



# The Caller

A Weekly Newsletter of the Elizabethtown church of Christ  
Vol. XXXVI January 24, 2010 No. 3

## Confidence Corner

John F. Board

One major attack on our confidence of the Hebrew Bible dealt with theories that would be based upon the assumption that certain words found in the text of the Hebrew Bible were considered "late words." In other words, these "late words" were said "in theory" to not exist until in the 600's BC. Since this assumption was accepted as fact, the writings that contained such words were considered to have been written around 600 BC, not earlier as Mosaic authorship, Davidic authorship etc would suggest. The only problem with such ideas based upon the theories that certain Hebrew words were considered "late words" is the fact that they were simply based in **men's theories.**

In the past one hundred years or so, evidence has arisen that gives more light to the Hebrew language. Many of the so called "late words" upon further investigation in the documents uncovered, have been found in actuality to be early words (some predating 2300 BC).

Take for example the Hebrew term "*hetem*" (*gold*). This word is considered a rare synonym used in Hebrew poetry for the normal Hebrew term for gold "*zahav*." The German liberal OT scholars considered the term "*hetem*" as a late word dating to after 600 BC. Unfortunately for the late date theorists, linguistic evidence was found that showed the word was not a late word, rather it is dated to at least the twelfth century BC, and perhaps goes back in language to around 2300 BC. Kenneth Kitchen considers such words as a "part of the ancestral inheritance of biblical Hebrew." Did you catch that? Kitchen basically says rather than being a "late word" *hetem* actually predates biblical Hebrew.

What does all this mean? Well in a nut shell one could say that the liberal theories of dating biblical books based upon a faulty assumption of a late date for Hebrew terms/words, has been shown to have no credibility. Those who attacked the traditional authorship of various Bible books have done so with no basis of fact. They conjectured their theories and passed them off as fact. The Bible, as it always has and always will, has proven its critics wrong. It stands as that inspired document from God.

jfb

## ARCHAEOLOGY AND THE BIBLE

John F. Board

Is the Bible a book we can trust? So often people have tried to question and challenge the Word of God. Time and time again, the Bible has withstood the test of time and the attacks of men.

Sometimes it is interesting to investigate the legends of other civilizations in order to highlight the Bible account of an event. For instance, there are other nations that record a global flood similar but not as credible as the account in Genesis (Greeks, Chinese, Mexicans, Hawaiians, to name a few)

Another such example is found on the five by ten stele (monument) revealing the activities of Ur-Nammu, King of Ur from 2044-2007 BC. In this stele highlighting the activities (often such activities would be given a slant favorable to the ruler) of this ruler, there is recorded orders given to Ur-Nammu to build a great ziggurat (temple tower) as an act of worship to the moon god Nannat. Another area excavated contained information about how the building of the tower offended the gods and the gods threw it down and scattered the people, making their speech different. Of course to those reading this article, the account of the Tower of Babel (Genesis 11) immediately comes to mind.

What does all this mean? It appears that other civilizations have borrowed from the event that is recorded in the Bible; of course they put their own slant to the account to make their civilization look good. But this account from another source outside of the Bible lends credibility to the truthfulness of the event. Why would other nations have their own account of the event if the event did not take place?

Actually even today philologists believe that the origin of all languages can be traced back to one common language (Trombetti, Mueller, and Jespersen). Linguists actually use the concept of a common source language to categorize the various languages found today. Even Sumerian documents allude to the fact that the world at one time had a single language. Many try to question the Bible, but it always holds true to form! **jfb**

## Sunday's Sermons:

A.M. — *The Certainty of His Return*  
2 Peter 3:9-10

P.M. — *I Surrender All*  
Hebrews 12:1-3

## Subnormal, Normal, & Abnormal

*The article below is written by Steve Higginbotham. He will soon be leaving our area to work with the congregation in Knoxville, TN. Steve will be missed.*

For some time now, I have been contemplating a phenomenon that I, through observation, could see existed, but I didn't quite know how to verbalize. However, I think the words have finally come to me. I have observed that **when the subnormal becomes normal, then what is normal becomes abnormal.**

I've reached this conclusion after watching and hearing biblical concepts and spiritual people ridiculed as being "weird," "radical," and "abnormal." But after assessing these doctrines and people, I've determined that they aren't abnormal at all. Rather, they're being labeled as "abnormal" by people who unknowingly think "subnormal" is "normal."

Rather than talking in abstract, allow me to share a few concrete examples.

- A family is led in a quiet prayer at a restaurant. Another Christian across the room looks on and concludes they're "strange" and would himself, be embarrassed to be seen praying for his food. Is a praying family "abnormal?" Only through the eyes of one who thinks the "subnormal" is "normal."
- A young lady won't wear revealing and suggestive clothing, but instead wears clothing that is modest. Her Christian peers may look at her and conclude she's "out of touch" because she won't wear the latest fashions. However, is dressing modestly "abnormal?" Only through the eyes of one who thinks the "subnormal" is "normal."
- A Christian couple attend a play, and due to the gratuitous cursing decide to leave at intermission. Other Christians are present, and conclude the Christian couple who left are "prudes" and need to "lighten up." However, is the decision to seek out godly entertainment "abnormal?" Only through the eyes of one who thinks the "subnormal" is "normal."
- A Church is in the process of appointing elders and deacons. The elders ask the church to pray and fast. Some in the congregation think to themselves that being asked to pray is one thing, but being asked to fast is just "weird." However, is asking the church to pray and fast "abnormal?" Only through the eyes of one who thinks the "subnormal" is "normal."
- A young Christian refuses to share, download, or even listen to illegally obtained music. His friends in the youth group think he's ridiculous for his decision. However, is honesty in all things "abnormal?" Only through the eyes of one who thinks the "subnormal" is "normal."
- A Christian lady privately goes to another Christian woman who has recently offended her in an attempt to resolve their problem. No sooner than their meeting is over, the Christian woman being rebuked is on the phone telling her friends about how brazen and nifty this Christian lady was. However, is trying to privately settle one's differences "abnormal?" Only through the eyes of one who thinks the "subnormal" is "normal."

I could keep going with many more examples which illustrate this phenomenon, but such should suffice. I just want this to be a wake-up call. Maybe we've been living "subnormal" lives and didn't realize it. Friends, it's time that we reclaim normalcy, and stop living subnormal lives. Pretending "subnormal" is "normal" doesn't make it so. And neither does calling "normal" behavior "abnormal" make it so.

Are those strange, abnormal people we know really abnormal, or could it be that we've been living subnormal lives? What do you think? Steve Higginbotham (via PreachingHelp.org)

# News and Notes

**PATSY RICHTER**, Barbara Underwood's sister, underwent surgery Monday at Baptist East Hospital in Louisville. **HELEN RABY** was released from Hardin Memorial Hospital Tuesday. **RON LEMASTERS** underwent surgery January 20 at Hardin Memorial. **ROSA LEE NORMAN** was admitted to Hardin Memorial, Room 404, Tuesday night.

## MEMBERS TO INCLUDE ON PRAYER LISTS

Betty Addington	Andy Nevins
Carl & Delsie Axton	Ruby Keister
Neil Burden	Mike Parks
Howard Gardner	Pansy Sells
Faye Guess	Grace Speer
Dorothy Hawkins	Oleta Stranahan
Roy Johnson	Kay Thomason
Betty Lawson	Barbara Underwood
Diane Lewis	Lonnie Underwood
J Martin	Dorothy Weaver
Carl Mercer	Lawrence Wells
Tom Morgan	Jim White

## Let us continue to remember the following military personnel in our prayers:

Robert E. Wooten, Kelly Leverett, Korry Leverett (Iraq), Joe Betterton, Terry Turner, Cameron Ponder, Brett Fleming, Nathan McClain, Ronald O'Bryant, Roni Reed, Hector Meza, Aaron Wellman, Michael Morrow, Israel Fox, Barry Barclay, Brian Wilkins, Nathan Miller, Dan Sloat, Gregory Stack, A. J. Anderson, Travis Clonch (Afghanistan), Drew McAlpin (Iraq)

**Additional Prayer List:** John Berrier (Stranahan nephew), John D. Board, Priscilla Boyd, Roy Buckles, Sue Cantrell, Michael Clymer, Elizabeth Cooper, Bill Cyrus, Peggie Fryer (AL), Brenda Gaddie, Joe Gattis, Royce Goodman, Renee Green, Doris Grimm, Jessica Hannum (Wilkins' niece), Ryan Hanson, Ginell Harris, Louie Hodge, Mandy Holland-Sherwood, Betty Jabrocki, Janice Jones, John Kavanaugh, Becky King, T. L. Lewis, Buddy Logsdon, Sherry Marcum, Kathy McNutt (Carter's niece), Susan Moller, Mary Montgomery, Dorsey Morrow, Robert Moyers, Joe Pawley, Willie Pence, Steven Pitcock, Cindy Prael, Joe Richter, Jean Routt, Jamie Schwalm, Herlon Selby, Carlos Smith, Roge-Ge-Neal Smith, Florence Stull, Juanita Tillery, Tanya Waters (WY), Kevin Weaver, Margaret Whisenant, Judy Wilson, Virginia Wiser

## Mission News

Joe & Dorothy Brothers leave for a mission trip to Panama January 28. Please pray for the success of their trip.

## Pantry Items of the Week

Week of 1/24/10—Canned pork'n'beans and soup

## Sympathy

Our deepest sympathy is expressed to Charles Hardin and his family in the death of his mother, **Bertha Willie Hardin**, who passed away January 14. Her funeral was held Monday.

Also, our sympathy is expressed to Ken Bybee and his family in the death of his 54 year old uncle, **Doug Edwards**, who passed away Saturday. His funeral was held Tuesday in Horse Cave.

And, we express our deepest sympathy to Ron Lemasters and his family in the death of his aunt, **Rose Lemasters**.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- **SUPER SAINTS** planning to attend the FHU lectures will meet this Sunday morning, **January 24**, in the Sr. High classroom.
- **YOUTH MEETING** Sunday morning, **January 24**, in Room 10 for all parents and chaperones of those young people planning to attend CYC in Gatlinburg February 26-28. Cost is \$30. Names, t-shirt sizes and registration fees need to be given to Terry Nowland by January 27.
- **TAYLOR CHRISTIAN CAMP STAFF** meeting Sunday morning, **January 24**, for members who plan to work at camp this summer, June 13-18. See Ken Bybee or Jason White for more information.
- **5TH GRADE & UNDER** are encouraged to attend the singing at Atria this Sunday, **January 24**, at 3:00 p.m. The group will go to Mr. Gatti's after the singing.
- **YOUTH DEVO**, Sunday night, **January 24**, at the home of Jason and Carrie White.
- **CONGREGATIONAL POTLUCK**, Sunday morning, **January 31**. CSG #1 is in charge of set up and CSG #2 will clean up after the meal.
- **LADIES DAY MEETING**, Sunday morning, **January 31**.
- **FHU LECTURESHIP, February 7-12**
- Mark your calendars for the **SWEETHEART DINNER** on Saturday, **February 20**, 6:00 p.m. in the South Wing.

### OUR RECORD FOR

January 17, 2010

Sunday Bible Study	141
Sunday Morning Assembly	199
Sunday Evening Assembly	145
Wednesday Bible Study	103
Ladies Bible Class	16
Contribution (Budget -- \$6,888)	\$6,966

Elder/Coordinator for January  
Mike Pence

## Bible Question

*This Week's Bible Question: With what parable did Christ end the Sermon on the Mount?*

*Last Week's Bible Question: "Who was David's strongest general? Two answers were accepted this week: Joab, I Chronicles 20:1 and Josheb-Basshebeth, 2 Samuel 23:8. Those who correctly answered the Bible Question are Joyce Pack, Mary Walker, Betty Bray, Katy Watson, Edna Ashlock, Bloria Taylor, The Lackey Family and Rick Eiler.*

*Please write down your answer and put it in the box outside the church office before next Wednesday or email your answer to [chofchrist@windstream.net](mailto:chofchrist@windstream.net) by Tuesday afternoon. Please include the Scripture reference and your name.*

## Schedule of Services

### Sunday:

Bible Classes	9:30 A.M.
Morning Worship	10:30 A.M.
Evening Worship	6:00 P.M.

### Tuesday

Ladies Bible Class	10:30 A.M.
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### Wednesday

Evening Bible Class	7:00 P.M.
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### Elders:

Ron Carter	358-5792
Henry McAlister	765-7386
Mike Pence	737-8123
Rick Whobrey	769-9267

### Minister:

John Board	763-1677
	cell # 505-3925

### Secretary:

Kim Whobrey	769-9267
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Email: [chofchrist@windstream.net](mailto:chofchrist@windstream.net)

Visit us on the World Wide Web:  
[www.etowncofc.org](http://www.etowncofc.org)

## Daily Bible Reading Schedule

Jan. 24 — Taylor Christian Camp Staff Meeting  
Jan. 24 — Youth/CYC Meeting  
Jan. 24 — Super Saints Meeting  
Jan. 24 — Singing at Atrix  
Jan. 24 — Youth Devo  
Jan. 31 — Ladies Day Meeting  
Jan. 31 — Congregational Potluck  
Feb. 7-12 — FHU Lectureship  
Feb. 20 — Sweetheart Dinner  
Jan. 25 — Exodus 22-24  
Jan. 26 — Exodus 25-27  
Jan. 27 — Exodus 28-29  
Jan. 28 — Exodus 30-32  
Jan. 29 — Exodus 33-35  
Jan. 30 — Exodus 36-38  
Jan. 31 — Exodus 39-40

## PARTICIPATION

Are You Part of the

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

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