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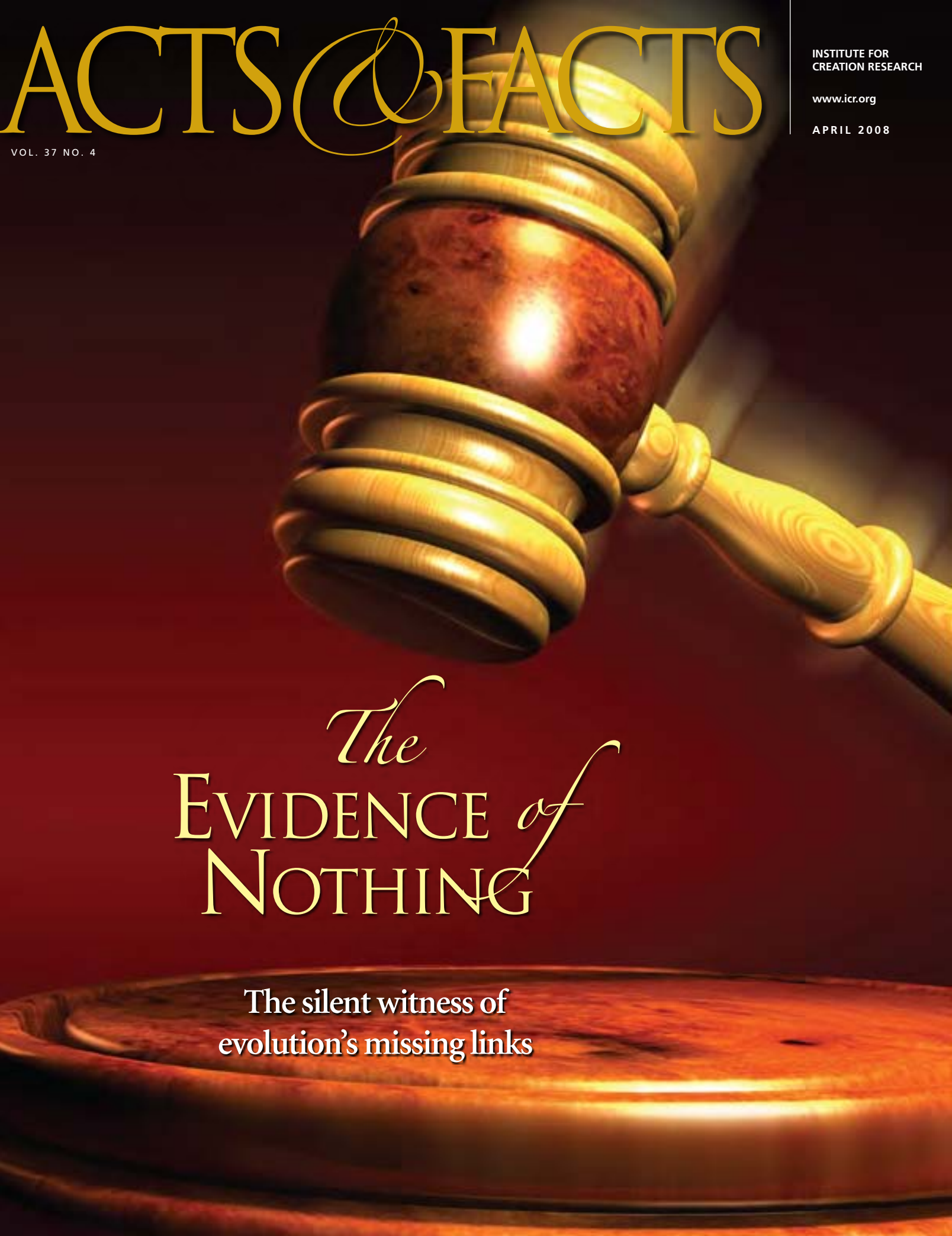

The Evidence of Nothing

The silent witness of evolution's missing links

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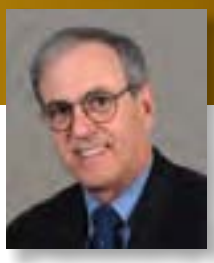

True Science Is Creation Science

Modern secular scientists have gained a reputation as aggressively standing against God and Christianity. In many cases this reputation is justified, as has been documented frequently on these pages. However, while many scientists may be anti-God, science itself is not. All true science is *creation* science. Articles in this and previous issues of *Acts & Facts* show that the majority of science's founding fathers were Christians *and* creationists. One would be hard-pressed to find a single scientific breakthrough that required evolution.

Many good scientists believe in evolution, and many important discoveries have been made by evolutionists. To do so they utilized the principles of good science, but they didn't use evolution. They may have given an evolutionary interpretation and application of their observations, but careful observation of the way things are in the present and well-grounded deduction of the way they operated in the past can be done by any good scientist. Religious speculations about the unseen past, such as evolution, don't enter into it.

The gathering together of good research scientists has been a priority at ICR, and some of their discoveries—like those made during the RATE research project—have been stunning. How do they do it? With such a small contingent of colleagues and a small budget, it would seem impossible by the world's standards. What is their secret?

The profile of the ICR scientist flows down a common path. Each scientist distinguished himself or herself as a productive professional with impeccable credentials before entering ICR's employ. They brought many useful skills and experiences when they came, each with a different story. Some came through the secular university route, while others came from research backgrounds.

But the main thing they brought was an individual commitment to the scriptural worldview and a vibrant walk with God. Each one studies Scripture in his or her personal life, and times together with them will just as often be punctuated with a biblical discussion as a scientific topic. Their secular peers may think this an impediment, but it is truly not so. A scriptural mindset allows them to think creatively—outside the box, as it were. Furthermore, it affords them access to the omniscient Spirit of the Creator, who intimately knows how things originated. This is not to claim they are infallible, but at least they're in the right ballpark. They don't deny truth before they start, as do evolution proponents. Yet scientific honesty restrains them from going too far afield. These are biblically-minded scientists, approaching their scientific fields as knowledgeable biblicists.

Is this not how it should be? They stand on the shoulders of the great creation scientists of the past, thus looking farther and seeing more clearly than they. It is a blessing and a privilege to work with these Scripture-motivated scientists, and to count them as friends. They are an inspiration to me and the many others whom they touch.

Thank you for your prayers and support for this ministry. Even more exploration of His world in submission to His Word awaits us, and we look forward to sharing our results with you.

John D. Morris, Ph.D.
President

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ACTS & FACTS

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The Evidence

JAMES J. S. JOHNSON, J.D.

Evaluating evidence is a key component in the search for truth, not only in science but in other areas of life. The ability to identify supporting facts and data is vital for proving or disproving a hypothesis, whether it relates to a scientific theory, a legal claim, or some other matter. There are times, however, when the absence of corroborative data counts just as strongly as evidence in its own right.

Rules of Evidence

Over the past centuries, the search for truth in science has been formalized into the process known as the scientific method, whereby theories are developed and tested according to a generally accepted standard. In a similar fashion, the legal profession operates by what is known as the Rules of Evidence.[1] Developed over hundreds of years and brought to America via English Common Law, these rules are relied upon to decide disputes over financial transactions, inheritance, land, parental custody of minor children, and criminal matters such as whether a convicted killer should be executed. Circumstantial evidence, analyzed by principles of forensic science, may involve a broken knife at the scene of a burglary, or pistol discharge evidence on the clothes of a suspect.[2]

For generations now, we Americans have trusted these Evidence Rules with our lives, our liberties, and our properties. Accordingly, in legal controversies, the Rules of Evidence serve as a vital vehicle for seriously searching out and reliably reaching (it is hoped) the truth. Real truth stands up to being tested. And even the absence of evidence can operate as a silent witness, testifying to a circumstance where there is nothing, when there should be something.

But what would happen if we applied the same principles of the Evidence Rules to analyzing other types of disputes, such as the scientific controversies about origins? Before answering that question, let us consider how the evidence of "nothing, when there should be something" was used to sentence a medical doctor to jail time for asserting false claims.

Circumstantial Evidence of "Nothing"

This Medicare fraud case involved years of federal court proceedings, with one of the appeals being decided last year.[3] Part of the convicting evidence was nothing—literally nothing, when there should have been something. In the related cases of *Okoro* and *Akpan* (see note 3 below), Victor Okoro, M.D., in concert with others, was accused of fraudulent Medicare billing practices, which conflicted with his "medical missionary" trips and a bogus charity called the Sisters of Grace. The appellate court commented on Dr. Okoro's Medicare fraud:

> Although some of the patients [in Texas] received physical therapy treatments and some were examined by Okoro, each patient signed blank sign-in sheets and blank patient forms. In addition, Okoro signed most of the forms himself, yet many of the patients testified that he had never examined them....Okoro signed patient documents that stated that he had treated those patients on specific dates and at specific times on which Okoro could not possibly have rendered services. For example, many of the dates on which Okoro alleged that he provided services were dates when he was in Nigeria.[4]

Of course, the federal prosecutor had no difficulty proving that Okoro was absent from Texas, due to his using airports to exit the United States. Likewise, federal records provided the dates when Dr. Okoro re-entered America, so the official federal government records were relevant (and admissible) for showing the dates of Okoro's travels in and out of the country.

Yet just as important, from a circumstantial evidence standpoint, was the government's proof of "nothing" on other legally important dates. The federal government's trial proof included official government records with *absences* of entries on the dates in question, showing that Dr. Okoro was not recorded as having re-entered the United States in time for him to have performed the medical services for which he billed Medicare.

This illustrates the power of an argument from silence—the forensic force of such a silent witness can buttress a sentence of felony jail time. So, technically speaking, how can "nothing" become admissible circumstantial evidence at trial? Federal Evidence Rule 803(10) provides one such forensic possibility:

> **Absence of Public Record or Entry.** *To prove the absence* of a record, report, statement, or data compilation, in any form, or *the nonoccurrence or nonexistence of a matter* of which a record, report, statement, or data compilation, in

# of Nothing

> any form, was regularly made and preserved by a public office or agency, evidence in the form of a certification in accordance with rule 902, if necessary, or testimony, that *diligent search failed to disclose* the record, report, statement, or data compilation, or entry. [emphasis added]

Evidence Rule 803(7) is similar, but it applies to admitting as trial evidence the fact that regularly recorded "business records" have a relevant "absence" of an entry, as well as where and when a documentary "nothing" is forensically important.[5]

Origins and the Evidence of Nothing

So how does the evidence of nothing demonstrated by this particular Medicare fraud scheme relate to the question of origins? The comparison can be illustrated by applying the Evidence Rules that govern "nothing, when there should be something" to the problem of "missing links." This evidentiary insight may be unusual, but it is certainly not new.[6]

When examining the quixotic quest for missing links, it is like *déjà vu*—literally nothing, when there should have been something. To use the logic of Rule 803(10), a diligent search for these so-called transitional form fossils over a period of 150 years has failed to disclose them. What kind of empirical evidence is that, regarding the origin of earth's life forms? The years of diligent search indicate a glaring *absence* of molecules-to-man evolutionary phylogeny in the fossil record. In other words, the empirical data of earth's fossils, if analyzed forensically, show that evolutionary phylogeny notions are just empty imaginings, refuted by the evidence of nothing.

Dr. John Morris has recently summarized what the global fossil record contains, and (more importantly) what it does *not* contain.

> Evolutionists often speak of missing links. They say that the bridge between man and the apes is the "missing link," the hypothetical ape-like ancestor of both. But there are supposed missing links all over the evolutionary tree. For instance, dogs and bears are thought to be evolutionary cousins, related to each other through a missing link. The same could be said for every other stop on the tree. All of the animal types are thought to have arisen by the transformation of some other animal type, and at each branching node is a missing link, and between the node and the modern form are many more. If you still don't know what a missing link is, don't worry. No one knows what a missing link is, because they are missing! We've never seen one.[7]

This argument from silence is an *absence* in the evidentiary record—a "nothing, where there should be something" if evolutionary theory were true. But evolutionary theory is not true, so the real world's fossil record has been providing irrefutable evidence, by the *absence* of missing links, for a long, long time now (see the articles noted below[8] for several thorough analyses of the fossil record's evidence).

Conclusion

Some may say that the above analysis is "much ado about nothing." However, there is so much "science falsely so called" involved[9] that it is imperative that we use the greatest care and the highest standards in our quest to uncover the true history of our world. And sometimes, "nothing" is itself evidence for the truth.

References

1. The Federal Rules of Evidence have been cloned, with only small modifications, by the 50 states. According to Rule 102, the Federal Rules of Evidence are supposed to be applied "to the end that the truth may be ascertained and proceedings justly determined." This article focuses mainly on Evidence Rules 803(7) and 803(10), which respectively govern the admissibility as evidence of an absence of information that could have been (but was not) entered into a regular business record or an official government record.
2. See page 41 of *The Testimony of the Evangelists: The Gospels Examined by the Rules of Evidence* by Simon Greenleaf, originally published in 1874, reprinted in 1995 (Grand Rapids, MI: Kregel).
3. Trial in federal district court began in September 2002. One appellate ruling was published as *United States v. Akpan*, 407 F.3d 360 (5th Cir. 2005), and a later appellate ruling appears at *United States v. Okoro*, 213 Fed. Appx. 348, 2007 WL 98804 (5th Cir. 2007) (non-precedent).
4. Quoting from *United States v. Akpan*, 407 F.3d at 364-365.
5. The same forensic principle can be applied to critiquing historical data. See, e.g., page 146 in Bill Cooper's *After the Flood* (Chichester, UK: New Wine Press, 1995).
6. Greenleaf, *The Testimony of the Evangelists*, 41.
7. Morris, J. 2006. What's a Missing Link? *Acts & Facts.* 35 (4).
8. Gish, D. 1983. Creating the Missing Link: A Tale about a Whale. *Acts & Facts.* 12 (9); Morris, H. 2001. Evolution Is Religion—Not Science. *Acts & Facts.* 30 (2); Sherwin, F. 2007. Follow the Evidence! *Acts & Facts.* 36 (4); Gish, D. 1984. Evolution: The Changing Scene. *Acts & Facts.* 13 (10); Parker, G. 1980. Creation, Selection, and Variation. *Acts & Facts.* 9 (10); Morris, H. 1979. Revolutionary Evolutionism. *Acts & Facts.* 8 (11); Parker, G. 1981. Origin of Mankind. *Acts & Facts.* 10 (11); Gish, D. 1981. Summary of Scientific Evidence for Creation, Part I & II. *Acts & Facts.* 10 (5).
9. 1 Timothy 6:20 (KJV).

Dr. Johnson is Special Counsel at ICR.

COSMIC MAGNETIC FIELDS

LARRY VARDIMAN, PH.D.

What is the origin of the magnetic fields we observe in the universe? Dr. D. Russell Humphreys, research physicist at ICR, has developed an explanation for the magnetic fields of earth, other planets in the solar system, stars, galaxies, and even the cosmos itself. On the basis of Scriptures that imply that the original created material of earth was water, Dr. Humphreys proposed a number of years ago that when God created the water, the spins of its hydrogen nuclei were at first aligned in one direction. That would produce an initially strong magnetic field for each object in the cosmos. With time, the energy and intensity of these fields decreased due to random motions and cosmic events.

The major source of magnetic fields in most materials is atomic electrons, whose rapid spins produce strong fields. However, the 10 electrons in a water molecule group themselves into pairs, with opposite spins in each pair. That cancels out any large-scale effect of their magnetic fields. But protons and neutrons generate tiny magnetic fields of their own, about a thousand times smaller than the magnetic fields of electrons. Just as in the case of the electrons, the 8 protons in an oxygen nucleus group themselves into pairs with opposite spins in each pair. The 8 neutrons do likewise. So an oxygen nucleus makes no contribution to large-scale magnetic fields. But the single protons of the hydrogen atoms in a molecule of water are far away from each other, so they interact only weakly.

Normally, the spins of the hydrogen nuclei throughout the water point in random directions and cancel out their overall magnetic field. But what if God created the hydrogen nuclei with *all their spins pointing in the same direction?* In that case, the tiny magnetic fields of the hydrogen nuclei would come into existence instantaneously along with the water as God created it, adding up to a large overall magnetic field for each concentration of mass. Normal electromagnetic events would then conserve the magnetic field by an electric current in the planet's core as God transformed the water to other materials. After 6,000 years of decay, these magnetic fields would decrease in intensity. For example, the strength of earth's magnetic field would have declined to what we observe today, considering energy losses from magnetic reversals during the Genesis Flood.

Dr. Humphreys extended his theory to the other planets of the solar system, the sun, and the moon a few years ago. The theory explains the observed magnetic field strengths of those bodies as well. It also correctly predicted the field strengths of Uranus and Neptune measured by the Voyager 2 spacecraft, as well as magnetizations of surface rocks on Mars. Finally, the Messenger spacecraft mission to Mercury will be testing his fourth prediction from this year through 2011.*

In an upcoming paper submitted to the August 2008 International Conference on Creationism entitled "The Creation of Cosmic Magnetic Fields," Dr. Humphreys improves his theory once again and applies it to updated solar system data, meteorites, and the larger moons of Jupiter and Saturn. Then in a brief survey, he applies it beyond our solar system to ordinary stars, magnetic stars, white dwarf stars, pulsars, "magnetars," galaxies, and the cosmos itself. The theory appears capable of explaining the magnetic fields of all heavenly bodies for which we have magnetic data. In contrast, the origin of cosmic magnetic fields is still a great mystery to uniformitarian theorists. ●

** Please see Dr. Humphreys' article "Magnetic Message from Mercury," published February 5, 2008, on the Creation Ministries International website – www.creationontheweb.com.*

Dr. Vardiman is Professor of Atmospheric Science and Director of Research.

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Although ICR's headquarters has moved to Dallas, our Museum of Creation and Earth History is still open for business in Santee. So if you are in southern California, drop by and explore earth's past with displays, scientific exhibits, and biblical presentations. Admission is free!

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APRIL 2008 EVENTS

- **April 1, 2008**
  Arlington, TX – CHEA Science Fair
  (Nason)
- **April 2, 2008**
  Flower Mound, TX – Genesis Presentation
  (Sherwin)
- **April 5, 2008**
  Santa Ana, CA – Genesis Presentation
  (Austin)
- **April 9, 2008**
  Flower Mound, TX – Genesis Presentation
  (Sherwin)
- **April 1-20, 2008**
  ICR Grand Canyon Tour
  (Austin, Baumgardner, Hoesch, J. Morris, Vardiman, Sherwin)
- **April 23, 2008**
  Fort Worth, TX – Genesis Presentation
  (Sherwin)
- **April 25-27, 2008**
  Pratt, KS – Genesis Presentations
  (J. Morris, Sherwin)

Coming in August 2008 —

THE PREMIER CONFERENCE *on* YOUNG-EARTH SCIENCE

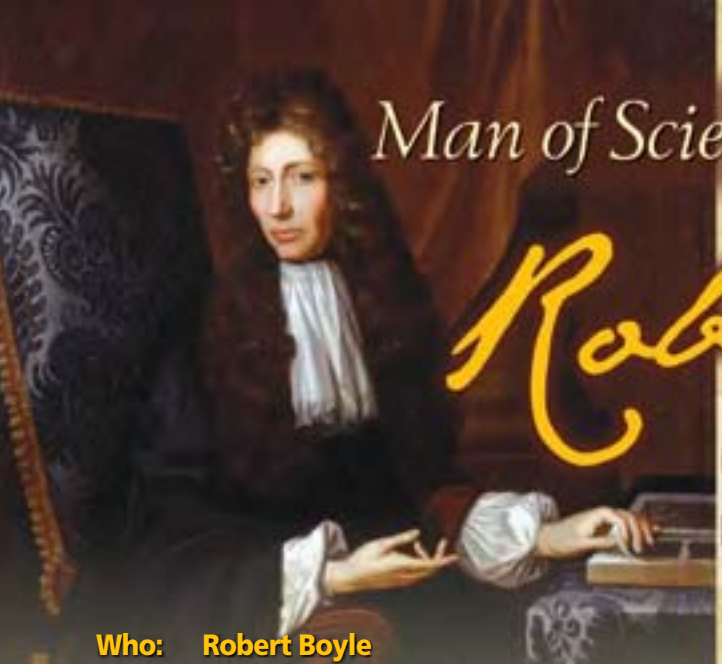
On August 3-7, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, will host the 2008 International Conference on Creationism. Co-sponsored by ICR, this premier scientific conference will feature academic scholars from around the world presenting technical, peer-reviewed papers in the following areas:

- Foundations of Science
- Life Sciences
- Stellar and Planetary Sciences
- Earth Sciences
- Social Sciences and the Humanities

Paper abstracts that have been accepted include "The Origin of the Elements," "Electrodynamic Origin of the Force of Gravity," "Big Bang: Fact or Fiction?," and "Radiohalos and Diamonds: Are Diamonds Really Forever?" Occurring every four to five years, the ICC is the only peer-reviewed conference where such young-earth papers are presented—several of which will come from ICR's own scientists.

For more details or to register, visit www.icc08.org.

Man of Science, Man of God: Robert Boyle



Who: Robert Boyle
What: Father of Modern Chemistry
When: January 25, 1627 – December 30, 1691
Where: Born in Lismore Castle, County Waterford, Ireland

CHRISTINE DAO

Irish natural philosopher Robert Boyle was a major contributor in the fields of physics and chemistry. One of the first to transform the study of science into an experimental discipline, he also championed the concept that all discoveries should be published, not withheld for personal profit and power—a common practice at the time. A devoted student of the Bible, he also produced multiple books and essays on religion.

The fourteenth child of Richard Boyle, 1st Earl of Cork, young Robert learned to speak Latin, Greek, and French and entered Eton College before he was nine. He later journeyed abroad with a French tutor, including a visit to Florence, Italy, in 1641 to study with the elderly Galileo Galilei. In 1645, Boyle was put in charge of several family estates, marking the beginning of his scientific research. He earned a prominent place in the "Invisible College," a group of scientific minds that were instrumental in forming the Royal Society in 1663.

After moving to Oxford, Boyle and his research assistant Robert Hooke expounded on the design and construction of Otto von Guericke's air pump to create the "machina Boyliana." In 1660, he published his *New Experiments Physico-Mechanical, Touching the Spring of the Air, and its Effects Made, for the most part, in a New Pneumatical Engine.* His response to critics of this work included the first mention of the law that the volume of a gas varies inversely to the pressure of the gas, what many physicists call today "Boyle's Law."[1]

Though he also made discoveries regarding how air is used in sound transmission and the expansive force of freezing water, Boyle's favorite scientific study by far was chemistry, which he believed should no longer be a subordinate study of alchemy or medicine. In 1661, he criticized traditional alchemists and laid the foundation for the atomic theory of matter in *The Sceptical Chymist*, the cornerstone work for modern chemistry.

In addition to his scientific research, Boyle diligently studied the Bible. Along with the Greek he acquired in childhood, he learned Hebrew, Cyriac, and Chaldee so that he could read the text firsthand. His faith drove his experimental studies, as evidenced in his published works, and he believed that science and Scripture exist in harmony. Conflicts between science and the Bible, Boyle explained, were either due to a mistake in science or an incorrect interpretation of Scripture.

> Even when some revelations are thought not only to transcend reason, but to clash with it, it is to be considered whether such doctrines are really repugnant to any absolute catholic rule of reason, or only to something which depends upon the measure of acquired information we enjoy.[2]

His 1681 work *A Discourse of Things Above Reason* stressed the limitations of reason, which Boyle maintained should not be allowed to judge what God's revelation could or could not do. He believed the attributes of God can be seen by studying nature scientifically and that His wisdom is observed in creation.

> When with bold telescopes I survey the old and newly discovered stars and planets when with excellent microscopes I discern the unimitable subtility of nature's curious workmanship; and when, in a word, by the help of anatomical knives, and the light of chymical furnaces, I study the book of nature I find myself oftentimes reduced to exclaim with the Psalmist, How manifold are Thy works, O Lord! in wisdom hast Thou made them all![3]

During his directorship of the East India Company, Boyle promoted Christianity in the East by financially supporting missionaries and translations of the Bible. Upon his death, he endowed a series of lectures in his will designed to defend Christianity. The "Boyle Lectures" are held annually to this day in London, a legacy of this remarkable man of God. ●

References

1. The original hypothesis was that of Henry Power in 1661 (though Boyle mistakenly attributed it to Richard Townley in his writings).
2. Boyle, Robert. 1690. *Reflections on a Theological Distinction.*
3. Boyle, Robert. 1660. *Seraphic Love.*

Ms. Dao is Assistant Editor.

Intelligence *Expelled*

CHRISTINE DAO

"Ideas have consequences." With these words, Premise Media CFO Ralph Manning summarized *Expelled: No Intelligence Allowed* at an early screening event in Fort Worth, Texas. The new film, starring stoic funnyman Ben Stein, has stirred up a lot of controversy in recent months—and that appears to be its goal.

"Ben Stein is an ardent defender of the sanctity of life and has come to see Darwinian evolution as an important issue in the culture war," Manning explained. The film, he said, attempts to bring the underlying issues surrounding the origins debate to the attention of an otherwise apathetic public.

Shot in ten countries on four continents, *Expelled* chronicles the economist, actor, lawyer, columnist, and former presidential speechwriter's search for answers as he conducts interviews with both proponents and dissenters of the scientific theory of Darwinian evolution. His destinations include universities, museums, and even the Nazi extermination camp of Dachau, located in southern Germany near Munich.

Expelled, set to open in approximately 1,000 theatres nationwide on April 18, challenges conventional thought and exposes the systematic suppression of academic freedom and free speech that the scientific community has conducted under the guise of "science." Stein injects his signature humor into an otherwise grave matter, at first providing comical counterpoints to evolutionary claims, but then gradually revealing the serious consequences of allowing politics and personal agendas to muzzle the free marketplace of ideas.

The film dips into the ideology behind the theories of evolution and intelligent design. Viewers are treated to a model animation and scientific explanation of DNA and cellular systems. With advances in molecular biology and nanotechnology, scientists are discovering the amazing intricacies and complexities of the human cell, most of which were unknown in Darwin's time.

But the main focus is the oppression of scientists and educators who have been fired, denied tenure, or otherwise shunned because they dared to question Darwinism. Journalist and author Larry Witham told Stein that among his years of reporting on the evolution debate, he found that people can't question the "paradigm" if they want to advance in science. After all, grant money and teaching positions are controlled by the evolutionary elitists, barring most dissenting scientists from conducting research that might oppose evolution.

Many scientists' identities had to be shielded in the film for fear of persecution and/or retribution. Guillermo Gonzalez, an eminent astronomer who was denied tenure at Iowa State University, said that scientists will use intelligent design to do their research, but will not publicly talk about or admit it. The film employs imagery of the Berlin Wall to illustrate this suppression. Academic freedom is only allowed on one side of the wall, Stein explains, and any ideas from the "other side" must be eliminated.

His sobering visits to Dachau and the Hadamar "mental hospital"—where more than 14,000 "patients" met their demise under Nazism's racial purity policies—painted an eerie picture of what happens to humanity when a few elitists take it upon themselves to help along the evolutionary process. According to *From Darwin to Hitler* author Richard Weikart, Hitler saw World War II as a Darwinian struggle for existence, and he justified the practice of eugenics by saying that mankind had "transgressed the law of natural selection" by allowing inferior beings to survive and propagate (*Mein Kampf*, 1925).

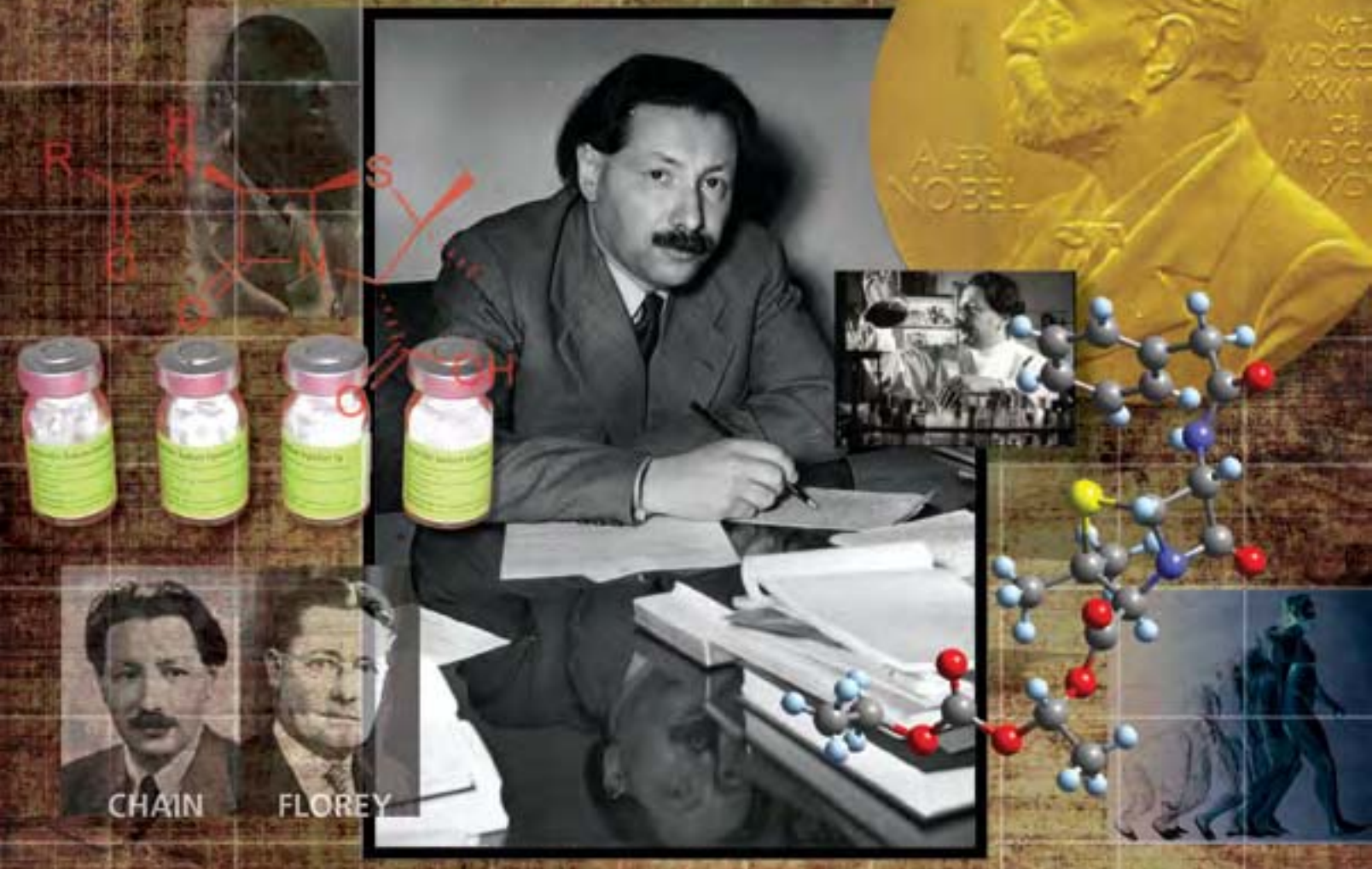
Darwinism's proponents are given ample time to state their case. Biologist Richard Dawkins and National Center for Science Education executive director Eugenie Scott make appearances, though their comments don't so much present evidence for Darwinism as reveal their own biases. Scott proudly displays a push-pin map of the United States showing areas where the NCSE is making efforts to quell opposition to Darwinism. The film concludes with a one-on-one interview between Dawkins and Stein, a discussion that is sure to surprise audiences on either side of the "wall."

A variety of reviews, blogs, and judgments circulated the web even before the movie's release. Some compared *Expelled* to the works of Michael Moore, and others denied that Stein ever interviewed Dawkins at all. If the film stirred up this much controversy before hitting the big screen, then it has certainly been successful thus far in promoting its primary message: "Ideas have consequences." ●

Ms. Dao is Assistant Editor.

Ernst Chain:

Antibiotics Pioneer



JERRY BERGMAN, PH.D.

Ernst Chain and his colleague Howard Florey are credited with "one of the greatest discoveries in medical science ever made."[1] Together with Sir Alexander Fleming, they were awarded the 1945 Nobel Prize for Physiology or Medicine. What is less well known, however, is that this preeminent biochemist openly opposed Darwinism on the basis of his scientific research.

A Brilliant Career

Ernst Boris Chain (1906–1979) was born in Berlin, Germany, where he obtained his Ph.D. in biochemistry and physiology. Although he became a highly respected scientist, as a Jew he foresaw what was coming and left his home country soon after Hitler came to power.[2] He worked in England as a research scientist at Cambridge, also studying for a Ph.D. there, and then at Oxford University until 1948.[3]

After Oxford, Chain worked in research and as a professor at several universities. The promise of better equipment lured him to Rome, but Britain, conscious of its loss, soon enticed him back by building him a new research laboratory.[2] His lifelong work was "all about the mystery of life,"[4] and during his 40-year career he accomplished "amazingly diverse achievements"[5]—even feats once considered impossible, such as the production of lysergic acid by the deep fermentation process.[6]

A Major Founder of Antibiotics

In 1938, Chain stumbled across Alexander Fleming's 1929 paper on penicillin in the *British Journal of Experimental Pathology,* which he brought to the attention of his colleague Florey.[7] During their research, Chain isolated and purified penicillin. It was largely this work that earned him his numerous honors and awards, including a fellow of the Royal Society and numerous honorary degrees,[8] the Pasteur Medal, the Paul Ehrlich Centenary Prize, the Berzelius Medal, and a knighthood.[9]

Chain was selected as a co-recipient of the Nobel Prize specifically for his research that demonstrated the structure of penicillin and successfully isolated the active substance by freeze-drying the mold broth to make its use practical.[10] When Chain was doing his research it required 125 gallons of broth to produce enough penicillin powder for one tablet! Now the same tablet is mass-produced for a few cents.

An internationally respected scientist, Chain is widely regarded as one of the major founders of the whole field of antibiotics. Aside from sanitation, the discovery of antibiotics was arguably the single most important revolution in medicine in terms of saving lives. Chain later wrote a leading text on the subject.[11] In 1940 he also discovered penicillinase, an enzyme that is used by bacteria to inactivate penicillin, negating its effectiveness.[12] Chain knew that bacteria had become resistant to the drug and had already started working on the problem at this early date.

Other important scientific work by Chain included the study of snake venom, specifically the finding that its neurotoxic effects are caused by destroying an essential intracellular respiratory coenzyme.

Evolution: a "hypothesis based on no evidence and irreconcilable with the facts."

A "Hypothesis Based on No Evidence"

One of Chain's lifelong professional concerns was the validity of Darwin's theory of evolution, which he concluded was a "very feeble attempt" to explain the origin of species based on assumptions so flimsy, "mainly of morphological and anatomical nature," that "it can hardly be called a theory."[13]

> This mechanistic concept of the phenomena of life in its infinite varieties of manifestations which purports to ascribe the origin and development of all living species, animals, plants and micro-organisms, to the haphazard blind interplay of the forces of nature in the pursuance of one aim only, namely, that for the living systems to survive, is a typical product of the naive 19th century euphoric attitude to the potentialities of science which spread the belief that there were no secrets of nature which could not be solved by the scientific approach given only sufficient time.[14]

A major reason why he rejected evolution was because he concluded that the postulate that biological development and survival of the fittest was "entirely a consequence of chance mutations" was a "hypothesis based on no evidence and irreconcilable with the facts."[15]

> These classic evolutionary theories are a gross over simplification of an immensely complex and intricate mass of facts, and it amazes me that they were swallowed so uncritically and readily, and for such a long time, by so many scientists without a murmur of protest.[15]

Chain concluded that he "would rather believe in fairies than in such wild speculation" as Darwinism.[13] Chain's eldest son, Benjamin, added: "There was no doubt that he did not like the theory of evolution by natural selection—he disliked theories…especially when they assumed the form of dogma. He also felt that evolution was not really a part of science, since it was, for the most part, not amenable to experimentation—and he was, and is, by no means alone in this view."[16]

Problems with Evolution

Another reason he did not consider evolution a scientific theory was because it is obvious that "living systems do not survive if they are not fit to survive."[15] Chain recognized that the problem was not the survival of the fittest but the arrival of the fittest, and that mutations do produce some variety:

> There is no doubt that such variants do arise in nature and that their emergence can and does make some limited contribution towards the evolution of species. The open question is the quantitative extent and significance of this contribution.[15]

He added that evolution "willfully neglects the principle of teleological purpose which stares the biologist in the face wherever he looks, whether he be engaged in the study of different organs in one organism, or even

of different subcellular compartments in relation to each other in a single cell, or whether he studies the interrelation and interactions of various species."[15]

He was especially aware of how the research in his own field pointed to problems with evolution. In particular, Chain noted our modern knowledge of the genetic code and that its function in transmitting genetic information seems quite incompatible with classical Darwinian ideas of evolution.[17]

Evolution, Morals, and Faith

Another concern about evolution that Chain expressed was evolution's moral implications. In a 1972 speech he presented in London, he stated:

> It is easy to draw analogies between the behavior of apes and man, and draw conclusions from the behavior of birds and fishes on human ethical behavior, but ...this fact does not allow the development of ethical guidelines for human behavior. All attempts to do this…suffer from the failure to take into account the all important fact of man's capability to think and to be able to control his passions, and are therefore doomed to failure.[18]

Chain did not accept some scientists' estimation that "religious belief" did not deserve serious consideration, countering that scientific theories themselves are ephemeral.

> In a lecture which Crick, who, together with Watson and Wilkins, discovered the bihelical structure of DNA, gave a couple of years ago to students at University College...he said...that it was ridiculous to base serious decisions on religious belief. This seems to me a very sweeping and dogmatic conclusion...scientific theories, in whatever field, are ephemeral and... may be even turned upside down by the discovery of one single new fact....This has happened time and again even in the exactest of sciences, physics and astronomy, and applies even more so to the biological field, where the concepts and theories are much less securely founded than in physics and are much more liable to be overthrown at a moment's notice.[15]

One might dismiss Chain's view on Darwinism as simply a result of his faith, but Clark stresses that how "directly such views were linked to his religious beliefs is open to endless argument."[18] Chain's eldest son wrote that his father's concerns about evolution were not based on religion, but rather on science. Chain, though, made it clear that he was very concerned about the effect of Darwinism on human behavior.

> Evolution "willfully neglects the principle of teleological purpose which stares the biologist in the face wherever he looks."

> Any speculation and conclusions pertaining to human behaviour drawn on the basis of Darwinian evolutionary theories... must be treated with the greatest caution and reserve....a less discriminating section of the public may enjoy reading about comparisons between the behaviour of apes and man, but this approach—which, by the way, is neither new nor original—does not really lead us very far.... Apes, after all, unlike man, have not produced great prophets, philosophers, mathematicians, writers, poets, composers, painters and scientists. They are not inspired by the divine spark which manifests itself so evidently in the spiritual creation of man and which differentiates man from animals.[19]

Clark concluded that Chain wrote with such flair against Darwinism that his writings "would do credit to a modern Creationist rather than an accomplished scientist."[13] Chain made it very clear what he believed about the Creator and our relationship to Him. He wrote that scientists "looking for ultimate guidance in questions of moral responsibility" would do well to "turn, or return, to the fundamental and lasting values of the code of ethical behaviour forming part of the divine message which man was uniquely privileged to receive through the intermediation of a few chosen individuals."[19]

Conclusion

Sir Derek Barton wrote that there are "few scientists who, by the application of their science, have made a greater contribution to human welfare than Sir Ernst Chain."[20] His work founded the field of antibiotics, which has saved the lives of multimillions of persons. Chain is only one of many modern scientists who have concluded that modern neo-Darwinism is not only scientifically bankrupt, but also harmful to society.

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Dr. Bergman is Professor of Biology at Northwest State College in Ohio.

A Providential Wind

JOHN D. MORRIS, PH.D.

The world before the Flood evidently enjoyed substantial equilibrium. Scripture doesn't provide all the details, but we get the impression that earth movements, ocean currents, and atmospheric circulation were at a minimum. Evaporation from one area fell that evening in the same general area, indicating a more gentle environment than today's, which is dominated by major weather fronts that are in turn fueled by a greater temperature differential between the oceans and the continents. The tides still operated, but these were due to the earth's rotation and the moon's gravity. Earth basked in God's created blessings, although sin and its resultant curse had caused the original Edenic "paradise" to be lost.

The Flood changed all that. On one eventful day, after Noah, his family, and the animals had entered the Ark, "were all the fountains of the great deep broken up, and the windows of heaven were opened" (Genesis 7:11).

This launched a period of unimaginable tectonic and meteorologic horror. "And all flesh died that moved upon the earth…and Noah only remained alive, and they that were with him in the ark" (v. 21, 23).

"And God remembered Noah…and God made a wind to pass over the earth, and the waters assuaged" (8:1), commencing a cascade of events that ended the Flood. The ICR research wing has several ongoing research projects that propose to delve more deeply into these processes, so more may soon be known about the Flood and its aftermath. We know about wind and its effect, but this supernaturally-caused wind is beyond our experience.

Such a wind would have several implications. For one thing, it would have played a part in draining the land. The continents today are, in places, several thousand miles in width. To get the water from the continents' interior to the shores and into the ocean would normally have taken some time. The wind would have aided this.

Remember also that the land surface was fully saturated at the Flood's end, and a strong, prolonged wind would have helped dry it out. By sending out the ravens and the dove, Noah was testing to see how far this evaporation had progressed. Eventually, "the face of the ground was dry" (8:13), but not yet able to support life. A month later "was the earth dried" (v. 14) and Noah was able to free the animals.

This evaporation was necessary on another front as well. Evaporating water removes significant heat from the system, and abundant heat was everywhere. Heat from the earth's interior was introduced to the surface by the rising "fountains of the great deep," probably boiling the oceans above the subterranean vents. Rapid lateral movements of the continents, as proposed by the best creationist model, would have generated immense heat from the friction involved. So too would the vertical uplift of the mountains, virtually all of which rose at this time as the down-warped sedimentary basins sought to regain isostatic equilibrium. No doubt Noah would have measured the average ocean temperature as quite higher than today's value.

This would in turn have been a major factor in the "Ice Age" that followed in the centuries to come. A hot ocean (more evaporation)—coupled with cold continents (greater temperature differential, sending the moisture inland) and an atmosphere filled with volcanic debris (less snowmelt due to decreased sunlight)—would have triggered staggering storms and immense snow buildup.

It was God's gracious providence to send the "wind" as He did. The great Flood of Noah's day employed recognizable geologic processes throughout, but they operated at rates, scales, and intensities far beyond their modern counterparts. His sovereign grace pervaded it all. "The LORD sitteth upon the flood; yea, the LORD sitteth King for ever" (Psalm 29:10). ●

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

Squid Reflects Creation Evidence

FRANK SHERWIN, M.A.

Imagine having skin that can mimic your surroundings, or even make you invisible. The Hawaiian bobtail squid (*Euprymna scolopes*) in the central Pacific has just such an astounding ability. It is designed with special proteins called *reflectins* that are as beautiful to view as they are amazing in their role.

The study of this function is a new discipline called biophotonics, which examines the use of electromagnetic radiation (light) in the living world. Biophotonic structures of the bobtail squid give it the ability to actually control how it reflects the sunlight that shines on its body. This unique trait reflects the Creator's glory while erecting yet another scientific roadblock to the evolutionary explanation of physical origins—for how could random genetic mutations lead to such intricate molecular structures?

According to a recent article in *Nature Materials*, the reflectin proteins "function in static and adaptive colouration, extending visual performance and intra-species communication."[1] In other words, the biophotonic structures give the squid the ability to not only communicate with other squid, but to also change its coloration to blend with its surroundings and thus hide from predators. Reflectins in the skin mantle of the bobtail squid exhibit a quality known as variable reflectivity, which can make the creature at times virtually invisible. Once again, it is God's incredible creation that may pave the way for man to one day do the unthinkable—in this case, to possibly devise a cloak that can make something (or someone) virtually undetectable.

The near instantaneous color change of the squid is due to designed microscopic organs in the skin called chromatophores. Each chromatophore has a cell containing pigment and is surrounded by about 20 muscle fibers. Motor neurons enter these fibers, and neurons extending from the fibers go to cell bodies located in special lobes of the cephalopod brain. Thus, these are "neurally-controlled photonic structures."[1]

The reflectins seem to be unique to squid, coded for by at least six genes (specific DNA segments). In addition, researchers have found that the Hawaiian bobtail squid efficiently uses an exclusive bilobed ("two-lobed") light organ to its advantage. A species of bioluminescent bacteria called *Vibrio fischera* in the light organ receives nourishment from the squid. In return, the bacteria secrete a tracheal cytotoxin designed to control the development of the light organ. This cytotoxin is a small segment of the deleterious bacteria that causes whooping cough in humans. But perhaps the toxin served a more useful function, as we see in the squid,[2] prior to the introduction of sin into God's creation, which led to the Fall and the current curse under which creation groans (Romans 8:22).

To conclude, not only is biophotonic design evidence for a clearly seen creation (Romans 1:20), but the Hawaiian bobtail squid in particular provides the creation scientist with a possible original benign function for disease-causing bacteria. Truly, God's creation declares—and reflects—His glory (Psalm 19:1). ●

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Mr. Sherwin is Science Editor.

CHRISTIANS IN SPACE

Explorer 1 launch

Courtesy NASA/JPL-Caltech.

DAVID F. COPPEDGE

Many alive today have witnessed the entire history of space flight. Anyone who looked up to see Sputnik cross the sky on October 4, 1957, remembers the panic that set in across the country. The thought of communists beating us to space was intolerable. American prestige sank to a new low when Vanguard, the Navy's attempt to launch a satellite into orbit on December 6, blew up on the launch pad before the watching world. The turning point in the race came with America's first success, Explorer 1, on January 31, 1958—50 years ago. Two key figures in this achievement became bold Christians in the years that followed.

Though technical success in space is a collective achievement, the title "father of the space program" or "world's greatest rocket scientist" could defensibly be given to Wernher von Braun.[1] Only von Braun took space exploration from childhood dreams to reality. By his death in 1977, his rockets had taken man to the moon and probes to Mars, Venus, and Mercury, with the Voyagers en route to the outer planets.

In 1962, an engineer led Dr. von Braun to Christ using a Gideon Bible. Upon praying to repent of sin and receive Christ, the eminent rocket scientist confessed that he felt like a great burden had been lifted off him. He became a fervent Christian, and prayed for the success of his launches. As Apollo 11 lifted off the pad, he was found reciting the Lord's Prayer. Never pushy about his faith, he spoke openly about it when asked. In 1972, he wrote to the California school board to argue for inclusion of non-evolutionary views in science classes. Popular magazine articles by von Braun discussed science's dependence on Christian faith.

Another man behind the success of Explorer 1 was Dr. Henry L. Richter, Jr. (Ph.D., Caltech), the Group Supervisor of Explorer Design and Development. After Explorer 1's success, he continued work on the Ranger, Mariner, and Surveyor programs, eventually leaving JPL for private enterprise and consulting. During those same years of the 1960s, Dr. Richter recognized his need for the Lord and later became a committed Christian. Recently, he published a small book that describes the wonders of life and the universe.[2] Richter explains how these intricate designs could not have evolved. The book, which defends a young-earth position, ends with a call to receive the gospel of Jesus Christ.

I received a surprise call from Dr. Richter this past December. At the time, I did not know who he was. Dr. Richter said he had read some of my articles in ICR's magazine and wanted to get acquainted, since he was coming to the lab to work on a documentary film. On the day we met, I was astonished to learn he was a key player in the mission that brought America to space. Now 80 years old and still sharp, he fascinated me with tales of those adventurous days.

Courtesy NASA/JPL-Caltech

A model of Explorer 1, held by JPL's Director William Pickering, scientist James Van Allen, and rocket pioneer Wernher von Braun (from left to right). The team was gathered at a news conference at the National Academy of Sciences in Washington, D.C., to announce the satellite's successful launch. America's first satellite, Explorer 1 had launched a few hours before, on January 31, 1958, at 10:48 p.m. EST.

A month later, on January 30, JPL had a big 50th-year anniversary celebration for all employees. Dr. Richter was an honored guest among dozens of octogenarian retirees who came for the occasion. I heard him give a speech to employees about Explorer 1. He ended with a bold testimony about how he came to have a glorious relationship with the Designer of the universe.

I can testify from experience that there are many Christians in the space program. They may not write the press releases, but they are there. They do excellent work, witnessing as they can in a mostly secularist/evolutionary environment. Like followers of Jesus Christ in all walks of life, they are the salt and light of the planet. ●

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David Coppedge works in the Cassini Program at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory. The views expressed are his own.

LETTERS *TO THE* EDITOR

This month we were visiting grandchildren in the San Diego area, and took opportunity to acquaint ourselves with the fine museum in Santee. What a wonderful place! Thank you for all your work and the wonderful presentation of God's Word! The lady conducting the tour did a stellar job of answering questions and maintaining order with the group of youngsters and adults. We highly recommend your Institute to all!

— *C.H.*

Just a little note here to express my appreciation for the quality information that continues to pour out of ICR. In the world of work and acquaintances that I'm in daily, creation vs. "science" is the issue and stumbling block. I realize more and more the essential foundation that creation provides for a sound, rational faith and a worldview based solidly on truth.

— *J.N.*

Since we received the *New Defender's Study Bible* as a wedding present, we have learned so much more about God's truth than we ever thought we could! After two years of looking into ICR, reading the *Acts & Facts*, news, etc., I feel so much more equipped and ready to answer a world that stands on the belief of a godless existence. I used to be a person who thought, why couldn't God have used evolution to create all things? I realize now… evolution is another way Satan has blindfolded God's creation.

— *L.F.*

Thank you for mailing me the *How to Be Happy in Spite of Yourself* booklets. I memorized that psalm [Psalm 1] many years ago. Reading the little book gave me much pleasure and some new thoughts. I am giving them to friends.

— *M.B.*

We are out in the streets somewhere every week, plus we take care of needy families during the week. We always give people a *Days of Praise* booklet. The people are blessed by them and love them. We minister to many, many people and *Days of Praise* is one of the biggest blessings we have to give evangelistically.

— *S.J.*

Thank you for the *Days of Praise* devotions and *Acts & Facts*. They are an encouragement and [are] educational/inspirational. I am currently teaching Genesis on Wednesday evenings and Dr. Morris' *Genesis Record* and other ICR materials are helping me much. God bless all the staff and faithful researchers!

— *R.C.*

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

Radio Log

This month on "Science, Scripture, & Salvation"

Weekend of April 5

African Animals

Exciting and exotic animals thrive in different regions throughout the world. One such habitat is the continent of Africa, where we see the wonder of God's creation in uniquely designed wild animals. Which ones will we highlight during this program? Tune in to find out!

Weekend of April 12

Creation Evangelism

One of the greatest joys Christians have is sharing their faith and seeing others accept Christ as their Savior. But did you know that the message of *creation* can be used as an evangelistic tool? Listen in this week as we discuss the importance of sowing the seed of the gospel through Creation Evangelism!

Weekend of April 19

Creationism vs. Paganism

The Bible tells us that we are to worship the Creator, not the creation. Quite the opposite is the religion of paganism, where "Mother Earth" and nature are worshipped. Christians need to be aware of this and not be influenced by pagan philosophies that are promoted at events such as Earth Day. Don't miss this important discussion!

Weekend of April 26

The Power of the Wind

The wind is a fascinating creation of God and is a very important part of our weather system. It can be our friend on a hot summer's day, but it can also be a destructive foe in the form of hurricanes and tornados. Don't blow your chance to hear this interesting program—tune in to *Science, Scripture, & Salvation!*

To find out where you can hear ICR broadcasts, please email radio@icr.org with your name and address. We will gladly send you a radio station listing for your state. If our programs are not aired in your area, we would be happy to send you a free demo packet for you to take to your local Christian station.

Bountiful SOWING

HENRY M. MORRIS IV

As Director of Donor Relations, a good portion of my time each month is spent writing notes of thanks to donors who support ICR ministries. This task is most dear to my heart, since it is a reminder of how dependent we are on our Creator and how He always provides for our needs (Philippians 4:19). I often include a Bible reference with each note, and one of my personal favorites is 2 Corinthians 9:6-7:

> But this I say, He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully. Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver.

The Apostle Paul's counsel and encouragement to the Christians in Corinth still rings true today, which is why this verse is an appropriate testament to our supporters. As ICR earnestly seeks to sow our Creator's mighty message in the hearts of mankind, so too our donors "sow bountifully" with their gracious support to ensure that this vital work continues. ICR is deeply thankful for all those who share our vision through their prayer and finances (Philippians 1:3). We are especially pleased when our partners in ministry are able to "reap…bountifully" with their gifts as well. To that end, please consider the following ways you can "sow and reap bountifully" to continue the work within the Kingdom.

Matching Gift Programs

Most large companies today offer their employees and retirees the opportunity to participate in matching gift programs. As a federally-recognized 501(c)(3) charity, ICR qualifies for programs that match gifts to educational or cultural organizations, made possible through our online master's degree program or our museum, respectively. Matching gift programs typically match dollar-for-dollar up to a certain limit, offering a wonderful opportunity to double the "bounty" of your gift. If you are an employee or retiree for a corporation that offers matching gifts, please prayerfully consider this excellent opportunity to sow bountifully to Kingdom-oriented ministries like ICR.

Charitable Gift Annuities

With rates on Certificates of Deposits (CD) hovering between 3.5 and 5 percent, Charitable Gift Annuities (CGA) currently offer much more attractive rates of return. Like a CD, these special annuities provide guaranteed income from the value of the donated asset for the life of the donor. But because the asset is given as a gift, CGAs provide additional benefits of a present tax deduction and a tax-free portion of the income stream, which CDs do not. Since CGA rates increase by age, ICR can prepare customized proposals to help you decide if a CGA is right for you. Please contact ICR if you are interested in exploring this option to sow bountifully for His service. As always, we thank you for your prayers and support.

Mr. Morris is Director of Donor Relations.

MANY INFALLIBLE PROOFS
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This book has been a stalwart resource for many believers interested in equipping themselves to share the countless evidences of the Christian faith. Many have said that this book is the most comprehensive—yet warm and evangelistic—presentation of the practical evidences of the infallibility of the Bible and the truth of Christianity available anywhere. Widely used as a textbook and reference work, it is also especially suitable for inspirational reading.

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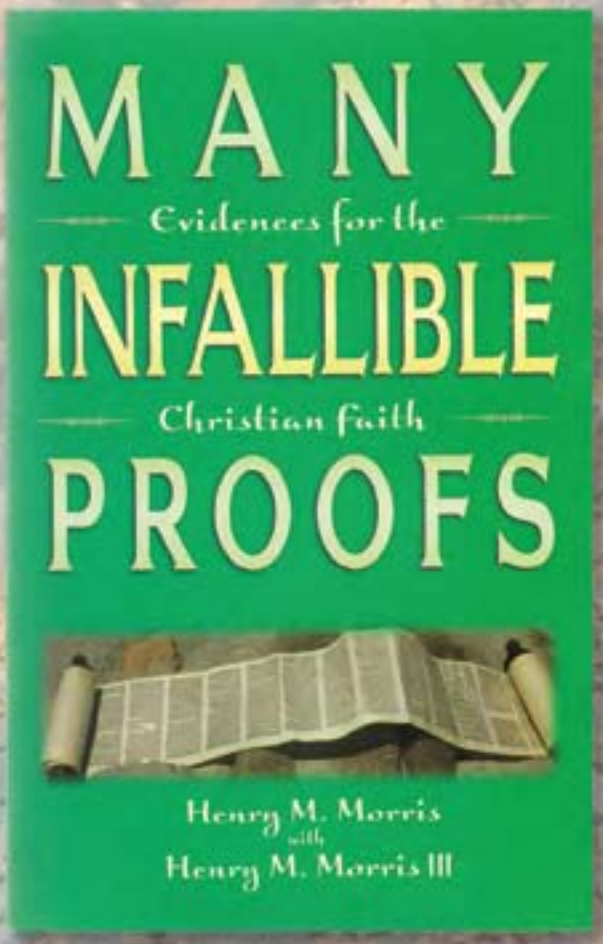

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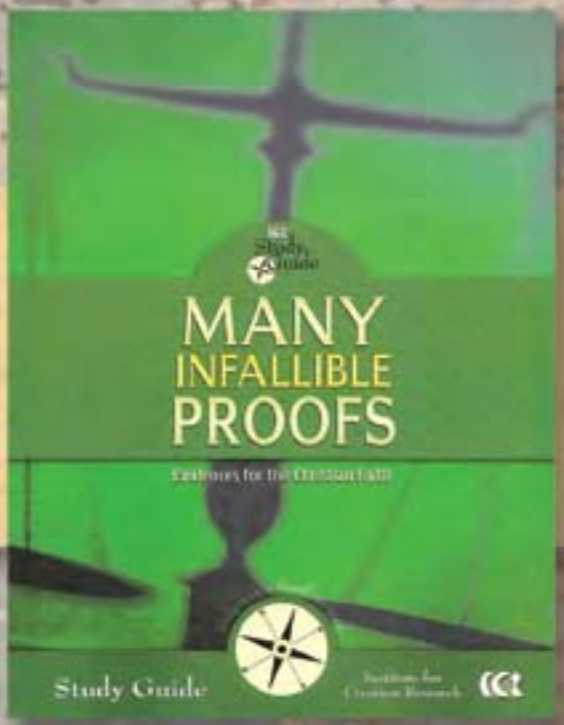

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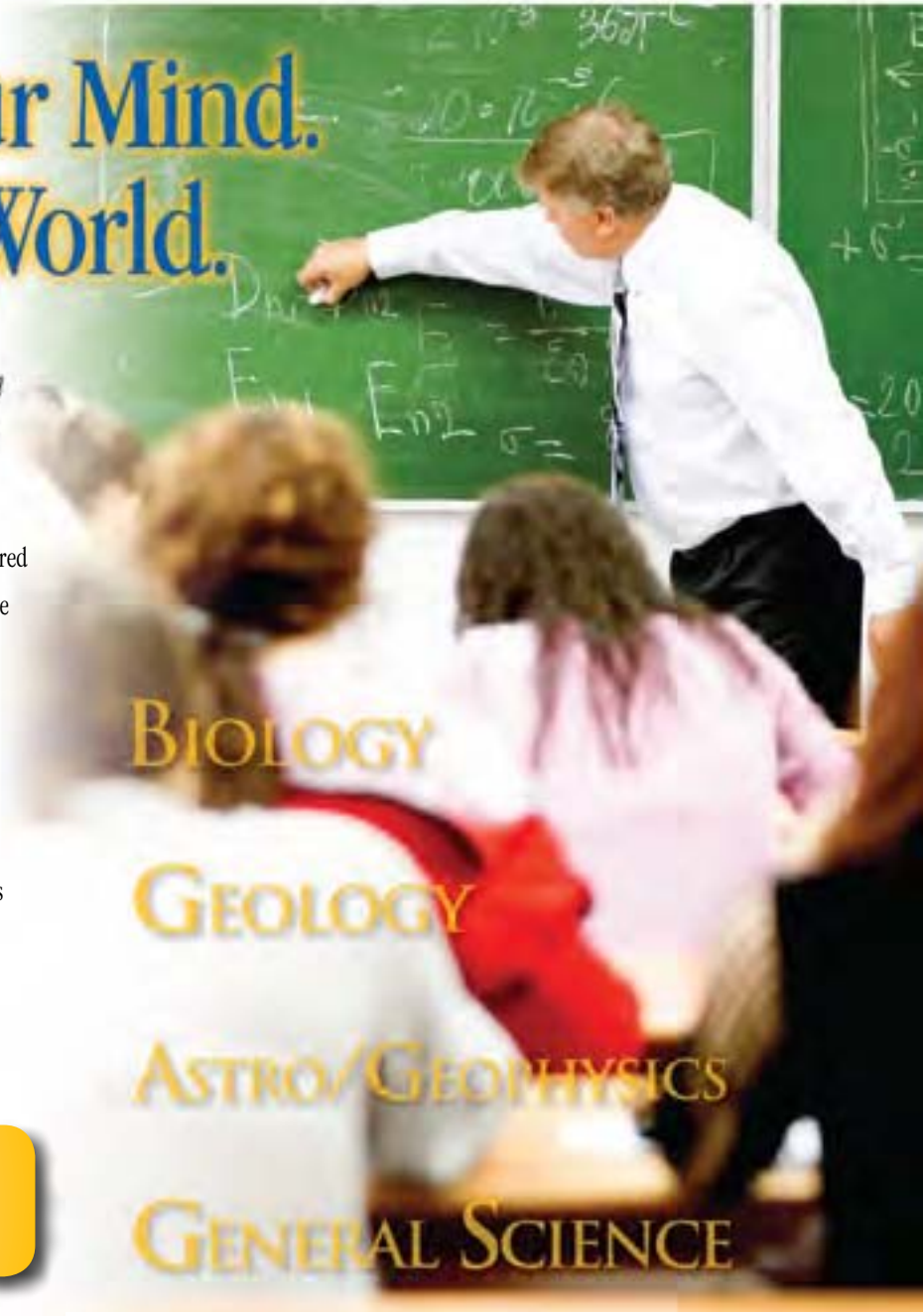

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