

July 22, 2010

Superintendent Cowart and honorable board members:

My name is Bob Staples a resident of Temple and an experienced educator in our state. I want to address, in your hearing this evening, the issue of evolutionary teaching in our schools. As a member of the Villa Rica Church of Christ this past spring we studied the coexistence of Dinosaurs and Man. As a student and a presenter in this class much was learned. It is clear to myself, along with church leaders and members with me tonight, evolution is a theory in crisis and harmful to our progress.

We have been either created by God or are the result of naturalistic evolution. Creation was taught in our nation for over a century. Since Darwin and the Scope trial in Tennessee the teaching of evolution has grown in dominance to the point of vigorous exclusion of creation ideas. Note these facts.

- There is no evidence for evolution happening in the past.
- There is no evidence of evolution going on today.
- Given our understanding of the world today evolution can never happen.
- The geological column and time indicators in nature do not favor evolution.
- Belief in creation and a global flood are consistent with the facts of science.
- Evolution is not a fact but is taught as a fact in many educational settings.
- The GPS standards in seventh grade science and high school biology include evolutionary concepts to the exclusion of any other origin theories.
- The ACLU and like-minded organizations have intimidated creationists from speaking out through political actions and the media.
- Many cultural problems we face can be traced to beliefs embedded in evolutionary thinking.
- A majority of homes in Carroll county do not believe evolution is a fact of science.
- Why are we allowing it to be taught in our schools unchallenged by rational arguments based on facts?

As part of the community the church is addressing this issue by:

- Presenting the thinking behind the two models to our members.
- Encouraging conclusions based upon logic and rational thought.
- Challenging new claims such as missing links reported in the media.
- Bringing awareness that young people are being misled by influential adults and discouraged from engaging in the legitimate science of free inquiry into all theories.
- Taking this message to the community through media and education.

We are recommending to the board the following.

- Study this issue for yourself.
- Resolve to make a written statement to the community.
- Continue to research- perhaps conducting open presentations of both models.
- Seek a resolution based on truth that will stand the pressure of outside influences and honor our Godly families and our sacred Christian Heritage.

We hold these truths to be self evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable Rights... Declaration of Independence.

To perpetuate the principles of free government, insure justice to all, preserve peace, promote the interest and happiness of the citizen and of the family, and transmit to posterity the enjoyment of liberty, we the people of Georgia, relying upon the protection and guidance of Almighty God, do ordain and establish this Constitution. Georgia Constitution.

In closing, let us remember the words of Charles Carroll, a founding father and the namesake for our county. "Without morals a republic cannot subsist any length of time; they therefore who are decrying the Christian religion, whose morality is so sublime and pure (and) which insures to the good eternal happiness, are undermining the solid foundation of morals, the best security for the duration of free governments."

How can teaching about Creation be against our founder, against our state constitution and in conflict to what make us Americans? The answer...it isn't.

Thank you for your time.

Bob Staples
Members Villa Rica Church of Christ.