

**HEBREWS: REPLACING MAN'S RITUALISM WITH CHRIST**  
**"Part XVII: Adjusting To God's Warning Of Future Judgment By Faith"**  
**(Hebrews 11:7; 2 Peter 3:3-7, 11)**

Introduction: (To show the need . . . )

It is hard for people to take real doomsday predictions seriously because of the "overkill" factor on the subject in our culture:

(1) If we let our eyes wander at a typical grocery store check-out counter, amid all the Hollywood "beautiful people" and soap opera cover shots on the magazine stands there, we can find something on **prophecy!**

Usually the tabloid mentions "Nostradamus" and may even pull in "Billy Graham's predictions" or words from famous deceased people with their predictions on future cataclysmic events! One can find subjects there ranging from a predicted asteroid hit on the earth to atomic war and an invasion of space aliens!

And people actually **buy** the tabloid!

(2) But consider the great fear many **Christians** have over the Y2K Millennium Bug and its associated doomsday-type predictions. They worry that many computers and computer chips that were designed with only two digits to represent the year's date will malfunction, producing chaos when the Year 2000 rolls around and computers understand the digits "00" to mean 1900. Dave Hunt reports: "Some Christians, unable to change their residences, have plywood ready to nail over windows and an old car they will park in their driveway and burn January 1, 2000, so that the rampaging mobs will think the house has already been looted and will pass it by." (Hunt, The Berean Call, May, 1999, p. 2)

Though we might consider **that** as an excessive reaction, many Christians are worried about it! Dave Hunt reports that he chose to deal with the Y2K subject in his newsletter only because "This subject was forced upon us by the many letters and phone calls we received from frightened people. Some were on the verge of panic because of the disastrous consequences of the alleged worldwide computer crash predicted in some [Christian] circles . . ." (Ibid., p. 1)

**What do we do with the numerous "doomsday" predictions of the end of the world that we face -- do we take them seriously, or not? WHY?!**

(We turn to the sermon's "Need" section . . . )

**Need: "There is no lack for the predictions of a world doomsday by many sources! Well, are we to take such predictions seriously?! WHY, and IF so, WHICH ones should we believe?!"**

- I. **The author of Hebrews urged Jewish Christians to worship Christ rather than using the temple rituals under godless peer pressure, Heb. 9:7-10, 11-14 (sermon XII); Ryrie Study Bible, KJV, p. 1729.**
- II. **This vocation involved a LIFE of FAITH in Scripture versus heeding pressures to err from VISIBLE, FALSE things, Heb. 11:1.**
- III. **In one APPLICATION of this exercise, they were to follow Noah's example to prepare for a future, unseen world judgment and new world order under Christ OPPOSITE the unbelief of their peers:**
  - A. As an example, the author of Hebrews held up Noah's faith, Heb. 11:7.
  - B. Like Noah, they were to **respect** God's *prediction* of coming world judgment and live *opposite* and thus **critically** of their ungodly peers:
    1. Noah respected God's prediction of a yet **unseen** flood, 11:7a.
    2. Accordingly, he translated that faith into action by heeding God's order to build an ark for the saving of his household, Heb. 11:7b.
    3. In building that ark, Noah *critiqued* his onlookers of a **judgment** to **come** on them for their **SIN**, Heb. 11:7c with 1 Pet. 3:19-20.
      - a. Noah worked on the ark approximately 120 years, cf. Gen. 6:3 with 1 Peter 3:20; Bible Knowledge Commentary, N.T., p. 851.
      - b. During that time, Christ used the Holy Spirit to preach to the lost through Noah of coming judgment, Ibid. with 1 Peter 3:20.
    4. **Similarly**, these Hebrew Christians were to **cease** keeping temple rituals before their peers & live by faith in Christ's predicted return, judgment and reign (Heb. 10:23-25 where "the day" is the Day of the Lord, the whole end-time era, Westcott, Hebrews, p. 326)!
  - IV. **The Apostle Peter later applied this theme to OUR era:**
    - A. As the author of Hebrews urged his readers to follow Noah's lead, Peter wrote to call **latter-day believers** to the same vocation: Peter said scoffers would come mocking God's prediction of final world judgment. They would adhere to **uniformitarian** evolution, asserting " . . . the cosmic processes of the present and the future can be understood solely on the basis of how the cosmos has operated in the past," 2 Peter 3:3-4; Ibid., Bible Knowledge Com., O.T., p. 875.

- B. In **adopting** uniformitarianism, Peter said they would "**deliberately forget**" the Bible's Creation and Flood accounts, 2 Peter 3:5-6 NIV!
- C. Today, **uniformitarian evolutionists deny** these narratives are true!
- D. Yet, if we look at the data in nature that is **overlooked** by them, we have ample evidence that these Biblical accounts are **trustworthy**:
  1. Evidence From Rock Strata - In Montana's Glacier National Park are huge, **parallel** sediments of **twisted** rock formations that could be formed **only** when **each** sediment was in a **plastic** state. This reveals a quick, great Flood, Whitcomb, The Early Earth, p. 66-67.
  2. Evidences In The Fossil Record - Fossils support the Bible record:
    - a. An **Evolutionist**, Bjorn Kurten, writes that many whole fossils of **non-aquatic**, duck-billed dinosaurs have been found "in . . . a swimming position with the head thrown back as if in death throes." (cited in Sylvia Baker, Bone of Contention, p. 11). This evidence supports the presence of dinosaurs at the Flood, so they lived when man did in support of the Gen. 1-2 account!
    - b. Whitcomb & Morris reported in their book, The Genesis Flood, p. 176 that a "puzzling human skull composed of brown coal and manganiferous and phosphatid limonite" exists in the "coal collection in the Mining Academy in Freiberg [Germany]," [citing Otto Stutzer: *Geology of Coal* (Transl. by A. C. Noe, Chicago, University of Chicago Press, 1940), p. 271]! The coal "was presumably Tertiary in age" and is held by uniformitarian evolutionists to have far preceded the existence of man!
  3. Evidence Via Genetics - Biologists who studied the mitochondria DNA from the placentas of women around the world have found that **opposite** evolutionary theory, modern man came from a single woman who lived in Africa or Asia! (D. Wallace, "The Search for Adam and Eve," Newsweek, 1/11/88, p. 46-50) This supports the Gen. 9-10 Mid-East, post-flood re-population account & Gen. 1-2!
  4. Evidence Via Worldwide Flood Accounts - There are over 270 flood stories from **all** parts of the world, Ryrie Study Bible, KJV, fn. to Gen. 7:19. This supports the Flood and man's single origin!
- E. Since **noting** such evidence leads **us** to see the Flood **happened**, Peter charges us to **live godly lives** in faith that the Bible's predictions of world judgment by **fire** are **true**, 2 Peter 3:5-7, 11.

**Lesson Application:** (1) *If we heed nature's evidences that God once DESTROYED the world by the FLOOD, we find it reasonable to BELIEVE God's FUTURE predictions of ending the world by a cataclysmic FIRE, 2 Peter 3:5-6 with 3:7. (2) We must (a) believe in Christ as Savior from sin to escape the future judgment and, (b) like Noah, live that testimony as a witness before our peers!*

**Conclusion:** (To illustrate the sermon lesson . . . )

In the March-May, 1997 magazine issue of Creation Ex Nihilo, on page 22 are found three photographs of an ancient stone carving. The photos of this "petroglyph" are taken of a carving located on the underside wall of the Kachina Bridge arch found less than 100 yards from ancient Anasazi Indian ruins located at the Natural Bridges National Park in Utah. Keep in mind that these Anasazi Indians lived roughly from 150 B.C. to A. D. 1200, Ibid., p. 20.

The petroglyph is authentic according to **evolutionist**, F. Barnes that mentions it in his book entitled, Canyon Country Prehistoric Indians -- Their Culture, Ruins, Artifacts and Rock Art (Wasatch Publishers, Salt Lake City, Utah, 1995) as cited in Creation Ex Nihilo, Loc. cit. The carving accordingly shows signs of pitting and fading typical of authentic ancient Anasazi art work.

But, much to the consternation of Barnes who is an **evolutionist**, this **ancient** petroglyph is that of an extinct **DINOSAUR**, a **SAUROPOD** to be exact! This reptile had a long neck and small head and a long tail following its large body and four legs! The carving is .9 meters from head to tail. Barnes "concedes this glyph . . . but proffers no explanation. **Antagonistic to creationists, he has refused to reveal its location.**" (Loc. cit., Creation Ex Nihilo) [Just like 2 Peter 3:5 says of such "deliberate" repression of the evidence!] Dan Patton has photographed the petroglyph, which photos are published in this magazine's March-May, 1997 issue (which the pastor has in his office for any to view for themselves!).

Since such a carving was surely made **after** the Genesis Flood as it came from the 150 B.C. to A.D. 1200 Anasazi Indians and could not have survived the cataclysmic Genesis Flood, it supplies evidence that dinosaurs died out **after** the Flood! The petroglyph also thereby counters the evolutionary idea that man and dinosaurs were **not** contemporaries, and thus acts to support the Genesis Creation account!

**Instead of willingly being ignorant of the evidences around us of the Flood and even of Creation, it behooves us to heed the evidences, and take God's promises of a FUTURE world disaster by fire seriously! As He judged the world in Noah's day, He will judge our world for sin as well! We need to get right with God and live testimonial lives by faith as did Noah of old!**