

Think Believe

Discover Creation...Worship the Creator

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Floods of the West Trip

by Dave and Mary Jo Nutting

Mary Jo and I recently led the Southwest Creation Tour with 25 Jackson Hole Bible College students and our Discover Creation Training Institute students. Why do we devote extensive time to this tour? Here's why:

“When I saw all the fossils and how they had “millions of years” on them it hit me that **there's no change!**... variation, but not evolution. God says in His Word that He made every animal after its own kind and lo and behold no change!...God's Word can be trusted...for salvation and everything else in life.” (S.B.)

“... it is overwhelming to see the evidence of the Flood. This is a reminder of the consequences of sin and the justice of God, but it also shows His love and ability to create incredible beauty even out of judgment. I was awed by the splendor of His creation and thoroughly enjoyed the hikes and teaching I received throughout these two weeks.” (R.H.)

“It was truly the trip of a lifetime that I am so grateful I could be a part of. I hope to be more “dangerous” with what I have learned when being an apologist for the faith. This trip has also inspired me to keep researching and to be a learner all my life.” (A.K.)

“I am impressed with the vast amount of evidence that the flood left behind...It encourages me to know how much material I have to stand on in defending my faith. Even more than that, however, I am inspired by the boldness the Nuttings' have demonstrated throughout their ministry in gently, but purposefully, confronting the assumptions of antagonistic scientists and students. God has gained more people for His Kingdom because of their work and it challenges me to use the abundant evidence more boldly as a testimony to the unsaved. God can work through it to save more people and to demonstrate that science also belongs to him.” (K.E.)

“After going to Grand Canyon, Arches, and the other amazing places we went, I just can't imagine how people do not believe there is a Designer who formed these landscapes with His mighty hand. This trip was spiritually beneficial to me, as well, because it made me have a deeper appreciation for creation



and my Creator...all the sights were just mind blowing!” (W.W.)

“Personally, it was not all the evidence of creation and the flood that impacted me the most, but the hugeness and vastness of God's creation and the beauty that exists on earth

– even after judgment. The testimony of you and your wife is what had the biggest impact on my life. Your heart for ministry and service was such an encouragement and blessing. I really appreciate the time and effort you two put into investing into our lives. God is so big and incredible!” (G.W.)



“I had never been to any of those sites before and was blown away! It made God all the more great and magnificent. I think one of the biggest things that stuck out to me was the Grand Canyon and its immensity in size and

structure. Also the power of water is amazing and overwhelming. It was neat to see the Flood come to life in a sense.” (W.W.)

To see God's power in judgment/restoration evident in the post-Flood landscape of the western U.S., contact AOI to join next year's Floods of the West Tour! **AOI**

Mike Shaver, former Colorado National Monument park ranger and former Board member of AOI, teaches our group at his old stomping grounds.



The Chalk Problem by Dave Nutting

Secular geologists claim that chalk beds argue against the possibility of the Flood. On the next page, Dr. David Demick does a good job of “chalking these formations up” to the Flood. For several years, I have used the extensiveness of the chalk beds to support a Flood model in my presentations and seminars. It turns out that the chalk beds are part of an extensive deposition of chalk called the Niobrara formation that reaches all the way from the front range of Colorado, across Kansas and Nebraska, and all the way to the Atlantic seaboard. But they don’t stop there. They are also found on the other side of the ocean where they form the White Cliffs of Dover. They are found in France, Spain, Israel and even South Africa. Trans-continental deposition speaks of a global event and

can easily point to a global flood catastrophe when the whole world was covered by water as described in Genesis as Noah’s Flood.

Critics claim there is too much chalk representing an enormous number of dead micro-organisms – including algae – for it to be accounted for during the Flood. However, conditions during, or near the end of the Flood would be **perfect** for amassing the material that would make up the chalk deposits. Think of the heat of the water due to much undersea volcanism. Think about the abundance of nutrients due to decaying organisms that would result in an exponential increase of algae similar to algal blooms today. Also, think about the huge supply of another key ingredient, carbon dioxide, emanating from the undersea volcanism. All of this

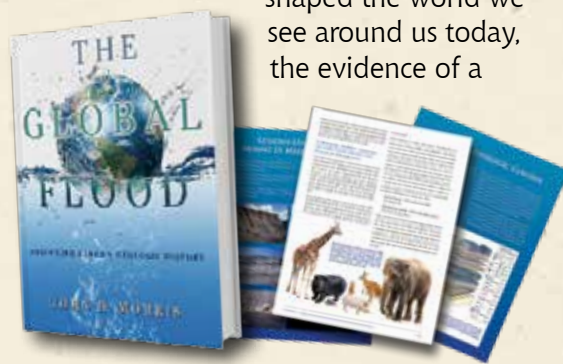
makes a perfect recipe for the amount of chalk deposits worldwide! See Dr. Demick’s article on the next page for additional details.

As you travel across Kansas or Nebraska on your way to Creation Camp in the fabulous Colorado mountains, stop and visit some of these chalk beds. Find some fossils, large or small, or examine the chalk under a microscope when you get home. This will help make the Flood of Noah’s day even more real to you! **AOI**

The Global Flood

The Global Flood, Unlocking Earths’ Geological History, is chock-full of wonderful photos and illustrations. It is easy to read, yet concise enough to engage even casual learners. This 176-page book fills a need, not only for geologists, but for the lay person who wants to know about geologic and Biblical evidence for the Flood and its related issues. Dr. John C. Whitcomb, who co-authored the original classic book, writes this in his Forward to The Global Flood: “For some, the thought of a worldwide flood is ludicrous. But

for serious scientists who research the various formations of the earth and the catastrophic processes that shaped the world we see around us today, the evidence of a



global flood is indisputable. The Global Flood presents that evidence in a way that clearly demonstrates

why the biblical account of the Flood matters to all of us who want to understand and communicate the truth of the Genesis Flood with confidence. The Global Flood helps to meet a great need today. It is comprehensive. It is aimed at those who are not experts in earth sciences. People everywhere need to understand the true significance of the year-long, mountain-covering Deluge that buried and fossilized trillions of marine and land animals and plants only a few thousand years ago.”

This book not only gives evidence for the Flood, but also answers many of the objections to the Flood. It is a great resource for pastors, Bible teachers, students, and laymen. Available from AOI for **\$20**. **AOI**

Fabulous Chalk Beds

by Dr. David Demick, Guest Writer

Soft chalk rock is not “writing chalk,” which is actually the mineral gypsum (calcium sulfate, or CaSO_4). True chalk is the compacted remains of trillions of tiny marine algae with cell walls made of calcium carbonate (CaCO_3). Chalk is the softest form of limestone. It is white in its natural state, but yellows with sun exposure. Chalk beds are found in scattered locations worldwide. Much of western Kansas is covered by chalk beds, which are exposed in eroded areas like Castle Rock, Wildcat Canyon, and the Monument Rocks.

Nebraska has a few similar chalk beds, such as the Happy Jack Chalk Mine. England’s White Cliffs of Dover are also made from thick chalk deposits. Most of these chalk beds are very pure CaCO_3 , about 90% to 98% pure.

How and when were the chalk beds formed?

Old-earth geologists tell us that the chalk beds were formed during the Cretaceous Period, 65 to 100 million years ago (Latin creta = chalk). They say the beds were formed by slow, gradual deposition of calcium-rich algae remains drifting down to the sea floor and piling up. However, this can’t be true. Such algae remains do drift down to the seafloor and accumulate, but they mix with other stuff and don’t make the pure deposits we see in the fossil chalk beds. The best explanation for the very pure and thick chalk beds we find on dry land today is a HUGE three-phase mass kill event. In phase 1, many larger

animals are drowned by the Flood and decomposed, resulting in nutrient-rich water. Then, for phase 2 there is a massive bloom of the calcium-walled algae produced by the nutrient-rich waters. Similar, but smaller blooms happen in the oceans today, if nutrient conditions

are right, and can be seen from satellites as white blushes at sea. However, the blooms that occurred late



in the Flood were of a much greater and world-wide scale. Phase 3 was another mass kill – this time of the algae, with rapid burial of their CaCO_3 “skeletons.” Such extreme catastrophic conditions, unlike anything happening today, would have been present in worldwide fashion in the later stages of Noah’s Flood.

Why are there large fossils in the chalk?

The chalk beds have other signs of catastrophic deposition, including embedded animal fossils. These are mostly clam shells, fish bones and scales, but sometimes tylosaurs, plesiosaurs, and pterodactyls. The remains of a few land animals are also found. Some

of the fish in the chalk are very well preserved; however, most are partly disintegrated. This fits the Flood scenario very well.

Why are the chalk fossils mostly shells, with relatively few fish, and very rare sea monsters and land animals?

Remember the “fossil rule of 95’s” – shells and marine invertebrates make up about 95% of all fossils with plants and algae making up 95% of the remainder, and land invertebrates 95% of that remainder. This leaves only about 0.01% of all fossils as vertebrates – which are mostly fish. Of the rare land vertebrate fossils, 95% are isolated bone fragments.² This “95%” pattern is evident in the Kansas chalk beds.

Have the chalk beds been there for millions of years?

No, the evidence contradicts ancient ages. For one thing, the exceptional preservation of microscopic detail in the calcium carbonate cytoskeletons points to more recent deposition. Also, there is rapid erosion. The soft chalk (and firmer but still soft underlying shale) erode rapidly, so that new fish and clam fossils often are uncovered. Erosion can be even more sudden – Castle Rock lost one of its major 30-foot columns of chalk a few years ago when it just collapsed! It’s obvious that those chalk bluffs have an age closer to a few thousand years than to millions of years.

Conclusion

The chalk beds, like numerous other geologic features, seem to fit much better with a comparatively recent, catastrophic event as described in the account of the Flood in Noah’s time. **AOI**

References:

¹Dr. Andrew Snelling. “Can Flood Geology Explain Thick Chalk Beds?” (on the Web at Creation.com).

²Dr. John Morris. The Young Earth, Master Books, 1994.

Director's Column by Mary Jo Nutting



Some of you may remember the lyrics of an old song, "Roll out those lazy hazy crazy days of summer." Though I often long for the "lazy" days of summer, which I enjoyed while growing up in Minnesota, summer is an important time of ministry for the AOI staff. Hazy maybe, as we seek to discern God's leading for the future. Sometimes crazy, with speakers traveling, builders coming and going, teachers preparing for the next session of DCTI, and office staff trying to keep it all coordinated and supported. But certainly not lazy!

By the time you read this, we anticipate that speakers will have ministered at homeschool conferences, camps, churches, Vacation Bible Schools, and a major youth conference. Please pray with us for good follow-up and for abundant fruit from each of the seminars.

Meanwhile, "back at the ranch," we are grateful that the office build-out is coming along well. We still have some

finish work left, but we are nearing completion and eagerly anticipating using the space for DCTI classes, increased local ministry, and outreach to tourists. It's been an "interesting" spring functioning in our temporary quarters with basically one big, noisy room with no private offices! A big **Thank You!** to all of you who have donated to this project or helped out in various ways! We could still use funds for finish work, display cabinets, and other furnishings so please pray and give as you are able. We are anxious to see this project finished and put into expanded ministry use.

We are planning an open house and Discover Creation Celebration with speakers, tours, and children's sessions this fall, after our busy fall speaking schedule. Mark your calendar for November 4-5 and plan to attend. (Online registration will be available soon.)

We hope you have a **great** rest of the summer, with lots of opportunities for ministry – as well as some good times of relaxation and fellowship with friends and family. God Bless! **AOI**



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Floods of the West Tour!

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Want a creation seminar?

Planning ahead for next summer's Vacation Bible School? Now is the time to begin putting things in motion for the months and year to follow! Call today. 970-523-9943.

Yellowstone Creation Tour September 2-6



Yellowstone from a Biblical creation perspective!

Enjoy geysers, hot springs, steaming mud pots, wildlife, and inspiring scenery. Accommodations are rustic but the fun, fellowship, and learning are superb! This trip is great for singles, retirees, or families with elementary-high school kids. See web for details.



Costa Rica Creation Tour 2017

Mar. 3-12 with ministry outreach (optional) Mar. 12-19



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"We enjoy and appreciate your newsletter (including the kid's page even though we're no longer kids). We're thankful for ministries like yours that uphold the authority of God's word and reinforce how true science reflects what we read there. May God continue to bless your ministry!"

– Gary & Debbie S. – Greeley, CO



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