WHERE IN THE WORLD IS PASTOR DOUG?
Pastor Doug’s speaking schedule is ramping up. Discover when and where he’ll be near you and come join us for positive Christian fellowship and Bible teaching. Get his latest schedule here!

WAS JESUS CREATED?
Did Jesus have a beginning? Get the Bible answer from Pastor Doug!

AFCOE TO GO SPECIAL EDITION
Here are five huge reasons why you don’t want to miss AFCOE to Go in August!

BACK FROM THE EDGE
Debra’s life had spun out of control. Feeling hopeless, she found a TV program that would lead her to the love of Jesus Christ.
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News and Features

Where in the World Is Pastor Doug?

See Pastor Doug in person! Check out his latest speaking schedule below, and if you are in the area, be sure to stop by for a time of faith-building fellowship and preaching.

This Month

June 16 – 18
Texico Camp Meeting
Albuquerque Convention Center
401 2nd Street NW
Albuquerque, New Mexico
Pastor Doug will speak each evening at 7:00pm; on the 18th, he'll also speak at 11:00am. For more information about this event, call 800-749-7851.

June 24, 25
Michigan Camp Meeting
7477 North Academy Road
Cedar Lake, Michigan
Pastor Doug will speak each evening at 7:00pm; on the 25th, he'll also speak at 11:00am. For more information about this event, call 989-427-5181.

Future Events — Details to Come

August 3
ASI
Sacramento Convention Center
1400 J Street
Sacramento, California

August 12 – 20
Amazing Prophecy Series
Sacramento Central Church
6045 Camellia Avenue
Sacramento, California
Pastor Doug will speak each evening at 7:00pm.

September 1 – 4
Dubai, United Arab Emirates
Location: TBA

September 8 – 10
ASI Convention
Jakarta, Indonesia
Mega Anggrek Hotel

September 12 – 17
Prophecy Series
Jakarta, Indonesia
Location: TBA

November 2 – 5
ARME Bible Camp
Camp Mokuleia
Oahu, Hawaii
For more information on this series, visit www.armebiblecamp.com.

Posted on June 12, 2011 14:14 by Anthony Lester
Is Jesus a created being?

Q. Based on Colossians 1:15, many say Christ was created or born. Does this mean He's not deity?

A. I believe Colossians 1:15, which reads, “[Jesus] is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of every creature,” is a very clear reference about the awesome nature of Christ, which is a belief under attack even in many Christian churches. The Messianic prophecy in Psalm 89:27 also reads, “I will make him my firstborn, higher than the kings of the earth,” showing that Christ was not the firstborn prior to the creation narrative in Genesis, but rather He was to be made firstborn after the Psalmist penned his words. “The firstborn of every creature” is explained in Colossians 1:18 as “the firstborn from the dead.”

We can also use a modern-day example. In America, we call the president’s wife First Lady, but that doesn’t mean she was the first lady born. It merely designates her role in America. Colossians should be read in the same way.

The word firstborn in Greek does not mean first one given birth to. Instead, it means the one who has priority—the one who has first position. A more accurate translation might say, “Who is the image of the invisible God, the first of every creature, or the highest of every creature.”

Another thing we need to remember is all of the times Jesus called Himself infinite. You can’t ignore those Scriptures when understanding His nature! For instance, Christ said, “Before Abraham was, I am” (John 8:58). He also calls Himself the Alpha and Omega (Revelation 1:8). Jesus is from everlasting to everlasting (Isaiah 63:16; Psalm 90:2). And one of the best Scriptures to explain that Christ is eternal is in the gospel of John: “All things were made by him; and without him was not anything made that was made” (1:3). If Christ made everything that’s made, He couldn’t have made Himself. He’s always existed!

Let’s look at another verse where we find a similar problem. Many take John 3:16, which says, “his only begotten son,” and say that Jesus was begotten. Yet these people forget that when the Holy Spirit came upon Mary, it was the first time that God was born as a man. Christ is the only one of the Godhead who became a man, and so that’s one way you can look at this.

Also, when we translate from Greek the phrase “the first begotten” or “the only begotten” or “the firstborn,” that word can be translated as “the one who has preeminence of every creature.” It doesn’t necessarily mean He was born. Does it mean that the Father has a womb and gave birth to Jesus? Of course, this is an utterly ridiculous idea, but it helps illustrate the trouble in taking some passages of Scripture too literally.

Jesus has always been and will always be. He is divine and one with the Father and the Holy Spirit. “Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever” (Hebrews 13:8).
FIVE HUGE Reasons Not to Miss AFCOE to Go in August!

We have an unbelievable AFCOE to Go session in Sacramento this year! It’s a special ASi edition that you don’t want to miss.

Well, what's so special about this once-in-a-lifetime AFCOE to Go? Here are FIVE HUGE reasons why you need to register today:

1. You’ll hear key speakers from world church leadership, including:
   - Ted Wilson, President of the World Church
   - Mark Finley, Assistant to the President
   - Jerry Page, Director of the World Ministerial Association
   - Derek Morris, Editor of Ministry Magazine
   - Gary Gibbs, HOPE Channel

2. You’ll be inspired and informed by our Global AFCOE team leaders:
   - Adam Ramdin, United Kingdom
   - Kevin Sears, Ukraine School
   - Lowell Hargreaves, Philippines

3. Get the best life-changing outreach instruction from seasoned AFCOE instructors:
   - Don Mackintosh, director of AFCOE
   - Wes Peppers, outreach coordinator
   - Eric Flickinger, director of evangelism
   - Plus, Doug Batchelor, president of Amazing Facts!

4. You’ll get must-have, practical instruction on:
   - How to develop your devotional life
   - How to study the Bible
   - How to share the Bible with others
   - How to preach
   - How to go door to door
   - How to do effective health evangelism

5. You’ll participate in exciting panel discussions with world leaders who have extraordinary experience and insight:
   - How to effectively reach urban areas
   - Culture and Evangelism: What Is Core, What Is Culture?

When: Thursday, August 4, to Saturday, August 13
Where: Sacramento Central Church
Address: 6045 Camellia Ave., Sacramento, CA 95819
Fee: $350; includes course materials and other free resources.

—For More Information & To Apply—
Contact the AFCOE registrar at 916-209-7249 or at spolk@amazingfacts.org.
Visit www.AFCOE.org today!

Posted on June 15, 2011 10:11 by Anthony Lester
Back From the Edge

By Debra Sailer

In 1979, my husband and I began attending church. For a few years we were happy, but eventually feelings of loneliness crept in. I was aware that I could talk to God, but I wasn’t in love with Him.

In 1984 we left the church, and my life started to spin out of control. I began drinking when I went out with friends. Soon I was drinking all the time, turning to the bottle for support instead of God. I quit drinking, and it seemed like everything was going to be okay but I was wrong; the loneliness and emptiness were still there.

Over the next few years, I had four operations and was given a lot of pain medication. The pills seemed to make life livable. Anytime something bad happened, I would pop a couple and everything seemed better. I started taking them every day, and the more I took, the more I needed. One night my husband had enough of my behavior and left me.

At that point, I lost all hope. All I wanted was to make the pain stop; I was so tired. I knew I couldn’t continue on like this. I soon found myself sitting on the windowsill of my three-story apartment, with police trying to convince me to come in. The next thing I remember is waking up in a hospital with 19 broken bones. My doctors told me I was lucky to be alive, but luck had nothing to do with it. I remembered that, as I fell, I prayed that God would let me live.

The next couple of years went by slowly. I was confined to a wheelchair and was feeling very sorry for myself. One day I was flipping through the channels when a preacher caught my eye; I began listening and liked what he was saying. My husband and I started back slowly into faith from home and reading our Bibles. When he wanted to go back to church, I was too scared. But one day my husband borrowed some DVDs called Millennium of Prophecy from a friend at church. I recognized the preacher as the one I had been watching on TV—Doug Batchelor. I couldn’t watch them fast enough. Soon my husband was rebaptized; I went to church with him that Sabbath and have been going ever since.

I felt peace for the first time in my life. I was like the Prodigal Son. The love I felt and still feel today is something I’ve never had before, and it gets better every day. No matter where you are in life, God loves you and wants you to be with Him.