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THE AUBURN BEACON

VOLUME 7, ISSUE 25

# An "Extra" Day?

This year is a "leap" year and this month has a "leap" day. February

29th only appears on our calendars once every four vears. Those born or married on this day celebrate the actual day every four years. Why does this happen?

This system began in ancient times in an ongoing effort to construct a calendar that would mark time as accurately as possible. The ancient Egyptians figured out that the solar year (the amount of time it takes the earth to revolve around the sun) was very close to 365 days. Egyptian astronomers later came to realize that the solar year was actually 1/4 of a day longer than 365 days. In 238 B.C. Ptolemy III ordered a leap-year system by adding an extra day to the calendar every four years. Julius Caesar also reformed the Roman calendar by running a cycle of three 365-day years followed by a "leap" year of 366 days (source: Calendar, David Ewing Duncan). This system employing a 365 <sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>-day year is the basis of

By Marc W. Gibson our calendar today. The extra day added to the calendar every four years is done to make up for the four "quarter days" left over from those four years.

> Now that's the technical explanation for today's spot on the calendar, but the fact remains that we have an extra day this year. Though we cannot turn the clock back and regain lost time, we can appreciate even more the time we do have on this earth. What will you do with an "extra" day this year? Will having 366 days this year mean you will get more done to improve your life here and increase your hope for eternity? Or will it be just another 24 hours wasted? As we grow older, time should become more precious. "See then that you walk circumspectly, not as fools but as wise, redeeming the time, because the days are evil" (Ephesians 5:15-16). Let us be thankful for today, because it is another opportunity to obey and glorify God. What will you do today?

			<u>Cl</u> ;	asses This Week	
<u>Sunday 5:00 PM</u> Song Leading Class in College Classroom		Sunday 5:15 PM Kid's Class in Auditorium		<u>Tuesday 8:00 PM</u> Truth-seekers Campus Study in Room 2310 in Student Center	<u>Tuesday 10:00 AM</u> Ladies Class at Paula Davis' home
Brad Marshall (Allie Hosey's Cousin) Gloria Detmer and Carol Dickerson (Toni Herd's Sisters)	Jesse Godwin (Troy's father and Mac's grandfather) Don Lanier (Father of Greg Lanier)	Frank Hand (Laura Humphrey's dad) David Hartsell (Holly and Brad's Father)	Louise Pack (Anna and Christopher's grandmother) Terri Sams (Erica's friend)	2-Manda Cage 2-Maddie Norman 2-Chase Harrison 2-Bryan Golden 2-Angela Fowler 2-Elizabeth Barham 2-Connell Hodges 3-Shaun Oliver Hand, is home and imp	⊠ - Laura Humphrey's father, Frank Hand, is home and improving.
Terri Moore (Joey's aunt)	Audrey Barnett (Joanetta's sister-in-law)	Betty Bradford	Hazel Gilliland and Sherry Carroll (Toni's relatives)	7-Josh Pender 8-Carmen Herd 9-Richard Zacarius 9-Austin Bartlett 10-Pepper Humphrey	8-Carmen Herd 9-Richard Zacarius 9-Austin Bartlett IXI - Please continue to pray for Rehec-
Tom Davis (Walker Davis' Uncle)	Ermogene Laxson (Sara Lail's grandmother)	Danny Weldon (Rusty Weldon's brother)	William Smith (Ken Sulli- vanne's broth- er)	12-Brad Hartsell 13-Adam Holliday 17-Susan Sullivanne 18-MaKenzie Anderson 18-Alaina Barham	
Gerald White (Christopher, Anna and Wesley's Father)	Bernice Martin (Will Harris' great- grandmother)	Rebecca Davis (Chuck Hahn's Niece)	Eva Jean Cavender (Matt's grand- mother)	21-Carter Hunt 21-Rachel Bobo 22-Will Hollis 23-Sarah Embry	
John M. Rhodes and Bonnie Rhodes Kirkley (Toni Herd's family)	Joe Perkins (Scott Perkin's Dad)	Aubrey Meeks (Toni Herd's Nephew)	Virginia Box (Sarah Nor- man's grand- mother)	27-Shelby Freeman 27-Katie Jasper 28-Jacob Hagewood 29-Rachel Simpson 29-Makenzie Reynolds 30-Amanda Stephens	

30-York Smith

A weekly publication of the University church of Christ in Auburn, Alabama Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven. (Matthew 5:16) March 6, 2016

"Do All To The Glory Of God"

By Leslie Diestelkamp

## Volume 7, Issue 25



**Thoughts to Ponder** 

Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, to God who alone is wise, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen. (| Timothy 1:17)

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Bible Class .....9:30 AM Worship ......10:20 AM Evening Worship ..... ..... 6:00 PM Wednesday E-Mail:

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Larry Rouse **Evangelist and Editor** 

All glory really belongs to God. It is his by right of his majesty, power and wisdom. He really needs nothing from us, for we are only the creatures of his design and of his determined will. Indeed, "Unto the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only wise God, be honor and glory for ever and ever" (I Tim. 1:17). The glory of God is manifested in two ways: (1) His very being portrays his glory. "The glory of the Lord shall endure forever" (Ps. 104:31). The very fact that there is an all-wise, allpowerful God, and that there is only one such God, is the greatest source of honor for him. "I am the first and the last: and beside me there is no

God . . . . . Is there a God beside me? yea there is no God; I know not any." (Isa. 44:6, 8). In Psalms 115 we have the contrast between the true God and the god of the heathen, and the psalmist says, "Not unto us, but unto thy name give glory, for thy mercy and thy truth's sake. ... Our God is in the heavens: he hath done whatsoever he hath pleased". (2) But God's work also portrays his glory. "The heavens declare the glory of God, and the firmament showeth his handiwork" (Ps. 19:1). This good earth, with all of its wonders, and the uni-

verse about us with its limitless design and the perfect precision of its

Rather than seek honor for self, man should seek always to do that which will praise and glorify God. (Only when he does this will he really possess glory before God

at all).

operation, declare the glory of God even to those who cannot read. The work of God, in all of its perfection, is incontestable evidence of His majesty, undeniable proof of his power and unending demonstration of his wisdom. His greatest work was concluded in giving his Son to the purchase the church (Eph. 5:25) and because of the nature of that divine body, Paul exclaimed, "Unto him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end" (Eph. 3:21). God is glorified because of the very existence of the church. No physical, material thing portrays God's glory so well as the church, the spiritual body

(Continued on page 2)

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#### (Continued from page 1) of Christ in which sinful souls find salvation (Eph. 5:23; 2:16).

#### Man Has Some Glory Too

Whatever glory belongs to man is really only his because he has been "Crowned with glory and honor" and has been given dominion over the works of God's hands, for God has "put all things under his feet" (Ps. 8:5, 6). Man has more glory and honor than all the beasts and creatures, for man is truly made in the image of God-that is he has a spirit that came from God (Eccl. 12:7) and because of the intellectual power the Lord has given him, he rules over all other living things. Therefore, though they be much stronger, man rules over the horse, the elephant, etc., and in this man attains his glory.

But man's glory is from God "For who maketh thee to differ from another? And what hast thou that thou didst not receive? Now if thou didst receive it, why dost thou glory, as if they hadst not received it?" (I Cor. 4-7). Then the glory that man may attain must always be attributed to the Lord. "But he that glorieth, let him glory in the Lord. For not he that commendeth himself is approved, but whom the Lord commendeth" (2 Cor.10:17. 18).

#### Bring Glory To God

Rather than seek honor for self. man should seek always to do that which will praise and glorify God. (Only when he does this will he really possess glory before God at all). In four ways man can glorify God:

1. We bring praise and glory to God when we worship him in spirit and in truth. "Let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is the fruit of our lips giving thanks in his name" (Heb. 13:15). "In the midst of the church will I sing praise unto thee" (Heb. 2:12). Examples of such worship are found in Acts 2:47 where it is said that the first Christians were found "praising God" and in Acts 16:25 where we are told that at midnight Paul and Silas praved and sang praises unto God.

2. We glorify God by living holy, godly lives. "Know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost . . . . therefore glorify God in your

body and in your spirit which are God's" (I Cor. 6:19, 20). The context of these verses teach us

to keep our bodies from the defilements of the world (covetousness, drunkenness, fornication, etc.)

### 3. God is glorifed through the service Christians render to mankind. Paul said that the contribution

made by the Gentile churches for the relief of the needy saints in Jerusalem was administered to the glory of the Lord (2 Cor. 8:19). Again Paul said that the Christian is "Created in Christ Jesus unto good works" (Eph. 2:10). Let us remember that every service which a Christian renders either to God or to man is done "in the body." That is, this body is used as a device for God's glory -but it must be used, not misused! In one of his most tender appeals Paul begged that brethren "Present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy acceptance unto God" (Rom. 12:1) We have been made alive in the new birth, and we must be kept alive by the Holy Spirit through the word and by active use of our bodies in true service. We cannot obey a single command of the Bible without use of our bodies, but when we do use our bodies in obedience. God is honored. Likewise we can do no real service to mankind without use of our bodies, but when we do serve humanity with this body, glory is brought to the Lord.

4. Finally, we glorify God in fruitfulness. Jesus said, "Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit" (Jn. 15:8). This is true discipleship. We really follow Christ only if we are faithful in fruitbearing. Furthermore, this is an individual matter. He said. "Every branch in me that beareth not fruit he taketh away." We are not fruitful because we are members of a church that does great good, but only if we personally do so. We do not really glorify God because we worship with a group that is fruitful, but only if we render proper service ourselves. Each Christian can have a part in the sowing, cultivating and reaping to produce the precious fruit of saved souls. By use of his time, talent, influence and money and by his purity, prayers, labor and love he can help to bring many to saving grace, and thus bring glory to the Lord whom he serves.

Peter said, "That God in all things may be glorified through Jesus Christ" (I Pet. 4:11). Paul said, "Whatsoever ye do in word or in deed, do all to the glory of God" (Col. 3:17) and "Whether therefore ye eat or drink or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God" (I Cor. 10:31).

**Truth Magizine - September 1960** 

By Edward O. Bragwell, Jr.

While I have great problems with any teaching that tries to reinterpret Genesis 1 to fit into "scientific natural observation" concerning the age of the earth, there is another issue that enters into this discussion that I find disturbing. I have read much material in this discussion on several web sites. and one argument that seems to come up time and again is the supposed effect that teaching the Bible doctrine of a voung earth has on those who

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we may be trying to reach. We are told by some that if we insist on teaching that Genesis 1 teaches literal 24 hour days (and I think it does), that there will be people that will not listen to the gospel message (1). In other words, if I want people to believe the gospel, then I have to change the message of some of the Bible. On Hill Roberts' web site, he has material in which he talks of Todd Green who is said to have lost his faith and left the church because brethren insisted on teaching the Bible doctrine of the young earth, something he could not reconcile with his "scientific knowledge" and observation (2). Roberts has other such stories that imply that we are doing great harm to the faith of others by insisting that the earth is young and rejecting what "science" tells us.

This is a dangerous line of thinking and a dangerous argument that has been often used to defend modifying Bible teaching. Through the vears we have been told by some that we need to tone down our teaching on many things so as not to offend or cause people not to listen to gospel preaching. Some say we must not let people know we are from the Lord's church when we teach them, because that may prejudice them against us. Others say don't tell them what the Bible says about the hardships and sufferings that they must face after becoming Christians because this may cause them not to obey. I guess we just spring it on them after we get them wet.

The consequences of such reasoning, however, extend far beyond the teachings of Genesis I. What of those, who because of their scientific knowledge of biology and reproduction cannot bring themselves to accept the virgin birth of lesus?

By the arguments made, those who defend teaching the flawed scientific teachings of the age of the earth contrary to Bible teaching, seem to want to pull out this same line of reasoning. The consequences of such reasoning, however, extend far beyond the teachings of Genesis 1. What of those, who because of their scientific knowledge of biology and reproduction cannot bring themselves to accept the virgin birth of Jesus? Sure the Bible

says that He was born of a virgin, but we know through science that this is impossible. It is not "good biology". Are we then to stop teaching this Bible teaching or find some figurative explanation for it so as not to cause someone to not obey the gospel, loose his "faith", or guit the church, because he cannot reconcile the teaching of the Bible with known observed and "proven science"? It is also true that it is not scientifically viable to believe that a man could be raised up from the dead after 3 days. On and on we could go.

Brethren, we must teach the "whole counsel of God", not just what we decide to emphasize. Some think that since "the apostolic message gives a special position ('first importance') to the incarnation, death, burial, resurrection, baptismal submission to and disciplinary imitation of Christ." (1) that other Bible doctrines are not that important to the faith and therefore must be abandoned when they offend others or when others cannot reconcile them with human wisdom. I'm sorry but "all scripture is given by the inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness." (2 Tim. 3:16) and "has not God made foolish the wisdom of this world?" (1 Cor. 1:20).

Another Concern In The "Age Of The Earth" Discussion

