



The Wonder Springs Chronicle

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Off road ramblings

Our Friday cartoon pundit Brute' Griz, has recently made a lot of good comments about his friend Tony Snow who recently died to this world because of colon cancer. Personally I never met the man, but reading some of what he has written over the last couple of years, I look forward to some eternal day when I will have that pleasure.

One of Tony's comments in both of the articles that Brute' linked here at Wonder Springs was about God calling people to get out beyond their normal comfort zone and go off road. Being off road by its very nature causes one to create their own ramblings though you may have a destination in mind.

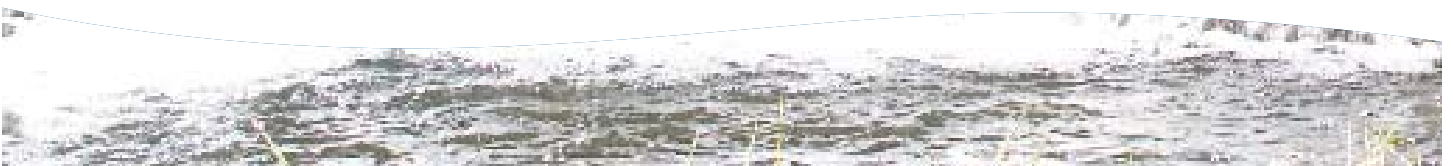
This ministry blog, both in the literal sense and figuratively, I would consider off road pretty much from its very beginning. It attempts to present a biblical creation worldview, from a Christian perspective. Not so much because the Bible says

it, it must be true blind faith , but creationism seems to fit observable scientific data much better than the alternative.

To believe a random upward march of organization, contrary to all natural laws, seems not to be science, but wishful thinking through ignorance or laziness, to out right blasphemy in its extreme. That extreme being and is becoming more aggressive and belligerent daily.

So off road with the birds and the beasts, we primitives of the knuckle dragging group, must contend with being ignored or humiliated by those who fully understand the unlimited potential of human evolutionary progress. That growth occurs now not over millennia according to their worldview, but now we evolve upward virtually week by week.

Into this context I would like to introduce the first principal of the off road universe, or the first common natural law. Common



natural law being defined as observable scientific principles by which an orderly universe functions day by day, so that life can continue without chaos and collapse. You don't need formal training to understand these natural phenomena. You do need to be trained however, to think they don't apply to you or your crowd of groupies.

That first natural law is, "In wildness is the preservation of the world."

I bring this up first because it is in distinct tension with what is developing throughout western culture. I am specifically referring to this global warming hysteria now being forced upon humanity by a group of religious prophets of doom. Many make a great deal of money in the process and live a high lifestyle. While they have limousines waiting to take them to their next destination, they urge their followers to take public transportation or ride bicycles to their revival meetings.

Human civilization is not going to collapse because of global warming, and furthermore eliminating all carbon dioxide emissions from human activity is not going to change the wildness of creation. Something to be concerned about however, is global cooling, in that instance there are going to be a lot of starving people a lot faster. This is especially true if we continue to divert human subsistence foods into non and never to be economic biofuels.

So where did we come by such a radical statement contrary to all the enlightenment theory of human development: "In wildness is the preservation of the world"?

The words themselves are found in the essay "Walking" by Henry David Thoreau. A PDF copy of which is found in the Resources section. It seems by some way this concept was made popular by John Muir, naturalist and writer, who spent a great deal of time and energy in the Sierra Nevada Mountains of California.

Thoreau was known as one of the original Transcendentalists. This New England movement in the United States began in the mid 19th century because the local "Christian" Calvinists and Unitarians had lost the transcendence of God in their religious enterprise. This makes

those times quite similar to our own, with the loss of God's transcendence in both Evangelicalism and mainline Protestant denominations.

To put this into context, both Thoreau and Muir spent a great deal of time off road. Today it is difficult to get anyone out of the city. If and when that occurs contrary to all the Detroit marketing hype most SUVs never leave the Interstate, and virtually none ever have tires that do not ride on asphalt or concrete.

Our natural experiences with creation are really just to bring some urbane toy and tear up the place, not only with air pollution, but also with noise. If the contraptions themselves don't make enough thunder, then we can pump up the amplifier and listen to our music. Then sunburned, half to fully drunk from cans of cheap beer, we return to town to relish our exploitation of our natural resources.

In America, as in most of the northern hemisphere western culture, these wild experiences occur mostly from early July to early September July 4th Labor Day holidays . After that, the wild becomes too inhospitable and we return to our jobs to get ready for another natural experience next year.

There is a difference between wildness and wilderness. The wild can exist pretty much anywhere noisy humans do not remain but are only are transitory visitors. Wilderness is wild, but has a more complex legal designation that seeks to calm the toys and noise and other types of human development.

You may disagree with the fact that, in wildness is the preservation of the world, but if it is a true common natural law, why are we going to such extremes to alter this reality?

The answers from others seem to noisily proclaim, that we are saving the planet from humanity. Just think about the absurdity of that statement for a minute.

Bluntly put, one group of human wreckers of nature is going to save us from another group of human wreckers of nature. The interesting thing about this illogical concept is if wildness does preserve the world, whichever group you associate with your worldview is going to fail. Only wildness will persevere, and if you do not get with the wildness perseverance reality, you are an endangered

species, probably much more endangered than the polar bear.

So the Wonder Springs off road calling is to see how many people we can get to truly experience wildness. For the most part churches don't want to experience true wildness, because people might there meet their transcendent God and realize that church leadership had been feeding them at best a bland diet of a temporal God who only cares about temporal possessions and cares nothing about wildness or especially their transcendent human eternal nature.

The global warming religion, as we have recently named the Gegwcatf, don't want you to experience the true wildness, because they too will lose their basis of support. In the wild you understand that mankind's efforts are almost whimsical compared to nature. The real problem is that so many take their own importance in this effort so seriously.

Global enterprise doesn't want you to experience true wildness, because you may decide that a 60 inch flat screen illusion of reality really doesn't have the same impact on your life as a starry night or a beautiful sunset, or even more striking a sunrise. Then that SUV that never got off the highway doesn't seem that important either. That small car can get you to the end of a gravel road just as easily and with current gas prices you can go much more often.

So how do you begin to experience the reality of the preservation of the world through wildness? You can begin by reading Thoreau's "Walking", Then you can walk. Walk in the park, the green belt, then ramble out into the woods. Wildness can be as wild as you have the off road willingness to make it.

If it makes you feel more secure, to begin with you can take your iPod or mp3 player, but see if you can develop the discipline to leave the noise at home and listen to the music of nature, the singing birds, the babbling brook. Dolby surround sound just doesn't quite convey the depth because it truly lacks the dimension of reality.

Probably you will discover that the biggest hindrance to true wildness is time. Preservation

of the world will not take place on your time budget. That is because wildness defines time with a touch of eternity, even in this temporal fallen world. But if you give it enough time, wildness will make you more productive and more importantly it will help you segregate the important from the trifle and the frivolous.

The final stanza of Robert Frost's "The Road Not Taken" bears great relevance both in the literal and ironic sense in this common law of off road rambling into wildness. By your choice the path you take is the one less traveled, and that makes all the difference, because you initially made the decision to ramble off road and the transcendental nature of wildness gives an eternal value to your journey.

*Two roads diverged in a yellow wood,
And sorry I could not travel both
And be one traveler; long I stood
And looked down one as far as I could*

*To where it bent in the undergrowth;
Then took the other, as just as fair,
And having perhaps the better claim,
Because it was grassy and wanted wear;*

*Though as for that the passing there
Had worn them really about the same,
And both that morning equally lay
In leaves no step had trodden black.*

*Oh, I kept the first for another day!
Yet knowing how way leads on to way,
I doubted if I should ever come back.
I shall be telling this with a sigh*

*Somewhere ages and ages hence:
Two roads diverged in a wood, and I
I took the one less traveled by,
And that has made all the difference.*