



M Grace Messenger

GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH

122 Walnut Street
Madison, AL 35758
256-837-8821

GBC HOMEPAGES

<http://www.gbcmadison-al.com>
<http://sermonaudio.com/gbcmadisonal>
<https://www.facebook.com/GraceBaptistMadisonAL>

"Preaching the free grace of God which brings a change of lifestyles, masters and destinies."

DEAN OLIVE, Pastor

— May 2016 Issue —

"You have dealt well with your servant, O LORD, according to your word."
Psalm 119:65



NURSERY SCHEDULE

May 2016

01 Jenny and Peter Lovassy
08 Amber Solan and Vicki Johnson
15 Nellie McFadden and Lori Hewlett
22 Troy and Jessica Moseley
29 Melanie Myatt and Andrea Page

June 2016

05 Linda Olive and Lori Hewlett
12 Amber Solan and Vicki Johnson
19 Troy and Jessica Moseley
26 Melanie Myatt and Andrea Page

CHURCH CLEANING

May - Vicki J. & Amber S.
June - Lovassys

LAWN CARE

May - Lovassy
June - Dean & Linda

FINANCIAL SUMMARY AS OF MAY 1, 2016

Budgeted expenditures (ytd)	\$ 61,698.32
Actual on-budget expenditures (ytd)	\$ 49,190.22
Actual off-budget expenditures (ytd)	\$ 1,096.23
General Fund offerings (ytd)	\$ 59,431.58
Designated Missions (ytd)	\$ 3,635.44
Love offerings (ytd)	\$ 770.00
Benevolence (ytd)	\$ 0.00
Total offerings (ytd)	\$ 63,837.02
April Love offerings	\$ 90.00
April General Fund offerings	\$ 15,847.93
April Designated Missions	\$ 400.00
Building Fund balance	\$176,340.67
Missions Fund balance	\$ 9,160.45
Adoption Fund balance	\$ 2,525.00
General Fund balance	\$ 57,982.23

Grace Baptist Church presents

CREATION OR EVOLUTION?

Come Examine the Evidence...

- Friday May 6 7PM** A Skeptical Look at Atheism
- Saturday May 7 9:30AM** Creation or Evolution? Looking at the Fossils
- 11AM** The Wonder of Hearing: The Amazing Design of the Ear
- Sunday May 8 9:30AM** Why Creation is Important: The Cardinal Truths
- 11AM** Creation: The True Timeline
- 6PM** Reconnecting The Gospel to A Godless Culture



Special Guest Speaker

Professor Andy McIntosh

Research Professor in Thermodynamics, University of Leeds, UK.

Author of *Genesis for Today, Genesis 1-11 Commentary*

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

NORMAL SUNDAY SERVICES

Morning Worship 9:30 AM
Sunday School 11:00 AM
Evening Worship 6:00 PM

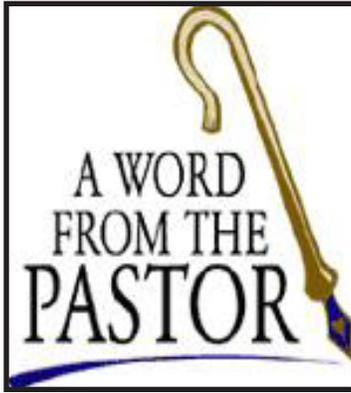
WEDNESDAY EVENING

Bible Study and Prayer Meeting
7:00 PM

FIRST SUNDAY SERVICES

Morning Worship 9:30 AM
Meal at the Church 11:00 AM
Afternoon Service 12:30 PM

*No Sunday School
or Evening Service*



God and Creation

The greatest book ever penned by man is the Bible. It is the greatest of all books because men were not the only ones involved in its writing. The Bible is more than a human composition. God is the primary author of the Bible. Holy

men were employed in its composition but they were moved to write by the Holy Spirit and were divinely inspired in their writing (2 Peter 1:21; 2 Tim. 3:16).

The Bible is composed of 66 books. The first of these is Genesis. Some regard it as the most important book in the Bible because it is the foundation of all the others.

The first book of the Bible tells us the most rudimentary information that men want and need to know. It is called Genesis because it is the book of beginnings. It is concerned with how things began, with the origin of all things. It tells us about the origin of matter, the origin of the world, the origin of man, the origin of sin, and the origin of redemption. Beyond informing us of the origin of all things, it also helps us to understand the meaning of all things.

So Genesis is a foundational book. We should think of Genesis as the ground floor of the Bible. The rest of the Bible wouldn't make much sense to us without this book. The history of man has its foundation here as does the history of redemption. The basic doctrines that Christians hold dear and regard as essential to the faith have their roots here.

Sadly, Genesis, as much as any other book in the Bible, has been subject to undaunting attacks by those who do not believe it is the revelation of God. This is especially true of the first eleven chapters. Myth, fable, allegory, legend are just some of the words that have been used to describe the contents of these chapters. But to regard these chapters as inadequate and mythical is to rip the foundation away. Castigate Genesis and you censure the whole Bible; repudiate Genesis and you renounce the rest.

The New Testament writers certainly believed in the accuracy and historicity of Genesis. Henry Morris points out that there are over 100 quotations or direct references to Genesis 1-11 in the New Testament. Every one of these 11 chapters is quoted in the New Testament and every New Testament author refers somewhere in his writings to them. Jesus referred to something or someone in these chapters on at least six different occasions

In each of the quotations and references from Genesis in the New Testament, there is never even the slightest hint that any of it was considered allegorical or mythical. Every New Testament writer, and the Lord Jesus himself, viewed Genesis as absolutely historical, true, and authoritative.

For example, Paul speaks of the first Adam who brought sin and then speaks of Christ as the second Adam who brought righteousness. If we do not believe the account in Genesis of the creation of man, then Adam cannot be viewed as an actual historical person. That would disrupt the theological continuity Paul developed and throw out of kilter the entire Bible.

As the first book of the Bible is foundational to the rest of Holy Scripture, so the first chapter is foundational to Genesis and the first verse is foundational to the first chapter. Every book has to have a beginning and the beginning of Genesis, the very beginning of the Bible itself, tells us that God is the creator of the world and all the things in it. It says, "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth."

Interestingly, the cargo of moon-orbiting Apollo 8 contained a Gideon Bible. Actually, Gideons presented the astronauts, Frank Borman, James Lovell, and William Anders, with copies of Scripture that they took on their journey to the moon. Each edition was covered with noncombustible material. Commander Borman also took along his personal copy of the Bible. On Christmas Eve, the three astronauts read the first 10 verses of Genesis 1, as they passed (or floated) it from one man to the other.

These men saw the universe from a different perspective than any of us have ever witnessed it, and they had no problems believing it to be the product of the creative activity of God! God brought into existence that which previously had no existence. It was creation *ex nihilo*, or out of nothing.

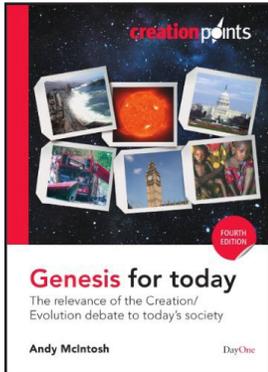
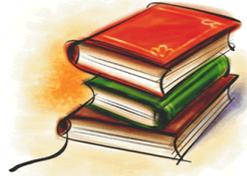
Man doesn't have the ability to create for we ourselves are created beings. We can form and fashion things from material already in existence, but we cannot bring something into existence out of nothing. But God created all things out of nothing. The earth did not originate on its own; it didn't evolve out of a primeval bog. God created it!

We cannot overestimate the importance of Genesis 1:1. Henry Morris says that the first verse of the first book of the Bible refutes *atheism*, because the universe was created by *God*; refutes *pantheism*, for God is *transcendent* to that which He created; refutes *polytheism*, for *one* God created all things; refutes *materialism*, for matter had a *beginning*; refutes *dualism*, because God was *alone* when He created; refutes *humanism*, because God, *not man*, is the ultimate reality; and refutes *evolutionism*, because God *created* all things.

God is, therefore, to be praised as Creator. When we behold the beauty and the intricate design of the universe, we ought to lift up our voices in praise to the One who created it! And the Creator God is to be trusted as the Sovereign Lord. The Psalmist said, "My help comes from the LORD, who made heaven and earth" (Ps. 121:2).

BOOK REVIEW

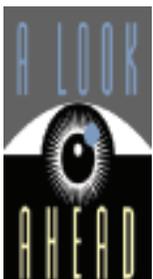
Genesis for Today,
by Andy McIntosh,
Day One, fifth edition.



Professor McIntosh is a scientist who sees no contradiction between science and the events of creation in the book of Genesis. He believes that all Christian doctrine, directly or indirectly, has its basis in the literal events of the first eleven chapters of the Bible, and that these ‘foundations’ of the faith have been undermined in the church by the fallible theories of evolution.

This book argues from the complete accuracy of Genesis and the Bible. All fundamental Christian doctrine is found in embryo in Genesis 1-11. It provides key support in the creation/evolution debate and written in such a way that the non scientist can understand it easily. The burden of Professor McIntosh is that Creation is no peripheral issue. True revival of Christianity in the decadent West today will never be known unless we get back to believing God’s Word from the very beginning.

“For those who have eyes to see, here is ample proof that God’s revealed truth is as trustworthy as ever—and infinitely more certain than every human speculation... Genesis IS for today. I appreciate Andy McIntosh’s obvious love for the Bible and his conviction that God’s Word will always triumph over every falsehood. He shows in simple language why many of the evolutionists’ claims are demonstrably false” (John MacArthur).



MAY 6-8 – Creation Conference with Dr. Andy McIntosh! Be present at every service and invite others to attend.

MAY 15 – Doug Page will be preaching in the morning worship service and Fred Smith will be preaching in the evening service.

MAY 16-18 – Annual FIRE Conference in Denver, Colorado. Pastor Olive and Linda will be attending the meeting.

MAY 22 – Bob Marsh will be preaching in the morning worship service and Darren Thole will be preaching in the evening service.

Spurgeon’s Catechism with Scripture Proofs



Question 23: How does Christ execute the office of a prophet?

Answer: Christ executes the office of a prophet, in revealing to us, by His Word, and Spirit, the will of God for our salvation.

Scriptural Proof: John 1:18; John 20:31; John 14:26

Commentary: Christ, like the Old Testament prophets, was appointed to bring God’s message to his people and to reveal God’s will. But unlike the messengers of old, Christ was not merely a prophet, but the greatest of the prophets. That is, his message cannot be augmented by future prophets. For in him “are hid all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge” (Col. 2:3), and as God’s “only Son” being in the “bosom of the Father” Christ has made the Father known (John 1:18; cf. 15:15 for the special relationship between Christ and the Father).

Christ’s message pertains to the redemption of sinful people and his forgiveness of those whom he has called, justified, and glorified (Rom. 8:30). Thus, no true knowledge of God and of salvation can be obtained except through Christ, the “light of the world” (John 8:12); those who reject him will remain in spiritual darkness (John 3:18–20), unable ever to discover the way of everlasting life. It is with authority and power that Christ speaks as Prophet, summoning people to believe and to obey his words (The Eerdmans Bible Dictionary).

Congratulations Joe!!!

Grace Baptist Church would like to offer our sincere congratulations to our own Joe Scarborough, who has worked very hard and graduates this spring with his degree in Criminal Justice.



Thomas Manton Puritan Quotes

VALUE OF CHRIST’S SACRIFICE

“There are three things that commend the value of Christ’s sacrifice -- the dignity of his person, the greatness of his sufferings, and the merit of his obedience... but the Scripture insists most on the first -- the dignity of his person -- which putteth a value on his sacrifice...”

Evangelism and Creation

Dr. Andy McIntosh

Having said that evangelism should be primarily by preaching (and witnessing) to men and women, this is not to say that it is by emotional rhetoric to bypass the mind. On the contrary, believers themselves are to be transformed by the renewing of their minds (Romans 12:2), and to *reason* with unbelievers regarding the things of righteousness, temperance and judgment as Paul did before Felix (Acts 24:25) and with many who saw him in his last days (Acts 28:23). In 2 Corinthians 5:11, Paul states, “Knowing, therefore, the terror of the Lord, we persuade men.”

Today we have moved away from appealing to the minds of men and women and the converts which the Lord may still graciously bring are often weak in the area of biblical teaching. We need at the outset to deal with the objections raised by unconverted people in our witness. There is no doubt that one of the major stumbling blocks is concerning origins.

In the University where I work, if one raises the matter of the Christian faith, very quickly barriers are put up based on evolutionary ideas. Whether staff or students, in arts or science departments, the notion that evolution is a ‘fact’ and that the world has been here for billions of years is soon brought into a conversation. The cleverness of the enemy can be seen by a vagueness in peoples’ minds as to where we have come from, and removes any sense of responsibility for a recent rebellion of man against God only a few thousand years ago.

And this is not just true of our Universities. Try to speak to anyone in the streets or on their door-steps, and young people

in particular will often raise these objections. They may not be well read on the subject and they do not necessarily expect you to be either. *But they do expect to have a clear answer as to where you stand.* Immediately you say that you believe in a six literal 24-hour-day creation and a global flood, that you are convinced of the authority of Genesis, you may be laughed at, by some. Indeed we should expect this for 2 Peter 3:3–6 predicts that there will be scoffers in the last days—those who “*willfully* forget that by the word of God the heavens were of old.”

We should expect false teachers within the professing church (2 Peter 2:1ff) and certainly should not be surprised by the outsider mocking at creation. However, at times, some people I have spoken to have a quiet respect for the scriptural arguments. It can help to know some of the scientific arguments to underline the reasonableness of the case for a recent creation. To say clearly that not only the Old Testament, but also Christ and the Apostles based their major teachings on creation will cause some to reconsider their position. We do not expect an immediate total acceptance of a view so foreign to most, but we can show that we have a clearly reasoned alternative.

There is a thirst in some people for that which is real, genuine and solid, and when they see thinking Christians prepared to stand firm on all of Scripture and Genesis in particular, it removes one of the stumbling blocks to faith. Only the Holy Spirit converts people by changing the will of a man or woman, but he uses his people to reason with them. There are many smoke-screens that unconverted people will put up. The creation/evolution debate is but one of them, and it is our duty as faithful soul-winners to deal with this stumbling block to faith when

it is raised, by showing them that it is not unreasonable and indeed not unscientific to have an uncompromising stand on Genesis...

If we want to advance across the enemy’s territories of indifference, immorality and the violent abuse of believers, then we must have full trust in the Sword of the Spirit, the Word of God. Paul said (2 Timothy 3:16), “All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness.” That *all* includes Genesis. The verse leads on into verse 17, “that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.” We will not advance successfully against the enemy strongholds of immorality, vice, drugs and great wickedness unless first our base is securely founded on all of Scripture. Only a firm belief in Scripture as the Sword of the Spirit will bring down the other hidden, but equally evil strongholds of religious hypocrisy, pride, love of ease and intellectual arrogance.

In the 19th century, Spurgeon referred to not needing to defend the Bible, rather to letting it loose like a lion to do its own work. Only when preachers and personal workers have a thorough going belief in the *totality* of Scripture will they see the Bible have its effect of bringing conviction of sin as it is used in evangelism. For it is the Bible itself which is “living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart” (Hebrews 4:12).

Taken from professor McIntosh’s book, *Genesis for Today*.