

# **Henry M. Morris**

1918–2006

“Redeeming the Time”

Ephesians 5:16

Dear Christian friend,

*“The LORD gave, and the LORD hath taken away; blessed be the name of the LORD”* (Job 1:21).

As you’ve probably heard by now, my father, Dr. Henry Morris, ICR’s Founder, is now with his Creator/Savior. He has no doubt heard those cherished words, *“Well done, thou good and faithful servant. . . . enter thou into the joy of thy lord”* (Matthew 25:21).

He passed away peacefully on Saturday, February 25, at 6:30 p.m. He had suffered a cycle of strokes over the previous two weeks which had left him impaired and aching for heaven. In fact to visit him in the hospital or rehab center was to talk about heaven. His eyes had long been firmly fixed on that goal. He had served God faithfully for many years and knew the time of his departure was at hand.

A plaque had been strategically placed on his office wall for 50 years which proclaimed simply, “Perhaps Today!” Perhaps today is the day of salvation, perhaps today is the day of some breakthrough, perhaps today is the day of death, perhaps today the Lord will return. It kept his focus on important things. His life was lived by the dictum *“Redeeming the time, because the days are evil”* (Ephesians 5:16). A review of his many accomplishments underscores his reluctance to waste one moment or utter one idle word.



On behalf of the family let me ask that you rejoice with us. His was a life well lived, fruitful in His service. His personal life was wholly committed to God’s Word and a Biblical lifestyle, with no wavering and no dallying in sin. He has always been an example to us of a real Christian, and God has blessed him with fruit which will last for eternity, and allowed him to change the world. The Lord has taken him; Blessed be the name of the Lord!

A memorial service for him was held at Shadow Mountain Community Church near San Diego on Thursday March 2, 4:00 p.m. Long time colleagues Dr. Tim LaHaye and Dr. John Whitcomb joined my brother Dr. Henry Morris III and me to lead the time of celebration. Dr. D. James Kennedy offered a touching tribute via CD. Over 2000 friends, many from great distances, attended.

Many readers of this letter will feel a special connection to him, for he has touched so many lives, through his public speaking and writing ministries. His wisdom has fueled not only the entire creation movement, but also the Biblical inerrancy, Christian school and home school movements as well.

He was a gentle man, always exhibiting Christian character. Nevertheless, he always seemed to be in a battle. This came from his absolute, unswerving commitment to the Scriptures, and when he saw a need, he moved to fill it. He not only founded ICR, but co-founded Christian Heritage College (now San Diego Christian College), started a church in Blacksburg, Virginia, wrote the study helps for the Gideon Bibles



and their discipleship workbooks, and helped found a Christian/creationist college accreditation association to name just some of his accomplishments. Of course he had to administer and serve in these various entities. He was also an involved “church” man, actively involved in his local church wherever he lived, and of course a dedicated family man, with six children, seventeen grandchildren, currently nine great grandchildren, and his beloved wife of sixty-six years, Mary Louise.

His first stroke rendered him unable to stand, and put him in a rehab facility. There he witnessed to everyone, and often spoke of heaven. Oh how he wanted to go. Progress was slow, but then another stroke left him unable to swallow, and firmly fixed his eyes above. Doctors said he was in imminent danger of a final stroke. His mind and pen were not impaired, and he kept up his correspondence and writing. His humor never left him either. Noting that baseball season was starting he saw his situation in a similar vein. “Three strokes and you’re out,” he exclaimed. He said this without fear, and prayed for God to take him soon. He had always hoped he would live until Christ returned, and still anticipated the rapture of the saints, even as he put his final affairs in order.

All of his children had seen him in the days just before or after his first stroke, except one. My sister Mary arrived just three hours before he passed, and he was as alert as ever. He fell asleep that evening and peacefully, but no doubt joyously entered his Savior’s presence. He died as only a Christian can die, with full confidence in his Redeemer, and with no fear of his future, for it is not unknown.

The family thanks you for your concern and love for him and his message, and we much appreciate your role in continuing his work and passion. Because of one man’s submission to his Lord, the world will never be the same. Our mission now is to “*continue in the things which thou has learned*” (II Timothy 3:14).

Yours for the Master,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John D. Morris". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

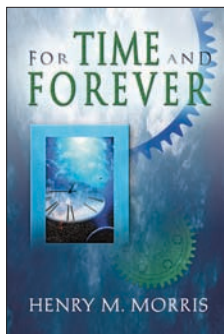
*Ps. 33:16 (my father's favorite 'creation' verse)*

John D. Morris  
President

## **A Personal Testimony** **Excerpted from:** ***For Time and Forever***

I have been promoting scientific Biblical creationism for at least sixty years, but it was not always so. I was more or less satisfied with theistic evolution for the first 25 years, but that all changed when I started teaching at Rice Institute (now Rice University) back during World War II.

As a young Christian, I felt the need to begin an intense study of both Scripture and evolutionism in order to acquire a clear conviction about origins. During my previous college days, at the same institution, indoctrination in evolution had been the norm, but attending a strong Baptist church after graduation, plus joining the Gideon ministry, had convinced me of the divine authority of the Bible, so this conflict had to be resolved.



*His last major book.  
He considered it his most important.*

And it *was* resolved, decidedly. The Bible was true, and evolution false! This had become to me not simply a matter of faith, as many would maintain, but of true science and history. The evidences for Biblical inerrancy

were seen to be vast and sound, whereas evolutionism was unscientific and based essentially on the presupposition of total naturalism.

That conviction changed my life, and indeed has become stronger and stronger ever since.

### **The Two Mandates**

I had majored in civil engineering at Rice and then had worked for three years with the International Boundary and Water Commission as a junior engineer. Then Rice officials unexpectedly called me back to teach the Navy students that had been sent there to study engineering, before going off to war. Trying to witness about Christ and salvation to these scientifically minded students had, in fact, provided the stimulus to begin that study of science and Christianity in the first place.

My choice of engineering as a major had not been for spiritual reasons, but for economic reasons. I don't think I had even prayed about it—as I've tried to do for every important decision since. But apparently God was leading anyway!

I soon reached the strong conviction that civil engineering had been an ideal background for studying evolution and the Bible, and for doing useful service for the Lord in general. The practitioners of so-called "pure science" (physics, biology, etc.) seek to understand how nature works and to organize it in terms of natural "laws" and "processes." But "applied scientists" (engineers, medical doctors, etc.) then use the results obtained from pure science to produce structures, products, systems, etc., which benefit mankind. Pure science often involved theorizing, and





Chinese Tour Group, 1982.

even metaphysical speculation. To the engineer, however, the science has to *work*. His designs must be tested. One cannot just theorize about the size of a beam or the stresses of an engine.

I have since come to realize that both the pure and applied sciences are basic in carrying out God's very first command to the human beings He had created. That command, found in Genesis 1:26–28, but also expanded, expounded and amplified in later Scriptures, has come to be known as God's "dominion mandate." In it, God has made mankind the steward of God's physical and animal creations, giving men and women "*dominion*" over all the earth.

In exercising this dominion, the earth and its processes must first be understood; this is the domain of so-called pure science. But then applying this knowledge in useful systems is the domain of applied science, and this is at least as vital in "*subduing*" the earth and "*having dominion*" over it as simply knowing about it.

Christians often fail to realize their own ongoing responsibility in this connection. Engineers and geologists, doctors and lawyers, teachers and technicians, businessmen and housewives, all are responsible to function under the Dominion Mandate in whatever ways

are appropriate for their vocation. Christians especially should not forget to serve as faithfully in their secular jobs as they would if they were pastors or missionaries. The Scriptures often stress this obligation: "*Whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men*" (Colossians 3:23). "*Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might*" (Ecclesiastes 9:10).

In my own case, I spent about three and one-half years in civil engineering work (both designer and construction) plus a number of later consulting jobs, then some 28 years teaching civil engineering (many different subjects) at five secular universities, the last 13 years as department chairman of what eventually became the third largest civil engineering department in the nation. Although not thinking then much about the Dominion Mandate, I did feel responsible as a Christian to do the best job possible in practicing and teaching engineering. I tried also to teach my students—whether Christian or non-Christian—to develop the same motivation.

I had also become very much aware of Christ's so-called Great Commission—the command to believers to "*preach the gospel to every creature*" (Mark 16:15). Therefore, while trying



Drs. Duane Gish and Henry Morris.



Dr. Morris speaking in Hong Kong.

to do a good job in engineering, I also tried to witness for Christ to students and others whenever suitable opportunities appeared. This concern eventually led also to writing books on science and the Bible; my first seven books on such topics were written while still teaching engineering (I also wrote five significant engineering books during those years). Teaching and writing, of course, are key components in carrying out the Dominion Mandate and the Great Commission.

We should, in fact, actually view the Great Commission as a second great worldwide mandate, this one to be carried out specifically by Christians rather than by mankind in general. Call it the “Missionary Mandate” or some such name, and regard it as supplementary, though vitally important, to the Dominion Mandate.

Christian believers, obviously, are responsible for both. In fact, Christ should be Lord of all creation as well as of His individual followers. He not only created the entire world, but even now is “upholding all things by the word of His power” (Hebrews 1:3). The entire creation is currently under God’s curse because of sin and therefore in bondage to Satan. God has promised, however, that “*the [creation] itself shall also be*

*delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God*” (Romans 8:21).

The redemption price is the shed blood of the Son of Man. As the one perfect Lamb of God, He “*taketh away the sin of the world*” (John 1:29), and in the renewed Earth which God will create after this one fades away, “*there shall be no more curse*” (Revelation 22:3).

In that future world, the Missionary Mandate will no longer be necessary, because all its inhabitants will be happily serving the Lord, and “*there shall in no wise enter into it any thing that defileth*” (Revelation 21:27).

But in all probability the Dominion Mandate will not only still be in effect, but may well be extended to apply to the whole universe, not merely this Earth. God surely had a purpose in creating the myriads and myriads of stars and other marvelous things scattered throughout the infinite reaches of space. Our physical bodies will have been changed to be “*fashioned like unto His glorious body*” (Philippians 3:21), and we, as “*His servants shall serve Him*” (Revelation 22:3) in an infinite variety of meaningful job assignments, based in some yet-to-be clarified criteria on our faithfulness in serving Him here in this life.

He has told us, intriguingly, that “*Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love Him*” (I Corinthians 2:9). We may be able, however, to sense some of these, “*by His Spirit*” (I Corinthians 2:10), and I, at least, like to think about having an eternity of time



*Passing The Torch Conference, 2002,  
Calvary Chapel, Costa Mesa, CA.*

to explore and develop and enjoy the endless marvels of His infinite creation.

Even in this life and this world, we who are Christians have the wonderful challenge of “*bringing into captivity every thought* [and, by extension, every product of those thoughts] *to the obedience of Christ*” (II Corinthians 10:5), which in effect would involve merging both the Dominion Mandate and the Missionary Mandate into one great Kingdom Mandate.

We should not only seek to win scientists and musicians and businessmen to Christ, but also to lead the very disciplines of science and music and business to obey and honor Christ. Have Christians not been praying through the centuries: “*Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven*” (Matthew 6:10)?

These great themes may exceed our imaginations in this world, but we have much yet to do even here in carrying out the two mandates. Right *now*, we

all have been commanded to “*have dominion*” over all the earth and “*over every living thing that moveth upon the earth*” (Genesis 1:26, 28). Beyond that, we Christians have been commanded to witness for Christ as Creator, Redeemer, and coming King “*unto the uttermost part of the earth*” (Acts 1:8). There is much yet to do, right now!

## **The City with Foundations**

The Bible promises a wonderful city as the future home of the righteous (that is, those to whom has been imputed the perfect righteousness of the Lord Jesus Christ, who had created them and then suffered and died in their place to redeem them forever).

That future city is called “*the holy city, new Jerusalem.*” The apostle John, supernaturally translated in his spirit into the future by the Holy Spirit, was permitted to see that city “*coming down from God out of heaven*” (Revelation 21:2) to the new Earth: “*for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away*” (Revelation 21:1). He then proceeded, in the last two chapters of the Bible, to describe the wonders of that great city where we shall dwell someday.

He promised His followers that He would “*go and prepare a place for you, . . . that where I am, there ye may be also*” (John 14:3). Perhaps it is almost ready, for many signs indicate His coming is near.

And indeed, when He comes back as He said He would, “*so shall we ever be with the Lord.*” That will be the most blessed aspect of our future home. But we shall also see again all those who have preceded us to their present heavenly home, for when He comes, we

*“shall be caught up together with them . . . to meet the Lord in the air”* (I Thessalonians 4:17).

At my highly advanced age (85 as of this writing), most of my friends are already there, as are my parents, my two brothers, and even my son Andy, so I’m happily looking forward to being there, too, whether at the Lord’s personal return or through physical death before His coming. And that beautiful city and home are also awaiting me there!

Long before the Lord Jesus was here on earth, His ancient followers, such as Abraham, also, *“looked for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God”* (Hebrews 11:10). Therefore, God was *“not ashamed to be called their God: for He hath prepared for them a city”* (Hebrews 11:16).

The city as a whole will be marvelous in size and beauty. It is also called *“Paradise.”* The paradise of Eden will be restored and made even better than at first (note Luke 23:43; II Corinthians 12:4; Revelation 2:7)! The *“tree of life”* will be there—not a single tree as in Eden, but many such trees, lining the banks of a great river emerging from the throne of the Lamb (Revelation 22:1–2).

In size, the city will be a tremendous cube, 12,000 furlongs on each side. The word “furlong” is from the Greek *stadios*; this works out to mean that the city is about 1,380 miles long, wide and high (see Revelation 21:16). The *“streets”* of the city, like the city itself, are of pure transparent gold, like pure glass (Revelation 21:18, 21). These must be both horizontal and vertical streets, the latter presumably somewhat like elevator shafts. There

will be no need for “lifts,” of course, nor even for automobiles or carriages of any kind. Our new bodies will enable us to travel very swiftly throughout all levels of the city and even throughout the universe. Christ will have transformed *“our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto His glorious body”* (Philippians 3:21), so we will probably be able to go easily and quickly wherever He can go.

Now all this is admittedly hard to visualize or even imagine. It would be very hard to believe at all, if it were not for the fact that our Lord Jesus Christ (who created the universe itself) is building the city. Our mighty cosmos, with its incredible size and infinite complexity, also would be impossible to imagine had He Himself not created it and then given us the Mandate to study it, describe it, use it, and have dominion over it.

Speaking of this universe, the Bible makes it clear that the stars and other components of the cosmos will never pass away (e.g., Psalm 148:1–6). God is not capricious, so must have a purpose for everything He has created. Since we know from astronomy as well as the Bible that *“one star differeth from another star in glory”* (I Corinthians 15:41), the purpose for each star must be unique to itself, and, therefore, so must also its structure and functions be different from all others.

Although I like to believe that God’s primeval Mandate to have dominion over the earth may be enlarged eventually to cover the whole creation, would it not be a wonderful future to be able to travel to distant stars and planets, explore them, and then write



about the nature and uniqueness in God's plan for a book in God's library? Others could read our reports, and we could read theirs, and all would still further increase our awe at God's great creation and our love and devotion to Him.

The universe and its intricate complexities are infinite, and the time to study them will be endless. "*O the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! how unsearchable are His judgments, and His ways past finding out!*" (Romans 11:33). We shall never lack for challenging, enjoyable, and useful work to do in these ages to come.

I am personally looking forward not only to learning more about God's creation but also just resting for a while! And not only to seeing loved ones and old friends again and sharing with them all our (and their) experiences, but also getting to meet and talk with Noah, and Elijah, and John the Baptist, and Timothy, and all our other heroes of the faith, and then eventually to meet and know all the saints of all the ages. What wonderful times of fellowship, as well as service, await us in that beautiful city soon coming down.

It is also fascinating to note that the Bible apparently predicts more than just one future age. The apostle Paul refers at least twice to *ages* yet to come. I love especially the promise of Ephesians 2:7—"*That in the ages to come He might shew the exceeding riches of His grace in His kindness toward us through Christ Jesus.*" Then there is the great doxology of Ephesians 3:21—"*Unto Him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Amen.*"

## Occupying until He Comes

Each man and every woman is destined to spend the coming future age either in the lake of fire or else headquartered in the new Jerusalem, the promised city with sure foundations—hell or heaven. The decision as to which it will be is to be made personally by each individual, by either rejecting (or neglecting) Christ's wonderful gift of forgiveness and salvation or else by volitionally coming to Him in true repentance and faith.

That decision must be made while in this life, of course, and no one knows how long that opportunity will last. Sooner or later, either Christ will come or death will come—and that will be that! The Lord Jesus has promised to return someday to bring this age to a glorious and triumphant climax, and then to bring in that wonderful future age, with its new Earth and its fantastic capital city, the new Jerusalem.

But that is not all. Two important parables (that of the talents in Matthew 25:14–30 and that of the pounds in Luke 19:11–27) promise rewards for pragmatic faithfulness and diligence in carrying out Christ's work here on Earth while He is away in heaven and "occupying" until He returns. These rewards have their fulfillment in "*the kingdom of heaven*" (Matthew 25:14) or "*the kingdom of God*" (Luke 19:11), both surely having to do with the age to come.

Then note that the rewards for faithfulness are threefold. First (and this to me would be the most gratifying) will be the joy of hearing the Lord say: "*Well done, thou good and faithful servant*" (Matthew 25:21, 23). Second,

there will be an assignment in the future age somehow related specifically to our service in this age. *“Thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things”* (Matthew 25:21, 23). In the parallel parable of the pounds, the *“many things”* are specifically called *“cities”* over which the recipient is to *“have authority”* (Luke 19:17). Finally, the faithful servants will be told: *“Enter thou into the joy of thy Lord”* (Matthew 25:21, 23).

These rewards clearly apply to the future age and to our future service for our Creator and Savior in that age. Remember also that the last chapter of the Bible says that in that age: *“And there shall be no more curse: . . . and His servants shall serve Him: And they shall see His face; and His name shall be in their foreheads”* (Revelation 22:3–4).

The particular service will no doubt be assigned to each individual by the Lord Himself (as in the parable). Obviously, not all His servants can be assigned to rule over a number of cities, but the principle of relatedness will apply—that is, our future service will somehow relate to our former service here on this present Earth. Furthermore, the rewards are not to be based on *quantity* of results in our work here, but *quality*. *“Every man’s work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man’s work of what sort it is”* (I Corinthians 3:13).

*What sort it is, not how much it is!* For example, a woman who has been a faithful wife and mother, a *“virtuous*

*woman”* such as described in Proverbs 31:10–31, consistent also in daily life and witness to the saving gospel of Christ, might well be given a future assignment commensurate to that of a great scientist or a great evangelist. A dedicated Christian teacher could well be honored as much as a famous pastor, and a sacrificial witnessing shopkeeper as much as a faithful missionary. The Lord no doubt, as the *“Judge of all the earth”* will be careful to *“do right”* (Genesis 18:25) with His rewards.

The world will certainly be different in a multitude of ways, yet there will be a definite continuity of sorts. The earth and the heavens will be essentially unchanged, except that all the effects of sin and the Curse will be gone, and righteousness and divine love will be manifest everywhere. We don’t need to know any of the details at this point in time. It is enough to know that He has promised to *“shew the exceeding riches of His grace”* through Christ Jesus to us *“in the ages to come”* (Ephesians 2:7).

Right now, it is simply our responsibility to *“occupy”* until He comes. Each of us as a Christian believer has been given specific work to do under both the Dominion Mandate and the



Missionary Mandate, so we need to be doing it, and doing it “with [our] might” (Ecclesiastes 9:10) as “to the Lord” (Colossians 3:23). “Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God” (I Corinthians 10:31).

Whatever God’s calling may have been for each of us, we can and should use it as our personal contribution to the implementation of the Dominion Mandate and also such opportunities as are available to witness for Christ, as He commissioned in His Missionary Mandate. As Christians, we have a direct commitment to both, under Christ our Creator and Savior.

This double responsibility implies a lifelong commitment to study—both of God’s Word and also of His world—or at least that part of it which relates directly to our particular calling. Scientists, technologists, and educators would certainly seem to have very great responsibility under the Dominion Mandate—perhaps even more than those in most other fields. To “have dominion” over God’s creation requires knowledge about it, first of all, and this implies the work of research scientists. Then to use that knowledge in actually exercising that dominion requires the development of structures, machines, and other systems by engineers and other technologists. Then teachers, of course, must transmit the knowledge gained by the scientists and developed by the technologists from generation to generation.

But then we are also each to obey the Missionary Mandate as well. If Christians are indeed to “preach the gospel to every creature” (Mark 16:15), then it is



*Passing The Torch Conference, 2002.*

crystal clear that every Christian must be doing it. One can “preach the gospel” to one person or to a congregation of thousands, but it must be the true gospel being preached! Therefore, every Christian needs to know the gospel thoroughly, with answers to the various questions and objections that people tend to raise. This also requires life-long study, not just by professional theologians but by every serious Christian believer. Certainly he must be thoroughly acquainted with the truths about Jesus Christ—especially His finished work on the cross and then the impregnable evidence for His resurrection. More study!

He must also know the arguments of the great Adversary, and how to deal with him. These cluster around the philosophy of evolution, which is Satan’s attempt to explain the world without God and even ultimately to take the place of God as supreme ruler of the universe. But evolutionism is not only utterly contrary to God’s Word, but also vacuous scientifically and deadly spiritually. It is utterly contrary to all the solid data of biology,

geology, astronomy, psychology, and every other natural or social science. It is Satan's grandest deception, and must be rejected and exposed as the deadly delusion it is, by Christians everywhere.

This age-long war between God and Satan will all end when Christ comes again and the future ages begin. Soon will come the great separation, with multitudes dispatched to a fearsome home completely separated from the light and love and grace of God, the place called in the Bible the "lake of fire."

But there will also be "a great multitude, which no man could number, of all nations, and kindreds, and people, and tongues," who will stand before Christ in that day (Revelation 7:9) and who will be led by Him "unto living fountains of waters," where God Him-

self "shall wipe away all tears from their eyes" (Revelation 7:17).

I have touched on many subjects in this book, and there is much, much more that *could* be written about each of them. But I hope that each reader will at least be a little better able to comprehend in some measure and appreciate in greater measure this wonderful plan of God in creation. We do need to think way beyond our own little situation and our own personal salvation to see something of God's great plan for all of us in the ages to come. We must somehow learn to view things from *His* magnificent perspective, not just from our own very localized and limited point of view. His wonderful plan ranges all through time and all the endless ages to come. And—wonder of all wonders—we shall be there, too!



The Morris family, Christmas, 1986.



## Bits of Early History

by John D. Morris

In 1918 a young boy was born to a young lady trapped in a failing marriage. Although a member of First Baptist Church in downtown Dallas, she was unskilled in Scripture and untaught in spiritual matters.

About that time the well-known evangelist, R. A. Torrey, held a series of meetings at First Baptist Church. The pastoral staff made him aware of this unfortunate young mother and with the pastor, R. A. Torrey traveled across town to pay her a visit. There, after encouraging her in the Lord, he gathered the young boy into his arms, held him up toward heaven and prayed a most fervent prayer. He prayed that the boy would quickly come to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ, acknowledge Him as Savior and Lord, and that he would grow to be mighty in faith and strong in the knowledge of the Scriptures. He prayed that he would become a faithful warrior for the King and that God would use him in a mighty way. That young lad was Henry Morris.

After two more brothers were born, the father deserted them all, leaving them to face the Great Depression with no visible means of support. As soon as he was old enough Henry was

selling newspapers on the street corners of Houston helping his mother earn enough money to put food on the table. For a time they lived in the attic of a building with only a tin roof to separate them from the hot Texas sun. The mother's extreme poverty led her to send her oldest son, young Henry, to live with his grandmother for awhile. A Godly woman, she told him of the Lord and how his sins could be forgiven through the blood of Jesus Christ on the cross, and gave him his first Bible.

Young Henry was a studious boy, excelling in school; he quickly began to devour the Scriptures believing what he read but remained rather untaught.

His scholastic excellence allowed him to obtain a full scholarship to Rice Institute, otherwise there would have been no college training. The science department at Rice University, was at that time dominated by the famous



*A visit to Rice University, 1982.*

atheist evolutionist Julian Huxley and Henry became an evolutionist although still a nominal Christian.

His first professional job was in El Paso, Texas, where he got involved in a good church and joined the Gideons. There he fully fell in love with the





*Drs. John Whitcomb and Henry Morris.*

Scriptures even memorizing great portions and saw its power in transforming lives. The origins issue nagged at him but was put aside.

During WWII Rice University afforded him the option of a teaching position instead of joining the Navy as an Engineer in the Seabees. At Rice he would train Navy seamen in the engineering skills they would need in the war effort.

As he tried to witness to these dear souls who so soon would travel overseas into harm's way he found that evolution was a serious stumbling block to their accepting Christ as Savior. He vowed to find answers to these questions, thus strengthening the Christian's witness.



*Drs. Morris and LaHaye with Mary Louise and Beverly.*

At that time there were almost no creation books available, certainly none written from a scientific perspective. He rightly discerned that the key to creation/evolution was the great Flood of Noah's day for it had shaped the surface of the entire globe, and determined as soon as possible to return to graduate school and get further training in hydraulic engineering to understand the power of Noah's Flood. This led to a fruitful engineering career but also to the publication of many books, including *The Genesis Flood*, which for the first time presented a serious scientific defense of the Biblical worldview.

Notoriety from this book gave him opportunities to speak in numerous locations, both on secular campuses and Christian conferences. In 1969, while a professor at Virginia Tech he was asked to speak at the R. A. Torrey Memorial Conference at Biola University and there he met an energetic young preacher by the name of Tim LaHaye. LaHaye was seeking to start a Bible college in the San Diego area and asked Henry Morris to join him in this endeavor. The answer was yes under the condition that the college be a liberal arts college with science majors and which would develop its whole curriculum around a creationist worldview. Furthermore, its science staff would comprise a creationist think tank which would research and disseminate creation information. Thus was started Christian Heritage College (now San Diego Christian College), and the Institute for Creation Research. Without a doubt, R. A. Torrey's prayer for a young boy has been answered in many ways. Things will never be the same.



*Dedication of ICR's educational building, 2000.*

Several items had been pasted into the flyleaf of his Bible he used for many years, which had energized and motivated him. One of them was a quote from Martin Luther. He too had stood almost alone against an establishment in opposition to Scripture. His mindset of “Sola Scriptura” energized both of them in their work. This quote was used often in lectures and in his writings.

“If I profess with the loudest voice and clearest expression every portion of the truth of God except precisely that little point which the world and the devil are at that moment attacking, I am not confessing Christ, however boldly I may be professing Christ. Where the battle rages, there the loyalty of the soldier is proved, and to be steady on all the battlefield besides, is mere flight and disgrace, if he flinches at that point.”

Martin Luther

## Favorite Scripture Passages

Psalm 33:6

Psalm 119:89

Isaiah 40:28–31

Jeremiah 32:17

Romans 12:1–2

II Timothy 4:1–8

I Peter 3:15



Another tattered piece in his well-worn Bible was a tract by G. D. Watson *Others May, You Cannot!* As you read it, picture him on a debate platform, where the evolutionist opposite would ridicule him and the crowd would jeer. He always answered with meekness and kindness, and always won the day, as well as the hearts of many in the audience.

## Others May, You Cannot!

If God has called you to be really like Jesus, He will draw you into a life of crucifixion and humility, and put upon you such demands of obedience, that you will not be able to measure yourself by other Christians; and in many ways He will seem to let other good people do things which He will never let you do.

Other Christians and ministers who seem very religious and useful, can push themselves, pull wires and work schemes to carry out their Christian goals, but these things you simply cannot do. Others may boast of their work or their writings or their success, but the Holy Spirit will not allow you to do any such thing, and if you ever try it, He will lead you into some deep mortification that will make you despise yourself and all your good works.

Others may be allowed to succeed in making money, but most likely God will keep you poor, because He wants you to have something far better than gold, namely, a helpless dependence on Him and the joy of seeing Him supply your needs day by day out of an unseen Treasury.

The Lord may let others be honored and keep you hidden and unappreciated because He wants to produce some choice, fragrant fruit for His coming glory, which can only be produced in the shade. He may let others do a work for Him and get the credit for it, but He will make you work on and on without knowing how much you are doing; and then, to make your work still more precious, He may let others get the credit for the work which you have done, and thus make your reward ten times greater when Jesus comes.

The Holy Spirit will rebuke you for little words or deeds or even feelings, or for wasting your time, which other Christians never seem to be concerned about, but you must make up your mind that God is an infinite Sovereign and He has a right to do whatever He pleases with His own. He may not explain to you a thousand things which puzzle your reason in the way He deals with you, but if you will just submit yourself to Him in all things, He will wrap you up in a jealous love and bestow upon you many blessings which come only to those who are very near to His heart.

Settle it, then, that He is to have the privilege of tying your tongue, or chaining your hand, or closing your eyes, in ways that He does not seem to use with others. Now, when you are so possessed with the living God that your secret heart becomes pleased and delighted with this peculiar, personal, private, jealous guardianship and management of the Holy Spirit over your life, then you will have entered the very vestibule of heaven itself.

G. D. Watson 1845–1924