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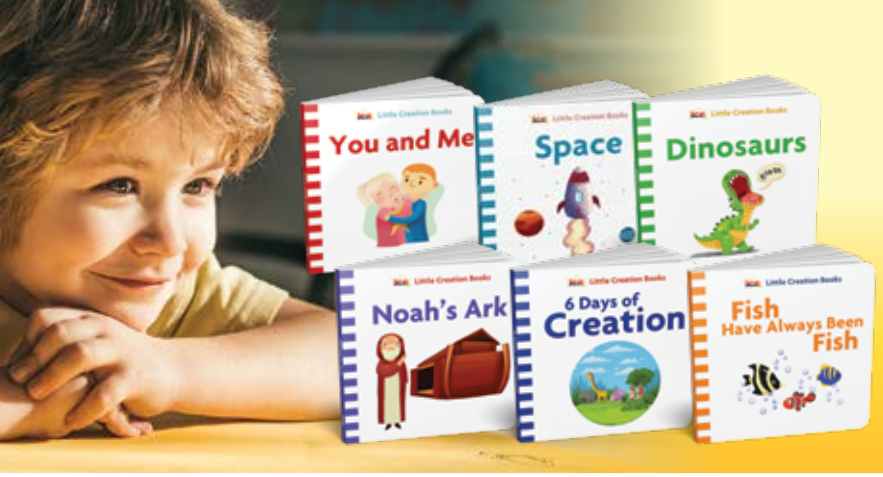

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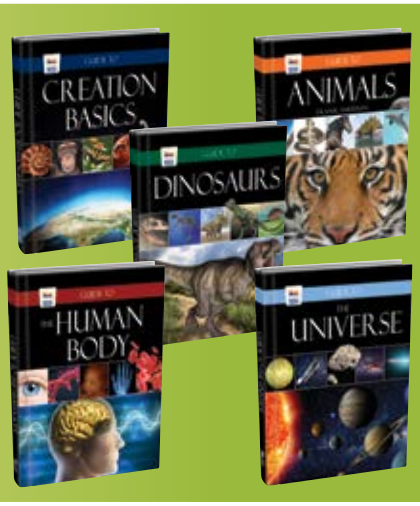

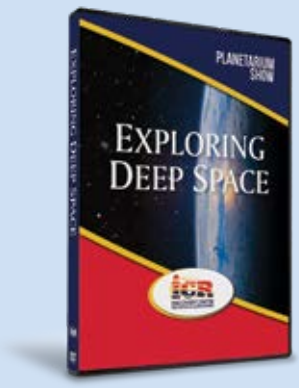

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DESIGNER
Dennis Davidson

He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him. And He is before all things, and in Him all things consist. And He is the head of the body, the church, who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in all things He may have the preeminence. For it pleased the Father that in Him all the fullness should dwell, and by Him to reconcile all things to Himself, by Him, whether things on earth or things in heaven, having made peace through the blood of His cross.
(Colossians 1:15–20)

All Scripture quotations are from the New King James Version unless otherwise indicated.

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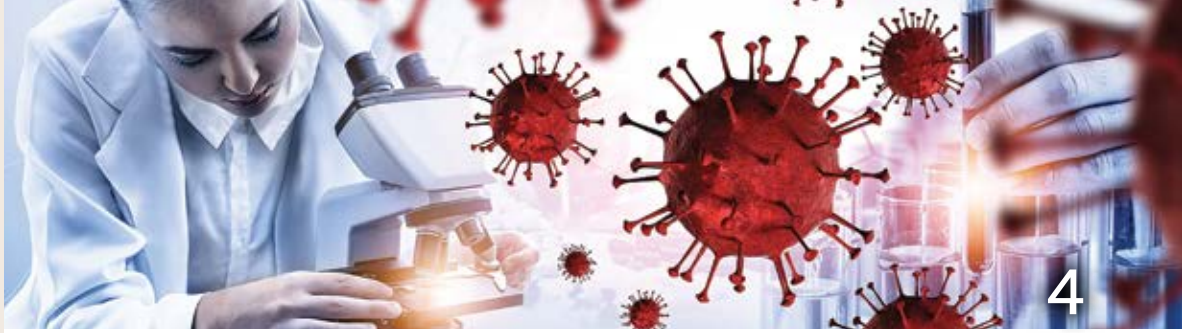


The Tyranny of Consensus Thinking

RANDY J. GULIUZZA, P.E., M.D.

"How can *so many* scientists be wrong?" This question is routinely wielded as real evidence for evolution. I've heard it in discussions with people ranging from grammar school students to college professors. Given that most scientists do embrace Darwin's selectionist account to explain the diversity of life, and since many people couple this fact with a perception that scientists are unbiased geniuses, then the question does have a powerfully persuasive effect.

For some people the overwhelming scientific consensus favoring evolution settles the debate for them—despite their likely knowledge that the number of people holding a belief isn't really evidence for its truthfulness. Perhaps a question employed in a way to make people feel foolish for questioning clearly "unquestionable" scientific authority is the best "evidence" for evolution going.

Readers of *Acts & Facts* know that the Institute for Creation Research has worked to educate people that the widespread view that science is performed and reported impartially—by scientists who nobly lay aside their religious or political attractions—is vastly in error. In addition, we've long taught that a powerful type of "group think" can capture the minds of most scientists on specific issues such as evolution.[1]

More importantly, ICR has been outspoken that ordinary people's lives seem to face the highest risk of being devastated by public policies that are enacted per the authoritative voice of the scientific community.[2] The truth is that untold lives were wrecked through public eugenics or abortion programs that were advanced by scientists acting more like an out-of-control and dangerous herd that arrogantly trampled over dissenting voices in their stampede.[3]

As we live through the COVID-19 pandemic, the conspicuously political ideology of many scientists that sometimes seems to foster incorrect, incoherent, or outright inept recommendations is easily seen by many people. The fact that entire populations couldn't escape being controlled by their politically motivated policies was also personally experienced by all. So many public figures who were indifferent to the marginalization of creationists and deaf to ICR's concerns about the overtly biased group think of the "scientific consensus" now understand for themselves that when many scientists say "follow the science," what they mean is shut up and obey.

We think it's foolish to not seize this moment to teach people that the scientific dogmatism they're experiencing firsthand today has been the regular behavior of the scientific community for a long time. Many people seem upset after observing that within even the scientific community there's overt suppression of dissenting speech and enforcement of thought to conform to certain creeds. What the public needs to know is that the scientific community refined their skills to oppress freedom of expression first on creationists—now it has been weaponized against other nonconforming views.

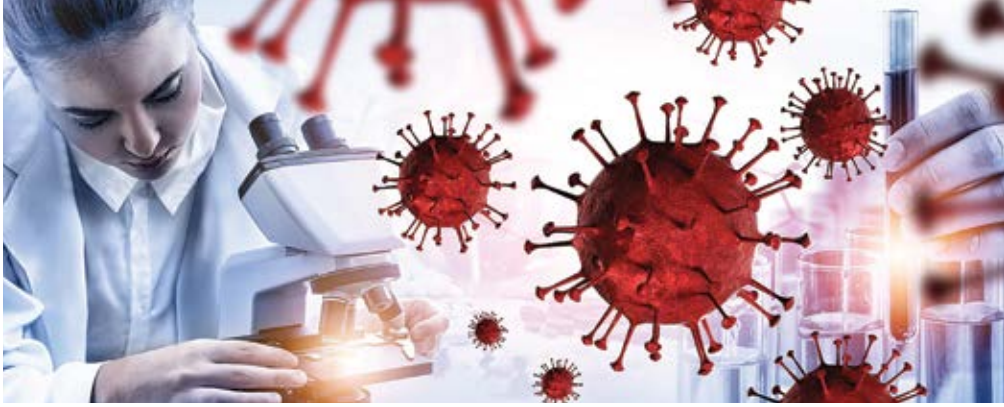
A refreshing, post-COVID-19 "new normal" would have everyone educated to the truth that even scientists have overtly religious or political agendas that can breed a tyrannical practice known as "consensus science." Perhaps more people would consider believing that a whole body of evidence supporting the intelligent engineering of creatures and contrary to evolution has been suppressed.

article highlights

- Most scientists believe in millions of years of Earth history and some version of evolution.
- Claiming that the popular opinion of experts is proof of something is an example of the "appeal to authority" fallacy.
- Scientific consensus can be politicized and used to suppress an alternative viewpoint even if the data favor the alternative.
- Persons suggesting that COVID-19 came from a laboratory were initially labeled conspiracy theorists early on during the outbreak.
- Scientific consensus is anti-science. Our society needs the freedom to conduct objective research that continually questions and searches for the truth in all areas of science.

What's So Bad About "Consensus Science"?

The collective opinion of scientists (or a few prominent scientists) working in a specialized field is called a consensus—when there is general agreement on a subject. Yet, in practice a consensus can range from areas that are well-supported by experiments all the way down to topics where nothing has been established. What many may not realize is that *rarely* are appeals to subjective scientific consensus exploited as actual evidence for truth in areas where objective experimental evidence is *strong*.



Experimental evidence supporting new ideas can be highly persuasive to get a population of people to accept them. "Scientific validity" can be convincing. Also, the notion that science itself is a neutral endeavor that's practiced wholly indifferent to outcome also reinforces people's feelings that any findings are valid results. Politicians or scientists who invoke "the scientific consensus" are trying to hijack the highly desirable influence that scientific validity confers. But in truth it's undeserved since this tactic is favored on subjects where the science is weak to nonexistent or on divisive social issues near to the heart of politically or religiously motivated scientists. Thus, this practice of substituting opinion for hard data is derisively called "science by consensus" or "consensus science."

Consensus science is a type of logical fallacy known as "appeal to authority." The scientific method was developed in part as one way to thwart this fallacy. Objectivity is one attractive feature of the scientific method. Tests can be duplicated. Thus, everyone can see the results for themselves. This means that a human isn't necessary as an authoritative source of knowledge. This leads to another desirable feature of the scientific method: It brings with it a measure of equality. A milkmaid with good repeatable evidence could, in principle, be just as authoritative as a religious cleric.

Consensus science is an abuse of authority that returns to the dark days when "experts" pitted themselves against commoners who wouldn't dare presume questioning them. Therefore, the question "How can so many scientists be wrong?" is an appeal to authority and is both illogical and an unscientific approach to determining truth.

During the COVID-19 outbreak, the general population could observe firsthand many scientists' evasion of specific questions or flip-flops that seemed to coincide with political positioning. The outbreak provides a rare, high-profile opportunity to see that even scientists can be swayed by opinion or seek to influence governmental control of behavior toward their preferences. The power that comes with consensus science can readily be abused. Often, suppression of scientific minorities or retribution against one type of "denier" or another is fostered.

Consensus Science Damaged the COVID-19 Response

Medical personnel would like to know the mechanisms causing COVID-19 to be so infectious in humans. An important clue is to know how it developed—essentially, where it came from. Since the infections started in Wuhan, China, and there's a high-level laboratory in that same city where scientists engineer viruses, then a highly plausible source of the virus is that it came from the laboratory.

Unfortunately, the possibility of COVID-19 originating in the virology lab in Wuhan was ruled off-limits in the same way the scientific consensus rules some research questions off-limits if they don't invoke evolution to explain why creatures look so highly engineered. For those of us closely following the outbreak, what was remarkable was that the authority of consensus science was brought to bear in February 2020—just a few months after the outbreak in Wuhan.

An open letter by multiple researchers was published in a leading British medical journal, *The Lancet*. The epithets thrown at anyone thinking that the virology lab could be the source of COVID-19, along with overt political verbiage, left little doubt that this was another clear example of consensus science. The letter stated in part:

> The rapid, open, and transparent sharing of data on this outbreak is now being threatened by rumours and misinformation around its origins. We stand together to strongly condemn conspiracy theories suggesting that COVID-19 does not have a natural origin. Scientists from multiple countries have published and analysed genomes of the causative agent, severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2), and they overwhelmingly conclude that this coronavirus originated in wildlife.[4]

A prominent paper was also published in March 2020 in the world's leading science journal, *Nature*, which also concluded that COVID-19 originated through natural evolutionary processes and rejected a human-associated origin. Both the *Nature* and *The Lancet* publications were heavily cited by other scientists and reporters. We discussed them amongst ourselves at ICR. Since the research was completed so quickly, this raised questions as to its methodology, quality, and whether the results would stand the test of time. We speculated that perhaps due to the seriousness of the medical threat, the work was completed so quickly because a whole army of resources were mustered in answering the origins question—but no one knew for sure.

Evidence consistent with a lab-based origin of the COVID-19 virus is now emerging. Even National Public Radio (NPR) recently reported, "The idea that the coronavirus could have leaked from a lab in Wuhan, China—instead of jumping from animals to humans—was dismissed as a conspiracy theory by many scientists a year ago. That has changed now."[5] What seems to elude NPR is that labeling minority views as "conspiracy theories" (or "misinformation," "discredited speculation," etc.) in the first place is scientifically inappropriate behavior that has a chilling effect on exploration of alternative explanations. Even if a lab-based origin of the virus isn't confirmed, we must ask if the repression of research itself had a negative impact on public health policy. A hallmark characteristic of the application of consensus science is the mislabeling of minority views with epithets against either creationists or a COVID-19 researcher. This practice seriously misleads both scientists and the public.

"Consensus Science" Exploits Weaknesses in Institutional Science

Limitations faced by ICR scientists to fully evaluate *The Lancet* and *Nature* reports are inherent to the practice of consensus science. Other researchers have observed for decades that since the practice of science is increasingly specialized due to the explosion of scientific knowledge, then scientists must exercise a good deal of trust among themselves.[6] Thus, scientists' limited expertise prevents them from raising valid questions outside their specialty. Limited resources to reproduce experiments and naïve trust are both longstanding problems in the day-to-day operation of science. These are all problems that can readily be exploited by those appealing to consensus science.

University of Alabama Professor John Christy stated that even in the early days of climate change debates "the tendency to succumb to group-think and the herd-instinct (now formally called the 'informational cascade') is perhaps as tempting among scientists as any group….This leads, in my opinion, to an overstatement of confidence in the published findings and to a ready acceptance of the views of anointed authorities."[7]

Resisting Tyranny by Promoting Freedom of Thought

Consensus science operates like a human tyrant, and that means it's relentless. Back when President Barak Obama said that he would "restore science to its rightful place" in his first inaugural speech, I wrote about the abuses of consensus science.[8] Using the prestige of science as a cover to justify embryonic stem cell research, his executive order would let scientists "do their jobs, free from manipulation or coercion, and listening to what they tell us, even when it's inconvenient."[9] In context, "listening to what they tell us" means obeying what scientists dictate. What those who wield consensus science have always craved is unchallengeable dominance of an amoral scientific elite over the public and any dissenting scientific views.

For decades, creationists have lived with the abusive use of science to suppress freedom of speech, marginalize scientific minorities, destroy reputations and careers, and crush any thoughts that deviate from those authorized by the scientific consensus. Nowadays, the application of these tactics has been disdainfully labeled "cancel culture." The behavior of scientists during the COVID-19 pandemic is revealing to the public today what a previous generation painfully learned after the eugenics disaster. People can clearly see that even scientists—no, *especially* scientists—will abuse the prestige of their profession to coerce total conformity of behavior and, more importantly, thought.

So, how should we respond to this authoritarian oppression? First, remember that though "scientific consensus" gets brandished as if it had the clout of experimentally derived evidence—it doesn't. Next, consider supporting groups that maintain independent oversight and review. ICR receives no governmental, educational, or industrial funding—but we continually expose abusive practices like consensus science and the scientific weaknesses of Darwinian selectionism.

Finally, resist the temptation to respond in kind. Some have already printed that creationists should push right back to get evolutionists and others "canceled." ICR opposes "canceling" anyone and champions free speech—the open and uncensored expression of thought. The Lord Jesus reprimanded His disciples for wanting to cancel people with different views (Luke 9:51-56) and taught us to not uproot the tares but let them grow together with the wheat (Matthew 13:24-30).

As creationists, we can defeat the tyranny of consensus science by forcefully advocating for the one thing it opposes the most—the freedom to hold and express nonconforming thoughts. Creationists want freedom to mark, expose, and combat not just the lies of evolution but also Darwinian selectionism that seeks to personify nature as the substitute creator and rob the Lord Jesus of His rightful credit as Creator God (Colossians 1:15-19).

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Dr. Guliuzza is President of the Institute for Creation Research. He earned his M.D. from the University of Minnesota, his Master of Public Health from Harvard University, and served in the U.S. Air Force as 28th Bomb Wing Flight Surgeon and Chief of Aerospace Medicine. Dr. Guliuzza is also a registered Professional Engineer and holds a B.A. in theology from Moody Bible Institute.

TIM CLAREY, PH.D.

Extending the Whopper Sand Mystery

article highlights

- A giant sand formation in the Gulf of Mexico known as the Whopper Sand continues to amaze with its size, depth, and oil reserves that measure in the billions of barrels.
- The sheet-like property of the sand was clearly not deposited by a river.
- Naturalistic explanations fall short, but a biblical perspective shows that the vast amount of Flood runoff likely created the formation in a short amount of time.
- The Whopper Sand provides compelling evidence for the global Flood described in Genesis.

In the last three years, Shell Oil Company has made three significant discoveries in the Whopper Sand, a massive offshore Cenozoic sedimentary deposit in the Gulf of Mexico.[1-3] These new finds further extend the oil production in the Whopper Sand. Last year, a well by the oil company Equinor stretched the Whopper Sand southeast.[4] The three Shell discoveries are about 200 miles east of Brownsville, Texas, in an area known as the Perdido Fold Belt. All three new discoveries were likely made in the Lower Cenozoic (Paleogene) unit known as the Whopper Sand.

Shell's latest prospect, known as Leopard, found over 600 feet of net pay (the oil-producing part of a sand unit).[1] Twenty miles to the west, Shell had found more than 1,400 feet of net pay in their "Whale" discovery in 2018.[2] And in 2019, they reported a total of 400 feet of net pay in their Blacktip well, about 20 miles north of Leopard.[3] These new discoveries add significantly to the 15 billion barrels of oil already discovered in the Whopper Sand.[5]

The Whopper Sand was first discovered about 200 miles off the coast in the deep Gulf of Mexico in 2001.[5] The first well penetrated an unexpected 1,300 feet of nearly pure sand near the bottom of the Paleogene interval, coincident with the base of the Tejas Megasequence.[5]

Surprisingly, the newly discovered sand had sharp boundaries on the top and bottom.[6]

"This was also puzzling, since we were trained to expect gradational coarsening-upward bedding during regression [sea level drop] and fining-upward during transgression [sea level rise], rather than the sharp contacts we were seeing," wrote Joshua Rosenfeld, a retired oil geologist.[6]

Furthermore, Rosenfeld described the sand layer "as being sheet-like rather than channelized." Apparently, no river systems, such as the Mississippi River, could have formed the Whopper Sand.[6]

Uniformitarian scientists remain puzzled. How could a massively thick and clearly defined sand layer reach these depths and distances offshore? Drilling proves that these sands are thicker and more extensive than initially imagined. Although geologists have found some channelized (river-like) sands and pancake-like thin sands in deeper parts of the Mississippi Delta, it was thought that thick pure sands could not be transported great distances out to sea (200-plus miles).

The recent discoveries by Shell confirm that the Whopper Sand extends beyond 40,000 square miles across the deep Gulf of Mexico in water depths approaching 10,000 feet.[7] It is commonly over 1,000 feet thick and can be up to 1,900 feet thick.[7]

A naturalist worldview proves insufficient to explain how the Whopper Sand formed, but biblical history provides a reasonable answer. The Whopper Sand was likely deposited as floodwaters shifted direction and began to drain off the North American continent after Day 150 of the Genesis Flood. The resulting high-energy sheet flow was able to transport a massive volume of sand a great distance into the deep water of the Gulf. As the water eventually slowed, more clay and less sand were deposited. Today, we find the Gulf dominated by clay deposition.

These discoveries confirm that the receding phase of the Flood in the Gulf of Mexico began with the deposition of the Whopper Sand (onset of the Tejas Megasequence) and that the entire Tejas represents deposition during the receding phase of the Flood.[7] The Whopper Sand is a testament to the awesome power of the global Flood.

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Dr. Clarey is Research Associate at the Institute for Creation Research and earned his Ph.D. in geology from Western Michigan University.

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ICR President Dr. Randy Guliuzza speaking at the CTI conference

Dr. Frank Sherwin speaking at First Baptist Church, Altus, OK

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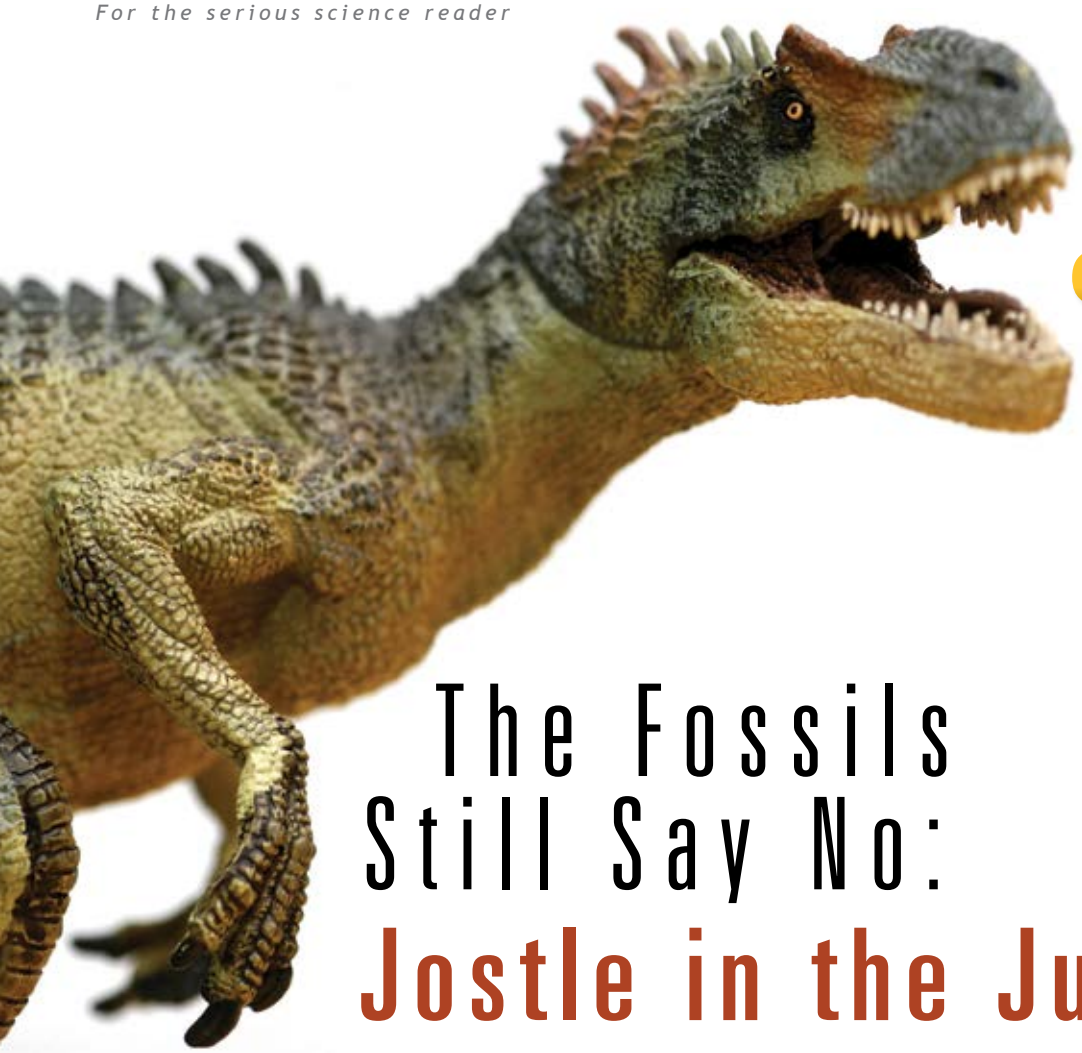

article highlights

- In Jurassic rock layers, some fossils are the same as those found in earlier layers, and others appear for the first time.
- Many different kinds of dinosaur fossils appear suddenly and in great numbers in the Jurassic without evolutionary precursors.
- Jurassic layers were deposited during the continuing breakup of the mega-continent Pangaea and contain evidence of land animals mixed with sea creatures.
- Jurassic plant and animal fossils are best explained by the progressive global Flood.

The Fossils Still Say No: Jostle in the Jurassic

The Jurassic system of the geologic column is an enigma to evolutionists because it represents a continuance of many life forms found buried below in Triassic strata, combined with yet another alleged and convoluted mass extinction at the onset. In addition, many unique life forms make mysterious sudden appearances in the Jurassic with no prior evolutionary ancestry.

This massive and enigmatic fossil assemblage is also accompanied by the clear signs of the accelerating breakup of a once-existent mega-continent, Pangaea. However, the evolutionary convolution of this quandary of catastrophically buried fossils and tectonic anomalies makes perfect sense when we apply a model of sequential burial by ecological zonation and rapid plate tectonics interpreted within the global Flood of Genesis.

Triassic-Jurassic Extinction Not So Clear

As I mentioned in my previous two articles in this series, one of the chief enigmas that evolutionists have at the beginning of the Triassic is an apparent mass extinction event at the Permian-Triassic (P-T) boundary.[1,2] But these ongoing mysterious and convoluted so-called extinction events throughout the geological record continue to be a recurring problem that's difficult to explain from evolutionary assumptions.

The Triassic-Jurassic (Tr-J) extinction, which may also be called the end-Triassic extinction, marks the boundary between the Triassic and Jurassic periods supposedly 201 million years ago.[3] It's also considered to be one of the major extinction events of the Phanerozoic. In the oceans, it's estimated that about 23 to 34% of marine genera disappeared at this level. On land, a large variety of reptiles dropped from the fossil record, but crocodylomorphs, pterosaurs, and dinosaurs somehow magically avoided extinction.

Among evolutionists, there's a great deal of confusion regarding a clear connection between the Tr-J boundary and the terrestrial vertebrates that either disappeared or went on to thrive. Another confusing aspect for evolutionists is the fact that plants and mammals also seemed to be relatively unaffected and that the dinosaurs and pterosaurs became the dominant land animals for the next 135 million years of the evolutionary timescale.

Dinosaur Fossils Amaze

Dinosaurs are often held up as proof of deep evolutionary time and have even been popularized in movies like the famous *Jurassic Park* series. As I noted in my previous installment in this series, this

Brachiosaurus

diverse group of reptiles make their first sudden appearance (without evolutionary ancestors) in the Triassic.[2] In the Jurassic, even more fantastically designed dinosaur kinds make their first appearances, utterly defying evolution.

One of the most well-known, awe-inspiring, and evolution-defying dinosaurs is the *Brachiosaurus,* which was popularized in a jaw-dropping scene in the first *Jurassic Park* movie. Brachiosaurs make their initial appearance in the upper Jurassic sediments along with other types of large long-necked sauropods, such as *Apatosaurus.*[4] *Brachiosaurus* had longer front legs than back legs compared to many other sauropods, which gave it the high upward-angled neck and head characteristic of its type.

Not only is this unique dinosaur body type especially distinctive, but the massive size of these creatures also befuddles evolutionists. Brachiosaur fossils found in North America indicate that these creatures weighed about 30 to 60 tons. Another massive Jurassic sauropod was *Diplodocus.* It had a much longer tail and shorter front legs and could get up to 105 feet long and 12 to 18 tons in size. The sudden appearance of such massive and uniquely engineered sauropod creatures with no evolutionary precursors is a strong testimony to the Creator God.

Another popular dinosaur of note in the Jurassic was *Allosaurus,* which was a large bipedal reptile found in Upper Jurassic sediments.[4]

Allosaurus

Its name means "different lizard," giving reference to the fact that it was unique and unexpected at the time of its discovery and also had unusual concave vertebrae. Based on fossil evidence, it averaged about 33 feet in length, with some specimens as large as 39 feet. It had large and powerful hind limbs and small three-fingered forelimbs. Its well-designed body was perfectly balanced by a long and heavily muscled tail. *Allosaurus* would have been a fierce and intimidating creature, weighing about 2.5 tons. Like the Jurassic sauropods, *Allosaurus* appears suddenly in the fossil record with no evolutionary precursors.

Yet another popular dinosaur from the Jurassic is the unusual *Stegosaurus* ("roof lizard"), characterized by the distinctive upright plates along its back and tail, along with an array of spikes at the end of its tail. *Stegosaurus* was a four-legged armored dinosaur that was a plant eater. It had a formidable array of plates that grew along the back that could have been used to appear bigger to predators. Alternatively, its back plates may have been used for sexual display and/or for providing some sort of thermoregulatory function. Stegosaurs were also quite large and could get up to 18 feet long and up to 9.5 feet tall. *Stegosaurus* may have lived alongside other dinosaurs such as *Apatosaurus*, *Diplodocus*, *Brachiosaurus*, and even *Allosaurus.* Needless to say, this highly unique creature also appears suddenly in the fossil record with no trace of evolutionary ancestors.

Pterosaurs and Mammals Galore

Pterosaurs are a diverse group of flying vertebrates that do not meet the definition of a dinosaur but show up in Triassic rocks at the same time as the first dinosaurs and then increase and persist throughout the sedimentary layers of the Jurassic. While evolutionists consider them to be early evolved flying vertebrates, their sudden appearance without any evolutionary precursors supports the biblical account of their creation along with other flying creatures during the Genesis creation week. Pterosaurs had wings formed by a membrane of skin similar to a bat, with the muscle and other tissues stretched from the ankles to an extremely long fourth finger. Their unique design would have made them powerful and efficient flyers, even having the capacity to dive into water to snag fish.

Maiopatagium
Image credit: University of Chicago

What isn't commonly known is that in addition to dinosaurs and pterosaurs, Jurassic rock layers also contain a large array of mammals.[4] Jurassic mammals were diverse and generally fairly small, although some have been found up to three feet in length. Many resemble squirrel and beaver-like creatures. Not only were there many mammals adapted to life on land, including semiaquatic forms, but there were also several flying mammal kinds (*Maiopatagium* and *Vilevolodon*). These aerial mammals mystify evolutionists because they not only occur suddenly but also very early in the fossil record of mammals with no viable ancestors. In fact, these mammal fossils clearly show gliding membranes, along with limb, hand, and foot proportions perfectly suited to aerial locomotion and behavior.

Explaining the Jurassic Puzzle with the Global Flood

As I mentioned in my previous article,[2] global megasequence research at the Institute for Creation Research indicates that the initial rifting in the breakup of the pre-Flood mega-continent referred to as Pangaea began in the Triassic. This breakup involved a progressive increase in global tectonic activity. This caused more extensive plate motion and rapid subduction of the pre-Flood ocean crust along the West Coast of North America. As I noted in my previous article, the East Coast had already exhibited significant rifting in the Triassic, breaking away from what is now recognized as Africa. Essentially, the Jurassic witnessed the rapid injection of new, hot, buoyant ocean crust between the separating continents, creating the seafloor of the Atlantic Ocean.

All of this increasing tectonic activity would have accelerated the violence of the Flood by pushing tsunami-like waves higher and farther inland, transporting physically bigger marine reptile creatures (e.g., *Plesiosaurus*) and deeper-water ocean fish onto the rapidly dividing continents—mixing them with land creatures living at higher elevations. This activity is reflected in the more extensive Jurassic rocks found spread across the continents as the water inundated even higher elevations than before.[5]

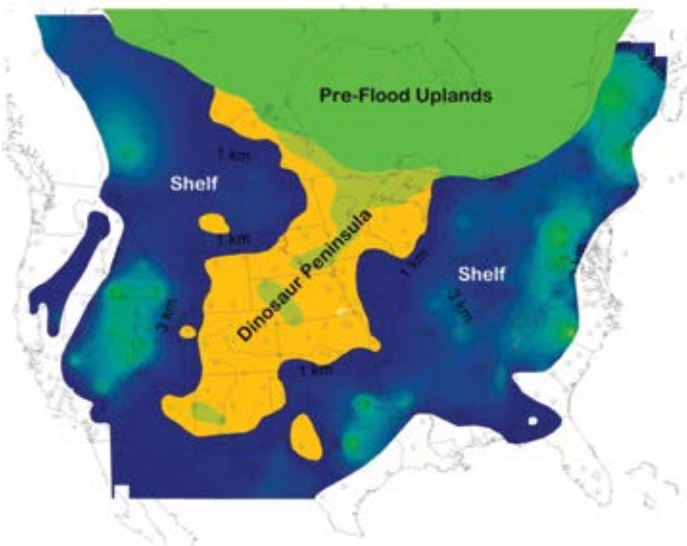

Image credit: Davis J. Werner

The land life entombed in Jurassic rocks represents not only an increase in water height and depositional violence, but the progressive burial of ecosystems farther inward on the pre-Flood Pangaea mega-continent. In fact, there's evidence that the extensive Jurassic Morrison Formation in North America represents animal and plant life ripped off what ICR geologist Dr. Tim Clarey refers to as Dinosaur Peninsula.[6,7] In this model, the dinosaurs were able to survive through the early part of the global Flood in western North America simply because their habitat was not yet fully flooded, which occurred during the deposition of the Zuni Megasequence of which the Jurassic was merely the start. Other Jurassic dinosaurs may have been able to evacuate their lower-elevation pre-Flood habitats and flee to higher remnants of land as the floodwaters advanced.

The Lower Jurassic represents the last part of the Absaroka Megasequence, with the remainder of the Jurassic belonging to the Zuni.[8] The Jurassic layers must have been very violently deposited to bury the huge dinosaurs found within them. The Jurassic system was also the final leadup to deposition that peaked on the continents later in the Cretaceous. Keep in mind also that this was occurring at the same time as the Pangaea mega-continent was increasing its breakup and plate separation. Within this overall scenario, the dinosaurs were buried in a definable order as the waters progressively inundated more and more land.[6,7]

The ICR model of a Dinosaur Peninsula shows a hypothetical landmass extending down through the United States from Minnesota to New Mexico. This represented a low-lying land area below the pre-Flood uplands. It would have been full of all kinds of dinosaurs, large and small, as found in the rock layers.

As the Flood's waters advanced up over the peninsula, the outer edges and the southern tip likely flooded first, producing the Triassic system rocks and trapping many dinosaurs that couldn't escape. As the Flood progressed higher due to increased tectonic activity, larger and possibly more mobile sauropods and theropods that had lived at or had escaped to higher ground were buried in the Jurassic layers. This scenario eventually reached its peak in the Cretaceous (Zuni Megasequence).[5]

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FRANK SHERWIN, D.Sc. (Hon.)

MAN: SMART FROM THE START

People have been created with a three-pound brain that scientists will never fully understand. Evolutionists have tried to trace the evolution of the human neurological system (including the brain and spinal cord) from supposedly "lower life forms" without success. There is a clear absence of evidence: "Surprisingly, little is known about the evolutionary origin of central nervous systems;"[1] "the origins of neural systems remain unresolved;"[2] "when and how the animal nervous system arose has remained murky."[3]

One of the three major parts of our created brain is the cerebellum, long known to be involved in coordination, regulation of balance, and other motor activities. The cerebellum contributes to our five senses, sits close to the brain stem, and is called by some the "little brain." Recent research at San Diego State University has shown that the human cerebellum is more complex than realized.[4]

> Until now, the cerebellum was thought to be involved mainly in basic functions like movement, but its expansion over time and its new inputs from cortical areas involved in cognition suggest that it can also process advanced concepts like mathematical equations.[5]

In their investigation, evolutionists compared the brains of people with the brains of the macaque, an Old World monkey. "An SDSU neuroimaging expert discovered the tightly packed folds [of the cerebellum] actually contain a surface area equal to 80% of the cerebral cortex's surface area. In comparison, the macaque's cerebellum is about 30% the size of its cortex."[5]

The researchers revealed some heretofore unknown anatomical information regarding the human cerebellum, but they then attempted to put an evolutionary spin on such discoveries.

> "The fact that it has such a large surface area speaks to the evolution of distinctively human behaviors and cognition," said Martin Sereno, psychology professor, cognitive neuroscientist and director of the SDSU MRI Imaging Center. "It has expanded so much that the folding patterns are very complex."[5]

Creationists, on the other hand, would say, "The fact that the cerebellum has such a large surface area speaks of God's design of distinctively human behaviors and cognition." Furthermore, since there is no evidence of people evolving from ape-like ancestors, we would say the human cerebellum was designed with very complex folding patterns from the beginning.

Who wouldn't applaud such ongoing scientific research revealing the mysteries and complexities of the brain? But the evidence does not compel one to draw unscientific connections between people and monkeys. For the evolutionist the only option is to embrace a non-biblical worldview, despite the scientific evidence.

> "When you look at the narrative for hominin [bipedal apes including modern humans] origins, it's just a big mess—there's no consensus whatsoever," said Sergio Almécija, a senior research scientist in the American Museum of Natural History's Division of Anthropology.[6]

The evidence pushes us toward the truth: God created people as people and apes as apes from the beginning.

article highlights

- Scientists discovered that the cerebral cortex of the human brain has much more surface area than previously thought.
- While the discovery is factual, the evolutionary explanation has no evidence to support it.
- Creation scientists believe humans were distinctly created to reflect the image of God from the very beginning, so it makes perfect sense that humans have more brain space for complex thinking and function.

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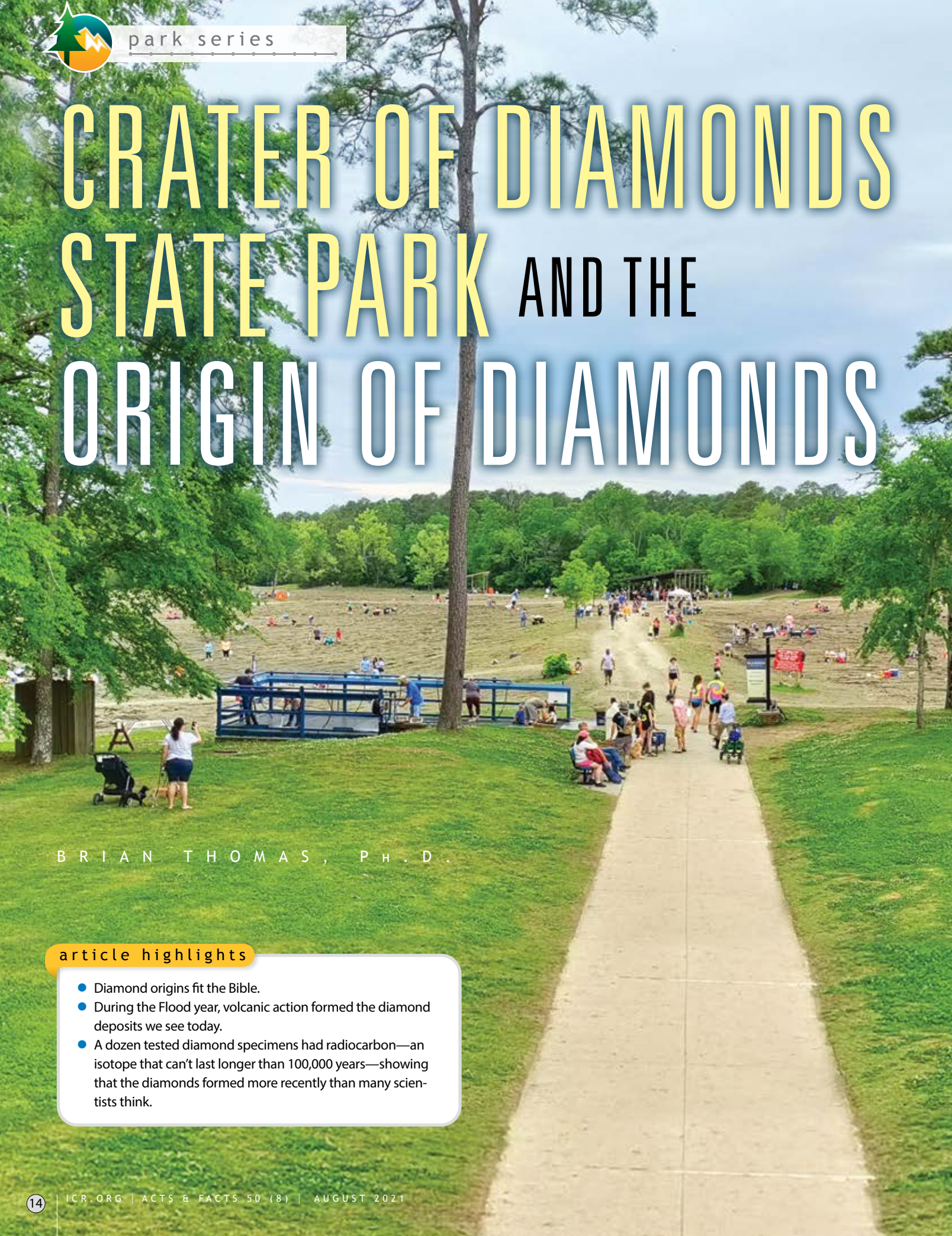
CRATER OF DIAMONDS STATE PARK AND THE ORIGIN OF DIAMONDS



BRIAN THOMAS, PH.D.

article highlights

- Diamond origins fit the Bible.
- During the Flood year, volcanic action formed the diamond deposits we see today.
- A dozen tested diamond specimens had radiocarbon—an isotope that can't last longer than 100,000 years—showing that the diamonds formed more recently than many scientists think.

People have sifted for diamonds at Crater of Diamonds State Park in Murfreesboro, Arkansas, since 1906. To date, more than 70,000 diamonds have been found in the park.

Uncut diamond

At Crater of Diamonds State Park in western Arkansas, families dig diamonds for fun while more serious sifters seek sensational paydays. Countless brides have wondered where the pretty diamonds on their rings came from. A visit to Crater of Diamonds reminds us of two key research results that refute the old ages assigned to diamonds. These results favor the Bible's record of a more recent creation and Flood.

An Ancient Volcano

Diamonds adorn the Arkansas state flag and license plates in honor of Crater of Diamonds State Park. The park is a rare place for the public to mine diamonds. The experience draws a diverse crowd. Serious searchers bring wagons toting buckets of gravelly soil to the park's water troughs for wet sifting, while children bring their fingers to poke around the ground.

Despite the crater in the name, first impressions reveal no distinct crater shape at ground level. Rather, volcanic rocks called lamproite mixed in the soil show that you're walking on the mouth of an ancient volcano. Park signage compares the ancient volcanic blast cloud to one of the largest ever recorded—the 1848 explosion of Krakatoa in Indonesia.

Dr. Brian Thomas wet-sifts soil in search of diamonds at Crater of Diamonds State Park

Image credit: Michele Thomas

In a moment, mantle material from miles below shot up through Earth's crust. When it neared the surface, exploding steam blasted fresh lava rock into a vast volcanic ash plume. If this erupted while Cretaceous sediments had already dropped to the bottom of the Flood's surging waters, then it happened near the middle of the Flood year.[1] Figure 1 shows the thickness of sediments that landed on southern Arkansas during the fifth of six major pulses of Flood sedimentation, each pulse called a megasequence. If our Flood model is accurate, then the ash plume could have erupted right into floodwaters, not directly into air.

Back then, volcanoes gushed as continents collided. During this fifth megasequence, months into the Flood year, water finally overtopped the highest hills that then existed (Genesis 7:19). As volcanic eruption rates slowed after the Flood, so did diamond deliveries from the deep. Those who appreciate their diamond rings can thank God for bringing up gems through judgment.

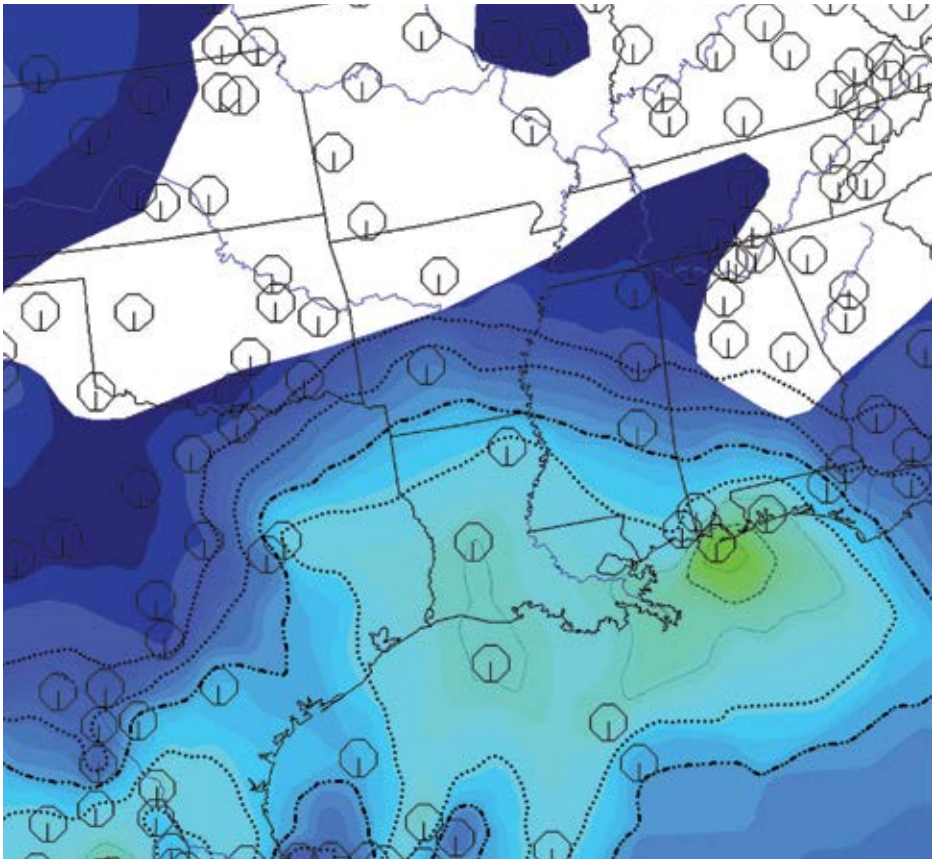


Figure 1. *Isopach (thickness) map of the sedimentary rocks composing the Zuni Megasequence (Jurassic and Cretaceous systems) for Arkansas and surrounding states. The volcano at Crater of Diamonds State Park erupted near the top edge of these sediments, shown in blue. Greener color indicates thicker deposits, and bluer color indicates thinner deposits. Circles show drill core data collection areas.*

Image credit: Davis J. Werner

Volcanic tuff with lamproite from the Crater of Diamonds State Park

Image credit: James St. John. Used in accordance with federal copyright (fair use doctrine) law. Usage by ICR does not imply endorsement of copyright holders.

Two Research Results

Does evidence from Earth—or even better, directly from diamonds—confirm our Flood model?

Various park signs repeat the common assertion that diamonds formed billions of years ago. But two key research results bury that idea. The first came from the ICR RATE project.[2] One branch of RATE research included measuring radiocarbon (radioactive carbon) in diamonds. If Earth formed thousand of years ago, then Earth's diamonds might still retain some radioactive carbon atoms. In contrast, a billions-of-years burden bars carbon-containing material deemed older than 100,000 theoretical years from having any radiocarbon.[3]

Radiocarbon labs use carbonaceous earth materials like natural gas, coal, marble, and graphite as instrument blanks. Workers assume they are too old to have any radiocarbon, but labs consistently reveal more radiocarbon in the blanks than contamination can reasonably account for. And before the RATE project, nobody had tested diamonds.

We express the levels of radiocarbon using pMC. This refers to the percentage

of radiocarbon found in an ancient sample compared to the radiocarbon content in a standard modern sample. In general, the older the material, the smaller the percentage. Based on the measured decay rate, samples older than 100,000 theoretical years should show zero percent radiocarbon after subtracting known contamination sources like radiocarbon atoms in the lab air.

In 2005, Dr. John Baumgardner described the RATE team's stunning results, shown here in Table 1.[4] All 12 African diamond specimens had radiocarbon in them! With all this carbon still radioactive, how could these diamonds be even one million years old, let alone billions? No known underground process could generate the measured levels of radiocarbon.

Secular experts, including the late R. E. Taylor, decided to measure their own diamonds. They found radiocarbon in theirs, too. Table 2 summarizes their results, published in 2007.[5]

These kinds of results so irked R. E. Taylor that he wrote a 10-page paper to try and explain them away.[6] He and his co-authors argued that since diamonds are billions of years old, any radiocarbon they measured must result from contamination. That's just circular reasoning.[7] These results deserve to be investigated, not buried beneath bias.

Diamond ring

Sample ID	pMC	±
NMBclr1	0.31	0.02
NMBclr2	0.17	0.02
NMBclr3	0.13	0.03
NMByel1	0.09	0.02
Letlhakane-3	0.07	0.02
NMBrn2	0.07	0.02
Letlhakane-1	0.04	0.03
NMByel2	0.04	0.02
Orapa-F	0.03	0.03
Kankan	0.03	0.03
Kimberley-1	0.02	0.03
Orapa-A	0.01	0.03
AMS sensitivity	0.002	

Table 1. *Twelve RATE-tested diamonds showed levels of radiocarbon above the AMS (accelerator mass spectrometer) theoretical sensitivity limit.[4] It appears that short-lived radiocarbon is intrinsic to these diamonds. pMC is percent modern carbon, uncalibrated.*

Lab ID	pmC	±
UCIAMS-12677	0.018	0.001
UCIAMS-12678	0.017	0.002
UCIAMS-12676	0.017	0.001
UCIAMS-12679	0.016	0.001
UCIAMS-12674	0.015	0.001
UCIAMS-12675	0.015	0.001
UCIAMS-15445	0.021	0.003
UCIAMS-15444	0.018	0.002
UCIAMS-15443	0.015	0.002
UCIAMS-15446	0.013	0.002
UCIAMS-15447	0.011	0.002
UCIAMS-9638	0.008	0.001
UCIAMS-9640	0.006	0.001
UCIAMS-9639	0.005	0.001

Table 2. *Six of nine diamonds show levels of radiocarbon far above the instrument's detection limit. The top six measurements were taken from one diamond. UCIAMS refers to the University of California Irvine Accelerator Mass Spectrometer. Results from Taylor and Southon, 2007.[5]*

A visit to Crater of Diamonds State Park, and for that matter a look at any diamond ring, reminds us of short-lived radiocarbon that two research projects found inside diamonds. Both sets of results confirm the thousands of years of Earth history that the Bible has been reporting to us all along.

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BRIAN THOMAS, PH.D.

Q: Why Won't the Gospel Die?

A Soon after the gospel first emerged, ancient Rome tried to exterminate whoever believed it. They tortured and murdered early Christians, but that didn't stop its progress. Thousands of years later, 20th-century communism sought to eradicate Christians, yet Soviet and Chinese martyrs refused to abandon the Lord Jesus. Their faithfulness again showed that governments remain powerless to erase the gospel. What gives the gospel such staying power?

The word gospel means "good news." It's a message anyone can understand and respond to. The gospel says that we sin against a holy God and our sins earn just punishment. And yet in our mortal lives, God holds back His wrath and offers us mercy. The good news for us sinners is that God's own Son, "Christ crucified" (1 Corinthians 1:23), suffered the punishment we were due. This substitution means that God will commute the death sentence for "whoever desires" (Revelation 22:17) to repent of sin and trust Christ, who "has loved us and given Himself for us" (Ephesians 5:2).

This message just keeps exerting the "power of God to salvation for everyone who believes" (Romans 1:16), even when the devil switches from trying to destroy the Church from outside to trying to destroy it from within (1 Peter 2:1). At points in history, churchgoers began to ignore God's grace revealed in the gospel and turned Christianity into a list of do's and don'ts. But just when it seemed the gospel would get diluted into nonexistence, the Reformers understood and believed the gospel, trusting in the Lord Jesus to save them from the high cost of their own sins. The good news was just as good as ever, spreading across the world as godly martyrs placed Bibles into the hands of the people in their own languages.

article highlights

- The gospel of Jesus Christ has spread despite enormous efforts to stop it.
- God raises leaders to preach the clear gospel when some try to cloud it.
- ICR exists to show ways that science affirms the truth of Scripture, including the gospel.
- The gospel won't die because God keeps using it to give new life!

Each generation threatens the gospel anew. More recent attacks on the gospel come from scholars who study the original texts from which we derive our Bible translations. They too often assume long ages of human development. This nonbiblical view of history leads them to teach that although Scripture may contain truth, the Bible is not wholly true. What better way to destroy confidence in the gospel than to train pastors to believe there are mistakes in the very Scriptures that teach this gospel message?

In every era and nation, whether attacked from without or within, some hear and reject the gospel while others hear and believe. It seems that in any time or place "the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God" (1 Corinthians 1:18).

So, now for millennia the same old message "that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures" (1 Corinthians 15:3,4) continually sprouts new fruit.

The heart of the ministry of the Institute for Creation Research lies in showing new ways that science supports Scripture. Science confirms that we can trust all of God's Word—the parts that speak of the origin of life, seriousness of sin, and coming judgment, as well as the testimony that the Lord Jesus is "not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance" (2 Peter 3:9). Why does the gospel persist? God has not yet finished using it to grant sinners everlasting life!

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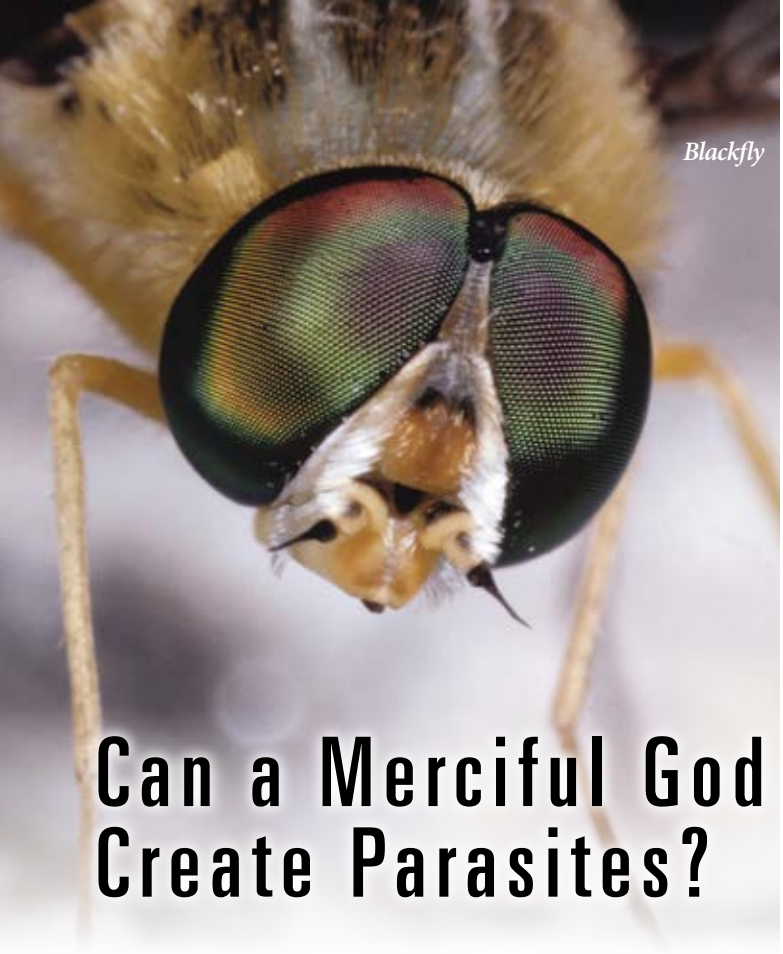
SCOTT ARLEDGE



Blackfly

Can a Merciful God Create Parasites?

article highlights

- Sir David Attenborough uses a nematode as an example of a cruel creature that shouldn't exist if God is good and merciful.
- But that reasoning assumes a still-perfect creation and ignores the Genesis truth of our fallen world.
- Even according to evolutionists, parasitism is a learned behavior—most nematodes are harmless and even beneficial.
- Christ Jesus redeemed humanity in the ultimate merciful act of dying for us. Because of this redemption, one day our fallen creation will be replaced by a new and perfect earth.

Sir David Attenborough of BBC fame is regularly asked by Christians why he will not give credit to God for the amazing creatures featured on his nature documentaries. He often replies:

> My response…is that when Creationists talk about God creating every individual species as a separate act, they always instance hummingbirds, or orchids, sunflowers and beautiful things. But I tend to think instead of a parasitic worm that is boring through the eye of a boy sitting on the bank of a river in West Africa—that's going to make him blind. Are you telling me that the God you believe in, who you also say is an all-merciful God, who cares for each one of us individually, are you saying that God created this worm that can live in no other way than in an innocent child's eyeball? Because that doesn't seem to me to coincide with a God who's full of mercy.[1]

This is exactly the conclusion any reasonable and compassionate person should reach. The creation we occupy is full of many things much worse than parasitism.

Sir Attenborough's logic would be spot on if the literal interpretation of Genesis were not true. Rejecting the truth of man's evil heart, our rebellion, and the reality of the Curse makes observing our present circumstance of suffering and death considerably confusing, and perhaps a source of resentment.

But by rejecting the truth, they also have no hope of the gospel. Their unknowable god made a universe with time-and-chance evolution that resulted in the same predicament of parasitism—and for no good reason. Therefore, they should be even more upset with this supposed god and its millions of years of evolutionary suffering—but they are not.

So, what about this worm? Did the real God create a parasite that can live in no other way than a child's eye? Absolutely not! These worms are actually called nematodes. There are about 40,000 species of nematodes, and the majority are not parasitic at all! They exist quite well outside of the human eye. Only 35 of them are parasitic to humans.[2] Christians need not shrink back from Sir Attenborough's questions because, like hummingbirds and orchids, nematodes are amazing!

Nematodes thrive all over the earth. They live in oceans, on mountains, and deep underground. One cubic meter of dirt can contain over a million nematodes. They can lay 200,000 eggs at a time, and they possess the strange ability to die and come back to life decades later in a process known as cryptobiosis (hidden life).

Since we know God made them to be not parasitic at the beginning, what function do they serve? The majority are incredibly beneficial. They feed on the nutritious insides of bacteria and algae and decompose organic matter. This fertilizes the soil, helping plants to thrive. They are not the bad guys after all.

But why are some parasitic? Interestingly, evolutionists also believe that nematodes started out harmless. Researchers published a 2009 paper in *Trends in Genetics* that explained the following: since nematodes already ride harmlessly on insects, the researchers think that when resources grew scarce, some species learned that they could feed on their insect companions.[3] The behavior was just a matter of surviving. Unfortunately, this parasitism is how African river blindness is transmitted. Struggling nematodes learned that they can feed on blackflies. Blackflies learned that they can feed on humans. When an infected fly bites a human, it can transfer the nematodes and thus cause a child to tragically lose his sight.

Truly, all of creation groans (Romans 8:22). But because God is truly merciful, Jesus died for the guilty, and we will be with Him where there is no more suffering or death. Now *that* is amazing. I hope Sir Attenborough discovers this mercy soon.

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JAMES J. S. JOHNSON, J.D., TH.D.

Should Creationists Brook Loss of a Trout?

Should a freshwater stream be restored to make it habitable for a failing fish population such as brook trout?[1] It makes sense that creationists proactively care about biodiversity and environmental stewardship, but why should evolutionists care?[2] These real-world questions are illustrated by Maryland's Jabez Branch, a tributary of the Severn River in Maryland. Jabez Branch is the only stream in the state's Coastal Plain that is—or maybe was—home to brook trout.[1]

Jabez Branch's critical problem that prevents it from serving as a critical habitat for brook trout is its temperature. When stream water gets too hot, it's a hostile habitat for brook trout.

> Unlike the nonnative and more adaptable brown trout [*Salmo trutta*], brook trout [*Salvelinus fontinalis*]…are typically found in clear, cold streams and rivers in the Piedmont region or higher elevation headwaters of the [Chesapeake] Bay watershed. Downstream, in the Coastal Plain, the water gets too hot in the summer for brook trout to survive. Jabez Branch, however, has been an anomaly, with cool springs feeding it and the shade-casting boughs of forest along much of its banks.[1]

So, what changed this previously cool-enough brook? Thanks to expanded highways (including Interstate 97) and suburban sprawl, storm-sewer runoff drains land-warmed rainwater into Jabez Branch, slightly increasing stream water temperature. Also, the surges of rain runoff erode stream banks, draining soil sediments and organic nutrients into stream flow, worsening water quality factors for brook trout sensitivities.[1,3]

But brown trout are less sensitive, so they compete better in such circumstances. According to repeated monitoring done by electrofishing, this causes population decline of brook trout—they must detect and abandon overly warm streams.[1,3]

But, from the brown trout's—or an evolutionist's—perspective, *who cares* if warmed stream waters discourage populational success for local brook trout?

Creationists appreciate how God values biodiversity, as Noah's Ark illustrates.[2] But how can evolutionary thinking promote biodiversity? Evolutionists have no moral basis for valuing biodiversity.[2,4]

Brook trout *losses* are brown trout *gains*, exhibiting self-promoting wildlife competition, what Darwinian evolutionists call survival of the fittest or natural selection.

Yet the sophistic phrase "survival of the fittest" illustrates the defect of logic called *tautology* (i.e., redundancy fallacy, proving nothing) because evolutionists define populational fitness by survival, so "fitness" really means that whoever survives was fit (or "lucky") enough to survive—in other words, the survivors survived.[4]

Also, as ICR's Dr. Randy Guliuzza has amply documented, the phrase "natural selection" is an animistic/magic-word synonym, depicting a personified nature that somehow environmentally prefers (favors or disfavors) to select one animal over another.[4]

Worse, survival-of-the-fittest terminology is harnessed to rationalize terrible cruelties, such as the eugenics movement,[4] as if might makes right—a fact historically illustrated in World War II by both the Nazi Germans and the Imperial Japanese.[5]

In sum, biodiversity appreciation and conservation ethics clash with evolutionary ecology concepts.[2,5] However, appreciating and conserving biodiversity as Noah once did makes perfect sense for biblical creationists.[2,3]

article highlights

- Brook trout can't thrive in the Jabez Branch tributary because the water temperature is too warm, but brown trout are less affected by this.
- Evolutionists claim that survival of the fittest is how creatures evolve, so if they are logically consistent, they wouldn't intervene when creatures like brook trout are endangered.
- Biblical creation calls for people to be good stewards of God's world, helping vulnerable creatures—and people—whenever they can.

References

1. Wheeler, T. B. 2021. A Tussle Over a Trout Stream—with No Trout in It: Plan to Restore Stretch of Jabez Branch in Maryland Pits Anglers against State. *Chesapeake Bay Journal.* 31 (1): 12-13. The name Jabez hearkens back to 1 Chronicles 4:9-10, illustrating providential success. Ironically, as electrofishing indicates, Jabez Branch is now an example of ongoing failure, ecologically speaking—at least as it relates to the stream's native population of brook trout. Electrofishing is a relatively harmless research method, using electrical shocks to temporarily stun fish, causing them to surface (where they can be seen and counted) before they recover and return to submerged swimming.
2. Genesis 6–9 and Deuteronomy 22:6-7, 20:19-20. See also Johnson, J. J. S. 2012. Valuing God's Variety. *Acts & Facts.* 41 (9): 8-9.
3. Finfish practice continuous environmental tracking to obtain vital information about their physical environment. See Johnson, J. J. S. 2016. Even Fish Need to Know! *Acts & Facts.* 45 (1): 21.
4. Guliuzza, R. J. 2016. Major Evolutionary Blunders: Survival of the Fittest, Eugenics, and Abortion. *Acts & Facts.* 45 (1): 12-14.
5. "Most Americans know that Adolf Hitler argued evolutionary science to justify his genocidal mass murders of Jews and Slavs,…[however] Japanese propagandists sang the same social Darwinism song before and during World War II." Johnson, J. J. S. 2012. Hidden in Plain View: Evolution's Counterfeit History Is Everywhere. *Acts & Facts.* 41 (2): 8-9.

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

BILL WEST

BE BLESSED

article highlights

- People throughout history and across cultures have associated the word "blessed" with material riches and having few problems.
- But Jesus redefined who is truly blessed in His Sermon on the Mount.
- ICR IT expert Bill West feels blessed as he serves in creation ministry.
- Faithful donors enable ICR to minister to people, helping them change their focus from pursuing a carefree life to the eternal blessings of faith in Christ.

During the days of Jesus, being blessed had a different meaning from what Christians understand it to mean today. The *Theological Dictionary of the New Testament* says the word for "blessed," μακάριος, was used by Greeks when talking about gods and their blessedness. Later, it was used to describe how the rich were free from worry.

When Jesus preached the Sermon on the Mount, He redefined the word for all who listened. All people want to be blessed, and many people looking up at Jesus that day had in mind what being blessed would look like for them. It just wasn't what they were expecting. In Matthew 5, Jesus tells His followers that the blessed are those who are poor in spirit, mournful, meek, hungering and thirsting after righteousness, merciful, pure in heart, peacemakers, persecuted for their righteousness, and reviled by this world for Jesus' sake. This does not sound like the path to being rich and loved, today's version of "blessed." Yet for those who follow Jesus, we can see it.

One weekend while in Gilmer, Texas, I witnessed the first outing of one of my best friends' little ones into the world of Little League Baseball. As joyful a time as that was, I will remember more what happened later. We had lunch downtown with those same friends and family. That day, they were having a barbecue contest downtown, so the square was full. I decided to wear one of my ICR T-shirts for two reasons. The first reason was the name of the baseball team had dinosaurs in it.

Shirt available on **ICR.org/store**

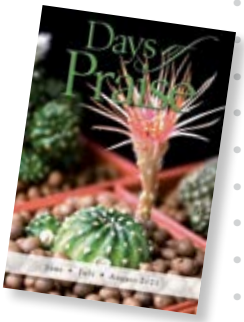
Secondly, I had hoped for a reaction from someone who would read it, and someone did. A gentleman walked up to me and asked what it meant. I was wearing the "Dinosaurs Est. Day 6" shirt, and he was curious. He had never heard of the Institute for Creation Research, so I let him know all about us. I felt so much joy from that. Jesus knew when He was speaking to those people on the mount that most of them were not the rich elite but might have wanted to be. He also knew that if they focused on what He wanted instead, they would get way more joy than what money could bring them.

That day I felt blessed, and that wasn't the only day. I love my job working in information technology, and it always seems like I'm blessed whenever we need to do an upgrade or fix something that just got old and worn down.

Every time I think about the donors who give money to ICR, I feel blessed. God works through our donors to help us get to where we need to be, to stay at the cutting edge. Those donations have helped us to create things like designs for T-shirts so that introverts like me can have a way to spark up those conversations to help spread Christ's kingdom. They also helped to get the ICR Discovery Center for Science & Earth History off the ground so that we can equip those brave souls who will use the information they gain from it to go and be blessed with the kind of blessing Jesus was talking about—the favor of God and heavenly riches.

Mr. West is IT Systems Administrator at the Institute for Creation Research.

Just a note of encouragement and thanks for your faithful ministry to today's world. I enjoy the radio programs, and our church family looks forward to each new edition of *Days of Praise*. I'm praying for you all today to be Spirit-filled, joyful, and abounding in the work of the Lord. Thanks again for your continuing contribution to the cause of Christ.



— G. J.

Dr. [Tim] Clarey,

I want to thank you on behalf of Grace Bible Church [Arizona] for serving us so well....That was so great, and I can't tell you how many people were encouraged that you gave the second lecture on Sunday night! I wanted to pass along a very specific encouragement from a mom in our church:

> "I was so grateful that you brought ICR to church last week. All three lessons filled in many puzzle pieces of my own thinking, and all three kids enjoyed it. I'm looking forward to using the books I bought next year in homeschooling. The really special moment came Sunday night at bedtime with my eleven-year-old daughter.
>
> 'Mom? Remember last week when you asked me what I thought about all this God stuff and I told you it's kind of hard to believe?'
>
> 'Yes.'
>
> 'Well, tonight just made sense, and now I understand things a lot better.'"

— S. Y.

Dr. [Jim] Johnson...The Museum [ICR Discovery Center] was quite impressive, and the story of Jesus, along with the final 3-D video, made a tremendous impact on me, and others I talked to had similar reactions....I would like to come back and bring some young people on a field trip.

I don't know what it would cost, but it may be a good idea to have a virtual tour of sorts so those who can't get to Texas can receive the gospel and the creation message from miles away. ICR would be engaging in global marketing and national Christian education for masses of people.

— Dr. Chapman
(2019 SOBA graduate)

Editor's note: We are in the process of developing a tour video of the ICR Discovery Center for Science & Earth History. Look for previews of it in the future!

ICR By the Numbers

ICR recently passed **10,000** followers on Instagram!

North Texas Giving Day is September 23, 2021!

9.23.21
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Your generosity will empower ICR and its Discovery Center to help families, children, and students discover how science confirms creation. This 18-hour online giving event draws support for North Texas nonprofits through one easy-to-use website. Please visit **ICR.org/ntgd** to offer a gift of any amount. Join us as we equip North Texas and beyond with the scientific evidence that confirms the Bible's accuracy and authority.

How will your gifts impact ICR's ministry? Every dollar sent, prayer lifted up, and post shared online is a blessing to us and hundreds of thousands of believers around the world. Today's donations will help ICR produce biblical science resources, host live events, and spread the word about the ICR Discovery Center for Science & Earth History.

Have a comment? Email us at Editor@ICR.org or write to Editor,
P. O. Box 59029, Dallas, Texas 75229.
Note: Unfortunately, ICR is not able to respond to all correspondence.
We cannot review manuscripts, books, or other materials.

Creation Kids

Testing the Limits

ICR INSTITUTE FOR CREATION RESEARCH

Do you like playing sports, skating, bike riding, or doing tricks on a trampoline? With training, the human body can do amazing feats of strength, endurance, grace, and precision. Olympic athletes show off Jesus' amazing design when they swim fast, lift heavy weights, do flips in the air, or spike a volleyball. And did you know...

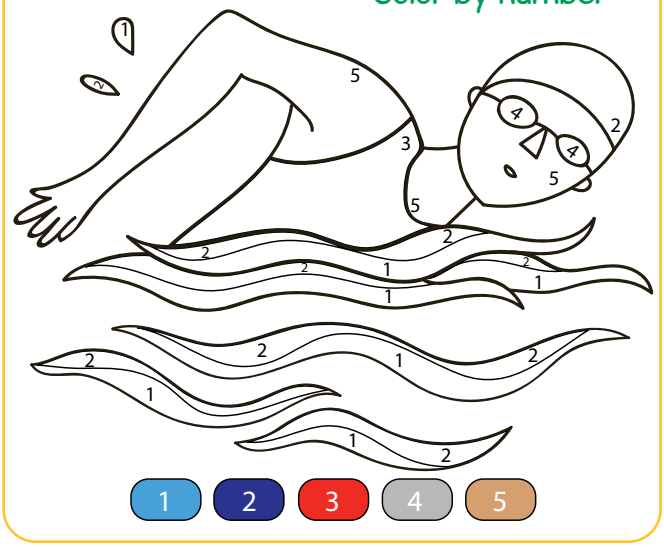
"I will _____ You because I am fearfully and wonderfully _____."

Psalm 139:14

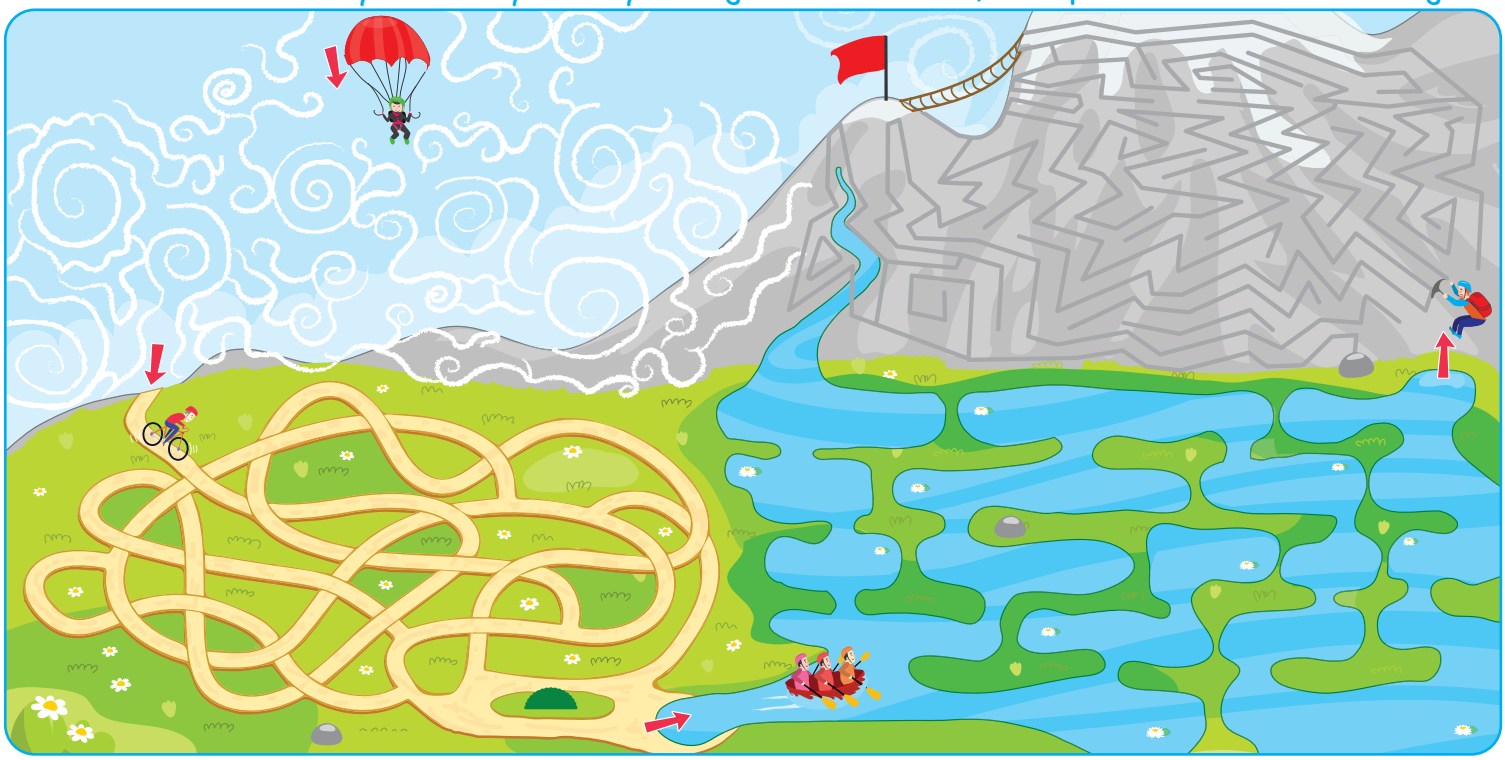
Answers: praise, made

- One extreme athlete, Dean Karnazes, tested the human body's limits when he ran 50 marathons across all 50 states in 50 days.
- In 1980, Minoru Yoshida of Japan set a world record when he did 10,507 push-ups.
- Sarah Thomas was the first person to swim across the English Channel four times without stopping—even after being stung on the face by a jellyfish!
- When athletes who are blind or missing a limb compete in the Paralympic Games, they showcase the human body's incredible ability to adapt to challenges.
- When you challenge your body with new skills, you display God's amazing design, too!

Color by number



Parachute out of the sky and find your way through land and water, and up the mountain to the flag.



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