



Life Lines

Dover Church of Christ
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Ants - God's Amazing Creatures

By Wayne Jackson
Devo Given By Merrell Shoptaw
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One of the most interesting insects of the natural world is the tiny ant. There are over twelve thousand different species. Ants are called "social insects" because they live in groups and help one another in different ways. God made ants with some wonderfully special abilities. One authority has stated that: ants) are known for their highly organized colonies and nests, which sometimes consist of millions of individuals. Individuals are divided into sub-fertile, and more commonly sterile females ("workers," "soldiers," and other castes), fertile males ("drones"), and fertile females ("queens"). Colonies can occupy and use a wide area of land to support themselves. Ant colonies are sometimes described as superorganisms because the colony appears to operate as a unified entity (Wikipedia).

Ants have a wonderful sense of direction. They travel great distances from their homes and still find their way back. Some scientific experiments have shown that they seem to direct their course by the light of the sun and moon. Ants have compound eyes with specialized cells that detect polarized light which enables them to determine direction. Their home base is often recognized by memory-stored landmarks in their relationship to the position of the sun. Their tiny bodies are intricately fashioned with a complex glandular system that evidences ingenious design that is impossible to account for on the bases of a series of "evolutionary" accidents. In logic, the "law of teleology" suggests that every thing must have a designer!

One authority has noted that: while many types of animals can learn behaviors by imitating other animals, **ants may be the only group besides primates and some other mammals in which interactive teaching behavior has been observed.** Knowledgeable forager ants of the species *Temnothorax albipennis* directly lead naïve nest-mates to newly discovered food sources by the excruciatingly slow (and time-costly) process of tandem running. The follower thereby obtains knowledge that it would not have, had it not been tutored, and this is at the expense of its nest-mate teacher. Both leader and follower are acutely sensitive to the progress of their partner. For example, the leader slows down when the follower lags too far behind, and speeds up when the follower gets too close, while the follower does the opposite (Franks and Richardson 2006, 153; emphasis added).

How does one account for this level of intelligence that is so far down on the alleged evolutionary scale of living creatures? The Darwinist theory simply does not make sense.

In Proverbs 6:8, Solomon wrote that the ant "gathers her food in the harvest." For years this was thought to be a mistake in the Bible. Now we know that some ants do harvest their food. They cut seeds off of certain plants and put them underground in storehouses.

Consider, for example, the parasol ant. It has been described as "fascinatingly industrious." These tiny creatures may be observed traveling in single file, each with a leaf, several times the size of its own body, hoisted above its head. These leaves will be made into compost. The parasol ants sow, fertilize and prune their crops. They weed, harvest and then eat their produce. The crops consist of different kinds of fungus. Their farming skills

are so complex that it took scientists nearly a century to piece together their ingenious farming system (Peattie 1964-48).

Supposedly all of this expertise simply developed accidentally!

Some species of ants are "cow herders." They pasture their "cattle" (small aphids); these aphids suck the sap of certain plants. The ants bring their "cattle" out each morning and "milk" them for the juice they secrete, just like regular dairy farmers!

Such fascinating and sophisticated skills supposedly developed accidentally, right out of nowhere. Amazing – the **naturalistic** theories that are concocted just to avoid the conclusion that there is a Creator! Being vain in their reasonings, their senseless hearts are darkened (Rom.1:21), and they cannot draw the most logical conclusions.

The ant has been a serious problem for those who believe in evolution. Many ants have been found in hardened tree sap. According to the speculations of evolutionary chronologists (which are not correct), these ants lived millions of years ago, yet these preserved little creatures are **virtually identical** to the ants that live today! If evolution really happened, why didn't ants undergo radical changes, adapting to their environment as numerous other creatures allegedly did? This shows there is something radically skewed with the idea of evolution.

We can learn many things from ants. They work hard to provide for their families, and they help one another in their daily lives. Surely we can thank God for these creatures and the lessons they teach us. If we may paraphrase Israel's king of three millennia ago, "Go to the ant, thou atheist; consider her ways, and abandon your baseless ideology!"

Lines for Ladies

By Pat McAlister

King Josiah was born during the time of a corrupt nation in Judah. His father, Amon, was as evil as his grandfather, Manasseh. Amon, unlike his father Manasseh, never humbled himself before the Lord. His guilt increased. He was assassinated by his officials after having reigned for only two years. Josiah became king when he was eight years old.

So you would think that Josiah would be evil also, a chip off the old block. But he wasn't. He defied the odds.

Josiah did what was right in the sight of the Lord, following the ways of his ancestor, David. After he became king, things began to happen. The people tore down the altars, broke the Asherah idols, burned the bones of the chief and cut down all the incense altars of Israel. He was making reforms.

Later, he sent men to restore the temple. During this time, Hilkiah, the priest, found the Book of the Law of the Lord that had been given to Moses. When the king heard the words of the Book of the Law, he tore his clothes. How angry God must be because the people had strayed so far from the Law!

Josiah sent word to the prophetess, Huldah, *"What will become of our people?"* She told Josiah that since he had repented, and torn his clothes, he would not see the disaster that the Lord would bring upon his people.

Josiah read the Law to the people. They renewed the covenant with the Lord. As long as he lived, they did not fail to follow the Lord.

Neither before, nor after Josiah, was there a king like him who turned to the Lord as he did – with all his heart and with all his soul and with all his strength. (II Kings 21,22,23, & II Chronicles 34)

During his life the nation was no longer corrupt. Soon after, the destruction came, because of all the idolatry in Judah!

Remember Our Sick

Bob Bennett – Chemo treatments

William Boley – broke his arm.

Melvin Davis – diagnoses, Melanoma

Hoyt Ensey – home, dealing with several serious health problems.

Edna Helton – the loss of her son, **Don Helton**, who passed away suddenly. (Marion & Joan's cousin).

Ruby Gene Johnson – came home Monday, July 14th.

Rodney Pfeifer – diagnosed with cancer.

Shut-ins – need prayers and visits:

Dover Area: **Evelyn Burton**
Robert Lee

Russellville Nursing & Rehab Center:
Evelyn Driver
Melba Hodges

Stella Manor: **Louise Killer**
Mae Vanzandt

Others Who Need Our Prayers:

Yvonne Adkisson, Amie Barkley, Carolyn Bennett, Bill Boley, Lloyd Boley, Lois Boley, Wm/Susie Boley, Troy/Rachel Curtis, Eugene Cox, Jeff Davis, Pauline Dale, Barbara Dawson, Charles Ensey, Sarah Ensey, Carol Graham, Paul/Sue Griffin, Joyce Helton, Pat Holloway, Cleon Johnson, Dorothy King, Rose Lee, Linda Melton, Julie Moss, Carol Presley, Don Sheeran, Reddie Smith, Tanya Smith, Judy Will and Gene Williams.

Special Children: Tiffany Knight (infant, heart problems) Elysia Lee, Keith Martin and Noah Williams.

Expectant Mothers: Kelly Chance, and Jillian Church.

Our Military: Cole Wetzel, D.J. Bandy, and Travis Coe (Son-in-law of Mary McAlister).

Pray for our men and women serving overseas. This is their summertime and the temperatures are extremely high this time of year.

Family Worship

It is important for families to worship together. The God who created each and ordained marriage knew the importance of family worship. To a woman who had miserably failed in her family life, Jesus said, *"The hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth; for the Father seeketh such to worship Him."* (John 4:23)

The Father does not need our worship to be a better being. One cannot improve on perfection, but the Father knew each of us needed to worship. The old adage, "A family that prays together stays together," is true. One just does not find those that are truly committed and serving God in the divorce court.

Families should worship for three major reasons:

God commands it. (Hebrews 10:25)

It helps us influence one another.

(Matthew 5:15)

It enhances our spiritual and marital lives. (Romans 12:1-2)

No family can be completely balanced when there is a major spoke left out of their wheel. Families are to grow physically, intellectually, socially and spiritually. (Luke 2:52) The family that does not worship is missing as least a quarter of this designed growth.

Do you want to offer a major blessing to your family?

Here is a simple yet life-changing answer:

Begin this week to worship God!

We hope to see you at worship this week.

By Jerry Jenkins
Birmingham, Alabama
From Glad Tidings, Good Things
Jacksonville, Alabama

Events

Dover Church of Christ Children's Church

Every Sunday
11:15 - 12:00 Noon

Ages 4 thru 8
Bible Story and
Activities

Ages 1 thru 3
Nursery Class

BABY SHOWER

It's a "BOY"!!

July 27th

Sunday, 2:00 PM

Fellowship Hall

Dover Church of Christ

For: BJ/Kelly Chance

Dover's Lawn Mowing Schedule

Saturday, August 2nd.

Rick Hollis

and

Earl Whitted

Dover Youth Devotional

August 3, Sunday PM

Following evening services

Donny & Leigh Anne

Forehand's home.

Mark Your Calendars

Dover Men's Business Meeting

Monday, August 4, 7PM
Dover Church of Christ

Dover Men's Devo

Note Change:

Devo Postponed

UNTIL

Thursday,

October 9th, 2008.

Dover Ladies Night

Thursday, August 21, 7PM

Hostess: Leota Hickey

AREA WIDE

YOUTH DEVO

Please Note Change in Time

Sunday, August 24th

5:30 PM

5th & Greenwich

Church of Christ

2008 – 2009

Lads to Leaders/

Leaderettes

Overall Theme:

“... *All that You command
us we will do,
and wherever You send us we
will go.*”

(Joshua 1:16)

JULY Birthdays

- 01 Silas Powers
- 15 Dan Straight
- 16 Chris Ramirez
Diane Walters
- 17 Kim Statler
- 23 Emily Walker
Earl Whitted
- 25 Becky Miller
- 26 Valentina Penno
- 30 James Chadwick
- 31 Kim Miller

Early August Birthdays:

- 01 Jacob Boley
Connor Chance
- 02 Ana Marie Lawley

If we missed your birthday,
please let us know so it won't
happen again.

*From the Desk of Sid Womack, elder, Dover
Church of Christ: July seems to be the agreed-
upon summer vacation month. A number
of us plan to be gone from Dover for some
part of the month, the child bride and I
included. I say this about us as a
congregation without apologies . . . even
Jesus needed to be alone or to be with only
a few select people on any number of
occasions. The need for diversion is a
human characteristic.*

*When August 1st rolls around, I
encourage us to pick up again in our
church work, particularly in Lad to
Leaders/Leaderettes. Remember last
spring at Convention when we said many
times, "If we had only started earlier . . .?"
We know now that we have bright kids and
that they can learn spiritual things. We
know that they can be active in more events
than we sponsored last time if more of us
adults will step up to the plate and provide
the leadership. We know that if we as
adults show an interest in spiritual things,
they will follow. Let's get a good July rest
and come back ready to hit it August 1,
particularly in the Lads to
Leaders/Leaderettes areas.*

THOSE TO SERVE

July 27, 2008

Sunday A.M.

Announcer: Randall Walters
Song Leader: Merrell Shoptaw

Prayers

Jim Killer
Joe Miller

Communion

Podium: Marion Helton
Serve: Allen Veasman
Blake Walters
Brent Hottinger
Brett Walters

Scripture Reading

Earl Whitted

Sunday P.M.

Prayers

Jeff Myers
James Chadwick

SPEAKER

Sunday A.M.

Micah Williams

Sunday P.M.

Micah Williams

Prepare Table for Communion

Clara Hefley

Communion to Shut-Ins

Donny Forehand
Earl Whitted

Greeters

Marion and Joyce Helton

Wednesday Night Devotional

July 30, 2008

Earl Whitted

Meeting Times

Sunday Morning Bible Classes

9:45 A.M.

Sunday Morning Worship

10:45 A.M.

Sunday Evening Worship

6:00 P.M.

Ladies Tuesday Bible Class

10:00 A.M.

Wednesday Bible Classes

7:00 P.M.

Minister: Micah Williams
Church Office: 479-331-3428
Or Cell: 479-264-9244

Elders:

William Boley 858-7131
Jim Killer 331-2802
Allen Veasman 331-2156
Sid Womack 967-2367

Deacons:

Chris Besterfeldt
Donny Forehand
Brent Hottinger
Chris Loper
Rex McDaniel
Joe Miller
Chris Moss

Nursery Attendants:

Sunday Class: JoAnn Killer
Sunday Church: Pat McAlister
Kaeli Miller

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Dover Church of Christ
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