

Continued from Page Three, "The Proper Use Of The Old Testament"

creation, how could we comprehend these if we do not have **Genesis 1-2**? **Luke 4:25-27** is meaningless if we do not have a knowledge of **I Kings 17:9-24** and **II Kings 5!** The book of Hebrews can be confusing if we do not have a background in the Old Testament. In fact, the entire book of Revelation becomes difficult to comprehend if we do not have a grasp of the Old Testament. This book has no less than 200 Old Testament citations and references! It should be apparent that my point is not that one must know the Old Testament to be saved (**Mk. 16:16**). Yet, a knowledge of the Old Testament *is essential* if we are to

fully appreciate and comprehend the New Testament.

**Conclusion**

The 4000 years of history contained in the Old Testament show us that God and His word are steadfast. We cannot afford to take God's word lightly! While the Old Testament may not be binding on us, it certainly has many lessons to teach us. Let us all learn to study and respect the Old Testament in a hope of better understanding the New Testament. *Credit: www.southside-churchofchrist.com* ♦

**The Final Judgment  
By David Padfield**

- All of the nations of the earth who have ever lived will be present (**Matt. 25:32**)
- The Word of God will be the standard of judgment -- not the creed books written by men (**John 12:48**)
- We will be judged on the basis of our deeds and not just our attitude (**Rom. 2:6**)
- No "warning signs" will be given prior to the return of Christ (**Matt. 24:36**)
- Christ will return at an unexpected time, during normal circumstances upon the earth (**2 Pet. 3:10**)
- When Christ returns "every eye shall see Him," not just the redeemed (**Rev. 1:7**)
- For some, it will be a day of unspeakable joy (**Rev. 21:1-4**)
- For others, it will be a day of horror (**2 Thes. 1:6-8**)
- When Christ returns He will deliver the kingdom back to His Father (**1 Cor. 15:24**)
- There is no passage in the Bible which states Christ will ever set foot on this earth again -- the Bible teaches that we will "meet the Lord in the air" (**1 Thes. 4:17**)
- Once Christ receives His own they will "always" be with Him, not just for a 1,000 years as some teach (**1 Thes. 4:17**)
- While we wait for the Lord to return we have the opportunity to repent (**2 Pet. 3:10**)
- There is no second chance for men to repent after death (**Heb. 9:27**)
- Take comfort in the thought of His return (**1 Thes. 4:18**) *Credit: www.padfield.com* ♦

**What Must I Do To Be Saved?**

**Hear and Learn** - Rom. 10:17 m. 10:9-10 ; 1 Pet. 3:21 ; John 6:45; 17:3  
**Believe** - Heb. 11:6; John 6:29; 8:24  
**Repent** - Luke 13:3; Acts 3:19; 17:30  
**Confess the Lord** - Matt. 10:32-33; Romans 10:9-10; 1 Pet. 3:21  
**Be Baptized** - Mark 16:16; Acts 22:16; Gal. 3:26-27  
**Continue in the Apostles' Teaching** - Acts 2:42; 2 Tim. 3:14-17

**About the Hillcrest church of Christ**

**Evangelist: Jimmy Pettigrew**

**How to Contact Us**

**Telephone:** (920)499-5677  
**E-mail:** hillcrestcofc@live.com



**Our Address**

1621 Hillcrest Drive  
 Green Bay, WI 54313

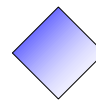


**Schedule of Assembly**

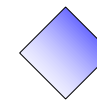
**Bible Study:** Sunday, 9:00am  
**Worship Service:** Sunday, 10:00am  
**Bible Study:** Wednesday, 7:00pm\*

\*A song service is held on the last Wednesday of every month

**www.hillcrestchurchofchrist.com**



# The Voice of Truth



April 1, 2012

**"In The Beginning God..."**

By Jimmy Pettigrew

The Word of God teaches that everything was created (earth, universe, mankind, animals, etc..) within the six days of the creation week, as first recorded in **Genesis 1-2**; **Exodus 20:11** and **31:17**. God "hast made heaven, the heaven of heavens, with all their host, the earth and all things that are thereon, the seas and all that is in them, and thou preservest them all" (**Nehemiah 9:6**).

Those who hold to the theory of evolution claim that man has evolved from some lower (non-human) form of life. Those who hold that man owes his origin to the creative act of the infinite God agree with the Biblical account, "In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth" (**Genesis 1:1**).

The Evolutionary theory is faulty at every turn, but is relentlessly held to in spite of the fact that it cannot be observed or proven in the laboratory. Dr. Duane Gish has commented: "Evolution in this broad sense is unproven and unprovable and thus cannot be considered as fact. It is not subject to test by ordinary methods of experimental science-observation and falsification. It thus does not; in a strict sense even qualify as a scientific theory" (*Evolution: The Fossils Say No!*, Creation-Life Publishers, San Diego, California, 1979, p 21).

If evolution is true we should find a multitude of living forms which shade one into another; monkeys for example into men? One evolutionist says he rejects the concept of creation because it cannot be verified scientifically. Therefore, he automatically rules out the very possibility of creation. It could not have happened because he cannot subject it to scientific tests. Oh really; if that be the case, then the believer in evolution that stays with the scientific tests principle, he must abandon evolution. Dr. Robert A. Millikan, Nobel laureate in physics, has well said: "The pathetic thing is that we have scientists who are trying to prove evolution, which no scientists can ever prove" (Quoted in: *Nashville Banner*, August 7, 1925). Organic evolution is not a "fact" of science. It is no wonder

that evolutionists admit that evolution is a matter of faith which cannot be scientifically proved. God asked Job: "Where wast thou when I laid the foundations of the earth" (**Job 38:4**)? No scientist was there to observe the origin of the universe, the solar system, and our earth. Therefore, it is impossible for any statement concerning ultimate origins to be based on observations by a scientist.

The General Theory of Evolution teaches that the living evolved from the non-living by natural processes. Dead matter created living matter. The evolutionist John Tyler Bonner acknowledged that there is no scientific confirmation of the origin of life. People, there is no scientific evidence which proves that non-living created the living. Evolution can give no answer to the question of how matter came to exist in the first place. The General Theory of Evolution cannot be established scientifically.

Man has existed from the beginning of the creation (**Genesis 1:26-27**). Jesus Christ Himself confirmed this truth in **Mark 10:6** and in **Matthew 19:4**. He taught that Adam and Eve were made; they were made male and female; and they existed "from the beginning of the creation." This is the true view of man's origin!

Isaiah understood that man had been on the earth from the beginning, as he put it, "from the foundations of the earth" (**Isaiah 40:21**). Paul stated, "For the invisible things of him since the creation of the world are clearly seen, being perceived through the things that are made, (even) his everlasting power and divinity; that they may be without excuse" (**Romans 1:20**). The apostle stated that since the creation of the world the invisible things of God have been: clearly seen; and perceived. Please tell me, who has clearly seen and perceived the things that were made from the beginning of the creation, if no man existed on this planet for billions of years? Paul in this passage without a doubt was teaching that man has existed

Continued on Page Two

**In This Issue...**

**Pages 1 to 2** - "In The Beginning God..."  
**Pages 2 to 4** - "The Proper Use Of The Old Testament"

**Page 4** - The Final Judgment  
**Page 4** - What Must I Do To Be Saved?

*Continued from Page One, "In The Beginning God..."*

since the creation of the world.

Now in **Luke 11:45-52**, the account is recorded of the Lord rebuking the rebellious Jews of His day. But the thing I want us to notice is this; Jesus, in these verses, placed the murder of Abel near the "foundation of the world." Yes, Abel's death occurred some years after the initial creation, but it was close enough to that event for Jesus to state that it was connected with "the foundation of the world." Now, if the world came into existence several billion years before the first family, how could the shedding of human blood be declared by God's Son to extend back to the "foundation of the world"? Man is not billion years younger than the origin of the universe. Man has been on the earth "from the **beginning of the creation**" (**Mark 10:6**); "since the creation of the world" (**Romans 1:20**); and "from the foundation of the world" (**Luke 11:50**).

The Bible is not silent regarding our origins. God Almighty created the universe (and everything in it) simply

### "The Proper Use Of The Old Testament"

By Jarrod Jacobs

Sometimes we are asked what purpose the Old Testament Scriptures serve. Sadly, some do not see the importance of studying the Old Testament at all. Friends, there is a purpose and place and a proper use of the Old Testament Scriptures. Let us find out what it is.

#### The Old Testament Scriptures Are Not Binding On Us.

If what we are doing is based upon the Old Testament law, we need to rethink our practice. The Bible clearly teaches that the Old Testament law was taken away and replaced by the New Testament law. This was prophesied in **Jeremiah 31:31-34**, and fulfilled after Christ died on the cross. **II Corinthians 3:6-17** says this law was "done away", "abolished", and "taken away" in Christ. **Ephesians 2:11-16** plainly teaches that the Jews and Gentiles are brought together in Christ under the New Testament teachings, and not the Old. The apostle Paul uses the marriage relationship to explain that the old law is gone, and we today are under a new law (**Rom. 7:1-6**). Further, **Colossians 2:14-17** teaches that the Old Testament was nailed to the cross. The book of Hebrews, in fact, was written to show the superiority of the New Testament over the Old (**Heb. 7:12-14; 9:15-17; 10:1-10**).

No, we are not "bound" by the Old Testament today, and in fact, if we wish to be justified by the Old Testament,

by speaking it into existence. He said, "“*Let there be light; and there was light*”" (**Genesis 1:3**). "By the word of the Lord the heavens were made, and all the host of them by the breath of His mouth" ... "“*Let all the earth fear the Lord; let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of Him. For He spoke, and it was done; He commanded, and it stood fast*”" (**Psalms 33:6, 8-9**). The Bible plainly teaches that God, by the word of His mouth, spoke the universe and everything in it into existence in six days! "“*O Lord, thou that didst make the heaven and the earth and the sea, and all that in them is*”" (**Acts 4:24**). "“*I will give thanks unto thee; for I am fearfully and wonderfully made*”" (**Psalms 139:14**). Therefore, man is not the result of evolution; man is the result of creation: "“*whom I have created for my glory, whom I have formed, yea, whom I have made*”" (**Isaiah 43:7**). "“*Lord, thou hast been our dwelling-place in all generations. Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever thou hadst formed the earth and the world, even from everlasting to everlasting, thou art God*”" (**Psalms 90:1-2**). •

we are fallen from grace (**Gal. 5:1-4**). Let us make sure we are not binding something that God has not bound! Even though these Scriptures are not what we are under today, the Old Testament still produces much good in the lives of people today. For example ....

#### The Old Testament Scriptures Prove The Deity Of Jesus.

In a time when many deny the divinity of Jesus while upon this earth, the Old Testament points out the folly in that teaching. "“*The day following Jesus would go forth into Galilee, and findeth Philip, and saith unto him, Follow me. Now Philip was of Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. Philip findeth Nathanael, and saith unto him, We have found him, of whom Moses in the law, and the prophets, did write, Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph*”" (**Jn. 1:43-45**). Philip knew the Old Testament prophecies pointed to Christ, and when he saw Jesus, he knew He was the fulfillment of those prophecies! Jesus said, "“*These are the words which I spake unto you, while I was yet with you, that all things must be fulfilled, which were written in the law of Moses, and in the prophets, and in the psalms, concerning me*”" (**Lk. 24:44**). Jesus also challenged the people to, "“*Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me*”" (**Jn. 5:39**). What Scriptures were extant at that time?

*Continued on Page Three*

*Continued from Page Two, "The Proper Use Of The Old Testament"*

Later, Peter taught Cornelius that the prophets gave witness to Jesus in **Acts 10:43**. Other passages to consider would be: **Isaiah 7:14, 9:6**, and **Micah 5:2** to name a few. Yes, the Old Testament declares the deity of Jesus Christ in no uncertain terms.

#### The Old Testament Scriptures Teach Us About Faithfulness.

Please read **Hebrews 11**. In this chapter, we see great faith heroes who gave up their lives, their fortunes, the praise of men, etc., in order to please God and receive that "city" God has prepared for them. We see people like Abraham, whom God said willingly offered his son as a sacrifice when he was told to offer him (**Gen. 22:1-13; Heb. 11:8-19**). Job as well stands out as a man of great patience during his hardship on earth (**Job; Jas. 5:11**). Elijah teaches us to have courage when it seems like we are the only ones serving God (**I Kings 18**). Noah obeyed God when the world rejected God (**Gen. 6:22**). These great heroes, and many more not named in this article, demonstrated faith, obedience, patience and courage. We would do ourselves a favor by reading these biographies in the Old Testament and trying to be like these faith heroes.

#### The Old Testament Scriptures Give Us Hope.

"“*For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope*”" (**Rom. 15:4**). The Old Testament stands out because of the comfort and hope that is provided through the words recorded there. As an example of this, consider the hope and comfort provided when we see how God keeps His promises in the Old Testament. For example, **I Kings 8:56** says, "“*Blessed be the LORD, that hath given rest unto his people Israel, according to all that he promised: there hath not failed one word of all his good promise, which he promised by the hand of Moses his servant.*”

**Joshua 23:14** also stands out as a passage that shows us that God keeps His word. Let us read it together. "“*And, behold, this day I am going the way of all the earth: and ye know in all your hearts and in all your souls, that not one thing hath failed of all the good things which the LORD your God spake concerning you; all are come to pass unto you, and not one thing hath failed thereof.*” Rest assured, when God promises something, He will carry it out! There is great hope in the fact that God keeps every promise He makes.

Therefore, as we see God keeping His promises in the Old Testament, we are assured God will keep His promises today! God has not changed! (**Mal. 3:6; Jas. 1:17; Rev. 1:8**)

#### The Old Testament Scriptures Warn Of The Consequences Of Disobedience.

In **I Corinthians 10:1-13**, the apostle Paul reminds the brethren of several instances where certain people of the Old Testament were punished. Some were punished for not pleasing God (**v. 5**). Others for lusting and idolatry (**v. 6-7**). Many were punished for fornication (**v. 8**). The tempting of Christ brought serpents upon the people (**v. 9**). The people who murmured against God were also punished (**v. 10**). These people are just a few who stand out as examples of the punishment God will bring upon those who are disobedient (**v. 11-12**).

We see another occasion where Old Testament people were named as having suffered God's punishment due to their disobedience. In **Jude 5-7, 11** we read several references to Old Testament people that were punished for disobedience. Please read the following carefully. "“*I will therefore put you in remembrance, though ye once knew this, how that the Lord, having saved the people out of the land of Egypt, afterward destroyed them that believed not. And the angels which kept not their first estate, but left their own habitation, he hath reserved in everlasting chains under darkness unto the judgment of the great day. Even as Sodom and Gomorrha, and the cities about them in like manner, giving themselves over to fornication, and going after strange flesh, are set forth for an example, suffering the vengeance of eternal fire...Woe unto them! for they have gone in the way of Cain, and ran greedily after the error of Balaam for reward, and perished in the gainsaying of Core.*”" **Hebrews 10:26-31** is another example of a New Testament passage that shows us that by looking to those who died for despising Moses' law, we will see the fate of those who refuse the law of Christ. Yes, there are consequences for disobedience! "“*How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation...?*”" (**Heb. 2:3**).

#### The Old Testament Scriptures Help Us Understand The New Testament.

To make this statement above is to state the obvious. Please read **Luke 17:32**. How will we ever understand this passage if we do not have **Genesis 19** to read? When we read passages like **Matthew 19:4-6** which refer to our

*Continued on Page Four*