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ARCHAEORAPTOR UPDATE

UPDATE: I feel it is important to mention some new information on archaeoraptor. This supposed intermediate between birds and reptiles has been proven a fake fossil. The November issue of National Geographic (1999) praised this creature saying "birdlike fossils are missing links in dinosaur evolution." The National Geographic press release (Oct 15, 1999) stated this creature had, "a very advanced, birdlike shoulder structure, wishbone and big sternum -- all indicating the animal was a powerful flier. Remains of feathers surround the specimen's bones. Yet its tail was strikingly similar to the stiff tails of a family of predatory dinosaurs known as dromoeosaurs, which includes the 'raptors' of Jurassic Park." In mid January of 2000 it was discovered the fossil was a fraud. This hoax fooled all of our technology and all of our top scientists and yet we have so much faith in evolutionary scientific interpretation. Judging from pictures of the creature, one would think they had found this creature alive. While the November issue of National Geographic praised this creature as a missing link, the January 15, 2000 issue of Science News pg 38 said this: "Red faced and downhearted, paleontologists are growing convinced that they have been snookered by a bit of fossil fakery from China. The 'feathered dinosaur' specimen that they recently

unveiled to much fanfare apparently combines the tail of a dinosaur with the body of a bird, they say."

HOW TO MAKE RIGHT CHOICES!

Should I have an abortion or not? This is a question tormenting many women today, not because of a poor "choice" a month or so earlier, but because of being trained with a humanistic philosophy. Unfortunately, even among many Christians the thought of an abortion is not completely ruled out because God has simply been added to their humanistic foundation in their education. As a result, we don't completely think like Christians and, therefore, we are not making choices consistent with Christianity and our actions betray our Christian identity.

How has this mind set come about? A major factor has been the removal of God as Creator from our schools, churches and families. If God Created you, then He sets the rules. If we don't abide by those rules we will have to answer to our Creator. What if evolution were true? Then we are a product of chance by lightning striking primordial soup millions and billions of years ago. If we came about by chance, each biological "accident" has their own opinion as to what truth is. For some, truth may be abortion, the practice of homosexuality, or even premarital sex. Our educational systems that have been founded upon humanistic philosophies are teaching us that we need to tolerate everyone's opinion, in fact, when it comes to such things as homosexuality, students are often encouraged to experiment to find out their true identity. So who is to say what is the right choice? Is there only one choice? Not according to our society.

Today abortion depends upon many circumstances: age, health, time, convenience, and often times, the dad. With every person having different circumstances, opinions and beliefs, abortion may seem right in some circumstances if this is the way we have been trained to think. But again, who is to say when those circumstances merit murder. YOU are according to society. To be consistent one must question whether or not it was wrong for some disgruntle students to shoot their classmates. They had been teased and wronged by others while at the same time had been taught to stand up for what they believed in, life revolved around their happiness, every ones opinion and beliefs were acceptable. These kids simply did what they were taught. They stood up for what they believed in. . . revenge. Now because the majority of the populace believes murder is wrong, we say their opinions don't measure up as being acceptable. Majority rules when it comes to morality I guess. What happens when the growing numbers of practicing homosexuals becomes the majority. What happens when the majority believe third trimester abortions are okay. What happens when the majority feel that old people have nothing to offer and they only suffer anyway so why not kill them? What happens when the majority feel their race is superior to another as the majority in Germany did during the holocaust? What happens when a majority reject God as Creator? The answer is that we become like Israel, "In those days Israel had no king; everyone did as he saw fit" (Judg 17:6). Today, our king (God as Creator and rule giver) has been dethroned and we do as WE see fit.

The Bible clearly tells us that a baby becomes a human being at conception and therefore abortion is not a question of timing, but is simply murder at any developmental stage: "Surely I was sinful at birth, sinful from the time my mother conceived me" (Psa 51:5). But because many see their self serving circumstances more a standard of truth than God's Word, we kill these sinful creations of God, (who need a Savior,) as we see fit.

If our world had no standard for the right measurement of a yard, everybody's measurement would differ. That is exactly what has happened with our moral fabric of society. We see it being unwound and we sit back and wonder why, as our children are being taught there are no absolutes. So how do we make decisions in our life, whether it be abortion, church relations, or daily moral living? There can be only one absolute, and God is that standard by which to measure right from wrong. There is no gray area when it comes to truth, we can't all be right. God's Word clearly tells us that the Bible is that standard and gives us answers to every moral dilemma. Perhaps that is why Proverbs states, "Every word of God is flawless; He is a shield to those who take refuge in Him" (Prov 30:5). The problem is people need to have faith in something to follow it. How many people read the Bible enough to know it and quote it as the Bible encourages, "and how from infancy you have known the holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus" (2 Tim 3:15). Instead we read all kinds of self help books and watch different programs with all kinds of opinions. James says, "Such "wisdom" does not come down from heaven but is earthly, unspiritual, of the devil. For where you have envy and selfish ambition [a big circumstance for abortion], there you find disorder and every evil practice. But the wisdom that comes from heaven is first of all pure; then peace-loving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy and good fruit, impartial and sincere" (James 3:15-17). Does abortion fit any of the attributes of "wisdom from heaven?" I would encourage everyone to train their children in the truth and then put these things into practice because one must be trained to think Biblically before they will act in a Biblical way: "Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me, or seen in me--put it into practice. And the God of peace will be with you" (Phil 4:9); "But if a widow has children or grandchildren, these should learn first of all to put their religion into practice by caring for their own family and so repaying their parents and grandparents, for this is pleasing to God" (1 Tim 5:4).

Many people have confronted me about how I know that what I teach is right, after all, it is only my interpretation. I can boldly say that my teachings are right because my teachings are not my own. As long as I do not stray from God's Word and let God's Word interpret itself, there is no problem. It is only when my wisdom interferes with what Scripture says. I can't understand how Jesus walked on water or how the Red Sea water was parted. Science can't explain it, my mind doesn't understand it, but my faith believes it. If we can't think outside the realm of our reality, what good is your faith. One must either have faith that God is who He says He is or that man's wisdom is all what he thinks it is. I know me and my mind, and I wouldn't trust it to be infallible for anything. The only way to answer the question of whether or not to have an abortion is to look to Truth, and to put Him into practice in your daily life. My prayer is that I may say as Paul once did, "And we also thank God continually because, when you received the word of God, which you heard from us, you accepted it not as the word of men, but as it actually is, the word of God, which is at work in you who believe" (1 Th 2:13).