

Words of *Truth & Reason*

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CHURCH OF CHRIST—QUAIL VALLEY

ANIMAL HOUSE

Efforts to redefine family to include two men or two women, will not stop there. For some, pets should be recognized as children. For others, an animal should be viewed as a spouse! Who decides what words mean and to whom they rightly apply?!

It seems that many people today fail to see that in Scripture, homosexuality is one of many forms of sexual immorality. God made and joined male and female and commanded them not to separate (Matthew 19:4-6). This is marriage.

If we do not allow God to define marriage and family, then all human opinions of marriage become equally valid. In 2006, a British woman married a male dolphin “named Cindy.” In 2006 in India, a woman loved and married a cobra. Should human-animal marriages or “civil unions” be recognized? “Ah, that’s silly” you say? It is--but WHY is it silly?

Should pets be viewed as children? Is that silly? Should newspapers be forced to include pets in obituaries? Some people in Batesville believe so. What should we do to these people? Try to teach them the gospel of Christ and show them the folly of every man doing what is right in his own eyes. That is the purpose of these articles each month. *He who rejects Me, and does not receive My words, has that which judges him--the word that I have spoken will judge him in the last day.* (John 12:48).

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WILL A DEAD FAITH SAVE YOU?

Article IX of the Methodist Discipline says “Wherefore, that we are justified by faith only is a most wholesome doctrine, and very full of comfort.”

Chapter two of God’s word in the book of James says *You see then that a man is justified by works, and not by faith only...faith without works is dead* (verse 24, 26). Those who have “faith only” have a dead faith.

Did Jesus teach salvation by faith alone? *He that believes and is baptized will be saved* (Mark 16:16). No.

Did Peter teach salvation by faith alone? *Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins* (Acts 2:38). No.

Did Paul teach salvation by faith alone? To the jailor who was told *Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved*, Paul also taught baptism (Acts 16:31, 33; The purpose for that baptism is seen in the verses mentioned above). Faith—YES. Faith only? No.

“Justified by works” (Js. 2:24) does not mean by works only just as “justified by faith” (Romans 5:1) does not mean faith only. The doctrine of justification by faith only is a corrupt doctrine, very full of error—not comfort.

EVERYWHERE IN EVERY CHURCH

The division of denominationalism is confusing because it is not God's plan. When you read the New Testament, think about what was taught back then. For example--

Paul wrote to remind you of my ways in Christ, as I teach everywhere in every church. (1 Corinthians 4:17). Today, is the same message taught everywhere in every church? The Baptist Church teaches a different message than the Cumberland Presbyterians, who teach a different message than the Catholic Church. Could Paul preach in every church today?

In Baptist churches, would Paul be allowed to preach his way of baptizing sinners "the same hour of the night" (Acts 16:33), instead of waiting until "Baptism Sunday"? Was "Baptism Sunday" Paul's way?

In Presbyterian churches, would Paul be allowed to preach his way of salvation (faith, repentance, confession, and baptism Romans 2:4; 10:10; 6:4)?

In Catholic churches, would Paul be allowed to preach his way of appointing bishops—married men with children (1 Timothy 3:1, 4)?

Would Paul be allowed to preach his way of not permitting a woman to teach over a man, in the church you attend (1 Timothy 2:12)?

Paul's ways were Christ's ways. Are they your church's ways? Are they your ways?

*"He who rejects Me, and does not receive My words, has that which judges him-- the word that I have spoken will judge him in the last day." (Jesus)
John 12:48*

You are invited to:
Sunday AM
Bible classes: 10:00AM
Sunday AM Worship:
10:45AM
Sunday PM Worship:
5:00 PM
Wednesday Bible
Classes & Worship:
7:00 PM

EVOLUTIONARY SPECULATION WRONG AGAIN

May 20, 2009 **Headline: Scientists Unveil Missing Link In Evolution.**

Subheading: Scientists have unveiled a 47-million-year-old fossilised skeleton of a monkey hailed as the missing link in human evolution. (sky.com)

October 21, 2009 **Headline: 'Missing link' primate isn't a link after all.**

Subheading: Expert: Ida is as far from monkey-ape-human ancestry as primate can be. (msn.com)

It only took five months for some scientists to reverse the original claim that a fossilized skeleton was the highly-sought after "missing link" between man & monkey.

America's "missing link" is TRUTH, but it's only "missing" because men choose to ignore, suppress, and deny it (Genesis 1:1; Romans 1:18; 1 Timothy 6:20). God created the world in six days (Exodus 20:11). Is it really easier to accept the idea that life came from non-life (evolution), than it is to believe that God created all things?

Questions from this month's articles:

1. In Matthew 19:4-6, who did Jesus say God will join?
2. According to James 2:24, is faith without works: dead OR a doctrine of comfort? (choose one)
3. Name one of the ways (teachings) of Paul which is not taught in most churches today.
4. What is the "missing link" that would help Americans understand where man came from?

* Mail your answers to church of Christ—Quail Valley 4104 East Harrison St, Batesville, AR 72501

* OR, e-mail your answers to **TruthAndReason@suddenlink.net**

* Do you have other Bible questions we can help you with? Write or call us (870 793-6700; 569-4491)

* Visit our NEW WEBSITE WWW.QVCOC.COM.