

Flehinger Clip 6 Transcript

BRETT FLEHINGER: Bryan's explanation as he testified was, quote, "The one beauty about the word of God is it does not take an expert to understand it." This is an incredibly democratic position on salvation. It's a very Protestant position on salvation as well.

"The beauty about the word of God is it does not take an expert to understand it." in his mind, actually Bryan understood evolution. Bryan was not stupid at all. Instead, evolution and natural selection undermines people's faith in the Bible.

He didn't think evolutionary thought was wrong. But what he thought was it potentially undermine people's faith in the Bible. And if you undermine their individual perceptions of the Bible, their individual faith in the Bible, what do you undermine at that point? Gabe. Oh, yep. So we clearly have learned to work together. We're all indiv--

GABE: Somebody already said, their salvation, but I would add going back to some of the early Jeffersonian stuff, their virtue, their morality, which in Bryan's view is the responsibility of the People of the State to protect.

BRETT FLEHINGER: Yeah, and you're using not only it's the responsibility of the State to protect it, but you're now using the state to undermine it in a sense. If I believe in this and I send my children to your school and you're going to teach them exactly the opposite, you've got a fundamental problem going on here. And I use fundamental in a different way.

I think the interesting thing if you're putting that in a paragraph or if you put it in a paper, Gabe, would be to see the different ways that this is the political, that personal issues come out in public politics-- all politics are public-- but come out in politics here.

And I think it's at least on two levels. And it may be more than that. We're not going to take the time to pull that out. That's also the difference between speaking and writing. You can start to pull it out in a sophisticated way in just the same way that Michael laid out, went from intuition to evidence based understanding. So that's perfect.