

January, 2019 Newsletter of the Lake Superior Freethinkers

George Erickson, editor - tundracub@mediacombb.net

First Sunday - Radisson Hotel

9:00 AM Social – 9:30 Breakfast - 10:00 Presentation

Free and open to the public.

Jan Resberg, Chair/President 715-919-0513

Sue Anderson, Social Director 218-728-1361

PROGRAM

Jill and Koresh Lakhan will speak and show pictures about their recent overseas travels, and they will describe how the local religions impacted some of the communities.

FOOD DRIVE

The Lake Superior Freethinkers, through its People of Conscience Committee, will be taking donations to local food banks. Resources will be depleted after the holidays, so please look through your stores to see what you can spare. Donations should be non-perishable and not outdated. Please help demonstrate that Freethinkers are good community partners who are willing to share their bounty with those in need. Bring your donations to the January 6 program.

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**“If I refer to God as ‘He’ I offend women.
If I refer to God as ‘She’ I offend men.
In my profession, I find it’s best
not to talk about God at all.”**

Evangelical Scientists Refute Gravity With Intelligent Falling Theory The Onion - edited for length

As the debate over the teaching of evolution in public schools continues, a new controversy over the science curriculum arose in an embattled Midwestern state when scientists from the Evangelical Center For Faith-Based Reasoning are asserting that the long-held "theory of gravity" is flawed, and they have responded to it with a new theory of Intelligent Falling.

Rev. Gabriel Burdett explained. "Things fall not because they are acted upon by gravitational force, but because a higher intelligence, 'God' if you will, is pushing them down." Burdett holds degrees in education, applied Scripture, and physics from Oral Roberts University...

Founded in 1987, the ECFR is the world's leading institution of evangelical physics, a branch of physics based on literal interpretation of the Bible.

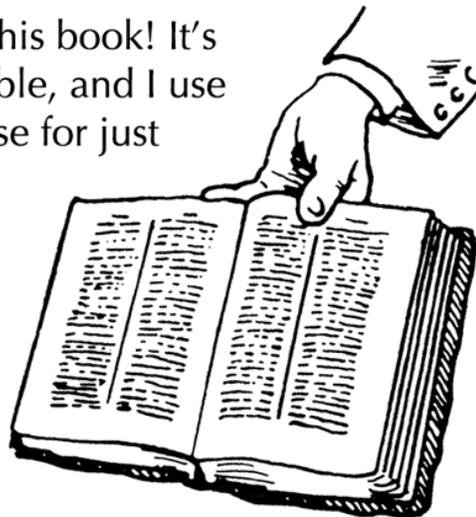
According to the ECFR paper... in the adolescent magazine *God's Word For Teens!*, many phenomena cannot be explained by secular gravity alone, including how angels fly, how Jesus ascended into Heaven, and how Satan fell when cast out of Paradise.

Critics of Intelligent Falling point out that gravity is a provable law based on empirical observations of natural phenomena. Evangelical physicists, however, insist that there is no conflict between Newton's mathematics and Holy Scripture.

Dr. Ellen Carson, a leading Intelligent Falling expert known for her work with the Kansan Youth Ministry, said that traditional scientists cannot explain how gravitation is supposed to work. "What the gravity-agenda scientists need to realize is that 'gravity waves' and 'gravitons' are just secular words for 'God can do whatever He wants.'"

"Anti-falling physicists have been theorizing for decades about the 'weak nuclear force,' the 'strong nuclear force,' and so-called 'force of gravity,'" Rev. Burdett said, but readers of the Bible already know what this one, unified force is: His name is Jesus."

Try reading this book! It's called the Bible, and I use it as an excuse for just about everything I do.



Religion and Schizophrenia - edited for length

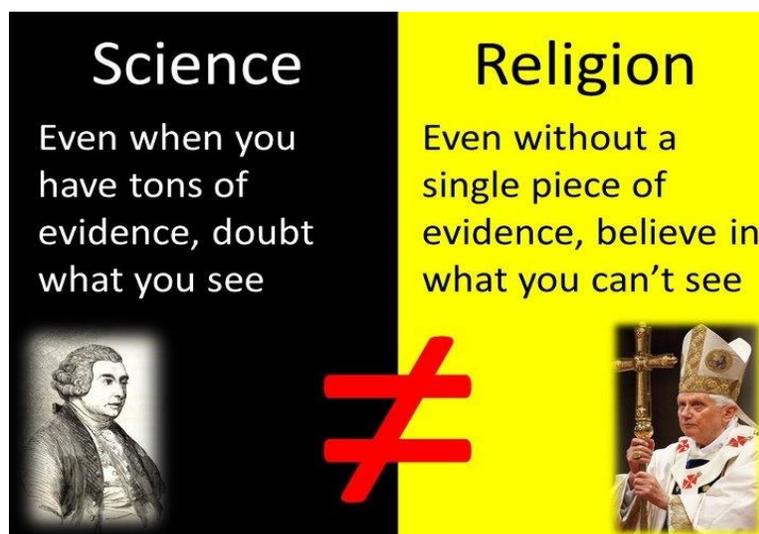
Scientists claim that there is a relationship between religion and schizophrenia. Symptoms of non-treated schizophrenics include delusions of spirituality and religiousness. Religious belief delusions vary across cultures. The impact of religion does not always have a positive outcome. In fact, religious delusions may play a part in drug abuse and suicide attempts.

They also found that using religion as part of a treatment can have adverse outcomes and can lead to violent behavior.

Kraya and Patrick found that religious delusions led some patients to commit homicide

Field and Waldfoegel, in another study, found that religiously deluded people have quoted Bible scripture after plucking out eyes or cutting off their testicles

In a study by Mohr and Huguelet, delusional patients who believed they had a close relationship with God, believed that God told them to inflict injury to themselves or others. These patients heard God's voice telling them to pray, to go to church, to read their Bible, and not to take medication because it hinders their praying and quietens God's voice in their mind...



The following was provided by a Jewish friend

To: The Lord G-d Almighty

From: The Jews: a.k.a. The Chosen People

Subject: Termination of Contract/Special Status (Chosen People)

Dear Sir, Madam or Entity,

As you are aware, the contract between you and Abraham is up for renewal, and this memorandum is to advise you that after many millennia of consideration, we, the Jews (The Chosen People) have decided that we do not wish to renew.

We should note that there is nothing in writing, and that, contrary to popular beliefs, we (the Jews) have not benefited very much from this arrangement. The early years of our association definitely started off on the wrong foot. Not only were Israel and Judea invaded regularly but we went to great expense to erect two Temples, and both were destroyed.

All we have left is a pile of stones called the Western Wall. (You know all this, but we want to enumerate our reasons for not renewing the contract). After attacks from the Hittites, Assyrians, Goliaths, etc, we were sold as slaves to Egypt, where we lost a few hundred years of development.

We realize that you went to a great deal of trouble to have Moses lead us out of Egypt, and to have those poor Egyptians smitten with plagues. But we now wonder why it took almost forty years to make a trip that El Al can make in 65 minutes. While this seems ungrateful, why did you have Moses lead us into the Sinai Desert Had you given better directions, we could have had the oil!

OK, so the oil was not part of the deal, but then the Romans came and we were neck-deep in dreck. Yes, the Romans did give us water fit to drink, aqueducts, and baths, but it was very disconcerting to walk down one of the vias, look up, and see one of your friends or family nailed to a three-by-four looking like a sign post. Even one of our princes, Judah Ben Hur got caught up with Roman stuff and drove like a crazy man around the Coliseum. It's funny, but many people swore that Ben Hur had an uncanny resemblance to Moses.

Then one of our rabbis declared himself "Son of You", and a whole new religion sprang up. As a result, we were dispersed all over the world two or three times - while this new religion really caught on! We were sorry to hear that the Romans executed him and many others, but alas, once again WE were blamed. Here is something we still don't understand: Our rabbi comes into his own; Millions of people revere and worship his name and scriptures, but they killed us by the millions.

They claimed we drank the blood of new born infants, and controlled the world banks. If that were true we could have bought them off and operated the worlds' media and so on. Are we beginning to make our point here?

OK so let's fast-forward a few centuries to the Crusades. Again we were caught in the middle! The Lords and Knights came from all over Europe to smack the Arabs and open up the holy places, but before we knew what hit us, they were killing us right, left, and center along with everyone else. Every time a king or a pope was low in the polls, they called a crusade or a holy war, and went on a killing spree in our land.

OK, so you tested us there, but then some Pope invented the Inquisition. At first we thought it was a new game show, but once again we (and others) were used as firewood all across Europe. That ended after a few centuries, but whenever we settled down in one country or another, they kicked us out! So we wandered around for a few more centuries. Finally we settled in a few countries where they insisted we live in ghettos...no Westchester's of Moscow or Warsaw for us.

The Russians come up with the pogroms, which we thought meant "programs", but we were dead wrong (no pun intended). Apparently, when there was nothing else to do, killing the The Chosen People (are you getting our drift?) was the "in" thing.

Although German Lutherans and Catholics had been taught to hate Jews, we we did fairly well there until some house painter who wrote a book became their leader. That was a bad day that was for us - your Chosen People. We don't know where you were from earth-years 1938 to 1945, and we know that .even Lord G-d Almighty needs some time off, but when we needed you most, you were never around. In case you have forgotten, over six million of your Chosen and quite a few un-chosen others were murdered. They even made lampshades from our skins.

Now, let's get more current. It's 1948. Millions of us are displaced again, when you really pull a fast one. We finally get our own land back! Yes!!! After all these years, you arrange for us to go back... and the Arab countries declare war on us.

Ok, so we win the wars, but it's now 2007 and nothing's changed. We keep getting blown up, hi-jacked and kidnapped. We have no peace.

So, because nothing is forever (except you of course) and because declaring ourselves to be a preferred race has been isolating and counter-productive, we respectfully decline to renew our verbal agreement regarding being your Chosen People. Sometimes things work out, sometimes they don't. Let's be friends over the next few eons and see what happens. How about this? As you know, Abraham had another family from Ishmael - the ones who got the oil. How about making them your Chosen People for about ten thousand years?

Respectfully,

The Committee To Be UN-Chosen

...AND ABRAHAM WENT FORTH
INTO THE LAND OF CANINE



The CARTOON KRONICLES