

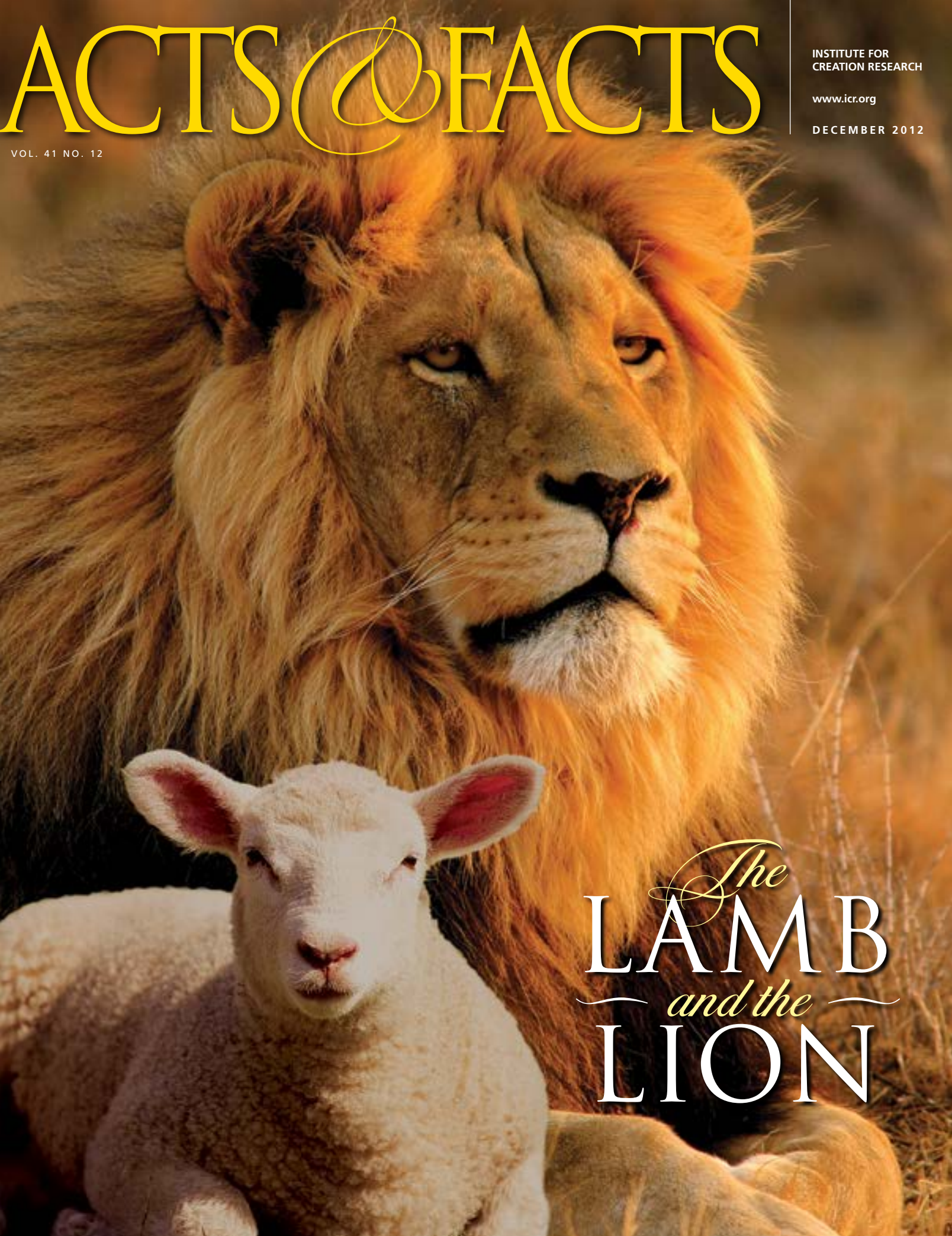
# ACTS & FACTS

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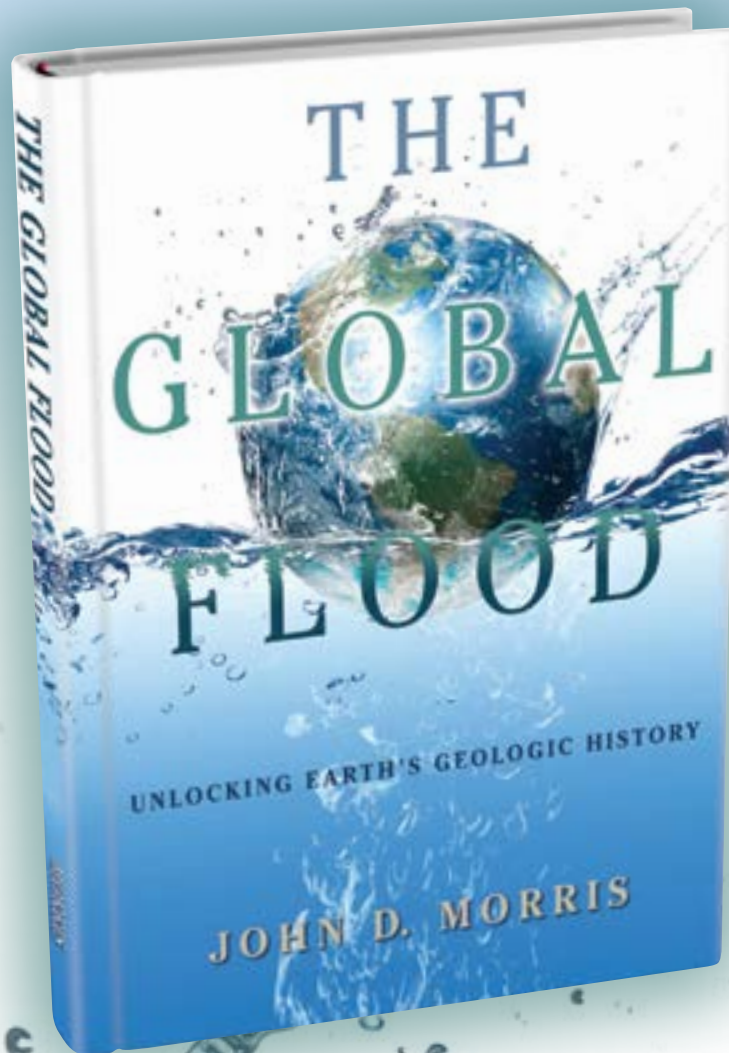
VOL. 41 NO. 12



## *The* LAMB *and the* LION

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## Wait for the Light

“Send out thy light and thy truth: let them lead me; let them bring me unto thy holy hill, and to thy tabernacles.” (Psalm 43:3)

When my children were little, they would burst through my bedroom door on Christmas morning and jump in my bed, giggling and begging to open presents. I usually pulled the covers over my head, grumbling that it was still dark outside. I would mumble some motherly instructions telling them to go see what was in their stockings and watch the twinkling lights on the tree for a little longer—and quietly, please. But that ploy only worked when they were very young.

As the years passed, I got smarter. I told the kids on Christmas Eve not to wake me up in the morning until light came through their windows. That decree became necessary after my special needs daughter decided to bombard my bed at 3:00 a.m.

I smile when I think about how many Christmas mornings following that Christmas Eve mandate that my children have fidgeted in their beds, anticipating glittering gifts and sparkling bags with their names on them, waiting for the first light to shine through their windows. And I wonder how our Father feels about us when we eagerly wait on Him—whether we anticipate help, hope, peace, deliverance, healing, provision, friendship, direction, or His abundant good gifts that we can’t even imagine.

Perhaps He also smiles when He sees us eager to discover His wonders.

Throughout Scripture, we are instructed to wait on the Lord. Psalm 37:7 tells us to “rest in the LORD, and wait patiently for him” and promises a wondrous gift for those who wait—“Those that wait upon the LORD, they shall inherit the earth” (Psalm 37:9). Of course, the best gift of all is our gracious Lord and the sweet relationship that He offers us.

In this issue of *Acts & Facts*, three generations of Morris men encourage us to focus on the greatest gift of all this Christmas. In “God Gave Himself,” Dr. Henry Morris, founder of the Institute for Creation Research, says the “theme of giving is very prominent in the Bible” and that Jesus Christ is “the greatest of all gifts.” Henry Morris IV echoes those thoughts in “The Treasure of the Heart,” encouraging us to focus on the true meaning of Christmas and to turn our attention to God’s perfect Gift. And Dr. Henry Morris III reminds us in “The Lamb and the Lion” that we should worship the One who was found to be “worthy to open the scroll.”

Blessings to you and your family as you wait for the light this Christmas, eagerly anticipating the wonders of our Lord, enjoying the sweet fellowship He offers, and worshipping the One who is worthy of our devotion. Merry Christmas!

**Jayme Durant**  
EXECUTIVE EDITOR

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# The LAMB and the LION

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



One of the more vivid biblical portraits of the Lord Jesus is the paradox of His presentation as a lamb and also as a lion. In the magnificent book of Revelation, the scene in heaven unfolds as the great seven-sealed scroll is revealed. The apostle John aches when no one is found worthy to open the scroll, but one of the enthroned elders says: “Weep not: behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, hath prevailed to open the book...and, lo, in the midst of the throne... stood a Lamb as it had been slain” (Revelation 5:5-6).

Perhaps the best way to understand the dual emphasis of the lamb and the lion is by gaining the perspective of these portraits revealed in the rest of Scripture.

## First Mention of the Lamb in Scripture

God asks Abraham to sacrifice his son in this poignant record, in which we first see the mention of a lamb as the sacrificial offering (Genesis 22:2-8). When young Isaac asks what the sacrifice will be, the original wording of the text is quite unusual, saying, “God will provide himself a lamb for a burnt offering.” The Greek translation of that Hebrew passage is literally rendered “the God (*will*) later himself furnish unto a whole burnt offering, a son.” There is no punctuation in the early languages. Thus, the ending of this phrase with “son” could easily be understood that God will later furnish His Son as an offering.

Yet it pleased the LORD to bruise [crush] him; he hath put him to grief: when thou shalt make his soul an offering for sin, he shall see his seed, he shall prolong his days, and the pleasure of the LORD shall prosper in his hand. (Isaiah 53:10)

## The Lamb and the Passover Sacrifice

Celebrating the Passover of the death angel and the exodus of Israel, the Lord told Moses to instruct the congregation that every household was to take a firstling male lamb, without any blemish, separate it from the rest of the flock, and slaughter it in the presence of the household on a specified day. The blood was collected and spread on the outer door in a very public demonstration of identification with the sacrifice. The lamb was roasted and every bit eaten that very night, and all the leftovers were burned. The sacrifice was totally consumed by those for whom the sacrifice was made (Exodus 12:3-10).

Everyone who participated in the Passover event dressed for travel—with bags packed—and were ready to leave. The death of the lamb signaled the new life of freedom from slavery. “For even Christ our passover is

sacrificed for us” (1 Corinthians 5:7).

### The Lamb of the Daily Sacrifice

The freed Israelites were instructed to publically sacrifice two lambs every day—one in the morning and one in the evening. This was a continual offering by fire, always before the Lord (Exodus 29:38-39). The nation of Israel was never to forget that an innocent sacrifice must be made to “atone” (cover) sin from the righteous judgment of a holy God.

There were other offerings that required a lamb, each representing an act of forgiveness for an individual trespass or an acknowledgment on the part of God of a vow—continual reminders of an ultimate sacrifice that would one day be made. All of these sacrifices were public, bloody, smelly, and unpleasant in every physical way. They were not intended to please the participants, but to instill in the nation the horror of sin in the eyes of God and the absolute necessity of a substitutionary sacrifice.

and thousands of sacrificial examples prior to His incarnation.

### The Lion of the Tribe of Judah—Revelation 5:5-6

But He is also the Lion of prophecy! At the gathering of the 12 sons of Jacob at his deathbed, the great patriarch of Israel proclaimed the first prophecy of the “Lion” who would one day rule the universe.

Judah is a lion’s whelp: from the prey, my son, thou art gone up: he stooped down, he couched as a lion, and as an old lion; who shall rouse him up? The sceptre shall not depart from Judah, nor a lawgiver from between his feet, until Shiloh come; and unto him shall the gathering of the people be. (Genesis 49:9-10)

### The Lion of God Rules During the Millennium

As the final judgment of the Godhead is worked out in heaven and on earth, the Lord Jesus mounts the white horse of victory and

song before the throne, and before the four beasts, and the elders: and no man could learn that song but the hundred and forty and four thousand, which were redeemed from the earth. (Revelation 14:1, 3)

Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and his wife hath made herself ready. (Revelation 19:7)

### The Lamb and His Book of Life

The Lamb is forever etched in the message of God because our sins require an innocent substitute before the holiness and justice of God can be satisfied. Jesus is the only possible sacrificial Lamb—the sinless Son of man and the infinite only begotten Son of God has substituted Himself in our place. Now the Lamb sits on the Throne of Heaven.

And I saw no temple therein: for the *Lord God Almighty and the Lamb* are the temple of it. And the city had no need of the sun, neither of the moon, to shine in it:

THE PERFECT LAMB DIED ON THE CROSS AS PAYMENT FOR OUR SINS, BUT ROARED OUT OF THE GRAVE AS THE ALMIGHTY LION, NOW ANOINTED KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS.

### Behold the Lamb of God

The very first public display of the incarnate Christ to the world was accompanied with the announcement by John the Baptist at the Jordan River: “Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world” (John 1:29).

Many Scriptures were fulfilled in the person of the Lord Jesus, but the majestic prophecy of Isaiah is a beautiful summary.

All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all. He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth: he is brought as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so he openeth not his mouth. (Isaiah 53:6-7)

The Christian gospel is widely known in the Western world, as is fitting. There is a constant emphasis in the New Testament on the complete redemption provided for by “the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot” (1 Peter 1:19). Jesus of Nazareth is most assuredly the ultimate Lamb foreshadowed by the thousands

leads the host of heaven in His triumphal return. This time He comes not as the humble Son of man, but as the King of kings and Lord of lords.

And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron: and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God. (Revelation 19:15)

### It Is Still the Lamb That Rules

The dual nature of the Lamb-Lion is spoken of several times as the processes of His dealings with the enemies of God and the redeemed in Christ are revealed in the book of Revelation.

These shall make war with the Lamb, and the Lamb shall overcome them: for he is Lord of lords, and King of kings: and they that are with him are called, and chosen, and faithful. (Revelation 17:14)

And I looked, and, lo, a Lamb stood on the mount Sion, and with him an hundred forty and four thousand, having his Father’s name written in their foreheads....And they sung as it were a new

for the glory of God did lighten it, and *the Lamb is the light thereof*....And there shall in no wise enter into it any thing that defileth, neither whatsoever worketh abomination, or maketh a lie: but they which are written *in the Lamb’s book of life*. (Revelation 21:22-23, 27, emphasis added)

The perfect Lamb died on the cross as payment for our sins, but roared out of the grave as the almighty Lion, now anointed King of kings and Lord of lords. Once victory is implemented and judgment is complete, the Lamb-Lion will oversee the “new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness” (2 Peter 3:13). Those who have been twice-born in this world by the Lamb’s work on Calvary are now secured by the power of the Lion of the tribe of Judah, who sits on the right hand of the majesty on high until He returns for His own.

Even so, come, Lord Jesus. ●

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



# WANTED: YOUNG CREATION SCIENTISTS

J A K E H E B E R T , P H . D .

**ICR**, together with the rest of the creation science movement, has made great strides in the last 40 years. In many areas, the superiority of the creation worldview has been clearly demonstrated. Even now, ICR is making exciting discoveries in the fields of biology and geology, and we have started new research initiatives in the field of astronomy. However, there is much work that still needs to be done, and this work is hindered by a lack of trained scientists.

Therefore, we appeal to any Bible-believing young person with an interest in science—have you considered cultivating that science interest for the glory of God?

Many young people choose careers for all the wrong reasons (e.g., maybe a college major is “easy” or they can earn a lot of money). Yet some choices in this area can have negative consequences later in life. What good is it to earn a large salary if your job is unfulfilling? Is it worth it to major in an easy field if you ultimately get a job that you dislike? Little wonder that so many adults are eager to retire from the workforce—they hate their jobs!

How much better to choose a career path that will bring ultimate fulfillment, a decision inspired by a God-given desire to work in a field that will bring glory to the Creator. Young Christian, if God has given you a desire to serve Him in a particular area, then consider His promptings. Maybe He is leading you to serve Him in the field of science. It may involve short-term sacrifice, but God’s

best often requires hard work.

If you have an interest in science, then pursue it. An aptitude and a genuine love for science is a rare gift—maybe you can be the one to make a startling discovery or a life-changing advancement in the field. Maybe history will be different because of you. Perhaps you can be the one to finally break the evolutionary monopoly on our institutions of higher learning.

Of course, not everyone has an interest in science. God has given us all different gifts (1 Corinthians 12:4-7) and called us to different areas of service. But Christian young people might consider the challenge to seek God’s wisdom about their future, to consider His direction when they are making their career choices.

For those who *do* have an interest in science, we wish to offer a few words of advice. Work hard to get the best possible grades and push yourself to truly understand the material. When choosing a school, choose one with a rigorous academic program and a research program that truly interests you. Although you should not be dishonest about what you believe, it’s probably prudent to not draw attention to your creationist beliefs while you are a student, particularly if you are in a field that directly touches upon the origins controversy (such as paleontology, biology, or geology).

Given the increasing anti-Christian sentiment in society and the academic persecution in the secular universities, there may very well come a day when it will no longer be possible for a Bible-believing Christian to get an advanced degree in the natural sciences. Academically gifted young Christians should therefore “redeem the time” (Ephesians 5:16) before that door of opportunity closes. ●

*Dr. Hebert is Research Associate at the Institute for Creation Research and received his Ph.D. in Physics from the University of Texas at Dallas.*





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# Christmas, Vikings, and the Providence of God

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

How are two famous Viking battles in 1066 related to the very first Christmas?

Both prove God's providence. At the first Christmas, God so loved the world that He gave us the *living* Word of God—Jesus Christ. In the Viking battles of 1066, however, God providentially advanced global transmission of the *written* Word of God, and it is the written Word that teaches us who Jesus is. Every Christmas reminds us of God's providence.

Before analyzing the events of 1066, let us consider five witnesses that testify for God, with special attention to the fifth one—how God gives an authoritative witness of Himself through His work in providential history.

## Five Witnesses Testify for God in the Courtroom of Life

The Bible recognizes at least five witnesses for God, and the truth of those witnesses is strong enough proof to condemn those who oppose their testimony.

**1** *The physical creation.* Although the physical creation does not speak with human language, it provides proof of God's creatorship and glory (Psalm 19:1-6). Its message is so powerful that to ignore it is to reject God's revelation "without excuse" (Romans 1:20). Note that no one needs to "assume" God's existence in order to be confronted with the irrefutable testimony of creation—the proof

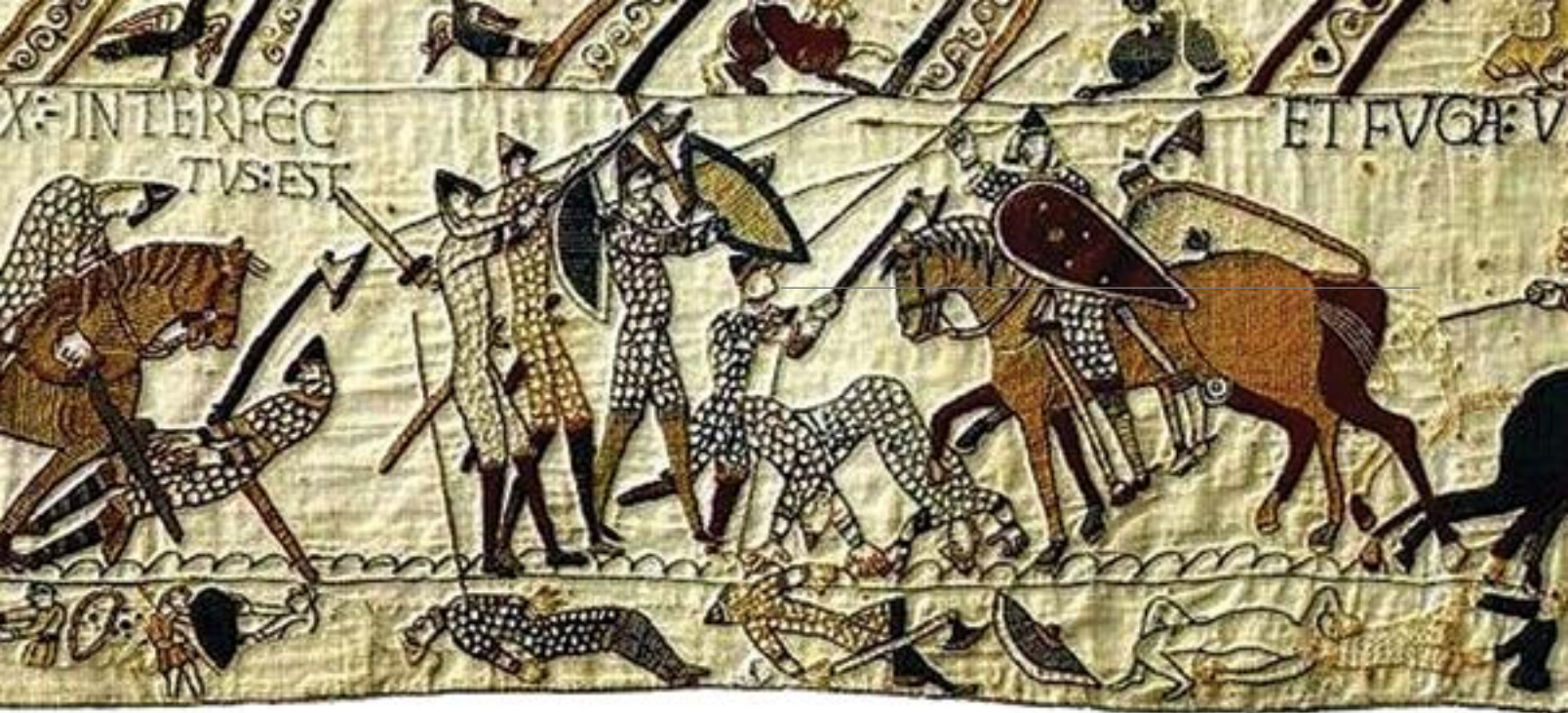
is physically a part of us! The physical creation, including our own bodies, tells us that there is a glorious Creator, regardless of whether we want to believe it.<sup>1</sup>

**2** *The non-physical uniqueness of mankind* (i.e., our souls, personalities, minds, etc., especially our morality-oriented consciences). Why do humans have a unique quality of discerning morality, as illustrated in how we instinctively judge and blame one another for immoral behaviors? We display our consciences when we say things like "that's not fair," or "that's not right." These expressions are proof of our capacity for moral judgment, a non-physical creature quality that is inexplicable apart from our being created in God's image (Romans 2:1-3, 14-15).

Mankind's concern about morality—caring about what is "right" or "wrong"—has no adequate extra-biblical explanation. The only satisfactory explanation is that mankind (even though fallen) was made in God's image, and we cannot exist apart from our Creator who conscientiously discerns between right and wrong, good and bad, true and false. Although human consciences are not infallible, they can provide a strong enough message to convict and condemn hypocrisy (John 8:9; Romans 2:14-15).

**3** *The Holy Bible.* The God-breathed Scriptures provide us with God's most authoritative witness of truth (2 Peter 1:16-21; 2 Timothy 3:15-16; Psalm 119; Matthew 4:4). The Scriptures are one huge "text message"





from God to us. Unlike the witness of nature—which is fallen, non-verbal, and non-redemptive—the Holy Bible provides us with God’s truth that is theologically comprehensive in scope and word-perfect in detail. Its original texts in Hebrew, Aramaic, and Greek are infallible, even to every jot and tittle (Matthew 5:17-18; 24:35).

Amazingly, Peter recognized that his eyewitness experience of the Lord Jesus being physically glorified atop the Mount of Transfiguration—as authoritative as that revelation surely was—was not as sure or reliable a truth revelation as the Scriptures, which God has given to us in written form. Although Peter’s experience was certainly unforgettable, his sensory perceptions and memory were no substitute for the verbalized certainty of the prophecy-verified Scriptures (2 Peter 1:16-21). With truth transmission in mind (Isaiah 55:10-11), God utilized selected Jewish men for receiving, preserving, and transmitting His written Word to the apostle Paul’s generation (Romans 3:1-2).

**4** *The Lord Jesus Christ Himself.* When He came physically to earth, Jesus was God’s witness of truth (Revelation 1:5). As Immanuel—“God with us”—Jesus was Truth in person (John 14:6), the living Word of God (John 1:14; 1 John 5:7; Revelation 19:13). During Christ’s roughly three decades on earth—from His miraculous conception inside Mary, to His birth in Bethlehem (that we annually celebrate as Christmas *when* we keep in mind that He is the reason for the season), to His adult ministry, crucifixion, burial, resurrection, post-resurrection ministry, and ascension—Christ’s first advent was one infinitely powerful revelation of God. Its unending effects are illustrated by the calendars of today’s world. Even atheists are forced to keep time based on global calendars that divide human history “before Christ” and *anno Domini* (year of our Lord)—a daily reminder that one unique life has changed all of human history more than any other.<sup>2</sup>

That accounts for four of God’s witnesses of truth: the physical creation, the unique qualities of mankind’s non-physical humanity (including the uniquely human conscience), the written Word of God (i.e., the Bible), and the living Word of God (i.e., Christ’s historical incarnation and earthly ministry).

**5** *God working in providential history.* But one more witness must be recognized, even though it is quite fallible and not inerrant. This last witness is “hidden in plain view” (like God’s providential actions reported in the book of Esther)—God working in the lives of humans, what some have called providential history, or what the apostle Paul called human “epistles” (2 Corinthians 3:1-3) “known and read of all men.”

**Mankind’s concern about morality—caring about what is “right” or “wrong”—has no adequate extra-biblical explanation.**

In other words, the holy work of God in our lives is a sort of “Bible paraphrase” witness—others watch our lives, wondering if our beliefs affect the way we live.

Obviously, our lives are not infallible or inerrant, so we are not authoritatively perfect truth witnesses for God.

But, because the message of our lives is so important to God (Acts 1:8), we have no excuses for not trying to be the best “Bible paraphrases” we can be to the watching world. Consider how the prophet Daniel condemned Babylon’s king Belshazzar, some 2,500 years ago. Daniel did not allude to Scripture, or the witness of heaven, or mankind’s uniqueness, or Messiah’s incarnation. Rather, Daniel recited providential history—a few historical facts that evidenced *God working in the life of Nebuchadnezzar*—and that “living epistle” witness alone sufficed to doom Belshazzar:

And thou his son, O Belshazzar, hast not humbled thine heart, though thou knewest all this. (Daniel 5:22)

The witness of God’s providential working in Nebuchadnezzar’s life was a truth witness that Belshazzar was morally accountable for, and he was judged by God accordingly.<sup>3</sup> Even fallible witnesses can provide

strong enough proof that there is no excuse for sidestepping the evidence that they clearly provide. (Ask Belshazzar!)

### How Do Viking Battles Show God's Providence?

How are Viking battles in 1066 relevant to God providing His Word to the world? To recognize God's providential workings, we should review a few critically important historical facts in light of the biblical doctrine of human mortality.

Scripture teaches that God sovereignly controls who lives and who dies, including when and where (Psalm 68:20; Psalm 102:18; Psalm 139; Matthew 10:29-31). Thus, whether someone lives long enough to perform a world-changing action is a matter that God providentially controls.

Whenever an observable series of cause-and-effect events change the destiny of the world, such "domino destiny" serial events are not random acts of blind chance; they are all foreknown (if not very actively orchestrated) by God as part of His sovereign control over history (Romans 8:28). It is God's foreknowledge, especially, that staggers the sanctified imagination when we consider how God is and has been controlling the timing of human procreation events.

Two historical examples can illustrate how God's foreknowledge synchronizes with His purpose of blessing the world with His written Word, which reveals to us the living Word.

First, consider the importance of the United States of America as a gospel ministry vehicle, blessing the whole world by publishing and distributing Bibles, translating the Bible into hundreds of languages, providing biblical education in various media, and sending Bible-teaching missionaries and so on. Surely God's blessings have been shown to all the world in the past 200 or so years through Christian Americans using their religious liberties. Surely God worked providentially in the founding of America.<sup>2,4</sup>

But what if there had been no George Washington to "father" America? Would American history have noticed the difference? If your answer is "yes," you appreciate Washington's impact. How would America have impacted the world (for good) if Washington had never been born? His fate was at mortal risk on October 14, 1066, at the Battle of Hastings, where his own forefather the Norman duke William succeeded in conquering England. If the battle had gone the other way and William the Conqueror had died, then he would not have been alive to have a son named Henry (England's Henry I), who was born two years after the Battle of Hastings. Since George Washington is a direct descendant of Henry I,<sup>5</sup> Washington wouldn't have been born roughly 700 years later.<sup>6</sup>

Second, consider the worldwide impact of the King James Bible (over 400 years old, with over one billion copies in print) and its historical impact on English-speaking peoples around the world. Surely God worked providentially in the political sponsor-

ship of the Bible.

But what if there had been no King James to sponsor the King James Bible? At the previously mentioned Battle of Hastings, the losing king was England's Harold Godwinson. Just 19 days earlier, King Harold defeated a huge Viking invasion near the Humber River in the Battle of Stamford Bridge on September 25. In that battle, the future destiny of James Stuart (later Britain's King James)—who would not be born for about 500 years—hung in the balance, subject to God's procreative providences (Psalm 102:18). The invasion was led by a direct ancestor of King James, the Viking king Harald Hardrada of Norway, who assaulted the English coasts with thousands of Viking warriors and local allies who opposed King Harold Godwinson's regime.

Hardrada had already won battles in Russia, Eastern Europe, Greece, Italy, Sicily, Jerusalem, Scandinavia, and the British Isles. But on September 25, 1066, with a fleet of about 300 Viking ships, Hardrada invaded eastern England, only to meet Harold Godwinson at Stamford Bridge. At the end of that wasteful, bloody day, only about 8 percent of the Norwegians survived, and only 24 ships were needed to carry them home.

Thankfully, for all who appreciate the King James Bible

and its impact around the world, one of those few survivors was Olaf Kyrre, King Hardrada's son. Kyrre had been assigned to guard the boats during the disastrous battle. About seven years later, he fathered Magnus Bare-legs, through whom descended King James.<sup>7</sup>

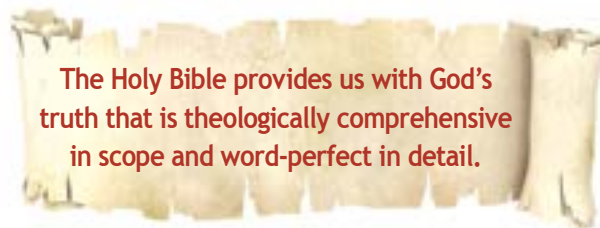
So, how is the first Christmas related to two famous Viking battles in 1066?

Both demonstrate God's providence. Christmas introduced Jesus, the living Word of God. Later, the two battles of 1066 included God's providential protection of the lineages of two men who would help spread to the world the written Word of God: King James and George Washington. It is the written Word of God that teaches us to worship the living Word of God—Christ, the reason for this holy season. ●

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Dr. Johnson is Associate Professor of Apologetics and Chief Academic Officer at the Institute for Creation Research.





# EVOLUTIONARY MATH?

JASON LISLE, P.H.D.

**M**ost people have heard of “evolutionary biology.” But the term “evolution” is often applied in a broader sense (gradual, naturalistic changes over long ages) to other fields of study. Some people study geology or astronomy from an evolutionary perspective. But has anyone ever studied “evolutionary mathematics”? What would an evolutionist mathematician study? Can the existence of numbers and mathematical laws be explained by a time-and-chance naturalistic origin?

To answer these questions, let us first consider some background material and definitions. Mathematics is the study of the relationships and properties of numbers. What, then, are numbers?

That may seem like an obvious question because numbers are so foundational to our thinking. But sometimes these foundational

concepts are the most difficult to define. Perhaps this explains why various dictionaries give such a wide range of different definitions of the word “number.” One of the better definitions is “a concept of quantity that is or can be derived from a single unit, the sum of a collection of units, or zero.”<sup>1</sup>

Numbers are concepts. Thus, they are abstract in nature. They exist in the world of thought and are not material or physical. You cannot literally touch a number, or even see one, because they are not made of matter. This confuses some people because we often talk of written instances of numbers as if they were the actual number. For example, suppose I write down the number three. If I look at what I’ve written, am I seeing an actual number? Well, no. If I then erase what I’ve written, have I then destroyed the number three? If what I wrote is literally three, then when I erase it, will I have erased three? Clearly not.

The written expression of the number three, called a “numeral,” is merely a *representation* of the number, not the actual number. Removing the numeral does not cause the number to cease to exist. In fact, the number three existed before anyone ever wrote down the numeral that represents it.

Likewise, if the word “lion” is written on a piece of paper, it represents a particular thing. Erasing the word would not affect the actual lion at all. But whereas the word “lion” represents a physical reality, something that can be seen and touched, a numeral represents an abstract reality—something that cannot be seen or touched, but nonetheless exists. Although the concept of a number can be applied to physical things, the concept itself is not physical.

If numbers are not material, do they actually exist?

Some people might think that only

physical things can exist—that matter and energy comprise every real thing.<sup>2</sup> But, of course, in the Christian worldview we can have non-material entities that do exist. God is an obvious example. He exists, but is not made up of matter or energy. So the Christian worldview allows for numbers to have real existence, even though they are not material things. Numbers have properties that wouldn't make sense if they didn't exist. In fact, if numbers did not exist, then we could not use them. (Try using something that doesn't exist—it is very difficult!) Other examples include logic, love, and laws. Clearly, numbers are real, yet abstract entities.

Children are often taught about numbers starting with something physical. There are three apples or three rocks. The apples and rocks are physical, but “three-ness” is not. Quantity is a concept. Though it can be applied to physical things, it exists apart from them. For example, as far as I know, I have never seen 1,200,436,172 instances of a particular thing. And yet, that number still has meaning. I know that it is larger than 1,200,436,171 and smaller than 1,200,436,173, even though I have never counted any such quantity of physical things. Numbers exist apart from physical things, even though they can be applied to a quantity of physical things.

Can a secular worldview make sense of abstract concepts like numbers?

### What are laws of mathematics?

Laws of mathematics are rules that describe the relationships between numbers. As one example, the commutative law of addition shows us that  $2+3=3+2$ . There are many laws of mathematics, and some can be logically or mathematically derived from other laws. Laws of mathematics are (1) universal, (2) invariant, (3) absolute, and (4) abstract. Let's consider each of these in turn.

Mathematical laws are universal—they apply everywhere. When we add  $2+3$  in Europe, we get exactly the same answer as we get in the United States. For that matter, laws of mathematics work just as well on Mars, Alpha

Centauri, the Andromeda Galaxy, or in the core of a distant quasar. Many laws of nature, including the laws of physics and the laws of chemistry, are mathematical in nature. So if laws of mathematics were different in various regions of the universe, then presumably laws of physics and chemistry would also differ in an unpredictable way. This would render astronomy impossible.

Mathematical laws are invariant; they do not change with time. Just as  $2+3=5$  today, so it did yesterday, and so it will tomorrow. All mathematical laws are such that they remain the same at all times. They are absolute. It's

### Laws of mathematics are real and, yet, not physical—just as God is real and not physical in His essential nature.

not that  $2+3$  *usually* equals 5; rather, it *always* equals 5. There are absolutely no exceptions. And like numbers themselves, laws of mathematics are abstract and conceptual in nature. They cannot be seen, felt, moved, or eaten. Of course, we can write down expressions that represent such laws, just as we can write down numerals that represent numbers. But erasing the expression will not obliterate the mathematical law that it represents.

### Is mathematics an invention of humanity?

Some people have supposed that mathematics is a creation of human beings, like the printing press or the internal combustion engine. But are numbers and laws of mathematics really inventions of man? Things that are designed and created by people could have been designed and created differently. When two people independently invent the same type of thing, there are differences in the design and construction since each person has taken a different creative approach to solving an engineering problem. Moreover, the designs of various manmade contraptions are often improved down the line as innovative new

solutions are proposed and new technologies are developed.

If mathematics were manmade, then we would expect it to exhibit these characteristics as well. We would expect different mathematical laws for different mathematicians, and improvements to such laws as time progresses. As society changed, so would laws of mathematics. Is this what we find?

Undoubtedly, the written expression of mathematical laws is manmade. There are several different notations used in various fields of mathematics, and various mathematicians in the past have used different notations to express mathematical truths. Some notations are more useful than others, while less useful notations often fall into disuse. However, these different symbols are merely different ways of expressing the same mathematical reality. For example, Roman numerals express the same numbers as the more familiar Arabic system. All mathematicians have the same laws of mathematics, although they may use different systems and different notations to express those laws.

Laws of mathematics are discovered by people and written down by people. But they were not created by people. As discussed above, laws of mathematics do not change with time. Therefore, they existed before people existed. So they obviously cannot be a creation of man. The equation  $2+3=5$  was true long before any human being thought about it, realized it, or wrote it.

### The origin of mathematics

How then do we account for the origin and properties of numbers or the laws of mathematics that describe them? Let's consider first the naturalistic, or evolutionary, view. In this way of thinking, people attempt to explain the characteristics of a modern object by considering how it gradually evolved over millions or billions of years from something less complex. If we applied this concept to mathematics, we would ask, “From what did numbers evolve? What were numbers before they were numbers? When did the physical universe

begin obeying mathematical laws?"

Just take one number as a token case. From what simpler number did the number 7 evolve? Was 7 once 3? Did 3 have to transition through 4, 5, and 6 before it became 7? When did the negative numbers evolve? Or how about the irrational numbers? When did these numbers begin obeying mathematical laws? Did laws of mathematics evolve first, and then numbers later? Or was it the reverse?

If these sorts of questions sound silly, it is because they are. The evolution of numbers makes no sense whatsoever. 7 has always been 7, just as 3 has always been 3. Likewise, the expression  $2+3=5$  was as true at the beginning of time as it is today. Mathematical laws and the numbers they govern are invariant—they do not change with time and, therefore, cannot have evolved from anything!

The secularist is truly stuck when it comes to mathematics. He knows that mathematical truths existed before human beings discovered them. For example, the orbits of the planets around the sun were described by the mathematical formulae expressed in Kepler's laws before human beings existed. And yet laws of mathematics are conceptual in nature. Concepts exist in a mind; they are objects of thought. So how can a conceptual entity like math exist before any mind is around to think it?

How is it that numbers are conceptual—the result of a mind—and yet they go beyond the human mind's capacity to fully understand (such as infinity) and predate the existence of the human mind? The answer is that numbers are not the product of a *human* mind, but rather the product of the mind of God. The terrible dilemma faced by the secularist simply does not occur in the Christian worldview. It's not a problem for the biblical creationist to have conceptual entities existing before human minds because human minds are not the only minds that exist in the Christian worldview. Numbers are a reflection of God's thoughts. Numbers existed before people because God's thoughts existed before people.

Laws of mathematics are a reflection of

how God thinks about numbers. The internal consistency of mathematics is a reflection of the internal consistency within the Godhead. The invariant nature of mathematics is a reflection of the unchanging nature of God. Since God is beyond time (2 Peter 3:8), His thoughts do not change with time and, thus, neither do laws of mathematics. Laws of mathematics apply everywhere because God is omnipresent (Jeremiah 23:24). Laws of mathematics are absolute because God is sovereign and does not change His mind (1 Samuel 15:29). Laws of

### Numbers cannot have evolved because numbers cannot change.

mathematics are real and, yet, not physical—just as God is real and not physical in His essential nature.

The biblical creationist can also make sense of why the physical universe obeys mathematical laws. God upholds the universe by the expression of His power. So, naturally, the universe will be consistent with the thoughts of God. Human beings are able to think about and use math because we are made in the image of God. His thoughts are reflected in us when we think rightly about anything. We can use mathematics to understand and solve problems in the material universe because the material universe is upheld by the same mind responsible for laws of mathematics. The properties and usefulness of laws of mathematics make perfect sense to the consistent Christian. But mathematics is simply not amenable to a naturalistic, evolutionary explanation.

In 1960, the physicist Eugene Wigner published a classic article from his secular point of view on the topic of why the physical universe obeys mathematical laws. The title of the article, "The Unreasonable Effectiveness of Mathematics in the Natural Sciences," highlights the problem for the secular worldview. Just why does the physical universe obey laws of mathematics? Though not a believer, Wigner states, "It is difficult to avoid the impression that a miracle confronts us here...or the two

miracles of the existence of laws of nature and of the human mind's capacity to divine them." Indeed, how can one accident of nature come to understand another? In his closing paragraph, Wigner states, "The miracle of the appropriateness of the language of mathematics for the formulation of laws of physics is a wonderful gift which we neither understand nor deserve."<sup>3</sup>

Wigner is quite correct that the correspondence of abstract mathematical laws to material things cannot be understood from a secular standpoint. Of course, the biblical creationist can account for the success of mathematics in formulating scientific laws. We expect such rationality since the universe is upheld by the mind of God.

It is tempting for secularists to invoke a naturalistic, evolutionary explanation for things that are only truthfully explained by God's design. Whether it is the intricate workings of a living organism, or the existence of the solar system, gradual change over time is considered to be the "creator"—not God. They promote the idea that if you just give it enough time, then the impossible becomes inevitable through gradual, naturalistic change.

Of course, there are many reasons to reject such conjectures when they pop up in fields of biology or astronomy. But seldom will you hear an evolutionary tale of the origin of mathematics because it just isn't possible. Numbers cannot have evolved because numbers cannot change. For the most part, secularists don't even attempt to explain mathematics at all. *Mathematics is an inherently creationist field of science.* There are creation biologists and evolution biologists. There are creation geologists and evolution geologists. But when it comes to mathematics, everyone is a creationist. ●

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# An “Impossible” Task?

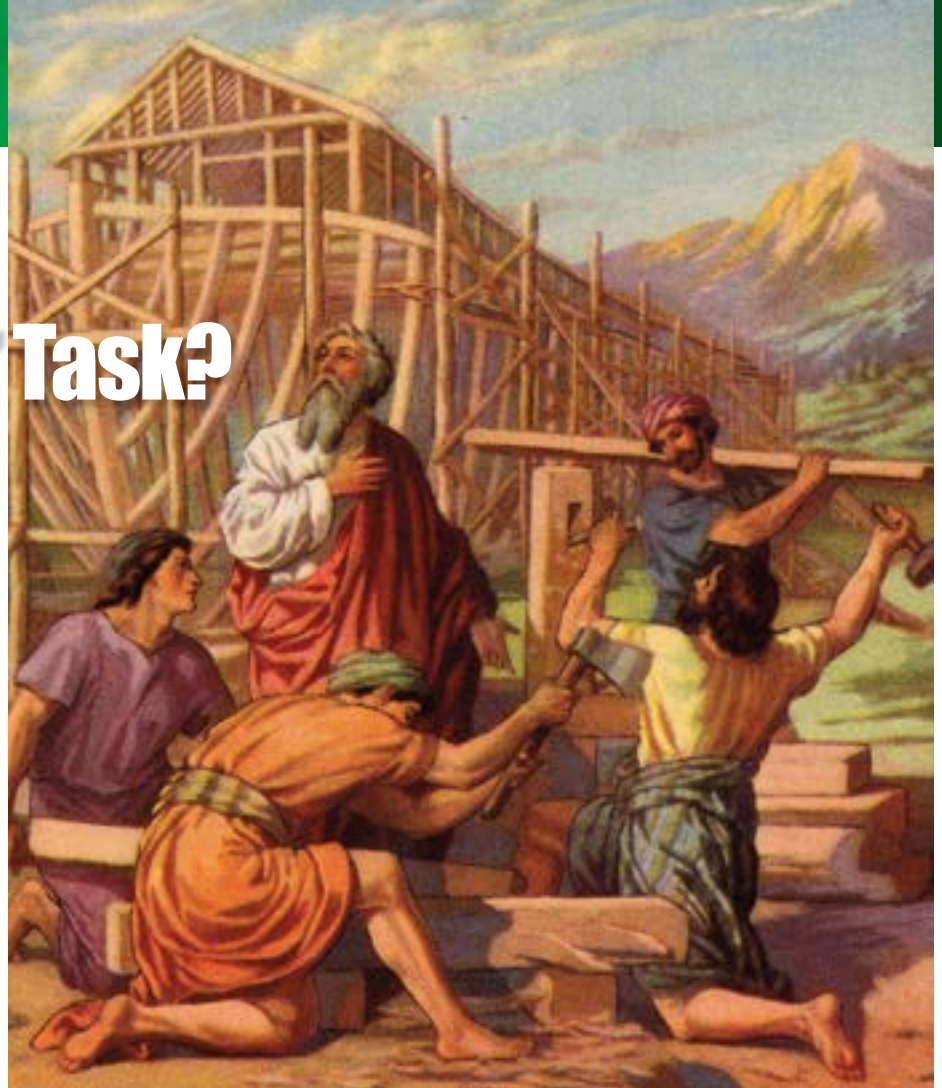
JOHN D. MORRIS, P.H.D.

By any estimation, the building of Noah’s Ark was a monumental task. Assuming an 18” cubit, the Ark was 450 feet long, 75 feet wide, and 45 feet high. Could Noah and his sons have accomplished it? By making reasonable assumptions, we can perhaps determine whether the task was too great.

First, the prophecy of coming judgment was given 120 years in advance of the Flood (Genesis 6:3). Let’s assume that Noah had the full 120 years warning. Next, consider that in the immediate post-Flood time, man probably had remarkable intelligence, because early civilizations built monumental structures like the pyramids. Tantalizing clues suggest humans explored and even mapped the entire globe back then, indicating they may have had ship-building skills from even earlier years. Perhaps Noah was a shipbuilder by trade.

Consider the workforce. Noah’s three sons began to be born 100 years before the Flood (cf. Genesis 5:32 with 7:6) and were able to help. There may have been other helpers, for Noah’s father, Lamech, and grandfather, Methuselah, were alive during almost the entire project. It may also have been that Noah hired construction workers, but again we have no knowledge of these details. All we know is that only eight people—Noah and his wife, their three sons and their wives—constituted the faithful still living when the Flood finally came (Genesis 7:13; 1 Peter 3:20).

Let’s assume the worst-case scenario, that only Noah and his three sons were available to build the ship. In Scripture, we are only told the gross dimensions and that the vessel was to have three decks and an 18-inch “window” on top (Genesis 6:15-16). Thus, the over-



all volume of the Ark was:

$$450' \times 75' \times 45' = 1.52 \times 10^6 \text{ ft.}^3 \text{ total volume}$$

But any structure consists mostly of open space. Most houses are over 95 percent open, less so for large ships. But recognizing that this ship had to be structurally strong, let’s assume that 20 percent of the Ark’s volume was worked lumber, and that the four men had to gather that lumber, transport it to the construction site, and do the necessary shaping and installing.

$$1.52 \times 10^6 \times .2 = .304 \times 10^6 \text{ ft.}^3 \text{ volume of worked lumber}$$

Remember, the Ark didn’t have to win any beauty contests or speed races, it just had to be strong and float. It probably more resembled a rough barn in workmanship. The generations so soon after the “very good” (Genesis 1:31) creation, living in an ideal environment with long lifespans and less chance for harmful genetic mutations, were no doubt intelligent and capable. It hardly matters if the family was initially experienced in construction

technique, for within a year or so they would have been true professionals. An experienced crew of four could have installed, we assume, an average of 15 cubic feet of wood per day. If anything, this estimate seems low, but this is the worst case!

$$15 \text{ ft.} \times 6 \text{ days} \times 52 \text{ wks.} = 4,680 \text{ ft.}^3/\text{year} \text{ lumber installed}$$

It’s now easy to calculate how long it would have taken.

$$\frac{.304 \times 10^6 \text{ ft.}^3}{4,680 \text{ ft.}^3/\text{year}} = 65 \text{ years}$$

Sixty-five years under this worst-case scenario! A big job, yes, but Noah was a faithful man and accomplished the task. As we see, the Bible makes sense, and simple calculations can enhance our faith in God’s Word. ●

Adapted from *The Global Flood* by Dr. John Morris (Dallas, TX: Institute for Creation Research, 2012).

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



# Christmas Island Zoology

FRANK SHERWIN, M.A.



Coconut crab

Christmas Island belongs to an idyllic group of islands in the northeast Indian Ocean. The animal biology (zoology) of this island is bountiful. Its vertebrates include birds and a very few mammals, and its invertebrates include 14 species of land crabs and other arthropods such as the pesky and increasingly common yellow crazy ant. About two-thirds of this Scottie dog-shaped island is a protected Australian national park.

When it comes to animals, Christmas Island has an abundance of birds! A wide variety of native and non-native birds of all sizes and shapes—including petrels, tropicbirds, cormorants, kingfishers, egrets, coots, terns, doves, falcons, stilts, sandpipers and many more—inhabit this naturalist’s wonderland. Christmas Island and the islands around it are important breeding places for many seabirds.

One of the more fascinating birds is the Christmas Island frigatebird—an aerial creature that prefers to get



Frigatebird

its meals on-the-wing by swooping down to the water or beach for a meal or even stealing food in-flight from a fellow bird. This beautiful bird is all-black with a white patch and has a characteristic forked tail. It is endemic to Christmas Island and does not swim or walk, but is content to majestically ride air currents and updrafts.

Most ornithologists agree that one of the most stunning birds in the world is the white-tailed tropicbird, unique to and ubiquitous on Christmas Island. It nests on the ground and has a golden tint to its otherwise white plumage. The characteristic silhouette of the golden bosunbird is seen on the flag of Christmas Island Territory.

Perhaps the most popular animal of these islands is the harmless 100 million-strong Christmas Island red crab (*Gecarcoidea natalis*).



Red crab

Online video clips of these legendary creatures show them risking their lives to migrate to the ocean and back again, with the males leading the way. They allow nothing to stop them as they march across roads and fields, through homes, and even over giggling school children. They spend most of their time hidden in the forest canopy, except during the rainy season when they head to the sea to spawn. At high tide, the females release eggs that immediately hatch as tiny larvae that grow and mature. Meanwhile, the adults climb up the Christmas Island cliffs and disappear into the forest until the next rainy season.

There are also huge, bluish robber crabs, or coconut crabs, that literally hang on the sides of trees or trash cans. They are a type of hermit crab and may be seen peeling the husks off coconuts or battling each other on the beach with their formidable claws. Coconut crabs are the largest land crabs on earth and span almost three feet across. These are smart invertebrates and have been seen dropping coconuts from a tree—and then dropping after them from over 12 feet high to eat the broken coconut. Sadly, their numbers are dwindling.

Christmas Island has had its share of animal extinction, from bats to rats. The islanders were once determined to retain five native mammals, but today only one is known to survive. The Christmas Island Pipistrelle, a four-gram microbat, is most likely extinct, although it numbered in the thousands just 20 years ago. Maclear’s rat and the Bulldog rat have both become extinct, probably due to a blood-borne parasite. The same goes for the Christmas Island Musk-shrew that has been unseen since the mid-1980s. But in spite of the diminishing animal life, Christmas Island still provides a lush

example of our Creator’s unique, diverse, and glorious creation. ●

Mr. Sherwin is Research Associate, Senior Lecturer, and Science Writer at the Institute for Creation Research.



Pipistrelle bat





# Lions and Tigers, Tigons and Ligers

B R I A N T H O M A S , M . S .

A lioness at Yancheng Safari Park of Changzhou City in China gave birth last December to twin tigons. Unfortunately, one of them died soon after birth.<sup>1</sup> Tigons are the rare products of tiger fathers and lioness mothers. Ligers come from lion sires and tigress mothers.

More recently, a female liger and African lion father produced perhaps the world's first "liliger," born at the Novosibirsk Zoo in Siberia.<sup>2</sup> The liger mother had trouble producing enough milk, but fortunately a common housecat at the zoo "adopted" and nursed the tiny liliger, named Kiara. Kiara has a lion's golden coat with some tiger stripes on her head.

What's with all these unconventional cat categories? Tigons, ligers, and now liligers are all easily explained in the Bible's historical context.

In short, lions and tigers can interbreed because they both descended from an ancestral cat family. Of course, not all cat varieties can interbreed directly like lions and tigers, but scientists place cats on a continuum of interbreeding varieties. For example, house cats can interbreed with small wildcats. They descended from the African wildcat, bred long ago perhaps near Egypt.<sup>3</sup> Tigers can interbreed with leopards, leopards and pumas have interbred, pumas have interbred with members of the ocelot lineage, and certain ocelots are compatible with some domestic cats.<sup>4</sup> All of this breeding potential clearly shows that differ-

ently named cats are simply varieties within the same basic cat kind.

This is exactly what one would expect from Genesis. God created cats to reproduce "after their kind" (Genesis 1:25). He also designed them to "multiply and fill" (Genesis 1:28) ever-changing environments. Could cat populations quickly and successfully interface with changing environments using an underlying system of genetic variability that uses a few simple changes?

Geneticists recently decoded just such a pattern. They screened king cheetah and similarly blotchy-striped tabby cat genomes. They found the same small genetic differences in all copies of an unexpected gene in both cat varieties. This simple change helped turn "ordinary stripes or spots into exotic blotches" many times in different cats, indicating genetic design.<sup>5</sup>

Body sizes, the relative sizes of body parts, and coat color and patterning differences can change in just one generation, like Kiara's coat. These are not like the imagined wholesale changes that evolution would require to morph a cat into a different animal, but they are the sorts of changes that can facilitate a cat's fit into a different niche. Plus, cat coat color variations reflect the Creator's artistry.

Because these within-kind changes happen so fast, there is no scientific reason to doubt that cats produced very different-looking varieties very soon after the Flood. After reviewing cat hybridizations, fossil cat skeletons, molecular sequence data, fur color patterns, and cat-specific viruses, one recent study concluded, "It is reasonable to assume that all felids [cats] arose from a single founder species and that they have passed through one or more adaptive radiations, exploiting their inherent morphogenetic potential to produce all of the known extant and extinct species of cat."<sup>6</sup>

Cats have unique differences, but they have always been cats—whether they are ligers, tigons, liligers or tabbies. ●

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Novosibirsk Zoo



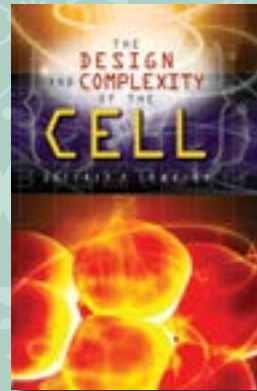


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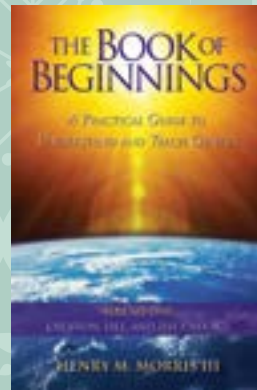
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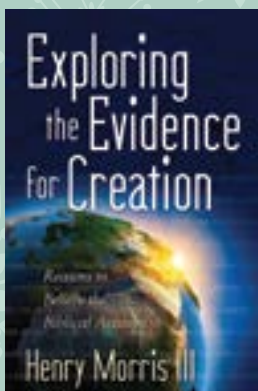
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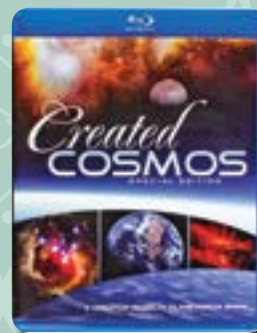
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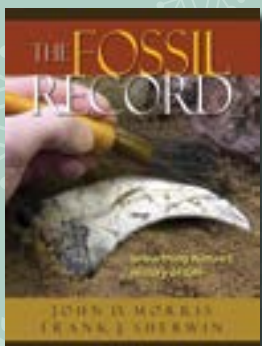
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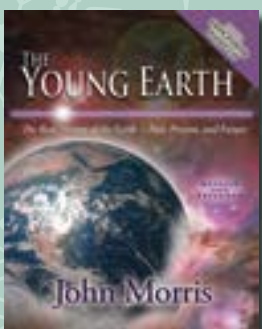
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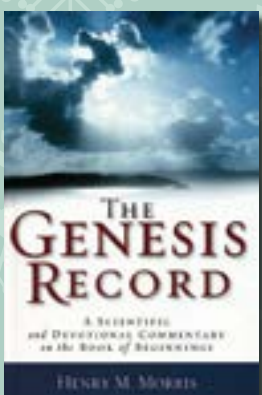
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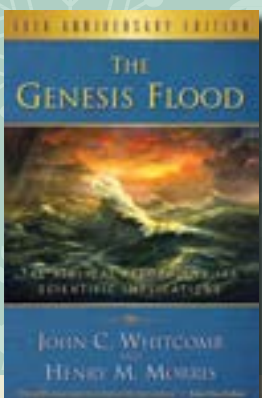


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# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



I wish to express my joy in seeing the article by Dr. Randy Guliuzza in the October 2012 issue of *Acts & Facts*, “Engineered Adaptability.” I enjoy many great articles you have provided, but I have greatly missed his astute and professional scientific reasoning in recent issues. This article takes the false teachings (of natural selection and environmental influence to effect evolutionary changes) and knocks them out of the ballpark! The Creator is the great designer that has made His creatures to have adaptability to the environment, just as an engineer designs adaptability into a quality mechanism for endurance of various conditions. It never happens otherwise.

— C.H.

WOW! Just received the November issue of *Acts & Facts* and was amazed by the beauty of the autumn scene on the cover. I’m sure I’m not the only one who will be asking you where the picture was taken. The mill, waterfall and autumn leaves gave me another reason to praise our glorious Creator!

— N.G.

*Editor’s Note: The picture is of Glade Creek Grist Mill in West Virginia’s Babcock State Park.*

We really enjoyed and appreciated the conference about creation. It was a great pleasure to meet you then! I hope you guys keep going and growing with these conferences here in the United States and even in the world, because I think everybody needs to know about the true view about the beginning and about science. I’m from Brazil, and the Christians are growing there—I bet a lot of churches would like to have this conference over there!

— A.F.

I love the app. It’s fantastic. I give it a 4.5 out of 5. Now I can easily show my friends all the articles and proofs of God just by quickly typing it up on my phone. I led a Bible study just today, and it was very useful.

— S.T.

*Editor’s Note: Please see page 14 for information on getting ICR’s new app.*

I just wanted to thank Dr. James Johnson for the fine articles he writes for the *Acts & Facts* magazine. Dr. Johnson is always direct and to the point, getting at the root of the issue in a way the common layman can easily grasp it. I liked his version of dealing with the gap theory and the Hebrew word “hayah” in his article “The Gap Theory: A Trojan Horse Tragedy.” As one who studies the prophetic word similar to the way ICR deals with creation, I thought of one particular prophetic passage that is very fitting to consider when dealing with the lie of the “ruin and reconstruction” hypothesis. “Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth passed away, and there is no longer any sea” (Revelation 21:1). The Bible itself very clearly states there has only been ONE creation.

— T.J.

*Days of Praise* has been such a help to me! I’m 91 years old and have taught Sunday school for more than 50 years. I retired from teaching at age 85. God has really blessed me—I still study my Bible every day. Your books have been a blessing.

— L.D.

I opened the magazine just today as I have for many years dating back to when it was a small booklet. I have been a supporter of ICR since first reading *The Genesis Flood*. I also had the good fortune of seeing and hearing Dr. Henry Morris when he spoke to a group near Chicago many years ago. Mrs. Morris was with him at the meeting. I am grateful that God has sent us men of science who are committed to the Scriptures as Dr. Morris was and as so many more are today because of his influence. However, today I do not write so much about Dr. Morris or other creation scientists as I do about [the November “From the Editor” column]....I will save the column and especially the prayer that you shared. I suspect that someone will cross my path that will be comforted by your words and encouraged by them not to give up on God when we can’t make sense out of what he seems to be doing or allowing to happen.

— J.L.

I have the highest regard for the Institute for Creation Research. It’s so encouraging to know that ICR’s ministry of sharing scientific evidence for creation is gaining wider and wider acceptance.

— P.K.



Have a comment? Email us at [editor@icr.org](mailto:editor@icr.org).  
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# The Treasure of the Heart



HENRY M. MORRIS IV

“What would you like for Christmas?”

If you have young children in your family, this is a question you only need to ask once as Christmas approaches. A deafening chorus of got-to-haves and have-to-haves usually follows, delivered with such conviction and passion that it just about breaks your heart. And like any good parent—or grandparent, aunt, or uncle—we often try our best to oblige.

It is certainly biblical “to give good gifts unto your children” (Matthew 7:11). Yet it seems the frenzy of activity surrounding the joyous Christmas season often drowns out the true reason we give gifts in the first place. With decorations to put up, gifts to buy, meals to prepare, and marvelous get-togethers with family and friends to plan for, it is little wonder we may lose focus on God’s perfect “Gift” to us.

With the constant barrage of advertisements to show how much we care for those we love, we have all felt pressure to give something. And while our intentions may be good, it is all too easy to get caught up in the materialistic side of Christmas. These distractions often place our focus on the immediate earthly treasure rather than on God’s ultimate Gift to us. Consider what the Gift Himself had to say about this in the Sermon on the Mount.

Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal: But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal: For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also. (Matthew 6:19-21)

Jesus instructed believers to “lay up... treasures in heaven” rather than on earth. The Lord’s use of the term “lay up” is important, for it implies a dedication of energy and effort *over time* to build up resources. The pursuit of earthly treasure—while certainly honorable and worthy if used to provide for your family and other Kingdom purposes—will simply never last. Only treasure of the heavenly kind will endure, for it will never decay, nor can it be stolen from the Creator’s mighty hand.

Ultimately, the focus of Christ’s message can be found in the final sentence. “Treasure,” in whatever form or fashion, indicates the position of the heart. How you spend your time, your energy, and yes, your money, reveals the true nature of your desires. How humbling and convicting! Truly, the Word “is a discernor of the thoughts and intents of the heart” (Hebrews 4:12).

It seems fitting, then, as the Christmas

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(Galatians 6:9-10)

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season approaches, to rephrase the opening question in context with our Lord’s teaching:

“Where is your treasure? Where is your heart?”

Please know that the “heart” of ICR is to uphold the eternal Word of our Creator in all that we do, and we are so very grateful to those who share a portion of their earthly “treasure” to support our ministry. Our agenda for 2013 is positively bursting with new initiatives, and we pray that our Creator will provide the means to see these bear much lasting fruit. If you are able, please consider how you can help this Christmas season.

From all of us at ICR, may the Prince of Peace be your joy and strength this Christmas and throughout the New Year! ●

Mr. Morris is Director of Donor Relations at the Institute for Creation Research.





# GOD GAVE *Himself*

For God **so** loved the world, that **He** gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever **believeth** in Him should not perish, but have **everlasting life**.

( J O H N 3 : 1 6 )

H E N R Y M . M O R R I S , P H . D .

**I**t is singularly appropriate that we look at this greatest of all verses on Christmas Day, for it records the greatest of all gifts. The theme of giving is very prominent in the Bible, with such words as “give,” “gift,” “gave,” etc., occurring more than 2,100 times. The first is Genesis 1:17 when God created the sun, moon, and stars “to give light upon the earth,” and the last is Revelation 22:12 when Christ will return with His rewards to “give every man according as his work shall be.” “He...gave us rain from heaven, and fruitful seasons,” as well as “life, and breath, and all things” (Acts 14:17; 17:25).

But the greatest gift, clearly, was when God gave Himself for a lost and undeserving world. It was the greatest gift because it met the greatest need, revealed the greatest love, and had the greatest scope and greatest purpose of any gift that could ever be conceived in the heart of an omniscient Creator.

That was not the end of His giving, of course. “He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how

shall he not with him also freely give us all things?” (Romans 8:32). “Trust...in the living God, who giveth us richly all things to enjoy” (I Timothy 6:17).

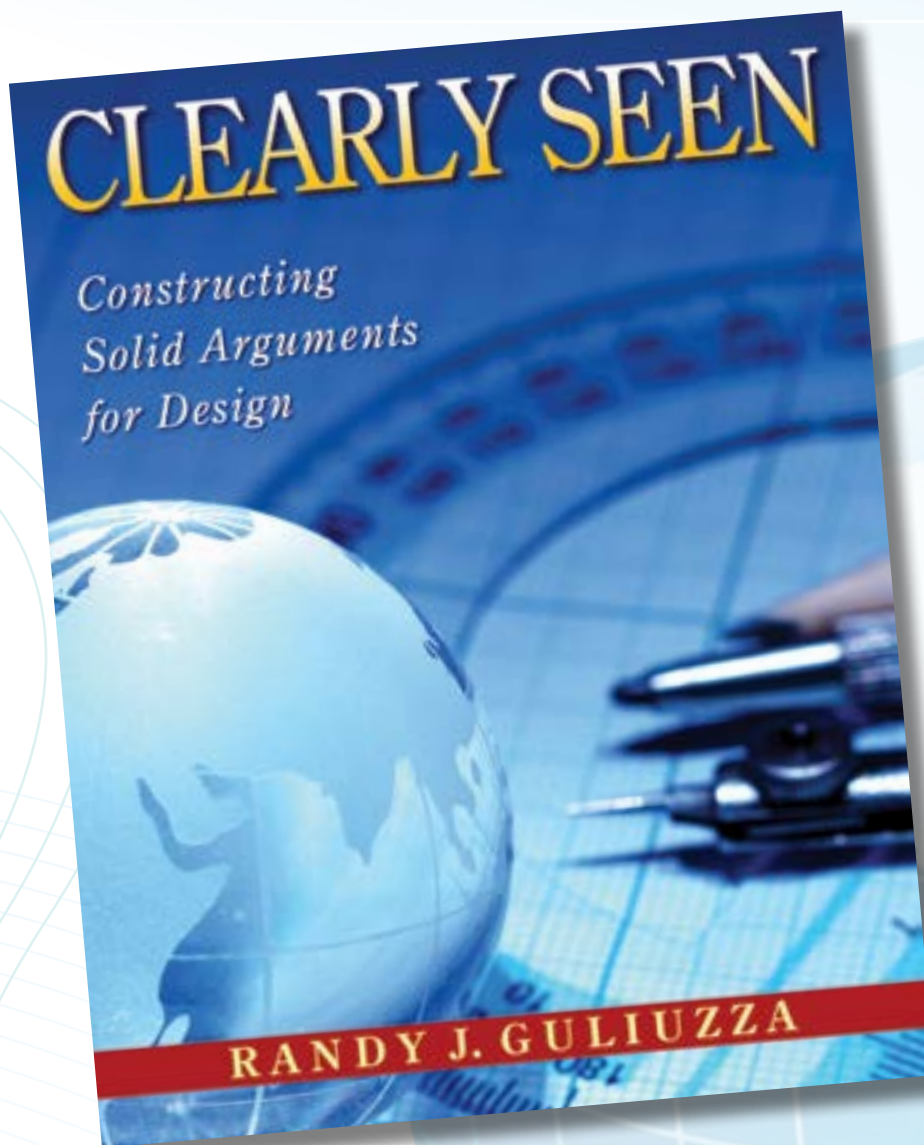
This great gift of God is abundantly sufficient to provide salvation and everlasting life for the whole world. But a gift only becomes a gift when it is accepted, and the greatest of all tragedies is that this greatest of all gifts has been spurned and even ridiculed, or—worst of all—simply ignored by multitudes who need it so greatly. Sadly, when they refuse God’s free gift of everlasting life, they can only perish in everlasting death. God did all He could do when He gave His Son; for when He gave His Son, He gave Himself. ●

Adapted from Dr. Morris’ article “God Gave Himself” in the winter 2010 *Days of Praise*.

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



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