

# Acts & Facts

Institute for Creation Research  
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Vol. 34 No. 4 April 2005

## TAKE "A WALK THROUGH HISTORY" ON YOUR SUMMER VACATION

Southern California has numerous "must see" vacation destinations. In recent years many families have included the ICR Museum of Creation and Earth History in the list of places to visit. Given that school will soon be out and vacations are being planned, please consider this a cordial invitation to visit this strong and winsome testimony to truth.

The Museum exhibits take the visitor on "A Walk through History." It begins by asking life's big questions: "Who am I?" "Where did I come from?" "Where am I going?" "What's the meaning of Life?"

The answers take shape along the "walk" from Day One of Creation Week up to modern times. On Days Three, Five, and Six, the nature of life is discussed, as are the evidences from stellar creation on Day Four.



After a short rest on Day Seven, the creation plunges into the effects of the Curse, the devastation of the Flood, the deep freeze of the Ice Age, the confusion at Babel, and the emergence of Israel. Life's big questions find ultimate resolution in the next room where the Creator of all, rejected by His creation, reenters creation as a man to die for man's sin, then rises from the grave in victory over sin and death.

A new wing of the Museum is under construction in which the main arguments for evolution are refuted and creation research highlighted. Interactive touch screen monitors are being planned throughout.

Plan now to include the ICR Museum in your vacation plans if possible. At the very least, visit the museum via the ICR video, *A Walk through History* available at 800/628-7640. 





# President's Column

by John D. Morris

Many divisions and ministries make up ICR, each accomplishing a particular purpose or ministering to a certain segment of society. None is more remarkable or unexpected than the Spanish version of our one-minute radio broadcast, "Back to Genesis." I think you'll be encouraged as you learn how it's produced.

"Back to Genesis" started in 1987 with broadcasts shared by Ken Ham and me. I took it over in 1994 when Ken left ICR to start Answers in Genesis. Each year the number of outlets has grown until now we broadcast "BTG" on over 600 stations worldwide, many airing it multiple times throughout the day, all at no cost to ICR. Truly God has blessed in ways we never planned.

After several years of broadcasting, we began to hear from Spanish radio stations, pleading for a Spanish version of "BTG." Dolly Martin, with the KHCB Radio Network in Houston, volunteered to voice the broadcast; and Elia María Knapp, also with KHCB, came on to translate the program scripts into Spanish.

Many stations soon began carrying "De Regreso a Génesis" all through the Americas, the Caribbean, and Spain, and was well-received. Evidently the program was filling a real void among those who had little other creationist input. John Pendleton, an American missionary in Mexico, offered to answer inquiries that came in and supply printed Spanish materials through his Spanish website.

After ten faithful years of volunteer service, our Spanish announcer, Dolly Martin, stepped down and a serious search for her replacement commenced. Much to our surprise, numerous applications were received for this non-paid position, none more interesting than Luis Enrique Sánchez,

pastor of Vida Nueva Evangelical Free Church in San Diego. He possesses a resonant radio voice that commands attention and a heart for the ministry that is a blessing. But Pastor Sánchez is also totally blind. Could he do the job? Yes, and with excellence, but not without challenge.

Here's how it is done. First, I prepare and edit the "BTG" broadcasts. Next, the written scripts are sent to Mrs. Knapp for translation. In translating to Spanish, the sixty-second English scripts become ninety seconds long and are then forwarded to Pastor Sánchez, who uses computer software to convert the Spanish scripts into Braille. Finally, the "DRG" radio programs are ready for him to record. Once recorded, the programs are edited and produced for a final review by two bilingual members of ICR's staff, Mrs. Sue Sisco and Mr. Donald Flanagan, until production is complete. Any adjustments are made as needed and the master is sent off for replication. Lastly, "De Regreso a Génesis" CD's are distributed to Christian radio stations worldwide.

Each session is bathed in prayer at every stage, and God answers. And so the message of creation goes out into places to which it never before had access, and lives are changed. Thank you for your prayers, and thank you especially Elia María Knapp and Pastor Sánchez for your sacrificial work.

## Acts & Facts

PUBLISHED BY

INSTITUTE FOR CREATION RESEARCH  
P.O. Box 2667, EL CAJON, CA 92021  
**619/448-0900 WEBSITE: [www.icr.org](http://www.icr.org)**



To disseminate articles and information of current interest dealing with creation, evolution, and related topics. Sent free upon request.

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## Radio Station in Papua New Guinea

Thank you for your recent shipment of “Science, Scripture, & Salvation” which we received last week—in plenty of time. We are very pleased with your very thorough program. Evolution is becoming more and more popular over here, especially with the Asian influences in the universities. It is timely that we are networking and covering more and more of our country with confident truth done in a professional and rational manner. May God bless your very important ministry.

## Radio Listener in Central America

Greetings! A faithful listener of “De Regreso a Génesis” greets you all from Central America. With respect to your Spanish radio program, I want to encourage you to continue onward with your ministry that God has given to you.

My profession is Geological Engineer. In the course of the study of this career, purely humanistic thoughts and ideas were given to us about the origin of life that had nothing to do with our Creator, Jesus Christ. I have been listening to you on Radio Cultura TGN of Guatemala, and focusing on the themes of scientific creation, sustained by the book of Genesis, has interested me. . . . I like the focus and explanations that you give.

May God continue to give you wisdom, intelligence, and science from on high, for the purpose of discovering more truths about His creation.

## Radio Station in Peru

By the grace of God we are working with your appreciated materials that are a great blessing to our thousands of listeners that tune in to you each day. Our prayers are that God will continue to help and prosper your lives through the sacred labor that you do. 



This month on “Science, Scripture, & Salvation”:

**Weekend of:** Title/Topic:

**April 2** “April Fool’s” Evolutionary Style

Each April, children outdo each other with harmless pranks. As adults, evolutionists have been embarrassed by their own “April Fool’s” jokes. These mistakes, however, aren’t harmless as they find their way into public opinion as truth. Don’t miss this broadcast about a few of these “pranks.”

**April 9** **Bones of Contention**

We’ve all been told that man evolved from ape-like creatures. But not one reliable fossil connecting man to animals has yet been found! Tune in to hear this lively discussion.

**April 16** **Creation and the Public Schools**

Evolutionists are outraged over a few school boards that want students to examine evolution critically. But isn’t science supposed to be objective? And isn’t the nature of education to teach students to think analytically? Join us as we talk about this relevant issue that’s in the news!

**April 23** **The Plagues of Egypt**

The ten plagues of Egypt are known worldwide. Discounted by some as a Biblical fairytale—and explained away by secular scientists, can the plagues be attributed to purely natural events? Tune in as creation scientists debunk some of the anti-Biblical claims!

**April 30** **Creation Stewardship**

When God created man, man was given dominion over creation. Today, some neglect this duty, and others go to the extreme of valuing nature over human life. Listen in as we discuss our proper role as God’s stewards. 

by Larry Vardiman

One of the new research projects that ICR will be emphasizing in 2005 will be the GENE project. We are particularly interested in exploring the origin and maintenance of genetic information that carries the hereditary characteristics of a living organism.

We have already begun theoretical studies and simple numerical simulations. We wish to understand better how the genetic information, which was placed in the human genome at creation, has changed with time. Mutations (sudden variations in some hereditary characteristic) have been shown to accumulate from one generation to the next. Mutations invariably lead to changes in characteristics and a reduction in the viability of the organism. The average number of mutations in a typical organism appears to accumulate at a rate of about 100 mutations per individual in each generation. This rate of mutation and the attendant decrease in viability appears to severely limit the lifespan of many organisms to hundreds or thousands of years. If these estimated mutation rates are valid, man and other large mammals, simply could not have survived for millions of years as is taught by evolutionary theory.

There are various causes of mutations, but one important source is environmental radiation. Low doses of radiation would produce few mutations, but high doses would produce many. If radioactive decay rates were accelerated by orders of magnitude during the time of the Genesis Flood (as the RATE project indicates), it is likely that mutation rates were also greatly increased at that time. So, it is possible that during and immediately following the Flood the genomes of many organisms were drastically de-

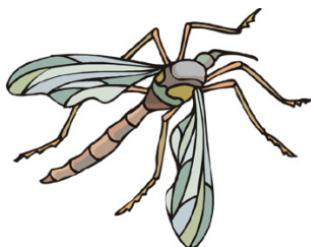
graded. The viability of many organisms would probably have been greatly reduced, some to the point of extinction.

The new ICR GENE project will attempt more complex numerical simulations and apply the findings to man. Some of these studies may explore the DNA changes in the mitochondria back to Eve and the Y chromosome back to Adam. We also plan to use "bioinformatics" to compare the sequences of man and chimpanzee. We plan to show that the large differences between these two genomes could not have arisen by mutation and selection—not even in six million years.



Dan Criswell, Ph.D.

The new computing center at ICR will be a great resource for these studies and other genetic data searches. In addition, laboratory studies are planned in which the accumulation of mutations can be measured directly through DNA analysis. Dr. Dan Criswell, professor of molecular biology at ICR, plans to begin developing a lab this year which will be able to prepare DNA samples for off-site sequencing. If you wish to donate to this effort, please contact Dr. Larry Vardiman at 619/448-0900 or LVardiman@icr.edu. 



## EVOLUTION AND MALARIA

The parasitic disease known as malaria continues to devastate millions of people. It is acute in Africa, where over two million people die per year—most of them children. The protozoan (single-celled) parasite is spread by the female mosquito seeking a blood meal that provides critical protein for her developing eggs.

Once inside the person, malaria parasites hide within the victim's red blood cells—evading circulating serum antibodies. They eat the hemoglobin (the red protein that carries oxygen) in the cell, and they undergo asexual reproduction. At the right time of the malaria life cycle, the red blood cell is caused to burst, releasing hundreds of new parasites plus the toxic products of metabolism. These waste products cause the characteristic chills and fevers associated with malaria.

There are over 550 known variants of human hemoglobin, but the hemoglobin-S mutation produces the tragic condition known as sickle-cell anemia. The name comes from the sickle-like shape. Some of the red cells adopt due to the corrupted (mutated) hemoglobin molecules inside. When these red cells become distorted, they can no longer operate as normal red cells. They "sickle" and then clog smaller blood vessels of the patient resulting in extreme pain, strokes, and possibly death. People homozygous for sickle-cell anemia (both parents provide the mutant gene to the offspring) usually die before adolescence. But those offspring that are heterozygous (receiving a mutant gene from just one parent) can lead normal lives. Sickle-cell anemia is found in three areas of the world where malaria is also found. Those with sickle-cell anemia in the same area are quite resistant to a deadly strain of malaria because their atypical blood cells collapse or "sickle," destroying the developing parasite. Evolutionists maintain this is a "beneficial mutation" or overdominance. But is it?

Put another way, is sickle-cell anemia a fitting example of the continuous genetic expansion required by evolution? Science says "No." Population genetic studies show that *conservation* of the created kinds is the biological rule, not an upward/onward, fish-to-philosopher series of changes (macroevolution). If a Darwinist wants to say that a harmful mutation in the oxygen-carrying capacity of the blood is "good"—they're welcome to do so. But one has to wonder how many evolutionists would willingly subject themselves to this mutation (if it were possible)—as they prepared to go to a malaria zone.

Evolutionists also point out that the drugs used to treat malaria are losing their effectiveness as the parasite develops a resistance. This is also true of the mosquito carriers as they become increasingly resistant to pesticides. Creationists point out that this is—once again—minor variation within the created kinds. The animals involved remain the same genus and species. There is no major change (macroevolution).



# Meeting Highlights

## Whitby, Ontario, Canada

A most unusual seminar was held in this Toronto suburb on February 4–5. Paul and Michael MacGregor, desiring to make an impact in their community, sponsored the Bible Skeptics Conference. So, he invited ICR's Dr. John Morris to present the case for creation and David Hunt to present the case for Biblical inerrancy.

Nearly 800 people packed the auditorium at Sinclair Secondary High School. Many had brought their “skeptical” friends to hear the three lectures by each speaker interspersed with question and answer sessions.

A sense of near urgency was evident among the Christians present, as the Canadian Parliament was preparing to legalize same-sex marriage, despite the overwhelming disapproval of the voters. That evolutionary teaching was at the root of the problem was clearly understood.

On Sunday Dr. Morris spoke at the two morning services of the dynamic Calvary Baptist Church, giving reasons why a Christian shouldn't believe in evolution.

## Florida Conferences

Pat Eckersley and Kathy Sibr of Stuart, Florida, developed a second annual Treasure Coast conference series for Dr. Henry Morris III. The 12 days of 29 Creation presentations kept Dr. Morris quite busy!

The well-known Vero Beach Church of God hosted a Saturday seminar, and both Hobe Sound College and Academy and the Community Christian Academy had Dr. Morris lecture to their science classes as well as the combined chapel times.

Dr. Morris spoke at the Sunday services of the Family Worship Center in Indiantown, Calvary Chapel New Life in Christ in Palm City, and the Community Christian Church in Stuart. He also gave

presentations for two homeschool groups, and various mid-week presentations at the First Baptist Church of Stuart, Stuart Alliance Church, the Hobe Sound Church, and two home Bible study groups.

Long-time readers of *Acts & Facts* are aware that Dr. Morris III served as a Senior Pastor prior to coming on the staff of ICR. He is most effective in churches and Christian schools with a unique combination of Bible knowledge and his long exposure to the ICR scientific research. Should you like to have Dr. Morris speak to your church, school, or Christian group, please contact the Events Planning Department at 619/448-0900. Dr. Morris lives and travels from the Dallas, Texas, area. 

## MUSEUM DAY

The Museum of Creation and Earth History will be participating in *Smithsonian* magazine's “Museum Day.” This will be held on Saturday, April 30, 2005, and is part of the magazine's 35th anniversary celebration. Participating museums across the country will be listed in the magazine and each will guarantee free admission on that day. (The Museum of Creation and Earth History has always had free admission.) Tour guides will be available to answer questions and hope that this event will draw people that are unfamiliar with creationism as well as faithful friends of the Museum. For a list of museums that are participating (listed by state), see the following website: [www.smithmagmuseumday.com](http://www.smithmagmuseumday.com). 

## ICRGS 2005

With great anticipation the preparations for the 2005 summer sessions of the ICR Graduate School are in full swing! The summer schedule was published in the February issue of *Acts & Facts* and can also be found on the ICR Graduate School website at [icr.edu](http://icr.edu). Interested students should write or call as soon as possible for further information and application forms. 

## THIS IS A “TAXING” TIME

Pardon the pun. The annual assessment of taxes by our government(s), although relatively recently established in our country, has long been a somewhat disagreeable custom of civilization. Even our Lord Jesus found the subject important enough to comment on when He said: “*Render therefore unto Caesar the things which are Caesar’s; and unto God the things that are God’s*” (Matthew 22:21).

## TRIBUTE MONEY IS NOT OURS!

Now don’t get mad at me. Jesus said that (Matthew 22:21). In fact, the whole concept of “tribute” was initiated by God Himself in the tithe. One tenth of the “firstfruits,” God said, belonged to Him! (Malachi 3:8–10; I Corinthians 16:2; etc.). The Creator God, of course, is the ultimate Owner of all things (Psalm 50:7–12; etc.). We are to be His “stewards” (Luke 12:42; I Corinthians 4:2; etc.) and have been delegated the responsibility to “occupy” until He comes back (Luke 19:13; Matthew 25:14; etc.). Every “good” thing that we have comes from God (James 1:17). That certainly should include our financial resources.

Here’s the principle to remember: although I have “use” of the money, I also have certain “obligations” for the money. I may have “freedom” to do with the money whatever I wish, but I may suffer consequences and loss of blessings if I choose to ignore the responsibilities to “pay” my “tribute to whom tribute is due” (Romans 13:7).

## INVESTMENT CHOICES ARE OURS TO MAKE

Ah, but we do have freedom to “invest.” God rewarded those who made wise investments with the “pounds” and “talents” they received from Him (Matthew 25; Luke 19). The “tithe” belongs to the Lord—and that should be deposited in the Bible-preaching church in which we fellowship. Our “gifts” and “offerings” may be deposited in Kingdom “investments” that will reap eternal “dividends” in the ages to come. What are you investing in?

ICR requests that you consider an investment in our ministry which confronts the godless worldview of evolutionary naturalism robbing the minds and wrecking the faith of so many in our day. “Investing” with us in this challenging work may yield a great return.

Dr. Henry Morris III, ICR Executive Vice President for Strategic Ministries.

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