

## Crossville Church of Christ

P.O. Box 211

Crossville, TN 38557

Phone

484-5297 or 484-2960

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### Elders:

Frank Bohannon

Bill Foland

Al Griffin

Jonathan Loveday

Larry McDuffee

Clyde Randolph

### Deacons:

Jim Bell

Kyle Fairman

Jimmy Harris

David Kerley

Doug Loveday

Greg Maxwell

Brian McLaughlin

Mark Roberts

Roger Smith

Jon Tatum

Jason Wyatt

Jerry Wood

### Minister:

Barry Kennedy

### Missionaries:

Don Iverson

Jim Waldron

(India)

### Service Times

Sunday Bible Study 9 AM

Sunday Worship 10 AM

6 PM

Wednesday 6 PM

### OTHER ACTIVITIES:

#### Ladies Bible Class

Tuesdays 11AM

#### Prayer Meeting

Tuesdays 10 AM

#### Joyful Generation

(Youth Devotional & fellowship)

1st Sunday 7:00 PM

# COMPASS

Using God's Word to Chart The Course  
Of A Congregation

[www.crossvillechurchofchrist.org](http://www.crossvillechurchofchrist.org)

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January 22, 2012

## PLEASE DADDY...

A little girl with shinning eyes, her face aglow,  
Said, "Daddy, it's time for Bible School; let's go."  
"Oh, no," said Daddy, "not today I've worked hard all this week;  
And I must have one day of rest... I'm going to the creek.  
For there I can relax and rest and the fishing's fine they say.  
So run along, don't bother me; we'll go some other day."  
Months and years have passed, and Daddy hears the plea no  
more.

"Let's go to Bible School." Those childish days are over.  
And now that Daddy's growing old, his hair is turning gray,  
He finds time to go to church; but what does his daughter say?  
"Oh, no, Daddy, not today, I've stayed up most of the night...  
And I must get some sleep. Besides, I look a fright."  
Then Daddy lifts a trembling hand to brush away the tears.  
He seems to hear the pleading voice distinctly through the  
years.

He sees a small girls little face, upturned with eyes aglow,  
"It's almost time for Bible School, please Daddy, can't we go?"



## COME LET US REASON TOGETHER

**Stan Mitchell**

“All propaganda has to be popular and has to adapt its spiritual level to the perception of the least intelligent of those for whom it intends to direct itself” (Adolph Hitler, Mein Kamph).

The secret to propaganda, in other words, is to bring all of society down to the level of the lowest common denominator. It must appeal to the basest prejudices, the shallowest thinking. Hitler's propaganda was a mix of fabrications and half-truths. It took Europe's most organized and advanced civilization and dumbed it down till it was the dictator's dupe.

What could be worse than a dictator who imposes thought control on his people?

Here is a possibility. What about a society that imposes limitations on itself, a sort of ignorance by peer pressure?

It is said that the early Christians out-thought their contemporaries. Christian leaders didn't say: “Be shallow , unthinking, gullible dummies.” They said: “Test all things. Hold on to the good” (1 Thess. 5:21).

They didn't say, unscrew your heads when you enter worship. God doesn't want you to understand his will, he just wants you to love him with all of your heart. Instead, Jesus told them to “love the Lord with all your heart , soul, ... and mind” (Mark 12:30). The Bible does not glory in ignorance.

They didn't say: “That song's words are too difficult. We want songs we can understand,” or “I loved your sermon, it was so simple.” They said: “Grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord” (2 Peter 3:18).

Bertrand Russell, the skeptic, once sneered: “Most Christians would rather die than think ... in fact, most do .”

There is no contradiction between knowing God's will and loving him; those who love him will know his will! It's not as if knowledge is cold and indifferent, while feelings are warm and loving! Ignorance of God's word is the danger. Learning half-truths and reinforcing prejudged conclusions of scripture, that is the danger in the church!

The church is not in the business of leveling our understanding and service down to that of the average twelve-year-old. It's in the business of raising all of us to God's level!

## INNOCENCE IS PRICELESS

One Sunday morning, the preacher noticed little Alex standing in the foyer of the church building staring up at a large plaque. It was covered with names and small American flags mounted on either side of it. The six-year old had been staring at the plaque for some time, so the preacher walked up, stood beside the little boy, and said quietly, 'Good morning Alex.' Good morning Preacher, he replied, still focused on the plaque. Preacher, what is this? The preacher said, Well son, it's a memorial to all the young men and women who died in the service. Soberly, they just stood together, staring at the large plaque. Finally, little Alex's voice, barely audible and trembling with fear asked,



# THE ORIGIN OF THE BIBLE

## Wayne Jackson

One of the best known laws of the universe is the law of cause and effect. Simply stated it is this: every effect must have an adequate cause. Now let this law be applied to the Bible. The Bible is an effect. It was caused by some source. Really, there are but two possibilities: (a) The Bible originated from a purely human source; or, (b) The Bible, while employing human writers, is nevertheless ultimately of divine origin. How can one determine which of these views is correct? The only way is to examine the Bible itself and see whether or not it bears those marks of identification which would be expected of a book that originated with God. What would be expected of a divine volume?

(1) If God gave the Bible, we would expect Him to tell us so. The fact is, the Bible claims to be the Word of God literally thousands of times (cf. Jeremiah 1:9; Acts 1:16), and Christ Himself endorsed this very view of Scripture (see Matthew 22: 31).

(2) If God is the source of the Bible, since He is perfect (Matthew 5:48), and not the author of confusion (I Corinth 14:33), we would expect it to be perfectly harmonious. Though composed over sixteen centuries, the Scriptures are perfectly harmonious. While some have charged the Bible with contradictions, such an allegation will not stand.

(3) Since God is holy (Isaiah 6: 3), we would expect the Bible to have an exalted moral tone. That is exactly what one finds. Its precepts - "love your neighbor as yourself" and "do unto others as you would have them do unto you" (see Matthew 22:39; 7:12), have amazed millions of people down through the ages. No philosophy can boast of such morals.

(4) If the Bible is from God, we would not expect that any group of men, regardless of their genius, could produce a volume that would surpass that ancient document. Though the Scriptures have been completed almost nineteen centuries, no one has been able to author a book that would make the Bible obsolete. This is inexplicable!

(5) If the Bible is from the timeless God, we would expect it to be perpetually relevant. This is the case. Other books are shortly outdated, but the Bible is as fresh and up-to date as when it came from the pens of the inspired writers.

(6) If the Bible were of divine origin, we would expect it to accurately portray the character of man. This is exactly what it does do. Though man was created upright in God's own image (Genesis 1:26), by sin he has progressively separated himself from his Maker (Isaiah 59:1,2). He has become exceedingly corrupt (Jeremiah 17:9), and hence stands in dire need of help. Man could not have authored the Bible if he would, and would not have penned it if he could!

(7) Finally, if the Bible is of God, we would not expect it to be simply a vague philosophical and abstract treatise, but rather, to give specific information of what man's purpose is and how he may achieve that purpose. Thrillingly, the Bible reveals that man's purpose on earth is to serve God (Isaiah 43:7; Ecclesiastes 12:13). It reveals the mission of Christ to save man from his wickedness (Luke 19:10), and urges us to be responsive to His redeeming message of grace (Hebrews 5:8,9; Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38). Let us hear its message.

