

ICR in Peru



From the beginning ICR has had an interest in bringing the truth of creation to those interested whether they are inside or outside the United States. In past years ICR speakers have been to dozens of countries with citizens who tire of the molecules-to-man philosophy and yearn for a model of origins that is Biblical and consistent with the scientific evidence. Even though the physical demands are taxing, we count it a privilege to be messengers of the truth.

On the morning of February 19, ICR zoologist Frank Sherwin was honored to speak before some members of the Peruvian Congress in Lima (at the Retos de la Educación Científica y el Creacionismo). In a PowerPoint format, he submitted the scientific case for non-Biblical creation and the significant flaws in Darwin's descent with modification (macroevolution).

For ninety minutes Frank spoke through an interpreter showing slides and

video clips of the bombardier beetle and Grand Canyon, stressing that a general creation model gives a better explanation for the origin of both. Random genetic mistakes (mutations) cannot begin to describe the biochemical and nervous system design of an insect that rapidly produces timed detonations at the boiling point of water! Nor does uniformitarianism explain the rapidly carved, steep-sided features of Grand Canyon as effectively as the catastrophic model does.

At the end of the presentation, Frank urged the members *not* to follow in the footsteps of American science education—at least when it comes to the issue of origins. He told the surprised audience that American secular science education teachers are not allowed to assign students secular publications that are critical of Darwinism. Teachers that do so are either strictly cautioned or fired.

The last slide of the presentation was composed of three summary points for



the audience's consideration: (1) Peruvian biology students should know the scientific problems with macroevolution; (2) the controversy between macroevolution and the extra-Biblical creation model should be taught; and (3) if public



education (either in Peru or America) means free and open inquiry, then the students should be allowed to decide which of the two origins models they will personally subscribe to.

After Frank spoke, Luciana León Romero, Congressista de la República, addressed the audience for 15 minutes giving a very favorable review of the presentation.

Peruvian science standards are up for review, and the government is more open and tolerant than its American counterparts to extra-Darwinian explanations for the origin of the universe, our solar system, and life on this planet.

The presentation was put together and scheduled by Creous and Elisabeth Ramdath of the Lima branch of Canopy Ministries (James Gardner, president). Mr. Ramdath also scheduled Frank to speak at several universities, churches, and youth camps in Lima and the surrounding area.

ICR is very thankful for the unique opportunity to speak to such a large and influential audience in the Peruvian Congress. We trust the introduction to the general creation model and scientific flaws in macroevolution those attending received might translate to a more tolerant approach to origins than what is found in the United States. 🌐



Communicating Creation

by John D. Morris

Methods by which we can best communicate creation truth continually occupy our thoughts. God has given us a strong body of evidence for creation and the desire to see it impact our lives, churches, and culture. But how to best do so? Should we limit our efforts to universities? Or layman presentations in churches? Or children's workshops? In general, we have decided to do them all, as God provides opportunity. Recognizing that ICR's unique contribution is in scientific research and scholarly debate, and that among creation groups we are best equipped to do this necessary work, we emphasize it, without neglecting the other more popular work.

One very effective method of reaching millions is through mass media. Over the years ICR has had numerous media appearances (some more pleasant than others), and through them all, the word of creation has spread far and wide. Even in hostile interviews, of which there have been many, listeners are made aware that there is another side to the origins issue, and there are many credentialed scientists who hold the scientific evidence for

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Editor: John D. Morris
Co-Editor: Kelly Griffin

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creation far exceeds that which supports evolution. Thus the ranks of creationists swell. Here are some media examples within just the last few weeks.

Beginning with media in ICR's local area, the *San Diego Union-Tribune* ran a feature article about ICR's Museum of Creation and Earth History. The reporter's interest grew after many hours of touring ICR's headquarters and interviews with me and the other scientists. What started as a "hit piece" became a positive statement generating much local interest. A local NBC affiliate did a follow-up interview with Mrs. Cindy Carlson, museum curator.

Over the years the Christian Broadcast Network has run numerous stories about ICR field research at Grand Canyon and Mount St. Helens. These visually stimulating interviews have been very popular. This spring they sent a film crew to learn about our recent research, see the beautiful museum, and let the scientists tell their story. As a result, a number of features should be run in the future.

Last winter BBC in Britain conducted a number of interviews with ICR scientists and ran them on both radio and TV. This generated great interest in the subject of creation, resulting in lengthy coverage. As reported in last month's *Acts & Facts*, but just completed as this was going to press, they interviewed ICR's Dr. Henry Morris III and several evolutionists on the rim of Grand Canyon. It

provided a wonderful opportunity for Dr. Morris to contrast the two views and show creation's superiority.



Pastor Enrique Sanchez in ICR's radio studio recording "De Regresso a Génesis."

The recent National Radio Broadcasters convention in Orlando saw several representatives of ICR attend and showcase the ICR radio programs. During the exposition at the booth they acquainted Christian station operators with "Science, Scripture, & Salvation," the weekly 15 minute broadcast; "Back to Genesis," the one minute daily; and "De Regresso a Génesis," its Spanish version. These programs enjoy wide coverage on hundreds of stations worldwide, yet numerous stations showed interest in adding them to their station programming.

We must keep in mind that the creation/evolution controversy is not just a scientific issue. We feel the scientific evidence strongly favors creation, but the information is to a great extent censored out of the public arena and certainly out of public education. Yet creation thinking is important, relevant to every area of life and society, thus the urgent need to get the word out by any means possible. The issue unfortunately becomes one of propaganda containment and dispersal. Who will reach the impressionable public, especially students?

I can promise you, as long as I am president of ICR we will continue to accept every possible occasion to communicate creation truth. We dare not let any opportunity pass. 🌐



Grand Canyon: One of several locations during recent media interviews.



Differences in Research at ICR

by Larry Vardiman

Some of our supporters have occasionally asked how research done at ICR is different from that done by the conventional scientific community. And, there have been suggestions made as to how we should do our research. In this column I will attempt to express some of our views and approaches toward research.

There are several types of research at ICR. The main categories are Biblical, Literature, Laboratory, Field, Theoretical, and Numerical simulation. At ICR we attempt to exercise all of these approaches as funds are available. In all cases there are costs for salaries, overhead, and library resources. However, some research methods require additional funding for travel and specialized equipment.

Except for the category of Biblical research, these approaches are not much different from conventional science. But, this exception makes all the difference. ICR holds the Bible in such high esteem that we not only begin most of our research with a survey of what it says on a particular subject, we actually use it to provide the primary framework and worldview for our scientific investigations. We are on the right track and have not violated a literal, grammatical understanding of Scripture.

Some of our friends have suggested that if we believe the Bible sufficiently, additional research should not be required. Others have said that the Bible needs verification because some of its statements are so difficult to believe that it needs either validation or modification by the scientific method. So, why and how does ICR conduct its scientific research?

First, ICR doesn't do its research to prove the Bible. We accept the Bible as

the written Word of God. It is reliable and should be our source of authority on all things. It doesn't give a lot of detail about scientific issues, but when it does speak on such topics as the creation of the cosmos, the origin of man, the age of the earth, the Genesis Flood, and the end times, we take it not only seriously, but literally. But, this necessitates that we understand the Bible accurately. So, we are constantly studying to help us to understand what the Bible says.

For example, one of the biggest differences between young-earth creationism and the conventional scientific community is our view on the age of the earth. The conventional wisdom is that the earth and universe are billions of years old. We understand the Bible to say that they are thousands of years old. Surely, there must be some way to reconcile this million-fold difference in age. That was exactly the purpose of the RATE project (Radioisotopes and the Age of The Earth). The RATE project was formulated to ask the question—if the earth is only thousands of years old, why do earth's rocks contain evidence for billions of years of radioactive decay at today's rate of nuclear disintegration? The answer turned out to be that many orders of magnitude higher rates of radioactive decay occurred at some time in earth's past history. Evidence for this process of *accelerated decay* was present in the very same rocks.

Other examples of current, ongoing research at ICR are the GENE and FAST projects. The GENE project is exploring the Darwinian claim that man evolved from lower life forms over millions of years which contradicts the Biblical claim that man was created only a few thousand years ago. Is there evidence in man's DNA which would argue for his recent creation a few thousand years ago? Initial evidence from mutation rates is showing that Darwinian claims are not borne out in the DNA evidence. Also, FAST is exploring the conventional claim

that the crust of the earth was formed by a multitude of regional disturbances over billions of years rather than in a recent, single, catastrophic flood. Geological evidence is being gathered that is expected to show the Biblical claim of a global Flood described in Genesis is a better explanation.

Second, we use the scientific method of hypothesis, experimentation, and conclusion to clarify historical processes, if possible. Science cannot explore historical events directly but can only attempt to reconstruct certain conditions and infer what may have happened in the past. One of the components of the scientific method which is always intimidating is the expression of a hypothesis before the data are collected and analyzed. If the experimentation bears out an hypothesis, then the results have a higher confidence level. However, if experimentation does not bear out the hypothesis, then the researcher must conclude that his hypothesis was wrong and change it. This method is very useful when trying to understand what God reveals in the Bible about His creation. Unfortunately, if we don't ask the right questions, we won't get the right answers.

Finally, ICR does research because some who are sincerely seeking Christ need answers which are not addressed in sufficient detail for them in the Bible. The Bible says that, "faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God" (Romans 10:17). Some seekers, particularly those with a technical mind, will sometimes have questions which cannot be fully answered simply by reading the Bible. ICR attempts to address many of these questions by both Biblical and scientific research. Obviously, salvation depends upon faith, and no one can ever have all of his questions answered to come to salvation. But, we are pleased to assist in some cases to help bring more confidence in the Word of God by answering some of the questions. 



From missionaries in Brazil

Hi! My parents have received the *Days of Praise and Acts & Facts* for as long as I can remember. We are missionaries in Brazil. I have enjoyed lots of things from creation research. We have several books and I have heard different speakers. I remember hearing Dr. Gish speak when I was little. . . . Your ministry has really influenced my life. I plan on being a Biblical archeologist. We had VBS at church and I was in charge of the "creation moment" every day. The kids really liked it.

ICR radio program listener in Peru

I am a frequent listener of the radio program aired in Peru. I encourage you in the Lord to continue broadcasting His precious message to the world. I desire with all my heart that God bless your ministry through the program that you direct.

From the Philippines

My sister and I have been receiving your devotional guides for the past year or so. We just wanted to show you our gratitude by telling you how much it has helped us. 

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or contact Dr. Patricia Nason at
936/564-5469 or e-mail at
pnason@icr.edu





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

Weekend of: **Title/Topic:**

May 5 Global Warming: Whose Fault Is It Anyway?

Of the most talked about environmental issues, global warming is #1. While it’s politically correct for man to be held responsible for the warmer climate, is it a true picture of what’s really happening? Tune in to this interesting discussion!

May 12 Human Sacrifice

From the tiniest unborn to the aged upon his death bed, every person has an eternal soul and is precious to the Creator. Many cultures throughout history, however, have devalued life through human sacrifice. But why? Listen in!

May 19 The Seeing Eye

They can be brown, blue, or green, but whatever the color, without this fascinating organ we would all be in the dark. Is the eye just a by-product of evolution or an ingenious design by a powerful Creator? Join us for this enlightening program!

May 26 The Hearing Ear

Shh! Listen. Did you *hear* that? The ear is a remarkable part of our created body and works continuously—even in our sleep. The complex system that allows us to enjoy the sounds of life really is a gift from God. To learn more, tune in!

To find out where you can hear ICR broadcasts, please email radio@icr.org with your name and address. We will gladly send you a radio station listing for your state. If our programs are not aired in your area, we would be happy to send you a free demo packet for you to take to your local Christian station. 📻

Santa Clarita, California

Jointly serving with Christian/creationists of like perspective brings great joy. Thus it was as ICR’s Dr. John Morris journeyed to the campus of The Master’s College near Los Angeles for a series of lectures over the weekend of February 23–24. The occasion was their annual Creation Science Symposium, started in honor of long-time creation advocate Dr. George Howe, formerly Editor of the Creation Research Society Quarterly and founder of the college’s science department. Now retired, he was present along with the current members of the science and Bible departments. These included, most notably, Drs. Ross Anderson, Dennis England, Joe Francis, and chairman Taylor Jones, each currently involved in creation ministry and research.

The weekend’s schedule began with a Friday chapel presentation of the evidence from Mount St. Helens, much to the amazement of the student body. It concluded with a three hour evening session covering the nature of evolution and how it clashes with the revealed character of God. It also presented numerous evidences for creation, and showed how creation information enhances our understanding of Christ’s Second Coming. A record crowd of about 500 attended.

One young man in attendance had recently been in prison for living out the evolutionary perspective that “might makes right” when a prison guard gave him a copy of the ICR book, *What is Creation Science?* He told how it had changed his thinking, pointed him to Christ, and given him a new view of life. Once again, the Creator shows Himself creative. He can use many methods to accomplish His will in people’s lives, and often uses creation truth. 📻



Angst and Anger

“Rest in the LORD, and wait patiently for Him: fret not thyself because of him who prospereth in his way, because of the man who bringeth wicked devices to pass. Cease from anger, and forsake wrath: fret not thyself in any wise to do evil” (Psalm 37:7–8).

We have all “fretted” about the rise of evil and how different things are now. We feel the impotence of helplessness, the frustration of confusion, and even the anger of “why doesn’t the Lord do something?”

That’s the emotional attitude Psalm 37 is addressing. Our English word “fret” has lost some of its poignancy. The Hebrew word *charah* means to be “hot” or “incensed” or “burning”—just plain mad! Fortunately, the psalmist offers a prescription for the pain.

Five Calming Cures

“Trust in the LORD, and do good” (Psalm 37:3). There are two sides to this cure. One is intellectual—trust (Psalm 118:8–9), the other is practical—do good (Romans 12:21). One is attitude, the other is action. Remember James’ faith and works demand?

“Delight thyself also in the LORD” (Psalm 37:4). The Hebrew verb ‘*anag*’ might well be translated “be pampered.” Let the heavenly Father give us “the desires of our heart.” Jesus promised in Matthew 6:33 to “add” all things if we would seek His kingdom first.

“Commit thy way unto the LORD” (Psalm 37:5). We are told to “roll” or “wallow” (Hebrew, *galal*) in the Lord on our “journey” (Hebrew, *derek*) with Him. See Psalm 119:30–33 as a good Biblical example.

“Rest in the LORD and wait patiently for Him” (Psalm 37:7). First, “rest” (“keep quiet”), and then “wait patiently.” The Hebrew word *chuwl* means “twisting” or “trembling” or “writhing in pain” (Jeremiah 5:22). Our angst and anger can be remedied when we are stunned into silence by the Creator’s awesome majesty (Zechariah 2:13).

“Cease from anger, and forsake wrath” (Psalm 37:8). Finally, let anger literally “sink down,” and then “turn quickly away” from “fury” (Proverbs 29:22; Ephesians 4:26). *The Message* (written for young people) paraphrases it: “Bridle your anger, trash your wrath, cool your pipes—it only makes things worse.”

Often we tend to fight emotionally—especially as we attempt to bring down “every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God” (II Corinthians 10:5). God’s prescriptions will strengthen us to be more successful in our spiritual battles.

