

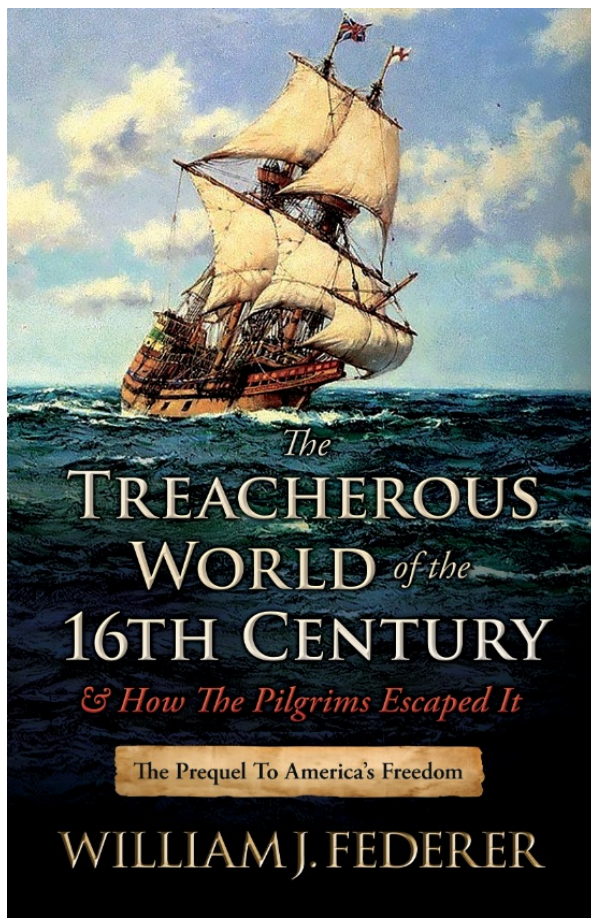
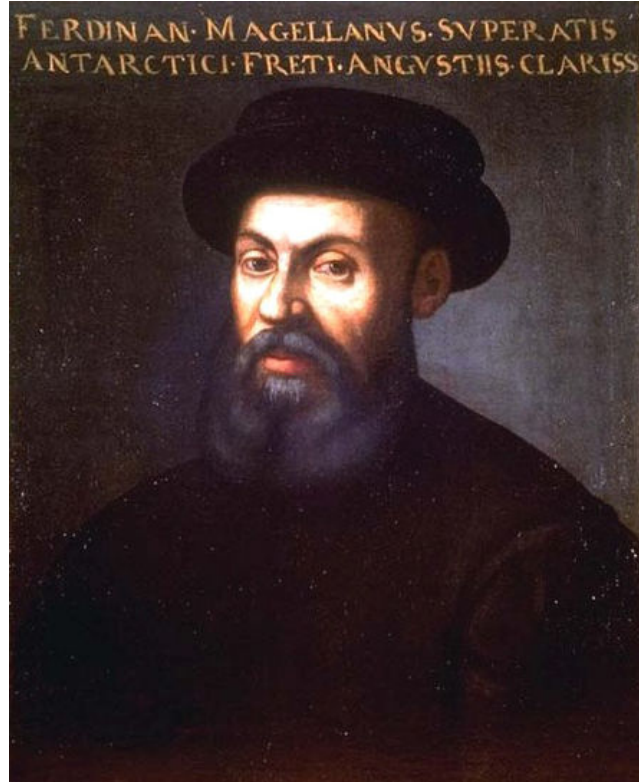
## American Minute with Bill Federer

### Explorers circumnavigate Earth: Magellan & Drake to Space Shuttle

In 1519, the Portuguese explorer **Ferdinand Magellan** set out on the **first voyage to circumnavigate the world.**

Sailing for **Spain**, **Magellan** began his search for a route to the East Indies by traveling down the coast of South America.

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[The Treacherous World of the 16th Century and How the Pilgrims Escaped It: The Prequel to America's Freedom](#)

**Magellan's** fleet reached **Cape Virgenes** and concluded that they had found a passage because the waters were brine and deep.



Four ships went through the 373-mile long passage which **Magellan** called "**Estrecho de Todos los Santos**" or "**Canal of All Saints**," as the date was November 1st, "**All Saints' Day**."

It came to be called the "**Strait of Magellan**."

On the other side of the strait, **Magellan** saw the sea very still and peaceful, so he gave it the Portuguese name "**Mar Pacifico**" meaning "**Peaceful Sea**."



The **Pacific** was first seen by a European six years earlier in 1513, when **Spanish explorer Vasco Núñez de Balboa** crossed the **Isthmus of Panama**, though he called it "**Mar**



del Sur," meaning  
"Southern Sea."

**Magellan** sailed for weeks without sighting land. His food supplies dwindled and rotted, and men began to perish from scurvy, malnourishment, and dehydration.

They sighted a small uninhabited island, restocked supplies, and set sail again on January 28, 1521.



They reached the **Marianas, Guam,** and then the **Philippine Islands,** which were later named for **King Philip II of Spain.**

## Magellan

communicated with native tribes through his Malay interpreter, Enrique.



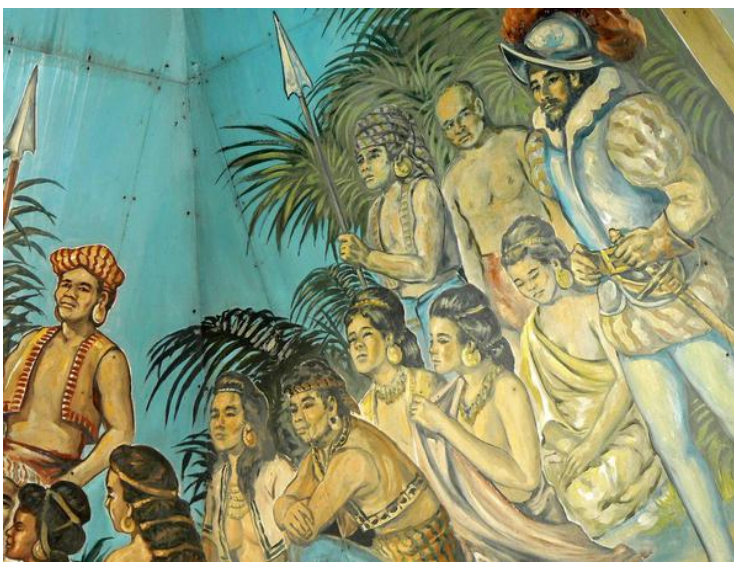
They traded gifts with **Rajah (King) Siau of Mazaua** who guided them to the **Island of Cebu**.

The story was that on the **Island of Cebu**, Magellan met **Rajah**

**Humabon**, who had an ill grandson.

**Magellan** (or one of his men) was able to cure or help this young boy, and in gratitude **Chief Humabon** and his queen **Hara Amihan** were baptized as Christians, along with 800 of followers.





Afterwards, **Rajah Humabon** and his ally **Datu Zula** entangled **Magellan** in a conflict with a neighboring chieftain, **Datu Lapu-Lapu** of the **Island of Mactan**.

**Magellan** had hoped to convert **Datu Lapu-Lapu** to **Christianity**, but the chief was dismissive.

On the morning of April 27, 1521, **Datu Lapu-Lapu** with around 1,500 of his troops confronted the Spaniards on the beach.



DEATH OF MAGELLAN.



**Magellan** was hit by a bamboo spear, surrounded and then killed.

**Magellan's** crew continued to sail

the ship, *Victoria*, and finally made it back to Spain in September of 1522.



The **Philippine Islands** went on to become **the most Christian nation in Asia**, with 93% of its population of 93.3 million being **Christian**.

The second expedition to circumnavigate the globe was in 1577 led by **Sir Francis Drake**.

**Francis Drake** was born around 1540 amidst religious upheaval in England.

During the **Prayer Book Rebellion**, 1549, his poor farmer father, **Edward Drake**, fled with his family to the coast where they lived on an old laid-up ship.



**Edward Drake** was ordained as a **Protestant minister** and preached to **sailors in the King's Navy**,



afterwards  
becoming a **vicar  
of Upchurch on  
the Medway.**

Profoundly  
influenced,  
**Francis Drake**  
would later have  
**religious  
services on his  
ship twice a day.**

Around the age of  
12, **Francis Drake**  
was apprenticed to  
a ship transporting  
merchandise from  
France.

The ship's master,  
having no children,  
eventually  
bequeathed the  
ship to Francis,  
which began his  
prosperous sailing  
career.



During the reign of  
**Queen Elizabeth I,**  
**Francis Drake**  
sailed numerous  
times to the  
**Caribbean** for  
trade.



He also raided Spanish ships and settlements, resulting in King Philip II of Spain calling him a pirate, **El Draque**, and offering the equivalent of six million dollars for his life.



In 1577, almost 60 years after Magellan, **Francis Drake** began the second voyage to circumnavigate the world.

Drake sailed down



the coast of South America and, before reaching **Tierra del Fuego**, passed through the **Strait of Magellan** in September of 1578.

# THE WORLD Encompassed

By  
Sir FRANCIS DRAKE,

Being his next voyage to that *Nombrre*  
*de Dies* formerly imprinted;

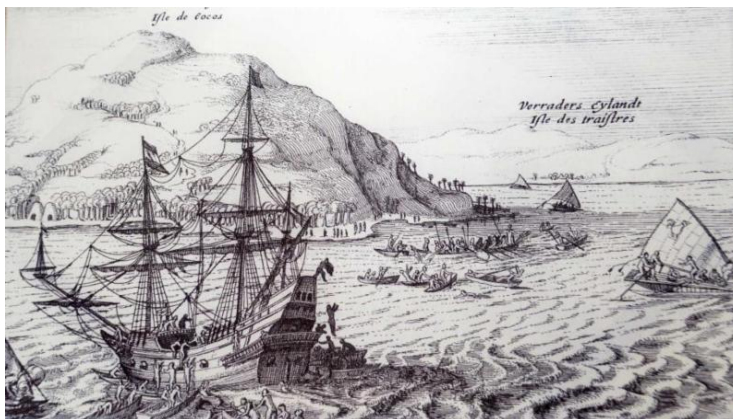
Carefully collected out of the notes of Master  
FRANCIS FLETCHER Preacher in this im-  
ployment, and others others his followers in  
the same.

Offered now at last to public view, both for the Honour of  
the Author, but especially for the stirring up of several *Genies*,  
to follow after Christianitie, and to obtaine their waies  
by *discreetly* *entertainment*.



LONDON,

Printed for NICHOLAS BOURNE  
and are to be sold at his shop at the  
*Royall Exchange*, 1628.



His ship was then blown south where he saw from a distance **Drake Passage**, which was not actually traversed till **Willem Shouten's**

**1616 Dutch expedition** - the first expedition to pass **Cape Horn**.

**Francis Drake** sailed through violent storms and **raided the Pacific Spanish coast of America** as far north as **California**.

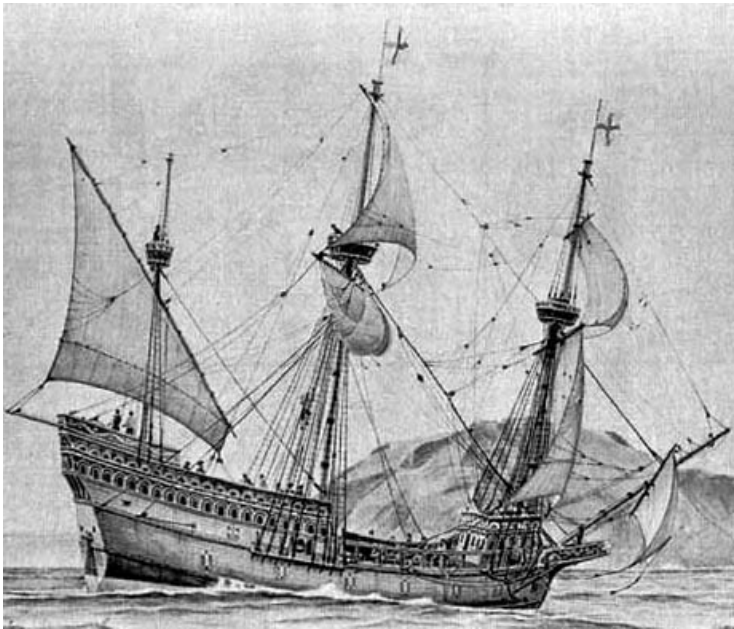


At **Mocha Island**, hostile **Mapuche** attacked **Drake**, seriously injuring him with an arrow.

In 1579, **Drake** anchored north of **San Francisco** at "**Drake's Bay.**"

In the name of the **Holy Trinity**, he claimed **California** for the **English Crown**, calling it **Nova Albion**,

which is Latin for  
**"New Britain."**



Turning west,  
**Drake** sailed to  
the **Moluccas  
Spice Islands of  
Indonesia** where  
his ship, *Golden  
Hind*, almost sank  
on a reef.

**Drake** made it  
across the **Indian  
Ocean**, around  
**Cape of Good  
Hope** and up the  
**coast of Africa**  
back to **England** in  
1580, where he  
was **knighthood** by  
**Queen Elizabeth I.**



In 1588, **Sir  
Francis Drake**  
helped repel the



**Spanish Armada** from invading **England**.

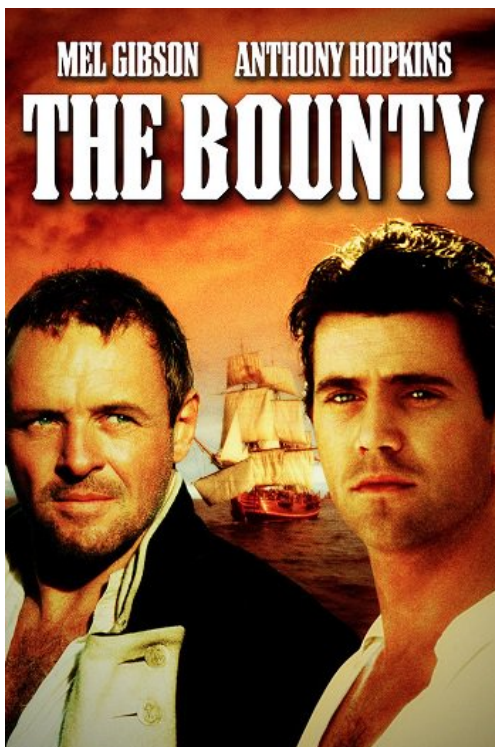
**Sir Francis Drake** died aboard the ship, *Defiance*, January 28, 1596,

after a failed attempt to capture **San Juan, Puerto Rico**.

Almost two centuries after Drake, **Captain James Cook** sailed the *HMS Endeavour* around the globe, 1768–1771, being the first circumnavigation not to lose personnel to scurvy.



**Cook** was later attacked and **killed** by native inhabitants of Hawaii on February 14, 1779.



**Captain William Bligh's HMS Bounty** was initially to sail the globe, picking up breadfruit in **Tahiti**, but delays, weather, and a mutiny on April 28, 1789, prevented it.

When **Acting Lieutenant Fletcher Christian** mutinied, **Captain William Bligh** and 18 of his crew, were **set adrift** in a small boat.

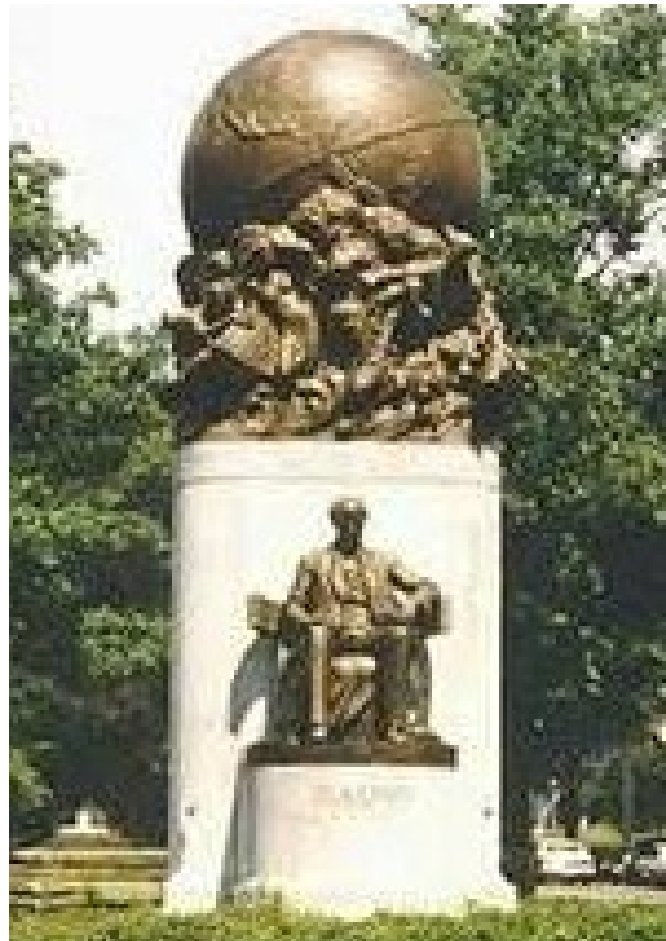


**Bligh** sailed in the open sea for nearly two months, covering a distance of **3,500 nautical miles**, to arrive in Kupang, Indonesia,

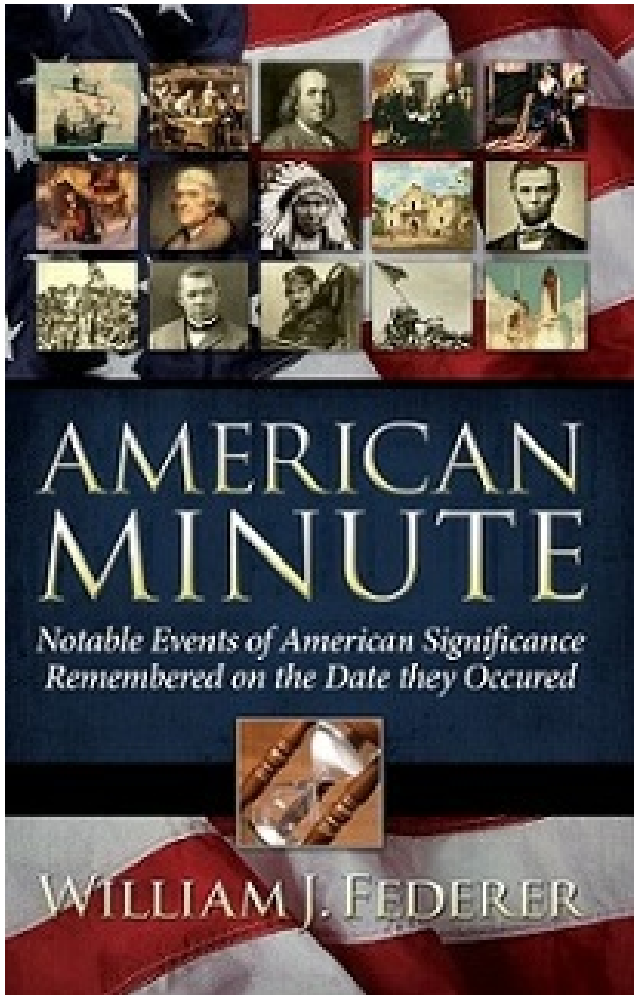
They then made it to Jakarta, where they found a ship heading back to **Britain**, and arrived there in April of 1790.

**Matthew Fontaine Maury**, the first superintendent of the U.S. Naval Observatory, was known as the "**Pathfinder of the Seas**" for pioneering the **charting of sea and wind currents**. He wrote in *Physical Geography of the Sea*, 1855:

"The Bible called the earth '**the round world**,' yet for ages it was the most damnable heresy for Christian men to say that the world is round ...

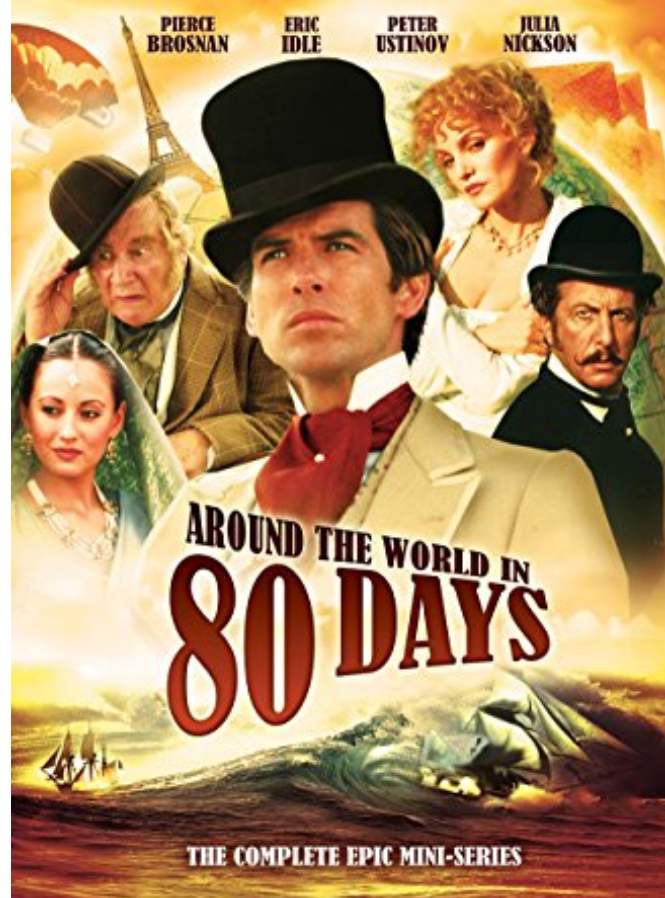


Finally, sailors circumnavigated the globe, and proved the Bible to be right, and saved Christian men of science from the stake."



[American Minute-  
Notable Events of  
American Significance  
Remembered on the  
Date They Occurred](#)

In 1873, French novelist **Jules Verne** wrote ***Around the World in 80 Days.***



In 1929, the German-built **Graf Zeppelin** made the **first round-the-world flight** (Weltrundfahrt) in 21 days.

In 1931, **Wiley Post** made the **first fixed wing flight around the world** in a little over 8 days.



In 1933, **Wiley Post** made the first solo-flight around the world in just over 7



days. He discovered the **jet stream** and pioneered use of the **gyroscopic autopilot, radio direction finder, and the pressure suit.**

In 1982, **Ross Perot, Jr. and Jay Coburn**, flying the *Spirit of Texas*, completed the first round-the-world flight by helicopter.



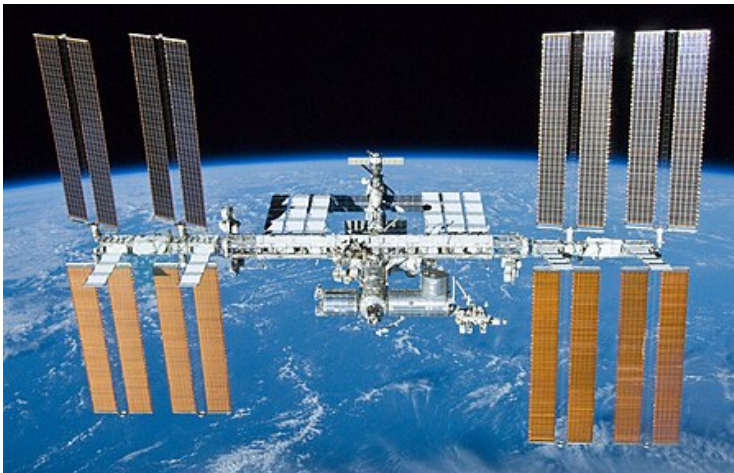
The **first person to orbit the earth in space** was Russian-Soviet cosmonaut **Yuri Gagarin** on April 12, 1961, followed by **American**

**astronaut John Glenn**, February 20, 1962.

From 1981 to 2011, the **Space Shuttle** program



flew 135 missions which orbited the earth launching **satellites**, **interplanetary probes**, the **Hubble Space Telescope**, as well as performing scientific experiments and building the International Space Station.



**The International Space Station**, at an altitude of 250 miles above the Earth, travels 17,239 miles per hour and **orbits the Earth every 90 minutes.**

In 1984, astronauts **Captain Bruce McCandles** and **Brigadier General Robert Lee Stewart** stepped out of the **Space Shuttle Challenger** and performed **the**

**first un-tethered extravehicular activities** using Manned Maneuvering Units, while **orbiting a million feet above the earth.**



In an interview with ***Reasons to Believe***, October 1, 2000, **General Bob Stewart** stated:

"Your first view of **the home planet**

is breathtaking. Maybe that's how **God** intended it to be viewed ..."

**General Stewart** continued:

"I had been teaching a Sunday school class here at High View Baptist Church in Woodland Park and the class had decided that they wanted to study Genesis ...

The message I hope to get across is that you don't have to give up your intellect to be a Christian ... It gets harder to reach a person for Christ when that person is highly educated and sure of the primacy of science in this world ...



... This universe was brought into existence out of nothingness; that it is especially fine-tuned for the existence of life on this rare, if not unique planet; and that God did it ..."



**General Stewart,** who had been a combat helicopter pilot in Vietnam, logged 289 hours in space. He continued:

"I led off with a primer on relativity so my class could

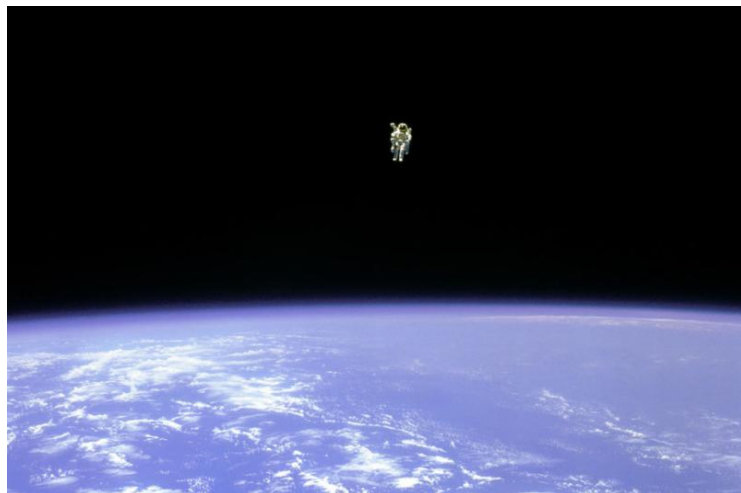


see the historical and logical background of this theory and lose their fear of it.

This was necessary because I intended to talk about the creation event in terms of the big bang, and I wanted my class to understand that this was not just something physicists thought up in a vacuum.

I wanted to approach the existence of human beings on this planet from the standpoint of their unique relationship to the Creator and back that up with some modern numerical biology statistics concerning the probabilities of life existing at all from random processes ..."

**General Stewart** flew in the **Space Shuttle Atlantis** in 1985, and was scheduled for a third flight on the **Space Shuttle Columbia**, but it was canceled due to the **Challenger** disaster.



He concluded his interview:

"I hope to continue to challenge the person who is scientifically oriented with the idea that life would be prohibitively unlikely unless it were created by God ...

In my life I have made a remarkable transition from a person whose faith was in science to the exclusion of religion, to being a person who holds the Scriptures to be truth with science just catching up after 4000 years."



The courage and risks of space travel were realized with the loss the **Space Shuttle Columbia**, which broke apart on re-entry in February 1, 2003, killing the entire crew.

The same fate was experienced by the **Space Shuttle Challenger**, which exploded just 73 seconds after lift-off on January 28, 1986.



The **Challenger's** entire seven member crew was killed, including a



high school teacher-the first private citizen to fly aboard the craft.

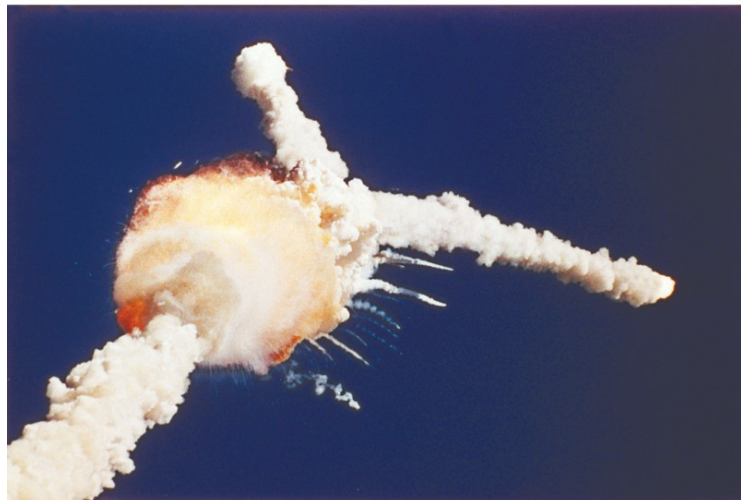
In his address to the nation, **President Ronald Reagan** stated:

"Today is a day for mourning ... a national loss ... The members of the **Challenger** crew were pioneers ...

The future doesn't belong to the fainthearted; it belongs to the brave. The **Challenger** crew was pulling us into the future ..."

**Reagan** continued:

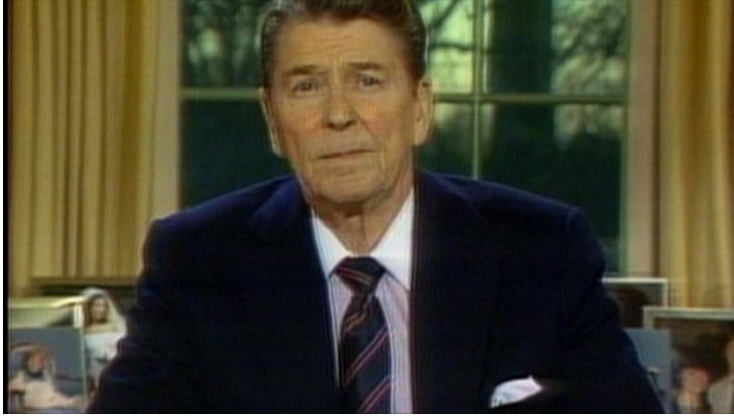
"The crew of the **Space Shuttle Challenger** honored us by the manner in which they lived their lives.



We will never forget them, nor the last time we saw them, this morning, as they prepared for their journey and waved good-bye and '**slipped the surly bonds of earth**' to '**touch the face of God.**'"

**President Reagan** added:

"There's a coincidence today.



On this day 390 years ago, the great explorer **Sir Francis Drake** died aboard ship off the coast of Panama.

... In his lifetime the great frontiers were the oceans, and a historian later said, '**He lived by the sea, died on it, and was buried in it.**'



Well, today we can say of the **Challenger** crew:

Their dedication was, like **Drake's**, complete."

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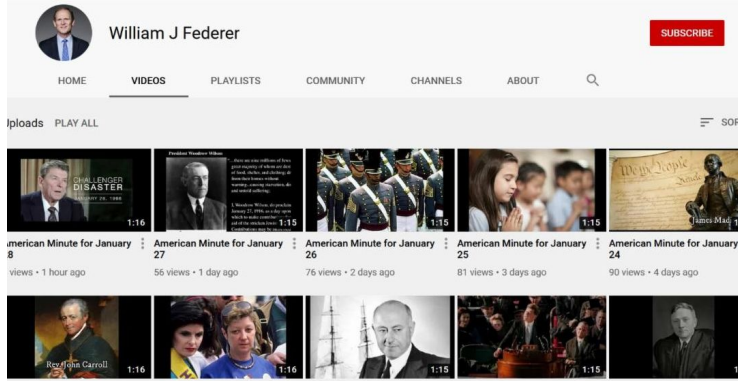
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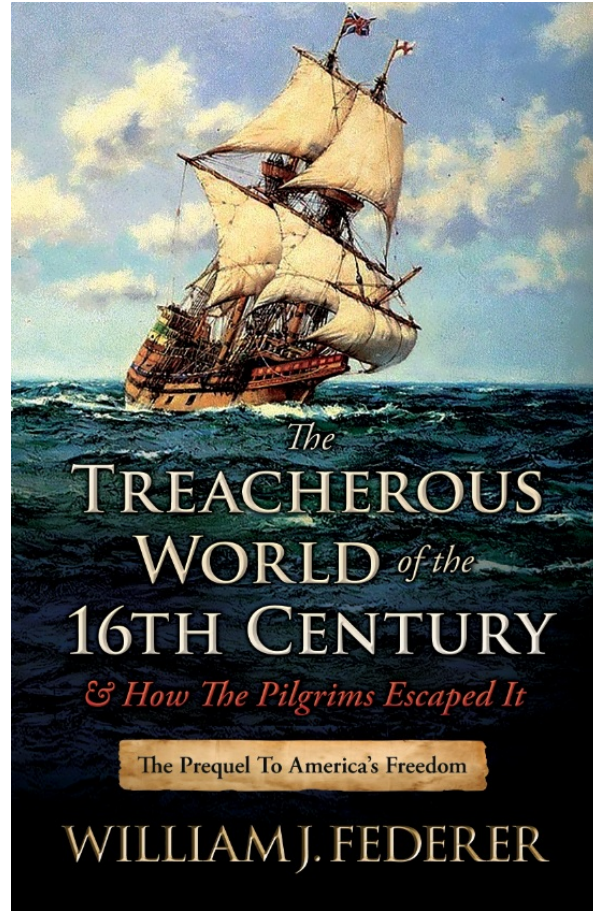
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