

Think Believe

Discover Creation...Worship the Creator



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Evolutionary Hijackers of Science

By Dr. David Demick

Creation advocates have been asserting more and more that science has been “hijacked” by evolutionists in order to support an essentially atheistic view of our origins. Many different individuals and groups over the last few centuries have operated effectively to promote this evolutionary worldview, but who were the hijackers and what was their motive? Let’s take a brief look at a group of the most influential evolutionist “hijackers” of the late 1800s – the so-called “X-club.”¹

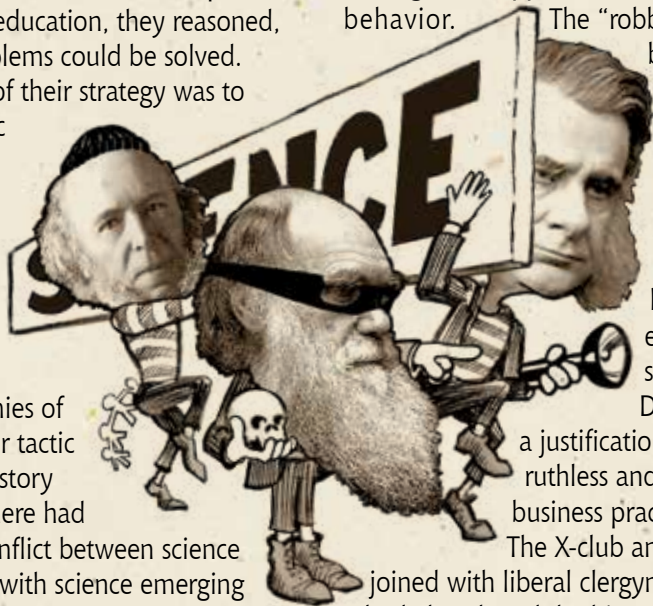
The ten men who bore this cryptic title met regularly for dinner at a hotel in London. Their mission was to replace the Christian-based philosophy of science with a philosophy of scientific naturalism. According to them, no God was needed or allowed. With the wisdom and power of science and education, they reasoned, mankind’s problems could be solved.

A large part of their strategy was to equate scientific progress in every area with evolutionism, and to brand opponents of their ideology as ignorant, backward enemies of science. Another tactic was to falsify history to imply that there had always been conflict between science and “religion,” with science emerging as the inevitable, and morally superior winner.

Charles Darwin was technically a member, although he rarely attended meetings, preferring to stay on his country

estate. The next most prominent member was Thomas Huxley, known as “Darwin’s bulldog.” He was a charismatic speaker and pugnacious debater. His debate with Bishop Wilberforce in 1860 is remembered as a watershed moment in the creation-evolution controversy. Huxley was an aggressively smart man who knew how to pounce on any weakness or invent one, if needed.

Another infamous member of the X-club was Herbert Spencer, the father of sociology. Spencer was an advocate of what came to be known as “Social Darwinism” – the application of Darwinian principles to human society. It was actually Spencer who coined the term “survival of the fittest,” which is particularly chilling when applied to human behavior.



The “robber baron” businessmen of the late 1800s, like John D. Rockefeller and Andrew Carnegie, heartily embraced social Darwinism as a justification for their ruthless and exploitative business practices.

The X-club and their allies joined with liberal clergymen who had abandoned the historic belief in the Bible in favor of a new, syncretistic religion. Much like the Israelites who tried to worship the true God along with Canaanite idols, they linked Darwinism

and liberal, apostate Christianity. Those who resisted this invasive religious philosophy were ridiculed as ignorant, backward, and bigoted. In addition, the narrative of “conflict between science and religion” was invented and nurtured.

Before 1860, few would have believed that there was any conflict between science and the Christian faith. It was common knowledge that the great leaders and innovators of pre-Darwinian science were Christians – or at least theists sympathetic to creation. This included men like Newton, Copernicus, Galileo, and Faraday.² It took a strong, persistent propaganda barrage lasting more than a generation to get people believing that science and faith were at odds. Colin Russell, a professor and historian of science put it this way: “In their bitter battles for scientific hegemony (supremacy) the Victorian scientific naturalists fought largely in vain. But in establishing their myth of an enduring conflict between religion and science they were successful beyond their wildest expectations.”³

Over a century later, the bitter fruit of the X-club is all around us. Having tasted of church decline, increased violence, moral relativism and other evils, it is up to us to expose the roots of this bitter fruit as well as cutting its branches. Evolutionism is a religious philosophy that has been established by lies, falsehoods, silly mistakes, and bullying. It employs false history, dishonest science, corrupt ethics, and vain philosophy. We need to recognize and expose all its weaknesses, in all their forms. **AOI**

¹ Fletcher, Jim. “The X-club: Ten Men Who Destroyed Western Civilization,” presentation at the Pikes Peak Prophecy Conference 2014.

² Russell, Colin. “The Conflict Metaphor and its Social Origins,” *Science and Christian Belief*, Vol. 1, No. 1, 1989, p. 3 – 26

³ Russell, Colin. “The Conflict Metaphor and its Social Origins,” *Science and Christian Belief*, Vol. 1, No. 1, 1989, p. 3 – 26.

Silence: Not Always Golden... by Mark Sonmor



The phrase “silence is golden” is a wise saying attributed to ancient Egypt. The apostle James and King Solomon echoed this when they admonished their readers to exercise wisdom and to tame the tongue. However, there are times when silence is *anything* but golden. In extreme cases, silence is what allows abuse to continue, extortion to succeed, and ungodly ideas to spread unchallenged.

Personally, all it takes is a simple headline announcing the latest “missing link” or an astrophysicist touting his model of godless origins, to intimidate and get me to shut down into “cognitive neutral.” Thankfully, answers are easier to find these days thanks to the advancements in creation science.

Yet, some still prefer ignorance to

delving into the truth. It’s like a parent who would rather not know what their teenager is up to, than probe too far into his/her private life. If I learn the truth about radiometric dating, it’s reasoned, I might be forced to relate that truth and risk looking like a religious extremist.

Before coming to AOI, I had questions regarding creation science so I went to the local evangelical seminary for answers. The response I received was, “We prefer to focus on the God of creation, not *how* He created.” In other words, “To fit in here, don’t be so literal and just focus on issues we can all agree on.” Due to this type of intimidation, some of us find ourselves in churches that promote sound doctrine yet avoid controversial topics. What’s being taught is not the problem but rather, what *isn’t* being taught.

Discussing the feasibility of Noah’s Ark may not be fashionable at work, but it might address the one issue standing between your co-worker and Christ.

Parents, wouldn’t you rather run the risk of confronting your teenager than have him/her come to you later with regret and ask why you didn’t try to intervene? For victims of abuse, finding out that a loved one knew or suspected but chose to remain silent is often harder to face than the abuse itself.

I remember the night my wife and I made the decision to come to AOI. The spiritual oppression in the room was almost tangible. The enemy seemed to say, “Don’t go. Are you crazy? What will people think? Stay silent. Stay safe.”

That was twenty years ago and we’ve never looked back. If we had listened to the enemy’s lies, we would never have known the amazing healing that has come through AOI and the community of believers in Grand Junction. Silence is not always golden but the truth really can set you free. **AOI**



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Geology Hijacked

by Susan Morris (guest writer)

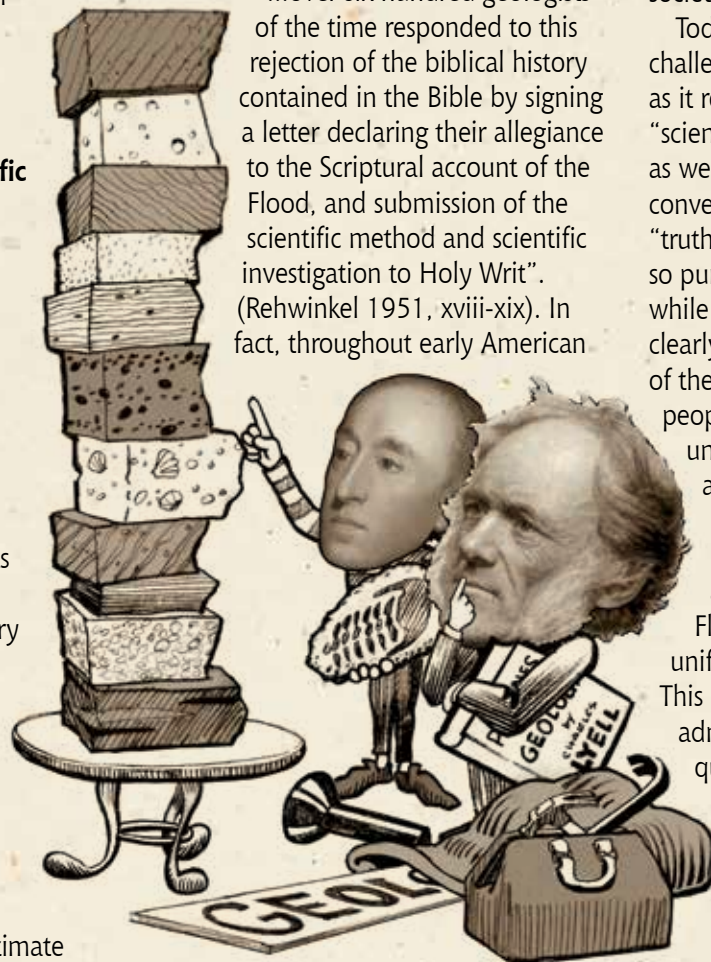
[Editor's Note: Just as other areas of science were hijacked (See page one.), so it happened in the area of geology. During Charles Darwin's voyage aboard the HMS Beagle, the captain handed him a book by Charles Lyell and muttered something like, "It was interesting, but don't believe it." Darwin, however, did absorb this book's premises involving "eons of time" as he formulated his theory of evolution. Guest writer, Sue Morris, submitted the following article showing the regression of popular belief away from Biblical Flood geology.]

How many in God's Kingdom are aware that Noah's Flood was the universally accepted explanation in both Europe and America for surface geology up until about 200 years ago? In their book, **The Genesis Flood: The Biblical Record and its Scientific Implications**, Whitcomb and Morris state unequivocally: "The Flood was once believed to be the explanation for most of the phenomena of geology; later it was regarded as one of a series of geological cataclysms which were the key features in geologic interpretation; then it was thought to explain only certain of the superficial deposits of the earth's surface; finally it was either dismissed as legendary or interpreted as a local flood in Mesopotamia, thus stripping it of all geological consequence" (Whitcomb and Morris, 1961, p. 117).

Certainly, there have always been doubters. However, the process by which the Biblical deluge was discredited as a legitimate underpinning of the science of geology really gained traction in the 19th Century with the acceptance of Charles Darwin's theory of biological evolution and Lord James Hutton's teachings of uniformitarianism. This view essentially states that slow-and-steady processes,

with only an occasional cataclysmic event, have shaped, and continue to shape, the geology of the Earth's surface. The theory, originated by Hutton, sets forth what is called the "geologic column" – an arbitrary arrangement of sedimentary layers constructed from the types of fossils they contain – supposedly beginning with the most "primitive" and "simple" life forms on the bottom, and ending with the largest and most "complex" forms at the top. Its famous credo, "The present is the key to the past," is still the standard from which modern geology takes its cue. Although his "column" exists in its entirety nowhere in the world, it is still taught as fact.

According to Dr. Samuel Kinn, quoted in **The Flood** by Dr. Alfred Rehwinkel, "...over six hundred geologists of the time responded to this rejection of the biblical history contained in the Bible by signing a letter declaring their allegiance to the Scriptural account of the Flood, and submission of the scientific method and scientific investigation to Holy Writ". (Rehwinkel 1951, xviii-xix). In fact, throughout early American



history and up until the time of Darwin, Hutton, Lyell et al, the Bible had been promoted and used as one of the main textbooks in public schools. As time went on, the acceptance of uniformitarianism and biological

evolution became more widespread, eventually driving Holy Writ from the classroom. The famous Scopes "Monkey" Trial was a significant turning point in this endeavor in spite of state prosecutor and creationist William Jennings Bryan's victory over the famed lawyer Clarence Darrow.

Initially, textbooks had minimized emphasizing evolution as dogmatic fact, but subsequent court cases and textbook publishers eventually forced all public school science textbooks to promote materialistic evolution as being the sole cause of our origins. Not until Henry Morris and John Whitcomb published **The Genesis Flood** in 1961, based on sound engineering, hydraulic, and geologic principles, did the belief in special creation experience a resurgence. However, this was only realized in the broader church, not society itself.

Today, many are in fact reluctant to challenge anything termed "science" as it relates to origins. However, the "science" is not settled. Many scientists as well as laypeople are questioning the conventional, educationally-mandated "truth" of mainstream geology. Some do so purely on the basis of scientific evidence while others do so in light of what Genesis clearly teaches about the early history of the world. We are thankful for those people in the education system who understand that science and Scripture are not contradictory.

We are also seeing that catastrophism (though hardly admitting to the truth of the Flood) is now beginning to replace uniformitarianism in explaining geology. This has been accompanied with the admission by some that fossils form quickly, rather than over long periods of time.

Going forward, it is encouraging when we hear of teachers in public schools who are open to students learning the Biblical account of early Earth history or are willing to have students interact with topics like Creation and Noah's Flood. Unfortunately, this is by far the exception as most teachers' hands are tied within a system still committed to principles of uniformitarianism and materialistic philosophy. **AOI**

Director's Column by Dave Nutting



We frequently warn parents of the need to monitor their sons' and daughters' education in order to come alongside

them in their faith. Most of you realize that almost all secular middle schools, high schools, and colleges teach only evolutionary naturalism. Some teachers feel it is their duty to knock students off of their Biblical foundation.

However, keep in mind that even if your students attend a "Christian" school or university, they can still be shaken to the core of their beliefs! Many Christian schools teach evolution as well. According to WorldMag.com, "Most evangelical colleges teach evolution." They also report that some professors at Christian colleges do it secretly. Many rationalize this by adopting some form of the idea: "Evolution is science; Creation is religion" or that God somehow created by means of evolution.

Students in both secular and Christian schools need to be prepared with good, sound information and

supported by parents and church if they are to withstand this attack and come through with their faith intact. Most importantly, they need to have a vibrant, personal relationship with the Lord. In addition, they need our daily prayer support as they face the challenges of modern society.

We suggest you re-read some of the following Think & Believe articles posted on our website (<https://www.discovercreation.org/articles/think-and-believe/>) for more information and encouragement for students:

Crazy "Scientific" Arguments

January/February 2019

The "Kool-Aid" of Evolution

September/October 2018

AOI: Helping students, families, and churches survive and thrive

July/August 2017

Filters and Worldview

January/February 2017

Is Creation Teaching Important for Kids?

January/February 2016,

Christian Colleges and Evolution

July/August 2014

A Critique of Baylor's Stance on Evolution

July/August 2014 **AOI**

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Two of the main articles in this issue were written by our readers. If you would like to submit articles, or even comments, please email them to AOI@DiscoverCreation.org.

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