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Building for the Next Generation

page 5



The Eugenics Disaster

page 10

Endosymbiosis: A Theory in Crisis

page 13

Did Hebrew Authors Fake the Creation Account?

page 18

Giving Thanks Beyond Our Lifetimes

page 21

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5

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EXECUTIVE EDITOR
Jayme Durant

SENIOR EDITOR
Beth Mull

EDITORS
Michael Stamp
Truett Billups
Christy Hardy

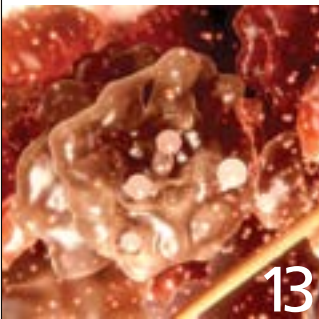
DESIGNER
Dennis Davidson

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10



13



21

FEATURE

5 Building for the Next Generation

HENRY M. MORRIS III, D. MIN.

RESEARCH

9 Seafloor Sediment Research Continues

JAKE HEBERT, PH.D.

10 The Eugenics Disaster

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

BACK TO GENESIS

13 Endosymbiosis: A Theory in Crisis

JEFFREY P. TOMKINS, PH.D.

14 Pre-Flood Human Fossils Revisited

BRIAN THOMAS, M.S.

CREATION Q & A

18 Did Hebrew Authors Fake the Creation Account?

BRIAN THOMAS, M.S.

APOLOGETICS

20 The Ghost Army

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

STEWARDSHIP

21 Giving Thanks Beyond Our Lifetimes

HENRY M. MORRIS IV



Someday...

Thanksgiving is a wonderful time to take a brief break from life. To pause and ponder. To step away from the busyness of consuming schedules and dwell on the goodness of God. I, personally, have much to be grateful for.

As a parent, I'm thankful that each of my four children came to know the Lord Jesus as their Savior at an early age, and they walk with Him as adults today. One of the most priceless memories I have is watching my firstborn as a three-year-old staring out the backdoor window. She was focused on the sky, mesmerized by the changing shapes of the clouds, and without even turning, she matter-of-factly said, "Mommy, someday Jesus is coming back on the clouds."

What joy to hear her express her childlike faith! I know many of you can relate because you often write to me about the sweet expressions of faith you witness in your own children as they learn and grow. Thank you for sharing your blessings with us.

I'm also grateful to be working at the Institute for Creation Research. In my position as Director of Communications, I have the privilege of praying for you, our friends in ministry, on a daily basis as I work through the details of developing books, articles, videos, and other communications that make their way to your inboxes and mailboxes. Please be assured that we seek God's direction as we prepare resources for you, asking God to help us form our words, meet your needs, and glorify our heavenly Father.

We have several new resources available this month we hope will be a blessing to you. Our two newest products will help you

understand how God created us in His image through intricate engineering for the purpose of giving Him glory. As we filmed and developed the *Made in His Image* DVD series, we kept in mind one goal: to display God's glorious design in the human body so you will be inspired to offer Him praise (see pages 16-17). God's marvelous design is also detailed in our latest book in the "Guide to" series, *Guide to the Human Body* (see the back cover).

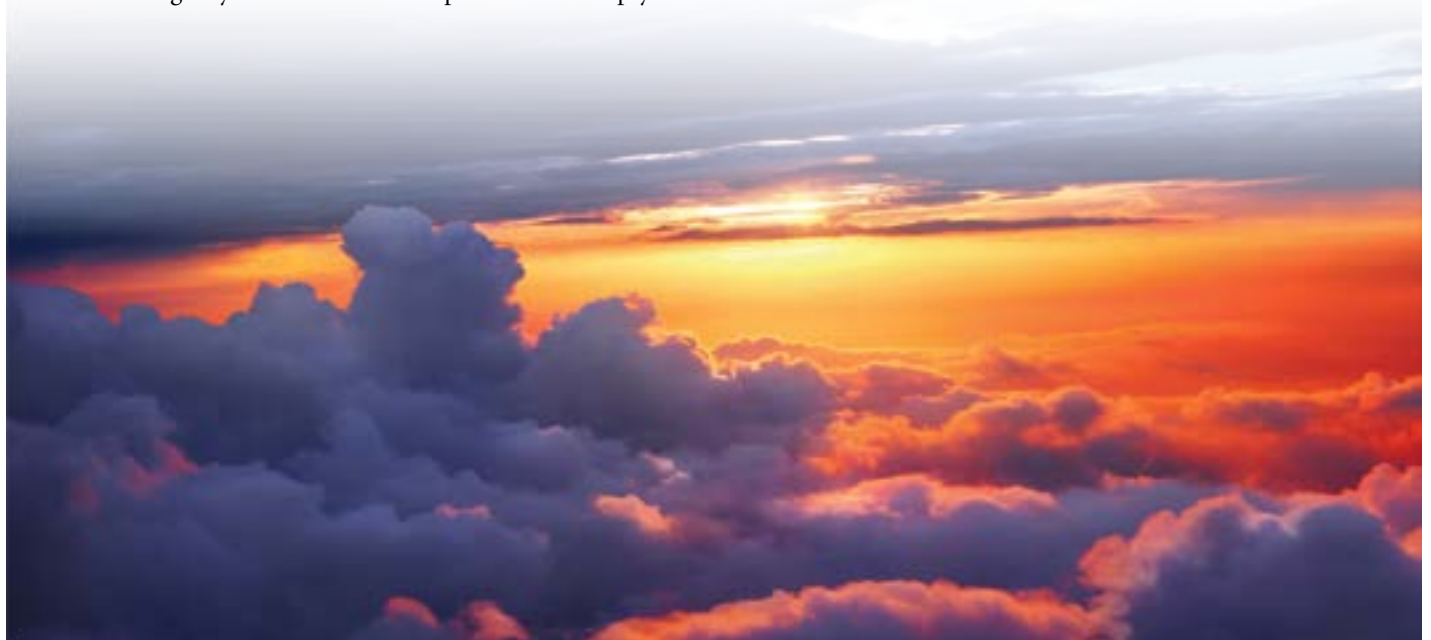
One of the most exciting projects we've ever been involved in as a ministry is our upcoming museum. What we've envisioned for years is becoming a reality, and I'm grateful to be a part of this ministry vision—to give you a place to come and discover how science confirms Scripture. We are in the designing stage, paying careful attention to the Lord's direction with our resources and plans. We are praying that this will meet needs in your life and impact the hearts of your children and grandchildren for many generations to come.

Just a few days ago, my oldest daughter gave birth to her own baby girl. My second grandchild—what a blessing! I'm already praying that my daughter will soon experience the same joy I experienced many years ago—the joy of hearing her little one say those same precious words, "Mommy, someday Jesus is coming back on the clouds."

I hope you and your family have a wonderful Thanksgiving!

Jayme Durant

EXECUTIVE EDITOR





Building for the Next Generation

HENRY M. MORRIS III, D.MIN.

Back in September, I challenged each of us to “Go For It!” Rising to the surface of my mind then was the deep burden that I have carried for over five years to put in place a legacy tool that would reach the coming generations. God’s people have always faced seasons of darkness and foreboding—and yet it is during such times that the Lord expects us to move forward with the messages of truth and hope.

Enlarge the place of your tent, and let them stretch out the curtains of your dwellings; do not spare; lengthen your cords, and strengthen your stakes. (Isaiah 54:2)

That was Isaiah’s message to the leaders of Israel during one of the more dismal periods in their history. They did not listen then, but it is clear from this Scripture that they were supposed to “enlarge, lengthen, and strengthen!”—and they missed out on a marvelous blessing that could have been theirs.

ICR took a big leap of faith when we moved our operations to Dallas back in 2006. But the impetus was strong to renew our commitment to another generation, and the Lord has proved Himself more than sufficient to the leading He was giving. ICR is stronger and more capable than before, and our impact has





grown significantly. Not only did we “enlarge” the tent—we moved it! And the result has been wonderful.

Over the decades, ICR has had an internal commitment to operate without debt and to keep our ministry open, transparent, and resting in God’s provision through His people. It was our founder’s concern that if we were to follow the various “marketing” appeals and processes that seem to skirt dangerously near worldly processes that ICR would ultimately be entangled in nets of compromise that would hinder or dilute our passion for God’s Word.

Thankfully, we have not sought endowments or governmental funding, or used high-pressure appeals. ICR is still supported by faithful gifts that keep the ministry functioning, coming from “regular” folks who love the Kingdom and have caught the vision of how important scientific affirmation of the creation, the Fall of man, and the Flood of Noah’s day is to the entire message of Scripture. God has supplied all our needs (Philippians 4:19).

When the news broke in 2008 that the Perot family had given \$50 million to fund a new science and nature museum in downtown Dallas, the early publicity celebrated the fact that the new project would display the “wonders of evolution.” That news broke my heart, and I became burdened to find a way to somehow counter that message, particularly since it would affect countless children and families who might never know about the tremendous evidence of God’s design and purpose for their lives.

But as is often the case, God’s timing was a bit slower than my wishes. We did not have (yet) enough property to build such an answer to the “monument” that would ultimately aggrandize evolutionary “wonders.” We had just assembled the basics of our science team and were in the early stages of planning for key research projects that would confront the beautifully staged, stunningly presented special effects and growing popularity of the godless story of evolution as

presented in the Perot and other museums.

If we are to answer the lies, we must be ready to do so with the “reason for the hope that is in [us]” (1 Peter 3:15). And we must, above all, be sure that the Lord is with us in these efforts, following the advice of Scripture to “sit down first and count the cost, whether [we have] enough to finish” (Luke 14:28). In ICR’s past, the Lord provided the necessary funds “on the go.” That is, as the need becomes clear, funds come just in time to make the next move possible.

ICR is located on a main east-west boulevard, just south of a central east-west freeway, some 10 miles or so from the DFW airport, which is right in the middle of the two major cities of Dallas and Ft. Worth. But if we were going to build a museum and planetarium of any stature, we would need some significant addition to our frontage. An opportunity arose to purchase the adjacent acre. The funds arrived, and the purchase was made in 2010.

It then became clear that we would need more property if we were to provide parking and expansion for the project. An additional two-plus acres became available just as a large and unexpected donation came in, and that property was secured. As we became more aware of the need to build a facility that would handle large numbers, it also became clear we would have to expand our sales and distribution center with enough space for staging new exhibits. That million-dollar project was funded—just like the previous property needs—just in time. We were given over \$3 million we did not have previously for absolutely necessary increments in preparation for the answer God had laid on our hearts.

We thought we were ready to go. But it became apparent in late 2010 that we needed to wait for God’s signal to begin. We knew we needed about \$20 million to do a proper job. We have spent over \$3 million, but the remaining funds were nowhere in sight. So, slowly, as little “extras” came in from small estate gifts and some designated



gifts from folks who knew of our dreams, we were able to reserve about \$1.5 million beyond our normal operating requirements, in addition to producing the *Unlocking the Mysteries of Genesis* and the newly released *Made in His Image* DVD series, all the while praying and waiting for God’s signal to begin.

Then, as I shared with you in September, ICR received a \$2 million estate gift that was totally unexpected! That gift, plus the \$1.5 million already in the bank, gave me enough courage to start. On top of that, as I began to share my heart with some of my inner circle of friends, I was promised another \$2 million for the project. What a gracious God! “How unsearchable are His judgments and His ways past finding out!” (Romans 11:33).

Obviously, all of us are ready to go now! But we still have the admonition to “count the cost” and to be sure we can “finish” what God has opened the door for.

Here are the basics:

Already Purchased	Already Invested	To Be Done	Approximate Cost
+ adjacent acres	\$1.7 million		
Historical artifacts	\$450 thousand		
Staging area	\$1 million		
Concept contracts	\$175 thousand		
		Design contracts	\$700 thousand
		Underground utilities	\$1.7 million
		Construction	\$13.3 million
		Planetarium	\$1.2 million
		Auditorium	\$1 million
		Exhibits	\$2.7 million

Here’s a quick summary of where we currently stand.

- 1) We have spent a little over \$3.3 million to prepare for this project.
- 2) We have approximately \$3.5 million in the bank now.
- 3) We have another \$2 million committed for the project.
- 4) We need about \$20,600,000 to finish the job.

Of a total estimated cost of about \$24 million, we have either already spent or have in reserve about 37% of the total project cost. We are ready to go. By the time you read this, we will have already approached a few in the Lord’s family who have the resources to help us substantially. I am expecting that their commitments will bring us to the point where we can start construction sometime in the early spring.

You will be receiving more information in the weeks ahead. Certainly pray with us about this. We are as sure as we can be that

the need is real and the time is right. Please do not merely designate your regular giving to help with our Dallas Museum of Science and Earth History. The ongoing operations of ICR will continue, and the funds to assist us with that must continue. But as you pray with us, please consider giving an extraordinary gift to make this legacy tool a reality in 2016. ●

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



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NOVEMBER 20-21	Purcellville, VA – Unlocking the Mysteries of Genesis Conference – Patrick Henry College (H. Morris III, J. Lisle, R. Guliuzza, T. Clarey)
NOVEMBER 21	Peoria, IL – Truth Conference 2015 – Peoria First Assembly of God (F. Sherwin) 309.685.5291
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FEATURED SPEAKERS



Dr. Henry M. Morris III
Chief Executive Officer
Institute for Creation Research



Dr. Randy Guliuzza
National Representative
Institute for Creation Research

FEATURED SCIENTISTS



Dr. Jason Lisle
Astrophysics
University of Colorado



Dr. Tim Clarey
Geology
Western Michigan University



Dr. Marcus Ross
Geosciences
University of Rhode Island



Dr. Michael Kucks
Physics
Lehigh University

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Seafloor Sediment Research Continues

This past summer the Institute for Creation Research was privileged to host the 2015 annual meeting of the Creation Research Society (CRS) in Dallas, Texas.¹ I was among the ICR scientists who made technical presentations, one of which discussed my preliminary research findings on seafloor sediments, which secular scientists claim were deposited over hundreds of thousands of years. Obviously, such age assignments are incompatible with a straightforward reading of Genesis.

These vast ages for the sediments are generally *not* obtained by radioisotopic dating. This is because most radioisotope methods, which are used on volcanic rocks, are thought to yield the estimated time since a rock was in a molten state. Since the bulk of the deep seafloor sediments is composed of the remains of microscopic ocean organisms, radioisotope methods cannot generally be used to obtain the time at which a sedimentary layer was deposited.

There are exceptions, however. Since seafloor sediments contain carbon, radiocarbon dating can theoretically be used to obtain age estimates for the youngest, uppermost seafloor sediments. Likewise, secular scientists sometimes use another method to obtain age estimates for seafloor sediments thought to be fewer than 175,000 years old but too old to be dated by the

radiocarbon method.²

Also, a radioisotope technique may be used to date a volcanic rock that records a reversal in Earth's magnetic field. Because magnetic minerals within seafloor sediments tend to align with the direction of that field, a particularly long seafloor sediment core may contain a record of the most recent magnetic reversal. In that case, the age estimate obtained from volcanic rocks showing the reversal is then "transferred" to the sediment depth in that particular core at which the magnetic reversal occurred. This approach appears straightforward, but these methods have uniformitarian assumptions built into them that either implicitly or explicitly deny creation and a global flood.^{3,4}

Because of the limitations of these dating methods, even within a uniformitarian framework, secular scientists often use the Milankovitch ice age hypothesis to assign ages to the seafloor sediments. This hypothesis claims that ice ages are caused by subtle changes in the seasonal and latitudinal distribution of sunlight, which in turn are caused by slow changes in Earth's orbital and rotational motions over many tens of thousands of years.

Chemical clues within the seafloor sediments are thought to indicate times at which ice ages occurred, and approximate ages for these ice ages can be calculated from the Milankovitch hypothesis. Chemical

variations within the seafloor sediments are then "orbitally tuned" in order to bring age estimates assigned to the sediments in line with the age expectations of the Milankovitch hypothesis.⁵

Of course, this method only works if the Milankovitch hypothesis is actually correct! Tuning data—actually adjusting figures—to line up with a given theory doesn't prove the theory. For this reason, I have been intensely studying arguments for the Milankovitch ice age hypothesis, and some of my preliminary results were well received at this summer's CRS meeting. More research remains before we can draw definitive conclusions, but I am making rapid progress and am quite excited about my findings. It's my hope and prayer to soon have published results that will be of great encouragement to supporters of ICR, as well as to Bible-believing Christians everywhere. ●

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Dr. Hebert is Research Associate at the Institute for Creation Research and received his Ph.D. in physics from the University of Texas at Dallas.





The Eugenics Disaster

R A N D Y J . G U L I U Z Z A , P . E . , M . D .

Imagine yourself a young woman diagnosed as “feeble-minded” and trapped in legal proceedings. You take the defense of your personal autonomy to the Supreme Court and finally hear your name in this decision:

Carrie Buck “is the probable potential parent of socially inadequate offspring, likewise afflicted, that she may be sexually sterilized without detriment to her general health and that her welfare and that of society will be promoted by her sterilization,” and thereupon make the order. [The “order” is compulsory submission to “the operation of salpingectomy...for the purpose of making her sterile.”]¹

In Carrie Buck’s failed 1927 Consti-

tutional challenge, the Court upheld a Virginian law that applied Darwinian eugenics (programs selectively propagating the “fitter,” “well born,” or “good races”) to promote state welfare. In its aftermath, eugenics laws in 31 other states were upheld.

Emboldened by the consensus of scientists, evolutionary research, and now the Supreme Court decision, forced sterilizations of “unfit” citizens increased dramatically throughout the 1930s. Remarkably, sterilizations in some states actually increased *after* World War II.²

The tragedy of state-mandated sterilization of those deemed mentally ill or mentally retarded continued into the 1970s.

The final nail in the coffin for state-

sponsored sterilization was the 1974 case of *Relf v. Weinberger*. In Alabama in 1973, officials from the Federal Community Action Program (an anti-poverty program for minorities) took the Relf girls, Katie, 16, Mary Alice, 14, and Minnie, 12, to a doctor who inserted an IUD in Katie and sterilized Minnie and Mary Alice.³

People carry eugenics’ scars to this day. Like these 12- and 14-year-old girls, who are now women bearing tubal ligations, Carrie Buck’s intelligence was normal all along. She and her husband never had children, and in the United States over 70,000 other victims were compulsorily sterilized, including 8,000 procedures in Lynchburg, Virginia, alone.⁴ In other countries, most notoriously

Germany, millions suffered the horrors of eugenics programs.

Eugenics was the quest to improve humanity's genetic composition. Eugenicists selectively bred "superior" people and sought to eliminate genetic defects by sterilizing, aborting, or euthanizing "inferiors."⁵ Medical applications were developed to mimic nature's "selective" death and loss of reproduction⁵ by means of a large-scale implementation of Darwin's belief that through a selective struggle for survival, "the civilized races of man will almost certainly exterminate, and replace, the savage races throughout the world."⁶

Professor Randolph Nesse, a current advocate for Darwinian medicine, candidly admits that the appalling legacy of eugenics-based thinking can be laid squarely on the concepts of Darwinian evolution. "In the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries," Nesse says, "most applications were 'medical Darwinism' that focused on the welfare of the species. In connection with eugenics, this led to moral and social disaster."⁷ This disaster qualifies as a spectacular evolutionary blunder by any account.

Nesse's concession is sparse on details of the link between evolution and eugenics. An explanation from the heyday of eugenics better illustrates why eugenics is wholly indebted to Darwinism. World-renowned British biostatistician Karl Pearson, who used mathematics to persuasively promote eugenics on three continents from 1900 until his death in 1936, explains:

That is, I think, the ever-present fear which the scientific mind recognises: civilised man has largely destroyed crude Natural Selection....In my own mind and in a growing number of other minds...[civilisation will end] unless civilisation can find a method of doing for itself what Natural Selection did for man during his ascent—insuring that he shall breed only from his best. The study of how it is possible forms the subject matter of what we now term the Science of Eugenics. We have to replace the ruthless action of Natural Selection by reasoned conduct in civilised man.⁸

Eugenics: When Humans Determine Survival of the Fittest

Could the eugenics moral disaster be not merely the *misapplication* of Darwinian natural selection but rather the actual *consequence* of that mindset? Death-survival, fitness, and selection are core characteristics of Darwin's concept of natural selection. All are repeatedly stressed in Pearson's influential 1912 address to the British Medical Association. Chastising physicians for saving "unfits," he conveyed why all "must" embrace eugenic applications—and punctuated his points with disturbing photographs of people born with malformed limbs.

Let me...sketch for you the broad outlines of Darwin's theory of evolutionary progress. The individual better fitted to its environment lived longer than its fellows, had more offspring, and these, inheriting its better fitness, raised the type of the race....According to Darwin—and some of us still believe him to be right—the ascent of man, physical and mental, was brought about by this survival of the fitter. Now, if you are going to take Darwinism as your theory of life and apply it to human problems, you must not only *believe* it to be true, but you must set to, and demonstrate that it actually applies....Nevertheless, medical science has to face the fact that the upward progress of man in the past has been largely controlled by stringent Darwinian selection. We shall gain nothing for racial efficiency by neglecting that central fact of human development. Now if there be...a fairly stringent selection of the weaker individuals by the mortality of infancy and childhood, what will happen, if by increased medical skill and by increased state support and private charity, we enable the weaklings to survive and to propagate their kind? Why, undoubtedly we shall have a weaker race....But we can show from isolated instances that in many ways medical science has led to a survival of the unfit.⁹

At one end of the eugenics spectrum were applications like the marriage registry in the U.S.'s Eugenics Records Office, meant to help people choose "fit" mates from a list of individuals deemed to have desirable

inheritable characteristics.¹⁰ Survival-of-the-fittest applications also extended to the spectrum's other end. Charles Epstein, the late president of the American College of Medical Genetics, recounted, "Thus, even if the original notion was of positive eugenics, the actual implementation of eugenic principles very quickly began to run along negative eugenic lines....The object was to ensure the nonsurvival of those considered to be unfit...by prevention of marriage and of racial mixing, institutionalization, sterilization, and sometimes castration." He added, "No longer was breeding of the undesirable to be controlled—rather, the breeders who were thought to carry the undesirable genes were to be eliminated altogether."¹¹

Eugenicists selectively bred
"superior" people and sought to eliminate genetic defects by sterilizing, aborting, or euthanizing "inferiors."

Comparable selection-based eugenics beliefs even subtly crept into Christianity. Some claimed that natural selection, though fueled by death, helps the population by getting rid of genetic defects and thus preserves the viability of a population by removing those members with severely harmful or lethal characteristics—which, they say, exhibits the care of God for His creation in a post-Fall world.

The Euthanasia Society of America started in 1938 as a natural corollary to the movement to prevent "unfit" births. Science historian Ian Dowbiggin documents that members promoted voluntarily and involuntarily euthanizing severely afflicted people, noting that "mid-twentieth-century American social activists believed that 'birth control' and 'death control' formed 'a rational coalition,' two aspects of the same crusade to liberate human beings from afflictions that had plagued human history for centuries."¹² They viewed "the histories of euthanasia, eugenic sterilization, and birth control in the United States less as separate narratives and more as a single, broad chronicle of events inextricably linked."¹³

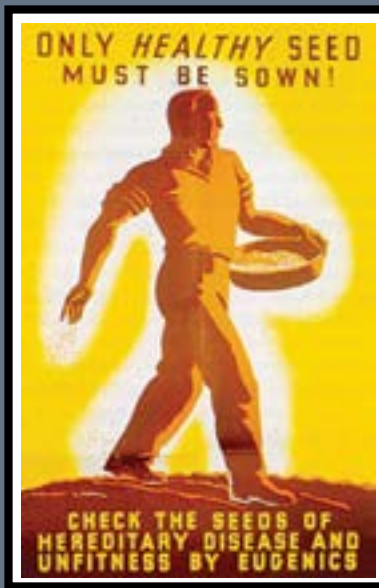
How Eugenics Gained Medical Support

Eugenicists employed an effective technique to gain scientific respectability and persuade physicians to act contrary to their medical instincts: peer-reviewed publications. This technique is still useful for obtaining scientific consensus, legislative endorsements, and public acceptance of counter-intuitive “scientific” conjectures that carry profound social ramifications—and that may also blossom into enormous blunders.

Scientific journals like the *Annals of Eugenics* and *Eugenics Quarterly* provided peer-reviewed credibility. Major peer-reviewed journals also promoted eugenics, as “from 1910 through 1914 more than 120 articles about eugenics appeared in magazines, a volume of print making it one of the nation’s favorite topics....Lobbyists succeeded in part because of favorable views expressed in the medical profession. During the period from 1926 to 1936 about 60 [medical] articles, the vast majority in favor of eugenical sterilization, appeared.”¹⁴ Eugenicists thus secured scientific and medical respectability. Later, however, geneticists like Morgan, Pearl, and Haldane demonstrated that persuasive published research was “inadequate” and “old-fashioned rubbish”¹⁵ revealing earlier “vener review” masquerading as genuine peer review.

For instance, Reilly reported about an influential 1902 study by surgeon Harry C. Sharp of the Indiana Reformatory on the effects of vasectomies performed on 42 inmates. Based on post-sterilization findings of the inmates sleeping better and feeling stronger, his paper advocated “render[ing] every male sterile who passes its portals, whether it be alms house, insane asylum, institute for the feeble minded, reformatory or prison.”¹⁶

The scientific consensus, including prominent faculty from Harvard University and Johns Hopkins Medical School, promoted eugenics as the view of science’s progressive thinkers.¹⁷ International Eugenics Congresses were held in 1912, 1921, and 1932, attended by some of the world’s leading scientists. Supporters were bestowed



United Kingdom Eugenics Society poster from the 1930s when eugenics was popular with scientists. The double meaning of the term “seed” is used in a comparison between spreading healthy plant seed for a bountiful harvest and spreading healthy human “seed” for the purposes of procreating a physically fit, mentally proficient, and racially pure human race.

high academic honors, while dissenters were usually uninvited. Eugenics leaders like America’s Harry Laughlin already possessed “expert” status, occupying positions like the Superintendent of the Eugenics Records Office. Their authority was enhanced with actions similar to Laughlin’s appointment as Expert Eugenical Agent by a Congressional Committee Chairman in 1921.

Multiple eugenics advocacy organizations were filled with hundreds of prominent academicians—though few were geneticists or comprehended the weaknesses in the published literature. Capable researchers critical of eugenics—the minority group—occasionally “shocked” the scientific consensus by publicly questioning tenets of eugenics. The Roman Catholic Church was influential in blocking legislation in some states. Reilly recounts, “Leading eugenicists saw Catholic opposition as their ‘greatest obstacle,’” and he adds, “By the mid-1920s eugenicists had recognized the Catholic Church as a major enemy.”¹⁸

In sum, an ardent group advanced their message via media and educational

institutions by these means: establish peer review to project credibility, control peer review procedures to muffle critiques, self-coronate “experts” to monopolize authority, and ostracize dissenters to enforce compliance. Through these efforts, eugenicists thoroughly won an international scientific consensus during the first four decades of the twentieth century.

Given its systemic misuse of science, the eugenics legacy was ultimately exposed as such a massive Darwinian blunder that in most literature today “the term [eugenics] is wielded like a club. To label a policy ‘eugenics’ is to say, in effect, that it is not just bad but beyond the pale.”¹⁹ Yet, Darwin’s concept of natural selection remains alive and well, so its twisted offspring, eugenics, will no doubt return. ●

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Dr. Guliuzza is ICR’s National Representative.



One of the biggest problems for evolution is how animal and plant cells, *eukaryotes*, could have been derived from precursor bacteria-like cells called *prokaryotes*. Unlike prokaryotes, eukaryotic cells are highly compartmentalized and contain membrane-bound organelles such as the nucleus, mitochondria, and (in plants) chloroplasts that are not found in bacteria or archaea (non-bacterial single-celled prokaryotes). Along with numerous other genetic and molecular differences, these complex cellular organelles not found in prokaryotes, form an unbridgeable gap for evolution to somehow accomplish.^{1,2}

Evolutionists have long struggled to present a non-speculative explanation for the origin of the eukaryotic cell nucleus and other complex cellular features. One idea that has been quite popular for about 50 years is that mitochondria and chloroplasts were derived from a mythical process called *endosymbiosis*.³ The heart of this explanation is the fact that the mitochondrion possesses a small circular piece of DNA containing some of the genes it needs to function, combined with a process of organelle replication. This functional combination looks similar to how bacterial DNA is constructed and how bacteria reproduce, but the appearances are only superficial.

It is alleged that at some point in the distant past, a prokaryotic cell (perhaps an archaea) engulfed a bacterium (perhaps a proteo-bacterium), and then, invoking a magical jump in lieu of any scientific explanation, hundreds of genes were somehow “retailored” to new purposes. In addition, many thousands of genes were also thought to be transferred into the cell’s nucleus, while others were discarded. The basic idea for this whole scenario was originally boosted by the early discovery of genes in both mitochondrial and eukaryotic nuclear genomes that had regions of similarity to bacterial genes, especially proteo-bacteria.³

However, now that genome sequencing is inexpensive and widespread, the evolutionary story of endosymbiosis has become increasingly clouded and controversial. As new bacterial and eukaryotic genomes are sequenced and the proteins they encode are deduced, the whole evolutionary idea of endosymbiosis has been thrown into utter confusion.

One of the most unexpected discoveries has been the utter lack of identified genes that would support the evolutionary tale. As stated in a recent paper,

What was not anticipated was how relatively few mitochondrial

proteins with bacterial homologs [sequence similarity] would group specifically with α -Proteobacteria in phylogenetic [evolutionary tree] reconstructions: At most, only 10–20% of any of the mitochondrial proteomes examined so far display a robust α -proteobacterial signal.⁴

This lack of evidence for mitochondrial genes derived from bacterial origin in both the mitochondrial DNA and the genome contained in the cell’s nucleus, where most mitochondrial genes are located, is a serious problem for the evolutionary story.

Another major finding contrary to evolutionary endosymbiotic assertions is that there is no display of steady evolutionary progression from simple to complex. Mitochondrial proteomes (the entire set of mitochondrial proteins), even in one-celled eukaryotes such as yeast and protozoa, are already highly complex, diversified, and complete. Also, one-celled eukaryote mitochondrial gene complements are just as complicated as those in plants and animals. A leading evolutionist recently commented, “It has become apparent that the LMCA [last mitochondrial common ancestor] was already as complex in its key functions as modern mitochondria,” and “evidently, basic endosymbiont-to-mitochondrion retailoring was essentially complete before the divergence of the main eukaryotic lineages.”⁴

The sequences of many eukaryotic genomes are now clearly showing that the gene repertoires needed for the mitochondria to function are *not* derived from bacteria but are remarkably unique to the type of creature in which they are found. While certain genetic similarities do exist, these correspondences are plausibly explained by the standard engineering concept of code re-use—common code to solve similar problems. The wealth of genomic data is now utterly destroying the idea of evolution on all fronts, even in the area of endosymbiosis, one of the secularists’ favorite theories. ●

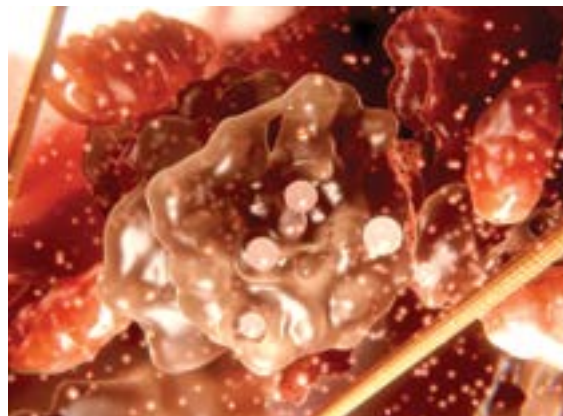
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Dr. Tomkins is Research Associate at the Institute for Creation Research and received his Ph.D. in genetics from Clemson University.



Endosymbiosis: A Theory in Crisis



PRE-FLOOD HUMAN FOSSILS REVISITED

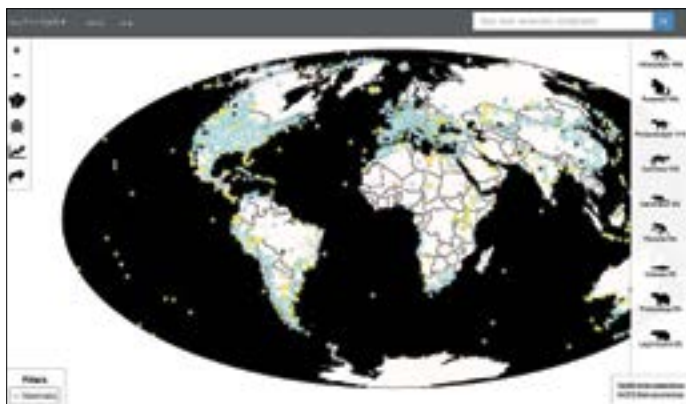
Where are the fossils from the people who lived before the Flood? A 1992 ICR article supplied seven responses to this question.¹

1. Land animals and humans have a low fossilization potential. We would expect few fossils from them.
2. If the Flood buried a multitude of people and distributed their bodies among the world's sedimentary rocks, finding even one human fossil in such a vast area would be unlikely.
3. Underwater mudflows during the Flood would have ground human bones to powder.
4. Floodwaters receding off continents might have likewise pulverized them.
5. Catastrophic geological processes may have buried ancient continents in their entirety, virtually erasing all evidence of people.
6. Whoever discovers a pre-Flood human bone or bone fragment might not identify it as such, since that finding would not fit evolutionary expectations.
7. The pre-Flood population might have been quite small, considering Genesis 6:13's statement that "the earth was filled with violence."

Does any new evidence help to update these responses?

Fossilization, Runoff, and Pennsylvanian Coal

Low fossilization potential refers to the rarity of fossil formation because unique conditions are needed to preserve fragile remains. The Flood supplied those conditions, though. If humans have low fossilization potential, wouldn't land animals, too? Paleontologists have created online databases that map fossil land ani-



Screenshot of the Paleobiology Database (paleobiodb.org). Current development of this database is being carried out in the Department of Geoscience at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

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mal locations, sortable by geologic layering. Flood fossils formed in specific layers or in certain pockets where slowing sedimentary slurries transported plant and animal wreckage to a stop. They were not spread evenly around the world. So, in general, we know where to expect land mammal fossils, and they contain no undisputed human remains.

What about underwater mudflows? New earth science studies confirm that unimaginably catastrophic geological processes really happened.² Crustal plate motions would have produced numerous underwater mudflows. But because pre-Flood people presumably did not live on sea floors, we should not expect underwater mudflows to have ground up any people or large land mammals.

Waters racing off the continents in the later months of Noah's Flood could also have pulverized people and animals. Since 1992, creation geologists have searched for rocks that show a clear pre-Flood/post-Flood boundary, but experts remain divided. If fossils found right above dinosaurs represent post-Flood deposits, then the Flood fossilized very few land mammals like deer or dogs. In that case, floodwater runoff may have ground them all to powder or transported them unburied until they rotted. However, if many of the land animal fossils found above dinosaur layers represent late-Flood deposits, then these represent human-free, pre-Flood animal remains possibly buried by floodwater runoff. This again leaves the question of what happened to the humans unresolved. More research may help discern the better of these options.

Although we know of no undisputed human skeletal remains in Flood rocks, a few unique artifacts may have come from pre-Flood humans. These include an iron cup discovered in 1918 inside a lump of Pennsylvanian coal from Oklahoma, a brass bell inside a lump of West Virginia coal, and in 2013 an aluminum gear section in another Pennsylvanian coal mined in northern Mongolia.³ Although these artifacts are intriguing, we need more thorough investigations that test against fraud before building a case on them.

Evolutionary Bias

What would a scientist who was convinced that modern-looking humans did not evolve until 2.5 million years ago think of a human fossil found in layers assigned to three or more million years?



An answer came in 2011, when researchers demonstrated that a fossil foot bone exactly matched human anatomy. However, since its evolutionary age was just over three million years, they “concluded” it was from an evolutionary ape-like human that had an ape’s body but a human foot.⁴ Of course, the human bone was not attached to or associated with any other bones—let alone ape bones. This and other examples give good reason to doubt that evolutionary researchers can weigh evidence objectively enough to ever admit to finding human fossils where they wouldn’t expect them. Maybe there *are* human fossils mixed in ancient bone beds, and they simply go unreported or misidentified.

Worldwide Violence and Population Decline

Genesis 6:5 says of the pre-Flood world, “Then the LORD saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intent of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually,” and verse 11 says, “The earth was also corrupt before God, and the earth was filled with violence.” Everywhere was bad—as bad as people can possibly get. Could the homicide rate have been so high that it curtailed or reduced the pre-Flood population? We have a modern example. In 1956, Waorani tribesmen brutally murdered missionaries Nate Saint, Jim Elliot, and three others in the jungles of Ecuador, demonstrating their reputation for extreme violence.⁵ Generations of intertribal murder raids whittled their numbers down to a pitiful band of 500.⁶ But many Waorani listened to the gospel presented by the wife and sister of two of the murdered missionaries. Warlike behavior evaporated as former murderers and new generations began trusting and following the living Lord Jesus. Their population today approaches 2,500. Clearly, unchecked violence can shrink populations.

Also, Jewish tradition from the Book of Enoch, part of which is quoted in Jude 1:14-15, says that perhaps most of the pre-Flood people murdered one another. We shouldn’t lean too heavily on this for historical details, but we can lean on Scripture. It says the violence was so extreme it deserved worldwide judgment. Exceedingly high murder rates could have whittled down the ancient population, but Matthew 24 confirms that some still lived. In verse 39 Jesus said, “The flood came and took them all away.”⁷ The fewer their numbers, the less likely any fossils would be found.

Where Are Evolution’s Fossils?

Dr. John Morris wrote in 1992:



French archaeologists unearthed the remains of a Celtic warrior in a 2,300 year-old Iron Age cemetery southeast of Paris. Human remains from this time period are not uncommon—but where are the countless human remains from millions of years of evolution?

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If evolution is true, and humans have lived on Earth for three million years, many trillions have lived and died. Where are *their* fossils? This is the more vexing question.¹

What have we learned since then? That not only are evolution’s human fossils still missing, but so is any other trace of their existence. Countless human bones should fill caves, crevices, and graveyards. Their ancient firepits and trash heaps should be found around every corner. Scientists have described a few extinct ape fossils and evidence of unfamiliar-looking humans, but their continued failure to find the human fossils expected from millions of years of evolution only intensifies this “more vexing question.”

Since 1992, archaeologists exploring ancient human civilizations have marveled at exquisite carvings, recorded amazingly detailed paintings, and uncovered expert architecture like that at Göbekli Tepe in Turkey. None of these artifacts belong to the evolutionary story’s ape-like pre-civilized humans. Instead, they spring up suddenly in human history, revealing that our first ancestors had at least as much intelligence and abilities as we have. It’s as though our original forefathers stepped off a ship into the Middle East with no evolutionary backstory. According to Genesis, Noah’s grandsons built a new society immediately after the Flood. So the near-absence of human fossils refutes human evolution and confirms what the Bible says about Noah’s descendants.

Where are all the pre-Flood human fossils? Well, the high murder rates that Genesis 6 suggests, plus other factors like catastrophic flooding, floodwater sorting, and even investigator bias, indicate we might not expect to find many after all. Meanwhile, evolution’s expected pre-civilization human fossils remain missing. ●

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Mr. Thomas is Science Writer at the Institute for Creation Research.



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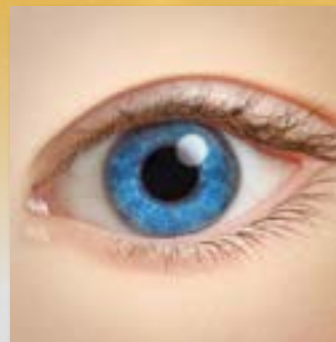
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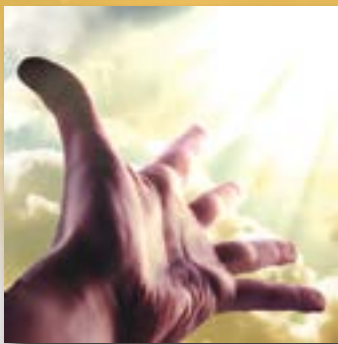
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Did Hebrew Authors Fake the Creation Account?

As my family's copy of Joseph Rhymer's *Atlas of the Biblical World* echoes what many Bible scholars have taught about Genesis: "There are two creation accounts."¹ One account spans Genesis 1:1–2:4, and a second begins with 2:5. Rhymer asserts that around 500 B.C. unknown Hebrew writers crafted a fake creation history that borrowed bits of Mesopotamian myths so that the Hebrew exiles would feel better about leaving Babylon to rebuild Israel.² Let's call this the "late fake theory."

Why does this matter? The Bible's opening verses present a simple yet informative overview of our world's first seven days. Genesis 2:4 clearly says this is "history." Prophets and apostles elsewhere in the Bible refer to Genesis 1–11 not as fake history but as real events. Jesus backed His argument about marriage by quoting Genesis 1 and 2.³ If authors faked Genesis accounts, then the prophets, apostles, and Jesus were all wrong.⁴ Two observations help refute the late fake theory.

First, editors today regularly add multiple eyewitness accounts together to build a final report. Finding evidence that more than one author contributed to a book does not mean those authors must have written it eons after the events that are described. They could have written their experiences

and then passed them down to trustworthy descendants for future generations.

It looks like that happened in Genesis, with each author noting his contribution with the phrase "this is the genealogy [history] of..." Genesis 5:1 says, "This is the book of the genealogy of Adam." "Book" in this context means "writing" or "document." Since no humans existed until Day Six, God must have contributed the first account Himself, ending it in 2:4a with "this is the history of the heavens and the earth when they were created."

Did the ancients associated with this phrase write the other Genesis histories? If so, Adam's account might have used the words "in the day that the LORD God made the earth and the heavens" to dovetail with the last words of the prior account. ICR founder Henry Morris wrote, "The section from 2:4b through 5:1 was probably written originally by Adam himself."⁵ Similarly, "this is the genealogy of Noah" would indicate the end of Noah's part.⁶ Noah's three sons then coauthored the subsequent contribution, and so on.⁷ Moses could have compiled and edited copies of all 11 accounts into what finally became Genesis a millennium *before* the supposed forgers.⁸

Can you find any detail in Genesis 2–4 that Adam could not have known for himself? Do those chapters contradict Genesis 1? On the contrary, the accounts comple-

ment one another. The first chapter seems to come from an all-knowing perspective, while the second chapter fits Adam's perspective, and a careful study shows no contradictions.⁹ No evidence from science, archaeology, or the Bible demands or even suggests that unknown authors faked Genesis thousands of years after creation and the Flood.

These two observations expose the late fake theory as nonsense. First, it is possible and permissible for an editor to merge previously written accounts into a final document. Finally, signatures throughout Genesis show that God integrated eyewitness records to compose the trustworthy and true book of beginnings. "For prophecy never came by the will of man [including late fakers], but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit."¹⁰ ●

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Mr. Thomas is Science Writer at the Institute for Creation Research.



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The Ghost Army *Lessons in Threat-Reversal Mimicry*

Sometimes the best defense is an offense, even when the “offense” is really a bold bluff. This tactic is valued in wartime, and when God uses this principle He deserves our appreciation.

America’s top-secret World War II “Ghost Army” used cleverness and technology to fool German forces by masking military vulnerabilities. Yet the main fakery they used wasn’t mere camouflage—the daring deception involved *threat-reversal mimicry*.

During September 1944, the Ghost Army masqueraded as a large force of “Super Sixth” Sherman (M4) tanks¹ in order to intimidate a German Panzer division near the Moselle River.² A high-stakes hoax, it employed inflatable rubber tanks, audio recordings broadcast by loudspeakers, and bogus radio transmissions. And the daring ploy worked!

Their mission was to put on a show, with the German Army as the audience. They were plugging a hole in General George Patton’s line by pretending to be the Sixth Armored Division, with all its tanks and might.

But the men of the Twenty-Third had no tanks...and precious little might.... This cast of artists, designers, radio op-

erators, and engineers was equipped instead with battalions of rubber dummies, a world-class collection of sound-effects records, and all the creativity the soldiers could muster.



They understood all too well that their own lives depended on the quality of the performance—if the Germans saw through their deception, they could attack and overrun the small, lightly armed unit....

But thousands of lives were at stake as well. If the Germans realized how thinly held the sector was, they could break through and attack Patton from the rear.²

The Ghost Army’s main tactic did not use camouflage concealment tactics. Rather, its purposeful playacting was designed *to be noticed*—and to be misinterpreted as a viable threat. By the end of the war, it is estimated the Ghost Army saved between 15,000 and 30,000 American lives!

This kind of shrewd trickery, if successful, reverses the roles of attacker and target. The target fools the attacker into actually fearing the target—and the nervy bluff deters the attack. The boldness of the vulnerable target in feigning readiness to attack the attacker is a brilliant reversal of predator-prey roles, but only if the prey successfully fakes out the predator.

Such is ordinary life for the mourning dove (*Zenaid macroura*), which feeds on the ground and nests there or within shrubs, on buildings, or in trees—the same places where opportunistic and omnivorous rats, like *Rattus rattus* and *Rattus norvegicus*, roam for food. Consequently, dove eggs and hatchlings are sometimes vulnerable to prowling predatory rats.³

How can vulnerable mourning doves intimidate the neighborhood rats? God invented and installed a specialized acoustical mimicry that has benefitted countless doves generation after generation. Their doleful moanings (*cooOOoo-woo-woo-woooo*) sound sad to humans, like someone mourning. But to rats, that moaning sounds like an owl hooting⁴—and owls eat rodents!³

When the Ghost Army used threat-reversal mimicry it was truly ingenious—so we give credit where credit is due.⁵ But when mourning doves make noises like rat-snatching owls—practicing threat-reversal mimicry—God’s cleverness all too often goes unseen, unacknowledged, and unappreciated.

God’s creatorship is not a secret. Let’s give Him due credit for all of His cleverly made creatures, including gentle mourning doves, whose needs He has caringly provided for. ●

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



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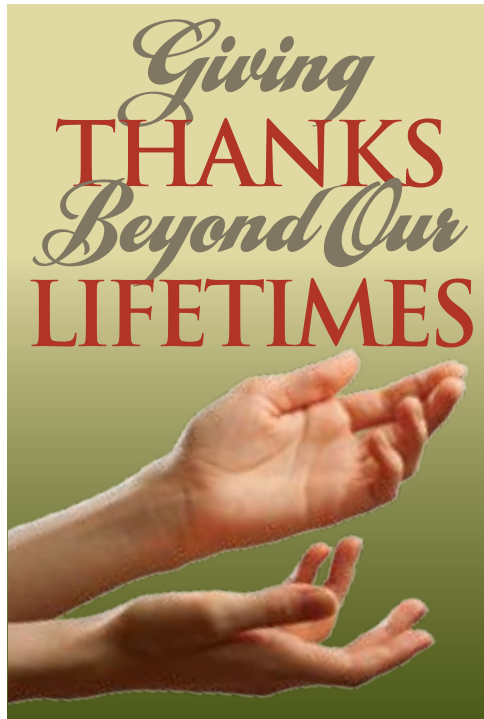
For Bible-believing Christians, Thanksgiving is a joyous time of praise for and reflection on all our Creator has done for us. Despite the wickedness that prevails at times, God has been so good to all of us, and this special day gives us a unique opportunity to praise Him for “all His benefits” (Psalm 103:2).

Too often, though, Thanksgiving here in the United States is seen as just another holiday. Although most families will gather and share a traditional meal, and many will pause long enough to express thanks to someone or something—perhaps even to God—there is little doubt that the original significance of this “holy” day has been lost in the haze of secularism. Would George Washington recognize any semblance of his original proclamation for the nation to “unite in most humbly offering our prayers...to the great Lord and Ruler of Nations and beseech Him to pardon our national and other transgressions”?¹

Or would Abraham Lincoln see his countrymen giving thanks for “the gracious gifts of the Most High God, who, while dealing with us in anger for our sins, hath nevertheless remembered mercy”?² In light of recent events—immoral rulings on homosexual marriage, appalling disclosures about the “business” of abortion, and agreements with nations hostile to God, Christianity, and Israel—can there be any doubt our nation’s founders would be dismayed by how far America has drifted from its Christian roots?

Thanksgiving Day is intended to be much more than turkey or football or family gatherings. It’s a day to worship the One who created us and has blessed us every single day of our lives. Yet the “god” worshipped and thanked by millions bears little resemblance to the omnipotent, holy, and benevolent Creator God of Scripture. Dr. Al Mohler summarizes this truth with eloquence:

The secular vision of thanksgiving feels empty and false. If there is no Creator and the universe is a cosmic accident, whom do we thank? At best, all we can do is be happy—at least in some sense—that this accident has not turned out worse. If there is no divine intelligence or benevolence behind world events, public and personal, it certainly seems like our Thanksgiving is



just an exercise in considering ourselves comparatively lucky. How can fate be thanked?³

As usual, how people recognize and respond to the Creator makes all the difference! Here at ICR, we are deeply grateful for His abundant provision through the generous support and intercessory prayers of believers like you. Our mission is to uncover the truths of Scripture and communicate the wondrous message of the One who made us to a world headed toward destruction. Your partnership with us keeps our ministry focused and thriving as we move into new and exciting ventures.

With ICR’s major announcement to build a robust science museum and planetarium on our campus, as well as our plans to produce more high-quality DVD series like *Unlocking the Mysteries of Genesis* and *Made in His Image*, we are moving into a new era of strategic influence that fulfills our unique mission to reach multiple generations for Christ. ICR has the scientific prowess, artistic and intellectual skills, and biblical commitment to raise our effectiveness to new levels—but not without significant help from God’s people to fully develop these powerful initiatives.

This Thanksgiving, please prayerfully consider how you can “give thanks to the LORD” by partnering with ICR to “make known His deeds among the peoples” (Psalm 105:1). I welcome the opportunity to serve you and invite you to contact me at 800.337.0375 or stewardship@icr.org. Together, we can build a lasting legacy that will reach far beyond our lifetimes and into eternity.

From all of us at ICR, we pray God’s richest blessings on you and your family as we praise Him for all He has done. Happy Thanksgiving! ●

References

1. George Washington’s Thanksgiving Proclamation, October 3, 1789.
2. Proclamation of Thanksgiving, Abraham Lincoln, October 3, 1863.
3. Mohler, R. A., Jr. Thanksgiving Without a Giver? *On Faith*. Posted on faithstreet.com/onfaith November 24, 2006, accessed September 25, 2015.

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



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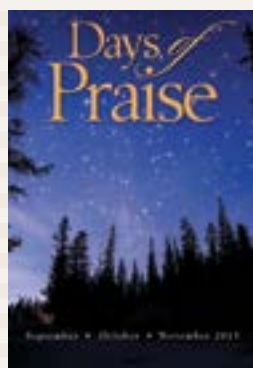
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Dr. Jason Lisle’s article “Two Creation Accounts?” (September 2015) is right on. I spent many years as a newspaper reporter and editor, and I’ve often thought of the structure of Genesis 1 and 2 as in conformity with the way a news story is supposed to be written: The overall story is told in the first few paragraphs, and then the article “backs up” and starts filling in details. Genesis 1–2 fits that pattern—God’s “news story” of how creation was accomplished.

—J.M.



I just recently, and for the first time, had to renew my free subscription to *Days of Praise*. I have been receiving these through email since I did the Creationist Worldview program almost six years ago. I want to say a big thank you. I enjoy getting them, but more because I forward them on to some of my friends in Sudan, where I once served as a missionary. They often tell me how much they enjoy reading them. So again, thank you so much for these devotions as they reach many more. God bless you guys.

—N.B.

Thank God for your ministry! Everything I assumed about the Bible while in school from childhood is verified in your ministry! Like a missing link in the whole puzzle of life. So satisfying, and I read your material with tears of joy! Dr. Morris is like a prophet. May God continue to use you guys for His purpose and glory. It’s working; His Word is true! The rocks, especially in Grand Canyon, have been “crying out” loud and clear for quite a while, and I’m glad you guys are crying in the wilderness in these last days with them!

—A.E.V.



Dear Jayme, at times you must weary of writing your From the Editor column; we all tire of work from time to time. But I’d like to tell you, I never weary of reading your lovely introductions to each issue of *Acts & Facts*, and I wish you strength, enthusiasm, and happiness, even as I thank you for your past and current work. It is much appreciated, as are your colleagues’ articles, as well as the Morris’ *Days of Praise*.

—R.S.



How much we’ve enjoyed *Acts & Facts*. It is the most fascinating, excellently written, amazingly educational magazine ever. We have passed some of them on to family, friends, church, and strangers... the whole magazine glorifies God. Thank you for encouraging us in the faith as we read about the discoveries at ICR, the effect of this work all over the world, and the devotion of those dedicated to it. Thank you to the scientists who contribute to *Acts & Facts* so we also may be informed.

—M.B.



This morning I spoke with our pastor and let him know that huge numbers of young Christians lose their faith during the first two years of college due to the intimidation they suffer in science, philosophy, history, and other worldview classes. I also told him that unless these young adults get some training in apologetics, they are going to [be] part of the apostate. I offered to teach a class for the high school seniors and college ministry. He said, “I don’t know about just teaching the high school and college students... I think that the whole congregation needs to hear it.” There is no doubt *Unlocking the Mysteries of Genesis* [DVD series] will be used for this course!

—D.S., M.D.

Have a comment? Email us at editor@icr.org or write to Editor, P. O. Box 59029, Dallas, Texas 75229.
Note: Unfortunately, ICR is not able to respond to all correspondence.

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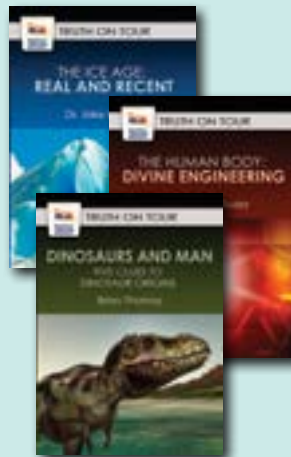
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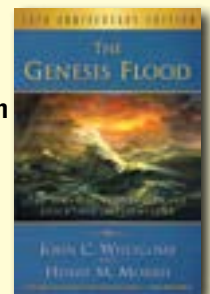
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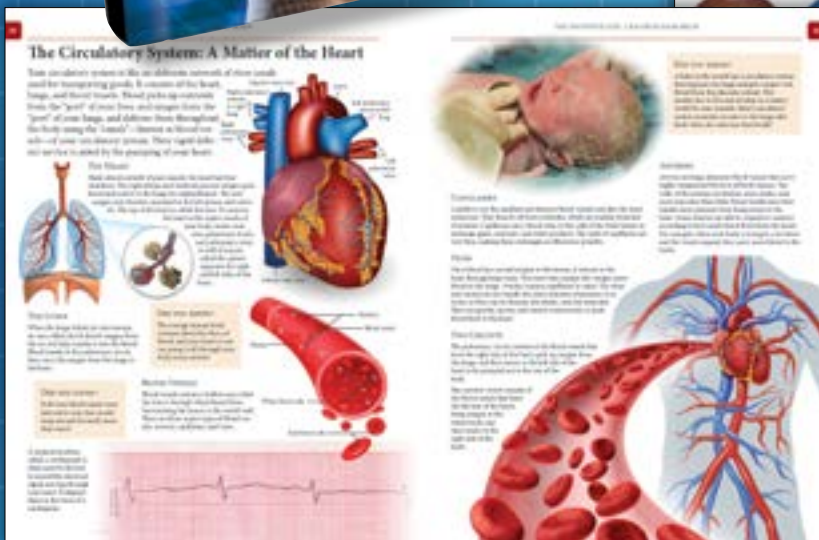
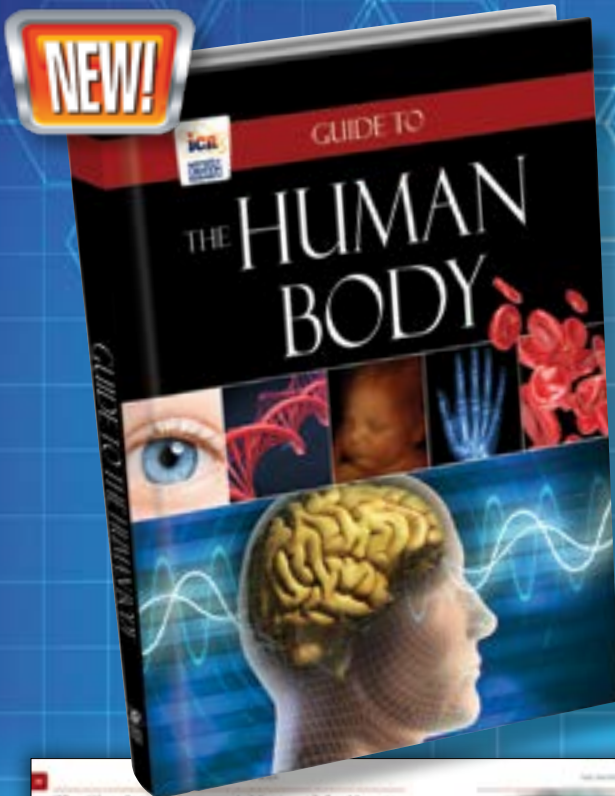
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