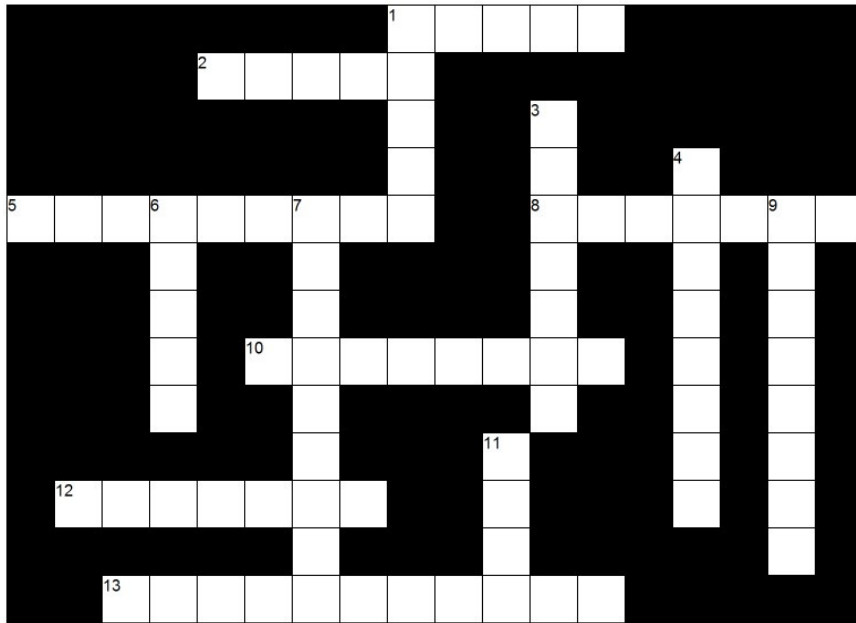


A Bible Crossword on Genesis, Part 5

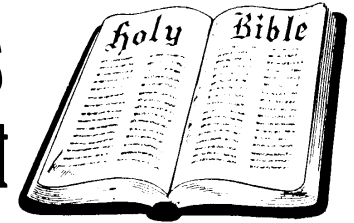


Across: 1. Lot pitched his tent as far as this wicked city of the plain. 2. The river of this land would be Israel's southern border. 5. This great river would be Israel's northern border. 8. The son Sarai's handmaid bore for Abram. 10. Strife broke out between Abram's and Lot's. 12. Abram kept this from the plunder of Sodom he recovered. 13. Abram paid him a tithe.

Down: 1. God told Abram to count these if he could; so his descendants would be. 3. Abram called this servant from Damascus his heir. 4. Abram's descendants would return to Canaan when their iniquity was complete. 6. Sarai gave her to Abram to bear children. 7. Abram dwelt by these trees in Mamre. 9. The nationality of Sarai's handmaid. 11. God told Sarai's handmaid that her son would be this kind of man.

-All answers found in Genesis 13-16, NKJV

Chapman Acres Church of Christ



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A Ripe, Red Tomato

I went out to pick up a few tomatoes from a vendor operating a fruit & vegetable stand by the side of the road. His wares outshine the goods available at the supermarket. Unfortunately, he had already left for the day, so I had to go to Publix instead. I looked over the tomatoes carefully and chose one of those little packages containing four. They looked ripe, red and juicy.

But when we cut into the tomatoes, disappointment greeted us. Although they looked ripe and red on the outside, they were still a bit green on the inside.

This common problem with supermarket fruit is caused by the harvest and ripening methods often employed. The tomatoes are picked while green and treated with chemicals such as Ethylene to artificially ripen them. The resulting fruit is sometimes ripe looking on the outside but still green on the inside. Such fruit may be fine for frying, but on a salad, it leaves much to be desired.

The same can be said for some Christians. We may look good on the outside, but what lies within may leave much to be desired.

Jesus used the metaphor of whitewashed tombs to describe the Pharisees. He said, "Woe to you, scribes and

Pharisees, hypocrites! For you are like whitewashed tombs which indeed appear beautiful outwardly, but inside are full of dead men's bones and all uncleanness. Even so you also outwardly appear righteous to men, but inside you are full of hypocrisy and lawlessness" (Matthew 23:27-28).

One of the traditions esteemed by the Pharisees was hand washing. When they saw the Jesus' disciples did not wash before eating, they criticized. Jesus condemned their traditions and explained why this one in particular held no validity. He said, "What comes out of a man, that defiles a man. For from within, out of the heart of men, proceed evil thoughts, adulteries, fornications, murders, thefts, covetousness, wickedness, deceit, lewdness, an evil eye, blasphemy, pride, foolishness. All these evil things come from within and defile a man" (Mark 7:20-23).

While we tend to focus on the outside, that which men can readily see, Jesus emphasized the importance of the inner man. God wants Christians who are as good on the inside as they appear to be on the outside. Green tomatoes just won't cut it.

—RAB

The Science of Missing Races

There are chimps and there are men.

There are supposed to be about 300,000 generations of races that link the stages of progression from chimp to man, but only the chimp and the man survived. What made man and chimp strong enough to survive and all the races in between unable to survive or even leave a fossil record of their existence?

Why did the chimp stay in the trees and the man work in the science lab to assert his relationship with the chimp?

It is hard for the philosophical naturalists to explain but you must BELIEVE. It is the only faith allowed to be taught under the guise of "science".

For the theistic evolutionist, when did God put a soul in the advanced race and how could that soul-man know not to try to mate with the soul-less-race just a fraction different from himself? What happened to those who were almost human?

Professing to be wise...they became fools (Rom.1:20-22).
—Terry Benton, Pine Lane Church of Christ

News and Notes

Prayer List

Keith Copeland	Herman McKenzie	Faye Seiler
Dennis Depew	Louise Moore	Gene Shannon
David Depew	Sara Nance	James Howard
Sarah Howard		

Area Meetings

3/29-4/1 at Jones Road with Jason Moore
 3/29-4/3 at Anderson with Gary Patton
 3/29-4/3 at Harvest with Greg Chandler
 4/5-10 at Helton Drive with Tommy Hagedwood
 4/5-8 at Jordan Park with Greg Litmer
 4/19-22 at Chapman Acres with Jeff Henderson