

**Schedule of Meeting Times:**

WKAC 1080 AM Sunday 7:30 AM  
*Speaker, Robert Emerson*  
 Study Sunday 10:00 AM  
 Worship Sunday Morn 11:00 AM  
 Worship Sunday Eve 5:00 PM  
*Singing every 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday evening*  
 Study Wednesday 7:00 PM

**Preacher / bulletin editor:**

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*"I will set no worthless thing before my eyes; I hate the work of those who fall away; It shall not fasten its grip on me."*

— Psalm 101:3

**Servants during April:**

**Songleader:** Larry (4), David (11), Peter (18), Stanley (25)

**Reading:** David

**Announcements:** Marty

**Table:** Mike B, Larry, Mike M, Stanley

**Wednesday Lesson:** Bill Hall (7), Kris (14),

Larry (21), Stanley (28)

**Lawn Mowing:** Stanley (4), Robert (11),

Larry (18), Kris (25)

**Hays Mill church of Christ**

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# The Bible . Examiner

*"Examine everything carefully..." —1 Thessalonians 5:21 NASB*

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## The Pattern for Personal Apostasy

*By Dee Bowman*

It seems to me that even evil follows a predictable pattern. I have seen one or two persons, on rare occasions, suddenly and unexpectedly bolt from the faith and forsake God—seemingly all in one motion. However, this has certainly been the exception and not the rule. Most people who leave the faith do so gradually. And when they do, they follow what almost appears to be an assigned course prescribed for the purpose of absenting oneself from the faith and separating oneself from a divine connection with God.

One who falls away from Christ usually begins by neglecting his private worship. For instance, he will go for long periods without giving any time to meditation about God. Even when he is not under the duress of existing circumstances, he rarely ever contemplates anything about his

personal relationship with God. He, because of this same type of neglect, stops praying and giving thanks to God for his goods, health, or others of his blessings. He feels smugly secure in his own egotistical pride and begins to reason that humility is a weakness, tears are for softies, and that things like moral courage, sacrifice, and virtue, are not worthy of his time or attention. In short, the time he once gave to personal devotion to glorify God is now totally wasted in efforts to satisfy himself.

One who becomes disinterested in spiritual service will soon begin to show a lack of interest in the public worship services. No one can, for any length of time, "fake" interest in a cause. His lack of attention will soon expose his true feelings. So, it is with one who leaves his first love. He starts the process by no longer listening attentively to the songs,

the sermons, the prayers. His mind is no longer tuned in to those things which should occupy his attention, and even though it may outwardly appear to be otherwise, he really is doing no more than occupying a pew.


The next thing you will notice about our wandering brother is that he will become sporadic in his attendance, particularly on Sunday nights and Wednesday nights. Then it won't be long before he ceases to avail himself of the opportunities at all. He makes for himself excuses that are logical only to him and make no sense at all to those who are anxious about his seeming lack of interest in the work of the church where he is supposedly a member.

Then when someone confronts him about his obvious lack of concern, he is immediately insulted and becomes indignant. He just can't imagine anyone thinking he is not as faithful as he should be. Why, the very idea! At about that time the excuses begin to pour out with the rapidity of white water rapids. The number of reasons for his lack of

participation are so emphatic that it becomes obvious that too much emphasis becomes no emphasis at all. It's now apparent—if only to him—that someone is “out to get him,” that he is “just as good as so-and-so,” and that if he told all he knows about the other members there would be a moral explosion of major proportions.

Finally, he quits. He now has what he has sought for some time—a reason to leave. And, mind you, that “reason” has nothing whatever to do with him, nor is he leaving because of his own neglect, indifference, or lethargy. You see, he was driven away. The blame belongs on the church. They never wanted him there in the first place. How sad! How very sad!

The devil is subtle, cunning, crafty. He doesn't often invite people into the slime pits of sin; rather, he induces them a bit at a time.


“Therefore, we ought to give the more earnest heed to the things which we have heard, lest at any time we should let them slip,” Hebrews 2:1 

Matthew 19:4-6, Jesus quotes from Genesis 1 & 2 as being true. In John 8:44, Jesus called Satan the “father of lies,” referring back to Genesis 3:4. In Matthew 23:35, Jesus spoke of Abel in Genesis 4:2-10 as a historical person. In Matthew 24:37-38, Jesus spoke of the Flood of Noah in Genesis 6-9 as a historical event. If Genesis 1-11 is a myth, then Jesus was mistaken in all of these instances.

In 1 Corinthians 11:8,12, Paul states that man was created first, then woman just as Genesis 2:18-23 states. In 1 Timothy 2:13, Paul called Adam & Eve by name, and in Romans 5:14 he says, “Death reigned from Adam to Moses.” In 1 Corinthians 15:45, Paul says, “The first man Adam became a living being.” If Adam was only a mythological character, then everything Paul said is false. In 2 Corinthians 11:3, Paul says, “But I fear, lest somehow, as the serpent deceived Eve by his craftiness, so your minds may be corrupted.” I am afraid many minds have been corrupted by believing that Genesis 1-11 is nothing but a fairy tale.

The New Testament shows that the first 11 chapters of Genesis are historical

and literal. In fact, more than 100 references in the New Testament refer back to the first eleven chapters of Genesis. Besides this internal evidence, there is ample proof of the global flood as described by the Bible because over 100 cultures historically record a global flood. Also, the fossil record proves that every mountain on earth was covered by water. For example, marine fossils have been found high in the Himalayas, the world's tallest mountain range.


When one begins to examine the internal and external evidence of Genesis 1-11, one will be overwhelmed with proof that the Bible is true and not mythology. 

## Ancient Thoughts on Pornography

“If you see a shameless woman in the theater, who treads the stage with uncovered head and bold attitudes dressed in garments adorned with gold, flaunting her soft sensuality, singing immoral songs, throwing her limbs about in the dance, and making shameless speeches... do you still dare to say nothing human happens to you then?

“Long after the theater is closed and everyone is gone away, those images still float before your soul—their words, their conduct, their glances, their walk, their positions, their excitation, their unchaste limbs—and as for you, you go home covered with a thousand wounds!

“But not alone—the shameless woman goes with you—although not openly and visibly but in your heart, and in your conscience, and there within you she kindles the Babylonian furnace in which the peace of your home, the purity of your heart, and the happiness of your marriage will be burnt up!”  
—John Chrysostom (349-407 A.D.)

*You cannot unsee what you have seen, or unhear what you have heard; whether in a book, magazine, movie, or online. Listen well: Psalm 101:3, “I will set no worthless thing before my eyes; I hate the work of those who fall away; It shall not fasten its grip on me.” –kv *

## Historical & Literal

By Cougan Collins

Those who attack the authenticity of what the Bible says about creation will say that Genesis 1-11 is mythology. In other words, they say it did not really happen and it is nothing more than a fairy tale. They understand if they can convince people that it is mythology, they can destroy the credibility of the Bible and promote their man-made teaching of evolution with its billions of years.

Let's see what the Bible says. In

## Remember in Prayer

**Serenity** was baptized into Christ last Sunday morning, 4/11! We had thought that **Peter** had torn his rotator cuff; apparently, his youth and vigor allowed him to suffer only a minor stress

fracture... and we thank God! Please continue to pray for **Madelene Britnell, Carolyn Dennis, Tim and Dot Hice, and Joyce Smith.** 