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Then the Lord answered Job out of the whirlwind, and said: Who is this who darkens counsel by words without knowledge? Now prepare yourself like a man; I will question you, and you shall answer Me.

Job 38:1-3

From The President's Desk

Warkworth, New Zealand—Before I update our Journal readers about our New Zealand Summit let me take this opportunity to once again thank each one of our supporters for their great help to the Summit this past year. Once again you have proved your dedication to this youth ministry in ways that overwhelm me. While we have been told many times how important it is to have a fully staffed development department to make this ministry work the truth is the Lord has blessed a few letters telling of our needs and the response has been overwhelmingly favorable. Our Summit Millennium Team (now approaching 362 members) came through in December to assure us of enough funds to keep the ministry going until our students show up this May. I personally do not have the proper vocabulary to tell you how much this means to me and all of us at the Summit. But thank you for keeping us financially sound and without debt!

Now to New Zealand...Summit Ministries USA, in cooperation with Masters Institute and Maxim Institute of New Zealand, has established a new Summit program in New Zealand called Compass. The NZ directors thought this name captured the thought of providing young people a compass in hand to navigate through the shoals of life—especially university and highschool life. I personally like the name very much and this year's conference was January 10 through 20. It graduated 80 students most of whom were from the various universities on the island plus four that came over from Australia. The camp site was approximately two

hours north of Auckland on the north island, an island which most of you have never seen, but take it from me—one of the most beautiful islands in the world (with a 3 million human population and 50 million sheep!).

I want you to know that our Summit supporters helped get this work off the ground by providing for five of our regular Summit faculty (including yours truly) to join the remarkable faculty from New Zealand and Australia. I would like to personally thank Dr. Michael Bauman, Chuck Edwards, John Stonestreet and Greg Koukl for their willingness to endure a 12 hour flight there, and I should also mention David Stubblefield who went over to help their staff with small groups and all the other staff responsibilities that make the camp a success.

And success it was! I have heard nothing but good things from all those involved including the students who are facing the same challenges our students face on their secular humanist campuses. What these students needed to hear was that Secular Humanism is not only geared to destroy their Christian faith, but it, too, is just as religious a worldview as Christianity. Therefore, the heart of the program was to settle these students in their own Christian worldview (most never heard of such a thing and were openly wondering why not!) and expose them to the various worldviews vying for their hearts and minds on their campuses. Mind Siege and The Battle For Truth were given to each student along with a well thought out notebook filled with faculty notes, etc.

While I know I will miss some key names I do want to publicly thank the following New Zealanders for all their hard work and long hours to make Summit New Zealand (nee Compass) a reality: Peter McNee, Mr. and Mrs. Greg Fleming, Mr. and Mrs. Roshan Allpress, Mr. and Mrs. Tony Gordon, Mary Davidson, Amanda McGrail, David Youngson, Judy Williams, Dr. Neil Broom, Shashikant Chriatian, John and Robyn Cooney, Linda Cowie, Michael Duncan, Adrian and Rachel Dunwell, Paul Henderson, Jenny Horst, Scott McMurray, Allison Mooney, Dr. Michael Reid, Alexis Stuart, Rewai Te Kahu, Rod Thompson and Trevor Yaxley.

Let me close this brief report by repeating the first and last verses of New Zealand's National Anthem: God of nations! At Thy feet...In the bonds of love we meet...Hear our voices, we entreat...God defend our free land...Guard Pacific's triple star...From the shafts of strife and war...Make her praises heard afar...God defend New Zealand. May our mountains ever be... Freedom's ramparts on the sea...Make us faithful unto Thee...God defend our Free Land... Guide her in the nations' van...Preaching love and truth to man...Working out Thy Glorious plan...God defend New Zealand.

One could nearly have a religious revival by singing all five verses and yet the political and educational powers that be in New Zealand, like in America, are seeking to remove God from the public square. If they can successfully remove the name "God" from their National

Anthem, however, there will not be too much to sing about! But then one can never underestimate the secular mind. You can hear their new refrain even now..."United Nations! At Thy feet...In the bonds of sex we meet." They don't quite have the ACLU there, but close. In fact, one of New Zealand's premier Secular Humanist has now come to the United States to work at Free Inquiry magazine. In the latest issue of Free Inquiry (February/March 2004, p. 7) this same gentleman equates Mind Siege with Hitler's Mein Kampf. Small world indeed! What he doesn't mention is that Hitler was an evolutionist, a socialist and anti-Christian. My humble bet is that this gentleman is an evolutionist, a socialist and anti-Christian. Who is closer to Hitler?

Pray for Summit New Zealand. They are already making plans for next year and seeking the guidance of God. In fact, they feel that there is such interest even now to merit a number of 10 day programs. May God bless their efforts as they seek to remain faithful to our Lord Jesus Christ.

Month In Review

Q "Where were you when I laid the foundations of the earth?"

Tell Me, if you have understanding. Who determined its measurements? Surely you know!

Or who stretched the line upon it? To what were its foundations fastened?

"Or who laid its cornerstone,

When the morning stars sang together,

And all the sons of God shouted for joy?

"Or who shut in the sea with doors,

When it burst forth and issued from the womb;

When I made the clouds its garment,

And thick darkness its swaddling band;

When I fixed My limit for it, And set bars and doors;

When I said, This far you may come, but no farther,

And here your proud waves must stop!

“Have you commanded the morning since your days began,

And caused the dawn to know its place,

That it might take hold of the ends of the earth,

And the wicked be shaken out of it?

It takes on form like clay under a seal,

And stands out like a garment.

From the wicked their light is withheld,

And the upraised arm is broken.

“Have you entered the springs of the sea?

Or have you walked in search of the depths?

Have the gates of death been revealed to you?

Or have you seen the doors of the shadow of death?

Have you comprehended the breadth of the earth?

Tell Me, if you know all this.

“Have you entered the treasury of snow,

Or have you seen the treasury of hail,

Which I have reserved for the time of trouble,

For the day of battle and war?

By what way is light diffused,

Or the east wind scattered over the earth?

“Can you bind the cluster of the Pleiades,

Or loose the belt of Orion?

“Then Job answered the Lord and said:

‘Behold I am vile;

What shall I answer You?

I lay my hand over my mouth.

Once I have spoken, but I will not answer;

Yes, twice, but I will proceed no further.’ ”

—Job 38

Q “The proper aim of giving is to put the recipient in a state where he no longer needs our gift.”

—C.S. Lewis, *The Four Loves*

Q “Another thing that annoys me is when people say ‘Why did you give that man money? He’ll probably go and drink it.’ My reply is ‘But if I’d kept [it] I should probably have drunk it.’ ”

—C.S. Lewis, *Letters To an American Lady*

Q “The limit of giving is to be the limit of our ability to give.”

—C.S. Lewis, *English Litin 16th Century*

Q “Charity—giving to the poor—is an essential part of Christian morality...I do not believe one can settle how much we ought to give. I am afraid the only safe rule is to give more than we can spare. In other words, if our expenditure on comforts, luxuries, amusements, etc., is up to the standard common among those with the same income as our own, we are probably giving away too little. If our charities do not at all pinch or hamper us, I should say they are too small. There ought to be things we should like to do and cannot do because our charitable expenditure excludes them.”

—C.S. Lewis, Mere Christianity

Q “Two things fill my heart with awe and never-ceasing wonders: The starry heavens above me and the moral imperative within me.”

—Immanuel Kant

Q “To educate a man in mind and not in morals is to educate a menace to society.”

—Theodore Roosevelt

Q “Society cannot exist unless a controlling power upon will and appetite be placed somewhere, and the less of it there is within, the more there must be without.”

—Edmund Burke

Q “I just wanted to thank you for everything you taught us at Summit this summer and for choosing to use your life and knowledge to help others grow in Christ.

“The information I learned at Summit has given me a stronger passion for the Lord and a desire to dig deeper into his word, and to know what is going on in the world.

“I am now a freshmen at the University of Oklahoma and I have already had many opportunities to use the information from Summit.

“Thank you so much for enabling me to serve God not only with my heart and soul, but with my mind. Love in Christ, R.F.

Summit Session #5, 2003”

Q “Just want to let Dr. Noebel know he’s really helping us parents trying to instill a Christian worldview.

“My son is 14 and homeschooled. He had read Mind Siege before we attended a Worldview Weekend in St. Charles, MO earlier this summer. But he really enjoyed hearing Dr. Noebel directly. Just to give an indication of how God is using all of us as witness I give the follow [ing].

“As part of his literature studies [my son] has been studying the English classic Beowulf. My wife shared the following study question and response with me and it blew me away. Here is

the response exactly as he wrote it:

“ ‘3. In modern society what persons or things act as Grendels?

‘In modern society, there are many Grendels attacking on many fronts. Terrorists, murderers, and other such criminals attack innocent people. Drugs cause addictions and many health problems, and yet people are selling them. Sexual promiscuity can lead to STDs, which can lead to death under some circumstances, or unwanted pregnancy, which can lead to the death of a baby through abortion. Many Grendels are actually part of one large Grendel to the Christian faith: Secular Humanism. That Grendel is in the schools, the governments, the media, almost everywhere. That Grendel may claim to be giving people what they want, but it doesn’t care for anyone else and it has no reason to. That Grendel knows the target all too well, and knows how to make a Christian backslide. Secular Humanism will one day be ultimately defeated, but in the meantime, we need to save as many people from its clutches as we can. So to speak, we need to figure out how to make the Secular Humanists backslide.

“ ‘Gosh, that took up a lot more space than those other two. Did I outdo myself? Did I say too much? Will the paragraph I’m currently typing be deleted?’

“Boy, what a witness to the power of the Holy Spirit touching the heart of this young man. I can’t help but be proud. But let me not be boastful but just hold this up to the Glory of our Lord. I thank God for Dr. Noebel and all those at ministries like Summit that teach the one true light and truth in this world of ours. We will win, because the victory already belongs to Jesus.

“Thanks once again from a grateful brother in Christ, Sincerely, J.W.”

Q “Dear Dr. Noebel, I attended your Summit Session 8 in August and enjoyed it immensely. Since then I have begun my sophomore year at a community college here in Bremerton, Washington, and have used what I’ve learned and had some fun arguing with liberals...very rewarding, to say the least!

“I want to get my undergraduate degree in international studies and am applying at Texas A & M University and the University of Washington, which both have it as an undergraduate major. I would prefer Texas A & M because it is more conservative, but want to apply to as many colleges as possible. However, most colleges offer it only as a Master’s degree. Do you know of any other schools that offer a degree in international studies for undergraduates? And if so, which do you recommend?

“My hope is to major in international studies and afterward either pursue a law degree or work for the state department. I am very open to attending a public university because currently it looks like God is leading me towards a career in the public realm, thus I want to

be able to completely function as a Christian in the secular world.

“The lectures at Summit truly encouraged me to do my best to be a light in the world, both at church AND in my job! Since then I have been challenged to examine the beliefs I have mindlessly accepted over the years and solidify them. Thank you for all the energy you put into Summit. I know it is impacting many young people, and it has definitely impacted me. It was two of the best week of my life!

“Sincerely, K.C.

“P.S. It’s funny, but your speech at graduation on ‘What’s Right With America’ really came in handy during my American history class this quarter. My teacher is a flaming liberal and spewed angry thoughts against the U.S. nearly every day, and even at one point said that no other nation has caused as many wars and destruction as we have. And this is a history teacher...someone who should know something about the subject!! My jaw dropped and I stared in horror, thinking, ‘Wow, Dr. Noebel was right. They really do hate America.’ I remembered some of the numbers and facts you gave in your speech. Needless to say, this quarter has been a lot of fun. It’s amazing the fierce argument that is caused when you utter a mere phrase that hints of conservatism. After the training at Summit, I’ve gained confidence and have had a blast arguing with Socialists, Democrats, relativists, Globalization Nuts, and even ‘Feminazis’! Thanks again for the time and effort.”

Q Summit brochures for our 2004 Adult/Educators conference and summer seminars for teenagers (primarily 16 years old to 25 years old) are ready for distribution. Write Summit Ministries, PO Box 207, Manitou Springs, CO 80829 or call us at 719-685-9103. Or check us out on the web at www.summit.org.

Q “A leading evangelical Christian seminary is using federal funds to launch a \$1 million program to ease strained relations with Muslims with an interfaith code of ethics.

“Fuller Theological Seminary’s proposed code would ask members of either faith to refrain from making offensive statements about the other, affirm a mutual belief in one God and prohibit proselytizing over the two-year span of the project.

“The initiative, funded by a grant from the Justice Department, includes teaching the code to Muslims and Christian community leaders in the Los Angeles area and publishing a book, the seminary said.

“ ‘We hope to lead a large portion of evangelical Christians into a better understanding of Islam,’ said Sherwood Lingenfelter, Fuller’s provost and senior vice president. ‘After 9/11 there was a great deal of hostility in the Christian community toward Muslims.’

“Last year, televangelist Jerry Falwell described the Prophet Muhammad as a terrorist and the Rev. Jerry Vines, former president of the Southern Baptist Convention, called Islam’s founder a ‘demon-possessed pedophile.’

“Some Muslim leaders who have already begun participating in the initiative said they were delighted by the Fuller program.

“ ‘We are changing the course away from accusations and poisoning the well of relations to what can develop into a project in the service of God,’ said Yahia Abdul-Rahman, who began participating in the initiative last year when he headed the region’s network of mosques, known as the Islamic Shura Council of Southern California.

“However, some conservative Christians opposed parts of the ethics code.

“ ‘For Fuller to declare that Christians and Muslims worship the same God would be a radical departure, not only from the evangelical tradition but also the tenets of orthodox Christianity.’ said John Revell, a spokesman for the Southern Baptists’ executive committee.”

—Associated Press, December 6, 2003

Q “A Utah man with five wives is in court fighting to get his bigamy conviction overturned on the basis of the U.S. Supreme Court’s June ruling that decriminalized homosexual relations.

“The legal action by polygamist Tom Green in the Utah Supreme Court seems to confirm predictions of a Republican lawmaker and other conservatives who warned that the high court’s decision would open the door to attempts to legalize other sexual activities that historically have been outlawed by states, such as bigamy, polygamy, prostitution, adult incest and even bestiality.

“ ‘You would have the right to bigamy; you have the right to polygamy, you have the right to incest; you have right to adultery. You have the right to anything,’ Sen. Rick Santorum, Pennsylvania Republican, predicted in April.

“ ‘Whether it’s polygamy, whether it’s adultery, whether it’s sodomy, all of those things are antithetical to a healthy, stable traditional family,’ said Mr. Santorum, who was criticized at the time by Owen Allred, leader of Utah’s largest polygamist sect, for characterizing plural marriage as an antifamily practice.

“Two months later, the U.S. Supreme Court struck down a Texas sodomy law and declared in a 6-3 decision that the private actions of homosexuals are no business of government. On Monday, an attorney for Green—who has spent the past two years in prison—argued to

Utah's Supreme Court that the Texas ruling should invalidate laws against polygamy.

“ ‘It doesn't bother anyone [and with] no compelling state interest in what you can do in your own home with consenting adults, you should be allowed to do it,’ attorney John Bucher told the Utah court, according to the Associated Press.

“In August, Green, the father of 30 children, filed an appeal of his 2001 conviction on four counts of bigamy.

“He is serving a five-year sentence for that conviction and another for criminal nonsupport of his offspring. In addition, Green faces up to life in prison after being convicted of child rape for having sex with one of his five wives when she was 13.

“The U.S. Supreme Court's decision in the Texas case also has been cited by attorneys for Rodney Holm, a former police officer in Hildale, Utah, who was convicted in August of bigamy and unlawful sexual activity with a minor.

“ ‘Holm raised the issue [of the Supreme Court's ruling in the Texas case] before his trial, but the trial court denied it,’ Laura B. Dupaix, Utah's attorney general, said in a telephone interview yesterday.

“On Oct. 10, Holm was sentenced to a year in jail and three years of probation. He is appealing his conviction, which he claims is improper under the U.S. Supreme Court ruling on sodomy, Ms. Dupaix said.

“ ‘I argued that [the high court's opinion] was not properly before the court in the Green case, because it's never been raised before’ by his lawyers, she added.

“Holm is a member of the Fundamentalist Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, a fringe sect whose members practice polygamy.

“Green says he is not affiliated with any religion.

“The official Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, commonly known as the Mormons, renounced polygamy in 1890 as part of a deal to grant Utah statehood. Mormons excommunicate anyone who practices plural marriage.

“There are an estimated 30,000 people who practice polygamy in the Western states.”

—Joyce Price, The Washington Times, December 3, 2003 p.1

Q “Many of America’s colleges and universities have become the modern leaders of racism and intolerance. Recently, we were treated to information about racism at the University of Michigan, where its academic elite gave students 20 extra points toward admission based solely on race.

“The U.S. Supreme Court found this explicit racism unconstitutional but did allow continuance of a more hidden form, where universities can consider race as ‘a plus’ in admission decisions. The University of Michigan case is merely the tip of the iceberg.

“Jeanne McDonnell, a freshman at the college of William and Mary, tells her story in an Aug. 25 Washington Times editorial. She sought to enroll in a five-week seminar called the Summer Transition Program offered to help students develop good study habits and test-taking skills. She found out that the seminar was racially segregated, and as a white young lady she was denied admission—only preferred minorities were accepted. Would supporters of this practice be bothered if William and Mary had seminars for whites only, where blacks and Hispanics need not apply?

“What about segregated graduation ceremonies? Vanderbilt, Stanford University, the University of California, the University of Michigan and the University of Pennsylvania are among those that offer separate graduation ceremonies for black, Hispanic and Asian-American students. University administrators not only condone segregated ceremonies but racially segregated student housing, as well.

“What if white students demanded whites-only graduation ceremonies and whites-only dorms?

“In addition to racism, universities have become bastions of intolerance. America’s liberals are known for their strong advocacy of free speech, including vile speech and speech that assaults precious symbols. Liberals are free speech advocates because it’s crucial to their propaganda agenda for control. But liberals have contempt for most freedoms, and once they’re running the show, that contempt will extend to free speech.

“Through campus speech codes, free speech is under assault on some college campuses. Steve Hinkle, a Cal Poly student, posted a flier announcing a lecture by Mason Weaver, author of It’s OK to Leave the Plantation, a book that argues that dependence on government programs places many blacks in circumstances analogous to slavery. The flier offended some black students, and Hinkle was ordered to write letters of apologies, which he refused to do and now faces disciplinary action.

“Texas Tech bans ‘communications (that) humiliate any person.’ Professor Alan Kors of the University of Pennsylvania, concerned by so many egregious violations of free speech, founded Foundation for Individual Rights in Education. FIRE has successfully brought suit

against several universities for their suppression of speech and ideas.

“The academic elite has contempt for American values and wealth. I think University administrators might get the message if we’d put a halt to our generosity. Maybe a good donation strategy is to search a university’s Web site or catalog. See whether it has multiculturalism, diversity or equity offices and programs. If it has, it’s probably practicing some form of racism. The next step is simple: Close your pocketbook.”

—Walter E. Williams, *The [Colorado Springs] Gazette*, September 4, 2003, p. M7

Q “Isaac Newton was born in 1642 and died in 1727. His fame rests upon only one publication, *Principia*, which he wrote in 18 months and published at the age of 45—generally recognized, even now after 300 years, to be the greatest of all scientific achievements.

“While his work was not completely accepted until after his death, it had already propelled him to such esteem that his grave in Westminster Abbey is the most prominent of all men with the exception of royalty and Winston Churchill.

“With characteristic humility—a trait shared with most other truly great scientists, Isaac Newton concludes the preface of *Principia*, ‘I heartily beg that what I have done here may be read with candor; and that the defects in a subject so difficult be not so much reprehended as kindly supplied, and investigated by new endeavors of my readers.’ Or ‘I heartily beg that what I have done here may be read with forbearance; and that my labors in a subject so difficult may be examined, not so much with the view to censure, as to remedy their defects.’ The latter is the original translation from Newton’s Latin into English by Andrew Motte in 1729, and the former a revision of Motte’s translation by Florian Cajori.

“Upon the 200th anniversary of Isaac Newton’s death, Albert Einstein in *Essays in Science*, publisher Philosophical Library, New York, 1934, pp 28-39, summarized the achievement of *Principia* as follows:

“ ‘It is just two hundred years ago that Newton closed his eyes. It behooves us at such a moment to remember this brilliant genius, who determined the course of western thought, research and practice to an extent that nobody before or since his time can touch. Not only was he brilliant as an inventor of certain key methods, but he also had a unique command of the empirical material available in his day, and he was marvelously inventive as regards mathematical and physical methods of proof in individual cases. For all these reasons he deserves our deepest reverence. The figure of Newton has, however, an even greater importance than his genius warrants because of the fact that destiny placed him at a turning point in the history of the human intellect. To see this vividly, we have to remind ourselves that before Newton there existed no self-contained system of physical causality which was

capable of representing any of the deeper features of the empirical world.

“ ‘No doubt the great materialists of ancient Greece had insisted that all material events should be traced back to a strictly regular series of atomic movements, without admitting any living creature’s will as an independent cause. And no doubt Descartes had in his own way taken up this quest again. But it remained a bold ambition, the problematical belief in the existence of a complete chain of physical causation hardly existed before Newton.

“ ‘Newton’s object was to answer the question: Is there such a thing as a simple rule by which one can calculate the movements of the heavenly bodies in our planetary system completely, when the state of motion of all these bodies at one moment is known? Kepler’s empirical laws of planetary movement, deduced from Tycho Brahe’s observations, confronted him, and demanded explanation. These laws gave, it is true, a complete answer to the question of how the planets move around the sun (the elliptical shape of the orbit, the sweeping of equal areas by the radii in equal times, the relation between the major axes and the period of circulation around the sun); but they did not satisfy the demand for causal explanation. They are three logically independent rules, revealing no inner connection with each other. The third law cannot simply be transferred quantitatively to other central bodies than the sun (there is, e.g., no relation between the rotary period of a planet around the sun and that of a moon around its planet). The most important point, however, is this: these laws are concerned with the movement as a whole, and not with the question how the state of motion of a system gives rise to that which immediately follows it in time; they are, as we should say now, integral and not differential laws.

“ ‘The differential law is the only form which completely satisfies the modern physicists’ demand for causality. The clear conception of the differential laws is one of Newton’s greatest intellectual achievements. It was not merely this conception that was needed but also a mathematical formalism, which existed in a rudimentary form but needed to acquire a systematic form. Newton found this also in the differential and integral calculus. We need not consider the question here whether Newton hit upon the same mathematical methods independently of Leibnitz or not. In any case it was absolutely necessary for Newton to perfect them, since they alone could provide him with the means of expressing his ideas.’

“After some paragraphs on the details of Newton’s laws of motion, Einstein continues, ‘On the strength of the foundation here briefly sketched Newton succeeded in explaining the motions of the planets, moons, and comets down to the smallest details, as well as the tides and the precessional movement of the earth—a deductive achievement of unique magnificence. The discovery that the cause of the motions of the heavenly bodies is identical with the gravity with which we are so familiar from everyday life must have been particularly impressive.

“ ‘But the importance of Newton’s achievement was not confined to the fact that it created a

workable and logically satisfactory basis for the actual science of mechanics; up to the end of the nineteenth century it formed the program of every worker in the field of theoretical physics.’

“Moreover, of the period even including that of his own work, Einstein remarks, ‘The whole evolution of our ideas about the processes of nature, with which we have been concerned so far, might be regarded as an organic development of Newton’s ideas.’

“Isaac Newton wrote two other books. The first, *Opticks*, was published in 1704, and the second, *Observations Upon the Prophecies of Daniel, and the Apocalypse of St. John*, was published six years after his death. [The Oregon Institute of Science and Medicine, PO Box 1279, Cave Junction, OR 97523 published an exact hard cover reprint of Thomas Jefferson’s copy of this book in 1991, which is still available for \$19.50 postage paid from OISM.]

“The latter book was the result of Newton’s life-long fascination with and study of Biblical prophecy beginning at the age of 12. This publication by Newton has so enraged some contemporary militant atheists that a number of calumnious tomes have appeared claiming that Newton poisoned himself with mercury in his chemistry laboratory and therefore became insane before writing the book.

“Nothing could be further from the truth, Newton spent a substantial part of his time during his entire life in serious study of the scriptures, which he believed in their entirety. At the same time, he so strongly believed in freedom of religion without constraints from any other individual, church, or government that he refused to join the Church of England—a requirement for his position as Lucasian Professor at Cambridge. The matter was resolved when King Charles II ruled that this requirement would be waived for Isaac Newton.

“In this he surely shared a conviction with Thomas Jefferson who wrote, ‘I have sworn upon the altar of God eternal hostility against every form of tyranny over the mind of man.’

“Albert Einstein, in *Essays in Science*, p 11, states, ‘This firm belief, a belief bound up with a deep feeling, in a superior mind that reveals itself in the world of experience, represents my conception of God,’

“In *Principia* itself—the greatest intellectual achievement in the history of science—Isaac Newton writes, ‘And from His true dominion it follows that the true God is a living, intelligent, and powerful Being; and, from His other perfections, that He is supreme, or most perfect. He is eternal and infinite, omnipotent and omniscient; that is, His duration reaches from eternity to eternity; his presence from infinity to infinity; He governs all things, and knows all things that are or can be done. He is not eternity or infinity, but eternal and infinite; He is not duration or space, but He endures and is present. He endures forever, and is everywhere present; and by existing always and everywhere, He constitutes duration and

space.’

“This section of Principia continues for many more paragraphs in which Newton clarifies the unity of his physics and his faith and places his own work in perspective by enumerating the many aspects of the physical world that he does not understand. In one passage about gravity, he summarizes his intellectual method as follows:

“ ‘But hitherto I have not been able to discover the cause of those properties of gravity from phenomena, and I frame no hypothesis; for whatever is not deduced from the phenomena is to be called an hypothesis; and hypotheses, whether metaphysical or physical, whether of occult qualities or mechanical, have no place in experimental philosophy. In this philosophy particular propositions are inferred from phenomena, and afterwards rendered general by induction.’

“It is remarkable that we memorize the names of great human intellects, but rarely read their actual words. In the passages above, Einstein reveals almost as much about himself as he does about Newton.

“As I am writing this, 15-year-old Matthew is at his desk about ten feet from mine studying mechanics—the physics that Newton invented in Principia. Last year he studied Newton’s calculus—self-taught, with no help from me, so his teacher actually is Isaac Newton.”

—Access to Energy, May 2003, p. 1, 2

Q “The brain you get as an adult is the brain you ‘wire’ as a teenager, the latest research shows.

“So be careful about the patterns of thought and behavior you establish in adolescence—between the ages of 10 and 20—Duke University biological research psychologist Aaron White advised.

“For good or ill, your brain is deeply influenced by such patterns and may well adopt them as ‘default settings’ for the rest of your life.

“That could explain why some people emerge from their teenage years with a sense of purpose and others don’t. Or why some adults enjoy exercise and others don’t. Or why some struggle with overeating or become dependent on tobacco, alcohol or drugs and others don’t.

“ ‘The experiences we have in our teen years are so very powerful,’ Mr. White said.

“ ‘If you become an expert in calculus in high school, chances are for the rest of your life you’re going to have superior math skills.

“ ‘If all you do is watch TV passively and you don’t exercise your brain, then you’re going to suffer the consequences of that. In your adult life, the activity of the brain will reflect what you’ve done as an adolescent.’

“By the age of 10 or 12, Mr. White said, the human brain is almost fully grown. Until recently, researchers thought the brain was finished developing by early adolescence. But in the past five years or so, they have learned they were wrong.

“Mr. White likened the 10-year-old brain to an overgrown garden that needs to be pruned. Children launch into their teen years with ‘hundreds of billions’ of brain neurons that are unruly. They make a lot of unnecessary or inappropriate connections.

“ ‘These cells talk to everybody—and everybody talks to everybody else,’ he said.

“Much of the confusion occurs in the frontal lobe of the brain, the part that is involved in planning, making decisions, controlling emotions and conveying ideas with language.

“ ‘These are all things the adolescents have trouble with,’ Mr. White said.

“But as the teenager begins to form habits of thought, behavior and speech—as choices are made and certain avenues in the brain take precedence over others—those paths become established while the unused ones weaken.

“So a lot depends on nurturing the teen with a healthy environment that is populated by peers and adults who model good choices.

“The tipping point, Mr. White said appears to be age 19. If you don’t become a user of tobacco or alcohol or drugs before 19, you probably won’t as an adult.”

—The Washington Times, November 28, 2003, p. A6