Fundamentalism and Science

Dale Easley University of Dubuque



A major turning point



Southern and Southern Baptist: The rest can go to hell.



Fundamentalist takeover



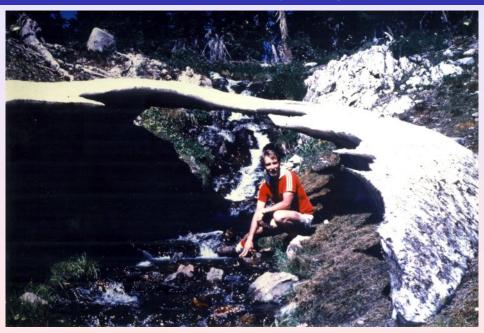
Introducing social justice



My students in Kenya



Grad School and the BSU in Wyoming



New Orleans, a Catholic city



UNO student and friend in Haiti

The Fundamentalist Agenda



Their rules apply to all people.

"[The] radical left kept us in submission because they have talked about the separation of church and state. There is no such thing in the Constitution. It's a lie of the left, and were not going to take it anymore." Pat Robertson, 1993



Men are on top.



They must control the educational system.



Malala Yousafzai

They spurn the modern.

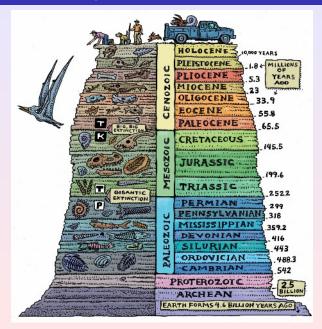


They deny history, especially as it shapes culture.

A woman should learn in quietness and full submission. I do not permit a woman to teach or to assume authority over a man; she must be quiet. For Adam was formed first, then Eve. And Adam was not the one deceived; it was the woman who was deceived and became a sinner. But women will be saved through childbearing—if they continue in faith, love and holiness with propriety. *1 Timothy 2:11-15*



Geology and the Age of the Earth



Explaining disasters

Iranian cleric: Promiscuous women cause quakes

Associated Press



AP — FILE - In this Saturday, Dec. 1, 2007 file photo, two conservatively-dressed Iranian women walk past ...

Earthquakes Video: 6.5 magnitude earthquake hit southwest of Taiwan

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By SCHEHEREZADE FARAMARZI, Associated Press Writer - Mon Apr 19, 1:35 pm ET

BEIRUT – A senior Iranian cleric says women who wear immodest clothing and behave promiscuously are to blame for earthquakes.

Iran is one of the world's most earthquake-prone countries, and the cleric's unusual explanation for why the earth shakes follows a prediction by <u>President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad</u> that a quake is certain to hit Tehran and that many of its 12 million inhabitants should relocate.

"Many women who do not dress modestly ... lead young men astray, corrupt their chastity and spread adultery in society, which (consequently) increases earthquakes," <u>Hojatoleslam</u> Kazem Sedighi was quoted as saying by Iranian media. Sedighi is Tehran's acting Friday prayer leader.

Women in the Islamic Republic are required by law to cover from head to toe, but many, especially the young, ignore some of the more strict codes and wear tight coats and scarves pulled back that show much of the hair.

"What can we do to avoid being buried under the rubble?" Sedighi asked during a prayer sermon Friday. "There is no other solution but to take refuge in religion and to adapt our lives to Islam's moral codes."

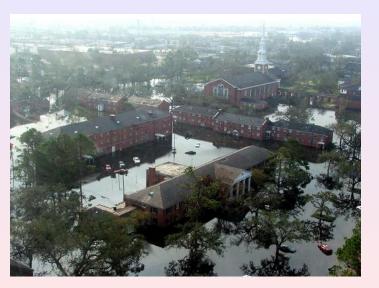
Closer to home

"Hurricane Katrina was, in fact, the judgement of God against the city of New Orleans."



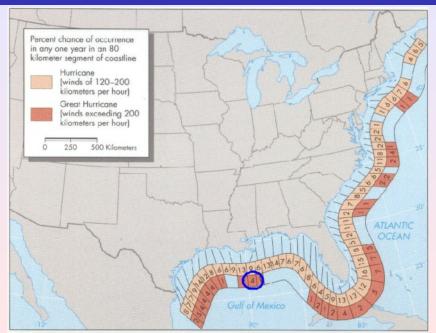
"New Orleans had a level of sin that was offensive to God," Pastor Jon Hagee said, because "there was to be a homosexual parade there on the Monday that the Katrina came."

About half of those killed were greater than 75 years old



\$75 million for restoration of Baptist Seminary

Historical data



The Scientific Method

- Make observations
- Look for a pattern
- Guess why
- Make a prediction based on the guess
- Revise the explanation and try again



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Evolution and kinship

U.	ytochrome c E	
	Organism	Number of amino acid differences from humans
G	Chimpanzee	0
A.	Rhesus mon	key 1
5	Rabbit	9
Ten	Cow	10
2	Pigeon	12
G	2 Bullfrog	20
50	Fruit fly	24
C	Wheat germ	37
. 0	Yeast	42

Learning is fun



Togetherness



National Geographic

The dark side



How does evolution explain fundamentalism?



Similar social behavior



The importance of education



... we will be able to speed up that day when all of God's children, black men and white men, Jews and Gentiles, Protestants and Catholics, will be able to join hands and sing in the words of the old Negro spiritual:

Free at last! Free at last!



Overcoming fear and insecurity



I am old enough to know that this country has a history of generosity. And generosity seems like a terrible risk for fearful people.

Marilynne Robinson, Salon.com, 3 Jan 2016

The solution: The courage to be tender



ndtv.com