



# Think & Believe

A Publication of Alpha Omega Institute

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## Remembering

(by Dave and Mary Jo Nutting)

Our son, Tim, is currently taking a Discipleship Training School with Youth With a Mission. He called recently requesting that we write down for him some of the ways in which God has worked in our family's life in the past. That was **just the nudge Mary Jo needed** to begin, since just that afternoon she had been thinking of the very same thing. We have been really blessed as we have dug back into the past to remember God's faithfulness to us over the years.

In the Old Testament, God frequently told his people to **look back and remember**. He even instituted special celebrations to help them remember significant events and pass them on to their children and grandchildren. Remembering helps to put things into perspective and should lead to grateful thanksgiving as we see how God has worked on our behalf.

As 1994 draws to a close and **we complete our 10th year as Alpha Omega Institute**, we want to **remember and thank God** for what **He** has done. We have been challenged by more speaking than ever before and by the need to trust God to provide for the Creation Puppeteers as well as for our own family and the other needs of Alpha Omega Institute. God has been faithful. He has given strength to continue and provided for our daily needs. We are thankful.

As we look further back and remember, we can't help but **praise God for the people He has used to influence our lives**. Where would we have been today if **Dr. Duane Gish** had never written **Evolution: The Fossils Say No!?** God used that little book to begin delivering us from the chains of evolutionary thinking and start us on the path to completely trusting His Word. Thank you for being faithful to God's call, and for your frequent encouragement Dr. Gish. We

think about **Dr. Henry Morris** and the time he took to come to where we were teaching at a small college in Sitka, Alaska. His talks and books have been invaluable to us in learning about Creation and the Flood -- his life a real example of how to take an uncompromising stand for God's Word, yet do it with gentleness and reverence. We love and appreciate you, Dr. Morris. We think of **Dr. Walter Lang's** great devotion to the truth of Scripture, his indomitable energy in defending creation, and his encouragement in the early days of this ministry. We hope we have your "stick-to-it," Pastor Lang.

Then there are so many others who have helped us along the way: our professors at ICR, our pastors, **our families**, and our friends. Our lives are enriched because of you! We appreciate those of you who contribute to this ministry financially or as volunteers. We couldn't be ministering without you. We are deeply grateful for those who support us regularly in prayer, for the battle really is the Lord's. Keep on praying for strength and health to keep on moving forward.

**Most of all, we thank our God, who created us, redeemed us, and sustains us day by day. To Him be the glory and honor and praise forever!**



*We Remember & Give Thanks!*

# NOTES & QUOTES

■ **Announcing: The Young Earth, a new book by Dr. John Morris.** This concise, easy-to-understand book is written at a lay level. It contains abundant geological evidence for a young earth and reveals the assumptions required by the evolutionary theory. It clearly teaches the limitations of science, reveals the true issues behind the creation/evolution controversy, and shows the importance of the issue for Christians today. The book is well-illustrated with cartoons, diagrams, charts and photographs. Transparency masters are included so you can easily share the information with your Sunday School class, Bible study group or church. The following excerpts are from Dr. Morris' excellent new book:

□ If people were taught to think, taught to recognize the difference between scientific facts, which can be observed in the present, and ideas about the past which can be used to interpret the facts, then the issue would clear up, for the intellectually honest, anyway. (p. 7)

□ As an earth scientist, one who studies rocks and fossils, I'll let you in on a little secret. My geologic colleagues may not like me to admit this, but rocks don't talk! Nor do they come with explanatory labels. ... They don't talk to me, and I strongly suspect they don't talk to my evolutionary colleagues either! (p. 13)

□ The fossils should contain the main evidence for evolution. But instead, we see that the ages of rocks are determined by the stage of evolution of the index fossils found therein, which are themselves dated and organized by the age of the rocks. Thus the rocks date the fossils, and the fossils date the rocks. (p. 14)

□ Is the assumption of evolution necessary to do science? Despite the pronouncements of some modern-day evolutionists, obviously not! Are other assumptions possible? Yes! Can good science be done without an exclusive commitment to naturalism? Certainly! (p. 17)

□ ... I remember one of my graduate students at the University of Oklahoma, who, as a young man growing up in Iran under the Shah's regime, had turned to communism. A leader in the Student Communist Party, he was taken to Moscow for a year's saturation in communist thought. Do you know what they taught him? Not Marx. Not Lenin. For the whole year they just filled him with evolution! Evolution is a necessary foundation for Marxism. (p. 23)

□ We must get away from thinking of evolution as a science. It's a philosophical world-view about the past, loaded with religious implications, which historically and presently exists in a frantic attempt to explain the fact that we are here without a Creator/God. It results in bad science, a denial of true history, and much misery to people and nations who have adopted it. (p. 25)

□ Time has become a vast rug under which all the problems of evolution are swept. (p. 41)

■ Some of the fascinating topics discussed in *The Young Earth* include:

- Tree ring dating
- Dating Niagara Falls
- Radioisotope dating
- Carbon-14 dating
- Population statistics
- Magnetic field decay
- Plate tectonics
- Magnetic reversals
- Helium in atmosphere
- Salt in ocean
- Dust from space
- Polystrate fossils
- Coal formation
- Mount St. Helens
- Grand Canyon
- Specimen Ridge in Yellowstone
- More!



A Polystrate Tree.

■ Morris sums up his discussion of the evidence with the following statement, and then discusses why the matter is so important anyway.

□ Thus we have seen, from a variety of different measurements and techniques, that the geologic and physical evidence of the world is quite compatible with the Biblical doctrine of the young earth. We can't prove the Bible from looking at geology, nor do we try to. We accept it by faith, but insist that if the Bible is really true, then the geologic evidence must support it, and indeed it does! It not only supports the Bible, but much geologic evidence can be cited which is quite incompatible with an old-earth scenario. (p. 117)

□ Much is at stake, even the issue of Biblical inerrancy. Can God's Word be trusted? When it gives times and places and genealogies, does it contain meaningful information? To Christian old-earth advocates, many Scripture passages must be ignored or allegorized. (p. 122)

□ Most of all, He [God] gives us life -- Eternal Life -- where once there was only death. And then there *will* be long ages, not millions of years of death and suffering, but innumerable years of Life with our Savior. He has done it all, "That in the ages to come He might show the exceeding riches of His grace in His kindness toward us through Christ Jesus." (Ephesians 2:7) (p. 136)

■ Call or write for your copy of *The Young Earth* today! (Available from Alpha Omega Institute for \$14.95 + \$1.50 shipping. Colorado residents please add 3% state tax.)

# SPOTLIGHT ON SCIENCE

## Scientific Study on the Age of High School Students

(Dr. Steven Austin has generously allowed us to use his excellent analogy in the following article. It clearly points out the difficulty of attempting to date anything in the past "scientifically." We have modified it a bit and added our own comments and conclusions.)

Several years ago, some friendly extraterrestrial scientists visited Planet Earth, wanting to settle once and for all the age of high school students on Earth. It seems a big controversy had been raging on their home planet. Some said the students were fairly young, while others thought they were much older. When students were asked their age, they replied "fifteen," or "sixteen" or something close, but when asked to prove it they could not. Many produced a driver's license or birth certificate as "evidence," but the ET's were unwilling to accept these forms of written documentation. They wanted an objective, "scientific" way of "proving" the age, so they devised a "scientific" investigation.

For three years they studied the students, carefully documenting the amount they grew each year. They found that the average rate of growth of their study group was 1" per year and the average height of students at the end of the study period was 65". Simple calculations showed the students must be about 65 years old. This surprised the ET'S a bit, since it conflicted drastically with the oral testimony of the students, eye-witness reports by their mothers, and historical documents such as birth certificates, but being good scientists, they designed another study to see if they could confirm their results.

For three more years they studied high school students, this time measuring average weight gain. They found an average gain of 2 pounds per year and the average ending weight of 130 pounds. Simple division showed this second study confirmed the first one -- students were about 65 years old. The written documents and eye-witness reports must be fictitious or in error.

Back on their home planet, they published their findings. Newspaper headlines flashed the results: "Scientific Studies Prove Students on Planet Earth Sixty-five Years Old." Textbooks and museums also picked up the story and it quickly became established "fact."

This creative analogy exposes the difficulty of trying to "scientifically prove" anything about the past. Why did the ET's arrive at such erroneous results? Notice their two main assumptions: (1) they assumed students grew at the same rate all their life (constant growth rate), and (2) they assumed the students were zero inches long at birth (initial starting condition). Had they been there when the students were born and watched them throughout their growing years, they would have known these assumptions were faulty. However, they based their conclusions on their limited observations.

When it comes to determining the age of the earth or universe, scientists today have the same limitations, and consequently, the same risk of serious error. They were not there to observe initial starting conditions nor to watch the entire process to determine constant rates of growth or decay. Therefore, they have no way of knowing if their conclusions are right or wrong. For example, the radioactive decay methods are based on relative amounts of various isotopes (forms of atoms) and radioactive decay rates. The problem is we have no way of knowing what the starting conditions were. Neither do we know for sure that the decay rates have been constant over the supposed "billions" of years nor that certain products have not been leached from the sample or otherwise altered. Since no one was there at the start, there is no way to test the accuracy of these assumptions.

The only way to test the reliability of such a test would be to date things of known historical age and see how test results compare. This has been done, but, as one evolutionary geologist admitted, "You can't use radioactive decay methods on recent objects. ... Every time you do they give you horrible results." If they are not reliable on things of known age, why should we trust them on things of unknown age?

There are many dating methods which seem to indicate that the earth is relatively young. (See Notes and Quotes.) Most of these have the same limitations as illustrated by the above analogy, though. However, the book of Genesis contains a historical record and an "eyewitness" report which concurs with these young age conclusions and adds weight to the young age "scientific" dating methods. Of course, many scientists reject these historical evidences (just as the ET'S rejected the birth certificates and eye-witness reports), but rejecting them is not the same as disproving them. The Bible has proven accurate time and time again in confirming historical facts, and the character of the "eye-witness," God Himself, is impeccable.

Evolutionists who reject the Bible are in a similar situation to the ET's or to someone coming into the middle of a movie. They have lots of questions and nothing makes much sense. They try to discover what happened "in the beginning" by making assumptions and extrapolating from present-day observations. Their conclusions may be far from accurate though.

Bible-believing Christians accept the "inside story," and find it compatible with their observations of nature. Vicariously, they were "there" "in the beginning," so the rest of the story makes sense.

Do you want to make sense of what you see going on in the world today? Then read the beginning of the story, and believe the One who wrote it.

## EVENTS

(Call local contact for time and place.)

(\*J\* indicates Johnsons, \*N\* Nuttings, \*B\* both)

- Jan 22: **Fort Morgan, CO:** Life Fellowship (B)  
Contact: Kurt Miller 303-867-7939.
- Jan 23-24: **McPherson, KS:** First Baptist (B)  
Contact: Church Office 316-241-6400.
- Jan 27-Feb 23: **Texas Trip: Ft. Worth, Austin, Houston, Waco, San Antonio, Boerne, Port LaVaca, Fredericksburg, et.al.** (B)  
Exact itinerary is still being arranged at time of printing.  
Contact us for details: 303-245-5906.
- Feb 26: **Mountain Grove, MO:** First Free Will Baptist (B)  
Contact Tim Smith 417-926-4047.
- Feb 27-28: **Springfield, MO** Location TBA (B)  
Contact Doug or Amber Virnig 417-744-2043.
- Mar 1-2: **Joplin, MO:** Location TBA (B)  
Contact Rick or Terri Smith 314-781-9041.
- Mar 5: **Broomfield, CO:** Calvary Evan. Free (B)  
Contact Church 303-466-9750 or Jerry McKamy 303-753-4164.
- Mar 24-Apr 2: **ICR Grand Canyon Adventure (N)**  
Contact ICR 619-448-0900.
- Apr 3-8: **Winter Park, CO:** Snow Mtn Creation/Ski Adventure (B)  
Contact us. 303-245-5906.
- Apr 5-6: **Estes Park, CO:** Nat. Homeschool BB Tour (N)  
Contact FEAST 210-692-7214. (Tour. Ap. 2-8)
- Snow Mountain Creation/Ski Adventure:**  
**Winter Park, CO: April 3-8, 1995**
- Twin Peaks Family Science Adventure:**  
**Collbran, CO: July 2-7, 1995**
- Redcloud Family Mountain Adventures:**  
**Lake City, CO: Aug 13-18 and 20-25, 1995**



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## CREATION VACATIONS

Have you ever dreamed of taking an **exciting Colorado mountain adventure**? Would you also like to **learn more about God's wonderful creation** and be better prepared to "make a defense" for your faith? Then, come to one of our exciting **1995 "Vacations with a Purpose"** and fulfill two dreams in one.

These **high quality learning vacations** are great for **the whole family**. Start your day with a generous country breakfast and a God-honoring time of praise and worship. Then discover fascinating evidence of God's handiwork with slide-illustrated **creation presentations by Dave and Mary Jo Nutting**. Meanwhile, Alpha Omega's **Creation Puppeteers** will direct your children in an enjoyable time of learning through **puppets, slide-shows, and hands-on activities**. After a delicious lunch, try an exciting activity like **skiing, horseback riding, rappelling, ropes course, fishing, hiking, archery, or canoeing**, or just **relax and enjoy the beauty of God's creation**. If you'd like, watch an informative creation video before dinner. Then round off your day with another scrumptious meal, a time of worship, a special creation program, and free time for fellowship or relaxation. You'll be ready to hit the sack and enjoy pleasant dreams!

The first 1995 Adventure is **Snow Mountain Creation/Ski Adventure (April 3-8, 1995)**. (Yes, we do expect snow! Last year there was still a 90 inch base plus 2 feet of fresh powder on the upper slopes! Beginners slopes had great snow too!) One full day and every afternoon are reserved for relaxing and recreation.

All our adventures are offered at a very **affordable** price and are **valuable learning experiences**. **Singles** and couples without children are **welcome** too! **Grandparents**, how about bringing your grandchildren? There's **something for everyone**. Come join us for a week of **fun, fellowship and learning!**

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