

How Can We Know God Exists?

PART 2

Many in the “scientific” community consider someone brainwashed or downright ignorant who would even think for a moment that the universe was created by God. In reality, “scientists” like these are actually the ones who are, at best, uninformed, or, at worse, so prejudiced that they are willing even to throw reason out the door than to admit, “In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth” (Gen. 1:1). In last week’s bulletin, we considered, generally, three families of arguments by which one can know that God, or at least a Supreme Being, exists without even opening the pages of the Bible. We specifically showed this to be true by a cosmological (cause and effect) argument. Now, consider teleological arguments. A teleological argument is based on design. For every design, there must be a designer. The classic illustration of this is a watch. If we found a wristwatch on the beach, would we think the sand and waves, over a long period of time, accidentally made the watch? Of course not! The design in the watch demands a designer. All watches are designed for a particular purpose and, therefore, must be designed by an intelligent designer. It’s impossible for it to be any other way! Here is a specific teleological argument: If the human body shows design, then the human body must have a designer. The human body does show design (consider the cardiovascular, skeletal, and neurological systems). There is more direct and indirect design in the tip of a little finger than in the most advanced computer systems! Yet, no computer scientist would (*continued below*)



South Florida Avenue
CHURCH OF CHRIST
1807 South Florida Avenue
Lakeland, FL 33803-2653

Non Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Lakeland, FL
Permit No. 254

Return Service Requested



The End of Your Search for a Friendly Church . . .

what's happening

Sun. thru Wed., October 26-29 Is our Gospel Meeting with Billy Lambert. Yes, this is announced on at least two other pages, but, young people, you will be blessed to hear the Word proclaimed by this preacher. Remind your parents to come along, and if you need a ride, it can be arranged!

Saturday, November 15 Venice church of Christ will host a youth progressive dinner. It begins at 3:00 p.m. at their church building. See Brian or Jagie if you want to attend.

“Pew Packers” will meet every Sunday evening at 5:45 to learn the Bible!

(*continued from above*) claim even a remote possibility that the computer system just came about by chance! Why is that? If it is not true for the lesser computer system, why would it be true for the more advanced human body? Answer: no designer cannot be true for either! Therefore, the design of the human body proves there has to be a designer, and that designer ultimately has to be sufficient in and of itself! That designer, as will be shown, is God! Let us all follow His design for us in glorifying His name (cf. Isa. 43:7). ❤️ *Brian*



With Much Appreciation . . .

FSOP students (& staff) thank the South Florida Avenue congregation for all the acts of kindness expressed, including school supplies and homemade goodies!

The South Florida Avenue MESSENGER

A Friendly Church With a Vital Message Proclaiming the Unsearchable Riches of the Lord Jesus.
The Messenger is published weekly by the South Florida Ave. Church of Christ meeting at 1807 South Florida Ave - Lakeland, FL 33803 Vol. 67 No.43 10 -28-14

ELDERS

David Anderson
Kenny French
Bobby Sheumaker

DEACONS

Jeff Bingle
Jimmy Sweeney
Chuck Wyatt

MINISTER

Robert McAnally
(863) 682-3600

ASSOCIATE MINISTER

Brian Kenyon
(863) 944-8565

SECRETARY

Virginia Walker

OFFICE PHONE

(863) 682-4702

SUNDAY SERVICES

Bible Study.....9:30a.m.
Worship.....10:30a.m.
Evening Worship.....6:00p.m.

WEDNESDAY

Ladies Class.....10:00a.m.
Bible Study.....7:00p.m.

HOME OF

Florida School of Preaching

MISSION FIELDS

Dub Hill.....Russia
Don Iverson.....India
Randy Judd.....Malawi, Africa
Graham McDonald.....Scotland
J. Paguaga.....Honduras, C.A.
Joey Treat.....Pacific Islands
Ted Wheeler.....Ghana, W.A.

EMAIL

SFA.church@gmail.com

WEB PAGES

www.southfloridaavenuechurchofchrist.com
www.sfacc.net

South Florida Ave. Church of Christ

Invites You To Our
2014 Fall Gospel Meeting
With
Billy Lambert
October 26-29, 2014



Sunday Services, October 26, 2014

9:30am — Faithful to the Word of God

10:30am — Our Greatest Temptation

6:00pm — The Best Thing Said About A Christian

Monday — Wednesday Services at 7:00pm

Monday — Be Faithful unto Death

Tuesday — The Burden of Unfaithfulness

Wednesday — Be Not Weary in Well Doing

Billy Lambert is a graduate of Faulkner University. He began preaching in 1962. He currently preaches for the Summerdale church of Christ in Summerdale, Alabama. Brother Lambert is the speaker for the *Getting To Know Your Bible* TV program that can be seen nationwide on DIRECTV. He does campaign work in Trinidad and Guyana, South America. He has participated in radio work for over 30 years and has held many meetings in several states. Brother Lambert has spoken on several Lectureships, including the Florida School of Preaching Lectureship. He has produced several articles for *The Gospel Advocate*, as well as developed several workbooks for spiritual growth. He serves on the Board of Trustees for the Snook Foundation, as a Board Member at Faulkner University, and as Director for the Faulkner Foundation. Together, he and his wife, Louise, have three children and five grandchildren.

1807 S. Florida Avenue, Lakeland, Florida 33801

(863) 682-4702

sfa.church@gmail.com

www.southfloridaavenuechurchofchrist.com

Elders: David Anderson, Kenny French, Bobby Sheumaker

Ministers: Bob McAnally, Brian Kenyon

Flexible Ethics

Donald R. Fox

“The needs of society determine its ethics” (Dr. Maya Angelou). This is an interesting quote from a very famous and well-known lady. We do not need a great scholar to understand Dr. Angelou’s statement. The sentiment she expressed may be acknowledged as a truth for many in our society today. However, it is my judgment that Dr. Maya Angelou is as wrong as wrong can be. Ethics are defined in part as: “A set of principles of right conduct. A system of moral values. The rules or standards governing the conduct of a person or the members of a profession, such as medical ethics” (The Free Dictionary).

In the passing of time societies change, and many times society changes for the worse. With that said, I affirm that ethics and moral values, rules, standards of right and wrong do not change in the passing of time. Ethical standards are fixed. Dr. Maya Angelou’s view that a society or culture determines its own standard of right and wrong is dangerous. If a society determines its ethics, then it is right when Orthodox Islamic Sharia Law dictates stoning or beheads adulterers. Let us not forget “honor killings” for a variety of reasons, and mostly against women. If Dr. Angelou is right, how could we have condemned Nazism under Adolf Hitler? The German people and their society were following their ethical standards. Would anyone in his right mind say that Nazism under Hitler’s regime was right conduct and a good ethical system of moral values?

“Dr. Angelou’s words and action continue to stir our souls, energize our bodies, liberate our minds, and heal our hearts” (Dr. Angelou’s web site <http://mayaangelou.com>). Notice, “liberate our minds”; what does that mean? Does it mean that one can decide his own ethical standards per Dr. Angelou’s quote? Yes, it seems that is what Dr. Angelou believes. Mankind has reaped great problems with this liberated thinking and doctrine of flexible ethics.

Friends, the Bible is the only true standard and system of moral values.

If God is our Sovereign King and Lawgiver, it is of course his right to command, and it is our duty to obey. And hence the Scriptures require that all our actions shall be in harmony with God’s will. “You are not your own,” says Paul; “for you are bought with a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God’s” (1 Corinthians 6:19-20). And again, Christ says, “My meat is to do the will of Him that sent me, and to finish his work” (John 4:34). (Robert Milligan. Reason and Revelation, 35)

The morality contained in God’s Book is not to be compared with the faltering, blundering codes that men devise. Even with the perfection of Christ’s life before us, it is only by persistent and diligent application that we can come close to the balance that He maintained in moral excellence. What a tragic mistake to set up another standard between Him and us – a standard of our own devising. “For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts” (Isaiah 55:8.9).” (Fred A. Amick. Hearing for Eternity, Vol. II, 245)

“Take heed lest there shall be any one that maketh spoil of you through his philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ” (Colossians 2:8 ASV).

SFA FAMILY MATTERS

Prayer List

Our Members: Scarlett Williams, Jacquelin Dopwell, Charles Sanford, Rosalind Coleman, Dick & Joyce Burbage, Duane Nelson and Margaret Coone.

Relatives: Joe Shanes, brother of Jeanelle Thrower is in ICU in Nashville, TN. Billy Harrison, Bob Kirkland, Wayne Hendrix.

Shut In Members: Ann Howard, Virginia Plumlee, Bill Burton.

Others: Kimberly Gustafson, Bill Carroll, Frank Wood, Robie DeWitt & Bonnie Hendricks.

Upcoming Events

Oct. 24th: - Sing & Fellowship at the Skyview Church of Christ. 7:00 to 9:00 pm.

Oct. 26th -29th: - 2014 Fall Gospel Meeting here at So. Fla. Avenue Church of Christ. Billy Lambert from Sumnerdale, Alabama will be the speaker.

Oct. 26th: - After our morning worship service we will have lunch in the fellowship hall. Members, please bring food and drinks for your family and a little extra for our guests.

Nov. 1st: - Annual Ladies Day at the Kissimmee Church of Christ beginning at 8:00 am. Please RSVP by Oct. 22nd.

Nov. 7th-9th: - Father/Daughter Retreat at CFBC.

Nov. 9th-13th: - Fall Gospel Meeting at Sixth Street Church of Christ. See bulletin board for information on the above events.

Visitors

Kathryn Thompson, Lillie Palarmo, Larry Exum.

Baptism

Emily Rapley made the decision to obey the Lord's commands, and was baptized into Christ last Sunday. We all rejoice with Emily, and pray God's richest blessings on her.

New Address

Joe & Jacquelin Dopwell have a new address: It is: 929 Gilmore Ave. Apt. 144, Lakeland, FL 33801

SCHEDULED TO SERVE

October

Fred Strickland..... **Table** Jimmy Sweeney
Jim Turner..... **Assist**..... Robert Cooper

November

David Anderson **Table** David Williams
Paul Romine **Assist**..... Josh Estridge

Sunday, October 26, 2014

9:30 A.M.

Song at Bible Class Frank Hamby
Prayer..... Tucker Sweeney

10:30 A.M.

Announcements..... Frank Hamby
Song Leader..... Jason Hendrix
Opening Prayer..... David Anderson
Closing Prayer..... Tim Croson

6:00 P.M.

Song Leader..... Stacey Paulin
Opening Prayer..... Tucker Sweeney
Closing Prayer..... Jeff Bingle
Greeters..... Bruce & Dolores Longfellow
Att. Cards..... Sebastian Rapley & Antonio Martin
Open & Close Building..... Bob Pratt

Wed. Oct. 29, 2014

Song Leader..... Kyle Bingle
Opening Prayer..... Charles Paulin
Closing Prayer..... Ken Walker

Please meet in the library. If you cannot serve, please call Chuck Wyatt so he can get a replacement - 859-5231

November 2, 2014

9:30 A.M.

Song at Bible Class Tucker Sweeney
Prayer..... David Anderson

10:30 A.M.

Announcements..... Bobby Sheumaker
Song Leader..... Jason Hendrix
Opening Prayer..... Jimmy Sweeney
Closing Prayer..... Kyle Bingle

6:00 P.M.

Song Leader..... Kyle Williams
Opening Prayer..... Paul Romine
Closing Prayer..... Jeff Bingle
Greeters..... The Sweeney Family
Att. Cards..... Sebastian Rapley & Quadarius Askew
Open & Close Building..... Charles Paulin

Wed. November 5, 2014

Song Leader..... Jason Hendrix
Opening Prayer..... David Williams
Closing Prayer..... John McShane

~ HOW ARE WE GIVING ~

Sep 28	\$4,631.00
Oct 05	\$4,301.00
Oct 12	\$4,462.25
Oct 19	\$3,694.00
Contribution Average	\$4,475.61
2014 Weekly Budget	\$4,256.38

HEAR OUR RADIO SPOTS

This Week's Message

"That's It"

1230 or 1430 on radio dial or web page

www.southfloridaavenuechurchofchrist.com

