



Think & Believe

A Publication of Alpha Omega Institute

Sept./Oct. 1993; Vol.10 No.5

Trust Your Compass!

(by Dave and Mary Jo Nutting)

Several years ago we were hiking on the Grand Mesa near our home town of Grand Junction. The day turned cold and very foggy. In the dense woods, it would have been very easy to get lost.

Fortunately, we had our compass with us and Dave was quite familiar with the area. He knew there were roads on the north and east sides of the area in which we were, so we began to follow our compass north, heading for the road on which we had parked.

As we made our way through the dark woods, we met a couple hunters. We talked a bit and they told us we were going the wrong way to get back to our vehicle. They had seen it and were sure we were really off course. We re-checked our compass and told them we thought they were turned around, but they insisted our compass was wrong, after all they had hunted the area for years and "knew it like the back of their hand."

We warned them once more that they were the ones who were lost, but they wouldn't listen. We parted company -- they continued following their instincts, and we kept on following our compass. In just a short time, we emerged from the woods onto the road and walked quickly to our car. Those guys must have had quite a hike that day!

That experience taught us a valuable lesson. We could easily have believed those guys and disregarded what our compass was telling us. After all, they were so sure -- they "knew" what was right. However, regardless of what others said and what our natural instincts were, our compass was true.

We often meet people who vehemently claim the Bible is false. All around us the "experts" are telling us that they "know" better. Evolution is presented as

a scientific fact which all knowledgeable scientists accept. We are told that all the evidence confirms it, and that only naive, un-educated, "Bible-thumpers" doubt it. Teachers, textbooks, TV, magazines, and museums all confirm it. How can we continue to believe the Bible when there are so many who "know" that evolution has been proven?

Men can easily become "lost" and wander around in the woods as they listen to others. They get confused because they don't have all the facts. Science is constantly changing because people are continually discovering new facts about our world and universe, but God's Word never changes. It, like the compass, continues to point true. Which will you follow -- the "compass" or other "hikers," the Words of One Who was there and knows everything, or the words of men who weren't. We were certainly glad we followed our compass that day in the woods. How about you? Are you following your compass?



Trust Your Compass!

NOTES & QUOTES

■ **Creation Scientists Answer Their Critics** is the title of a new book by Dr. Duane Gish (1993, Institute for Creation Research). It provides an up-to-date rebuttal of evolutionary arguments and answers many of the charges leveled against creationists. Dr. Gish has faced evolutionists in nearly 300 debates, and by their own admission, he usually wins. The following quotes are from this fascinating new book. (Page numbers are from Gish's book. Full references given in his book.)

■ Gish first gives a short history of the creation/evolution debate then shows that neither evolution nor creation can be tested by ordinary scientific means and that evolution is just as religious as creation. Several quotes from evolutionists support his thesis:

□ (Evolution) is a general postulate to which all theories, all hypotheses, all systems must henceforward bow and which they must satisfy in order to be thinkable and true. Evolution is a light which illuminates all facts, a trajectory which all lines must follow -- this is what evolution is. (Teilhard de Chardin, p. 28)

□ The fact of evolution is the backbone of biology, and biology is thus in the peculiar position of being a science founded on an unproved theory -- is it then a science or a faith? Belief in the theory of evolution is thus exactly parallel to belief in special creation -- both are concepts which believers know to be true but neither, up to the present, has been capable of proof. (Matthews, pp. 29, 30)

□ It is as a religion of science that Darwinism chiefly held, and holds men's minds....The modified but characteristically Darwinian theory has itself become an orthodoxy, preached by its adherents with religious fervor, and doubted, they feel, only by a few muddlers imperfect in scientific faith. (Greene, p. 31)

□ Just as pre-Darwinian biology was carried out by people whose faith was in the Creator and His plan, post-Darwinian biology is being carried out by people whose faith is in, almost, the deity of Darwin. (Patterson, p. 31)

■ Gish goes on to expose some of the tactics used by evolutionists to discredit creationists, including accusations of "distorting science, quoting out of context, misquoting, and outright lying." (p. 71)

□ To analyze creationist literature is to scale a fortress of facts and quotations taken from the evolutionary literature, distorted and quoted out of context, haphazardly glued into a defense around their faith. (Futuyma, p. 73)

□ Creationists are the liars, freely slinging mud at all who cross their peculiarly myopic view of the natural world. (Eldridge, p. 74)

■ Gish counters these **false claims** with specific examples and lengthy quotes to show that his statements were not misquoted or taken out of context. He also gives several examples of cases where evolutionists had used "tricks" and "chicanery" in debates to win over the audience, or hammered upon a very minor error while ignoring the major challenges set forth by creationists. In one debate, the evolutionist used a slide showing a series of mammal-like reptiles, supposedly intermediates between the two groups. Upon obtaining documentation for the illustration, Gish found that:

□ 1) two of the "intermediates" in the series were totally hypothetical, 2) hypothetical structures had been added to some of the "intermediates," 3) the "intermediates" were not arranged in a true time sequence, and 4) the "intermediates" were not drawn to scale. (Gish, p. 92)

■ Imagine what would have happened if a creationist had used a slide like this! Gish goes on to address issues relating to the fossil record and thermodynamics. He then deals specifically with several of the major books attacking creationism. He ends his book with a chapter entitled, "Out of Their Own Mouths." Here is a "teaser" from this fascinating chapter:

□ I believe that one day the Darwinian myth will be ranked the greatest deceit in the history of science. (Lovtrup, p. 367)

□ So heated is the debate that one Darwinian says there are times he thinks about going into a field with more intellectual honesty: the used-car business. (Begley, p. 367)

□ Suddenly the study of evolution was in all the schools. The culture of the dominant class had triumphed, and traditional religious values, the only vestige of control that rural people had over their own lives and the lives of their families, had been taken from them. (Lewontin, p. 371)

■ Gish's new book provides an "inside look" into the creation/evolution controversy. It also answers the most common arguments raised by evolutionists. This and other books by Dr. Gish are available from Alpha Omega Institute. (Please add 10% S/H; CO res 3% tax.)

Creation Scientists Answer their Critics \$16.95

The Amazing Story of Creation \$18.95

Dinosaurs by Design \$14.95

Evolution: Challenge of the Fossil Record \$8.95

SPOTLIGHT ON SCIENCE

An Interview with Dr. Duane Gish

Eighteen years ago, our research into the field of origins began when we read **Evolution, the Fossils Say No!** (Current title: **Evolution: Challenge of the Fossil Record**) by Dr. Duane Gish of the Institute for Creation Research. Since then, we have had the privilege of doing seminars with Dr. Gish on several occasions. The following comments are excerpts from a conversation we recently had with him.

Q: What are the chief arguments your opponents usually put forth in debates?

A: The chief arguments they will use involve the argument the earth is very old and I always say that's irrelevant, because first of all, creationists take both positions, and secondly, I don't care how old things are, **it's not old enough**. ... Fred Hoyle assumed the universe was 20 billion years old, in his calculations -- He couldn't get life in 20 billion years.

They'll also argue about the geological column and the order in which fossils appear. ... I always mention that there are some creationists who believe in the Day-Age Theory ... Then I point out the alternative interpretation -- the Flood Theory and so forth. And finally I say again it's irrelevant because for example we know that the buggy preceded the Model T Ford and the Model T Ford preceded the Model A Ford and so forth, but we know at the same time that the buggy did not evolve into the Model T Ford. The evidence for evolution must be the actual existence of transitional forms and they don't have those transitions -- absolutely none. ...

Another argument they'll bring up is that there are some examples of transitional forms -- Archeopteryx, mammal-like reptiles. My response to that is this, that we could argue forever whether or not Archeopteryx is or is not a transitional form. We may argue forever whether or not mammal-like reptiles constitute transitional forms -- and I would argue very strongly they do not -- but, let's go back to where there is no question concerning the evidence -- the sudden appearance of the vast array of fully-formed, complex invertebrates. The evidence is very clear.

Furthermore, [regarding] the assumption that an invertebrate evolved into a fish -- again the evidence is very clear. Every major kind of fish appears fully formed, there's not a trace of an ancestor, not a trace of a transitional form. And I say that settles the matter -- we've already settled it. That establishes from the

fossil record that evolution has not taken place on this planet. Now why argue about Australopithecus or Archeopteryx -- you've already settled the matter, you see. We **know** that evolution has not taken place.

When I challenge my evolutionary opponents, with all this vast array of invertebrates and no transitional forms, and the fishes with no transitional forms, despite the assumed 100 million years of evolution, how do they explain that? They don't say anything. They don't even respond. They just ignore my challenge.

Q: You frequently use the Second Law of Thermodynamics as evidence against evolution. How do your opponents deal with this argument?

A: They always come up with this old idea, "Well, it applies only to closed or isolated systems." [But] the universe **is** an isolated system, it **does** apply to the origin of the cell.

A lot of times the evolutionists will say, "Well, look, a fertilized egg develops into an adult. You mean to tell me that violates the Second Law ..." I always say, "I have no problem explaining the existence of babies - - if you have parents! But you have to explain the existence of babies with no parents! That fertilized egg has all the genetic information, all the metabolic machinery to produce the adult."

Q: What do you think is the evolutionist's **strongest** argument?

A: Well, their **only** argument really, as far as I'm concerned, is the geological column, with the assumption that all these invertebrates existed before the fishes, the fishes existed before the amphibians ... And of course, very often things don't occur in that order. ... David Raup said that he thought it was a mistake for creationists to use their Flood Model to explain a regular progression of the fossil record that doesn't even exist. ... Even Gould in one of the articles he published argued against the so-called progression.

[Ed.] And so it goes. It appears that the evolutionists still haven't dealt with the creationist challenges and according to Dr. Gish, there's one question they **don't even try to answer** -- the amazing metamorphosis of a caterpillar into a butterfly by step by step mutations. We like the classic response given by one "expert" evolutionist to this problem: "Well, actually today we believe, rather than the caterpillar coming first and then the butterfly, the butterfly came first, then the caterpillar. But we cannot explain that either."

EVENTS

(Call local contact for time and place.)

- Oct 3: Rifle, CO:** Rifle Assembly of God, Church Seminar.
Contact Church Office, 303-625-1505.
- Oct 4,5: Eads, CO:** Area Seminar. First Baptist Church.
Contact Dan Loper, 719-438-5363.
- Oct 6,7: Amarillo, TX:** Area Seminar. Northwest Baptist Church.
Contact Janet Norton, 806-353-0055.
- Oct 10: Holly, CO:** Area Seminar. First Baptist Church.
Contact Ralph Plummer, 719-537-6553.
- Oct 11,12: Sharon Springs, KS:** Sharon Springs High School.
Contact Deb Frasier, 913-852-4837.
- Oct 22-23: Breckenridge, CO:** Colorado Christian Convention.
Contact Gene Barron, 303-776-2927.
- Oct 25,26: Grand Junction, CO:** Creation Seminar. Sponsored
by SPICE. Contact Marian Osborn, 303-434-6290.
- Oct 27: Grand Junction, CO:** Homeschooler's Museum/Natl.
Monument Tour. Contact Marian Osborn, 303-434-6290.
- Nov 7: Wray, CO:** Area Seminar. Calvary Lutheran.
Contact 303-332-4630 or Wilma Stults, 303-332-5403.
- Nov 8,9: Haxtun/Sterling, CO:** Tentative
Contact us, 303-245-5906.
- Nov 10,11: Holyoke, CO:** Area Seminar. Holyoke Elem. School.
Contact Youth Challenge, Rick Cleaver, 303-854-3263.
- Nov 14: Fort Collins, CO:** Fellowship Bible Church.
Contact Church Office, 303-221-2777.
- Nov 15,16: Fort Collins, CO:** Location TBA.
Contact us, 303-245-5906.
- Nov 17,18: Laramie, WY:** First Church of Nazarene.
Area Seminar. Contact School Office, 307-745-7814.

PLEASE KEEP THIS SCHEDULE AND PRAY FOR US!

Think and Believe is published bi-monthly by Alpha Omega Institute, P.O. Box 4343, Grand Junction, CO 81502. Editors: Dave & Mary Jo Nutting. Single copies are free upon request. Please write for permission to reprint material in this publication. Alpha Omega Institute is a tax-exempt organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Your donations are tax deductible.

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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

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RECAP

It's been a busy summer with many opportunities to minister to folks of all ages in a variety of settings: several church seminars, a State-wide Homeschool Conference, a Vacation Bible School, a High School Camp, three Family "Creation Vacations," a YWAM Discipleship Training School, ICR's Summer Institute on Creation Science and Summit Ministries' Youth Leadership Training Course. Many of these involved teaching over a full week, giving plenty of time for in-depth teaching and discussion. Praise God for so many people with open hearts and a desire to learn. We look forward to seeing many of the folks pass on what they've learned in their own communities.

This year we had the special treat of having Lanny and Marilyn Johnson and their girls join us at Twin Peaks, Redcloud and Id-Ra-Ha-Je with their special children's ministry. Young and old enjoyed their lively and informative puppet presentations on creation topics, and we enjoyed working with them. Thanks, Johnson family!

If you missed this year's Creation Vacations, you really missed it! Don't miss out next year. Mark your calendar now and watch for the flier in the next issue of **Think and Believe**. (By the way, if you would like us to speak at a camp, school or church in your area, call now. We are already filling next year's schedule.)

1994 Creation Vacation Dates

July 3-8 Twin Peaks Family Science Adventure

August 14-19 Redcloud Family Mountain Adventure I

August 21-26 Redcloud Family Mountain Adventure II

Three Exciting Choices: Pick Your Week!

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