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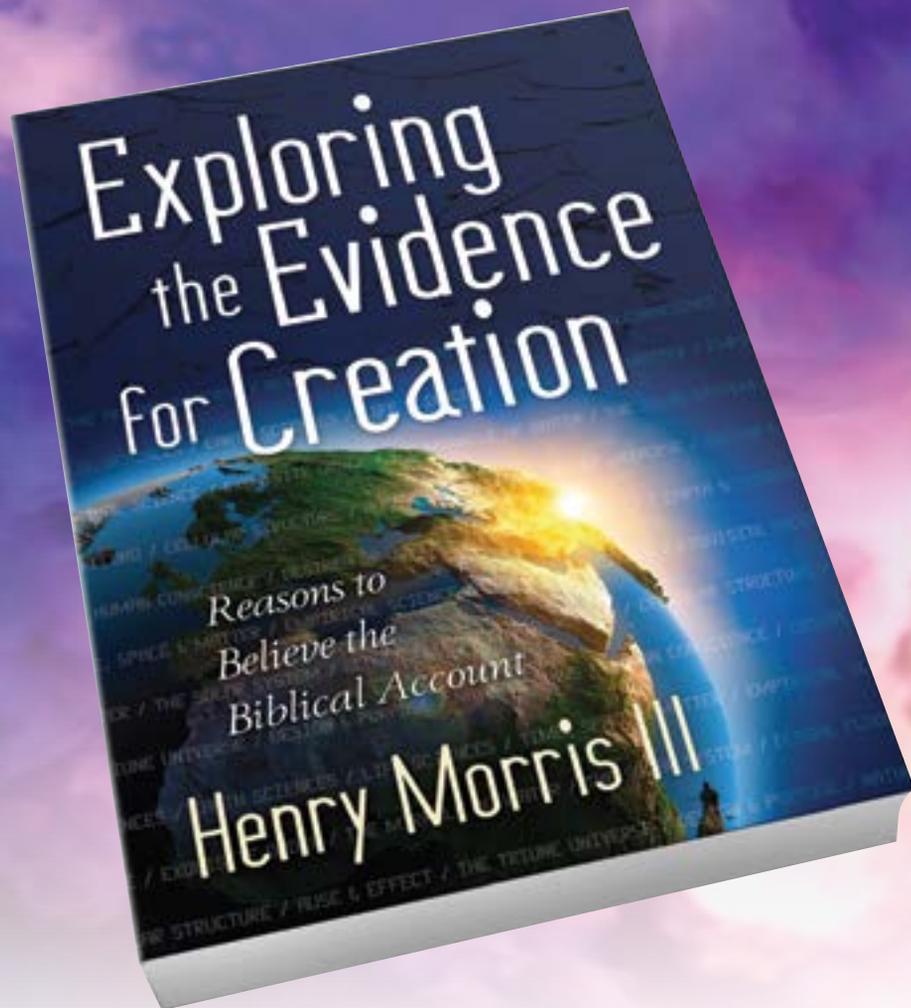
THE
SCIENTIFIC CASE
A G A I N S T
EVOLUTION

Exploring the Evidence for Creation

Reasons to Believe the Biblical Account

By Henry Morris III

Genesis—out of date or ahead of the curve? Is evolutionary theory compatible with the biblical account of creation? What do archaeology, geology, and biology tell us about the origin of life? Are these questions really all that important—and if so, why?



Those who affirm the scriptural record of creation are sometimes accused of ignoring current scientific research. But as you're about to see, the most up-to-date data reveal that the universe could not have created itself and that inanimate objects could not have somehow combined to form living organisms on the earth.

You'll also discover that the philosophy of evolution and the Bible's teaching about creation lead to very different conclusions about what God is like and why your life has meaning and purpose.

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The Enduring Value of Words

When my West Texas great-grandmother decided it was time to “break up housekeeping” and move to an “old folks’ home,” she invited the family to walk through the old homeplace one last time and to take what we wanted—she “no longer needed any of it.”

I was young and not interested in china or antiques, so I foraged through the old cellar that once held Mason jars of pickles and plums. Dusty books remained, and I plopped down on the dirty floor with a stack of worn hardbound volumes, including one on eugenics—whatever that was—chosen primarily because the cover was pretty, but also because the advice was humorous. One page emphasized how important it was to sleep on a hair mattress and “camp out all summer in the woods” to increase chances for pregnancy.

Grandma’s been gone almost 40 years, but I still have those tattered books, among them, a 1924 edition of *A Child’s History of the World*, which introduced me to the Trojan horse story, that absurd 1904 eugenics book that gives me even more laughs today, and my beloved 1913 edition of *Pollyanna* that made “being glad” a worthy endeavor for life. The impact of those dusty tomes continues to this day.

We at ICR recognize the enduring value of the written word. Words have the ability to impact lives far beyond the scope of one lifetime—they can reach others for generations to come. Because Scripture is foundational to all truth and endures forever, we are committed to sharing His message with others, underscoring our dedication to communicating truth and producing creation books centered on the Word of God.

This year, ICR launched a number of vital books. We published *The Book of Beginnings* by Dr. Henry Morris, addressing the tough issues in Genesis. *The 7 Creation Miracles of Christ* by Dr. Brad Forlow presents how each creation miracle recorded in John demonstrated Jesus’ authority over creation.

ICR released a new hardcover and leather-bound Bible—*The Henry Morris Study Bible*. In his booklet *Why Genesis Matters*, Dr. Jason Lisle tells us that every vital Christian doctrine finds its root in the Genesis record. Dr. Jeffrey Tomkins and his contributing colleagues have provided an excellent science resource in *The Design and Complexity of the Cell*. For uplifting spiritual impact, *Days of Praise for Women* offers inspirational readings full of biblical wisdom. *Exploring the Evidence for Creation* utilizes up-to-date scientific data to confirm that the universe could not have created itself.

And this fall, we look forward to presenting you with additional creation resources, including Dr. John Morris’ new book, *The Global Flood: Unlocking Earth’s Geologic History* and Dr. Brad Forlow’s *Biology and the Bible*, books that will further equip you to share the biblical truths of our origins.

“How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!” (Romans 10:15). Words are beautiful feet that carry our message of truth, and we understand that words endure long after we are gone. Keep us in your prayers as we tackle new book publishing projects to spread the “glad tidings of good things” from the Word of God.

Jayme Durant
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

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THE SCIENTIFIC CASE AGAINST EVOLUTION

HENRY M. MORRIS, P.H.D.

Belief in evolution is a remarkable phenomenon. It is a belief passionately defended by the scientific establishment, despite the lack of any observable scientific evidence for macroevolution (evolution from one distinct kind of organism into another). This odd situation is briefly documented here by citing statements from leading evolutionists admitting their lack of proof. These statements inadvertently show that evolution on any significant scale does not occur at present, and never happened in the past, and could never happen at all.

Evolution Is Not Happening Now

First of all, the lack of a case for evolution is clear from the fact that no one has ever seen it happen. If it were a real process, evolution should still be occurring, and there should be many transitional forms that we could observe. What we see instead, of course, is an array of distinct kinds of plants and animals with many varieties *within* each kind, but with very clear and unbridgeable gaps between the kinds. For example, there are many varieties of dogs and many varieties of cats, but no “dats” or “cogs.” Such variation is often called microevolution, and these minor horizontal (or downward) changes occur fairly often, but such changes are not true vertical evolution.

Evolutionary geneticists have often experimented on fruit flies and other rapidly reproducing species to induce mutational changes hoping they would lead to new and better species, but these have all failed to accomplish their goal. No truly new species has

ever been produced, let alone a new basic kind.

Evolutionist Jeffrey Schwartz, professor of anthropology at the University of Pittsburgh, acknowledged:

It was and still is the case that, with the exception of Dobzhansky’s claim about a new species of fruit fly, the formation of a new species, by any mechanism, has never been observed.¹

The scientific method traditionally has required experimental observation and replication. The fact that macroevolution (as distinct from microevolution) has never been observed would seem to exclude it from the domain of true science. Even evolutionist Ernst Mayr, longtime professor of biology at Harvard, who alleged that evolution was a “simple fact,” nevertheless agreed that it was a “historical science” for which “laws and experiments are inappropriate techniques”² by which to explain it. One can never actually *see* evolution in action.

Evolution Never Happened in the Past

Evolutionists commonly answer the above criticism by claiming that evolution goes too slowly for us to see it happening today. They used to claim that the real evidence for evolution was in the fossil record of the past, but the fact is that the billions of known fossils do not include a single unequivocal transitional form with transitional structures in the process of evolving.

Given that evolution, according to Darwin, was in a continual state of motion...

it followed logically that the fossil record should be rife with examples of transitional forms leading from the less to the more evolved.¹

Even those who believe in rapid evolution recognize that a considerable number of generations would be required for one distinct kind to evolve into another more complex kind. There ought, therefore, to be a considerable number of true transitional structures preserved in the fossils—after all, there are billions of *non-transitional* structures there! But (with the exception of a few very doubtful creatures such as the controversial feathered dinosaurs and the alleged walking whales), they are *not* there.

Instead of filling in the gaps in the fossil record with so-called missing links, most paleontologists found themselves facing a situation in which there were only gaps in the fossil record, with no evidence of transformational intermediates between documented fossil species.¹

The entire history of evolution from the evolution of life from non-life to the evolution of vertebrates from invertebrates to the evolution of man from the ape is strikingly devoid of intermediates—the links are all missing in the fossil record, just as they are in the present world.

With respect to the origin of life, researcher Leslie Orgel, after noting that neither proteins nor nucleic acids could have arisen without the other, concluded:

And so, at first glance, one might have to conclude that life could never, in fact,



have originated by chemical means.³

Being committed to total evolution as he was, Orgel could not accept any such conclusion as that. Therefore, he speculated that RNA may have come first, but then he still had to admit that:

The precise events giving rise to the RNA world remain unclear...investigators have proposed many hypotheses, but evidence in favor of each of them is fragmentary at best.³

Translation: "There is no known way by which life could have arisen naturalistically." Unfortunately, two generations of students have been taught that Stanley Miller's famous experiment on a gaseous mixture practically proved the naturalistic origin of life. But not so!

Neither is there any clue as to how the one-celled organisms of the primordial world could have evolved into the vast array of complex multi-celled invertebrates of the Cambrian period. Even dogmatic evolutionist Stephen Gould admitted:

The Cambrian explosion was the most remarkable and puzzling event in the history of life.⁴

Equally puzzling, however, is how some invertebrate creature in the ancient ocean, with all its hard parts on the outside, managed to evolve into the first vertebrate—that is, the first fish—with its hard parts all on the inside.

Yet the transition from spineless invertebrates to the first backboneed fishes is still shrouded in mystery, and many theories abound.⁵

Other gaps are abundant, with no real transitional series anywhere. A very bitter opponent of creation science, paleontologist Niles Eldredge, acknowledged that there is little, if any, evidence of evolutionary transitions in the fossil record. Instead, things remain the same!

It is a simple ineluctable truth that virtually all members of a biota remain basically stable, with minor fluctuations, throughout their durations....⁶

So how do evolutionists arrive at their evolutionary trees from fossils of organisms that didn't change during their durations?

Fossil discoveries can muddle over attempts to construct simple evolutionary trees—fossils from key periods are often not intermediates, but rather hodgepodes of defining features of many different groups....Generally, it seems that major groups are not assembled in a simple linear or progressive manner—new features are often "cut and pasted" on different groups at different times.⁷

As far as ape/human intermediates are concerned, the same is true, although anthropologists have been eagerly searching for them for many years. Many have been proposed, but each has been rejected in turn.

All that paleoanthropologists have to show for more than 100 years of digging are remains from fewer than 2000 of our ancestors. They have used this assortment of jawbones, teeth and fossilized scraps, together with molecular evidence from living species, to piece together a line of human descent going back 5 to 8 million years to the time when humans and chimpanzees diverged from a common ancestor.⁸

Anthropologists supplemented their extremely fragmentary fossil evidence with DNA and other types of molecular genetic evidence from living animals to try to work out an evolutionary scenario that will fit. But this genetic evidence really doesn't help much either because it contradicts fossil evidence. Anthropologist Roger Lewin notes:

The overall effect is that molecular phylogenetics is by no means as straightforward as its pioneers believed....The Byzantine dynamics of genome change has many other consequences for molecular phylogenetics, including the fact that dif-

ferent genes tell different stories.⁹

Summarizing the genetic data from humans, another author concludes, rather pessimistically:

Even with DNA sequence data, we have no direct access to the processes of evolution, so objective reconstruction of the vanished past can be achieved only by creative imagination.¹⁰

Since there is no real scientific evidence that evolution is occurring at present or ever occurred in the past, it is reasonable to conclude that evolution is not a fact of science, as many claim. In fact, it is not even science at all, but an arbitrary system built upon faith in universal naturalism.

These negative evidences against evolution are, at the same time, strong positive evidences for special creation. They are, in fact, specific predictions based on the creation model of origins.

Creationists would obviously predict ubiquitous gaps between created kinds, though with many varieties capable of arising within each kind, in order to enable each basic kind to cope with changing environments without becoming extinct. Creationists also would anticipate that any vertical changes in organized complexity would be downward, since the Creator (by definition) would create things correctly to begin with. Thus, arguments and evidences against evolution are, at the same time, positive evidences for creation. ●

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Adapted from Dr. Morris' article "The Scientific Case Against Evolution: A Summary Part 1" in the December 2000 issue of *Acts & Facts*. This article is available on icr.org.

Dr. Henry M. Morris (1918-2006) was Founder of the Institute for Creation Research.





Bio-Origins Project Update

Hypothesizing Differential Mutation Rates

NATHANIEL T. JEANSON, PH.D.



You might expect that the same gene in different creatures would have the same sequence. Surprisingly, this is not so. As we reported last month,¹ our preliminary protein/DNA comparison data show profound molecular differences across creatures, and these differences fall along traditional Linnaean classification groupings as shown in Figure 1.

	Elephant	Mouse	Fruit Fly
Elephant	100	63	36
Mouse	63	100	32
Fruit Fly	36	32	100

Figure 1. Protein percent identity among diverse species. The protein sequence from a single gene (ATP6) was compared across elephant, mouse, and fruit fly, and the pairwise percent identity is displayed above.

What would you conclude from this result? How did these differences arise? Was this same gene created differently in different creatures? Did these differences arise primarily because of post-creation and post-Flood change? How do we explain these results from a young earth perspective?

One fascinating hypothesis is that these differences arose as a result of different rates of mutation accumulation in different “kinds.” This hypothesis—that the differences stem from different *rates* of origin—is different from the evolutionary explanation that the differences reflect different *times* of origin.

Consider the basics of molecular biology for how this might play out practically: The genome (complete set of genetic instructions) in each creature is unique, but genes (subsets of DNA sequence that are ultimately translated to protein) involved in common cellular processes are shared across diverse creatures. If we assume, for example, that God created the same *ATP6* (one particular gene involved in energy transformation) gene sequence in elephants, mice, and fruit flies, and if we assume that elephants accumulated mutations slowly; mice, slightly faster; and fruit flies, much faster, then after 6,000 years of mutations, mice would

appear (molecularly) different from elephants, and fruit flies would appear even more different from both mammals. Hence, a hierarchy of mutation accumulation rates could produce a hierarchy of molecular differences over time.

Preliminary data on species’ rates of mutation accumulation are consistent with the above hypothesis. A key factor in these rates is the speed at which species reproduce.

One measure of species’ reproduction rates is generation time—the time from conception to sexual maturity. Comparison of the generation times in elephants, mice, and fruit flies shows a hierarchy of time as shown in Figure 2—elephants reproduce slowly, mice more quickly, and fruit flies the fastest. Conversely, by calculating the theoretical number of generations that have passed in each of these species since creation, it is apparent that fruit flies have had many more opportunities to accumulate mutations than either of the mammals (Figure 2).

	Elephant	Mouse	Fruit Fly
Generation Time	14 years ²	8 weeks ²	13 days ³
Number of elapsed generations in 6,000 years	429	39,000	168,577

Figure 2. Generation comparisons among species. The generation times differ dramatically across elephant, mouse, and fruit fly. This leads to dramatic differences in the theoretical number of generations that have passed in 6,000 years.

This very small dataset is consistent with the differential mutation rate hypothesis. However, we have much more data to analyze before we reach any firm conclusions. ●

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Dr. Jeanson is Research Associate and received his Ph.D. in Cell and Developmental Biology from Harvard University.



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■ **OCTOBER 6-7**

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■ **OCTOBER 26-27**

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■ **OCTOBER 28**

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Understanding Why Genesis Matters

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*Coming to Terms with the Data from
Science and Scripture*

■ **FRIDAY AFTERNOON**

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Biblical Literalism and the Creation Account
*The Consequences of Taking Genesis at
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THE FIRST BOOK OF
GENE

CHAPTER 1.

1 Creation of the solar system. 20 Creation
of animal life. 26 Creation of immortal
man. 29 The appointment of food.
IN the beginning God created the heaven
and the earth.

THE GAP THEORY

A Trojan Horse Tragedy

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

2 And the earth was without form, and
void; and darkness was upon the face of
the deep. And the Spirit of God moved
upon the face of the waters.
3 ¶ And God said, Let there be light: and
there was light.

The gap theory is a tragic approach to interpreting Genesis because it opens the gate for a Trojan horse, namely, imagined eons of time that contradict the cosmogony of Genesis.^{1,2} This invites error and confusion about both cosmic and human origins.

Personal identity confusion can lead to a personal identity crisis.

Unsurprisingly, disorientation about origins leads to identity confusion—if you are confused about your historical origin, do you really understand who you are?

We are temporal creatures, living in space and time. A big-picture understanding of who you are *now* necessarily includes a meaningful understanding of where you came from *before now*.

Imagine the frantic crisis of Rosie Weibel, a small girl lost in the big city of Salzburg, Austria, about five years after World War II ended—long before cell phones. To make matters worse, Rosie and her family were refugees, not native Austrians, fleeing from Communist-controlled Croatia. After many frustrated attempts, the war-weary family was trying to emigrate to America in hopes of permanently leaving behind their harsh experiences with German Nazis, Croatian Ustaše, and Russian Communists.³

But they faced a new crisis before they could board the transatlantic airplane: *Little Rosie was missing!* Rosie's father recalls how the family searched for Rosie on foot because they had no other way to travel:

Then down, down, looking every street corner looking for Rosie, no Rosie. Somebody told us, go there, there, so so far, it's far to that way, that way, and that is police station and probably they know something. And we came there, we looked in the door and there was Rosie among them and she right away [cried out], "Mom, what's my name?"³

Rosie knew her name, of course—she heard it from her parents, brothers, and sisters every day. But her family was not with her, and Rosie had *never* been apart from her family before! Dislodged from her home, fleeing to a strange country, and now separated from her family—the only context for processing reality and having a sense of security and belonging—left her overwhelmed.

The Salzburg policemen's many questions further rattled her. Who are you? What is your name and address? Who do you belong to? What street do you live on? What town are you from? Poor Rosie was completely confused and upset, even though the kind policemen gave her candies to calm her fears.³ Rosie's parents always knew the answers to everything important in life, but they weren't there, and the mix of alien surroundings and strangers disoriented her.

It's a terrible thing to be confused about how you fit into the world around you. What is your proper place in the world? Where did you come from? To whom do you belong? Yet, amidst the ubiquitous flood of evolutionary ideas all around us, we, too, can be con-

fused about our own origins. What is the big-picture truth about who we really are, where we came from, and whom we belong to? Although we might feel less frantic than little Rosie, we can still experience disorientation concerning identity if we disconnect from the authoritative family history that Genesis gives us.

God does not want us, His human creatures, to be confused about our personal identities or about our historical family origins. Part of our core identity is in knowing whom we belong to—so anyone alienated from his or her Creator will be terribly confused. Genesis provides personal identity information for each of us: who we are, where we came from, why we are here, as well as who God is, and how and why He created and redeemed us.

The gap theory invites confusion about human origins.

The gap theory, at its core, is an effort to insert a huge amount of time between Genesis 1:1 and 1:2, effectively inventing a verse that doesn't exist in order to harmonize Genesis with the "deep time" postulated by both atheist and deist evolutionists.

The widest rift between science, so-called, and traditional Christianity is the controversy over the age of the earth... [The world] may have been revolving quite a while before Adam ever caught sight of it. There is room for all the geologic ages between the first two verses of the Bible.²

The gap theory attempts to harmonize Scripture and science like this: Creation week is recognized as a true week of six literal days of God's work, followed by one literal day of God's

rest—yet eons of time elapsed before any of the creation week days. In short, the gap theory teaches that Day One was not really Day One.

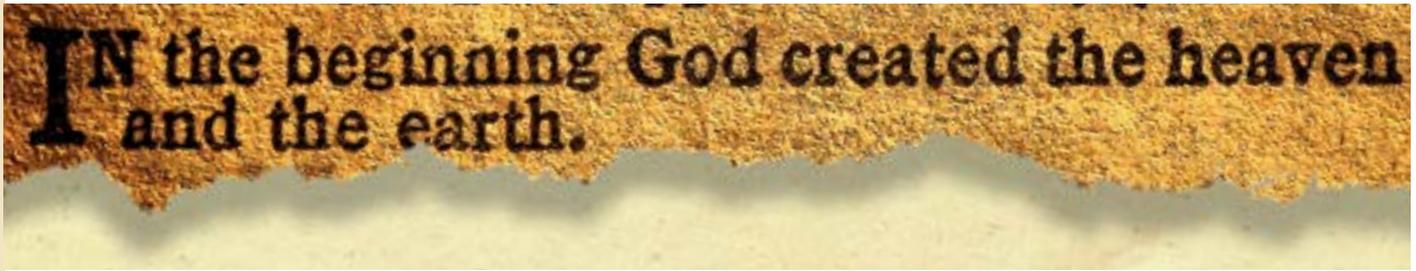
But how does this idea measure up to the text of Scripture? The gap theory uses these assumptions: a) It is okay to have a literal creation week "after" the action described in Genesis 1:1; b) so, creation week does not include Genesis 1:1; c) therefore, God's actions described in Genesis 1:1 may be read as taking countless eons of (pre-creation week) heaven-and-earth time.

This so-called solution to the creation-evolution problem demonstrates a failure to perform due diligence to recognize who is right and who is wrong. Yet gap theory proponents, after embracing deistic old earth notions in their theology, argue that their idea is biblical. But how can gap theory advocates argue from Scripture, especially Genesis 1, that they can legitimately lodge deep time between Genesis 1:1 and 1:2?

First and foremost, they argue that the Hebrew verb *hayah* is evidence that the earth qualitatively changed between the Bible's first and second verses.⁴

Many gap theory advocates also imagine a pre-Adamite world.^{2,5} But what does the Scripture say (and not say) about pre-Adamite "ruin" and "reconstruction"? Is there any legitimate basis for a gap of time between 1:1 and 1:2?

God does not want us, His human creatures, to be confused about our personal identities or about our historical family origins.



Do Genesis and Isaiah texts teach a gap?

Gap theorists believe that the phrase “in the beginning” (as used in Genesis 1:1) refers to the original creation that occurred sometime in the very distant past billions of years ago. The next verse becomes the key to their theory:

And the earth *was* without form, and void. (Genesis 1:2, emphasis added)

Gap theorists would translate this passage as “And the earth *became* without form and void.” They suggest that a formless creation means some kind of ruin, a change from “very good” to “wasted.”⁶ But should Genesis 1:2 say “became” (which denotes a change of condition) instead of “was” (which denotes a condition that continues the same as before)? Or is this verse translated accurately with the verb “was”?

In fact, there is no philological need to replace the English translation verb “was” with “became.” The Hebrew verb *hayah*, translated “was” in Genesis 1:2, is the normal Hebrew verb that means “to be.” This same verb is the etymological root of God’s special name *YHWH* (Yahweh, “He is” or “He who is,” emphasizing God’s *unchanging* being), as is confirmed by Exodus 3:14—“I AM THAT I AM” twice uses the verb *hayah*. God never changed; God can’t change. So why would He pick a form of *hayah* to be His own name, if *hayah* meant “change”?

Likewise, the Hebrew verb *hayah* appears in Genesis 2:18, when it is reported that it was “not good that the man [Adam] *should be* alone.” The English phrase “should be” translates the verb *hayah* (i.e., a simple active infinitive construct form of *hayah*), yet Genesis reports nothing to suggest that Adam’s singleness (i.e., as of Genesis 2:18, before God made Eve) was a “changed” condition for Adam, as if he was *then* alone *after* a previous marriage!

In some cases, a sentence using *hayah* can make sense whether it is translated as a form of “to be” or a form of “to become,” but it still appears that a form of “to be” makes better theological or historical sense in those contexts (e.g., Genesis 13:8; Judges 18:19; 2 Samuel 7:24).

As noted above, gap theory advocates say that the earth described in Genesis 1 clashes with Isaiah’s earth, positing Isaiah 45:18 as a proof text. In effect, they say Isaiah 45:18 clashes with the history reported in Genesis 1:2. This is the question they often pose:

In Isaiah 45:18 we are told that God created the world to *not be formless* (*lō’ tohû*), yet in Genesis 1:2 we are told that the world *was formless* (*tohû*). Likewise, we read in Genesis 1:2 that earth was “void” (*bohû*, meaning “empty,” i.e., empty of inhabitants),

yet in Isaiah 45:18 it says God created the earth “to be inhabited” (a form of *yashab*, meaning “to inhabit”). *How can both verses be true, unless they are describing different times in earth history?*

Answer: These really *are* two different times. Genesis 1:2 describes *Day One*; Isaiah 45:18 describes (the “very good”) *Day Six* or thereafter.

Genesis is a chronological narrative reporting *how* and *when* God created stuff and what God did with it, sequentially, to implement His intentions for creation. Isaiah, however, emphasizes *why* God created stuff and later developed it: Because God wanted an inhabited, orderly world.

Thomas Chalmers’ gap theory, unbiblically and tragically, invited the Trojan horse of deep time (promoted by deists James Hutton and Charles Lyell) inside the Christian camp. In effect, Chalmers tried to invite “the gap” into the book of Genesis—but adding to God’s Word won’t work.¹ Deist opinions are not needed to help us read what God directed Moses to authoritatively report about our origins.

Nothing within Genesis 1:1-2 or Isaiah 45:18 (or Exodus 20:11) justifies inserting a gap of geologic time into the six days of Genesis 1. Additionally, pre-Adamite races are unbiblical fantasies.⁵ The Bible tells us how we got here—its history of origins is perfectly reliable *as is*. ●

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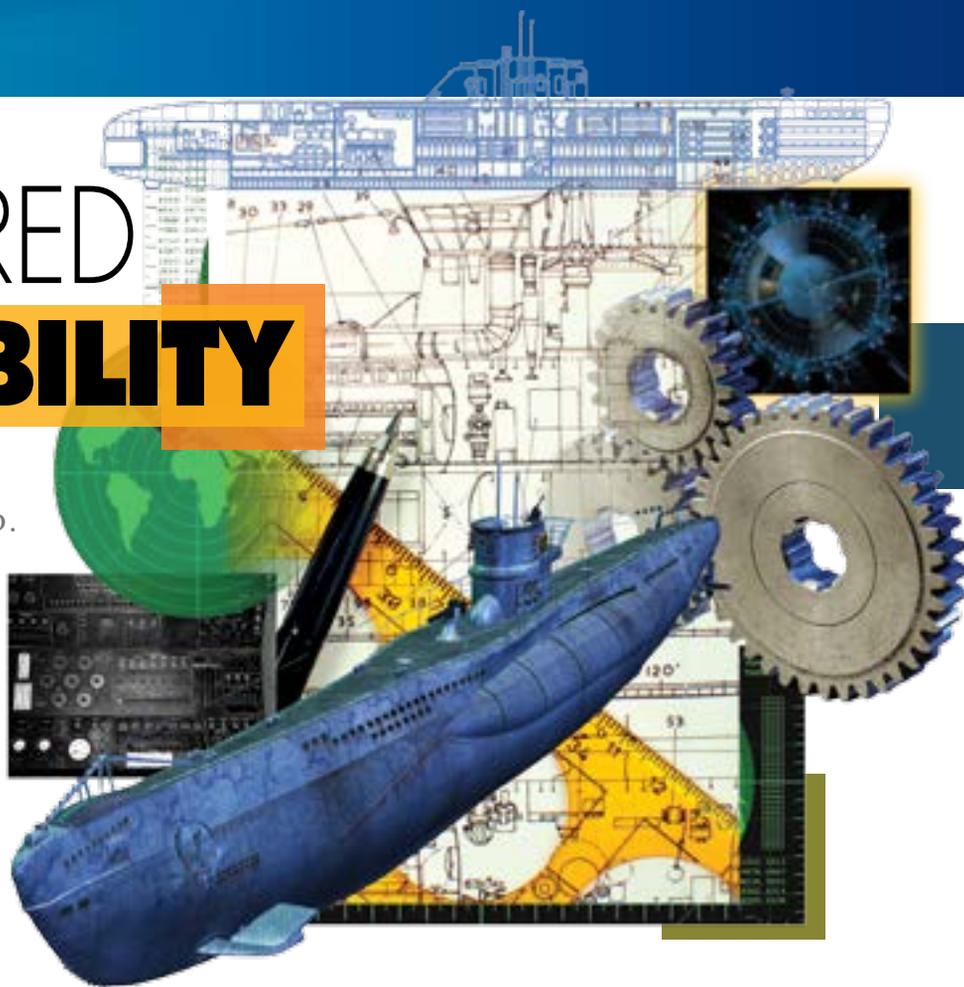
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3. Whiting, R. W. *From Vinkovci to Medina*, unpublished Webel family history, 98; and personal August 2012 interview with Rosie’s brother, Chaplain Robert Webel.
4. The gap theory addresses other Scriptures; however, its logic heavily depends upon the verb “was” (in Genesis 1:2) being changed to “became.” See Daniel, *The Bible’s Seeming Contradictions*, 83-84.
5. Some hold that pre-Adamite creatures populated the earth and were destroyed before Adam’s sin brought God’s judgment of death (Romans 5:12; 8:20-22). For one theistic evolutionist’s old earth interpretation of the Genesis creation story, see W. Demski’s quoted statements in James J. S. Johnson. 2011. Culpable Passivity. *Acts & Facts*. 40 (7): 8-10, regarding pre-Adamite subhuman primates, death before sin, and a miraculous amnesia God supposedly used to cause Adam and Eve to forget “their former animal life.”
6. Gap theorists say that Genesis 1:2 reports events that occurred billions of years *after* “the beginning” (of Genesis 1:1), i.e., after an unrecorded history dominated by pre-Adamite death and suffering.

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ENGINEERED ADAPTABILITY

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



Doctors, lawyers, and engineers. Engineers always seem to take third place in the list of esteemed professions. Exciting television programs feature skilled surgeons or smooth, well-dressed defense attorneys, but engineers are not primetime stars. That's too bad, because they do exciting work, as reflected in one school's motto, "Cool stuff doesn't just make itself."

Perhaps the coolest creations are the self-adjusting inventions, like spacecraft that maintain function even in challenging conditions. Living things also have this remarkable capability, only they do it far better. Could an engineer's use of physics-based principles in design studies also be used to explain how organisms adapt?

What if the widely held notion of ecology-driven adaptation—established long before insights of molecular biology—is fundamentally wrong? What if organisms operate like self-adjusting entities capable of solving a broad range of environmental problems, empowering them to pioneer into new niches?

Design engineers approach the question

of adaptation in organisms as they would address changes in human-designed inventions that self-adjust in fluctuating environments. They ask, "What if engineering principles also explain how organisms adapt?"

Why Use a Design-Centered Analysis of Adaptation?

Design-centered thinking enriches biological comprehension. Many scientists demonstrate unmistakable design parallels between the interconnected parts found in man-made items and those discovered in organisms. Within creatures, discoveries of intricate microscopic machines made of parts like switches, valves, and rotors bolster a scientifically observable and quantifiable case for intelligent design. Since design-centered analysis demonstrates that many of these parts are irreducibly complex, this design-based insight proves to be a powerful reason to reject explanations for complex parts as piece-by-piece amalgamations.

Why stop at comparing parts? Since design-based explanations for the origins of organisms expose the profound foolishness of naturalistic explanations, why not extend de-

sign-based tenets also to adaptation—and then to development? If the core components of any man-made or living adaptable system are irreducibly complex, then consider the implications to the evolutionist's scenario in which adaptable systems must get started by strictly natural processes.

Design-based premises suggest that the power for adaptation has always resided solely in organisms controlled by highly regulated innate mechanisms that operate consistently with engineering design principles.

Five Premises of a Radically New Paradigm for Adaptation

1 **Premise One:** Design-centered thinking is essential to correctly explain all aspects of biological function.

This foundational premise for understanding living things echoes the message of Romans 1:18-23, part of which says, "Because that which may be known of God is manifest in them; for God hath shewed it unto them. For the invisible things of him from the *creation* of the world are clearly seen, being understood by

the things that are *made*” (emphasis added). The Creator’s reality is confirmed to those who see unmistakable parallels between features of human-designed things and those found in living things.



Premise Two: The core components of adaptable organisms are irreducibly complex.

Adaptation of designed entities is maintenance of a specified performance suitable to a range of varying exposures through planned intrinsic problem-solving capabilities. Put simply, the purpose of designed adaptation is to solve problems.

Entities must possess a minimum system to maintain adaptable function, comprised of three well-matched interacting components: 1) an input component to gather data on external conditions; 2) a reference program that defines performance in specific external conditions and has a logic segment to compare input data to the reference; 3) an output feature that executes actions maintaining performance. If any one of these components is removed, the system’s adaptability is lost, i.e., the system is irreducibly complex. These well-matched components are intrinsic to adaptable organisms.



Premise Three: The first purpose for reproducing adaptive variable heritable traits was to solve changing environmental challenges, ultimately, to multiply and fill the environments—*not* to survive.

The Bible is the best place to search for answers. In Genesis 1:22, 26, 28, God commanded, “Be fruitful [divide, differentiate, branch off ¹], multiply, and fill the earth.” The Lord directed His creatures to fill environments—before any death or survival stresses existed. Yet these organisms still needed to adapt to varying exposures on earth. Genesis 1 also revealed that the primordial earth was undergoing day-night cycles, and seasons would commence. The very act of creatures filling an environment changed that environment. Plants and animals needed heritable adaptive programming right from the beginning.

Medical researchers and biomedical engineers treat the environment-organism rela-

tionship as the connection of a problem to its solution. Could problem-solving also be a reason God designed organisms to adapt?

The outworking of human-designed adaptation parallels the biblical reason for adaptation. Failure to adapt leads to loss of specified performance, but not necessarily the destruction of the entity. Conversely, the wholesale destruction of an object has nothing to do with its ongoing adaptation.



Premise Four: The same principles underlying the adaptation to changing environments of human-designed things also apply to organisms.

One hallmark of truly great design is an object’s capability to maintain function in changing conditions—also true for organisms. Organisms possess information-based cellular mechanisms underlying their parts, development, and adaptive abilities.



Premise Five: Pro-resilience complexity is a key component of adaptable systems.

Adaptive traits characterizing resiliency include the ability to resist damage, mitigate loss, or enable quick recovery. Design strategies incorporate these adaptive traits, including brute resistance, passive flexure, and total avoidance.

Resilience encompasses two other characteristics. A resilient entity must be *robust*, maintaining its general characteristics in changing conditions. Additionally, particular internal and external traits of resilient entities must be *plastic*, changing within ranges that are specified to allow adequate problem-solving leeway without completely changing the general characteristics. Finally, resilient entities embody a specific form of complexity.

Multiple parts functioning together for a purpose—the parts must match so precisely that no other parts will work—establishes *specified complexity*. The loss of any single remaining part resulting in the loss of primary function establishes *irreducible complexity*—a kind of specified complexity. Well-matched interacting components confer a range of problem-solving capacities, preserve general char-

acteristics, and maintain function in uncertain conditions. They establish *pro-resilience complexity*—another kind of specified complexity.

The engineering-based insights of resiliency describe organismal adaptation and suggest an origin for this capacity. For example, if an organism’s traits were not robust—and they were only plastic—this might suggest unlimited evolutionary change. If an organism’s traits were not plastic, but only robust, this might suggest *fixity of species*. Pro-resilience complexity identifies living adaptable entities.

Resilience is a design-defined characteristic, meaning that design elements alone are the sole reason traits may not achieve resilience. Thus, traits may *not* achieve resilience because of a total design bust, or because the design was never intended to cover all external conditions and was expected to be overwhelmed at times. Surprisingly, resilience may also be due to parts that are designed to break, like a car’s crumple features or, perhaps, a gecko’s tail.

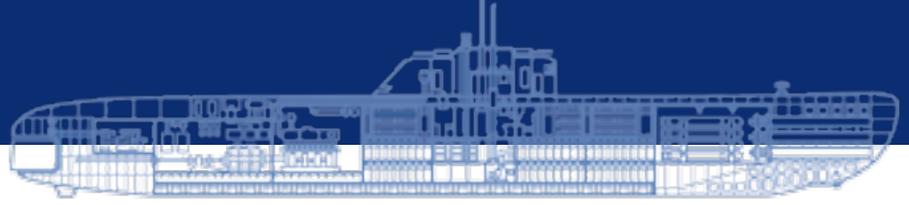
An Engineering Design Project Clarifies Design Principles

Suppose you are the engineer in charge of designing a stealthy shallow-water attack submarine. It is vital to hear other craft, but not to be heard by them. Water acoustics vary with many factors, including temperature and saltness, and the acoustics can change suddenly where rivers empty into the ocean. The submarine will have several propulsion systems, each being the quietest in certain water conditions. It will need to detect very low frequency coded messages from headquarters.

Basically, you need to design something that can rapidly adapt to varying external exposures—a very similar task to the Lord’s work at creation, building into creatures the ability to fill the earth after creation and the Flood.

Where would the engineer start with the submarine?

A water thermometer, salinity sensor, and external microphone are placed on the hull to continuously monitor external conditions and send data. A mechanism to transfer that data to a computer is installed. The engineer pro-



grams a computer to continuously compare the streams of data to predetermined ranges so that when incoming data do not match preset parameters, then the computer sends signals to the propulsion system (and other systems) to make immediate changes. Now, you have designed the submarine to adapt its response to the exposures it detects—the sub is adapting itself to, not being adapted by, its environment.

Ten Basic Design Principles

The construction of the submarine's adaptability features enables you to visualize and comprehend adaptive design principles. Engineers consider ten basic design principles when they approach a new project.

1 Principle One: Designed things are principally self-contained discrete units or entities. A distinct boundary between the entity and its external environment exists. This remains true even when the unit obtains vital resources from its environment, or one body is also a component of an environment to some other body. Boundaries are not lost, and things are never absorbed into a collective.

2 Principle Two: Adaptability requires mechanisms to initially sense exposures that are external to their boundaries. A major research university's robotics text emphasizes this point, saying, "Without sensors, a robot is just a machine. Robots need sensors to deduce what is happening in their world and to be able to react to changing situations."²

3 Principle Three: The environment exists as a temporal space of mindless, impartial, and unconscious conditions. From a design standpoint, good information about specific conditions produces well-designed features that are suitable to or "fitting to" an environment.

4 Principle Four: Since designers focus on suitable solutions to environmental problems, the whole concept of fitness falls into sharp focus. Fitness functionally relates to problem solving and the degree to which a problem is solved (that may

not impact its survival). Fitness will also be generally quantifiable and traceable to design features based on their informational criteria. Unhelpful circularities like "survivors survive" or "fitness is realized in survivors because they are the fittest" don't define fitness.

5 Principle Five: The entity's designed features—not the exposure—define any exposure as favorable, stressful, or fatal. For instance, design features can exploit environmental properties (as submarine design utilizes buoyancy), or design features can fail to withstand environmental properties. Consider two different submarines. The hull strength feature—not external water pressure—determines whether diving a mile under water is favorable or fatal.

Now suppose your submarine and three others need to operate among the latest sound-activated mines. Exactly what these mines are able to detect is unknown, so to avoid detection, each sub employs slightly different combinations of sound-dampening and propulsion systems. Two subs remain undetected by the mines and operate safely for months in that area, but two subs are destroyed.

From the submarine designer's perspective, mines are just another problem in impartial environments. It was the combination of sound dampening and propulsion traits that either succeeded or failed to solve the mine problem, which accurately explains how the remaining subs fit the mined environment.

Why were two subs destroyed? A design failure—a low-frequency antenna was omitted, so it did not receive the headquarters' warning message of mines—illustrating that design principles are more evident at the entity-exposure interface.

6 Principle Six: An adaptive entity must detect environmental signals and initiate its own action; environmental signals really don't operate on an entity. Headquarters was sending a signal in the environment external to the destroyed subs. However, since the sub is a distinct, stand-alone body, environmental signals mean nothing to it unless it has its own detector that is also tuned

to sense the signals and an information center to interpret them.

7 Principle Seven: Any design is a contingent solution with only a probability of solving a problem, but failed solutions are still genuine designs. The sub operators did not know in advance if any of their solutions would solve the mine problem. However, the absence of definitive knowledge of success never negates the fact that solutions are part of the design. Uncertainty of a design's success is never a good reason to jump to a non-design-based conclusion. Transferring success or failure causality through assumptions such as the environment "selected for" or "weeded out" or "sieved through" problems to produce solutions are inadequate explanations; they would be rejected as "magical" from a design perspective.

The remaining design principles deal with establishing cause; they clarify causality.

Engineers design to control the first cause in "cause and effect" situations for their object, so they precisely identify triggers, signals, inducers, or cues. Precision helps eliminate ambiguous thinking that sees environmental exposures as acting on self-adjusting items.

As a designer, you are temporarily assigned to plan a safe handgun for the police. In your design efforts, you will need to build some type of trigger—a specified action-initiating part—into the gun. The gun's trigger is the only trigger that matters to you. It was included as *part of the object* with the purpose of originating action and will be tangibly constructed into the gun.

8 Principle Eight: For any adaptable entity, the real trigger must be designed as an integral, internally regulated part, needed to sense specified external exposures. In addition, it should be the first part to initiate internally specified actions.

Why is this important? To correctly understand causality within designed adaptability, you must identify the true trigger. Is it really possible for an exposure to cause (drive or pressure) an object's action or adaptation?

Some will say that a criminal pointing



his gun at a policeman was the trigger for the policeman firing a bullet. Yet, another will say that the trigger is a tragic event in the criminal's youth that pushed him into a life of crime. These usages of the word "trigger" may not always be figurative—some insist that if a person defines a tragic event as a trigger, then it must be a real trigger. It offers a rationale for the events that follow it. But from a purpose-to-shoot and design perspective, the gun's real trigger—the input component—initiated firing.

Design-based analysis shows that it is not possible for any exposure to skip past a unit's three irreducibly complex components and cause its action.

9 **Principle Nine:** Sensors are the mediators of interactions between an entity and exposures. Sensors are included in the input component for adaptation. A designed object uses receptors and detectors to gather data from exposures that are transmitted inward.

Engineers choose specific exposures and design a sensor applicable to that exposure (e.g., build a thermometer for heat), gradate a scale, and then predetermine a program that causes a range of outputs based on the range of inputs. Thus, it's the unit's combination of specific sensor and internal programming that defines any exposure as a cue or signal.

10 **Principle Ten:** Designs either succeed or fail to solve problems. But environments never succeed or fail because they aren't trying to do anything. In all cases, credit or blame resides with designers, *not* the exposures.

Design Principles Versus the Evolutionary Mechanism

A designer's approach to explain adaptation differs from an evolutionary biologist's approach. The differences are evident when you flip things around and force designers to explain design performance using evolutionary language. How long would NASA's lead engineer keep his job if he explained to the President that the reason for the heart-wrenching loss of space shuttles *Challenger*

and *Columbia* was due to "strong negative selection," while the *Endeavor* was favored by "strong positive selection"? In the world of design, would anyone tolerate mystical explanations like that?

No.

Design-based thinking leads to tangible explanations for performance failures that can be traced back to specific engineering design. Engineers look at the traits of the shuttle, which can be tied to an intelligence-based design failure—which can also be remedied. Evolutionists reject any sort of design process as an explanation for adaptation.

Theoretical Advantages of a Design-Centered Analysis of Adaptation

Design-based approaches could bring focus to adaptation research. Adaptation covers everything from rapid actions maintaining homeostasis, intermediate actions resolving abrupt exposures in a few generations, and generational actions to solve long-term environmental problems. Different highly regulated mechanisms in assorted combinations could be involved in each scenario—but how?

Research describing adaptive processes in organisms reveals preliminary evidence supporting the parallels between human engineering of adaptive items and the self-adjusting organisms. Studies provide examples of three components that make up a self-contained package; they first detect exposures, mediate data, analyze data in a reference/logic program, and then act in some form of gene regulation or through signals sent to other control mechanisms. Every component is complex, necessary, and should not be overlooked.

The principles guiding man-made adaptive systems lead to this hypothesis: Organisms (individuals and progeny) go through space-time with innate adaptive capacity to detect environmental exposures, fail or succeed at problem solving, and then fill niches.

Design-based approaches promote new questions and hypotheses. Is it possible that traits are *not* acquired in populations *in response* to selective pressures? In contrast, is it

possible that traits may already exist in a population for a combination of environmental conditions that, remarkably, have not yet even appeared? And could a segment of the population expressing the fitting trait coexist with the parent population in side-by-side niches without necessitating the death of either? Or could an uninhabited environment simply exist and only become "favorably" exploited after a population of organisms expresses new suitable traits?

Take the usual explanations for trait appearances in blind cave fish. Evolutionists claim that these are "a change driven by the remote cave habitat," and creationists typically assert that "the loss of eyes is attributed to informational loss—not creation—showing the limits of 'selection.'"

What if both were off target? The regression of eyes, loss of body pigment, increase in olfactory sensation, etc., are found not only in blind cave fish, but also crayfish, snails, salamanders, insects, and other creatures. Does not the rapid development of similar traits in a wide range of creatures seem to fit better with the principles of an intentional design to solve problems in cave environments? Cave-friendly features may stem from highly regulated adaptive mechanisms initiated in embryonic development, possibly, by a light-sensitive detector in a developing neurological area of the creature. Finding another realm of nature showing unambiguous evidence of design would be a strong challenge to evolution. Perhaps taking into consideration the engineering school motto is a good starting point, because design principles demonstrate that cool stuff doesn't just make itself. ●

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TREE RING DATING

J O H N D . M O R R I S , P H . D .

Several species of trees live almost indefinitely. The giant sequoia trees of California are known to live over 3,000 years, discerned through tree ring dating. Under normal circumstances, woody trees add one ring per year. A ring typically consists of a light-colored growth portion and a dark-colored portion produced in a stabilization season. However, some trees do not produce annual rings at all, especially those in temperate or tropical regions.

Overlapping and correlating rings have been used to produce “chronologies” of past years. Linear sequences of rings are obtained by cross-matching tree ring patterns from living trees and those from older dead wood. A well-known study involved bristlecone pine trees in California’s White Mountains, but others have employed oak trees in south Germany and pine trees from Northern Ireland. Most chronologies only go back a few centuries, but a few give longer ages than the Bible seems to allow, supposedly up to 10,000 years or so.

Tree rings are more than a record of years. Year-to-year variation in the width of rings records information about the growth conditions in the particular year. Insect infestation clearly manifests itself, as does disease or fire damage. Each of these interrupts the normal growth cycle. Day length, amount of sunshine, water potential, nutrients, age of tree, temperature, rainfall, height above ground, and proximity to a branch all impact tree growth and tree ring production. By assuming the outer ring records the most recent year and that each ring signals one year, a researcher can determine the “date” of a particular ring simply by counting rings.

But how valid is the assumption of one ring per year in a climate where tree-growing conditions are variable? That very assumption is regularly put to the test by research foresters.¹ They investigate how a tree grows, how and when it adds a new ring, effect of nutrients, rainfall, etc., over a range of related conditions.

Hundreds of individual trees

have been observed over multi-year periods. Researchers monitor tree growth by attaching sensitive probes onto and into actively growing trees. Measurements are sometimes taken every fifteen minutes throughout the years of study! These are not mere ring-counting efforts on living and dead trees, but an observation of living trees and how they react to ambient conditions—how and when they make a ring.

It has been found that all trees, even slow-growing ones, respond dynamically to tiny environmental changes, even hourly changes in growing conditions. Scientists have observed that numerous “normal” conditions can produce an extra ring or no ring at all. Weather was fingered as the most “guilty” culprit. Unusual storms with abundant rainfall interspersed with dry periods can produce multiple rings, essentially one per major storm. Thus, the basic assumption of tree ring dating is demonstrably in error. Can we trust the overlapping calibration curves?

As it pertains to Flood model considerations, remember that the centuries immediately following the Flood witnessed the coming of the Ice Age. All trees growing on the continents were recently sprouted, actively growing trees. The still-warm oceans rapidly evaporated seawater, thus providing the raw material for major monsoonal-type storms. Earth was ravaged by frequent and wide-ranging atmospheric disturbances, dumping excessive snowfall in northern regions and rainfall to the south. If ever there was a time when multiple rings could develop in trees, this was it. Those centuries probably produced tree ring growth that was anything but annual.

Thus, far from disproving biblical history, tree ring studies provide supportive and instructive information about true history. ●

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Evolution: It Just Happened

F R A N K S H E R W I N , M . A .

A recent issue of the secular science journal *Nature* includes research by molecular palaeobiologist Kevin Peterson in which he questions the traditional evolutionary tree of mammals, stating it is all wrong.¹ The data Peterson uses are based on a molecule called microRNA (miRNA). This is just one of several kinds of ribonucleic acids that control the expression of genes. Peterson's miRNA interpretation breaks away from the traditional Darwinian view that people are more closely related to cows, dogs, and elephants than to rodents. The article goes on to say:

If it turns out that the traditional mammal tree is right, Peterson won't see that result as a defeat for microRNAs. It would just mean that something odd happened...he says.¹

"Something odd happened"? Imagine if a non-Darwinian scientist stated this in a creation science publication! How did such a bizarre statement ever make it into a journal that allegedly prides itself on its scientific precision? Meanwhile, the *origin* of mammal groups, miRNA notwithstanding, is contentious: "But the exact origins of modern cats, dogs, bears and seals are still controversial."²

An April 2012 University of Wisconsin-Madison press release says that "something happened" regarding the cryptic Cambrian explosion:

The oceans teemed with life 600 million years ago, but the simple, soft-bodied creatures would have been hardly recognizable as the ancestors of nearly all animals on Earth today. Then something happened...a burst of evolution led to a flurry of diversification and increasing complexity, including the expansion of multicellular organisms and the appearance of the first shells and skeletons.³

Creation scientists suggest that if the world suffered a global flood 4,500 years ago, then the multitude of sophisticated ocean bottom-dwelling creatures (including those that are indeed 100-percent fish) found at the base of the Cambrian is to be expected. Evolutionists will have none of that, of course, and are driven to say—with a wave of the hand—only that "something happened," and then proceed to use vague words such as "burst," "flurry," and "appearance."

We find evolutionists are not averse to appealing to miracles to

make their "rock-solid" case for evolution: "In the 50 million years between agnathan and chondrichthian divergence, something mysterious, even miraculous occurred: the adaptive immune system evolved."⁴ "Miraculous"? How did such blatantly unscientific language make it past the editorial review process?

Evolution-based textbooks also use imprecise language: "Sometime, somewhere in the Precambrian era, a major milestone occurred in the evolution of life on earth."⁵

"Sometime"? Evolutionists preach the Precambrian represents more than 85 percent of their "geologic time"! The evolutionists' vague explanations containing comments such as "something happened" and "sometime, somewhere" do not encourage credibility in the science community.

Creationists have respected peer-reviewed journals—such as *Journal of Creation*, *Creation Research Society Quarterly*, and *Answers Research Journal*—that look at the creation as the product of the Creator's work, not chance and extreme time periods. Creationists have published research utilizing scientific methodology rather than ambiguous explanations, including the formidable eight-year RATE (Radioisotopes and the Age of the Earth) project.⁶

Evolutionists have the opportunity to technically address and evaluate the scientific research by the non-Darwinian community. Unfortunately, they do an end-run around the peer review process and write intemperate comments in various blogs and nonscientific publications. This is not how the process of true scientific research operates. ●

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Swimming Upstream

Navigation Systems in Migrating Salmon

BRIAN THOMAS, M.S., AND PHIL GASKILL

Have you ever been lost and longed for a map and compass? God designed people in His image so that we can create navigational aids. But what if you were a salmon that had to swim to a precise spot hundreds of miles away—all without a guide? Fortunately, migrating salmon use at least three navigational tools that work in synchrony and demonstrate their marvelous design.

How do these fish find their way to the *exact same place* of their birth? By the mid-1980s, experiments had shown that salmon detect and remember the unique water chemistry of their origins. Young salmon “have a flexible system for learning olfactory waypoints at appropriate times and places.”¹ When heading downstream to the ocean, they record the water chemistry along the way so that they can later retrace their path in reverse.

Salmon use their extremely precise olfactory senses to zoom in on the exact location of their spawning ground, but they first have to navigate to the general area.

In a 1998 experiment, researchers transported hatchery-raised sockeye salmon, some of them blind, several kilometers away from the area of their birth in Japan’s Lake Toya. The sighted fish quickly navigated right back to their place of origin, while the blind fish swam randomly for most of the day. The authors wrote, “It is surprising that the fish identifies his position in open water and the direction of the natal [birth] area with such a high degree of accuracy.”²

So, the second navigational tool—the primary one for salmon—is a polarized light compass. A 2003 study of salmon’s polarized light compass stated, “When the sun is lower on the horizon... the position of the sun can be determined unambiguously by the distribution of polarized light.”³ Exactly how the fish determine the distribution of polarized light, measure its angle, and use that informa-

tion to navigate is not yet known.

But how would salmon navigate at night or under cloud cover? Like any good engineer, the Lord Jesus designed salmon with redundant technologies. Salmon possess a third navigational tool—a magnetic compass.

These amazing fish can navigate by comparing their directional heading to a magnetic map of their surroundings. Authors of a 2005 study had a hard time imagining that a single device could do all this. They wrote, “Likewise, a mechanism designed to record tiny changes in intensity can, at the same time, hardly measure the direction of the magnetic field with great precision.”⁴ However, a 2012 report showed that salmon’s magnetic receptors detect both!

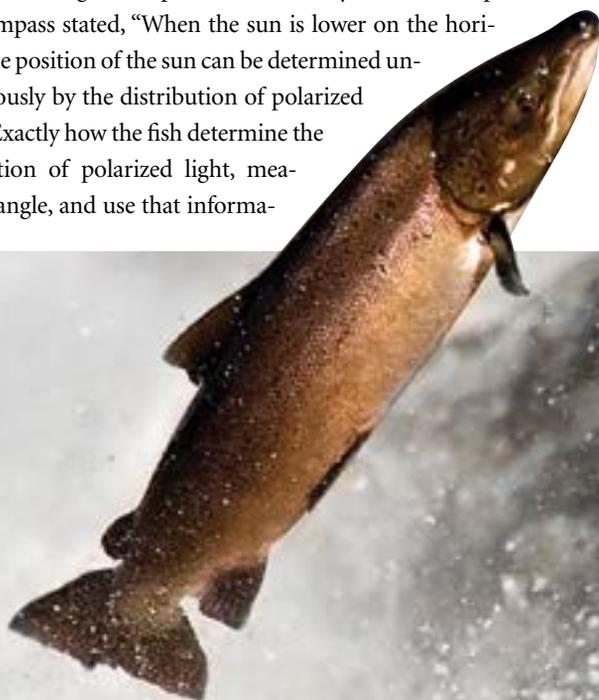
Single cells act like compass needles, having a microscopic collection of magnetite crystals at one end. They constantly pull toward magnetic field lines, thereby stressing surrounding detector cells as the salmon turns. According to these authors, the cells in this single system are “therefore not only sufficient to detect the direction of magnetic north but also likely to form the basis of an accurate magnetic sensory system with which to extract positional information.”⁵

Nobody would think that the laws of chemistry and environmental changes could whisk together a map and compass, and everyone knows that a handheld GPS was purposefully designed. Likewise, the salmon’s miniaturized integrated GPS technologies are so advanced that they could only be attributed to a Genius who transcends man and nature. ●

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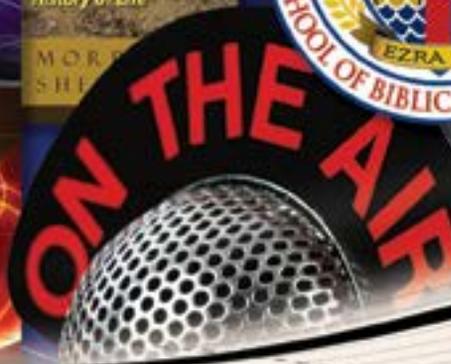
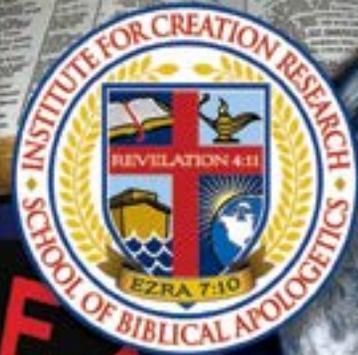
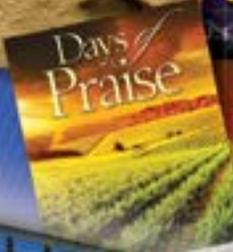
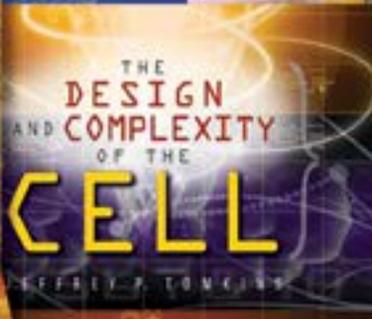
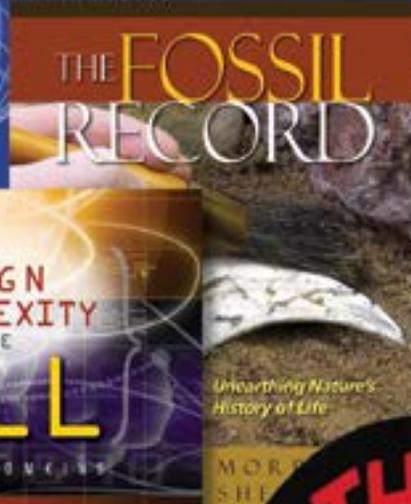
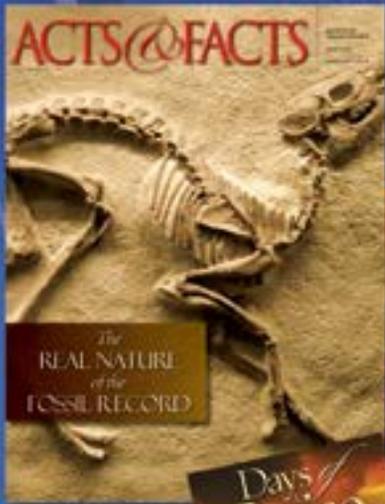
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That's a Fact TV • Science, Scripture & Salvation
• Back to Genesis • De Regreso a Génesis

EDUCATION

School of Biblical Apologetics (Graduate School) • Science
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EVENTS

Church Seminars • Pastors Conferences
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INSTITUTE
for CREATION
RESEARCH

Partner with ICR through the Combined Federal Campaign

United States federal and military employees can uphold the authority and accuracy of Scripture by supporting ICR's research and educational programs through this year's Com-

bined Federal Campaign (CFC). If you believe in ICR's work and would like to support our ministry, please prayerfully consider designating ICR as the charity of your choice.



Our CFC identification number is 23095.

Our charity classification is **National/International**.

For questions regarding CFC donations, please contact ICR by email at stewardship@icr.org or call 800.337.0375.



PAYROLL PHILANTHROPY

HENRY M. MORRIS IV

The arrival of fall marks the start of annual workplace giving campaigns across the nation. Through annual campaigns, hard-working people from all income levels can express their generosity and become true payroll philanthropists.

Government entities and large corporations sponsor workplace giving campaigns as a benefit to their employees, and they offer the convenience of automatic payroll deduction to fund charities of the employee's choosing. Charities must meet high standards to qualify, and the Institute for Creation Research has worked hard to gain and maintain approval in specially selected workplace programs as an additional opportunity for our supporters. And as a federally recognized 501(c)(3) nonprofit ministry, all donations to ICR through workplace giving campaigns are fully tax-deductible as allowed by law.

ICR is approved in the following workplace giving programs. If your employer offers this benefit, we would welcome your prayerful consideration during this campaign season. Your tax-deductible gifts will be put to good and effective use in our ministry for the cause of Christ.

Combined Federal Campaign

The Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) is the largest public sector workplace charity program in the world, and the only campaign authorized to collect contributions from federal employees and military personnel of the United States. Funds collected through the CFC program represent donations from individuals—not the federal government—and are passed on to the qualified charity chosen by the employee.

Since receiving our initial approval some years ago, ICR has worked hard to increase awareness among our supporters working in the federal government and military. Those of you who serve our country can now also defend the authority of Scripture through sci-

entific research and education—with one easy pen stroke.

ICR is listed in the National/International Organizations section of your local CFC campaign brochure. If you believe in the work of ICR, please prayerfully consider designating the *Institute for Creation Research (CFC 23095)* when making your pledge this fall.

State Employee Giving Campaigns

ICR is approved to participate in the State Employee Charitable Campaigns (SECC) offered by *California* and *Texas*—the two largest state employee giving programs in the country. SECC programs function exactly like the federal campaign by allowing state employees to make contributions to qualified charities through payroll deduction, then passing those funds on to the charity of their choice. And like the CFC, funds collected through state campaigns represent donations from individual employees—not the state government.

ICR is thankful for this opportunity and hopeful our generous Texas and California supporters will respond. If you support our ministry, please consider designating the *Institute for Creation Research* on your pledge form this fall.

Corporate Giving Campaigns

Many large corporations offer annual workplace giving programs as a benefit to their employees and as a means to promote goodwill in the local community. Corporate programs function much like federal and state campaigns, with the exception that an outside administrator is often used to operate and

Prayerfully CONSIDER SUPPORTING ICR

(Galatians 6:9-10)

Through

- Online Donations
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- Matching Gift Programs
- CFC (federal/military workers)
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Visit icr.org/give and explore how you can support the vital work of ICR ministries. Or contact us at stewardship@icr.org or **800.337.0375** for personal assistance.

ICR is a recognized 501(c)(3) nonprofit ministry, and all gifts are tax-deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law.

manage the program (e.g., United Way).

Most charities promoted in corporate programs tend to be from the local community. However, employees may give to *any* 501(c)(3) nonprofit—like ICR—simply by providing our name and address in the “Write-In Organization” section of the pledge form. If your employer offers a workplace giving program and you wish to support our ministry this way, please write in the *Institute for Creation Research, 1806 Royal Lane, Dallas, TX 75229.* ●

Mr. Morris is Director of Donor Relations at the Institute for Creation Research.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Thank you for *The Design and Complexity of the Cell* and *Days of Praise for Women*. I have followed ICR for many years and will continue to do so. We need to speak up against the lie of evolution!

—M.H.

I was listening to your radio program today when I realized I hadn't visited your site for some time. I was thrilled to find the *That's a Fact* video segments! What a great resource these are for the classroom—for both Christian schools and homeschools. But what is even more exciting to me is how these high-quality videos can be used in the Sunday school classroom! Thank you for providing such a wonderful resource.

—B.R., Quebec

[July's] *Acts & Facts* was an eye-opening experience when I read the article [by Brian Thomas] "Do Habitats Create Creatures?" Evolution robs God of His glory of being Creator and gives that glory to the created things....I loved the article.

—E.M.

I am enjoying the [SOBA] course tremendously! The first time I read a book written by Henry Morris was in seminary, and my husband and I were so amazed by his intelligence and biblical accuracy. We are so thankful that he was called to establish ICR.... I'm currently telling everyone I know about the program.

—T.D.

I greatly enjoy receiving *Acts & Facts*. I go to your website often and plan on becoming very familiar with yourorigins-matter.com. Your July issue is excellent, as usual, especially Dr. James Johnson's article "Of Grackles and Gratitude." This really hit home with me, and I want to thank him for all his articles and obvious heartfelt faith in God and His Word.

—M.S.

My routine each morning is to read *Days of Praise* before or during breakfast. To say that I have been blessed by *Days of Praise* (as well as *Acts & Facts*) would be an understatement. These publications are educational, inspiring, and they often coincide with something my pastor is teaching, an issue in my life, or an issue someone else has asked me about. When I am through reading the *Days of Praise* devotional, I often pass it along....I am so thankful for your ministry.

—L.A.

Thank you, thank you, thank you! What a great devotional today. My heart was pierced with the overwhelming sweetness of the love of the Lord Jesus as I read through the devotional entitled "Unspeakable and Unsearchable." I greatly appreciate all of your devotional emails, but this one in particular touched me in a deep and special way. May God continue to bless the spiritual milk and meat you provide in your much needed ministry.

—A.D.

I recently attended the Your Origins Matter conference held at First Baptist Dallas and was blown away by the gospel-centered, detailed presentations of the research and the knowledge of such passionate speakers! I left that conference overflowing with worship and in awe of our Creator, my mind having been renewed by both the enormity and intricacy of God that I had never realized fully before.

It was especially touching to me, because the entire time I was thinking about my dad in the back of my mind, remembering past conversations with him and his stumbling block with creation. I pleaded and prayed several times throughout the presentations that God would open my dad's heart to receive Christ, and I have been praying this way now for years. Colonel Jeffrey Williams ended his presentation with a video created by astronauts from a more recent expedition. This video was shown with the background music of a beautiful song titled, "Walking in the Air." This is a testimony to how personal and loving our Father is, because there is no other song that could have been played to communicate to me more clearly that God hears my prayers for my dad's salvation.

My dad plays the piano by ear, and when I was a little girl, my dad heard this song playing in the background of one of my kid shows and loved it so much that he picked the song out on my little children's keyboard and then taught me how to play it too. So my entire childhood, anytime we were somewhere that had a real piano, I would beg him to play this song with me as we sat beside each other on the piano bench and made lasting lifetime memories.

Since attending the conference, my husband and I have both been encouraged by starting out our work days with your *Days of Praise* devotionals, as well as enjoying your *Acts & Facts* magazine. Thank you to Dr. Henry Morris for being obedient to God's call on his life to begin such a powerful ministry and avenue for the Holy Spirit to touch both people's hearts and minds.

—A.W.

Have a comment? Email us at editor@icr.org.
Or write to Editor, P. O. Box 59029, Dallas, Texas 75229

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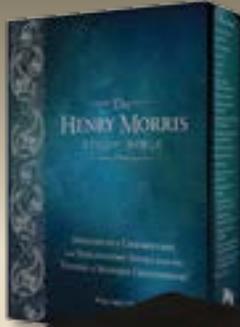
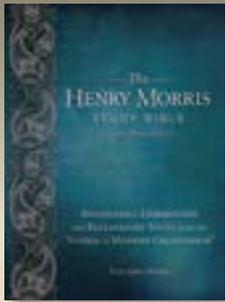
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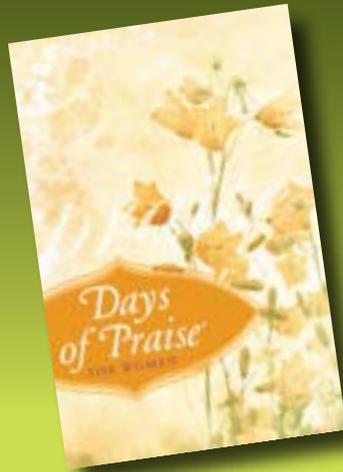
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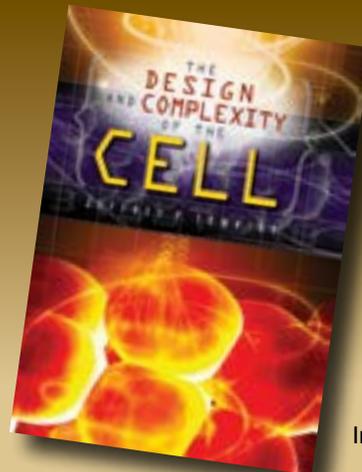
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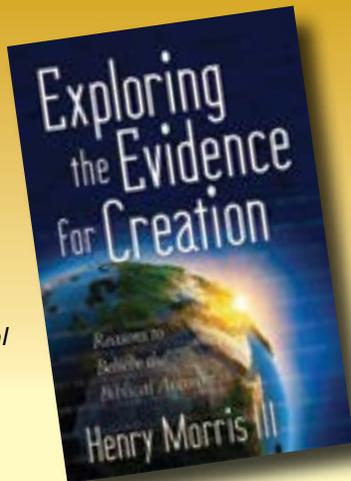
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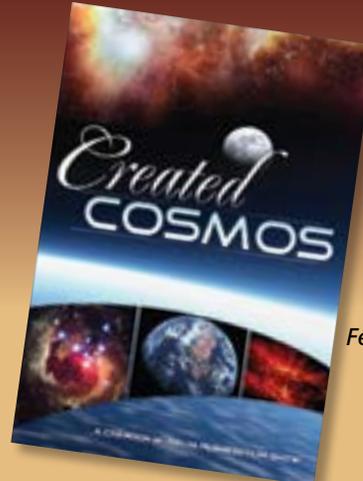
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