

THREE ANGELS AND YOU

It's a
Fake!





It's a Fake!

People have been trying to deceive others by faking things for a very long time. Here are a few examples.



Fake Money

Dishonest people have been making fake paper money and coins for centuries. One group of counterfeiters used the basement of an abandoned house in a Russian forest as their base of operations. The gang sometimes scared people off by pretending to be ghosts! That's how some people in the local community came to believe the old house was haunted.

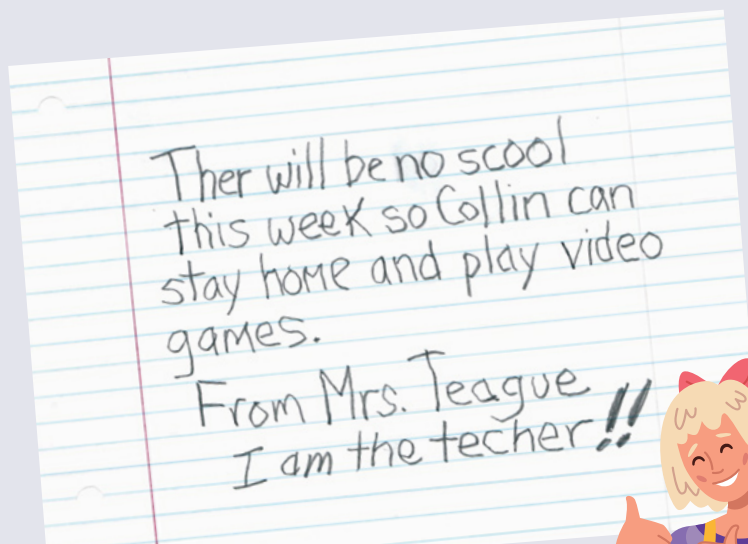


Fake Designer Handbags and Clothing

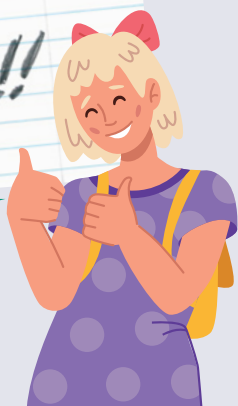
Real "designer" handbags, shoes, and other items are very expensive, but fake ones (which are illegal) sell for much less.



Fake School Note to Parents



That kid probably learned a lesson he wasn't planning on learning!



Fake Giant

Around 1868 a farmer named George Hull had a 10-foot-tall statue secretly carved from stone and made to look like a real person. The fake giant was buried on a farm near Cardiff, New York (USA). About a year later, as part of the hoax, two people were “hired” to dig a well right where the giant was buried. Just like that, the “petrified man” was discovered. The Cardiff Giant went on display and people paid money to see it. Eventually, the P.T. Barnum Circus tried to buy the giant, but was denied. So Barnum had a second fake giant made and displayed in his circus. He told people the original Cardiff Giant was a fake (true) and that his giant was the real one (false).



Fake Twin Brother

In one school, a student pretended to be his own twin brother so he could get his photo in the school yearbook twice. (Maybe they should put one of those photos next to the word “vain” in the dictionary.)

The list of fakes is long, but the first angel’s message in Revelation 14 points to an especially disturbing deception.



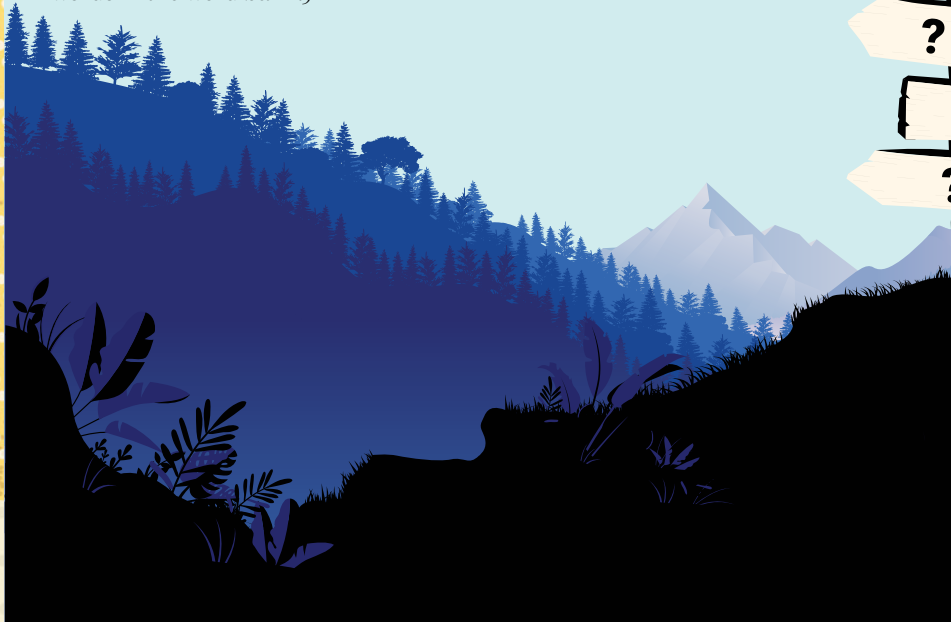


The Choice is Yours

Have you ever had to choose sides? Maybe you had to choose between a weekend campout and going to a friend's birthday party. Or perhaps you had to decide if you were going to honor the seventh-day Sabbath or go to a football game. The first angel's message reminds us about the good news of the gospel and the assurance that comes with judgment. This same angel also alerts us that God's end-time people will need to choose who's going to receive their worship:

“Worship him who made the heavens, the earth, the sea and the springs of water” (Revelation 14:6, last part).

Is the Bible talking about worshipping the random forces of evolution? No! In many different places, Scripture says that God made everything. Solve the puzzle on the next page to discover how that happened. (There are extra words in the word bank.)



Word bank

be

left

spoke

commanded

Proverbs

stop

firm

Psalms

tall

Isaiah

sang

“For he _____, and it came to _____; he _____,
and it stood _____” (_____ 33:9).



Echoes of the Sabbath

The first angel's message points directly to the Fourth Commandment:

“For in six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them” (Exodus 20:11).

Honoring God's true Sabbath is a powerful way to show your loyalty to the Creator.

Creation News Flash!

When God created the first human being, He chose a method that was different from the rest of His creation:

“Then the Lord God formed a man from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living being” (Genesis 2:7).

God spoke everything else into existence, but human beings were created by God’s hand and breath. We’re beyond words!



The Bible leaves no doubt about God’s creation, but Satan wants to plant other ideas in our minds. That’s why the idea of God as Creator is being challenged. Evolutionary theory is one way this is happening. As part of a broad strategy, instead of worshipping the true Creator and His way of life and worship, Satan wants us to turn toward a fake idea of creation, and a false way of worship.

What does the Bible call this false system of worship? Read the following portion of the first angel’s message and complete the verse:

**“All inhabitants of the earth will worship _____
_____” (Revelation 13:8).**

Whoa—a “beast”? What’s that all about? The entire chapter of Revelation 13 and other Bible verses* contain vital information about this crafty “creature,” or fake way to worship. When put together, we learn that the beast represents a Satan-inspired worship system that’s rooted in religion and government, not the gospel Jesus came to share. It’s a toxic formula that leads to depending on something other than Jesus for our salvation. That’s a bad spiritual mix, and it’s not from God. It’s a fake.

The first angel makes clear that God’s end-time people will choose to worship Him, not the beast. (You’ll learn more about the beast and its false teachings in the next lesson.)

According to the last part of Revelation 13:8, a certain book contains the names of all those who follow God’s way of worship. Circle the correct book cover.





Meet Charles Darwin

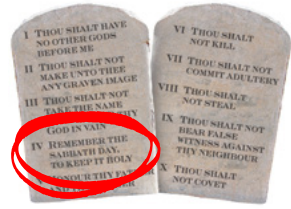
Few people have impacted the world more than Charles Darwin. His book, *On the Origin of Species*, published in 1859, changed the way many people thought about living things. In short, the book claims that strong species survive while weaker species die out. This is called natural selection and supposedly happens over billions of years. But the more startling idea was that human beings descended, or evolved from one common ancestor, perhaps a monkey. Darwin never specifically said that humans descended from monkeys, but he came close. He often pointed out that monkeys, apes, and humans have a lot in common. That is true, but bananas also share about 60% of human genes. That doesn't make a banana your distant cousin.

Many people agree that the three angels' messages of Revelation 14:6-12 were meant to be shared beginning in the mid-1840s. Is it a mere coincidence that Charles Darwin's writings were first being read just about the same time? Or could it be that God knew His creatorship would come under attack right about then?

While those who choose to fall in line with the beast, others stay loyal to their Creator. They know that by worshipping Him alone their names are written in the life-saving book kept by “the Lamb who was slain from the creation of the world” (Revelation 13:8, last part).

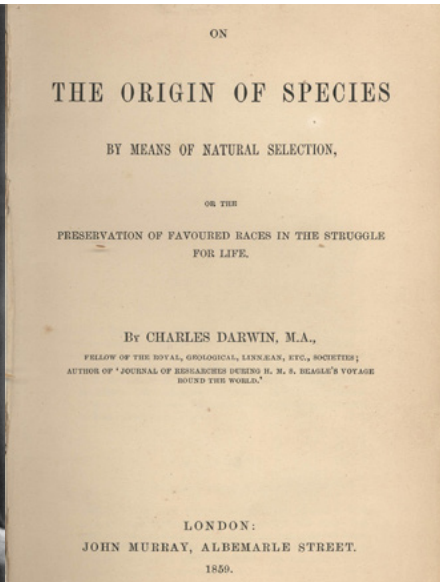
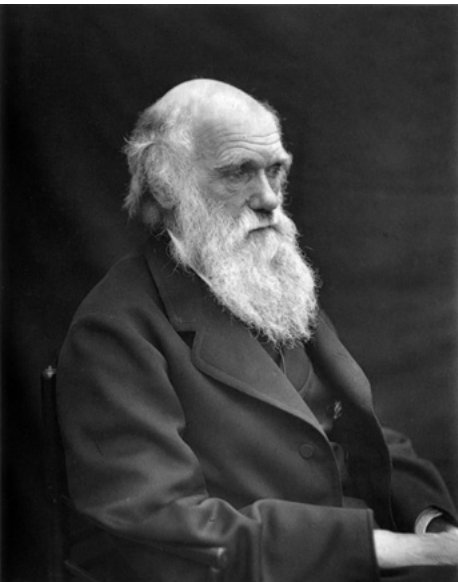
According to John 1:29. Who is this “Lamb”?

The last part of the first angel’s message is about staying loyal to our Creator in earth’s final days. Satan will try lots of things to deceive people into believing that worshipping the beast is the right thing to do. That’s why it’s important to know what’s really happening: evil forces are battling to sway your devotion from God and choose a false way to worship. By making the right choice in this matter now, you’ll have heaven’s power already in place to help you stay loyal to God in the future.



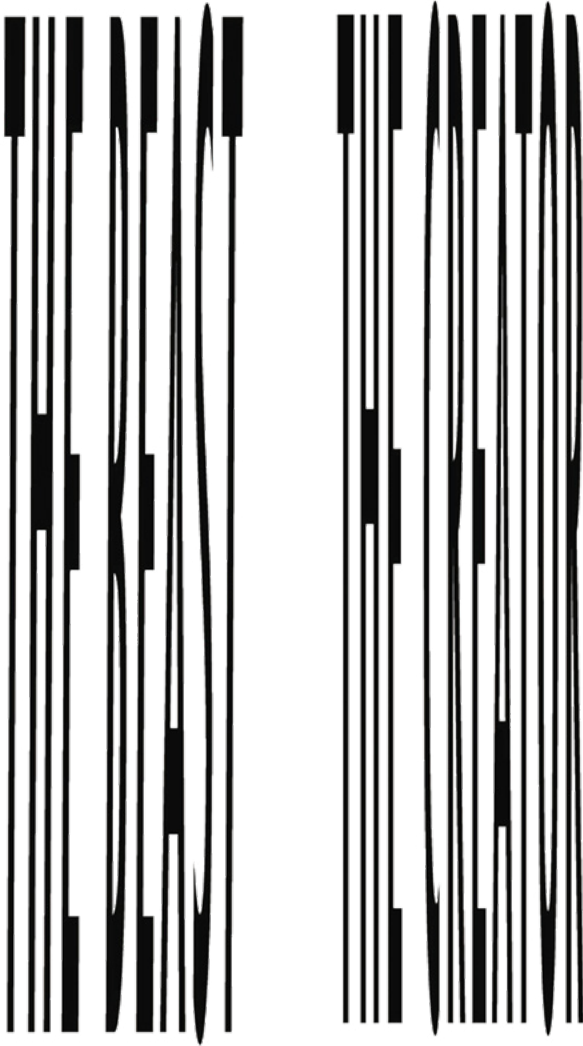
Long is Wrong

“The assumption [idea] that the events of the first week required thousands upon thousands of years . . . strikes directly at the foundation of the fourth commandment” (*Patriarchs and Prophets*, p. 111).



Coded Reminder

“Scan” the two bar codes below by holding the bottom of the page close to your eyes to help remind you about the two sides seeking your end-time devotion.





Think About It

- What does it mean to worship God?
- Are there wrong ways to worship God? If so, what are some examples?
- Do you see or hear about anything happening right now that might point toward a false system of worship?

NOTES

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*See Revelation 12, 13:3, 15

Answers: Word puzzle: "For he spoke, and it came to be; he commanded, and it stood firm" (Psalm 33:9); Bible verse fill-in: the beast; Book cover: Lamb's Book of Life; Coded Reminder: THE BEAST, THE CREATOR.



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