

The Cutting Edge of Outreach

Keeping pace with our changing culture on origins

By Carl Wieland

There are many scientists, other than Christian ones, who have enormous problems with the evolutionary idea that life arose by chance. To date, the only viable alternative theory of origins—namely biblical creation—remains unacceptable to many because it invokes a righteous God and subsequent accountability for our actions. Today, a strange ‘otherworldly’ mingling of these beliefs has catapulted itself into the minds of the masses—including the idea that intelligent extraterrestrials (ETs) are the creators.

Mankind has only just begun to comprehend what lies outside of his earthly home. Deep space telescopes confirm that the universe is an unimaginably ‘big place’. But rather than this increasing our awe of the One who made it all, most believe that life *must* exist elsewhere (including many Christians who think God may have created ETs). The big bang and evolution are the driving forces behind this idea of *evolution elsewhere* in the universe. This theme is now firmly embedded in our popular culture (movies etc.).

In the same way that much of the church was asleep to the danger of evolution and failed to provide answers to those who were being saturated with evolutionary ideas, this new threat is already bigger than most realize. This is not a side issue for the church. This new saturation is creating beliefs that are spreading rapidly and challenging (even being incorporated in) the church.

Whatever ‘flavour’ such beliefs take, the result is usually the same—an abandonment of the Bible’s real history. In many ways, the UFO phenomenon is more insidious than humanistic ideas that *openly* oppose the church. Many UFO believers seemingly hold the Bible in high regard and love nothing more than quoting Scripture while weaving in a UFO or two. Because of the belief in a very old universe and that aliens could have evolved elsewhere,

**BOOKROOM
and OFFICE**

Come and visit us

**Your questions answered! See our Q & A page
<www.AnswersInGenesis.org/qa>**

it is expected that these extraterrestrials could be millions, or even billions, of years 'more advanced' in their technology.

One popular idea is that Jesus was just such an advanced extraterrestrial who could perform miracles via advanced technology. Because He was 'more evolved', He and other ETs might hold the key to the meaning and purpose of our existence. Much of the UFO literature contains prophecies of future events, which often parallel the Scriptures. This has strong appeal for those who are constantly seeking an alternative view of the Bible

One such person was Tracey H.'s father. She wrote: 'Although my Dad grew up in a Bible-believing family, he had allowed evolutionary thinking and specifically, a belief in extraterrestrial life, to diminish the "God" that he believed in. If the Bible said nothing about evolution or the possibility of alien life, then Dad saw God as less than all-knowing and all-powerful. Sadly, Dad began to pick which books of the Bible he would believe and which books he would reject.

'One night Dad came to a talk by [AiG's] Gary Bates on "Aliens, UFOs and the Bible" and he really connected with Gary's insight into the alien phenomenon. When Gary started relating Scripture to the concept of alien life-forms, Dad was challenged to examine his beliefs. The church had never challenged him on this before. At first Dad was angry that God was no longer "just for Sunday morning". ...

Four months later Dad repented, proclaimed his faith in the God who is all-knowing and all-powerful, and was baptised.'


When writing to Gary, Tracey added, 'You know Gary, this whole area is so outside of what the church addresses. Thank you for having the courage and conviction to run with it. I think about how Jesus would connect with where people were at, and that's what you are doing. Just think how many people are fascinated by aliens and UFOs, and you have a tool to open their minds to the truth of the God who loves them.'

I know this was Gary's motivation when he wrote AiG's latest book *Alien Intrusion: UFOs and the Evolution Connection*. Young people in particular believe in alien life in staggering numbers.

All of AiG's books are aimed at arming and equipping the church; I personally believe that this book has possibly the greatest potential out of all of them to also appeal to, and reach, the lost *directly*. I highly recommend it to Christians for their own 'warfare' and also as a direct evangelistic tool. A casual glance will not immediately reveal this as a Christian book, and due to the fascinating subject matter, it presents great opportunities for you to share it with others (Matt. 10:16). All reviewers have said that it is an incredibly gripping read.



Expect your non-believing friends to be confronted with the evidence. They may not initially agree with the conclusions, but I doubt

NON-PROFIT NON-DENOMINATIONAL DONATION FUNDED



Answers
PRAYER NEWS
Editor: Gary Bates
UNITED KINGDOM
*A Christ-centred evangelistic ministry
upholding the authority and accuracy of the
Bible from the very first verse.*

Answers in Genesis (UK)
Registered charity no. 1024543
Internet: www.AnswersInGenesis.org
Answers in Genesis: PO Box 5262, Leicester LE2 3XU, United Kingdom
Phone (0116) 270 8400 Fax: (0116) 270 0110 Email: UKinfo@AnswersinGenesis.org



To equip Christians to more effectively proclaim the gospel in our increasingly secular, evolutionary society, we provide an exciting range of periodicals, books and audiovisuals, as well as speaking ministry.

that many will ever see the universe and their own existence in the same light again.

To order your copy, see enclosed catalogue.

Author of *Alien Intrusion ...* to visit England

AiG-Australia's Gary Bates (mentioned in the lead article, and pictured, right) will be visiting our shores in April for a flying visit.

Gary is an internationally travelled speaker on the relevance of Genesis creation to the gospel. He will also be speaking about UFOs and the 'evolution connection'. You can hear him at the venues listed at right.

Wednesday 13 April 2005, 7.30 pm, Maranatha Fellowship, 73 Holyhead Road, **Handsworth, Birmingham**. Ph: 0121 523 9717

Thursday 14 April, 8.00 pm, Elim Pentecostal Church, Narborough Rd/Harrow Rd, **Leicester**. Ph: 0116 2333481

Saturday 16 April, 6.30 pm (N.B. Philip Bell will be speaking here at 2.00 pm and 3.45 pm), Methodist Church, Sheep St, **Bicester, Oxfordshire**. Ph: 01869 246 642

Sunday 17 April, 6.30 pm & 8.30 pm, Elmstead Baptist Church, Elmstead Lane, **Chislehurst, Kent**. Ph: 020 8857 9812

Speaking to pagans in Scotland

Recently, Dr Monty White spoke at a university in Scotland in a meeting organised by the Christian Union as part of their outreach. Unbelievably, not only did the hosting CU advertise the meeting, but the University's Pagan Society advertised it even more widely! On the night, about 150 students came along, a large number being pagans and sceptics.

During Monty's talk entitled 'Creation/Evolution—Who Can You Trust?' about 20 people left without staying to the end. Three young women were particularly upset about the moral issues he mentioned—especially adultery!

Monty's wife overheard them speaking about this outside of the lecture. Monty remarked, 'I cannot help but wonder what will happen on the Day of Judgement, when every knee will have to bow to the Lord Jesus Christ and they must give an account of their lives. No wonder we are warned that, on that day,

there will be wailing and gnashing of teeth.'

After the meeting, there was a lively discussion for almost an hour between Monty and 20 or 30 of the pagans. Monty commented that it still comes as a shock to experience firsthand the arrogance and disregard of people towards God and His Word.

He said, 'I am convinced that this is the result of what evolutionary teaching has done to our once-Christian country. Evolutionary belief has eroded belief in the Bible and sought to leave God out of everything.'

Although AiG's main role is to minister to and equip Christians, it is sometimes good to demonstrate to even the pagans and sceptics that Christians do have sound reasons for believing in creation and the God of the Bible.

Ken Ham Takes UK and Ireland by Storm!

Left: some of the crowd at Ken's meeting at Belfast; right: the attentive audience inside

Ken's annual visit to the UK occurred at the beginning of March, when he spoke in Cork and Dublin in the Irish Republic, Belfast in Northern Ireland, Bridgend in South Wales and Ashford in Middlesex.

We are only too aware that numbers are not everything, but we have to confess that we were overwhelmed by the number who came to the meeting held in the prestigious Waterfront Hall in Belfast. We had a capacity audience of over 2000 people.

This is the biggest meeting we have ever organised in the UK and it came about through the vision of a young businessman, Tom Clarke. Tom's Christian faith was restored after he received answers from our website.

It was also an impressive testimony to the staff of the Waterfront who were amazed that there was so much interest by people just coming to hear someone 'talk about the Bible!' They also mentioned that this many people do not usually turn up for a pop concert! In fact, they were so delighted that they allowed Ken to extend his second talk by half an hour so that people could really get their money's worth.

People have been telephoning the office ever since, expressing their thanks for the ministry, and we look forward to hearing further feedback over the coming weeks and months—telling us of lives that were touched by Almighty God during these meetings.

Ken also did several radio and newspaper

interviews. One interview for BBC Radio in Ulster resulted in the interviewer getting annoyed and walking out after just six minutes—this was because Ken had answers from Genesis to his tough questions!

It was thrilling to see so many young people and students at all of the meetings, and to know that they are searching for the truth, and for answers to the questions that remained unanswered anywhere else. We also praise God for the travelling mercies, sustained health and the opportunities to reach so many people with the truth of God's Word.

Next year Ken will be doing another tour, but he will also be one of the speakers at UK's very first International Creation Conference to be held in Derbyshire from 20–23 April 2006. It's to be called *Creation Without Compromise*.

Be sure to come, but book early to avoid disappointment!

Urgent prayer request

Please join with us in praying for a new building for our Headquarters and Warehouse. This is a desperate need as we have to vacate our present premises by the end of June 2005. We thank God for a large financial provision for the new building and would like you to know that if you want to contribute towards this venture you are welcome to send a gift to our 'Relocation Fund'.

AiG on TV in Eastern Europe—translations growing!

‘The Centre for Natural Studies’ has translated and dubbed our DVDs *Raging Waters*, *The Image of God* and *From a Frog to a Prince* into Serbian. These are now being broadcast on more than 20 TV stations across Serbia, Bosnia, Herzegovina and Croatia—and the number continues to grow. They are also interested in translating the DVDs *A is for Adam*; *Aliens*, *UFO’s and the Bible*; *D is for Dinosaur*; *The Great Genesis Debate 2003* and *Starlight and Time!*

Many organisations are contacting AiG, seeking permission to publish our materials in other languages. Some recent translations have been *Stones and Bones* in Norwegian, *The Answers Book* in French and Brazilian-Portuguese, *Refuting Evolution 2* in Russian, *Why is there Death and Suffering?* in Burmese, *From a Frog to a Prince* on VCD in Chinese, Ken Ham’s *Creation Mini Series* DVDs in Spanish, and many of our booklets in Dutch, Telugu, Vietnamese and Japanese. *Creation* magazine articles are also being translated for placing on our website in German, Russian, Spanish, Polish, Hebrew, Vietnamese and more.

As you can see, this is an enormous task. *Answers in Genesis* is not in a position to pay translators or finance the publishing of most translated works, but we do have a small fund for translation projects, donated by supporters who specifically earmarked their donation for translations. If you wish to do this, please contact our office. This is overseen by AiG’s Brisbane-based international translations coordinator Amanda Greenslade.

Some projects that will be funded from this pool include publishing booklets in developing countries, where there is no other way for the creation message to penetrate. We are also pursuing the possibility of releasing our popular DVD *From a Frog to a Prince* with subtitles in up to ten languages. Please pray for Amanda and for the smooth running of these and many other translation projects.

Four of our booklets in Albanian

Challenging atheists at London City University

Recently, Philip Bell spoke at meetings organised and advertised by the Christian Union at London City University. Philip spoke twice during the afternoon to a very attentive audience, on ‘God’s Design in Creation—But Why Suffering?’ and ‘Creation or Evolution? Let’s Face the Facts!’

Two lecturers also attended; one frequently took notes and showed a real interest in the literature. A young self-confessed atheist told the organisers that although he had not (yet) changed his mind, the talks had been an eye-opener to him. He said that he had never thought about evolution in that way before, and was obviously challenged.

A young overseas student, a non-Christian, asked Philip for advice on a book purchase. He was clearly very interested in the Christian message and went away with an *Answers Book*. Please pray that he finds the answers to his questions.

Several C.U. members said they now realised that evolution really is incompatible with Scripture.

**Philip Bell with a
T-rex tooth visual aid**

A Gift That Keeps On Giving!

In the Oct–Dec 2004 AiG *Prayer News* we told you that AiG-US had sent us (free of charge while sorting things out for their move into new premises) 13 pallets of booklets in five languages—Albanian, German, Italian, Romanian and Russian. We offered them free (carriage/postage costs only) to AiG supporters, if used for outreach and not for resale.

The response has continued to be amazing. We are now down to the last few boxes in four of the languages. We do still have quite a number of the Italian booklets, so please contact us if you could make good use of some.

Coordinating the distribution of this literature has been a challenge but also a real encouragement. It is obviously very exciting to see the booklets being sent out in bulk to be used by various Christian organisations as part of their ministry and outreach. And it has also been a great joy to have contact with many of

our supporters who have taken smaller quantities to use in personal evangelism.

One student, just starting her studies at Leicester University, came in to buy some of the English booklets for use with her fellow students. Her sister who came with her was due to study in Italy for a year; she was pleasantly surprised that we could give her a box of the booklets in Italian to give to her future friends and colleagues!

A supporter who hosts foreign students and leaves tracts in their bedrooms wrote, ‘Thank you so much for the wonderful selection of German and Russian booklets that you sent to me. They will be very useful when my students start arriving in a few weeks time.’

Please continue to pray with us that all of this foreign material will be effective and widespread in its use and that many lives will be changed and souls saved!

Booklets being packed for despatch

Romanian booklets ready to go

Feedback

‘I asked God to provide me with answers to Scriptures that I have been wrestling with since I was a child. Tonight, I came across your website. [Previously] Genesis did not make sense That placed doubts that there was a God! Your site had all the answers that spoke to my soul and made logical sense! Thank you God!’ —N.B.

Correction

In our last *Answers Prayer News* we incorrectly mentioned that a gift subscription had been rejected by the Salvation Army Officer Training School in Edinburgh. It should have said The William Booth College, School for Officer Training at Champion Park, Denmark Hill, London. We apologise for the mistake.

Hungarians Hungry for Creation Message

In January, Philip Bell had the privilege of ministering at Calvary Chapel, Budapest. The converted cinema used by this thriving congregation was filled to its 450-seat capacity as Philip gave the first of five talks. Several people had helped Philip translate his Power-Point illustrations into Hungarian, and these were greatly appreciated by the audiences.

Many non-Christians (including scientists) attended, and some were clearly challenged. We praise the Lord for an immense hunger for the message. Many were avidly taking notes and people queued up for questions for ages afterwards. Up to 350 people attended each of three sessions on the Saturday to hear Philip speak on the relevance of creation, dinosaurs, and the message of the stars.

Due to the size of this 800-member church, Philip gave his talk, 'Creation in Six Literal Days' to two identical Sunday morning services with packed crowds. People were still asking him questions well into the afternoon!

One young woman indicated to him—through a translator—that she wanted to give her life to the Lord! She had been attending for three weeks but said that everything had become clear as she heard Philip speak and present the gospel. A church member had the joy of praying with her to receive Christ and told Philip how she did so with tears of joy.

We give God all the glory for touching the life of this lady and many others during this richly blessed weekend of ministry.

The editor of a Hungarian Christian magazine said he had been greatly impacted by AiG's message (not least through hearing Terry Mortenson in 2000). He agreed that AiG's approach is the key to reaching the Hungarian people with the Christian message.

Quality DVDs of all these illustrated presentations are being produced by the local Christians. We trust that God will use these to reach many more Hungarian people.

In this country, the amount of good 'creation resources' is very limited, but there is a definite hunger for them. AiG's Hungarian website was up and running just in time for Philip's ministry trip and he was able to recommend this to many.

Postscript: Dr Monty White will also be ministering in Hungary in September, provisionally including at a Bible College. Please pray for much fruit then also.

***The Answers Book is
now available in
Hungarian***

Footprints in the sand

Everyone leaves footprints in the sands of time—made by the imprints of our lives on others. A person is remembered for his or her character, accomplishments, kindness, compassion, generosity, etc., and, yes, values.

When we leave positive impressions behind, we enhance the lives of our friends and loved ones, and give them footprints to follow. Thoughtful legacies from your estate is one means we have to make prints in the sand, to support the Lord's work and to let others know our priorities.

When you include *Answers in Genesis* as a beneficiary in your will, you declare to your family and friends that you believe in—and care about—the mission of AiG. Your parting gift becomes a clear declaration of your values.

For further information on how to make AiG a beneficiary of your estate, just phone our office on (0116) 270 8400.

Ministry Calendar: Please pray for these meetings and bring others to hear the messages.

MW = Dr Monty White, PW = Philip Bell; GB = Gary Bates

GARY BATES—FLYING 'UFO' VISIT

Wednesday 13 April, 7.30pm, Maranatha Fellowship, 73 Holyhead Road, **Handsworth, Birmingham**. *GB. Tel: 0121 523 9717*

Thursday 14 April, 8.00pm, Elim Pentecostal Church, Narborough Rd/Harrow Rd, **Leicester, Leicestershire**. *GB. Tel: 0116 233 3481*

Saturday 16 April, 2.00pm, 3.45pm, 6.30pm, Methodist Church, Sheep Street, **Bicester, Oxfordshire**. *PB, GB. Tel: 01869 246642*

Sunday 17 April, 6.30pm & 8.30pm, Elmstead Baptist Church, Elmstead Lane, **Chislehurst, Kent**. *GB. Tel: 020 8857 9812*

OTHER MINISTRY EVENTS

Saturday 9 April, 10.30am, 11.45am, 1.45pm, 3.00pm, **Sunday 10 April**, 10.30am, Brereton and Ravenhill Parish Hall, Brereton Rd, **Rugeley, Staffordshire**. *PB. Tel: 01283 515075*

Friday 15 April, 7.30pm, Emmaus Christian Fellowship, Capesthorpe Road, Orford, **Warrington, Cheshire**. *MW. Tel: 01925 415 719*

Wednesday 20 April, 11.00am, 1.30pm, 3.00pm, Teaching Day, Maranatha Fellowship, 73 Holyhead Road, **Handsworth, Birmingham**. *MW. Tel: 0121 523 9717*

Thursday 21 April, 7.30pm, High Wycombe Evangelical Baptist Church, At the corners of the Pastures & Hughenden Avenue, Downley, **High Wycombe, Bucks**. *PB. Tel: 01494 563973*

Friday 22 April, 8.00pm, creation meeting, Tylers Green Village Hall, Church Road, **Tylers Green, Bucks**. *PB. Tel: 01494 814 349*

Saturday 7–Monday 16 May, Spanish Creation Tour, calle Marcel proust #19, 29140, Churriana, **Malaga** (details to be advised). *PB. Tel: 0034 95243 6025*

Sunday 15 May, 6.00pm, Gabalfa Baptist Church, North Road, **Cardiff, South Wales**. *MW. Tel: 02920 693 289*

Monday 16 May, 10.00am–5.00pm, Gateway Bible School, Gabalfa Baptist Church, North Rd, **Cardiff, South Wales**. *MW.*

Sunday 22 May, 7.00pm, Oasis Family Church, Woodgreen School, Woodstock Rd, **Whitney, Oxfordshire**. *PB. Tel: 01993 705600*

Sunday 5 June, 10.45am, 6.30pm, Allied Christian Worship Centre, Hertford Community Centre, Kennilworth Close, **Stevenage, Herts**. *PB. Tel: 01438 234 395*

Wednesday 8 June, 7.30pm, Bethany Christian Fellowship, Talke Road, **Walsall, West Midlands**. *MW. Tel: 01922 866 560*

Saturday 11 June, 6.30pm, creation meeting, Gartree Community School, Butts Lane, **Tattershall, Lincolnshire**. *PB. Tel: 01522 794 021*

Sunday 12 June, 7.00pm, creation evening, Brackenholme Business Park, Brackenholme, **Nr Selby, North Yorkshire**. *MW. Tel: 01757 638 925*

Saturday 18 June, 2.00pm (workshops), 7.30pm (creation meeting), **Sunday 19 June**, 10.30am, Sheep Street Baptist Church, Sheep Street, **Devizes, Wiltshire**. *PB. Tel: 01380 739968*

Tuesday 21 June, 7.45pm, **Wednesday 22 June**, 7.45pm, **Thursday 23 June**, 7.45pm, Crich Baptist Church, Market Place, Crich, **Matlock, Derbyshire**. *PB. Tel: 01773 853180*

Saturday 25 June, 10.30am, 1.30pm, 3.10pm, Sawley Memorial Hall & Community Centre, Draycott Road, **Sawley, Derbyshire**. *MW. Tel: 0115 849 0713*

AIG MINI CONFERENCE (HOUSE PARTY)

Friday 1 April–Sunday 3 April, Glenside, **Saltburn-by-the-Sea, North Yorkshire**. *MW, PB. Tel: 01287 622 329*