Dear Center for Creative Ministry,

This eLetter provides you with the latest version of Contemporary Comments. Also, in the sidebar, Sharing Scripture, First Quarter (Origins), January 5 - March 30, 2013, is available for purchase. These excellent discussion sheets have been designed to enhance your Sabbath School class or small group. Suitable for photocopying, Sharing Scripture sheets contain thought questions and exercises that transform ordinary study times into dynamic learning adventures.

Happy New Year!
Center for Creative Ministry

Contemporary Comments

"Jesus, Creator of Heaven and Earth" January 2, 2013

Genesis 1:1; Hebrews 11:3; Psalm 19:1-3; John 1:1-3, 14; Colossians 1:15, 16; John 2:7-11

In June of 2012, a new Gallup Poll examined the beliefs of Americans regarding the origin of man. The poll also showed how these beliefs related to church attendance, choice of political party, and educational level. They interviewed 1,012 adults, 18 and older, in all 50 states and the District of Columbia.

Only one question was asked: Which of the following statements comes closest to your views on the origin and development of human beings?
1) Human beings have developed over millions of years from less advanced forms of life, but God guided this process,
2) Human beings have developed over millions of years from less
advanced forms of life, but God had no part in this process.

3) God created human beings pretty much in their present form at one time within the last 10,000 years or so.1

Respondents were placed in one of three categories, based on their answers: those who chose option 1 were considered theistic evolutionists; those who chose option 2 were considered evolutionists; and those who chose option 3 were considered creationists.

The results? Forty-six percent of those polled believed in creationism, 32 percent in theistic evolution, while 15 percent believed in evolution without any type of divine intervention. Although we wish the percentage of those who believe in creation were higher, this number has increased by two percent over the last 30 years. But unfortunately, the number of those believing in evolution has increased by six percent during the same time period.

The education level of the respondents was a significant factor in the results. Of those with postgraduate's degrees, 42 percent said they believed that humans evolved by a God-guided process. Twenty-one percent believed that humans evolved without God being involved in the process at all. And sadly, only 25 percent believe that God created humans in their present form within the last 10,000 years.

So what do the results of this poll mean to us? At least this: we creationists have a job to do! But it's more than creationism that we want others to believe in. We want them to believe in the Creator.

The Bible says that God created the earth in seven days-through the power of words only! But to a non-believer, this doesn't mean much, unless he or she actually comes to know the Creator, and begins a relationship with Jesus.

The relationship will begin to grow when we show them that Jesus didn't just create this beautiful world for us to live in, and then walk away from it. Instead, after sin entered the new world and God's plans for earth changed drastically, the Creator became the Redeemer! Jesus came to live among us, and then died in our place, so that we could someday live here again in the New Jerusalem.

So to argue the facts concerning creation on a scientific level without introducing the Creator as Redeemer, is only telling the beginning of the story. And the rest of the story is the best part!

~ nc

For inspiration: You Tube

1. Huffington Post

About Us

Since 1988, the Center for Creative Ministry has been serving local church leaders and individuals around the world. Formerly known as the publishers of ABBA Newsletter and the Baby Boomer Ministries Resource Center, we have now broadened our generational/ministry focus to include our children. The Center for Creative Ministry took on
its new name on June 1, 1996.

The Center for Creative Ministry, formerly Baby Boomer Ministries, is a privately funded and managed para-church ministry fully recognized by the Seventh-day Adventist Church in North America. We are dedicated to supporting the local church in outreach and nurture ministries by providing resources, information, training, and consulting.

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