The Creator and Spiritual Formation

Lisa Barnes

At December's meeting, an examination of spiritual formation from a Christian perspective will be presented, by popular past DSA speaker Lisa Barnes*. Using scripture and metaphors from creation, a description of Christian spiritual formation will be given. In addition to this description, we will explore the Old and New Testaments to discover how our Creator describes what it means to be spiritually transformed into the image of his Son; and as we celebrate the birth of Christ, what it means for us to know and believe that Immanuel has come.

Over a period of several years, spiritual formation has become an important ministry in many Christian traditions. But along with this rising interest in spirituality comes a concern that spirituality is grounded in Scripture and a faith community; its underlying assumption is that Christian spiritual formation practices are ways to achieve this end.

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Over a period of several years, spiritual formation has become an important ministry in many Christian traditions. But along with this rising interest in spirituality comes a concern that spiritual formation is another way of introducing New Age ideas into Christianity. The underlying assumption for New Age ideology is that man can become God. For some non-Christians, spiritual formation practices are ways to achieve this end. Lisa will explain why Christian spiritual formation does not promote this idea, but should rather focus on the process of being conformed to the image of Christ, for the sake of others. Christian spiritual formation is grounded in Scripture and a faith community; its underlying assumption is that the activity of the Holy Spirit molds our lives into the likeness of Jesus Christ. Christian formation involves right-thinking about Christ, right-feeling toward God and others, and right-action in living.

There will be a question and answer period following the presentation.

This Month's DSA Meeting will be held on Saturday, December 15, 2007, from 9 to 11:30 AM. And be sure not to miss our famous annual Christmas-time goodies! All are invited to bring a plate of their favorite seasonal treats—see you there!

*Lisa Barnes has earned a Master of Arts in Spiritual Formation, Bachelor of Arts in Biblical Studies, and Bachelor of Arts in Interdisciplinary Studies. She is minister of Spiritual Formation for the Woodburn Church of Christ.

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The DSA-sponsored “Science, Scripture and Salvation” radio broadcast is now heard each Sunday at 12:30 PM. This 15-minute program is found on KPDQ 93.9 FM.

December Programs:

Dec 2: Oh, Deer!
There are many different types of deer. These beautiful and graceful creatures can quietly roam through the forest, or run like thunder across the tundra. But, does the wide variety of deer give credence to evolutionary assumptions? To hear what creation scientists say about this, tune in to this informative program!

Dec 9: Gold, Frankincense, and Myrrh
During the Christmas season we hear and sing songs proclaiming the wondrous birth of our Lord and Savior. One such carol describes the gifts of the wise men, but was there a special reason for the treasures given to the Christ child? Listen in as we discuss the gifts of the Magi, and unwrap the meaning behind them.

Dec 16: Beautiful Bethlehem
What was it like in Bethlehem so long ago on that wonderful night when Jesus was born? Although most of us won’t be spending Christmas in Bethlehem this year, learning about the birthplace of our Lord can help us focus on the true meaning of Christmas. Come along with us as we spend some time in beautiful Bethlehem!

Dec 23: Creation and the Virgin Birth
At Christmas, we celebrate Messiah’s coming to earth to redeem us, and we wonder in amazement at His miraculous virgin birth. But, why was it significant that Christ be virgin-born, and how was that accomplished? For answers to these important questions tune in this week!

Dec 30: Winter Animal Camouflage
Within the beauty of a snow-covered meadow or on the frozen tundra, winter life abounds, though it may be hard to see! Some animals are masterfully camouflaged for the winter season, but is this feature just a lucky evolutionary benefit? Listen in to learn about some of the unique creatures that were created with the ability to change color for the white wintry season.

Additional donations or monthly pledges to this project may be sent to:

Design Science Association
PMB 218, 465 NE 181st Av.
Portland, OR 97230

Thank you for your support!

Elections in January
Elections for Design Science Association will be held in January 2008. DSA members can consider now if they would like to run for board member or officer positions.

If interested, call Keith Swenson at (503) 665-9563.

Also, note membership form on back page.

We have a generous selection of creation books and movies, at the DSA Booktable!

Remember to “shop here first” for those upcoming Christmas presents!

Materials for all levels of interest, for sale at pre-priced discounts!

SUNDAYS:
12:30 PM

![Book: $10](image1)

![Book: $12](image2)

![Movie: $15](image3)
DESIGN SCIENCE ASSOCIATION
APPLICATION FOR VOTING MEMBERSHIP
STATEMENT OF BELIEF

1. The Bible, in its entirety, is God’s inspired word. In its original autographs, it is fully accurate, not only concerning spiritual issues, but also in matters of history and science.

2. The universe and all that it contains, both living and non-living, was designed by God and created out of nothing in six literal days as described in Genesis. Biological changes since creation have been confined within the created kinds.

3. The creation occurred several thousand years ago, not millions or billions.

4. The Noachian Flood, as described in Genesis, was an historic event, world-wide in extent.

5. Acceptance of the Lord Jesus Christ, who is God and Creator, is mankind’s only path to reconciliation with God.

I have read and subscribe to the Statement of Belief of Design Science Association and wish to become a voting member. Enclosed is my membership fee.

Signature: ________________________________

(Yearly membership fee is $15.00 for individual and $5.00 for each additional family member. Voting members must be eighteen years of age or older.)

Name: ________________________________ Date: ________________

Address: ______________________________________________________

E-mail: ________________________________

Phone: ________________________________ NEW MEMBER: ☐

Check if not on mailing list ☐ RENEWAL: ☐

Mail to: Design Science Association
PMB 218
465 NE 181st Av
Portland, OR 97230