

HARVARD ON CHRISTIANITY IN AMERICA?

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The following article was posted on November 30, 2025 on renewedright.com. It is included here without edits and is hard to imagine it came from Harvard these days. It is certainly worth reading.

HARVARD JUST EXPOSED THE ONE FAILURE DESTROYING CHRISTIANITY IN AMERICA

America is watching Christianity collapse right before its eyes.

Churches are emptying out as each generation becomes less religious than the last.

And Harvard just exposed the one failure destroying Christianity in America.

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Parents Aren't Having The Conversations That Matter Most.

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AI AND EAR SHAPES

It has long been a goal of mine to learn how much DNA it takes to define the shape of a human ear. That may not sound like a religious subject to some (or most) of you, but I consider it to be an important scientific proof of God.

Continued on page 4

CAN A MAN BE AN ELDER IF HE IS SINGLE?

I receive a lot of information from Churches of Christ, and presumed the article I reviewed last month was from a Church of Christ related group.

The respondent to my article was Bob Diffenbaugh who has served as a teacher and elder at Community Bible Chapel in Richardson, Texas for 35 years.

Continued on page 8

GOD CREATED MOTHERS

"Honor your father and mother." This is the first commandment with promise: If you honor your father and mother, "things will go well for you and you will have a long life on the earth." (Ephesians 6:2, 3 NLT)

Continued on page 8

Complacency Kills, Repentance Restores

In a world gone crazy, and a Nation divided, when the righteous refuse to refute the lies of the self-righteous, they become complicit by conforming to the world.

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HARVARD ON CHRISTIANITY IN AMERICA?, P 2

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Harvard researchers partnered with Communio to survey over 16,000 churchgoing adults about what shaped their faith growing up.

The findings should set off alarm bells in every Christian household in America.

Communio discovered that regular childhood conversations about faith were among the strongest predictors of whether someone practices Christianity as an adult.

But here's the gut punch — less than half of churchgoing parents are actually having these talks with their own kids.

Think about that for a second. Christian parents who know firsthand how much faith conversations mattered in their own lives aren't passing that gift to the next generation.

The Pew Research Center reported that 28% of U.S. adults are now religiously unaffiliated — the largest single group in America, bigger than Catholics or evangelicals.

"Past research has shown that the growth in religious non-affiliation is the result of generational succession — meaning each younger generation is, on average, less religious than the last," JP De Gance, founder and president of Communio, explained. "On a fundamental level, the so-called rise of the 'nones' is the result of older generations being less effective at sharing the Gospel with younger ones."

The data revealed something remarkable —

churchgoers who had weekly faith talks as kids showed 2.5 times higher odds of having those same conversations with their own children.

Daily conversations multiplied those odds by 7.5.

But only 48% are doing it weekly, despite seeing the impact in their own lives.

Dad's Presence Makes All The Difference

The study uncovered another uncomfortable truth — fathers carry outsized influence in passing down faith.

"Churchgoing adults were more likely to attend church regularly in adulthood if they reported attending church with their own dad weekly or more frequently in childhood at age 12," the research found.

A good relationship with one's father connected directly to higher forgiveness and stronger church community bonds.

Here's where it gets strange — fathers who had great relationships with their kids were actually less likely to talk about faith with them.

Translation: Good dads think their example alone gets the job done. Wrong.

Research going back decades shows the same pattern. If dad goes to church regularly, 44% of kids become regular churchgoers as adults — even if mom doesn't attend.

If mom goes but dad doesn't? Only 2% of their children stick with church long-term.

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HARVARD ON CHRISTIANITY IN AMERICA?, P 3

Continued from page 1

Those numbers should haunt every Christian father in America.

The Conversations Don't Require A Theology Degree

Communio's guide stressed something crucial — parents don't need to be theologians or biblical scholars to pass down faith.

The conversations can happen anywhere. Driving to soccer practice. Sitting at the dinner table. Before bed.

Simple questions work: "How did you see God show up in your life this week?" or "What should we pray for today?"

These aren't sermon prep sessions. They're chances to "sanctify" everyday moments by bringing God into normal life.

They also reported stronger feelings of belonging to their church communities.

Faith conversations shape how children learn to process pain, extend grace, and connect with others who share their beliefs.

Those aren't small things. Those are the building blocks of functional Christian communities.

Yet Christian parents are dropping the ball at a historic rate.

Christianity's Future Depends On What Happens At Home

The Church can't fix what's broken in American Christianity if families won't do their part.

De Gance put it simply: "The good news here is any Christian parent not already having these conversations with their kids can take a step today to make this a regular part of their routine."

That's the answer. Not complicated programs. Not better youth pastors. Not trendier worship music.

Just parents talking to their kids about God during normal life.

The collapse of Christianity in America isn't a mystery requiring expensive consultants to solve.

It's parents failing to pass down what they claim to believe matters most.

Every Christian parent watching their kids drift from the faith needs to ask one question — when was the last time you actually talked about God with them outside a church building?

The research shows that conversation might determine whether your grandchildren ever step foot in a church.

Accelerating short term memory loss is a sign of aging. Accelerating short term memory loss is a sign of aging.

AI AND EAR SHAPES , P. 2

Continued from page 1

I have long talked about the complexity of the stripes on a bird's feather which is sort of a 2-dimensional structure. The human man ear is truly a 3-dimensional structure.

I have searched for many years on this topic and asked many people if they knew. No one has had any kind of answer.

In my career I have designed many things. They were designed with flat, cylindrical, spherical, conical and spiral surfaces. All regular surfaces you could readily input into a computer program (like DNA). There are no regular surfaces on your ears. They are all irregular.

When a human egg and sperm join together and form a Zygote, it has all the information it is going to get to form the shape of an ear (and any other part of the body). That Zygote will eventually become a human, so the information to form your complex 3D ear (and other structures) is in the Zygote.

I have done frequent internet searches and have found nothing about how the information is stored in the DNA.

"Artificial intelligence" has now given me some assistance. The following is a brief history of "artificial intelligence":

Birth of artificial intelligence (1941-1956)

Early successes (1956-1974)

First AI winter (1974-1980)

Boom (1980-1987)

New directions in the 1980s

Second AI winter (1990s)

Big data, deep learning, AGI (2005-2017)

Large language models, AI boom (2017- present)

"Artificial Intelligence" has had 3 boom periods, including the one we are presently in. Each boom had scientists claiming that computers could think like humans. The first two failed at their promises, and we will see about the present one.

You should know I am generally a contrarian, and I am also a contrarian on this topic. The present AI iteration has massively more data than the previous issues, and has much better programs to access the data. However, I would suggest to you that the AI program

can do nothing that it is not programmed to do. With massive amounts of data and massive programs, these AI's can appear to be thinking like humans in preprogrammed ways.

I have tested them with questions which could not be solved by a study of data available to them, and they calmly replied that they hadn't been given that data yet.

I will suggest to you that humans do not know how humans think, and probably never will.

Continued on page 5



AI AND EAR SHAPES , P. 3

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The good news is that when I now do a similar search with the contemporary “AI”, I get results. It is not the results I asked for, but I get a lot more information than I was getting from the old internet.

It is my impression that the old internet would go to Wikipedia or similar websites and see what it said. The new “AI” additionally goes to the many references at the end of a Wikipedia article and searches them also. It probably searches the references to those references also, and so on as deeply as it can find data.

What would have been a massive research project is done in seconds by the new “AI”.

That being said, the results from the new “AI” search follows this article in black print.

What I have been looking for is that it takes something like two billion lines of DNA coding to define the shape of the ear. The new AI does not tell you that.

What it tells you is that after the ear shape is formed, the EDAR (Ectodysplasin A receptor), PAX9 (Located on chromosome 14), and SP5, MRPS22, ADGRG6, and KIAA1217 (These genes, found on various chromosomes), and at least 49 genetic locations influence earlobe attachment and other ear features.

It is not important that you know what a PAX9 is, it is important that you recognize that programming in at least 49 genetic locations influence the shape of your ear, after your ear de-

sign already exists.

My goal of showing how complex your ear programming is at least partially demonstrated by the disclosure that there is programming in at least 49 genetic locations to modify the shape of the ear. It is naïve to suggest that 49 genetic locations had coordinated accidents of evolution to make your ears all they could be. It takes a really intelligent designer to do this. That intelligent designer if God.

That being said, I will continue to search for how much DNA information it takes to produce an ear. I am not optimistic about learning an answer.

AI Overview

Genes make up only about 1% to 2% of the DNA in the human genome; the vast majority, 98% to 99%, is noncoding DNA. While genes carry instructions for building proteins, noncoding DNA plays crucial roles in regulating gene activity, such as turning genes on and off.

Gene-containing DNA

Protein-coding genes:

These genes make up approximately 1% to 2% of the genome and contain the instructions for making proteins, which perform most of the cell's work.

RNA genes:

Some genes contain instructions for making RNA molecules that do not code for proteins.

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AI AND EAR SHAPES , P. 4

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Noncoding DNA

Regulatory elements:

This DNA includes regions like enhancers that control when and where genes are expressed.

Other functions:

Noncoding DNA also contains sequences involved in the structure of chromosomes, such as telomeres and centromeres, and other elements with known or unknown functions.

Past misconceptions:

Noncoding DNA was once called "junk DNA," but research has shown it is vital for the proper function of cells.

The shape of your ears is located in your DNA, influenced by **multiple genes** that control the cartilage formation and folding patterns during embryonic development. While older, simplified models suggested **that** a single gene determined traits like earlobe shape, modern genetic studies have identified numerous genes and their complex interactions as the true determinants of overall ear shape.

How genes determine ear shape

Multiple genes: Instead of one "ear gene," a large number of genes, like the [EDAR gene](#), work together to influence different aspects of ear shape, such as protrusion, lobe attachment, and helix rolling.

- **Complex inheritance:** This means ear shape is a "complex trait," not a simple one. This is why predicting a child's ear shape based on their parents' is difficult.

- **Genetic control:** Specific genes control the development of the ear's cartilage and the complex folding and shaping process that occurs in the womb, which is why ear shapes often run in families.

New research: Recent studies using artificial intelligence and large datasets have identified dozens of genes and genome regions associated with ear characteristics.

Earlobe shape as an example

- **Complex trait:** The common belief that earlobes are determined by a single dominant gene is a myth.
- **Polygenic influence:** Studies have found that many genes contribute to whether earlobes are attached or free-hanging.

Genetic variation: The proportion of attached vs. free earlobes varies significantly across different populations, further indicating the complex genetic basis for the trait.

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AI AND EAR SHAPES , P. 5

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Key genes and chromosomes

Recent genome-wide association studies (GWAS) have identified at least 49 genetic locations that influence earlobe attachment and other ear features. Some of the genes involved include:

- **EDAR (Ectodysplasin A receptor):** Located on chromosome 2, this gene is associated with various ear features, including helix rolling and earlobe attachment.
- **PAX9:** Located on chromosome 14, this gene is one of many identified in relation to earlobe attachment and other ear-related developmental features.
- **SP5, MRPS22, ADGRG6, and KIAA1217:** These genes, found on various chromosomes, have also been identified as having an association with earlobe attachment.

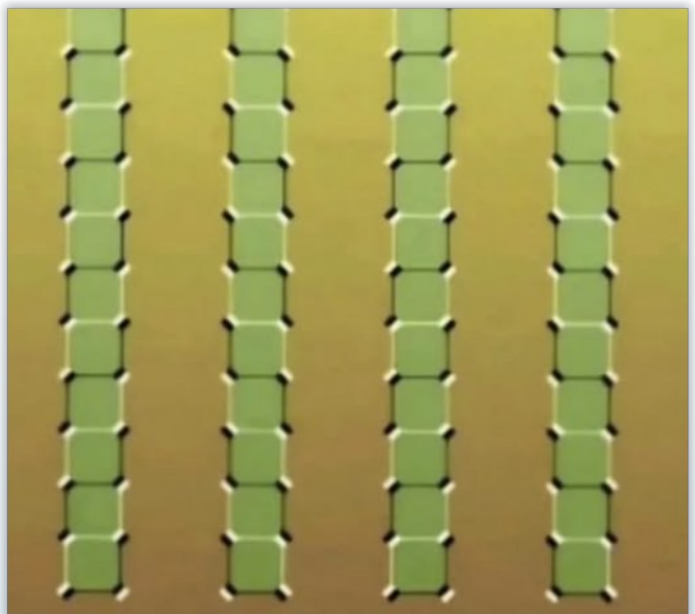
Complex genetic inheritance

Unlike simple Mendelian traits, which are determined by a single gene, the inheritance of ear shape is polygenic and multifactorial.

- **Polygenic inheritance:** Many different genes contribute to the overall shape of your ears, each having a small effect. This is why you can see a wide variation in ear shapes, even within the same family.
- **Multifactorial inheritance:** In addition to genetic factors, environmental influences and the effects of aging can also alter the size and shape of your ears over time.
- **Less predictable inheritance:** Because of

this complexity, it is difficult to predict a child's ear shape based on their parents' features, and two parents with attached earlobes could potentially have a child with unattached earlobes.

Benton F. Baugh, Ph.D., P.E.
From Creation.com and Wikipedia



JUST LOOK AT THE LINES

CAN A MAN BE AN ELDER IF HE IS SINGLE? P2

Continued from page 1

Had I realized the article came from a community church I likely would not have reviewed it (too often I see community churches translating the Bible in a way to fit their own rules), though I do like to read articles like this to see what other people are thinking.

I see the Churches of Christ primarily following the pattern of “speak where the Bible speaks and remain silent where the Bible is silent”. To a large extent, Bob’s response is relating why you don’t have to follow what the Bible says. My response in most cases is “That is what the Bible says”.

Bob’s comment in his first paragraph was very gracious saying “I don’t really wish to respond to comments on much of what I have said. I believe I was fairly quoted, and the readers were left to judge for themselves.” I appreciate that compliment.

In page 1, paragraph 3 commands were clearly “optional”. I Cor. 7:32-35 says you may choose to or not to be married. There are only two choices, to be or not to be married. It is optional as to which one you choose. Matthew 19:12 says you may or may not choose to be a eunuch. There are only two choices and it is optional which one you choose but you have to choose one of the two even if you don’t think about it.

HIS MOST POWERFUL ARGUMENTS:

Page 2 last paragraph: **The husband of one wife should be interpreted as the husband of one woman.** He has found three translations which support his understanding. It is my experience these days that you can find a “translation” which supports about anything. Consider the Queen James Version of the Bible. The Nestle Interlinear Greek-English New Testament trans-

lates the word “wife” in all three occasions. I do not speak Greek and am somewhat suspicious when people give me their personal Greek interpretation. For that reason, Nestle Interlinear Greek-English New Testament is my go-to source.

Page 3 pp 5 **“The same thing holds true regarding a man and his children. Does that mean that an elder must have more than one child?”** That is what the Bible says.

“Third, a man cannot be held accountable for this salvation of his children...” However, that is what the Bible says when speaking of elders of the Church; in this context, in order to serve as an elder, that man is accountable.

“Fourth, we should surely consider the parallel texts to Titus 1:6 in I Timothy 3:4 and 3:12.

O.K. nothing added.

“Fifth, Insisting that an elder must have believing children is not only unbiblical, it is unworkable.” “Must an elder resign every time his wife becomes pregnant?” Having believing children is what the Bible requires. If an elder has believing children and his wife becomes pregnant or gives birth, he still has believing children. It doesn’t say all his children must be believing.

Using this type logic, you can both prove and disprove almost anything.

Bob’s response is attached to the end of this newsletter in black, and this subject will not be pursued any further in this e-magazine. If Bob chooses to respond it will be handled offline.

Benton Baugh

Continued from page 1

GOD CREATED MOTHERS

God created the human family as the building block for everything else. "Adam named his wife Eve, because she would become the mother of all the living." (Gen. 3:20 NIV) Parents contribute but we are given form and life itself by God. Mother is the vessel for God's creative power. "For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb." (Psalm 139:13 NLT) Mothers are tasked with nurturing, teaching and discipline.

"My son, obey your father's commands, and don't neglect your mother's instruction.
Keep their words always in your heart.
Tie them around your neck.
When you walk, their counsel will lead you.
When you sleep, they will protect you.
When you wake up, they will advise you.
For their command is a lamp
And their instruction a light;
Their corrective discipline
is the way to life."
(Proverbs 6:20-23 NLT)

What does it mean to honor your mother? It begins with respect and obedience and ends with great esteem and loving care. She is due patience and kindness, courtesy and love. A token on Mother's Day, a bucketful when needed, and remember – you are always on her heart. She will never forget you, nor fail to pray for your best.

Do you think those who honor their mothers will really have a longer and happier life? There is only one way to find out.

Elizabeth Brown, Texarkana, TX

Continued from page 1

Complacency Kills, Repentance Restores

At risk of the lament of David, author of Psalm 32: "When I kept silent, my bones wasted away through my groaning all day long. For day and night your hand was heavy on me; my strength was sapped as in the heat of summer".

However, if suffering believers in America acknowledge our nation's sins, uncover and expose inequity, confess our role as complacent by-standers, and seek forgiveness of the God of our forefathers, we may yet receive deliverance. "Therefore; let all the faithful pray to You while You may be found; surely the mighty waters will not reach them. You are my hiding place; You will protect me from trouble and surround me with songs of deliverance" Psalm 32: 6-7.

David went on to record this response to his confession and the forgiveness of his guilt: "I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you with my loving eye on you. Do not be like the horse or mule, which have no understanding but must be controlled by bit and bridle or they will not come to you. Many are the woes of the wicked, but the LORD's love surrounds the one who trusts in Him. Rejoice in the LORD and be glad, you righteous; sing, all you are upright in heart!" Psalm 32: 8-11

The faithful of America must approach the Lord with the same humility God required of Solomon after the dedication of the temple in Jerusalem saying "if my people, who are called by my Name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land" 2 Chronicles 7:14. Scripture records the tragedies that overtook Israel despite God's warning. Recent history records the tragedies of the German faithful who only sang louder as the trains full of Jews paused outside their churches enroute to death camps. The world turned a blind eye when Mao Tze tung closed off China to complete his cultural revolution that killed millions by starvation and the gun. What may the faithful do today to avoid the consequence of conforming to the modern world we live in?

There is no place to turn except to the Word of God to regain the strength to repulse the attacks on the spiritual integrity of "One Nation, under God".

Praise God for His enduring love! Amen

Larry S. Grubbs, Harrison, Ohio

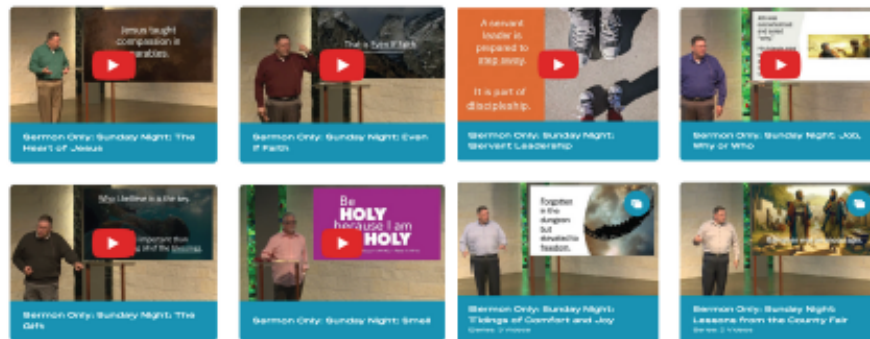
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Preparation for sermons, song leading, and prayers can often be a serious and time-consuming workload for many smaller congregations. eBiblestudy was created to help alleviate the stress that comes with preparing for these responsibilities.

Our hope is that this website can serve as a helpful tool, allowing individuals and congregations to focus more on personal evangelism.

30 new services added!

We want YOUR feedback!



Since we are still in the beginning stages of building this website, it would mean the world to us to hear from you! Please visit our website and fill out this form.



Provided by Oklahoma Christian University

IMPOSSIBLE FOR EVOLUTION #153: MOTH'S ACOUSTIC CAMOFLAGE

The statement “blind as a bat” implies that bats are blind. There is no species of bats which are actually blind, but some do not see well. The presumption of blindness comes from the fact that bats find their prey by echolocation. They emit a high pitched sound and listen for an echo off their prey. Repeatedly doing this will tell the direction to, distance to, and the direction of movement of their prey. When the prey experiences echolocation, it is eaten without a million-year opportunity to evolve a defense for this problem.

Some moths have defense mechanisms for this echolocation, including acoustic stealth camouflage, decoy echoes from wingtip ripples, and the emission of acoustic signals. The stealth camouflage means the bats would simply not “see” the moth. The ripples off the moth’s wingtips and the emission of acoustic signals can jam a bat’s electrolocation system. If the bat is waiting for an echo to come back but instead gets extra echoes, it cannot know how far away the prey is or how fast it is moving.

Moth’s acoustic camouflage:

Sound absorption: Moths have tiny, porous scales on their bodies and wings that absorb sound waves from bats’ high-frequency clicks, which they use to hunt.

Energy dissipation:

The air pockets within the fuzzy scales on their bodies cause sound waves to bounce around and dissipate, effectively muffling the moth’s echo.

Broadband protection:

This acoustic Camouflage works across a wide range of ultrasonic frequencies, making moths much harder for bats to detect.

Acoustic Signals:

Several species have the ability to avoid predation by emitting a series of distinctive clicks as they fly. They produce ultrasonic clicks, including mimicry to simulate the clicking sound of the predator bats.

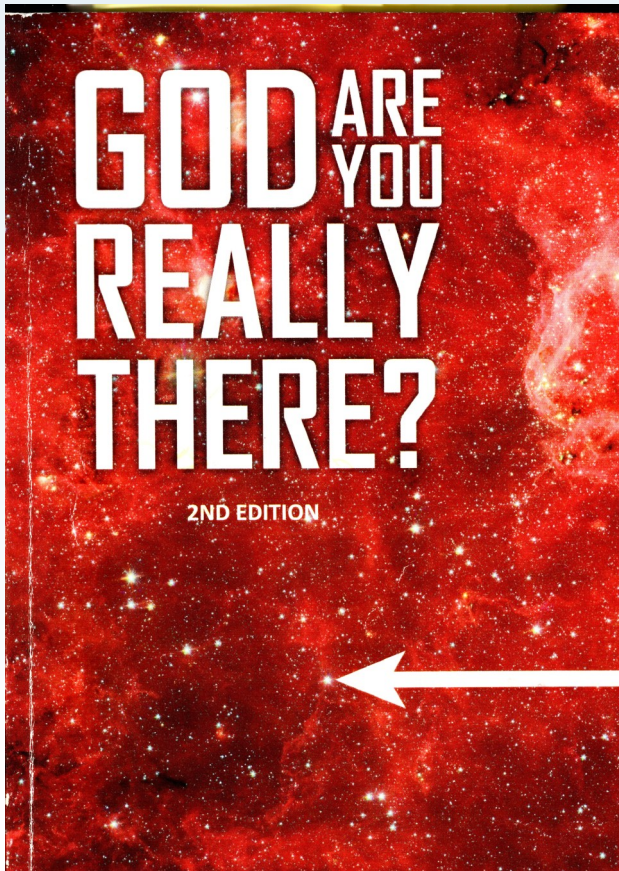
One species of moths, Yponomeuta, is actually deaf. Yponomeuta moths acquire sophisticated acoustic protection, despite being deaf themselves and hence unable to respond to bat attacks. Instead, flying Yponomeuta produce bursts of ultrasonic clicks perpetually; a striated patch in their hind wing clicks as the beating wing rotates and bends.

It is interesting that God has given bats the amazing ability to locate prey using echolocation, and has given some moths the ability to jam the bat’s echolocation capability. Perhaps the thought was that the bats using echolocation might drive the moths into extinction so He gave some moths a little help.

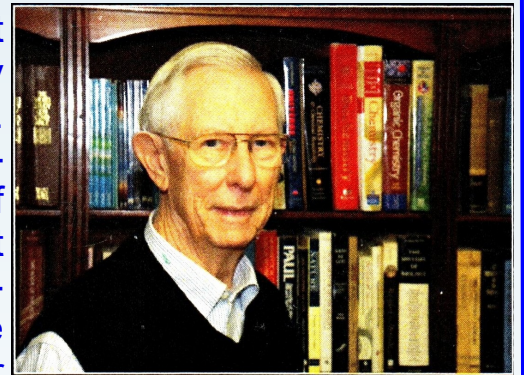
Benton F. Baugh, Ph.D., P.E.
From Creation.com and Wikipedia



Yponomeuta Moth by Hectonichus



An excellent book to read by Don England. Don is an Emeritus Professor of Chemistry at Harding University where he has taught for 45 years.



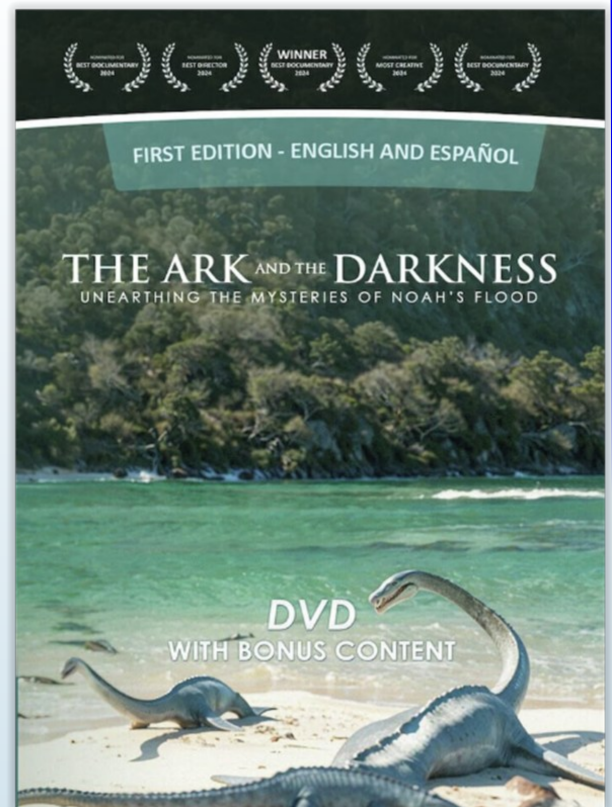
My recommendation is that I bought a copy for each of my children and grandchildren. Don eloquently answers a lot of the questions about God which they will have from time to time. Yours children and grandchildren will also have questions. **As a further recommendation, I now have also bought Christmas books for my siblings, nieces, and nephews. It is well received by all. My sister is now using it to teach a ladies class.** Benton Baugh

Available on Amazon.

THE ARK AND THE DARKNESS

A friend loaned this DVD to me. After watching it twice, I bought my own copy to loan to my kids and grandkids.

Several speakers give fresh insights into the nature of the Ark and the flood which you will find intriguing. In addition to an excellent presentation, it provides many facts and figures which will be interesting to you. This should be shown in every high school class, and adult classes as well.



"The challenges ahead of you can only be measured by the ability inside of you."

Zone Leader: 7 Tactics for Leading in the Zones is a field-guide designed to help you navigate change. Resistance and conflict occur anytime change is introduced, and leaders must have the tools and resources necessary to avoid the pitfalls that hinder real success. No matter where you find yourself in the four zones, the tactics discussed in Zone Leader will enhance your ability to lead through each zone. "The challenges ahead of you can only be measured by the ability inside of you. The more you put into developing your leadership, the greater your ability to deal with the challenges you face."

"To get where you're going, you need more than just a destination: you need to know where you are now, and you need a map. To assist you on your journey, this thought-provoking book provides you with all three."

Sheila Heen, Harvard Law Professor and co-author of *Difficult Conversations: How to Discuss What Matters Most*.

"I wish this book could have been available when I was in both undergraduate and graduate studies. I was struck with how readability and depth worked in concert to clearly address leadership. The zones resonated with my thought processes and lay a logical format for understanding."

Gerry Taylor, Executive Vice President, Prosperity Bank



Bob directs the Sunset Academy of Leadership Training. He is a coach, consultant, and full-time speaker, conducting workshops in leadership development. He is dedicated to helping leaders implement positive, transformational change and creating a vision to prepare the next generation of leaders. He lives in Virginia Beach, VA and holds a Doctorate in Intercultural Studies with an emphasis in adult leadership development from the Fuller Theological Seminary in Pasadena, CA.



ZONE LEADER
7 Tactics for Leading in the Zones

ZONE LEADER: 7 Tactics for Leading in the Zones

TURNER



ZONE LEADER

7 Tactics for Leading in the Zones

Dr. Bob Turner

Author of
Essential: Building Blocks 4 Life and Leadership

Foreword by best-selling author, Jeremie Kubicek,
co-founder of GiANT Worldwide

An excellent book to read. Available on Amazon.

House Church

Defined: Group that meets for worship in private homes.
Biblical; 5 times mentioned in Bible. (Acts 1:13; 1 Cor. 16:9; Rom. 16:3; Col. 4:15; Phil 1:2)

Advantages:

- Deeper fellowship. A close loving church.
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Matthew 18:20

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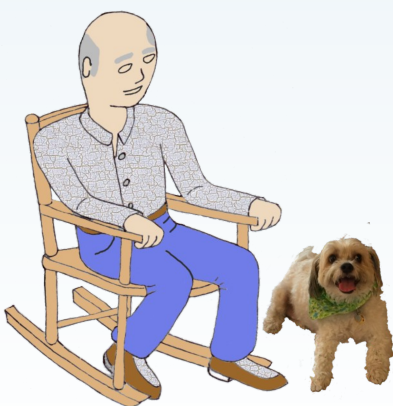
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I choose joy!



*Age is not a number,
it is clearly a
word!*

Barry and Ace

20 GOLDEN THINGS YOU LEARN WITH AGE

Peace is better than being right.

Time is our most valuable currency.

Not everyone deserves a **front-row** seat to your life.

Health is truly wealth.

Silence often speaks louder than words

Saying “no” is a form of **self-respect**.

Kindness never goes out of style.

Happiness comes from within.

Trust is earned, not given.

Simple moments are the **most precious**.

You don’t have to attend **every argument** you are invited to.

Letting go is part of growing up.

Your energy is sacred—**protect it**.

Gratitude shifts everything.

People show you **who they are**—believe them.

It’s okay to outgrow **people and places**.

Wisdom often comes from pain.

Life isn’t a race—**go at your pace**.

The little things are actually the **big things**.

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