

WEIRD AND WONDERFUL

The Woolly Bear Caterpillar

MOST people know about the life cycle of butterflies and moths. They lay eggs which hatch into caterpillars. After a while the caterpillars spin a cocoon around themselves and later a butterfly or moth emerges. This usually happens in a few weeks or months.

However, in the Arctic there are caterpillars which live for years before they turn into moths. They are called Woolly Bear Caterpillars which hatch from the eggs of a type of Tiger Moth

One species takes 14 years to become a fully-fledged moth! How does it survive for so long? Amazingly it freezes solid! First its heart stops beating, then its gut freezes, then its blood, followed by the rest of the body. And it does this every year for 14 bitter Arctic winters before it goes through the chrysalis stage and turns into a moth. The moths feed for a few weeks during the



Banded Woolly Bear caterpillar

short Arctic summer, and lay their eggs, before dying. The eggs hatch, and the whole cycle begins again.

Woolly Bear caterpillars only survive the bitter cold because their bodies make a special 'anti-freeze.' This couldn't have evolved gradually, otherwise they wouldn't have survived even one winter. We believe that God, the Creator, designed them the way they are.



A Tiger Moth

YOU ARE UNIQUE!

You are unique – there is no one else on earth exactly like you! The Bible tells us that God created people in the beginning; we did not evolve from ape-like ancestors. God made it possible for there to be lots of variety; there are tall people and short people, people with different skin tints and different coloured hair. But we are all equal in God's sight, and when people forget that, bad things often happen.

We are also equal because, like our first parents Adam and Eve, we have all broken God's laws. That's why God sent His Son, Jesus, to be our Saviour. He never did anything wrong, but willingly died on the cross so that we could be forgiven. Many people refused to believe in Jesus, and many still do, "But some people did accept him. They believed in him. To them he gave the right to become children of God." (John 1: 12). If we accept what Jesus did for us, we are really God's children. We become members of another family, joining millions of people around the world. Thousands of people are joining this family every day, all brothers and sisters because of their faith in Jesus.

Because Jesus rose from the dead, all Christians can look forward to living with Him for ever in heaven. At the end of the Bible we read about John's vision of heaven. "Then I looked and there were a great number of people. There were so many that no one could count them. They were from every nation, tribe, people, and language of the earth." (Revelation 7: 9). Everyone who believes in Jesus will be there. Will that include you?



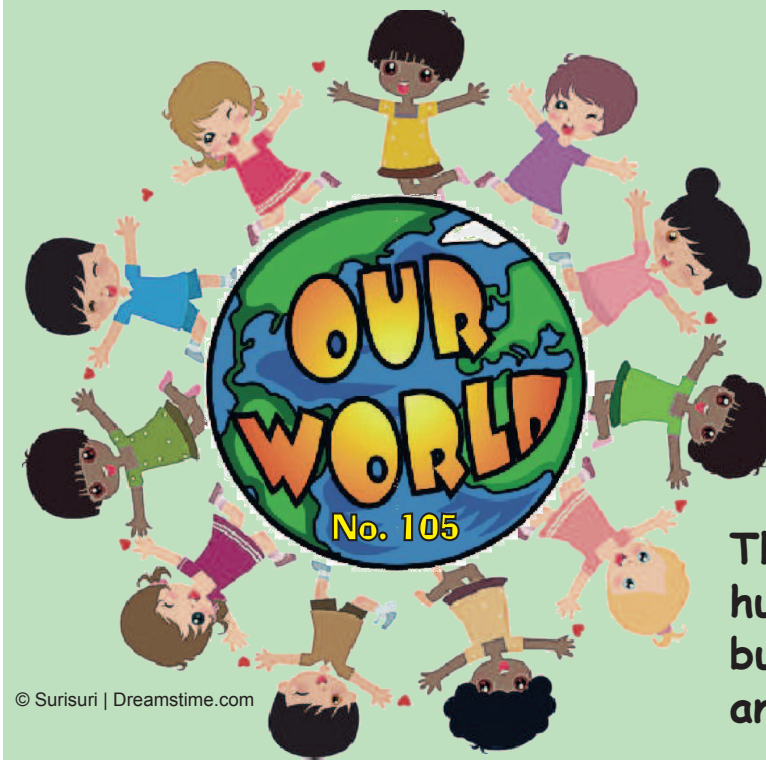
**Jesus died for all the children,
 All the children of the world.
 Brown and yellow, black and white,
 All are precious in His sight.**

PUZZLE ANSWERS

- You made man a little lower than the angels. And you crowned him with glory and honour (Psalm 8: 5)
- Bible verse:**
1. Boy's shirt colour.
 2. Boy holding can not hot dog.
 3. Missing pocket.
 4. Girl's shorts colour.
 5. Girl's ribbon colour.
 6. Girl's shoes colour.
 7. Small boy's hair colour.
 8. Missing smoke.
 9. Extra log on fire.
 10. Grass area larger.

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THE HUMAN FAMILY

All different but equal!

There is a wonderful variety in the human family. We are all different, but we are all created in God's image and special to Him.

Most people belong to a family of some kind, and many of us have brothers and sisters. But we also belong to a larger family — the human family — and we are all related!

The Bible tells us: "God began by making one man. From him came all the different people who live everywhere in the world." (Acts 17: 26). We also read that "God created human beings in his image." (Genesis 1: 27). That's why we are special and precious to God, and why we should also value others, because He loves them as much as us.



All of us have colour in our skin (it's called *melanin*), though some have more than others. So some people have dark skin, others have light skin, and there are lots of shades in between. But there is only one race – the human race, and we are all equal in God's sight.

THERE ARE NO "PRIMITIVE" PEOPLE!



A Masai family in Kenya

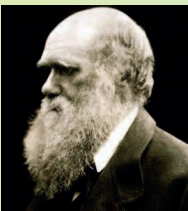
The idea that we evolved from ape-like ancestors has led to the belief that some humans are more evolved than others. In many parts of the world people live in modern towns and cities, while some live in houses made of mud and grass, and hunt for food. But this doesn't mean they are "primitive" or less intelligent. The Bible tells us that all people descended from the ark-builder Noah and his family, and that after the flood, people were clever enough to build cities. When they began to spread out around the world, some people lost these skills and began to live more simply, though this is often because they are poor. Given the opportunity, they can quickly learn these skills and improve their way of life. Many Christian charities are helping them to do this.

ALSO IN THIS ISSUE:

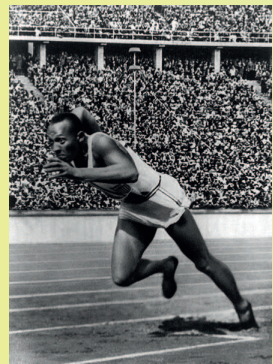
- Evolution and Racism
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- The shame of slavery
- Treated as animals
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- You are unique!

EVOLUTION AND RACISM

Racist ideas have been around for hundreds of years, but Charles Darwin's evolution theories, (published in the 19th century) gave some people an excuse to be racist. Darwin (right) believed that black people — whom he called the "lower races" — were closely related to apes.



He believed they would eventually die out and white Europeans would dominate. Some people used his ideas to do some terrible things, believing they were "helping evolution". German leader Adolph Hitler believed Jews and black people were inferior and murdered six million Jews. He was very upset when black athlete Jesse Owens (below) won 4 gold medals in the 1936 Berlin Olympics. He didn't believe black people were capable of such achievements.



Until quite recently, in some countries, including America and South Africa, black people were treated as inferior, and banned from mixing with white people in schools, and on buses. Racism is now against the law in most countries, but black people are still sometimes the victims of hatred.

An insult to black people

Evolutionists believe we evolved from ape-like ancestors. When they draw pictures of our supposed ancestors they often show them with dark skin. This is an insult to black people, who are just as human as those with lighter skin.



On the left is a skeleton of *Homo erectus*. Nearly all scientists believe the erectus people were fully human, yet the drawing of erectus on the right shows a man with dark skin. This gives people the false idea that dark skin is more primitive.

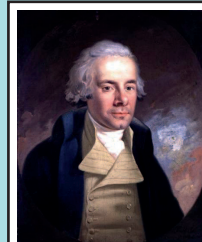


There is good evidence that the erectus people were not only as intelligent as modern humans, but that they built ships and sailed across the oceans. There was nothing "primitive" about them!

The SHAME of slavery

There was a time, not so long ago, when millions of African people were kidnapped. They were then put on ships, and taken to America and the West Indian islands. Many died on the way, but those who arrived were sold in markets as slaves. Many were forced to do hard work on sugar plantations. They were often treated cruelly and beaten if they didn't work hard enough.

These people were treated so badly because they were black, and white people thought they had the right to use them as slaves. In the 18th century some people in England began a campaign to end slavery. One of them was William Wilberforce, a Member of Parliament. He believed that all humans were created in God's image and that using other people as slaves was a sin against God. He was helped by a



William Wilberforce



Thomas Clarkson



Hannah More

number of other people who shared his belief, including Thomas Clarkson and Hannah More.

It wasn't until 1833 that Parliament abolished slavery in the British Empire, more than 40 years after Wilberforce began his campaign. During his life he also helped to improve the conditions in factories and prisons. He did all this because he believed that human beings were equal and special.

PEOPLE WERE TREATED AS ANIMALS!

When white Europeans first went to Australia, they found people with dark skin (aborigines) already living there. The white people treated the aborigines cruelly, believing they were less human than themselves. Many aborigines were captured and put in special camps and some were even shot.



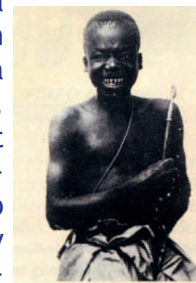
Sir Douglas Nicholls, O.B.E., M.B.E.

Some people believed that aborigines had no souls, and that it was a waste of time telling them about Jesus. This was completely wrong: The Bible says that Jesus came to die for all Adam's descendents, which includes the aborigines. Today thousands of aborigines are Christians.

One aborigine, Douglas Nicholls, (left), who was born in 1906, became an athlete, a Christian minister with the Churches of Christ, and the Governor of South Australia. He was also honoured by Queen Elizabeth 2nd. This proved that aborigines, like all human beings, are capable of achieving great things.

Man caged with apes!

In 1904, a young man named Ota Benga (right), was brought from the Belgian Congo to America by explorer Samuel Verner. He was put on show with apes at the St Louis World's Fair, in spite of protests from Christian ministers.



NATURE NOTES by the editor



People have been making clay pots for centuries. Clay pots come in all sorts of shapes and sizes (left), and are used for many different things. It's fascinating to watch a potter at work. A lump of wet clay is placed on a wheel, (right) and as the wheel turns the potter's hands shape the clay into whatever style and size is required, before the pot is fired in a kiln. Sometimes pots are glazed, and a pattern may be added before firing.



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Did you know that humans didn't invent pottery? Some wasps — called potter wasps — also make pots from wet mud, which hardens into clay. The finished nests look like pots shaped on a potter's wheel. With a narrow neck, they are a safe place for the wasps to lay their eggs, and as they are made of clay they can be used over again. Did potter wasps have to gradually learn how to make these nests? This seems very unlikely. It makes more sense to believe that God created them with the instinct to do this right from the beginning.



A potter wasps' nest

— Geoff Chapman

PUZZLE CORNER

(Answers on the next page)

Can you spot 10 differences between these two pictures?



Use a mirror to read this Bible verse

AND YOU CROWNED HIM WITH GLORY AND HONOUR
 AND YOU CROWNED HIM WITH GLORY AND HONOUR
 AND YOU CROWNED HIM WITH GLORY AND HONOUR