

THOUGHTS

By Douglas W. Schroeder

SPEAKER ON THE WORD TODAY

FIVE NEW LANGUAGES IN AFRICA!

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It is with great joy that I announce the addition of the following languages to our broadcasts; Yao, Juba Arabic, Senoufou, Karundi, and Goungbe! This brings the total number of languages broadcast by The Word Today to 70! These dialects are all in cultures with less Christian influence and little to no Christian programming in media; they are among the people groups considered in need of being reached with the Word of God. The Bible is not typically translated into these languages, so The Word Today will become a primary source of knowledge of the Gospel to these people!

The Word Today is a growing and ever more important mission. It is our goal to continue to add languages to broadcast the Gospel around the world until Christ returns. Thank God for this ministry, and thank you for being an important part of it by supporting it with your gifts! There is no more important, nor efficient way to maximize your offerings for the sake of reaching all people with the news about Christ!

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When we first start up in a language group like this a torrent of response is returned, hundreds of responses each year, with people indicating how wonderful it is to hear such programming in their mother tongue. Regularly people indicate that they are changing their religion to Christianity. They often say they are relieved of guilt, feeling hopeful about the future, and are eager to speak to others they know! The work we are doing is incredibly important, with outcomes that reach into eternity!

Please impress upon your family and friends the good they will be doing if they join us in supporting The Word Today. Remember, 100% of gifts are expended on the mission!

"GOD USES THE NATURAL TO ACCOMPLISH THE SUPERNATURAL"

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I first heard that quote a week ago when I was in conversation with a member of our church. What a great thought! Just as we use media to make art, so God uses the material universe to make not only art (observe the sky at night, or a beautiful nature scene) but *miracles*. Truthfully, life itself is a miracle that science still cannot begin to explain. Our lives should be full of wonder and praise to the Creator!

I have often said that God uses physical things to accomplish his work, but I like the new phrase better. God is supernatural, outside the bounds of nature. When he wishes he can work with it. He did so in the great Flood of Genesis, in giving reproductive power to Abram and Sara (afterward renamed Abraham and Sarah), the plagues visited upon Egypt, and throughout the Old Testament. In the New Testament we see Jesus continuously utilizing nature in healings and illustrations. He bursts the bounds of natural death to do the supernatural, defeating death! Our promised resurrection to life eternal is yet another example of God using the natural to accomplish the supernatural. What a great concept to fix in our minds!

2018

Thoughts
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*The Bible is God's Word . . . Jesus is God's "Word" made flesh . . .
His death and resurrection, the message needed Today.*

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"DESPECIATION"

According to evolutionary theory, accidents in the genes of creatures drive speciation, splitting of animals into similar, but eventually very dissimilar varieties. Never mind that DNA shows this is not happening; it's what Darwinists teach about development of life on earth. From the standpoint of atheism, it's working because the percentage of Americans who believe in the God of the Bible is the lowest ever.

Once in a while evolutionists use an opposite term, "despeciation". Yes, the term despeciation suggest that species of animals can in certain circumstances mate and in the process a distinct species can be lost. The reason this is important is because neither speciation, nor despeciation demonstrates animals morph into different kinds of animals. The convenient concept of despeciation allows Darwinists an escape hatch for the obvious error of speciation.

An example is in order; there are many species of fruit fly, for example, and they are technically different species by small but significant differences between them, despite still being fruit flies. The term "species" is applied with near microscopic detail to slice and dice animal kinds endlessly. Evolutionary theory says that animals and plants endlessly branch out to make different species and eventually radically different animals and plants. The idea is that the movement is in one direction, toward branching out and making additional species.

However, now a nice reversal trick has been added to the Darwinist's play book, allowing for suggestion that in certain circumstances two distinct species mate and one of the former is lost forever. In other words, when evolution doesn't act the way evolutionists claim, now they can say it was "despeciation" at work! Instead of seeing a reversal of the process they claim is universal as evidence they are wrong, they try to claim a parallel process is at work.

The sad part of all this is that none of this proves animals morph into different animals (morphology). Fruit flies will make fruit flies, and cows will make cows. Just because a very slightly different fly or cow is seen to mate with another in no way shows animals morph into different kinds of animals. Leave it to the Darwinists to muddy up science even further through providing a distinction without significance!

DON'T MISTAKE BIBLICAL HEROES' FAITH FOR EXCITEMENT

We may be tempted to consider our lives boring compared to the Biblical heroes we wish to emulate. Be careful before you ask God to make your life more "exciting"! These heroes struggled against incredible enemies with the assurance that the Lord was with them. It is doubtful the saints of old wished for such tense, dangerous situations!

If we commit ourselves to having a purposeful life, one which shows our relationship with Christ, we will encounter our share of trials and even perhaps persecution. Others may look at us and think our life is exciting! No wonder I Thessalonians 4:11-12 admonishes us to lead a quiet life, not be busy bodies and work with our hands so that our daily life may win the respect of outsiders. It's far more important that we show ourselves sensible, loving people than to have an "exciting" life.

Blessings!
Douglas W. Schroeder