



Think & Believe

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God's Word Stands

(by Dave and Mary Jo Nutting)

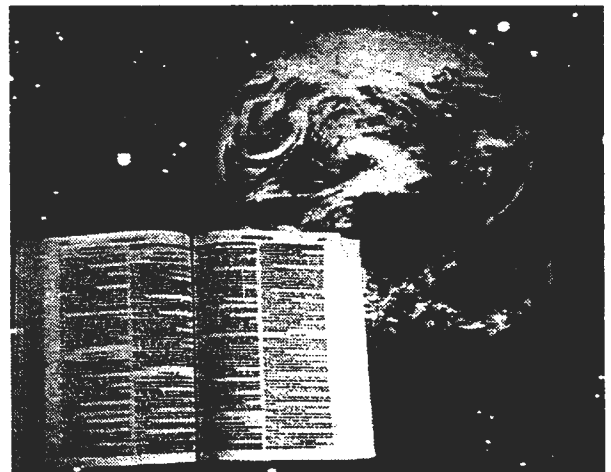
Have you ever been totally perplexed about something, and then discovered the answer was so simple you wondered, "Why didn't I think of that?" Unfortunately, too many people reject the Bible because it seems to contradict "science," or because they just can't imagine answers to their questions. Even Christians who claim to believe the Scriptures are often troubled by these supposedly "irreconcilable" difficulties and wonder if they can really trust the Scriptures. Sometimes, the answers are quite simple, though -- we may just not have thought of them yet.

For example, we're often asked, "How could Noah get so many animals on such a little boat?" People reject the Biblical account without ever seriously checking it out. If they did, they would realize the immensity of the ark. Based on the dimensions of the ark given in Genesis and some very reasonable assumptions as to numbers of animals and the needed amount of space, food, and water, there was plenty of room for everything that needed to be on board. (See T&B 3:2) Even with these calculations, though, many people ask, "What about the dinosaurs? How could they fit?" Actually, even the largest known dinosaur would have fit on the ark, but it seems reasonable to assume that God would have brought younger, smaller individuals. Remember, dinosaurs are thought to have hatched from eggs smaller than a football. Some amount of time must have been needed to grow to the very large sizes we find in the fossil record.

Another frequent question is: If the whole earth was covered with water, where is all that water today? A quick look at a globe reveals an awful lot of blue! In fact, almost three fourths of our world today is covered with water. Some calculations have shown that if you could "smooth out" the surface of the earth, there would be enough water in the oceans to cover the earth with a blanket of water 1-2 miles deep.

Then there's the favorite question of skeptics: Who was Cain's wife? After all, the Bible says God made Adam and Eve, and they had two sons, Cain and Abel. Cain killed Abel, but then you read of Cain taking a wife. Where did she come from? Here a careful reading of Scripture provides a reasonable solution. Genesis 5:4 says, "Adam and Eve had other sons and daughters." Cain must have married a sister (or a niece). But, wouldn't that lead to genetic deformities in the next generation as often occurs today in close marriages? Probably not, since Cain's generation would have had a much purer gene pool than we have today after so many years of accumulation of harmful mutations.

These are just a few of the questions skeptics throw out to challenge the Scriptures. Over the years, there have been scores of accusations charging errors and inconsistencies in the Bible. However, through it all, the Bible has stood the test of time, and the critics have gone to their graves. God's Word is true -- It never changes! So, the next time you hear a charge against the Bible, stand firm, trust God, and wait. As has happened hundreds of times before, the Word of God will still be standing when all is said and done.



God's Word Still Stands!

Notes & Quotes

■ God is using many people to communicate the creation message. Ken Ham is one creation speaker whom God has especially gifted with the ability to phrase things clearly and concisely in ways which really communicate foundational issues. We are deeply grateful for this clarity of insight and communication. Here are some of our favorite quotes from Ken: (Most of these are found in Ken's book: **The Lie: Evolution**)

□ There is a war going on in society -- a very real battle. The war is Christianity versus humanism, but we must wake up to the fact that, at the foundational level, it's really creation versus evolution.

□ Many people think that some people are dogmatic and others are not. It is not a matter of whether you are dogmatic or not, but of which dogma is the best dogma with which to be dogmatized.

□ It is not a matter of whether one is biased or not. It is really a question of which bias is the best bias with which to be biased.

□ Genesis tells us that ... God judged the world with a worldwide flood. If this is true, what sort of evidence would we find? ... billions of dead things buried in rock layers laid down by water and catastrophic processes all over the earth. This is exactly what we observe.

□ Were you there? (A take-off of God's question to Job in Job 38:4, "Where were you?")

□ Where do you put your faith -- in the words of men who are fallible creatures who do not know everything, who were not there -- or in the Words of God who is perfect, who knows everything, and Who was there?

■ Thanks, Ken. Many of us have benefitted by your insights and are using them in lectures and personal witnessing. In the world's eyes this might be called "plagiarism" -- Hopefully here it is an example of II Timothy 2:2 in action: "And the things which you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses, these entrust to faithful men, who will be able to teach others also."

■ Another creation speaker who has deeply influenced our lives is Dr. Gary Parker. Here are some of our favorite quotes from his book, **Creation: Facts of Life**:

□ What does it take to recognize evidence of creation? Just the ordinary tools of science: logic and observation.

□ It's what we do know and can explain about DNA and protein and the laws of chemistry which suggest that life itself is the result of special creation.

□ Evolution is a faith that the facts have failed. Biblical Christianity is a faith that fits the facts.

■ And now for some memorable quotes from other creation speakers and authors... (We have attempted to give credit where credit is due, but sometimes they've made the rounds so much it's hard to tell "who said it first." Please forgive and inform us if you know differently.)

□ Regarding Nebraska man: "This is one time a pig made a monkey out of an evolutionist."
(Duane Gish)

□ Evolution: From Goo to You by Way of the Zoo. (Harold Hill)

□ Dead bones don't talk! (Who said it first?)

□ Welcome to this secular temple of evolution. (Bill Jack when leading tours of the Natural History Museum)

□ When Mount Saint Helens erupted, they lost enough lumber to have built 640,000 3-bedroom homes (Steven Austin) ... they probably lost a few spotted owls too! (Dave Nutting)

■ Oh, OK! Here are a few more of Dave's lines too!

□ When I went to school, I was given a pencil, an eraser, a Big Chief writing tablet, ... and a pair of evolutionary glasses.

□ Evidence for Nebraska man: One tooth, the whole tooth, but nothing but the tooth. (Which seminar participant gave this line to Dave? He uses it all the time. Step up and claim your prize!)

□ Could God really create everything in 6 days? Sure, he could have done it in 6 days or 6 seconds. After all, he didn't have to work through the Environmental Protection Agency.

□ What's the evidence?

□ There's a very scientific, technical term for what you're seeing here -- it's called artwork!

□ A ranger at the Grand Canyon said it took 13 million years for the Colorado River to carve the canyon. I was wondering how he knew that? He didn't look nearly that old. He didn't see it happen!

■ And this quote -- absolutely the clearest and most authoritative statement on the topic of origins:

□ In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. (No question as to credit here! God said it -- that settles it!)

□ Yup, yup, yup (Lanny Johnson, better known as "Eugene")



(TO EVOLUTION)

(Glenn Kailer and Tom Willis.
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Spotlight On Science

Why Do We Still Have Monkeys?

We are frequently asked, "If monkeys evolved into people, why are there still monkeys around?" This is a good question; however, the committed evolutionist is not bothered by it. He would merely answer, it is not the whole monkey population that changed into people, but just a branch of the main population. Later a branch from this new line became somewhat more humanlike. Eventually after a vast multitude of branches, today's human characteristics emerged. So these evolutionists would say we are a branch of a branch of a branch etc. Some of the branches may have died out while others continued on into the present. That's why we still have monkeys today.

Although this answer sounds good on the surface, it doesn't really solve the problem for evolution. If even a few of the branches continue, there should be representatives of these branches living today for us to see. We should be able to "read" the story of evolution across the top of the branching tree, but it's not there to read. Instead, we find systematic gaps between the major kinds of animals. Many researchers are finally recognizing this serious lack of evidence for evolution both in the living world and in the fossil record.

Dr. Colin Patterson, senior paleontologist at the British museum of Natural History, is one researcher who has recognized this lack of evidence. After 20 years of research trying to prove evolution, he said he woke up one morning and asked himself what he knew for sure about evolution. When he couldn't come up with anything, he realized he had been duped into believing evolution was true. In a letter to Luther Sunderland (Quoted in Darwin's Enigma, p. 89), Dr. Patterson said: "I fully agree with your comments on the lack of direct illustration of evolutionary transitions in my book. If I knew of any, fossil or living, I would certainly have included them. You suggest that an artist should be used to visualize such transformations, but where would he get the information from? I could not, honestly, provide it, and if I were to leave it to artistic license, would that not mislead the reader?"

After 20 years of trying to prove evolution, he knew of **no transitions, fossil or living!** What about all the textbook and museum pictures of transitional forms, then? We can only conclude that their originators have been duped into thinking the evidence really exists or that they are not as honest with the data as Colin Patterson was. The evidence shows monkeys have always been monkeys and people have always been people.



"I was just wondering, am I my brother's keeper or my keeper's brother?"

Fossils on the Mountain Tops

One of the evidences commonly used in support of the Biblical account of Noah's Flood is the presence of fossils on the tops of some of the highest mountains in the world. Even near the summit of Mt. Everest, there are rock layers containing organisms which once swam in the sea. This goes right along with the Biblical statement that "all the high mountains everywhere under the heavens were covered" by the Flood waters (Genesis 7:19).

Although the argument is a valid interpretation of the evidence, it does not "hold much water" with evolutionary geologists. They respond that these fossils merely prove that the mountains were under water at some time in the past. Then major forces in the earth slowly pushed them up from below sea level to their present elevation. To them, the whole earth has gone through many cycles of mountains rising up and being eroded away and then the ocean basins being pushed up again to form mountains. They see well-eroded mountains as older ones, and sharp, jagged mountains as more recently raised.

The reader should note that the tops of the mountains consist of layers which contain fossils. This indicates that the layers which form the mountains were deposited by water and were not part of the mountains to start with. A student of Scripture would note that Psalm 104: 8 says that the mountains rose up and the valleys sank down. This appears to be at or near the end of the Flood. The passage not only helps answer the question of where all the water from the Flood went, but also gives us the clue that the mountains prior to the Flood were not nearly as high as they are now.

So, according to the Creation/Flood model, the fossil layers were laid down during the year of the Flood. At the end of the Flood, God caused the mountains to rise up. As the water ran off the earth, the mountains were eroded along with the mountain valleys and canyons. The different amounts of erosion on the mountains indicate during which stage of the Flood the mountains rose up. Highly eroded ones still had plenty of Flood waters eroding them while the sharp ones came up near the end of the whole process and thus did not have a lot of erosion.

Note that the evolutionary geologist and the creationist geologist are both looking at the same evidence and coming up with different interpretations. One is looking through long-age uniformitarian glasses while the other is looking through short-age catastrophic Flood glasses. Which interpretation is right? If we look at the evidence strictly as scientists with no help from historical evidence, we might be hard pressed to decide. However, if we use all the available evidence, including God's written record of a global Flood, creationists have a distinct advantage in interpreting the data. Which is right? I'll go for the Scriptural account. God's Word won't fail us! Fossils on mountain tops stand as a testimony of God's Word.

EVENTS

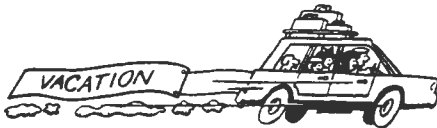
- May 29-June 4 Manitou Springs, CO:** Summit Ministries (N)
Contact Summit, 719-685-9103
- June 20-22: Aurora, CO:** Christian Home Educators Conf (N)
Contact CHEC, 303-388-1888
- June 23-26: Manitou Springs, CO:** Summit Ministries (N)
Contact Summit, 719-685-9103

VBS & Kid's Camp Opportunities

- June 3-7: Yampa, CO:** Yampa Bible Church, VBS (J)
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- June 10-14: Craig, CO:** First Baptist Church, VBS (J)
Contact Julia Foster, 970-824-3769
- June 17-21: Ridgway, CO:** Ridgway Community Church VBS (J)
Contact Pastor Joe Kirby, 970-626-5692
- July 9-12: Brookings, SD:** Community VBS (J)
Contact Darlene Nelson, 605-693-4329
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In This Issue:

- Why are There Still Monkeys?
- Great Creation Quotes
- Fossils on Mountaintops

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