



Think & Believe

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Public High School Debate

by Dave and Mary Jo Nutting

We recently had an opportunity to take part in a three-day series of lectures and a debate at a top ranking high school. It was very apparent that this school was well-staffed with ardent evolutionary science instructors (like most public high schools today). What was particularly disconcerting was how far the students in this school have been carried along by the evolutionary indoctrination. Although we didn't poll them, judging from the comments and questions, a high percentage of these students already held atheistic beliefs. Many of these 14-18 year olds could not even comprehend the concept of a God who created, let alone respond to Him.

If the tactics of one of the teachers are indicative of the rest of the staff, it would be clear why so many of the students have an atheistic bent. This teacher insisted on taking the last 5 minutes of the question time after one of the presentations for his own "questions." He then systematically tore apart one of the creationists' presentations without leaving any time for rebuttal. Later Mary Jo confronted him and told him, "You know we have answers for almost all of those questions." He finally admitted, "I knew what I was doing and I did it on purpose." That was dirty pool but he didn't seem to care. We did have answers to those questions — he knew it but wanted the students to think we had none! Is it any wonder the students believe as they do?

This same teacher was the moderator for the debate on the last afternoon. To put it mildly, we were rather concerned that the debate would be a set-up. We were pleasantly surprised that he did a fair job of moderating. The auditorium was packed with students, teachers, and some other community members. The three creationists held to the scientific facts and the supporting evidences, dealing primarily with the fossil record, the laws of thermodynamics and evidence of bias in data interpretation. As usual in a debate, the

three evolutionists spouted a lot of philosophy and derogatory remarks with little actual data. Hopefully the students could see through the smoke-screen and realize they presented very little substance beyond their verbal abuses. From our point of view the debate was quite successful.

The students in this public high school at least got to hear some creationists firsthand. That's one step ahead of most. Unfortunately, the committed evolutionary teachers will have the rest of the school year to distort what we said with their own one-sided approach. Our hearts cry out for the students as they face this kind of indoctrination day after day!



Did Kangaroos Hop To Australia? (See Spotlight on Science)

NOTES & QUOTES

■ Every once in a while we like to share some of the comments we have received. We hope they are as enlightening and encouraging to you as they are to us.

- I am a retired biology teacher, having taught 33 years in a public high school . . . and then 7 years [at a Christian school] in Taiwan.

I did not receive or even know about your *Think and Believe* until I was over in Taiwan. It is a good and useful publication. . . . (Former missionary to Taiwan now in Illinois)

- Thanks a great lot for your wonderful letter. I appreciate it very much and, PLEASE put me on your mailing list. (!!!!) . . . Thank you for being here . . . it really was a great privilege to hear you . . . I enclose you in my prayer! (Germany)
- Thanks for sending *Think and Believe*. I just wanted to let you know that we would like to receive it on a regular basis if possible. (Germany)
- Thanks for your letters. . . . The evolutionary philosophy is very strong here. . . . But there are good reasons against it. Thank you for your help. (East Germany)
- I happened to know your publication *Think and Believe* recently. I wish to receive the excellent newsletter. I shall appreciate the complete back issues of *Think and Believe*. (India)
- I am very please because for the first time in my life, I heard of someone who share the same interest with me — “Creation Science.” For this reason I would like you to have me as your regular writer or audience.

Besides I would be very please if I could have copies of your newsletter *Think and Believe* and related books. (Nigeria)

■ We now send *Think and Believe* to numerous people overseas. We're glad for the interest among missionaries and nationals, and excited about this international ministry. These people often cannot afford to pay for a subscription, but we like to be able to send it as a service to them whenever possible. The postage is now running \$0.90 per copy. Would some of you like to help with this important part of our ministry?

- My wife and I truly enjoyed your 2 night talk. . . . You both addressed a need in my spiritual life at a time when I *really needed* it. Thank you and keep up the great work. I am a math teacher and will spread the word. (California)
- This is a tithe I'd like to give to your ministry. Thank you for all the time and information you shared with us. . . . God has blessed you with a beautiful combination of courage, humor and loving gentleness

as you minister and speak to groups. Again, thank you for sharing your gifts and time with us. (Wyoming)

■ Remember the book and video we raved about in the last issue? We're not the only ones that are pleased with it!

- You were right — the video *The Evolution Conspiracy* is a good one, and the book [*The Illustrated Origins Answer Book* by Paul Taylor] is even better. We've had one showing at our home, and will make it available to the Church. . . . I'd like to introduce it to the biology teacher at the high school. (Colorado)

■ If you haven't sent for your copies yet, write today for the video, *The Evolution Conspiracy* (\$45.00) and *The Illustrated Origins Answer Book* (\$10.00). Many people are finding them to be powerful tools in sharing the truths about creation.

- You certainly do a lot of travelling! (Kansas)

■ How true! Sometimes it gets tiring, but it seems the message of God's creation is needed everywhere. Please continue to pray with us for strength and safety.

- Thank you for your newsletters and devotion to the Lord. As I go to a secular university and am constantly bombarded with humanism, your newsletter really reminds me Jesus really did do all the Bible claims. (Missouri)

■ PTL! It is often a real struggle for Christians to stand firm in a secular university. We're grateful for the opportunity to help. Write to us if you know a student who could use a little extra support in standing firm on campus.

- I want to thank you again for your phone call last week. The information you provided was very helpful and your own enthusiasm was very encouraging. (California)

- Thanks for the hour you spent with me . . . and the impetus you added personally and with literature. I've been a long time dormant, so to wake up in the middle of the battle is pretty scary. It is good to know I'm on the winning side. (Colorado)

■ We're pleased to see that this person and several others that we have worked with are now teaching Sunday School classes on creation and becoming actively involved in the battle. We need this type of multiplication. How can *you* help?

- I am enclosing a check to contribute to what you are doing. It saddens and frustrates me that so many Christians don't see the importance of this issue. Thank you for giving so much of your life to help educate others for the sake of Jesus. (Colorado)

Standing Room Only?

How can we have so many people on this planet if we all originated from Noah and his family only a few thousand years ago? Actually this is easy for the creationist to answer, but the population "problem" is indeed a "problem" from an evolutionary perspective involving millions of years. Some simple calculations with a good calculator can shed some light on this topic.

The recent world population growth rate is about 2 percent per year. Since we do not know if this figure was also true in the past, let us take half of this and use only 1 percent as the growth rate for our calculations. Wars and diseases certainly have played a large part in population statistics. We can not be sure how much they have affected the population, but let us be **very** liberal and assume a **third** of the population is wiped out every 82 years. (We could use a half of the population every 140 years for similar results.) Bishop Usher's chronology places the Flood at about 4300 years ago. Using this as a **minimum** date for the Flood, at the **conservative** 1 percent growth figure with **frequent** population decimations, 4300 years is enough time to produce a population of almost 4.5 billion people! As you can see, **even using very conservative values, the present population can easily be achieved in only 4300 years.***

Now comes the real problem. According to evolution, at least 1 to 3.5 million years have gone by since the first "couple." Even if we use the very same conservative values as we have done above, we find **long-age evolution hits a brick wall**. The population after only about 41,000 years would be 2×10^{89} or, put more simply, more than could possibly be packed into the entire known universe. Can you imagine what it would be after a million years?

The population statistics certainly fit the shorter Biblical chronology, but do not even come close to fitting the long evolutionary time scale. May we conclude that the Biblical history of people on Earth is certainly in agreement with the facts we can observe?

*For you mathematicians,

Starting with P_0 people, the formula we derived for the population, P_y , after y years is given by

$$P_y = P_0 \left(1 + \frac{i}{100}\right)^y (1 - F)^{y/n}$$

where i = rate of growth, F = fraction of population decimated every N years. We started with $P_0 = 2$. Had we started with $P_0 = 6$ (3 sons of Noah), we would end up with about 13 billion.

For additional calculations, see *Scientific Creationism* or *The Biblical Basis of Modern Science*, both by Dr. Henry Morris.

The Question of the Kangaroo

A frequent question is: if Noah and that floating zoo are for real, how in the world did the kangaroos get to Australia?

No, we don't believe that the first kangaroo made an extremely large jump and landed in Australia! If the Flood is accepted, then the kangaroos as well as the other types of animals must have spread out from the ark in search of their particular "cup of tea" in habitat choice. During the following several hundred years their ranges greatly expanded. If an animal or its offspring could merely travel a distance equal to the length of the ark each day, in only 400 years their ranges could be halfway around the world.

Of course, animals don't just walk to Australia today since it is separated by water from the mainland. However, geologists tell us that a "land bridge" at one time connected Australia to the mainland. With a reasonable lowering of the sea level, our kangaroos could hop to Australia on dry land.

At least four factors suggested by the Flood Model would account for a substantially lowered sea level:

1. Much water may have been trapped in the sediments themselves and only gradually seeped out to the present ocean.
2. Due to higher temperatures of the sea water, more water may have evaporated from the seas and caused greater amounts of precipitation on land.
3. After land temperatures cooled sufficiently, large sheets of ice which contained enormous amounts of water (an "ice age") may have formed.
4. Large inland seas may have held significant amounts of water. Only when they collapsed would it cascade into the present ocean.

Therefore, it is quite probable kangaroos and other animals journeyed to Australia on dry land, but why are they found only there and not in other parts of the world? Perhaps this particular habitat was very suitable or, more probably, they migrated to Australia before the land bridge disappeared whereas their natural predators and close competition did not. Without these, the kangaroos could have quickly proliferated. They may have disappeared from the other parts of the world because of too much competition or too many natural predators.

This is only one possible explanation and is put out for further discussion. Incidentally we don't necessarily have to propose a purely naturalistic explanation. If we believe the Scriptures about Noah and the ark, then we realize God Himself brought the animals to Noah. Perhaps God directed them after the Flood as well.

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Upcoming Events

- Mar. 21: **Northeast Christian Church**, Grand Junction, CO. Contact Church Office, 243-6672.
Mar. 29-31: **Mesa Hills Bible Church**, Colorado Springs, CO. Contact Chelly Gring, (719) 471-1233.
Apr. 1: **Highway Baptist**, Falcon, CO. Contact Church Office, (719) 495-3859.
Apr. 4-5: **Fort Lewis College** et al., Durango, CO. Contact Russ Akins, (303) 259-5768.
Apr. 7: **Christian Educators' Curriculum Fair**, Grand Junction, CO. Contact Liz Martin, 464-5282.
Apr. 18: **New Horizons Christian School**, Grand Junction, CO. Contact School Office, 243-2485.
Apr. 22: **Young Life Area Meeting**, Grand Junction, CO. Contact J.C. Bowman, 241-1482.
Apr. 28-May 6: **ICR Grand Canyon Adventure**, Grand Canyon, AZ. Contact Tom Manning, (619) 448-0900.
May 20: **Craig Christian Church**, Craig, CO. Contact Jim Wickenkamp, (303) 824-6024.

Ongoing Through Spring

- Sunday School Class: Science and the Christian Faith**, Redlands Community Church, Grand Junction, Colorado, (303) 245-9020. Team taught with Dave Roper.
KJOL/Colorado Christian College Class, Grand Junction, Colorado, (303) 243-4361.

Outdoor Adventures

- Jun. 25-29: **Paluxy Dinosaur Adventure**, Glenn Rose, TX, (916) 626-4447.
Jul. 27-29: **Lake Shetek Baptist Family Camp**, Slayton, Minnesota, (507) 376-9735.
Aug. 12-17: **Twin Peaks Family Science Adventure**, Collbran, Colorado, (303) 245-5906.
Aug. 19-24: **Camp Redcloud Family Mountain Adventure**, Lake City, Colorado, (303) 245-5906.

Science Fair

The Third Annual Alpha Omega Science Fair was held March 6. Elementary and secondary Christian school and homeschool students from western Colorado and eastern Utah brought a wide variety of interesting projects. We want to thank all of the students, teachers and parents who participated and encourage you to keep up the good work. We especially thank Dorothy Hahn for her excellent work in directing the Science Fair, the judges for taking time to thoughtfully evaluate the students' work, and New Horizons Christian School for the use of their facility.

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