

The DEFENDER - September 2018

“... defending the faith once delivered unto the saints” (Jude 3)

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IN DEFENSE OF TRUTH radio broadcast.



FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK: Words Have Meaning

There are two words in use in our culture today which have great meaning for Bible believing people. They both speak to issues that are not only relevant in our society but also to the directives given to us by our Lord. Those two words are oxymoron and compromise.

An oxymoron is a figure of speech in which apparently contradictory terms appear in conjunction. A clear example of an oxymoron is the term 'undocumented immigrant.' Undocumented means that you have no official papers, which makes you illegal. And immigrant is someone who enters another country *with* papers, making the entry legal. You can be undocumented or you can be an immigrant. But you can't be both. Yet that's how the mainstream news media described the alleged killer of University of Iowa student Mollie Tibbetts. Now you know why we refer to them as the Fake News.

President Donald Trump correctly referred to Mollie's alleged murderer as an illegal alien, which is *not* an oxymoron, and was immediately called out by the Left as being a racist, alluding to the fact that the perpetrator is a Mexican. Those are the facts. You'll have to decide for yourself who's right and who's wrong, but too many in our nation are guilty of lying and bearing false witness, both egregious sins in the eyes of the Lord.

Compromise is defined as an agreement that is reached by making concessions. That said, conservatives will always lose when compromising with liberals. Examples of this are clear in the fields of religion and politics. Any Bible believing Christian who compromises on any of the fundamental tenets of our faith is falling away from the truth and joining other apostates under the big tent of ecumenism. When a true believer joins forces with a non-believer, the non-believer doesn't lose anything. But the true Christian has just watered down his faith.

It's the same in the political world. Liberals don't lose anything when conservatives compromise in an effort to be bi-partisan. Democrats remain liberal while Republicans become Rinos. In fact, anything to the left of the Constitution is a compromise to the liberty and freedoms granted to us here in America by our Creator. Compromise is a losing endeavor. At risk politically is our nation. At risk spiritually is your eternal salvation. Neither is a risk that I'm willing to take.

Rev. David Lewis

Defending Biblical Creation Part II – Basics for Victory

By Robert Luthardt, Sr.

A significant part of every Christian's duty was imparted by the Apostle Peter, "For so is the will of God that with well doing ye may put to silence the ignorance of foolish men" (1 Pet. 2:15) and also, "But sanctify the Lord God in your heart: and be ready ALWAYS to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear" (1 Pet. 3:15).

The Lord Himself gives us our general orders, "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind and ... thy neighbor as thyself" (Matt. 22:37-40). The Apostle Paul declared who exactly are our enemies, "For we wrestle NOT against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against rulers of the darkness of this world" (Ep. 6:12).

There is an apt description in the Psalms of our own adversaries, "The fool has said in his heart there is no God" (Ps. 14:1, 53:1) and Proverbs gives the reason why they are ignorant and foolish, they "despise wisdom and instruction" (Prov. 1:7). So, we expect to hear opposition to Christ's Gospel and to God's Word and to our personal witness. This could be the very reason Christ commanded, "Let your light so shine before men that they may see your good works and glorify your Father...." (Matt. 5:16).

They may close their eyes and stop their ears and even quench the Spirit (1 Thes. 5:19), but God has shown to all His creatures that all are "without excuse" (Rom. 1:20). Jude indicated our proper attitude and actions with, "And of some have compassion ... others save with fear, pulling them out of the fire; hating even the garment spotted by the flesh (Jude 22-23)." We hate the sin but not the sinner.

God the Father has the right, by His perfect holiness, to be "angry with the wicked every day" (Ps. 7:11), but we have not that right for we too are sinners (Matt. 7:5; Rom. 3:23). Thank God and praise His name (Luke 23:39-43; Rom 10:9-10) for our undeserved Gift of salvation by Grace alone, through faith alone, in Christ's finished work ALONE (John 6:44; Ep. 2:1-10; Heb. 9:11-12, 25-28; 10:10-14). Now the Holy Spirit that lives in our regenerated hearts (Rom. 8:11; 1 John 4:13) impels us to strive for perfection (Matt. 5:48; Ep. 4:13) that will be fully realized in heaven (1 Cor. 15:50-58).

How are we to answer the "foolish man" that Peter wrote, "we are ALWAYS to give an answer;" those we are to love though they be our enemies? (Matt. 5:44). What should be the basis of interchange with those still ruled by "the prince of the power of the air," those still "children of disobedience"? (Ep. 2:2-3). The writer of the Book of Proverbs instructed, "Answer not a fool according to his folly, lest thou be like unto him. Answer a fool according to his folly, lest he be wise in his own conceits" (Prov. 26:4-5).

Dr. Jason Lisle, a scientist with "Answers in Genesis" wrote in his excellent book, "The Ultimate Proof of Creation" about how a lay-Christian and non-scientist can adopt his simple

formula to have a God-honoring answer for anyone, even the “educated elite.” Dr. Lisle, relying on Proverbs 26:4-5, calls his method the “No Answer, Answer.” This will also work well with those who come by twos knocking on our front doors. The pathway that Dr. Lisle teaches shows how to keep focused on God’s Word and not to even deal with fallacious claims of the “fool” (Ps. 14:1) but to instead “declare the hope that is in us” (1 Pet. 3:15) that the fullness of our heart-felt joy (John 15:11) may be God’s tool to “draw the lost” (John 6:44). We know we have eternal life (John 1:16; 20:31; 1 John 5:13) by grace and those trying to earn it by their own good works, do not. Your faithful witness may be “the lamp unto their feet” (Ps. 119:105).

Many unbelievers and Christians have been misled to disbelieve portions of scripture. That God created the Universe and all living in 6 literal 24-hour days is the undeniable message of Genesis, chapter one. Dr. Lisle shows how a little Bible knowledge and some basic common-sense scientific facts can easily dismantle this and other contentions of the unwise. Dr. Lisle has laid an excellent foundation for his Ultimate Proof, with readily understandable scientific findings and selected scriptures, that ANY Christian can use to “put to silence the ignorance of foolish men” (1 Pet. 2:15). He shows how to go on the offense without being offensive so that “those that oppose themselves” (2 Tim. 2:24-26) are left “without excuse” (Rom. 1:18-22).

Skeptics, evolutionists, and liberal Christians do have their responses and claims based on the presuppositions of their worldviews. Some stubbornly ignore what the evidence proves to be true about God and His creation. Some are so pride-filled that they willfully ignore clear signs (such as “The Bridge is Out”). Their “idol” of independence allows them to comfortably wallow in irrationality. They may sing, “I did it my way,” but this could be their funeral dirge and epitaph for eternity.

The main thrust of Dr. Lisle’s book is that any Christian can defend God’s Word and the technique he outlines (once learned) negates the need for a library of books on apologetics or the memorization of a mountain of scientific facts. He does define a couple of terms. Evolution means that ALL life supposedly originated and developed into every living thing we see, having evolved over millions of years from one single-celled organism. Some shorten it to “the slime, plus time, plus chance theory.” The single cell supposedly sprang to life out of lifeless chemicals (a miracle as spectacular as ANY in scripture and requiring even more faith since there are NO eyewitnesses to any evolutionary claim).

Creation, Dr. Lisle defines as, “God made the universe and all living exactly as Genesis chapter one describes; in 6 literal 24-hour days.” It also means God made animals after their “KINDS,” able to reproduce immediately. They may change, but only “WITHIN” their kinds. No one, scientist or non-scientist, has ever observed or produced indisputable evidence that one kind changes into a wholly different kind (or species).

Dr. Lisle’s methodology can be used to confound atheists, evolutionists and those who profess to be Christians (some may be) yet discount portions of the Bible and thereby undermine its authority. Without Biblical weaponry and armor, none can “answer a fool according to his folly,” for they have “become like him” (Prov. 26:4-5; Ep. 6:11, 17; Heb. 4:12; 1 Tim. 6:12).

Dr. Lisle encourages starting right with the sword of God’s Word (see 2 Tim. 3:16; 2 Pet. 1:20-21; Heb. 1:1-3). The Creator is our Savior who preserves His Word, His creation and His chosen family (Gen. 1:1; Matt. 24:35; John 1:1-3, 14; Col. 1:16; Ep. 1:4-5, 11).

Too often, debates on origins have both sides talking past each other because facts are re-interpreted by one's presuppositions. Dr. Lisle's Ultimate Proof cannot be based upon science alone or faith alone (rigidity shuts off communication and rational investigation). There is, however, a super abundance of scientific evidence that supports God's created order and disproves evolution to convince the open-minded. The Bible's marvelous history starts human genealogies with Adam a few thousand years ago. Even secular history's written records are only a few thousand years old, yet man is alleged to be a million years old – without evidence.

The 20th Century explosion of the "Information Sciences" (the Genome, DNA, etc.) has "laid the axe" to the evolutionary tree. DNA codes in every cell are the building blocks of proteins – the instructions and impetus to "build" the organism (man, etc.). The different "kinds" have wholly different coded DNA messages. There is NO known or accidental law that can account for this irreducibly complex information (100% of ALL parts must be in place and operable – at once – for life to even begin at all – and to continue. Life cannot wait for parts to "evolve" over eons of time or to spontaneously generate from dead chemicals. There is not the slightest hint that the universe sprang from nothing – that nothing began everything. Nowhere is order observed flowing out of disorder (the fanciful Big Bang explosion) or life springing from non-living chemicals or matter. Design requires a Designer and the intricacies of design are absolutely everywhere in the created order.

The microbiological sciences have discovered within every cell "biochemical machines" that work, moving about building and cleaning (even putting out the trash) and are by "design" absolutely necessary for the life of every cell and of the organism. If just one part of these machines is unworkable (waiting for evolution) the cell and the organism cannot live. We worship a marvelous, loving Creator and Savior.

Keep looking up.

<u>Chief Source:</u>	The Ultimate Proof of Creation
<u>Author:</u>	Dr. Jason Lisle
<u>Obtained From:</u>	Answers in Genesis
<u>Web Site:</u>	answersingenesis.org
<u>Address:</u>	P.O. Box 510, Hebron, KY 41048
<u>Telephone:</u>	800.778.3390



Thou Wilt Keep Him in Perfect Peace – Part 2

By Nancy Long

“Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on Thee.”
(Isaiah. 26:3)

This hymn, words and music, written by Vivian Kretz, and based on the above Scripture in Isaiah, goes on to say:

*“When the shadows come and darkness falls, He giveth inward peace.
O He is the only perfect resting place, He giveth perfect peace!
Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on Thee.”*

The absolute perfection of peace can only be found in the Prince of Peace, who is Christ Jesus (Isaiah 9:6) *“For there is one God and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus”* (1 Tim. 2:5). *“For He is our peace, who hath made both one, and hath broken down the middle wall of partition between us”* (Eph. 2:14). Are you able to say with complete and total assurance that you have peace with God? If you are a Christian; if you’ve been born again, washed and cleansed by the precious blood of Jesus, have accepted the finished work of Christ on the cross, and received His free gift of grace, then you can indeed answer with faith and confidence, *“Yes, I do have peace with God”* (Romans 5:1).

The debt has been paid; we no more are at enmity with God; the war is over; what in times past had been a broken relationship between the Creator and His creation, has now been restored. We once again have peace with God!

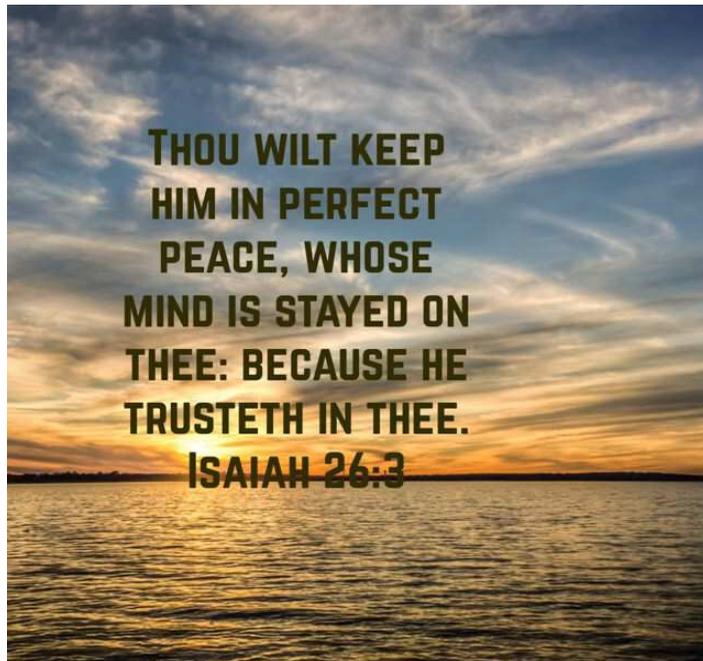
“And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus” (Phil. 4:7). When we fully recognize, trust, and believe, that we indeed possess peace **with** God, which can only be provided **by** God, then we’re able to better understand, and work on, the perfect peace **of** God. Our Lord Jesus Christ has brought man back into a right relationship with God. What once had been severed, because of sin, has now been reconnected! Once again we’ve gained, by grace through faith, access to God, not based on our works, but laying claim solely on the worth and merit of Christ Jesus (Eph. 2:8-9).

We children of God have been promised His perfect peace **“when”** we stay our hearts and minds on things above. The repeated word, “peace, peace” in the original Hebrew signifies perfection, faultless, without flaws, impeccable, pure, and absolute lacking nothing. The Lord, in His providence, sends all people and situations into our lives, with the purpose of working everything together for our good and His glory (Romans 8:28). When seeking those things spiritual and setting our attention and affection on the sovereignty of God, more so than on the situations themselves, our hearts will be less troubled (John 14:27).

The peace of which is spoken here is an inward contentment and quietness of spirit, complete satisfaction and soul rest, regardless of the circumstances (Matt. 11:28). I see it as a still river of tranquility running silently through the deepest core of one's being.

The beauty of being in the center of God's perfect peace, I think, is that even though life's storms continue to rage about us, **His** peace is sufficient!! **His** peace is enough!!!

"Great peace have they which love Thy law" (Psalm 119:165). May we anchor ourselves to this truth, meditate on His Word, faithfully and firmly fix our hearts and minds on Jehovah, and you and I will receive the precious blessing of His promised, never ceasing, perpetual, **perfect** peace and rest.



Cult of the False Facts

By Michael Anthony

The year 1517 will live in infamy for the Roman Catholic Church. It is also a time heralded for the efforts by one individual to return the Christian faith back to its biblical roots. Those efforts began a movement: The Protestant Reformation. Martin Luther's belief that the Bible, not the Pope, was the ultimate spiritual authority also triggered the Counter-Reformation. The Catholic's Counter-Reformation resistance was in essence the same behavior displayed by the Pharisees to the teachings of Yeshua. In both cases these spiritual leaders advocated for change and were labeled heretics. One was murdered; the other escaped it. There is nothing new under the sun.

The years 1999, 2006 and 2017 may also be years that will live in historical infamy. These years mark the times when the Lutheran World Federation, the World Methodist Council, and the World Communion of Reformed Churches (respectively) adopted the Joint Declaration on the Doctrine of Justification written by the Catholic Church's Political Council for Promoting Christian Unity. It states that the churches now share "a common understanding of our justification by God's grace through faith in Christ." The signatories to this document have agreed that the conflict between the Catholics and Protestants is over.

Finally, the five hundred year conflict is over! Well, not really. The desire to unify believers and end disagreements is a worthy cause. These efforts will, however, culminate in a division that will darken this age forever and make the Inquisition seem peaceful in comparison.

The religious stage is set and the actors are beginning to learn their lines. Meanwhile our modern "sophisticated" society is embracing secular "doctrine" that not only contradicts biblical doctrine, but through law, prohibits the free exercise of that biblical doctrine. The war between secular humanism and Christianity is rapidly being won by the former. What will play out on this state is easy to predict. Christian organizations will sign on to the idea that unity is better than truth and the Truth will become unrecognizable!

Most Christian denominations have already abdicated their duty to teach every biblical doctrine. Instead, they prefer to dance around the tough issues and tickle the ears of the seekers with feel good messages and loud repetitive maniacal music. Modern Christian lyrics are more concerned with how Jesus makes us feel rather than how we can obey Him.

Consider the following as evidence of their biblical insecurity and desire to be inoffensive. Non-denominational church "In God We Trust" (no need to call them out by name at this point) purposefully skipped every line in Romans that speaks of the evils of homosexuality. When asked why? they responded with, "We didn't want to offend anyone. We believe that we can catch more flies with honey." Still think there's any real hope for unity?

The desire to unify is actually having a greater impact on the "church" than it is on the humanists. The humanists are getting what they want at the expense of the church's core beliefs. The new dichotomy or schism that is emerging is not simply between different biblical interpretations as it was in 1517, but between humanists united with a unified-church against the remnant.

In conclusion, take the time to prepare for the inevitable. The cult of the false facts is already coming together. They will unite and lead many away from the very One they claim to follow. They will unite with the secular humanists under the illusion of peace. Welcome to the birth pangs; the reformation is not over!

Our mission through the broadcast of In Defense of Truth and the publication of The Defender newsletter is to earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints (Jude 3). Our vision today is just as strong as it was back in 1963 when Dr. John Dekker began this outreach. We pray that you will continue to stand with us as we hold true to God's holy Word.

The Defender is available, free of charge, on audio CD.
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WRITE TO US!

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Upcoming Events!

If you are in or around the Baltimore area, we'd love to have you join us for these upcoming events!

Adult & Children's Sunday School	10:15 AM
Sunday Morning Worship & Children's Church	11:00 AM
Tuesday Afternoon Bible Study	1:30 PM
Wednesday Evening Bible Study	7:00 PM
Friday Night Youth Group	7:00 PM
God & Country Service (9/11)	7:00 PM