

Evangelism Update 04-02-06

This newsletter has been formatted for HTML capable email clients (like Outlook Express, Thunderbird, or Hotmail). If you're using a text-only email client, I suggest reading the Evangelism Update at the online archive: www.fool4given.com/evangelismupdate.htm

Note from Jim:

In honor of National Atheist Day*, I thought I'd open the newsletter with something on the lighter side.

God is sitting in heaven when a scientist prays to Him, "God, we don't need you anymore. Science has finally figured out a way to create life out of nothing. In other words, we can now do what you did in the "beginning."

"Oh, is that so? Tell me..." replies God.

"Well," says the scientist, "we can take dirt and form it into the likeness of you and breathe life into it, thus creating man."

"Well, that's interesting...show Me."

So the scientist bends down to the earth and starts to mould the soil.

"No, no, no . . ." interrupts God, "Get your own dirt."



**National Atheist Day is April 1st (aka April Fool's Day) ... "The fool has said in his heart, There is no God."
Psalm 14:1*

Scripture of the Week:

God saved you by his grace when you believed. And you can't take credit for this; it is a gift from God. Salvation is not a reward for the good things we have done, so none of us can boast about it. (Ephesians 2:8-9, NLT)

Quote of the Week:

"There are two kinds of people: those who say to God, "Thy will be done," and those to whom God says, "All right, then, have it your way." (C. S. Lewis)

Evangelism Resource:

[The Evidence Bible Online](http://www.evidencebible.com)

The Evidence Bible is commended by Josh McDowell, Dr. D. James Kennedy and Franklin Graham, and was a finalist in the 2002 Gold Medallion Book Awards. At "The Evidence Bible Online" you can read online, or download and save, the entire New Testament, Psalms & Proverbs in PDF (Adobe Acrobat) format. This format allows you to see the inside of this Bible, just as it appears in the printed ones. You can also browse "Answers

from the Evidence Bible" to get the answers to over 100 of the most commonly asked questions about, and objections to, the Christian faith.



Get the free Adobe Reader.

Questions & Objections:

Q. How can you believe the Bible is the Word of God?

A. I believe it would be fair to say we'd be hard pressed today to find ten different authors that could write in agreement while compiling a single work on a controversial subject. It's also fair to say the Bible is full of controversial topics. Yet, it's a compilation of sixty-six books written by some forty authors spanning 1,500 years. The Bible's internal consistency and fulfilled prophecies prove its divine origin.

At the time the Bible was written 25% of it was prophecy. Every one of those prophecies have come true down to the smallest detail, aside from the few remaining prophecies about the 2nd Coming of Christ. No other book can make that claim. The Book of Mormon can't. The Koran can't. The Hindu Gita can't. Further, the Bible itself makes the bold claim that if a single prophecy doesn't come true than the whole thing is false. Statistically, there is no way man can predict the future with 100% accuracy – only God can know the future.

Here's a simple example of reasoning with someone biblically from the "Prophets" part of "the Law and the Prophets".

You: If I predicted that tomorrow you'll get into a car wreck, and I predicted who hit you, how much damage was done and how long it would take the get your car repaired, you'd have to admit that would be pretty freaky, right?

Them: Right.

You: Now imagine if I told you on day two who would call you, what you would talk about. Day three, I predicted an incident that would happen at your work and I was accurate. Now, for five days straight I would predict something for that day in your life and each came true. By the end of day five, if I came to tell you what would happen on the sixth day, would you believe me?

Them: But that's not going to happen.

You: Well, hear my out. Just imagine it did happen.

Them: OK.

You: Would you believe me?

Them: Of course.

You: Now I've got five Bible prophecies for you:

1. The Bible predicted about 3,000 years ago that the nation of Israel would become a nation again (Jeremiah 16:14-15 and Isaiah 11:11-12). It did in 1948.
2. Israel would become a nation in one day (Isaiah 66:8). That happened, too. Once Israel declared itself a nation, the US, UN, & Russia all declared Israel a nation and they were recognized in the international community in one day!
3. Jews would come from all around the world to go back to Israel (Isaiah 43:5-6 and Deuteronomy 30:3-5). Isn't that what they're still doing?
4. Jesus predicted that in the end times the focus of the world will be on the middle-east (Luke 21). He was right! That's what's happening now!
5. The Bible predicts that the Roman Empire will re-emerge again as the last "empire" to be the world power before Jesus' comes to claim His throne in Jerusalem. (Daniel 2 & 7, Revelation 13 & 17). That's the European Union... the United States of Europe! In fact, this new Roman Empire will be even greater in size than the last.

You: So, you said that you'd believe me after five accurate predictions. Now that you see the prophecy of scripture unfolding, you can also trust that the Bible is true. Now, if the Bible is proven accurate through prophecy, we can rely on other statements made like "man is destined to die once, and after that to face judgment (Hebrews 9:27)" or Jesus' own words -- "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the

Father except through me (John 14:6)."

Weekly "Fishing" Update:

There were only three or four people outside the doors of the DMV on Wednesday, so rather than open air preaching I got into a one-2-two with Penny & Glenda. As we talked about sin, judgment and why Christ died on the cross, more people were wandering up to the doors and I know some of them were listening in on the conversation. Afterwards, there were probably a dozen people in line and they each got some [IQ Test](#) tracts as I left.

Now for a big "Praise God!" Our Lord has raised up another laborer here in Grants Pass. Randy is a new Seed Sower with the [GNN](#) ... and he lives right here in Grants Pass. We've corresponded over the last couple of weeks via email, and yesterday he joined me for some street "fishing". I thank God for you, Randy!

I had printed up 150 of the [Don't Be An April Fool](#) tracts with our ministry's info and website on the back. We passed them out wishing people "Happy Holiday" and by the end of the day we'd given out all but a handful. Along with doing a couple of loops of 6th Street, we also did a pass through Riverside Park where I was able to get into a couple of witnessing encounters.

The first conversation was with Matthew. Though he admitted he didn't have any sources to support it, he felt when we died it was just over and we decayed in the ground. When I switched to the Good Person Test he agreed the Ten Commandments were a good moral standard. However, looking into the Mirror of the Law actually showed he wasn't as good a person as he'd first thought. Friends showed up to give him a ride at that time, so I had to wrap up quickly but I told him of the grace in the cross and the necessity of repentance and trusting the Savior. I also gave him an [Are You Good Enough to Go to Heaven?](#) tract to recap the message, a Gospel of John and a [Narnia Story](#) CD.

After this we came across a family (Bill, Justin, & Valerie) that just happened to be visiting from San Francisco. They agreed to a street interview for my website, and it was an interesting conversation. All three said they came from a Christian background, yet Valerie believed in Heaven and Hell while Justin wasn't sure what happened after we die and Bill said he thought you just went in the grave and it was over. While they admitted to lying, stealing and using God's name in vain ... each of them said they've never looked at somebody with lust. (Maybe this was because husband, wife and son were all there together.) However, I must say I was floored when Bill said he even goes to porn sites on the internet but doesn't lust after the women there! We talked for nearly twenty minutes and I shared the full count of the gospel with them. Afterwards, Randy gave them each a [Million Dollar Bill](#). I gave them a [Narnia Story](#) CD to listen to in the car on the drive home and they each got a Gospel of John.

6th Street was a little quieter than usual, but it was still a good day of "fishing". We stopped in at the Dutch Bros coffeehouse and did another tract attack of the 40 or so people gathered in there. Out on the patio we got scolded by a girl telling us Christians shouldn't be giving this kind of stuff to pagans because the pagans just burn them. I think she was taken back a little when I told her I know it's **exactly** what she needs, because I came from a pagan background ... having once been a practicing witch and understudy to a druidic priest for year and a half. (I thank the Lord that He kept His hand over me, though allowing what He did in my life so I am now equipped to relate to those seduced by the occult.)

Lastly, I want to mention we met the "April Fool". As we passed a couple and gave them each a tract, the man read the title and said "Hey, I am an April Fool! I was born April 1st." I stopped and pulled out a [Million Dollar Bill](#) to wish him a happy birthday. Sometimes laboring in the fields can simply be fun.

I've posted two new witnessing audios at our website. Click here and go to our [One-2-One Audios](#) page. The new ones to look for are:

- **Bill, Justin & Valerie**
This was a family visiting from San Francisco. We came across them at the park, which led to a street interview and a chance to share the gospel.
- **Penny & Glenda**

A witnessing encounter with a mother and daughter as they waited for the DMV to open. While we talked about sin, judgment and the cross more people were coming to get in line. I know others were listening in and got to hear the message as well.

Prayer Points:

- Pray for the seeds that were sown this week. I also ask that you lift up the lost amongst my friends and family. They've really been on my heart, and you probably know these can be the hardest ones to reach with the gospel.
 - I'm working with another GNN Local Leader to organize a two day mini-EBC here in Southern Oregon in July. Please pray, if it is God's will, that we'll find blessing and favor in coordinating this event.
 - "The harvest is great, but the workers are few. So pray to the Lord who is in charge of the harvest; ask him to send more workers into his fields." (Matthew 9:37-38, NLT)
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Calendar:

- **Mini-EBC - Southern Oregon**
Grants Pass, OR / July 21-23
[Click here](#) for the event flyer.
- **Downtown Fishing Hole** (Recurring)
Street witnessing each Saturday (3 pm to 5:30 pm) downtown along 6th Street. Meet in the Budget Internet parking lot (4th St & F St).
- **DMV O/A** (Recurring)
Open Air preaching Wednesdays at 8:40 am to the people waiting for the DMV doors to open.

If you would like to join us, [click here](#) to send us your contact info.

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May Jesus receive the glory He is due!

'til the nets are full...