

TOOTLING TO WORK

"Tootling" to work?? Well, yes, in a way. You can make anything into a tootle, depending on your attitude and awareness. If you are awake, alert, and spiritually alive, you begin to see things through the lens of God's wisdom and Spirit.

This morning (Wednesday, January 10), I was able to ride my bike to the store for the first time in almost a week. It was 6AM, with no wind or rain, and the intoxicating and lovely (did I really use that word??) fragrance of wet desert after a rain. And for us out here, such a perfect rain! Not too fast, not too much runoff, just enough to soak the ground and settle the dust.

At 6AM, the eastern horizon was just beginning to lighten with subtle yellow and gold tints underlining a light-to-midnight blue sky. The horizon was a pitch black silhouette of jagged hills, a church with a cross on the steeple, a water tank that



ish myths as some believe. IGH focuses on the creation and Noah's flood. POE looks at the early history of Moses and the Israelites, the exodus from Egypt, and the Israelites' 40-year sojourn in the desert surrounding modern Israel.

What I love most about them, besides the highly interesting content, is that they challenge conventional wisdom and sure-shootin' scientific, archaeological, and paleontological KNOWLEDGE. (How's that for a mouthful?) So many are so sure of "science", refusing

to acknowledge that science is sophisticated conjecture composed of theories that add to our knowledge of how things work, and that gain credibility as they can replicate what happens in the real world. Science requires an element of faith, especially in the basic premises upon which it is based, but so many who are engaged in science prefer to ignore that fact and act as if their theories are KNOWLEDGE.

In the case of IGH, the creators of the video series decided to pursue the idea that the Genesis account of Noah's flood might be literally true, and to see if there is evidence to support that. In POE, the creator of that series took a similar approach to the story of the Israelites' exodus from Egypt and their rescue by God behind the leadership of Moses. In obedience to God and against his personal desires, Moses led them out of Egypt and over to present-day Israel, with a 40-year pause as they wandered in the desert in punishment for their faithlessness. What is the evidence that might support that story, which has been written off as a myth by conventional historians and archaeologists?

I like that small tootle on my bike across Clark Road, because it's wide open, and I can look up into the sky and imagine the wonder of God's unimaginable power. I see the headlights of cars coming down Crystal Creek Rd., and I think of who might be in that car, where they might be heading, and what they might be thinking. Maybe the driver might spare a thought for God, too.



Conventional Wisdom – NOT! Have you heard of the video "Is Genesis History" (IGH)? Or "Patterns of Evidence" (POE)? Both take a look at the Biblical narratives in the book of Genesis and ask whether they might be historically true and not silly or even child-

I have found them riveting and even liberating. I highly recommend them to anyone who wants to step outside the box of conventional wisdom and take a fresh look at our origins, at the stories in Genesis, and at the idea that the Bible may be much more than cutesy fairy tales we teach our kids but reject as knowledgeable and oh, so wise adults.

What comes to mind is what the Apostle Paul said in I Corinthians: "It is written, 'I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.' Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? . . . For the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men." (I Cor. 1: 19,20,25)

We humans think we are so smart and know so much, and then we get attached to our ideas and even link them to big money in research grants so that we no longer are open to God's Truth. Don't confuse us with facts or evidence, our minds are made up. Our theories have been published and our grant money is in the bank. Take your religious humbug and go sit in the corner. Or so they seem to say.

I love to puncture their hot air balloons. These videos do a great job of posing credible alternatives to accepted "knowledge" and "wisdom". Yay!

And Yay for God!!!

P.S. I have ordered a couple of copies of each video in anticipation of the tsunami of people rushing to the store to get one. ☺

P.P.S "Is Genesis History" has put out a second set of videos called "Beyond Is Genesis History, volume 1, Rocks and Fossils", and at least two more volumes to come. The original movie will be in theaters on February 22 for a one-night stand.

Linda Gammel

PSALM 19 (NIV)

*The heavens declare the glory of God;
the skies proclaim the work of his hands.
Day after day they pour forth speech;
night after night they reveal knowledge.
They have no speech, they use no words;
no sound is heard from them.
Yet their voice goes out into all the earth,
their words to the ends of the world.
In the heavens God has pitched a tent for the sun.
It is like a bridegroom coming out of his chamber,
like a champion rejoicing to run his course.
It rises at one end of the heavens
and makes its circuit to the other;
nothing is deprived of its warmth.
The law of the LORD is perfect,
refreshing the soul.
The statutes of the LORD are trustworthy,
making wise the simple.
The precepts of the LORD are right,
giving joy to the heart.
The commands of the LORD are radiant,
giving light to the eyes.
The fear of the LORD is pure,
enduring forever.
The decrees of the LORD are firm,
and all of them are righteous.
They are more precious than gold,
than much pure gold;
they are sweeter than honey,
than honey from the honeycomb.
By them your servant is warned;
in keeping them there is great reward.
But who can discern their own errors?
Forgive my hidden faults.
Keep your servant also from willful sins;
may they not rule over me.
Then I will be blameless,
innocent of great transgression.
May these words of my mouth and this
meditation of my heart be pleasing in
your sight,
LORD, my Rock and my Redeemer.*

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Important MAC Meeting

Thursday, January 18 at 5 pm.
At L.V. Community Center.
Voting on recommendations to send to Supervisor Ramos for: Cemetery Planning; our Community Plan; and Environmental Scoping for the Countywide Environmental Plan.

L.V. School Board Meeting

Thursday, February 8, starts at 5:30PM.
At the Alternative Education Center,
8560 Aliento Rd up Highway 18.

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