

# Acts & Facts

INSTITUTE FOR  
CREATION RESEARCH

# Facts Facts

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## ICR RADIO ADVENTURE JONATHAN PARK AND THE MYSTERY OF THE HIDDEN CAVE

Jonathan Park, young but full of questions about dinosaurs and his newfound Christian faith, finds the adventure of a lifetime. Rising flood waters force him and his father into a hidden cave where they find danger and intrigue, along with an amazing dinosaur fossil. Through it all, creation truth and Christian principles come shining through.



Based on the popular book of the same title by ICR's Pat and Sandy Roy, this high-intensity radio drama admirably achieves its goal of packaging the Biblical doctrine of creation in a winsome way, thereby encouraging believers and reaching out to those who have never heard.

In its two 30-minute segments scheduled for release on Memorial Day weekend, the program covers how dinosaurs fit in the Bible, the geological significance of the Flood of Noah's day, evidence for creation and the necessity of creation in the doctrine of salvation. The format may be a dramatic adventure, but

it doesn't compromise the truth.

The program reflects the desire of ICR's president, Dr. John Morris, to take the timeless truth of creation to a generation who has come to demand fast-paced and even entertaining communication techniques. It may be true that other methods worked well in the past, and may still work better with those who will listen, but the fact remains that today's youngsters are harder to reach than ever. The legitimate tool of dramatic adventure is available. Why not take advantage of it? Let's use



adventure to teach truth and not just abandon it to those who use it to teach a lie.

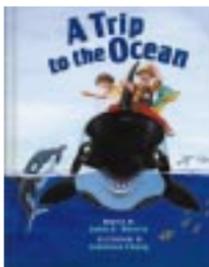
Christian radio stations worldwide have enthusiastically received news of the Jonathan Park Adventure. Early indica-



tions are that it may be the most listened to ICR radio program ever. It follows on the heels of the remarkably successful video series from ICR, “Marty’s Fossil Adventure” and “Marty and the Last Dinosaur.” Just as they were embraced by adults as well as children, we expect the radio program likewise to be a family favorite.

The desire to use adventure to teach creation was first expressed by ICR’s Dr. Richard Bliss, who produced two effective teaching books, *Voyage to the Stars* and *Voyage to the Planets*, before he suddenly passed away in 1994. In them enterprising young science students explored the universe with a Christian astronomer learning aspects of God’s amazing creation along the way.

This effort was followed by the “Tracker John” series of education tools for young children. A faltering step, *What Really Happened to the Dinosaurs?* was salvaged when rewritten by Dr. Morris and Ken Ham. Since then Dr. Morris has added *Daddy, Is there Really a God?* and *Noah’s*

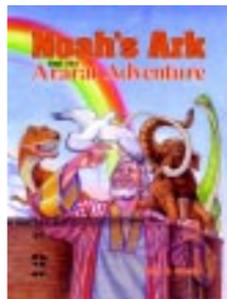


*New!*

*Ark: Noah’s Flood; Lots of Water, Lots of Mud*, all beautifully illustrated. And now the fourth in the series, *A Trip to the Ocean* is available. Describing a visit to the ocean by Tracker John and friends, it teaches the amazing power of God in creation, the source of the tides and waves, life in the deep ocean, Jonah and the whale, and how being a creationist makes one a better scientist. It concludes with Jesus’ special love for fishermen, and His continuing invitation for young people to follow Him and become fishers of men.

ICR colleague Paul Thompson, has written four adventure-packed books about ICR scientists for junior high students. One is about Dr. Steve Austin at Mount St. Helens and another about Dr. John Morris on Mount Ararat. The others tell of astronaut Jim Irwin’s trip to the moon and of Dr. Ben Aaron (ICR trustee) and how he saved President Reagan’s life after the assassination attempt.

Speaking of Noah’s Ark, Dr. John Morris’ exciting book, *Noah’s Ark and the Ararat Adventure*, electrifies both young people and their parents. It’s not a “dramatic” adventure, but real-life adventure



## Acts & Facts

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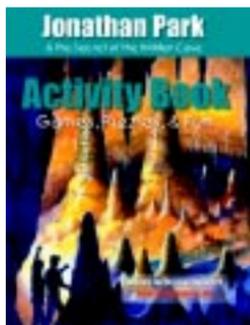
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with some very dramatic episodes.

All of these products are available from the Institute for Creation Research as described in the enclosed flyer. All of them and others will soon join “Jonathan Park” on the [www/ICR.adventures.org](http://www/ICR.adventures.org) web site. Readers of *Acts & Facts* are encouraged to use these powerful tools to reach young people.

Readers are especially encouraged to check with their local radio stations to see if “Jonathan Park” is scheduled. If not, quickly contact ICR for a demonstration CD, then personally suggest to the station manager that the program be scheduled. Many ministry-minded radio stations are carrying the program free of charge, but many Christian stations now have non-Christian owners or require the purchase of airtime. In certain locations, local Christian businesses or individual ICR supporters have personally underwritten these costs. Perhaps something can



still be worked out, but time is short. Users will not be disappointed.

Please join us in prayer that the broadcast will be aired widely and produce lasting fruit. Pray that youngsters everywhere will accept the logical truth of creation before the school systems and the media fully cloud their thinking with evolutionary untruths. We feel that *Jonathan Park and the Mystery of the Hidden Cave* takes a giant stride in that direction. ☸



“It’s here! “Jonathan Park and the Secret of the Hidden Cave” debuts at the end of this month. Call your local radio station manager for exact dates and times. And there’s still time to call, your local station to air the broadcast. We are offering a special Jonathan Park packet containing an audio CD and cassette of the broadcast, plus a Jonathan Park book for \$18.95 (retail \$23.95). Order now and receive a free Jonathan Park Activity Book. Contact Customer Service to order. Don’t forget to check out our website at [www.icradventures.org](http://www.icradventures.org) to get to know the characters in the production, or call our Jonathan Park preview line at 619-448-8198.

May on “Science, Scripture, & Salvation”:

- | <b>Weekend of:</b> | <b>Title/Topic:</b>  |
|--------------------|--|
| <b>May 6</b>       | <b>“Sediments &amp; the Flood”</b><br>Evolutionists claim sedimentary rock formed over millions of years. Creationists believe these layers were laid down during the great catastrophe of Noah’s Flood. What do the rocks tell us? Tune in! |
| <b>May 13</b>      | <b>“How Fossils Form”</b><br>Evolutionists claim it took a long time for fossils to form, while creationists believe fossils were formed rapidly during Noah’s Flood. Which side does the fossil record support? Listen and learn!           |
| <b>May 20</b>      | <b>“Dinosaur Graveyards”</b><br>Extensive dinosaur graveyards exist throughout the world. Many sites reveal the dinosaurs were entombed in sediment laid down by water. Does this provide evidence for Noah’s Flood?                         |
| <b>May 27</b>      | <b>“How Limestone Caves Form”</b><br>Some of the most spectacular sights in creation are found underground in limestone caves. Did it really take millions of years for these caves to form as evolutionists claim? ☸                        |



## GENETIC MAPPING OF THE BULLDOG GENE

Last month we reported the research projects that ICR colleague Dr. Andre Eggen of INRA (Institute Nationale de la Agrinominque of France) is presently undertaking. Andre is a creation scientist who is working with gene solutions to agricultural problems, especially the search for the gene for achondroplasia in Holstein cattle. This genetic disorder caused considerable concern for breeders with prize bulls.

The Bulldog (BD) lethal genetic defect, responsible for a form of bovine achondroplasia, induces a reduced growth of head and leg bones. The existence of this abnormality has been known for many years at a very low frequency in different breeds. In September 1999, several abnormal calves were reported amongst the progeny of Igale, a well-known Holstein bull owned by OGER. Several dozens of cases were observed and clearly demonstrated that Igale was a BD carrier with an estimated frequency of BD calves around 1% of Igale's progeny in France.

As soon as Igale's status was confirmed, OGER and the Animal Genetics Department of INRA launched a research program based on 75 dam-affected calf affected pairs, in order to map the Bulldog gene and then to characterize the gene involved and the causal mutation.

Today INRA and OGER are pleased to announce that with Dr. Eggen's help, the Bulldog gene has been mapped with the help of genetic markers. A DNA test based on flanking markers is presently under development in order to distinguish BD carriers and non-carriers among phenotypically normal Igale progeny. This test will make it possible to quickly eradi-

cate the abnormality from the population.

The analysis with genetic markers shows that Igale received the BD gene from his dam. It is therefore very likely that Mascot, Igale's sire, is BD free. Studies are now oriented towards the identification of the gene involved, the characterization of the mutation, and the analysis of the mode of inheritance.

Dr. Eggen testifies that a belief in creation better enables him to conduct this research, but at the same time his findings give him an ever deepening awareness of the Creator's handiwork and the harmful effects of the curse on creation due to Adam's sin. 🌿

## GRAD SCHOOL GETS FIVE-YEAR EXTENSION OF ACCREDITATION

Two months ago, *Acts & Facts* reported that TRACS (Transnational Association of Christian Schools and Colleges), the creationist Christian accrediting agency, was awarded a five-year renewal of its approval by the federal Department of Education. Not only is this association setting a performance standard (for example with its Reliability/ Validity Study), but it is also growing in number of member schools. Further, TRACS was invited to apply for membership in CHEA (Council for Higher Education Accreditation).

Just this month, the Institute was notified by TRACS that its mid-ten-year report and site visit recommendations were accepted by the commissioners. The comprehensive report examined all aspects of the school's administration and operation. This self-study has prompted the development of a new five-year institutional planning document. The school was also encouraged to develop a distance learning initiative. We expect to have the first graduate-level Internet class available in June 2000. Look in subsequent issues of *Acts & Facts* for more enrollment and prerequisite details. 🌿

## STEWARDSHIP & TRUST SERVICES

*“... if any provide not for his own, and especially for those of his own house, he hath denied the faith, and is worse than an infidel” (I Timothy 5:8).*

I wonder if you have had the same experience with this portion of Scripture that I have had. Do you find it to be the first thing that comes to your mind when you ask yourself, “How can we justify keeping so much for ourselves when there are so many unmet needs around us?” If you are like me, this one reference to my responsibility to provide for my family has enabled me to override the scores of references in Scripture where God reserves to Himself the role of provider. I am afraid I Timothy 5:8 has become, for many in the church, an excuse for excessive accumulation.

In context, the verse has absolutely nothing to do with accumulation—it has everything to do with the Christian taking responsibility for needy widow(s) in his/her family! Paul begins the letter by warning Timothy to be on guard lest false doctrines destroy godly edifying which comes from love “out of a pure heart, and of a good conscience, and of faith unfeigned (sincere)” (I Timothy 1:5). He gives instruction as to godly living for both men and women in chapter 2: enumerates the qualifications for leaders of the church in chapter 3 (taking pains to point out that the evidence of a proper heart is proper conduct); and in chapter 4, warns again about apostasy and prescribes its antidote—faithful teaching by one whose life is wholly and visibly committed to God (vv. 6,11,13,15,16).

Chapter 5:3,4 7,8, and 16 are an exhortation to make a commitment to relieving the needs of a widowed family member (mother, grandmother, aunt, etc.) as a way of properly honoring her (them) and as an opportunity to repay the loved one for her investment in the believer, and as a way of demonstrating sincere faith toward God.

A case can be made that such care may well require financial resources in excess of current income, and that accumulation in anticipation of this need is justified. I would agree—more importantly, the Lord would agree (II Corinthians 8:14) that reasonable savings are a part of stewardship, but let’s keep in mind that unreasonable (excessive) savings bring condemnation (Luke 12:16–21; Proverbs 1:32)—the very condemnation we have been unnecessarily concerned about as we have misapplied I Timothy 5:8.

It seems clear to me that acknowledging the Lord to be our provider, and clearly demonstrating to Him that we have yielded that role to its rightful owner through a conscious effort to not overaccumulate, is a very important part of our testimony of “love out of a pure heart, and of a good conscience, and of faith unfeigned.”

A by-product of that testimony will be loved ones cared for; needs met during unemployment, disability and illness relieved; missionaries sent; churches planted; the Great Commission fulfilled—all to the glory of God.

## ICR EXPANDS ITS FACILITY

A feeling of excitement runs through the staff here at ICR these days, for construction is proceeding rapidly on the new research laboratory and classroom building adjacent to our present office building. The “tilt-up” construction technique is being used, with the concrete walls poured while horizontal, then when all are ready, they are lifted into place. Weeks of work proceeded the rapid placement of the walls. Suddenly, in one amazing day, there was a building.

The size of the building actually shocked us all. It is quite a bit larger than ICR’s present ample facility, with room for the research laboratories, several classrooms, numerous offices, and shipping and warehouse operations.

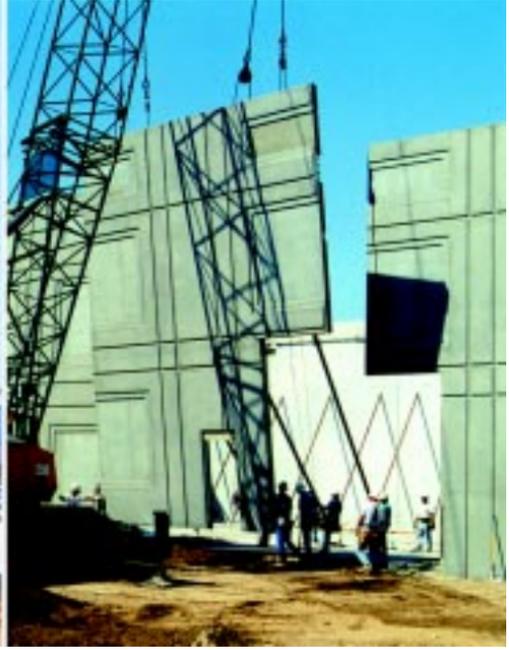
It represents the culmination of years of prayer, planning, and saving. It will bring all ICR operations back together, rather than in rented space in several nearby buildings. The need was real and our Lord has supplied. We give thanks to Him and to all the ICR supporters who have given designated gifts toward this project.

As mentioned in the January *Acts & Facts*, cost overruns had exceeded the building fund. Many concerned ICR “family” members responded with extra gifts to allow the building to be finished not only debt-free, but without dipping into general operating expenses. These gifts have reduced the short-fall to about \$50,000. As is our policy, we simply make this need known, and trust that God will supply.

Please join the ICR staff in praising Him for His abundant blessing, and in anticipating an ever more fruitful ministry as this new building is put into use. 🌱



*Construction in progress (top). The walls started out horizontal (above). The walls are tilted up, hoisted in place by crane (facing page, left). The last piece of wall goes into place (facing right).*



## Meeting Highlights

### Laurel, Mississippi

March 24–26 saw ICR scientists Frank Sherwin and John Morris at a delightful “Case for Creation” seminar in this sparkling Mississippi community. Nearly 500 students and 400 adults packed the auditorium of the Audubon Drive Bible Church to hear details of creation thinking coupled with its relevance in church, family, and nation.

On Sunday and Monday following the seminar, Morris and Sherwin visited the nearby Pensicola Christian College campus, encouraging the faculty in their recently formed biology major, fully creationist in all respects, with Sherwin speaking in several classes and Morris visiting his oldest daughter, a sophomore student there.

### San Fernando Valley, California

A delightful, one-day seminar was held at the Church at Rocky Peak in the Los Angeles suburb of Chatsworth on March 17, with school assemblies throughout the day and the adult seminar in the evening.

Joining ICR’s President, Dr. John Morris, was his brother, Dr. Henry Morris III. “Dr. H,” who has been pastor, apologetics professor, and successful businessman, frequently speaks for ICR. His lecture centered on Biblical relevance issues, while “Dr. J” spoke on the scientific.

The seminar was well attended, with 2,000 students and 500 adults. A great deal of discussion was generated by “Dr. H’s” insistence that Christians need to fully embrace the creation doctrine in order to have a consistent Christian message.

On a related note, ICR has asked “Dr. H” to evaluate its ongoing operations from a business perspective, to identify ways to improve efficiency and service. Please pray for wisdom and blessing. 🙏