

# ACTS & FACTS

INSTITUTE FOR  
CREATION RESEARCH

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VOL. 39 NO. 9

## **FIGHTING THE DRAGON**

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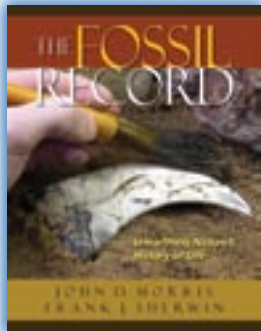
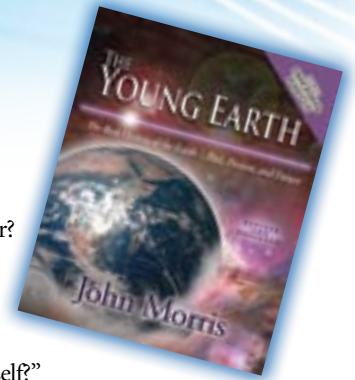


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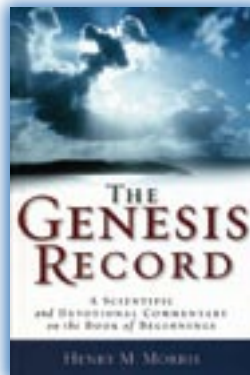


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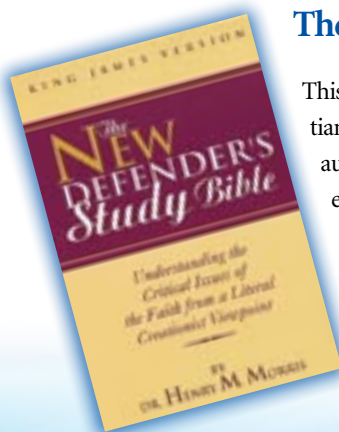
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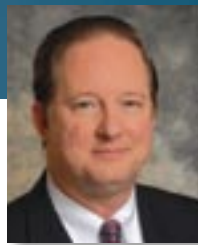
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## Civil Conversation or Dangerous Discourse?

Having a great conversation with someone can be wonderfully satisfying. Newlyweds enjoy this. College students thrive on it. No one wants to be involved in uncomfortable conversations, like students with teachers, or workers with bosses. There are one-way conversations, which are tiresome, and there are conversations that generate a lot of talk without ever getting down to what's really important.

My friend Tim Dudley at New Leaf Publishing, where many of Henry Morris' books were published, is facilitating conversations about the Bible and science at his Creation Conversations website. Others who honor the Lord as Creator hold similar conversations as a means to encourage and edify believers in truth.

Much of the Internet is now geared around conversation. Facebook facilitates millions of conversations every day. Blogging has become a form of conversation, often characterized by ill-mannered speech, ad hominem attacks, and freedom from the constraints of journalistic discretion. Evolutionary biologist P. Z. Meyers every day on his "science" blog stirs up angry responses from like-minded followers who routinely throw insults and threats at creationists and Christians. Civil conversation or dangerous discourse?

Of course, we expect anti-Christians to spew insults at believers. What we don't expect is evangelical leaders to communicate errant views of Scripture through public conversations, such as the BioLogos Foundation is doing. While promoting their affirmation of the inspiration of Scripture, the scientists and theologians at BioLogos believe that the Bible contains errors, that God did not mean what He said in the text of Scripture, that evolution is a fact and biblical creation is a fallacy, that Adam and Eve were not historical

humans, that the Fall may not have actually occurred...and the list goes on. They disseminate these aberrant ideas through what they call "conversations" about issues of science and faith—the forum of BioLogos that features the blogging of the experts and the endless back-and-forth commentary of the readers. Civil conversation or dangerous discourse?

Civil? To a certain degree. Dangerous? Absolutely. Men and women who claim expert status in the Church casting doubts on the Bible—this is dangerous conversation that preys on the uninitiated Christian in the pew. Let's be clear. Do you want your children to be subjected to "Bible curriculum" authored by a theologian who doesn't believe that Adam and Eve really existed or who suggests the Bible has errors? Absolutely not! With the Bible as your source of truth and the Holy Spirit as your guide, engage in conversations that unquestionably honor Jesus as Creator and His Word as authentic, accurate, and absolutely authoritative.

*Acts & Facts* and the various communication arms of the Institute for Creation Research are not intended to be forums for "conversation" to dispense doubts about the Bible or to dance around the truth, as many in this debate prefer to do. Our passion and purpose is to study the Scriptures and the sciences in humble respect for the text of the Bible and for God our Creator, acknowledging that the wisdom of man is but foolishness to God—He holds all the mysteries of life.

Read this issue of *Acts & Facts* thoroughly, with your Bible by your side, and prayerfully commit yourself to the study and communication of His truth.

**Lawrence E. Ford**  
EXECUTIVE EDITOR

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**T**he Bible describes our ultimate Enemy as “the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan” (Revelation 20:2), who wages war against the saints with his many “ministers” (2 Corinthians 11:15) who do his bidding. What is his primary strategy? To thwart the impact of God’s Word.

The battle that began in Eden with the deception of Eve and Adam’s great sin has continued unabated since the Fall. Forty years ago, the Institute for Creation Research joined the fray to teach believers the message of the Creator and to engage the opposition in defense of the truth. And while the scope and intensity of the battle continue to increase, our commitment to the fight has not diminished.

Many *Acts & Facts* readers have been with us since the 1970s and are familiar with ICR’s long history of defending truth. However, our new friends may not be aware of the continual battles being waged in our courts.

The initial success of *The Genesis Flood*, published in 1961 by Drs. John Whitcomb and Henry Morris, created an uncomfortable stir among evolutionary and secular scientists. It was the first serious effort to deal with the scientific evidence for Noah’s Flood and thus struck at the core of the “old earth” theories that dominated academic and scientific thinking. A 1968 U.S. Supreme Court decision (*Epperson v. Arkansas*) declared that it was unconstitutional to forbid the teaching of evolution in public schools, which ultimately transformed public schools into an “evolution only” domain for secular science.

The numerous public debates in the 1970s and 1980s by Drs. Morris and Duane Gish openly challenged, and often humiliated, evolution’s proponents, but also encouraged Christians to look for ways to insert creationist thinking back into the public schools. Often those efforts were spearheaded by Christians elected to local school boards, thus opening the doors for lawsuits to challenge the “evolution only” practice.

In the early 1980s, two major lawsuits were filed, one in Arkansas and another in Louisiana, in an attempt to gain legal permission to teach creation science in the public schools. Both stressed fairness and freedoms, as well as an understanding of the basic scientific methodology for evaluating all available evidence—especially on issues as important as our origins. Unfortunately, by the time these suits went through the various legal channels, the legal precedent against creation science in public schools was so firmly established that the courts had no difficulty in negating those efforts.

During the late 1980s and 1990s, the ID movement gained prominence, using the term “intelligent design” rather than “creation science.” Although its proponents tried desperately to avoid being labelled “creationists,” the courts and various school boards refused to buy into their reasoning. Their last and most well-known lawsuit was *Kitzmiller v. Dover* in 2005. The Dover, Pennsylvania, school board had passed a resolution requiring that “students will be made aware of gaps/problems in Darwin’s Theory and of other theories of evolution including, but not limited to, Intelligent Design.”<sup>1</sup>

The case failed, and the opinion by Judge John Jones was scathing in its denunciation of the “creationists” and the ID movement in general. Part of the rationale for Judge Jones was that the U.S. Supreme Court had

# FIGHTING THE DRAGON

## Science Education and Academic Freedom in the Courts

HENRY M. MORRIS III, D.M.I.N.

ruled in *Edwards v. Aguillard* (1987) that a Louisiana law requiring creation science to be taught along with evolution in public schools was unconstitutional. Thus, the “law of the land” now asserted that creation was “religion” and could not be taught in public schools as an alternative to evolution.

All of the various attempts over the past 25 years had one focus in common: an attempt to legalize the teaching of creation—in one form or another—in the public schools.

ICR fought a legal battle with the state of California in 1990 in order to retain our right to operate the ICR Graduate School (ICRGS). ICR did not advocate or initiate any lawsuits related to the public school efforts, believing that education and persuasion are more appropriate and effective than compulsion.

When ICR began moving its offices to Dallas in 2005, we approached the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) for permission to grant degrees in Texas, as we had been doing in California since 1981. We were told that we would have to demonstrate our credibility for at least two years prior to making application to the THECB, since we were not accredited by a Texas-sanctioned accreditation organization.<sup>2</sup>

ICR made formal application to the THECB in fall 2007. Subsequently, the THECB Site Evaluation Team recommended approval of the ICRGS application to grant degrees in Texas. In December, the THECB Advisory Committee reviewed the application and the Site Team evaluation and also recommended approval. However, both agency recommendations were rejected by Commissioner Raymund Paredes after evolution-only lobbyists and activists pressured the commissioner to deny ICRGS a degree-granting license in the state.

Two critical issues were at stake here. First, ICR is a private, non-profit organization that takes no monies from any state or federal program. As such, our institution should have been exempt from any oversight by the THECB, since their charter only gives them authority over those schools that receive such funding. Secondly, ICR was in no way threatening to invade the public schools, as was alleged by evolution activists, but rather emphatically stated that our mission was for and to Christian schools. Subsequent meetings and a formal mediation with the THECB failed to resolve the matter, so ICR filed suit in order to reverse the THECB ruling.

To be clear, ICR asked for no money in this lawsuit, and we required no outside financial assistance; we did this rather quietly and hopefully, all the while understanding the bias against us. Our effort was to draw out the clear issues and give the courts a chance to allow Christian organizations to pursue their Kingdom “viewpoints” without interference from the government. Unfortunately, after two years of intense interface with both the state and federal judiciary, a federal judge in Austin issued a summary judgment against us.

Over the five years since the Dover case, the amount of anti-cre-

ation activity has increased significantly. Not only have prominent atheists become bestselling authors, but the public intensity of the creation-evolution controversy has raged nationally. Both California and the 9th Circuit Court have recently sided against the Association of Christian Schools International, refusing to reverse the exclusion of university applicants who studied at Christian high schools, ruling that any high school courses that included a creationist view of science (or a providential view of history) are disqualified as credit-worthy for California university admission purposes.

That ruling, unjustified by any commonsense evaluation, adds to the growing and very public animosity toward Christians who take a strong, positive position on the authority and accuracy of the Scriptures. Now, with the federal ruling against ICR, the Texas government may mandate that any private sector college, even those that accept no government funding, may be regulated by the THECB, even to the extreme that the THECB may reject a science education program because it features a creationist viewpoint. The effect of these two major rulings is that private Christian education will now face greater discrimination in California and in Texas—two states that set educational precedents for the nation.

The message is clear: no science programs offered from a biblical creationist viewpoint are allowed. Even private schools will be judged by the restricted, secular practices of public schools, reinforced by the secular (read “non-Christian”) interpretations of the Establishment Clause that now dominate the legal system.

ICR will have more to say on the ramifications of these issues next month. However, please know that, while ICR’s legal battle is over, we will not retreat from other public efforts to fight the “Dragon” and his minions. The battle is raging as never before. Evangelicals are intimidated by anti-Christian court victories. Pastors are running from the controversy, and errant “evangelical” groups like the BioLogos Foundation are funded by evolutionists, which emboldens them to attack those who hold fast to the inerrant Word.

How can you help? First and foremost, ICR needs your intercessory prayer for strength to engage the Enemy and for open doors to present the unwavering message of the Creator. We also need your financial support as never before. God has opened many doors for us in the past year—but those doors require significant funding to follow through on the opportunities. Pray with us. Support as you can. God will “make the increase.” ●

#### References

1. Board Press Release for Biology Curriculum. Dover Area Board of Directors press release, November 19, 2004.
2. While TRACS, under which ICRGS was accredited in California, was approved by the U.S. Department of Education, the state of Texas excludes this accrediting agency.

*Dr. Morris is Chief Executive Officer of the Institute for Creation Research.*





# Using Nature to Encounter God's Attributes

NATHANIEL T. JEANSON, PH.D.

The Institute for Creation Research (ICR) life sciences team has identified four major origins biology research questions.<sup>1-4</sup> The fifth and final question concerns the identification of God's attributes in nature. Discovery of specific displays of God's perfections in nature may sound more like a Bible-oriented research question than a science-oriented one, yet it is a good fit for the life sciences team for a number of reasons.

First, this venture furthers the overall mission of ICR. Research is one component of this ministry, and the *primary* goals of ICR's research are to answer scientific objections to Genesis with scientific rebuttals and to fill in scientific details that Scripture omits.<sup>5</sup> However, the *ultimate* goal of the research is to promote confidence in the accuracy of the Genesis 1-11 account of early earth history. By directing our research beyond a greater knowledge of Scripture to a greater knowledge of God Himself, we not only fulfill the ultimate mission of ICR, we also lift it higher.

Second, Romans 1 says that God's "eternal power" and "Godhead" are obvious in nature, implying that the search for specific displays of His attributes should be a fruitful endeavor. Furthermore, Psalm 19 states that nature declares "the glory of God"; His glorious perfections must therefore be manifest in the natural world. Thus, since nature reveals God, and since science is a way to reveal the natural world, it is a good and worthwhile pursuit to use science to understand God and His ways.

Third, previous attempts to understand God in nature have yielded exciting results. Biologist Arthur Jones reasoned in 1982 that nature "will show plan and purpose" based on what Scripture reveals about God's sovereignty, wisdom, faithfulness, and promises.<sup>6</sup> The recent birth of the Intelligent Design movement validates this reasoning—nature does indeed show abundant evidence of forethought and intelligent engineering for purpose and function. Jones also reasoned that, since God is unlike human engineers, His creation will be very unlike the products of human engineering. Specifically, since God is omniscient and omnipotent, He has no need for prototypes, for an improvement process, or for tinkering with existing objects; rather, God designs things right ("optimally") the first time. The fact that human engineers are looking to nature for inspiration for their designs underscores this conclusion.<sup>7</sup> Hence, we anticipate that continued investigation will yield even more exciting discoveries.

Fourth, the scientific investigation of creation biology research questions has already revealed displays of God's omniscience, omnipotence, and foreknowledge. By studying which plants constitute a single "kind," Todd

Wood and David Cavanaugh found that God hard-wired into the genetics of these species the information to deal with post-Flood environments.<sup>8</sup> Thus, God, in His omniscience, foresaw the Flood and the biosphere that plants would encounter after this cataclysm and pre-determined their chemistry to be able to deal with changing conditions. We anticipate that further investigation of origins biology questions will lead us closer to the Creator.

Thus, it is clear from Scripture and from those who have researched before us that the evidence of God's divine nature and glory is abundant in nature. We trust that our efforts in understanding the true nature of biological classification,<sup>1-2</sup> and in understanding the cause of and limit to biological change,<sup>3-4</sup> will lead people not only to a greater confidence in Genesis 1-11, but also to God Himself. ●

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1. Jeanson, N. 2010. New Frontiers in Animal Classification. *Acts & Facts*. 39 (5): 6.
2. Jeanson, N. 2010. Common Ancestry and the Bible—Discerning Where to Draw the Line. *Acts & Facts*. 39 (6): 6.
3. Jeanson, N. 2010. The Limit to Biological Change. *Acts & Facts*. 39 (7): 6.
4. Jeanson, N. 2010. The Impetus for Biological Change. *Acts & Facts*. 39 (8): 6.
5. Jeanson, N. 2010. New Initiatives in Creation Research. *Acts & Facts*. 39 (4): 6.
6. Jones, A. J. 1982. A Creationist Critique of Homology. *Creation Research Society Quarterly*. 19 (3): 156-175.
7. For example, see Thomas, B. 2009. Gecko Eyes Make Great Night Vision Cameras. *ICR News*. Posted on icr.org May 29, 2009.
8. Wood, T. C. 2003. Mediated Design. *Acts & Facts*. 32 (9).

Dr. Jeanson is Research Associate and received his Ph.D. in Cell and Developmental Biology from Harvard University.



# ICR EVENTS

## ■ September 18-19

Dublin, TX – Highland Baptist Church  
(Sherwin) 254.445.2090

## ■ September 22-25

Wheeling, IL – Home School Legal Defense Association's  
22nd Annual National Leadership Conference  
(H. Morris III) 540.454.5493

## ■ September 23-25

Indianapolis, IN – True Woman '10 Conference  
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## ■ September 29–October 1

Myrtle Beach, SC – Southeast Christian School Convention  
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# Oil Companies, Global Warming, and Hurricanes

## How Does Real Science Analyze Cause and Effect?

JAMES J. S. JOHNSON, J.D., T.H.D.

The prophet Jeremiah once vigorously argued with Jewish men and women who insisted that their troubles were caused by a failure to worship the queen of heaven.<sup>1</sup> People today might sneer at such irrational idolatry, but is modern society immune from illogical and superstitious thinking? Perhaps we can learn a lesson in logic by comparing Jeremiah's situation to a bizarre lawsuit over damage caused by Hurricane Katrina.

### A Bizarre Series of Events

In 2005, Hurricane Katrina slammed into the Louisiana coastline, wreaking havoc in several southern states. In the aftermath, a number of people who had lost or suffered damage to their homes sued certain oil companies, based on a "scientific" theory that the companies' "greenhouse gas" emissions contributed to global warming, which led to greater devastation by the hurricane. Since the oil companies were to blame for the gas emissions that supposedly led to this result, it was argued that they should pay for the damage.

Although the case was dismissed by the trial judge, a federal appellate court three-judge panel reversed that decision and authorized the homeowners to sue the oil companies. The panel specifically ruled that the plaintiffs should be allowed to prove that the oil companies' "greenhouse gas" emissions (which supposedly caused global warming) increased

Hurricane Katrina's ferocity, which led to the destruction of the plaintiffs' homes.

Sounds like a Hollywood movie promoting the standard global warming propaganda, right? In a bizarre twist of events, this real class action case was decided recently by the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals.<sup>2</sup> Other judges on that appellate court elected to reconsider the three judges' decision to reverse the case's dismissal. But because of conflicts of interest and other factors, only nine judges could rule on this. And after they vacated the panel's decision, but before they could provide an alternate ruling to the reversal, one judge recused himself, leaving the court without a quorum and effectively placing the case in a legal black hole—where it will remain unless the Supreme Court decides otherwise.

Indeed, truth is sometimes stranger than fiction! The court rulings illustrate something that the Institute for Creation Research has been emphasizing for years: *empirical science* (the science of observing *effects* in the present) is not equivalent to *forensic science* (the science of recognizing *causes* in the past, such as the origins of earth, animals, and humans).

In other words, observing things *in the present* is not the same as reconstructing cause-and-effect histories *of the past*.

### Cause and Effect Fallacies

So, are the oil companies to blame for Hurricane Katrina's





destructiveness? To answer that question using insights from Scripture, consider how cause-and-effect event relationships involve more than just sequencing events on a timeline. The phrase *post hoc* fallacy (i.e., occurring later, therefore occurring because of) is used to describe the assumption that if one event precedes another, the first event *must* have caused the second event. This may be illustrated from Jeremiah 44:18 as follows:

Event 1: “We left off to burn incense to the queen of heaven, and to pour out drink offerings unto her.”

Event 2: Since then, “we have wanted all things, and have been consumed by the sword and by the famine.”

Conclusion, relying on a *post hoc* assumption: Our failure “to burn incense to the queen of heaven, and to pour out drink offerings unto her” must be the *cause* of the bad consequences we are presently experiencing—namely, “we have wanted all things, and have been consumed by the sword and by the famine.”

This same *post hoc* argument is extended in Jeremiah 44:19, where the women argue that: a) when they burned incense to the queen of heaven, and poured out drink offerings and worshipped her, they had their men (i.e., the Babylonians had not captured or killed the men of their families); but b) now that the queen of heaven is not being worshipped in this way (which is necessarily implied by the preceding verse), they are missing many of their men—implying that the failure to worship the queen of heaven *must be the cause* of their now-missing men. (Actually, the real cause was quite different.<sup>3</sup>)

Consider the same logic in the federal lawsuit mentioned above. Note the assumed sequence of events:

- 1) Oil/energy companies operate.
- 2) Massive “greenhouse gas” emissions result.
- 3) Global warming occurs.
- 4) Hurricane Katrina’s fury increases.
- 5) Plaintiffs’ homes and properties are destroyed.

The *post hoc* argument concludes that event one substantially caused event five. Therefore, the defendant oil/energy companies are to blame for the hurricane damage, so those companies should pay millions of dollars to the class action plaintiffs!<sup>4</sup>

The events in question were observed by eyewitnesses. Those observations were “present observations” at the time those events occurred (and were documented by photographs taken by eyewitnesses). At least four of the alleged events can be documented as a matter of *empirical* (i.e., observation-based) science.<sup>5</sup>

But what about those *causation* conclusions? How do we know that event one caused event two? Or that (alleged) event three caused event four? The causation analysis involved a lot more than simple eyewitness observations. Many assumptions were involved, including some assumptions about universal physical laws, as well as some (supposedly) logic-based conclusions about specific *events* historically causing specific *effects*.

### The Ultimate Example of Cause and Effect

Will the plaintiffs in the Hurricane Katrina case ultimately try and

win their class action lawsuit, leading to a multi-million-dollar jury verdict against the oil companies?<sup>6</sup> If so, there are a lot of causation/proof problems to be resolved along the way. Surely a sound prove-up of trial evidence, to justify the plaintiffs’ causation theory, is a very tall order! However, as far-fetched and bizarre as the plaintiffs’ “global warming” theory of hurricane destruction is, it is much more believable than the evolutionists’ theory of how humans and animals originated on earth.

Consider the variety of animals we observe worldwide. Did a Darwinian process of “phylogenetic tree” (single ultimate ancestor) evolution *cause* the biodiversity we see in earth’s animal kingdom? Impossible. Evolutionary proponents have yet to provide any scientific evidence demonstrating how life could begin from non-life, much less mutate into the many life forms we see today.

Genesis provides us with true information on how modern animals arrived on this planet: They are all descended from voyagers that disembarked the good ship Noah’s Ark. The historical facts of the Flood (and the holy judgment they represent), of course, are willingly ignored by evolutionists with their uniformitarian assumptions. Yet such uniformitarian assumptions about earth history are just as irrational as other evolutionary “science” arguments promoted on televised nature shows—and endorsed even in federal courts—to rationalize “willing ignorance” of God’s sovereign role as earth’s Creator.

Meanwhile, at the personal level, the Christian apologist should clarify (to those “with ears to hear”) the ultimate example of cause-and-effect analysis: Accept the truth (as Noah did) or pay the consequences, sooner or later. Everyone must make an eternal choice about God, but the consequences of that choice are locked into the choice selected.<sup>7</sup> Unlike “global warming,” there is *no reasonable doubt* about the underlying truth of God’s redemption offer in His beloved Son, in whom He is well pleased. ●

### References

1. Jeremiah 44, especially verses 15-29.
2. *Comer, et al., v. Murphy Oil USA, et al.*, 585 F.3d 855 (5th Cir. 2010). Like the plaintiffs’ allegations, the case’s procedural history is bizarre. *Comer, et al., v. Murphy Oil USA, et al.*, 2007 WL 6942285 (S.D. Miss. 2007), reversed by 585 F.3d 855, 69 E.R.C. 1513 (5th Cir. 2010), vacated, automatically, due to a procedural rule, 598 F.3d 208 (5th Cir. [en banc] 2010), dismissed due to loss of en banc quorum, 2010 WL 2136658 (5th Cir. [en banc] 2010), potentially appealable to the U.S. Supreme Court.
3. See Jeremiah 44:20-29.
4. Class actions in federal court must dispute more than \$5,000,000, excluding court costs and attorneys fees. Obviously, this one does. *Comer v. Murphy Oil USA*, 585 F.3d at 860.
5. Global warming is a more complicated “event” in this analysis. Is the globe really warming? And if so, is that warming caused by humans producing CO<sub>2</sub>? Does CO<sub>2</sub> cause global warming, or vice versa? See Larry Vardiman’s articles analyzing these questions: New Evidence for Global Cooling, *Acts & Facts*, 39 (7):12-13 (July 2010); Does Carbon Dioxide Drive Global Warming?, *Acts & Facts*, 37 (10):10-12 (October 2008). The political aspect of global warming is further explored in ICR’s Creationist Worldview online program, Module 5, Unit 6, Lesson 4 in “Government Expansion and Watermelon Politics.” (The term watermelon politics means “green on the outside, red on the inside.”)
6. At the time of this writing, it would appear that the plaintiffs would need a successful *certiorari*-based appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court, which is unlikely.
7. See Psalm 2 and John 3.

Dr. Johnson is Associate Professor of Apologetics at the Institute for Creation Research.



Observing things in the present is not the same as reconstructing cause-and-effect histories of the past.

# All-or-Nothing Unity



R A N D Y J . G U L I U Z Z A , P . E . , M . D .

Which came first, the chicken or the egg? A fresh usage of this familiar question can quickly illustrate unseen strengths to the design argument. At first, the issue seems to be one of timing. That problem is real, but so is the need for the *parts* for the chicken or egg, the *information*, and *conditions* of these to be:

- 1) available,
- 2) localized,
- 3) capable of functioning together,
- 4) for a purpose, and, of course,
- 5) at the right time.

It doesn't matter whether the goal is the chicken or the egg; the absence of the information, conditions, or any vital part is a definite show-stopper. The chicken/egg scenario—symbolic of any reproducing organism—is really about the absolute unity of certain vital parts to vital functions.

In regard to function, designers need to know if all, some, or none of it is maintained without the full set of parts. They know that some aspects of their project can be built by increments, but at certain phases *all* of those parts must be collected together and built together or *none* of that specific function can be obtained. In the living world, these are called “vital” parts.

The fact that *all-or-nothing* unity exists cannot be ignored—especially when the known source is always real design. So, when all-or-nothing unity is found in the living world, the

reasonable conclusion is that it is evidence of a real Designer's work.

## Explaining the Vital Unity of Parts and Function

It is not difficult to present the case for all-or-nothing unity. A powerful, yet easily understood, statement is this: In organisms, some parts are so important to the function of life that if they are missing, life stops. Excellent examples are found for certain molecules, organs, and systems, but the explanation of these can get complicated. So the difficulty is deciding on a great example.

Thinking biblically, it is notable that Genesis' account of the first and foremost unified biologically vital system, reproduction, is absolutely contrary to classic evolutionary origins of this core process. It cannot be overstated that for evolution to proceed, it is not enough just to attain some physiological function—what is needed is *reproductive* life. Fortunately, when engaging in conversation, reproduction is a science topic where almost everyone has some knowledge.

Using reproduction as the example of all-or-nothing unity in a conversation is powerful. For the first time, most listeners will hear something that totally defies evolutionary dogma. They will be astounded to learn that the minimum number of parts necessary for an organism to reproduce is—the *organism itself*. The whole organism is vital. This is scientific fact. It doesn't mean that every part is vital,

but it does mean that only the organismal unit encompasses all of the critical *parts*, *information*, and *conditions* necessary to reproduce itself according to the constraints of its life cycle.

There is no scientific evidence showing some organisms as “primitive” and some as “advanced.” Life forms are just *different*, with most being extraordinarily complex. So, in order for the single-cell bacteria, believed by evolutionists to be thoroughly primitive, to reproduce by fission, budding, or fragmentation—the bacteria itself is needed. Yet, in order to produce a human baby, a man and a woman, and all of their vital interdependent parts, are the essentials—science has shown that it cannot be broken down to any smaller level.

Another advantage of using reproduction as an example of all-or-nothing unity is that it underscores the impotence of an iterative evolutionary process—dependent on procreative processes—to explain the origin of reproduction. How do organisms “arise” by increments until they can reproduce?

This fact is so indicting that evolutionists will push back with all kinds of arguments, but they will all cheat in their explanations. Every example given will always start and end by using some vital things from the organism itself, so be looking for this. For example, yes, there is *in-vitro* fertilization, but that starts with donor egg and sperm and the embryo is returned to the normal realm of development.

## Evolutionists Publish Insufficient Explanations

When in conversation, be assured that evolutionists will fail to explain the *origins* of biological information and reproduction. Point out how they simply skip explaining a main biological feature by always starting with reproducing entities.

The literature has avoided detailed explanations of all-or-nothing unity for the vital parts of reproduction. For instance, most people could do a search for the evolutionary origins of mammal reproduction. They will uncover claims that it began as a simple alteration from an egg-laying reptilian system. But details of how the changes could happen are missing. And what about the origin of a mammal's life-sustaining milk ducts? The literature states that these slowly arose from "modified sweat glands"—without a second thought of an offspring's nutritional needs pending modification.

The best evolution-based journals have published replies to all-or-nothing unity for other parts of organisms.<sup>1</sup> However, these articles have *all* claimed that the solution to all-or-nothing unity lies in researchers imagining where similar—not always identical—parts could be borrowed ("co-opted," "pre-adapted," or "recruited") from existing objects. Even if borrowed parts could work, which is doubtful, only condition one, availability, is satisfied. The necessary information and other four conditions are not even addressed. Thus, by taking an *indirect* path to all-or-nothing unity, these responses not only fail to engage the true issue, but also demonstrate how imagination cannot substitute for testable findings.

### Learning a Short Example

If the iterative evolutionary mechanism is crushed by the ultimate circular dilemma—it takes an organism to produce an organism—and only God can break the circle, then why did headlines recently declare, "Scientists create a living organism"? Can it really be that complex if "scientists have turned inanimate chemicals into a living organism that raises profound questions about the essence of life"?<sup>2</sup> Actually, the complexity is staggering.

After 15 years and \$40 million invested, results of the ongoing project—published with abundant hyperbole in *Science*<sup>3</sup>—simply confirmed that the minimum number of vital parts to make a bacterium is a bacterium. As it relates to life, these researchers copied DNA code of one species, added four segments of human-derived code, inserted this genome into a DNA-emptied nucleus of a similar bacteria, and, voila, it reproduced. They "created" neither the information nor vital conditions, but were obliged to utilize an existing cell and plagiarized genetic code.<sup>4</sup>

The Bible has a far more scientifically accurate explanation for the origin of



reproduction. In Genesis 1:11, the first biological entities are those "whose seed is in itself." Not only is the origin of all-or-nothing unity answered, but the Hebrew meaning of "seed" correctly presents reproduction as a unified whole. This one word summarizes the act of sowing, that which is sown, and the product of sowing, which contains yet more indispensable seed. The necessary conditions, parts, and information converge—an event distinctive of real design, not random forces of nature—enabling organisms to diversify, multiply, and fill new environments.

### Pulling It All Together

Darwin knew the exceeding improbability of unintelligent natural forces alone building life's complexity. His theory attempts to beat the odds one tiny bit at a time, and hence is limited by:

- Life *being* "evolvable," meaning organisms can reproduce and offspring have diverse traits.

- The environment's ability to see, select, and save organisms' favorable traits.
- Environmental powers acting on traits to incrementally increase complexity over many generations, thus making organisms only *look* like they were designed.

Use all-or-nothing unity, particularly in reproduction, to confront evolution's attempt to chip away at prohibitive improbability and explain biological design.

- Reproduction is one of many processes revealing that *all* necessary conditions, parts, and information must come together *or nothing* of the function is achieved—a distinctive of real design.
- Scenarios depicting organisms arising incrementally are implausible since the minimum number of parts necessary for an organism to reproduce is the *organism itself*.
- Evolutionary explanations cheat. Reproductive origins are not explained, they start with replicating life.
- Natural selection, Darwin's substitute god, has no ability to see, select, act on, favor, or operate as an agent of change.

Why should anyone believe that the living world only looks like it is designed, but really isn't? In fact, the design in the living world is such that it *resists* being explained by natural causes. All scientific evidence shows that creatures come programmed with innate abilities to reproduce after their kind, but not with strictly identical offspring, in order to diversify, multiply, and fill new environments. The Bible clearly says not only that the Lord Jesus Christ designed life, but also reveals how He did it: the chicken was created "whose seed [egg or sperm] was in itself"—all at one time. ●

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# NEWS FROM THE RED PLANET

L A R R Y V A R D I M A N , P H . D .

**A**ccording to a number of recent blogs on the Internet, on August 27, 2010, Mars made its closest approach to earth in history, coming within about 35 million miles. Some sites even predicted it would be as big and as bright as the moon. Don't believe it! The report was a hoax. Last month Mars was about as far away as it could be, at a distance of some 186 million miles. The red planet actually made its closest approach to earth on August 27, 2003, but its appearance wasn't nearly as big or as bright as the blogs claimed.

If Mars *had* appeared as large as the moon, which is impossible because of their relative sizes and distances, you would have been able to easily observe with the naked eye Valles Marineris, the Grand Canyon of Mars. However, you can still see it clearly by telescope, particularly when Mars is close. It is uncertain how this deep canyon was formed, but it appears that water

flowed from the highlands near its western end to the lowlands to the north and east. The canyon is about 2,000 miles long, 400 miles wide, and five miles deep, with features typically present when water floods valleys and plains.

Figure 1 shows a map of a portion of the surface features of Mars. The red regions are at high elevations and the blue are in the lowlands. Note that Valles Marineris originates on the edge of a large crater and what appear to be flow features are present in the channel east of the canyon. Volcanic mountains are present west of the canyon and small craters occur over the entire surface. These craters are thought to have been formed as a result of asteroid and meteor impacts. The surface was also disrupted by volcanism and lava flows. Large amounts of liquid on the surface or in the crust were involved in these events. It is clear that major catastrophic processes have occurred on Mars in the past.<sup>1</sup>

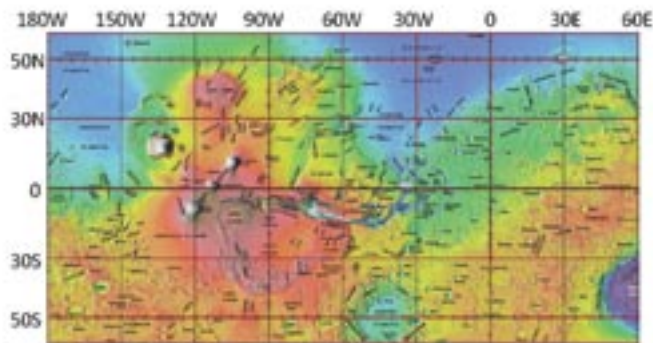


Figure 1. Topography of Mars near Valles Marineris. Red is high elevation and blue is low elevation.<sup>2</sup>

NASA views these features as evidence that water once played a major role on the planet some four billion years ago and could have provided a suitable medium for life to originate. Astronomer Danny Faulkner discussed the question of life on other planets in the October 2009 issue of *Acts & Facts*.<sup>3</sup> A creationist view would be that life did not form over billions of years and that many of these geological features were probably formed at the time of the Genesis Flood on earth. If so, this would broaden the impact of the Flood to beyond earth and other parts of the solar system. We've known for a long time that the craters on the moon were formed by projectiles hurtling from space sometime in the past. The earth shows evidence of hundreds of such impacts as well—for example, Meteor Crater east of Flagstaff, Arizona. However, so much of earth's surface was reworked that only effects of the impacts near the end of the Flood were preserved.

Some of the craters on Mars are now being used to determine whether rocks that were buried by thick layers of lava in the lowlands were affected by liquid water. Near the upper right-hand corner of Figure 1 at about 50°N and 30°E is the large Lyot Crater, shown enlarged in Figure 2. It is over 100 miles in diameter and was recently reported to contain rocks that formed in the presence of water. The center and edges of impact craters are typically composed of rock from miles underground that were brought to the surface by the impact.

A group of French and American scientists recently used

the Compact Reconnaissance Imaging Spectrometer for Mars, an instrument on the Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter, to check 91 craters in the northern lowlands. The researchers reported that hydrated silicates in crustal outcrops from nine craters, including the Lyot Crater in the northern lowlands, indicate that wet conditions prevailed in the northern lowlands early on Mars.<sup>4</sup> In at least those nine, they found clays and clay-like minerals called phyllosilicates, or other hydrated silicates that form in wet environments on the surface or underground. They now believe the water on Mars was global, not just confined to the southern part of the planet.

We agree that water on Mars in the past was probably global. We would not, however, agree

that the water was present on the planet's surface four billion years ago. Its removal or transfer to the crustal rocks was more likely associated with the events of the Genesis Flood on earth a few thousand years ago. We also continue to be astounded that NASA and most of the conventional scientific community believe a catastrophe or a series of catastrophes removed

**A CREATIONIST VIEW WOULD BE THAT LIFE DID NOT FORM OVER BILLIONS OF YEARS AND THAT MANY OF THESE GEOLOGICAL FEATURES WERE PROBABLY FORMED AT THE TIME OF THE GENESIS FLOOD ON EARTH.**

the water from the surface of Mars, but that earth—which is now mostly covered by water—was not resurfaced by the global catastrophe described in Genesis. Geologic and other evidence continues to mount that the scriptural account of earth's history is accurate. ●

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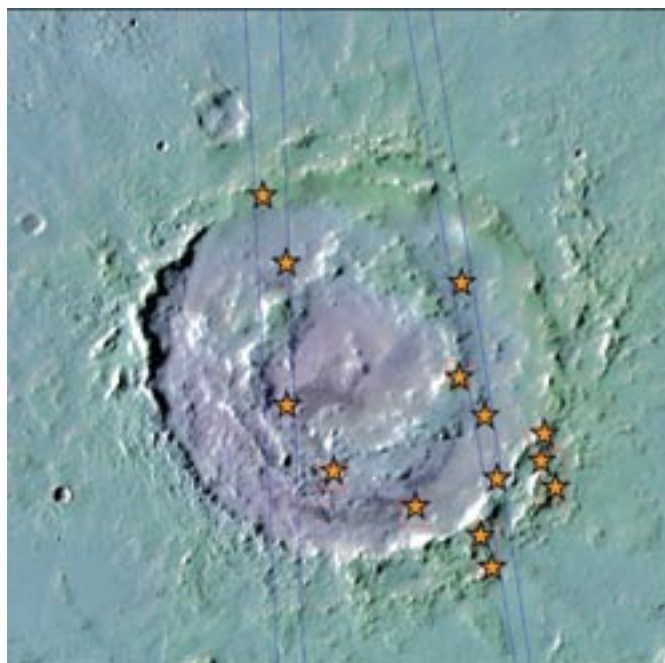


Figure 2. Lyot Crater in the lowlands of Mars with exposures (stars) of hydrated minerals detected from orbit.

Image Credit: NASA/ESA/JPL-Caltech/JHU-APL/IAS.

# Russian Pastors Encouraged by ICR Resources

One of the most significant ministries of the Institute for Creation Research is the daily devotional *Days of Praise*, which is distributed to over 300,000 households throughout the United States every quarter. Many of the entries in this devotional book were written by ICR's founder Dr. Henry M. Morris, who brought a unique theological and scientific perspective to the study of God's Word.

Recently ICR partnered with Slavic Gospel Association to have it translate *Days of Praise* into the Russian language. Some 30,000 copies of the Russian *Days of Praise* are printed in Ukraine and distributed throughout the Commonwealth of Independent States (an organization of former Soviet Republics). Dr. Bob Provost, President of SGA, recently wrote to us regarding the comments he had received from Russian pastors:

Some are thrilled that all their churches across Russia are united each day by the same portions of God's Word. Some are using it for outreach. New young preachers are preaching it...I am so thankful that each day we can edify pastors, preachers, members, and guests. In terms of overall impact, this may be the most important thing we have ever done.

We have published a number of these comments below. Our desire is that you will be encouraged that God's Word and the message of creation are having an impact around the globe, and that you will pray for this ministry so that *Days of Praise* may continue to be distributed to the Russian-speaking world. If you would like to make a donation toward this effort, please use the envelope enclosed in this issue of *Acts & Facts*.

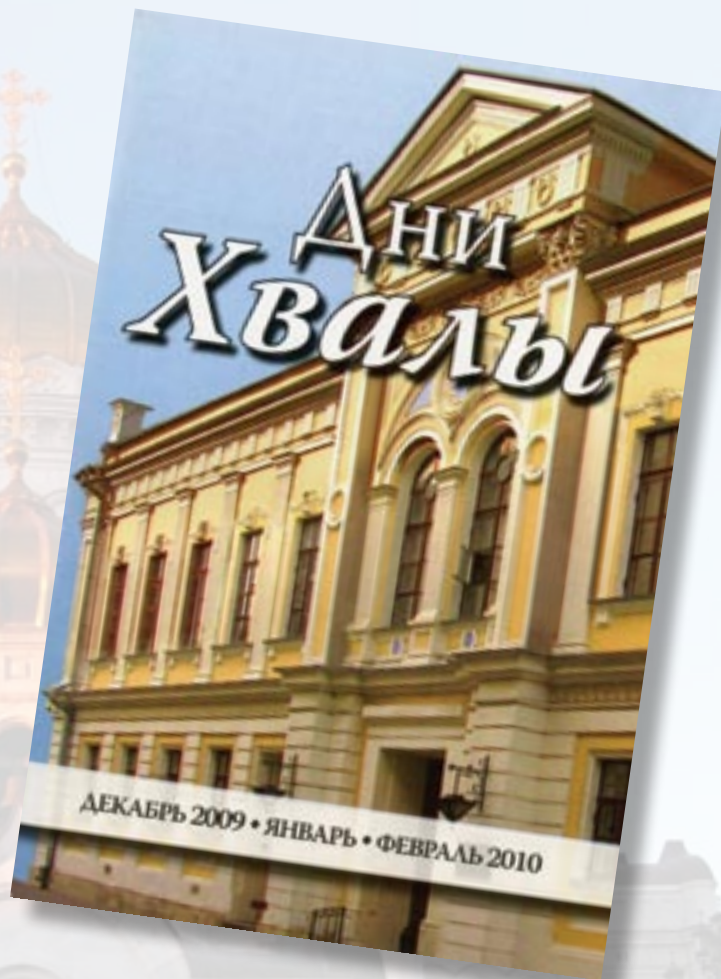


Our special gratitude is for the *Days of Praise*. It is a blessing for all those who love the Word. Our pastors and members of the churches are giving a very high grade to the book. It communicates themes briefly yet profoundly. An unsaved daughter of one of our church members said, "It's hard for me to read the Bible. I do not understand many things there. Here, everything is explained simply and clearly. It's a pleasure to read such a book."

— Pastor V.K.

Concerning *Days of Praise*, I can say it's especially appreciated by people who cannot attend church services due to health reasons. They are very excited by it. And all the pastors speak highly of it. I think you should continue publishing it.

— Pastor E.D.



Our pastors have responded positively. Explanations are simple. Holy truths are explained fairly and squarely. It's a good tool for every believer. The comments from our members are good. Many say that it is a good spiritual help at their work places. One can get food for thought in a short form for the whole day. The concise format allows them to carry it along with them. And many church members are asking for extra copies.

— Pastor S.S.

The spiritual benefit of having DOP is that believers can worship God through reading it; they can meditate on God's Word. And what is really important is that when reading the same text we get united in the spirit of Scripture. When meeting in small groups, believers can share the same topics with one another and their thoughts. Also, unsaved family members, or others who have interest in spiritual things, can benefit from it.

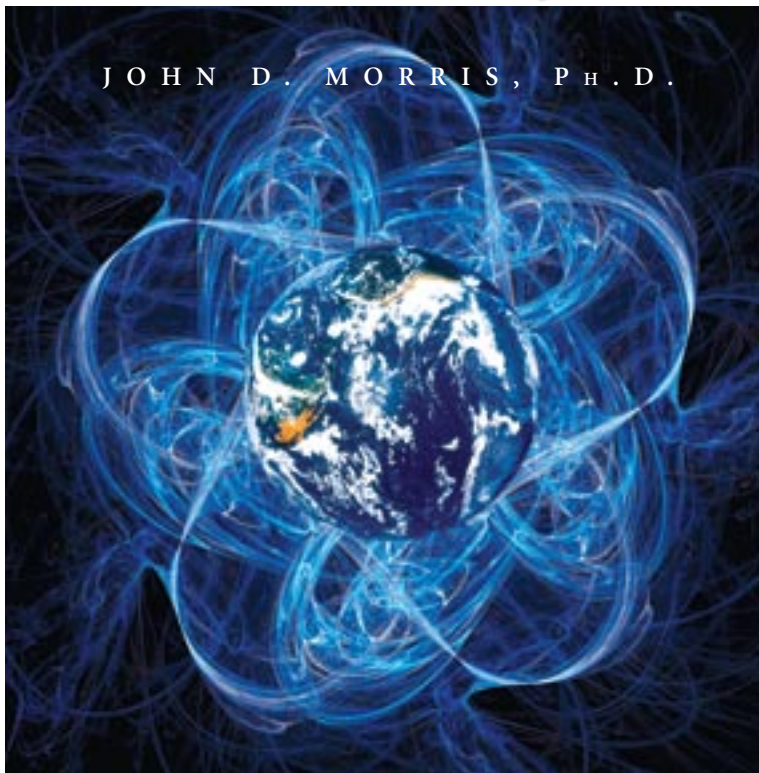
— Pastor P.

# Marvelous Symmetry

Often we speak of the creation way of thinking as incorporating and being founded upon three main points: creation week, the Fall into sin and its resulting Curse, and the great Flood of Noah's day. These major episodes were worldwide in scope, affecting everything. As such, they must be acknowledged and included in our understanding if we hope to interpret the world of evidence correctly.

For instance, if God truly created all things at some point in the past (Exodus 20:11) and we try to understand anything without incorporating creation into our thinking, we will err. In our frail human wisdom we might derive some other origins theory (a Big Bang, maybe), but we would be wrong. On the authority of God's Word, He called things into existence using processes different from those He uses today, for He rested from His creative activity (Genesis 2:1-2).

Different laws were in operation during creation. The basic law of science recognizes the impossibility of creating or annihilating today. Now God maintains His completed creation, using processes and laws with which we are familiar (Colossians 1: 16-17). Creation may have changed somewhat, but where could we go in the universe, what could we study, that is not ultimately the result of creation activity? We should see the fingerprint of His creative hand everywhere we look. We should see such an amazing level of precision and design that we would be "without excuse" (Romans 1:20) to attribute such perfection to natural forces only.



However, we do see much that is less than perfect today, and this fits in with the second great event—the Curse on all creation due to Adam's rebellion. He had been placed in charge of all God had made and was to exercise dominion over it for man's good and God's glory. But he rejected God's authority, incurring God's just punishment for his sin, and all things in his domain came under sin's penalty (Genesis 2:16-17; 3:14-19; Romans 6:23). Creation has suffered much under this penalty of death and decay, and everywhere we go, everything we see "groans and travails" (Romans 8:22).

Surely these are not the creative processes God employed to create His "very good" (Genesis 1:31) masterpiece. Science recognizes this spiral of death and decay as the second most important law of nature, never violated. It

states that while the total energy of a system remains the same, it does deteriorate. Without an organizational force from outside, everything moves from order to disorder, a lower level of complexity.

But things are still at such a high level of organization. How did they ever get organized to begin with? Order is not created or increased without intelligent, purposive help. The Big Bang can't provide the answer, but the Bible can.

The third aspect concerns the types of processes operating in the past. Were they limited to the "uniform" processes of today or were they substantially different in rate, scale, and intensity, or "catastrophic"? Catastrophic process levels

are required in the past to produce the state of things as they are. Floods occur, hurricanes form, erosion happens, but past events often were regional and mighty in scope, not the local, normal events we are familiar with today. Something different happened in the past and we now view the results of such past out-of-the-norm processes.

Thus, "big-picture" science observes what Scripture has always taught. Creation, Fall, and Flood were historical events, with results that are observable today. Bible history really happened and makes good scientific sense. Denying history—especially biblical history—leads to error, even scientific error. ●

*Dr. Morris is President of the Institute for Creation Research.*



# THE CREATED CAMEL

FRANK SHERWIN, M.A.

The one-humped *Camelus dromedarius* has been called the ship of the desert—and for very good reasons. In a typical day, this 1,200+ pound animal can carry up to 400 pounds a hundred miles across the unforgiving desert without stopping for food or drink. Indeed, it has been known to go eight days without water.

Camels love grass and other plants that grow in the Arabian Desert. Their thickened lips are designed so that they can eat even the thorny, tough desert cactus. Their thick fur coat, shed once a year, can be woven into anything from tents to garments. In fact, camels would lose 50 percent more water if this coat didn't protect them from the sun.<sup>1</sup> Camels are not friendly and when annoyed have been known to spit rank-smelling stomach contents.

Nevertheless, everything about the camel is fascinating—from the heavy-chain antibodies of its immune system to its iris, which contains a unique structure called the umbraculum (corpus nigra) that is designed to protect the delicate retina from the excessive glare of the desert. The double row of interlocking eyelashes screens sun and sand but still allows for clear vision. An inner eyelid acts much like a windshield wiper to brush errant sand grains from the eyeball.

The camel's valvular nostrils are designed to close tight and are lined with hairs for protection against wind-borne sand.

Camel feet have two long toes with distinctive phalanges. The footpads are wide, with tough, leathery skin between thick soles. These naturally widen as the animal steps so it stays on top of shifting sands.

Evolutionists must insist that camels evolved from a non-camel ancestor over millions of years. But according to the fossil record, "the first camels appeared in late Eocene times as indicated by *Poebrodon*."<sup>2</sup> Barbara Stahl states, "The first members of this tylopod [a suborder of even-toed ungulates including camels] assemblage appeared in the late Eocene, already subdivided into two lines."<sup>3</sup> In 2006, *BBC News* reported that a fossilized camel discovered in Syria was twice as big as a modern one—but was still a camel.<sup>4</sup> Paleontologists think it may have lived 100,000 to even a million years ago and was evidently killed by humans. As predicted by creation, the fossil record does not show a gradual evolutionary progression from non-camels to camels.

A popular legend states the camel's 80-pound hump is filled with water. In reality, it holds energy-rich fat the camel can use when there's no available vegetation. In a very complex process called fatty acid oxidation, the camel's body judiciously extracts fat from the hump, with water actually produced as a by-product. As a fuel, a little fat goes a long way.

During extended treks, the dromedary camel can lose over 40 percent of its body water. In just ten minutes, it can drink 27 gallons of water, which immediately courses to



its trillions of cells. Zoologists discovered that ten minutes after a camel has drunk 20 gallons of water, the stomach is empty. Water-storage chambers in the rumen (the first region) of its stomach have also been discovered. The oval-shaped, nucleated blood cells of the family Camelidae are unique among mammals. (Human blood cells are round and lack a nucleus.) Perhaps this design has something to do with these cells' ability to endure high osmotic variation, meaning they don't burst when all that water is suddenly introduced into the camel's system.

Camels—including the llama, a domesticated member of the camel family—are truly part of the world of animals whose design features magnificently reflect the mind of their Creator. ●

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Mr. Sherwin is Senior Science Lecturer.





# Amber Jewelry: A Conversation Piece for Creation Evidence

BRIAN THOMAS, M.S.

Amber has been prized for centuries for its beauty. Some specimens have dazzling colors, like a cache recently discovered at Cape York in far northern Australia. Insects, diatoms, a lizard leg, fruits, and even mammal hairs have been found trapped inside these gems. Amber is often represented as being millions of years old, but clear evidence points to its recent and rapid origin.

Nodules that are chemically the same as “ancient” ambers form today from tree resin. Resin is different from sap, which transports nutrients. When certain trees are wounded, resin is extruded as a viscous liquid and hardens according to well-known chemical reactions that do not take millions of years. Resins are part of trees’ immune systems and, in addition to their ability to quickly “coagulate,” their constituent chemicals are known to combat fungi and bacteria.

In the study of the Australian amber, investigator Suzanne Hand of the University of New South Wales said that, like many ambers used as jewelry, the “pieces we’ve looked at have inclusions of beautifully preserved plant and animal remains that were trapped in the resin before it hardened.”<sup>1</sup>

If it took very long for the resin to harden, then the trapped insects would probably not have been preserved, since over time they would have worked themselves free, been scavenged, or decayed. Indeed, the speed with which resin hardens is what makes it useful as a furniture varnish. It solidifies on trees continually and rapidly. In the form of sandarac or

myrrh, for example, hardened pieces are used as incense in Arabia and as medicine by Africans. The same chemicals that comprise the majority of fossil amber, called “resinite,” can produce amber in laboratories as well.<sup>2</sup>



Therefore, if ambers are millions of years old, then they must have been sitting around on earth for all that time after their rapid initial hardening. But if that is the case, according to chemical laws the organic remains trapped inside should have spontaneously decayed by now. So why did a recent press release state that Australian ambers were “from millions of years ago”?<sup>1</sup> The report referred to the “beautifully preserved” insects caught in the amber. If these are the remains of insects trapped millions of years ago, why have they not yet become the dilapidated residue that would be expected?<sup>3</sup>

Amazingly, scores of still-living bacteria have been extracted and identified from insect guts trapped in California ambers.<sup>4</sup> These in-

visible creatures could only have accelerated the decay of the insects.

Just as incredible to those who insist on amber’s great age, still-living yeast cells were extracted from amber. A small brewery in Guerneville, California, brewed with them, convinced the cells were somehow preserved for “45 million years.”<sup>5</sup> But trapped in amber, their metabolic waste should have fatally poisoned them eons ago.

The quality preservation of whole insect bodies shows that amber hardened rapidly and recently. The chemistry of amber formation is known to occur quickly. Microbes trapped in amber could only still be alive if they were trapped recently. Amber is no friend to deep time. That’s why amber jewelry could be a great way to start a conversation about the trustworthiness of a plain reading of Genesis. ●

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Mr. Thomas is Science Writer.



# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Willard A. Ramsey's article "The Double Mindedness of Evolutionary Compromise" in the May issue of *Acts & Facts* is an "echo" of my late husband's and my experience. We knew that God created the earth; but we were uncertain how to defend our position. We received a copy of *The Genesis Flood* as a gift in about 1962. This was the answer we needed! Thank you for continuing the work of defending the faith and teaching others to do the same.

— M.H.D.

Your *Days of Praise* devotionals are not only inspiring but also instructional and I delight in forwarding the emails of them to some on my "list." I treasure your insights and thank God for your ministry. You are indeed "defending truth" and, I pray, "transforming culture." You are such a blessing.

— K.B.

Thank you so much for the work of ICR. I am very grateful for the *Acts & Facts* that come regularly. There is much encouragement from the articles on research and study in God's creation. The daily devotional *Days of Praise* is very rewarding. The articles are a great help to my spiritual life.

— G.G.

For a while I struggled trying to reconcile the Scriptures with my training in evolution. I tried the "day/age theory" and it just did not fit. After a couple of years I decided, "Let God be true and every man a liar." As soon as I did, I began to see how accurate and unchanging the Scriptures are and how fickle the models of "science" are... Whenever one of these models is disproved and becomes an embarrassment, they suddenly pretend it never existed. "Piltdown Man? Never heard of him." "Archeo-what? Never heard of it." I watched as entire "missing links" were reconstructed from a few inches of bone fragment, in greater detail than I know about my neighbors. I am not about to try to blend what is proven and consistent (God's Word) with something that is purely wishful thinking in a constant state of flux.

— A.B.

The increasing hostility of the heathen world to God and His Word (so well articulated in *The Long War Against God*), including this Texas court's action, is but a further sign that His return is near. Let us persevere in the Truth as we continue standing on the Victor's side. May God rain down blessings of wisdom and strength and joy on all of you at ICR.

— M.&R.F.

Have a comment? Email us at [editor@icr.org](mailto:editor@icr.org). Or write to Editor, P. O. Box 59029, Dallas, Texas 75229.

## RADIO LOG

### This month on "Science, Scripture, & Salvation"

WEEKEND OF SEPTEMBER 4

#### Animal Invaders

Animals are a wonderful part of God's creation. Some are wild and exotic, while others are cute and cuddly. And then there are the ones that invade and destroy other creatures. Some would say that we see such behavior in the animal kingdom because of evolutionary influences. But is this really true? Tune in to discover the "why" behind the actions of these vicious animal invaders.

WEEKEND OF SEPTEMBER 11

#### The Book of Beginnings – Part 1

Hear a vintage audio message by the late Dr. Henry Morris, founder of the Institute for Creation Research, as he overviews the Genesis record. Today's broadcast will begin with Part 1 of "The Book of Beginnings" and touch on the issues related to the characteristics and authorship of Genesis, the foundational book of the Bible.

WEEKEND OF SEPTEMBER 18

#### The Book of Beginnings – Part 2

ICR founder Dr. Henry Morris continues a fascinating overview of Genesis in Part 2 of "The Book of Beginnings." Learn about the importance of this first book of the Bible and why Christians today need to be confident in how they read and interpret God's account of creation and the beginnings of mankind on this earth. Gain insight into the key concepts found in the early chapters of Genesis, such as space-matter-time, creation *ex nihilo*, the image of God, and more.

WEEKEND OF SEPTEMBER 25

#### The Book of Beginnings – Part 3

On today's broadcast, the late Dr. Henry Morris concludes his overview of the "The Book of Beginnings" and reminds us how the Bible explains the creation that God made. Learn how evolutionary theory contradicts Genesis and how God marvelously communicated Himself to the world through His Word and with a divine imprint of design on our world.

To find out which radio stations in your city air our programs, visit our website at [www.icr.org](http://www.icr.org). On the radio page, use the station locator to determine where you can hear our broadcasts in your area. You can also listen to current and past *Science, Scripture, & Salvation* programs online, so check us out!

# Workplace Giving Campaigns

H E N R Y M . M O R R I S I V

The month of September marks the start of the annual workplace charitable giving season, and the Institute for Creation Research has worked hard to gain approval in selected workplace programs as an additional opportunity for our supporters.

Workplace giving campaigns are sponsored by government organizations and large corporations as a benefit to their employees, and offer the convenience and efficiency of automatic payroll deduction to fund charities of the employee's choosing. Charities must meet high standards to participate and, in some cases, may need to meet state residency requirements in order to qualify. And as a federally recognized 501(c)(3) non-profit ministry, all donations to ICR through workplace giving campaigns are fully tax-deductible as allowed by law.

ICR is approved in the following workplace giving programs. If your employer offers this benefit, we would welcome your prayerful consideration during this campaign season.

## Combined Federal Campaign

The Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) is the largest workplace charity program in the United States, and the only campaign authorized to collect contributions from federal employees and military personnel on behalf of qualified charities. Funds collected through the CFC program represent donations from individuals—not the federal government—and are passed on to the qualified charity chosen by the employee.

Since receiving our initial approval in 2008, ICR has worked hard to increase awareness among our supporters working in the fed-

eral government and military. Those of you who serve our country can now also defend the authority of Scripture through scientific research and education—with one easy pen stroke.

ICR is listed in the National/International Organizations section of your local CFC campaign brochure. If you believe in the work of ICR, please prayerfully consider designating the *Institute for Creation Research* (CFC #23095) when making your pledge this fall.

## State Employee Giving Campaigns

After meeting stringent legal and residency requirements, ICR was recently approved to participate in the State Employee Charitable Campaigns (SECC) offered by *California* and *Texas*—the two largest state employee giving programs in the country. SECC programs function exactly like the federal campaign by allowing state employees to make contributions to qualified charities through payroll deduction, then passing those funds on to the charity of their choice. (Funds collected represent donations from individual employees—not the state government).

ICR is thankful for this new opportunity and we are hopeful our supporters in Texas and California will respond. If you support our ministry, please consider designating the *Institute for Creation Research* on your pledge form this fall.

## Corporate Giving Campaigns

Most large corporations offer annual workplace giving programs as an employee benefit that also promotes community goodwill. The mechanisms of corporate programs

## Prayerfully CONSIDER SUPPORTING ICR

(Galatians 6:9-10)

### Through

- Online Donations
- Stocks and Securities
- Matching Gift Programs
- CFC (federal/military workers)
- Gift Planning
  - Charitable Gift Annuities
  - Wills
  - Trusts

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ICR is a recognized 501(c)(3) non-profit ministry, and all gifts are tax-deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law.

function much like federal and state campaigns, with the added twist that an outside administrator is often used to operate and manage the program (e.g., United Way). As such, the only charities promoted during the campaign tend to be those from the local community.

However, a little-known fact is that employees may give to *any* 501(c)(3) nonprofit—like ICR—simply by providing our name and address in the “Write-In Organization” section of the pledge form. If your employer offers a workplace giving program and you wish to support our ministry this way, please write in the *Institute for Creation Research* with our address of *1806 Royal Lane, Dallas, TX 75229*. ●

Mr. Morris is Director of Donor Relations.



**I**t is high time that people in general, and Bible-believing Christians in particular, recognize the foundational significance of special creation. Creation is not merely a religious doctrine of only peripheral importance, as many people (even many evangelical Christians) seem to assume. Rather, it is the basis of all true science, of true American ideology, and of true Christianity.

Evolutionism, on the other hand, is actually a pseudo-science masquerading as science. As such, it has been acclaimed as the “scientific” foundation of atheism, humanism, communism, fascism, imperialism, racism, laissez-faire capitalism, and a variety of cultic, ethnic, and so-called liberal religions, by the respective founders and advocates of these systems. The creation/evolution issue is, in a very real sense, the most fundamental issue of all.

#### Foundation of True Science

Evolutionist presuppositions permeate the writings of modern scientists. Stanley D. Beck said, “No central scientific concept is more firmly established in our thinking, our methods, and our interpretations, than that of evolution.”<sup>1</sup>

But it was not always thus. Beck himself, after defining and discussing the basic premises of science (that is, the existence of a real world, the capability of the human mind to understand the world, the principle of cause-and-effect, and the unified nature of the world), admitted that “each of these postulates had its origin in, or was consistent with, Christian theology.”<sup>2</sup> That is, since the world was *created* by a divine Creator, and man was created in God’s image, therefore nature makes orderly sense,

man is able to decipher its operations, and true science becomes possible.

If the world is merely the chance product of random forces, on the other hand, then our human brains are meaningless jumbles of matter and electricity and science becomes nonsense. Consequently, the great founding fathers of true science (Kepler, Galileo, Pascal, Newton, Boyle, Brewster, Faraday, Linnaeus, Ray, Maxwell, Pasteur, Kelvin, etc.) were almost all creationists and believed they were glorifying God as they probed His works. Yet today such scientists would not even be considered scientists at all, because they believed in the primeval special creation of all things by God!

#### Foundation of American Ideology

Although not all of America’s great

# CREATION IS THE FOUNDATION

HENRY M. MORRIS, P.H.D.

founding fathers were Bible-believing Christians, almost all of them were true creationists, believing that God had created the world and man and all natural systems. The colonies had been settled and developed largely by Christian people who had come to this continent to gain freedom to believe and do what the Bible taught, and they all acknowledged that the foundational belief was belief in special creation. The historian Gilman Ostrander reminds us that:

The American nation had been founded by intellectuals who had accepted a world view that was based upon Biblical authority as well as Newtonian science. They had assumed that God created the earth and all life upon it at the time of creation and had continued without change thereafter.<sup>3</sup>

Note that these great pioneers were intellectuals, not ignorant emotionalists. They laid great stress on education and science, founding many schools and colleges, in confidence that true learning in any field must be biblically governed. Christian historian Mary-Elaine Swanson said:

In colonial times, the Bible was the primary tool in the educational process. In fact, according to Columbia University Professor Dr. Lawrence A. Cremin, the Bible was “the single most primary source for the intellectual history of colonial America.” From their knowledge of the Bible, a highly literate, creative people emerged.<sup>4</sup>

In a July 4 address in 1783, Dr. Elias Boudinot, then president of the Continental Congress, stated that his reason for advocating an annual Independence Day observance in America was the great precedent set by God Himself.

No sooner had the great Creator of the heavens and the earth finished his almighty work, and pronounced all very good, but he set apart (not an anniversary, or one day in a year, but) one day in seven for the commemoration of his inimitable power in producing all things out of nothing.<sup>5</sup>

The fact of creation was also clearly implied several times in the Declaration of Independence itself (“endowed by our Creator,” “created equal,” “Nature’s God,” etc.). Attorney Marshall Foster has pointed out that at least the first 24 state constitutions recognized Christianity as the religion of their states.<sup>6</sup>

Yet today, the Bible, Christianity, and creationism have been banned from the schools of the states which had been founded to teach these very truths! All this has been done in the name of a gross distortion of the First Amendment. The amendment, which was intended to prevent the establishment of a particular national denomination (e.g., Catholic, Anglican), has instead been so twisted as to establish evolutionary humanism as the quasi-official religion of our public institutions.

### The Foundation of True Religion

True religion must necessarily be based on worship of the world’s true Creator. Other religions may deify great men, or man-made systems, or the world itself, but these are all merely variant forms of humanism as men “worship and serve the creature, rather than the Creator” (Romans 1:25). It is highly significant that all such religions and religious books begin with the creation, rather than the

Creator, *except the Bible!* That is, they all start with the universe already in existence, and then try to delineate how the primeval space/matter/time universe somehow developed into its present array of complex systems. This attribute characterizes both ancient paganism and modern humanism; these and all other atheistic, pantheistic, or polytheistic religions are merely various forms of evolutionism. Only in Genesis 1:1 (the foundation of all foundations!) is there a statement of the creation of the universe itself. Without this foundation, true religion is impossible.

Now although creation is the foundation, it is, of course, not the complete structure. Orthodox Judaism and Islam, like Christianity, believe in one eternal Creator, as revealed in Genesis 1:1, but they have rejected Him as Savior. In addition to the general revelation seen in the creation, God has explicitly revealed Himself through both His Word and His Son. Those who reject either or both, even though they believe in one God as primeval Creator and, like Christianity, are monotheistic, cannot know God in His fullness. He must be known as gracious Redeemer as well as omnipotent, but offended, Creator. Thus, biblical Christianity is the only truly creationist religion.

### Foundation of Christology

By the same token, neither can one know Christ as He really is if one knows Him only as Redeemer. Faint-hearted Christians often justify their lukewarm attitude toward creation by saying that it is more important merely to “preach Christ.” They forget that we are preaching “another Jesus” (2 Corinthians 11:4) if we do not preach Him as He really is, along with His complete work. The threefold aspect of the Person and Work of Jesus Christ is beautifully outlined in the majestic declaration of Colossians 1:16-20.

- 1) Past Work, Creation: “By Him, were all things created,” Colossians 1:16.
- 2) Present Work, Conservation: “By Him, all things consist,” Colossians 1:17.
- 3) Future Work, Consummation: “By Him to reconcile all things,” Colossians 1:20.

The great scope of this threefold work is “all things in heaven and in earth.” Jesus Christ

was Creator before He became the Sustainer (or Savior) and Reconciler, and the awful price of reconciliation, “the blood of His cross,” is the measure of mankind’s terrible offense against our Creator. That offense, furthermore, consists essentially of rejecting His Word, and thus denying that He is really the Creator.

One truly “preaches Christ” only when he first of all presents Him as the Almighty Creator, from whom man was alienated when he repudiated God’s veracity in His Word. Only when this is first understood is it really meaningful to speak of God’s forgiving grace and saving love, His incarnation and redemptive sacrifice as Son of man.

### Foundation of Faith

The great message of Christianity is that “the just shall live by faith” (Hebrews 10:38), speaking of “them that believe, to the saving of the soul” (Hebrews 10:39). But exactly what is this living faith—this saving faith? Faith in the abstract is only naïve sentimentality; it must be faith in something and/or someone to have any substance.

The faith of which the apostle speaks, of course, is outlined in the verses immediately following, in the great “Faith Chapter,” Hebrews 11. It is the faith of Abel, offering an acceptable sacrifice; it is Enoch’s faith, pleasing God in obedient witness; it is Noah’s faith, be-

lieving and acting on God’s word; and Abraham’s faith, stepping out on God’s promises.

But, *first of all*, it is the foundational faith of Hebrews 11:3, the faith by which “we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear.” This affirmation clearly tells us that any meaningful faith for salvation and the Christian life must be founded, first of all, on faith in God’s special creation of all things, not out of already existing materials but solely by His omnipotent Word!

### Foundation of the Gospel

Many Christians, who either ignore or compromise the biblical doctrine of creation, have urged creationists just to “preach the Gospel—not creation!” But this is impossible, because the saving Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ is squarely founded on creation. The wonderful threefold work of Christ (creation, conservation, consummation) as outlined in Colossians 1:16-20 is identified as “the gospel” in Colossians 1:23. The very last reference to the Gospel in the Bible (Revelation 14:6-7) calls it the everlasting Gospel (thus, it could never have been any different) and its message is to “worship him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters.”

While it is surely true that the central focus of the Gospel is on the substitutionary

atonement and victorious bodily resurrection of Christ (1 Corinthians 15:1-4), it also includes His coming kingdom (Matthew 4:23) and His great creation. Any other gospel is “another gospel” (Galatians 1:6) and is not the true gospel.

Without the creation, a supposed gospel would have no foundation; without the promised consummation, it offers no hope; without the cross and empty tomb, it has no saving power. But when we preach the true Gospel, with the complete Person and Work of the Lord Jesus Christ as they really are, we build on a “sure foundation,” can promise a “blessed hope,” and have available “all power in heaven and earth” through Christ who, in all His fullness, is “with us, even to the end of the world” (Matthew 28:20). ●

### References

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4. Swanson, M-E. 1983. Teaching Children the Bible. *Mayflower Institute Journal*. 1: 5.
5. Address in New Jersey to the Society of Cincinnati, July 4, 1783.
6. Foster, M. 1983. *Mayflower Institute Journal*. 1:1.

Adapted from Dr. Morris’ article “Creation Is the Foundation” in the December 1983 edition of *Acts & Facts*.

Dr. Morris (1918-2006) was Founder of the Institute for Creation Research.



Those of you who are new to the Institute for Creation Research may be aware that it was founded in 1970 by Dr. Henry M. Morris. You may not know, however, how much Dr. Morris accomplished before its founding and in its early years, both in the realm of creation

science and in his chosen scientific field of hydraulic engineering.

Below is a listing of many of Dr. Morris’ published works during the period up to his signature work on *The Genesis Record*, the most complete creationist commentary on the opening book of the Bible.

- *That You Might Believe*, Good Books, Inc., 1946
- *The Bible and Modern Science*, Moody Press, 1951
- *The Genesis Flood* (with John C. Whitcomb), Presbyterian and Reformed Publishing Co., 1961
- *The Twilight of Evolution*, Baker Book House, 1963
- *Applied Hydraulics in Engineering*, Ronald Press Co., 1963
- *Science, Scripture, and Salvation*, Baptist Publications, 1965
- *Studies in the Bible and Science*, Presbyterian and Reformed Publishing Co., 1966
- *Evolution and the Modern Christian*, Presbyterian and Reformed Publishing Co., 1968
- *Hydraulics of Energy Dissipation*, Virginia Tech. Research Bulletin, 1968

- *The Bible and Modern Science*, rev. ed., Moody Press, 1968
- *Biblical Cosmology and Modern Science*, Craig Press, 1970
- *The Bible Has the Answer*, Craig Press, 1971
- *Science and Creation* (with W. W. Boardman and R. F. Koontz), Creation Science Research Center, 1971
- *Applied Hydraulics in Engineering* (with J. M. Wiggert), John Wiley & Sons, 1972
- *The Remarkable Birth of Planet Earth*, Bethany Fellowship, 1972
- *Many Infallible Proofs*, Master Books, 1974
- *Scientific Creationism*, Master Books, 1974
- *The Troubled Waters of Evolution*, Creation-Life Publishers, 1975
- *The Genesis Record*, Baker Book House, 1975

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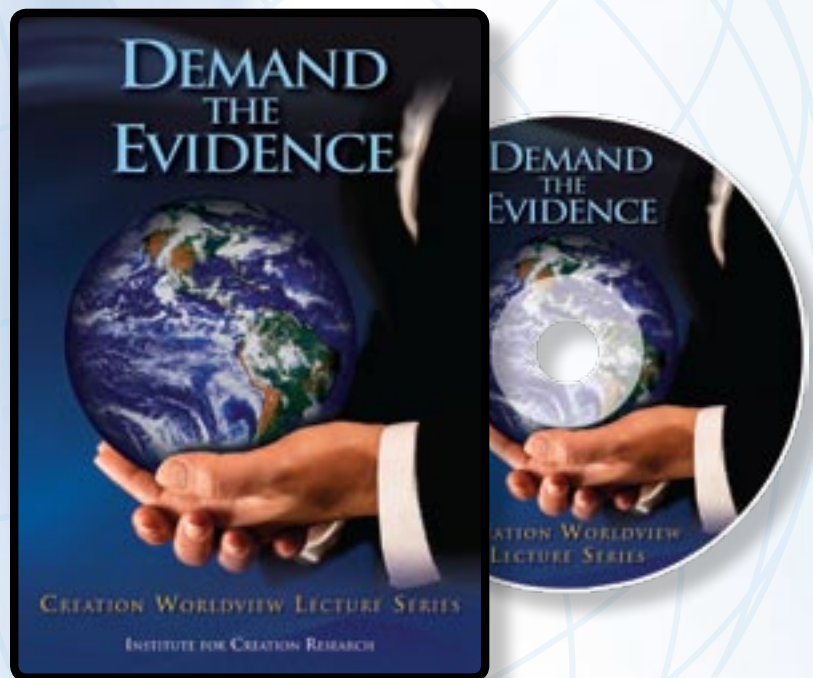
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