

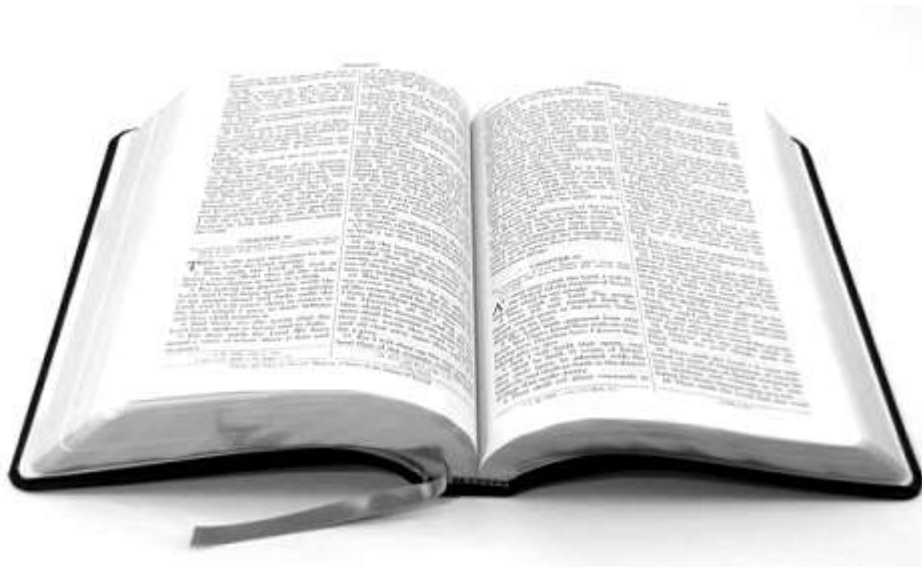
The Bible: Fact or Fable

- Does the Bible explain our origins?
- What about the Big Bang and Naturalism?
- Is the Bible literal history?
- A worldwide flood? An ark? Eight people?
- The Exodus? Laws and another ark?
- Sodom and Gomorrah- myth?
- Did the walls of Jericho come tumbling down?
- Were the famous Bible characters real?
- Virgin birth and resurrected Savior?

Harold A. Lerch, Sr., P.E.-Ret'd
Word to the World Ministries

The Bible:

Fact or Fable



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Author and Word to the World Ministries

Harold A. Lerch, Sr., is a graduate of the Pennsylvania State University, College of Engineering, and retired professional engineer. His career was in the field of construction administration and management for a major corporation. Prior, he was Special Projects Manager for the same corporation, specializing in food manufacturing and material handling.

The author founded Word to the World Ministries, www.word2world.com, an organization that publishes and distributes complimentary witnessing resources.

Harold and his wife, Jeanne, reside near Middleburg, Pa., USA.

Mission Statement

The author's overall concern is for the salvation of lost souls. God has provided The Way to all to all that will accept His grace and Jesus Christ, the Messiah and LORD. The author's fundamental missions are:

1. To proclaim that God created the universe, not time and chance;
2. God is Creator, He owns us. He alone has the right to give commandments and judge us.
3. God's original plan changed because of our sinful ways. God sent His Son, the Messiah, who has already come as the Redeemer of sins.
4. Jesus will return to conquer Satan and all our enemies.
5. We who accept Him as our Redeemer will abide with the Conqueror forever.

Dedication

I dedicate this book to Jeanne, my wife of the past half-century. Jeanne's gifts to me include Harold, Jr., Joanne, and eight grandchildren: Mariah, Rochele, Christian, Drew, Kylee, Alex, Shelly, and Gabriele. Blessings upon blessings! Jeanne is my best friend.

I wish to honor my parents, the late Mrs. Pearl Lerch and Ralph H. Lerch. Without my parents' prayers and direction, my soul might be lost.

Randy Lerch and wife Maria continue to inspire.

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Acknowledgments

O Give thanks unto the LORD; call upon his name: make known his deeds among the people. Sing unto him, sing psalms unto him: talk ye of all his wondrous works. (Psalms 105:1-2).

Jesus Christ, our LORD, Savior, and Creator.

Thank you, Mother, for teaching me the scriptures and in the ways of the LORD. I would be so proud if I could say that I measured up to parents!

My uncle, Edwin M. Lerch, has contributed scripture to prior books and instructed me simply, "Keep writing."

Thank you, Jeanne, for the moral support you gave your husband.

Mark Looy and Answers in Genesis.

FOREWORD

He has made everything beautiful in its time; also he has put eternity into man's mind. Ecclesiastes 3:11a RSV

Farewell to God, My Reasons for Rejecting the Christian Faith. This title on a book by a former evangelist was the second cause of two major effects on my life. The first was when I began to see how modern science, so bent on disproving God, primarily His literal, supernatural creation, is actually digging up the proof pointing toward God and Biblical creation. The exciting news is that Christianity is less of a “blind faith” than since the days our Savior walked the earth. Christianity is alive now more than ever.

However, the enemy is still Satan. He is a clever deceiver. Evolution is his greatest lie. Nice, innocent looking old ladies teach “molecules-to-man” evolution to our children, a religion without a god. Satan’s ruse is to cause us to question God. Look at the Scriptures that retell the account of first sin. Satan’s ploy essentially is to ask, “Did god really say that?” Let us not believe Satan: let us believe God.

My Christian life started normally. In fact, I was fortunate enough to be born with a “silver spoon” of devout parents. My parents were already Christians before I was born, and were founding members of an independent, fundamental church that opened its doors when I was one year old. Our beliefs and those of this church are that the Bible is the Word of God, that the Bible means what it says, and says what it means.”

As I grew older I encountered the secular world. I started hearing about concepts like evolution; Noah’s flood was local, not worldwide; dinosaurs existed long ages ago, outside of the time frame of the Bible, and; that maybe there was a prior creation that God destroyed before re-creating.

I did not believe any of those theories. I thought that if any one of them were true, the Bible would verify it. But who is really to know? No one was there. No one has proof. So I shrugged it off and thought that it really did not matter. I believed what I believed, they believed what they believed, and it had no effect on me- it did not matter. I did believe that God would reveal the Truth to us in Heaven, and that was enough to satisfy me. I came to find out later that it absolutely does matter! The larger and more joyous surprise was to find that God has revealed the Truth to us. The information is here on earth right in front of our noses.

Prior to “my discovery,” my Father and I enjoyed discussing problems concerning the theory of evolution. Neither of us had degrees in science, though I am a professional engineer. However, we both did have some common sense. We would ponder how an eye could evolve when there are so many complex parts that must function together. You need a lens, a cornea, a retina, an optic nerve, and so on. If one component is missing, the others are useless. So how would Mother Nature click her fingers and make all those components happen at once, in both members of a mating pair, so their offspring could have eyes? And how could virtually the same design appear in so many of the kinds of animals? The common sense conclusion is that nature is the work of a designer, not the product of time and chance.

These discussions went on for years. Then during one Sunday afternoon visit, Dad told me that there are Christian scientists who proclaim a large body of evidence pointing toward Biblical creation. This was exciting news to me, and it was news that fueled our Sunday chats.

A year or so later during another visit with Dad, he popped a tape into the VCR and played a lecture by one of the scientists that is a Christian. It turned out that Dad had a set of ten videos from the organization that this gentleman belongs to. I took them home and watched them all. The information was incredible. The scientific evidence presented fit a "special creation model," not an "evolution model."

The following year, Dad told me that one of the scientists on the videotapes, Dr. Gary Parker, would soon be speaking at his church. I went to hear Dr. Parker there, and one year later for five nights at a church near my home. He is a wonderful speaker and author. Importantly, he is a paleontologist that, in his own words says, "creation is a faith the facts fit, evolution is a faith the facts fail." Since that time, I have also attended a presentation by the executive director of this organization, Mr. Ken Ham. I have enjoyed many of their books and videos, and their magazine *Creation ex nihilo*. *Ex nihilo* is Latin for "out of nothing."

"My great discovery" came when I realized that what other Christians believe really does matter. I learned over the past few years that what I believed all my life was true; that everything there is or ever was had come about just as told in Genesis chapters 1 and 2. The evidence that is everywhere supports special Creation. Furthermore, I learned that our entire Christian foundation was laid in Genesis.

An article in *Creation* magazine made me understand this. The article was of a former well-known evangelist, Charles Templeton (*Creation* vol. 22 no. 3). Charles Templeton, with all his fire for God, and all his knowledge, eventually became convinced that science had proven evolution to be true. Therefore, the Bible was a lie, in his opinion. Ultimately, he wrote a book, the title and subtitle of which tell the story: *Farewell to God, My Reasons for Rejecting the Christian Faith*. The likeness of a sweet-looking senior citizen graced the cover. That picture has been haunting me ever since I first saw it.

Another astounding experience was a conversation with a theologian from a Christian college. I asked what their official position was on creation vs. evolution. His answer was that they believe that God is the Creator, and that He did it using evolution. I told him that I had good news; the facts better fit the concept of a creator. I sent him literature and a note with more good news for the students; they only need to learn 6000 years of events, not billions of years.

This is why I now say that what you believe does matter, and this applies to many more subjects than to our origins.

Harold A. Lerch, Sr. P.E.- Ret'd

Introduction

The author has been stirred by the Biblical creation story for decades. Apathy about the subject is an equal concern. Have you heard?

- Does the Bible explain our origins? What about the Big Bang and Naturalism?
- Is the Bible literal history? A worldwide flood? An ark? Eight people? The Exodus? Sodom and Gomorrah- myth? Did the walls of Jericho come tumbling down?
- Were the famous Bible characters real?
- Virgin birth and resurrected Savior?
- God loves us. Does what we believe really matter?
- Would God eternally condemn “good” people to an eternal punishment?
- Isn’t it enough just to believe something?
- Once you are saved, does it matter what you do or how you live?
- God has foreknowledge of everything that is going to happen. The pattern is set. There is no sense doing anything but living how you want to live.
- Should we care what others believe?
- Are the biblical positions on abortion, marriage, and divorce valid in modern days?

The author's enthusiasm has resulted in several books on the subject. His desire has been to work in conjunction with creationist ministries and supplement their missions by integrating the evangelical message of our need for Christ and the cross. This concern was the basis for his first book, *Did God Really Say That?* The following was the basis for that book, and others:

- For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God- Not of works, lest any man should boast. (Ephesians 2:8-9)
- But as many as received him, to them gave He power to become the children of God, even to them that believe on His name. (John 1:12)
- But wilt thou know, O vain man, that faith without works is dead? (James 2:20)

Today, the author is concerned by other attacks on the Bible such as:

- The stories in the Bible are allegory, not history.
- There could not have been a global flood.
- The escape from Egypt never happened.

This book attempts to provide answers to the righteous and hope for the lost.

PART I

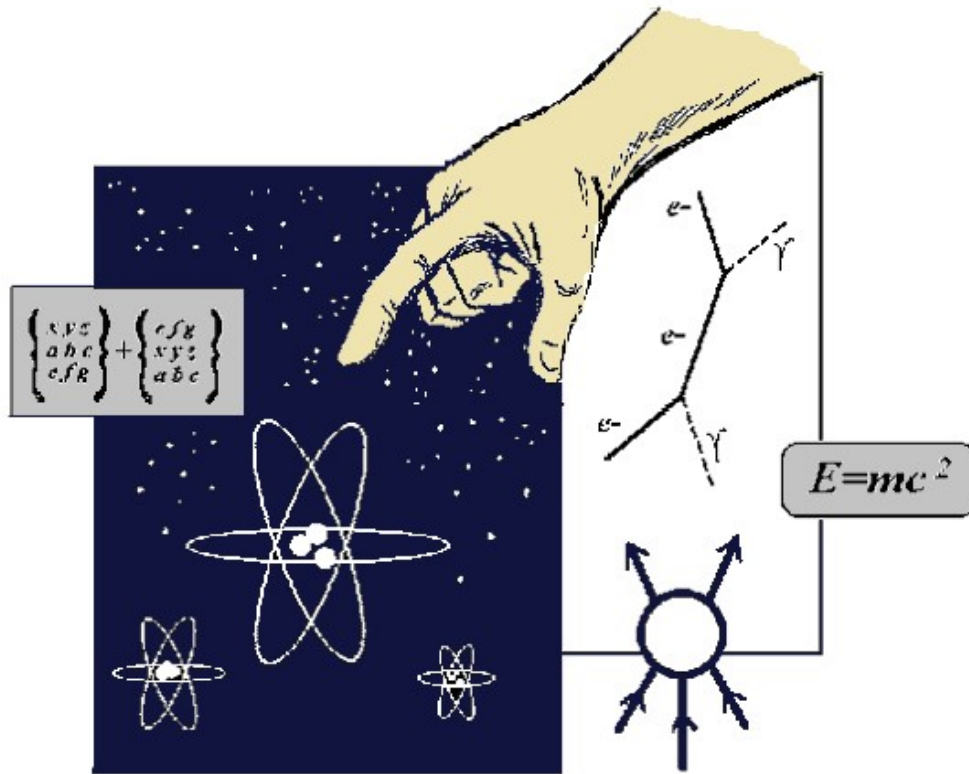
THE ORIGINS OF LIFE



But ask the beasts, and they will teach you; the birds of the air, and they will tell you; or the plants of the earth, and they will teach you; and the fish of the sea will declare to you. Who among all these does not know that the hand of the Lord has done this? In his hand is the life of every living thing and the breath of all mankind. Job 12:7-10 RSV.

Chapter One

Time, Energy, the Universe, and Matter



Television broadcasts on PBS, Discovery, Animal Planet, and Nat Geo, for example saturate the airwaves with evolutionary thought. To a lesser amount, opinions are espoused regarding aliens sewing the seeds of life on earth. Creationism (biblical) is relegated to some of the Religion channels. Clearly, we are dominated by the views that evolutionary *theory* and the Big Bang *Theory* are scientific fact. When that claim is made, it shows that indeed these “principles” are a “religion.”

THE BIG BANG THEORY

It is just a theory. Rather, a number of theories. The biblical “equivalent” of this is interesting: In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth (Genesis 1:1); in one day, God made space, time, and matter. Naturalists can say that it “just happened,” that from nothing came something. Creationists believe that an all-knowing, all-powerful being made everything from nothing: God. None of this can be observed or tested. Let us look at more tangible arguments.

First, all non-believing scientists do not subscribe to evolution. Yes, most PhD holders believe in evolution, but some believe that a designer started all this, although they cannot answer who that would be. Dr. Michael Behe of Lehigh University is one of the more famous scientists in

the camp refuting Darwinism. Most famous for the principle of “irreducible complexity,” Behe says, “I am interested in the evolution of complex biochemical systems. Many molecular systems in the cell require multiple components in order to function. I have dubbed such systems “irreducibly complex.” (Behe 1996, 2001) “Irreducibly complex systems appear to me to be very difficult to explain within a traditional, gradualistic Darwinian framework, because the function of the system only appears when the system is essentially complete.” More on this in chapter two.

Big Bang: Science must explain where the universe came from, but cannot. The only non-biblical solution is to say: there was a big glob of “stuff” that blew up and resulted in all of the galaxies, solar systems, stars, moons, planets, comets, etc. They have not figured where the “stuff” that the Big Bang started with came from or how it started.

Big Bang: Which is easier to believe: there always was a God or there always was matter? Is it easier to trust scientists than God?

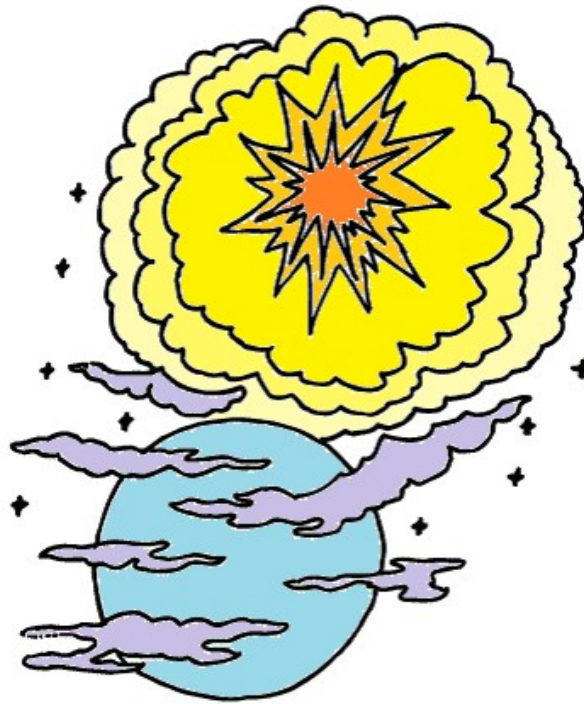
One problem with the Big Bang comes from the laws of physics, specifically the Law of Conservation of Angular Momentum. When a figure skater begins to spin in a circle, his or her angular speed increases as he or she tucks more tightly into a spin. Essentially, conservation of angular momentum means a relationship between energy and the distance from the center of the skater must be kept. In the same way, the central objects in solar systems should be spinning at tremendous speeds, but they are not.

Scientists claim they only know what 5% of matter in the universe is. That is not very much knowledge! I think that is why they talk about dark matter, to account for what they do not know. To quote Dr. Jake Hebert of the Institute for Creation Research, “How can they [scientists] sit there with a straight face and say they understand the processes that brought the universe into existence when they don’t know what the universe is made of?”

Genesis begins with a Big Bang, does it not? God made everything from nothing. Science agrees, for they cannot imagine a sure-fire way that everything came from nothing. Scientists have developed many theories for the Big Bang, but without proof, nor can they all agree.

Many believe the Bible to be myth or allegory. The words in the Bible do not seem that way. They read like literal history, unlike myths. In the creation account in Genesis Chapter 1, we read that God made different things on different days. They sound like literal days, such as “and the evening and the morning were the first day.” Otherwise, why would it say that?

Scientists like “Naturalistic” explanations. How did matter begin, how did life begin, how did the mountains form, and so forth, from a “Mother Nature made it happen basis?” That has led to evolution theory. The only way evolution could seem remotely possible is for millions or billions of years to pass while life forms gradually adapt and change. Out of necessity, long ages are included in evolutionary history.



The first verse of the Bible proclaims that God made time, space, and matter. In the first chapter of the first book, God makes everything. The account is not written as a fairy tale, no “once upon a time.” The story is told in the original language as taking place in six literal days. You will read that God made light before the sun, stars, and planets- interesting!

THE CREATION ACCOUNT FROM THE BIBLE

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. The earth was without form, and void; and darkness was on the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters. Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. And God saw the light, that it was good; and God divided the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness He called Night. So the evening and the morning were the first day.

Then God said, "Let there be a firmament in the midst of the waters, and let it divide the waters from the waters." Thus God made the firmament, and divided the waters, which were under the firmament from the waters, which were above the firmament; and it was so. And God called the firmament Heaven. So the evening and the morning were the second day.

Then God said, "Let the waters under the heavens be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear"; and it was so. And God called the dry land Earth, and the gathering together of the waters He called Seas. And God saw that it was good. Then God said, "Let the earth bring forth grass, the herb that yields seed, and the fruit tree that yields fruit according to its kind, whose seed is in itself, on the earth"; and it was so. And the earth brought forth grass, the herb that yields seed according to its kind, and the tree that yields fruit, whose seed is in itself according to its kind. And God saw that it was good. So the evening and the morning were the third day.

Then God said, "Let there be lights in the firmament of the heavens to divide the day from the night; and let them be for signs and seasons, and for days and years; "and let them be for lights in the firmament of the heavens to give light on the earth"; and it was so. Then God made two great lights: the greater light to rule the day, and the lesser light to rule the night. He made the stars also. God set them in the firmament of the heavens to give light on the earth, and to rule over the day and over the night, and to divide the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. So the evening and the morning were the fourth day.

Then God said, "Let the waters abound with an abundance of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the face of the firmament of the heavens." So God created great sea creatures and every living thing that moves, with which the waters abounded, according to their kind, and every winged bird according to its kind. And God saw that it was good. And God blessed them, saying, "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth." So the evening and the morning were the fifth day.

Then God said, "Let the earth bring forth the living creature according to its kind: cattle and creeping thing and beast of the earth, each according to its kind"; and it was so. And God made the beast of the earth according to its kind, cattle according to its kind, and everything that creeps on the earth according to its kind. And God saw that it was good. Then God said, "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth." So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. Then God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth." And God said, "See, I have given you every herb that yields seed which is on the face of all the earth, and every tree whose fruit yields seed; to you it shall be for food. Also, to every beast of the earth, to every bird of the air, and to everything that creeps on the earth, in which there is life, I have given every green herb for food"; and it was so. Then God saw everything that He had made, and indeed it was very good. So the evening and the morning were the sixth day. (Genesis 1:1-31 NKJ)

Thus the heavens and the earth, and all the host of them, were finished. And on the seventh day God ended His work which He had done, and He rested on the seventh day from all His work which He had done. Then God blessed the seventh day and sanctified it, because in it He rested from all His work which God had created and made. This is the history of the heavens and the earth when they were created, in the day that the Lord God made the earth and the heavens before any plant of the field was in the earth and before any herb of the field had grown. For the Lord God had not caused it to rain on the earth, and there was no man to till the ground; but a mist went up from the earth and watered the whole face of the ground.

And the Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living being. The Lord God planted a garden eastward in Eden, and there He put the man whom He had formed. And out of the ground the Lord God made every tree grow that is pleasant to the sight and good for food. The tree of life was also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. Then the Lord God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to tend and keep it. And the Lord God commanded the man, saying, "Of every tree of the garden you may freely eat; "but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die."

And the Lord God said, "It is not good that man should be alone; I will make him a helper comparable to him." Out of the ground the Lord God formed every beast of the field and every bird of the air, and brought them to Adam to see what he would call them. And whatever Adam called each living creature, that was its name. So Adam gave names to all cattle, to the birds of the air, and to every beast of the field. But for Adam there was not found a helper comparable to him. And the Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall on Adam, and he slept; and He took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh in its place. Then the rib which the Lord God had taken from man He made into a woman, and He brought her to the man. And Adam said: "This is now bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man." Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and they shall become one flesh. (Genesis 2:1-9, 15-24)

SUMMARY: GOD'S BIG BANG

- Day 1. Created the heavens, earth, and light. (And time!)
- Day 2. Divided the waters, firmament above, water (liquid) below.
- Day 3. Divided the dry land from the seas. Created plant life.
- Day 4. Created the sun, moon, and stars.

Day 5. Created sea life and birds.

Day 6. Created land animals including dinosaurs. Created man to be fruitful, fill the earth, and subdue it.

Day 7. After the sixth day, God saw that His creation was very good. He rested on the seventh day from his work and sanctified it.

You, even you, art Lord alone; you hast made heaven, the heaven of heavens, with all their host, the earth, and all things that are therein, the seas, and all that is therein, and you preserves them all; and the host of heaven worships you. (Nehemiah 9:6).

SCRIPTURE SUPPORTING BIBLICAL CREATION

THE EARTH IS HANGING IN SPACE. He stretched out the north over the empty place, and hanged the earth upon nothing. (Job 26:7).

The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament shows his handiwork. Day unto day utters speech, and night unto night shows knowledge. There is no speech nor language, where their voice is not heard. Their line is gone out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world. In them has he set a tabernacle for the sun. (Psalms 19:1-4).

By the word of the Lord were the heavens made; and all the host of them by the breath of his mouth. He gathered the waters of the sea together as an heap: he laid up the depth in storehouses. Let all the earth fear the Lord: let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of him. For he spoke, and it was done; he commanded, and it stood fast. Psalms 33:6-9).

He has made everything beautiful in its time; also he has put eternity into man's mind. (Ecclesiastes 3:11a RSV)

Lord of hosts, God of Israel, that dwells between the Cherubim, you art the God, even you alone, of all the kingdoms of the earth: you hast made heaven and earth. (Isaiah 37:16).

THE BIBLE SAYS THE WORLD IS ROUND. It is he that sits upon the circle of the earth, and the inhabitants thereof are as grasshoppers; that stretches out the heavens as a curtain, and spreads them out as a tent to dwell in: (Isaiah 40:22).

I have made the earth, and created man upon it: I, even my hands, have stretched out the heavens, and all their host have I commanded. (Isaiah 45:12).

Ah Lord God! behold, you hast made the heaven and the earth by your great power and stretched out arm, and there is nothing too hard for you: Jeremiah 32:17).

And has made of one blood all nations of men to dwell on all the face of the earth (Acts 17:26)

You art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honor and power: for you hast created all things, and for your pleasure they are and were created. (Revelation 4:11.)

To this point in the Bible, God created a perfect universe ex nihilo (out of nothing). Man sinned. God tossed Adam and Eve out of Eden. Man continued to sin, so God destroyed everything that breathed, except for what He put on an ark. After that, He had to destroy two wicked cities with a rain of fire. Next and last to that point, God had to confound language to get us to slow down our wicked, and now scheming ways. Would we learn?

Chapter Two

The Origin of Man

And the Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul. (Genesis 2:7)

ONLY GOD CAN GIVE "THE BREATH OF LIFE"

I once had the experience of assisting Ken Ham, executive director of Answers in Genesis Ministries, with a series of programs at a Bible college, seminary, and high school. I was familiar with biblical creation science beforehand. After hearing most of the presentations, I had the occasion to speak with Ken during a rare break. I shared with him that four indistinct words from the biblical creation account convince me of the truth of special creation: "the breath of life."

The biblical creation sequence might at first seem illogical to us: light was created before the sun; reptiles were created the same day as mammals and man (evolutionists believe that dinosaurs lived earlier than man), and; birds created before dinosaurs (evolutionists believe birds evolved from dinosaurs). How does a Bible-believing Christian explain this? If the Bible is true and infallible, it should be easy to prove these "inconsistencies." So, what evidence do we have, one way or the other? Let us start with the "breath of life."

The moment after a living being dies, the body still contains every essential DNA strand, molecule, organ, and body fluid it possessed while alive moments before. Why did it die? What is the fundamental essence missing that prevent the organized materials from living? Ken Ham is a scientist. He agrees that this "breath of life" is outside of our human comprehension and perception. This reason alone would allow me to accept intelligent design by a supreme being (God), but there are many other reasons.

EARLY MAN: NEANDERTHAL VIDEO

Discovery aired a program entitled *The Last Neanderthal* about our supposed brutish ancestor. The production of this program was marvelous, but the content is flawed in interpretation. Someone who believes we evolved is forced to back his findings into an evolutionary timeframe of long ages. This also clouds the interpretation of the abilities of the ancient beings. That is, if a Neanderthal lived 250,000 years ago, he had to be very primitive to be connected with beliefs of onward and upward evolution. The Bible indicates the contrary. Our oldest ancestors of 6000 years ago built cities, musical instruments, and items of bronze, an alloy:

And Cain knew his wife; and she conceived, and bore Enoch: and he built a city...(Genesis 4:17)

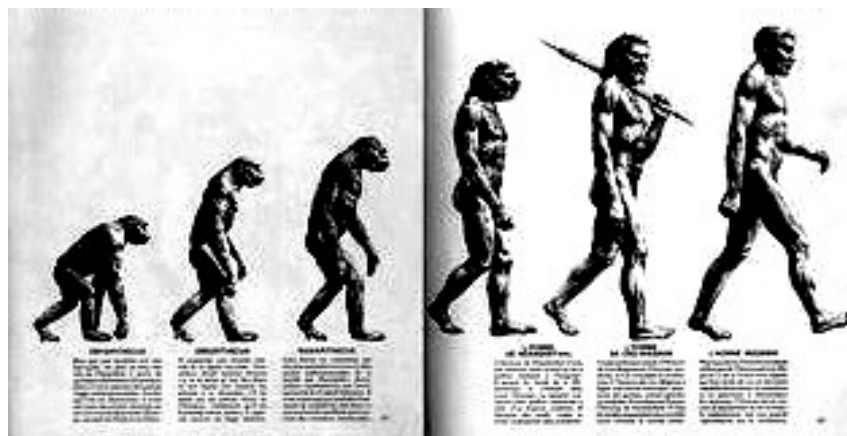
And (Adah's) brother's name was Jubal: he was the father of all such as handle the harp and pipe. And (his brother) Tubalcain, an instructor of every craftsman

in bronze and iron...(Genesis 4:21-22)

Some of the points of *The Last Neanderthal* and the creationist point or counterpoint are:

- *Neanderthals perhaps had complex language (The Last Neanderthal).* There are only God's People, not Neanderthals, Cro Magnons, Homo Africanus, etc. They all spoke from the day of the creation of Adam (author).
- *Neanderthals lived in Europe and the Middle East hundreds of thousands of years ago.* We agree with the location for early man. The long ages agree only with evolutionary theory, and are clearly contradicted by the Bible.
- *Lived in small groups. Cared for one another. Hunters/gatherers. Crude tools. Buried their dead.* Of course. First, we started from 2 people. We were families from the day Adam and Eve had their first son. God gave us every herb for meat. We did not eat meat until after the flood. Winchester would not begin mass-producing rifles until thousands of years later.
- *Disappeared suddenly.* Several possibilities. Antediluvians were buried in the flood. Others scattered quickly after the confusion at Babel. Others picked up and moved from time to time.
- *Neanderthals had large bones, large brains, were muscular.* Compare Eskimos to Native Americans to Europeans to Asians. We are all one "race" but we can be built differently. Sit on a bench at a mall sometime and watch the shoppers walk by. Look at their skull shapes. You see all different shapes; maybe some even a bit like a "typical Neanderthal."
- *A new "predecessor," Cro Magnon, was found in France. His skull was different than Neanderthal, he was taller, lighter boned, ate a better diet, made jewelry.* I am fairly average-everything. There are thousands of a breed called "professional athlete" that are taller than me, weigh more, have a better diet, and have more jewelry. We cohabitate in the USA. The video says Neanderthal and Cro Magnon might have cohabitated in the Middle East.
- *A second group came "out-of-Africa" and either 1. displaced all others including Neanderthal, or 2. Mixed and merged with the others.* Perhaps Noah's family re-populating the earth.

"Zallinger's March of Progress" is a drawing in nearly all textbooks that shows how "monkeys turned into man."



The problem with this illustration is that all of the representative characters are either monkeys or people. There are no transitional representatives. Creationists are not the only scientists who see the fallacy of this thinking. From secular magazine *American Scientist*, “Thinking about prehistoric human behavioral variability in terms of various adaptive strategies offers an attractive way to explain these differences. But first, we need to discard an incorrect and outdated idea about human evolution, the belief that prehistoric *Homo sapiens* can be divided into ‘archaic’ and ‘modern’ humans.”

Keep in mind that scientists include competitive people who would like to make the “big discovery.” Unfortunately, that has led to some fraud and poor science. Some of the examples are Piltdown Man and Nebraska Man.

Piltdown Man was a hoax in which bone fragments were presented as the fossilized remains of an unknown early human. In 1912, an archaeologist claimed that he had discovered the “missing link” between ape and man. After finding a piece of a human-like skull in gravel beds near Piltdown, England, other bones were found and connected to the same individual. A reconstructed skull was claimed to belong to a human ancestor from 500,000 years ago. The fraud was exposed in 1953 as a forgery, 41 years after its alleged discovery.

Nebraska Man was another supposed “human ancestor.” Nebraska man was entirely imagined after the discovery of a pig tooth.

The most famous “early human” discovery is Lucy, which endures as a supposed human ancestor from 3.2 million years ago. Donald Johanson and others found her in 1974 in Ethiopia. The name of her species was given to be *Australopithecus afarensis*.

The image at the right illustrates the bones that were actually found. There are no complete portions of the human body. The conclusions drawn have to be 99% imagination. Some of the bones in this image were found as very small pieces, painstakingly glued together. This, of course, leaves more room for error.

Lucy's discoverers believe that she walked upright. Some scientists say that her wrists and neck indicate she would have walked on all fours.

Lucy was dated by argon-argon technology of the volcanic ash in which she was buried. It is believed that she was a mature but young adult when she died, about 12 years old. In 2016 researchers at the University of Texas at Austin suggested that Lucy died after falling from a tall tree. Could Lucy be a Monkey?



Dr. Dan Biddle, president of Genesis Apologetics, has useful information on our supposed early human and pre-human ancestors. Geneticist Dr. Georgia Perdum of Answers in Genesis calls to our attention the myth that chimpanzees and humans have nearly the same DNA. The high percentage is determined only by the percentage of genes that line up between the two, and only in a

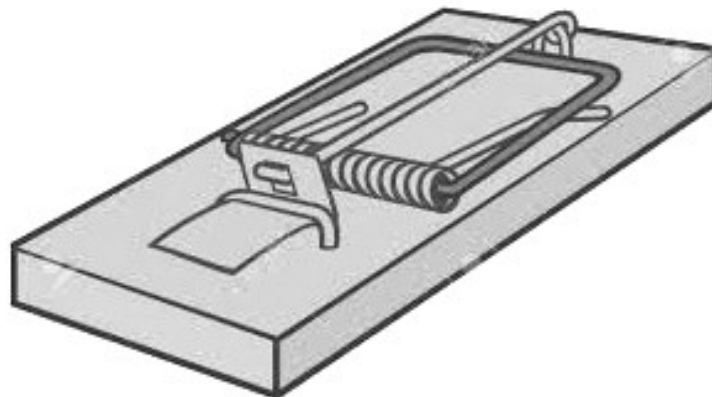
given portion of the genome. (The genome is the complete set of genes or genetic material present in a cell or organism.) When comparing the entire human and chimpanzee genomes, there is only about a 20% match! Scientists often distort facts. You need to ask them, “Why?” This misleading tidbit appears in many school textbooks.

CREATIONIST COUNTERPOINTS

Creation is a faith the facts fit. You can believe that the Bible is God’s infallible word. It contains truth and it is truth. The Bible is not fairy tales or just stories to channel our morals. If you are not a Christian, you might not be aware of the very best news from the Bible; that is, Salvation and eternal life in Heaven with God according to His promises:

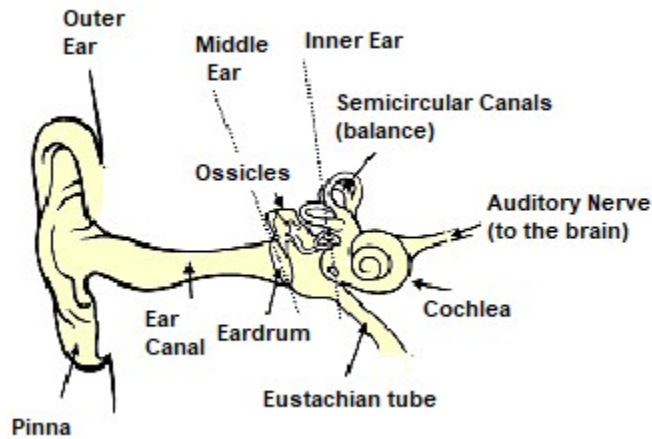
Dr. Michael Behe of Lehigh University is one of the more famous scientists in the camp of evolution doubters. He studies cells and observes that many different cell components must be in place for the cell to work- to be viable as a living cell. He calls his theory “Irreducible Complexity.” That is, that all the parts have to be there for it to work. He concludes that then it must have been designed by an intelligent being. (Some call that intelligent being “space aliens,” some call Him God.)

Dr Behe uses the simple mousetrap as an example.



There are only six or so parts to a mousetrap, depending on the manufacturer. The mousetrap will not work if any part is missing. What this means is that, if a mousetrap was a living thing and evolved, it would have needed to evolve all the parts at once to exist and reproduce. It could not first be a piece of wood, reproduce for eons before evolving a spring, and so forth. It would not work. Imagine applying the same concept to a human ear.

Like a mousetrap, the ear could not and would not work unless all parts are present. Naturalism cannot explain how such a living structure could evolve in bits and pieces. This logic can apply to any body part. Naturalists “rescue device” for this question is, “Given enough time”... “Enough time” simply will not make it work.



Points to ponder:

- ✓ Do evolutionary scientists have an agenda?
- ✓ Do the known facts fit with the Bible?
- ✓ Does it seem likely that there is a Creator?
- ✓ Can evolution explain the genetic code of all life?
- ✓ Where are the missing “transitional” fossils?
- ✓ Why is evolution, a theory, taught as if it is the same as operational science?

In addition to Dr. Michael Behe, other evolutionary scientists have questions. Karl Popper, famous philosopher of science, said “Darwinism is not a testable scientific theory, but a meta-physical [religious] research program ...” Michael Ruse, evolutionist science philosopher admitted, “Evolution is a religion. This was true of evolution in the beginning, and it is true of evolution still today.” If “you can’t teach religion in science classes”, why is evolution taught?

How does a woodpecker do what it does?” Woodpeckers need a hard beak and shock-absorbing skull. They need a long, sticky tongue plus a sheath that wraps around the skull so they can put their tongues away when not in use. Woodpeckers need feet that will climb trees. To protect their eyes, woodpeckers need the reflex to blink their eyes shut as they strike the tree. Woodpeckers, like everything else, appear to have been designed. A caring Creator sounds more likely. They could not evolve all of these features simultaneously.

All dogs came from the same original dog, the wolf. Both evolutionists and creationists believe this. Evolutionists call it “microevolution,” that is small “evolutionary” changes. Microevolution refers to varieties within a given type. Change happens within a group, but the descendant is clearly of the same type as the ancestor. This might better be called variation, or adaptation. Such changes might be accomplished by “natural selection,” in which a trait within the present variety is selected as the best for a given set of conditions, or accomplished by “artificial selection,” such as when dog breeders produce a new breed of dog.

The Bible says that every animal reproduced after its “kind.” A horse is a kind. A dog is a kind. Cats make baby cats. Deer make baby deer. The Bible does not say that some ancient ancestor reproduced into both cats and dogs.

Evolutionary theory requires all life to come from a single ancestor. If that happened, the fossil record should be full of fossils changing from one thing to another. That simply is not what is found.

Although called “evolution” by some, it is simply the variety within “kind” as used in the biblical creation account.

Macroevolution refers to major changes over time, the origin of new types of organisms from previously existing, but different, ancestral types. Examples of this would be fish descending from an invertebrate animal, or whales descending from a land mammal. The evolutionary concept demands these bizarre changes. Scientists find no evidence of this in the environment, although that is their dream.

Cats are a bit different. Secular scientists believe that all small cats come from an ancient breed in Southeast Asia. (“Secular” indicates attitudes, activities, or other things that have no religious or spiritual basis.) Creationists have no problem agreeing, except that most would probably include the big cats with the small cats as having a common ancestor, created by God.

Another point from scripture: did you know that the Bible said the world was round, thousands of years before Christopher Columbus?

It is he that sits upon the circle of the earth, and the inhabitants thereof are as grasshoppers; that stretches out the heavens as a curtain, and spreads them out as a tent to dwell in: (Isaiah 40:22).

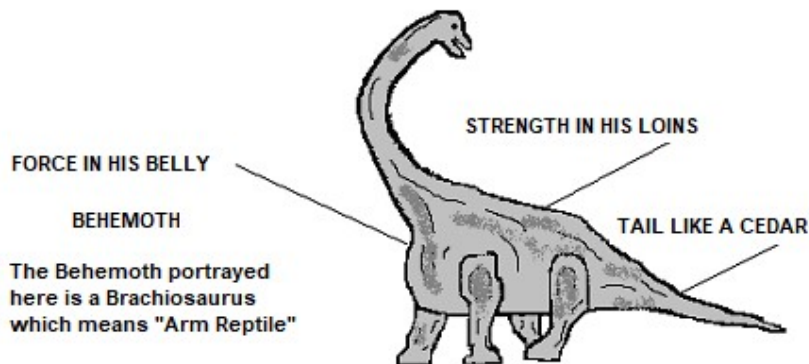
He stretched out the north over the empty place, and hanged the earth upon nothing. (Job 26:7).

Chapter Three

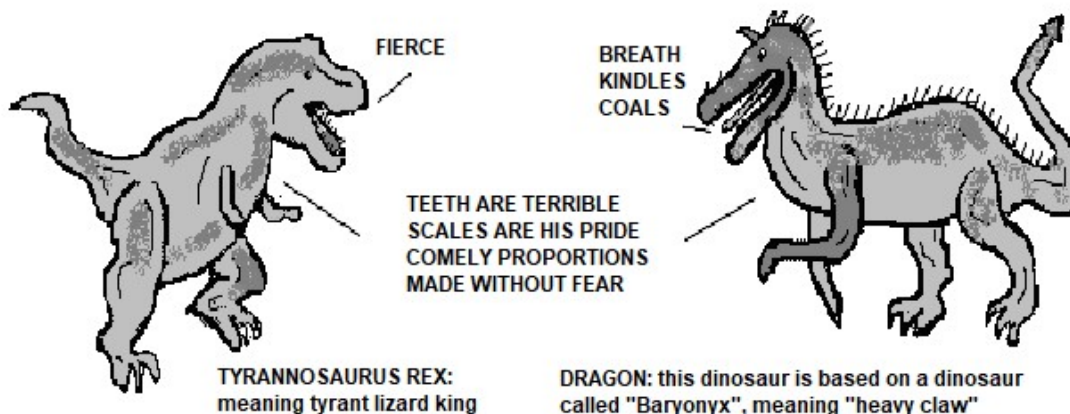
Dinosaurs, Dragons, and the Bible

There were probably dinosaurs on the ark. That would be the only way to explain the existence in Job's day of two creatures that sound like dinosaurs. Remember, this subchapter is to show Jews and Christians that believe the Bible just how simple and believable creation is. Do these sound like dinosaurs to you?

One of the sauropods? See *The Great Dinosaur Mystery* by Ken Ham.¹ "Lo, now, (Behemoth's) strength is in his loins, and his force is in the muscles of his belly. He moves his tail like a cedar. His bones are like bars of iron. He is the chief of the ways of God. Behold he drinks up a river, and hastens not. (Job 40:15-19, 23).



Perhaps T. Rex? "Canst you draw out Leviathan with a hook? Canst you fill his skin with barbed irons, or his head with fish spears? None is so fierce that dares stir him up; I will not conceal his parts, nor his power, nor his comely proportion. His teeth are terrible round about. His scales are his pride. By his sneezing a light does shine. Out of his mouth go burning lamps, and sparks of fire leap out. Out of his nostrils goes smoke. His breath kindles coals, and a flame goes out of his mouth. When he raises up himself, the mighty are afraid. Upon earth there is not his like, who is made without fear. (Job 41: 1, 7, 10, 12, 14-15, 18-21, 25, 33).



¹ Ham, Ken, *The Great Dinosaur Mystery*, Green Forest, Arkansas, Master Books, 1998.

WALKING WITH DINOSAURS (TV MOVIE)

This video also was very well done in terms of production. My grandsons loved it. The dinosaurs were so realistic and colorful. The production was put in terms of a narrative that required a story and some assumptions. What they came up with was amazing. My comments are as follows:

- *An asteroid 25 million years ago ended the dinosaur age including colossal sea monsters and flying reptiles (Walking with Dinosaurs).* Naturalists have not been able to determine why the dinosaurs are all gone. They look to a catastrophic answer, and this is their leading current theory. There are many extinct animals. After the Noahic Flood, the animals that disembarked on the dry ground were on a new earth. Many creatures were in disfavor by the new climactic conditions (author).
- *Hundreds of Coelophysis were found drowned from a flash flood or were stuck in a mud trap at Ghost Ranch in New Mexico.* How about a Biblical flood?
- *Since dinosaurs are the ancestors of fish, amphibians, and reptiles, and the descendents of dinosaurs, the birds, all use color and see color, it is a logical conclusion that dinosaurs could see in color and made use of color.* Talk about a theory inside a theory inside a theory! A PhD stated this dogmatically, which is presumptuous when evolution is only a theory. Another scientist admitted, “all they have are bones and stones, and then they have to speculate.”
- *Diplodocus makes seasonal migrations. A mile-long colony of Iguanadons is shown migrating north.* Another scientist says he found many Iguanadon tracks in one location. He thinks they were migrating because all the tracks went in one direction. For a proper study or speculation, hundreds or thousands of such sets of tracks would have to be found to make a reasonable assumption like that. If you had only ever watched one pitch of a baseball game, you could say, “Yeah, I saw baseball. One guy throws the ball and one guy with a wooden stick watches a guy behind him catch it.” So, like one pitch not telling the whole story of baseball, one set of tracks does not necessarily point to migration.
- *After 160 million years the reign of dinosaurs is about to end. In the Gulf of Mexico, an asteroid 2 miles in diameter plunges to earth. Now comes a tidal wave of smoke and dust that will darken the skies for years to come. In its wake, a hail of molten rocks and ash, followed by a catastrophic change in climate. (Fade to black).* Why did something that bad only kill the dinosaurs? Why not just the big ones? Why the sea creatures, too? Why not everything? Maybe there was a worldwide flood. No, scientists could never buy a worldwide flood. It must be a big asteroid! Wait, does the Bible say anything about an asteroid? If so, something else is needed.

WHY WOULD GOD MAKE DINOSAURS?

We read in the Bible that God made everything and called it “good.” Then why would He make something awful like dinosaurs? We imagine T. Rex chasing “prehistoric man” back to his cave and eating him. What is good about that?

If we look at all of the biblical facts and use good judgment to fill in some areas not explained in the Bible, we can reach a different conclusion about what God made, why He made it, and why there would be big dinosaurs to eat us.

Remember that God's creation was without sin in the beginning. God called it "good." There was no death at that time, so it was not possible for any living animal to eat another animal. God made "herbs grasses, and fruits" for man and animals to eat.

And the Lord God planted a garden eastward in Eden; and there he put the man whom he had formed. And out of the ground made the Lord God to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight, and good for food; the tree of life also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of knowledge of good and evil. And the Lord God took the man, and put him into the Garden of Eden to dress it and to keep it. And the Lord God commanded the man, saying, Of every tree of the garden you may freely eat: (But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, you shall not eat of it: for in the day that you eat thereof you shall surely die.) (Genesis 2:8-9, 15-17)

God did not command man to eat meat (and the animals) until after the great flood:

So God blessed Noah and his sons, and said to them: "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth. And the fear of you and the dread of you shall be on every beast of the earth, on every bird of the air, on all that moves on the earth, and on all the fish of the sea. They are given into your hand. Every moving thing that lives shall be food for you. I have given you all things, even as the green herbs. But you shall not eat flesh with its life, that is, its blood." (Genesis 9:1-4 NKJ)

If we return to the creation before First Sin, we have an earth populated with lush, growing things. The animals ate these things. The need would exist, and God would provide, animals of all kinds and all sizes to biologically "prune" His Garden. We cannot know if there were any extinctions prior to the flood. Then, where did the dinosaurs go?

We can assume that the post-flood world was vastly different than the original creation. Nature's need for "care taking" by the animals would be different, as well. Perhaps much extinction occurred after the flood. (We certainly know that there was much extinction, including scores of "mega-fauna," after the flood.) In a later chapter we will review another big change: that is, when the earth separated from one large continent into many smaller ones.

Pangea² was a "super continent" that assembled from earlier continents. It existed largely in the southern hemisphere and was surrounded by a "super ocean."

The separation of the continents would have greatly affected animal and people migration after the event.

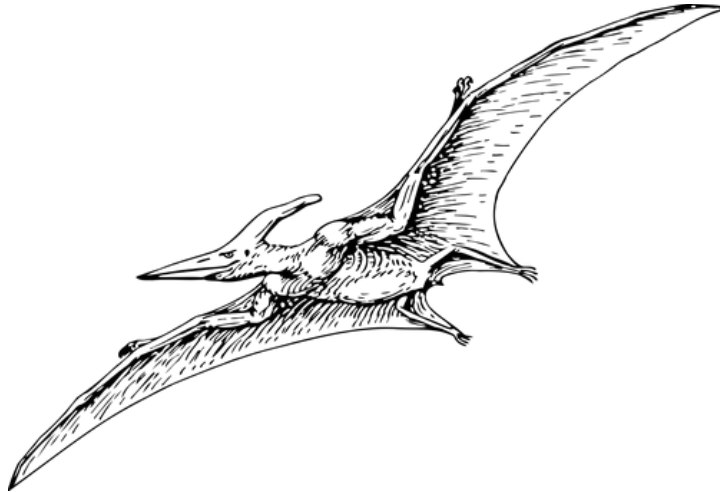
So, there was cause to create dinosaurs, and end to their need, and we certainly know they existed. Dinosaurs debarking from Noah's Ark would certainly answer many questions about sto-

² Oxford Dictionary

ries and relic memories of these big creatures, as well as dragon myths, which might not be myth at all.

DRAGONS

We have plenty of stories about gallant knights rescuing damsels from the dragon's lair. What is a dragon? All dinosaurs are dragons, but not all dragons are dinosaurs. The flying reptiles are also dragons, but the flying reptiles are not dinosaurs. Dinosaurs are land reptiles that walked with their legs beneath them. Pterosaurs are essentially flying reptiles.



One might be forgiven for calling this "monster" a flying dragon

The word "dragon" does appear occasionally in scripture, sometimes as a representative of Satan, and sometimes as a formidable animal with no detail given. The bottom line is that some Bible passages could represent dinosaurs and dragons, and that they might have existed after the flood.

Chapter Four

Naturalism/Evolution and Creationism



The Western World once accepted that biblical history was inerrant, including the Creation. The Bible has come under fire in recent centuries, founded in the acceptance of “modern science.” Many consider the old beliefs to be those of “quaint lunatics.” The pendulum has swung far to the left based on recent interpretations by scientists; but, it is now on its way back to center, and perhaps past center, due to current archaeological and scientific findings.

NATURALISM AND EVOLUTION

Many if not nearly all modern scientists call themselves “Naturalists,” a philosophical viewpoint according to which everything arises from natural properties and causes, and supernatural or spiritual explanations are excluded or discounted. (Note: By definition, naturalism is a belief system, a religion. Leading scientists become PhD’s, or Doctors of Philosophy.) The Creation-Evolution disagreement is really the conflict between two religions.

Science is defined as the intellectual and practical activity encompassing the systematic study of the structure and behavior of the physical and natural world through observation and experiment. The observations and experiments must be repeatable. Evolution is a theory. It is the philosophical viewpoint of persons, fallible human beings, who do not believe in God. Also, it is “accepted” by those who are “bullied” by a majority who would make them feel like they were out of touch with reality.

EVOLUTION VERSUS CREATIONISM

FOSSILS

Naturalists dig up fossilized bones all over the place and then develop stories and timelines based on their views. Others see the fossil record just screaming “God.” Why? A worldwide flood that killed almost all life on earth would leave billions of dead things buried in rock layers laid down by water all over the earth. That is exactly what we see. Also, a worldwide flood would deposit marine fossils on top of mountains. That, too, is what exists. Naturalists believe that animals die; are gradually covered by earth, and eventually fossilize. Try this experiment: find a dead animal, let it lay in your back yard, and see if it remains there long enough to fossilize.

DNA

The DNA “program” that all life possesses can only be described as design. Here is an opinion from a naturalist:

Dr. Stephen C. Meyer directs the Center for Science and Culture at Discovery Institute, a non-partisan public think tank with offices in Seattle, Washington and Arlington, Virginia. Meyer has devoted over two decades of his career to the curious case he calls “the DNA Enigma.” His 2009 book, *Signature in the Cell, DNA and the Evidence for Intelligent Design*, released in June, 2009, chronicles his personal and professional investigation into the cause responsible for the origin of biological information in the cell.

While working as an exploration geophysicist in 1985, Meyer attended a conference in Dallas addressing the origin of the universe, the origin of life and the nature of human consciousness.

“It was an arresting discussion of what scientists knew they didn’t know,” says Meyer. “I was surprised to learn—contrary to what I had read in many textbooks—that the leading scientific experts on the origin of life had no satisfactory explanation for how life had first arisen. These experts, many of whom were present that weekend in Dallas, openly acknowledged that they did not have an adequate theory of what they called ‘chemical evolution,’ that is, a theory of how the first living cell arose from simpler chemicals in the primordial ocean. And from their discussions it was clear that DNA—with its mysterious arrangements of chemical characters—was a key reason for this impasse.”

Web: <http://www.vision.org/visionmedia/reviews/intelligent-design-signature-in-the-cell/17451.aspx>

CARBON 14

Creationists and Young-Earth scientists often refer to C14 radiocarbon dating as a “faulty dating method.” Carbon 14 does decay at a given rate. But using this decay rate to determine the age of something is tenuous. One must make assumptions on what the atmospheric make-up was in “prehistory,” for example. Again: assumption.

Here are two big problems with radiometric carbon dating:

1. Dinosaur soft tissue has been found which contains Carbon 14. The decay rate of C14 is such that it cannot be more than 100,000 years old. If dinosaurs died 75 million years ago, that is a large gap to try to explain.

“Researchers at Imperial College in London had low expectations when they began analyzing eight dinosaur fossils unearthed at the Dinosaur Park Formation in Alberta, Canada, some 100 years ago. Most of the bones, which dated to the Cretaceous period, were in fragments; the pieces that remained were of below-average quality. To the scientists’ astonishment, however, analysis with an electron microscope revealed what appeared to be red blood cells and collagen fibers that had remained intact over some 75 million years of fossilization.”

“Unlike bones and teeth, which can survive for hundreds of millions of years, soft tissues are among the first materials to disappear during the fossilization process. Even so, scientists have found intact soft tissue in dinosaur bones before. The most famous case dates to 2005, when Mary Schweitzer of North Carolina State University found collagen fibers in the fossilized leg bone of a *Tyrannosaurus rex*. But such discoveries are rare, and have previously occurred only with extremely well preserved fossils. The most extraordinary thing about the new find, which scientists from Imperial College London reported this week in the journal *Nature Communications*, is that the fossils they examined are of relatively poor condition (to put it kindly).” Web: <https://www.history.com/news/scientists-find-soft-tissue-in-75-million-year-old-dinosaur-bones>

2. Diamonds have been found containing C14. Again, scientists believe that diamonds, the hardest substance on earth, formed hundreds of millions of years ago. And, once more, C14 should decay in no more than 100,000 years. C14 has also been found in coal.

Radiocarbon dating is generally limited to dating samples no more than 50,000 years old, as samples older than that have insufficient C14 to be measurable. Older dates have been obtained by using special sample preparation techniques, large samples, and very long measurement times. These techniques can allow measurement of dates up to 60,000 and in some cases up to 75,000 years before the present (Walker, Mike (2005). *Quaternary Dating Methods* (PDF). P. 23 Chichester: John Wiley & Sons. ISBN 978-0-470-86927-7.

Clearly there are many “causes of disagreement” between Creationist and Naturalistic views. We cannot do enough here but possibly pique your interest.

CLAIMS OF SCIENCE

- Fossils: Plants and animals died. Over years and centuries it is believed they were covered by earth and fossilized. The notion is that the oldest species are on the bottom, and as we come up the geologic column we find the more recent species that evolved from the earlier ones.

- Dinosaurs: Ancient creatures that dominated the planet until a large meteor, two miles in diameter, landed in the Gulf of Mexico, starting a chain reaction that brought the dinosaurs to extinction.
- Eve: Scientists believe that, based on the study of mitochondrial DNA, we are all ancestors of one woman, “The Real Eve.”
- Millions and Billions of Years: For the Big Bang to occur and “stabilize” (my words), for the entire geologic column to be laid down with the resulting fossil record, for dinosaurs to evolve and then achieve extinction, long ages (including eons of struggle-and-death evolution) would have been necessary.

BIBLICAL RESPONSE

- Fossils: How do fossils form? Observe a dead animal. See if it becomes covered by soil before it rots or is eaten by scavengers. There will be nothing remaining to fossilize. It has to be covered quickly, catastrophically.
- The fossil record is most likely the result of Noah’s flood. Plants and animals would have been covered by water quickly, all over the earth. That is also why marine fossils are found on the tops of many tall mountains. The ark was large enough to carry dinosaurs, too. Genesis 6:15-16 indicates the ark had more floor space than two football fields.
- Dinosaurs: There is evidence that dinosaurs lived with man. Some footprints of man and dinosaur have been found together. The Bible indicates that man and land animals (such as dinosaurs) were created on the same day (day 6). Job describes creatures that sound like a sauropod and t. Rex. We will speak more on this later.
- Eve: Science now links us to a single woman ancestor. Scientists call this woman “Eve.” The Bible calls this woman, “Eve.”
- Millions and billions of years- God only took 6 days. What took Him so long? Answer- He had to create time, perhaps His most difficult task. About Six thousand five hundred years ago is when He did it.”

THE BIBLE AND ORIGINS

Do scientists think they are ahead of the Bible? “No, no the Bible is wrong. It is archaic material written long ago by people that barely understood fire.” Oh, yeah?

- *The Bible says there was a worldwide flood.* The fossil record shows evidence of a worldwide flood (billions of dead things buried in rock).
- *The Bible says the world is round. It is he that sits upon the circle of the earth, and the inhabitants thereof are as grasshoppers; that stretches out the heavens as a curtain, and spreads them out as a tent to dwell in: (Isaiah 40:22).* The scientists one day long ago discovered the world is round. Remember, before that, scientists thought the world was flat!
- *The earth is hanging in space. He stretches out the north over the empty place, and hangs the earth upon nothing. (Job 26:7).* Scientists first believed that Atlas carried the world upon his shoulders. The earth is hanging upon nothing.
- *All of us are descendents of one woman, Eve.* Scientists are now turning this way, that there was an “Eve,” in their “Out of Africa” postulation.

- *The Bible says the earth was divided in the days of Peleg.* The earth was divided. This could refer to continental drift, the shifting of the tectonic plates.

QUESTIONS ABOUT BIBLICAL CREATION

- SIX DAYS- God is all-powerful and could have made it all in one day. There was no time before creation. God had to create time as well.
- A DAY IS AS A THOUSAND YEARS- Could each creation day have been a thousand years? II Peter 3:8 records that with the LORD a day is as a thousand years. This merely means that God is outside of time.
- A DAY IS AS A THOUSAND YEARS, AGAIN- “Since science has proven evolution, God couldn’t have created in 6 ordinary days. He must have done it in 6,000 years.” No, God did not say that. In the Hebrew text, “Yom” is the word used for day, and Yom means 24 our day except when used in verses such as “In the day of the LORD.”
- THEISTIC EVOLUTION- This is a compromise where Christians say, “God created everything, and evolution is how He did it.” This still calls God a hoax. It also means that there was death before sin.
- GAP THEORY- Another way to try to get around six days and young earth is the Gap Theory. This theory places millions of years in between the first two verses of the Bible, with Lucifer at the helm. Lucifer rebels, God wipes everything out with “Lucifer’s Flood,” God recreates (it means death before Adam’s sin again), and says everything is very good (including Lucifer at that time)- it does not work.
- STARLIGHT- If the earth is young and the stars are billions of light years away, why can we see the light from these stars? It should not be here yet. Did you see “*Back to the Future?*” In the words of the professor, “You’re not thinking fourth dimensionally.” God made the stars. God made the light. Do you think it would occur to Him to make the light beams in place?
- THE FLOOD- The fossil record just screams out “Noahic Flood.” The fossil record could be the best evidence for the historicity of the Bible, and against evolution.
- THE ICE AGE- A natural occurrence after the worldwide flood was an ice age, and there definitely was one. There are theories involving different scenarios, but the simplest to me seems the most likely. Prior to Noah’s Flood, there was a canopy of water above the firmament, creating a greenhouse effect around the earth. During the torrents, this canopy was depleted. Suddenly the earth was covered with water. The poles became sub-zero. Ice Age.

EVOLUTION THEORY

Knowing this first, that there shall come in the last days scoffers, walking after their own lusts, And saying, Where is the promise of his coming? for since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of the creation. For this they willingly are ignorant of, that by the word of God the heavens were of old, and the earth standing out of the water and in the water: Whereby the world that then was, being overflowed with water, perished: But the heavens and the earth, which are now, by the same word are kept in store, reserved unto fire against the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men. (2 Peter 3:3-7, a letter from Peter to the Jews that followed Jesus)

The religion of evolution has as its trinity Time, Chance, and Struggle & Death. As its bible, *On the Origin of Species by Means of Natural Selection*, as its televangelist, *Nova*, and its periodical, *National Geographic*. The saints of evolution include Charles Darwin, Thomas Huxley, Ernst Haeckel, and Carl Sagan. The fundamental scripture, quoted by the late Carl Sagan, is “The cosmos is all there is and ever will be.”

The premise of evolution is that “in the beginning” there was a “big bang” by which all of the galaxies, solar systems, stars, planets, moons, and comets were created. After millions or billions of years, a serendipitous arrangement of molecules gave rise to a proper environment to support life. Other molecules by chance resulted in a living cell. Then after millions or billions of additional years, through time, chance, struggle, and death, struggle and death, and more struggle and death- voila! During this period of long ages, catastrophes and climactic changes caused extinctions. Man alone arose to a supreme level, having evolved from a lower, apelike animal.

There is no room or need for a personal, creator God in the naturalistic religion of evolution. In fact, evolution is Satan’s most clever lie. Unlike Satan’s temptations such as, “Did God really say that,” in the lie of evolution we are told, “We don’t need God,” or “There is no God.” Satan must snicker whenever we say, “I believe that God created everything, and evolution is how He did it.” Sadly, I fear that a majority believes just that. The reason a Jew or Christian would believe in evolution is because that is what we are being taught by the secular world, and we are not being shown the fallacies of evolution in church or synagogue.

If there is no God, then all came into being out of chaos rather than special creation, we live, we die, the end. “The cosmos is all there is and ever will be,” (Sagan). As sad as that sounds, the world loves it. If there is no God, there is no God to answer to. We can do what we want and establish our own moralities. Later chapters reflect on what the world does in good conscience without a known need to answer to God.

TEACHING EVOLUTION

“In the future, science may perhaps be able to reconstruct a living being. But even though biology makes daily advances, nobody can make definite forecasts. If it ever happens, we shall understand better how life- this astonishing and marvelous thing that allows us to be here to wonder about the world- functions. But as to the question of ‘why,’ philosophy, religion, and- above all- each one of us must find the answer.”³

This quotation is from a book that is a commentary on the “religion” of evolution. Unlike the Bible that states with certainty “God made” and “it was good,” this book admits uncertainty. Words and phrases are used such as “possible scenarios” (plural), “mystery,” “divided opinions,” and “enigma.” Questions are asked such as “what is life” and “does life exist elsewhere, in our galaxy and beyond.” My favorite is, “the debate about the origin of life remains alive” (p. 6). And of course, contrary to a loving Creator, evolution implies struggle-and-death, struggle-and-death. Does evolution sound like “fact?”

³ (Hagens, Bernard and Lenay, Charles, *The Origin of Life*, p. 72, Barron’s Educational Series, Inc., 1986 Hachette-Fondation Diderot/La Nouvelle Encyclopedie, Paris, France.)

The majority of scientists believe in “molecules-to-man” evolution. It would follow, the textbooks they write favor evolution. The gap created by the “Separation of Church and State” is getting wider and wider. And now, the National Academy of Science has published a guideline for teachers entitled “*Teaching about Evolution and the Nature of Science*.”⁴

Since our youngsters get their foundations in the early grades, I reviewed a book from an elementary school library. This book, *The Origin of Life*, is the book referred to in the previous paragraphs. Following is a summary of what this book tells our children:

TEACHING EVOLUTION TEXTBOOK

The book opens with a legend from an African tribe that is their account of creation. It states that there are many such legends worldwide that usually associate sudden events and involve the supernatural. (It is interesting that the legends generally involve a creator and sudden events.) The points of this text follow:

Fifteen billion years ago, a “big bang” disrupts a core of matter and disperses gases throughout the universe. Ten billion years after the big bang, our solar system appeared. The formation of our system resulted from stars formed in the big bang exploding (again), yielding chemical clouds in space, which regrouped into new stars and planets. This was 5 billion years ago.

The first life forms must have appeared after the first billion years on earth. Organic molecules could have formed by lightning discharges in a primitive atmosphere of methane, hydrogen, ammonia, and water vapor. This perhaps would form organic molecules, amino acids, and cells that can reproduce and grow to produce life.

DNA formation is the next step. However, the text recognizes many divided opinions and disagreement on thoughts such as:

- “Life might be the final product of...self-organization. Many scientists disagree completely...” (p. 43.)
- “Any living form must be capable of reproducing *before* it can improve and organize itself” (p. 43, emphasis mine).
- “**Duplication:** At the time of reproduction, the blueprint of the parents (DNA), has to be transmitted to their offspring.” (p. 44-45.)
- “**Transcription:** Since the genetic code expresses the blueprint of the organism, it must be read, understood, and applied.” (p. 45.)
- “**A Beginning...and Evolution:** Let us *imagine* that the *formation of a small portion* of DNA and of some transcription proteins *can be explained*. Would we have the key to the mystery? Yes, because everything *might improve*...” (p. 48, emphasis mine.)

The next section of the text deals with topics such as the pondering of life beyond our solar system. (It is not stated if this includes angels, but I am sure it does not.) It does mention “panspermia”:

⁴ *Teaching about Evolution and the Nature of Science*, National Academy of Science.

“(the famous English astrophysicist [Sir] Fred Hoyle) said: Chemical processes of living things are extremely complex...Resources from the entire galaxy were needed...in order to produce the simplest cell...All interstellar clouds...had to be involved in the beginning of life...Comets are the seeding agents of the universe...The evolution of living beings on earth is assumed to result from the addition of the genetic code of new life forms coming from outer space.”

The book continues with “The Explosion of Life.” It goes on to state that over millions of years, evolution continued. From the simplest life came more complex life, and finally man. Life supposedly started from simple animals that evolved into the first simple plant forms. Plant forms then evolved upward as did the animals.

The concluding sentiment of this book is certainly the most accurate:

“Each animal is adapted to its environment, and every part of its body is utilized in that adaptation. The immense diversity of living forms is related to the immense diversity of their ways of life. But *how are the appearances of these adaptations, new species, and new ways of life produced? This is the problem of evolution*, the subject of a completely different type of investigation- the topic of another book.” (pp. 69-70, emphasis mine)

A FAITH THE FACTS FIT

All mankind has ascended from the first man, Adam, whom God made in His perfect creation. We will review commentary from the creationist view on *The Origin of Life*, and from eminent creation scientist Dr. Jonathan Sarfati on the new evolution-teaching manual. Dr. Sarfati, a scientist working for Answers in Genesis in Brisbane, Australia, has written a wonderful commentary, *Refuting Evolution*.⁵ His book examines many inconsistencies, mistakes if you will, of “*Teaching about Evolution and the Nature of Science*.” This is an excellent work and includes commentary on fallacies of the theory of evolution. This book is one of many recommended later that show that creation is a faith the facts fit.

THEY CAN’T BOTH BE RIGHT

Why do the heathen rage, and the people imagine a vain thing? (Psalms 2:1).

I had a conversation with a medical doctor. He is a specialist, and on the wall at his office was a diagram showing a complicated organ about which he is expert. I pointed to the chart and asked, “Evolution or design?” Not knowing my angle, the doctor tried to dodge the question. Upon my pressing for an off-the-record answer, he said, “A lot of people have sat down and discussed this issue. The majority seems to think that evolution is the answer.” He added, “I guess it’s whatever you believe in.”

We can debate both sides of the issues. One might think he has the incontestable proof; that the other side has to concede. But remember, each side examines the facts from their predetermined

⁵ Sarfati, Jonathan, *Refuting Evolution*, Green Forest, Arkansas, Master Books, 1999.

belief system, or bias. Ken Ham, in his question and answer book with the intriguing title *Did Adam Have a Belly Button*,⁶ related the following:

“I’ve had lots of people over the years say that if we could only find Noah’s ark, then we could convince people the Bible’s true.”

Mr. Ham continues, “I’m reminded of a professor who once said to me after I spoke at a secular (non-Christian) college- ‘I don’t care if they do find a big boat on the top of Mt. Ararat and drag it down Main Street, I still won’t believe it’s Noah’s ark.’”

“At another meeting, a man said to me, ‘Who’s to say some priests didn’t build a big boat on Mt. Ararat because they wanted people to believe the story in the Bible.’”

How can two intelligent people examine the same facts and result in diametric conclusions? It is a fact to look at a fossil and say, “This is a fossil.” It is non factual to look at a fossil and determine what year it lived and died, what color its skin was, etc. The examiner fills in the intangibles. A Christian might look at a fossil and estimate that it lived 5000 years ago based on belief that the period of creation was 6000 years ago. A scientist-evolutionist might examine the same fossil and conclude that the animal lived millions of years ago because of how that would fit within their evolutionary time frame (and perhaps because of the faulty dating methods used). Both cannot be right.

For one thing, remember that we do have imperfect minds. Even the most qualified of scientists, regardless of faith, has a fallible mind. Neither was there when The Beginning happened. This does give those faithful to God a leg-up, or should, because of their belief that there was an eye witness, an infallible eye witness, who did what He did and had it all plainly recorded for us. Of course, a non-Jew or non-Christian won’t believe this. What is our excuse?

Some of us are duped into saying that the Bible is wrong because the mortal scientists who weren’t there at the start, who don’t know what happened, who don’t know how it happened, who don’t believe in God, have said they proved their theory using their corrupt human brains, their unsound methods, and their fallible equipment. The correct answer to evolution/creation is of course that God did it in six days. What about the evidence, though? Does it support one or the other, and does it matter?

THE CREATION ACCOUNT

The one thing above all others that leads me to believe in a “special creation” by a Creator God, no matter what else the Bible says, or how the Bible is interpreted, or what any science books say for or against anything, is contained in the following: And the Lord formed man of the dust of the ground, **and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life**; and man became a living soul. (Genesis 2:7).

The “breath of life” is a very special phrase (from chapter 2). When any human or animal dies, all the parts are there. Every molecule is there. The “programming” (DNA- blueprint for life) is

⁶ Ham, Ken, *Did Adam Have a Belly Button?*” Green Forest, Arkansas, Master Books, 1999, p. 43.

there. So if the body was alive one minute ago, why can it not be resurrected? Sometimes we can restore a missing function, like a stopped heart, and “kick-start” it; but, for all other cases the body is missing “the breath of life.” Only God has been able to provide the fundamental essence, “the breath of life.”

- The Bible is God’s Word based on one’s belief of self-evidence.
- God means what he says, based on God’s Word and the preceding point?
- He created everything there is in six days and rested on the seventh.
- God later destroyed His creation with a worldwide flood because sin entered the world. He spared Noah’s family, land creatures, and fowl by instructing Noah to build an ark. Most of the fossil record around the entire world is probably the evidence of Noah’s flood.
- After the flood and tower of Babel, Noah’s ancestors were scattered “abroad upon the face of the earth” (Gen 11:9). The offspring of the animals on the ark would have scattered starting upon release from the ark.
- Rapid continental separation divided the lands into the configuration we know today. Scientists refer to this as “plate tectonics” or “continental drift.”

REFUTING EVOLUTION

Dr. Jonathan Sarfati’s book, *Refuting Evolution*,⁷ investigates the claims for evolution made by the National Academy of Sciences (USA). The NAS has compiled a book containing information for the purpose of helping teachers further indoctrinate students into the beliefs of evolution. This book is entitled *Teaching About Evolution and the Nature of Science*.⁸

Since we are questioning, “Can the Bible and Science Compromise,” let’s look at some quotes by prominent evolutionists taken from Dr. Sarfati’s book that counter-indicate compromise:

“Evolution (is) a theory universally accepted not because it can be proven by logically coherent evidence to be true, but because the only alternative, special creation, is clearly incredible,” p16, Professor D.M.S. Watson.

“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...for we cannot allow a Divine Foot in the door,” pp17-18, Richard Lewontin.

Sadly, “As were many persons from Alabama, I was a born-again Christian. When I was fifteen, I entered the Southern Baptist Church with great fervor and interest in the fundamentalist religion; I left at seventeen when I got to the University of Alabama and heard about evolutionary theory,” pp19-20, E.O. Wilson. Another example of why I believe evolution is Satan’s greatest lie.

Following are quotes from some of the most brilliant evolutionist-scientists. These quotes have been extracted from a collection of 130 such quotes found in *The Revised Quote Book* from An-

⁷ Sarfati, Jonathan, *Refuting Evolution*, Green Forest, Arkansas, Master Books, 1999.

⁸ *Teaching about Evolution and the Nature of Science*, National Academy of Science.

swers in Genesis Ministries:

- In fact, evolution became in a sense a scientific religion; almost all scientists have accepted it and many are prepared to “bend” their observations to fit in with it. Professor H. S. Lipson.⁹
- 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? L. Harrison Matthews.¹⁰
- It is easy enough to make up stories of how one form gave rise to another, and to find reasons why the stages should be favored by natural selection. But such stories are not part of science, for there is no way of putting them to the test. Dr. Colin Patterson.¹¹
- Biologists are simply naïve when they talk about experiments designed to test the theory of evolution. It is not testable. Professor Whitten.¹²
- Facts do not “speak for themselves”; they are read in the light of a *theory* (emphasis added). Professor Stephen Jay Gould.¹³
- Question is: Can you tell me anything you know about evolution, any one thing, and any one thing that is true? I tried that question on the biology staff at the Field Museum of Natural History and the only answer I got was silence. Dr. Colin Patterson, after working on evolution for 20 years.¹⁴
- Evolutionism is a fairy tale for grown-ups. Professor Louis Bounoure.¹⁵
- I think, however, that we must go further than this and admit that the only acceptable solution is *creation*. Professor H. S. Lipson.¹⁶
- All paleontologists know that the fossil record contains precious little in the way of intermediate forms; transitions between major groups are characteristically abrupt. Professor Stephen Jay Gould.¹⁷
- Contrary to what most scientists write, the fossil record does not support the Darwinian theory of evolution because it is this theory (there are several) which we use to interpret the fossil record. By doing so we are guilty of circular reasoning if we then say the fossil record supports this theory. Dr. Ronald R. West.¹⁸
- Echoing the criticism made of his father’s *habilis* skulls, he added that Lucy’s skull was so incomplete that most of it was “imagination made of plaster of Paris,” thus making it impossible to draw any firm conclusion about what species she belonged to.” Richard Leakey.¹⁹
- Gradual evolutionary change by natural selection operates so slowly within established species that it cannot account for the major features of evolution. Steven M. Stanley.²⁰
- The origin of the genetic code is the most baffling aspect of the problem of the origins of life and a major conceptual or experimental breakthrough may be needed before we can

⁹ Dr. Andrew Snelling editor, The Revised Quote Book, Creation Science Foundation Ltd., Answers in Genesis, Acacia Ridge, Queensland, Australia 1990. p. 2. Original sources of all quotes are cited within this reference.

¹⁰ Ibid. p. 2.

¹¹ Ibid. p. 3.

¹² Ibid. p. 3.

¹³ Ibid. p. 3.

¹⁴ Ibid. p. 4.

¹⁵ Ibid. p. 5.

¹⁶ Ibid. p. 6.

¹⁷ Ibid. p. 8.

¹⁸ Ibid. p. 10.

¹⁹ Ibid. p. 14.

²⁰ Ibid. p. 19.

make any substantial progress. Dr. Leslie Orgel.²¹

- These results indicate that even total-rock systems may be open during metamorphism and may have their isotopic systems changed, making it impossible to determine their geologic age. Professor Gunter Faure.²²
- It cannot be denied that from a strictly philosophical standpoint the geologists are here arguing in a circle. The succession of organisms has been determined by a study of their remains imbedded in the rocks, and the relative ages of the rocks are determined by the remains of organisms that they contain. R. H. Rastall.²³

A “DELICATE FLOWER”

Here is a great quote: Is evolution so delicate a flower that it must be protected? If it is, then there must be something wrong with it. Andrew Wert, Creation Science Fellowship.

Evolutionists-- some knowingly-- have been teaching little white lies as evidence of evolution. One example is embryonic development. In 1874, Ernst Haeckel, a supporter of Charles Darwin, prepared diagrams showing embryos of several different species. All looked very similar. The claim was that they looked similar because the embryonic development of the different animals reflects their evolutionary history. The embryo drawings represented a fish, salamander, turtle, chicken, rabbit, and a human. The fraudulent sketches were deliberately misleading. The true forms of these embryos do not show the similarity that Haeckel was purporting²⁴.

One of the most common incorrect lessons on evolution has been the teaching of the peppered moths of England. There was some related fraud to this, and the subject is known not to be of evolution at all, but is being taught perhaps unwittingly and in some classrooms at the present. The peppered moth came in mottled lighter and darker varieties, depending on the genes for melanin inherited from its parents. A light gray lichen encrusted certain trees in England. Darker moths were easier to see on the light lichen, so birds ate them more frequently than the light ones. Then the industrial revolution killed the lichen on the trees. The lighter colored moths then stuck out more than the dark, and the trend reversed. This was strictly variation within a kind, not evolution.²⁵

God made us and loves us. We were the grand finale of His special creation. Though we sinned and spoiled His perfect creation, He wants us to spend eternity with Him. He promised a Messiah to provide redemption for our sins. When will the Messiah come?

²¹ Ibid. p. 21.

²² Ibid. p. 22.

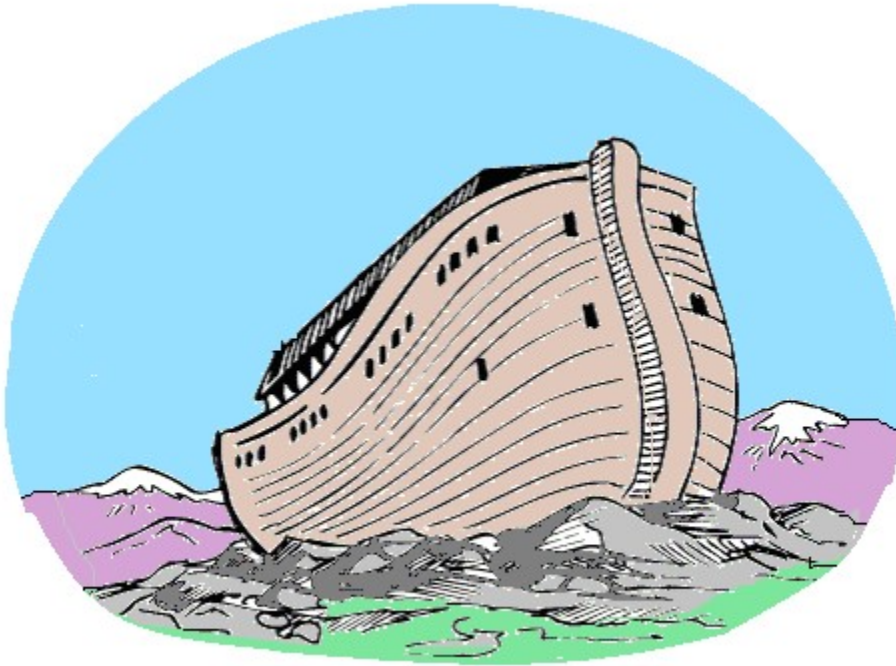
²³ Ibid. p. 25.

²⁴ Sarfati, Jonathan, *Refuting Evolution*, Green Forest, Arkansas, USA Master Books, 1999. pp. 85-86.

²⁵ Parker, Gary, *Creation Facts of Life*, Colorado Springs, Colorado, Master Books, 1994, pp72-73)

PART II

SHAPING EVENTS



And God saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually. And it sorrowed the Lord that He had made man on the earth, and it grieved Him at his heart. And the Lord said, I will destroy man whom I have created from the face of the earth; both man, and beast, and the creeping thing, and the fowls of the air; for it sorrows me that I have made them. But Noah found grace in the eyes of the Lord. (Genesis 6:5-8)

Chapter Five

The Genesis Flood and Aftermath



A GLOBAL FLOOD

One of the fallacies of evolution is that science must be observable and repeatable. This does not happen, so evolution must remain a theory. Evolutionists cannot explain the world we find around us without including a flood account.

Imagine the world covered by water in the form of rain and bubbling from the ground. The water would be very dirty with soil particles, uprooted trees, and drowned animals. Imagine the water receding over months and months. The soil particles would settle in layers. Dead animals would be covered by mud that has since turned to rock. We find just that in the world today, which is additional evidence that Noah's Flood was global.

Evolutionists do not accept that there was a global flood. They state that the prime reasons Creationists accept the flood are incorrect. Evolutionists believe that there is no evidence to support such a flood. Most Creationists accept that the Grand Canyon is evidence of stratified deposits laid down by water, and that after the flood, a catastrophic event, carved the canyon.

PBS presented a Nova episode on November 11, 2017 titled “Killer Floods.” This is a quotation from the broadcast: “Across the world, three far-flung locations share an eerie similarity. In the

United States, 16,000 miles of dry canyons and bizarre rock formations cover the northwest; in Iceland, a 300-foot-deep gorge appears to have been ripped out in an instant; and off the coast of Britain, a network of mysterious canyons carved deep into the seabed could reveal how this channel first separated what is now Britain from France. Far from eroding gradually, there is evidence that vast deluges tore out these landscapes in the geological blink of an eye. But what could have triggered such killer floods? And could one strike again?" The Nova program concluded that lots of water in a short time caused these events. They compared some of them to the scope of the Grand Canyon, but (I think) carefully ignored details of the Grand Canyon event.

Scientists who are Creationists view evidence from the Grand Canyon as a sudden and recent event. Dr. Walter Brown suggests in his book *In the Beginning* that huge amounts of sedimentary layers were produced by the global catastrophe, and covered the earth like a blanket. Dr. Brown has theorized that the drainage from the flood produced some huge, post-flood lakes. "Because of local conditions, many of these lakes eventually dried up. Others remain to this day, but still others grew. Eventually, the natural dams holding these large lakes gave way, and water began to pour through the gap. The more this happened, the wider the gap grew, until the entire lake surged through catastrophically, and carved the canyon rapidly." These positions hold up to scientific models.

Web: https://www.missionimperative.org/uploads/4/7/7/0/47708539/how_did_the_grand_canyon_actually_form.pdf

PRE-FLOOD WORLD

Let us address one of the most frequently asked questions encountered when discussing the Biblical view of origins. The Bible tells us that Adam was the first man. It also tells us where Adam's wife came from; God took one of Adam's ribs and created a woman. We know where Cain came from; he was the son of Adam and Eve; but what about Cain's wife?

Do we forget what we read in Genesis chapters 1 and 2? The Biblical tells us that Adam lived for 930 years. He could have fathered many hundreds of children. According to Genesis 5:4, Adam and Eve in fact had many children: *And the days of Adam after he had begotten Seth were eight hundred years: and he begat sons and daughters.* Cain's wife was most likely his sister. The gene pool was nearly pure at that time, so the dangers affecting children from marrying close relatives did not exist. The laws against incest did not come until well after Noah's Flood, and were recorded by Moses: *None of you shall approach to any that is near of kin to him, to uncover their nakedness: I am the Lord. Leviticus 18:6.* In fact, Noah's offspring would have faced the same situation, except that it really was not a "situation" at that time in our history.

"And Cain knew his wife; and she conceived, and bare Enoch: and he built a city, and called the name of the city, after the name of his son, Enoch...And Adah bare Jabal: he was the father of such as dwell in tents, and of such as have cattle. And his brother's name was Jubal: he was the father of all such as handle the harp and organ. And Zillah, she also bare Tubalcain, an instructor of every artificer in brass and iron: and the sister of Tubalcain was Naamah." (Gen. 4:17, 20-22).

Many people use the "Cain's wife" question as an anti-creation-pro-evolution point. Do those stuck on this question believe that hundreds of the same people-kind spontaneously generated to form a pool of unrelated breeders to kick off the evolutionary chain of our first ancestors? No. Evolution, which is a hard pill to swallow anyway the more you think about it, logically would

SUNKEN CITIES

If there was a worldwide flood, what happened to the living things that perished and to the cities where man lived? A television special about cities sunken beneath the seas presented the investigators with an enigma. Who built them? When? How? What happened to the people? We know little about the earth and geography before the flood. Could these cities be antediluvian (i.e. pre-flood), buried in water by Noah's flood? That is a distinct possibility. Also, mankind was much further advanced at that time than most archaeologists would have us believe. Remember, Adam was made in a perfect creation. Our minds and bodies have been affected by thousands of years of degradation. See recommended Reading, *The Puzzle of Ancient Man*, Donald E. Chittick, Ph.D.

We do know there were cities and fine crafts before the flood: And Cain knew his wife; and she conceived, and bare Enoch: and he built a city, and called the name of the city, after the name of his son, Enoch...And Adah bare Jabal: he was the father of such as dwell in tents, and of such as have cattle. And his brother's name was Jubal: he was the father of all such as handle the harp and organ. And Zillah, she bare Tubalcain, an instructor of every artificer in brass and iron: and the sister of Tubalcain was Naamah. Genesis 4:17, 20-22.

It is very possible that we are finding pre-flood cities and civilizations, beneath the sea and on land as well. Further examination may one day prove this. As if sin and death were not enough for us to bring on the earth, we made things so bad that God had to destroy it all.

THE REASON FOR A FLOOD

Genesis chapter 6 tells us that God "grieved" over His creation and decided to destroy it. What had happened to his Perfect Creation? This world judgment was brought on by sin because man could not obey one simple commandment: (of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God has said, You shall not eat of it (Gen. 3:3).]

FIRST SIN

Now the serpent was more subtle than any beast of the field which the Lord God had made. And he said unto the woman, Yea, has God said, You shall not eat of every tree of the garden? Eve replied to Satan that she and Adam could not eat of the tree in the midst of the garden or they would die. And the serpent said unto the woman, You shall not surely die. Satan continues, For God does know that in the day you eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and you shall be as gods, knowing good and evil. (Genesis 3:1, 4, 5).

GOD SAVES NOAH AND HIS FAMILY

So God looked upon the earth, and indeed it was corrupt; for all flesh had corrupted their way on the earth. And God said to Noah, "The end of all flesh has come before Me, for the earth is filled with violence through them; and behold, I will destroy them with the earth. (Genesis 6:12-13 NKJ)

Make you an ark of gopher wood; rooms shall you make in the ark, and shall pitch it within and without with pitch. And this is (how) you shall make it of: The length of the ark shall be three hundred cubits (*450 feet*), the breadth of it fifty cubits (*75 feet*), and the height of it thirty cubits (*45 feet*). A window shall you make to the ark, and in a cubit shall you finish it above; and the door of the ark shall you set in the side thereof; with lower, second, and third stories (*3 stories high*) shall you make it. (Genesis 6:14-16). (The three stories totaled over 100,000 square feet! More than two football fields.)

In the six hundredth year of Noah's life, in the second month, the seventeenth day of the month, the same day were all the fountains of the great deep broken up, and the windows of heaven were opened. Gen. 7:11.

WATER AND ANIMALS

And behold, I Myself am bringing floodwaters on the earth, to destroy from under Heaven all flesh in which is the breath of life; everything that is on the earth shall die. But I will establish My covenant with you; and you shall go into the ark you, your sons, your wife, and your sons' wives with you. 9And of every living thing of all flesh you shall bring two of every sort into the ark, to keep them alive with you; they shall be male and female. Of the birds after their kind, of animals after their kind, and of every creeping thing of the earth after its kind, two of every kind will come to you to keep them alive. And you shall take for yourself of all food that is eaten, and you shall gather it to yourself; and it shall be food for you and for them." Thus Noah did; according to all that God commanded him, so he did. (Gen 6:17-22 NKJ)

WHO WAS INVITED

And Noah did according to all that the LORD commanded him. Noah was six hundred years old when the floodwaters were on the earth. So Noah, with his sons, his wife, and his sons' wives, went into the ark because of the waters of the flood. Of clean animals, of animals that are unclean, of birds, and of everything that creeps on the earth, Two by two they went into the ark to Noah, male and female, as God had commanded Noah. And it happened after seven days that the waters of the flood were on the earth. In the six hundredth year of Noah's life, in the second month, the seventeenth day of the month, on that day all the fountains of the great deep were broken up, and the windows of Heaven were opened. And the rain was on the earth forty days and forty nights. (Gen 7: 5-12 NKJ)

WHAT HAPPENED

Now the flood was on the earth forty days. The waters increased and lifted up the ark, and it rose high above the earth. The waters prevailed and greatly increased on the earth, and the ark moved about on the surface of the waters. And the waters prevailed exceedingly on the earth, and all the high hills under the whole Heaven were covered. The waters prevailed fifteen cubits upward, and the mountains were covered. And all flesh died that moved on the earth: birds and cattle and beasts and every creeping thing that creeps on the earth, and every man. All in whose nostrils was the breath of the spirit of life, all that was on the dry land, died. So He destroyed all living things which were on the face of the ground: both man and cattle, creeping thing and bird of the air. They were destroyed from the earth. Only Noah and those who were with him in the ark

remained alive. And the waters prevailed on the earth one hundred and fifty days. (Gen 7:17-24 NKJ)

AFTER THE FLOOD

Mainstream science struggles with the questions, “Where did the water go? How could it cover the highest mountain?” Well, who knows how high the tallest mountains were before the flood. God inspired David to write these verses: You clothed the earth with floods of waters covering up the mountains. You spoke, and at the sound of your shout the water collected into its vast ocean beds, and mountains rose and valleys sank to the levels you decreed. And then you set a boundary for the seas, so that they would never again cover the earth. Psalms 104:6-9 Living Bible.

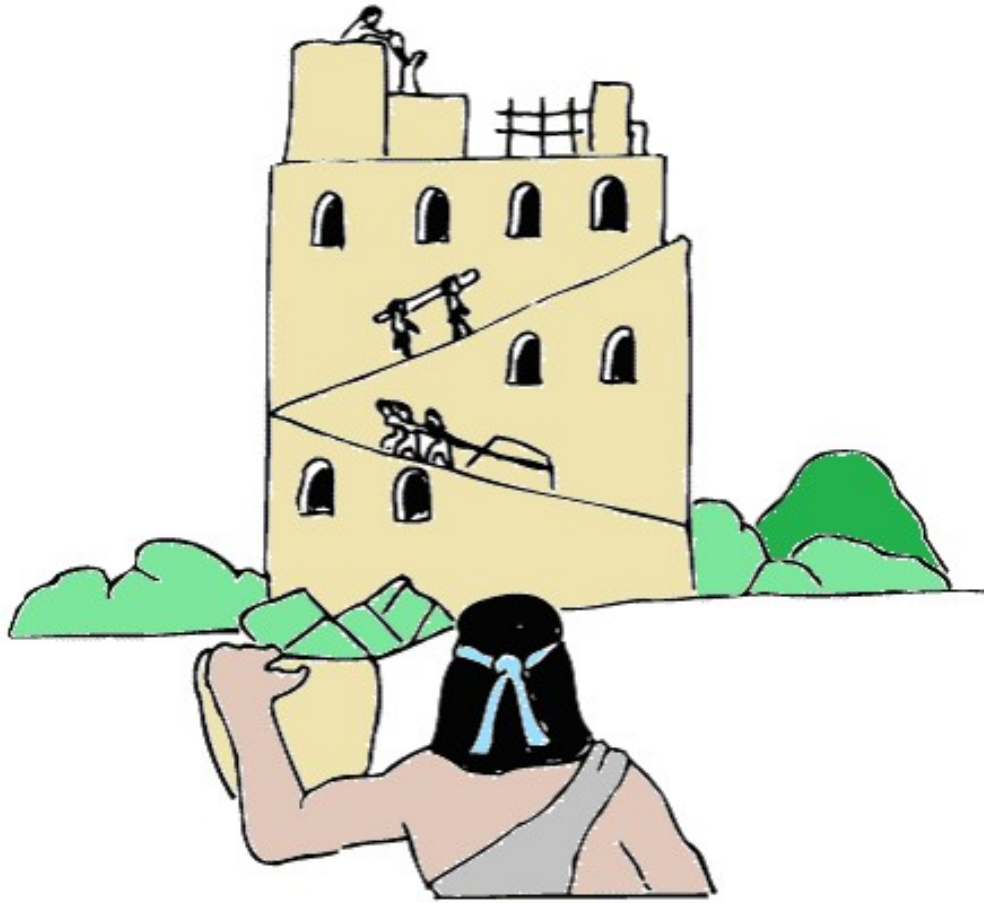
What we see today, throughout the planet, are layers of certain rocks, often with alternating with layers of other rocks. Found in these layers are fossils. If there were a worldwide flood, what would we find? We would find, millions of dead things buried in rock layers laid down by water all over the earth. That is exactly what we find!

These rocks are the remains of the flood in the Bible, Noah’s Flood. It happened perhaps about four or five thousand years ago. There could be any kind of fossil found in these rocks or in the earth around them. We all look at fossils and so forth as to how it applies to our “religion,” Naturalism or Special Creation.

TOWER OF BABEL: SIN & CONFOUNDED LANGUAGE

How many chances should God give us? After the flood, God commanded Noah and his family to spread out all over the earth. Instead, they decided live together. This forced God to another intervention.

¹And the whole earth was of one language, and of one speech. ²And it happened, as they journeyed...they found a plain...and they dwelt there. ³And they said one to another, Go to, let us make brick, and...mortar. ⁴And they said, Go to, let us build us a city and a tower, whose top may reach unto heaven; and let us make us a name, lest we be scattered abroad upon the face of the whole earth. ⁵And the Lord came down to see the city and the tower, which the children of men built. ⁶And the Lord said, Behold, the people is one, and they have all one language; and this they begin to do: and now nothing will be restrained from them, which they have imagined to do. ⁷Go to, let us go down, and there confound their language, that they may not understand one another's speech. ⁸So the Lord scattered them abroad from thence upon the face of all the earth: and they left off to build the city. ⁹Therefore is the name of it called Babel; because the Lord did there confound the language of all the earth: and from thence did the Lord scatter them abroad upon the face of all the earth. (Genesis 11:1-9)



TOWER OF BABEL

THE DAYS OF PELEG

And unto Eber were born two sons: the name of one was Peleg; for (because) in his days was the earth divided; [Peleg- literally, division] (Genesis 10:25; 1 Chronicles 1:19)

If one examines a globe, it is not too difficult to imagine disassembly of the globe with a razor, and reassembly in a fashion whereby all of the continents interlock. There is much scientific evidence for this. Well, not that God carved the earth with a razor, but that the continents once were interlocked. My opinion is that this arrangement certainly existed at one time. I do not think that the why, how, and when matter that much to this chapter. If you care to look into this topic, search “continental drift” and “plate tectonics.” Be sure to include *The Answers Book* and *The Young Earth* as sources in your search (see Recommended Reading).

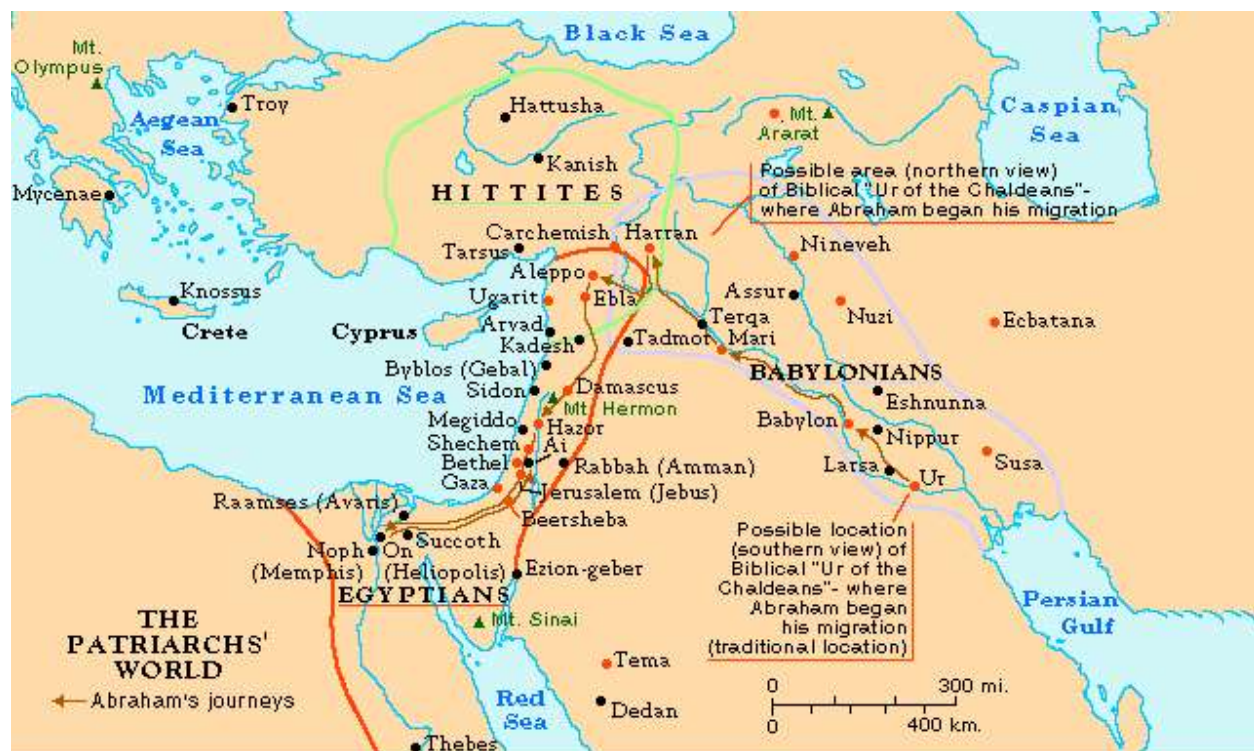
There is disagreement among Bible scholars as to whether the reference to Peleg refers to the time of continental drift. One certainty is that there was some type of division of the earth in the days of Peleg. It was important enough to mention in two books of the Old Testament, interestingly with nearly the same wording. Some believe that the division in the days of Peleg was the formation of rivers and possibly other physical boundaries that further divided the inhabitants on earth rather than continental drift, which perhaps occurred prior to this.

The division was another means for God to scatter us. This was not necessarily a punishment. If it were, my belief is that more detail would be given in the Bible. This might well have been part of the original plan to disperse the population as we grew in God's command to "multiply and fill the earth." The result of the division was further diversification of people groups and within the animal kinds. It apparently worked; look at us now!



MAP OF SUPER CONTINENT "PANGAEA"

The next page contains a map of early civilizations.



The Patriarchs' World

This map is a panoramic view of the context of the earliest civilizations. Follow the line from the Persian Gulf to Harran to Egypt and you will see the general area known as "the Fertile Crescent," the cradle of the origins of mankind.

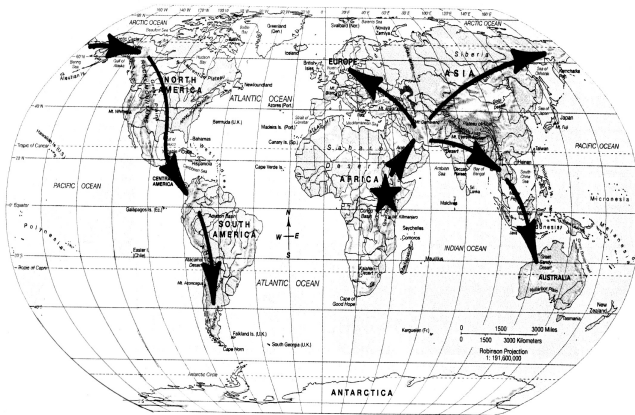
Chapter Six

Racism

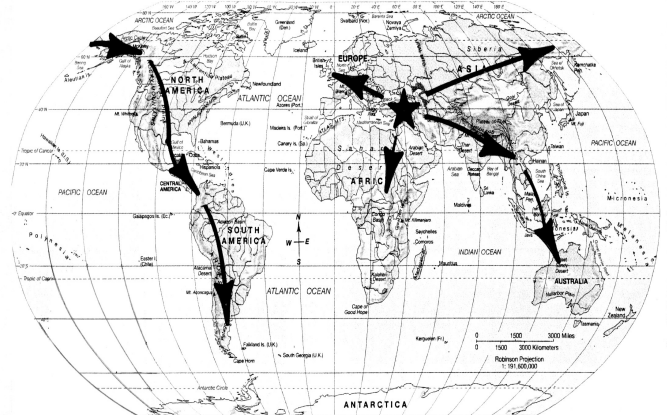
HOW DID WE DISPERSE AFTER THE FLOOD AND BABEL?

The Discovery Channel presented DNA research pointing toward a single female ancestor of all humans in 2002 titled “Real Eve.” The program explains how the descendents of their “Eve,” believed to be from Africa, traveled to the rest of the world. The first migrations were into what are now Yemen and the Middle East, then to Asia, Malaysia, and Australia. Also, some to China and eventually the Americas. Later, descendents living in the Middle East migrated North and West to the Balkans and Europe.

As the migration routes were mapped, one could notice the similarity to how a Bible scholar could map the spreading of civilization from Ararat, the “dock” of Noah’s ark. The mere difference would be the direction of one arrow from Africa to the Middle East. (See maps.)



“Eve” or “Out-of-Africa” migration route. From Africa to present day Yemen, then to all points from there.



Possible Biblical migration route from Mount Ararat into all the world.

This is quite imaginable because all of the people groups around the world come from Mrs. Noah or one of her three daughters-in-law. The writers of Real Eve considered the Africans older, because of more variations. Could these granddaughters instead be the wives of Noah’s sons?

An interesting point made on Real Eve was, “Under the skin we are all very much the same,” and “If we look at the DNA of all of us...we show less variation than we would find in a small group of (apes).” The Bible certainly agrees that we all came from the real, Real Eve.

The Bible says we got here this way: God made Adam. God made Eve. They and the rest of creation were perfect (very good). They had children and grand children. Because of sin, eventually mankind turned so evil that God was sorry he made us. So he purged the earth with a great flood, except for one family. Therefore, we all should be descendents of Noah, who was a descendent of Adam.

Noah, which was the son of Lamech, Which was the son of Methuselah, which was the son of Enoch, which was the son of Jared, which was the son of Maleleel, which was the son of Cainan, which was the son of Enos, which was the son of Seth, which was the son of Adam, which was the son of God. (Luke 3:36b-38)

Hebrew Bible (Old Testament) corroboration of Noah's descent from Noah is found in Genesis 5, Genesis 10, and 1 Chronicles 1.

OUT OF EVE

The previously mentioned Discovery presentation, Real Eve, opens by showing portraits of African mothers and infants. The narrator announces, "This woman is the mother of mankind, the genetic Eve from whom we all descend. She lived 150,000 years ago in East Africa and every one on earth is related to her."

What this Eve story is all about revolves around mitochondrial DNA. Mitochondria are organelles found in nearly every cell. They are passed from mother to child and are *only* inherited from the mother. By sampling mitochondria from people groups around the world, scientists are able to trace lineages toward a common ancestor or ancestors.

It strikes me as a humorous inevitability that as science progresses, the findings point toward the Bible (for one having an open mind about it). The latest news from the world of anthropology is the results from DNA research pointing toward a single female ancestor, "Eve." Of course science would not concede that Eve could be the Biblical Eve.

The program continues for two interesting hours explaining how the descendents of this Eve traveled to the rest of the world. First into what are now Yemen and the Middle East, then to Asia, Malaysia, and Australia. Also, some to China and eventually the Americas. Later, descendents living in the Middle East migrated North and West to the Balkans and Europe.

As the migration routes were mapped, I noticed a similarity to how a creationist could map the spreading of civilization from Ararat, the "dock" of Noah's ark. The only difference would be the direction of one arrow from Africa to the Middle East. (See map.) This might not be hard to fathom because all of the people groups around the world each come from a single "granddaughter" of Eve. However, in Africa they seem to come from several granddaughters. In fact, this is the reason that the writers of Real Eve considered the Africans older, because of more variations.

Previously, evolution and racism have at times gone hand-in-hand. An interesting point made on this show was, "Under the skin we are all very much the same," and "If we look at the DNA of all of us... we show less variation than we would find in a small group of (apes)." The view that the first humans were dark skinned was refreshing also rather than the dark skin thought to be a "curse." The Bible certainly agrees that we all came from the real, Real Eve.

OUT OF ARARAT

We have a strong scriptural basis to believe that we all do go back to Noah and Adam. We know that our lineage cannot circumvent Noah, because God's Word tells us that the entire world was

judged by water. Only life aboard the ark and that of fishes and sea creatures were spared.

This world judgment was brought on by sin (Genesis 6:6-7) “And it repented the Lord that he had made man on the earth, and it grieved him at his heart. And the Lord said, I will destroy man whom I have created from the face of the earth; both man, and beast, and the creeping thing, and the fowls of the air; for it repents me that I have made them.” But Noah found grace in the eyes of the Lord (verse 8).

It is extremely important to understand what the scriptures tell us in Genesis 6. Because of sin there is death (compare Genesis 3:19). All flesh was destroyed by the flood “wherein is the breath of life” (Genesis 6:17). The importance is beyond lineage to Noah and Adam, the importance is to help us understand the spreading of mankind and animals to all continents, the differences of languages, the fossil record, the ice age, the age of the earth, faith, ministering to others, and our life choices. These points will be addressed in the following chapters. Note the reference to “the breath of life” again in verse 17.

Christians have the view that New Testament scripture takes Jesus’ ancestry back to Noah, back to the Mountains of Ararat where Noah’s family departed from a safely shored ark. Through the books of Genesis, 1 Chronicles, the prophets, and the New Testament, we can follow the lineage of our generations back to the days of historical Christ, back to Noah, and ultimately to Adam. Hence, *Out of Ararat*, to the survivors of the flood, to whom all of us would trace our lineage if we could, and further, to the first Adam.

OUT-OF-AFRICA

The title of this subchapter comes from an oft-repeated phrase, most recently appearing as a newspaper headline, *Study reinforces ‘Out-of-Africa’ theory of human evolution*²⁶. In the science world’s search for answers outside of God, they sometimes stumble upon the right answer; they just think it means something else. As a means of comparison, I might look in the refrigerator and see a wonderful dessert. My conclusion is that I am going to eat some of it. Imagine my surprise and dismay when Jeanne tells me it is for a student’s birthday party, and I cannot have any. The only difference with scientists is, they can make up another theory, but I cannot seem to get another chocolate cake with that white, real-fluffy icing that tastes best served in a large bowl with vanilla ice cream.

The “Out-of-Africa” article states the following: A world-wide DNA study has yielded “the best evidence yet that modern man first evolved in Africa” and scattered to populate the world; Perhaps the first Homo sapiens “replaced other early humans with virtually no interbreeding,” and; “There was probably a fairly small group that migrated out of Africa and that population probably spread in several directions and grew pretty quickly.”

The article declares that the researchers favor the “Out-of-Africa” theory over a “rival” theory involving “early humans including Neanderthals and Homo erectus,” while others say “the latest findings could allow for a theory that merges both models: humans from Africa later mating with other early humans in distant places.”

For a male-female pair to mate and create a fertilized egg, the number of gene pairs from each

²⁶ Donn, Jeff, “Study reinforces ‘out-of-Africa’ theory of human evolution,” Associated Press, The [Sunbury, Pa.] Daily Item, 12/7/00, pA8.

parent must match and line up in the same position in the DNA chain. That is why, to take an outrageous example, a human and a horse cannot mate. For a Neanderthal and any “other” Homo erectus, Cro Magnon, or whatever to interbreed, they would require the same amount of gene pairs. The odds of evolution are ridiculous enough without imagining that two lineages of “early man” evolved and had the good fortune of the same number of gene pairs with matching configuration. Actually, those odds are preposterous.

SCIENTIFIC ALTERNATIVES TO OUT-OF-AFRICA

From Compton’s Interactive Encyclopedia on *Panspermia*:²⁷ “Many theories have been developed to explain how life first originated on Earth. Some people theorize that microorganisms reached Earth from another planet. Most scientists discount this idea, called panspermia, because the radiation in space would kill cells or spores before they reached Earth. Instead, they believe that terrestrial life evolved from nonliving matter on the primitive Earth.

Then there is the theory that extraterrestrials planted us here as an experiment. This is an excellent way to get around the evidence supporting creation, not evolution, yet does not require a creator-God. I have not heard where the extraterrestrials come from, but the assumption is that these ET’s could sow the seeds of panspermia or brew primordial soup. In theory, these ET’s could have appeared as the result of more superior ET’s from somewhere else sowing and brewing, which previously evolved somewhere else.

The odds for finding extraterrestrial life might be slimmer than the impossible odds of molecules-to-man evolution occurring. From Compton’s, on Extraterrestrial Life:²⁸ “The search for life away from planet Earth has been called a science without a subject matter. Despite the countless hours that dedicated scientists and amateurs alike have spent searching the skies, there is no evidence that life exists anywhere in the universe except on Earth.” Fortunately for science, odds can be “overcome” in their minds.

Also found in Compton’s:²⁹ “The Green Bank equation, devised by astrophysicist F.D. Drake, represents an *attempt to estimate* the number of technically advanced civilizations in the Milky Way galaxy. It expresses mathematically the relationship of the number of stars, the number of stars with planetary systems, the number of planets in each system having conditions suitable for the origin of life, the number of planets on which life could actually develop, the number of those planets on which intelligent life could evolve, the number of intelligent populations that could develop civilizations capable of interstellar communications, and, finally, the average lifespan of technical civilizations. *Depending on how estimates for various terms in the equation are made, the number of advanced civilizations in the Milky Way is estimated at from 1 to 1,000,000.*” (Emphasis mine. I could estimate in that range, and I know that “1” is a good number because it already happened.)

CREATION SCIENCE AND OUT-OF-AFRICA

²⁷ Excerpted from *Compton's Interactive Encyclopedia*. Copyright © 1994, 1995, 1996, 1997 The Learning Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.

²⁸ Excerpted from *Compton's Interactive Encyclopedia*. Copyright © 1994, 1995, 1996, 1997 The Learning Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.

²⁹ Excerpted from *Compton's Interactive Encyclopedia*. Copyright © 1994, 1995, 1996, 1997 The Learning Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.

It is so simple when one turns to the book of Genesis and accepts it as God's Word, all of it. I know no better way to answer science with Out-of-Africa, or one small population in one place, than in reading the Creation account in Genesis. From Ken Ham's question and answer book, "In analyzing (mitochondrial) DNA in humans all over the globe, scientists showed that all humans on earth (descended) this from one woman. Later research on the mutation rate also resulted in another startling conclusion- this woman had to live about 6,000 years ago. This fits beautifully with the time line of history as recorded in God's Word.³⁰,"

If you want to get serious in learning about DNA, I suggest you read *In the Beginning Was Information*, by Dr. Werner Gitt. Please see Recommended Reading.

FURTHER OUT-OF-ARARAT

¹Now these are the generations of the sons of Noah, Shem, Ham, and Japheth: and unto them were sons born after the flood.

²The sons of Japheth; Gomer, and Magog, and Madai, and Javan, and Tubal, and Meshech, and Tiras. **³And the sons of Gomer;** Ashkenaz, and Riphath, and Togarmah. **⁴And the sons of Javan;** Elishah, and Tarshish, Kittim, and Dodanim. **⁵By these were the isles of the Gentiles divided in their lands;** every one after his tongue, after their families, in their nations.

And the sons of Ham; Cush, and Mizraim, and Phut, and Canaan. And the sons of Cush; Seba, and Havilah, and Sabtah, and Raamah, and Sabtecha: and the sons of Raamah, Sheba, and Dedan. And Cush begat Nimrod: he began to be a mighty one in the earth. He was a mighty hunter before the Lord: wherefore it is said, Even as Nimrod the mighty hunter before the Lord. And the beginning of his kingdom was Babel, and Erech, and Accad, and Calneh, in the land of Shinar. Out of that land went forth Asshur, and built Nineveh, and the city Rehoboth, and Calah, And Resen between Nineveh and Calah: the same is a great city. And Mizraim begat Ludim, and Anamim, and Lehabim, and Naphtuhim, And Pathrusim, and Casluhim, (out of whom came Philistim,) and Caphthorim. And Canaan begat Sidon his firstborn, and Heth, And the Jebusite, and the Amorite, and the Girgasite, And the Hivite, and the Arkite, and the Sinite, And the Arvadite, and the Zemarite, and the Hamathite: and afterward were the families of the Canaanites spread abroad. And the border of the Canaanites was from Sidon, as You come to Gerar, unto Gaza; as You goest, unto Sodom, and Gomorrah, and Admah, and Zeboim, even unto Lasha. These are the sons of Ham, after their families, after their tongues, in their countries, and in their nations.

Unto Shem also, the father of all the children of Eber, the brother of Japheth the elder, even to him were children born. The children of Shem; Elam, and Asshur, and Arphaxad, and Lud, and Aram. And the children of Aram; Uz, and Hul, and Gether, and Mash. And Arphaxad begat Salah; and Salah begat Eber. And unto Eber were born two sons: the name of one was Peleg; for in his days was the earth divided; and his brother's name was Joktan. And Joktan begat

³⁰ Ham, Ken, *Did Adam Have a Belly Button?* Green Forest, Arkansas, Master Books, 1999, p. 175

Almodad, and Sheleph, and Hazarmaveth, and Jerah, And Hadoram, and Uzal, and Diklah, And Obal, and Abimael, and Sheba, And Ophir, and Havilah, and Jobab: all these were the sons of Joktan. And their dwelling was from Mesha, as You go unto Sephar a mount of the east. These are the sons of Shem, after their families, after their tongues, in their lands, after their nations.

These are the families of the sons of Noah, after their generations, in their nations: and these divided the nations in the earth after the flood. (Genesis 10)

The preceding scripture tells us where Noah's descendents traveled in the generations following the flood. Just as *Out-of-Africa* and Real Eve suppose, a small initial population base booms into many, which spreads and spreads. There is no interspecies breeding, as there are no other groups with which to mate. The gene pool reduces, and family groups take on certain characteristics (a bias toward dark or light skin, hair, or eyes for example). Later, because of the tower of Babel, there is a further spread resulting from the confusion of language. Later yet there is further segregation as the continents drift apart.

SCIENCE AND RACISM

Racism affects the way scientists think, and the judgment they use when they observe and analyze their findings. The Learning Channel aired "Tracking the First Americans" in April 2001. This program started with the traditional hypothesis that the first Americans came from Asia across the Bering Strait. These early Americans were termed "Mongoloids" on this program, and their origins would agree with possible creationist accounts of how the first Americans arrived after the Noahic flood.

Where the traditional scientists differ is with what they concluded from human fossils found that they believe predate the "Mongoloids." An ancient skull was found in Brazil and sent to a forensic scientist for reconstruction. The result was an "African" looking human. This created problems for the scientists; how to account for African features from Mongoloids?

The scientists ultimately concluded that the earliest Americans were not the Mongoloids, but were aboriginal, having most likely sailed from Australia. Later, the Mongoloids encroached from the north and conquered the aboriginals.

A Biblical creationist might have a simpler story for the "aboriginal" Americans. The antediluvian world was different. Man replenished the earth prior to the flood as commanded by God. We cannot know how the gene pool was spread during that time. What looks African now could have been South American then (we don't and can't even know how the continents were before the flood). The ancient skull was most likely from someone that died before the flood or possibly that perished in the flood. So the Americas were replenished first by one people-group before the flood, then another after the flood. The answer is simple when you look to the Bible.

PREJUDICE

The author has wonderful memories of the adults from his church as he grew up. "It was a large, yet close, church family. Many of the men were my heroes. They sang in the choir, taught my Sunday school classes, and took us kids on outings. I saw them hit the ball for a mile playing

softball at picnics. Mostly I saw them at church. They looked alike- men in dark suits. They were all equals as far as I was concerned.”

“As I grew older and got around town more, I began seeing the men in their secular jobs. Some of them looked exactly as they did on Sundays. As executives, that was their attire. I saw some of the other men dressed differently. Some did maintenance work, utility work, worked in a factory, and so on. The different wardrobe seemed strange to me because I was accustomed to seeing them in suits. My father did a little bit of everything in a family-owned furniture store. I remember Dad favoring plaid sport shirts and navy blue trousers.”

“These men all looked the same at church, and all that were the same in the faith *were* the same. During the week they perhaps looked different, but they were all the same then, also. This world would be prejudiced against one group or the other based on social standards, the poor against the rich, and the rich against the poor. How foolish! In Heaven I am sure that God has selected but one wardrobe for his people. We should think no differently of others based on earthly yardsticks.”

THE BIBLE AND RACISM

RACISM AND PREJUDICE: Jesus said unto him, you shall love your neighbor as thyself. Matthew 22:37,39.

HOW MANY SKIN COLORS ARE THERE: God that made the world and all things therein, seeing that he is Lord of heaven and earth, dwells not in temples made with hands; Neither is worshipped with men's hands, as though he needed any thing, seeing he gives to all life, and breath, and all things; And has made of one blood all nations of men for to dwell on all the face of the earth, and has determined the times before appointed, and the bounds of their habitation; That they should seek the Lord, if haply they might feel after him, and find him, though he be not far from every one of us: For in him we live, and move, and have our being; as certain also of your own poets have said, For we are also his offspring. (Acts 17:24-28)

The secret is in this Bible passage: *God that made the world and all things therein, seeing that he is LORD of Heaven and earth, has made of one blood all nations of men for to dwell on all the face of the earth, and has determined the times before appointed, and the bounds of their habitation.* (Acts 17:24a, 26)

The Bible contains no scripture that would point toward racism, which is simply “hate.” The biblical creation account supports that all mankind descends from one original couple, Adam and Eve. Further, the account of Noah’s flood supports that we all are descendents of Noah, his wife, their three sons, and three daughters-in-law. The curse of Ham has nothing to do with skin “color” as is claimed by racists.

We all have the same skin “color,” determined by pigmentation called “melanin.”

Our genes cause some of us to have more melanin than others, so some are darker, some lighter, in varying “shades.” The exceptions are albinos, who have no melanin. Four genes, two from

	AB	Ab	aB	ab
AB	AABB	AABb	AaBB	AaBb
Ab	AABb	AAbb	AaBb	Aabb
aB	AaBB	AaBb	aaBB	aaBb
ab	AaBb	Aabb	aaBb	aabb

each parent, determine our skin “shade,” represented by upper and lower case A and B on the chart to the right. AABB would be darkest and aabb lightest. This sixteen-square chart shows five possible shades, but skin thickness and the fat beneath the skin can cause further variation.

Many believe that Ham was cursed, and that because of this curse, when Noah said “Cursed be Canaan; a servant of servants shall he be unto his brethren,” that Canaan’s descendents were dark skinned. Nowhere is skin color or anything else physical mentioned. The answer to this Genesis 9 reference is answered in the next chapter: Canaan’s descendants occupied Sodom and Gomorrah! One’s descendents being destined to die by a rain of fire is a terrible curse!

IF ONLY ONE SKIN COLOR, HOW MANY RACES?

And has made of one blood all nations of men to dwell on all the face of the earth (Acts 17:26)

There is more to “race” than color, right? I remember very well singing a Sunday school song, “Jesus loves the little children, all the children of the world. Red and Yellow, Black and White, They are precious in his sight...”

Let us assume for the sake of argument that there are four races and four skin colors. Take a piece of paper the “color” of your skin and hold it next to your skin. It is not red, yellow, black, or white, is it? Is it some kind of a brown shade?

From the Bible we are taught that we all came from Adam through Noah. The evolutionists are now “seeing the light” that we all came from an “Eve” in Africa. So where did we split into “races?” Answer: we did not. Race is our *perception*. To repeat the statistic, there is less than a 1% difference in the DNA make-up between any of us on this earth. Race is not a concept from God. It seems that for convenience we want to divide God’s children into either advanced or disadvantaged groups.

Shame on us! There is only one “race,” the Human Race! Better yet, “God’s Race!” Racism fits evolutionary thinking, not Special Creation.

Chapter Seven

Judgment, Miracles, and Exodus



ADAM AND EVE EXPELLED FROM EDEN

RECURRENT THEME

In the beginning, God gives man free will. Man disobeys God (sins) and brings death and destruction. This is called “Original Sin” and is why redemption by the birth, death, and resurrection of the Messiah are needed.

A familiar pattern of sin and destruction, followed by forgiveness develops. This pattern is established in Genesis and continues to the last page of the Bible. Genesis continues with rampant sin to a point that causes God to choose to destroy life. He finds a righteous man, Noah, and opts to save this man, his family, and other plant and animal life. God causes a worldwide flood, saving Noah’s family, surviving vegetation, and animals by placing air-breathing fauna onto the ark.

After the flood, God commands the people to spread all over the earth. They did not listen. In fact, they united in an attempt to build the first “skyscraper” so they could get closer to God. God confounded their language so they could only communicate within groups. This caused them to separate by language and disburse to all the corners of the earth. After this dispersion,

God caused the tectonic plates to shift from the single continent of Pangea into the present configuration.

A man named Abraham enters the picture and becomes the father of the people to be called “Israelites.” (He also becomes the father of Ishmael and the Arabs.) His descendants, the Israelites, end up in Egypt as slaves to Pharaoh. This is the familiar scenario of “crime, punishment, and redemption.” God selects a reluctant hero named “Moses” to lead “God’s People” out of Egypt.



MOSES STANDS BEFORE PHARAOH

After the ninth plague, darkness across the land for 3 days, Pharaoh still refuses to let the Israelites go. Finally, God kills the first-born of every Egyptian family.

Finally, Pharaoh lets the Israelites leave, then changes his mind and pursues them.



The Israelites flee to a promised land. On the long journey, they repeat “crime, punishment, and redemption” a number of times. God helps Moses lead the people and provides miracles along the way, including parting the Sea of Reeds (translated in error as “Red Sea” in many texts).

God gives them the Law (the Ten Commandments and other laws), and leads them to victory over Pharaoh’s army as well as the armies of the people living in the land God promised to the Israelites.

ISRAELITES IN EGYPT AND THE EXODUS

Some modern historians deny that the Israelites were enslaved in Egypt. According to the article “Exodus Evidence: An Egyptologist Looks at Biblical History” from the May/June 2016 issue of *Biblical Archaeology Review* wrestles with both of these questions—“Did the Exodus happen?” and “When did the Exodus happen?” In the article, evidence is presented that generally supports a 13th-century B.C.E. Exodus during the Ramesside Period, when Egypt’s 19th Dynasty ruled. The article examines Egyptian texts, artifacts and archaeological sites, which demonstrate that the Bible recounts accurate memories from the 13th century B.C.E. For instance, the names of three places that appear in the Biblical account of Israel’s Exodus from Egypt correspond to Egyptian place names from the Ramesside Period (13th–11th centuries B.C.E.). The Bible recounts that, as slaves, the Israelites were forced to build the store-cities of Pithom and Ramses. After the ten plagues, the Israelites left Egypt and famously crossed the Yam Suph (translated Red Sea or Reed Sea), whose waters were miraculously parted for them. The Biblical names Pithom, Ramses and Yam Suph correspond to the Egyptian place names Pi-Ramesse, Pi-Atum and (Pa-)Tjuf. These three place names appear together in Egyptian texts only from the Ramesside Period. The name Pi-Ramesse went out of use by the beginning of Egypt’s Third Intermediate Period, which began around 1085 B.C.E., and does not reappear until much later.

Web: <https://www.biblicalarchaeology.org/daily/biblical-topics/exodus/exodus-fact-or-fiction/>

Israel enters the Promised Land. They select a king and judges to rule the people. Over a number of centuries they repeat “crime, punishment, and redemption.” During this same period, Famous kings David, his son Solomon, rule the Israelites.

EVIDENCE FOR THE EXODUS

From Associates For Biblical Research, Posted By Douglas Petrovich, PhD Candidate, ThM, MDiv, MA, University of Toronto, NMC Department:

“The biblical narrative of an extended Israelite stay in Egypt and a spectacular mass exodus under the nose of pharaoh long has been the laughingstock of ancient Near Eastern scholars, as no evidence of any of these events outside the biblical narrative has been presented. These days are ending.

Dramatic and spectacular evidence both for the Israelite sojourn in Egypt, the exodus, and the first Passover is the focus of the book I am now writing, entitled: Evidence of Israelites in Egypt from Joseph’s Time until the Exodus and will contain an important contribution from ABR’s Director of Research, Dr. Bryant Wood. In preparation for the book, I just published an article in the secular, Egyptological journal, *The Journal of Ancient Egyptian Interconnections* (5/2: 9–28). This article serves the ‘John the Baptist role’ for the book, offering no biblical references, but preparing the scene for all that will come.”



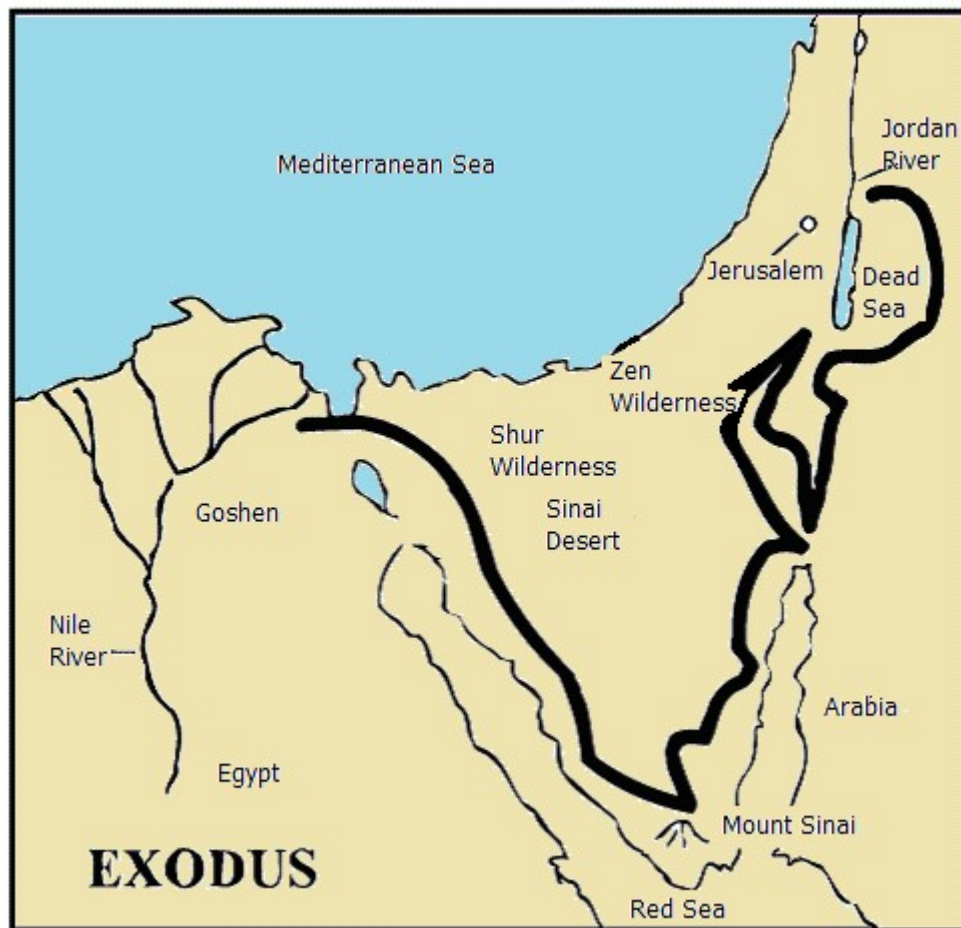
MOSES RECEIVES THE
TEN COMMANDMENTS

Web: <http://www.biblearchaeology.org/post/2013/06/07/Evidence-for-the-Exodus-from-Egypt.aspx#Article>

EVIDENCE FOR THE EXODUS? NEW DISCOVERIES SUPPORT BIBLICAL ACCOUNT

This article by Aaron Earls states that, “For years, archaeologists have doubted the biblical story of the nation of Israel’s origin because the account lacked material evidence—until now... A recent discovery, however, provides physical evidence to support the biblical account... Excavations in Khirbet el-Mastarah, an area in the Jordan Valley, have unearthed numerous nomadic or semi-nomadic enclosures and structures dating back to the time of the Exodus, according to an article in Biblical Archaeology Review from Ralph Hawkins and David Ben-Shlomo.”

Web: <https://factsandtrends.net/2018/09/27/evidence-for-the-exodus-new-discoveries-support-biblical-account/>



Map depicting one of the possible routes of the Exodus.

Now, one might assume that the Israelites would sin again during the Exodus during which God helped them, in fact facilitated. One would be correct. The following narrative is what transpired.

CHOSEN PEOPLE AND THE COVENANT

THE EXODUS & COVENANT: The Israelis arrived in the Sinai peninsula three months after the night of their departure from Egypt. After breaking camp, they came to the base of Mt. Sinai and set up camp there. Moses climbed the rugged mountain to meet with God, and from somewhere in the mountain God called to him and said, "Give these instructions to the people of Israel. Tell them you have seen what I did to the Egyptians, and how I brought you to myself. If you will obey me and keep your part of my contract with you, you shall be my own little flock from among all the nations of the earth; for all the earth is mine. And you shall be a kingdom of priests to God, a holy nation."

Moses returned from the mountain and called together the leaders of the people and told them what the Lord had said. They all responded in unison, We will certainly do everything he asks of us. Moses reported the words of the people to the Lord. Then he said to Moses, I am going to come to you in the form of a dark cloud, so that the people themselves can hear me when I talk with you, and then they will always believe you.

Go down now and see that the people are ready for my visit. Sanctify them today and tomorrow, and have them wash their clothes. Then, the day after tomorrow, I will come down upon Mt. Sinai as all the people watch. Set boundary lines and tell them, Do not go up into the mountain, or even touch its boundaries; whoever does shall die. Stay away from the mountain entirely until you hear a ram's horn sounding one long blast; then gather at the foot of the mountain!

So Moses went down to the people and sanctified them. He told them, Get ready for God's appearance two days from now. On the morning of the third day there was a terrific thunder and lightning storm, and a huge cloud came down upon the mountain, and there was a long, loud blast as from a ram's horn; and all the people trembled. Moses led them out from the camp to meet God, and they stood at the foot of the mountain. All Mt. Sinai was covered with smoke because Jehovah descended upon it in the form of fire; the smoke billowed into the sky as from a furnace, and the whole mountain shook with a violent earthquake.

So the Lord came down upon the top of Mt. Sinai and called Moses up to the top of the mountain, and Moses ascended to God. But the Lord told Moses, Go back down and warn the people not to cross the boundaries. They must not come up here to try to see God, for if they do, many of them will die. Even the priests on duty must sanctify themselves, or else I will destroy them.

But the people will not come up into the mountain! Moses protested. You told them not to! You told me to set boundaries around the mountain, and to declare it off limits because it is reserved for God.

But Jehovah said, Go down, and bring Aaron back with you, and do not let the priests and the people break across the boundaries to try to come up here, or I will punish them. So Moses went down to the people and told them what God had said. Then God issued this edict:

1. I am Jehovah your God who liberated you from your slavery in Egypt. You may worship no other god than me:
2. You shall not make yourselves any idols: no images of animals, birds, or fish. You must never bow or worship it in any way; for I, the Lord your God, am very possessive. I will not share your affection with any other god! And when I punish people for their sins, the punishment continues upon the children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren of those

who hate me; but, I lavish my love upon thousands of those who love me and obey my commandments.

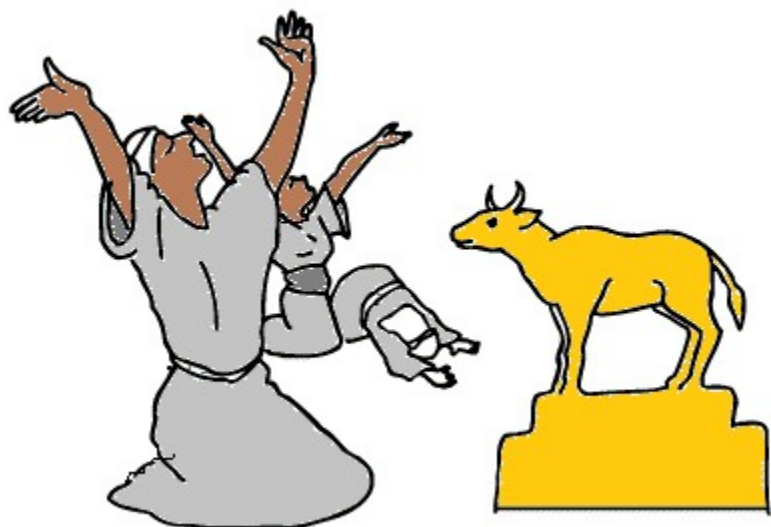
3. You shall not use the name of Jehovah your God irreverently, nor use it to swear to a falsehood. You will not escape punishment if you do.
4. Remember to observe the Sabbath as a holy day. Six days a week are for your daily duties and your regular work, but the seventh day is a day of Sabbath rest before the Lord your God. On that day you are to do no work of any kind, nor shall your son, daughter, or slaves--whether men or women--or your cattle or your houseguests. For in six days the Lord made the heaven, earth, and sea, and everything in them, and rested the seventh day; so he blessed the Sabbath day and set it aside for rest.
5. Honor your father and mother, that you may have a long, good life in the land the Lord your God will give you. (This is the Commandment with Promise.)
6. You must not murder.
7. You must not commit adultery.
8. You must not steal.
9. You must not lie.
10. You must not be envious of your neighbor's house, or want to sleep with his wife, or want to own his slaves, oxen, donkeys, or anything else he has.

All the people saw the lightning and the smoke billowing from the mountain, and heard the thunder and the long, frightening trumpet blast; and they stood at a distance, shaking with fear. They said to Moses, You tell us what God says and we will obey, but do not let God speak directly to us, or it will kill us. Don't be afraid, Moses told them, for God has come in this way to show you his awesome power, so that from now on you will be afraid to sin against him!

As the people stood in the distance, Moses entered into the deep darkness where God was. And the Lord told Moses to be his spokesman to the people of Israel. You are witnesses to the fact that I have made known my will to you from heaven. Remember, you must not make or worship idols made of silver or gold or of anything else! The altars you make for me must be simple altars of earth. Offer upon them your sacrifices to me--your burnt offerings and peace offerings of sheep and oxen. Build altars only where I tell you to, and I will come and bless you there. (From Exodus 19, 20 LVB).

Returning to "Crime and Punishment":

So Moses returned to the Lord and said, Oh, these people have sinned a great sin, and have made themselves gods of gold. Yet now if you will only forgive their sin--and if not, then blot me out of the book you have written. (Exodus 32:31-32 Living Bible).



GOD’S WRATH: For I am the Lord your God who brought you out of the land of Egypt, so that you would be slaves no longer; I have broken your chains so that you can walk with dignity. But if you will not listen to me or obey me, but reject my laws, this is what I will do to you: I will punish you with sudden terrors and panic, and with tuberculosis and burning fever; your eyes shall be consumed and your life shall ebb away; you will sow your crops in vain, for your enemies will eat them. I will set my face against you and you will flee before your attackers; those who hate you will rule you; you will even run when no one is chasing you! And if you still disobey me, I will punish you seven times more severely for your sins. (Leviticus 26:13-18 LVB).

Eventually, God led the Israelites to the Promised Land, and into battles to defeat their enemies along the way. This included the Battle of Jericho, which we will review in another chapter.

LIDAR³¹, and other emerging technologies, are helping archaeologists locate sites that could be encampments of the Israelites during the Exodus. The outlook is for “physical proof” of the Exodus, although believers do not require proof.

31 Light Detection and Ranging, is a remote sensing method that uses light in the form of a pulsed laser to measure ranges (variable distances) to the Earth. <https://oceanservice.noaa.gov/facts/lidar.html>

PART III

PEOPLE AND PLACES

Empires of David and Solomon

This map is a broad view of the extent of the domain which God had promised to give to David and his seed (1 Kgs. 4:20).



Chapter Eight

Sodom and Gomorrah, Jericho, and Other Places



SODOM AND GOMORRAH

We all know this story. God wanted to destroy the cities for their wickedness. Abraham convinced God to spare his nephew, Lot, and his family. Angels lead Lot's family away. Lot's wife disobeys and looks back (possibly pining for the city and its sin) and is turned into a pillar of salt.

Is the Bible's account of the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah just a myth? Not likely, says an archaeologist who believes, following 12 years of sifting sand near the Dead Sea in Jordan, that he has found the ruins of the largest twin cities in the area, one that fits all the criteria of the Bible account. Steven Collins, a professor of biblical studies and Apologetics at Trinity Southwest University, says a "monstrous" site in Tall el-Hammam in the southern Jordan Valley, which lies eight miles northeast of the Dead Sea, perfectly matches the biblical descriptions of the "city of sin" destroyed in a single day by fire and brimstone.

Collins began exploring the rubble in 2005 and eventually concluded that it is indeed the site inhabited by Lot who was saved by Abraham from judgment of the dominant city-state of the era. "When we explored the area, the choice of Tall el-Hammam as the site of Sodom was virtually a no-brainer since it was at least five to 10 times larger than all the other Bronze Age sites in the entire region." The site is a large mound, or "tel," that he believes represents the ruins of the two cities. The team of researchers has since found high and thick defensive walls, gates, towers, plazas and ramparts as well as a palace in the upper city.

Web: <http://mobile.wnd.com/2018/03/have-sodom-and-gomorrah-been-found/>

In another account, Bryant Wood of Associates for Biblical Research writes, "The ruins of Sodom and Gomorrah have been discovered southeast of the Dead Sea. The modern names are Bab edh-Dhra, thought to be Sodom, and Numeira, thought to be Gomorrah. Both places were destroyed at the same time by an enormous conflagration. The destruction debris was about three feet thick. What brought about this awful calamity? Startling discoveries in the cemetery at Bab edh-Dhra revealed the cause. Archaeologists found that buildings used to bury the dead were burned by a fire that started on the roof." <https://christiananswers.net/q-abr/abr-a007.html>

THE SCRIPTURE ACCOUNT

Then the Lord said, "Because the outcry against Sodom and Gomorrah is great and their sin is very grave. I will go down to see whether they have done altogether according to the outcry which has come to me; and if not, I will know." So the men turned from there, and went toward Sodom; but Abraham still stood before the Lord.

Then Abraham drew near, and said, "Wilt thou indeed destroy the righteous with the wicked? Suppose there are fifty righteous within the city; wilt thou then destroy the place and not spare it for the fifty righteous who are in it? Far be it from thee to do such a thing, to slay the righteous with the wicked, so that the righteous fare as the wicked! Far be that from thee! Shall not the Judge of all the earth do right?" And the Lord said, "If I find at Sodom fifty righteous in the city, I will spare the whole place for their sake." Abraham answered, "Behold, I have taken upon myself to speak to the Lord, I who am but dust and ashes.

Suppose five of the fifty righteous are lacking? Wilt thou destroy the whole city for lack of five?" And he said, "I will not destroy it if I find forty-five there." Again he spoke to him, and said, "Suppose forty are found there." He answered, "For the sake of forty I will not do it." Then he said, "Oh let not the Lord be angry, and I will speak. Suppose thirty are found there." He answered, "I will not do it, if I find thirty there." He said, "Behold, I have taken upon myself to speak to the Lord. Suppose twenty are found there." He answered, "For the sake of twenty I will not destroy it." Then he said, "Oh let not the Lord be angry, and I will speak again but this once. Suppose ten are found there." He answered, "For the sake of ten I will not destroy it." And the Lord went his way, when he had finished speaking to Abraham; and Abraham returned to his place.

The two angels came to Sodom in the evening; and Lot was sitting in the gate of Sodom. When Lot saw them, he rose to meet them, and bowed himself with his face to the earth, and said, "My lords, turn aside, I pray you, to your servant's house and spend the night, and wash your feet; then you may rise up early and go on your way." They said, "No; we will spend the night in the street." But he urged them strongly; so they turned aside to him and entered his house; and he made them a feast, and baked unleavened bread, and they ate.

But before they lay down, the men of the city, the men of Sodom, both young and old, all the people to the last man, surrounded the house; and they called to Lot, "Where are the men who came to you tonight? Bring them out to us, that we may know them." Lot went out of the door to the men, shut the door after him, and said, "I beg you, my brothers, do not act so wickedly. Behold, I

have two daughters who have not known man; let me bring them out to you, and do to them as you please; only do nothing to these men, for they have come under the shelter of my roof." But they said, "Stand back!" And they said, "This fellow came to sojourn, and he would play the judge! Now we will deal worse with you than with them." Then they pressed hard against the man Lot, and drew near to break the door.

But the men put forth their hands and brought Lot into the house to them, and shut the door. And they struck with blindness the men who were at the door of the house, both small and great, so that they wearied themselves groping for the door. Then the men said to Lot, "Have you any one else here? Sons-in-law, sons, daughters, or any one you have in the city, bring them out of the place; for we are about to destroy this place, because the outcry against its people has become great before the Lord, and the Lord has sent us to destroy it." So Lot went out and said to his sons-in-law, who were to marry his daughters, "Up, get out of this place; for the Lord is about to destroy the city." But he seemed to his sons-in-law to be jesting.

When morning dawned, the angels urged Lot, saying, "Arise, take your wife and your two daughters who are here, lest you be consumed in the punishment of the city." But he lingered; so the men seized him and his wife and his two daughters by the hand, the Lord being merciful to him, and they brought him forth and set him outside the city. And when they had brought them forth, they said, "Flee for your life; do not look back or stop anywhere in the valley; flee to the hills, lest you be consumed." And Lot said to them, "Oh, no, my lords; behold, your servant has found favor in your sight, and you have shown me great kindness in saving my life; but I cannot flee to the hills, lest the disaster overtake me, and I die. Behold, yonder city is near enough to flee to, and it is a little one. Let me escape there--is it not a little one?--and my life will be saved!" He said to him, "Behold, I grant you this favor also, that I will not overthrow the city of which you have spoken. Make haste, escape there; for I can do nothing till you arrive there." Therefore the name of the city was called Zoar.

The sun had risen on the earth when Lot came to Zoar. Then the Lord rained on Sodom and Gomorrah brimstone and fire from the Lord out of heaven; and he overthrew those cities, and all the valley, and all the inhabitants of the cities, and what grew on the ground. But Lot's wife behind him looked back, and she became a pillar of salt.

(Condensed from Genesis chapters 18:20 - 19:26 RSV)



Lot's wife looks back

Modernists, not wishing to be thought of as "quaint lunatics" for believing the Bible, always look for natural ways for events in stories like Sodom and Gomorrah. "It must have been a volcano." The real answer must be found in the supernatural, that is, in the Living God who controls everything.

THE BATTLE OF JERICO

The Battle of Jericho is another account from the Bible in which God uses his supernatural power to accomplish an end. Remember, God promised a land to His People. The armies of the Israelites were sent throughout the region to conquer their enemies and take dominion over the land. They came to a large city encircled by stone walls. God instructs the Israelites what to do, they obey, and defeat the city and its people.

Did the city of Jericho exist? In the 19th and 20th centuries several organized excavations were carried out at the site. The most notable were those of John Garstang and Kathleen Kenyon. Garstang found fallen city walls, burned stores of grain and evidence of destruction of the city by fire, all of which he dated to about 1400 BC—right in line with the Biblical chronology of the city's destruction.

Kathleen Kenyon found much of the same evidence. Her findings at Jericho were not published until 1981–1983. Several years later, when archaeologist Bryant Wood—then a visiting professor at the University of Toronto—examined her findings. He realized that Kenyon had based her dating on the fact that she did not find a particular kind of imported pottery found at other sites in the Near East. Surprising, Wood discovered that Kenyon actually had found indigenous pottery that dates precisely to the time of the Biblical conquest of the city, but inexplicably ignored it. She also overlooked the fact that her predecessor, John Garstang, had found painted pottery from the time of the conquest. Egyptian amulets he found at a nearby cemetery also indicated the site was regularly inhabited from several centuries before until right around the Biblically derived date of the city's fall.

<http://www.biblearchaeology.org/post/2009/01/Jericho-Does-the-Evidence-Disprove-or-Prove-the-Bible.aspx>

In another account, “The archaeological evidence from Jericho supports the Bible's account of the Conquest at Jericho when one uses Dr. Aardsma's biblical chronology date for the Conquest.”³²

THE BIBLICAL ACCOUNT



When Joshua was by Jericho, he lifted up his eyes and looked, and a man stood before him with his drawn sword in his hand; and Joshua went to him and said to him, "Are you for us, or for our adversaries?" And he said, "No; but as commander of the army of the Lord I have now come." And Joshua fell on his face to the earth, and worshiped, and said to him, "What does my lord bid his servant?" And the commander of the Lord's army said to Joshua, "Put off your shoes from your feet; for the place where you stand is holy." And Joshua did so.

³² Dr. Gerald E. Aardsma ARP, A New Approach to the Chronology of Biblical History from Abraham to Samuel.

Jericho was shut up from within and from without because of the people of Israel; none went out, and none came in. And the Lord said to Joshua, "See, I have given into your hand Jericho, with its king and mighty men of valor. You shall march around the city, all the men of war going around the city once. Thus shall you do for six days. And seven priests shall bear seven trumpets of rams' horns before the ark; and on the seventh day you shall march around the city seven times, the priests blowing the trumpets. And when they make a long blast with the ram's horn, as soon as you hear the sound of the trumpet, then all the people shall shout with a great shout; and the wall of the city will fall down flat, and the people shall go up every man straight before him."

So Joshua called the priests, the army, and the people and commanded them as he had been commanded.

On the seventh day they rose early at the dawn of day, and marched around the city in the same manner seven times: it was only on that day that they marched around the city seven times. And at the seventh time, when the priests had blown the trumpets, Joshua said to the people, "Shout; for the Lord has given you the city. And the city and all that is within it shall be devoted to the Lord for destruction; only Rahab the harlot and all who are with her in her house shall live, because she hid the messengers that we sent."³³

But you, keep yourselves from the things devoted to destruction, lest when you have devoted them you take any of the devoted things and make the camp of Israel a thing for destruction, and bring trouble upon it. But all silver and gold, and vessels of bronze and iron, are sacred to the Lord; they shall go into the treasury of the Lord." So the people shouted, and the trumpets were blown. As soon as the people heard the sound of the trumpet, the people raised a great shout, and the wall fell down flat, so that the people went up into the city, every man straight before him, and they took the city.

Then they utterly destroyed all in the city, both men and women, young and old, oxen, sheep, and asses, with the edge of the sword. And Joshua said to the two men who had spied out the land, "Go into the harlot's house, and bring out from it the woman, and all who belong to her, as you swore to her." So the young men who had been spies went in, and brought out Rahab, and her father and mother and brothers and all who belonged to her; and they brought all her kindred, and set them outside the camp of Israel. And they burned the city with fire, and all within it; only the silver and gold, and the vessels of bronze and of iron, they put into the treasury of the house of the Lord. (Condensed from Joshua 5:13 – 6:24 RSV.)



³³ Rahab was a prostitute living along the wall. She hid spies from the Israelite army in her house, and was spared.

The Battle of Jericho is one of the many stories that occurred during the Exodus. The Exodus is central to Judeo-Christian culture. Future discoveries confirming biblical history to the non-religious world will be exciting for believers and non-believers alike.

The remains of the First and Second Temple are known, as well as many New Testament locations and places associated with Jesus. One can take a virtual tour and visit these places “from home.” Web video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4IIZJ4YUjSY>

Chapter Nine

Bible Personalities

BIBLE HEROES: DID THEY EXIST?

Non-believers doubt the existence many of the famous characters from the Bible: Adam, Noah, Abraham, Moses, David, Solomon, Jesus, and others. They point to the lack of evidence outside the Bible. Can we prove they existed? We should not have to, but we are finding factual evidence.



David slays Goliath

KING DAVID

David is a Bible figure who has been controversially denied as having ever existed. But, an archaeological find called The Tel Dan Stele was discovered in an archaeological dig in the ruin ("tel") of the ancient city of Dan in northern Israel. It was made of basalt, which was a very expensive stone in antiquity. Since it would have been costly to produce, the monument could not have been erected by just anybody. It was most likely the work of a king.

There were thirteen lines of writing preserved in an early form of the alphabet. The letters were clear and elegantly inscribed and recognized as Aramaic, the mother tongue of ancient Syria. The ninth line caught the collective eye of the first readers. There were the consonants that spelled out the name of David: DWD. But the name did not stand alone. It was part of a larger word rendered "house of David."

Web: <https://archive.nytimes.com/www.nytimes.com/books/first/m/mckenzie-david.html?mcubz=1>

SOLOMON

"And you, Solomon my son, know you the God of your father, and serve him with a perfect heart and with a willing mind: for the Lord searches all hearts, and understands all the imaginations of the thoughts: if you seek him, he will be found of you; but if you forsake him, he will cast you off for ever." (1 Chronicles 28:9).

Like his father, David, many reject Solomon as a fictionalized character. Some think a recent excavation at Biblical Tamar Park in southern Israel has unearthed the entrance to one of Solomon's store cities. Paul Lago, one of the archeological workers at the site, believes the gates he

helped uncover in this recent dig led to one of the fortified cities described in the Book of First Kings. "The Bible says that Solomon built a fortress in the desert," Lago told Breaking Israel News. "The archeological evidence is consistent with 1 King 9:19, where it says Solomon built Tamar in the wilderness."

Web: <http://patternsofevidence.com/blog/2018/01/26/have-solomons-gates-been-found/>

THE WISDOM OF SOLOMON

Famous for his wisdom, this story is a favorite:

Then the king said, "The one says, 'This is my son that is alive, and your son is dead'; and the other says, 'No; but your son is dead, and my son is the living one.'" And the king said, "Bring me a sword." So a sword was brought before the king. And the king said, "Divide the living child in two, and give half to the one, and half to the other." Then the woman whose son was alive said to the king, because her heart yearned for her son, "Oh, my lord, give her the living child, and by no means slay it." But the other said, "It shall be neither mine nor yours; divide it." Then the king answered and said, "Give the living child to the first woman, and by no means slay it; she is its mother." And all Israel heard of the judgment which the king had rendered; and they greatly admired the king, because they perceived that the wisdom of God was in him, to render justice.

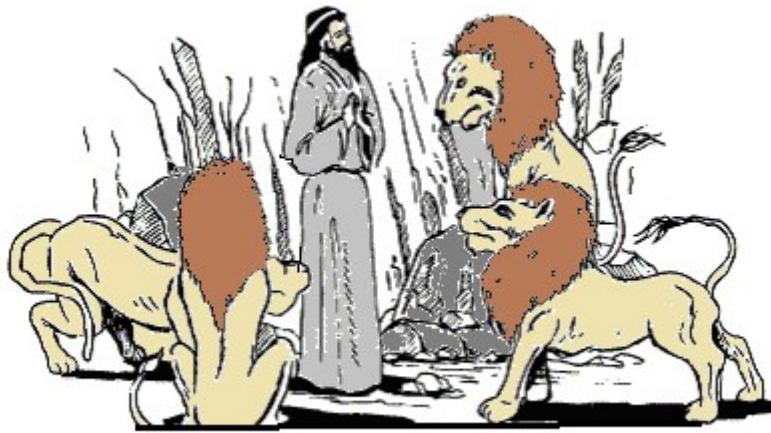


King Solomon "Cut the Child in Two"

NEBUCHADNEZZAR

Not every Bible personality is a hero, of course. Nebuchadnezzar was very evil. He was the king that captured the Jews and destroyed the first temple. He constructed a ninety-foot (roughly 30 meters) tall golden idol. When Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego refused to worship the

false God, he threw them into the fiery furnace. Later, he cast Daniel into the lions' den. These men were faithful to God, and He delivered them from danger.



Almost as famously, Nebuchadnezzar had a dream that only Daniel could interpret. He would eventually learn that the God of Shadrach, Meshach, Abednego, and Daniel was greater than the other gods.

All this happened to King Nebuchadnezzar. Twelve months later, as the king was walking on the roof of the royal palace of Babylon, he said, "Is not this the great Babylon I have built as the royal residence, by my mighty power and for the glory of my majesty?" Even as the words were on his lips, a voice came from heaven, "This is what is decreed for you, King Nebuchadnezzar: Your royal authority has been taken from you. You will be driven away from people and will live with the wild animals; you will eat grass like the ox. Seven times will pass by for you until you acknowledge that the Most High is sovereign over all kingdoms on earth and gives them to anyone he wishes." Immediately what had been said about Nebuchadnezzar was fulfilled. He was driven away from people and ate grass like the ox. His body was drenched with the dew of heaven until his hair grew like the feathers of an eagle and his nails like the claws of a bird. At the end of that time, I, Nebuchadnezzar, raised my eyes toward heaven, and my sanity was restored. Then I praised the Most High; I honored and glorified him who lives forever. His dominion is an eternal dominion; his kingdom endures from generation to generation. All the peoples of the earth are regarded as nothing. He does as he pleases with the powers of heaven and the peoples of the earth. No one can hold back his hand or say to him: "What have you done?" At the same time that my sanity was restored, my honor and splendor were returned to me for the glory of my kingdom. My advisers and nobles sought me out, and I was restored to my throne and became even greater than before. Now I, Nebuchadnezzar, praise and exalt and glorify the King of heaven, because everything he does is right and all his ways are just. And those who walk in pride he is able to humble. (Daniel 4:28-37 NIV)

Modern historians have questioned that a king named Nebuchadnezzar existed. Recently, archaeologists have unearthed many thousands of bricks that have his name stamped on them. Evidence has surfaced that many Bible figures really existed. More and more the historicity of the Bible is being confirmed.

Web: <https://www.biblicalarchaeology.org/daily/people-cultures-in-the-bible/people-in-the-bible/50-people-in-the-bible-confirmed-archaeologically/>

Babylonian Empire

This map is a panoramic view of the extent of the empire of the Babylonians. Their capital was Babylon. King Nebuchadnezzar finally destroyed Jerusalem in 586 B.C. and deported almost all of the remaining Israelites to Babylon, as God had warned them all along. However, a remnant of God's people were permitted to return 70 years later.



Map of King Nebuchadnezzar's empire

Chapter Ten

Satan and Hell



¹²How art you fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! how art you cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations! ¹³For you hast said in your heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north: ¹⁴I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the most High. ¹⁵Yet you shall be brought down to hell, to the sides of the pit. (Isaiah 14:12-16)

LUCIFER/SATAN

Does Satan exist? It is essential to the Bible that Satan is real. A foundation to everything after Creation is the temptation of Eve by Satan, the serpent, which caused Original Sin and the fall of man. Satan is clever: “Did God really say that?” Go ahead and eat the fruit- God just does not want you to be as smart as He is.

Satan is one of the angels created by God, but he wanted to be like God. He and one third of the angels (demons) were cast from Heaven. They work evil in the world today. The only entity on earth who has been able to resist (overcome) Satan is Jesus. Who is Satan? What is he like?

THE PERSONALITY OF SATAN

Original sin: a deceitful liar: Now the **serpent** was more subtle than any beast of the field which the Lord God had made. And he said unto the woman, Yea, has God said, You shall not eat of every tree of the garden? (Genesis 3:1)

Tormentor: But the Spirit of the Lord departed from Saul, and an **evil spirit** from the Lord troubled him. And Saul's servants said unto him, Behold now, an evil spirit from God troubles you. (1 Samuel 16:14-15)

Liar: And there came forth a spirit, and stood before the Lord, and said, I will persuade him. And the Lord said unto him, Wherewith? And he said, I will go forth, and I will be a **lying spirit** in the mouth of all his prophets. And he said, You shall persuade him, and prevail: go forth, and do so. (1 Kings 22:21-22)

False god: But the angel of the Lord said to Elijah the Tishbite, Arise, go up to meet the messengers of the king of Samaria, and say unto them, Is it not because there is not a God in Israel, that you go to inquire of **Baalzebub** the god of Ekron? (2 Kings 1:3)

Tempter: And **Satan** stood up against Israel, and provoked David to number Israel. (1 Chronicles 21:1)

Tempter: Now there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the Lord, and **Satan** came among them. And the Lord said unto Satan, From where do you come? Then Satan answered the Lord, and said, From going back and forth in the earth, and from walking up and down in it. And the Lord said unto Satan, Hast You considered my servant Job, that there is none like him in the earth, a perfect and an upright man, one that fears God, and eschews evil? Then Satan answered the Lord, and said, Does Job fear God for nothing? Hast not You made an hedge about him, and about his house, and about all that he has on every side? You hast blessed the work of his hands, and his substance is increased in the land. But put forth your hand now, and touch all that he has, and he will curse you to your face. And the Lord said unto Satan, Behold, all that he has is in your power; only upon himself put not forth your hand. So Satan went forth from the presence of the Lord. (Job 1:6-12)

And **Satan** answered the Lord, and said, Skin for skin, yea, all that a man has will he give for his life. (Job 2:4)

Adversary: Oh that one would hear me! behold, my desire is, that the Almighty would answer me, and that **mine adversary** had written a book. (Job 31:35)

Destroyer: Concerning the works of men, by the word of your lips I have kept me from the paths of the **destroyer**. (Psalms 17:4)

Adversary: O God, how long shall the **adversary** reproach? shall the enemy blaspheme your name forever? (Psalms 74:10)

Enemy: I will say of the Lord, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in him will I trust. Surely he shall deliver you from the snare of **the fowler**, and from the noisome pestilence. (Psalms 91:2,3)

Friend of the wicked: Set You a wicked man over him: and let **Satan** stand at his right hand. (Psalms 109:6)

Proud: How art You fallen from heaven, O **Lucifer**, son of the morning! how art You cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations! For You hast said in your heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the

congregation, in the sides of the north: I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the most High. Yet You shall be brought down to hell, to the sides of the pit. (Isaiah 14:12-15)

Destroyer: The lion is come up from his thicket, and **the destroyer** of the Gentiles is on his way; he is gone forth from his place to make your land desolate; and your cities shall be laid waste, without an inhabitant. (Jeremiah 4:7)

Accuser: And he showed me Joshua the high priest standing before the angel of the Lord, and **Satan** standing at his right hand to resist him. And the Lord said unto Satan, The Lord rebuke you, O Satan; even the Lord that has chosen Jerusalem rebuke you: is not this a brand plucked out of the fire? (Zechariah 3:1-2)

Tempter: Then says Jesus unto him, Get you hence, **Satan**: for it is written, You shall worship the Lord your God, and him only shall You serve. Then the devil leaves him, and, behold, angels came and ministered unto him. Matthew 4:10-11 (Also Matthew 4:1, Mark 1:13, Luke 4:2, Acts 5:3, 1 Corinthians 7:5).

Tormentor: And Jesus knew their thoughts, and said unto them, Every kingdom divided against itself is brought to desolation; and every city or house divided against itself shall not stand: And if **Satan** cast out Satan, he is divided against himself; how shall then his kingdom stand? And if I by Beelzebub cast out devils, by whom do your children cast them out? therefore they shall be your judges. But if I cast out devils by the Spirit of God, then the kingdom of God is come unto you. Matthew 12:25-28. (Also Mark 3:23 and Luke 8:29, Luke 11:18-20, Luke 22:31-32, 2 Corinthians 12:7-9).

Representation of evil: But he turned, and said unto Peter, Get you behind me, **Satan**: You art an offence unto me: for You savor not the things that be of God, but those that be of men. Then said Jesus unto his disciples, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me. For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: and whosoever will lose his life for my sake shall find it. For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul? Matthew 16:23-26. (Also Mark 8:33, Luke 4:8, Eph. 4:26-27, 1 Thessalonians 2:18, 1 Tim. 1:20, 5:15, 2 Tim. 2:24-26, 1 John 2:13, 3:8-10).

Condemned: Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, you cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for **the devil** and his angels: (Matthew 25:41, Hebrews 2:13-15).

Destroyer: The sower sows the word. And these are they by the way side, where the word is sown; but when they have heard, **Satan** cometh immediately, and takes away the word that was sown in their hearts. (Mark 4:14-15, compare Matthew 13:39 and Luke 8:11-12)

Subject to Christ: He that hears you hears me; and he that despises you despises me; and he that despises me despises him that sent me. And the seventy returned with joy, saying, Lord, even the devils are subject unto us through your name. And he said unto them, I beheld **Satan** as lightning fall from heaven. Behold, I give unto you power to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy: and nothing shall by any means hurt you. (Luke 10:16-19, John 14:30, Acts 10:38, 1 Corinthians 5:4-5)

Reviler: And the ruler of the synagogue answered with indignation, because that Jesus had healed on the Sabbath day, and said unto the people, There are six days in which men ought to

work: in them therefore come and be healed, and not on the Sabbath day. The Lord then answered him, and said, You hypocrite, do not each one of you on the Sabbath loose his ox or his ass from the stall, and lead him away to watering? And ought not this woman, being a daughter of Abraham, whom **Satan** has bound, lo, these eighteen years, be loosed from this bond on the Sabbath day? (Luke 13:14-16)

Antichrist: Now the feast of unleavened bread drew nigh, which is called the Passover. And the chief priests and scribes sought how they might kill him; for they feared the people. Then entered **Satan** into Judas surnamed Iscariot, being of the number of the twelve. And he went his way, and communed with the chief priests and captains, how he might betray him unto them. Luke 22:1-4. (Also John 13:2, Revelations chapters 11 through 20).

Liar: You are of your father **the devil**, and the lusts of your father you will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaks a lie, he speaks of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it. John 8:44 (Also, 2 Thessalonians 2:8-10, 1 Tim. 4:1-3).

Wolf: I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd gives his life for the sheep. But he that is an hireling, and not the shepherd, whose own the sheep are not, sees the **wolf** coming, and leaves the sheep, and flees: and the wolf catches them, and scatters the sheep. (John 10:11-12)

Unrighteous ruler: Now is the judgment of this world: now shall the **prince of this world** be cast out. John 12:31. (Also, Acts 13:10, 2 Corinthians 6:14-15, Ephesians 2:1-3).

Prince of this world: Nevertheless I tell you the truth; It is expedient for you that I go away: for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will send him unto you. And when he is come, he will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment: Of sin, because they believe not on me; Of righteousness, because I go to my Father, and you see me no more; Of judgment, because the **prince of this world** is judged. (John 16:7-11)

Subject to God: But rise, and stand upon your feet: for I have appeared unto you for this purpose, to make you a minister and a witness both of these things which You hast seen, and of those things in the which I will appear unto you; Delivering you from the people, and from the Gentiles, unto whom now I send you, To open their eyes, and to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of **Satan** unto God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins, and inheritance among them which are sanctified by faith that is in me. Acts 26:16-18. (Romans 16:20, James 4:7).

Deceiver: For to this end also did I write, that I might know the proof of you, whether you are obedient in all things. To whom you forgive any thing, I forgive also: for if I forgave any thing, to whom I forgave it, for your sakes forgave I it in the person of Christ; Lest **Satan** should get an advantage of us: for we are not ignorant of his devices. 2 Corinthians 2:9-11. (Also 2 Corinthians 4:3-5, 11:3, 11:12-15, 1 Timothy 3:6-7).

The enemy: Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of **the devil**. For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places. Wherefore take unto you the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. Ephesians 6:11-13. (Also, Jude 1:9, Revelation 2:9, 2:13, 2:14, 2:24, 3:9).

Adversary: Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary **the devil**, as a roaring lion, walks about, seeking whom he may devour: (1 Peter 5:8)

The angel that sinned: For if God spared not **the angels that sinned**, but cast them down to hell, and delivered them into chains of darkness, to be reserved unto judgment; And spared not the old world, but saved Noah the eighth person, a preacher of righteousness, bringing in the flood upon the world of the ungodly; And turning the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah into ashes condemned them with an overthrow, making them an example unto those that after should live ungodly; (2 Peter 2:4-6)

Angel of the bottomless pit: And they had a king over them, who is the **angel of the bottomless pit**, whose name in the Hebrew tongue is **Abaddon**, but in the Greek tongue has his name **Apol-lyon**. (Revelation 9:11)

For they are the spirits of **devils**, working miracles, which go forth unto the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty. (Revelations 16:14)

IS THERE A LITERAL HELL?

¹⁵Let death seize upon them, and let them go down quick into hell: for wickedness is in their dwellings, and among them. ¹⁶As for me, I will call upon God; and the Lord shall save me. ¹⁷Evening, and morning, and at noon, will I pray, and cry aloud: and he shall hear my voice. ¹⁸He has delivered my soul in peace from the battle that was against me: for there were many with me. ¹⁹God shall hear, and afflict them, even he that abides of old. ²²Cast your burden upon the Lord, and he shall sustain you: he shall never suffer the righteous to be moved. (Psalms 55:15-19, 22).

And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works. And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. (Revelation 20:13-14)

Hell is real, and it is the destination of all not redeemed by God. Since God has offered salvation through the Messiah, it is unnecessary for anyone to go there, even though on our own merits hell is what we deserve. Hear the word of the Lord:

Let death seize upon them, and let them go down quick into hell: for wickedness is in their dwellings, and among them. (Psalms 55:15)

I made the nations to shake at the sound of his fall, when I cast him down to hell with them that descend into the pit: and all the trees of Eden, the choice and best of Lebanon, all that drink water, shall be comforted in the nether parts of the earth. (Ezekiel 31:16)

But I say unto you, That whosoever is angry with his brother without a cause shall be in danger of the judgment: and whosoever shall (call his brother worthless) shall be in danger of the council: but whosoever shall say, You fool, shall be in danger of hell fire. (Matthew 5:22)

And if your right hand offend you, cut it off, and cast it from you: for it is profitable for you that one of your members should perish, and not that your whole body should be cast into hell. (Matthew 5:30)

Hell is referenced as literally as Heaven. As sure as I am that there is a Heaven, I am that sure there is a hell. Hell is described as a place of great suffering. A place of anguish, darkness, worms, fire, and punishment. Satan will be there, how nice could it be? Why would anyone want to go there?

Have you ever heard a group of guys say, “Well, if we go to hell, at least we’ll be together.” I would not count on being together. Do you think Satan would let you have fun, anyway? Of course I doubt if Satan will have any power in hell, certainly not the power to get out.

Would God send people He loves to hell? The Bible says He loves all of us. The Bible also says that there is only one way to eternal life. Further, those that do not go to Heaven go to hell. Do not plan to get into Heaven just because God is a God of love. Do you see the word “just” in the previous sentence? That is why God will send people to hell, because He is Just.

And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works. And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. (Revelation 20:13-14)

HOW TO DEFEAT SATAN: VICTORY OVER SATAN AND HELL

Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners; and purify your hearts, you double minded. (James 4:7-8)

The Lord knows how to deliver the godly out of temptations, and to reserve the unjust unto the day of judgment to be punished: (2 Peter 2:9)

Antichrist: And I saw an angel come down from heaven, having the key of the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand. And he laid hold on **the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan**, and bound him a thousand years, And cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal upon him, that he should deceive the nations no more, till the thousand years should be fulfilled: and after that he must be loosed a little season. (Revelation 20:1-3)

Satan cast out of Heaven: And there appeared a great wonder in heaven; a woman clothed with the sun, and the moon under her feet, and upon her head a crown of twelve stars: And she being with child cried, travailing in birth, and pained to be delivered. And there appeared another wonder in heaven; and behold a **great red dragon**, having seven heads and ten horns, and seven crowns upon his heads. And his tail drew the third part of the stars of heaven, and did cast them to the earth: and the dragon stood before the woman which was ready to be delivered, for to devour her child as soon as it was born. And she brought forth a man-child, who was to rule all nations with a rod of iron: and her child was caught up unto God, and to his throne. (Revelation 12:1-5)

And when the thousand years are expired, **Satan** shall be loosed out of his prison, And shall go out to deceive the nations which are in the four quarters of the earth, Gog, and Magog, to gather them together to battle: the number of whom is as the sand of the sea. And they went up on the breadth of the earth, and compassed the camp of the saints about, and the beloved city: and fire came down from God out of heaven, and devoured them. And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are, and shall be tormented day and night forever and ever. (Revelation 20:7-10)

PROMISE TO THE VICTORIOUS

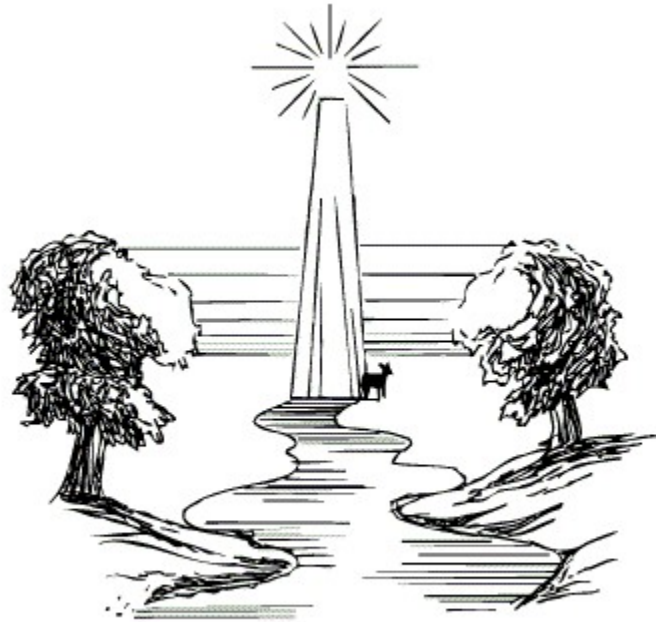
Therefore are they before the throne of God, and serve him day and night in his temple: and he that sits on the throne shall dwell among them. They shall hunger no more, neither thirst any more; neither shall the sunlight on them, nor any heat. For the Lamb which is in the midst of the throne shall feed them, and shall lead them unto living fountains of waters; and God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes. (Rev. 7:15-17)

God and Satan are as opposite as opposites get, as far as the east is from the west. Satan has no power over God; God has all power over his creation, including Satan, whom He created. God gives us great power: *As far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us.* (Psalms 103:12).

Satan is the destroyer. Jesus is the Savior. Have you accepted Jesus as your Savior? If you will, just pray, "Dear God, I know I am a sinner and that you sent your Son to die for my sins. I accept your gift and want Jesus to be my personal Savior. Jesus, please enter my life and guide me. In Jesus name I pray. Amen."

Chapter Eleven

Heaven and Angels



IS THERE A HEAVEN?

Heaven is my throne, and earth is my footstool: what house will you build me? said the Lord: or what is the place of my rest? (Acts 7:49)

³⁹And one of the malefactors which were hanged railed on him, saying, If you be Christ, save thyself and us. ⁴⁰But the other answering rebuked him, saying, Dost not you fear God, seeing you art in the same condemnation? ⁴¹And we indeed justly; for we receive the due reward of our deeds: but this man has done nothing amiss. ⁴²And he said unto Jesus, Lord, remember me when you comes into your kingdom. ⁴³And Jesus said unto him, Verily I say unto you, To day shall you be with me in paradise. (Luke 23:39-43)

In this latter passage, the first thief was getting the punishment he deserved on the cross as determined by the law of that day. There was an innocent man on the cross in the middle, and another deserving person on the third cross. The first man was either ridiculing Jesus, or ridiculing him and hoping for help from death without a supernatural redemption. The latter knew that the two criminals were getting what they deserved, but realized who Jesus was. The first man did not enter Heaven. Do you see that the first man was rebuked not by Christ, but by another man? Jesus will not know this man at Judgment:

We cannot neither drive to Heaven nor find it in a telescope. How do we know it exists? We only know from the Bible. Granted, we hear reports of Near Death Experiences (NDE's) but cannot know if any or all are reality or a product of "active unconsciousness." For that matter, we cannot "prove God," other than what our hearts tell us. We who know and feel have faith.

Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. For by it the elders obtained a good report. Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear. (Hebrews 11:1-3)

HEAVEN IS PHYSICAL AND JOYOUS

In the Bible, from beginning (Genesis 28:16-17) to end (Revelation' final chapter), Heaven is referenced as the seat of God. We do not know where it is now, but we know it will be on earth someday. Perhaps Heaven or part of Heaven is on earth now, in another dimension, as the angels and departing souls cannot be seen. But no matter where Heaven is, that is where God's throne is located, and from where God rules.

Many have wondered over the ages what Heaven will be like. It will be physical and joyous, the dwelling place of God and the redeemed. The planet earth will be cleansed and like the Garden of Eden. God's throne will be in a great city, the New Jerusalem:

I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea. (*Compare Isaiah 65:17 For, behold, I create new heavens and a new earth: and the former shall not be remembered, nor come into mind.*) And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God. And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, sorrow, crying, nor pain: for the former things are passed away. And he that sat upon the throne said, Behold, I make all things new. And he said unto me, Write: for these words are true and faithful. And he said unto me, It is done. I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end. I will give unto him that is athirst of the fountain of the water of life freely. He that overcomes shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be my son. But the unbelieving shall have their part in the lake, which burns with fire and brimstone: which is the second death. And there came unto me one of the seven angels saying, Come hither, I will show you the Lamb's wife. And he carried me away in the spirit to a great and high mountain, and showed me that great city, the holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God, Having the glory of God: and her light was like unto a stone most precious, even like a jasper stone, clear as crystal; And had a wall great and high, and had twelve gates, and at the gates twelve angels, and names written thereon, which are the names of the twelve tribes of Israel: And the wall of the city had twelve foundations, and in them the names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb. And he measured the city with the reed, twelve thousand furlongs. The length and the breadth and the height of it are equal. And he measured the wall thereof, an hundred and forty and four cubits, according to the measure of a man, that is, of the angel. And the building of the wall of it was of jasper: and the city was pure gold, like unto

clear glass. And the foundations of the wall of the city were garnished with precious stones. The first foundation was jasper; the second, sapphire; the third, chalcedony; the fourth, emerald; The fifth, sardonyx; the sixth, sardius; the seventh, chrysolite; the eighth, beryl; the ninth, topaz; the tenth, chrysoprasus; the eleventh, jacinth; the twelfth, amethyst. And the twelve gates were twelve pearls: every gate was of one pearl: and the street of the city was pure gold, as it were transparent glass. And I saw no temple therein: for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are the temple of it. And the city had no need of the sun, neither of the moon, to shine in it: for the glory of God did lighten it, and the Lamb is the light thereof. And the nations of those who are saved shall walk in the light of it: and the kings of the earth do bring their glory and honor into it. And the gates of it shall not be shut at all by day: for there shall be no night there. And they shall bring the glory and honor of the nations into it. And there shall in no wise enter into it any thing that defiles, neither whatsoever works abomination, or makes a lie: but those are written in the Lamb's book of life. And he showed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb. In the midst of the street of it, and on either side of the river, was there the tree of life, which bare twelve manner of fruits, and yielded her fruit every month: and the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations. And there shall be no more curse: but the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it; and his servants shall serve him: And they shall see his face; and his name shall be in their foreheads. And there shall be no night there; and they need no candle, neither light of the sun; for the Lord God gives them light: and they shall reign forever and ever. He who testified these things says, Surely I come quickly. Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus. (Condensed from Revelation 21:1-27, 22:1-5,20)

Heaven is definitely described as a physical place in the Revelation account. There is no symbolism here. Jesus spoke of preparing places for us.

WHO MAY ENTER INTO HEAVEN?

In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there you may be also. And whither I go you know, and the way you know. Thomas says unto him, Lord, we know not whither You go; and how can we know the way? Jesus says unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me. (John 14:2-6)

Jesus is the Way. In fact, the early church called itself "The Way." We are destined to die only once because of sin. If we accept Christ as Savior, and are born-again, we will be saved and destined for eternity in Heaven.

So the Jews gathered round him and said to him, "How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Christ, tell us plainly." Jesus answered them, "I told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name, they bear witness to me; but you do not believe, because you do not belong to my sheep. My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me; and I

give them eternal life, and they shall never perish, and no one shall snatch them out of my hand. My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all, and no one is able to snatch them out of the Father's hand. I and the Father are one." (John 10:24-30 RSV)

It does not seem true at all to say, "Everyone wants to go to Heaven" based on what we experience. Many hear the way, but do not heed the way. Jesus said, *I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life. No man cometh unto the Father, but by me.* (John 14:6.) That is plain language, but many who hear this cannot accept it. Nowhere does the Bible tell us to figure out our own way, or earn salvation on our own. There is only His way.

HEAVEN IS NOT OPEN TO EVERYONE (BUT IT CAN BE)

We spend a lot of time looking at scripture telling us how to find salvation and how to get to Heaven. We do not spend enough time on the "how not to."

And they that know your name will put their trust in you: for You, Lord, hast not forsaken them that seek you. Sing praises to the Lord, which dwelled in Zion: declare among the people his doings. When he makes inquisition for blood, he remembered them: he forget not the cry of the humble. Have mercy upon me, O Lord; consider my trouble which I suffer of them that hate me, You that lifted me up from the gates of death: That I may show forth all your praise in the gates of the daughter of Zion: I will rejoice in your salvation. The heathen are sunk down in the pit that they made: in the net, which they hid, is their own foot taken. The Lord is known by the judgment which he executed: the wicked is snared in the work of his own hands. Higgaion. Selah. The wicked shall be turned into hell, and all the nations that forget God. (Psalms 9:10-17).

And You, Solomon my son, know You the God of your father, and serve him with a perfect heart and with a willing mind: for the Lord searches all hearts, and understood all the imaginations of the thoughts: if You seek him, he will be found of you; but if You forsake him, he will cast you off for ever. (1 Chronicles 28:9).

Not every one that says unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father, which is in heaven. Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in your name? and in your name have cast out devils? and in your name done many wonderful works? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, you that work iniquity. (Matthew 7:21-23)

Works will not get anyone into Heaven.

Strive to enter in at the strait gate: for many, I say unto you, will seek to enter in, and shall not be able. When once the master of the house is risen up, and has shut the door, and you begin to stand without, and to knock at the door, saying, Lord, Lord, open unto us; and he shall answer and say unto you, I know you not whence you are: Then shall you begin to say, We have eaten and drunk in your presence, and You hast taught in our streets. But he shall say, I tell you, I know you not whence you are; depart from me, all you workers of iniquity. There shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth, when you shall see Abraham, and

Isaac, and Jacob, and all the prophets, in the kingdom of God, and you yourselves thrust out. (Luke 13:24-28)

Many churchgoers hear but do not hear, and believe in strange requirements for getting into Heaven. "I have always done my best; I give to the poor every Christmas; I give to missions; I think God wants us just to believe 'something' and to be kind to others." My personal belief is that some of these people are those described in Luke 13:24.

ETERNAL LIFE (OLD TESTAMENT)

A Jewish friend once questioned if the concepts of salvation and life after death can be found in the Hebrew Bible (Old Testament). Yes:

For I know that my redeemer lives and that he shall stand at the latter day upon the earth: And though after my skin worms destroy this body, yet in my flesh shall I see God: Whom I shall see for myself, and mine eyes shall behold, and not another; though my reins be consumed within me. But you should say, Why persecute we him, seeing the root of the matter is found in me? Be you afraid of the sword: for wrath brings the punishments of the sword, that you may know there is a judgment. (Job 19:25-29).

Nevertheless man being in honor abides not: he is like the beasts that perish. Their way is their folly: yet their posterity approves their sayings. Selah. Like sheep they are laid in the grave; death shall feed on them; and the upright shall have dominion over them in the morning; and their beauty shall consume in the grave from their dwelling. But God will redeem my soul from the power of the grave: for he shall receive me. Selah. (Psalms 49:12-15).

Let death seize upon them, and let them go down quick into hell: for wickedness is in their dwellings, and among them. 16As for me, I will call upon God; and the Lord shall save me. Evening, and morning, and at noon, will I pray, and cry aloud: and he shall hear my voice. He has delivered my soul in peace from the battle that was against me: for there were many with me. God shall hear, and afflict them, even he that abides of old. Cast your burden upon the Lord, and he shall sustain you: he shall never suffer the righteous to be moved. (Psalms 55:15-19, 22).

For You, Lord, art high above all the earth: You art exalted far above all gods. You that love the Lord, hate evil: he preserves the souls of his saints; he delivers them out of the hand of the wicked. (Psalms 97:9-10).

A GRAND PROMISE- NEW BODIES

What good would life after death be if we got another feeble body, were destined to live again in sickness and destruction, and yet another death? That is not the way God is playing it out. The redeemed will have new, physical, incorruptible bodies, which would only be necessary in a physical place:

But some man will say, How are the dead raised up? And with what body do

they come? You fool, that which You sow is not quickened, except it die: And that which You sow, You sow not that body that shall be, but bare grain, it may chance of wheat, or of some other grain: But God gives it a body as it has pleased him, and to every seed his own body. All flesh is not the same flesh: but there is one kind of flesh of men, another flesh of beasts, another of fishes, and another of birds. There are also celestial bodies, and bodies terrestrial: but the glory of the celestial is one, and the glory of the terrestrial is another. There is one glory of the sun, and another glory of the moon, and another glory of the stars: for one star differs from another star in glory. So also is the resurrection of the dead. It is sown in corruption; it is raised in incorruption: It is sown in dishonor; it is raised in glory: it is sown in weakness; it is raised in power: It is sown a natural body; it is raised a spiritual body. There is a natural body, and there is a spiritual body. And so it is written, The first man Adam was made a living soul; the last Adam was made a quickening spirit. Howbeit that was not first which is spiritual, but that which is natural; and afterward that which is spiritual. The first man is of the earth, earthy: the second man is the Lord from heaven. As is the earthy, such are they also that are earthy: and as is the heavenly, such are they also that are heavenly. And as we have borne the image of the earthy, we shall bear the image of the heavenly. Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; neither does corruption inherit incorruption. Behold, I show you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality. So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory. O death, where is your sting? O grave, where is your victory? The sting of death is sin; and the strength of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, which gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. (1 Corinthians 15:35-57)

Can we complain about aches and pains on earth that are but the blink of an eye of eternity?

For you have a new life. It was not passed on to you from your parents, for the life they gave you will fade away. This new one will last forever, for it comes from Christ, God's ever-living Message to men. Yes, our natural lives will fade as grass does when it becomes all brown and dry. All our greatness is like a flower that droops and falls; but the Word of the Lord will last forever. And his message is the Good News that was preached to you. (1 Peter 1:23-25 Living Bible)

The author's father kept a diary.

On May 17, 1992, he entered, "When I leave this earth, don't mourn for me- be prepared to join me at the end of your (life)." This was written before his first bout with cancer. In 1996, Dad began the first of three successive years of fighting cancer. The chemotherapy and other treatments were painful and a lot to bear for a 75 year-old man. Dad was looking forward to his new, incorruptible body as he endured these treatments. Here are the thoughts of a man knowing what God had waiting for him:

1. April 24, 1996. "I can't do much work anymore. To anyone reading this,

- put your trust in Jesus Christ and come see me and my new body.”
2. May 6, 1996. “I am a coward, even though I know that for me to die is gain. I am so glad I love Jesus. I’m so glad He loves me.”
 3. December 18, 1996. “I’m not very confident of my condition. I just have to repeat, I’m so glad there is a Heaven that we are promised.”
 4. March 7, 1997. “Another not so hot day. Things are sure to get better for me someday.”

We who know Jesus as our Savior can take comfort in the same promises. Do you want a new, incorruptible body someday? My Ralph Lerch joined Jesus in Heaven on July 25, 1998.

What joy to never have illness again! Think of all you have suffered so far on this earth. It will not happen in Heaven. Are there any diseases you do not dread, cancer, diabetes, heart disease, and so on? There is no *fear* of disease in Heaven. There will be much other joy:

You will show me the path of life: in your presence is fullness of joy; at your right hand there are pleasures for evermore. (Psalms 16:11)

Rejoice, and be exceedingly glad: for great is your reward in heaven: for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you. (Matthew 5:12)

THE HOLY ANGELS

But of that day and that hour knows no man, no, not the angels which are in heaven, neither the Son, but the Father. (Mark 13:32)

Billy Graham’s books on angels are well-known works that offer much comfort to their Bible-believing readers. We enjoy reading about angels protecting us and ministering to us, as they did with baby Jesus and the resurrected Redeemer. We like to discuss instances such as my belief that my father saw angels that were to take him home to be with the Lord. The more hawkish of us perhaps are interested in the angel’s roles in fighting evil. But another important point about angels is what we read about them outside the Bible can provide additional proof of Heaven and of eternal life. What are some of the angels’ duties?

They guard us: For he shall give his angels charge over you, to keep you in all your ways. They shall bear you up in their hands, lest You dash your foot against a stone. (Psalms 91:11-12).

They are mighty, they do not bring judgment: Whereas angels, which are greater in power and might, bring not railing accusation against them before the Lord. (2 Peter 2:11).

Angels watch us: For I think that God has set forth us the apostles last, as it were appointed to death: for we are made a spectacle unto the world, and to angels, and to men. (1 Corinthians 4:9).

The angels from Heaven watched over Jesus: (Jesus, praying in the Garden of Gethsemane) Saying, Father, if You be willing, remove this cup from me (betrayal by Judas): nevertheless not my will, but your, be done. And there appeared an angel unto him from heaven, strengthening him. (Luke 22:42-43).

The angel at the tomb of the resurrection: And, behold, there was a great earthquake: for the angel of the Lord descended from heaven, and came and rolled back the stone from the door, and sat upon it. His countenance was like lightning, and his raiment white as snow: And for fear of him the keepers did shake, and became as dead men. (Matthew 28:2-4).

The angels are another tie between God, man, Heaven, earth, and eternity. They are an important part of the Bible. They do exist.

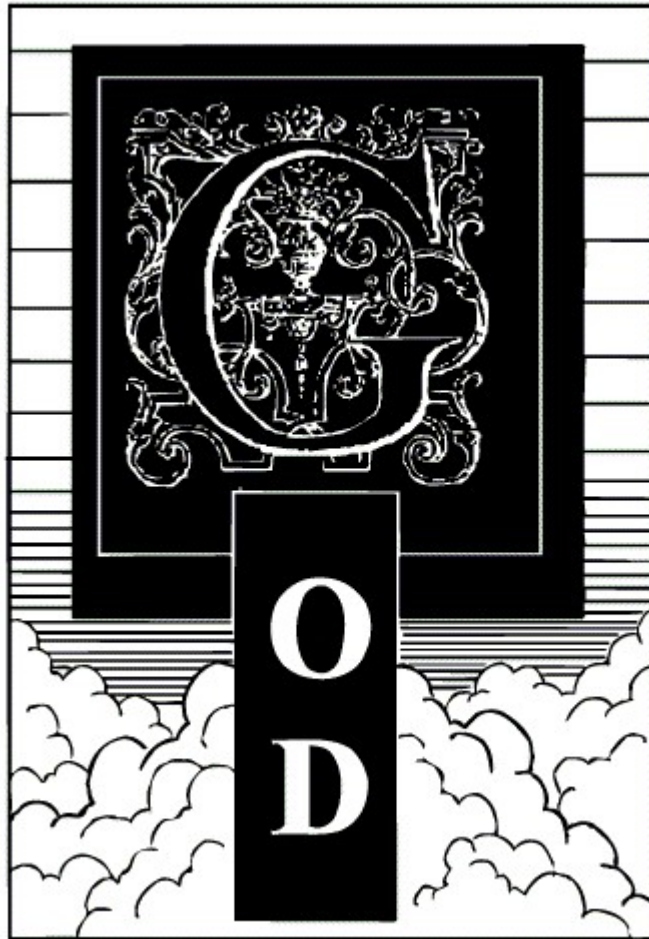
SALVATION AND THE MESSIAH

The entire next chapter is about Jesus, The Messiah, because God's redemption is to come through Him. The Messiah was the prophesied leader AND deliverer of the Jews. Note the word "And." The Messiah has two roles. One He has already fulfilled, the other is yet to be fulfilled.

PART IV

GOD'S PLAN

Know therefore that the LORD your God, He is God, the faithful God, who keeps covenant and mercy with them that love Him and keep His commandments to a thousand generations. (Deuteronomy 7:9).



Chapter Twelve

Who is Jesus?



The Angel Gabriel Visits Mary

THE ANNUNCIATION

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David; and the virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Hail, O favored one, the Lord is with you!" But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and considered in her mind what sort of greeting this might be. And the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High; and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of his kingdom there will be no end." And Mary said to the angel, "How shall this be, since I have no husband?" And the angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy, the Son of God.

SALVATION AND THE MESSIAH

We need to take another look at the Messiah because God's redemption is to come through Him. The Messiah was the prophesied leader and deliverer of the Jews. Do you see the word "and?" The Messiah has two roles. One He has already fulfilled, the other is yet to be fulfilled.

The Jews have always been a persecuted people. It is no wonder that they were looking for the Messiah to come and deliver them from their oppressors. Well, the Messiah came. Picture yourself as a Zealot of New Testament times. Jesus comes to town and works miracles. Messiah! Messiah! Now the Zealots think the Jews are finally going to be victorious over their oppressors as prophesied. The only problem is, this Messiah wanted to be kind to others, He went from place to place telling parables, would not fight, and then died on a cross. That is exactly what the Messiah was supposed to do. Messiah, act one, that is.

When Jesus' time on earth was over, He ascended to His rightful position in Heaven: *So then after the Lord had spoken unto them, he was received up into heaven, and sat on the right hand of God.* (Mark 16:19).

Messiah, act two, is what the Zealots wanted. This is still coming. The role is clearly defined in the book of Revelation in the New Testament and Daniel in the Old Testament. Not only will Israel's enemies be defeated, but also so will Satan. About 2000 years ago some Jews accepted this situation and became the first Christians. Others did not accept Jesus' Messiahship and have not become convinced in the time since.

The Messiah will return at the end of the Great Tribulation to rule the world. His saints will rule with Him. Make sure you are in His Army.

These scriptures refer to God ruling from Heaven:

And there shall be no more curse: but the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it; and his servants shall serve him: And they shall see his face; and his name shall be in their foreheads. (Revelation 22:3-4)

Heaven is my throne, and earth is my footstool: what house will you build me? says the Lord: or what is the place of my rest? (Acts 7:49)

After this manner therefore pray you: Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be your name. (Matthew 6:9)

Christians of course view the Messianic prophecies differently than Jews. Otherwise we had either all be Jews or all be Christians. (Which would it be?) Some of the Messianic prophecies speak of the Lamb who will take away the sin of the world. This is the Messiah that The Christians believe was here 2000 years ago.

Too, the prophets foretell of the victorious Messiah- the Messiah who will defeat the enemies of Jerusalem and Zion. Two thousand years ago, that is who many oppressed Jews wanted to come.

So my thought on the Messiah has been that when Christ came (being in my mind the Messiah) many Jews were looking for the wrong one. God does not think the way we do. Did you notice that He created light before He created the sun?

Lord, You art my God; I will exalt you, I will praise your name; for You hast done wonderful things; your counsels of old are faithfulness and truth. For You hast been a strength to the poor, a strength to the needy in his distress, a refuge from the storm, a shadow from the heat, when the blast of the terrible ones is as a storm against the wall. You shall bring down the noise of strangers, as the heat in a dry place; even the heat with the shadow of a cloud: the branch of the terrible ones shall be brought low. He will swallow up death in victory; and the Lord God will wipe away tears from off all faces; and the rebuke of his people shall he take away from off all the earth: for the Lord has spoken it. And it shall be said in that day, Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, and he will save us: this is the Lord; we have waited for him, we will be glad and rejoice in his salvation. (Isaiah 25:1-5, 8-9).

MESSIANIC PROPHECY AND FULFILLMENT

The Dead Sea Scroll translations have confirmed that the Old Testament prophecies about Jesus were in fact written before Jesus was born. There are those who have said that the Old Testament prophecies were revised to make Jesus appear to fulfill them. The fact is, Jesus does fulfill prophecy:

MESSIAH A DESCENDENT OF ABRAHAM: And I will establish my covenant between me and you and your seed after you in their generations for an everlasting covenant, to be a God unto you, and to your seed after you. Genesis 17:7.

And in your seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed; because you hast obeyed my voice. Genesis 22:18.

Now to Abraham and his seed were the promises made. He said not, And to seeds, as of many; but as of one, And to your seed, which is Christ. Galatians 3:16.

MESSIAH A DESCENDENT OF ISAAC: And God said unto Abraham, Let it not be grievous in your sight because of the lad, and because of your bondwoman; in all that Sarah has said unto you, hearken unto her voice; for in Isaac shall your seed be called. And also of the son of the bondwoman will I make a nation, because he is your seed. Genesis 21:12-13.

By faith Abraham, when he was tried, offered up Isaac: and he that had received the promises offered up his only begotten son, Of whom it was said, That in Isaac shall your seed be called: Accounting that God was able to raise him up, even from the dead; from whence also he received him in a figure. Hebrews 11:17-17.

MESSIAH TO ESTABLISH KINGDOM ON EARTH: The scepter shall not depart from Judah, nor a lawgiver from between his feet, until Shiloh come; and unto him shall the gathering of the people be. Genesis 49:10.

Seventy weeks are determined upon your people and upon your holy city, to finish the transgression, and to make an end of sins, and to make reconciliation for iniquity, and to bring in everlasting righteousness, and to seal up the vision and prophecy, and to anoint the most Holy. Know therefore and understand, that from the going forth of the commandment to restore and to build Jerusalem unto the Messiah the Prince shall be seven weeks, and threescore and two weeks: the street shall be built again, and the wall, even in troublous times. Daniel 9:24-25.

For all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet. For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom: and there shall be famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes, in divers places. All these are the beginning of sorrows. Then shall they deliver you up to be af-

flicted, and shall kill you: and you shall be hated of all nations for my name's sake. And then shall many be offended, and shall betray one another, and shall hate one another. And many false prophets shall rise, and shall deceive many. And because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold. But he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved. When you therefore shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, stand in the holy place. From Matthew 24: 6-15.

MESSIAH'S CRUCIFIXION: NOT A BONE SHALL BE BROKEN: In one house shall it be eaten; you shall not carry forth ought of the flesh abroad out of the house; neither shall you break a bone thereof. Exodus 12:46.

Then came the soldiers, and brake the legs of the first, and of the other which was crucified with him. But when they came to Jesus, and saw that he was dead already, they brake not his legs: For these things were done, that the scripture should be fulfilled, A bone of him shall not be broken. John 19: 32-33, 36.

MESSIAH WILL BE A JEW: The Lord your God will raise up unto you a Prophet from the midst of you, of your brethren, like unto me; unto him you shall hearken; According to all that you desire of the Lord your God in Horeb in the day of the assembly, saying, Let me not hear again the voice of the Lord my God, neither let me see this great fire any more, that I die not. And the Lord said unto me, They have well spoken that which they have spoken. I will raise them up a Prophet from among their brethren, like unto you, and will put my words in his mouth; and he shall speak unto them all that I shall command him. Deuteronomy 18:15-18.

And he shall send Jesus Christ, which before was preached unto you: Whom the heaven must receive until the times of restitution of all things, which God has spoken by the mouth of all his holy prophets since the world began. For Moses truly said unto the fathers, A prophet shall the Lord your God raise up unto you of your brethren, like unto me; him shall you hear in all things whatsoever he shall say unto you. Acts 3:20-22.

MESSIAH SCORNED: Why do the heathen rage, and the people imagine a vain thing? The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the Lord, and against his anointed, saying, Let us break their bands asunder, and cast away their cords from us. Psalms 2:1-3.

And when they heard that, they lifted up their voice to God with one accord, and said, Lord, you art God, which hast made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and all that in them is: Who by the mouth of your servant David hast said, Why did the heathen rage, and the people imagine vain things? The kings of the earth stood up, and the rulers were gathered together against the Lord, and against his Christ. For of a truth against your holy child Jesus, whom you hast anointed, both Herod, and Pontius Pilate, with the Gentiles, and the people of Israel, were gathered together, For to do whatsoever your hand and your counsel determined before to be done. Acts 4:24-28.

GOD DECLARES MESSIAH AS SON OF GOD: Yet have I set my king upon my holy hill of Zion. I will declare the decree: the Lord has said unto me, You art my son; this day have I begotten you. Psalms 2:6-7.

And, behold, you shall conceive in your womb, and bring forth a son, and shall call his name Jesus. He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David: And he shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end. Luke 1:31-33.

ON THE CROSS, GOD TURNED HIS BACK ON THE SIN CHRIST TOOK ON: My God, my

God, why hast you forsaken me? why art you so far from helping me, and from the words of my roaring? I am poured out like water, and all my bones are out of joint: my heart is like wax; it is melted in the midst of my bowels. My strength is dried up like a potsherd; and my tongue cleaves to my jaws; and you hast brought me into the dust of death. Psalms 22:1, 14, 15.
And about the ninth hour Jesus cried with a loud voice, saying, Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani? that is to say, My God, my God, why hast you forsaken me? Matthew 27:46.

SCORNE ON THE CROSS:- All they that see me laugh me to scorn: they shoot out the lip, they shake the head, saying, He trusted on the Lord that he would deliver him: let him deliver him, seeing he delighted in him. Psalms 22:7-8.

And they that passed by reviled him, wagging their heads, And saying, You that destroyed when Joseph had taken the body, he wrapped it in a clean linen cloth, And laid it in his own new tomb, which he had hewn out in the rock: and he rolled a great stone to the door of the sepulcher, and departed. Matthew 27:57-60.

PIERCED WITH NAILS ON CRUCIFIX: For dogs have compassed me: the assembly of the wicked has enclosed me: they pierced my hands and my feet. Psalms 22:16.

But Thomas, one of the twelve, called Didymus, was not with them when Jesus came. The other disciples therefore said unto him, We have seen the Lord. But he said unto them, Except I shall see in his hands the print of the nails, and put my finger into the print of the nails, and thrust my hand into his side, I will not believe. John 20:24-25.

RIGHTEOUS JUDGE: Your throne, O God, is forever and ever: the scepter of your kingdom is a right scepter. You love righteousness, and hate wickedness: therefore God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness above your fellows. Psalms 45:6-7.

I can of mine own self do nothing: as I hear, I judge: and my judgment is just; because I seek not mine own will, but the will of the Father which has sent me. John 5:30.

And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he does judge and make war. Revelation 19:11.

BETRAYED BY HIS OWN: For it was not an enemy that reproached me; then I could have borne it: neither was it he that hated me that did magnify himself against me; then I would have hid myself from him: But it was you, a man mine equal, my guide, and mine acquaintance. We took sweet counsel together, and walked unto the house of God in company. Psalms 55:12-14.

I speak not of you all: I know whom I have chosen: but that the scripture may be fulfilled, He that eats bread with me has lifted up his heel against me. When Jesus had thus said, he was troubled in spirit, and testified, and said, Verily, verily, I say unto you, that one of you shall betray me. John 13:18, 21.

JESUS ANGERED BY GREED AT THE TEMPLE: I am become a stranger unto my brethren, and an alien unto my mother's children. For the zeal of your house has eaten me up; and the reproaches of them that reproached you are fallen upon me. Psalms 69:8-9.

And his disciples remembered that it was written, The zeal of your house has eaten me up. John 2:17.

TREATED INDIGNANTLY ON THE CROSS: Reproach has broken my heart; and I am full of heaviness: and I looked for some to take pity, but there was none; and for comforters, but I found none. They gave me also gall for my meat; and in my thirst they gave me vinegar to drink. Psalms 69:20-21.

They gave him vinegar to drink mingled with gall: and when he had tasted thereof, he would not

drink. And they crucified him, and parted his garments, casting lots: that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet, They parted my garments among them, and upon my vesture did they cast lots. Matthew 27:34-35.

ALL SHALL KNOW HE IS GOD: The kings of Tarshish and of the isles shall bring presents: the kings of Sheba and Seba shall offer gifts. Yea, all kings shall fall down before him: all nations shall serve him. Psalms 72:10-11.

Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judaea in the days of Herod the king, behold, there came wise men from the east to Jerusalem, Saying, Where is he that is born King of the Jews? for we have seen his star in the east, and are come to worship him. Matthew 2:1-2.

MESSIAH TO TEACH IN PARABLES: Give ear, O my people, to my law: incline your ears to the words of my mouth. I will open my mouth in a parable: I will utter dark sayings of old: Psalms 78:1-2.

All these things spoke Jesus unto the multitude in parables; and without a parable spoke he not unto them: That it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet, saying, I will open my mouth in parables; I will utter things which have been kept secret from the foundation of the world. Matthew 13:34-35.

MESSIAH TO RULE AT RIGHT HAND OF GOD: The Lord said unto my Lord, Sit you at my right hand, until I make your enemies your footstool. Psalms 110:1.

God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spoke in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, Has in these last days spoken unto us by his Son, whom he has appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds; Who being the brightness of his glory, and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high; Hebrews 1:1-3.

PRIEST FOREVER: The Lord has sworn, and will not repent, You art a priest forever after the order of Melchizedek. Psalms 110:4.

So also Christ glorified not himself to be made an high priest; but he that said unto him, You art my Son, to day have I begotten you. As he said also in another place, You art a priest forever after the order of Melchisedec. Hebrews 5:5-6.

HEAD OF THE CHURCH: The stone which the builders refused is become the head stone of the corner. Psalms 118:22.

Jesus said unto them, Did you never read in the scriptures, The stone which the builders rejected, the same is become the head of the corner: this is the Lord is doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes? Matthew 21:42.

DESCENDENT OF DAVID: The Lord has sworn in truth unto David; he will not turn from it; Of the fruit of your body will I set upon your throne. Psalms 132:11.

Behold, the days come, said the Lord, that I will raise unto David a righteous Branch, and a King shall reign and prosper, and shall execute judgment and justice in the earth. Jeremiah 23:5.

And when he had removed him, he raised up unto them David to be their king; to whom also he gave testimony, and said, I have found David the son of Jesse, a man after mine own heart, which shall fulfill all my will. Of this man's seed has God according to his promise raised unto Israel a Savior, Jesus: Acts 13:22-23.

Concerning his Son Jesus Christ our Lord, which was made of the seed of David according to the flesh; Romans 1:3.

MESSIAH SHALL RISE TO RULE WITH GOD: Therefore my heart is glad, and my glory rejoices: my flesh also shall rest in hope. For you wilt not leave my soul in hell; neither wilt you suffer your Holy One to see corruption. Psalms 16:9-10.

Men and brethren, let me freely speak unto you of the patriarch David, that he is both dead and buried, and his sepulcher is with us unto this day. Therefore being a prophet, and knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him, that of the fruit of his loins, according to the flesh, he would raise up Christ to sit on his throne; He seeing this before spoke of the resurrection of Christ, that his soul was not left in hell, neither his flesh did see corruption. Acts 2:29-31.

Many are the plans in the mind of a man, but the purpose of the Lord will be established. (Proverbs 19:21 RSV).

VIRGIN BIRTH OF MESSIAH: Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel. Isaiah 7:14.

When as his mother Mary was espoused to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Ghost. Then Joseph her husband, being a just man, and not willing to make her a public example, was minded to put her away privately. But while he thought on these things, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared unto him in a dream, saying, Joseph, you son of David, fear not to take unto you Mary your wife: for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost. Matthew 1:18-20.



WORTHY: Sanctify the Lord of hosts himself; and let him be your fear, and let him be your dread. And he shall be for a sanctuary; but for a stone of stumbling and for a rock of offence to both the houses of Israel, for a gin (trap) and for a snare to the inhabitants of Jerusalem. Isaiah 8:13-14.

But Israel, which followed the law of righteousness, has not attained to the law of righteousness. Wherefore? Because they sought it not by faith, but as it were by the works of the law. For they stumbled at that stumbling stone; As it is written, Behold, I lay in Sion a stumbling stone and rock of offence: and whosoever believeth on him shall not be ashamed. Romans 9:31-33.

MESSIAH FIRST TO THE JEWS: These twelve Jesus sent forth, and commanded them, saying, Go not into the way of the Gentiles, and into any city of the Samaritans enter you not: But go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. And as you go, preach, saying, The kingdom of heaven is at hand. Matthew 10:5-7).

And when (Jesus) was come into his own country, he taught them in their synagogue, inasmuch that they were astonished, and said, Whence has this man this wisdom, and these mighty works? Is not this the carpenter's son? is not his mother called Mary? and his brethren, James, and Joseph, and Simon, and Judas? And his sisters, are they not all with us? Whence then has this man all these things? And they were offended in him. But Jesus said unto them, A prophet is not without honor, save in his own country, and in his own house. Matthew 13:54-57).

Jerusalem, Jerusalem, you that kill the prophets and stone those who are sent to you! How often have I longed to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, and you refused! Look! Your house will be deserted, for, I promise, you shall not see me any more

until you are saying: Blessed is he who is coming in the name of the Lord! (Matthew 23:37-39 NJB)

MESSIAH TO WITNESS TO GENTILES: They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain: for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea. And in that day there shall be a root of Jesse, which shall stand for an ensign of the people; to it shall the Gentiles seek: and his rest shall be glorious. Isaiah 11:9-10.

As the Father knows me, even so I know the Father: and I lay down my life for the sheep. And other sheep I have, which are not of this fold: them also I must bring, and they shall hear my voice; and there shall be one fold, and one shepherd. John 10:15-16.

A WITNESS TO THE GENTILES, TOO: Nevertheless the dimness shall not be such as was in her vexation, when at the first he lightly afflicted the land of Zebulon and the land of Nathalie, and afterward did more grievously afflict her by the way of the sea, beyond Jordan, in Galilee of the nations. The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light: they that dwell in the land of the shadow of death, upon them has the light shined. Isaiah 9:1-2.

Now when Jesus had heard that John was cast into prison, he departed into Galilee; And leaving Nazareth, he came and dwelt in Capernaum, which is upon the sea coast, in the borders of Zebulon and Nephthalim: That it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Esaias the prophet, saying, The land of Zabulon, and the land of Nephthalim, by the way of the sea, beyond Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles; The people which sat in darkness saw great light; and to them which sat in the region and shadow of death light is sprung up. Matthew 4:12-16.

GOD IN HIM: And the spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord; Isaiah 11:2.

The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me; because the Lord has anointed me to preach good tidings unto the meek; he has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to them that are bound; Isaiah 61:1.

And Jesus, when he was baptized, went up straightway out of the water: and, lo, the heavens were opened unto him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and lighting upon him: Matthew 3:16.

How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power: who went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil; for God was with him. Acts 10:38.

MESSIAH THE CORNER STONE OF FAITH: Because you have said, We have made a covenant with death, and with hell are we at agreement; when the overflowing scourge shall pass through, it shall not come unto us: for we have made lies our refuge, and under falsehood have we hid ourselves: Therefore thus said the Lord God, Behold, I lay in Zion for a foundation a stone, a tried stone, a precious corner stone, a sure foundation: he that believeth shall not make haste. Isaiah 28:15-16.

You also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ. Wherefore also it is contained in the scripture, Behold, I lay in Sion a chief corner stone, elect, precious: and he that believeth on him shall not be confounded. Unto you therefore which believe he is precious: but unto them which be disobedient, the stone which the builders disallowed, the same is made the head of the corner, And a stone of stumbling, and a rock of offence, even to them which stumble at the word, being disobedient: whereunto also they were appointed. 1 Peter 2:5-8.

ALMIGHTY SAVIOR: Say to them that are of a fearful heart, Be strong, fear not: behold, your

God will come with vengeance, even God with a recompense; he will come and save you. Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped. Then shall the lame man leap as an hart, and the tongue of the dumb sing: for in the wilderness shall waters break out, and streams in the desert. Isaiah 35:4-6.

Now when John had heard in the prison the works of Christ, he sent two of his disciples, And said unto him, Art thou he that should come, or do we look for another? Jesus answered and said unto them, Go and show John again those things which you do hear and see: The blind receive their sight, and the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, the dead are raised up, and the poor have the gospel preached to them. And blessed is he, whosoever shall not be offended in me. Matthew 11:2-6.

PREPARER (JOHN THE BAPTIST): The voice of him that cries in the wilderness, Prepare you the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Isaiah 40:3.

Behold, I will send my messenger, and he shall prepare the way before me: and the Lord, whom you seek, shall suddenly come to his temple, even the messenger of the covenant, whom you delight in: behold, he shall come, said the Lord of hosts. Malachi 3:1.

In those days came John the Baptist, preaching in the wilderness of Judaea, And saying, Repent you: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand. For this is he [Messiah] that was spoken of by the prophet Esaias, saying, The voice of one crying in the wilderness, Prepare you the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. Matthew 3:1-3.

JUDGE: Behold my servant, whom I uphold; mine elect, in whom my soul delights; I have put my spirit upon him: he shall bring forth judgment to the Gentiles. He shall not cry, nor lift up, nor cause his voice to be heard in the street. Isaiah 42:1-2.

Then the Pharisees went out, and held a council against him, how they might destroy him. But when Jesus knew it, he withdrew himself from thence: and great multitudes followed him, and he healed them all; And charged them that they should not make him known: That it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Esaias the prophet, saying, Behold my servant, whom I have chosen; my beloved, in whom my soul is well pleased: I will put my spirit upon him, and he shall show judgment to the Gentiles. He shall not strive, nor cry; neither shall any man hear his voice in the streets. A bruised reed shall he not break, and smoking flax shall he not quench, until he send forth judgment unto victory. Matthew 12:14-20.

Do not forget this, O guilty ones. And do not forget the many times I clearly told you what was going to happen in the future. For I am God--I only--and there is no other like me who can tell you what is going to happen. All I say will happen, for I do whatever I wish. I will call that swift bird of prey from the east--that man Cyrus from far away. And he will come and do my bidding. I have said I would do it and I will. Listen to me, you stubborn, evil men! For I am offering you my deliverance; not in the distant future, but right now! I am ready to save you, and I will restore Jerusalem, and Israel, who is my glory.

Isaiah 46:8-13 LVB.

SCORNE: Thus said the Lord, the Redeemer of Israel, and his Holy One, to him whom man despises, to him whom the nation abhors, to a servant of rulers, Kings shall see and arise, princes also shall worship, because of the Lord that is faithful, and the Holy One of Israel, and he shall choose you. Isaiah 49:7.

He that hates me hates my Father also. If I had not done among them the works which none other man did, they had not had sin: but now have they both seen and hated both me and my Father. But this cometh to pass, that the word might be fulfilled that is written in their law, They hated me without a cause. John 15:23-25.

SCORNE BY HIS OWN (THE JEWS): I have trodden the winepress alone; and of the people there was none with me: for I will tread them in mine anger, and trample them in my fury; and their blood shall be sprinkled upon my garments, and I will stain all my raiment. For the day of vengeance is in mine heart, and the year of my redeemed is come. Isaiah 63:3-4.

That was the true Light, which lights every man that cometh into the world. He was in the world, and he made the world, and the world knew him not. He came unto his own, and his own received him not. John 1:9-11.

ISAIAH 53: NOT ATTRACTIVE: ¹Who has believed our report? and to whom is the arm of the Lord revealed? ²For he shall grow up before him as a tender plant, and as a root out of a dry ground: he has no form nor comeliness; and when we shall see him, there is no beauty that we should desire him. ³He is despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief: and we hid as it were our faces from him; he was despised, and we esteemed him not. ⁴Surely he has borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted...(see below)

TO BEAR OUR SINS: ⁵But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed. ⁶All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all...(see below)

WILLINGLY TOOK THE PUNISHMENT: ⁷He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth: he is brought as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so he opened not his mouth. ⁸He was taken from prison and from judgment: and who shall declare his generation? for he was cut off out of the land of the living: for the transgression of my people was he stricken. ⁹And he made his grave with the wicked, and with the rich in his death; because he had done no violence, neither was any deceit in his mouth...(see below)



CRUCIFIXION WAS GOD'S WILL: ¹⁰Yet it pleased the Lord to bruise him; he has put him to grief: when you shall make his soul an offering for sin, he shall see his seed, he shall prolong his days, and the pleasure of the Lord shall prosper in his hand. ¹¹He shall see of the travail of his soul, and shall be satisfied: by his knowledge shall my righteous servant justify many; for he shall bear their iniquities. ¹²Therefore will I divide him a portion with the great, and he shall divide the spoil with the strong; because he has poured out his soul unto death: and he was numbered with the transgressors; and he bare the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors. Isaiah Chapter 53...(see below)

In re v. 2: And when the Sabbath day was come, he began to teach in the synagogue: and many hearing him were astonished, saying, From whence has this man these things? and what wisdom is this which is given unto him, that his hands work even such mighty works? Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary, the brother of James, and Joseph, and of Juda, and Simon? and are not his sisters here with us? And they were offended at him. But Jesus, said unto them, A prophet is not without honor, but in his own country, and among his own kin, and in his own house. And

he could their do no mighty work, save that he laid his hands upon a few sick folk, and healed them. And he marveled because of their unbelief. And he went round about the villages, teaching. Mark 6:2-6.

In re v. 3: Then came Jesus forth, wearing the crown of thorns, and the purple robe. And Pilate said unto them, Behold the man! John 19:5.

In re v. 4-6: Even as the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many. Matthew 20:28.

In re v. 7: And when he was accused of the chief priests and elders, he answered nothing. Then said Pilate unto him, Do you not hear how many things they witness against you? And he answered him to never a word; insomuch that the governor marveled greatly. Matthew 27:12-14.

In re v. 9: Who did no sin, neither was guile found in his mouth: Who, when he was reviled, reviled not again; when he suffered, he threatened not; but committed himself to him that judges righteously: 1 Peter 2:22-23.

In re v. 9: When the even was come, there came a rich man of Arimathea, named Joseph, who also himself was Jesus' disciple: He went to Pilate, and begged the body of Jesus. Then Pilate commanded the body to be delivered. And plucked off the hair: I hid not my face from shame and spitting. For the Lord God will help me; therefore shall I not be confounded: therefore have I set my face like a flint, and I know that I shall not be ashamed. Isaiah 50:5-7.

You have heard the blasphemy: what think you? And they all condemned him to be guilty of death. And some began to spit on him, and to cover his face, and to buffet him, and to say unto him, Prophecy: and the servants did strike him with the palms of their hands. Mark 14:64-65.

KILLING OF CHILDREN- ATTEMPT TO SLAY MESSIAH: Thus said the Lord; A voice was heard in Ramah, lamentation, and bitter weeping; Rachel weeping for her children refused to be comforted for her children, because they were not. Jeremiah 31:15.

Then Herod, when he saw that he was mocked of the wise men, was exceeding wroth, and sent forth, and slew all the children that were in Bethlehem. Then was fulfilled that which was spoken by Jeremy the prophet, saying, In Rama was there a voice heard, lamentation, and weeping, and great mourning, Rachel weeping for her children, and would not be comforted, because they are not. Matthew 2:16a, 17-18.

TO LIVE AND REIGN FOREVER: I saw in the night visions, and, behold, one like the Son of man came with the clouds of heaven, and came to the Ancient of days, and they brought him near before him. And there was given him dominion, and glory, and a kingdom, that all people, nations, and languages, should serve him: his dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom that which shall not be destroyed. Daniel 7:13-14.

Wherefore God also has highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Philippians 2:9-11.

He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David: And he shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end. Luke 1:32-33.

JUDGED, WITHSTOOD INDIGNITIES: Now gather thyself in troops, O daughter of troops: he has laid siege against us: they shall smite the judge of Israel with a rod upon the cheek. Micah 5:1.

And when they had platted a crown of thorns, they put it upon his head, and a reed in his right hand: and they bowed the knee before him, and mocked him, saying, Hail, King of the Jews! And they spit upon him, and took the reed, and smote him on the head. Matthew 27:29-30.

PLACE OF BIRTH: But you, Bethlehem Ephrata, though you be little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of you shall he come forth unto me that is to be ruler in Israel; whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting. Micah 5:2.

And Joseph went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judaea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; (because he was of the house and lineage of David:) To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child. And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered. Luke 2:4-6.

Therefore I will look unto the Lord; I will wait for the God of my salvation: my God will hear me. Rejoice not against me, O mine enemy: when I fall, I shall arise; when I sit in darkness, the Lord shall be a light unto me. I will bear the indignation of the Lord, because I have sinned against him, until he plead my cause, and execute judgment for me: he will bring me forth to the light, and I shall behold his righteousness. (Micah 7:7-9).

Where is another God like you, who pardons the sins of the survivors among his people? You cannot stay angry with your people, for you love to be merciful. (Micah 7:18 LVB).

The Lord your God in the midst of you is mighty; he will save, he will rejoice over you with joy; he will rest in his love, he will joy over you with singing. Zephaniah 3:17).

SPIRITUAL SAVIOR TO ALL: And I will shake all nations, and the desire of all nations shall come: and I will fill this house with glory, said the Lord of hosts. The silver is mine, and the gold is mine, said the Lord of hosts. The glory of this latter house shall be greater than of the former, said the Lord of hosts: and in this place will I give peace, said the Lord of hosts. Haggai 2:7-9.

And he came by the Spirit into the temple: and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him after the custom of the law, Then took he him up in his arms, and blessed God, and said, Lord, now let you your servant depart in peace, according to your word: For mine eyes have seen your salvation, Which you hast prepared before the face of all people; A light to lighten the Gentiles, and the glory of your people Israel. Luke 2:27-32.

MESSIAH WAS RESURRECTED TO CONQUER DEATH: Even he shall build the temple of the Lord; and he shall bear the glory, and shall sit and rule upon his throne; and he shall be a priest upon his throne: and the counsel of peace shall be between them both. Zechariah 6:13.

Who is he that condemns? It is Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God, who also makes intercession for us. Romans 8:34.



TRIUMPHAL ENTRY OF MESSIAH INTO JERUSALEM: Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion; shout, O daughter of Jerusalem: behold, your King cometh unto you: he is just, and having salvation; lowly, and riding upon an ass, and upon a colt the foal of an ass. Zechariah 9:9.

And when they drew nigh unto Jerusalem, and were come to Bethphage, unto the mount of Olives, then sent Jesus two disciples, Saying unto them, Go into the village over against you, and straightway you shall find an ass tied, and a colt with her: loose them, and bring them unto me. And if any man say ought unto you, you shall say, The Lord has need of them; and straightway he will send them. All this was done, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet,

saying, Tell you the daughter of Sion, Behold, your King cometh unto you, meek, and sitting upon an ass, and a colt the foal of an ass. Matthew 21:1-5.

BETRAYED FOR A PRICE: And I said unto them, If you think good, give me my price; and if not, forbear. So they weighed for my price thirty pieces of silver. And the Lord said unto me, Cast it unto the potter: a goodly price that I was priced at of them. And I took the thirty pieces of silver, and cast them to the potter in the house of the Lord. Zechariah 11:12-13.

Then one of the twelve, called Judas Iscariot, went unto the chief priests, And said unto them, What will you give me, and I will deliver him unto you? And they covenanted with him for thirty pieces of silver. And from that time he sought opportunity to betray him. Matthew 26:14-16.

ON THE CROSS HIS SIDE SHALL BE PIERCED: And I will pour upon the house of David, and upon the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the spirit of grace and of supplications: and they shall look upon me whom they have pierced, and they shall mourn for him, as one mourns for his only son, and shall be in bitterness for him, as one that is in bitterness for his firstborn. Zechariah 12:10.

But one of the soldiers with a spear pierced his side, and forthwith came there out blood and water. And again another scripture said, They shall look on him whom they pierced. John 19:34,37.

OTHER PASSAGES ABOUT THE PERSONALITY OF JESUS

And Moses said unto the people, Fear you not, stand still, and see the salvation of the Lord, which he will show to you to day: for the Egyptians whom you have seen to day, you shall see them again no more for ever. The Lord shall fight for you, and you shall hold your peace. (Exodus 14:13-14).

The Lord redeems the soul of his servants: and none of them that trust in him shall be desolate. (Psalms 34:22).

Through God we shall do valiantly: for he it is that shall tread down our enemies. (Psalms 60:12).

My soul, wait you only upon God; for my expectation is from him. He only is my rock and my salvation: he is my defense; I shall not be moved. In God are my salvation and my glory: the rock of my strength, and my refuge, is in God. (Psalms 62:5-7).

Rejoice the soul of your servant: for unto you, O Lord, do I lift up my soul. For you, Lord, art good, and ready to forgive; and plenteous in mercy unto all them that call upon you. (Psalms 86:4-5).

He has remembered His covenant forever, the word which He commanded to a thousand generations. (Psalms 105:8)

⁸⁹For ever, O Lord, your word is settled in heaven. ⁹⁰Thy faithfulness is unto all generations: you hast established the earth, and it abides. ¹⁶⁰Your word is true from the beginning: and every one of your righteous judgments endures forever.

(Psalms 119:89,90,160)

For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, The mighty God, the everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth-even forever. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this. (Isaiah 9:6-7).

I have blotted out, as a thick cloud, your transgressions, and, as a cloud, your sins: return unto me; for I have redeemed you. (Isaiah 44:22).

There is no God else beside me; a just God and a Savior; there is none beside me. Look unto me, and be you saved, all the ends of the earth: for I am God, and there is none else. Isaiah 45:21b-22).

Yea, the stork in the heaven knows her appointed times; and the turtle and the crane and the swallow observe the time of their coming; but my people know not the judgment of the Lord. (Jeremiah 8:7).

For I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope. Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will hear you. You will seek me and find me; when you seek me with all your heart, (Jeremiah 29:11-13 RSV).

LINEAGE OF THE MESSIAH SHALL BE THROUGH DAVID: ²³And Jesus himself began to be about thirty years of age, being (as was supposed) the son of Joseph, which was the son of Heli, ²⁴W/w the son of Matthat, w/w the son of Levi, w/w the son of Melchi, w/w the son of Janna, w/w the son of Joseph, ²⁵W/w the son of Mattathias, w/w the son of Amos, w/w the son of Naum, w/w the son of Esli, w/w the son of Nagge, ²⁶W/w the son of Maath, w/w the son of Mattathias, w/w the son of Semei, w/w the son of Joseph, w/w the son of Juda, ²⁷W/w the son of Joanna, w/w the son of Rhesa, w/w the son of Zorobabel, w/w the son of Salathiel, w/w the son of Neri, ²⁸W/w the son of Melchi, w/w the son of Addi, w/w the son of Cosam, w/w the son of Elmodam, w/w the son of Er, ²⁹W/w the son of Jose, w/w the son of Eliezer, w/w the son of Jorim, w/w the son of Matthat, w/w the son of Levi, ³⁰W/w the son of Simeon, w/w the son of Juda, w/w the son of Joseph, w/w the son of Jonan, w/w the son of Eliakim, ³¹W/w the son of Melea, w/w the son of Menan, w/w the son of Mattatha, w/w the son of Nathan, w/w the son of David, ³²W/w the son of Jesse, w/w the son of Obed, w/w the son of Booz, w/w the son of Salmon, w/w the son of Naasson, ³³W/w the son of Aminadab, w/w the son of Aram, w/w the son of Esrom, w/w the son of Phares, w/w the son of Juda, ³⁴W/w the son of Jacob, w/w the son of Isaac, w/w the son of Abraham, w/w the son of Thara, w/w the son of Nachor, ³⁵W/w the son of Saruch, w/w the son of Ragau, w/w the son of Phalec, w/w the son of Heber, w/w the son of Sala, ³⁶W/w the son of Cainan, w/w the son of Arphaxad, w/w the son of (Shem), w/w the son of (Noah). (Luke 3:23-36a)

GIVER OF ETERNAL LIFE

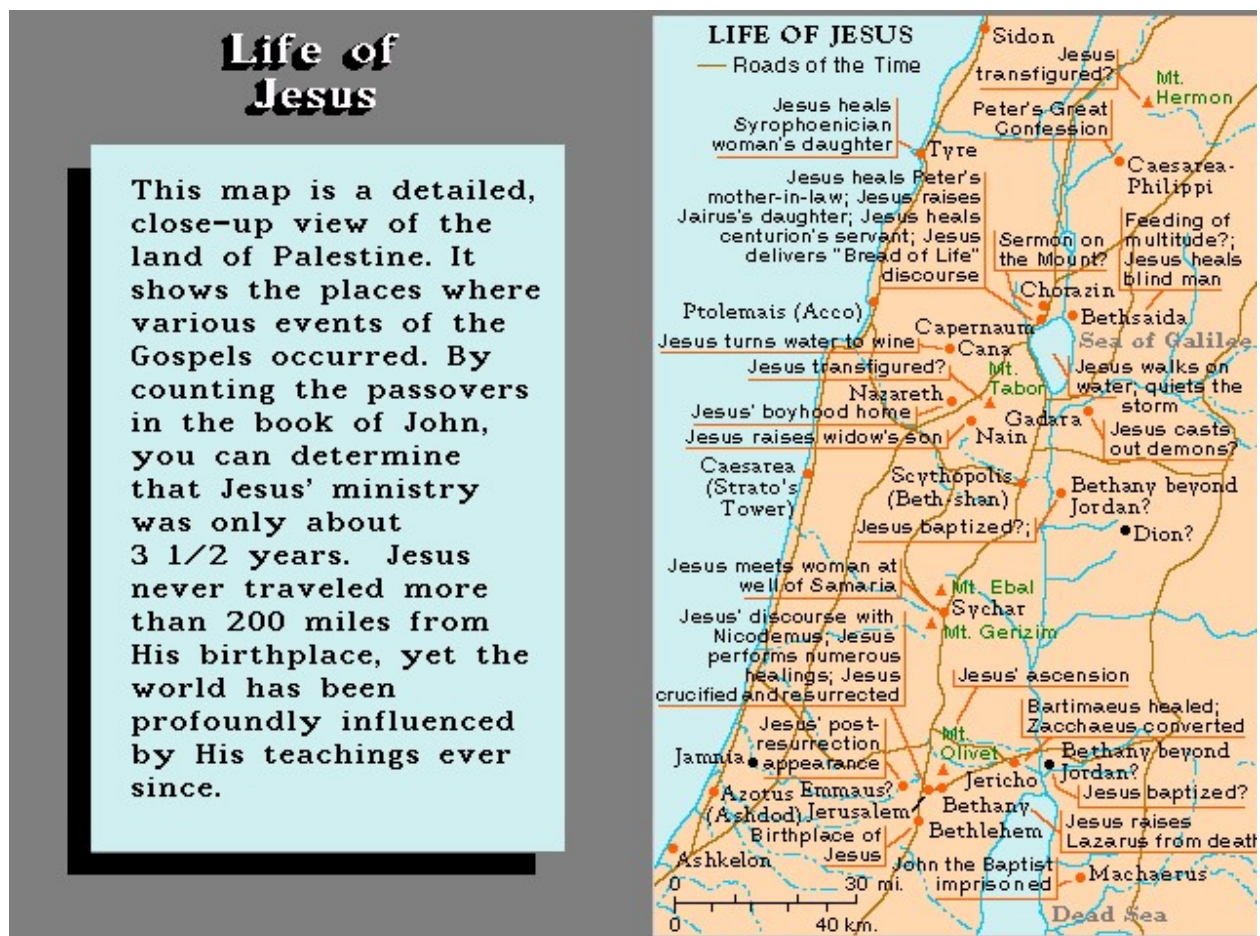
For you shall worship no other god: for the Lord, whose name is Jealous, is a

jealous God: (Exodus 34:14)

And you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul,
and with all your might (Deuteronomy 6:5).

ETERNAL LIFE: ²⁵For I know that my redeemer lives, and that he shall stand at the latter day upon the earth: ²⁶And though after my skin worms destroy this body, yet in my flesh shall I see God: ²⁷Whom I shall see for myself, and mine eyes shall behold, and not another; though my reins be consumed within me. ²⁸But you should say, Why persecute we him, seeing the root of the matter is found in me? ²⁹Be you afraid of the sword: for wrath brings the punishments of the sword, that you may know there is a judgment. (Job 19:25-29).

The angel at the tomb of the resurrection: And, behold, there was a great earthquake: for the angel of the Lord descended from heaven, and came and rolled back the stone from the door, and sat upon it. His countenance was like lightning, and his raiment white as snow: And for fear of him the keepers did shake, and became as dead men. (Matthew 28:2-4).



REDEMPTION

WILLING VICTIM TO PAY FOR OUR SINS ON A CROSS: The Lord God has opened mine ear, and I was not rebellious, neither turned away back. I gave my

back to those who smote me, and my cheeks to them that the temple, and built it in three days, save thyself. If you be the Son of God, come down from the cross. Likewise also the chief priests mocking him, with the scribes and elders, said, He saved others; himself he cannot save. If he be the King of Israel, let him now come down from the cross, and we will believe him. He trusted in God; let him deliver him now, if he will have him: for he said, I am the Son of God. The thieves also, which were crucified with him, cast the same in his teeth. (Matthew 27:39-44)

If the alternatives are eternal Heaven and eternal hell, most readers probably think it prudent to find out what to do to assure the former. Apart from what we think, what does the Bible say?

The Lord is my rock, and my fortress, and my deliverer; my God, my strength, in whom I will trust; my buckler, and the horn of my salvation, and my high tower. (Psalms 18:2).

¹In you, O Lord, do I put my trust; let me never be ashamed: deliver me in your righteousness. ²Bow down your ear to me; deliver me speedily: be You my strong rock, for an house of defense to save me. ³For You art my rock and my fortress; therefore for your name's sake lead me, and guide me. ⁴Pull me out of the net that they have laid privately for me: for You art my strength. ⁵Into your hand I commit my spirit: You hast redeemed me, O Lord God of truth. ²³O love the Lord, all you his saints: for the Lord preserves the faithful, and plentifully rewards the proud doer. ²⁴Be of good courage, and he shall strengthen your heart, all you that hope in the Lord. (Psalms 31:1-5, 23-24).

²⁰The soul that sins, it shall die. The son shall not bear the iniquity of the father, neither shall the father bear the iniquity of the son: the righteousness of the righteous shall be upon him, and the wickedness of the wicked shall be upon him. ²¹But if the wicked will turn from all his sins that he has committed, and keep all my statutes, and do that which is lawful and right, he shall surely live, he shall not die. ²²All his transgressions that he has committed, they shall not be mentioned unto him: in his righteousness that he has done he shall live. (*What does not die mean if not live, and where would this be if not with God, and where would God be if not at His throne?*) (Ezekiel 18:20-22).

Salvation is from the Messiah alone: But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all. (Isaiah 53:5-6). Say not You, I will recompense evil; but wait on the Lord, and he shall save you. (Proverbs 20:22).

Chapter Thirteen

Summary and Conclusion



If God made a perfect creation, what is wrong with it and why is their death, and; why would God make animals that would eventually die out, like the dinosaurs? The simple answer is that God did make a perfect creation, and God said so. God also gave mankind the gift of “free will.” With this free will, Adam and Eve decided to disobey God. They ate the forbidden fruit. That is called “sin,” and brought death into the world and caused us to have to work hard to stay alive. It is why His Son Jesus died on the cross, to save us from our sins.

As far as animals that died, remember that God made the whole world with only two people, Adam and Eve. All the vegetation would have grown fast, all over the world. God probably made very large animals to eat the vegetation. The Bible tells us that at first every animal ate vegetation. After death entered the world, and after Noah’s flood, God commanded Noah to eat meat. Some animals would start eating meat, too. That gave the new earth (for the world was changed) biological balance. Some very large animals as well as very small animals continued to eat vegetation. So that those animals would not overgraze and strip too much vegetation, meat eaters would keep them under control. There were large carnivores like dire wolves, Tyrannosaurus Rex, saber tooth tigers, and all sorts of big things to eat big animals.

As man replenished the earth as God commanded, the need for the largest vegetation eaters was decreasing. They began to die out. That reduced the need for some of the largest meat eaters, so they began to die out. God simply wound everything up in the beginning, and now it is winding down until someday, all believers will live with Him in Heaven on a New Earth.

How can one enter the doorway to Heaven?

It would be wonderful if there were a door to Heaven that we could open at will. This door could eliminate all of our troubles and sorrows by allowing us to unbolt it and enter God's domain. Actually, "the door" is at our fingertips. Jesus said, "Behold, I stand at the door and knock; if any one hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and eat with him, and he with me." (Revelation 3:20 RSV.) Jesus added, "He who conquers, I will grant him to sit with me on my throne, as I myself conquered and sat down with my Father on his throne." (Revelation 3:21 RSV.)

Jesus is the doorway to heaven. We cannot enter as we are. We are sinners with sinful, mortal bodies. We must be changed before we can cross the threshold to Heaven. The apostle Paul tells us, "For this perishable nature must put on the imperishable, and this mortal nature must put on immortality. When the perishable puts on the imperishable, and the mortal puts on immortality, then shall come to pass the saying that is written: 'Death is swallowed up in victory. O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting?' The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our LORD Jesus Christ." (1 Corinthians 15:53-57 RSV.)

The aging door in this picture was once the beautiful entrance to the childhood home of the author's mother. It is testimony to the fact that in the beginning, God wound-up His creation, which is now winding down. By three steps one could enter "Gramma's" home, and by three steps one can enter Heaven:

1. Confess your sins. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. (1 John 1:9)
2. Believe in Christ. Believe on the LORD Jesus Christ, and you shall be saved, and your house. (Acts 16:31b)
3. Ask Jesus into your Heart. But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name: (John 1:12)



Jesus can and will save you from your sins, and make a place for you in Heaven. He said, "In my Father's house are many rooms; if it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And when I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also." (John 14:2-3 RSV.) If you would like to enter the door to Heaven, pray, "Dear Father in Heaven, I know I am a sinner and have sinned against you. I am sorry for my sins and sinful nature, and ask that you will forgive me. I accept Jesus now as my Savior, who shed His blood for me. I give my life to you and will strive to live for you. Thank you, LORD, for saving my soul. In Jesus name I pray, Amen."

¹In you, O Lord, do I put my trust; let me never be ashamed: deliver me in your righteousness. ²Bow down your ear to me; deliver me speedily: be you my strong rock, for an house of defense to save me. ³For you art my rock and my fortress; therefore for your name's sake lead me, and guide me. ⁴Pull me out of the net that they have laid privately for me: for you art my strength. ⁵Into your hand I commit my spirit: you hast redeemed me, O Lord God of truth. ²³O love the Lord, all you his saints: for the Lord preserves the faithful, and plentifully rewards the proud doer. ²⁴Be of good courage, and he shall strengthen your heart, all you that hope in the Lord. (Psalms 31:1-5, 23-24).



LORY BE TO THE FATHER
AND TO THE SON
AND TO THE HOLY SPIRIT
AS IT WAS IN THE BEGINNING
IS NOW
AND EVER SHALL BE
WORLD WITHOUT END *AMEN*

Recommended Resources

Baugh, Carl, and Wilson, Clifford. *Footprints and the Sands of Time*. Oklahoma City, OK, Hearthstone Publishing, Ltd. 1992 (Scientific evidence that man and dinosaurs walked the earth together.)

Chittick, Donald E., Ph.D., *The Puzzle of Ancient Man*, Tualatin, Oregon, Creation Compass, 1997. (Early mankind was much more advanced than we could imagine.)

Epp, Theodore, *Why Do Christians Suffer?*” Lincoln, Nebraska, Back to the Bible Publications, 1970.

Gitt, Werner, Prof-Dr., *In the Beginning Was Information*, Beefeld, Germany, CLV. 1997 English version.

Ham, Ken, *The Great Dinosaur Mystery*, Green Forest, Arkansas, Master Books, 1998.

Ham, Ken, *Genesis and the Decay of the Nations*, Green Forest, Arkansas, Master Books, 1991.

Ham, Ken, *The Lie Evolution*, Green Forest, Arkansas, Master Books, 1987.

Ham, Ken, *Did Adam Have a Belly Button?*” Green Forest, Arkansas, Master Books, 1999. (Answers to 172 tough questions.)

Ham, Ken, Snelling, Andrew, Wieland, Carl, *The Answers Book*, Green Forest, Arkansas, Master Books, 1990. (Answers to the 12 most asked questions on Genesis and creation/evolution.)

LaHaye, Tim, *Revelation Unveiled*, Grand Rapids, Michigan, Zondervan Publishing House, 1999

Morris, Henry, Ph.D., *The Remarkable Birth of Planet Earth*, San Diego, CA, Creation-Life Publishers, 1972.

Morris, John, Ph.D., *The Young Earth*, Green Forest, Arkansas, Master Books, 1994.

Parker, Gary, Ph.D., *Creation Facts of Life*, Colorado Springs, Colorado, Master Books, 1994.

Sarfati, Jonathan, Ph.D., *Refuting Evolution*, Green Forest, Arkansas, Master Books, 1999.

Creation Science Foundation Ltd., Snelling, Andrew D., Editor, *The Revised Quote Book*, Acacia Ridge DC, Queensland, Australia, Answers in Genesis, 1990.

Internet Resources

Numerous organizations of scientists who are also Christians have formed institutions of research and to publish articles, books, DVDs, etc. supporting their views:

ANSWERS IN GENESIS is an apologetics ministry dedicated to helping Christians defend their faith and proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ effectively. AiG also operates the Creation Museum and Ark Encounter, a to-scale model of Noah's Ark.

PO Box 510

Hebron, KY 41048

AiG web: <https://answersingenesis.org/>

Museum: <https://creationmuseum.org/>

Ark Enc: <https://arkencounter.com/>

THE INSTITUTE FOR CREATION RESEARCH is a leader in scientific research within the context of biblical creation. Founded by Dr. Henry Morris in 1970, ICR exists to conduct scientific research within the realms of origins and Earth history, and then to educate the public both formally and informally through graduate and professional training programs, through conferences and seminars around the country, and through books, magazines, and media presentations.

1806 Royal Lane, P.O. Box 59029

Dallas, Texas 75229

Web: <http://www.icr.org/homepage/>

MISSION IMPERATIVE is an outreach by Mike Snively, founded in 1995, and exists to give God His rightful glory in creation. It is all about the Lord Jesus! As such, our prime focus has been the development of various ways to make the message of God's Word clear, especially as it relates to origins. The prime focus of the ministry revolves around our "creation seminar safaris" - a series of seminar sessions that cover a wide array of topics that deal with many of the facets of the whole creation model. These are typically presented in churches, conventions, camps, etc. There are programs that cover the evolution theory, nature issues, dinosaurs, the fossil record, ancient civilizations, the apes-to-man scenario, the Grand Canyon, etc.

Web: <https://www.missionimperative.org/>

THE AMERICAN SCIENTIFIC FOUNDATION'S unique mission is to integrate, communicate, and facilitate properly researched science and theology in service to the Church and the scientific community. ASA members are confident that such a goal is not only possible but also necessary for an adequate understanding of God and Nature. We believe that honest and open studies of both Scripture and Nature are mutually beneficial in developing a full understanding of human identity, relationships, and our environment. Additionally, the ASA is committed to advising churches and our society in how best to employ science and technology while preserving the integrity of God's creation.

Web: <https://www.asa3.org>

THE CENTER FOR SCIENCE AND CULTURE, formerly known as the Center for the Renewal of Science and Culture, is part of the Discovery Institute, a conservative Christian think tank in the United States. Web: <http://www.discovery.org/>

WORD TO THE WORLD MINISTRIES offers books and tracts which may be downloaded from the website at no cost.

Web: <https://word2world.com>

Resources for Children

The Great Dinosaur Mystery and the Bible, Paul S. Taylor, Accent Books, PO Box 15337, Denver, CO 80215, copyright 1987, 1989.

From Answers in Genesis, published by Master Books

A is for Adam
The Creation
The Caring Creator
D is for Dinosaur
Dinosaurs by Design
Dry Bones and Other Fossils
God the Creator
Skeletons in your Closet

Answers in Genesis, PO Box 6330, Florence, KY 41022 USA
Web: www.answersingenesis.org

The author recognizes that God's Word has not changed from the beginning. Satan continues his deceptions. His great tool of our age is the *lie of evolution*. This book challenges that lie, and explains to readers that the foundations of the Christian faith, beginning with the creation, still stand. The author writes in an enjoyable style and includes Scripture passages within the text to effectively explain how one's belief regarding origins affects our daily lives six thousand years later.

This book is written for all Christians, and for Jews who want to learn how science fits with the fact that God created everything from nothing in six days, as God inspired Moses to record. Christians and Jews worship the same Creator God, and the Jews are part of God's master plan. Our Jewish friends might be interested in why Christians accept Jesus Christ as the Messiah.



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Harold is founder of Word to the World Ministries, a concern that publishes and distributes complimentary witnessing resources.

Word to the World Ministries



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