

Think & Believe

A Publication of *Alpha Omega Institute*

September/October, 2007; Vol. 25 No.5

Surrounded by Grizzly Bears

by Dave Nutting

What's it like to be surrounded by 7 grizzly bears? This summer, Mary Jo and I found out. We had been speaking at Glacier Meadow Lodge, a new creation-based camp on the east side of Glacier National Park. The camp director loaned us his pepper spray as a precaution against bear attacks while hiking in the park.

Armed with our pepper spray, we drove to the trailhead and launched out to enjoy God's beautiful creation. About an hour up the trail, we ran into a "bear jam" – a small group of hikers watching two grizzlies on the mountainside just above us. Before long, another grizzly and 2 cubs crossed the trail. Then another mama with one cub appeared. The bear with the 2 cubs circled above us, and came down on the trail behind us. Yikes! We were surrounded on 3 sides by 7 bears (some as close as 30 yards away), and thick brush on the downhill side. One can of pepper spray wouldn't have gone very far if these bears had gotten aggressive.

Two people in the "bear jam" happened to be off-duty park rangers who "comforted" us with the fact that there has never yet been a bear attack in Glacier on a group of 4 or more people. My quick calculation of 7 bears times 4 people didn't bring too much assurance, but I kept those figures to myself to help prevent panic.

Finally, the bear with the one cub wandered into the brush, and we

continued up the trail with 3 other couples. To our dismay, we were stopped a mile uphill by another park ranger. He informed us that the trail was now officially closed, and that for our safety (and that of the bears) he had been assigned to escort all hikers back down the trail as a group. Our nice quiet hike to a beautiful high altitude glacial lake was ended. Instead, we became part of a noisy "forced march" with 50 people shouting, "Hey bear." and "Go away, bear."

One gnawing concern I had with this large group of people was imagining what would have happened if a grizzly bear would have attacked. I'm not sure how much damage the bear would have inflicted compared to the mass panic with everyone flailing around, stampeding, and, of course, spraying pepper spray at the bear or accidentally into the wind or at each other! A bear with a sense of humor may have faked a charge just to watch the pandemonium!

It certainly was a blessing to see 7 bears from God's marvelous creation so close. However, this incident makes me think about all the students who are right now surrounded by the "grizzly bears" of naturalistic, evolutionary teaching at

school and practically everywhere else they turn.

Some students may carry a few "pepper spray" facts and Bible verses to help ward off the attack, but they are still basically un-armed for the continuous assault on their faith from all sides. Though some proponents of evolution take a "live and let live" policy, others verbally "attack" and "maul" the first student who tries to stand up for the truth of Creation and the Bible. Unfortunately, a high percentage of students don't survive the incessant indoctrination, and end up as casualties by the time they graduate.

Though we would have liked to continue our solo hike in Glacier, there is strength in numbers. Hiking alone is risky, and that goes for all of us in the battle of worldviews. So arm yourself and your family well through prayer, study, and the Word. Be sure you know how to use your "pepper spray" accurately and effectively.

But even then don't try to "hike alone" through life. Team up with others and stick together as you hike through "bear country." 



For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but are mighty in God for pulling down strongholds. 2 Cor 10:4

Gems From Genesis

Are the days in Genesis 1 Really Days?

by Mary Jo Nutting

My first year of college, I went to a liberal “Christian” college. I remember being taught that the days of creation were not “real” days, but were periods of time, millions of years long and were representative of the long ages of evolutionary history. This is a common belief in our world today. However, I believe that there are many reasons to reject this “Day-Age Theory” and to confidently affirm the literal accuracy of the Creation account in Genesis.

First, God called them “days” in Genesis 1 and then affirmed them at the giving of the Ten Commandments. Ex 20:11 says: “For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day.” At Mt. Sinai, God spoke these words directly to the people of Israel and later inscribed them on stone tablets. Down through history, the Jewish people believed them. Jesus never questioned the Genesis

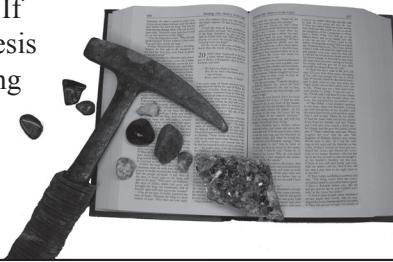
account, or offered anything but a strictly literal interpretation of it. Neither did the prophets or apostles. That should be good enough for us, but there is so much more.

Second, the word used for “day” in Genesis 1 is “yom.” This Hebrew word is overwhelmingly used for a literal day throughout the Old Testament. However, to add force to this, when used with a numerical modifier (e.g. first, second, third), it always means a literal day. Then, to make it even more emphatic, the words “evening and morning” are used to define the day, and further clarified by associating night and day with darkness and light. How could you make it any clearer?

Thirdly, the evolutionary/long-age theory undermines the whole basis of the Gospel message. If indeed the days of Genesis are representative of long ages of evolutionary history, then death is a normal part of physical existence and there

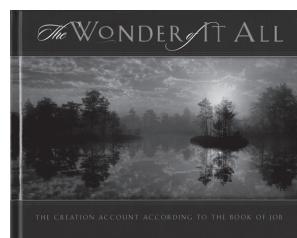
have been long ages of death and struggle leading up to man. However, Scripture clearly teaches (Gen 3, Rom 5:12, I Cor 15) that death came into the world because of Adam’s sin, that Jesus died on the cross as payment for sin, and that death is an enemy which will one day be done away with.

There are many other reasons from science and Scripture to reject evolution and the long ages associated with it. I would encourage you to study further that you might be prepared to “give an answer” and to teach others also. God’s Word is true. We can believe it from beginning to end. (Visit our website for further resources: The Genesis Record, The Answers Book, Discover Creation DVD Series: It’s About Time, and Evolution and John 3:16.) 



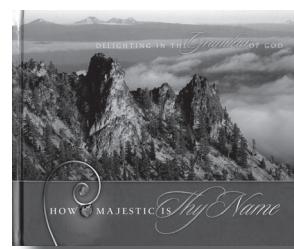
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Ancient Dinosaur Art

by Dave Nutting

According to the theory of evolution, dinosaurs became extinct 65 million years before man “evolved.” Therefore no man would have ever seen a living dinosaur. Look at the following pictures from around the world. What were the people who made the figurines, mosaics, carvings, and drawings looking at when they made their artwork? Keep in mind that our modern knowledge of what these mighty dinosaur creatures probably looked like has only developed in the last 100 years. So how did “ancient” man know the body shapes of these dinosaurs unless they actually saw them?

Skeptics have dismissed any possibility of the genuineness of some of these finds solely on the so-called “fact” of evolution. However, enough examples have now been discovered to convince the open-minded person – perhaps evolutionary teaching is wrong!

[1] Stegosaur carving on ancient Cambodian Temple

In 1186, Jayavarman VII, the king of the Khmer civilization in Cambodia, dedicated a Buddhist temple to his mother. Among images of many known animals that are carved on columns in the Ta Prohm temple is the unmistakable carving of a stegosaurus. The dense jungle where this and other temples are found would make a perfect habitat for a stegosaurus even today as it must have been only 1000 years ago! For more information see: <http://www.bible.ca/tracks/tracks-cambodia.htm>.

[2,3] Dinosaur Mosaics

Friends of AOI ministry took this picture of a mosaic which certainly appears to depict a dinosaur. The

mosaic is found in a church in the city of Zippori, Israel, the traditional birthplace of Mary, mother of Jesus. It dates to 200-300 AD or so. One website mentioned it was 2 hunters and a crocodile, but the head is not that of a crocodile – crocs don’t have ears, and the legs are clearly attached

in a dinosaur fashion, not as a crocodile.

Photo: Dr. Don R. Patton



Photo: Mac & June Rush



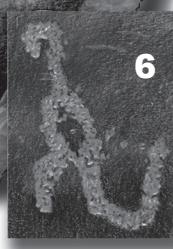
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A Roman mosaic from about 200 AD also depicts two long-necked sea dragons which Paul Taylor, author of **The Great Dinosaur Mystery and the Bible**, likens to the web-footed Tanystropheus.

[4] Fighting Dinosaurs on Bishop Bell's Tomb

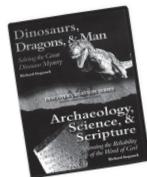
In the Carlisle Cathedral in England there is a tomb of Richard Bell, Bishop of Carlisle, who died in 1496. Besides other recognizable animals, engraved in brass is the picture of 2 sauropod dinosaurs plus a third unknown reptile. For more information see, <http://www.answersingenesis.org/creation/v25/i4/bishop.asp>

[5,6] Ancient Indian Rock Art

Pecked into the sandstone by ancient Indians of the Havasupai Canyon of the Grand Canyon was found a picture that looks like a dinosaur[6]. Also, in Natural Bridges National Monument, there is a petroglyph[5] resembling a large sauropod dinosaur. I asked a park ranger about the drawing. He termed it “mere graffiti” but admitted he never saw it! I did and it certainly looks genuine. The dinosaur petroglyph is in a group of writings attributed to the Anasazi Indians (500 to 1300 AD). For more information see: <http://www.bible.ca/tracks/native-american-dino-art.htm>

[7,8] Mexican Dinosaur figurines

In 1945 archaeologist, Waldemar Julsrud, discovered clay figurines at Acambaro, Guanajuato, Mexico. Over 33,000 ceramic and some rock figurines were found and identified with the Pre-classical Chupicuaro Culture (800 BC to 200 AD). Many of the figurines depicted know dinosaur types (as well as faces of people from many widely dispersed cultures around the world). Because of the dinosaur connection, the find was very controversial. For information on this and detailed rebuttals of those claiming they are frauds, see <http://www.bible.ca/tracks-acambaro.htm>. **T&B**



For more info on dinosaurs, get AOI's highly illustrated DVD, *Dinosaurs, Dragons and Man*. (\$15 and get *Bible and Archaeology* for free, or purchase the complete **Discover Creation** DVD set of 12 sessions for \$50)

Director's Column

by Dave & Mary Jo Nutting



Summer is over and school is back in session. That signals a change in focus, though not a change in message, here at AOI. This summer has been filled with many opportunities for AOI speakers to minister at camps and Vacation Bible Schools. We praise God for these times to share more creation teaching than we have time for in normal seminars, and we are thankful for the opportunity to see Him touch many lives this summer. We are also grateful for the opportunities these times give for developing relationships with children, youth, and adults. Please pray with us for lasting fruit from the activities of the summer.

As we move into the fall and winter season, AOI speakers are

already scheduled for many churches, schools, and universities in various parts of the US. In addition, several international ministry opportunities are on the horizon. Plans are actively in progress for creation teaching in Ecuador, India, Austria, and Costa Rica, and we are praying about several other invitations. We are grateful that the Lord continues to open doors to teach the Truth of His Word, both here and internationally. Please pray for His continued guidance as we seek to hear His voice and follow Him wherever He leads. Pray for provision, as travel costs continue to rise. And as always, pray that all of us at AOI will speak the Truth boldly, in love and gentleness, and that many people would hear the Good News of the Gospel and respond in faith. T&B

"The number one reason students give for rejecting the Gospel is Evolution."

– Mark Cahill, Youth Evangelist

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Upcoming Events

AG= Galbraith, LJ=Johnson, DN=Nutting, RS=Stepanek

- 9/18-21, **Hot Springs, SD**, Cornerstone Bible Institute, Becci Stout, (605) 745-6878, **RS**
9/19, **Hot Springs, SD**, Calvary Baptist Church, Matt Lim, (605) 745-5663, **RS**
9/22, **Dolores, CO**, Montelores Baptist Church, AWANA Training - Dave Farmer, (970) 434-6803, **LJ**
9/23, **Albuquerque, NM**, Tabernacle of Praise, Thornton Schwenk, (505) 897-2382, **LJ**
9/23-26, **Santa Fe, NM**, Lifeway Glorieta Community Center, Nada Rothgaber, (717) 469-0459, **LJ**
9/25-27, **Stratford, IA**, First Baptist Church - Stratford, Deb Snyder, (515) 838-2152, **RS**
9/27, **Albuquerque, NM**, Tabernacle of Praise, Tim Johnson, (505) 898-4508, **LJ**
9/28-10/4, **St. Michael, MN**, Northwest Bible Church, Brad Selley, (763) 416-7700, **RS**
10/3-4, **Loveland, CO**, Faith Evangelical Church, Tim Eng, (970) 663-0522, **LJ**
10/6, **Greeley, CO**, Grace Church, AWANA Training - Dave Farmer, (970) 464-6803, **LJ**
10/7, **Loveland, CO**, Faith Evangelical Church, Tim Eng, (970) 663-0522, **LJ**
10/7-8, **South Bend, IN**, Fellowship Baptist Church, Virgil Wesco, (574) 256-9550, **RS**
10/8-9, **Elkhart, IN**, Pending - Living Faith Fellowship, Sharlene Yordy, (260) 768-7111, **RS**
10/21, **Balaton, MN**, Skandia E-Free Church, Joe Tutt, (507) 734-4944, **RS**
Oct 9-28, New Hampshire speaking circuit. Several churches/schools, contact Dave Nutting, 970-257-9413 & Rachel Parks, 603-778-2344, **DN/AG**
10/30-11/4, **Minneapolis, MN**, churches + University of Minnesota, Jonathan Bislew, (612) 644-0422, **DN**
10/31, **St. Cloud, MN**, St. Cloud State, Jonathan Bislew, (612) 644-0422, **DN**
11/2, **Mankato, MN**, Minnesota State University, Jonathan Bislew, (612) 644-0422, **DN**
11/6-19, **Ecuador**, CrossWorld, John & Cindy Owen, contact AOI, 970-523-9943, **RS**

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- Twin Peaks** – June 29-July 4
Redcloud 1 – Aug 3-8
Redcloud 2 – Aug 10-15

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