

EDITORIAL

As mentioned in the previous issue, this one is late. I'm teaching seven courses (six different ones), as well as serving on the pulpit committee of our church, teaching Sunday school, and for the time being, leading the singing in church services, and leading the Wednesday prayer meeting.

Despite that, most of the delay is due to the time spent in preparing the article on the Pleiades. Of all the constellations and asterisms mentioned in the Bible, the Pleiades is the most important. Also known in the Bible as the seven stars, the Pleiades turn out to be a strong type of the Church ... but see the article for how strong.

Let me also take this occasion to publish an **erratum**. A couple of readers pointed out an error in "A Brief Introduction to the History of Evolution" which appeared in *Biblical Astronomer* No. 85, Summer 1998, pp. 9-17. On page 15 it is erroneously stated that Darwin learned his hatred of the Scriptures from his grandfather, Erasmus Darwin. Fred Middleton wrote by email:

Erasmus Darwin died in 1802, seven years before his famous grandson was born. The Erasmus Darwin in the Geological Society must have been Charles' brother.

Undoubtedly Erasmus senior's writings on evolution in *Zoonomia* (Vol. 2, 1796) and *The Temple of Nature* (1803) were used by Charles. Erasmus Darwin was clearly the first British evolutionist and very influential for two generations, but admirers of Charles Darwin concealed his influence.

Source: D. Hele-King, 1968. *The Essential Writings of Erasmus Darwin*, (London).

Finally, a heart-felt thank you to the encouraging letters, phone calls, and donations sent to your editor in the last several months. I was reminded thereby that not only must I occupy until the Lord comes back (Luke 19:13), but I'm not alone in that occupation either. Thank you all.