

ACTS & FACTS

The background of the cover is a deep blue with a faint grid pattern. A hand is shown from the bottom, palm up, holding a stream of bright, glowing light rays that rise towards the top of the page. The light rays are composed of many thin, parallel lines, creating a sense of energy and divine spark. The overall aesthetic is clean, modern, and spiritual.

INSTITUTE FOR
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The Logic of BIBLICAL CREATION

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Academic Freedom Battle Continues State by State

One thing is certain: the creation/evolution conflict is never static. There's always something going on. Recent years have seen legislative battles in state after state as evolution-only public school teaching is challenged. The most recent flurry occurred in Louisiana and has spawned urgent and angry comments from evolutionists around the world.

On June 11, 2008, the Louisiana legislature passed a bill that would allow teachers and students more freedom to study the origins issue. Entitled the Louisiana Science Education Act, it passed unanimously in the state Senate and with a wide margin in the House. On several occasions before this, bills addressing the same general subject were passed in that state, only to crumble in the face of withering legal opposition from the self-appointed scientific elite. Consequently, they were never enacted as intended.

The majority of the people of the state of Louisiana are logically minded enough to know that their children did not arise from random mutations in animal populations, and they don't want such an erroneous view taught in the name of science. They can see the underlying "religion of naturalism" motivating many educators and textbook writers, and they don't want their public schools dominated by a narrow religious viewpoint that goes against the closely held values of the majority of citizens. They want their children better equipped in science, and to not have valuable classroom time taken up by unsupported views of the past with little relevance in the present.

They further see the impact of such teach-

ing on the students. The view that human life has no intrinsic value in and of itself runs counter to what they know is true. They question evolutionary efforts to assign human rights to animals. They know that our morals come ultimately from a higher source, and not from animal behavior applied to humans. They suspect that teaching children they are only higher animals has a negative impact on their morals and worldview.

They also want their students to be able to think critically, the subject this bill mainly addresses. They know one-sided teaching of a controversial subject does not accomplish this. If important evidence that bears on an issue is censored from them, how can they ever learn to think critically? They can only repeat the same errors. Isn't there something better? Shouldn't the "educational elite" want something better, too?

Now that the bill has passed, evolutionists express their worry that its implementation will undermine evolution. They know they can't allow critical thinking in the classroom, for they know that once students have all the evidence to consider and all the options to weigh, evolution's demise is not far behind. They know evolution's foundation rests on shifting sands, not bedrock science. They have everything to lose and nothing to gain by loosening their stranglehold on education.

"We wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against... the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places." Let us put on the whole armor of God, and take a stand for the truth of our Creator (Ephesians 6:12-17).


John D. Morris, Ph.D.
PRESIDENT

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CREATION,



CONSERVATION,



AND CONSUMMATION

Communicating the full gospel of Christ

HENRY M. MORRIS III, D. MIN.

The Pew Forum on Religious and Public Life released its second report based on the *U.S. Religious Landscape Survey* this past June. This enormous undertaking surveyed 35,000 Americans and concluded that most Americans have a non-dogmatic approach to faith. Seven in 10 say that 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 3 in 10 see “god” as an impersonal force in the universe.

America is still mostly classified as Christian. Evangelicals make up 26.3 percent of churches, mainline Protestant are 18.1 percent, and Catholics 23.9 percent (for a total of 68.3 percent of the population). However, of all the religious groups surveyed, only Mormons and

Jehovah’s Witnesses contained a majority who think that their beliefs represent the “only” way to heaven.

Here’s the startling fact: over half (57 percent) 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?

Preach the Gospel

There is no more all-encompassing command in the New Testament than to “Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature” (Mark 16:15). 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 cliché 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.

The Cross of Christ

Various forms of the Greek word for gospel (εὐαγγέλιον, “good news”) appear 101 times in the New Testament. The middle reference (50 before and 50 after) is in 1 Corinthians 15:1-4. This is the *definition* passage for the gospel. The central focus, of course, is the death, physical burial, and bodily resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ. This gospel is to be “received” and “believed” (vv. 1-2) by faith, once for all. It is the means by which we are

The gospel encompasses the complete three-fold work of Christ: the *creation* of all things, the *conservation* of this present world, and the *consummation* of the universe to His perfection.



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 “according to the Scriptures” (v. 4).

The Consummation in Christ

The first occurrence of the word “gospel” is in Matthew 4:23, where we are told that Jesus came “preaching the gospel of the kingdom.” It is vital to stress the final consummation of Christ’s atoning work, when He will finally be acknowledged by every creature as King of kings, and Lord of lords (Revelation 19:16). Certainly a major 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 “ever be with the Lord” (1 Thessalonians 4:17).

The Creation by Christ

The last occurrence of “gospel” is in Revelation 14:6, where the mighty angel is sent from the throne of God to fly through the earth and preach “the everlasting gospel... to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people.” Here, it is abundantly clear that the emphasis is on Christ as Creator, for we are told to “worship him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters” (Revelation 14:7). Surely all serious students of the Scriptures 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 Full Gospel

Evangelical churches have generally 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 His redemptive purpose in history.

In this respect, 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.”

Many of us give away small printed copies of the Gospel of John as a witnessing tool, since of all the New Testament books it was specifically “written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his name” (John 20:31). What may be overlooked by some is that the gospel *begins* by emphatically laying the foundation squarely on the omnipotent and omniscient authority of the Creator-Messiah who “was made flesh and dwelt among us” (John 1:14).

Three great passages in Scripture clearly set the perspective for the gospel.

Colossians 1:16-20

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

Hebrews 1:2-4

- 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:
- To whom be glory for ever. Amen.

The gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ encompasses the complete three-fold 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—and there is no *Foundation* or Standard or Ability.

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

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

We can only impact our world by preaching the gospel—the *full* gospel. It and it alone is the power of God unto salvation (Romans 1:16). We have done a fairly good job on conveying the central part of the gospel concerning Christ’s work on the cross. Let us now reaffirm our commitment to preach the whole counsel of God (Acts 20:27), and teach the foundation and the consummation as well. ●

Dr. Morris is CEO of the Institute for Creation Research.



Can Divergent Species of Snakes Interbreed?

LARRY VARDIMAN, P.H.D.

Evolution predicts that as new species of animals are developed by mutation and selection, they will form offspring that will not interbreed. This prevents the new species from being recombined back into the taxonomies of their progenitors. Consequently, part of the definition for species—according to evolution—is that they will not interbreed and have offspring. Animal species are often identified by distinctive characteristics such as coloration, shape, size, skin patterns, reproductive processes, etc., but interbreeding is often ignored in practice.

In Scripture, the term *kind* is used rather than the term *species* for categories of animals. For example, in Genesis 1:24: “And God said, Let the earth bring forth the living creature after his kind, cattle, and creeping thing, and beast of the earth after his kind: and it was so.” The phrase “after his kind” signifies that a distinction exists between kinds and that each kind carries the genetic information necessary for the production of descendants. So, it would appear that *kind* is the true distinction, not *species*. In Hebrew, the term for created kind involves the word *bara*, which means to create from nothing—something only God can do. Consequently, many creationists have come to use the term *baramin* to discuss categories of animals.

A major field of creation research has developed within the last twenty years or so that attempts to demonstrate that speciation falsely supports the idea of evolution. One of the methods to demonstrate this fact is to show that many species can interbreed and produce offspring, which is quite the opposite of the prediction of evolution. In a paper entitled “Snake Hybridization: A Case for Intrabaraminic Diversity,” to be presented at the Sixth International Conference on Creationism in Pittsburgh August 3-7, 2008, Glen Fankhauser and Kenneth Cumming have shown the successful production of offspring from interbreeding eleven species of snakes.

Their study examined hybridization (the production of offspring from

two different breeds, varieties, or species) of several species of non-poisonous snakes through the use of both natural breeding methods and scent disguise to fool the different species to interbreed. Eleven different species of three different *genera* (the conventional grouping of plants or animals between a species and a family) were used in this experiment.

The products of mixed breeding were expected to resemble midpoints of color and pattern between the parental species. Banding patterns appeared to be dominant over blotches and stripes.

The most interesting finding was that varieties of reptiles showing an absence of the dark skin pigment melanin exhibited alternative hereditary characteristics regardless of the fact that they were members of different genera.

When the California Kingsnake (*L.g.californiae*) and the Corn Snake (*E.g.guttata*) were crossed, albinism appeared in the first filial generation hybrid. All types of the hybrids produced were viable and fertile. As such, these snakes are most likely examples of diversity within the created *kinds* rather than between evolutionary species. North American species of snakes of the genera *Lampropeltis*, *Pituophis*, and *Elaphe*, while classified in separate genera, may actually be more closely related than evolutionary biology predicts.

This research adds viability, homologous genes, and pigment variations to the list of criteria for recognizing baramins. Whereas the ability of reptiles to hybridize is dismissed by the evolutionist as chance encounters by rogue individuals that are unconcerned with the integrity of the species, the creationist can instead embrace hybridization and incorporate its existence into his explanation of the Creator’s divine plan. The occurrence of successful hybridization closely fits the creationist model, as opposed to the evolutionist model. ●

Dr. Vardiman is Director of Research.



AUGUST 2008 EVENTS

AUGUST 3

El Cajon, CA – Genesis Presentation
Shadow Mountain Community Church
(Sherwin) 619.440.1802

AUGUST 3-7

Pittsburgh, PA – International Conference on Creationism
(J. Morris, Humphreys, Vardiman, et al)

AUGUST 14-16

The Woodlands, TX – THSE State Convention
806.744.4441

AUGUST 22-23

Plano, TX – NTHEN Convention
214.495.9600

AUGUST 23

Houston, TX – Genesis Presentation
(Thomas) 979.415.4586

AUGUST 24

Warner Springs, CA – Genesis Presentation
(J. Morris)

AUGUST 24-29

Falkland, B.C., Canada – Family Camp
(Sherwin) 604.535.0019

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Man of Science, Man of God:

MICHAEL FARADAY

Who: Michael Faraday

What: Father of Electromagnetism

When: September 22, 1791 – August 25, 1867

Where: South London, England

CHRISTINE DAO

Michael Faraday was arguably the best experimentalist in the history of science. Apprenticed at age 14 to a local bookbinder and seller, he educated himself and developed an interest in science. He finished his apprenticeship in 1812 and attended lectures by renowned English chemist and physicist Humphry Davy (1778-1829) and John Tatum (1772-1858), founder of the City Philosophical Society. Faraday produced a 300-page book of notes from the lectures and sent it to Davy, who was impressed enough to employ him as a secretary and later as a chemical assistant at the Royal Institution.

Faraday, who was not considered a gentleman in the British class-based society, also served as Davy's valet on a long tour between 1813 and 1815. Made to travel outside the coach and eat with the servants, Faraday was miserable, but the trip allowed him access to the European scientific elite and he eventually was able to conduct his own research. In 1824, he became a member of the Royal Society and the following year was appointed director of the laboratory. In 1833, he was appointed to the Fullerian Professorship of Chemistry, a position he held until the end of his life.

Although Faraday made significant contributions in chemistry, including the discovery of benzene and the invention of an early version of the Bunsen burner, his most important work was in magnetism and electricity. In 1831, a series of experiments led to the discovery of electromagnetic induction. After demonstrat-

ing that a changing magnetic field produces an electric field, he used the principles to construct a device called the electric dynamo, the precursor of the modern power generator. In 1845, he discovered the phenomenon now called the Faraday effect, concerning the relationship of light and electromagnetism.

Faraday's mathematical abilities were elementary, but Scottish mathematician James Clerk Maxwell (1831-1879) later used Faraday's work to develop the equations that underlie all modern electromagnetic phenomena theories. In his scientific papers, Maxwell wrote, "The way in which Faraday made use of his idea... shews him to have been in reality a mathematician of a very high order—one from whom the mathematicians of the future may derive valuable and fertile methods."¹

In 1832, he was granted an honorary doctor of civil law degree from the University of Oxford. Though he was highly respected, Faraday was a very humble man, rejecting a knighthood and twice refusing the presidency of the Royal Society. He was an active elder in his church throughout his life, and although Faraday considered religion and science to be "two distinct things,"² he did not see them as conflicting with one another.

Yet even in earthly matters I believe that "the invisible things of Him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead,"

and I have never seen anything incompatible between those things of man which can be known by the spirit of man which is within him, and those higher things concerning his future, which he cannot know by that spirit.³

Faraday refused an offer to be buried in Westminster Abbey but has a memorial plaque near Isaac Newton's tomb. When he died in 1867, he was interred in Highgate Cemetery and was later joined by his wife, Sarah Barnard, when she passed away in 1879.

Faraday's life and passion for science can best be summed up in his own words: "...I cannot doubt that a glorious discovery in natural knowledge, and the wisdom and power of God in the creation, is awaiting our age, and that we may not only hope to see it, but even be honoured to help in obtaining the victory over present ignorance and future knowledge."⁴ ●

References

1. Maxwell, J. 2003. *The Scientific Papers of James Clerk Maxwell: Volume II*. Mineola, NY: Dover Publications, 358-360.
2. Jones, B. 1870. *The Life and Letters of Faraday: Volume II*. London: Longmans, Green and Co., 195-196.
3. *Ibid.*, 325-326.
4. *Ibid.*, 385.

Ms. Dao is Assistant Editor.

New Campus Supports Local Church Initiative

CHRISTINE DAO

The Institute for Creation Research partners with ministries all around the world. But it recently had the opportunity to lend part of its Dallas campus to local Fellowship Church in nearby Grapevine, Texas, as the church prepared its children's ministry buildings for their annual facelift.

Fellowship Church's elementary pastor, Mitch Corn, recently gave ICR staff a tour of church facilities. "We teach [the kids] to be worshippers and to fall in love with the church," he said. The elaborate sets and décor tie in to the curriculum and are designed to engage the children's interest.

"Our senior pastor, Ed Young, says that Las Vegas has nothing to say but knows how to say it. The church has everything to say but struggles trying to say it," Corn said. By making church fun, children will want to keep coming back, and may invite their friends to join them. And when the kids in those families start demanding to come to church, then their parents and siblings might follow.

The 80,000-square-foot children's wing undergoes a yearly transformation around the fourth of July weekend to be ready in time for the church to launch its annual VBS program called Adventure Weekend. The event expects to attract approximately 4,000 kids, from 4-year-olds to fifth graders, from Fellowship Church's four satellite campuses and the surrounding communities.

This year's theme, Backstage Blast, will feature behind-the-scenes activities to see what goes into making a movie, from performing to creating sound effects. Mike Johnson, children's pastor at Fellowship Church for the past 15 years, says the event is a big outreach effort to get kids to

bring their friends, especially those who don't go to church.

It all happens with the assistance of numerous talented volunteers. Most of the graphics plastered on the hall and classroom walls were designed by an artist from Pixar Animation Studios in California. Professional designers and architects who are members of the church engineer the designs, and volunteers from all walks of life aid in the actual construction.

But before all the sets can be assembled, many of the individual pieces must be prepped off-campus as early as April. This used to happen in volunteers' garages, but that posed problems with quality and timing. The church found a solution temporarily with a warehouse where everything could be done under one roof.

"We used to have a warehouse that was an old Minyard's," Corn said. "We had it for two years. But then it got leased." Rather than revert to volunteers' garages again, the church had to look for another place. This year, that place turned out to be the ICR facility we call Building C.

"We found out about ICR through a member. We contacted Dr. [Henry Morris, III], and we worked it out to use [Building C]. It was a big blessing," Corn said.

The beauty of the body of Christ is that it is not bound to one particular church or one specific ministry. All the parts work together to further God's kingdom, and this year, ICR was blessed to lend a hand in helping Fellowship Church "say everything" to the next generation of believers. ●

Ms. Dao is Assistant Editor.



Vince Craddock sculpts giant popcorn out of Styrofoam for Fellowship Church's Backstage Blast.



Mitch Corn (right) talks with ICR Assistant Editor Christine Dao about the decorations and props for Adventure Weekend.



A volunteer helps paint part of the children's ministry's new décor.



Mike Johnson (left) works with two volunteers in assembling new sets in the elementary building.



Two volunteers cut wood for new decorations outside the church's pre-school building.

This month, creation scientists from all over the globe are gathering in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, for the sixth International Conference on Creationism. The modern creation movement is largely considered to have been launched by the 1961 publication of *The Genesis Flood* by Dr. Henry Morris and Dr. John Whitcomb. In honor of our founder, ICR is featuring the following article in which he clearly and succinctly presents the reasons we can believe and defend the Genesis account of creation.

H E N R Y M . M O R R I S , P H . D .

The biblical account of creation is ridiculed by atheists, patronized by liberals, and often allegorized even by conservatives. The fact is, however, that it is God's own account of creation, corroborated by Jesus Christ (Mark 10:6-8, etc.), who was *there!*

We are well advised to take it seriously and literally, for God is able to say what He means, and will someday hold us accountable for believing what He says! Furthermore, the account is reasonable and logical, fully in accord with all true science and history. The following chain of logic, while not *compelling* belief on the part of those who *refuse* to believe, at least demonstrates the reasonableness of biblical creation.

It is axiomatic that there are only two possible basic models of origins—that is, of the origin of the universe, of the earth, of life, of human life, and of all the basic systems of the cosmos. These are, in simplest terms, evolution or creation. Either the origin of things can be understood in terms of *continuing natural processes*, or they cannot—one or the other. If they *cannot*, then we must resort to *completed supernatural processes* to explain the origin of at least the basic symptoms of the cosmos. Evolution and creation thus exhaust the possibilities, as far as origins are concerned.

This necessarily means that if we can “falsify” (that is, demonstrate to be false) either

model of origins, then the other must be true. There is no other option. By definition, evolution should still be occurring now, since it is to be explained by present processes.

Present Processes

If there is anything certain in this world, however, it is that there is *no evidence whatever* that evolution is occurring today—that is, true vertical evolution, from some simpler kind to a more complex kind. No one has ever observed a star evolve from hydrogen, life evolve from chemicals, a higher species evolve from a lower species, a man from an ape, or anything else of this sort. Not only has no one ever observed true evolution in action, no one knows how evolution works, or even how it *might* work. Since no one has ever seen it happen (despite thousands of experiments that have tried to produce it), and no one yet has come up with a workable mechanism to explain it, it would seem that it *has been falsified*, at least as far as the present world is concerned. This does not prove it did not happen in the past, of course, but the evolutionist should recognize that this means it is not science, since it is not observable. Evolution must be accepted on faith.

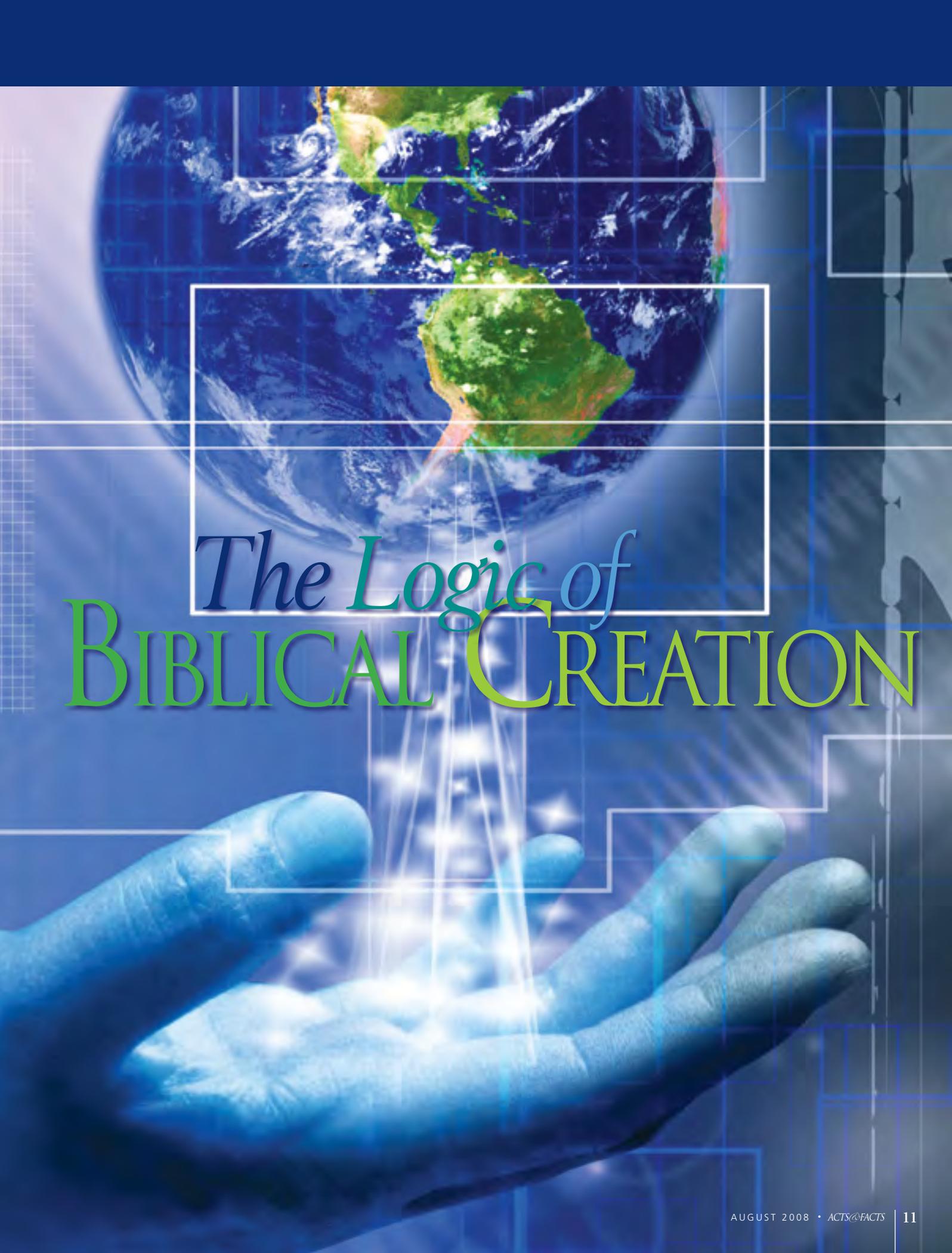
What about the Past?

Actually, there is no evidence at all that evolution ever took place in the past either. In

all recorded history, extending back nearly five thousand years, no one has ever recorded the natural evolution of any kind of creature (living or non-living) into a more complex kind. Furthermore, all known vertical changes seem to go in the wrong direction. An average of at least one species has become extinct every day since records have been kept, but no new species have evolved during that time. Stars explode, comets and meteorites disintegrate, the biosphere deteriorates, and everything eventually dies, so far as all historical observations go, but nothing has ever evolved into higher complexity.

But how about prehistoric changes? The only real records we have of this period are presumably to be found in the sedimentary rocks of the earth's crust, where billions of fossil remains of formerly living creatures have been preserved for our observation. Again, however, the story is one of extinction, not evolution. Numerous kinds of extinct animals are found (e.g., dinosaurs), but never, in all of these billions of fossils, is a truly incipient or transitional form found. No fossil has ever been found with half scales/half feathers, half legs/half wings, half-developed heart, half-developed eye, or any other such thing.

If evolution were true, there should be millions of transitional types among these multiplied billions of fossils—in fact, *everything* should show transitional features. But they do not! If one were to rely strictly on the



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BIBLICAL CREATION

observed evidence, he would have to agree that past evolution has also been falsified.

The Necessity of Creation

If evolution did not occur in the past, and does not occur at present, then it is entirely imaginary—not a part of the real world at all. This leaves creation as the necessary explanation of origins.

This fact is also confirmed by the best-proved laws of science—the law of conservation in quantity and the law of decay in complexity, or the famous First and Second Laws of Thermodynamics.

The First Law notes that, in all real processes, the total quantity of matter and/or energy stays constant, even though it frequently changes form. A parallel principle in biology notes that “like begets like”—dogs are always dogs, for example, though they occur in many varieties. The Second Law notes that the quality of any system—its usefulness, its complexity, its information value—always tends to decrease. In living organisms, true vertical changes go down, not up—mutations cause deterioration, individuals die, species become extinct. In fact, everything in the universe seems to be headed downhill toward ultimate cosmic death.

The First Law notes that *nothing* is being either “created” or “evolved” by present processes. The Second Law notes that there is, instead, a universal *tendency* for everything to disintegrate, to run down, and finally, to “die.” The whole universe is growing old, wearing out, headed toward ultimate stillness and death. This universal “increase in entropy” leads directly to the conclusion that there must have been a creation of things in the past; otherwise, everything would now be dead (since they are universally dying in the present).

Again, we are driven to the logical necessity of a primal creation—a creation that was accomplished not by present natural processes, but by past supernatural processes. This means, however, that we cannot deduce anything about

that creation except just the *fact* of creation. The processes of creation, the duration of the period of creation, the order of events—all are hidden from us by virtue of the fact that our present observed processes do not create—they only conserve and deteriorate!

The Necessity of a Creator

Nevertheless, there must have been a creation and, therefore, a Creator! Being the Creator of the infinitely complex, highly energized cosmos, that Creator necessarily must be omniscient and omnipotent. Having created life, as well as human personalities, He must also be a living Person. No effect can be greater than its cause.

It is axiomatic that there are only two possible basic models of origins—evolution or creation.

Therefore, He is fully capable of revealing to us knowledge about His creation—knowledge which could never be learned through studying present processes. It almost seems that He *must* do this, in fact, since He surely is not capricious. He would not create men and women who long to know the meaning of their lives, yet neglect or refuse to tell them anything about it.

Assuming, then, that He *has* revealed this information to His creatures, just where is His revelation to be found? There are numerous books of religion, ancient and modern, but their cosmogonies do *not* contain any account at all of the creation of the universe.

The answer, therefore, has to be in His record of creation in the book of Genesis, for there is no alternative. There are only three creationist “religions” in the world—Christianity, Islam, and Judaism—and all three

base their belief in creation on the record of Genesis. Without exception, all the other religions and philosophies of the world have based their beliefs concerning origins on some form of evolutionism. That is, they all begin with the universe (space, time, matter) already in existence, then speculate how the forces of nature (often personified as various gods and goddesses) may have generated all the systems and living creatures of the world out of some primordial watery chaos. Only Genesis even *attempts* to tell how the universe itself came to be.

Genesis: God’s Record of Creation

Whether most people believe it or not, therefore, the creation account in Genesis is God’s record of His creation. Jesus Christ also taught this truth, so surely any true Christian should believe it. This account does not allow even the possibility of evolution, since everything was created “after its kind” (Genesis 1:24), and since, after six days of creating and making things, God “rested from all His work” (Genesis 2:3), and so is no longer using processes which “create” things, as theistic evolutionists believe. Instead, He now is “upholding all things” (Hebrews 1:3) through His law of conservation—the “First Law.”

Space does not allow documentation and further discussion here, but even this brief summary demonstrates the logic of biblical creationism. Although one may escape from this chain of logic if he wishes, the fact remains that the chain *is* logical and reasonable. When mixed with faith, there is peace and joy in believing God’s straightforward, rational, simple, satisfying, and truly scientific account of creation in Genesis. ●

Adapted from Dr. Morris’ article “The Logic of Biblical Creation” in the July 1990 edition of *Acts & Facts*.

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



The Origin of Flight



JOHN D. MORRIS, P.H.D.

Evolution has many steep obstacles to overcome. Many are the stupendous design characteristics and environmental balances that can scarcely be understood by today's scientists, let alone mimicked. Yet evolution must work along with random mutations (usually harmful and therefore discarded) and unthinking natural selection, which cannot see the future or do anything novel on its own. Beneficial mutations (if there are any) can perhaps be selected naturally for survival and enhanced reproductive success, but the elegance of design on display in nature stuns us. Is it credible to rely on such ineffective and inefficient methods to produce all we see?

One of evolution's greatest challenges is the origin of flight. Each flying creature seems specifically designed to do just that and only that. There's nothing random or unthinking about it.

According to evolution, flight was achieved on several occasions. Happening once is highly unlikely. Happening multiple times—how can they assert this and maintain a straight face?

Flight was supposedly first achieved by insects. The insects are classed as arthropods, as are the many invertebrate animals in the sea. Along the way, insects gained many wonderful adaptations to fit them for life on the land, thus only some of them took to the air. Yet the wide

variety and abilities of flying insects continue to astound those who try to catalog them. From the delicate butterfly, to the aggressive dragonfly, to the filthy housefly, to the irritating gnats, etc., all exhibit precise design characteristics quite different from each other, yet bear little evidence of relationship to any other insects. Both living specimens and fossil specimens are easily identified, appear designed to do what they do, and show neither transitional forms among themselves nor with non-flying insects. They testify for purposeful creation, not random evolution.

The flying reptiles are likewise separate and distinct from all other reptiles, yet from the earliest time their fossils are seen (read: lowest in the strata column), they display all the design traits which characterize them. There are two basic types of flying reptiles, and they are fully distinct from each other and lacking any fossil evidence that they evolved from some other type. They seem to have been created to be flying reptiles only, and created precisely with that goal in mind by an intelligent Creator.

The birds are not thought to have evolved from flying reptiles, but from ground-dwelling or tree-climbing reptiles. Birds fill diverse ecological niches and accomplish numerous necessary purposes, all the while filling the air with song and beauty.

The marvels of bird flight seemingly testify to intelligent aerodynamic engineering. The feathers, the wings, the hollow bones, the sternum, the flight muscles, etc.—all are designed specifically for flight. This suite of features is only useful for flight, and yet each is necessary for any of them to accomplish their intended purpose. Random mutation and natural selection would be hard pressed to accomplish something like this.

Mammals, too, can fly, or at least some of them. Bats exhibit many unique design features, including wing design and radar. Their radar signal and receivers even supplied the model from which design engineers got their idea for the use of radar today. Bats accomplish several necessary tasks, including keeping insect populations in check, without which our lives would be difficult. And bat fossils are 100 percent bat. No evolution here!

And that's the point. The evidence does not uniquely point to evolution. The person who says all life came from a common ancestor through "descent with modification" must not have studied living things very carefully. The whole evolution story can best be understood as an attempt to provide scientific support for a life lived without accountability to a Creator God. ●

Dr. Morris is President of the Institute for Creation Research.

The Amazing Design of the Human Nose

BRIAN THOMAS, M.S.

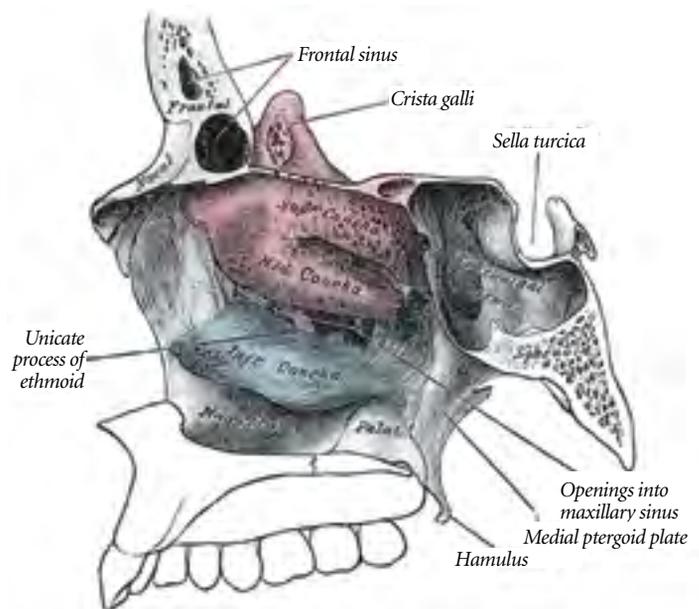
Besides adding distinction to the human face, the nose is an amazingly complex instrument. The insides of our noses are not just straight hollow tubes, but are shaped specifically to regulate airflow. A smooth bony constriction in the front has a smaller diameter than a human finger. This both protects the soft inner tissue from errant fingers and may act as a de Laval nozzle,¹ increasing airspeed inside the nasal chamber.

Three curved plates called conchae intrude into each nasal passageway, one stacked upon the other. Made of thin bones shaped like crashing waves, the lower and middle conchae are larger and longer than the upper concha and process most of the air passing through. The shapes of the air passages between these bones induce a laminar (orderly, streamlined) airflow pattern, thus reducing turbulence. The middle and lower passages are curved in three dimensions—vertically they curl in a semicircle, lengthwise they curve downward toward the trachea, and widthwise they are convex.

Attached to the conchae is expandable soft tissue that can congest the nasal passages or contract to open them. This is covered by a special skin designed to capture debris with small hairlike projections and a layer of mucus, thus protecting sensitive lung tissue. Our noses regulate airflow direction, humidification, heating, and immune functions by partnering with the lymphatic system.

In 2005, Dr. Denis Doorly of Imperial College, London, built and tested airflow through a see-through model of the nose. He concluded that “airflow in the nose is not simply laminar or turbulent.”² Is the fact that our noses produce some turbulent (“disordered”) airflow an indication of poor design? Interestingly, the turbulence causes eddies to waft upward, allowing controlled puffs of air into the narrow space above the upper concha where the sensitive olfactory nerves are located. Much of our sense of smell depends on this unique airflow pattern. Most of the air is not wafted up, but jetted down. It is likely that this flow rate is increased by the downward curvature of the conchae, which may utilize the Coanda effect. This effect can be demonstrated by observing how fluid speeds up as it runs down the back of a vertically held spoon.

The same principles utilized by our noses are being considered by engineers in their quest to build more efficient machines. For example, the Boeing 787 Dreamliner is currently in production and promises to operate



20 percent more efficiently than the similarly-sized 767 (a 1982 product).³

As good as that sounds, an even more efficient airplane is being designed by scientists with the Silent Aircraft Initiative.⁴ The SAX40 will look like a giant manta ray, with wide wings attached to a wedge-shaped body. CNN reported that “the team found that the same technological changes that make craft quieter also make them more fuel-efficient.”⁵ If human noses did not have conchae, turbulent air would rush right next to our ears, making life miserably noisy.

Increasingly, scientists are more closely examining nature to gain inspiration for new technologies. Evolutionary thinking would have us believe that nasal conchae developed over time through natural selection. However, there is no clear progression of fossilized transitional conchae to back up this claim; only fully-formed noses are in the rock record. There is not even a theoretically realistic mechanism that nature could implement—assuming a non-intelligent, non-volitional entity like the universe could implement anything at all—to generate such complex features. When we examine the nose, we can join Job in exclaiming, “Who knoweth not in all these that the hand of the LORD hath wrought this?”⁶ ●

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Mr. Thomas is Science Writer.





The Message in Surprise Effects

DAVID F. COPPEDGE

stardust.jpl.nasa.gov

“Surprise effect” was a term used by information-theory pioneer Claude Shannon to indicate the presence of information. In a string of symbols, it’s not surprising to find randomness or patterns produced by natural law. It is surprising, though, to find a message. The SETI program, for example, looks for just such an information-bearing surprise in radio waves reaching earth. Scientists at our end of the transmission would infer an intelligent civilization was at the source. What if the source is non-intelligent, but still produces a surprise at the destination? That implies that the receiver is having an internal malfunction. Such a phenomenon can be witnessed in science reports. These surprise effects carry a different message: that scientific theories are vulnerable to internal malfunction when confronted with unexpected empirical evidence.

Here are a few “surprise” stories from astronomy this year, starting with the local solar neighborhood. You were probably taught that comets are remnants of pristine material from the outer solar system. The comet-tail particles that NASA’s Stardust spacecraft returned from Comet Wild 2 in 2006, however, were completely opposite to what leading theories predicted. *National Geographic News* quoted a team member as saying, “The first surprise was that we found inner solar system materials, and the second surprise was that we didn’t find outer solar system

materials.”¹ There were three similar “surprising” references in the press release from Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory.²

Moving into the realm of the stars, the Orion nebula “continues to surprise” astronomers, according to *Science*.³ Plasma flows detected there were so hot—two million degrees—that they were emitting x-rays. “The energy requirement to heat the large-scale x-ray emitting plasma is severe,” the discoverers said of the Orion plasmas.⁴ In fact, the entire nebula may be much hotter than previously thought. Only high-velocity winds from the hottest stars could have produced such elevated temperatures, they said, but those stars are thought to be short-lived. The team simply reported the observation and left it to theorists to come up with an explanation.

In May, astronomers were surprised to find “a millisecond pulsar that is in the wrong kind of orbit around what appears to be the wrong kind of star.”⁵ Standard models do not permit this “wacky pulsar” to exist. Elsewhere, the Spitzer Space Telescope team found a surprise with the help of high school students: a dust disk around a binary star. The “surprising finding” has “important implications,” the BBC said.⁶ It could alter theories about subjects as diverse as black holes and the formation of planets.

Moving on to cosmic scales, the Hubble Space Telescope team announced in February a new record for the oldest galaxy.⁷ Despite being

nearly as old as the Big Bang in the consensus timescale, it appeared bright and active. A member of the research team said, “We certainly were surprised to find such a bright young galaxy 13 billion years in the past.”⁸

What is the message in these surprise effects? Science is tentative at best. Consensus is no measure of factuality. Even long-trusted scientific theories can be challenged by anomalies. As Thomas Kuhn and subsequent philosophers of science have pointed out, scientists typically work within *paradigms*, or accepted explanatory frameworks. Anomalies are surprises that don’t fit the paradigm. When too many anomalies accumulate, a scientific revolution may occur, and a new paradigm may take its place. If you compromise the Bible with the latest paradigm, your position could become a casualty of the next one. The Bible has outlasted a great many paradigms. Considering its Author, that’s no surprise. ●

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David Coppedge works in the Cassini Program at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory. The views expressed are his own.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



I bought some of your father's [Dr. Henry Morris'] books on creation and books by others on creation versus evolution. And it's really been a great time of looking at God's creation through new eyes....As a Christian, I will always have an uphill battle proclaiming God's truth in this fallen world. But Jesus said, take heart for I have overcome the world. Keep doing your good work unto the Lord.

— R.P.

Quick email to let you know how much I enjoy the new format for *Acts & Facts*—very uplifting and informative. I have been taking it now since 1975ish....Thanks for the wonderful “little gold mine” called *Acts & Facts*—I have a huge file of them!

— J.S.

Over the last few years I have donated books that I have purchased from ICR to four high school libraries in the county I live in. The librarians say the children love the *Dinosaurs by Design* books, and they also enjoy reading the other books I give them. I tell the librarians that when I went to college, the professors preached evolution as fact; and I want grade school and high school students to know about creation and not feel pressured when they go to college.

— W.D.P.

I've been receiving *Days of Praise* for many years now. Without that, I'd be lost. It's brought so much joy, wisdom, happiness, and the Word of God that I'm able to share with others. It's brought such peace and comfort to my life. I thank you so very, very much.

— C.H.

Thank you very much for the radio feature program *Back to Genesis*.... I continue to be blessed and informed by the brief but informed comments made by Dr. John Morris concerning the relationship between creation and the vital issues facing Christians in our world today.... May God bless you richly.

— D.M.

Editor's Note: If you have access to the Internet, you can visit our website at www.icr.org to listen to current and past ICR radio programs online. Just click “Radio” and you can see this month's listing for *Science, Scripture & Salvation*, look up previous programs by date or keyword, or find a radio station in your area that carries our programs.

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

Radio LOG

This month on “Science, Scripture, & Salvation”

WEEKEND OF AUGUST 2

Creation Stewardship

God has created a beautiful place for us to live, and it's our responsibility to take care of it. Psalm 115:16 says, “The heavens, even the heavens, are the Lord's; but the earth hath he given to the children of men.” Although God is still in control of His creation, He has given man dominion over it. So what is the best way to exercise stewardship over the earth? Tune in to find out!

WEEKEND OF AUGUST 9

Creation and the Feminist Movement

Although the feminist movement may have started out with the worthy goal of obtaining the right to vote for women, over the last 150 years it has turned into a tool that has catapulted society into an evolutionary mind-set that devalues life and, ironically, diminishes the importance of women. Concerned Women for America President Wendy Wright is a guest on this program.

WEEKEND OF AUGUST 16

Creation and God's Plan for the Family

In today's world just about any “lifestyle” is accepted, condoned, and even propagated! Even though each of us was created for specific functions within the family unit, the home has been under satanic attack ever since Eve's temptation in the Garden of Eden. Listen in as we consider what God's Word has to say about the way we live.

WEEKEND OF AUGUST 23

The Sanctity of Life

Perhaps there's nothing more precious in life than a newborn baby. Life is sacred and should be protected. But what about legalized abortion and the so-called mercy killing of the sick and elderly? Is it acceptable to take life that is judged unwanted or hopeless? Join us as we hear from a survivor of an actual abortion procedure!

WEEKEND OF AUGUST 30

Human Sacrifice

From the tiniest unborn child to the aged man upon his deathbed, every person has an eternal soul and is precious in the sight of the Creator. Many cultures throughout history have devalued life through the evil practice of human sacrifice. Are we really any different today? Don't miss this fascinating discussion!

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

My Thoughts, My Ways... and the Combined Federal Campaign



HENRY M. MORRIS IV

The Lord has been good to the ministry of the Institute for Creation Research.

Through the years, ICR has experienced periods of great joy, as well as periods of great sorrow and need. But through it all, we have seen countless evidences of God's provisional hand as we stood firm in the defense of His truth. Space limitations do not allow me to share specific testimonies, but time and again the Lord's promise to "supply all your need" (Philippians 4:19) has been fulfilled in the most unexpected and remarkable of ways. Even with all the planning, strategizing, and effort we put into our work, the marvelous provisions we have seen could only have come from our great Creator. Truly, the prophet Isaiah said it best when he wrote, "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD" (Isaiah 55:8-9)!

One might suppose we would be used to this by now. And yet, He continues to surprise us.

For the first time in our history, the Institute for Creation Research has received formal approval to participate in the **Combined Federal Campaign** (CFC) on a national level. The CFC is the world's largest and most successful annual workplace charity campaign, with more than 300 individual campaigns participating to help raise hundreds of millions of dollars for charities and non-profit organizations each year. And through the CFC annual fundraising program, federal employees and military personnel are given the opportunity to donate to qualified charities via payroll deduction.

All charities that apply for acceptance to the CFC must submit to an extensive review of financial and governance practices by an independent

agent. Christian Charities USA was chosen to conduct our review, and it concluded by certifying our application and awarding ICR the "Independent Charities Seal of Excellence" for meeting the highest standards of public accountability and program cost effectiveness. Less than 0.2 percent of the estimated 1 million charities operating in the United States today have been awarded this Seal—an honor we can only attribute to our mighty Lord!

Pledges made by federal civilian, postal, and military donors during the CFC campaign season (September 1st to December 15th) support the eligible non-profit organizations of their choice. Please note that funds collected through the CFC program represent donations from individuals, and are not government funding. ICR receives absolutely no government support—we would not accept any if offered, and this will not change because of our acceptance into the CFC.

ICR's name will appear in the 2008 listing of the "National/International Organizations" section that is published in each local CFC campaign brochure. Those of you who serve our country can now also defend the authority of Scripture through scientific research and education—with one easy pen stroke. If you believe in the work of ICR, please prayerfully consider designating the Institute for Creation Research (CFC #23095) when making your pledge this fall. We promise it will be put to careful and prayerful use within our ministry. ●

Mr. Morris is Director of Donor Relations.

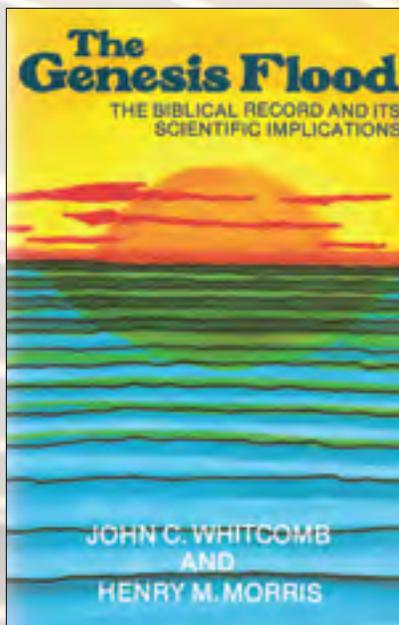


THE BOOKS THAT STARTED IT ALL

Considered the father of the modern creation science movement, Dr. Henry M. Morris understood how important it was for the Christian to have confidence in every aspect of the written Word of God, and especially those pertaining to origins. He authored numerous books and lectured far and wide as one of the leading authorities in creation science. Dr. Morris passed away in 2006, but ICR continues his legacy of defending the authority and validity of God's Word.



Beginning with *The Genesis Flood*, these are the books that started it all.

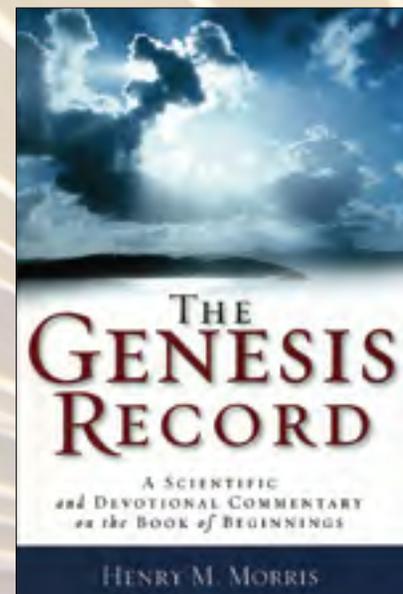


The Genesis Flood

by Henry M. Morris & John Whitcomb

The cataclysmic flood of Noah's age has often been dismissed as fairy tale, but modern science is proving otherwise. Recognized as the book that started the modern creation science movement, *The Genesis Flood* is the most definitive treatment of the biblical and scientific evidence of the global Flood.

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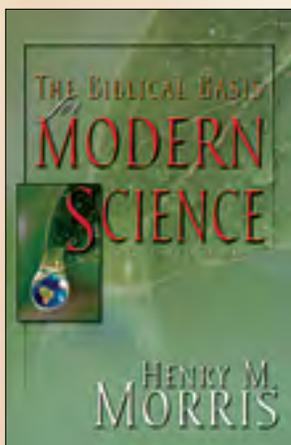


The Genesis Record

by Henry M. Morris

Hailed as the most widely-used complete modern commentary on Genesis, *The Genesis Record* analyzes the most popular "problems" with the Bible's first book. Its narrative commentary provides easily-understood answers for scientific and theological arguments, showing Genesis to be both literally and historically accurate.

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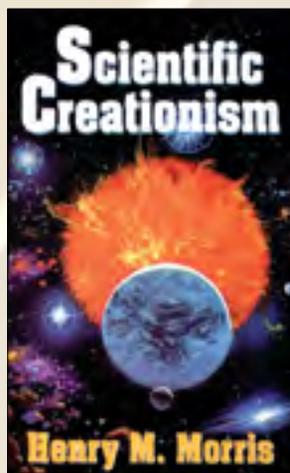


The Biblical Basis for Modern Science

by Henry M. Morris

Secular humanism has tried to monopolize science. In *The Biblical Basis for Modern Science*, creation science advocate Henry M. Morris analyzes each of the key sciences in relation to Scripture, as well as exploring theology, cosmology, miracles, and biblical creationism.

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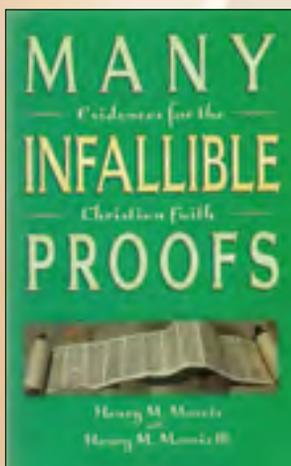


Scientific Creationism

by Henry M. Morris

This definitive guide to scientific creation equips the Christian witness with the evidence for special creation, with thought-provoking concepts on origins. Authoritative and comprehensive, *Scientific Creationism* is designed to be read by those with non-scientific backgrounds.

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Many Infallible Proofs

by Henry M. Morris & Henry M. Morris III

Christianity is constantly under attack, even in a supposedly “tolerant” nation like the United States. This book presents the *Many Infallible Proofs* to equip and strengthen believers so they can “be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you” (1 Peter 3:15).

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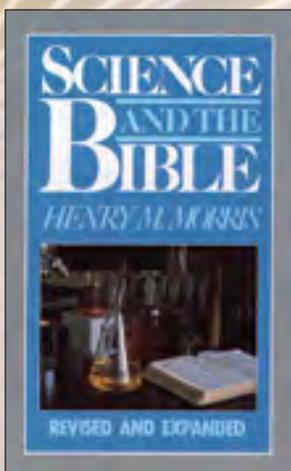


The Long War Against God

Many people assume that the creation/evolution debate started with Darwin, but it actually began long ago. In *The Long War Against God*, leading creationist Henry M. Morris explains in riveting detail the very old plan to undermine God’s Word, from the ancient Greeks and Babylonians to today’s neo-Darwinists.

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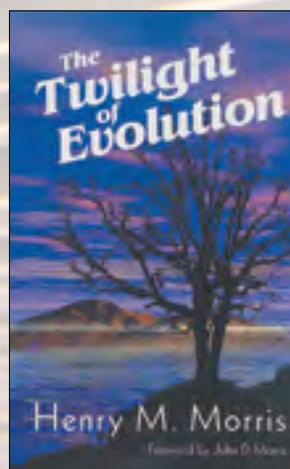


Science and the Bible

by Henry M. Morris

Formerly offered under the titles *That You Might Believe* and *The Bible and Modern Science*, this updated and easy-to-read book is a powerful presentation of the scientific accuracy and inerrant truth of the Bible. It has led many people to Christ and stresses His imminent return.

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The Twilight of Evolution

by Henry M. Morris

Evolution gained unrivaled popularity with the publication of Darwin’s book in 1859, and few have dared to question it since. *The Twilight of Evolution* examines the scientific evidence that testifies against it. Well-documented and easy to read, this book sets forth the true nature of origins, both biblically and scientifically.

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