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Dr. Henry M. Morris, founder of the Institute for Creation Research, spent a lifetime investigating scientific evidence that confirms the Bible. In Henry M. Morris: Father of Modern Creationism, you’ll see how God used this humble man to boldly proclaim the veracity of His Word. Dr. Morris’ work rebuilt Christians’ confidence in the accuracy of the Bible and turned many toward Christ for the first time.

No voice in the debate over creationism and evolution has ever spoken with more clarity and insight than that of Dr. Henry M. Morris.”

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When Thanksgiving Day rolls around, we may be grateful for our houses, cars, and paychecks, but I'm guessing that few of us spend much time focusing on those things. Most of us recognize that true value is in the people God has brought into our lives. We know that people mean more than things, so we thank Him for our loved ones, our acquaintances—and perhaps even the strangers who cross our paths.

Some of us may thank God for gifts—not necessarily just the material kinds, but the spiritual gifts that allow us to share in a holy partnership with the Creator of the universe and to witness God's work in humans made of dust. He allows us to participate in blessing others, looking after His creation, and glorifying Him. When He has accomplished something through us that we simply couldn't have done apart from Him, we know He did it and we were privileged to be a part of the experience. We understand that we have joined God in a divine adventure.

As I read this month’s feature article by Dr. Henry Morris III, “Finding the Fullness of God,” I was reminded of the blessing of the Lord’s moment-by-moment presence. Dr. Morris says it this way: “We can come directly into the presence of the living God with confidence,” and “we have the opportunity to know ‘all the fullness of God’” (page 5). That’s something to be thankful for every single day!

Those of us who know the Lord can’t help but also be thankful for His promise of eternal life. In Brian Thomas’ article on the possibility of resurrecting extinct species, he notes that only God, the original Creator, is the source of life. “[Our] Creator left good news for those who like the idea of living forever. Anyone anywhere who believes—‘whoever desires’—can turn from sin and trust in the One who rose from the dead to forgive those offenses. Then in addition to forgiveness, ‘whoever believes in Him [shall] not perish but have everlasting life’” (page 20). Eternal life is indeed a gracious—and costly—gift.

And what is ICR thankful for at this time of year? We are thankful for you, our faithful readers and supporters. For the encouraging messages you send to let us know how God is using this ministry to build your faith and witness. For the creation advocates you are to your family and friends. And for the sacrificial gifts you offer that enable ICR to conduct scientific research from a biblical worldview.

With your help, we’ve raised $29 million toward the completion of the ICR Discovery Center for Science and Earth History. This facility will allow us to reach even more people with the creation message. In this issue, you’ll find the story of one man who is thankful for how God used creation ministry to uniquely touch his life. Douglas Ell says, “I am grateful to ICR and all who work to spread the truth of creation and the Bible. With their help, my journey has led me back to God” (page 19).

As believers and partners together in ministry, we have the privilege of impacting others by proclaiming creation truth. We get to see God work in and through us. We get to enjoy His presence here and look forward to seeing Him face to face in eternity. We could never recount every single way God has graciously blessed us, but during this time of Thanksgiving these gifts are a good place to start.

Jayme Durant
Executive Editor
The United States of America is one of the few countries in the world that mark an official day of Thanksgiving honoring the omnipotent and omniscient God of the Bible. We still have “In God We Trust” as our country’s motto, and although our nation’s leaders have been steadily slipping away from the bedrock faith of our founding fathers, this country is still the envy of the free world, and millions long to live here.

One of the things those of us who are twice-born can be particularly thankful for is the promise that we can come directly into the presence of the living God with confidence (Ephesians 3:12). That bold confidence is based on no other fact than “there is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus” because “the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has made me free from the law of sin and death” (Romans 8:1-2). And with that freedom, we have the opportunity to know “all the fullness of God.” Let’s look at some of the blessings that are ours as believers in Christ.

**Finding the Fullness of God**

“...to know the love of Christ which passes knowledge; that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.” (Ephesians 3:19)

**Article Highlights**

- Christians are blessed to know the fullness of God.
- The power of God dwells within us, and nothing can separate us from His love.
- Trouble and persecution will come, but God’s protective hand will always be with us.
- God promises us complete ultimate deliverance from evil and death.

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the purpose of Him who works all things in Christ (Ephesians 1:10), assuring that those who are in Christ will receive “an inheritance, being predestined according to the purpose of Him who works all things according to the counsel of His will” (Ephesians 1:11). God provides the full blessing of His acceptance and grace in this life, and the blessing of an eternity with the Lord Jesus in the next.

**FULL POWER**

Perhaps one could easily assume that God’s fullness would include sufficient power to accomplish the “work of faith” (1 Thessalonians 1:3) that is expected of the twice-born. This is true, but it is nonetheless encouraging to note the broad array of power terms that are allotted to the children of God. We are to be “strengthened [krataioo] with might [dunamis] through His Spirit in the inner man” (Ephesians 3:16).

These word choices defined by the Holy Spirit insist that we will be “growing stronger” with the “inherent power” granted to us at the moment of our salvation—the same glorious power that was demonstrated at the resurrection of the Lord Jesus from the grave (Ephesians 1:19-20). Indeed, this is no mere physical, human power. It is the omnipotent and omniscient “demonstration of the Spirit and of power...the power of God” (1 Corinthians 2:4-5) that comes through the indwelling presence of the Holy Spirit Himself.

**FULL LOVE**

Of all the summary statements in Scripture, one stands above all: “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind” (Matthew 22:37). It surely follows, then, that the fullness of God would involve Christ dwelling “in [our] hearts through faith; that [we], being rooted and grounded in love, may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the width and length and depth and height—to know the love of Christ which passes knowledge” (Ephesians 3:17-19). In order to experience the full love of God, we need to be fully invested in Him and His Word:

- We need to abide in Christ like branches abide in the vine (John 15:4-7).
- We need to treasure the Word of God in our hearts so that we do not sin against our Creator and Redeemer (Psalm 119:11).
- We need to immerse ourselves in the Word of God so that a rich reservoir of “psalms and hymns and spiritual songs” are constantly singing in our hearts (Colossians 3:16).
- We need to be so firmly rooted and built up in the Lord Jesus, our knowledge of the faith so solid and established, that we are constantly overflowing with thanksgiving (Colossians 2:7).

Love is a primary identifier of God’s people: “By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another” (John 13:35). Because God’s love was demonstrated through the substitutionary death of the Lord Jesus while “we were still sinners” (Romans 5:8), we are expected to “have fervent love for one another, for ‘love will cover a multitude of sins’” (1 Peter 4:8). We are told that “God is love” (1 John 4:8). It would be impossible, then, to have our “inward man” (Romans 7:22) participate in the “divine nature” (2 Peter 1:4) without showing a full love toward God and toward His people.

**FULL TROUBLE**

There is a “fullness” topic we don’t think about much—the trouble and persecution that come with living a godly life in
In spite of the struggles, frustrations, and pressures that will come with an active life in the service of the King, we have the absolute promise of God's sufficient and complete deliverance from the evils of the day. We don't need to be afraid of those who are evil, because God has assured us that "evildoers shall be cut off; but those who wait on the Lord, they shall inherit the earth" (Psalm 37:9).

No matter what we face in this life, "the salvation of the righteous is from the Lord; He is their strength in the time of trouble. And the Lord shall help them and deliver them; He shall deliver them from the wicked, and save them, because they trust in Him" (Psalm 37:39-40). Those who revel in the power of evil may prosper for a season, but the final victory has already been accomplished by the Lord Jesus. He is the Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, the author and finisher of our faith.

Our Creator, Redeemer, and coming King possesses "all the fullness of the God-head bodily" (Colossians 2:9). The twice-born are promised "all the fullness of God" (Ephesians 3:19). While we're on Earth we may be called upon to "suffer shame for His name" (Acts 5:41). But knowing that our Lord Jesus "was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin" (Hebrews 4:15), we can expect Him to "sympathize" with our requests when we "boldly" seek Him on the "throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need" (Hebrews 4:16).

**FULL OPPORTUNITY**

The fullness of God most surely includes "the fullness of the blessing of the gospel of Christ" (Romans 15:29). Paul told the church at Corinth that he planned to come to them soon but needed to remain at Ephesus a few more months because "a great and effective door has opened to me," and with that opportunity came "many adversaries" (1 Corinthians 16:9). Opportunity and opposition seem to be constantly paired in the work that God opens up for His people. Rarely does anything significant in the Kingdom happen without the opposition of the Enemy.

Right now, the "great and effective door" for ICR is the completion of the ICR Discovery Center for Science and Earth History. Many have shared their resources with us to help build this magnificent "door" that will reach tens of thousands of young people and Christian leaders in the days ahead. The Discovery Center is almost complete. The construction is finished, and we are watching the exhibits take shape as we work with the talented craftsmen who are making the unique displays, dioramas, and demonstrations that will use science to confirm that Jesus of Nazareth is none other than the Creator of the universe.

Please join with us in thanking our great God for the faithful supply through His people that enables ICR to continue to reach many with the message that science affirms the authority and accuracy of the Scriptures. Please consider giving some of what God has blessed you with so that this "great door" can be completed without debt of any kind. All the "boasting" (2 Corinthians 11:17) ICR does is to exalt our Creator and Redeemer. When you are able to help us, you can be sure that your help becomes part of ICR’s work so that all of us can rejoice together (1 Corinthians 3:8).

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**Dr. Morris is Chief Executive Officer of the Institute for Creation Research. He holds four earned degrees, including a D.Min. from Luther Rice Seminary and an MBA from Pepperdine University.**
For information on event opportunities, email the Events department at Events@ICR.org or call 800.337.0375.
Separate Studies Converge on Human-Chimp DNA Dissimilarity

The improvement of DNA sequencing technology, along with scientific advances in the field of genomics, is proving to be a profound enemy of evolution. Two new discoveries that challenge the human evolution paradigm were reported nearly simultaneously—one by a secular scientist and the other by myself. Remarkably, the corroborating data produced in both reports are in perfect agreement.

A key element of the evolutionary paradigm is the idea that human DNA and chimpanzee DNA are 98.5% identical. This level of DNA similarity is needed to undergird the hypothesis that humans and chimps shared a common ancestor three to six million years ago. Based on known mutation rates in both humans and chimps, anything significantly less than a 98.5% DNA similarity would destroy the foundation of the entire theory.

When I began studying the scientific literature on the subject, I realized there were serious problems with the evolutionary idea of nearly identical human and chimp DNA. In every publication I evaluated, it became clear researchers had cherry-picked highly similar DNA sequences that supported evolution and discarded the data that were dissimilar. I recalculated DNA similarities from these studies by factoring back in omitted data and obtained drastically lower levels of human-chimp DNA similarity—between 66% and 86%.

Another major issue I uncovered is that the chimpanzee genome was literally put together to resemble the human genome. This little-known fact was accomplished by taking the small snippets of DNA produced after sequencing and lining them up on the human genome. The human genome guided the researchers throughout the chimp genome assemblage process.

Despite these issues, brought about because of scientists’ evolutionary bias, continuing improvement in DNA sequencing technology is slowly bringing the truth to light. The newest version of the chimpanzee genome was recently completed, and the results not only validate my past research but also spectacularly confirm new research I have just published.

The research paper for the new chimp genome completely sidesteps the issue of DNA similarity with humans. Nevertheless, University of London evolutionist Richard Buggs analyzed the results of a comprehensive comparison of the new chimp genome with the human one and posted his shocking anti-evolutionary findings. He stated, “The percentage of nucleotides in the human genome that had one-to-one exact matches in the chimpanzee genome was 84.38%.”

What makes Dr. Buggs’ analysis more amazing is the fact that my own recently published research using a different algorithm gave the same results. In my study, I aligned 18,000 random pieces of high-quality chimp DNA about 31,000 DNA letters long (on average) onto human and several different versions of the chimp genome. Not only did my data show that the older version of the chimp genome (PanTro4) that had been used to support evolution was deeply flawed and humanized, but they also showed the aligned segments of chimp DNA were on average only 84.4% identical to human—the same level reported by Buggs.

These new results by both myself and Buggs also closely match a 2016 study I published that indicated the overall human-chimp DNA similarity was likely no more than 85%. Based on the most recent research, the difference between the human and chimp genomes is estimated to be about 15%.

A 15% DNA difference between humans and chimps is a discrepancy that can’t be ignored when no more than about a 1% difference is required to make human evolution seem at all plausible. Once again, the scientific accuracy of the Bible is vindicated regarding the uniqueness of humans as stated in Genesis 1:27: “So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.”

References

Dr. Tomkins is Director of Life Sciences at the Institute for Creation Research and earned his Ph.D. in genetics from Clemson University.
Many Christians are convinced that scientific data demand millions of years for Earth’s history and are therefore dissuaded from believing the Bible’s doctrine of a recent creation. Yet a belief in millions of years actually prevents secular scientists from finding solutions for many mysteries of Earth history—solutions that can be found in the pages of God’s Word. For instance, the Bible, with its short 6,000-year timescale and account of a global flood, is the key to explaining the Ice Age.1

Secular Ice Age Theories Are Inadequate

Secular scientists do not have a good explanation for what causes an ice age. In 1997, *U.S. News & World Report* described this as one of the “great mysteries of science,” stating:

Yet despite the efforts of marine geologists, atmospheric chemists, oceanographers, and more, no one knows what caused the ice ages. “We’ve been chewing on this problem for 30 or 40 years,” says Alan Mix, an oceanographer at Oregon State University. “It’s a killer.” Adds Ralph Cicerone, dean of physical sciences at the University of California–Irvine, “It’s embarrassing.”2

Not much has changed since then. The precise causes of ice ages “remain controversial”3 and are “not completely understood.”4 Secular scientists continue to propose new explanations, which is an indication that none of the current ones are very convincing.

Of these explanations, the astronomical (or Milankovitch) ice age theory is the most popular. It holds that slow changes in Earth’s orbital and rotational motions cause differences in the way sunlight falls on the earth’s surface. Supposedly these differences control the timing of ice ages.

However, the changes in sunlight are so small that it’s difficult to see how they alone could cause an ice age. Famed evolutionary
astronomer Fred Hoyle once ridiculed the astronomical theory:

If I were to assert that a glacial condition could be induced in a room liberally supplied during winter with charged night-storage heaters simply by taking an ice cube into the room, the proposition would be no more unlikely than the Milankovitch theory.6

The Milankovitch theory became widely accepted because of a 1976 paper titled "Pacemaker of the Ice Ages."7 This paper used uniformitarian assumptions to claim that data within two deep-sea sediment cores told a story of climate change that agreed with the theory’s expectations. However, this "confirmation" of the astronomical theory depended upon an age assignment that secular scientists themselves no longer believe to be valid.8 The argument is dramatically weakened when this age revision and other changes to the data are taken into account.9

The Biblical Model

Creation scientist and meteorologist Michael Oard has presented strong arguments that the Genesis Flood caused the Ice Age.10,11 Most creationists think that during the Flood the original ocean floor was rapidly subducted into the earth’s mantle and was replaced by new seafloor that formed at the mid-ocean ridges. The heat from the newly formed seafloor significantly warmed the world’s oceans, resulting in greatly increased evaporation from the sea’s surface.12 This dramatically increased the moisture in the atmosphere and led to greater precipitation, including more snowfall at high latitudes and on mountaintops.

Subduction zone volcanoes continued to erupt for centuries after the Flood, gradually decreasing in number and intensity. They ejected aerosols (tiny particles and droplets) into the atmosphere that reflected significant amounts of sunlight, resulting in cooler summers that prevented winter snow and ice from melting. As the snow and ice accumulated year after year, thick ice sheets formed (Figure 1).

The model developed by Oard makes good meteorological sense. Furthermore, creation researcher and atmospheric scientist Dr. Larry Vardiman used standard meteorological computer models to simulate the effect of warm oceans on precipitation rates. His results demonstrated that very warm waters would dramatically increase snowfall in Yellowstone and Yosemite National Parks, which are known to have been covered by thick ice sheets during the Ice Age.13,14 Likewise, recent volcanic eruptions have demonstrated that large, explosive, sulfur-rich eruptions can cause noticeable global cooling, particularly during the summer and autumn months.15 Both creation and secular scientists agree that past volcanic activity dwarfed anything we see happening today, so these past eruptions definitely had the potential for dramatic summer cooling.

Figure 1. Warm oceans resulting from the Genesis Flood dramatically increased snowfall on mountaintops and in the polar regions. Aerosols from residual post-Flood volcanic activity provided the cooler summers needed to prevent winter snow and ice from melting, allowing the formation of thick ice sheets.

Image credit: Susan Windsor

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“Millions of Years” Are the Problem

If this scenario makes sense, why can’t secular scientists use warm oceans and volcanic cooling to explain the Ice Age? First, it would take an enormous amount of energy to significantly warm the world’s oceans. This would require cataclysmic conditions that violate their uniformitarian assumption that “the present is the key to the past.” But the Genesis Flood, which they deny, is an ideal candidate for such ocean warming.

Likewise, secular scientists cannot invoke volcanic cooling because of their belief in millions of years of Earth history. They insist that large eruptions—which are known to have occurred—were separated from one another by vast ages. Hence, any cooling they might have provided would be greatly diluted by the assumed long ages between eruptions. This is a clear example of how a belief in millions of years hinders scientific research.

Many Ice Ages or Just One?

Although secular scientists insist that about 50 Pleistocene ice ages have occurred within the last 2.6 million years, there is strong geological evidence for just the most recent one, which creation scientists argue was the only Ice Age. Even secular scientists have acknowledged that a single ice age could explain the geological evidence found in western Canada.16

The main argument for 50 Pleistocene ice ages is, believe it or not, a Milankovitch interpretation of chemical measurements obtained from deep-sea sediment cores. Secular scientists used 57 deep-sea cores to construct a composite “stack” of chemical data called oxygen isotope, or $\delta^{18}O$, values that supposedly covers the last 5.3 million years of prehistory.17 These scientists think each oxygen isotope “wiggle” cycle represents a cold/warm ice age-interglacial cycle. They simply counted the number of cycles dated as younger than 2.6 million years. Since they counted around 50 wiggles (Figure 2), voilà!—there were 50 supposed Pleistocene ice ages! But as noted earlier, evidence for the Milankovitch theory is weak at best.

Secular scientists also claim that other major ice ages occurred hundreds of millions of years ago. Some even say the entire earth froze in an event called Snowball Earth. However, the evidence for this claim is also weak. Because rocks embedded in moving glaciers scratch the underlying bedrock, geologists sometimes interpret such scratches as evidence for past glaciers. They have found scratches in locations thought to be near the equator in the very distant past, which they interpret to mean that at one point glaciers grew so large they extended all the way to the equator, covering the entire earth. But debris flows can also cause such scratches, and creation scientists have made strong arguments that the scratches were actually caused by giant underwater landslides during the Genesis Flood.18,19

Wooly Mammoths in Siberia

Michael Oard’s biblical model also solves another major mystery of Earth history: How did millions of wooly mammoths (Figure 3) thrive in Siberia during the Ice Age? There is strong evidence that large numbers of these animals lived there during this time. Today winters in Siberia are bitterly cold. Lows of -40°F are typical, and temperatures colder than the surface of Mars have been recorded.20 How could even the wooly mammoths have endured such temperatures?

Moreover, secular scientists think that Earth is currently in a warm interglacial period, so Siberian Ice Age temperatures would presumably have been even colder. Even if mammoths could somehow tolerate those temperatures, how could these huge creatures find

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Figure 2. Because secular scientists have counted about 50 chemical wiggle cycles that they date as younger than 2.6 million years, they claim there were 50 or so Pleistocene ice ages. Data obtained from reference 17.

Figure 3. The biblical Ice Age model solves a number of wooly mammoth mysteries.
sufficient food and water in such a harsh climate? And a number of factors, such as long gestation times, would have made it difficult, if not impossible, for mammoths to migrate to warmer areas during the Siberian winters.

The only logical explanation is that, for some reason, the Siberian climate was more temperate during the Ice Age than it is today. Oard’s model provides a simple, straightforward explanation for this surprising result. Oceans would have remained warm for hundreds of years after the Flood. In fact, there would have been no Arctic sea ice during the Ice Age. Warm, moist ocean air helped to moderate the Siberian climate in much the same way that warm, moist air from the Pacific Ocean helps to moderate the climate of Seattle, Washington, today. Although Siberian winters were still cold during the Ice Age, they would have been tolerable for the wooly mammoths.1 This also explains why the coastal lowlands of Siberia were never covered by ice, even though secular ice age models predict that they would have been.10

Secular scientists can’t use this simple explanation because according to their evolutionary story, Arctic sea ice has been present for at least the last 100,000 years,21 long before the time they think the mammoths went extinct about 10,000 years ago. This means that according to the secular model, Arctic sea ice was present while the mammoths lived in Siberia. With sea ice present and warm oceans absent, Siberia would have been as cold as it is today, if not more so. So again, secular scientists’ belief in millions of years prevents them from seeing a straightforward explanation for this well-known mystery.

Oard’s model also explains why the mammoths went extinct. As the Ice Age ended, tremendous volumes of fresh meltwater flowed to the Arctic Ocean. Being less dense than salt water, this fresh water remained on top of the sea’s surface and froze, forming a layer of sea ice. With the climate-moderating influence gone, temperatures quickly dropped, and the mammoths succumbed to the colder temperatures.22 Using basic meteorological reasoning, Oard shows that these colder high-latitude temperatures, combined with a dryer climate at the end of the Ice Age, would have resulted in enormous dust storms, which overtook and buried some of the mammoths. After burial, the dust froze around their remains. This is why many Siberian mammoth carcasses are found in frozen hills of wind-blown silt called loess.1

The Bible’s History Is the Solution

Christians don’t need to accept the millions of years projected by secular scientists. Time after time, the scientists’ deep-time theories fail to provide adequate explanations. The biblical timeline, however, is a different story. It is not a problem or an embarrassment for which Christians need to apologize. Rather, it’s the key to making sense of Earth’s history!

References

21. Johnston, J. Arctic could become ice-free for first time in more than 100,000 years, claims leading scientist. The Independent. Posted on independent.co.uk June 4, 2016, accessed September 10, 2018.
22. Some have speculated that the wooly mammoths were “quick frozen” as temperatures rapidly dropped to -150°F. Although this idea was once popular, Michael Oard’s model is a better explanation for the data, which includes partially preserved food found in mammoth stomachs. The wooly mammoths did succumb to colder temperatures, but such a stupendously rapid temperature drop is physically unrealistic and isn’t needed to explain the data.

Dr. Hebert is Research Associate at the Institute for Creation Research and earned his Ph.D. in physics from the University of Texas at Dallas.
What do dinosaurs, Grand Canyon, and 1980s volcanic eruptions have in common? ICR scientists have studied all three and found many ways in which science agrees with the Bible’s timeline. Long-time Acts & Facts readers will likely be familiar with these facts, but many visitors to the ICR Discovery Center for Science and Earth History will hear them for the first time.

They may not realize that the Bible actually talks about dinosaurs. “Look now at the behemoth, which I made along with you” (Job 40:15). Creation scientists think the Bible’s description of behemoth matches a sauropod dinosaur—one that lived during Job’s time. Our muralist just completed a depiction of this passage, and it will serve as the backdrop for our Job diorama. Some Discovery Center visitors may have heard people make fun of the idea that dinosaurs lived at the same time as humans, but they’ll find that ICR presents a compelling case.

In October, workers crafted our below-ground Grand Canyon exhibit. An artist will soon paint the canyon’s colorful rock layers that were deposited during the Genesis Flood about 4,500 years ago. And we recently moved the large model of Mount St. Helens inside the Discovery Center and look forward to future work that will give it a final polish. The effects of the 1980 and 1982 volcanic eruptions show that a remarkable amount of geological change can occur in a short time. Carved canyons, water-deposited rock layers, and fossilized plants and animals are not proof of millions of years—they’re evidence of catastrophe!

Few people get to hear about the remarkable harmony that exists between science and the Bible. The Discovery Center will be a new avenue to get the word out. Can you imagine the impact it will have for those who earnestly seek the truth? Please continue praying for this vital project.

Help Us Complete the Exhibits

We’re developing the most educational and inspirational exhibits possible, pointing people to the truth of our Creator, the Lord Jesus Christ. Visit ICR.org/DiscoveryCenter to find out how you can partner with us in prayer and help us finish strong!
Baryon Conservation and the Antimatter Mystery

Everything is made of matter. Matter is made of atoms, and atoms are made of smaller particles. Baryons are one of these subatomic particles, and the most common are protons and neutrons. They’re important because they make up most of the mass in the observable universe.

Baryon Conservation

The conservation of baryons means that the total number of baryons in any given nuclear reaction remains the same. In other words, the initial number of baryons involved in a reaction equals the number of baryons remaining afterward. Consider the decay of a free neutron:

\[ n^0 \rightarrow p^+ + e^- + \bar{\nu}_e \]

The neutron \((n)\), with a baryon number of 1, decays into a proton \((p)\), with a baryon number of 1, plus an electron \((e)\), with a baryon number of 0, and an electron antineutrino \((\bar{\nu})\), with a baryon number of 0. Thus, the baryon number is conserved. Now consider the hypothesized decay of a proton:

\[ p^+ \rightarrow e^+ + \pi^0 \]

A proton \((p)\), with baryon number 1, decays into a positron \((e^+)\), with baryon number 0, and a neutral pi-meson \((\pi)\), with baryon number 0. This decay is predicted by several popular secular models but has never been observed in nature because it violates baryon conservation, i.e., \(1 \neq 0\).

The current lower limit for a proton’s half-life is \(1.6 \times 10^{34}\) years, which is 24 orders of magnitude greater than the secular age of the universe. So, the total number of baryons in the universe remains constant according to our most recent observations in spite of many secular hypotheses to the contrary.

The Antimatter Mystery

Why does baryon conservation pose such a problem for secular science? Because it does not support the presuppositions of the Big Bang model. Most Big Bang hypotheses claim the universe began with some type of quantum fluctuation that expanded as a ball of pure energy and eventually condensed into extremely high-energy electromagnetic waves. These waves then produced equal amounts of baryons and antibaryons through a process called pair production:

\[ \gamma + \gamma \rightarrow p^+ + p^- \]

This process is fully reversible since the baryon number on both sides of the reaction is 0. When the proton and antiproton come into contact, they will annihilate into two high-energy photons. This means one of two things had to have happened for our observable universe to exist according to secular science. Either the matter and antimatter somehow congregated in different areas of the universe, or there is an asymmetry in the interaction of matter and antimatter that leaves a small residual amount of matter but no antimatter after the annihilation process.

When matter and antimatter annihilate, characteristic back-to-back high-energy gamma rays are produced. These rays have not been observed in any significant amount from galaxies or superclusters interacting with the normal matter in space. So, while antimatter may be produced in very small amounts by certain extreme phenomena in the universe, there is no observational evidence for large groupings of antimatter. To date, no experimental evidence exists that annihilation reactions produce a surplus of matter along with the gamma radiation.

So, where is the antimatter that the Big Bang hypotheses predict must exist in our universe? Maybe the universe didn’t explode into existence but was instead designed by a Creator to be inhabited, as the first few chapters of Genesis indicate.

What Is Antimatter?

Antimatter sounds like science fiction, but it’s real. Protons and neutrons are in a class of particles known as baryons. An antimatter baryon is an antibaryon. If the Big Bang were true, there should be equal amounts of baryons and antibaryons, but the universe has way more matter than antimatter. Baryon conservation doesn’t fit the Big Bang model.

References

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5. Isaiah 45:18
“It’s only logical” was the statement frequently made by the Vulcan character Spock in the Star Trek series. His logic-based decisions during times of crisis stood in stark contrast to the emotion-driven reactions of the humans around him and made him a pop culture icon. Suddenly, being logical was “cool.”

Logic involves the study and practice of correct reasoning, which usually applies rules to guide people’s thinking as they move from basic beliefs or premises to conclusions. Thus, logic is regularly used to select the right course of action when a decision is needed. Figuring out a logical path in Spock-like fashion and putting it into action can be very rewarding. More challenging yet is finding a way to program something with the logic it needs to identify the best solutions to the difficulties it might encounter.

Logic-Based Selection Mechanisms

When faced with different challenges, machines need the logic-based capability to select appropriate responses from the potential solutions. Engineers and programmers accomplish this by building logic mechanisms that imitate the conscious logical intentions of the designer. The only known originating source of such information is a real mind.

For early programmers, the challenge was how to program a machine so it could manipulate incoming data in a way that mirrored how a human reasons. Programmers need to write a program in a type of language the machine can use. The program is governed by rules, just like all languages. It uses logic-derived conditional statements, including “if,” “then,” “and,” “or,” and “not,” to regulate data in a step-by-step manner that creatively combines these conditional statements and other commands. The program is intended to mimic the way the human mind confers meaning to data to obtain the information it needs to make a decision.

Logic mechanisms built into machines imitate the logical intentions of the designer.

Basic “if-then” logic in machines can be achieved by turning a switch on and off. The first switch discovered in bacteria is a classic example of the gene logic used in adaptation.

Cellular systems combine logic sequences that enable cellular “cognition” to select suitable responses to various challenges.

Creatures use programmed logic mechanisms to regulate the internal selection of adaptable responses. This is consistent with ICR’s continuous environmental tracking model.

When people think of the simplest logic, they usually think of something like “If condition X, then perform one kind of response, and if condition Y, then do another.” This type of logic is fundamental for the operation of nearly all electronic computing devices. In many machines, this type of logic can be implemented by turning a basic switch on and off. For instance, if the switch is “on” then do “A” and if it is “off” do “B.” Could living creatures use this type of programming to self-adjust to changing conditions?

How Logic Mechanisms Fit into Biological Adaptation

Creatures appear to respond to changes in their environments by making suitable self-adjustments generated by their own built-in biological mechanisms. The Institute for Creation Research is developing a theory of design whose main assumption is that engineering principles can be used to explain biological functions. From this, we are building a design-based adaptation model called continuous environmental tracking (CET). When it comes to the biological function of adaptability, ICR’s model hypothesizes that if human engineers can use a tracking system to detect and maintain surveillance of a moving target, then creatures could employ a similar strategy to track and adapt to changing conditions.

Human-engineered tracking systems incorporate three well-matched elements: input sensors, programmed logic mechanisms to regulate an internal selection of adaptable responses, and output “actuators” to execute responses.

Research demonstrates that organisms utilize these same elements to track changing conditions and produce highly regulated targeted results that are typically characterized as rapid and repeatable. A previous article in this series discussed the key role of the sensors creatures use to track changing conditions. Three take-
1. It is the programming in organisms that specifies a condition “to be” a stimulus.
2. Individual sensors are “tuned” to match specific environmental conditions.
3. An organism’s sensors are the “effective” triggers for their responses.

Engineering principles also apply to the programming of the logic mechanisms underlying biological functions. Creatures use these mechanisms to control their self-adjustments through a series of internal on-and-off switches. Hard metallic transistors can function as switches in electronics, but in living cells switches are made from extraordinarily complex pathways and interactions utilizing highly specified protein molecules.

Remarkable Discovery—Cell Systems Can Implement Logic!

Researchers’ careful observation of E. coli bacteria in the 1960s gave clues to how these protein switches operate. Normally, the bacteria in the study would break down the sugar glucose for energy. But when glucose was withheld and another sugar, lactose, was introduced, the bacteria started making the necessary enzymes to metabolize lactose. Analysis of this phenomenon revealed a system consisting of a sensor for lactose, an internal logic-based selection mechanism for “glucose or lactose,” and output responses to produce the suitable enzyme to break down lactose.

Evolutionary biologist Sean Carroll describes the implications of the stunning discovery:

Somehow, the bacterium senses the presence of lactose and is induced to make the right enzyme when it is needed. How can such a simple cell “know” what enzymes to make? How is the right enzyme induced by the appearance of the very compound it breaks down? The answers to these questions were worked out by François Jacob and Jacques Monod, who along with André Lwoff shared the Nobel Prize in 1965 for their discoveries.…. What Jacob and Monod figured out is that the production of this enzyme is controlled by a switch that resides at the beta-galactosidase gene. The switch is off when lactose is absent, but flips on when lactose is present….The control of enzyme production by the lac repressor is the classic example of gene logic, where a gene is used only when it is needed….I cannot overstate the conceptual impact of the discovery of genetic switches in bacteria.

These bacteria are likely no more aware of these automated functions than humans are of those happening within themselves. Yet, they function just like human-designed autonomous adaptable entities that use internal logic-based selective responses. “If-then” logic enables an internal selection of the correct solution to different challenges, an innate system that closely imitates the conscious logical intentions of a designer.

Logic-Based Systems Confer Cellular “Cognition” to Select Responses

In conscious organisms, the ability to make selections is either an indicator of volition or a consequence of complicated, logic-based systems. When such organisms integrate sensory inputs, memory, and logical rules to make selections, they are said to express cognition. Remarkably, an individual cell—including those that organisms use in their environmental tracking systems—seems to behave in ways that mimic cognition. Geneticist James Shapiro of the University of Chicago describes this capability:

Cells act in what I call a cognitive way or an information processing way. Some people like to say “computational.” The only reason that I don’t use the word computational is that it doesn’t include the sensory aspect of how cells operate. And the sensing and its molecular basis are all very firmly established scientifically. There’s no question about it. What we don’t understand is how everything is integrated, how the information is processed and how the cells end up doing the appropriate thing. We know a lot about the components involved in signal transfer and decision-making, but we don’t know how the whole system works. That I think is the key frontier in the 21st century…. Cells engineer their own genomes and they do it in a wide variety of ways that are subject to sensory inputs and which can be targeted within the genome.

Thus, it seems that tracking environmental changes is a function of organisms, some organ systems, and even cells themselves. It also looks as though the same elements of sensors, logic mechanisms, and output effectors are used in similar systems all the way down. Observations from the latest research keep coming in to support ICR’s CET model. Sensors bridge the space between organism and environment and are themselves marvels of engineering. But the logic mechanisms—which are designed to mimic the way cognitive beings think and implement suitable selections—seem to resist any explanations involving death-driven, mindless, and random evolutionary trial-and-error scenarios.

Programmers use logic-based programming when they want to implement their decision-making intentions through an independent entity. So, when we see microscopic cells carry out thousands of highly complicated logical decisions with exquisite precision, we get a glimpse into the magnificent and infinite mind of their Designer, the Lord Jesus Christ.

References

Dr. Guliuzza is ICR’s National Representative. He earned his M.D. from the University of Minnesota, his Master of Public Health from Harvard University, and served in the U.S. Air Force as 28th Bomb Wing Flight Surgeon and Chief of Aerospace Medicine. Dr. Guliuzza is also a registered Professional Engineer.
My parents took me to church and Sunday school, but we rarely talked about God. I loved to read, but the science books contradicted the Bible. I read of a universe that was billions of years old and of dinosaurs that supposedly lived many millions of years ago. I read of human descent from apes. The geology books denied Noah’s Flood. Without evidence, I concluded the Bible could not be true, and I drifted from God.

I double-majored in math and physics at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), studied theoretical math for three years, and got a law degree. During those years I considered myself an atheist.

When my son was baptized at church, though, something happened in me—I felt the Holy Spirit. But the atheist indoctrination would not let go easily. I told myself I would not believe in God without evidence. That started my journey back to Him.

I read books on physics, molecular biology, cosmology, quantum mechanics, and more. I began to see design in the world around me. The turning point came on an airplane. I did a crude calculation of the odds of getting a single functional protein by chance. The math was overwhelming; it can’t happen without God. I knew then God was real.

In 2014, around a decade after my eureka moment, I published Counting To God: A Personal Journey Through Science to Belief. I “counted” through seven areas of science that point to God. I was impressed and promptly began devouring creation literature, including The Genesis Flood, Creation Basics & Beyond, Understanding Genesis, and A Flood of Evidence.

I found creation everywhere. ICR’s Acts & Facts became my favorite magazine. I learned that blue stars, spiral galaxies, double stars, nuclear physics, and other evidence discredit the Big Bang model. I saw how DNA evidence shows all human beings descended from a woman who lived less than 10,000 years ago, and how one chart shows three branches of mitochondrial DNA corresponding to the three wives of Noah’s sons. Worldwide discoveries of dinosaur soft tissue opened my eyes to weaknesses in the old-earth perspective, as did detailed human drawings and carvings of dinosaurs. And I found the geological evidence of the Flood undeniable. It is a great joy to trust the Bible, to know it is true from beginning to end. I feel peace. I am grateful to ICR and all who work to spread the truth of creation and the Bible. With their help, my journey has led me back to God.

Doug Ell is a Principal at Groom Law Group in Washington, D.C. He earned an S.B. in mathematics and physics at M.I.T., an M.S. in theoretical math at the University of Maryland, and a J.D. (Doctor of Law) from the University of Connecticut School of Law.
Q: Can Scientists Resurrect Extinct Species?

A: In the 2013 movie Star Trek: Into Darkness, Captain Kirk suffers lethal levels of radiation to save his crew. Fortunately, Doctor McCoy brings his captain back to life by borrowing blood from a character whose body regenerates tissues. In the more recent Jurassic World movies, scientists use protein and DNA sequences from dinosaur remains to create new dinosaurs such as Indominus rex in the lab. Shows like these reveal humans’ interest in outwitting death and leave the impression that perhaps someday science can bring forth life. However, real-world features wreck these science fiction fantasies.

The idea that science can solve any problem flows from humanism. This teaches that humans are the pinnacle of evolution and can create better futures and develop technologies to rescue us from all harm. Humanists seem to want the benefit of everlasting life without having to turn to God.

But science can’t solve every problem. Technologies can help improve health, but they fizzle when it’s time to come to an animal or a person to die. Scientists may measure brain waves, and doctors can perform incredible medical procedures, but they are powerless to reverse death. Science can’t bring animals or people back from the dead.

We do see new life—actually a continuation of life—when a baby is born. Science-based tools may help with fertilization or the birthing process, but no science has ever created life from scratch. Life always comes from life. Biologists once taught this basic principle, called the Law of Biogenesis, before education leaders chose to bathe public school science in humanism.1

Since life always comes from life, then the first life must also have come from life. It did. The living God breathed life into specially crafted dust to make the first man, Adam. God then formed Eve out of Adam’s living body. Humanists don’t like God, so they substitute things like dirt, pond water, or laboratories for His life-giving skill.

Even if scientists had a complete and pristine copy of Tyrannosaurus DNA, what could they do with it? They would have to insert it into an egg to resurrect that dinosaur. But those eggs are gone. Even a fertilized egg still needs a whole T. rex mother to properly mature it.

DNA holds information, but it does not hold life any more than a printed recipe can bake a cake. It takes a chef to interpret the recipe. It takes an egg cell to interpret DNA. In short, it takes a mama to make a baby.

This fact gives some scientists hope to resurrect a mammoth. If they can find or make the right DNA, they might insert it into a live elephant mother. It’s a long shot but not total fiction like Captain Kirk or Indominus rex.

The original Creator remains the only one who could bring back dodo birds or dinosaurs. This Creator left good news for those who like the idea of living forever. Anyone anywhere who believes—“whoever desires”2—can turn from sin and trust in the One who rose from the dead to forgive those offenses. Then in addition to forgiveness, “whoever believes in Him [shall] not perish but have everlasting life.”3 Christ alone defeated sin and death and is the sole source for eternal life.

References

Mr. Thomas is Science Writer at the Institute for Creation Research and earned his M.S. in biotechnology from Stephen F. Austin State University.
Thanksgiving Day for Bible-believing Christians should be a joyous time of reflection and praise for all the blessings God has bestowed on us. In spite of the wickedness that rages at times, our Creator is “merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in mercy” (Psalm 103:8) and “makes His sun rise on the evil and on the good” (Matthew 5:45). No matter our circumstances, we must acknowledge that God has been so very good to each of us, and this day affords us the special opportunity to praise Him for “all His benefits” (Psalm 103:2).

Sadly, Thanksgiving in the United States has often been treated as just another holiday. Many families will gather and share a meal, and some will even pause long enough to express “thanks” to someone or something—perhaps even to God. But the original significance of this “holy” day has largely been lost in the current generation.

Thanksgiving Day should be much more than football and turkey and family get-togethers. It’s a day to worship the One who created us and has blessed us every day of our lives. Yet the “god” worshipped and thanked by millions bears little resemblance to the holy, omnipotent, and sovereign Creator God described in Scripture. How people recognize and respond to the Creator makes all the difference!

Here at ICR, we are deeply thankful for God’s abundant provision through believers like you. Your sacrificial gifts make our work possible, and your encouraging notes and intercessory prayers remind us that the “wiles of the devil” and the “fiery darts of the wicked one” will never triumph as long as we stay true to God’s Word (Ephesians 6:11, 16). We’re grateful for this special partnership because it keeps our ministry focused and strong as we move into new and exciting ventures.

Work on our latest ministry project, the ICR Discovery Center for Science and Earth History, continues at a furious pace. At the time of this writing, the high-end digital projectors for the planetarium and lecture hall are being installed and tested, large 12’ × 12’ fossil replica tiles are being hung along the front façade facing busy Royal Lane, and a glorious 25-foot-tall stainless steel DNA sculpture is being cast. It will sparkle in the midst of a reflecting pool just outside the main entrance. The facility will be absolutely stunning and is sure to draw many visitors.

Our major focus now is on the interior details. Every plant, animatronic creature, and display—down to the final textures and colors—is vetted against biblical and scientific data to ensure precision and accuracy. We’re also working closely with artists as they sculpt impressive exhibits out of concrete and with filmmakers as they craft thrilling visuals that will educate and inspire our guests. The Bible and science will come alive in ways never seen before!

ICR has the scientific “muscle” and biblical commitment to reach the coming generations with the truth of creation. But we can’t do it without continued help from God’s people to finish this powerful initiative. So 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). Our end goal is close. We only need a few million more to open this magnificent venue completely debt-free. By pulling together, we can build a lasting legacy that will reach far beyond our lifetimes and into eternity.

From all of us at ICR, thank you again for your trust in us. May God richly bless you and your family as we praise Him for all He has done and will do.

Happy Thanksgiving!  

Mr. Morris is Director of Operations at the Institute for Creation Research.
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The Independent Charities Seal of Excellence has been awarded to ICR. The Independent Charities of America and Local Independent Charities of America have certified that ICR meets the highest standards of public accountability, program effectiveness, and cost effectiveness. These standards include those required by the U.S. government for inclusion in the Combined Federal Campaign. Of the 1,000,000 charities operating in the U.S. today, it is estimated that fewer than 2,000 have been awarded this seal.

Charity Navigator, America’s largest and most influential charity evaluator, has awarded ICR its highest rating. As an Exceptional Four-Star charity, ICR exceeds industry standards and outperforms most charities in our category based on financial health, accountability, and transparency.
I’m routinely astonished and filled with pride as I read and hear about the work you and your researchers are doing, ICR. Keep up the amazing work…you made me a believer!
— L. F.

An institution like this [Discovery Center] has been long overdue, and I’m very glad to see it finally come to life. This has been needed for such a long time, and I guarantee it will impact lives for eternity!
— F. B.

You are not an embarrassment to me—or God, especially. Know you are pleasing Him. Stand strong in these last days. Satan’s pull is strong, but our Lord has conquered him!

What about Homo neanderthalensis, Homo erectus, Homo floresiensis, Australopithecus afarensis, Ardipithecus ramidus, Homo habilis, Australopithecus sediba, and Homo naledi? These were supposedly pre-human, but were they not really humans?
— P. P.

Response from ICR Science Writer Brian Thomas, M.S.: Thanks for this great question. In answer, allow me to point out a sentence from my September Acts & Facts article that addresses the very specimens you listed: “Why don’t we find human remains in all the vast rock layers from Noah’s Flood?” None of the Homo, Australo-, or Ardi-specimens occur “in…vast rock layers.” They all came from caves or thin and relatively small rock layers. In other words, they were deposited after the Flood—likely during the Ice Age. The question my article tries to address is the absence of Homo, etc., from dinosaur rocks, not from anywhere on Earth. I invite you to explore ICR’s analyses of each of the specimen types you listed. Just search each one at ICR.org. Some of them were NOT humans.

I have been receiving Acts & Facts for close to 50 years. In those days it was only a single sheet folded. I have always appreciated the articles and the presentation. Today’s publication far surpasses those early days.

In the August [2018] issue, the article on “Phenomenally Designed Hemoglobin” stood out to me as a retired medical laboratory technologist with a proficiency in hematology and having taught in a Christian school for a number of years. Mr. [Frank] Sherwin was able to present a technical subject in a manner that any reader could understand. Kudos to him and the entire team at ICR for the fine magazine that you present each month.
— D. H.

If it is a worthy cause, who cares about the cost? The only one I remember reading in the Bible complaining about money was Judas. People should have some confidence ICR is being frugal—they are the ones accountable to God.
— D. D.

ICR has a talented team of researchers issuing sound scientific responses to the flood of government-funded lies. Lies that draw people away from God’s truth. Good job, ICR.
— D. H.

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