



THE BROOKSVILLE BULLETIN

Brooksville church of Christ
604 W. Fort Dade Avenue, Brooksville, FL

September 4, 2022

The Compass And The Barometer (Kent Heaton)

The night was as dark as pitch, and time was running out. A group of young soldiers was deposited on the side of a Kentucky road with instructions to gain the objective in only a few hours. With nothing to guide them but their senses and good luck, the soldiers lumbered through the dense woods and crevices, stumbling blindly as they tried to make sense of which way to go.

The class in compass orientation was of no value because no compasses were provided and no flashlights to guide the way. The only guide was the periodical burst of flare that would eventually bring the bone-weary troops to safety. The lesson was learned about being lost without direction. It was one of the most confusing and sometimes frightful nights of my life.



A little over a thousand years ago, man discovered the use of a compass in navigation. Compasses were developed initially when lodestones, a naturally magnetized iron ore mineral, were suspended above a board with the ability to pivot and turn.

It was discovered that the stones would always point in the same direction and align with the Earth's north/south axis. No matter where you stand on Earth, you can hold a compass in your hand, and it will point toward the North Pole.

A barometer is an instrument for measuring atmospheric pressure. Evangelista Torricelli invented the first barometer, the "Torricelli's tube," in 1643. The thermometer is an instrument that measures temperature as it changes. The common factor of the barometer and thermometer is how they change with the weather. A compass does not change with the weather.

Here is the lesson: God's word is a compass in a storm that does



*Tombstone of William Rogers
at Cane Ridge Meeting House,
Paris, Kentucky*

William Rogers

Born in Campbell Co., VA.
July 7, 1784 - Removed With
His Father To Caine Ridge,
Bourbon Co., Apr. 1798

**United With The Church Of
Christ At Caine Ridge In
1807**

Died Feb.. 15, 1862
In The 78th Year Of His Age

not change. It is not a barometer that will change with the whims of man.

The great failing of man is the idea that God's word changes with the needs of society. There is a prevailing thought that religion should change with the times and accept what may not have been accepted before. The law of man changes over time; the law of God does not. "Forever, O Lord, Your word is settled in heaven. Your faithfulness endures to all generations; You established the earth, and it abides" (Psalm 119:89-90).

God's word is a truth that does change with time. Mathematics does not change because of culture, ignorance, or societal

views. One plus one will always equal two, whether in the year 1145 in the dark forest of Germany or 2022 in the plains of Kansas. The law of gravity is the same today as when Newton was hit in the head with an apple (and gravity existed before he sat under the tree). Nothing has changed.

Space exploration is used to prove there is no God but is based upon factors held constant by the Creator since time began. When the Lord spoke those words recorded in Genesis 1, the world has remained the same (2 Peter 3:5-7). Jesus proclaimed, "Heaven and earth will

Some think that Alexander Campbell started the Church of Christ. William Rogers was united with the church in 1807. Campbell did not come to America until 1809.

pass away, but My words will by no means pass away" (Matthew 24:35).

The moral code given by God is not a barometer that changes with man's desires. Critics of the Bible will say that we live in a time when an outdated book should not judge morality. Sexual promiscuity is acceptable because society accepts it.

Rick Atchley writes in his book Sinai Summit, "Some years ago ... the U.S. Supreme Court wrote the legal definition of 'obscenity.' The court basically said that something is obscene if it is considered so by

God said it long before

C. 1475 BC: "AND GOD CALLED THE EXPANSE* HEAVEN." (GEN. 1:8, NASB)

*EXPANSE (from Hebrew "raqiya") ALSO TRANSLATED "FIRMAMENT." DEFINITION - LITERALLY SPREADING OUT, AS IN THE SPREADING ACTION OF DOUGH UNDER THE ROLLING PIN.



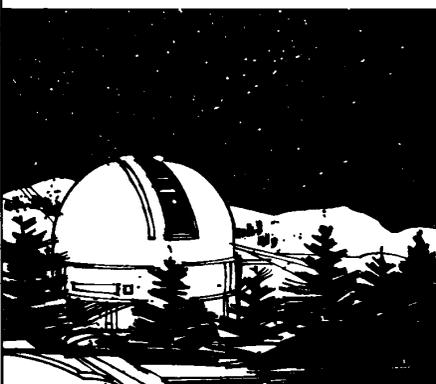
by A.O. SCHNABEL and BOB WEST
ILLUSTRATIONS BY R. TOM GILLEON

EARLY ASTRONOMERS TAUGHT THAT WE LIVE IN A SMALL FIXED-SIZE UNIVERSE.



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1950 AD: AT MOUNT PALOMAR OBSERVATORY, HUBBLE'S 20 YEAR OLD THEORY WAS CONFIRMED. ALL GALAXIES IN SPACE ARE RECEDING FROM US WITH THE MOST DISTANT ONES APPROACHING SPEED OF LIGHT.



SCIENTIFIC FACT: THE UNIVERSE IS EXPANDING.



JUST LIKE GOD SAID NEARLY 3,500 YEARS BEFORE!

the local community. The court wrote this definition hoping it would stand the test of time, but do you know what is wrong with this definition? It makes the definition contingent on the values of changeable people. Thus, we are being exposed to literature, movies, and artwork today that ten years ago would have been considered obscene but which our 'communities' no longer find shocking. What has changed – the content of the material, or the people who are the materials judges?" (page 34).

I learned as a young soldier the dangers of going without a guide to safely carry me to my objective. Life is fraught with danger when we try to navigate the deep crevices of our

lives without a compass. The word of God is there to direct us in the right way – the only way (John 14:6). When I put my complete trust in God and obey His word, I will be brought safely to a peaceful home in heaven.

AUTHORITY (Author Unknown)

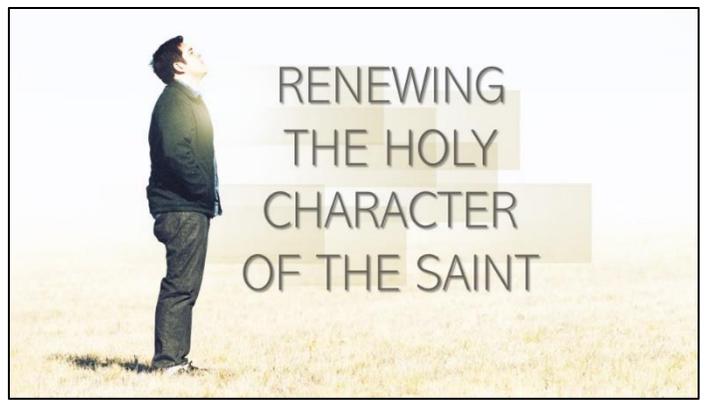
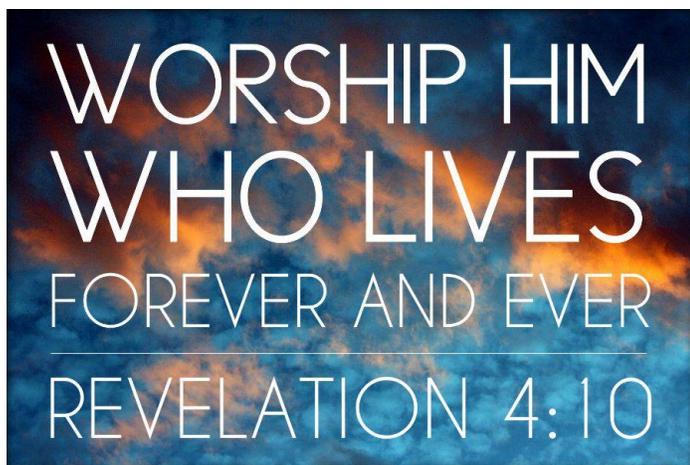
While on maneuvers, a battleship lookout noted a light in the dark, foggy night. After noting the light's coordinates, the captain recognized his ship was on a collision course with the other vessel.

The captain instructed, "Signal the ship: We are on a collision course, advise you change course

20 degrees." The return signal countered, "Advisable for you to change course 20 degrees." The captain signaled, "I'm a captain, change course 20 degrees." The response was, "I'm a seaman second class, you'd better change course 20 degrees."

By this time the captain was furious. His signal curtly ordered, "I'm a battleship. Change course 20 degrees." The reply: "I'm a lighthouse. You make the call."

God's authority is never changing, it's always constant. Whenever a change of course is required, we must make the correction from our end.



Let's Renew In 2022

BLESSED IS THE MAN WHO WALKS NOT IN THE COUNSEL OF THE UNGODLY, NOR STANDS IN THE PATH OF SINNERS, NOR SITS IN THE SEAT OF THE SCORNFUL; BUT HIS DELIGHT IS IN THE LAW OF THE LORD, AND IN HIS LAW HE MEDITATES DAY AND NIGHT. HE SHALL BE LIKE A TREE PLANTED BY THE RIVERS OF WATER, THAT BRINGS FORTH ITS FRUIT IN ITS SEASON, WHOSE LEAF ALSO SHALL NOT WITHER; AND WHATEVER HE DOES SHALL PROSPER. THE UNGODLY ARE NOT SO, BUT ARE LIKE THE CHAFF WHICH THE WIND DRIVES AWAY. THEREFORE THE UNGODLY SHALL NOT STAND IN THE JUDGMENT, NOR SINNERS IN THE CONGREGATION OF THE RIGHTEOUS. FOR THE LORD KNOWS THE WAY OF THE RIGHTEOUS, BUT THE WAY OF THE UNGODLY SHALL PERISH. (PSALM 1)

Brooksville Church of Christ

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Times of Services

- Sunday Bible Class for all ages (10:00am)
- Sunday Worship all Welcome (11:00am & 6:00pm)
- Wednesday Bible Class for all ages (7:00pm)

Supporting the GOSPEL in other places:

- ↪ Jamey Hinds, Hollywood, Florida; Roy Fenner, Panama City, Florida
- ↪ Zeke Flores, Columbus, Texas; Philip North, Branson, Missouri
- ↪ The saints in Nicaragua

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