

“What Must I Do To Be Saved?”

Acts 16:30

Learn The Gospel

John 6:45; Romans 10:17; James 1:22-25

Believe On GOD In CHRIST

Hebrews 11:6; John 3:16; James 2:14-26

Confess CHRIST

Romans 10:9-10; Matthew 10:32-33; 7:21

Repent Of Sin

Acts 3:19; Matthew 3:8

Be Baptized Into CHRIST

Mark 16:16; Romans 6:3-6; 1st Peter 3:21

“Let The Word... Dwell In You Richly”

Colossians 3:16

The current memory assignment is: *“Do not marvel, my brethren, if the world hates you”* (1st John 3:13).

Commit this to memory by reading it, writing it, listening to it, and reciting it.

“The Assembling Of Ourselves Together”

Hebrews 10:24-25

Sunday

10:15 am.....Worship

Las Vegas Library

833 Las Vegas Boulevard North

Wednesday

7:00 pm.....Various Studies

Jerry & Beverly Dockens residence

Friday

7:00 pm.....Ladies' Study

Beverly Dockens residence

“Give Attention To Reading”

1st Timothy 4:13

Sunday.....1 Thess 4 - 2 Thess 2

Monday....2 Thess 3 – 1 Tim 2

Tuesday.....1st Timothy 3-5

Wednesday..1 Tim 6 – 2 Tim 2

Thursday.....2 Tim 3 – Titus 2

Friday.....Titus 3 – Hebrews 1

Saturday.....Hebrews 2-4

“Sound Doctrine”

Titus 2:1

BLACK FRIDAY

Bryan Matthew Dockens

Black Friday, the day after Thanksgiving, and the first day of the holiday shopping season, is so called for different reasons. It first received that designation to refer to the trouble caused by the crowds that day. Later, the term came to identify the day when the retail industry finally turned a profit, when the accountants could switch from red ink to black.

The former explanation better suits what transpired this year. On Friday, November 28th, 2008 Jdimytai Damour was trampled to death at the entrance of the Wal-Mart in Valley Stream, Long Island, New York. The 34-year-old victim suffocated under a stampede of two thousand shoppers.

The door-buster deals offered by retailers the day after Thanksgiving can be genuine bargains, but at what cost? Standing hours in line in freezing temperatures, maybe. I've done it. A man's life, never. Damour's life was worth nothing more to those people than some \$2 DVD's, a \$25 microwave, or a \$388 plasma TV. The Holy Spirit reveals that *“the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil”* (1st Timothy 6:10). Indeed, just to save money, some Long Islanders are guilty of manslaughter (1st Timothy 1:9).

God commanded, *“You shall not follow a crowd to do evil”* (Exodus 23:2). Our Lord understands the mob mentality. Whereas not a single soul intended to shed innocent blood that day, a throng of greedy shoppers pressing against the doors made it a reality. The crowd does not remember to treat others as each one would like to be treated (Luke 6:31).

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Vegas Valley Church Of CHRIST

Romans 16:16

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“WHAT YOUR RIGHT HAND IS DOING”

Bryan Matthew Dockens

The latest in pseudo-reality television recently debuted on Fox. “Secret Millionaire” features actual millionaires who visit impoverished communities incognito for a week to ten days, living on a limited budget, and mingling with the locals. The cameras that follow them are said to be filming a documentary unrelated to the show or the millionaires themselves. At the end of their brief visit, the millionaires reveal their true identities and offer hundreds of thousands of dollars to those they deem most worthy.

The generosity of these millionaires is noteworthy. Paul wrote to Timothy, *“Command those who are rich in this present age... [to] be rich in good works, ready to give, willing to share”* (1st Timothy 6:17-18).

There is, however, one major flaw in the way these millionaires go about their giving. Jesus said, *“Take heed that you do not do your charitable deeds before men, to be seen by them. Otherwise you have no reward from your Father in heaven. Therefore, when you do a charitable deed, do not sound a trumpet before you as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may have glory from men. Assuredly, I say to you, they have their reward. But when you do a charitable deed, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, that your charitable deed may be in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will Himself reward you openly”* (Matthew 6:1-4).

Such ostentatious philanthropy as is nationally broadcast on “Secret Millionaire” directly contradicts the Master’s will. The proper motive for almsgiving is to help those who lack, nothing else. Those who want to make a show of it gain nothing spiritually, and that is exactly what is happening – they’re making a show of it.

These attention grabbing benefactors get an hour-long, coast-to-coast advertisement for their latest entrepreneurial endeavors at the cut-rate cost of just a few hundred thousand dollars, all of which is tax-deductible, while simultaneously gaining the accolades of an adoring public. Hardly altruistic.

Whatever reward is to be had for sharing their wealth is temporal in nature. God does not look on it favorably.

WHY CHRISTIANS CANNOT BELIEVE IN EVOLUTION

Jon Gary Williams

What of the Christian’s outlook on evolution? Is it possible for the Christian to believe in the theory? In addition to rational, scientific reasons for rejecting evolution there are some other solid Biblical reasons why the Christian must reject it.

1. The Bible teaches a fiat creation, that is, a creation by the command of God (Genesis 1:3, 6, 9, 14, 20, 24; Psalm 33:6; 148:1-5; 2nd Corinthians 4:6). However, evolution denies this, saying that the earth came about by a slow, purely materialistic process.
2. The Bible record reveals that the first plants and animals were created full grown (Genesis 1:11, 12, 20-25). Evolution denies this, teaching that the first life forms were quite small and incomplete.
3. The Bible states that plants and animals only produced “after their kind” (Genesis 1:11, 12, 21, 24, 25). However, evolution, by its very nature implies that plants and animals must produce offspring **not** after their kind.
4. The Bible says there was one original man (Genesis 2:7, 8; Matthew 19:4; 1st Corinthians 15:45-47). However, evolution says that by the time man became man he was an entire race.
5. The Bible plainly teaches that woman was taken from the side of man (Genesis 2:21-23). However, evolution teaches that woman evolved alongside man.
6. The Bible presents man in the image of God and reveals his decline and fall (Genesis 1:27; 3:1-24). Man, then, began at the highest point and fell to the lowest depths. Evolution, on the other hand, has man beginning as a small mass of protoplasm and out of this climbing to the greatest heights.
7. In the Bible man is said to have an immortal soul (Matthew 10:28; Ecclesiastes 12:7). However, evolution pictures “early man” as not much more than mere beast and hardly a candidate for possessing a soul. Did God at some point just “zap” souls into mankind or did the soul also evolve?