

Origins and the "Created Kind" Concept

The Bible speaks of things reproducing "after their kind." What does the biblical word "kind" indicate?

Today, most creationists take the view that variation and speciation can occur only within created kinds. These kinds appeared for the first time in the creation week, and have since colonized the Earth. For land-dwelling animals, modern representatives would have to be the descendants of the kinds carried on the ark (Genesis 6:17; 8:17-19).

However, there is no consensus on the biological definition of kind, or the criteria for grouping animals within a kind. Some creationists equate the term with a particular taxonomic level higher than species, such as genus or family. Most, however, avoid such comparisons altogether. Byron Nelson wrote:

The "kinds" of Genesis refer not to the "systematic" species identified by men, but to those natural species of which the world is full, which have power to vary within themselves in such a way that the members of the species are not all exactly alike, but which, nevertheless, cannot go out of the bounds that the creator set (1967, p. 4).

In 1941, Frank Marsh coined the term "baramin"—a compound of the Hebrew words *bara*("created") and *min* ("kind"). He suggested that the nearest equivalent to the created kind would vary, depending on the greatest taxonomic level at which two organisms could interbreed (1976, p. 34). For example, while there are several species of cattle and bison, they probably belong to the same kind because they all can interbreed (Marsh, 1976, p. 31).

The differences of opinion, and the apparent flexibility in the idea, have given anticreationists cause for criticism. Joel Cracraft complained:

> The "created kind" is the unit of creation event just as the species is the unit of evolutionary change. Consequently, if the concept of "created kind" cannot be defined so that it can be used to interpret and investigate nature, then it is of little or no importance for the growth of knowledge (1983, p. 169).

However, the same sort of criticisms leveled at kinds also can be turned on the species concept, which is neither well defined nor objective.

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Deacons:

Gary Chasteen 360.895.4143 Gene Gerard....... 360.876.4612 Troy Hill 360.674.7181 Brad Orser........... 360.874.8184

Church Staff:

Kelli Keagle......757.389.1382

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Welcome Guests

We are so glad that you decided to visit Port Orchard Church of Christ this morning! Since you took this step to join us for worship, we would like to extend to you a warm welcome. Wherever you are this morning, as we lift worship to God, we pray that you are able to leave feeling uplifted, convicted, or encouraged in your faith.

We seek to worship God like the first century church did, with a sense of awe and with a fear of the Lord. Some things we do might seem old

fashioned or traditional, but we want you to know that at its core, it is for the praise of God's glory.

You are not required to do anything weird or ostentatious. We hope that you feel free to join us in worshipping God to the best of your abilities. If you have any specific needs, we have a ministry staff that would love to connect with you. Ask the people sitting around you for names of the ministry staff and to point them out!

Once again, we are so happy to have you here worshipping with us and we hope this is a chance to worship God in a deep and meaningful way.

-Port Orchard Church of Christ

Save the Dates!

Sunday 1/14 Noon	Potluck
Monday 1/15 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day	Office Closed

..... Port Orchard News and Events

Pulpit Preview

Dale Sanders will be sharing a message with us. Worship Service begins at 10:45. We hope to see you here!

Happy Birthday!

January: Mark David-02, Joshua Bedford-04, Connie Switzer-05, Jo Vaughn-06, Shirley DeFord-09, Pat Woodrow-09, Isaiah Zepf-13, Runell Mason-16, Karen Taylor-18, Evalina Kenady-19, Mike Chavez-20, Forest Gerard-24, Michelle Herbert-24, Sarah Blair-25, Hannah Wheeler-28, Tammy White-29, Myron David-30.

Last Sunday

Vincente Huerta shared a sermon with us last Sunday. If you missed his message, please visit the church website at pococ.weebly.com to listen.

Don and BobbyJo

Congratulations to Don and BobbyJo on their new vehicle! As always, they are still in need of work if you know of any opportunities to pass on to them.

Spiritual Leadership Group (SLG)

The SLG is asking for prayers for encouragement and direction within their group.

Prayer Leader: James Greer Scripture Reader: Troy Hill Offering Thoughts: Bob McDaniel Communion Meditation: Ken Reinke Slides/Lighting: John Bickle

Serving January 14, 2018:

Servers: David Lawrence & Dan G. Ushers: Brandon K. & Terry Bratcher Greeters: Greg & Sandi Warner Prayer Partners: Dale Sanders & Carla Duffy Sound: Forest Gerard

Communion Prep: Keagles Communion Cleanup: Reinkes Song Leader: Gene Gerard

Children's 9:30 Helper: Karen Taylor Children's Church: Laura Fry Preaching: Dale Sanders



Dream Bowl

There is a glass bowl and blue cards on the cabinet in front of the Missions board in the foyer for members to submit what they envision for our congregation in the future. This bowl is for anything ranging from spiritual matters to physical matters. Please include your name on your submission so that you may be contacted.

Delano Family Day

Help Needed: On June 9th, 2018, we are having a Delano Family Day (This is a replacement event for Delano Day). The specific help needed right now is for individuals who have benefitted from the camp as a camper or staff to be part of a Steering Committee. There are two qualifications for members on the Steering Committee: #1 - You have to love Delano and have a desire to see it continue as a place where young people can find and grow in faith. #2 - You have to be a team player having the goal of making sure the next generation hears about Delano Bay Christian Camp. Please Notify Dennis Baker by February 3, 2018. Meetings will be conducted online with Go To Meeting, which also allows for phone-in participants. Here is contact information for Dennis (Cell # is <u>253.312.7288</u>; E-mail address is <u>be.ye.glad1@gmail.com</u>). I look forward to hearing from you and I am excited about this new event to highlight the amazing place that Delano is.

Our Prayer List

Healing:

Matthew Esquivel's brother Eric recovering from heart attack Daniel Tillman recovering from brain surgery Colleen & Larry Trail Tammy Avery's friend Roxanne Virginia Chapman **Delores Brun** Runell Mason David Latham Wayne Hammock's friend Dave Melvin Byrd **Encouragement:** Gardner Family moving to Hope of Honduras Children's Home Spiritual Leadership Group Those Grieving the loss of Loved Ones Traveling: Sneads & Sibleys Seth & Sarah Cartwright travelling home from China Other: Our children, church, nation, President Trump and ministries. That God will bless our deacons with wisdom in reaching the many decisions they are entrusted with.

> January 7, 2017 Worship: 97 Class: 37 Offering: \$3,900.85

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First, the widely held **biological** species concept "holds that a species is a population of organisms that can at least potentially breed with one another but that do not breed with other populations" (Rennie, 1991). Unfortunately, two populations may not breed because they are isolated geographically. This may lead to taxonomic splitting, by which taxonomists give two different names to populations that could interbreed if given the chance. Practically speaking, very few species undergo extensive cross-breeding experiments before classification to test their reproductive isolation. Hybridization is another problem. Two seemingly distinct plant species may cross to produce fertile hybrids.

The potential for taxonomic splitting is especially acute in the fossil record, where it is impossible to apply the biological species concept. Instead, paleontologists tend to define species on their morphology alone. However, the soft parts

Port Orchard Church of Christ 4135 Carr Lane SE Port Orchard, WA 98366 360.876.2604 churchpococ@gmail.com www.pococ.weebly.com of an organism rarely are preserved, and the identification must rest almost entirely on hard parts (e.g., bones, teeth, etc.). Any evolutionary relationships drawn from such studies are necessarily limited (Major, 1991).

Second, the species idea often takes on a definite evolutionary connotation. As we have already seen, Cracraft claims that the species is "the unit of evolutionary change" (1983, p. 169). He wants to replace the biological species concept with his

own **phylogenetic** species concept, mainly because he is not satisfied with any definition that ignores alleged evolutionary relationships. Cracraft's concept defines a species as "the smallest recognizable cluster of individuals that share a common pattern of ancestry" (Rennie, 1991).

The created kind concept can hold its own against these definitions. It proposes that a kind will consist of populations that can interbreed, while still allowing room for variation. If implemented systematically, the concept would reveal barriers or discontinuities between created kinds. "In order to make this evidence of creation available," Kurt Wise has suggested, "there is a serious need for creation biologists to create, adopt, and employ a reproducible method of flagging identifiable phyletic discontinuities" (1990, 2:354). Creationists, like Wise, are continuing their work on kinds. In the meantime we face a taxonomic system encumbered with evolutionary presuppositions.

> Trevor Major, M.Sc., M.A. Originally Published by: ApologeticsPress.org, 1993 Access Date: 01/10/2018