



# UNCOVERING THE TRUTH ABOUT DINOSAURS

## Part II

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### INTRODUCTION

As we discussed in Part I, June 30, 2023, the existence of dinosaurs and similar marine and air reptiles have captured the attention and imagination of people worldwide and of all ages, particularly the fascination with the largest carnivorous land-based dinosaur on record – the Tyrannosaurus Rex, or better known as a T-Rex. Of particular interest, children can often name many of the larger dinosaurs and even have numerous toys that are patterned after certain types of dinosaurs. For people that have had the opportunity to travel through Chicago O'Hare International airport and personally view the skeleton of an alleged 150 million, year old, 72-foot long, 45-foot-tall Brachiosaurus in Terminal 1, B Concourse (Figure 1), it readily becomes apparent that these dinosaurs were the largest creatures to ever walk on land and are unlike any animals/creatures that exist on earth in modern times.

As a result of the immense worldwide interest in dinosaurs, evolutionists have emphatically understood the value of using dinosaurs as an effective propaganda tool linked into textbooks, science videos, and even the 1993 blockbuster movie, Jurassic Park,



Figure 1. Brachiosaurus Skeleton At Chicago O'Hare Airport

and following five sequels. Additionally, the general public is trained that dinosaurs lived during the "*the age of dinosaurs*" that allegedly occurred 245-65 million years ago, vanished from a meteor collision in Mexico, but evolved into birds before going extinct.<sup>1</sup> Not surprisingly, this evolutionary "*training*" automatically associates dinosaurs with the

far distant past, a time when dinosaurs lived and ruled the earth millions of years before humans and millions of years before the earth became anything like we know it today.

Dinosaurs have come to not only represent an integral and important part of geologic history, but are also a further confirmation of secular evolution and secular science that has no place for God. Not surprisingly, even when our fascination for dinosaurs begins to subside, this indoctrination still remains as a powerful part of earth history that appears to dispute the biblical account of creation. Therefore, the question of *“where do millions of years and dinosaurs fit into the Scriptural account of creation as found in Genesis”* is often assumed to refute Scripture. For many people, dinosaurs can be the classic *“proof”* of evolution and secular science along with a *“disproof”* of Genesis.

However, what if dinosaurs did not live up until 65 million years ago; what if dinosaurs did not evolve into birds; what if humans and dinosaurs did actually live at the same time in earth’s history; and what if the methods that are currently used to date dinosaur fossils are not only wrong but are often chosen to purportedly validate the *“age of dinosaurs”* along with its companion of millions of years? Obviously, this dilemma would provide scientific evidence that dinosaurs would not be evolutions *“classic proof,”* but instead, would be a major contradiction not only to the age of dinosaurs but also to the theory of secular evolution.

During our June program, we started to run short on time to adequately explain some of the key facets of dinosaurs in addition to some questions about the relevance and accuracy of contemporary dating methods that are used to date the earth, rocks and dinosaur fossils. So, with the preceding thoughts in mind, let’s expand some key areas that provide solid evidence that dinosaurs died only a few thousand years ago – challenging many of the commonly held beliefs about the contemporary secular history and timeline of dinosaurs.

When the alleged antiquity of dinosaurs is evaluated, a good place to start is why their history is always associated with the phrase *“millions of years”*<sup>2,3</sup> and how that is determined from a scientific standpoint. For this discussion, the study of determining the age of something such as the earth, mankind and/or dinosaurs is derived from understanding how specific dating methods are accomplished and their relevance. So, let’s look at determining the definition of *“ages”* from a biblical perspective and then a secular scientific perspective and how that relates to the age of the earth and dinosaurs.

### **BIBLICAL PERSPECTIVE**

The key to understanding the definition of *“ages”* from a biblical perspective is to first understand the definition of the biblical word *“day”* and then combine that definition with a biblical chronology to determine the true age of the earth and dinosaurs.

## DEFINITION OF THE WORD "DAY"

The two principal viewpoints regarding the definition of day are (1) a day means a literal 24-hour day, or (2) the word day can be interpreted as long indefinite periods of time such as millions and billions of years. Obviously, these two viewpoints are diametrically opposed in their length of time as God either created in six 24-hour periods of time or He created over six long periods of time.

As a starting point, let's look at the word day from a Hebrew perspective (the Old Testament was written in Hebrew) and see if the Bible clearly defines day, and if so, are there any consequential implications. The Hebrew word for day in the Genesis account of creation is "*yom*" and occurs 2,300 times in the Old Testament, with 1,450 in the singular, 845 in the plural, and 5 in the dual form. Its semantic range is limited to five meanings:

1. A period of a year
2. A general or vague concept of time
3. A period of light in a day/night cycle
4. A specific point of time
5. A period of 24-hours

As can be seen by the five preceding meanings, *yom* can be defined as various periods of time and is used in different contexts throughout the Bible. However, in the Genesis creation account, it is imperative to consider the Hebrew semantic perspective as the definition of *yom* is straightforward. Consider the following clarification on the Genesis use of the word *yom* from *The Days of Creation: A Semantic Approach*, by James Stambaugh, M. Div:<sup>4</sup>

*Nevertheless, Hebrew grammatical contexts of yom demonstrate that, when used with a 'number' (1, 2, 3, etc.), the pattern is always a normal time period. If 'night' is combined with yom, it always denotes a 24-hour day. If yom is used with either 'morning' or 'evening,' they too refer to a literal day. When 'morning' and 'evening' are used together, with yom, it always signifies a solar day. So, the syntagmatic relationships (relationship between two or more linguistic units) that yom has illustrated clearly that the meaning is to be; considered a normal time period, consisting of one axial rotation of the earth, called a 'day'.*

*The point of discussing the semantic approach should be rather obvious. God, through the pen of Moses, is being redundant for redundancy's sake. God is going out of His way to tell us that the 'days' of creation were literal solar days. He has used the word yom, and combined this with a 'number,' the word 'night' and the words 'morning' and 'evening.' God has communicated the words of Genesis 1 in a specific manner, so that the interpreter could not miss the point. God could not have communicated the timing of creation more clearly than He did in Genesis 1.*

Not surprisingly, the Genesis creation account uses a number, night, and morning and/or evening with *yom*. Therefore, based on the Hebrew rules of grammar, *yom* in the Genesis account of creation means 24-hours (or a 24-hour solar day). The clearest example of the use of *yom* is found in the Fourth Commandment in both Exodus 20:8-11 and 31:17; *“For in six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested on the seventh day. Therefore, the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and hallowed it.”* The word *for* (also having the sense *because*) at the beginning of the expression is a causal explanation showing that the creation week is the very basis of the working week. In these passages, it’s explicit that the creation days were the same as those of the human workweek. Therefore, if a biblical day is supposed to mean billions and millions of years, then is the Sabbath day billions and/or millions of years in length? Consider the following noteworthy quotes:

- *“Probably, so far as I know, there is no professor of Hebrew or Old Testament at any world-class university who does not believe that the writer(s) of Genesis 1-11 intended to convey to their readers that creation took place in a series of 6 days which were the same as the days of 24-hours we now experience, and Noah’s Flood was understood to be worldwide;”* James Barr, past Regis Professor of Hebrew, Oxford University
- *“I have not met any Hebrew professors who had the slightest doubt about this unless they were already committed to some alternative by other considerations that do not arise from a straightforward reading of the Hebrew text as it stands;”* Hugh Williamson, current Regis Professor of Hebrew at Oxford University
- *“For the biblical people this was history, difficult as it is for us to accept this view;”* Emanuel Tov, J.L. Magnes Professor of Bible, Hebrew University of Jerusalem
- *“Although the Young Universe Creationist position is not widely held within secular academia, the position – that the author of Genesis 1 maintained that the world was created in six literal days – is nearly universally held;”* Peter Williams, Warden of Tyndale House, Cambridge University (a residential theological research library)
- *“There isn’t much in the way of observational evidence in astronomy to conflict with a very young age for the sun and earth; less than 7,000 years;”* Evolutionist John Eddy, one of the world’s leading Solar Astronomers

Two additional side points of interest are:

- *“God called the light Day, and the darkness He called Night;”* Genesis 1:5. This verse begins the cycle of the day. With the creation of light, it is now possible to have a cycle of light and darkness, which God labels “day” and “night.” Evening is the transition from light/day to darkness/night. Morning is the transition from darkness/night to light/day. Having an evening and a morning amounts to having one full day. Hence, the following equation is what Genesis 1:5 expresses; evening + morning = one day. Consequently, by using a most unusual grammatical construction, Genesis 1 is defining what a day is



- A literal reading of Genesis 1:5 through Genesis 2:2 directly from the Hebrew would read as follows; (1:5) *“One day morning and was evening and was (1:8) second day morning and was evening and was (1:13) third day morning and was evening and was (1:19) fourth day morning and was evening and was (1:23) fifth day morning and was evening and was (1:31) sixth day morning and was evening and was (2:2) the seventh on day God And finished had He made which work His the seventh day on and He rested.”* Notice the first day has a cardinal number (one, two, three, etc.) and the others have ordinal numbers (second, third, fourth, etc.). Therefore, a literal translation of creation week would be *day one, a second day, a third day, a fourth day, a fifth day, the sixth day, the seventh day*

Therefore, in a biblical and Hebrew context in the Genesis account of creation, the word *yom* means 24-hours and the resultant consequential implications are:

- **The long periods of time that the “age of dinosaurs” and evolution requires do not fit within the 6-day creation account**
- **The “long age” process within the 6-day creation week is also not possible**
- **There is no room for evolution and its companion of long ages, anywhere, in the biblical account of creation**

To conclude the aforementioned comments on the meaning of the word *day*, if the text of Genesis 1 and 2 does not mean to teach traditional chronology and literal 24-hour days, then how are the following questions answered that have been posed by Dr. Jud Davis, Associate Professor of Greek at Bryan College:<sup>5</sup>

- Why do nearly all world-class Hebraists assume that the writer of Genesis intended normal days and the text as history?
- Why did the ancient, medieval, and modern church – until about 1800 – have few commentators (if any) who believed in an ancient universe?
- Why is there little or no classical Rabbinic support for an ancient universe?
- Why does Jesus take Genesis 1 & 2 as teaching history (Matt 19:4, Mark 10:6)?
- Why does Paul take Genesis as history (Romans 5:12, 1 Corinthians 11:8-9, 15:21-22, 15:45, 1 Timothy 2:12-14)?
- Why do all of the ancient translations and paraphrases, such as the Aramaic Targums, take the words in Genesis 1 at face value and translate them as “days” with no hint that they might mean “ages?”

An interesting point of interest is; *“If the top Hebrew scholars all agree that the writer(s) of Genesis 1 intended the word day to mean 24 hours.....then why can’t we?”*

## **BIBLE CHRONOLGY**

In the previous section, we discussed the biblical word *day* and the grammatical Hebrew interpretation that is rendered as a literal calendar day/earth rotation day (or 24-hours), not long periods of time such as billions and millions of years. Additionally, now that we

have determined the Hebrew definition of the word *day*, we can also use Bible chronology to determine the age of the earth by referring to the chrono-genealogies in Genesis 5 and 11 as each name contains a time stamp. As an example, Seth was born to Adam when he was 130, and Seth had Enosh when he was 105. Therefore, from Adam to Enosh was 235 years. Continuing on:

- If the genealogy list and resultant ages are added from Adam to the birth of Noah's sons, there should be 1,556 years. Shem was the middle child (Genesis 9:24, 10:21), and was born when Noah was 502, resulting in Shem's birth 1,558 years after the creation of Adam
- Beginning with the dates of Shem's descendants in Genesis 11:10 and going to Terah accumulates another 320 years. Using Genesis 11:32 and 12:4, we find that Terah was 130 when Abraham was born

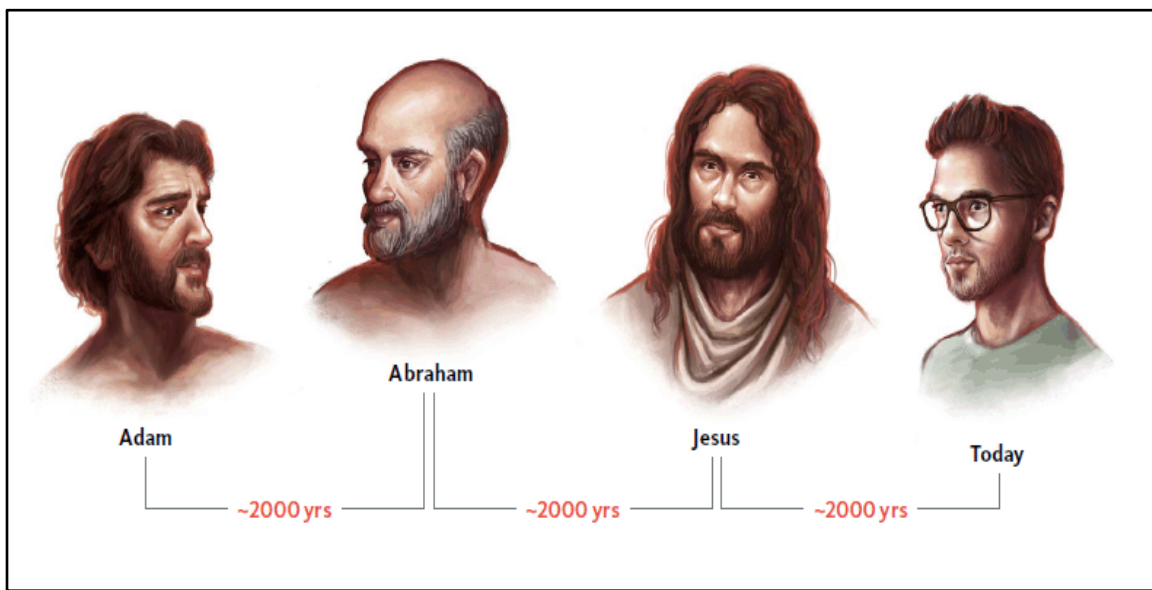


Figure 2. Time From Adam To Today

- Adding the aforementioned dates yields a time span of about 2,008 years from Adam until Abraham
- As most biblical and secular scholars agree that Abraham was born around 2,000 BC (which also agrees with the Bible), we know Abraham to Jesus covers about 2,000 years, and we are about 2,000 years removed from Jesus (specifically 2023 years)
- **So, 2,000 + 2,000 + 2,000 means the earth (and universe) are about 6,000 years old, as depicted in Figure 2**

The word "*about*" is previously used several times as there are some differences in various manuscripts. Although the dates may vary by a few thousand years at the most, the approximate age of the earth is about 6,000 years old with an upper range to possibly 8,000 years old. This is far different than the secular dates of billions of years for the earth.

So, as the word “*day*” is defined in the Genesis creation account and we know that Bible Chronology defines the age of the earth, the questions of how long ago when dinosaurs were alive and did mankind co-exist with dinosaurs can be easily answered from a biblical perspective as follows:

- Dinosaurs were created on the 6<sup>th</sup> day of creation about 6,000 years ago. How long they existed after the global Flood is open to speculation
- Man was also created on the 6<sup>th</sup> day of creation. Therefore, mankind and dinosaurs co-existed during the 1,650 years to the global Flood and while on the Ark. At the conclusion of the global Flood, dinosaurs and mankind co-existed after leaving the Ark but the length of time is also open to speculation

### **SECULAR SCIENTIFIC PERSPECTIVE**

Modern secular science alleges that mankind and dinosaurs never co-existed as they were separated by millions of years,<sup>6</sup> and the earth has been radioactive dated at about 4.56 billion years old<sup>7</sup> (as opposed to the biblical timescale of thousands of years) which eventually leads to the question of “*Why is there such a large age difference between secular science and the Bible?*” This question can primarily be answered from the perspectives of secular evolutionary science depends on vast ages to function and is a replacement for God.

### **SECULAR EVOLUTIONARY SCIENCE DEPENDS ON VAST AGES**

In Medieval universities (about 500AD to 1500AD), it was understood that the various branches of learning required an overarching standard. That standard was the Bible. Because the Bible was seen as the source of all truth, theology became the natural standard by which other scholarship had to abide. A scholar’s theology is the foundation of his worldview and shapes his study of philosophy and other fields. Theology, then, was the “*queen of the sciences*,” that is, God’s Word is the regal source of knowledge that informs all other knowledge.<sup>8</sup>

However, even though the age of the universe and earth was believed to be in thousands of years by scientists and the Christian church until the late 1700s, elements of Enlightenment thinking began to erode that viewpoint which was soon challenged in 1830 by Charles Lyell, a Scottish lawyer turned geologist who published a 3-volume work titled *Principles of Geology*. Although the work has been called the most important scientific book ever written,<sup>9</sup> Lyell refused to accept the Flood testimony of Noah as recorded in Genesis with the primary objective “*to free the science from Moses*,”<sup>10</sup> and to free geology from the time-frame of Genesis thus deleting the Bible’s account of early history. Lyell argued that the formation of earth’s crust took place through countless small changes occurring over vast periods of time, all according to known natural laws. His introduction of “*uniformitarianism*” is a fundamental principle in geology that suggests that the same geological processes and natural laws that operate today have



been operating throughout earth's history, and that they can be used to explain the geological features and formations found in the past.<sup>11</sup> This was an attack on the common belief among geologists and other Christians that unique catastrophes or supernatural events – such as Noah's Flood – shaped earth's surface. Interestingly, Charles Darwin read the first two volumes of *Principles of Geology* on his famous voyage to the Galapagos Islands on the HMS Beagle. These volumes converted Darwin to a belief in long geological ages, which gave him the *vast ages* he needed for his theory of evolution.<sup>12</sup>

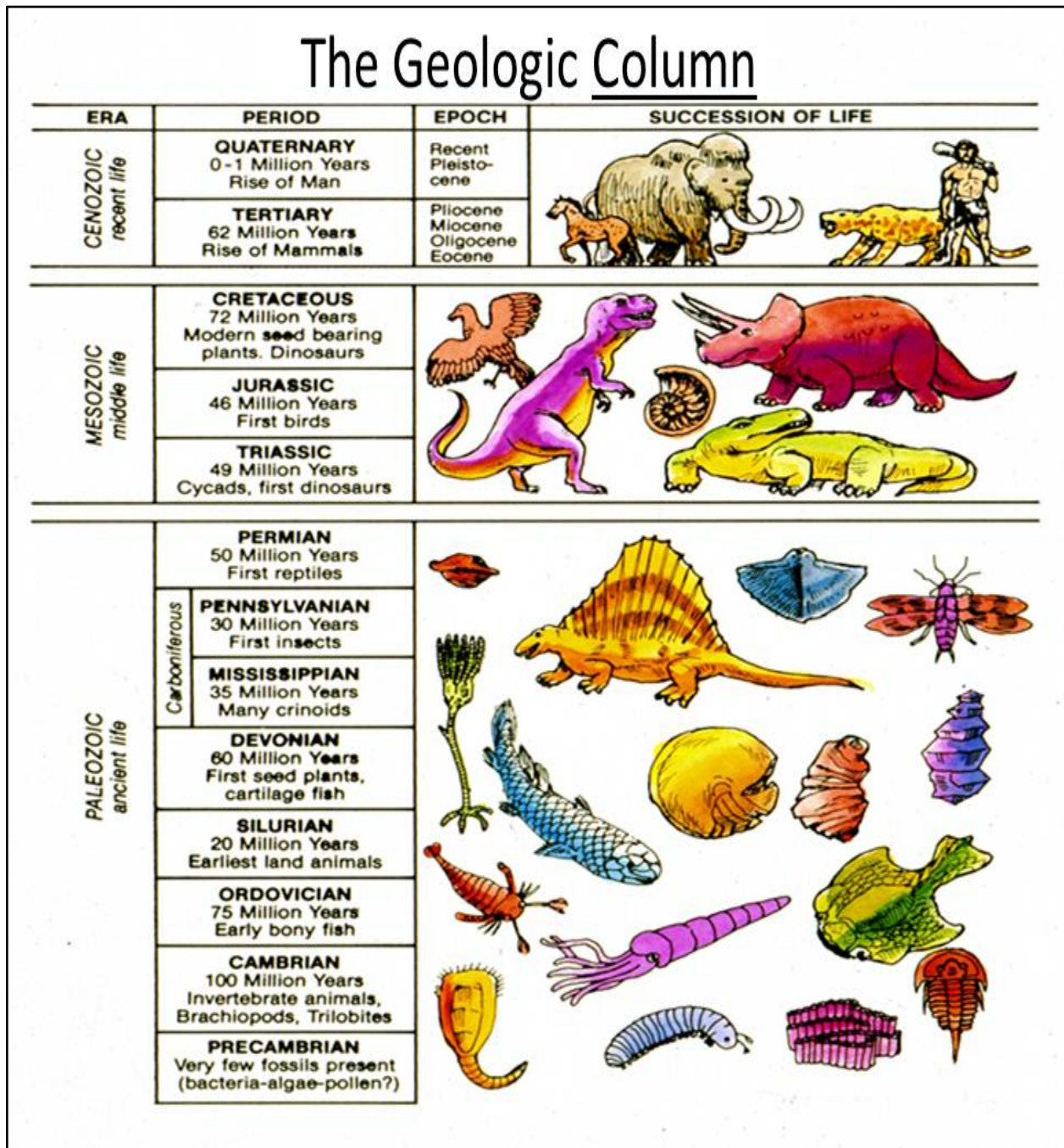


Figure 3. Geologic Column

In addition to the 3-volume *Principles of Geology*, Lyell was also primarily responsible for the Geologic Column (Figure 3) that is the theoretical classification system for the layers of rocks and fossils that make up the earth's crust.<sup>13</sup> Secular science believes that this is also a picture of the 4.5-billion-year history of the earth and is found in virtually all geology textbooks. Using a bit of circular reasoning, the Geologic Column is used as support for biologic evolution which is then sometimes used to confirm the order of the layers in the Geologic Column. The use of radioactive dating is also applied to the layers of the geologic record to establish the *absolute* ages of the layers and the billions of years allegedly indicated by the rock layers. In order for life to have evolved, the earth must be extremely old, so the assumption of long ages was applied to the geologic record to support the evolutionary philosophy. Interestingly, the Geologic Column, accepted by faith, is the Bible for the evolutionist, yet it does not exist anywhere in the world.<sup>14</sup>

Although secular Darwinian evolution hit on the idea of natural selection to explain how organisms change over time, it took his 1859 publication of *On the Origin of the Species*, to theorize how earth and its environments coupled with the *long expanse of time* contributed to change. Darwin's theory of evolution is summarized from a revealing quote by evolutionist and Nobel Laureate, Dr. George Wald of Harvard University:<sup>15</sup>

*"Time is in fact the hero of the plot (evolution).....Given so much time, the impossible becomes possible, the possible probable, and the probable virtually certain. One only has to wait: time will itself perform the miracle"*

The preceding quote by Dr. Wald succinctly summarizes that in order for the theory of secular evolution to properly operate within its stated parameters, *vast amounts of time* are one of the three key requirements (along with natural selection and mutations) and are capable of making the impossible virtually certain. The importance of evolutionary time (vast ages) is regularly found in secular scientific material. Following are some typical examples:

- *"Like Lyell, he (Darwin) saw that the history of earth and its life covered a vast amount of time"*<sup>16</sup>
- *"Out of these simple ingredients, conceived to be operating blindly over hundreds of millions of years, he (Darwin) conjured up change that seems like the deliberate unfolding of a grand plan, designed and carried out with superhuman genius"*<sup>17</sup>
- *"He (Darwin) wrote extensively about the earth and its environment and theorized how they, coupled with the long expanse of time, contributed to change"*<sup>18</sup>
- *"Evolutionary scientists date the earth at approximately 4.5 to 5 billion years old. Most folks are not aware that there is really no incontrovertible scientific proof to establish these fantastic dates. They are grounded in a series of assumptions that are based upon evolutionary premises. In other words, the "clock" is rigged to provide the "long ages" of earth's history"*<sup>19</sup>

So, although the 19<sup>th</sup> century Christian church generally still believed in thousands of years and a global Flood, let's look at how the Christian church began to incorporate millions of years into biblical Scripture:<sup>20</sup>

- 1850 – The general acceptance of millions of years by the Christian church that was framed on the foundation of *“everything can be explained by time, plus chance, plus the laws of nature”*
- Once the concept of millions of years had gained the status of acceptable science, some influential and respected Christian authors and publications added to its credibility. Several examples are:
  - 1909 C.I. Scofield, Scofield Reference Bible. The margin notes for Genesis 1:2 states; *“The first creative act refers to the dateless past, and gives scope for all the geologic ages”*
  - 2000 Dr. Norman Geisler, Baker Encyclopedia of Christian Apologetics. Pages 270 and 272 state; *“The problem is deepened by the fact that there is prima facie evidence to indicate that the days of Genesis are indeed twenty-four-hour periods.....Most scientific evidence sets the age of the world at billions of years”*

As a result, the concept of millions, if not billions of years began to gain alleged secular scientific credibility and was willingly implemented as the foundation of secular evolutionary science and a replacement for the Hebrew word *“yom”* meaning a 24-hour period.

## REPLACEMENT FOR GOD

From an unapologetic viewpoint, secular naturalism (which for this discussion also incorporates humanism, materialism and secular science) boldly and aggressively proclaims that God and the Bible has no place in the material universe and/or secular science. This fact was underscored in the following quote by Professor Richard Lewontin, a geneticist and certainly one of the world's leaders in evolutionary biology. It illustrates the implicit philosophical bias against Genesis creation – regardless of whether or not the facts support it:<sup>21</sup>

*“Our willingness to accept scientific claims that are against common sense is the key to an understanding of the real struggle between science and the supernatural. We take the side of science in spite of the patent absurdity of some of its constructs, in spite of its failure to fulfill many of its extravagant promises of health and life, in spite of the tolerance of the scientific community for unsubstantiated just-so stories, because we have a prior commitment, a commitment to materialism.*

*It is not that the methods and institutions of science somehow compel us to accept a material explanation of the phenomenal world, but, on the contrary, that we are forced by our a priori adherence to material causes to create an apparatus of investigation and a set of concepts that produce material explanations, no matter how counter-intuitive, no matter how mystifying to*

*the uninitiated. Moreover, that materialism is absolute, for we cannot allow a Divine Foot in the door. "*

So, what are the beliefs of materialism and/or naturalism? The most fundamental belief from which all others emanate is that nature or matter is all that exists. It has always existed or it came into existence from nothing. There is nothing outside or before nature and there is no God and no supernatural. Although nature has not always existed in its present form, what we see today is the result of *time and chance* and the laws of nature working on matter. Miracles are not possible, because they would be a violation of the laws of nature.<sup>22</sup> The world's most famous atheist, Richard Dawkins, has said:<sup>23</sup>

*"The first Humanist Manifesto was published in 1933. The first two articles of that document state, 'First, religious humanists regard the universe as self-existing and not created' and 'Second, humanism believes that man is a part of nature and that he has emerged as a result of a continuous process.' Flowing out of those two starting points, the fifth states, 'Fifth, humanism asserts that the nature of the universe depicted by modern science makes unacceptable any supernatural or cosmic guarantees of human values. . . . Religion must formulate its hopes and plans in the light of the scientific spirit and method.'"*

For secular naturalism, humanism and materialism and their many colleagues, the omniscient God, who created the universe and everything in it, is simply replaced by secular science and naturalism. Naturalism is a philosophical construct that is at war with the inerrancy of the Bible as it was originally written. In embracing naturalism, supporters deliberately ignore the plain evidence of history that scientific laws are continually being amended and/or discarded and that no ordered system arises by chance. The three fundamental pillars upon which naturalism rests are (1) vast ages, (2) evolution, and (3) absolute uniformitarianism (assumption that the same natural laws and processes that operate in our present-day scientific observations have always operated in the universe in the past and apply everywhere in the universe).

At this point in our discussion, it is important to summarize the preceding discussion with two key points; (1) secular evolutionary science depends on vast ages and (2) secular evolutionary science replaces God with secular naturalism. Therefore, with these two key points in mind, let's ask a fundamental and applicable question;

**Remembering that "All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness" (2 Tim 3:16), and "Do not add to His words, lest He rebuke you, and you be found a liar" (Proverbs 30:6)," how can anyone who believes in the inerrancy of Scripture want to add secular evolutionary scientific ideology with its vast ages and naturalism to biblical Scripture?**

Now, let's look at some popular dating methodologies that depend on radioactive dating for alleged confirmation of *vast ages* to support the secular scientific viewpoint of humanistic naturalism along with secular evolutionary science.

## RADIOACTIVE DATING

Radioactive dating has served as a cornerstone for the "*vast ages*" hypothesis that is being taught as settled science in educational systems throughout the Western world and clearly conflicts with the biblical account of creation. This is one of the main reasons people believe in billions and millions of years of time and is why it is imperative that a clear understanding of the difference between biblical creation as delineated in Genesis and humanistic naturalism along with the perspective of secular *vast ages* and its companion of the "*age of dinosaurs*" is understood.

Over the past 400 hundred years, secular scientists have tried various methods to determine the age of this planet. As an example, in past years the age was predicted based on changing sea levels and the salinity of the oceans until these procedures were proven to be very unreliable. In the twentieth century, scientists began to use radioactive dating (also known as radiometric or radioisotope dating) as a selective means to date surface rocks on earth (which are considered to be the oldest substances on the earth's surface), which is then applied to the age of the earth. The following typical secular quote summarizes how this is accomplished:<sup>24</sup>

*"The age of the Earth is measured by studies of radioactive elements. Radioactive elements are unstable and 'parent' atoms decay into other 'daughter' elements at a steady rate. For example, through a series of steps, atoms of uranium decay into atoms of lead. By measuring the abundance of 'parent' and 'daughter' atoms in rock samples and knowing the decay rate, geologists can calculate the age of the rock. Using several different sets of parent and daughter elements, geologists have measured the age of a variety of rocks, including terrestrial and lunar rocks as well as meteorites, which originate primarily from asteroids. The results consistently indicate an age of about 4.56 billion years for the Earth."*

So, why should there be an active interest in radioactive dating when the basic premise of modern earth dating techniques with their companion of millions and/or billions of years appears to be a reliable and trustworthy scientific methodology? From the perspective of this discussion, the answer is much more than just using radioactive dating to date the time frame of the earth (and dinosaurs) as the perspective of time is also first and foremost a foundation upon which the Christian faith rests, which is the book of Genesis. Without Genesis, death has reigned on the earth for millions and/or billions of years before the Fall, there was no basis for sin, and therefore, no reason for the sacrificial death of Jesus Christ. Radioactive dating is the support upon which the

theory of *vast ages* stands and depends on. If it fails, then the theory of vast ages fails as a viable explanation for origins without God.

Ultimately, the allegation that radioactive dating proves that the earth is about 4.56 billions years old (and dinosaurs disappeared about 65 million years ago) is not science but rather a belief.<sup>25</sup> These beliefs are based on the secular Humanist Manifestos<sup>26,27,28</sup> and accompanying articles and books.<sup>29,30,31</sup> Without an absolute authority, secular humanism is simply the opinion of a few very privileged people. The absolute authority that they adopted and cling tightly to is science – at least the science according to their definition.<sup>32</sup>

Now, let's specifically turn our attention to the important facets of radioactive dating methods by starting with the fact that all radioactive dating methods depend on four fundamental assumptions. The following assumptions are not observable, repeatable or testable, and most notably, are secular scientific assumptions:<sup>33</sup>

- **Decay constants are constant throughout time:**

For many years, specific radioactive constants were assumed to be constant over long periods of time and based on uniformitarianism (see pages 8-9). This particular uniformitarianism assumption is common to all vast age earth variances. But, recent secular research<sup>34,35</sup> has indicated that radioactive decay rates can accelerate by as much as  $10^9$  over present decay rates under certain extreme conditions. This supports the data that decay is not constant over time which negates the secular uniformitarianism dependence on constant decay rates

- **The dated artifact is a closed system during the age of that system:**

For accuracy, current dating methods require a closed system. This means that no matter enters or leaves an artifact during the entire age of the system. This also means that the artifact to be dated and is alleged to be billions/millions of years old must have existed as a closed system for billions/millions of years. Given the amount of volcanic, chemical, and hydrothermal activity on and in the earth's crust, this seems to not only be a very bad assumption, but one that defies common sense. Therefore, can any artifact remain unaffected by its environment over an alleged billions and/or millions of years

- **The initial concentrations of radioactive material being used for dating an artifact are known:**

When dealing with artifacts and vast ages of measurements, the initial concentrations of parent and daughter elements (explained in the next paragraph) must obviously be known to achieve an accurate measurement of the elements. Originally, these initial concentrations were determined by educated guesses and then adjusted to fit the vast ages perception of evolutionary thought. Currently, some adjustments have been made although they still have unanswered problems. From a simple perspective, if an artifact is going to be dated and will potentially fall into the range of vast ages, how



is it possible to accurately know the initial concentration of parent and daughter elements that are millions and/or billions of years old

- **Enough decay has occurred to enable measurement of daughter elements to be measured:**

Lastly, there must be enough radioactive decay of the parent element to allow measuring of resulting daughter elements. This can be a dilemma for long half-lives which often results in biased assumptions. As an example, a popular radioactive dating method is uranium-lead as uranium-238 (parent element) spontaneously decays into lead-206 (daughter element). The rate that uranium-238 decays into lead-206 through its intermediate steps are known as its half-life. The half-life for uranium-238 decay into lead-206 is *thought* to be 4.5 billion years as the actual decay rate has obviously not been observed and/or tested for 4.5 billion years. After 1.13 billion years, only about 16% of the uranium-238 has decayed, and after 500 million years only 8% of that uranium-238 has decayed. Therefore, for an object that is thought to be 1 billion years old, it is necessary to measure daughter decay concentrations of 1 to 80 parts per million in the object of interest which is a formidable task even for modern technology. Not surprisingly, the measurement problem increases for time frames less than 1 billion years. There are also other radioisotope dating methods such as potassium-argon, rubidium-strontium, and lead-lead, but they all operate on the same basic principle with the same restrictions.

The preceding four assumptions highlight the current dilemma of the contradictory fields of self-styled “*settled science*” versus “*real science*.” Real science can be defined as a “*systematic methodology for investigating natural phenomena*.” It has nothing factual to say about anything outside our ability to observe and record results. Real science typically progresses from hypotheses, to theories, to physical laws, any of which can be falsified by contrary observational evidence. Therefore, the ideas of men should never be considered or taught as “*settled science*.”<sup>36</sup>

With the preceding thoughts in mind, let’s look at three popular dating methods that are currently utilized to produce the alleged dates that are commonly used to substantiate vast ages as applied to the age of the earth, artifacts and dinosaurs.

## **RADIOSOTOPE DATING**

Radioisotope (or radiometric) dating is normally limited to dating rocks which are considered the oldest objects on earth. There are three basic kinds of rocks found on earth:

- Metamorphic (granite; the result of pressure and heat)
- Igneous (lava; the result of molten magma)
- Sedimentary (sediments such as sandstone, limestone, shale, mud, etc.)

Rocks that can be dated with radioisotope methods are *metamorphic and igneous* rocks only and are dated by comparing the amount of unstable radioactive “*Parent*” elements and their “*Daughter*” elements. Parent elements are unstable radioactive elements that decay into daughter elements over a period of time. Again, there are also other radioisotope dating methods such as potassium-argon, rubidium-strontium, and lead-lead, but they all operate on the same basic principle and have the same previously mentioned four negative assumptions.

If the uranium-lead method is used to date a metamorphic or igneous rock, a measurement of the amount of the intermediate isotopes that are present in the rock, including the amount of uranium-238 and lead-206 are taken. This will purportedly yield the age of the rock from the ratio of the uranium-238 to lead-206 that is found in the rock. The fatal flaw to this supposition is that science cannot confirm that the decay rate has been constant over 4.5 billion years, the rock sample has never been contaminated over 4.5 billion years, and potentially most importantly, the *original* quantity of radioactive element (i.e., uranium 238) being measured cannot be known in an alleged 4.5 billion year old rock, it can only be assumed.<sup>37</sup>

At this point in our discussion, a legitimate question is; “*how accurate are radioisotope dating methods?*” Based on the current measurements of rocks of known ages, radioisotope-dating methods are extremely inaccurate! The following are a few examples:<sup>38,39,40</sup>

- The Kaupulehu Flow, Hualalai Volcano, Hawaii, is known to have erupted in 1800-1801. Radioisotope dating ranges from 1.32 to 1.76 million years old
- Lava flows from Mt. Kilauea, Hawaii, are known to have erupted in 1959 yet radioisotope dating gives dates between 1.7 to 15.3 million years old
- Lava flows at Mt. Ngauruhoe, New Zealand are known to have erupted in 1954, yet radioisotope dating methods have yielded dates up to 3.5 million years old
- Mt. Saint Helens, Washington, erupted in May 1980. Radioisotope dating of the lava flows yielded dates between 350,000 and 2.8 million years old
- The Mt. Etna volcano in Sicily erupted in 1972. Radioisotope dating of the lava flows have yielded dates between 210,000 to 490,000 years old

The previous examples give credibility to the impression that radioisotope dating does not work on rocks of known ages, but is assumed to work on rocks of unknown ages. In many cases, it is a fact that published dates are in reality, selected dates by secular science. Therefore, the published date by secular science for the age of the earth is an assumption based on an inaccurate methodology. These studies show large-scale errors for rocks known to be less than a century old. Similar results have been previously published for many other modern lavas which allegedly yielded exceedingly old ages.

Consider the following quote:

*“Dating methods may be further summarized by the simple statement that there are really no reliable long-time radiological clocks, and even the short-time radiocarbon clock is in serious need of repair”*

*Dr. Melvin Cook, Physical Chemistry, Yale*

Although radioisotope dating is used on rocks, it is not used on past living things, such as plants, animals, human remains and also dinosaurs. In this case, carbon-based radiometric dating (carbon-14) is used. Let’s look at this secular dating method and consider its basic parameters and noteworthy limitations.

### **RADIOMETRIC DATING (Carbon-14 or $^{14}\text{C}$ )**

Although carbon-14 is *not* used to date rocks, it is likely the more recognized of the two popular dating methods (radioisotope and carbon-14) and is based on the simple principle of the ratio between carbon-12 ( $^{12}\text{C}$ ) and carbon-14 ( $^{14}\text{C}$ ). Geologists and archaeologists use  $^{14}\text{C}$  to date trees, plants, and animal remains (including dinosaurs) as well as human artifacts made from wood and leather and so on. Carbon is found in different forms in the environment – mainly in the stable form of  $^{12}\text{C}$  and the unstable form of  $^{14}\text{C}$ . Over time,  $^{14}\text{C}$  decays radioactively and turns into nitrogen. A living organism takes in both  $^{12}\text{C}$  and  $^{14}\text{C}$  from the environment in the same relative proportion that they existed naturally. Once the organism dies, it stops replenishing its  $^{12}\text{C}$  and  $^{14}\text{C}$  carbon supply. However, the total  $^{14}\text{C}$  content in the organism slowly disappears so the ratio can be then measured.

Here is how it specifically works.  $^{12}\text{C}$  is a stable form of carbon and along with the gas nitrogen 14 ( $^{14}\text{N}$ ), they are both naturally found in our atmosphere. When  $^{14}\text{N}$  is bombarded by cosmic rays from outer space, the unstable radioactive isotope  $^{14}\text{C}$  is formed. Being a cyclical process,  $^{14}\text{C}$  is continually being formed and decaying back into  $^{14}\text{N}$ . Things that were once living tissue (plants, animals, dinosaurs and man) absorb  $^{12}\text{C}$  and  $^{14}\text{C}$  atoms while breathing and eating. Once an animal, plant, or human dies, they stop absorbing  $^{12}\text{C}$  and  $^{14}\text{C}$  atoms. The unstable  $^{14}\text{C}$  atoms then begin to revert back to  $^{14}\text{N}$  resulting in the ratio of  $^{12}\text{C}$  to  $^{14}\text{C}$  atoms changing over time.

Therefore, to use the  $^{14}\text{C}$  method to date a past living plant, animal, dinosaur or human, the amount of  $^{12}\text{C}$  is *assumed* to remain constant and is compared to the amount of the unstable  $^{14}\text{C}$  that is left.<sup>41</sup> However, the  $^{14}\text{C}$  dating method does have noteworthy limits:

- Many people believe that  $^{14}\text{C}$  dating methods can be used to justify billions and/or millions of years, but this is not the case because  $^{14}\text{C}$  decays so fast. The half-life of  $^{14}\text{C}$  is only 5,730 years, which means that every 5,730 years it has decayed to only half its initial amount. After two half-lives, a quarter is left; after three half-lives, only an eighth

is left; and after 10 half-lives, less than a thousandth is left, and so on. That is why the *practical* limit of  $^{14}\text{C}$  dating method is about 50,000 years within the secular scientific timescale and is considered as “*carbon dead*.”<sup>42</sup> However, very sensitive instruments (accelerator mass spectrometry) can still measure  $^{14}\text{C}$  that has decayed beyond ten half-lives. Therefore, if there is any measurable  $^{14}\text{C}$  in a sample containing carbon, by definition, the sample is less than 100,000 years old.<sup>43</sup>

- $^{14}\text{C}$  also depends on the same four assumptions that hamper radioactive dating methods (see pages 14-15). Because these assumptions are not observable, repeatable or testable, they are not provable. A brief summary of the four assumptions are:
  - (1) The decay rate of  $^{14}\text{C}$  has been constant
  - (2) Closed system. There has been no contamination of the  $^{12}\text{C}$  or  $^{14}\text{C}$
  - (3) The original quantity of  $^{12}\text{C}$  is assumed to be known
  - (4) Enough decay to be measured

The previous four assumptions should clearly illustrate that over an alleged thousands and thousands of years, it is impossible to verify a constant decay rate, assume no contamination, such as water leaching (that is why a global Flood creates a major problem for secular science), and know the original quantity of the stable isotope  $^{12}\text{C}$ . Remember that there is clear evidence of a worldwide catastrophic Flood as 75% of the earth’s crust is sedimentary! Consider the following quote:

*“No matter how useful it is, the radiocarbon method is still not capable of yielding accurate and reliable results. There are gross discrepancies, the chronology is uneven and relative, and the accepted dates are selected dates”*

*Anthropological Journal of Canada, “Radiocarbon, Ages in Error”*

A surprising outcome of  $^{14}\text{C}$  dating is the fact that  $^{14}\text{C}$  has been scientifically found to be a friend of biblical creation rather than a foe. To state this viewpoint another way, any carbon-containing materials that are truly older than 50,000 to 100,000 years should be *carbon dead* with  $^{14}\text{C}$  limits below current detection limits. This scientific fact challenges the vast ages assumptions of secular science for any materials with detectable amounts of  $^{14}\text{C}$ .<sup>44</sup> Recently, readily detectable amounts of  $^{14}\text{C}$  have been the rule rather than the exception. This has been true for samples from throughout the fossil-bearing parts of the geologic record from around the world with secular scientific alleged dates extending to hundreds of millions of years.<sup>45</sup> The detected  $^{14}\text{C}$  atoms simply should not exist in these “*ancient*” materials. The discovery of  $^{14}\text{C}$  in “*ancient*” samples is just as startling to the conventional radioactive (radioisotope) dating community.

The following examples of detectable  $^{14}\text{C}$  in ancient materials are taken from the book “*Thousands.... Not Billions,*” edited by Dr. Don DeYoung, and written by the scientists

who participated in the Radioisotopes and the Age of the Earth (RATE) project by submitting sample ancient materials to secular laboratories for examination:

- Ten coal samples were collected from major coalfields across the United States for comparative research studies. The coal was from the Pennsylvanian Period, dated by secular dating methods to be about 300 million years old. Results indicate that a residue of  $^{14}\text{C}$  atoms were detected in all ten samples and were found to average 0.25 percent of that in the atmosphere today
- Diamonds are presumed to be many millions and/or billions of years old. Twelve diamond samples from West and South Africa were analyzed for possible  $^{14}\text{C}$  content, and similar to the earlier results for coal, all twelve diamond samples had detectable  $^{14}\text{C}$  content. The average  $^{14}\text{C}$  content was 0.09 percent that of modern carbon, about one-third that found in coal
- The presence of  $^{14}\text{C}$  in “*very old ancient*” materials consisting of coal and diamonds is clearly in major conflict with the vast ages time scale alleged by secular dating methods and ideology. Additionally, this  $^{14}\text{C}$  data is firmly on the side of the biblical young-earth view of history

Of particular interest is the discovery of  $^{14}\text{C}$  and other medical surprises in dinosaur fossils allegedly dated to 68 millions years old. This dramatic discovery was detailed in the Part I notes from the June 30, 2023 program, but will be summarized for continuity purposes.

In 2005, a research group led by Dr. Mary Schweitzer, University of Montana, reported the discovery of fresh red blood cells, hemoglobin, soft fibrous tissue, intact bone cells, fragments of collagen (primary protein in bone),  $^{14}\text{C}$ , and complete soft blood vessels in the fossilized femur (leg bone) of an alleged 68 million year old T-Rex (Figure 4).<sup>46</sup> Remarkably, the tissue had retained its pliable and soft characteristics that allowed it to be stretched and then returning to its original shape. This discovery provides direct physical evidence that the T-Rex fossil was not millions of years old which stands in direct contradiction of contemporary dating systems. Interestingly, the research group led by Dr. Schweitzer was not the first to detect such tissue. For several decades, researchers have reported detecting amino acids in dinosaur fossils,<sup>47</sup> and microscopic observations of dinosaur cells and potentially even proteins.<sup>48</sup> In 2007, Dr. Schweitzer and her co-authors admitted that the “*present state of knowledge*” holds that there will be “*total degradation of recognizable organic materials in days or years.*”<sup>49</sup>

Additionally, the discovery of the presence of soft tissue, fresh blood cells and proteins not only dissolves the underpinnings of the evolutionary timescale, but also demonstrates there never was an “*age of dinosaurs,*” never an “*age before humans,*” and never an “*age of long evolutionary progression.*” There is only one earth history. This is not a history of life crawling up from the pre-biotic ocean and/or swamp through vast ages,



Figure 4. Fresh Red Blood Cells and Hemoglobin From a T-Rex Leg Bone Fossil

but a recent history; a history of God's created world; a history revealing His creative power. It is a history that serves as a testimony that He; and not eons of time, created all things.<sup>50</sup>

The exciting discovery, which is not the first for Dr. Schwitzer or other scientists, makes an obvious statement; *"It is inconceivable that such things could be preserved for millions of years. Evidence of hemoglobin, and the still-recognizable shapes of red blood cells, in ancient dinosaur bone is a powerful testimony against the whole idea of dinosaurs living millions of years ago. It speaks volumes for the Bible's account of a recent creation."*<sup>51</sup> So, if dinosaur bones cannot be millions of years old, how old are they? The simple answer is; *a few thousand years old, not millions of years old!*

## INDEX FOSSIL DATING

The last dating method we will briefly consider is index fossils, but let's start by expanding on the brief history overview from pages 8-11. During *"The Great Awakening,"* the dominant geology was the belief that the fossil bearing rock strata on earth had been



deposited by Noah's Flood in a short period of time. However, during the eighteenth and nineteenth century, a new belief was modernized by Sir Charles Lyell and others in the 1800's who supported evolution, infinite ages, and the assumption earth's rock strata had built-up over long periods of time. Lyell (and others) also developed the "Geologic Column" (Figure 3).<sup>52,53</sup> This column is assumed to represent a history of rocks and fossils that are currently found in the earth's crust. By looking at the left side of Figure 3, you can see there are three major Era's (Paleozoic, Mesozoic, and Cenozoic) that are divided into thirteen Periods (Precambrian up to Quaternary). The basic idea of the geologic column (which can be found in virtually every geology, biology, or evolution textbook) is to graphically display three viewpoints:

- The oldest rock layers should be at the bottom of the column
- The simplest forms of life should also be at the bottom of the column. Progressing upward, the life forms should become more complicated until you reach the Quaternary Period and the appearance of mammals and man
- Depicted life forms are assumed to have evolved over a time frame of at least 100 million years

Interestingly, all of the geological ages were developed before the advent of current dating methods. Therefore, the geologic column is an assumption that the evolution of simple to complex life forms should be graphically displayed in the earth's strata. Along with this assumption is the belief that the oldest rocks should be located at the bottom of the strata, and the newest rocks at the top of the strata. The core problem with the geologic column is that it does not exist anywhere on earth except in textbooks! As depicted in Figure 3, the Column should in reality be about 100 miles in thickness, but actual Columns average one mile in thickness. Additionally, only several of the thirteen Periods are normally found in any one location, there are numerous locations where Periods are totally absent, and there are abundant examples of strata occurring in the wrong evolutionary order (old rocks and fossils on top of recent rocks and fossils). Some examples of note are the Lewis Overthrust, the Appalachian region, areas of the Rockies, Swiss Alpine region, Scottish Highlands, mountains of India, and so on.<sup>54,55</sup>

Keep in mind that from the previous sections on dating methods,  $^{14}\text{C}$  is used to date past living things, and radioisotope is used to date igneous and metamorphic rocks. Also, remember there are three kinds of rocks – igneous, metamorphic, and sedimentary. As fossils are normally found in sedimentary rocks, the  $^{14}\text{C}$  and radioisotope methods do not apply. Most people are familiar with fossils, but most people are unfamiliar with how fossils are dated. Here is how the index fossil dating method works. Suppose you are digging in a rock strata and find a fossil of a trilobite (Figure 5). One of your initial considerations would be – "How old is this trilobite fossil?" By looking at Figure 3, notice



Figure 5. Trilobite Fossil

that trilobites are in the Cambrian Period. So, by looking at the time frames in the Period Column, you can see that your trilobite fossil and the rock strata that contained the fossil are about 100 million years old. Therefore, the index fossil dating method uses the long ages of evolution to determine the age of the fossils, and the age of rocks are then determined by the age of index fossils! With this simple example, it should be obvious this is an example of *"circular reasoning"* by using the fossil to date the rocks, and the rocks to date the fossil! Consider the following two quotes:

*"There is no certain order of the fossils"*

Dr. David Raup, Geologist, University of Chicago and The Field Museum of Natural History

*"The fossil record exhibits no clear vector of progress"*

Stephen Jay Gould, Paleontologist, Harvard

## CONCLUSION

During this discussion, we have summarized the fascinating subject of dinosaurs. However, the real question is *"what is the best explanation for your purpose in life?"* If

creation is true (and the evidence from science and Scripture indicate that it is), then each person should be concerned with their future destiny and specifically, where you will spend eternity? The Bible clearly says, *“all have sinned and come short of the Glory of God”* (Romans 3:23), and those without a personal acceptance of God will spend eternity in a lake of fire (Revelation 20:15).

However, God has provided an alternate choice, and that choice is a free gift that only needs to be accepted by you; *“For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life (John 3:16), and; “For whosoever shall call upon the name of the LORD shall be saved” (Romans 10:13).* This is God’s message to you, so have you accepted his free gift of eternal life?

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