

# The Messenger

COLDWATER CHURCH OF CHRIST

July 28, 2013



## Which Came First, The Chicken or the Egg?

For thousands of years, philosophers have pondered the question that is asked within this article's title. The question, or dilemma, is rooted in thoughts and inquiries concerning the creation of life and the existence of the universe. Let us answer this age-old question logically, scientifically and Biblically.

When examining the great details of a chicken (it's wings, feet, beak, feathers, eyes, tail, etc), there are some obvious truths that become apparent. To begin, no creature that has such extraordinary characteristics of design would be the result of an accident. An iPhone is not the result of an explosion within a metal factory and no one would argue that it is; moreover, a chicken cannot be the result of mere accident or chance. Just as an iPhone was planned and carefully designed, the chicken was likewise created by design.

Furthermore, the chicken was not only designed, but was designed in order to function within a certain type of environment so that survival and procreation could occur. Continuing with our iPhone comparison, the Apple product is not only designed, but is designed to make phone calls, send text messages, email, read electronically published material, etc. The iPhone is not designed to cut paper, shoot an arrow, or vacuum the floor (sorry, but there is not an APP for that). Likewise, the chicken was designed with the ability to eat, process food, be shielded from the weather via its feathers, and yes, procreate via the making of an egg. These abilities that the chicken possess are not out of sync with its environment- it was not designed lacking the ability to survive and procreate. Imagine that the chicken existed, but lacked ...

*This then is the message which we have heard of him, and declare unto you... (1 John 1:5).*

**VISITORS,  
WELCOME!**

Sunday:

9:30 a.m. Bible Class

10:30 a.m. WORSHIP

1:00 p.m. WORSHIP

Wednesday:

7:00 p.m. Bible Class

We have Bible classes for  
all ages & Pew Packers  
each Sunday at 12:30

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### ELDERS

Billy Bland

W. Timothy Wilkes, Sr.

Jim Jackson

### DEACONS

Jason Bayless Jared Brown

Jerry Davis Jeffrey Ferrell

Ron Johnson Andy Ratliff

### PREACHER

Clifton Angel

... a beak leaving it without the ability to eat, or lacked its chicken legs leaving it without the ability to transport itself. However, chickens were not designed without the proper abilities to survive within its environment, but were appropriately equipped to withstand its surroundings while procreating its species.

When an egg is then produced, it is the result or effect of some cause. The cause of an egg is the mating between a male and female chicken. Scientific law states that every effect must have an adequate cause and this is known as the Law of Cause and Effect. Moreover, it is scientifically proven that the effect of procreation is the result of mating, and specifically that the effect of an egg is the result of a male and female chicken mating. OK, but how then did the first set of chickens ever exist to be able to cause the effect of an egg?

Genesis 1:21, 23 reveal that God created "every winged fowl after his kind" on the "fifth day". The First Cause of creation, including the chicken, was God. God, being a Spirit (cf. John 4:24) and eternal (cf. Deuteronomy 33:27) did not ever have a cause, but was rather the First Cause of all (cf. Colossians 1:16). Now, when God created the chicken, was the egg of the fowl created, or the actual fowl?

On day three, God did not create just the seeds of herbs or just the fruit from trees that would then at some future point grow the herbs and the fruit trees, but rather created the herbs first, in a mature state, that were already "yielding seed after his kind" and the trees first, also in a mature state, that were already "yielding fruit, whose seed was in itself" (Genesis 1:12-13). We also notice that Adam and Eve were created in a mature state since Adam was able to speak and name "every living creature" on the same day he was created (Genesis 2:20; 1:27, 31) and since God had told Adam and Eve to "be fruitful, and multiply" (Genesis 1:26). The chicken is no different. The seed, or egg, of the chicken was not produced first, but rather mature chickens who were able to then produce eggs as "God blessed them, saying [...] let fowl multiply in the earth" (Genesis 1:22).

We may never be able to answer the question "why did the chicken cross the road?". However, as we logically, scientifically and Biblically examine the question "which came first the chicken or the egg?", we can be sure of the correct answer. The chicken came first and then the egg.

## [Parenting Today]

It seems that parenting has taken a turn for the worse. Perhaps one reason is because our young are not maturing as quickly as they used to, but they are still having babies. There are many ways that parents can hurt their children:

1. Physical abuse
2. Verbal abuse, screaming and cursing at their children
3. Belittling their children, making them feel small
4. Failing to sacrifice for them when their needs are real
5. Failing to set boundaries with rules
6. Failing to discipline properly
7. Failing to teach them fundamentals
8. Failing to provide financial assistance, especially child support
9. Divorcing and remarrying
10. Failing to bring a child up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord
11. Caring for their own personal needs above the needs of their children
12. Being involved in bad habits, drinking, drugs, pornography, sex

These are just a few. We wonder why our children are struggling. Could the answer be: Parents? Parents need to do a serious evaluation of their parenting styles and behaviors. Children are God's gifts. He will hold all parents accountable with regard to their stewardship. In like manner, we praise all parents who are seeking to do the job God called them to do as stewards of children!!!

—*written by Victor Eskew*  
adapted from Rogers Springs bulletin

### *Sermon Review*

#### **The church of Christ: First Mission**

(Acts 2:42–47, highlights of Acts 3–8)

- I. FELLOWSHIP & EDIFICATION
- II. BENEVOLENCE & EVANGELIZATION

#### **God's People: Blessed to Serve & to Sacrifice**

(Malachi 1:6–14)

- I. GOD'S INQUISITION (6)
- II. GOD'S INCRIMINATION (7–8a)
- III. GOD'S ILLUSTRATION (8b)
- IV. GOD'S INSTRUCTION (9a)
- V. GOD'S INTIMATION (9b–14)

# NEWS & NOTES

## Please Pray

**Tim, Sr., Lynn, & Ginger** are to return from England this week. **Wiley & Betty Tuggle**, Betty has had some rough days recently after her recent eye surgery; **Sue Cobern**; **Helen Bowman**; **Clifton Angel**, steadily improving, one-time radioactive in first full week in August, and will have to be absent from the assembly August 11 because of it.

**OpenDoor Ministry**  
**Fishers of Men**  
**Far East Missions**

## Family & Friends

**LaJuan Collums**, Billy's sister, cancer has returned and she battles other health problems also; **Kenneth Webb**, Krystal's grandfather, passed Friday morning; **Steve Angel**, Clifton's uncle, in hospital again with strokes; **Joy Angel**, Clifton's older sister, battling various health problems; **John Simpson**, in Baptist Desoto with declining health; **Roy Cobern**, Sue's brother-in-law, fell from a ladder last week, breaking face bones, wrist, and 8 ribs, is being treated at the Med; **Raleigh Wooten**, doing better after heart attack, hoping to go home Monday; **JoAnn Prestage**, Sara Norris' sister, cancer; **Tasha Higginbotham**, in need of a kidney transplant, also has cataracts from a medication related to a separate health issue; **Curtis Cates**; **Ralph Thomason**, Molly's friend's father; **Linda Perkins**, Tim West's mother-in-law, leukemia; **Mac Owen**; **Jim Murrell**; **Bob Spurlin**; **Kam Spencer**; **Andy Jones**, esophagus cancer; **Ally Jo Kelly**, toddler with leukemia; **Brad & Sheri Daniel**; **Noah Judd**; **Carly Wright**, 3 yr. old with liver cancer; **Joe & Josephine Johnston**, and their sons, Charles and Chris; **Nicholas Franks**; **Frederick Bland**; **Barbara Denton**; **Brigman Family**; **Janice Jenkins**; **Carla Carlson**; **Wes**, brother of Deb Peeler, cancer; **Doris Easley**; **Eli Williams**; **Ray Maples**; **Wayne Collinsworth**; **Andrew Hagewood**; **Janie Brister**; **Chuck Sharp**; **Renee Loya**; **Aubree Harris**; **Virginia Mayfield**; **Peyton Harville**; **David Bragg**

## Birthdays

7/3	Ruth Brister	7/13	Seth Daniel
7/4	Inez Neyman	7/14	Jason Bayless
7/4	Jimmy Sowell	7/19	Carson Kinney
7/5	Layla Johnson	7/19	Toranda House
7/6	Cali Bayless	7/24	Jayce Brown
7/7	Aemon Ratliff	7/31	Porter Ferrell

## Get Involved!

**Redbirds Game -- August 3 -- 6:05 PM**  
See signup sheet, last day to signup is July 28

**Sunday Afternoon for the Savior -- August 4**

**Trade Days Booth -- August 10**  
See Andy for any questions; Youth to help again  
Signup sheet on table in foyer

**Providence Place Devo -- August 11 -- 2 PM**

## Privileged to Serve

Sunday, July 28

### Morning

Prayer Before Class	Billy Bland
Announcements	Jerry Davis
Song Leader	Jared Brown
Lord's Supper:	
Preside	Seth Daniel
	Jeffrey Ferrell
Assist	Jason Bayless
	Tren House
Opening Prayer	Joe Owen
Sermon	Clifton Angel
Closing Prayer	Andy Ratliff

### Afternoon

Song Leader	Jared Brown
Opening Prayer	Jim Jackson
Sermon	Clifton Angel
Lord's Supper	Jeffrey Ferrell
	Jason Bayless
	Jeremy Moore
Closing Prayer	

Wednesday, July 31

Song Leader	Jared Brown
Prayer	Andy Ratliff
Invitation	Clifton Angel
Prayer	Ron Johnson