

# ACTS & FACTS

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**Ice Cores, Seafloor Sediments,  
and the Age of the Earth: Part 1**

Page 12

***Cosmos: A Series Created to  
Counter Creation***

Page 15

**Lots of Grand Canyons**

Page 18

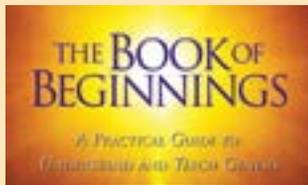
**Is Every Fossil in Its  
(Evolutionary) Place?**

Page 21

THE FOUNDATION OF  
**JESUS CHRIST**

Page 5

# Creation Resources on Sale

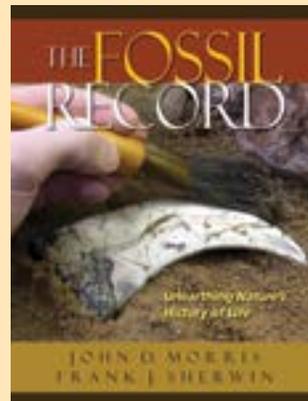
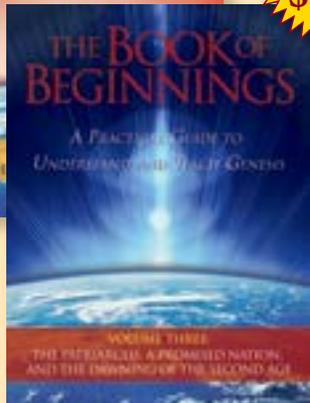


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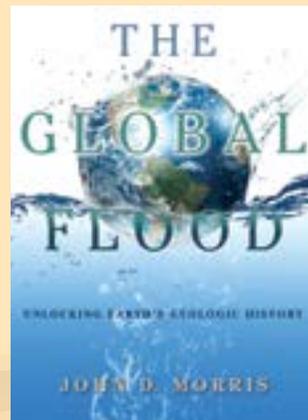


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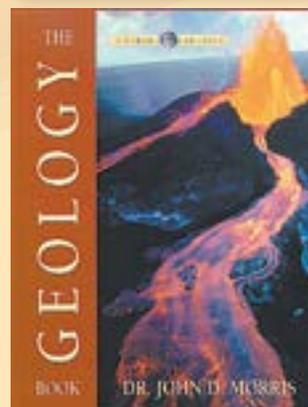
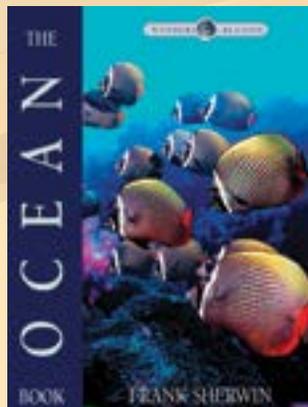


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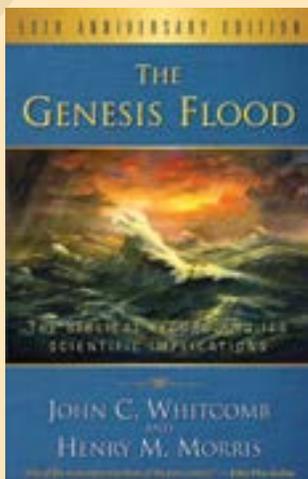
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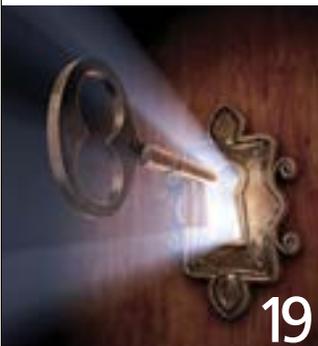
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9



18



19



21

**FEATURE**

**5 The Foundation of Jesus Christ**  
HENRY M. MORRIS III, D.MIN.

**RESEARCH**

**9 Gene Complexity Eludes a Simple Definition**  
JEFFREY TOMKINS, PH.D.

**IMPACT**

**12 Ice Cores, Seafloor Sediments, and the Age of the Earth: Part 1**  
JAKE HEBERT, PH.D.

**BACK TO GENESIS**

**15 *Cosmos: A Series Created to Counter Creation***  
BRIAN THOMAS, M.S.

**16 Order Points to a Recent Creation**  
VERNON R. CUPPS, PH.D.

**18 Lots of Grand Canyons**  
JOHN D. MORRIS, PH.D.

**APOLOGETICS**

**19 Is the Present the “Key” to Our Past?**  
JAMES J. S. JOHNSON, J.D., TH.D.

**20 Creation Conversion: The Turning Point**

**CREATION Q & A**

**21 Is Every Fossil in Its (Evolutionary) Place?**  
VERNON R. CUPPS, PH.D., AND  
BRIAN THOMAS, M.S.

**STEWARDSHIP**

**22 The Father’s Business**  
HENRY M. MORRIS IV



# Are You Ready for an Adventure?

It's here! After 18 months of preparation and detailed production, *Unlocking the Mysteries of Genesis* is now available. Producing this unique 12-DVD series has been an incredible adventure for our team at the Institute for Creation Research. We explored Grand Canyon, uncovered clues at the Dinosaur National Monument, scrutinized the stars at the George Observatory, and glimpsed the wonder of God at Matanuska Glacier in Alaska. We took a film crew along to record the discoveries—to share with those who want to hear about the accuracy of what God's Word says about us and our world.

While we marvel at God's creation, this series isn't just about spectacular images, although God's magnificent design and beauty in creation are a part of each DVD. Our desire for this series is to change lives—to touch you with truths of science and Scripture that will resonate with your soul. We want to equip you to share these creation truths with others.

A woman recently said to me, "Biblical creation and evolution are both miraculous." And I said, "Yes, I can see how you might say that. It certainly takes faith to believe either one." She hesitated because that wasn't where she was going. She meant that the Bible took miraculous faith to believe and evolution displayed miraculous occurrences in science. I knew what she was thinking because I've heard it before.

But what she hadn't considered is what this series focuses on: What if science confirms what we find in Scripture?

*What if science and faith revealed the same truth?*

Many of us come across those who assume that biblical creation is not compatible with science. They put their faith in speculation about the past and embrace the theory of evolution because they've heard that story a thousand times. When they encounter questions about how we got here, they are willing to believe that we came from ape-like creatures, even though clear observations refute that theory.



Dr. Nathaniel Jeanson

What scientists have found is that science corroborates the biblical account. We've discovered, as Dr. John Baumgardner says in *Unlocking the Mysteries of Genesis*, "The assumptions that scientists have been using for the last 100 years are wrong." Dr. Jake Hebert asks the crucial question, "Do the laws of physics and chemistry in our universe permit life to come from non-life?" He confidently responds, "The answer is no." Dr. Nathaniel Jeanson says, "By Darwin's own pen, evolution should be rejected."

So, how did we get here? We investigate that question in *Unlocking the Mysteries of Genesis*. How did the universe begin, and did Noah's Flood really cover the entire earth? Let's talk about it—get a conversation started. Let's impact our culture!

Possibly the one most significant thing you can do this year to promote biblical creation would be to purchase a set of this DVD series, which comes with a helpful guide book, at [www.UnlockingTheMysteriesOfGenesis.org](http://www.UnlockingTheMysteriesOfGenesis.org) and share it with your pastor, church, homeschool group, family, and friends. Schedule a showing at your church as a Bible study opportunity, host the series in your home and invite friends, or offer it as part of a youth group retreat. People of all ages—especially the young—have questions about evolution and creation. *Unlocking the Mysteries of Genesis* keeps viewers engaged while providing great answers from both the Bible and science.

We poured a great amount of prayer, time, and money into this project because we believe it has the potential to create a critical discussion in this generation, believers and unbelievers alike. Begin a movement that will spread across the country. Please partner with us in prayer and then share this with others. Set out on the adventure with us!

*Jayme Durant*

Jayme Durant  
EXECUTIVE EDITOR



Host Markus Lloyd

# THE FOUNDATION OF JESUS CHRIST

HENRY M. MORRIS III, D.M.I.N.

**For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ. (1 Corinthians 3:11)**

**T**his observation by the apostle Paul warns Christians that it is possible to build either successfully or with awful failure on the foundation that Jesus Christ has laid for us. You also may recall that the Lord Jesus Himself warned about building a house on the rock versus on the sand (Matthew 7:24-27). A house built on the rock of the sayings of God would stand against the storms that would come. That which was built on the “sand” of human wisdom would suffer a disastrous collapse.

The Pew Forum on Religion & Public Life released a major *U.S. Religious Landscape Survey* in 2008.<sup>1</sup> An update in 2012 noted that there was little change in the major demographics except that there has been growth in unaffiliated Americans from some 15% to 20% of the population.<sup>2</sup> The enormous undertaking in 2008 surveyed 35,000 Americans and concluded that most Americans have a non-dogmatic approach to faith. Seven in 10 say many religions can lead to eternal life and that there is more than one way to interpret the Scriptures. Although 9 in 10 believe in God, only 6 in 10 believe He is personal, and about 3 in 10 see “god” as an impersonal force in the universe.

America is still mostly classified as Christian. Evangelicals make up 26.3% of churches, mainline Protestants are 18.1%, and Catholics 23.9% (for a total of 68.3% of the population). However, of all the religious groups surveyed, only Mormons and Jehovah’s Witnesses contained a majority who believe that their beliefs represent the “only” way to heaven.



Here's the startling fact: Over half (57%) of evangelical Protestant church members believe that other religions can lead to eternal life. How can the Church impact the world for Christ if so few professing Christians understand, much less witness to, the truth of their faith?

There is no more all-encompassing command in the New Testament than to "go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature" (Mark 16:15). But before we shrug off the duty as already being done, may I suggest that many of our churches have lost sight of the breadth and depth of the good news, relegating it in some cases to a platitude to be embraced, with little awareness of the majesty and enormity of who the Savior is.

Permit me to share the full gospel as it is presented in the Scriptures.

that Jesus came "preaching the gospel of the kingdom." It is vital to stress the final consummation when Christ will finally be acknowledged by all creation to be "King of kings and Lord of lords" (Revelation 19:16). Certainly part of the good news is the great promise that we who have been saved by the work of Christ on the cross will one day "always be with the Lord" (1 Thessalonians 4:17).

### The Creation by Christ

The *last occurrence* is in Revelation 14:6 where the mighty angel is sent from the throne of God flying throughout Earth preaching "the everlasting gospel" that must be preached to "every nation, tribe, tongue, and people." Here, it is abundantly clear that the emphasis is on Christ as Creator, for we are told to "worship Him who made

His redemptive purpose in history.

It does appear, however, that the creation message has been neglected among many churches. Perhaps it would be well for us to remember how important that foundational doctrine really is to the good news.

The magnificent gospel of John (often given away in booklet form as a strong witnessing tool) is built around seven unique miracles of creation that the Lord Jesus demonstrated publicly. These great works could only have been accomplished by the omniscient and omnipotent Creator Himself. They were recorded "that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His name" (John 20:31). In fact, Jesus Himself said that He showed this power so that we would believe Him "for the sake of the works themselves" (John 14:11).

Three other passages in Scripture set this clear basis for the gospel.

#### Colossians 1:16-20

By Him all things were created.  
By Him all things consist (or are saved from destruction).  
By Him all things are reconciled.

#### Hebrews 1:2-3

He made the worlds.  
He is upholding all things.  
He becomes heir of all things.

#### Romans 11:36

For of Him  
And through Him  
And to Him are all things.

The gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ encompasses this

It is abundantly clear that the emphasis is on Christ as Creator, for we are told to "worship Him who made heaven and earth, the sea and springs of water" (Revelation 14:7).

### The Cross of Christ

The Greek words for gospel appear 101 times in the New Testament. The *central* reference (50 before and 50 after) is in 1 Corinthians 15:1-4. The central *focus*, of course, is the death, physical burial, and bodily resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ. This good news is to be received and believed by faith, once for all. It is the means by which we are saved continually and forever, and it is the fact upon which we firmly stand. This great message of the atoning work of Christ is emphatically to be defined, understood, and preached specifically "according to the Scriptures" (vv. 3-4).

### The Consummation in Christ

The *first occurrence* of the word gospel is in Matthew 4:23 where we are told

heaven and earth, the sea and springs of water" (Revelation 14:7). Surely all students of Scripture are aware that the same Jesus who substituted Himself for our sin on the cross of Calvary is the great Creator who spoke the worlds into existence (Hebrews 1:2).

### The Strong Foundation

Evangelical churches have done well in presenting the central message of the gospel and have, at least in some measure, given credence to the consummation message of the gospel through prophecy conferences and various sermons about the return of Christ and our hope of heaven. But the gospel entails the full scope of the work of Jesus Christ, involving the whole sweep of

entire threefold work of Christ—the *creation* of all things, the *conservation* of this present world, and the *consummation* of the universe to His perfection: Past—Present—Future.

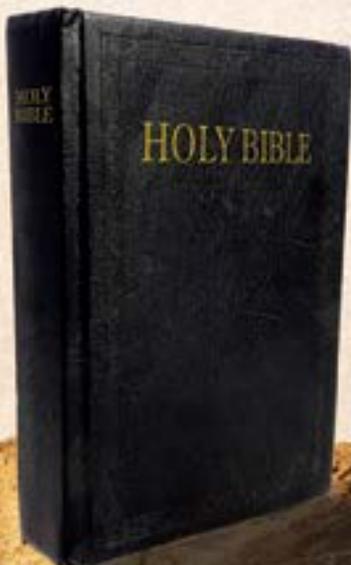
Neglect the **Creation**—there is no *Foundation* or Standard or Ability.

Neglect the **Cross**—there is no *Power* or Authority or Justice.

Neglect the **Consummation**—there is no *Hope* or Joy or Victory.

### Lay the Foundation Deep

A house or any other building is only as strong as its foundation. It is certainly worth remembering that the church is called the “house” of God (1 Timothy 3:15). Each of us who is twice-born becomes the “temple” of the Holy Spirit. It surely must



follow then that both our own persons and our churches must be attending to the strength of the foundation of all that we can grasp about the great Creator-Savior who has called us “out of darkness into His marvelous light” (1 Peter 2:9).

And the foundation of who, and

in a 12-episode DVD series, *Unlocking the Mysteries of Genesis*. The series should be available and in our distribution center by the end of May. These short, 22-minute episodes are specifically designed to confirm and strengthen faith in the majestic truths of the creation—particularly as they reveal

The magnificent gospel of John is built around seven unique miracles of creation that the Lord Jesus demonstrated publicly. These great works could only have been accomplished by the omniscient and omnipotent Creator Himself.

what, our Lord Jesus is begins with the omnipotent and omniscient creation of our universe. If we get that wrong—or if we neglect to strengthen our understanding of how important that aspect of His character really is in Scripture—or if we begin to entertain the “philosophy and empty deceit, according to the tradition of men, according to the basic principles of the world, and not according to Christ” (Colossians 2:8)—we are heading for a terrible fall.

Yet, by the grace of God, this fall can be avoided. We can be confident that Christ is who He says He is because the foundation of our beliefs, the book of Genesis, is scientifically accurate in its truths.

Readers of *Acts & Facts* will know by now that ICR has been investing

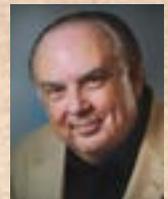
the accuracy of Scripture through the clear evidence of science. Each set comes with a thorough viewer guide providing extra insights, follow-up questions, and lists of other resources in ICR’s vast online archive relevant to each episode.

We’re offering a special discount this summer. Please make plans to use this DVD series in your Sunday school class, home Bible study, Sunday night series, or mid-week meetings soon. ●

#### References

1. U.S. *Religious Landscape Survey, Religious Affiliation: Diverse and Dynamic, February 2008*. The Pew Forum on Religion & Public Life. Available on [religions.pewforum.org](http://religions.pewforum.org).
2. One-in-Five Adults Have No Religious Affiliation. Pew Research Center press release, October 10, 2012.

Dr. Morris is Chief Executive Officer of the Institute for Creation Research.



## SAVE THE DATES!

July 2, 9, & 16

Wednesdays, 7:00 – 8:00 p.m.

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July 2, 2014

Is the Human Body a Product of Evolution?

Dr. Randy Guliuzza

July 9, 2014

Do Dinosaurs and Fossils Support the Evolutionary Theory?

Mr. Brian Thomas

July 16, 2014

Does the Ice Age Confirm an Evolutionary Worldview?

Dr. Jake Hebert

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# UNLOCKING THE MYSTERIES OF GENESIS



Dr. John MacArthur  
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Special Guest  
Kirk Cameron



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CEO, Institute for  
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Dr. Randy Guliuzza  
Dr. Jason Lisle  
Dr. Jake Hebert  
Mr. Brian Thomas

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In the early days of molecular genetics in the 1960s and '70s, it was widely held that a gene could be defined as a single entity that encodes the information to make a protein. However, as genetic studies have progressed, our understanding of what defines a gene has become incredibly more complicated.<sup>1</sup> We still hear evolutionists claim “this and that creature have the same genes and are therefore related through common descent in evolution,” but in light of recent genetic studies, this claim is grossly oversimplified.

First, the boundaries of what can be called a single gene are becoming increasingly hard to define, along with its complete set of functions. Entire chromosomes and genomes are a continuum of pervasive and overlapping transcription (copying DNA into RNA).<sup>2,3</sup> Recent discoveries have revealed that the genes of many plants and animals are not like single entities at all but are rather a mixture of genes within genes and even genes that overlap each other.<sup>3</sup> The regulatory control regions of genes, called promoters, can be shared by two completely different genes running in opposite directions from each other. (Genes are found on both strands of the double-stranded DNA molecule.) Enhancer regions that also play an important role in regulating gene function can be up to a million bases away from the gene they regulate. As if this weren't enough, many genes function both forward and backward at the same time—producing both sense and antisense transcripts!<sup>4</sup> The regulatory sequences of genes can also be located inside other nearby genes, and researchers have determined that genes dynamically interact with each other in “gene neighborhoods” much more than previously believed, to the point of blurring the



## Gene Complexity Eludes a Simple Definition

J E F F R E Y T O M K I N S , P H . D .

boundaries between them.

Secondly, the informational output provided by genes can change depending on different circumstances. These circumstances include cell type, tissue type, and other stimuli such as the external environments.<sup>5</sup> In the genome, both the DNA molecule itself and the histone proteins that the DNA molecule is packaged around can be chemically altered or tagged. The study of these chemical tags is called *epigenetics* or *chromatin remodeling*.<sup>5</sup> In addition to genes having overlapping boundaries and alternate functions, the information provided by the genes is epigenetically altered by the cellular machinery to provide just the right output for the situational need at hand.

When evolutionists talk about creatures sharing the same genes, they are typically referring to very small segments of DNA in the genome. And in most cases, they are only referring to the small pieces of protein-encoding genes called exons—not the whole segment of DNA that is actually

responsible for producing the information to make the correct version of the protein at the right time and in the correct amount.

But what about all the other expressed DNA sequences in the genome besides protein-coding segments—can they be called genes too? Amazingly, there are actually more than twice as many long non-coding RNA genes in the human genome as there are protein-coding genes, and these are turning out to be the key factors in what controls and regulates protein-coding genes, and in what also makes different kinds of creatures genetically unique or distinct from each other.<sup>6</sup>

Because of what we now know about the genome, you should be aware that when someone uses the term gene,

the situation is a whole lot more complicated than it used to seem. To quote Dorothy from the classic movie *The Wizard of Oz*, “I’ve a feeling we’re not in Kansas anymore.” The biocomplexity of the genome is now reaching proportions beyond humankind’s wildest imaginations. An omnipotent Creator is the only possible explanation for such vast and elegant engineering. ●

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Dr. Tomkins is Research Associate at the Institute for Creation Research and received his Ph.D. in genetics from Clemson University.



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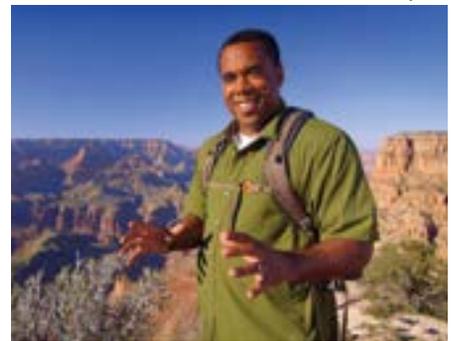
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# Ice Cores, Seafloor Sediments, and the Age of the Earth

## PART 1

J A K E H E B E R T , P H . D .

In an attempt to learn about past climates, scientists have drilled and extracted cylindrical cores from the Greenland and Antarctic ice sheets. Because of the great thickness of these sheets, the cores can have combined lengths of thousands of meters.

Permanent ice sheets probably did not exist in the pre-Flood world, but if they had, they almost certainly would have been destroyed during the great Flood. Hence, today's high-latitude ice sheets have only had about 4,500 years—the time since the Flood—to grow to their present sizes.

Yet secular scientists assign very old ages to the ice deep within these cores. For instance, ice near the bottom of two Antarctic cores, the Vostok and EPICA Dome C cores, is said to be 400,000 and 800,000 years old, respectively. Clearly, these vast ages are incompatible with the Bible's short timescale. Do ice cores present an unanswerable argument for an old earth?

### “Deep Time” Not Needed for Thick Ice Sheets

It should first be noted that vast amounts of time are *not* needed for the formation of thick ice sheets. Even if one grants the assumption that average high-latitude snowfall rates have been roughly constant throughout time, the Greenland ice sheet would need (in the absence of melting) only about 5,000 years to form, and the Antarctic ice sheets would require only about 10,200 years.<sup>1</sup> Although these numbers are greater than the roughly 4,500 years since the Flood, they are easily compatible with the biblical model that predicts much higher snowfall rates during the post-Flood Ice Age.<sup>2</sup>

So the issue is not whether vast amounts of time are necessary for thick ice sheets to form—they clearly are *not* needed. Informed secular scientists know this but would still argue, based upon their models of Earth history, that the ice sheets have nevertheless existed

for millions of years. So the key question is, “Have secular scientists really identified hundreds of thousands of annual layers within these ice sheets?”

### Visible Layers in Ice Cores

Snow and ice in the high latitudes generally do not melt even during the summer months—they accumulate over time. Layers of snow fall and are covered by subsequent layers. As layers of snow accrue, their vertical thickness increases, and the snow transforms into ice as the air is squeezed out.

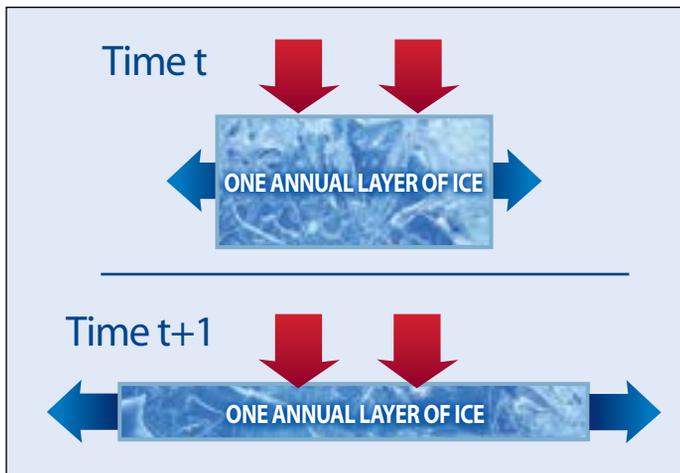
This ice contains layers that are distinct from one another. For instance, *depth hoar complexes* can be identified and are used to assist in the dating of ice within a core. Depth hoar is essentially low-density snow characterized by large ice crystals (often cup-shaped) and can form in clear, calm weather when the temperature above the snow changes rapidly with increasing height. If this clear weather is followed by a large storm, then a crisp, firm surface called a *wind crust* or *wind slab* can form above the depth hoar. Such conditions can occur repeatedly, usually during the late summer/autumn months, resulting in a depth hoar complex.<sup>3</sup>

### Glacial-Flow Models

Can scientists determine the elapsed time since a given ice layer was deposited by visually inspecting and counting presumed annual layers within the ice core? It may appear straightforward, but in actual practice there are a number of complicating factors.

Layering becomes more indistinct at greater depths within the core. Hence, scientists cannot simply visually examine and count the deeper layers if they want to extend the chronology into the more dis-

tant past. Nor can they simply guess the locations and number these deeper layers based on corresponding layer thicknesses higher in the core. This is because the weight of the overlying ice causes the layers to be forced downward and become progressively thinner at greater and greater core depths (Figure 1).



**Figure 1.** Because layers of ice become thinner at increasing depths within an ice sheet, mathematical flow models must be used to determine how much thinning is present at a given depth.

Hence a theoretical *flow model* is needed to convert a measured distance down the length of the core into a calculated time. In fact, flow models are actually the most common method of dating ice cores.<sup>4</sup> In constructing their flow models, secular scientists *assume* that the ice sheets have been in existence for millions of years, and that they have maintained more or less the same heights for all that time. In other words, they base their models on the belief that the ice sheets have been in a nearly “steady state” of equilibrium for millions of years.<sup>5</sup> These assumptions naturally yield vast age assignments and an assumed extreme thinning of the deeper layers.

Creation scientists Larry Vardiman and Michael Oard have constructed their own flow models—models that assume the ice sheets began forming shortly after the Flood about 4,500 years ago.<sup>6,7</sup> In a creation-Flood glacial-flow model, one would expect that such drastic thinning with depth would be absent. In fact, in creation-Flood ice flow models, these lower layers might actually be quite thick.

### The Astronomical Theory

Although uniformitarian scientists would acknowledge that their flow models implicitly assume an old earth, they would argue that this assumption is justified, partly because the ages assigned to the ice cores agree with the expectations of a popular theory for ice ages called the astronomical or Milankovitch theory. According to this theory, ice ages are “paced” by subtle increases and decreases in northern high-latitude summer sunlight. These variations are caused by subtle changes in the earth’s motions as it orbits the sun, changes that are thought to take tens of thousands of years. Because secular scientists assume the solar system is billions of years old, they believe

they are free to extrapolate these motions backward hundreds of thousands of years into the supposed “prehistoric” past.

Although the astronomical theory is currently popular, it is actually a theory from the 1800s, has a number of serious problems, and was previously rejected by meteorologists long ago.<sup>8</sup>

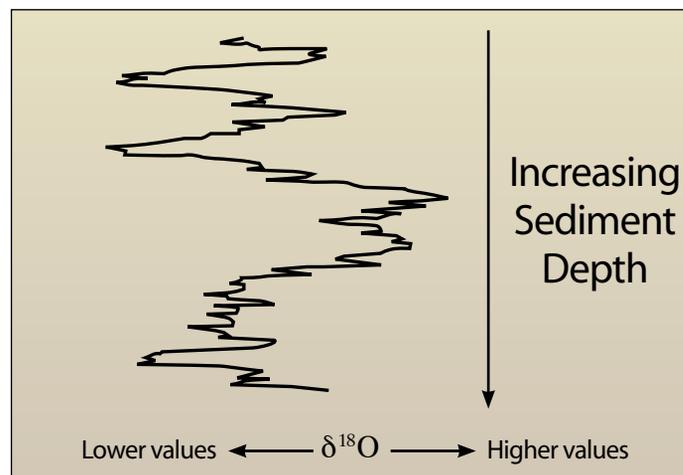
To better understand the link between the astronomical theory and the long ages assigned to the ice cores, it is necessary to discuss a topic that on the surface appears to have no connection whatsoever to the dating of ice cores: the chemistry of seafloor sediments.

### The Oxygen Isotope Ratio

Much like the technique used in ice core research, scientists drill and extract cores from the ocean floor in an attempt to discern information about past climates. These sedimentary layers contain subtle variations in chemistry, including variations in something called the *oxygen isotope ratio*, indicated by the shorthand symbol  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ .

There are two common varieties, or isotopes, of the oxygen atom. One of these, oxygen-18, is a little heavier than the other, oxygen-16. The oxygen isotope ratio simply measures the amount of oxygen-18 compared to oxygen-16 in a given sample, compared to a standard. Higher and more positive values of  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  indicate an increased amount of oxygen-18 compared to oxygen-16, while more negative values indicate decreased amounts of oxygen-18.

Tiny marine organisms called *Foraminifera* (forams for short) build shells made of calcium carbonate ( $\text{CaCO}_3$ ), a molecule that contains oxygen. These forams use *both* oxygen-16 and oxygen-18 to construct their shells. When these organisms die, their shells drift downward to the ocean bottom and become part of the ocean sediments. From the remains of these shells, researchers can determine values of the oxygen isotope ratio at different depths within the sediment cores. Secular scientists believe that variations in the  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  values indicate past changes in climate. When these  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  values are plotted on a graph, they “wobble,” increasing and decreasing at various depths within the sediment core (Figure 2). Secular scientists view these oxy-



**Figure 2.** Secular scientists believe that “wiggles” in the chemistry of the seafloor sediments can yield information about past climates. For example, maximum values in a quantity called the oxygen isotope ratio are thought to indicate times of maximum glacial extent.

gen isotope ratios as climate indicators—higher values of  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  within the sediments are thought to indicate ice ages.

However, serious difficulties arise when attempting to infer past climates from the chemistry of seafloor sediments. The  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  value of the foram shell depends upon both the seawater temperature at the time the foram shell was being formed and the past  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  value of the surrounding seawater (also at the time of shell formation). Because  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  values within the high-latitude ice sheets are much lower than oceanic  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  values, the growth or melting of these large ice sheets can noticeably affect oceanic  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  values. Furthermore, seawater temperature at the time of the shell's formation depends upon not just long-term average temperatures, but also upon local short-term temperature variations in time and space, so it is not obvious how much of the variation in foram  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  values is due to global average temperatures, how much is due to local temperature fluctuations, and how much is due to variations in global ice volume. For this reason, the secular interpretation of these foram  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  changes has changed over the years: secular scientists used to believe that variations in foraminiferal  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  values were mainly indicators of changes in temperature, but now they see them more as indicators of changes in global ice volume. These ambiguities, as well as other complications, make inferring information about past climates from the chemistry of seafloor sediments *extremely* problematic.<sup>9</sup>

**Orbital Tuning**

Despite its problems, secular scientists have become so convinced the astronomical theory is correct that they actually use the theory to “date” the seafloor sediments. This technique is called *orbital tuning*.<sup>10</sup> How does it work?

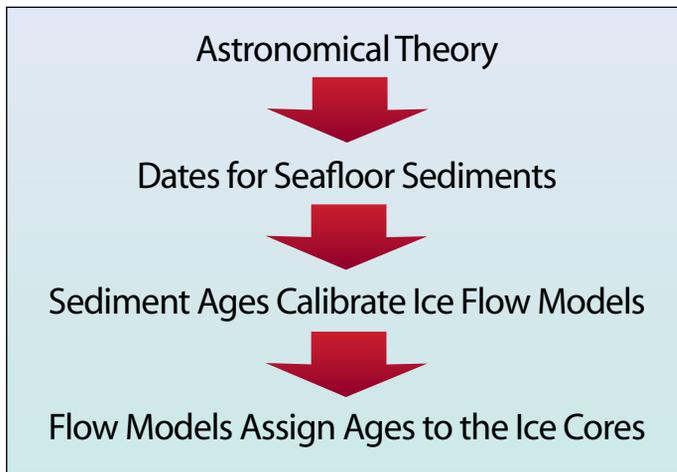
Although secular scientists assume “slow and gradual” deposition of seafloor sediments, they believe that sedimentation rates have varied somewhat in the past—at times sediments accumulated on the ocean floor a little more rapidly, and at other times sediments accumulated a little more slowly.

Secular scientists use the astronomical theory to calculate the times that ice ages occurred in the alleged “prehistoric” past. They then use the peak  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  values within the sediments—which are thought to indicate times of maximum glacial extent—to determine which layers would have been deposited during those supposed ice ages. Hence, they use the astronomical theory to “date” the sediments. In essence, they assume whatever faster and slower deposition rates are needed to ensure that these “ice age” sediment layers were deposited on the ocean floor at the “correct” times—the approximate times demanded by the astronomical theory.

Since the astronomical theory assumes an old earth, biblical skeptics claim that the apparent good agreement between the dates assigned to the ice cores and the predictions of the astronomical theory provides a strong argument that the earth really *is* very old. However, their argument is clearly circular—secular scientists *assume* the astronomical theory is correct, despite its problems, and then use

that assumption to assign dates to the seafloor sediments.

Finally, these scientists use the dates assigned to the seafloor sediments to “calibrate” their theoretical glacial-flow models, and these models are in turn used to date the ice cores (Figure 3).<sup>11</sup> Not surprisingly, the dates assigned to the ice cores agree with the astronomical theory!



**Figure 3.** Secular scientists assume the astronomical theory of ice ages is correct, despite its problems. The astronomical theory then assigns dates to the seafloor sediments. The dates for the seafloor sediments are then used to calibrate secular ice flow models, which in turn are used to date the ice cores.

**Simply Counting Layers?**

But skeptics might counter that the old-earth assumptions are still justified because hundreds of thousands of annual layers have supposedly been counted, seemingly independent of any questionable model assumptions. The GISP2 core from Greenland is frequently mentioned, since the ice at a depth of 2,800 meters in this core is said to be 110,000 years old. One critic goes so far as to claim that the GISP2 core is the “ultimate proof” that a global, worldwide flood could not have occurred.<sup>12</sup>

But the critics are mistaken. Even the deep GISP2 core does not demand long ages, and this topic is the subject of a future article. ●

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BRIAN THOMAS, M.S.

**T**he universe is all that is, or was, or ever will be.” Does this statement raise any red flags? It was the opening line of the popular 1980 TV series *Cosmos* and was repeated in its current incarnation. The statement crystallizes the philosophy of the late Carl Sagan, one of the 20th century’s best communicators of science and naturalism. It imagines a reality that excludes God, essentially replacing Genesis 1’s “In the beginning God” with “In the beginning...hydrogen.” Matter pops into existence without a cause? Now that’s a red flag.

The current *Cosmos* series raises so many such flags—mingling some good science with historical falsehoods, scientific errors, oversimplifications, and logical lapses—that one article cannot manage them. Its makers’ beliefs reveal a common source for all these problems.

Consider *Cosmos*’ award-winning producer, Seth MacFarlane, a brilliant artist, outspoken atheist, and creator of debauched cartoon shows like *Family Guy*. *The Los Angeles Times* asked him, “What are you hoping to get out of [*Cosmos*]?” MacFarlane replied, “We’ve had a resurgence of creationism and

intelligent design quote-unquote theory. There’s been a real vacuum when it comes to science education.”<sup>1</sup> In *Cosmos*, he applied his creative skills in an attempt to eradicate creation thinking from popular thought.

How about *Cosmos* writer Ann Druyan?<sup>2</sup> In 2004 she won the Richard Dawkins Award, granted by Atheist Alliance International for raising public consciousness of atheism. Druyan told the *Skeptical Inquirer*:

I think the roots of this antagonism to science run very deep. They’re ancient. We see them in Genesis, this first story, this founding myth of ours, in which the first humans are doomed and cursed eternally for asking a question, for partaking of the fruit of the Tree of Knowledge.<sup>3</sup>

Only tortured atheistic reasoning could twist the Genesis account into a tale of mankind being unfairly cursed for simple curiosity, a trait God graciously gave us, instead of being cursed for disobeying and distrusting Him. Why else would Druyan render the “Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil” as merely “the Tree of Knowledge,” as though God desires His children be ignorant of everything, instead of just igno-

rant of experiencing evil?

But surely *Cosmos* host Dr. Neil deGrasse Tyson, a scientist, is more objective than his cohorts? Though careful to not disclose his personal beliefs, Tyson has let slip statements that reveal his God-omitting way of thinking. How could this trio *not* bring their atheistic religious beliefs into the series?

The caustic threads of this philosophy wind through the tapestry of *Cosmos*’ imaginative illustrations, visual feasts, and carefully crafted scripts. For example, in Episode Five Tyson said, “Give me a star’s spectrum, and I’ll tell you what it’s made of.”<sup>4</sup> He then described other aspects that starlight reveals before saying, “In microwave light, we can see all the way back to the beginning of our universe.” Experts *can* discern elements in a star by its starlight; repeatable science reveals this. However, light does not necessarily show the past, and certainly does not show the beginning. By wrapping scientific statements around false philosophy, the series’ craftsmen weave a beginning without a Beginner.

MacFarlane told *The Los Angeles Times*, “I thought we solved this whole evolution thing years and years ago but I guess not, I guess it still needs to be explained.”<sup>1</sup> The purpose of *Cosmos* is not to explore God’s wondrous cosmos with objective science but to more convincingly retell the tattered evolutionary story. Viewers beware: *Cosmos* was created to counter creation. ●

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# Order Points to a Recent Creation

Evolutionists would have us believe that over the course of 3.7 billion years simple molecules somehow organized themselves into the significantly more complicated molecules of living organisms, then into the even more elaborate living cell, and finally into the extremely complex array of life we observe today. Picture this scene: A watchmaker disassembles his finest watch and places all the pieces into a box. He sets the box on a shaking table and waits. Will a finished watch ever come out of the box? What if he waits eons? Or consider someone who drops a favorite coffee cup and breaks it into a hundred pieces. Assuming this person can wait several billion years for the accident to somehow be reversed, will he ever get his coffee cup back intact? The answers to these rhetorical questions are obvious because the two processes are irreversible in the macroscopic (visible) world.

We can draw a strong correlation between these commonsense observations and the Second Law of Thermodynamics, also known as *entropy*, which states that usable energy in the universe is decaying or running down to a state of inert uniformity.<sup>2,3,4</sup> So it would seem reasonable to extend the Second Law to evolutionary ideas and conclude that entropy essentially *forbids* evolution. The secularist will almost certainly attempt to counter this by pointing out that the Second Law only applies to *isolated* thermodynamic systems and that the earth is not such a system; therefore the entropy can locally decrease without violating the Second Law.<sup>2</sup> He may then offer the example of a seed growing into a plant or something similar. However, in this case, radiant energy from the sun cannot, in and of itself, drive any biological system toward a smaller value of entropy (increasing order) without some mechanism to convert the energy it receives into useful work in that system. In the case of the seed, it is the information within its DNA that directs the functional use of the energy it receives. If that seed is exposed to any process that destroys its DNA, it simply dies and decays, its life-determining information dies with it, and no living plant emerges out of the soil.

One mechanism that evolutionists have proposed for their hypothesis is genetic mutation coupled with gene duplication. This assumes that *spontaneous generation*, which was disproved by Louis Pasteur, has somehow already produced the complex cells of living organisms. Genetic mutation is a random process that assumes the pre-existence of a life and its basic genome—i.e., simple molecules

have ordered themselves into the complex left-handed molecules necessary for life. Dr. James F. Coppedge calculated the probability that a single insulin molecule (one of the simpler complex molecules in the human body) would form by chance as 1 in  $10^{109}$ —a probability most statisticians consider to be impossible.<sup>5</sup>

Mutations are virtually always neutral or harmful to humans.<sup>5</sup> The few mutations that can be cited as beneficial, such as sickle cell anemia, are only beneficial within a specific environment and lack long-term viability. Dr. John Sanford concluded that if humanity were even 100,000 years old, our genomes should have reached “error catastrophe” resulting in humans becoming extinct.<sup>6</sup> These facts suggest that “genetic entropy” is literally pushing the human race toward extinction at such a rapid pace that we could not have been around nearly as long as evolutionists claim. Ironically, one of the very mechanisms evolutionary philosophy depends upon—mutation—reveals the non-viability of the evolutionary worldview. Both mutation and time itself strongly suggest a recent creation.

Many other natural phenomena point to a young earth because the order necessary to sustain Earth’s systems is steadily and incessantly breaking down. Two examples of this are the decay of plants and the decay of Earth’s magnetic field.<sup>7</sup> Matter itself is mostly con-



Image credit: Washington Post



Lift up your eyes to the heavens, And look on the earth beneath. For the heavens will vanish away like smoke, The earth will grow old like a garment, and those who dwell in it will die in like manner; But My salvation will be forever, and My righteousness will not be abolished.

Isaiah 51:6

If someone points out to you that your pet theory of the universe is in disagreement with Maxwell's equations—then so much the worse for Maxwell's equations. If it is found to be contradicted by observation—well these experimentalists do bungle things sometimes. But if your theory is found to be against the second law of thermodynamics I can give you no hope; there is nothing for it but to collapse in deepest humiliation.

— Sir Arthur Eddington<sup>1</sup>

structed from particles that begin to break down if freed from a stabilizing environment, such as the nuclear field. Free neutrons decay with a half-life of approximately 15 minutes, and a free quark has never been observed. Entropy, information theory, random processes, and the sharp arrow of time are intimately connected ideas.<sup>8</sup> They reinforce the basic concept that things don't simply organize themselves in nature without the intervention of outside influences.

Everyday life shows us that every material thing tends to fall apart and disintegrate over time. Decaying buildings, bridges, roadways, automobiles, and clothing remind us that physical objects deteriorate and are in constant need of repair. Each year, vast sums are spent to counter the unrelenting effects of decay. All matter and all known processes proceed from organization to disorganization—

from order to chaos. All things return to dust; material things are not eternal. Age, disease, decay, and death are directly tied to the Second Law of Thermodynamics. Some secular scientists try to avoid this inevitable conclusion by hypothesizing that hydrogen atoms somehow keep popping into existence, but there is no observational or experimental data to back up this specious claim of effect without cause.<sup>9</sup>

The universe itself is an isolated thermodynamic system, and if the evolutionists are to be believed it originated from a state of great disorder (the Big Bang) and moved to a state of astonishing order (the clusters, galaxies, and solar system we observe today) over the last 13.8 billion years—a process in clear violation of the Second Law. Some Big Bang advocates claim that the sudden appearance of the universe's energy and mass occurred in such a way as to preserve great order, but how that happened remains wholly unexplained.

It is now generally believed that the universe does not have enough matter to overcome the momentum of its own expansion. This means that secularists are constrained to believe that the universe will ultimately decay into a state of "heat death," or they must invent some speculative mechanism to add mass to the universe and circumvent that fate.

So, when it comes to entropy, the secularists essentially disagree with the creationists only on the amount of time required for decay to work its terrible consequences on the world. However, the preponderance of observational data support the fact that ours is a young earth and we are a young race and both are in rapid decay. ●

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Therefore we do not lose heart. Even though our outward man is perishing, yet the inward man is being renewed day by day. For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, is working for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory, while we do not look at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen. For the things which are seen are temporary, but the things which are not seen are eternal.

2 Corinthians 4:16-18

**O**n the seminar trail, I and other ICR speakers often use Grand Canyon as an example of Flood-caused geological features. We frequently run into opposition from people who've been taught that it took millions of years for the canyon to be carved out. We counter with studies that lead us to believe that each of the pancake-like layers was rapidly deposited by catastrophic hydraulic forces, and that the igneous and metamorphic deposits were caused by events quite unlike anything we see in modern times. The continent-wide coverage of the layers clearly speaks to an unimaginably devastating flood. The rates, scales, and intensity of the forces involved dwarf those of our experience.

The carving of Grand Canyon itself was likewise due to rapid, dynamic erosion that either occurred late during the Flood as the continents rose, or soon afterward when immense volumes of water rushed back into the ocean basins. Furthermore, the strata give evidence of having still been in a soft, not-yet-fully consolidated condition at the time they were gouged out.

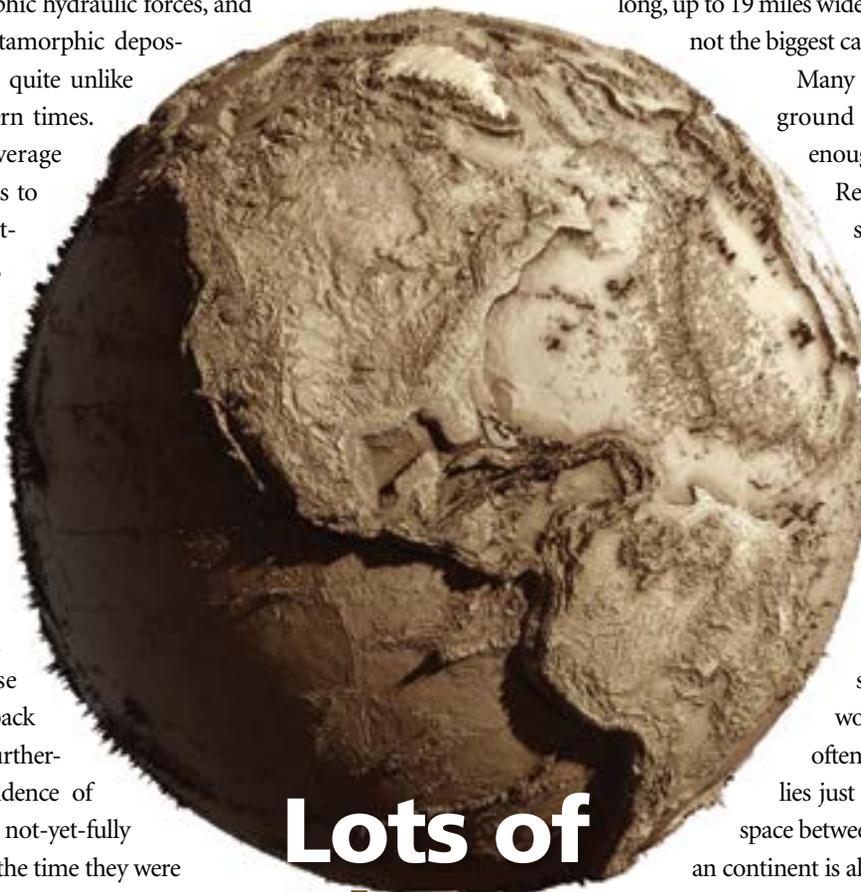
Additionally, the sedimentary layers, the volcanism, and the erosion must have occurred recently—consistent with the timescale of Scripture. The evidence indicates that the strata were deposited rapidly by Flood waters, uplifted by monumental forces later in the Flood, and eroded by retreating Flood waters before they had time to harden—all within the one-year timescale given in Genesis. ICR speakers often remark that Grand Canyon is “Exhibit A” for the great Flood of Noah’s day, and photos taken during our many research trips and study tours into the canyon’s depths frequently grace our lectures.

But if the canyon’s cause was the runoff of waters from the Flood, and the deluge was worldwide, why don’t we find many such canyons around the globe? Impressive canyons sometimes form today through natural disasters such as excessive rainfall, a dam breaking, or a tsunami event, but Grand Canyon is far bigger than these. Obviously, in any set of examples, there must always be one that is the

biggest, but a fuller answer may surprise you.

Grand Canyon is unique in that erosion has exposed its remarkable stack of layers on both sides of the river, and the strata are clearly visible, not covered by vegetation. Its accessibility and stunning grandeur have earned it a place among the world’s great geological wonders. The canyon’s dimensions are staggering: 277 miles long, up to 19 miles wide, and one mile deep, but it is not the biggest canyon on Earth.

Many canyons are hidden underground or underwater, and oddly enough some are too big to see. Recent news coverage describes a hidden canyon underneath the glaciers of Antarctica. Ice-penetrating radar studies have revealed evidence that this canyon is at least 200 miles long, 15 miles wide, and two miles deep.<sup>1</sup> Similarly, the Bering Sea between Siberia and Alaska is home to many of the largest submarine canyons in the world. An impressive canyon, often enjoyed by scuba divers, lies just offshore of San Diego. The space between England and the European continent is also a canyon, for at one time the British Isles were part of the mainland. Some consider Hudson Bay to be an Ice Age “canyon” feature. And isn’t the mid-continent space between the Rocky



# Lots of Grand Canyons

JOHN D. MORRIS, PH.D.

Mountains and the Appalachian Mountains a huge canyon split by the Mississippi River drainage systems? Its erosion was initiated at the end of the Flood by runoff waters and has continued throughout the Ice Age and modern calamities.

Those who believe the earth to be billions of “uniformitarian” years old occasionally consider modern rates of erosion to be greater than average. But the evidence appears to support the opposite—past processes occurring in one rapid, enormous, Earth-altering episode, just like we’re told when we go “Back to Genesis.” ●

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# Is the Present the “Key” to Our Past?

Some doormats have a key hidden underneath, yet many do not. The physical appearance of a common doormat provides no reliable indication of whether or not there’s a useful key to be found.

Appearances can be misleading.<sup>1</sup> Being misled by physical appearances is especially easy if we look at the world with uniformitarian eyes, i.e., if we assume like deist Charles Lyell that “the present is the key to [understanding] the past.”<sup>2</sup> Why? Because present conditions often provide no reliable explanation for the historical causes that produced those conditions, so the uniformitarian assumption often fails to fit reality.

For example, think of how Earth’s ecology, which is now dominated by deterioration and death, drastically changed from its original Edenic un-fallen and un-cursed condition (Romans 8:20-22). Lyell’s so-called theoretical “key” cannot unlock the mysteries of what Earth was like before Adam disobeyed God, or why conditions exist the way they do now. We need Genesis to unlock those mysteries—that is the key for understanding our origins.

Likewise, although our universe is just 6,000–7,000 years old, we have no right to “feel deceived” by the appearance of distant starlight from millions of light-years away, because we have no clue how fast starlight traveled during creation as God stretched the heavens prior to Adam’s sin, which triggered God’s Curse on His physical creation (Isaiah 42:5; Romans 8:20-22). In other words, the after-Eden starlight transmission speed that we can observe today is *not* the “key” for measuring starlight speeds that existed during the creation week.<sup>3</sup>

For another example, consider Arizona’s Grand Canyon. Was it formed by slow and gradual natural processes over eons of time? Uniformitarian geoscientists propose “yes,” but Genesis records a globally catastrophic “no” in Genesis 6–9.<sup>2</sup> For those with eyes to see, the volcanic eruption of Washington’s Mount St. Helens illustrates how sudden and drastic geological change can occur and why uniformitarian canyon-formation assumptions fail. Many eyewitnesses observed, and cameras recorded, how a 1/40-scale-model version of Grand Canyon was violently formed soon after Mount St. Helens’ 1980 explosion, disproving the notion that such canyons require “deep time” to form.

So why are uniformitarians reluctant to appreciate catastrophic

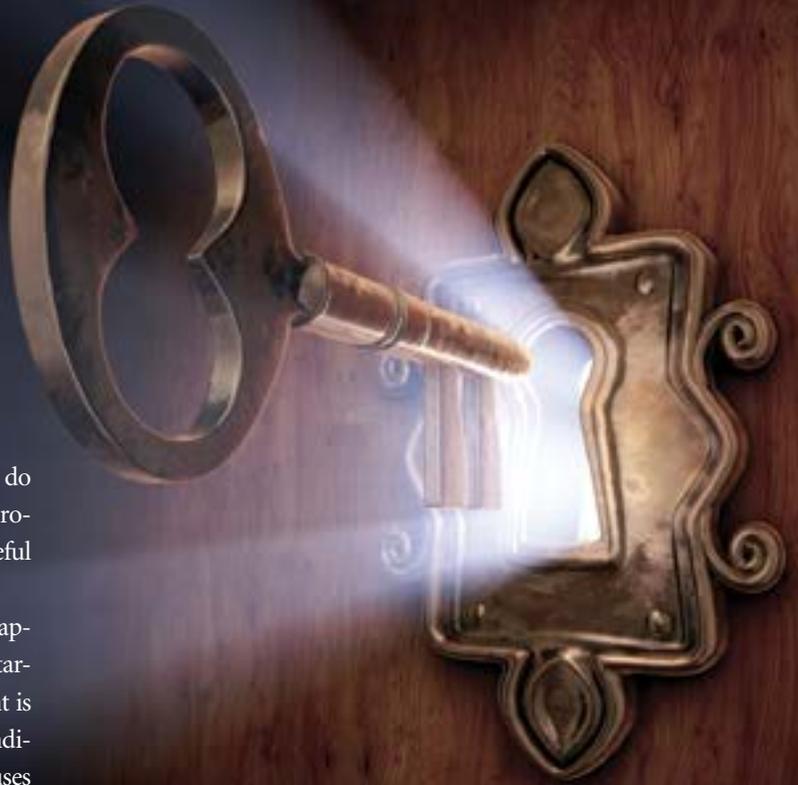
canyon formation? They continue to assume that today is the key to understanding yesterday. Today, both Mount St. Helens and Grand Canyon appear peaceful. But the relatively non-catastrophic natural processes operating today are not trustworthy guides for understanding past geological events such as Mount St. Helens’ eruption, or the Genesis Flood, or the Ice Age.

But there is more, much more, that uniformitarian thinking gets wrong. Uniformitarians also assume that God is absent, or at least relatively uninvolved, from what occurs in nature. They willfully ignore the many evidences of His Creatorship and the Flood, as if He wasn’t obviously active in, and with, His own creation (2 Peter 3:3-5). And they are apparently oblivious to the historical fact that our B.C./A.D. chronometry, as well as the biblical and historical records, provide a ubiquitous testimony that God so loved His creation that He entered into it 2,000 years ago as mankind’s Redeemer.<sup>4</sup> That forensic proof of God’s involvement—Christ’s incarnation, earthly ministry, sacrificial death, and resurrection—is so obvious that it is like a visible key lying conspicuously on top of a doormat—pointing us to the One who is Himself the unique Door to life eternal (John 10:7). ●

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2. “[The] scoffers’ philosophy will be that ‘all things continue as they were from the beginning of the creation.’ This is an apt description of the philosophy of uniformitarianism, popularized by Charles Lyell in the 1830s, that ‘the present is the key to the past.’” From Snelling, A. 2009. *Genesis: Real, Reliable, Historical. Acts & Facts*. 38 (9): 12-14.
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4. For an example of Christ’s mark on history, see the “in the Year of our Lord” clause in Article VII of the U.S. Constitution.

*Dr. Johnson is Associate Professor of Apologetics and Chief Academic Officer at the Institute for Creation Research.*



# Creation Conversion: The Turning Point

Last month in our second Creation Conversion article, Dr. Vernon Cupps described how he came to a young-earth view of creation after he took the time to investigate the actual scriptural, observational, and experimental evidence. Here's another conversion—this time from Spike Psarris in the field of astronomy.

I was an atheist and an evolutionist well into my adult years, working as an engineer in the military space program. One day a Christian co-worker challenged me on my atheism: "You believe in the laws of physics, don't you?"

"Yes, we use them here every day," I replied.

"Then how do you reconcile them with the Big Bang?" He didn't explain what he meant, but he didn't have to—I suddenly realized that fundamental physics and the Big Bang model don't get along very well. This was a mental version of scales falling off my eyes as I realized I believed mutually incompatible things. I was surprised, and wondered: Why couldn't I see this problem before?

This started a long process of re-examining my belief system. I went through a large pile of secular books and textbooks on origins-related science. I was already familiar with much of this material, but this time I was looking to see how many of the claims were based on actual data, versus how many were based on assumptions, flawed reasoning, or wishful thinking. My co-worker also lent me numerous creation and apologetics materials.

I started to see that science as seen from the Christian/creation perspective made a lot more sense than it did from my evolution perspective.

Meanwhile, I was taking some graduate-level physics classes. I started to notice more and more incompatibilities between physics and my evolutionary beliefs. For example, in an astrodynamics class we modeled orbital insertions (where one object gets gravitationally captured and goes into orbit around another). This requires precise maneuvering and the shedding of a lot of energy—our spacecraft can enter orbits around other planets

only because they have thrusters, and thus can steer and brake. But objects like asteroids lack this ability, so they're extremely unlikely to be captured gravitationally into stable orbits around other objects.

Nevertheless, secular scientists invoke gravitational captures over and over again to explain away numerous solar system "anomalies"—objects that don't match their origin models. I had known this for years and accepted it uncritically. Now that I understood the physics behind captures, I realized how contrived the secular story was. This realization occurred repeatedly as I continued to re-examine my beliefs.

My research wasn't limited to astronomy—I also investigated other origins-related sciences, as well as history and archaeology. Of these, the things that made the largest impression were the evidence of a global flood, the historicity and reliability of the biblical text, and the overwhelming historical evidence for the resurrection of Christ.

After almost a year of doing this, eventually I had to admit that the evidence (scientific, historical, etc.) did not agree with my atheism. Instead, the biblical account of history was true. I didn't like this, though. If the Bible were true, then I was a sinner who deserved judgment. But I had to admit that this is where the evidence led.

After struggling with this for a while, I finally realized that yes, I am a sinner. And God knows my sin better than I do. But He also loves me enough to have sent His Son to pay for it in my place. I realized that, truly, the gospel is Good News. What better news could there be? At that point, I accepted the Lord and became a Christian.

There are many people who believe in creation because they are Christians. I am one for whom the opposite sequence is true—I became a creationist first, and a Christian afterward. ●

*Mr. Psarris has a B.S. in Electrical Engineering from the University of Massachusetts, and was formerly an engineer in the United States military space program. For more information, visit his website at [creationastronomy.com](http://creationastronomy.com).*



**"There are many people who believe in creation because they are Christians. I am one for whom the opposite sequence is true—I became a creationist first, and a Christian afterward."**

**— Spike Psarris**

# Q: Is Every Fossil in Its (Evolutionary) Place?

VERNON R. CUPPS, P.H.D., AND BRIAN THOMAS, M.S.

**A:** During a recent televised debate between Bill Nye and Ken Ham, Mr. Nye claimed that fossils are never found “out of place.”<sup>1</sup> If by this he means they are never found outside of the rock strata that define the supposed age in which the fossilized creatures lived, he’s wrong. He then challenged viewers to find one single contrary instance anywhere in the world. That’s easy.

The fossil record is not nearly as evolutionary as Mr. Nye would have us believe. It features fossils mixed in myriad strange combinations. For example, clam kinds occur all throughout Earth’s sedimentary layers, frequently mixed with dinosaurs, and the fossil clams look like today’s clams.<sup>2</sup>

To the unbiased eye, a fossil bed full of dead and buried, long-gone creatures looks more like a graveyard than a slice of life. It records sudden, violent death and catastrophic covering in mud. These observations fit the worldwide Flood model—at which Mr. Nye so glibly scoffs—much better than evolution’s slow, normal, everyday processes, which generally don’t produce any fossils.<sup>3</sup>

The unique “Cambrian” creature *Anomalocaris* qualifies as a contrary instance to Nye’s concept of tidy evolutionary fossil records. Once used to identify Cambrian rocks, it was recently discovered in Ordovician rocks, supposedly deposited 50 million years *after* the Cambrian.<sup>4</sup>

The five major classes of mollusks, as well as modern parrots, penguins, ducks, owls, and possums, that are living today can all be found in dinosaur rock layers.<sup>5</sup> A fossil Tasmanian devil look-alike even has a dinosaur still in its stomach.<sup>6</sup>

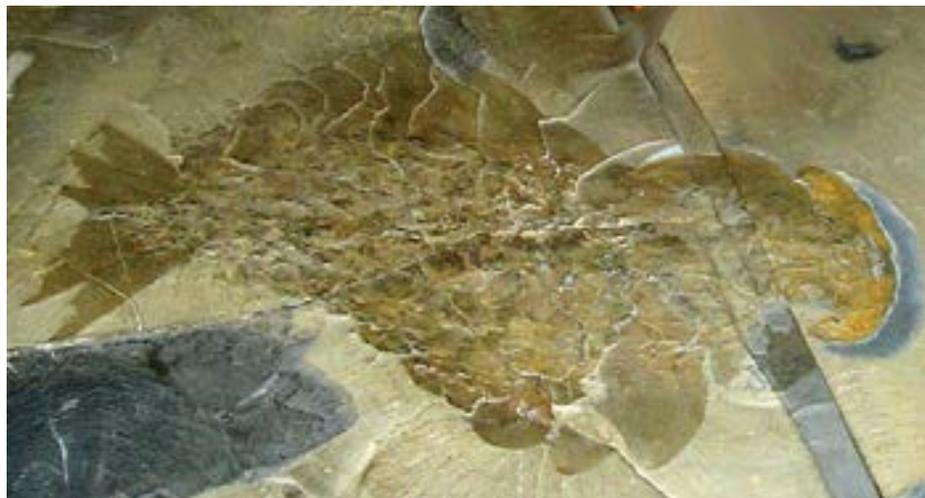


Image credit: Anomalocaris, Keith Schengil; Roberts

What about plant fossils? Carl Sagan said on his 1980 television series *Cosmos*, “The dinosaurs perished around the time of the first flower.”<sup>7</sup> However, scientists have since discovered rhododendron, poppy, modern lotus, black walnut tree leaf, and sweetgum tree leaf fossils in dinosaur rock layers.<sup>5</sup> The recent discovery of beautifully preserved 240 million-year-old pollen grains showed that flowering plants lived 100 million years *earlier* than they were supposed to have evolved, using evolutionary time.<sup>8</sup> With that one flower find, secular scientists essentially had to admit their venerated evolutionary tree was off by 100 million years!<sup>9</sup>

A tree fossil in Tennessee represents many that lie across several rock layers.<sup>10</sup> A kind of fossil tube worm designated as 550 million years old and once used to identify Cambrian rocks was found below Cambrian strata and still lives today, unchanged.<sup>11</sup>

Despite these discoveries, fossils do fall into a general order—sea creatures in lower rocks, shore creatures higher, then swamp and land creatures in uppermost layers. Instead of reflecting evolution from sea to land, this order reflects different environ-

ments deposited in successive tsunami-like episodes during the Flood year. The mixed-up and still-living fossilized organisms refute the concept of a tidy evolutionary sequence and confirm the biblical concept of a recent flood that buried all kinds of creatures in a worldwide cataclysm. ●

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# THE FATHER'S BUSINESS

HENRY M. MORRIS IV

**T**he only detailed account of the Lord Jesus Christ as a child is found in the gospel of Luke. While the gospel of Matthew contains important events surrounding Christ's birth, the fascinating account in Luke 2 documents the only recorded words spoken by Jesus in His incarnation as a boy.

At 12 years of age, Jesus traveled with His family some 90 miles from Nazareth to Jerusalem to celebrate the Passover. After the feast was over and His family began the journey back, Jesus lingered behind in Jeru-

salem, both listening to them and asking them questions" (Luke 2:46). These highly educated rabbis were "astonished at His understanding and answers" (v. 47), showing that, even as a boy, Jesus had already become a deep student of the Scriptures. His parents "were amazed," but seeing that Jesus was apparently no worse for the wear, Mary gently scolded the young boy by asking, "Son, why have You done this to us? Look, Your father and I have sought You anxiously" (v. 48).

Jesus' answer was both a gentle rebuke and a subtle reminder of the angel's messages before His conception (Matthew 1:20-23; Luke 1:26-35): "Why did you seek Me? Did you not know that I must be about My Father's business?" (v. 49). His parents, knowing firsthand His identity and divine mission, should have known where Jesus would be!

God is our Father, too, and He has sent us to do His work (John 20:17, 21). With the young Jesus as our example, Christians should be equally dedicated to the Father's work. This includes the proper stewardship of the resources God has granted to each of us to fulfill His "business" here on Earth (2 Corinthians 9:6-8; Galatians 6:7-10). Knowing we will all give an account one day

(Romans 14:12; 2 Corinthians 5:9-10), we would do well to ask ourselves these questions:

- How am I managing my resources for God? Do I sense the same urgency toward my "Father's business" as young Jesus did?
- How well have I related to God in terms of management and ownership? Do I have possessions that I try to exclude from God's ownership?
- Do I feel freedom in my role as God's

steward? Have I abused the financial freedom that God has given me?

- How is my eternal "bank account" doing? Could I spiritually "retire" on what I have given to the Lord's work on Earth?

The boy Jesus was strongly drawn to God's temple in Jerusalem, and He stayed three days in His Father's house. He couldn't help but do His Father's business! Years later, the man Jesus would explain to His disciples, "I must work the works of Him who sent Me while it is day; the night is coming when no one can work" (John 9:4). Likewise, the call of Christ beckons us to follow in His footsteps. What are you doing to further the work of the Kingdom before your days of opportunity are gone? Is there anything else you could be doing...for our Father's business? ●

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



salem, unbeknownst to His earthly parents. Once they discovered He was not in their company, Mary and Joseph hurried back to Jerusalem in an earnest search for their special Son. If the Lord has blessed you with children, you can imagine how desperate they must have felt!

They eventually found Jesus in the temple "sitting in the midst of the teach-

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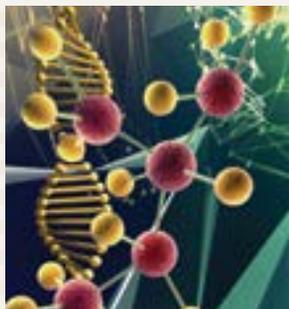


I am so grateful for the *Acts & Facts* magazine. I have been reading it for many years. Recently I went through the Bible and tried to find all the verses that spoke of God as our Creator, and I was so happy to see the recent article by Dr. John Morris about “Creation Verses.” He referenced Jeremiah 32:17 in his article. I do not know how I missed that—I had read it many times over the years! I have added it to my list. I am blessed by his life and writings, and I try to spread the Word of the recent creation of all things by our wonderful heavenly Father.

—S.C.

Thank you for the article “Creation Conversion”—Frank Sherwin’s turning point. My turning point came back in the 1950s and was actually fueled by a foremost evolutionist from one of the Ivy League schools. I was in high school when I attended a lecture by a world-renowned evolutionist. He said: “We know that evolution cannot possibly be true, but we have to believe it because we do not want to believe the only alternative—creation.” This statement struck me so hard that from that time on I really began looking for the truth. About a year later I accepted Jesus as Savior and continued looking for truth re: evolution and creation. It was *The Genesis Flood* that confirmed my creation thinking, and from then on I was involved with reading all the literature I could get my hands on—even taking a week-long seminar under Dr. [Duane] Gish, Gary Parker, and Dr. Henry Morris. I have received *Acts & Facts* since its first edition in the 2-folded sheet editions. Keep up the good work.

—D.H.



Dr. [Nathaniel] Jeanson has hit the ball out of the ballpark with his “New Genetic-Clock Research Challenges Millions of Years” article. This is a powerful apologetic argument for scriptural accuracy regarding our history, one that I plan to reference in my own street encounters. Thank you, ICR and Dr. Jeanson, for your faithful work in equipping the saints!

—R.B.



For months I’ve been meaning to thank you all, and especially Jason Lisle, for the outstanding articles on our solar system! My favorite was about Saturn and its amazing moons, especially the

two that have orbits that should collide but then they switch orbital paths instead. All of the articles were fun and inspiring, even for an astronomy novice like myself. And all of them gave credit to our Creator, “who dwells in unapproachable light” and yet loves us and cares for us down to every hair on our heads! Thanks, and keep up the good work!

—D.W.

I am a mother, and I homeschool my children. I signed up for the trial DVD of *Unlocking the Mysteries of Genesis*. I visited the URCALL website with my daughter, and we watched the video on the mimic octopus. When it ended, the first thing she said was, “Oh, I want to know more!” Thank you for producing this series. As a family, we have used ICR’s resources for many years and appreciate the resource of science and its relation to the Bible. We hope to purchase this series and show it at our church to help others confirm the knowledge that God is the glorious Designer and the Bible is an accurate scientific authority. Thank you, and we hope to see more about that amazing octopus in the series!

—J.A.



Future Creation Scientist! Our issue of *Acts & Facts* arrived in the mail today. After sitting down to read it, my husband left it on the couch to go to the kitchen. When he returned, he found our 17-month-old son Nigel deep in its pages! He was so engrossed, my husband was able to snap this photo! We plan on homeschooling our two boys and look forward to using ICR’s

great resources to teach them the truth of God’s Word and His amazing creation.

—H.R.

Have a comment? Email us at [editor@icr.org](mailto:editor@icr.org) or write to Editor, P. O. Box 59029, Dallas, Texas 75229.

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# UNLOCKING THE MYSTERIES OF GENESIS

EPISODE 8 HIGHLIGHT

## The Ice Age



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**Ice cores?**



**Multiple ice ages?**



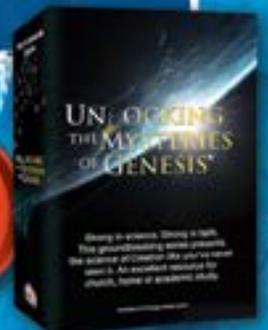
**Did the Flood cause the Ice Age?**

**“Ever wonder what the Ice Age was like?”**



Most scientists agree that an ice age was the last major geological event to happen on this planet. Some theories even suggest that it contributed to the extinction of the dinosaurs. But differences of opinion exist on the number of ice “ages” there were, and when, and for how long. Why is there such a vast difference of opinion on whether there was one ice age, or many, or when they happened?

— Host Markus Lloyd



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