will also lose any claim to a "Western" life-style of personal opportunity, general prosperity, justice, and real rights.

In modern times, civilization has seldom advanced except where a Biblical faith was commonly practiced by the populace. Is that coincidence, or are the various Bible-based religions (though often imper-

fect) essential ingredients for a nation's general welfare?

Therefore, if only as a pragmatic political choice, even well-meaning atheists should consider endorsing and supporting Creationism and a Biblically-based faith. After all, if evolution lays a logical foundation for immorality, tyranny and genocide — who wants that? On the other hand, only those nations that embrace the Bible have enjoyed any sustained measure of freedom, liberty, justice or prosperity. Of course, as in the Spanish Inquisition, Crusades and TV evangelists, Biblical religions have often been exploited to justify ungodly acts. That kind of perversion is an unavoidable fact of human existence. Nevertheless, those nations that reject the Bible seem condemned to a dog-eat-dog purgatory of earthly poverty, injustice, violence and early death.

Beliefs matter.

Ironically, even Darwin might have to admit that for nearly 4,000 years, "survival of the fittest" and natural selection has subtly and persistently favored those individuals, nations, races and governments that embraced a belief in the God of the Bible.

Dr. Kent Hovind can be reached at: 29 Cummings Road, Pensacola, Florida 32503. Phone 904-479-3466 or email: dino@drwebber.com for a list of his materials. According to Dr. Hovind, his \$99, 13-hour video series is not copyrighted; if you buy one copy, you can make others for your friends. I've seen the first one-hour video and I was surprised and impressed. Based on that first tape, I recommend his video seminar. ■

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