



# ETERNAL VALUE REVIEW

## MONEY MONITOR & GLOBAL TRENDS REPORT

Issue 3, Volume 18

“For thinking Christians seeking to understand the times.”

JUNE 2015

## FEATURE REPORT

### Endtime Wickedness: Consorting with Mammon

One of the signs of the last days, according to Jesus Christ, was to be the rise of many false messiahs. The Bible says: “At that time many will turn away from the faith and will betray and hate each other, and many false prophets will appear and deceive many people” (Matthew 24:10-11). Apostle Paul also warned by the Spirit that in the “later times” some people “will abandon the faith and follow deceiving spirits and things taught by demons” (1 Timothy 4:1). People will be deluded and blinded to the truth.

In reality, people will actually want to be deceived. Why? Because that course will appear most desirable to them. The way that appears to be right to mankind, “in the end it leads to death” (Proverbs 16:25). For most of Christianity (especially so in the advanced, high-income countries of the world), this condition is already at a late stage.

Many societies (if not the entire world) already seem near the point (if not already long past) where God finally relents and lets them molder in their own perversions and lusts (Romans 1:24). He gives them over to their perversions and even sends them “strong delusion” (2 Thessalonians 2:11). Again, why? Because wickedness deceives in every way and “because they refused to love the truth and so be saved” (verse 10).

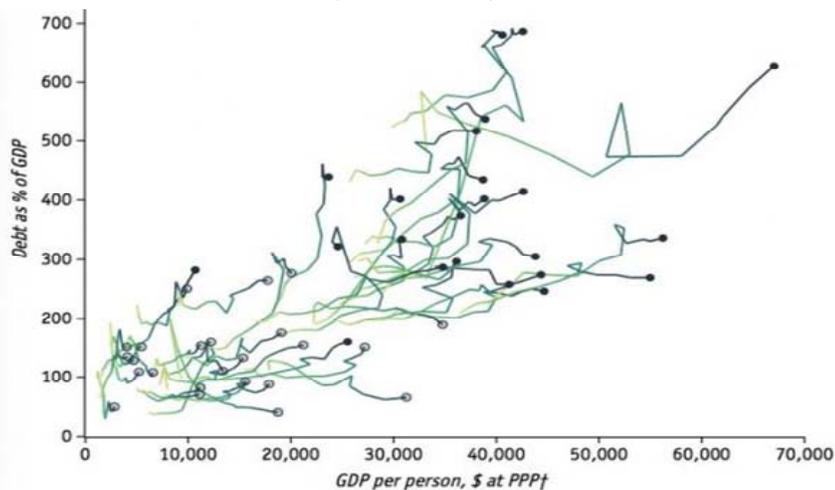
While this penchant for waywardness has always existed, the Bible indicates that it will become rampant nearer the end of days. Jesus, speaking to the Jews, warned that “[...] many false prophets will appear and deceive many people. Because of the increase of wickedness, the love of most will grow cold [...]” (Matthew 24:11-12).

The prophet Zechariah, too, writing approximately 2500 years ago, prophesied that the entire world would be cursed with

... continued on page 3

### National Indebtedness Trends

45 countries, 2008 to 2014, % of GDP

Source: <http://www.economist.com/blogs/graphicdetail/2015/05/daily-chart-4?fsrc=scn/tw/te/bl/ed/debt>

“As fish are caught in a cruel net, or birds are taken in a snare, so people are trapped by evil times that fall unexpectedly upon them.”

— Ecclesiastes 9:12

## WORLD MONEY UPDATE

### Expected: Uncharted Debt Heterodoxy

Many financial market observers and economists have been stumped in recent years. The forecasts of analysts have been consistently wrong. For example, economic growth rates have remained sluggish despite record low interest rates and all types of stimulus. Such results do not fit the standard models. Another conundrum is that the price of gold has slumped rather than exploding upward as most expected given the wildly expansionary monetary policies.

What is going on? There are many reasons for these confusing outcomes. Among these, we would select five factors as being the prominent causes. We'll review them briefly here, starting with #5 — global over-indebtedness — which aligns with the graph shown on this page.

A major study of 70 financial crises taking place between 1800 and 2015 confirmed several findings as to the role of indebtedness. As most would surmise, a condition of high indebtedness was always a contributor or

... continued on next page

#### In This Issue

**Feature Report:** *Endtime Wickedness: Consorting with Mammon* —pg. 1

**World Money Update:** *Expected: Uncharted Debt Heterodoxy* —pg. 1

**Signs of the Times:** *Flying Scrolls and Baskets: A Vision of Today — Part II* —pg. 5

**Facts & Stats** —pg. 7

**Letters to the Editor** —pg. 9

**Personal Perspective** *Greatest Faith of All: Evolutionism : II* —pg. 12

catalyst to a financial crisis. Moreover, the burdens of high debt levels translated into low economic growth. Also, before any economic recoveries could find solid ground, debt reductions (deleveraging) first needed to take place.

Here arises the first dilemma. Despite 7-plus years having passed since the outbreak of the Global Financial Crisis, the world (as a whole) has not yet begun to deleverage. Rather, debt rose an additional \$57 trillion (a rate of rise faster than world economic growth. Source: McKinsey Global Institute.) The bottom line? The groundwork for a healthy global economy has yet to be put in place, meaning that there is no prospect for strong recovery. Thus, this is a key marker of the current environment.

Next, looking to chart #1 on page 2, we develop a crucial argument. Virtually all past instances of high debt and central bank intervention (over the last two and a half centuries) were related to military wars in some way. This time, this is not the case. Swollen central bank balance sheets have occurred in peacetime. This is crucial to note. Today, we are facing the consequences of monetary wars instead of military wars. Therefore, there are very different outcomes to expect.

Consider the typical growth drivers in the post-war period: 1. Productivity-enhancing technologies that were spurred during wartime found application in the peacetime economy, accelerating growth; 2. Military personnel were re-integrated into the civilian sector, causing a huge increase in the potential workforce; and 3. A post-war population boom (i.e. Baby Boom) resulted. Under these conditions, economies could quickly work off their high debt levels.

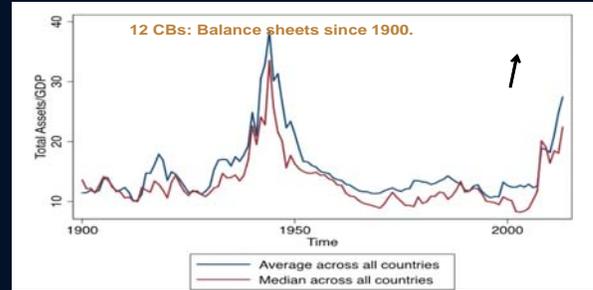
But this cannot be the case in the present situation of over-indebtedness and swollen central bank balance sheets. Instead we have a massive adoption of the new era of active monetary intervention (Chart #2); aging populations (Chart #3); and growing anti-familialism (Chart #4). All of these together conspire to cause low economic growth and falling interest rates, and make it difficult to reduce high debt levels.

The final conclusion is this: Given the above-mentioned “unconventional” factors, heterodox policies must be

anticipated...not orthodox ones. Rather than policymakers pursuing orthodox solutions such as enhancing GDP growth, running primary budget surpluses, and privatizing government assets, etc., they will resort to more desperate policies. Heterodox tactics here include changes to debt contracts, debt forgiveness, hyperinflation, taxing wealth, engineering massive wealth distributions, money finance policies, repressing private finance, etc.

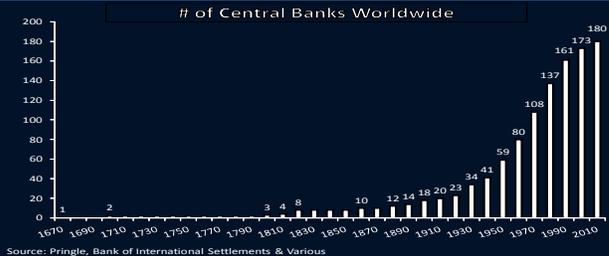
Global financial and economic systems at the present time are on an unfortunate and uncharted path. **EVR**

### 1. Wartime Monetary Policy in a Time of Peace!



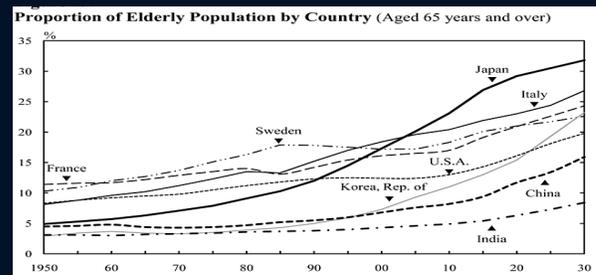
Source: Ferguson, Schab, Shularick

### 2. Fractional-Reserve Central Banking: A Recent & Fast Growing “Belief System”



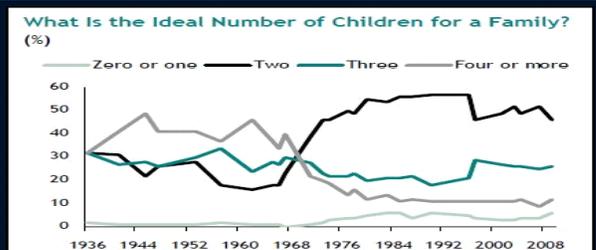
Source: Pringle, Bank of International Settlements & Various

### 3. Evidence of the Break-Point of Western Society: Aging Demographic



Source: United Nations 16

### 4. Rise of Post-Familialism



Source: The Rise of Post-Familialism: Humanity's Future (Joel Kotkin), Pew Research Centre



**ETERNAL VALUE REVIEW**  
MONEY MONITOR & GLOBAL TRENDS REPORT

Wilfred J. Hahn, Editor

*Eternal Value Review* is produced bi-monthly by *The Mulberry Ministry*, P.O. Box 41159, Lake Country, BC, Canada, V4V 1Z7 Please direct all inquiries concerning distributions in writing or by contacting our administrative offices at [admin@eternalvalue.com](mailto:admin@eternalvalue.com).

**Annual Subscription Rates** - *Eternal Value Review* is available free of charge in PDF format to on-line subscribers six times a year. Please sign up for free distribution at [www.eternalvalue.com](http://www.eternalvalue.com). Back issues are posted on our website.

**Questions**, comments, correspondence and relevant news items are welcomed in writing to the Editor at the above-named address or e-mail to [staff@eternalvalue.com](mailto:staff@eternalvalue.com)

**Financial Health Warning** - The use of *Eternal Value Review* for the promotion of any other commercial activity or pursuit is expressly prohibited. *The Mulberry Ministry* does not endorse any third-party financial product, service or any promotion of an investment scheme.

**Copyright** - ©2015. Mulberry Press Inc. One-time reproductions and excerpts are encouraged for the purpose of introduction of the viewpoints of *The Mulberry Ministry* without permission.

**Bible Quotations** - All scriptural references are quoted from the *New International Version* unless otherwise stated.

wickedness (Zechariah 5:8). Also, the “man of lawlessness” (2 Thessalonians 2:3), who is described as a deceiver and liar, is to arrive at that end stage. It only follows that conditions in the world will become sympathetic to his arrival well in advance.

### The Many Ways of Wickedness

As already mentioned, wickedness foments its strategies and assaults everywhere...at every level, channel and way. Part of this state of increasing wickedness is a blurring of worship between God and Mammon. We have called this a form of ecumenism. While this term historically has described the coming together of so-called Christian sects and faiths, we apply it here to the merging of worship of both God and Mammon (Money). Better said, it is an endtime syncretism of beliefs, and it is described and pictured in the Bible.

Jesus Christ clearly said that one can only love one master, God or Mammon. (“No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon”—Matthew 6:24 KJV.)

But, did Jesus really say that? Wouldn't it be nice if one could sup at both tables...to worship both God and Money? Wouldn't that be a pleasurable perspective, and one that will suit itching ears (2 Timothy 4:3)?

Implicitly, this commingling of fealty to both God and Money is exactly what the Bible prophesies will occur. “People will be [...] lovers of money” (2 Timothy 3:2) and “lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God” (verse 4), while at the same time “having a form of godliness but denying its power” (verse 5). Jesus describes this duality, which is really a duplicity: “[...] on the outside you appear to people as righteous but on the inside you are full of hypocrisy and wickedness” (Matthew 23:28).

Here we see a society that thinks its love of money is compatible with godliness. (Perhaps just as the CEO of the greedy Wall Street-based Goldman Sachs, Lloyd Blankfein, could say that he “was doing God's work.”)

### Blurring Beliefs

This blurring of wealth worship (materialism) and institutionalized “godliness” is pictured in the figure of the whore shown in Revelation 17. She is bedecked in fine clothes, “glittering with gold, precious stones and pearls,” and has “a golden cup in her hand” (Revelation 17:4). She represents religion that is in a lucrative league with the worldly kings of the earth. Here it appears that the two orbs of commerce (money) and religion co-exist comfortably. The reality is that materialism, greed and the worship of wealth alone has won the hearts of mankind, though the Bible expressly states that “[...] man does not live by bread alone, but man lives by everything that proceeds out of the mouth of the Lord” (Deuteronomy 8:3; Matthew 4:4).

This apparently unbridgeable gap between God and Mammon offers one of the biggest, exploitable marketing

opportunities ever known to mankind (and is also an important key to Satan's last-day strategy). How can one not pass up the chance for rich comfort and lucre from the wealth of Mammon, while at the same time have the assurance of being righteous and spiritual?

If one can figure out a way to convince people that they can both worship God and sup with Mammon at the same table, they or their businesses will meet with certain success. This is not a new discovery. It is a ruse that has worked in past history every time. Today it is an institutionalized strategy and unfolds on a global scale.

Mammon has masterfully honed its alluring appeals to the fleshly affections of mankind. In our day, these temptations and materialistic proposals to our souls are rampant...both immediate and incessant. Who does not agree that the lures of Mammon are lustrous and inveigling? So, even as God promises to be near and never to forsake us (Hebrews 13:5), Mammon's call to us is also near and with us.

This last-day dominance of Mammon is also reflected through Jesus' comments to the seven churches. It is the Philadelphian church that is commended by Jesus. It is shown to be weak and poor (Revelation 3:8). In contrast, the Laodicean church, that has confidence in its riches and wealth, is indicted as being blind and naked (verse 17). This church is shown to be as blind as the society in which it exists.

### The Many Faces of Laodicea Today

The merging of the worship of God and Mammon has progressed significantly. It surely is a condition that strikes its stake deep into the heart of Christians living in the high-income world. The Laodicean spirit is already well advanced in the world today, evident in a number of ways.

The emergence of Babylon the Great, the great commercial colossus that is depicted in Revelation 17-18, with its cup filled with the vile toxins of commercialism and materialistic idolatry, is already within view. Indeed, there is much debate on the general topic of endtime Babylon (aspects of which we have often commented upon). However, for the purpose of the topic at hand, we need not stop to consider these many views. Here, we only want to focus on one aspect of endtime Babylon(s) (whatever its final form will be)...namely, the “inseparability” of two Babylons.

What is meant by the inseparability of two Babylons, and what might be their identities? How can there be two, and yet they be inseparable at the same time? Actually, this was the very question put to me the first time this writer ever spoke on the topic of Babylon mentioned in Revelation 17 and 18. At the time, I was unprepared. The question was this: Where do you see the break between the Babylon mentioned in Revelation 17 (“Mystery Babylon, the Great Mother of Prostitutes”) and the one mentioned in chapter 18 (great city of Babylon)? I was caught rather flatfooted, as I had simply assumed that they were different Babylons since they were treated in separate chapters and had slightly different names in some Bible translations.

While I still hold to the view that they are different Babylons—in other words, alternate dimensions or at least different perspectives of the last-day Babylon emergence—I also hold to the view that they are inseparable. While this might seem contradictory, it is not. Basically, it is two Babylons clandestinely co-habiting, in effect becoming one. I say clandestinely because most people—surely including many who claim to be Christians—are blind to this emerging union. Yet, this harlotry is becoming ever more open. From the religious side, it is a union that has been sanctioned by an increasing number of Christian denominations and religious movements.

The merging of God and Mammon—figured as religion and materialism, spirituality and faith in globalization commingled together—is the final capstone of mankind’s perversions. This is the very thing that is imaged in the blurred religious and commercial Babylons shown to rise in illicit cahoots in Revelation 17 and 18. In a sense, it is the final, global religion. As such, that may be why the two Babylons in these chapters are presented as one, unbreakable though blurred, continuum.

### **Mammon among Religions Today**

Where is the evidence, people might ask? Where is the blurring of God and Mammon happening today? We have already said that this spirit is clearly evident in a number of ways.

There are numerous channels and multiple feedback loops in this present-day progression. Such relatively new organizations as the International Interfaith Investment Group (3IG), which claims to wield some \$10 trillion in wealth and 7% of the inhabitable real estate on the planet, are pushing for a purer and better world with the power of money. This is a group of some 7 world religions.

There are many other organizations that seek to bridge the powers of religion, politics and money. Some of these include the Alliance of Religions and Conservation (ARC), the Coalition for Renewal (COR), and the Ecumenical Council for Corporate Responsibility (ECCR), to name a few. A sense of the spirit of these initiatives is evident in this quote from the ARC secretary-general: “The world’s major faiths are starting to discover the power of their collective purse. Worldwide [...] they own trillions of dollars of shares, estimated by Citigroup to be in the region of 8-10% of the world’s equity market.”

There are many, many more such initiatives, and naming them would shock in some cases. It is therefore no surprise that secular observers comment on the wealth of religious organizations. Says David Silverman of American Atheists, “Churches have a tremendous amount of power and a stupid amount of money.”

Evangelicals may believe that they are not culpable in this last-day blurring of faiths and techniques. In actuality, it is in these very circles that Satan may be chocking up some of his biggest victories. Within so-called Christianity there are many movements in this direction.

Various denominations that promote Prosperity Gospel (material comforts in the here and now), Reconstructionism, Kingdom Now and many other ideologies risk consorting with the deadly and deceitful embrace of Mammon. We do not doubt that there are sincere and godly people who may be swept up in these ideologies, and who come by their ignorance innocently. However, there are certainly also wolves and entities masquerading as “angels of light.”

While we greatly respect good scholarship, it is also academics that have come to the aid of the human desire to love Mammon through the introduction of new theories that “revise” Biblical teaching on idolatry and materialism. For example, such organizations as the influential Acton Institute seem to exist solely to validate capitalism and free-market economics as a Biblically-endorsed system. To the contrary. God has never endorsed any human system.

We have only scratched the surface. What is common to them all? They carry out their agendas and battles the way the world does. They use politics and the power and lure of money and prosperity. Apostle Paul, on the other hand, said otherwise: “For though we live in the world, we do not wage war as the world does” (2 Corinthians 10:3).

All of the initiatives mentioned above, as well as other ecumenical thrusts, seek to achieve power in the way of the world...to be seen as shakers and movers on the world scene...shapers of human destiny and the entire planet earth...loving worldly power. Again, the Bible warns against this perspective. Jesus Himself said clearly: “Do not love the world or anything in the world. If anyone loves the world, love for the Father is not in them” (1 John 2:15).

### **Thoughts to Ponder**

Any religious movement that claims to build a “kingdom” on earth is sure to be fostering ideologies that promote earthly citizenship rather than heavenly citizenship. Jesus Christ could not have been clearer on this point, saying that His kingdom was not of this world (John 18:36). This very same Jesus owned no place on earth “to lay his head” (Luke 9:58).

Furthermore, He pointedly asked: “When I return, will I find faith upon the earth?” (Luke 18:8). It is a prophecy enfolded in a rhetorical statement. It is probably the most revealing of the very few prophecies that specifically apply to the Church.

It is an unpopular perspective: Christians (denominations, movements and individuals) and Christian look-alikes—namely, religious developments deliberately conspired by the Enemy to be an imitation—today risk either falling for or trafficking in the lures of both Babylons. They promote the idea that one can consort with Mammon while yet love and worship God.

Apostle Paul provides the admonition that our generation needs to heed: “See to it that no one takes you captive through hollow and deceptive philosophy, which depends on human tradition and the elemental spiritual forces of this world rather than on Christ” (Colossians 2:8). **EVR**

## Signs of the Times



### Flying Scrolls and Baskets: A Vision of Today — Part II

[*Editor's Comment: This 2-part study of Zechariah 5 is an updated reprint of a series first published in 2007. We have often referred to our conclusions of this study as it is critically linked with other prophecy in the Bible, both in the New and Old Testaments. Somewhat controversial, perhaps, is its implication for the long-debated view of a literal rebuilding of Babylon. In any case, this chapter has high relevance to our day — a time of an intensely-commercialized global system.*]

We continue with our examination of Zechariah's two strange visions mentioned in Zechariah Chapter 5 — the strange, flying scroll and the transported ephah. In Part I we concluded that both of these visions concern the judgment of the endtime boom of commercialism that is also depicted in Revelation 18 as Babylon the Great. We resume our review of the meanings of those that "swearth falsely" and "stealeth" that were listed on opposite sides of the unfurled scroll. We had already identified the meaning of those that swear falsely.

#### Hand in Hand with Theft

What about stealing? It is the other side of the coin...or more accurately, the other side of the flying scroll.

Stealing in our time is probably more prevalent than ever before; however, it is much more sophisticated. There are numerous types of stealing that are institutionalized into world systems. For example, consider the phenomenon of inflation (*the price of goods continually rising in currency terms*). Today it is one of the biggest forms of stealing. While there are many complexities to inflation, in reality, it is nothing more than stealing. Yet, every central bank in the world today will argue that a little bit of stealing (*inflation*) is necessary for the smooth and safe functioning of economies and financial systems.

Too much inflation, however, can be disastrous. Therefore, quite a bit of inflation (*meaning the stealing from the pocketbooks of the citizenry*) is masterfully concealed or lied about so as to not arouse unnecessary suspicion. Officials are swearing falsely about inflation. These are factual statements that can be proven, had we the space. However, we want to continue illustrating how endemic stealing is today.

Stealing is the staple of many other activities, as well. Corporate executives steal from shareholders (*like never before*) and countries try to steal precious resources from other countries (*oil, for example*), although such motivations are couched in official policy-speak such as "*securing our interests*" or "*gaining access through free trade.*" This is all the norm today, though every now and then some people who make this too obvious for comfort will face conviction.

In conclusion, we see that swearing falsely and stealing are at the very root of man's global endtime edifice. The

competitions of modern-day economic pagan man and sovereign countries around the world are typified by "swearing" and "stealing." It comes to its apex in the form of the commercial Babylon the Great, ancient Tyre reborn into its final global manifestation.

#### Two-Sided Meaning

We stop to consider the symbolic significance of the fact that the flying scroll has two sides. On one side thieves are listed and on the other those that swearth falsely. Why are they shown as opposites or as two sides of the coin? Actually, the entire economic system upon earth is defined by these very two symptoms as well as this dual nature.

Isaiah, prophesying of judgment and wrath in the last days (*the very same period that Zechariah sees*) also emphasizes a duality.

*"And it shall be—as [what happens] with the people, so with the priest; as with the servant, so with his master; as with the maid, so with her mistress; as with the buyer, so with the seller; as with the lender, so with the borrower; as with the creditor, so with the debtor"* (Isaiah 24:2 AMP).

He lists here six sets of pairs that harbor an element of opposites. For example, there can be no maid without a mistress. Interestingly, three of these pairs (50%) directly refer to commercial aspects. There is a buyer and a seller; a lender and a borrower; and a creditor and a debtor. Significantly, these are mentioned last. The sequence moves from the highest order of people and priest to the basest of creditor and debtor. It pretty much fits the evolution of mankind's systems. The last pair pictures the crassest and most brutal world based on the rights of creditors and debtors — of those that "stealeth" and those that "swear falsely."

Indeed, that is the world today — a world witnessing an explosion of debt and the widest chasm between the lenders and borrowers ever in history. Interestingly, it is a commercial system perched upon the "double entry" bookkeeping system, its foundational duality.

#### Zechariah's Conclusion: The Final Judgment

The rendering of Zechariah speaks of an endpoint — a final judgment. He sees a picture of the world that is being cursed in its sophisticated perversions of stealing and perjury. Then comes the point where this idolatry is encased in an ephah and moved. The ephah, with the filth and wickedness it contains, which is the related condition to the "*swearing and stealing*" that is upon the whole earth and is therefore under a curse, is sealed off with a heavy lid of lead and is removed to a specific location.

The key aspects here are removal and sealing off. We note that Zechariah tells us that after the contents of the ephah are revealed, that the angel "*pushed her back into the basket and then pushed the lead down over its mouth*" (Verse 8). This does not reveal a releasing of this wickedness and idolatry to again flourish in some endtime location, but rather a sealing. It is an end.

Next, we are told that the ephah is taken away, to be set upon its base which is a place that has been prepared for it ahead of time (verse 11). We must ask ourselves why such advance preparations are required. And, who is doing the “preparing”? Of the many answers that can be probed, the only one that relates to the general theme of judgment in this entire chapter is that this removal is one for divinely-set purposes.

In other words, the filth and wickedness of a worldwide condition is quarantined and set upon a “*resting place*” (a base, possibly being a *dungeon*) somewhere in the land of Shinar.

### **Iniquity Moved to its Final Quarantine**

What is the significance of Shinar being mentioned as the final resting place for the flying ephah? Consider the significance of this location. It is just outside the eastern extremity of the land promised to the covenantal descendants of Abraham which is the Euphrates River (Genesis 15:18). Shinar is on the eastern side of this river, as is Babylon, and therefore is just outside the periphery of the restored Millennial Israel.

As the ephah contained wickedness (Zechariah 5:8) and as the restored land of Israel is considered Holy in the Millennial period — harboring the holy hill of Zion and Holy Jerusalem — it is therefore understandable why this worldwide “*wickedness*” would be removed to somewhere outside the millennial Israel. As Shinar was the original source of this wickedness, it is most fitting that it be returned to that location.

### **The Meaning of Shinar**

It is also significant that the original Hebrew texts confirm that Zechariah uses the word “Shinar” in identifying the future and final location of the ephah and not Babylonia. The latter term Babylonia (*which some Bible translations incorrectly use*) was the more modern term for this region during the time of this prophet’s ministry (*after the Babylonian captivity of Judah*). The Babylonian kingdom at that time is referred to as Neo-Babylon by Assyriologists (*experts in Middle Eastern history and archeology*). Though both terms, Shinar and Babylonia, refer to the very same general region, the former is the more ancient term harking back to the days of Nimrod and Semiramus. That was at least 2000 years before the prophet’s time, even earlier than Chaldea. This was the era out of which the original post-flood paganism and commercialism were spawned.

Since Zechariah refers to ancient Shinar, it is reasonable to conclude that he must be linking this prophecy to the ending of the ancient pagan beliefs and idolatry that first emanated out of the time of Nimrod, not the Neo-Babylonian empire. It is these that are removed to a dungeon outside the Millennial kingdom.

### **Babylon Rebuilt?**

Recognized is that many respected prophecy scholars see these final verses in Zechariah 5 that refer to the Ephah being moved to Shinar as lining up with a revived, rebuilt

Babylon. In fact, some use this reference as proof that this will be the case. As such, they see the ancient commercialism and paganism being returned to its previous eminence in the rebuilt Babylon just before the final Armageddon.

Actually, Zechariah 5 provides no such proof. In fact, over the course of studying this topic, I have also gradually shifted my own views on this point. While possibly other Bible references may be used to support the “rebuilt Babylon” view, verse 11 here cannot qualify, for several reasons.

Firstly, Shinar, the location to which the wicked is removed, is a region and not a city. Also, as already shown, the term Shinar does not refer to the same era as Babylonia, though they are the same general region. Therefore, to link this prophecy to the city of Babylon and its rebuilding cannot be substantiated. This verse simply does not say this, neither referring to any rebuilding nor any city. Furthermore, as we have learned, the prophecies contained in the 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> visions speak of an end and a judgment, not a period of reflourishing wickedness.

There are additional problems with the interpretation that the ancient city of Babylon will revive as a great commercial centre of the world during the endtime. First, those who assume that this indeed will yet occur link it with the great global commercial colossus identified as Babylon the Great in Revelation 18. For this to occur, we must expect some monumental changes to occur over a very short time frame. This shift must take place no later than the Tribulation period. Could this really happen?

We recognize, of course, that just because Bible prophecy may sometimes speak of incredible and unlikely developments (*as humans may see them*), this in no way disproves future literal fulfillment. Yet, let’s consider the possibility of such a development as the city of Babylon reviving and the necessary developments for this to transpire.

### **Unlikely Events Must be Expected**

As is well known, the ancient city of Babylon is located in Iraq of today. One could not think of a more dysfunctional and unruly country in the present-day world. Even the world’s only superpower cannot bring this region to heel. Are we to believe that this region will be transformed into the centre of the world’s trading system by the mid-point of the Tribulation? If so, it would soon have to overshadow the financial and trade centers of New York, London, Frankfurt, Singapore or Hong Kong. Practically, how long of a period would such a transition require, were it possible?

Never before in the history of the world has such an unlikely transition taken place in a period of less than 50 years...even perhaps a hundred years. Not only does scripture appear to preclude this outcome, this scenario stretches simple common sense and historical precedent.

To begin, we must remember that we are living in the

... continued on page 8

## Facts & Stats ... Ends & Trends



## TOPICAL QUOTES

In what may be another case of research confirming common sense, a new study by Lancet Psychiatry links suicide to unemployment. Carlos Nordt, Ingeborg Warnke, Erich Seifritz, and Wolfram Kawohl crunched data from all over the world and concluded, "Suicides associated with unemployment totaled a nine-fold higher number of deaths than excess suicides attributed to the most recent economic crisis." In all four regions of the world studied "unemployment was related to an increased relative risk of suicide by 20-30%. — **www.zerohedge.com, March 2, 2015**

The largest five banks in the U.S. now control nearly 45 percent of the industry's total assets, according to an analysis from SNL Financial that comes amid an earnings season that has been generally positive for the largest institutions. In total, the five institutions—JPMorgan Chase, Bank of America, Wells Fargo, Citigroup and U.S. Bancorp—had just under \$7 trillion in total assets as of the end of 2014. That's good for 44.61 percent of the industry total. It also leaves the other 55.4 percent of the assets to be divided up among 6,504 other institutions. Banks had total assets of just over \$15 trillion at year's end, a number that has grown to about \$15.3 trillion in 2015, according to the Federal Reserve. — **CNBC, April 15, 2015**

With Abenomics seemingly a total failure (aside from managing to collapse the currency and living standards of the population - worst Misery Index in 33 years) the demographic crisis that Japan faces just got more crisis-er. As NHKWorld reports, Japan's population continues to fall (4th year in a row) but what is worse, there are now 33 million people over the age of 65 (a record 26%), more than double the number under the age of 14 (16.2 million). The ministry says the population will likely continue declining for some time as fewer babies are born and society ages. — **Zerohedge, April 17, 2015**

\$121 Billion. Annual cost of all wasted time and fuel from being stuck in traffic in the U.S.. 11 Billion liters: That's how much extra fuel Americans consume due to all that traffic—adding up to 25.4 billion kilograms of carbon dioxide released in the atmosphere by idling cars. — **Report on Business, April 2015**

Over 40,000 Americans took their own lives in 2012—more than died in car crashes—says the American Association of Suicidology. Mondays in May see the most incidents. The rates are highest in Wyoming and Montana, perhaps because guns—which are more effective than pills—are so common there [...]. Nationally, guns are used in half of all successful suicides. — **The Economist, January 31, 2015**

For about 40 years, charitable giving held steady at about 2 percent of gross domestic product, while donations from individuals have stayed at around 2 percent of disposable personal income, according to Ray D. Madoff, a Boston College law professor and frequent critic of donor-advised funds. Over the last few years, the donor-advised funds have grabbed significant market share. The total amount of assets under management at donor-advised funds rose to \$54 billion in 2013, up 20 percent from \$45 billion a year earlier. Fidelity's alone have skyrocketed to \$13.2 billion. Contributions to donor-advised funds rose 24 percent in 2013, compared with the previous year, to \$17 billion. They only gave out less than \$10 billion, so money is building up in them. And the amount paid out each year declined in each of the last three years through 2013, according to Alan Cantor, who runs a philanthropy consultancy and is a frequent critic of donor-advised funds. — **Propublica, Dec. 10, 2014**

Simply put, if you were born in 1992 or later, America has been at war for at least two-thirds of your life and if you were born after 2001, you have never known life in the US without war. — **Washington Post, May 26, 2015**

"Men, it has been well said, think in herds; it will be seen that they go mad in herds, while they only recover their senses slowly, and one by one." — **Charles Mackay**

"A wise person should have money in their head, but not in their heart." — **Jonathan Swift**

"When it is a question of money, everybody is of the same religion." — **Voltaire**

"Opportunity is missed by most people because it is dressed in overalls and looks like work." — **Thomas Edison**

"What God says is best, is best, though all the men in the world are against it." — **John Bunyan, The Pilgrim's Progress**

"Bene vixit, bene qui latuit. (To live well is to live concealed.)" — **Ovid (42 BC-18 AD)**

"The most sacred thing is to be able to shut your own door." — **G.K. Chesterton (1874-1936)**

**EVR**

**Flying Scrolls and Baskets: A Vision of Today — Part II .... From Page 6**

very generation that Christ said will see the birth pangs of the endtime world. Israel, the fig tree, has come back to life.

We don't exactly know what length of term Christ meant by the phrase "*this generation*" (Matthew 24:34) when he said to the Jews — meaning the revived Israel of the future — that "*this generation will certainly not pass away until all these things have happened.*" It may be 60 to 70 years or more, but likely not centuries. If so, there simply is not enough time for Iraq or the city of Babylon to flower into the world's economic power centre. Alone, cultural changes of the type required to allow a Muslim nation such as Iraq to gain the type of broad-based power that determines world potency today requires many decades. This is improbable in itself.

**A Tree Must be Related to its Cultural Fruits**

An insightful book by Lawrence E. Harrison<sup>1</sup> recently concludes how unlikely and difficult it is for societies to change their cultural identities. The entirety of history provides no precedent for such a rapid change as would be required to so suddenly alter its cultural course. If and when this has happened for any particular society, such changes almost always occurred from within, requiring many years. Rarely were major cultural changes forced from outside.

Consider the case of Turkey. It can be argued that it, and its forerunner, the Ottoman Empire, has been making attempts to Westernize for perhaps as long as a century or more, especially so under Mustafa Kemal, its founder — Attaturk — since the middle 1920s. Yet, today, it remains a developing nation with a fundamentally Islamic society. Virtually 100% of its population is Muslim. It is still considered a developing economy by the World Bank and other such transnational agencies.

The type of transformation that is therefore required in Iraq in order to be able to control and commandeer the world economy would take much more time than could be allowed by Christ's indication of a "generation." Assuredly, as mentioned, what the Bible prophesies will surely happen no matter how unlikely and impossible it may seem. However, let's be reasonable. At the very earliest, something as unlikely as a revived Babylon would take many, many decades if it is to fit the descriptions found in Revelation 18. On that logical basis, we must conclude that the Tribulation period is still 50 years or more in the future at the earliest.

Yet, revived Israel is on the scene today. We would then have to agree that a generation must be at least 100 years if not much more. Also, if a revived Babylon were to occur any quicker, we must then consider that apocalyptic events would be needed to change the order of the world that rapidly. Yet, apocalyptic events of this scope prophesied anywhere in the Bible of yet future events do not take place any earlier than in the Tribulation period.

Finally, we consider one more argument that rules out a revived city of Babylon as the world's future economic node. The Babylon the Great of Revelation 18 is not in fact a city. In fact, endtime Babylon the Great is never called a city

in the Bible. To be technically correct, the "commercial" Babylon of Revelation 18 is always called the "*great city.*" Six times in the Book of Revelation, it is never called a "city," only a "great city." This is significant. The term "great city" most likely refers to something bigger than a single or normal city. There are strong arguments to be made that it refers to a systemic, global commercial regime, rather than a single city.

**Points to Ponder – Part II**

We conclude our review of the visions of the strange, flying scroll and the transported ephah. If we have followed their literal, common-sense meanings, we may now understand some very important prophecies that in some cases may have been opaque to readers.

It is prophecy in the form of symbols that is intended to convey a specific meaning, not an allegorical one. Often, prophecy of this type can contain things or concern events which are not understandable to the prophet relative to the conditions of the time during which they lived. While the two visions do in fact concern concepts that would have been impossible to understand 2800 years ago, they do not refer to strange technology but rather to futuristic, systemic forms. Zechariah is not referring to intercontinental ballistic missiles or satellites or any other such inventive thing. He is referring to an endtime period of massive and idolatrous commercialism that will envelop the world.

The ephah of wickedness will indeed be taken to Shinar — the land of Babylonia — and become an astonishment. It speaks of the end, not a beginning.

It fits hand-in-glove with the conditions that will fully be realized in the Tribulation period:

*"The coming of the lawless one will be in accordance with the work of Satan displayed in all kinds of counterfeit miracles, signs and wonders, and in every sort of evil that deceives those who are perishing. They perish because they refused to love the truth and so be saved. For this reason God sends them a powerful delusion so that they will believe the lie and so that all will be condemned who have not believed the truth but have delighted in wickedness."* (2 Thessalonians 2:9-12)

We now live during that time where we can see such conditions develop before our eyes. For how long will the Lord yet tarry? The curse is already upon the land and the world. Economic inequities and injustices are waxing great. Man's wealth and commercial systems are exploding into prominence above all else.

Yet, we Christians must face this flood of iniquity and stand firm. Admittedly, it is near impossible. Even as we strive not to participate in the world's materialistic orgy, we can identify with Jeremiah, who complained, "*Alas, my mother, that you gave me birth, a man with whom the whole land strives and contends! I have neither lent nor borrowed, yet everyone curses me*" (Jeremiah 15:10).

**EVR****Notes:**

1. Harrison, Lawrence E. *The Central Liberal Truth: How Politics Can Change a Culture and Save it From Itself.* Oxford University Press, 2006.



## Letters to the Editor

**EVR READER:** Dear Wilfred. Thank you for your topics (carried on RaptureReady.com). Friends are caught up in the 4 blood moons. I looked up all the references in the Bible and couldn't see that the Rapture or any signification event was going to take place this Fall [as was predicted]. I thought we were to be watching and waiting every day [rather than at any one specific point in time]. [...] Thanks for helping to keep us on track. Jesus, King of Kings. — **D.B.**

**EVR READER:** [Re: April EVR] I wanted to take a quick minute to thank you for your monthly EVR. I definitely appreciate your analysis of the financial world from a Christian worldview. This month, I was especially delighted to find your Personal Perspective on "Evolutionism." We homeschool our 5 kids, but their involvement in local community theater brings them into contact with their peers with many various beliefs. One of them is obviously evolution. I became especially interested in the discussion over a decade ago when my interest in astronomy forced me to consider the distant starlight issue in light of a young-earth creation viewpoint. Over the years I have read quite a bit on that and many other topics and it does surprise me how otherwise thoughtful people can hold to such a shaky theory of origins, even when presented with glaring problems such as information theory or the laws of thermodynamics. Thank you for your willingness to not only take a personal stand [...] and] to write a series of articles on the issue. I look forward to future installments. — **R.C.**

**EVR READER:** Dear Friends [re: Wrong Headed Prophecy Series], I am on the 4th section of your lesson and find it to be a very thorough lesson. I will certainly have to read it more than once. I have not gotten to the end of the series as of yet, but I have questions that have been on my mind for some time. It would appear from Scripture that Satan's whole "game plan" is to mimic Jesus. Thus, the question arises, would it be allowable to conclude that there is a woman who will or has carried a child who is Satan's? Or is the act of indwelling by Satan of the Antichrist only upon the Antichrist's apparent death where he is wounded in the head? A second question, if you will permit me, is this: It would seem to me that the 4th Kingdom of the Roman Empire has never really ceased to exist – rather it has been cocooned in the Vatican City with an ever-greater reach under the guise of Christianity in the cloak of the church at Rome. Its Caesar is actually worshipped as God and is more powerful today with a more global influence than any Roman ruler before him. Is this a safe conclusion? The section 'b' of this question is that when one considers the size and sphere of Islam, must it in some way be tied to the Roman church if the Roman empire is to have its influence in the last days? — **S.G.**

**EVR:** You propose some controversial views. I will attempt

some answers which you will need to judge. First, is the Antichrist born of a woman? Most definitely. Then, at some later point, he is so completely possessed by Satan that he is actually referred to as the Beast. He will be Satan in the flesh on earth. However, the matter of the wounded head, in my interpretation, has been grossly misinterpreted. It is one of the 7 heads that is "wounded as if unto death" (Revelation 13:3) not one of the kings that is represented as one of the 10 horns. This is significant. The heads symbolize 7 successive ruling kingdoms that have suppressed and persecuted the Jews. These have comprised dynasties and successive kings, not just a single king. Therefore, it is not a specific king that is wounded, but a collective kingdom. Which would this be? It can only be the sixth head or seventh head that could be wounded. Since I believe it can be deduced that the seventh itself is the head with the 10 horns (in other words, a global rule comprised of a union of 10 separate nations (kings)) and is the kingdom that exists for only a short time (Revelation 17:10) it is compelling to conclude that it is the sixth head that endures the near-fatal wound. This is the Roman Empire to which you refer. It is today a world ruled by Roman-nation offshoots. This Roman kingdom, surviving under various guises, was nearly expunged in the Middle Ages by the Muslim nations. It is also possible that it will be the seventh head that will be wounded "as if unto death." But that would then yet be a future event. As already mentioned, please judge these views for yourself.

**EVR**

Greatest Faith of All: Evolutionism Part II

... from back page

who are Creationists. Unfortunately, admitting to such a belief apparently does not accelerate one's career in academia. This black-balling also applies to any profession with a public profile — from politician to a global investment strategist. Evolutionists are not above persecuting anyone who disagrees with them. In a sense, they use similar tactics as ISIS (the extremist Islamist group). If you do not accept their beliefs at gunpoint, you will be academically beheaded...publicly discredited and baselessly ridiculed. There are countless such cases.

Creationist scientists do not protest providing the evidence for their views. There are some very excellent science journals available that adhere to Creationism! They provide fascinating and thoughtful "scientific" perspectives. (For example, see Journal of Creation or the website of the Creation Research Institute, for a large reserve of peer-reviewed scientific papers. Most readers will prefer somewhat lighter fare such as the Creation Magazine. I devour this bi-monthly publication from cover to cover. It is both fascinating and thought-provoking.)

But let's change course here for a moment and review an unaligned perspective of a famous avowed atheist. According to the late Fred Hoyle (a famous astronomer and somewhat provocative scientist): "[T]here are about two thousand enzymes, and the chance of obtaining them all in a random trial is only one part in 1040,000, an outrageously

small probability that could not be faced even if the whole universe consisted of organic soup.”<sup>1</sup>

Do you have any notion of what an exponential power of 40,000 actually means? Really, it is not a concept that is comprehensible to the human. There wouldn't be enough space in the known universe to hold all the failed molecules that supposedly would have resulted from the claimed experimental process of randomness. There are other estimates of these probabilities and these are heavily debated. However, for all intents, the scale of the improbability cannot be contested.

Yet, people persist in clinging onto the theory of random creation of life. The same Fred Hoyle made this comment: “Once we see, however, that the probability of life originating at random is so utterly miniscule as to make it absurd, [...] that one wonders why it is not widely accepted as being self-evident. The reasons are psychological rather than scientific.”<sup>2</sup>

Hoyle saw this persistence to believe in something that is impossible to be a “psychological” problem. He is on the right track, but not entirely. He himself was vulnerable to the same feats of human speculative illogic with his own theory of Panspermia. He proposed that earth's life forms found their genesis from viruses that were spread by comets. This theory wouldn't qualify for any better probabilities than we already reviewed.

The problem is not entirely psychological for scientists that study cosmology. It is a result of there being no option other than to accept the creation account. It would be a logical choice, but heaven forbid that there could be a Creator because that would mean there is a God. Yet, if Evolutionism is proven poppycock, then there really is only one systematic alternative, Creationism. And why not? There is not one shred of any scientific fact that disproves or invalidates Creationism and Evolutionists know this.

### **The Follies of Anti-Creationists**

Large gaps and holes remain in evolutionary theories, forcing its advocates to become ever more inventive and hilarious. Faced with fossil evidence that bears out a world history of perhaps millions of dying species, they spin a false story of evolution...of a process of new life, advancement, and expanding chromosomal information. It is the exact opposite as any child (that has not yet been indoctrinated) would agree. It has been a history of death and lost genetic information, not new life. This would be obvious to anyone honestly looking at the evidence.

Today's evolutionary theorists and “big bang” advocates regarding the beginning of the universe are already far past midnight. They have had their chance to find supporting evidence. With respect to the theory of evolution, for 150 years and more we have allowed them to continue digging for fossils; to continue to develop and systemize their theories. (Charles Darwin published his theory of evolution in his 1859 book, *On the Origin of the Species*.) Yet, they have not found any conclusive proofs for their theories.

They have not conclusively found the “missing links”;

they have not shown nor proven that life can come from inanimate matter (denying the Law of Biogenesis that says life can only come from life); and they continue to refuse to accept the statistical impossibility of even the most primitive of cells forming from random forces, let alone even one protein or enzyme.

True science would acknowledge facts and evidence. Adaptations and differences in the “kinds” of living creatures wouldn't be fraudulently passed off as evolution and scientists wouldn't need to twist and turn their theories to fit their bias. This is one more indication that the evolution theory is not science but religion. It chooses a belief system that is directly in conflict with facts and reasonability. It also is in conflict with the Bible. (A future part of this Apologetics Series will deal with the provenance of the Bible.)

### **Incorruptibility and Infallibility of Science**

Many Christians don't have the courage to hold to Creationism. They are intimidated by the supposedly “expert” claims of modern science. They do not want to feel ostracized from the popular views of their culture.

The image that most people have of a “scientist” is someone wearing a white-frosted coat who has a Ph.D. in one or more specialties. They are therefore revered and held to have “high knowledge” in their field, far above the common person. Their theories and beliefs are therefore felt to be beyond reproach and above question. As such, whatever they say, write or speculate, must be a worthy insight or fact...something based upon evidence.

Indeed, scientists should have an expertise in their field of study and research. I genuinely appreciate the discoveries of gifted scientists. How could one reject wonderful new discoveries and inventions? That would be sheer foolishness. However, some realism and perspective is useful here. Scientists are humans.

This may be surprising to learn: Much activity under the rubric of science is corrupt. There is an increasing recognition of this fact in the media in recent years. An alarming number of researchers have been caught falsifying their data and results. There is tremendous pressure to produce results in order to win recognition and contracts. Science journals have been forced to tighten up peer review requirements for research articles. Surveys have revealed an alarmingly high rate of errors in experiment validation and in the supporting references in published papers.

This should not be surprising. This corruption parallels the trends witnessed in financial markets and most everywhere else. As with everything, money makes the world go around. It can bias perspectives and create bad incentives. The point here is that so-called scientists are fallible human beings like everyone else.

Back to so-called Christians. As it is, “Christian” is hardly a well-defined term. Anyone can declare themselves to be a Christian. There is no standards agency anywhere in the world that validates true Bible-believing Christians. As such, no one will ever be sued for brand fraud should they

falsify any tenet or foundation of this faith. Many people are “cultural Christians” and do not hold a Biblical world view. Effectively, by denying the creation account, one has invalidated the entire Bible. Jesus Christ is therefore cast as a liar. (A future article in this Apologetics Series will deal with the question of Christ. Did he really exist or not? What makes him different from Siddhartha Gautama (See founder of Buddhism) or Muhammad?)

The New Testament records Christ referring to the “creation” as the beginning a number of times (Matthew 25:34, Mark 10:6, John 17:24). Mark records him saying specifically “[...] from the beginning, when God created the world, until now [...]” (Mark 13:19). On none of these occasions does Jesus refute the Genesis creation account nor provide any clarifications or corrections. None were needed.

Anti-Creationism: The Answers of Evolutionism Found Wanting

Evolutionism is a religious belief system that also fails to satisfactorily answer the questions that hauntingly harbor in the souls of all mankind. Why do I exist? What is my purpose? What happens to “me” after I die? Is my existence meaningless? What thinking and intellectually-honest person will not admit to such thoughts?

The fact that these questions even exist is itself a refutation of the evolutionary theories of the origin of man. Concepts as are revealed by these questions do not and cannot “evolve” from primordial slime nor are these organically transmitted from one living organism to another.

The greatest atheistic thinkers (whether scientists or philosophers) have no answer to these “why” questions. “Why does the universe even go to the bother to exist?” questions the famous cosmological physicist, Stephen Hawking. The fact that all mankind has ingrained in them such concepts as “love” and “justice” alone proves naturalism cannot explain the inner thoughts and destinies of man. What human being does not feel wronged when some action is deemed to be “unfair”? These are ideas and concepts that evolution has no need nor means to develop.

Yet, our society taunts Creation believers as being “primitive” should they hold the view that the Theory of Evolution is not supported by evidence. Apparently, therefore, I am not a credible economist, money manager or global analyst. You therefore should not do any business with anyone of my ilk. That’s illogical. Let the evidence show for what it is.

Business comes and goes. What I rankle against is that we live in a society that arrogantly elevates its “consensus views” to a state of manifest superiority without the burden of proof, therefore condemning all bona-fide, Bible-believing Christians as simpletons. In public secular life, this is the prevailing and a priori view. Before examination, before discussion, before any reasoning on the part of the secularist “consensus” holder, if you are associated with a Bible-believing perspective, by the popular mores of our culture and the world you are therefore presumed to be primitive and stupid.

As I have shown, it couldn’t be more opposite. We should be contemptible of those who never think nor examine the evidence for what they believe, who uncritically gobble up the pabulum served up by misinformed societal consensus and who are frightened to hold an independent view.

Who is more courageous? Who is refusing to think honestly and without bias? Just who is willing to let the facts stand? Who cares about truth?

### Thoughts to Ponder

Evolutionism is actually one of the world’s great terrorist religions. It has a deceptive agenda pushed by unethical religionists. To repeat, it is not science but pseudoscience and a blind faith in metaphysics.

It can only be so out of a spirit that refuses to acknowledge the existence of a loving, yet authoritative God. However, God is not mocked. The wonderful work of his hands — we who are [...] fearfully and wonderfully made” (Psalm 139:14); mortal man whose days are numbered upon earth...who shall return unto dust...who is dependent upon the Creator for salvation and eternity. Who ridicules this Great God?

To this day, the secular “scientific” theories of beginnings and evolution are unproven. As scientists discover additional complexities of Creation, their theories become ever more contorted, imaginative, and ludicrous. Too many impossibilities and contradictions are encountered. To this day, no “scientist” has proven that something complex can autonomously arise from nothingness and randomness.

Sadly, as pointed out, facts and logical deduction aren’t the deciding factor. People who don’t want to believe in Creation and a personal God therefore must deny the facts. They will hold on to the unproven and the foolish.

We see that supposedly learned people don’t heed facts. Such foundational observations of science as the first and second laws of thermodynamics can also be ignored. Why? Because much of the thinking in this field of Evolutionism is driven by a priori adherence to atheism and/or a denial of Biblical Creation. And that is not all. For some reason, this branch of so-called scientific inquiry feels itself above the requirement of proofs and observation to elevate its beliefs as fact. They must do so dishonestly (and to be kind, ignorantly). It is tragic that most people do not see the folly.

Will you believe that there is a God? Will you believe the facts and the Truth? Do you believe that God created you? It is wonderful to ponder on the truth that God created you and knows you to be a special individual. You are known to him. He wants to have a relationship with us and wishes that none of His human creations would go lost (2 Peter 3:9). He therefore sent his son Jesus Christ, and promised that whosoever would believe that he was his Son, that they would have eternal life (John 3:16).

### Notes:

1. F. Hoyle & C. Wickramasinghe (1981), “Evolution From Space”, J.M. Dent & Sons: London p. 24.
2. Ibid. pp. 141, 144, 130



## Personal Perspective

### Greatest Faith of All: Evolutionism — Part II

*[Editors Note: Last issued we started an apologetic series. I want to present the evidence for what I believe. Few people think about the proofs of why and what they believe. Is it reasonable? Are other beliefs more reasonable? What do the evidence and proofs argue? We will cover a wide subject area — from Evolutionism to the validity of historicity to why Jews are unique, prophecy and other topics.]*

In Part I of this apologetics series we opined that fanatic evolutionists give real science a black eye. Perspectives promoting the theory of evolution, as we reviewed, are mostly supported by pseudo-science and employ as much metaphysics as any other religion. Let's further examine "science" that concerns itself with the questions of the beginnings...what is sometimes referred to as "historical science."

Let's first deal with the basic question of life. For now, let's leave aside the unfathomable complexities of a human being comprised of trillions upon trillions of organized, specialized and interdependent cells. The probability alone that random events could have produced the complexity of a simple cell (one of the simplest self-sustaining and replicating life forms) is so unlikely that to believe this is possible is to rely completely on metaphysical beliefs. It would represent a religion even more primitive than ancient nature worshippers who nevertheless could at least recognize that there must be a higher power.

My undergraduate degree was in science with an emphasis in biology. I enjoyed learning about physics, biochemistry, genetics, and microbiology. In fact, I even enjoyed learning about invertebrate and vertebrate morphology. Not surprisingly, the prescribed textbooks for these latter courses were heavily laced with Evolutionism. As I recall at the time, it was presented by my biology professors as fact...not theory.

One of the most impactful topics I studied was Histology (the study of the structures of a single cell). Even the most primitive of cells (this itself being a presumptuous statement, as we cannot really be sure what is a primitive cell) with few enzymes, DNA and RNA strands, is so incredibly complex it is IMPOSSIBLE that it could originate from random processes. Why impossible?

No one, were they to dig up a Rolex watch from an archeological site, for instance, would think that it originated from random processes. A design would be evident. The Law of Entropy would otherwise have been overturned. Yet, the simplest enzyme (of which a minimum of 600 different kinds are required for a basic living cell) is countless more times as complex, specific and intricate.

The probability that just one of these enzymes could be formed by chance is 1 to 1047 give or take a few exponents. Evolutionists get picky about these calculations of Creationists and like to claim that these are in error. Usually, they propose a whole further list of imagined preconditions to their calculations, which are complete speculation for which there is NO evidence. (See <http://unmaskingevolution.com> for some methodologies and sample calculations.)

In any case, an enzyme, once randomly created, would then need to enter a stable, ordered configuration along with another 600-plus randomly produced enzymes for it to serve any useful function. In addition, consider that any molecule cannot be a mirror image of the molecule that is actually required. Otherwise, it would be deadly to a cell.

Then, what about the probability of a complete operating cell being formed out of a chance encounter of atoms and molecules? It is zero (as far as the human mind can comprehend). Multiplying zero probability by billions upon billions of years still produces a big zero. Keep in mind that were it possible (which it isn't) that such a randomly-formed cell could occur in the first place, it would also have needed the mysterious spark of life. Right away it would need to begin functioning, consuming energy and dispelling waste. And not only that, this randomly formed cell would also have required an immense amount of programmed information in its RNA. If not, for example, how would it automatically start the process of mitosis (the complex reproduction of one cell into two)?

Considering the above-mentioned probabilities, what qualifies as religion...pseudo-science or Creationism? Surely logic and reasonability can be independent of religion, can they not? What perspective is more reasonable...which is more impossible than the other?

Evolution cannot be proven and Creationism cannot be disproven. Intellectual integrity would admit this logical conundrum and cause Evolutionists to come off their high horse with their baseless tactic of ridicule. It is not only Christians (who are Bible-believers) that reject Evolutionism. There are many agnostics and atheists who do as well. Why? They do not have enough faith to believe in Evolutionism.

#### Do Not Let Facts Get in the Way

It has already been known for many decades that impossible processes and probabilities are required to validate the theory of evolution as well as the random creation of life. Even many secular scientists (some who would consider themselves atheists) have admitted to the impossible probabilities of even one amino acid being formed by random chance (this the basic building block of all enzymes, RNA and DNA...all polypeptides).

Incidentally, there exist many bona fide scientists today

... continued on page 9

