

by John D. Morris


With pleasure and great anticipation ICR offers its constituents a new study tour. As with our previous study tours, it visits areas of profound geologic interest and beauty.

And, as with the others, it visits areas of ICR field research. Sites visited include those that date from before the Flood, others that mark its onset and maximum, and others that record a post-Flood Ice Age, thus spanning *all* time periods.

It all starts in the mountains of Nevada where spectacular exposures of Flood rock lie deformed by violent post-Flood tectonic activity. It journeys to nearby Death Valley where huge blocks of pre-Flood rock were rafted as “the fountains of the great deep” were broken up. Next, it climbs into the High Sierra Mountains, then northward through Flood strata, to the Mammoth

Lake region, where extensive volcanism can be seen; then, over the Tioga pass into Yosemite, where Flood-generated granites are carved by glacial flow.

Each of these areas are under scientific investigation by ICR scientists, the RATE (Radioisotopes and the Age of The Earth) initiative studied rocks from Mammoth and Yosemite. The new FAST (Flood Activated Sedimentation and Tectonics) project will continue investigations in Death Valley and central California. Tour participants will catch the vision for this important creation research as they see it conducted up close.

Dates for the tour are from September 16–23. The limited space for this new tour will certainly fill quickly, so respond promptly. Cost has been set at \$1995.00 and will include accommodations and a few special meals. 

## A Way to Have a Creation Ministry

by John D. Morris


In ICR's early days, and even when the fledgling creation movement was just getting started, the few credentialed scientists who believed in creation were much in demand. Their faithful efforts brought the creation message to many venues, from university to church, from technical to lay. And God has blessed with a thriving trend, with abundant support from scientists and millions of adherents. Working together, we are impacting the culture.

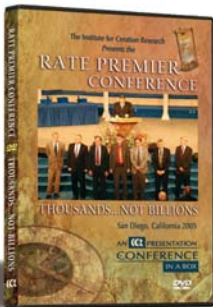
Creation advocates sometimes ask how they can best promote creation in their church or community. Often the individual does not have a background which would identify him as an expert, but has gained enough knowledge to have something to say. And creation has touched their hearts in a way which compels them to tell others. What can they do?

In recent years several books by ICR scientists and other creationist authors have included teaching helps to enable others to teach the same material more



easily. Also, many lectures and documentaries have been produced in VHS/DVD for use in various forums. And now there's a new tool.

The recent historic RATE Conference held in San Diego was videotaped and is available on DVD. It is appropriately titled, *RATE Premier Conference*, the first of a new "Conference in a Box" series. It has been packaged for churches, Sunday schools, Bible studies, Christian schools, and any other groups interested in cutting-edge creation science. The DVD menu is authored to allow viewers to watch the conference in its entirety, one or two presentations at a time, or in any other format desired. It can be adapted to any group's schedule. ICR suggests that the program be hosted by one who is familiar with the main points of this RATE research. To better familiarize hosts with the research, we recommend a thorough review of this conference on DVD along with our *Thousands . . . Not Billions* resources (the DVD and book).

Remember, radioisotope dating was identified as the most effective weapon in the evolution arsenal. With these research results we can launch a frontal assault on an enemy stronghold. Let me encourage you to arm yourself with the tools for victory. With God's help, let's impact the world. 



"Conference in a Box"

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by Bill Hoesch

The Yosemite/Death Valley region is the focus of a new bus tour for this September; but it is also increasingly a focus of creation research. Those familiar with ICR know that tours and research have enjoyed a kind of symbiotic relationship, where one feeds off the other. This tour is no exception.

A traverse of the region from Las Vegas to San Francisco is a traverse across the leading edge of the North American continent. In the rocks of this region is a record of extreme compression, extension, and shearing that remind us the Genesis Flood was more than a hydraulic upheaval; it was a tectonic one as well. The record of volcanism, granite-producing plutonism, and extreme sediment dispersal testifies of processes that are no longer active today. With the recent (post-Flood) uplift of the Sierras, a climate change from glacier advance—to glacier retreat—to desertification, and the establishment of a diverse fauna and flora, we are presented with a landscape that is famous the world over and includes two national parks. Both ongoing creation research, and research projects which are just beginning, are focused on the region. The following is a brief outline of only some of this research.

Large-scale movements in the earth, (including crumpled and faulted crustal rocks, and whole mountain ranges that have slid or shifted), and large igneous provinces, are the domain of “tectonics.” The rocks of this region bear the marks of such convulsions like few places on Earth. It is the research interest of geophysicist Dr. John Baumgardner to relate field-scale observations in the Yosemite/Death Valley region to large-scale catastrophic plate movements that accompanied the Flood.

The volume of granite that comprises the California magmatic arc (of which the Sierra Nevada Batholith is the most prominent part) is a staggering 0.7 million cubic kilometers. Granite traditionally has been viewed as a rock type that forms over vast spans of time from molten material and cooled slowly in magma chambers deep in the earth’s crust. Dr. Andrew Snelling calls attention to new data in the form of polonium radiohalos, and observations from the field, which challenge conventional thinking regarding the time needed for granite formation. There is no scientific reason to suppose the Sierra Nevada granites could not have formed in a few thousand years.

Glacier-carved Yosemite Valley and the extraordinary preservation of tills, moraines, and striations left by glaciers of the eastern Sierra, point to a recent “Ice Age.” The duration of this age and its cause have been of long-standing interest to Dr. Larry Vardiman, who has written much on the subject. The rapid onset of what was primarily a singular Ice Age, driven by cooling ocean waters in the aftermath of the Flood, is a model with great evidential support.

The limestone bed documented by Dr. Steve Austin in Grand Canyon to contain billions of fossil nautiloids also extends into the Las Vegas region where it is exposed in several mountain ranges. The lime silt particles that comprise this bed (today hardened into limestone), reveal an origin by underwater debris flow with a fluid dynamic similar to that of a pyroclastic ash flow. Field studies in southern Nevada combined with new sedimentological models, point powerfully to a Flood origin. Another of Dr. Austin’s interests is the origin of the exotic terrains that make up western North America. Experts are in agreement that these rocks originated in a radical way as tectonically-driven “micro-continents” that collided and

assembled onto the western continental margin. Evidence suggests a violent collision, however; one that is also consistent with the Flood catastrophe.

“Methuselah” is a bristlecone pine from the White Mountains of California with a tree-ring date of 4767 years. It is reputed to be the oldest living organism on Earth. Tree-rings from ancient living trees like Methuselah and those of standing-dead trees and fallen trees have been correlated and assembled into a chronology suggestive of almost 9000 years. It is the research interest of biologist Dr. Ken Cumming to identify assumptions and interpretive liberties taken in the construction of this proposed chronology. With no violence to the data, is it possible to reinterpret this record in a Biblical, young-earth timescale?

The eastern flank of the Sierras contains a record of post-Flood explosive volcanism that shook the western U.S. with a fury exceeding that of any tectonic event in recorded history. Yet more extraordinary than this is the record of explosive volcanoes that originated from the California magmatic arc, of which the Sierra Nevada Batholith is only one part. This was probably the source for the voluminous ash deposits responsible for burying so much of the dinosaur record in the western interior. This joins so much of the other research in documenting aspects of the Flood-catastrophe that have perhaps gone under-appreciated. Geologist Bill Hoesch is pursuing this study.

The region is ripe for creation research. If you have an interest in these subjects, or if you have an interest in RATE or FAST research projects in general, you should consider attending the field tour for this September. We also invite your participation via prayer, that our research would more fully disclose the true natural history of this region—to the glory of God! 🙏

## Gene Team Plans Research

About a dozen members of the GENE group met during the first week in January to discuss progress on the genetics research at ICR and to plan the four main GENE projects: (1) The Genetic Theory Project, (2) The Bioinformatics Project, (3) The Mitochondria Project, and (4) The Human Genetic History Project.



The Genetic Theory Project reported that a computer simulation program has been developed that simulates mutation accumulation and permits testing of both evolutionary and creationist assumptions. It is currently undergoing verification and validation. This new program will likely become an important tool in debunking conventional evolutionary theory. Plans were also formulated for the laboratory studies and detailed DNA analysis for the other three research projects during 2006.

During the GENE meeting a large donation in the year-end giving was received for general research at ICR which brought the total research funds available to over \$400,000. These funds will be distributed among the GENE, FAST, EPIPHANY, RATE II, and COSMOS projects. It is prayerfully anticipated that all projects will have sufficient support to perform most of the planned activities during 2006, including an installation of an updated biology lab at ICR for preparing DNA samples for analysis. Thanks to our supporters and praise to the Lord! Questions may be directed to Dr. Larry Vardiman at [Lvardiman@icr.edu](mailto:Lvardiman@icr.edu) or 619/448-0900. 🙏



## “Ear Ye, Ear Ye”

As the story goes, a medical doctor asked his child, “Didn’t you register the alternate phases of rarefaction and condensation of my vocal cord emissions impacting your tympanic membrane?” “Dad,” the child sighs, “why don’t you just ask if I heard you?” Hearing is an incredible process of turning the slightest sound wave, traveling at 770 m.p.h. (344 m/s), into a sensation that our brain can process and then react to.


Creative design and organization is seen throughout the hearing process, starting with our eardrum that functions as a resonator. The faintest sound people can hear is due to the eardrum moving a mere one tenth the diameter of a hydrogen atom. The eardrum’s movement is transmitted by three of the smallest bones in our body to specially designed lymphs (fluids) in the amazing cochlea. Vibrations from the ear bones (ossicles)

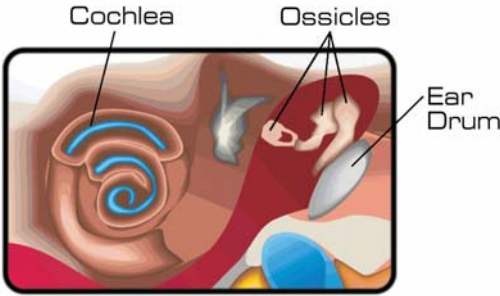
are sent through the fluids which are then transmitted into nerve impulses in the true organ of hearing, the organ of Corti. The impulses proceed through the vestibulo-cochlear nerve to the brain for interpretation.

The evidence for a “clearly seen” (or in this case, heard) creation is forcefully found in the innermost workings of our ear. Research has revealed incredible features of the auditory and vestibular sensory systems. There are ultra-tiny, braided

structures extending from a hair cell to an abutting taller sensory cell (stereocilia) called the tip link.<sup>1</sup> All these cells are submerged in the above-mentioned lymph. Through detailed interactions of elastic elements and gating springs, the tip line (the braided portion of the tip link) opens ion channels in the taller stereocilium. This happens when the tip line is pulled as the cells move—like wheat stalks in the wind—in response to sound. Various ions are now allowed to rapidly enter the cell and contribute to membrane depolarization, part of the hearing process. “There is still considerable uncertainty about subsequent events”<sup>2</sup> but this detailed process may also require a special molecular motor embedded in the stereocilium membrane. The tiny motor is connected to the tip line and it moves the entire ion channel down and up the cell membrane to close the channel. In previous ICR articles, these amazing molecular machines were discussed (*Acts & Facts*, April 2004) and “are still not fully understood.”<sup>3</sup>

Whether it’s hearing thundering ocean surf, Chopin’s emotional nocturnes, or “Lunch is ready!” there are aspects of this process that remain a deep mystery. Detailed research that will one day possibly answer these questions will have no Darwinian foundation. “*He who hath ears to hear, let him hear . . .*” the case for creation!

1. <http://www.molbiolcell.org/content/vol12/issue5/cover.shtml>.
2. Ganong, *Review of Medical Physiology*, McGraw Hill, 2003, p. 178.
3. [www.nanonet.go.jp/english/maillmag/2005/061b.html](http://www.nanonet.go.jp/english/maillmag/2005/061b.html). 





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

**Weekend of:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Title/Topic:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Mar. 4 The Gift of Trees**

In most places trees are a part of everyday life. We enjoy their shade in the summer, and rely heavily on the products they supply. Please join us to hear about the wonderful gift of trees!

**Mar. 11 Design and Purpose of Other Planets**

There are other planets in our solar system beside the one that we call “home.” While the *earth* was perfectly designed by our Creator to sustain life, what purpose do the *other* planets serve? Listen in to learn about the function of the other planets!

**Mar. 18 Through the Eyes of Creation Scientists**

Many of us appreciate God’s wondrous creation, but those in the scientific field get a deeper look at *how* God’s world operates. So why do evolutionary and creation scientists that see the same data, get totally different conclusions? Tune in to hear creation scientists answer these questions!

**Mar. 25 Evolutionary View of Life**

Nothing is more precious than life. Yet, with evolution, life is a battle of the fittest: the strong survive; the weak die. Taken to an extreme this has resulted in terrible atrocities including abortion and euthanasia. Join us as we discuss the evolutionary view of life!

If you would like to find out where you can hear these and other ICR radio programs, please email [radio@icr.org](mailto:radio@icr.org) with your name and address and we will be happy to send you a radio station listing for your state. If our programs are not aired in your area, we would be glad to send you a free demo packet for you to take to your local Christian station! ☘

## Dr. Morris III at FBC Dallas

The great First Baptist Church of downtown Dallas opened its historic pulpit to ICR’s Dr. Henry Morris III for a four-week series in January entitled, “A Creationist Worldview.” Dr. Morris is a member of First Baptist, as is long-time ICR board member, Jack Brady. The series was broadcast over the Criswell communication network (KCBI) and is available on the church’s website, [www.firstdallas.org](http://www.firstdallas.org).

The large crowds responded enthusiastically to each of the presentations, snapping up the PowerPoint notes and lingering long after the close of the services to ask questions of Dr. Morris.

The series included “The Invisible Things” covering the six days of creation with a wonderfully exciting exposure of the glory of our Creator. “Adam, Apples, and Angels” dealt with the “Fall” and the “Curse” on the universe, and the awful consequences of rebellion. The third message, “God Was Really Mad!” dealt with the Biblical record of the Flood and insight into the awesome power of God, His holiness, and His mercy. “Intelligent Design and the Dominion Mandate” demonstrated how naturalistic science and the Biblical record are at loggerheads. Is the “Intelligence” of the “Designer” to be mingled with the “randomness” of nature? What science can we trust? Where do the modern technical disciplines fit in God’s Kingdom?

The entire series focused on how the Christian could deal with the issues of these foundational doctrines. If you would like to have Dr. Morris III speak to your church or community, please contact an ICR event planner at 619/448-0900. ☘



## A Donor's Perspective

*"... neither will I offer burnt offerings unto the LORD my God of that which doth cost me nothing" (II Samuel 24:24).*

ICR recently received its largest single gift from an individual. His gracious comments need to be shared with all of our donors.

May God continue to bless the wonderful work that you are doing to encourage other believers and strengthen their faith.

I believe ICR is at the focal point of the spiritual battle in today's world; not only the battle raging between the church and the world, but the spiritual battle within the evangelical church today. Will the literal interpretation of the Bible as God's Word reign as the supreme revelation of Truth (with all human logic, emotions, and experiences as secondary evidence), or will it become just one more piece of pleasant but relativistic information subject to human re-interpretation and the whims of the current culture? The mainline protestant churches in America lost this battle at the beginning of the twentieth century (earlier in Europe). This same battle must not be lost by the evangelical churches during the twenty-first.

To me, this is not just an academic or theological point, it is also personal to every believer. Will I submit myself by faith to the teachings of scripture as written, or will my flesh use my thinking or feeling to entice my will into making choices contrary to God's will. For example: by faith, I know that it is God's will for me to give "as God has prospered" me. It may not make sense by modern business theory, but it is Truth. God promises joy in giving, and He is faithful. I am thrilled to be able to share in your ministry by that which God has done this year. It is indeed a miracle of His working that I will share the details with you another time. For now, I can only say, "to God be the glory."

Again, thank you for the opportunity you have given me to participate in your work for the Kingdom of God. I am truly blessed.

ICR is beginning a series of new research projects and is laying the foundation for an expansion of the ministry. We had all felt some timidity at the projected needs—they were and are great. This gracious gift came with such encouragement and keen insight, that we wanted to share it with you.



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donations can be made on-line at [www.icr.org/contribute.html](http://www.icr.org/contribute.html)