

## LIBERTY PARK INN®

A Syndicated Column

Name: *Lee Strobel Visits Hotel*

By: David Henry © 2012

“Hello. My name is Lee Strobel and I have a reservation at your hotel.”

“You’re not the award winning journalist and former legal editor at the Chicago Tribune, are you,” I asked?

“Yes, as a matter of fact, I am,” Lee replied.

“It’s an honor to meet you, sir,” I responded. “My name is David. I’m the owner of this hotel.”

“It’s nice to meet you, David,” Lee replied.

I continued, “I just finished reading your book, *The Case for a Creator*. I really enjoyed it.”

“Thanks,” Lee replied. “I get a lot of good comments on that book. But I get a lot of negative comments too. There are a lot of people who still believe there is no God. And I understand where they’re coming from. I felt the same way myself for years.”

“Yes,” I replied. “I read about that in your book. I was especially intrigued by your book because I have a strong interest in science too.”

“I understand the feeling,” Lee replied. “There is something about science that is exhilarating.”

“Yes,” I replied. “And there are a lot of things in your book that were interesting to me.”

“Like what,” Lee asked?

“Well,” I replied, “The fossil records for one thing. When I was a boy growing up, people talked all the time about finding the ‘missing link.’ Now nobody talks about it anymore. Your book made me realize that the reason they don’t talk about it anymore is that the fossil record doesn’t support Darwin’s theory. They never found the ‘missing link.’ The fact that most every species of animals showed up in a brief period of time during the Cambrian period stands in stark contrast to what Darwin’s theory predicted.”

“Yes,” Lee replied.

“I was also interested in the *Scientific Dissent From Darwinism* paper that

was signed by 600 respected scientists. It’s interesting that we never hear about that. Whenever I’ve read an article about science or go to a museum, Darwin’s theory is always presented as absolute fact. I didn’t realize there were so many highly educated scientists who were willing to go on record saying they doubted the accuracy of Darwin’s teachings.”

“Most people don’t know about that,” Lee replied. “It’s like there’s a big cover-up in that area.”

“I was also fascinated by your story of how Darwinism led you into atheism,” I said. “I’ve heard about this, but you’re the first person I’m aware of who actually embraced atheism because of Darwin’s theory.”

“Well, David,” Lee responded, “There are still many people around like me.”

“Personally,” I continued, “I never had trouble believing that science and the Bible were compatible. The person who introduced me to Christ years ago was also fascinated with science. So I grew up not seeing any conflict. I was actually surprised when I got older and learned that there are people who believe that science and religion don’t mix.”

“Welcome to my world,” Lee replied.

“Since you have experienced both sides of the atheism-faith issue, I have a theory that I would like to run by you,” I said.

“Sure,” Lee replied. “What’s your theory?”

“You mentioned in your book that after you learned Darwin’s theory and concluded that God wasn’t necessary, that you indulged in an immoral lifestyle. My theory is that the primary reason that people embrace atheism is that they don’t want to be restrained by a God who tells them what to do and makes them feel guilty. In other words, atheism is really a moral issue rather than an intellectual issue.”

“Well, David,” Lee replied, “I certainly didn’t see it that way when I was in that lifestyle, but in retrospect, I think you are largely right. Most people who are atheists probably did

adopt that position to ease their conscience and allow themselves the freedom to do things they know the Bible doesn’t approve of.

“But,” Lee continued, “There are exceptions. For example I have a friend who is an attorney and he sees the injustices of the legal system. He’s an atheist, but I know him well enough to know that he is an atheist because of the injustices he sees at work. He is quietly asking himself the question, ‘If there is a God, then why does He allow injustices like this?’ And what about some other people like Ted Turner? He rejected belief in God as a young man when one of his parents got sick and died. He prayed for healing but God didn’t answer his prayers. So we can’t say that all atheists became atheists because they wanted to adopt a rule-free, guilt-free lifestyle.”

“I see your point, Lee, and I certainly agree with you,” I responded. “Now that you mention it, I know of several people like that myself.”

“Right,” Lee said. “This is one of the reasons we need to treat all men with respect and courtesy. We don’t know what experiences they’ve had in their lives. Only God knows for sure what their motives are, and He is the only one who can judge fairly.”

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**Notes:** Original publication date: 10/29/2012

In addition to current events and occasional visits to the 1800’s hotel, this column also features imaginary conversations with famous people. This week’s column is based upon the book *The Case for a Creator* by Lee Strobel. The author of Liberty Park Inn has never met Lee Strobel but is just imagining the conversation that might take place if Lee Strobel were to visit the hotel.

Liberty Park Inn® is a syndicated column about issues and current events featuring conversations in an imaginary hotel. You may contact the author through his website at [www.libertyparkinn.com](http://www.libertyparkinn.com).