

• the journal



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summit
OXFORD

“Nevertheless He did not leave Himself without witness, in that He did good, gave us rain from heaven and fruitful seasons, filling our hearts with food and gladness.”—Acts 14:17

SUMMIT OXFORD UPDATE:

a word from Summit's Oxford program



Greetings from Oxford England and happy Thanksgiving to those back in the States. My family and I are disappointed once again to be overseas during Thanksgiving but nonetheless very fortunate to do God's work here in the U.K.

This term we have nine talented students devoted to living out and championing the Christian worldview in key areas such as the arts, law, and communications. To give you an update about what we are doing and the impact this program is having, I am including a short message from Isaac McPheeters, a Summit Oxford fellow from the University of Kansas.

Please keep the students and my family in your prayers as we strive to work diligently to transform this world for Christ.

— Kevin Bywater, Summit Oxford Director



Summit Oxford is unlike any academic experience I've ever undertaken. This program has been very stimulating and encouraging. Rather than limiting our sessions to a forty-five minute lecture, here we spend hours reading into the issues and additional hours wrestling through them in reflective and challenging conversation. Also, Kevin Bywater has orchestrated engaging discussions that often continue long after class.

One of the great benefits is the caliber of speakers from whom we hear. It's one thing to read an article by someone who was an advisor to Margaret Thatcher; it is quite another to discuss policy analysis with him. It is one thing to read an article by Alabama's State Climatologist; it is quite

another to speak with him about his work with the Inter-governmental Panel on Climate Change.

Living with other Summit students has been a huge privilege. At this point in our lives, we are each specialized enough in our fields that we can learn a great deal from each other. Our discussions on literature, economics, philosophy and art (and other topics) have been very stimulating. Our faith has been greatly edified. We are sure to be life-long friends.

The Oxford term thrusts us into a new journey as well. Our tutors have been excellent. Our time with them always is enjoyable, whether it is over tea in their homes or somewhere in Oxford city centre. We are able to put in the study time needed to gain a better grasp of the subjects. We write a lot, to be sure, but we also work through and build upon what we have written.

It's also great getting involved with other Oxford students. We have made friends who are native Brits and others who are foreign students. Everyone seems to enjoy discussing ideas and events, eager to learn and share their knowledge and opinions. Some of the best evangelistic and apologetic discussions have taken place in our college dining halls. It has been great to put our learning into practice in such an intense environment.

This Oxford experience has taught us how to learn, think, and share our convictions with others. It is one of the most important events of my academic career and Christian life.

— Isaac McPheeters, Autumn 2008, Summit Oxford Fellow

Under the tutelage of Oxford University faculty and the guidance of the Summit Oxford Director, this program equips and encourages a new generation of Christian scholars to be salt and light in the academy and throughout the culture. If you know capable and committed university students who could profit from a term at Summit Oxford, please let us know. If you desire to help finance this visionary program, please don't hesitate to contact us (see the reply device in this *Journal*).



from the PRESIDENT'S DESK

a word from Dr. Noebel

Happy Thanksgiving! This is an especially appropriate time of year to thank you for your faithfulness to Summit Ministries.

I often struggle to find the words that truly express my appreciation for all you do to help us make this vital ministry one of the best in the world. I especially appreciate Dr. James Dobson's evaluation—"I consider Summit Ministries to be one of the very best resources available, and I don't say that lightly."

Rather than use my own words, allow me to use the words of Scripture to express my thanksgiving to Summit's faithful friends—"I thank God for ever remembrance of you." This is exactly how I feel.

One Summit project your support makes possible is our high school curriculum entitled *Understanding the Times* (that we affectionately refer to as *UTT*). Recently I had the privilege of visiting James Valley Christian School in Huron, SD. I was so taken with their enthusiasm for what they were learning from *UTT* I jumped at the chance to have my picture taken with them.

One of their recent graduates, Susanna Hohm, also attended one of our 2-week student worldview conferences before she went off to college. Let me share some of what she said about the conference.

Attending Summit Ministries before I went to college was a significant de-

cision for my academic, personal, and spiritual growth. Summit brings together many of the nation's experts in lots of the areas that make up a worldview. A worldview colors everything we see around us. You, too, have a worldview, but do you know why you believe what you do? Why don't we believe what the world tells us? The instructors at Summit Ministries brought together evidence, research, and personal experience to arm me for a dangerous world and a deceiving foe. How will you carry out 2 Corinthians 10:4,5? "We demolish arguments and every high thing that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ."

I trust you find Susanna's words as encouraging as I do!

So again I thank you for helping us challenge thousands of teens to understand how the Christian worldview applies to every area of their lives. And may you have a blessed Thanksgiving!

Understanding The Times is used in hundreds of Christian high schools and homeschools around the world. If you're interested in either the book or the curriculum, you can find them available on our website or you can call us at 719-685-9103. Also, if you are looking for a great Christmas idea, we now have gift certificates available at our online store.



BACK ROW: Dr. Noebel, Courtney Cordell, Audrey Wipf, Mara Tschetter, Joshua Hofer, Ryan Peterson, Jeff Landstrom
FRONT ROW: Megan Holzemer, Mandi Decker, Jodi Gross, Christina Sprafke, Ashlie Horton

A LOOK AT OUR WORLD

highlights from this month's world news

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ENVIRONMENTALISM

Among the most egregious hypocrisies of the pseudo-environmentalist movement is 'recycling.' Neglecting to mention that recycling has always been standard practice in industry wherever it is practical, the enviros constantly promote high-profile in-our-face recycling as a form of interactive propaganda.

Americans are endlessly confronted, for example, with paper recycling—a wasteful activity that raises the cost and lowers the quality of American paper. Paper recycling also increases the incidence and severity of forest fires. Prior to this misguided practice, fire-enhancing forest undergrowth could be profitably removed because the paper industry provided a market for it.

When, however, recycling conflicts with their anti-technology, anti-American goals, the enviros are four-square against it.

"Let's Have Some Love for Nuclear Power" by William Tucker, *The Wall Street Journal*, July 21, 2008, p A13, summarizes the situation of 'nuclear waste' in this way. "Meanwhile, France has proved that reprocessing works. With a fully developed nuclear cycle, the French now store all of the waste from 30 years of producing 75% of its electricity beneath the floor of one room at La Hague in Normandy.

"Reprocessing" here means "recycling of nuclear fuel." The fuel rods of, for example, the Palo Verde nuclear power station contain pellets of nuclear fuel, about the size of small pencil erasers. Each of these tiny pellets releases, in the power plant, the electrical energy of about one ton of coal. This is one reason that nuclear power is safer than coal power. Much smaller amounts of material need be mined, processed, and transported.

Initially, the cylindrical rods filled with fuel pellets are benign. A person can handle them manually without danger. After, however, they have been in the reactor—where they release nuclear energy for approximately 1,500 days, the fuel rods are dangerously radioactive from reaction byproducts. After 1,500 days, the uranium fuel has declined sufficiently that they fuel pellets are replaced—one-third of the fuel rods being replaced every 500 days.

Currently, this spent fuel is stored in shielded containment facilities on the plant site—as it is similarly stored on site at all of America's nuclear power plants. The public is told—by politicians and enviros—that this spent fuel is a terrible 'nuclear waste' problem. Billions of dollars have been spent at Yucca Mountain in a, so far, failed effort to store it "safely"—with lawyer politicians presiding.

All of the stored fuel at Palo Verde, including its shielding, would fit in the backyard of our home, and we would be delighted to have it there—but this is not the primary point. This spent fuel can be profitably recycled into new fuel. The reaction byproducts can be chemically extracted and uranium can be added to bring the fuel concentration up to the needed level. The remaining radioactive materials are so minor in amount that their storage is trivial—as William Tucker points out.

The United States government, however—by Presidential edict from Jimmy Carter and later by regulatory suppression—has not allowed the building of an American reprocessing facility. The politicians prevent nuclear fuel recycling.

The entire "nuclear waste" problem—Yucca Mountain and all—is a political problem. It is technologically unnecessary.

While France generates 75% of its electricity from nuclear energy and also exports nuclear electricity to neighboring countries—with no nuclear waste problem, Americans are prevented by their enviro-intimidated politicians from recycling nuclear fuel.

Instead, Americans pay ridiculously high electric bills and dutifully waste their time recycling paper.

—*Access to Energy*, January 2008, p. 4

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Resurrection Today
The Bible As One Story

A LOOK AT OUR WORLD

highlights from this month's world news

Environmentalism, for example, no longer is content to conserve resources for posterity and protect pristine areas and endangered species, but seems increasingly dedicated to actively impeding human flourishing in the name of "saving the planet." The even more radical deep ecologists castigate the human race as a vermin species afflicting Gaia, and proponents yearn for a worldwide pandemic as the cure. The bioethics movement grows increasingly utilitarian, explicitly denying intrinsic human worth, with increasing support expressed in the most respectable and influential journals for antihumanistic agendas such as eugenic infanticide and abortion.

At the same time, euthanasia and assisted-suicide practices in the Netherlands have so detached that society from true humanism that their supreme courts issued decrees allowing access to assisted suicide to both the mentally ill and depressed. On the futuristic side of things, transhumanists long for a "singularity" that will use technology to spring-board the development of a master-race-like "posthuman" species. Meanwhile, many are losing sight of the crucial moral distinction between humans and animals. Indeed, the animal rights movement's fury against the speciesist use of animals—a necessary element for human flourishing, particularly in medical research—has increased to the point that scientists are now under threat of death by the most radical liberationists for daring to experiment on rats or monkeys to find cures for cancer and other human afflictions. The list goes on and on.

It seems to me that secularism is eating its own tail. If I am right, it will take a far deeper mind than mine to explain whether such nihilism is the inevitable consequence of the transcendent losing its hold on individuals and society. But surely this trend must be addressed by any author that expounds on, or indeed, extols a coming "secular age."

—Wesley J. Smith, *First Things*, October 2008, pp. 8–9



London, August 4 (ANI): New evidence uncovered by UK's Met Office has revealed that the world went through a period of global warming in the 1730s that could not have been man-made, as indicated by logs from the ships of Captain Cook and Lord Nelson.

According to a report in *The Sun*, the Met office scoured more than 6,000 Royal Navy logs dating from the 1600s. "Ships' officers recorded air pressure, wind strength, air and sea temperatures and other weather conditions. From these records, scientists can build a detailed picture of past weather and climate," said Maritime historian Dr. Sam Willis.

The findings are startling.

They show we went through a similar period of global warming in the 1730s that could not have been man-made. Freak storms like the ones experienced recently also occurred in the 1680s and 1690s. They were the coldest decades in what is known as the Little Ice Age—so could not have been caused by global warming.

Cook mapped much of the Pacific before he was killed in Hawaii in a clash with the natives in 1779. Nelson, who maintained his ships' logs himself, covered the Arctic, West Indies, south east Asia and Mediterranean before his death at the Battle Of Trafalgar off the coast of Spain in 1805. Other valuable records include those of the East India Company, which controlled much of the trade between Britain and Asia with its ships.

According to Geographer Dr. Dennis Wheeler, of Sunderland University, "British archives contain more than 100,000 Royal Navy logbooks from around 1670 to 1850 alone. They are a stunning resource."

ADULT CONFERENCES



Did you know that youth aren't the only ones who need worldview training? It's true; that's why we are proud to offer vital worldview training for adults as well as youth. Space is limited, so hurry and register today.

ADULT CONFERENCE: March 01–06, 2009
Glen Eyrie, Colorado Springs, CO

Educator Conference: July 05–10, 2009
Bryan College, Dayton, TN

Pastor Conference: July 21–26, 2009
Liberty University, Lynchburg, VA

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Global warming is a reality, but our data show climate science is complex. It is wrong to take particular events and link them to carbon dioxide emissions. These records will give us a much clearer picture of what is really happening,' he added. (ANI)

—Newstrackindia.com, August 4, 2008



ABORTION

Planned Parenthood, a self-styled "health care provider" and "informed educator" on women's sexual health, has been promoting abortion since its inception in 1916. This has had a devastating effect on America.

Since the 1973 Supreme Court decision *Roe v. Wade*, which overturned most state and federal laws outlawing or restricting abortion, an estimated 48.6 million babies have been aborted, according to the National Right to Life Committee. In particular, blacks are disproportionately impacted by abortion. Is Planned Parenthood deliberately acting to reduce the black population? Is it practicing a form of eugenics?

According to the Alan Guttmacher Institute, a nonprofit organization focused on sexual and reproductive health research, 13 percent of the U.S. population is black, but 37 percent of all abortions are performed on black women. More than 10 million black babies have been aborted since 1973. Black women are 4.8 times as likely as white women to have an abortion. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention also indicates that one out of every five white pregnancies ends in abortion, whereas one out of every two black pregnancies ends in abortion.

In a July op-ed in the *Wall Street Journal*, former Bush speechwriter and current *Journal* columnist William McGurn rightly called upon the NAACP to be more active in providing alternative organizations for pregnant black women—institutions that will support them rather than speedily eliminate the unborn. He cites the moving words of Alveda King, a niece of the Rev. Martin Luther King who had two abortions and subsequently changed her perspective: "I remember when I was pregnant and considering a third abortion. I went to Daddy King [her grandfather]. He told me, 'that's a baby, not a blob of tissue.' Unfortunately, 14 million African-Americans are not here today because of legalized abortion. It's as if a plague swept through America's cities and towns and took one of every four of us."

Fortunately, Miss King and others—such as the Rev. Clenard Childress, founder of Black Genocide.org, Day Garner of the National Black Pro-Life Union and Levon Yuille of the National Black Pro-Life Caucus—are bringing attention to Planned Parenthood's deliberate focus on minority neighborhoods. One-third of all abortions performed by Planned Parenthood's clinics are in minority neighborhoods.

A recent video on YouTube showed a Planned Parenthood development director eagerly taking money specifically to be earmarked for the elimination of black children. One caller said he wanted to do this because there are "definitely too many black people in Ohio." And the receptionist simply said, "O.K." Similar incidents in seven other states have sparked a call for congressional investigation of Planned Parenthood—and we concur.

Congress must also put an end to the \$300 million in tax dollars given last year to Planned Parenthood—the nation's leading abortion provider. The phone calls were made by California pro-life advocates in order to test the theory that Planned Parenthood deliberately targets the black population.

"Margaret Sanger, who founded what is now Planned Parenthood, wrote a letter in 1939 to Clarence Gamble, with whom she was partnering to promote birth control and abortions in the black community: "We should hire three or four colored ministers, preferably with social service backgrounds, and with engaging personalities. The most successful educational approach to the Negro is through a religious appeal. We do not want the word to go out that we want to exterminate the Negro population, and the minister is the man who can straighten out that idea if it ever occurs to any of their more rebellious members."

In a protest outside a Planned Parenthood office in April, the Rev. Jesse Peterson, a conservative black minister from Los Angeles, told the crowd 'before you go to bed tonight, more than 1,500 babies will be killed in a black woman's womb.'

SUMMIT SPEAKERS

DR. DAVID NOEBEL

Jan. 10–20, 2009: Summit Australia

March 01–06, 2009: Summit Adult's Conference.

Glen Eyrie, Colorado Springs, CO

JOHN STONESTREET

Jan. 18–25: Compass Conference

Jan. 29: World Changers Summit. Minneapolis, MN.

Jan. 30–Feb. 01: Worldview and Life Senior Retreat,

Bryan College, Dayton, TN.

Feb. 06: Moody Bible Institute Founder's Week.

Chicago, IL.

Feb. 07: LifeAbove Conference. Denver, CO.

Feb. 27–28, 2009: The Fish Weekend. Signal

Mountain Pres. Church, Signal Mountain, TN.

March 16–18, 2009: Impact 360. Pine Mountain, GA

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Planned Parenthood has also been accused of targeting other minority groups, including Hispanics, Asians and Native Americans. Approximately 30 percent of American women are nonwhite. However, according to the Alan Guttmacher Institute, 60 percent of all abortions performed annually are on African American, Hispanic and Asian women. A Hispanic baby, for example, is three times more likely to be aborted than a white baby. Abortion rates among Asian women are twice that of white women. Planned Parenthood insists it does not target nonwhites. Defenders of Planned Parenthood argue that the disproportionate rate of abortions among nonwhite women is due to the fact that white women have less "unintended pregnancies."

Abortion is a tragedy regardless of the ethnic or racial composition of the victim. But when a specific population is targeted for elimination, it is an abomination. Congress should stiffen its moral spine."

—*The Washington Times*, August 25, 2008 p. A14

\$ ECONOMICS

With all the news about economic woes, you will not be glad to learn that Planned Parenthood is doing just fine. The organization is "flush with cash," reports the *Wall Street Journal*, having topped one billion dollars in 2007 revenues, including \$336 million in taxpayer funding. Its Action Fund is putting \$10 million into electing pro-abortion candidates, which ensures continuing government handouts, and it is doing a makeover of its 882 clinics with a "contemporary, fun, and lively look." Said a Planned Parenthood official, the change makes their work "so much more mainstream." Planned Parenthood perpetrates one out of every four abortions committed in the United States.

—*First Things*, October 2008, p. 71–72

Federal Budget Deficit: At present, the public debt, including unfunded future liabilities, stands at a staggering \$53 trillion, which breaks down as follows:

- \$11 trillion: Treasury debt (e.g., bonds) of which 44% is held by foreigners.
- \$7 trillion: Social Security obligations.
- \$34 trillion: Medicare obligations (including \$8 trillion for the new prescription drug plan, which we originally were told was going to save money!).
- \$1 trillion: Miscellaneous.

Savings Deficit: Americans now spend more than their income, fueling their consumption binge by taking on ever more credit card debt. The last time Americans had a negative saving rate

was during the early years of the Great Depression.

—*The New American*, September 15, 2008, p. 26–28

The FDIC's list has only 117 institutions with \$78 billion in assets. But given the current proposal for a \$700 billion bailout, it is clear that Administration officials tacitly recognize that the FDIC list understates the problem. There are many more financial institutions at risk or in need of assistance with their toxic paper.

How many more? We believe a more accurate count comes from our analysis of: (a) the derivative risks assumed by major banks, (b) the mortgage holdings of the largest regional banks and (c) all banks and thrifts with TheStreet.com's financial strength rating of D+ (weak) or lower. Based on this analysis, we believe:

- 1,479 FDIC member banks are at risk of failure with total assets of \$2.4 trillion.
- In addition, 158 savings and loans are at risk with \$756 billion in assets.
- In sum, banks and S&Ls at risk have assets of \$3.2 trillion, or over 36 times the assets of banks on the FDIC's watch list.

These numbers alone indicate that the \$700 billion contemplated for the bailout plan could be severely inadequate.

—Martin D. Weiss, *Money and Markets*, September 22, 2008

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GIVE THROUGH YOUR IRA

In order to help charities further their good work, Congress recently changed the rules for charitable gifts made from individual retirement accounts (IRA). If you are over age 70 1/2, the Federal government now permits you to rollover amounts from your IRA to charity without claiming any increased income or paying any additional tax.

These tax-free rollover gifts could be \$1,000, \$10,000 or any amount up to \$100,000 in one year. This gift counts towards your 2008 minimum required distribution and is not subject to federal income tax.

Help train teenagers to think from a Christian perspective while avoiding additional taxes. Contact your custodian and request an amount be transferred directly from your IRA to Summit Ministries today.



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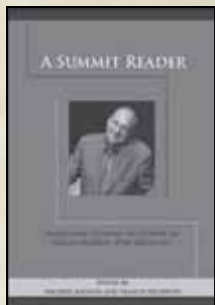
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UPCOMING CONFERENCE

LiveAbove College Transition Event

Summit is proud to be a partner with the Youth Transition Network in conducting LiveAbove, a national transition event for college-bound high school juniors and seniors.

On February 7th and 9th, the LiveAbove event will be simulcasted to locations across the country so that anyone anywhere can participate.

This fast-paced, interactive event prepares students for the challenges college students face in their first weeks on campus.

Every student registering for the event will receive follow up after LiveAbove by the local ministry leaders at the college they plan to attend.

Make sure the college-bound students you know don't miss the event. Your school, church, or organization can sign up to be a host site for this important event. Please visit LiveAbove.com.

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