

WWII veteran covers the origins of Christianity

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IVN Contributing Writer

Dr. Carroll R. Bierbower, a resident of the area for 26 years and World War II veteran, has written a small booklet entitled, "The Origin and Development of the Christian Religion," which is now available, upon request, to the public.

Bierbower will be 92 years old in June and before moving to Oregon he lived in Southern California where he founded a Baptist church and his own television repair business. Before that he served in the navy during World War II and, after retiring from the military, received a PhD from the Baptist Christian University in Shreveport and a doctorate of divinity from Sacramento Baptist Theological Seminary. In addition to preaching, and before starting his own business, he was an electrician with the California Edison Power Company for 20 years.

During World War II, Bierbower dropped out of his senior year of high school to join the navy where he became an electrician and was later put to work on the hospital ship USS Comfort which was deployed in the Pacific Theater of the war. After the ship was commissioned it went to Australia and picked up patients there before returning to California. Then, after dropping of their patients, it attended the invasion of the Philippines and later Okinawa. As they were leaving Okinawa with a full load of 750 patients, and just as it started to become dark, the ship was struck by a kamikaze pilot, otherwise known as a Japanese suicide pilot.

"I was in the communications room. I'd go there for privacy. I was writing a letter to my finance. Then I got a phone call saying, 'We need you at the electrical shop,' and I said, 'What do you need from me this time?' It was after quitting time you know? What do they need me for at this time in the evening? 'We need you real bad...'" his shipmates said. When Bierbower inquired once again as to

what they needed from him it was revealed that they wanted another player for a poker game. After refusing to participate a couple of times he was finally talked into coming down. He was there at the game for about 15 minutes before the kamikaze pilot directly struck the communications room where he was at. "It would have killed me instantly. It completely destroyed the room I was in. I got my life saved by a poker game you might say."

After returning home, and while the USS Comfort was being repaired, he got married to his wife of 71 years, 72 come July, who is now suffering from Alzheimer's. A short while after getting married, he left the service and began his religious studies. He was ordained as a minister at 30 years old.

"I go into a lot of history that most Christians don't even know exists," Bierbower said of his new booklet. "It's going to get some preachers ticked off if they see it because they won't agree with it. But it's history and they won't tell the truth to their people about the Christian religion because, well, like one

preacher said, 'I'd like to have someone to preach to next Sunday.'" Bierbower went on to say that he has preached the fundamental Christian doctrine for over 50 years but after moving to Oregon, and having time on his hands for studying and researching the bible, he changed a lot of his views.

"The Christianity we have today has nothing to do with the first or second century Christianity. The Christianity we have today was developed by the Roman Catholic Church in the third and fourth centuries," Bierbower stated in conclusion. The booklet covers the bible from a historical perspective and discusses, among a great many other things, Jesus' story not being written until about 100 years after his death and the adoption of pagan beliefs into the Christian religion. Bierbower also has multiple other writings about the Christian religion online.

Anyone who is interested in reading the booklet can email drcrb@icloud.com for a copy.

AP Briefs

Chiloquin settles suit over free speech at council meetings

CHILOQUIN, Ore. (AP) — The Southern Oregon city of Chiloquin has settled a freedom of speech lawsuit filed against it out of court.

The Herald and News reports (<https://is.gd/Ai5zze>) that plaintiff Richard Twamley confirmed Monday that his lawsuit against the city was resolved through a settlement. Details on the settlement were not immediately available.

Twamley filed suit against Chiloquin and former Mayor Joe Hobbs in October 2016 for an incident in December 2015 when Hobbs denied Twamley the opportunity to speak during a city council meeting. Twamley sought \$1.7 million for the denial of his First Amendment rights.

According to the lawsuit, Twamley planned to speak to the council about a 2014

legal settlement between the city and the Chiloquin Rodeo Association but Hobbs ruled his comments were out of order.

Cottage Grove fined for discharging sewage wastewater

COTTAGE GROVE, Ore. (AP) — State environmental regulators have slapped Cottage Grove with \$4,500 in fines.

The Register-Guard reports (<http://bit.ly/2lEr7Ud>) the city was fined for discharging contaminated sewage wastewater onto city-owned parkland and into the Coast Fork of the Willamette River.

The Oregon Department of Environmental Quality says wastewater samples collected in June contained bacteria from human waste slightly above allowable levels.

Five times in July, samples of treated wastewater the city used to irrigate parkland contained too much bacteria.

The department classified the river discharge violation as "minor," carrying a \$1,500 fine, and the land watering violation as "moderate," with a \$3,000 fine.

City officials blame heat waves and a brief equipment failure last summer for raising temperatures of the water treated at its plant.

Timber companies sue over expansion of Oregon monument

MEDFORD, Ore. (AP) — Two Oregon lumber companies are challenging the legality of former President Barack Obama's expansion of the Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument.

Murphy Co. and Murphy Timber Investments LLC sued in federal court in

Medford Friday naming President Donald Trump and federal agencies.

The Mail-Tribune says (<https://goo.gl/8w5LUO>) the Trump administration could choose not to defend the lawsuit.

Before leaving office, Obama added about 48,000 acres to the monument in southwestern Oregon days to protect its biodiversity.

Murphy Co. President John Murphy says more than 80 percent of the federal land in the expansion area is dedicated to timber production under the O&C Lands Act.

He says removing those acres from the timberland base managed by BLM will reduce the supply of timber sold and jeopardizes the company's log supply.

Murphy Timber Investments argues the expansion will reduce the value of about 2,100 acres of timberland it owns within the boundary as well as land outside it.

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Salad Case
Cucumber Salad **\$5.09** lb. Cucumbers, onion, tomatoes & Italian Dressing. Reg. \$6.99

Breakfast Menu
2 Egg Scramble with Toast **\$3.99** ea. Your choice meat, cheese, vegetables & toast. Reg. \$4.69

Meat

Diestel Bulk Sausage **\$4.89** lb. Reg. \$5.99 lb. Makes for a tasty lasagna.

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