When I was a young believer, I learned a simple acrostic to help in my prayer life. Decades later I have recently resurrected its use to help guide my prayers, especially in these times of turmoil.

The acrostic is A.C.T.S. – Adoration, Confession, Thanksgiving, Supplication. Four parts for a balanced and richer prayer life.

Adoration – What is it and why start with adoration? Simply it is praising God for who He is. It overlaps with thanking Him for what He has done, but we concentrate more on that later. A focus first on adoration helps put the rest of our prayers in proper perspective. We need to daily remind ourselves how big our God is. He is the creator of the whole universe, yet who lovingly formed each of us in our mother’s womb, and daily sustains us. Reflecting on those big theological words that describe his attributes would not be out of place; his omnipotence (all powerful), his omnipresence (“where can I flee from thy presence?” Psalm 139), his omniscience (all knowing), etcetera.

Confession – the more we reflect on his attributes, especially on his holiness, the more we understand our utter unworthiness. How like our tendency to forget this step and go straight to our requests, but how we need to rather daily humble ourselves before our holy, righteous, and just but loving Lord. My prayers at this point are often brought back to songs of repentance, “Create in Me a Clean Heart” (as sung by Keith Green) and “Breath on Us Again” (by the Maranatha Band).

Thanksgiving – We must never forget to continually give thanks to our Lord for his bountiful provision, whether we are in a time of plenty or in a time of want. How can we give thanks when in the midst of some great trial? We can when we remember who it is we are praying to. Whatever is confounding us in the moment is not confounding to God. “Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.” (Phil 4:6, ESV)

Supplication – As we bring our needs and desires before the Lord may they be tempered with the adoration, confession, and thanksgiving we have just given. May much of this time be intercession for others. May all our supplications and intersessions include asking that our lives bring Him glory. When praying for a fellow believer, that they may know the Lord’s peace in their trial and grow in their love for and witness of our Lord. When praying

(Continued on page 5)
God’s Amazing Ocean Mammals: 
**Whales**
By CreationStudies Institute

[Editorial note: In place of another from my Wonder of it All series, we have a sample article from another free source of Creation Science information available on the web. http://www.creationstudies.org/]

Did you know that the largest animal that ever lived is the Blue Whale and the body weight of that amazing mammal is many times heavier than the largest dinosaur ever discovered?

Originally, Charles Darwin believed that whales might have evolved from bears.

“In North America the black bear was seen by Hearne (observers) swimming for hours with widely open mouth, thus catching, like a whale, insects in the water. Even in so extreme a case as this, if the supply of insects were constant, and if better adapted competitors did not already exist in the country, I can see no difficulty in a race of bears being rendered, by natural selection, more and more aquatic in their structure and habits, with larger and larger mouths, till a creature was produced as monstrous as a whale.” — Charles Darwin, The Origin of Species (1859 and 1984 editions), p. 184.

There are hundreds of ‘just so’ stories that pass for evidence of evolutionary theory. In fact, today evolutionary scientists think that whales are related to cows. The renowned educator David Berlinski who received his Ph.D. in philosophy from Princeton University and later became a Fellow of the Faculty in Mathematics and a Post Doctoral Fellow in molecular biology at Columbia University said this with regard to the ‘just so’ story of whale evolution,

“The stories quickly change from plausible to ridiculous. I liken the cow to whale evolution to the engineering task of converting a car to a submarine. Why are the 50,000+ required morphological changes not found in the fossil record?”

While the cow to whale evolutionary scenario is clearly fantasy, whales are truly amazing creatures. God created them and designed them with some very special characteristics. Here is a short list of those astounding characteristics.

- Whales can eat while moving at 16 mph, travel long distances at a top speed of 30mph.
- Some whales carry out annual migrations of 16,000 miles.
- Whales can compose complicated musical pieces that serve as a form of underwater language.
- There are whales that can blow a spout of water 50 feet into the air with just one exhale.
- Sperm whales hold the deep sea diving world record at approximately 10,000 feet below the surface.

- Some whales have a lung volume of 793 gallons (3,000 liters). Humans have a lung capacity of just over one gallon (4 liters), or at most, 1.8 gallons or 7 liters.
- Whales produce the world’s richest milk with a world record butter-fat content of 42%. Human milk by comparison has a butter-fat content of 4.4%.
- Some whales have tongues so heavy that they weigh as much as two fully grown horses.
- There are whales with aortas of 20 inches in diameter. That is the size of an average water main.

The Blue Whale is the largest creature that has ever been found. The body weight of that amazing mammal is many times heavier than the largest dinosaur ever discovered.

(Continued on next page)
In general, the sizes of whale calves are enormous at birth. The largest land mammal, the African elephant male is only 4,400 pounds fully grown.

- Greenland whales Calf = 20 feet and 6 tons at birth
- Northern Right whale = 16.4 feet and 56 tons at birth
- Humpback whale = 15 feet and 2.5 tons at birth
- Grey whale = 15 feet and 1.5 tons at birth

The Blue whale generates 1,175 horsepower which requires 20,000 liter of oxygen to cruise at 17.3 mph. The whale fluke or tail is designed horizontally because in terms of fluid dynamics it is much more practical for constant diving and surfacing than a vertical fluke would be.

Whales are intentionally created to be streamlined and even their skin is designed to reduce water turbulence streaming over our bodies, and transform it into laminar flow with reduced resistance. This captures a portion of the turbulent energy of the water, and achieves a damping effect of the vortices near the surface of our skin over their entire body. The bodies of whales are designed to endure the enormous pressures of deep sea diving. At 3,280 feet below sea level, it would be the same as having the boxing heavyweight champion of the world standing on your fingernail. That would mean the volume of eleven football field lengths of water would be above us. The pressure is 1421 pounds per square inch (almost 100 atmospheres). 200,000 pounds (100 tons) of water press on every square foot of the whale.

The Creator has equipped these deep sea diving mammals with a special conservation system. During a dive their heart rate is cut in half. The non-essential regions of their body are shut off from the circulatory system. The blood supply is re-directed to their most important organs, the heart, the brain and their tale structures.

Deep sea diving mammals like dolphins and whales can hold their breath for up to 1 ½ hours. This prevents them from getting the bends when they come back up to the surface to breath. The bends is just like opening a champagne bottle without letting the pressure equalize. The champagne seems to explode out the top of the bottle. If this happens inside a person, or any deep sea diving mammal, it can cause deadly blockages, embolisms and clots. To inhibit this from happening, a diver must surface gradually or be placed in special decompression chamber.

The lungs of mammals are incredibly delicate organs, however, the internal organs of whales are designed to survive the immense pressures that deep sea diving brings to bear. Without special design features whale lungs should just fall in on themselves like a wet sack and collapse. Land mammals have a windpipe and large bronchial tubes that are equipped with supporting rings, so they are able to remain open while inhaling. Just like the rings on a vacuum cleaner hose, a whale’s bronchial tube is re-enforced to withstand enormous pressures.

A whaler once documented 28,000 small squid in the belly of a Sperm whale, but the all time favorite food of this species is the giant squid. Whales are designed to find their food in the lower regions of the ocean where there is little or no light at all. They use a sophisticated type of sonar called echolocation.

The whale’s nose is placed on the top of their heads to enable them to breath easily while swimming. Marine mammals have been given a highly sophisticated stereo seismographic hearing apparatus. For decades evolutionary scientists thought that whales were deaf. Even after hints of a complicated inner ear and highly specialized auditory nerves were discovered, they were chalked up to being the evolutionary remnants from some hypothetical ancestor...

For the rest of the article, go to: https://thecreationclub.com/gods-amazing-ocean-mammals-whales/
Humanism as Religion, What can be "Scrapped"?
By Kevin Hadsall

The last interaction in the Humanism as Religion debate was actually a continuation of a discussion that occurred earlier in the thread. I captured this particular discussion in Part 3 of the Humanism as Religion debate. Recall the following interaction between me and humanist PK: [Editorial comment: for brevity, the following contains only excerpts of PKs comments along with Kevin's replies]

PK: “Evolution is not a by product of religion like creationism and not associated with any religion. Given that atheists believe in it does not make it atheistic.”

Me: How do you define “religion”? I suppose there are many connotations, but regardless of how somebody defines religion, there is not a single person on this planet that is not trusting in some sort of authority or “god”…whether that is the God of the Bible, some other professed supernatural entity, or the god of self and/or human opinion. The evolutionary worldview requires faith… faith in human opinion/understanding of our origins, absent from any kind of divine revelation from a supernatural entity. That, by definition, is the religion of humanism. As the Bristol Humanist Group says, “Humanism is an approach to life based on reason and our common humanity, recognizing that moral values are properly founded on human nature and experience alone” (https://americanhumanist.org/what.../definition-of-humanism/).

PK: “Evolution is taught as a fundamental science, any explanation given from its tenets is subject to change with accordance to newer and better information. That is why it is taught in a scientific classroom because with current tools, techniques and current understanding of workings of the world have put it better than any form of religious beliefs of creation.”

Me: How so? How is evolution observable, repeatable, and testable? I will pose the same questions to you that I posed to BM: Can you provide observable, repeatable, and testable examples of the following? (1) Life evolving from non-life, and (2) “upward” changes in the genotype and phenotype of an organism, such as an originally-blind organism evolving eyesight, or an originally flightless species developing the ability to fly?

PK: “So No No No, if evolution is to be removed a better idea should be put forth that is more scientifically accurate than it.”

Me: Yes, perhaps the science classroom should focus on concepts that are observable, repeatable, and testable. That’s called observational (or “operational”) science: https://answersingenesis.org/.../science/nature-of-science/

Fast forward to day 2 of the debate. After I posted my response to JD, as shown in Part 5, I noticed that PK followed up with a response. PK claims that I missed the point of his/her earlier comment. Moreover, PK makes an interesting admission regarding the fact that scientists can “scrap off” a scientific theory for a “better one.” Below is the sixth and final part of the Humanism as Religion debate that shows PK’s comment along with my response.

PK: You clearly missed my point that science is not an all knowing understanding. Science is use of explanation of things according to the "current understanding" of mankind's knowledge of the subject at that time. At this moment abiogenesis in evolution is not the most absolute we think happened in the first formation of life, but that is the best we have at this time. If there comes a better one I am sure the scientific community as it has done many times before would scrap off if does not hold true and adopt the better one.

Like Newtonian law's was undisputed in explanation of macro objects but when micro
God’s Rest Day
By Henry M. Morris III, D. Min.

“Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy.” (Exodus 20:8)

The Hebrew word shabbat is found 108 times in the Old Testament. The basic meaning is “intermission” or “break.” The term never means “Saturday” or “seven.”

The pattern of resting every seventh day–night cycle was established by God at creation (Genesis 2:1-3; Exodus 20:11). God “made” (performed activity) for six days and rested and ended His work on the seventh day. Therefore, God blessed and “hallowed” the resting day to commemorate His initial work and rest cycle. There is no other basis for this pattern. There is no relationship for the seven-day week in any astronomical clock reference: solar, stellar, or lunar. In fact, the Lord Jesus clearly told us that He made the sabbath for humanity (Mark 2:27). Apart from God’s specific design, we would have no reason to observe the seven-day week, which is common to all cultures.

All humanity observes the seven-day cycle from a practical and physiological need. Christians, however, should acknowledge that the sabbath was dedicated by God at creation to be a day of “sanctification.”

God’s people should follow the pattern He set (Genesis 2:1-3) and recognize the wonder and majesty of the creation (Exodus 20:11). We should cease from our own profitable employment (Exodus 20:9-10) and, more importantly, concentrate on the worship of our Creator (Psalm 92).

This commandment is the only command listed with a specific reason, and the precise wording should forever settle the argument about a “day age” interpretation of creation. In Exodus 20:11, the wording can only mean a “regular” day. There is no linguistic excuse for long ages anywhere.

5 Countries Where Christmas Is a Crime
By Open Doors USA

Slowly, the five friends make their way to the women’s outhouse they use each day. They look back. No one has followed them. In the stench of the room, they gather in a corner. Saying little, always in muttered whispers, they stand quietly. One woman softly sings. Another leads a short prayer.

Year after year, this is what Christmas looks like for these believers in a North Korean labor camp. Counting the cost, they risk their lives to come together to pray and sing, reflecting on the coming of their Savior—both 2,000 years ago and one future day they all hope comes very soon.

For millions of believers like these, the celebration of our Savior entering the world must be a risk-laden secret Christmas. They know that there is a war on Christmas—and what that war really looks like.

Even the wise men were warned in a dream to leave secretly.

Christmastime in Saudi Arabia

In Saudi Arabia, churches, crosses and Christian meetings of any kind are illegal throughout the country. There are no churches and even the wearing of any kind of religious symbol is forbidden. A Christmas tree or lights outside are unthinkable. For Christian households, Christmas must be celebrated in secret.

And for any Christian converts in a Muslim family (converting is illegal and punishable by death, imprisonment or lashes), they are often forced to hide their faith, acting like a Muslim who doesn’t celebrate Christmas—celebrating Jesus only silently in their hearts.

While the country’s laws “permit” Christians to celebrate privately, gatherings are still targeted by officials. In December 2012, Arab media reported that Saudi Arabia’s police force—the Mutaweens—raided a private home, arresting more than 40 guests for “plotting to celebrate” Christmas. Three years later in December 2015, rumors of increasing secret Christmas parties prompted state media to reinforce that celebrating Christmas was forbidden, suggesting that for Muslims even to greet non-Muslims with a Christmas message was basically “endorsing their faith.”

However, insiders and experts claim there is an increasing number of secret Christians in Saudi Arabia—and that a growing number of Saudi residents celebrate Dec. 25.

“The number of Christian converts from Islam and other religions is increasing, along with their boldness in sharing their new faith,” says Open Doors CEO David Curry. “But they have to be careful. A lot of persecution can come from family or society, rather than the government.”

[Pray for our persecuted brethren this Christmas. Read about the other countries at: https://www.opendoorsusa.org/christian-persecution/stories/5-countries-christmas-crime/]
A Carbon 14 Calibration Proposal
By Mark Jurkovich

About a year ago, upon reading an article in “Creation” magazine, I got to thinking about some of the implications of Carbon 14 being found in virtually every carbon bearing material buried by the global flood. Having not read before about the implications I was thinking about, I decided to write to a couple Creation organizations about it. And Answers in Genesis gave me a reply.

Here is what I wrote:

“Given that coal and fossils were all buried in the global flood, the carbon 14 content in them should all fall within a certain range, having all been buried the same year. I am curious if this is the case or not. It should be possible to come up with an average C14 age for these fossils/coal. Then, taking the truth of the Bible and the approximate date for the flood derived from scripture, one should be able to back calculate the average amount of C14 in the pre-flood world. This could then be used as a baseline for dating all things that died post flood, for we would now have at least the C14 level at the two dating endpoints to use for interpolation. Of course, many other assumptions would remain, such as whether a linear interpolation for the C14 concentration is appropriate.

Of course, the secular world who reject the Biblical timeline would scoff at this calibration method. But Christians could use it to help better understand the timing of ancient artifacts.”

Here is the reply I received from Answers in Genesis:

“Hello Mark, thank you for writing to Answers in Genesis.

It’s definitely worth pursuing, and in fact we’ve written a couple of articles on this very topic (linked below). Research is still ongoing, and we hope to be publishing more on this subject in the coming years.”

https://answersingenesis.org/geology/carbon-14/a-creationist-puzzle/
https://answersingenesis.org/geology/carbon-14/radiocarbon-dating/

An excerpt from the first article fits right in with my thoughts.2

“A Prediction Fulfilled

Now if this model of the earth’s past radiocarbon inventory is correct, then a logical prediction follows. Since all pre-Flood plants would have had the same low radiocarbon levels when they were buried, and they all formed into coal beds during that single Flood year, then those coal beds should all have the same low radiocarbon content.

They do! Samples from coal beds around the United States, ranging from Eocene to Pennsylvanian deposits, supposedly 40–320 million years old, all contain the same low radiocarbon levels equivalent to “ages” of 48,000–50,000 years.

This makes sense only if these coal beds were all formed out of pre-Flood plants during the year-long Flood, about 4,350 years ago. Carbon-14 dates of the same value are expected in creation theory but contrary to the expectations of conventional old-earth theory.”

This is another example where belief in the truth of scripture from the very first verse, leads to good science. The secular community will totally miss this because of their wrong starting assumptions.

Footnotes:

2 “A Creationist Puzzle, 50,000-Year-Old-Fossils”, by Dr. Andrew A. Snelling, April 1, 2011
ARKY’s Calendar of Events  
(as of 4/1/20)  
See more details and complete list at http://www.arky.org/current/index.htm

*Dec 14, 7:00 pm to 8:35 pm. DVD: Amazing Love: The Story of Hosea with actors at Faith Christian Fellowship. Teen friends, Steve, Carrie, Cooper, and Gameboy embark on a weekend camping trip lead by their church youth group leader Stuart (Sean Astin) and his wife Beth (Erin Bethea). Joining them is an outsider Ashley, a self-involved rich kid, whose attitude causes a major commotion within the group, specifically between her and Carrie. Before it gets too out of hand though, Stuart takes this opportunity to share with the kids the incredibly powerful biblical story of Hosea; a story of immovable faith, impeccable commitment, and impervious love. Is this story able to inspire the kids to open their hearts to such an amazing love?

*Jan 11, 7:00 pm to 8:35 pm. DVD: The NT Text and Canon: Debunking Four Major Errors of Bart Ehrman with Henry Smith at Faith Christian Fellowship. Like a majority of NT scholars, Ehrman claims that the 27 books of the NT canon were not 'decided' until various councils of the late 4th century AD, and even later. In this presentation, Mr. Henry Smith debunks four of Dr. Ehrman's errors, leaving the audience with the confidence that the NT text and canon can be trusted.

*Feb 8, 7:00 pm to 8:35 pm. What You Aren't Told About Astronomy, Vol1: Our Created Solar System with Spike Psarris at Faith Christian Fellowship. Did God create our solar system less than 10,000 years ago---or did it form by itself from a cloud of gas billions of years ago? Through more than 230 breathtaking photographs and graphics, this video tour of the solar system will prove how recent discoveries support the biblical account---and how each planet uniquely testifies to our Creator.

*March 8, 7:00 pm to 8:35 pm. Patterns of Evidence: The Moses Controversy with Tim Mahoney at Faith Christian Fellowship. Did Moses write the first books of the Bible? Many mainstream scholars say NO! But the Bible states YES! Award-winning filmmaker Timothy Mahoney (Patterns of Evidence: The Exodus) is back again, bringing new evidence to light in the latest documentary: Patterns of Evidence: The Moses Controversy. Mahoney's investigation lead to is the ground-breaking discovery that the world's first alphabet actually originated in Egypt. Did the Israelites invent this alphabet in time for Moses to write the Bible?

*April 12, 7:00 pm to 8:35 pm. The Case for Christ: the Film with Lee Strobel at Faith Christian Fellowship. Lee Strobel's blockbuster bestseller comes alive on your screen in this documentary that chronicles the reporter's journey from atheism to faith. The former legal editor of The Chicago Tribune draws upon his investigative skills to examine the historical viability and accuracy of the Gospels, along with the personal claims and resurrection of Jesus Christ. This remarkable documentary is like reading a captivating, fast-paced novel. But it's not fiction. It's a riveting quest for the truth about history's most compelling figure. What will your verdict be in The Case for Christ?

Note Asterisk (*) Indicates regular ARK meeting at Faith Christian Fellowship, 1778 Grange Hall Rd, Beavercreek, OH 45432. Located about a quarter mile north of Dayton-Xenia Road. Ph: (937) 256-ARKY.

The ARK monthly meeting is every 2nd Monday of the month.

Membership NOT required to attend meetings! - Get the latest "CURRENT EVENTS" on the web at http://www.arky.org.
## Financial Statement 2020

### Receipts

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**Total** 4,512.91

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**Total** 6,6060.31

### Balance 10/31/2020

43,346.19

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### Is it time for you to renew?

The card you received announcing the annual member meeting in July included your expiration date above your name. If you did not receive a mailing about the member meeting then it is time for you to renew. 😊

### Be an ARK Supporter!

| Name: ____________________________ |  |
| Addr: ____________________________ |  |
| City, St. ZIP: ____________________ |  |
| Ph: ______ - ______ - _______ Cell: ______ - ______ - _______ |  |
| Email: ___________________________ |  |
| Church: ___________________________ |  |
| City: ____________________________ |  |

**Membership Amount**: $ __________

**Gift Amount**: $ __________

**Total Enclosed**: $ __________

**Membership(check one)**: [ ] One [ ] Spousal [ ] Family

ARK individual membership is only $25/year ($30 couple, $40 family). To receive this newsletter quarterly for free, please complete the address form and put "Jesus" in amount. (Please include mailing label, if you are renewing.) Make checks to: ARK Foundation of Dayton, Inc.

### ARK Supporter Benefits

1. **Tri-annual newsletter**: ARK members receive news and insightful articles;

2. **Creation Museum Passes**: Several ARK members have made their passes available for use by other ARK members and their guests. FOR FREE;

3. **National support**: 10% of supporters’ general donations is given to Answers in Genesis, our voluntary support for a national Biblical creation science organization;

4. **Webpage**: www.arky.org provides logical, Biblical information to a world saturated with an unbiblical, ill-suited naturalism for the needs of people;

5. **Monthly ARK meetings**: interesting speakers or DVD program on a variety of subjects, provided FREE to the community;

6. **Major speaker programs**: sponsored into the area or promoted by ARK;

7. **Local ARK speakers**: available for community and church events;

8. **Encouragement and Answers**: for belief in the Biblical Creator;

9. **Leadership training**: periodically opportunity to learn how to serve in your church or school or study group;

10. **Public materials**: make available Creation resources – books, audios, and DVDs to public;

11. **HELPING US IN PROMOTING THE TRUTH OF SCRIPTURE FROM FIRST VERSE TO THE LAST**: and that true science is consistent with God’s Word.
Prayer Requests

- For direction for Ark Foundation’s future
- For the Lord to open up opportunities for Mark to speak at churches and other venues about Creation Science
- For the Lord’s hand on the updating the website.
- For plans to go forward to hold a Creation conference in 2022
- That Ark Foundation be used in strengthening believers and drawing unbelievers to the Lord
- For Ron and Brenda as they have been in virtual isolation since the virus outbreak
- New church contacts
- More believers learn about and take advantage of Ark’s resources
- More volunteers, financial partners, and prayer partners.

- For each other: that we grow in our love for the Lord and desire to see others come to know His love.
- For revival in our land

After Eden

Look at all the beautiful stars God created! Just think, these same stars were shining the night Christ was born!

God made the first Christmas lights!