



CSA News

The Creation Science Association for Mid-America

"It is better to trust in the Lord than to put confidence in men" Psalm 118:8

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The Stuff That Dreams Are Made Of

By Ian Taylor

The history of the rise of humanism in Europe is the record of society's change in the way of thinking from being God-centered to becoming man-centered. This change was partially a reaction against the authoritarian rule by theologians who used Scripture to interpret nature but relied upon the writings of Aristotle to make those interpretations. [More than just a reaction to theologians, the change was also the "birth pangs" of the end-times rebellious spirit of man. He was rebelling against theologians, kings and all authorities, including God. Ed] This change in thinking began in the sixteenth century and has continued into the present day but two names are recognized by historians as being more responsible than any other for initiating this humanist world view. Those two names are Francis Bacon and René Descartes. For example, the Harvard political historian Mark Henrie writing in 1987 said:

"...modern rationalists with their complete skepticism about and animus towards existing social arrangements are most directly the heirs of Francis Bacon and René Descartes, who defined knowledge as universal human agreement based upon an infallible technique available to all: the scientific method. This narrow theory of knowledge is largely responsible for the prevalence of a mechanistic metaphor for reality and for the modern triumph of moral relativism, a perennial philosophical heresy which only in our age has presumed the robes of sacred truth."

Sir Francis Bacon (1561-1626) gave the world the scientific method, sometimes known as the Baconian method, tentatively at first in 1605 then more forcefully in his *Novum Organum* in 1620. This was further amplified in his *Advancement of Science* published in Latin in 1626 then finally in English in 1640. The French philosopher-scientist, René Descartes published his "scientific method" anonymously at first in 1637 as the *Discours de la Méthode*. Known as the "Cartesian method" this [Descartes claims] had been received as an inspiration thirteen years earlier in 1619. Each of these scientific methods differs slightly from the other but the first step common to both is for the investigator to rid his mind of preconception or bias. This sounds perfectly laudable but is, in fact, quite contrary to human nature and in practice is seldom, if ever, achieved. More significantly, by making this the first demand, Scripture is abandoned as the basis for inquiry and, by default, is replaced by human reason. This is the foundation for humanism and was introduced by the Baconian and Cartesian scientific methods. However, it is not the purpose of this essay to compare these scientific methods or to comment upon their deceptive nature but rather to trace and compare the source of each idea. In the case of Descartes, this is rather well documented but in Bacon's case the documentation is more obscure. Both men received their inspiration at about the same time and we will consider Bacon first since he was the older man. Historian James Spedding produced a seven-volume work on the life of Francis Bacon in 1861 and this has become

the definitive work. However, much more information has been unearthed since that date and the darker pages of Bacon's life have slowly been revealed. In the late nineteenth century, the correspondence of Anthony Bacon, the brother of Francis Bacon, was discovered in the archiepiscopal library of Lambeth Palace, London. In his commentary on this material, Historian Alfred Dodd noted that Francis Bacon not only had great poetical gifts but had confessed to taking the goddess Pallas Athene as his Muse and inspirer. Athene was the Greek goddess of wisdom and knowledge represented in mythology and classical sculpture with the spear of knowledge in her right hand ready to destroy the serpent of ignorance writhing at her left foot.

Several other researchers working in the late nineteenth century made another surprising discovery about Bacon. Francis Bacon moved in the Royal circles of Queen Elizabeth I and at this time it was not unusual for written communications to be in cipher. Bacon was a master in the use of cipher and the researchers, including Dr. Orville Owen in America and, working independently Elizabeth Gallup in England, broke the code used by Bacon. Owen relates how at an early age Bacon was inspired after he had accepted Athene as his Muse:

"A heavenly voice came to him which said: "The Divine Majesty takes delight to hide his work, according to the innocent play of children; surely for thee to follow the example of the most high God cannot be censured. Therefore put away popular applause, and after the manner of Solomon, the king, compose a history of thy times and fold it into enigmatical writings and cunning mixtures of the theater..."

Another nineteenth century researcher, Constance Pott, unearthed a motherlode of documents which show the intimate association of Francis Bacon and the Rosicrucians of Germany and the Freemasons of England. From one such cache Pott explains that there are over sixty letters which show that Francis Bacon was the recognized head of a secret society bound together to advance learning and to uphold religion. In this century Alfred Dodd has produced massive documentation to show that this secret society of which Bacon was the father, was in fact, Freemasonry. He further shows a direct relationship between Freemasonry and the Royal Society of London. More recently, the works of the Italian philosopher-historian, Paolo Rossi, have been translated and in his book *Francis Bacon* makes the statement:

"It [Bacon's programme] recurs with further alterations in the *Novum Organum* and *De Augmentis*, but he did not set it down to its final consistent form till the *New Atlantis*, in a passage describing Salomon's House, where it is no longer presented as a project but as a Utopian dream. Indeed, this plan, never visualized during Bacon's lifetime, marked the birth of scientific humanism for the founders of the *Royal Society* and later for the Encyclopedists; and through humanism it has inspired some of the more progressive forms of European culture."

In summary, we see that Francis Bacon dabbled in the occult workings of the Rosicrucians, sought wisdom from the Greek

goddess, Pallas Athene, and confessed to hearing a voice giving him instructions for his life's work. The crucial part of the work, the scientific method, came to him in its completed form about 1619 and was published in 1620 as his *Novum Organum*.

René Descartes (1596-1650) was brought up in the Roman Catholic faith, educated by the Jesuits and, as an intelligent twenty-three year old soldier-philosopher, was full of scientific enthusiasm and a burning desire to systemize all knowledge; he had just spent the previous twenty months studying mechanics and acoustics under Isaac Beeckman when he learned that the secret Rosicrucian sect in Germany were likewise in quest of knowledge. He sought out the mathematician Johann Faulhaber, a professor at Ulm, who was known to be a senior member of the Rosicrucians and spent the entire winter of 1619-1620 with him. Many biographers believe that Faulhaber initiated young Descartes into some of the secrets of that society; however since membership in the Rosicrucians was at that time considered a crime both in Holland and France there is no concrete evidence that he actually joined. Descartes was always interested in the occult but had he joined he would have risked losing his properties to the Church if discovered. Early in his relationship with Faulhaber he records that he spent the entire day of November 10th 1619 alone in a heated room (poêle) at Ulm meditating on the acquisition of knowledge. That night he had a dream, also carefully recorded; he always claimed that his life's vocation was revealed to him in this dream. The dream experience consisted of three parts:

- 1 In the first part a tempestuous wind was whirling him about in the street as he struggled, hardly able to keep his feet, to reach the church of the College of La Fleche to say his prayers; at the very moment he turned to show courtesy to a man he had neglected to greet, the wind blew him violently against the church; soon someone, in the middle of the college courtyard, told him that an acquaintance of his had something-- a melon --to give him... He awoke feeling pain, prayed to God for protection and fell asleep again.
- 2 The second part filled him with terror; he was awakened by a burst of noise like a crack of lightning and saw thousands of sparks in his room.
- 3 In the third and final part he saw upon his table a Dictionary and a *Corpus poetarum*, open at a passage of Ausonius; *quod vitae sectabor iter?* (What path shall I follow in life?). An unknown man handed him the words *Est et Non* (The "Yes" and "No" of Pythagoras representing truth and falsity in human attainment and in secular sciences. Pythagoras studied the occult arts in Egypt then taught the Greeks.)

The exact meaning of the symbolism in these vivid dreams has been the subject of much dispute. However, for the present purposes it is sufficient simply to know that Descartes was convinced by these dreams that he had a divine mission to found a new philosophical system. He records that he vowed to make a pilgrimage to the shrine of the Virgin at Loretto, Italy, and this was in all like likelihood fulfilled the following year when he did, in fact, go to Italy. In the months which followed his strange dream, Descartes produced his *Meditations* and these are at the very core of all Cartesian philosophy; later these were expanded into his *Discours de la Méthode*. Descartes held the dream itself to be, "the most important thing in my life" and even spoke of the "genius" of his *Meditations* and that this genius or spirit had forecast these dreams to him before he had retired to his bed. Many philosophers and scientists since, including the German mathematician, Leibnitz who

was himself a Rosicrucian, downplay these dreams arguing that the account of them lessens the credibility of an otherwise important philosophical system.

In summary, we see that René Descartes was seriously involved with the same occult organizations as Francis Bacon and, as a devout Roman Catholic, paid homage to the Virgin goddess. At just about the same time Bacon received the inspiration for his scientific method, Descartes received his strange dream (1619). This dream was at the root of the Cartesian method and, like the Baconian method, ushered in the humanist world view. We find that Scripture is not silent about these matters and, in the case of Descartes, is almost specific. Bearing in mind that the Hebrew makes the distinction between God's light and man's light which is the analog for God's wisdom and man's wisdom, we find that seeking knowledge by man's light will inevitably lead to destruction:

"Look all you who kindle a fire, who encircle yourself with sparks; Walk in the light of your fire and in the sparks you have kindled--This you shall have from my hand; you shall lie down in torment." (Isaiah 50:11)

The theologians of the Middle Ages had quite rightly begun with Scripture but if they had followed this through with observation and experiment rather than relying upon the "Ancients" e.g. Aristotle, the course of history would have been very different. The "Ancients" were eventually dismissed but so was Scripture, and science has been based upon human reason ever since. The lesson is that true knowledge can only be attained by beginning with Scripture in its complete context, then [when attempting to understand nature beyond what Scripture reveals] making proper observations and controlled experiments. [Another important lesson, that will be further revealed in future articles, is that the decline of Christianity in America did not begin with recent Supreme Court decisions regarding school prayer and/or abortion. Full scale rebellion began in Europe and emigrated to America virtually from the beginning. Ed]

Ian Taylor is the author of the excellent history of evolutionary thought, *In the Minds of Men*, a committed Christian, thorough researcher and a good friend of your editor. This article first appeared as Feature # 23 of the Creation Science Association of Ontario (Canada), Spring 1992 Newsletter. It is reprinted here with permission.

EASTER WEEK AND BIBLICAL CREATION

It was a gamble, or so it seemed to some. In fact I, myself, had some concerns. However our motives were clean and our desires were fervent. I knew and saw the value of the foundational subject matter we were dealing with. Yet to deal with "creation and evolution" on Easter weekend, with Good Friday and all, that was a stretch of the imagination. We prayed about it, talked to Glenn [Kailer] about it, and he assured us that he could tie the two together in a tasteful way. "Creation/evolution and Easter were compatible," he assured us. So we trusted him.

It turned out great. After hearing his message on Good Friday evening, I was reassured that we had done the right thing. God was leading us! He shared how confidence in the Genesis account of creation and the authenticity of God's character were at stake. If God could not be trusted in Genesis, could He be trusted in the Gospels? Was the death of the cross really necessary or relevant if sin was not the cause of death or if death existed prior to the fall? AN EXCELLENT MESSAGE! My faith was reassured in God's reliability. I could once again

take Him at His word. I knew I could previously but was again strengthened in my confidence in God.

The real challenge was on Sunday morning. Easter Sunday is a time when you expect a message that is traditional, concerning the Resurrection of Christ. How could creation/evolution tie into Easter?

Again, God surprised us beyond our imagination. What a powerful, relevant and appropriate message. The church was packed. A lot of visitors had come. Many of them were people we had wanted to reach and this may be our only chance for an open door with them. If this was not good, relevant and used by the Spirit of God, they may never return again.

Praise God, it was excellent. In fact so much so, it became the center of conversation around the dinner table in a public restaurant by those who we had concerns about reaching. Not only were the comments positive, but very vibrant as they expressed how they were challenged and appreciated the practical approach "being so relevant to the Resurrection of Christ."

What did Glenn (better yet, God) do to make the message so very meaningful? He used several very practical and vivid object lessons to relate clearly how we have both purpose and value as a result of the creative work of God. "Value and purpose come from the designer and creator and not from the thing/person being created. The living Christ is relevant to our value and purpose, today, in becoming a believer in Christ and in being a victorious, active and effective believer for Christ."

Glenn, thanks again for doing an excellent job in sharing effectively throughout the conference. You were not only excellent in your presentation, but also practical. We could tell that you were just scratching the surface as to the amount of material that could have been shared, being both scientific and biblically accurate... I would, with enthusiasm, recommend this ministry to any pastor. The subject matter is vital and the presentation was both tasteful and on target.

James Keller, Pastor Bethel Baptist Church, Topeka, Ks

1995 Creation Safari's

Family Outings That Honor The Creator

Lakewood Fossil Hunt	June 17
Astronomy Safari 8:00PM (See Note 1)	June 23
K.U. Natural History Museum	July 15
Astronomy Safari 8:30PM (See Note 1)	July 28
Astronomy Safari 8:00PM (See Note 1)	August 18
Kansas City Zoo	August 26
Astronomy Safari 8:00PM (See Note 1)	Sept 15
KATY Trail Bike Trip (Mo. River Bluffs)	Sept 23
Ozark Cave Outing (Camdenton, Mo.)	Oct 20-21
Astronomy Safari 7:00PM (See Note 1)	Oct 27
Astronomy Safari 7:00PM (See Note 1)	Nov 17
Squaw Creek Game Refuge (Mound city)	Dec 9

Important Safari Notes!!

1. **Astronomy Safaris** meet at The Berry Patch, 22509 S. State Line Rd. From KC south on 69 Hiway or Holmes Road to 223rd St. Then to State Line, then South 1/4 mi. to entrance.
2. For **Safari Details**, call or write to request a copy of the brochure: "**1995 Detailed Safari Information**," which will give you costs, meeting place, time of departure and return, what to bring, safari registration information, etc. **Costs: CSA does not charge for safaris.** However, some of the places we visit **do have entrance fees.** Obviously some of the safaris have other costs associated with them such as lodging. **Please call or write** to register the names of each adult and child safari participant.

Book of the Month:

Genesis and The Mystery Confucius Couldn't Solve

by: *Ethel Nelson & Richard Broadberry*

What is the real origin of the Chinese language? What was the meaning of the 4000-year-old Border Sacrifice that Chinese emperors observed annually until this century? Who was ShanTi, worshipped in the Border Sacrifice? The answers to these questions will astound you.

Special: Mar/Apr 1995 Price: \$9.00 (includes postage)

Audio Tape of the Month:

The Origin of Life: The Myth of Chemical Evolution

by: *Tom Willis*

In Chapter 2, America's #1 Biology text clearly calls spontaneous generation of life a myth, but in Chapter 13, it calls it science. A student who paid attention and believed this text would emerge schizophrenic. Fortunately, most don't pay any attention in school. In this lecture we discuss which chapter was right.

Audio Tape: \$5.00 - Video: \$13.00 (Includes postage)

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CSA Meeting Location: Westbrooke Church 9898 West 95th, Overland Park, KS

Two blocks East of 69 Highway (or Switzer) on North side of 95th

Refreshments: 6:15PM - Meeting: 7:00PM Nursery Available: \$2.50 per child (Reservations required)

CSA Meeting Tuesday, July 11, 1995

The Basic Institute in Creation Science

**"The Bondage to Decay
and Its Life Applications"**

by: Glenn Kailer

When man sinned, God cursed the entire creation with what Paul called "the bondage to decay," a basic change in the entire universe. Science, always thousands of years behind the Bible, finally named it the 2nd Law of Thermodynamics. Many people have heard of it, but few understand its application to everyday life.

The Advanced Institute in Creation Science

The Biotic Message

A Video from the International Conference on Creation

by: Walter J. ReMine, M.S.

One of many frequently parroted arguments by evolutionists is: "If evolution isn't true, why do life forms look so much like they evolved?" ReMine offers a simple, but thorough response: "Life forms **do not** look like they evolved, in fact they look so much like they were created that it seems obvious that they are a "Biotic Message" to unbelievers.

*CSA meetings are free, entertaining,
educational, and useful in evangelism.
If you haven't been coming, you should be!*

Quotable Quotes

*"O Timothy, keep that which is committed to thy trust,
avoiding profane and vain babblings, and oppositions of
science falsely so called"*

1Timothy 6:20

CSA Meeting Tuesday, August 1, 1995

The Basic Institute in Creation Science

Ape Men: Science or Myth?

by: Bob Farwell, B.S.

Public institutions all over the world blatantly depict ape-like creatures rising through time from their knuckle-walking past to become "hominids" whose descendants now design computers and aircraft. What are we to make of these incessant claims? What really is the evidence behind them?

The Advanced Institute in Creation Science

**Runaway Subduction as the Driving
Mechanism for the Genesis Flood**

A Video from the International Conference on Creation

by: John R. Baumgardner, Ph.D.

"Plate Tectonics" is one of the names for one of the key evolutionary hot-buttons in recent years. It involves the notion of the earth's crust broken into "plates" which are "drifting" apart due to magma coming forth from the mid-oceanic ridge. Dr. Baumgardner fits the data of the earth's crust into an enormous computer model and discovered that, rather than "continental drift," we probably had a "continental race" lasting only a few months.

CREATION VACATIONS

Redcloud Family Mountain Adventures: Lake City, Co:
Aug 13-18 or Aug 20-25, 1995

Id-Ra-Ha-Je Creation Family Camp: Bailey Co. Sept 1-4,
1995

Contact: Dave & Mary Jo Nutting, Alpha Omega Institute, PO
Box 4343, Grand Junction, CO 81502 (970) 245-5906

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