

ACTS & FACTS

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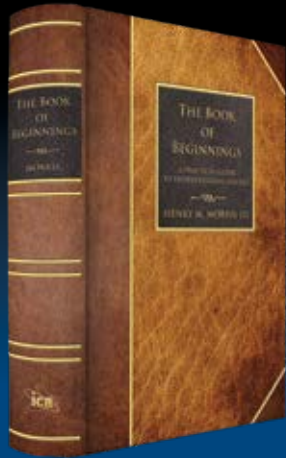
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Dr. Henry M. Morris III

A Lifetime of Faith and Scholarship

As a leader in the creation science movement for decades, Dr. Henry M. Morris III penned a copious number of articles, devotionals, and books with a pastor's heart. Here are some of his best works—great resources to equip the faithful and challenge the skeptic.



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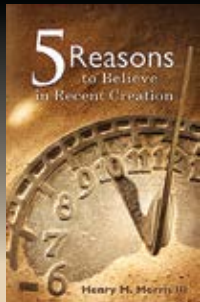
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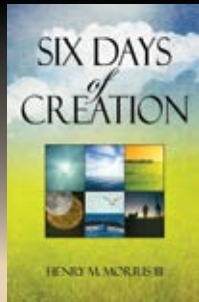
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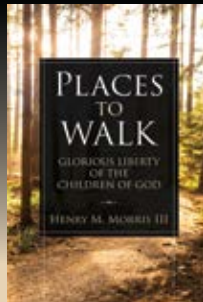
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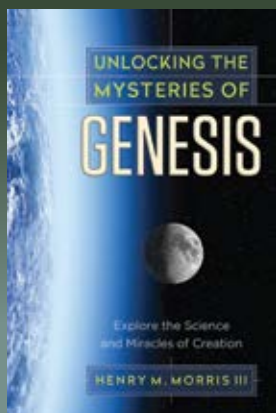
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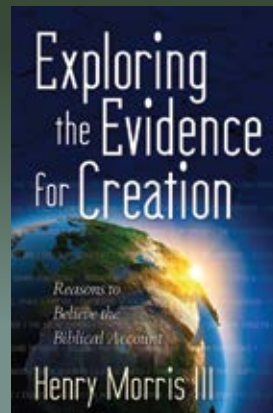


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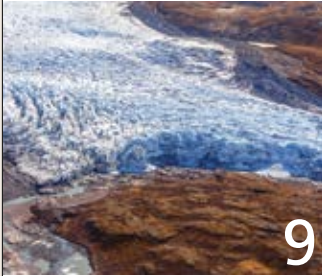
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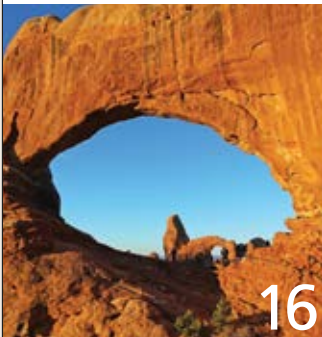
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Memories and Missions

As Director of Communications at the Institute for Creation Research, I reported directly to Dr. Henry M. Morris III for nine years. He was my boss, but he was also my friend. I have fond recollections of stopping by Dr. Henry’s office to talk through projects and of his responses as we worked through the details. If there were any problems, I usually had the confidence that I could take them to him and be heard. He honored me and others in that way—he listened.

He had a distinctive way of ending conversations, too. He’d smile and wave his hand as if to brush you out of the room and say, “Okay, now off with you” or “Go to it.” He didn’t mean it in a truly dismissive way—he just meant, *okay, we’ve ironed that out, now we can go on to the next thing. Get on with it.* (He often ended staff devotions that same way.) I miss him. And I’m not the only one who feels his absence since he went to be with his Lord on December 12. In our tribute to him in this issue, we’ve included comments from friends of ICR (“Remembering the Life and Legacy of Dr. Henry M. Morris III,” pages 10-11). One of our readers said, “What a loss for us all.” So true—what a loss for us all.

And yet, as Dr. Henry often said, we continue to “go to it,” to press on with ICR’s mission. ICR President Dr. Randy Guliuzza reminds us of our ministry’s primary aim in his article “The Mission of the Institute for Creation Research” (pages 5-7). He says, “The mission of ICR is to consistently exalt the Lord Jesus through everything that we communicate. Our message through articles, books, or videos must highlight the

workmanship of Christ—especially as expressed in living creatures—which is unfailingly glorious. All of us at ICR feel privileged to use science to rightfully credit Christ as our Creator and Savior and thus demonstrate why Jesus is worthy to be the center of our deepest love, affection, and devotion.”

ICR zoologist Frank Sherwin honors Christ as he points out the Creator’s ingenuity in the design of cuttlefish and concludes with the observation that “the Master Engineer is to be praised for such sophistication in His living world” (“Created Cuttlebone’s Sweet Spot,” page 15). The park series we’re featuring in *Acts & Facts* this year demonstrates our Creator’s majesty and creativity. We hope you enjoy reading “Arches National Park: Sculptures from the Flood” (pages 16-19). And the ICR Communications team has created activities especially for your children so they can grow in their

understanding of Jesus as our Creator. We encourage you to talk through the faith-building facts with them in “Creation Kids: Jupiter” (page 23).

When we honor Christ as Creator in the midst of a world that exalts evolution, we continue the legacy of Dr. Henry M. Morris III and those who came before him who encouraged Christian believers to uphold the accuracy and authority of Scripture. We have sweet memories of God’s faithfulness throughout the 50 years of ICR’s ministry existence, and we have assurance of His grace and help as we “go to it.” As we move forward with ICR’s mission, we offer our worship and love to our Creator, the Lord Jesus Christ, and we invite you to join us as we press on.

Jayme Durant

Jayme Durant
EXECUTIVE EDITOR





The Mission of the Institute for Creation Research

R A N D Y J . G U L I U Z Z A , P . E . , M . D .

Every morning when I drove onto the military base where I worked I was met with a sober message. For many years it read “Remember the Mission!” and later it said “Our mission is...” The purpose of these “mission” placards was to clarify for service members a single priority so that everyone would refine their performance within their unique duty section to best contribute to overall mission accomplishment.

For instance, I was an Air Force medical officer. Most people intuitively know what the mission of a hospital is. We certainly sought to render the best medical care possible for our patients’ benefit. But our hospital’s primary mission was to feed into the Bomb Wing’s war-fighting mission by

article highlights

- We often need to be reminded of our purpose and mission.
- ICR’s mission is fivefold—credit Jesus Christ as Creator, come alongside pastors, change how people understand biology, spread and defend the gospel, and win scientists and science back to Christ.

ensuring that Wing personnel were medically ready at any time to enter the fight, or that they were treated and returned to the fight as soon as possible. It’s good to be reminded of our priorities and purpose.

While a student at Moody Bible Institute, I was taught that the mission of the

church could be organized into three basic functions: worship, edification (building up) of believers, and evangelism. If a church undertook an activity that couldn’t reasonably be plugged into one of these functions, then that activity was a distraction from their mission.

The same goes for the Institute for Creation Research (ICR) as a ministry that exists to support the church. It might be a worthwhile exercise for the ICR staff, our readers, and our supporters to remind ourselves what ICR is about and how we will apply our efforts. ICR’s following five jobs support the church’s mission through worship, edification, and evangelism.

1. Specifically Credit Jesus Christ as Creator

Many churches and ministries have a pithy statement for their purpose along the lines of “to know Christ and to make Him known.” ICR has the same purpose. This purpose, however, presupposes that Christ is understood as the true Creator God. This truth that the Lord Jesus is the Creator is affirmed in many passages such as “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.... All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made” (John 1:1, 3). Unfortunately, science has long been abused by evolutionary selectionism to deny that the universe, life, and the very image of God that humans possess were supernaturally created. In accordance with Romans 1:25, ICR must also expose and oppose all false worship of the creation itself instead of Jesus Christ the Creator.

Thus, as a science-based ministry ICR exists to demonstrate that worship should be the normal response to science by using science as it’s supposed to be used. That is, to render honor and glory in the most basic way that Christians can—by regularly accentuating the rightful *credit* due to Jesus as our Creator. I devoted my December 2020 *Acts & Facts* article to discussing at length this ICR mission in which I mentioned that Christians are hungry—perhaps even starved—for the glory of Christ.¹

Thus, the mission of ICR is to consistently exalt the Lord Jesus through everything that we communicate. Our message through articles, books, or videos must highlight the workmanship of Christ—especially as expressed in living creatures—which is unfailingly glorious. All of us at ICR feel privileged to use science to rightfully credit Christ as our Creator and Savior and thus demonstrate why Jesus is worthy to be the center of our deepest love, affection, and devotion.

2. Come Alongside Pastors

ICR’s central ministry is to and through local churches. Thus, a primary

duty of ICR is to help pastors lead, feed, and defend their flock.

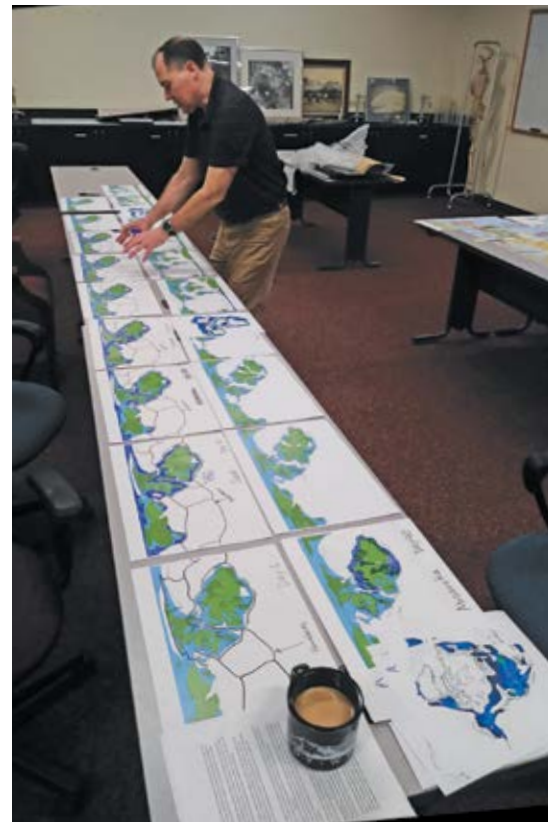
How? ICR scientists give them the best and freshest biblical and scientific answers to their questions and responses to secular attacks. Our research efforts are targeted toward areas that affirm the Bible’s historical narratives, principally those of recent creation and a worldwide flood, but that also confirm the Bible’s accuracy in general. We provide all Christians with answers to the challenges coming from a huge crowd of secular scientists and skeptics who menace the church here and now.

Thus, a primary duty of ICR is to help pastors lead, feed, and defend their flock.

3. Fundamentally Change How People Understand Biology

ICR’s most pressing assignment is to fundamentally change the way people understand biology. Our task is to construct a completely new theory of biological design that incorporates recent discoveries and respects the biblical narrative. The theory would explain hundreds of fascinating examples of creatures’ abilities from an organism-centered, engineering-based perspective that gives glory to their Creator—and not to “nature.” The theory would:

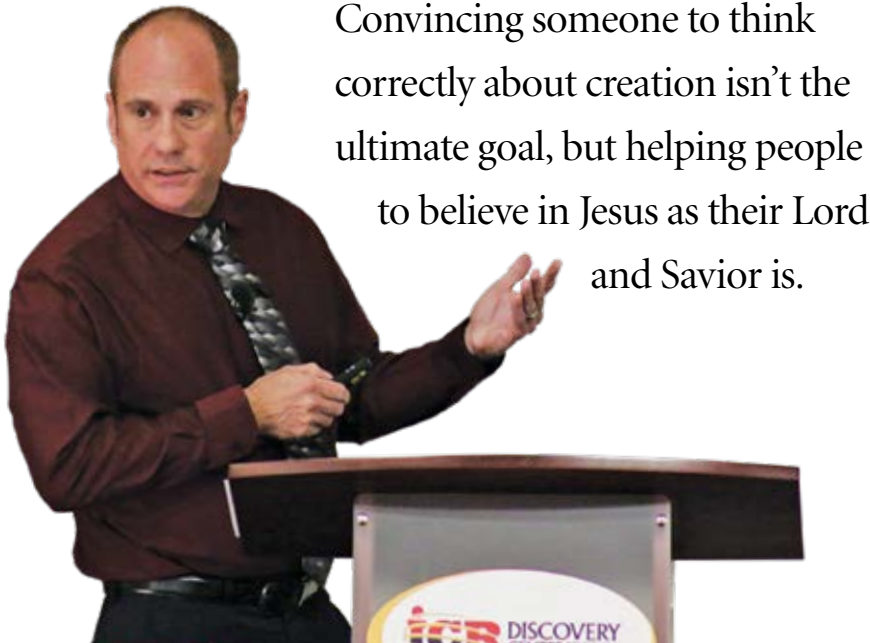
- be the framework guiding the interpretation of biological phenomena;
- assume that biological functions are best explained by engineering science principles;
- restore a holistic view to explain the operation of creatures’ functions;
- reject the simplistic, parts-oriented approach of the status quo; and
- be a clear, concise, and easily communicable design-based theory and not an esoteric mathematical construct.



Dr. Tim Clarey works on his Discovery Center Omniglobe animation storyboards

An engineering-based, organism-focused framework shows why we should abandon Darwin’s worldview of selectionism that sees organisms as modeling clay being passively shaped over time by the vicissitudes of their venerated view of nature.² And that same design-based approach to biology shows us why we should begin to view creatures as active, purposeful, problem-solving entities.

We hope this theory will become the fundamental, design-based principle uniting biological explanations in Christian textbooks and museums educating future generations of young believers. We pray that an engineering-based approach to biology will spark a second creationist revival... and once again stir up a sense of certainty in Christian truth.



Convincing someone to think correctly about creation isn't the ultimate goal, but helping people to believe in Jesus as their Lord and Savior is.

Dr. Jeff Tomkins (above) and Drs. Brian Thomas and Tim Clarey (below) give presentations in the ICR Discovery Center for Science & Earth History



4. Spread and Defend the Gospel

We at ICR recognize three important facts as the gospel relates to the Bible's doctrine of creation. First, convincing someone to think correctly about creation isn't the ultimate goal, but helping people to believe in Jesus as their Lord and Savior is. Second, people may believe in Christ for salvation but still be misled about biblical clarity and authority by simultaneously believing in evolution, an ancient creation, or both. I was one of those people for several years.

Third, the widespread, government-

sanctioned teaching of evolutionary selectionism is a major reason people don't believe the Bible is God's Word and thus don't take the claims of Christ as Savior seriously. ICR often includes the gospel message directly in the avenues of our communication. We also affirm biblical clarity³ and defend specific biblical narratives that are commonly under secular attack. These actions fulfill Peter's admonition to "sanctify the Lord God in your hearts, and always be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you, with meekness and fear" (1 Peter 3:15).

We show the ways in which science confirms that natural processes cannot explain the Bible's miraculous accounts of recent creation, the worldwide Flood, and Christ's resurrection. Our research activities serve to defend the gospel. Paul was imprisoned for the defense of the gospel and wrote to the believers in Philippi: "Just as it is right for me to think this of you all, because I have you in my heart, inasmuch as both in my chains and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel, you all are partakers with me of grace....knowing that I am appointed for the defense of the gospel" (Philippians 1:7, 17).

5. Win Scientists and Science Back to Christ

Without a doubt, ICR continues toward the goal of ICR founder Dr. Henry Morris, which was that "we must try not only to win individual scientists and educators to Christ, but also to win *science* itself, and *education* itself, to Christ."⁴ We will build on the solid foundation laid by those who came before us—not only Dr. Henry Morris, but our recently departed CEO Dr. Henry Morris III, current President Emeritus Dr. John Morris, Dr. Duane Gish, and so many others.⁵

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2. Guliuzza, R. J. 2017. Engineered Adaptability: Adaptability via Nature or Design? What Evolutionists Say. *Acts & Facts*. 46 (9): 17-19.
3. Biblical clarity teaches that God clearly communicates what He wants to say to people at any time and in any culture when an accurate translation of the Bible's words gives their normal meaning in their normal context like any other piece of literature. Practically, this means that the average person who doesn't have either an advanced degree in science or in theology can understand the Bible's teachings at face value without necessarily being informed by theological, historical, or scientific experts and source material.
4. Morris, H. M. 1994. Beginning at Genesis. *Acts & Facts*. 23 (2).
5. Guliuzza, R. J. 2021. Unity Worthy of Our Creationist Heritage. *Acts & Facts*. 50 (1): 5-7.

Dr. Guliuzza is President of the Institute for Creation Research. He earned his M.D. from the University of Minnesota, his Master of Public Health from Harvard University, and served in the U.S. Air Force as 28th Bomb Wing Flight Surgeon and Chief of Aerospace Medicine. Dr. Guliuzza is also a registered Professional Engineer and holds a B.A. in theology from Moody Bible Institute.



FEBRUARY 26-27



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Dozier, AL
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MARCH 27



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Creation: Basic Training Course
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Tim Clarey, Ph.D.



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Providing a safe and enjoyable experience is a priority for ICR, and we are closely monitoring the COVID-19 situation. Since the public health recommendations are changing on a frequent basis, please check ICR.org/events for the most up-to-date event information. If you have questions about a specific event, please send an email to events@icr.org or call **800.337.0375** and press 6.

Developing a More Rigorous Ice Sheet Model

In the creation model, a single Ice Age lasting hundreds of years was caused by and quickly followed the Genesis Flood.¹ In 1994, ICR atmospheric scientist Dr. Larry Vardiman published a mathematical model for the rapid formation of thick post-Flood ice sheets.² In a previous research column, I described my work extending his research.³ Here I present an update.

Because of the heat generated by rapid seafloor spreading during the Flood, the oceans would've been much warmer after the Flood than they are today. This would have caused more evaporation from the sea surface, resulting in significantly heavier snowfall at high latitudes and on mountain-tops.¹ Dr. Vardiman's model has much more rapid ice deposition during the Ice Age, with these deposition rates rapidly but gradually decreasing to their present-day values.²

For the simple case of an ice sheet that undergoes no melting, the rate at which the height of the ice sheet grows with time will be the rate at which ice is being deposited (the precipitation rate in meters of ice per year) minus the speed at which the top of the ice sheet moves downward (also in meters per year). This downward movement is due to the weight-induced thinning of the underlying ice layers.

Both of these rates can change over time. If the two rates are equal in size, the

height of the ice sheet will remain constant. But if the precipitation rate is greater than this downward speed, the ice sheet will grow in thickness. Dr. Vardiman assumed that the speed at which the upper ice surface moves downward was always equal to a small constant multiplied by the height of the ice sheet. His method was reasonable but an oversimplification, as he himself acknowledged.^{1,3}

Obtaining a better estimate of the ice sheet's growth over time requires finding this downward speed. That in turn requires a sophisticated computer model that simulates the behavior of the entire ice sheet. By using Dr. Vardiman's original precipitation model and the computer model to obtain a better estimate of this downward speed, we can then find the rate at which the ice sheet height grows with time.

The main goal of this research is to show that it can be accomplished and to lay the groundwork for future creation research. Given the uncertainties about past temperatures and precipitation rates, it seems likely this effort will only yield semi-quantitative ("order of magnitude") results. Regardless, it's hoped the results will show that heavy but realistic Ice Age precipitation rates can form thick ice sheets in just a few hundred years.

The Flood Ice Age model predicts

article highlights

- Evidence strongly suggests the Genesis Flood created the conditions needed for the Ice Age.
- Atmospheric scientist Dr. Larry Vardiman developed a model for the growth of post-Flood ice sheets.
- ICR physicist Dr. Jake Hebert is building on this model to more accurately determine ice sheet growth rates during the Ice Age.

thicker annual layers than uniformitarian models do. Hopefully, this research will give us a feel for how much thicker these annual layers actually were. Once we obtain the height of the ice sheet as a function of time, a simple IDL computer code can determine the thicknesses of the annual layers. I have already used this code to estimate annual layer thicknesses in Dr. Vardiman's original model. A paper describing this method has been submitted to the *Creation Research Society Quarterly* and is in the process of being reviewed.³

We at ICR thank both God and you for your faithful financial contributions—even during these stressful times—that make this research possible. ✉

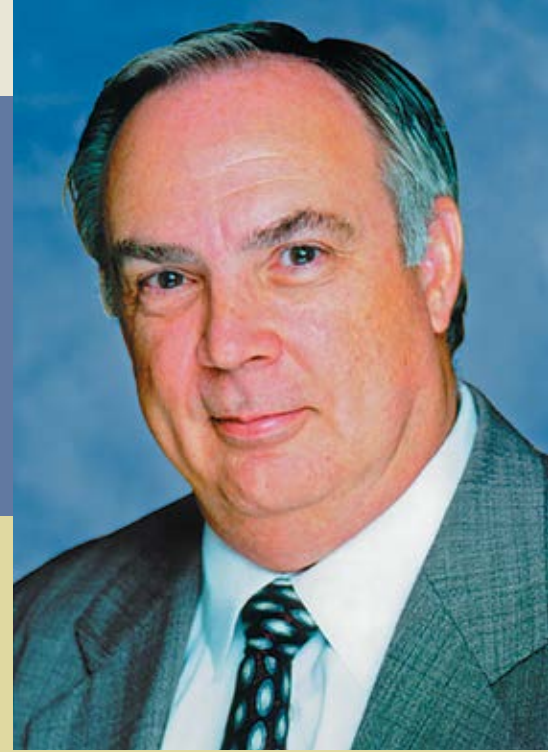
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2. Vardiman, L. 1994. An Analytic Young-Earth Model of Ice Sheet Formation During the "Ice Age." In *Proceedings of the Third International Conference on Creationism*. R. Walsh, ed. Pittsburgh, PA: Creation Science Fellowship, 561-568.
3. Hebert, J. 2020. ICR Paleoclimate Research Continues. *Acts & Facts* 49 (10): 9.

Dr. Hebert is Research Associate at the Institute for Creation Research and earned his Ph.D. in physics from the University of Texas at Dallas.



Remembering the Life and Legacy of Dr. Henry M. Morris III



The Institute for Creation Research's CEO, Dr. Henry M. Morris III, went to be with his Lord on December 12, 2020. After years of faithful service, Dr. Morris, known warmly around the office as Dr. Henry, was planning to retire from his leadership position that same month. In preparation for his retirement, we included a tribute article about him in the December 2020 issue of *Acts & Facts* and created a video of some of the ICR staff and Board of Trustees members sharing stories and expressions of appreciation.¹

Since Dr. Henry's homegoing, we have continued to reflect on his life and legacy, and three powerful attributes stand out: his

love for God, his dedication to upholding the accuracy and authority of the Scriptures, and his tireless efforts to encourage Christian believers to stand firm in a culture of compromise.

Whether he was writing articles, devotionals, and books, teaching his Genesis class at church, speaking at creation conferences, leading ICR staff, or planning exhibits for the ICR Discovery Center for Science & Earth History, his message remained the same: Love God. Believe the Bible. Stand Firm. We praise the Lord for his faithful witness and investment in the work of the Kingdom!

Although the full impact of his legacy

cannot be known on this side of heaven, we'd like to share portions of some of the many letters, emails, and social media posts we've received from people around the world who were touched by Dr. Henry's ministry.

Reference

1. In Loving Memory of Dr. Henry M. Morris III. Institute for Creation Research. Posted on ICR.org December 12, 2020. Go to [ICR.org/H3tribute](https://www.icr.org/H3tribute) for excerpts from the tribute article and a link to the retirement video ICR produced before Dr. Morris' passing.

I read many of his *Days of Praise* devotionals in the mornings and always read *Acts & Facts* cover to cover! What would the church be like if not for the Morrises and men like them? They worked hard and finished well. Well done!...My family and I are eternally grateful for the work of Henry Morris III. — J. S.

I wish I could share just how much the devotionals and his *Acts & Facts* articles have helped me to grow in my faith. Only the Lord knows. I can't count the number of times I had been thinking about a particular doctrine in Scripture or desiring a deeper understanding of God's Word and opened my email to the *Days of Praise* to

find that that particular devotional spoke directly to what I had been meditating on....I thank God for his great leadership at ICR and am amazed at how the Lord used him to help build the Discovery Center, which no doubt has enriched many lives and will enrich many more to come I'm sure. — S. T.

We had the privilege of knowing Dr. Henry personally, of learning from him and seeing the man of God example he set. He was always a blessing to us, and it meant so much when he took time for us. He will be greatly missed. — K. W.

I am sitting here, crying....Dr. Henry M.

Morris III was very loving and kind. He, like his father before him, loved the Word and had a deep love for creationism. I was led to the Lord via creationism. This just breaks my heart, but I also know that he is no longer in pain and is walking and talking with our Lord Jesus, the Christ. Condolences and comfort go out to his family and all his loved ones. And also to those who loved him like I did. I am going to really miss him. — C. S.

I'm just one of thousands who have never met Dr. Morris but have been profoundly ministered to by his work. I thank God for his life and know that he is rejoicing with his Lord and Savior now. Praying for his family. — K. H. W.

This makes me so sad. He was my [professor at Christian Heritage College] when I was a student '75-79. He taught us how to study God's precious Word using the *Strong's Concordance*. His entire family was greatly beloved by students and staff alike. There was great rejoicing in heaven at his arrival. — S. S. L.

I have read his books over the years and been blessed with an opportunity to meet him in person in 2016 at a conference in San Diego. He was truly a prolific writer and defender of the gospel message, taking his readers back to the foundation of the Genesis account. He will truly be missed in the temporal world but welcomed to his new home with his heavenly Father. God bless Dr. Henry M. Morris III and his entire family. — M. S.-D.



[We] remember meeting with Dr. Henry at his home in 2005 when he revealed his vision for Dallas as the base for [ICR's] ministry. I was so impressed with his warmth and genuineness. Later we attended the classes he taught at First Baptist Church. His engaging smile reflected the joy of his walk with our Savior, and we will miss him greatly. — S. B.

Thankful for his bravery in the midst of so many who don't believe in the creation of this world. Prayers and condolences for the family and friends. — V. R. M.

He and his father influenced me in a big way when I went to work for them in El Cajon in 1976....My life is rich in Christ because of their godly examples and encouragement. May the Lord bless and comfort Jan, Henry, and Scotta in the days ahead. I'm praying for you all. — G. S.

What a powerful legacy he leaves behind! I can't tell you how many times I have referenced his work, promoted the websites and links, and encouraged others to do the same. I'm sure it was a glorious homecoming too. — D. D.

I have nothing but respect for this man, and the work he and ICR have done for the Kingdom of our Lord Jesus Christ! Standing strong with ICR to continue their work against the mainstream academic dogma that permeates the thinking of our generation! Thanking Dr. Morris III for his brave and courageous stand for truth. — T. D.

It was an honor to have heard him speak at the Family Radio conference in Mission Springs as a teen....I got to take my youngsters and husband to hear him again a few years back. May God comfort his loved ones and may his legacy bless many. — L. A. D.

We looked forward each month to his contributions to our daily devotions. We rejoice that he is now home with his Lord and Savior. We were tremendously blessed by his faith and service to Christ and ICR. May the Lord comfort his family. — B. B.

Have such respect and appreciation for the service he has given in presenting truth and evidence for God's creation. May God comfort his family and the ICR ministry team. — E. H.

I bought so many of his books for our library at Oakland Christian School. I never had to be concerned about content, I knew it would speak truth. His entrance into heaven had to have been amazing. We will celebrate him HOME. — L. P. A.

We are blessed by Dr. Morris's legacy and by all of those who continue at ICR. God certainly endowed Dr. Morris with the faith that moved mountains! — M. M. G.



Happy he is with Jesus, but what a loss for us all. The wisdom he has passed on to us, through study of God's Word, has been foundational in my own growth. — M. H.

Dr. Morris was a wonderful, godly man whose influence will last for generations to come. May the peace and comfort of God be with his family, friends, and those who remain to preserve his legacy of spreading the truth concerning biblical creation as a cornerstone of Christian doctrine. — P. R.



The Fossils Still Say No:

The Mystery of Jawed Vertebrates

One of the greatest unsolved mysteries in the grand scheme of evolution is the transition between jawless and jawed vertebrates. In a previous article, I documented how jawless vertebrate fish appeared along with a host of creatures with diverse body plans in the Cambrian Explosion at the beginning of the sedimentary fossiliferous rock record.¹ Despite many fossil discoveries of numerous vertebrate fish over the past several hundred years, not a single transitional form has been found showing how jawed fish could have developed from jawless ancestors. In fact, numerous types of jawed fish appear suddenly in the rock record alongside new types of jawless fish.

Jawed vertebrates are known as *gnathostomes* and make up more than 99% of all known living vertebrate species, including humans. This incredible diversity is based on key defining categorical features: jaws, teeth, paired appendages, and specialized skeletal tissues. Evolutionists have struggled for over a century to explain the origins of these major anatomical features that appear suddenly in the fossil record with no ancestral precursors. Regarding the origin of jaws, the evolutionary problem was aptly stated in a recent edition of a book on vertebrate evolution: “How did the great transformation from ‘jawless suckers’ to the ‘predatory monsters’ of the oceans occur, involving the evolution of organized dentitions and jaws?”²

article highlights

- Jawed creatures appear suddenly in the fossil record, and no partially jawed creatures have ever been documented.
- The strange speculation that gills somehow morphed into jaws has no fossil support.
- Rather than demonstrating evolution, the fossil record reflects the Flood’s progressive inundation of different ecosystems.

Where Did Jaws Come From?

The classic idea among evolutionists is that jaws somehow morphed from gill arches at the front end of a so-called primitive fish. In jawless fish (Agnatha) such as lampreys (Figure 1) and hagfish (Figure 2), gill slits directly behind the mouth are separated from each other internally by cartilaginous arches, uniquely hinged and engineered skeletal features that allow the gills to function. Amazingly designed gills enable fish to breathe underwater by pulling in



Figure 1. Lamprey



Figure 2. Hagfish

Image credit: Andra Zommers and Douglas Fudge

oxygen-rich water through their mouths and pumping it across the gills.

According to evolutionary theory, a hypothetical vertebrate ancestor with nine gills and eight gill arches had the three gill arches closest to the mouth morph into the three essential components of a primitive jaw—an obviously huge anatomical change or evolutionary jump.²⁻³

In the simplest imaginary scenario, these three arches

would have somehow evolved to form the main part of an upper jaw, the core part of a lower jaw (mandible), and a new skull bone with a specialized hinge joint to interface with the mandible.

Significant modifications to the skull needed for jaw function make the evolutionary conundrum even greater, as noted in a recent paper: “The evolution of the upper jaw also requires more study, as its modification appears to be more complex than the lower jaw.”⁴ And this says nothing of the highly specialized muscles and neurological features and connections needed to make it all work.

Not surprisingly, speculation among secular academics has been contentious as to the immense complexity of this system somehow arising by random evolutionary processes. A recent textbook on vertebrate evolution noted, “The evolution of developmental processes that gave rise to articulating jaws are [*sic*] very controversial.”²²

Jawless Armored Fish

Secular scientists have speculated that the next step up the evolutionary ladder from lampreys and hagfish is the ostracoderms (shell-skinned), an extinct group known as armored jawless fish. Ostracoderms’ heads were covered with a bony shield, and they existed in three major groups. One group known as *heterostracans*, believed to be the more primitive of the three, had two armored plates that formed large shields over their upper and lower bodies. They also had a series of unique and unusual scales arranged in various patterns on the sides of their bodies, with the exact patterns differing from one heterostracan kind to another.

The other two groups of extinct jawless armored fish are called *galeaspids* and *osteostracans*. Evolutionists claim osteostracans were more advanced than heterostracans because they had lateral stabilizers used for swimming control. Osteostracans ranged from bottom-dwelling to open-water swimmers. In a recent article, ICR zoologist Frank Sherwin showed how research has revealed the unique hydro-

dynamic properties of the various osteostracan kinds that fitted them to inhabit different oceanic ecosystem levels.⁵

At this point in our progress up the mythical vertebrate evolution tree, we see no sign of jaws and are still in the superclass Agnatha. However, the presence of extremely sophisticated armored fish who had amazing traits that aren’t even found among living fish today utterly confounds evolutionists because they suddenly appear in the fossil record fully formed and uniquely complex.

Sudden Appearance of Jaws in Placoderms

Next up on the evolutionary tree is a group of armored fish called *placoderms* that show up in the Late Silurian system about 440 million years ago according to secular dating (Figure 3). What makes the placoderms so interesting is that they have fully developed jaws. Evolutionists are befuddled as to where these placoderm jaws came from. And to make matters worse, the jawless armored fish ostracoderms—the alleged ancestors of these jawed fish—lived alongside placoderms without any noticeable decline for about 30 million years. And during this period, absolutely no evidence of a transitional semi-jawed fish leading from jawless to jawed has ever been found.



Figure 3. Placoderm

Placoderms were fascinating creatures and have left behind some spectacularly well-preserved fossils. Their head and thorax were covered by articulated armored plates, and the rest of their bodies was covered with either scales or skin, depending on the kind. Their jaws often consisted of a single bone and were quite elaborate, with some seemingly as sharp as scissors. Some even had true teeth. Placoderms were also unique in that they had pelvic fins. The various kinds of placoderms were very diverse and abundant during the Devonian system but disappeared at the end of the Devonian in a huge extinction event 359 million years ago in the evolutionary timeline.

But the placoderm evolutionary story gets even more convoluted because according to the fossil record they also coexisted with so-called more modern bony fishes. One evolutionary paper stated that “a wide diversity of placoderms coexisted with lungfishes and primitive ray-finned fishes.”⁶

The Great Fish Split

An important issue directly related to the origin of jaws in vertebrates further compounds the evolutionary conundrum. The so-called deepest split among vertebrates, and one of the more glaring anomalies in the hypothetical gnathostome evolutionary tree, occurs between the cartilaginous fish called *chondrichthyans* (sharks, rays, and chimaeras) and *osteichthyans* (bony fishes). This mythical transition between cartilaginous and bony fish took place suddenly at the end of the Silurian.

Evolutionists lament the fact that this abrupt appearance of both cartilaginous and bony fish at the same time with no evolutionary precursors left a “vast temporal and evolutionary gulf between modern lineages.”⁷ Many of the first attempts at claiming transitional forms for such jawed fish creatures as placoderms ended up showing that their unique traits were not transitional at all but “specialized rather than primitive upon phylogenetic investigation.”⁷ This issue is also very troublesome for the gill-arch-to-jaw evolutionary story because some fish, like sharks and lampreys, possess multiple gill openings, while bony fish have a single gill opening on each side.

The hard facts of the fossil record lend absolutely no support to the evolutionary transition from jawless to jawed vertebrates. The major groups of fish—jawless fish, placoderms, cartilaginous fishes, spiny sharks (acanthodii), ray-finned fishes, and lobe-finned fish—all coexisted during the so-called Age of the Fishes known as the Devonian system with no transitional forms connecting any of the groups.

More specifically, there is no evidence of jaw evolution occurring. Jawed fish appear suddenly in the fossil record. Evolutionists have admitted to this current paleontological crisis, stating, “Ideas about the origin of gnathostomes are currently in a state of flux,” and “the tangled skein of jawed-vertebrate origins continues to challenge researchers.”⁶

Kaskaskia Megasequence Explains Devonian Fossils

So, how do we explain five different groups of jawed fishes along with new kinds of armored jawless fishes showing up suddenly in the fossil record within the same narrow evolutionary window near the start of the Devonian period? And if evolution can't explain this massive fish fossil conundrum, what does creation science have to offer?

The answer is that creation science provides a compelling explanation. ICR geologist Dr. Tim Clarey has demonstrated in his

global geologic column research that the beginning of the Devonian corresponds with the initial sedimentary deposition of the Kaskaskia Megasequence.⁸ The Kaskaskia is the third megasequence and follows the Sauk and the Tippecanoe. ICR's Column Project research team has demonstrated that each megasequence exhibits progressively more surface coverage of the continents. This indicates that the tsunami-like waves that produced them were becoming higher and higher and probably sourcing deeper and deeper water.⁸

For this reason, the Kaskaskia likely transported animals that lived in deeper water compared to the two earlier megasequences, and hence the sudden appearance of so many types of fish. Ocean creatures living in offshore coastal ecosystems would have been catastrophically transported and buried in these sediments during this depositional episode of the global Flood. And this is exactly what we see.

When we consider that every sort of complex creature, including fish, was created after its kind and that a huge diversity of marine life was killed and buried catastrophically in the global Flood—largely by ecological zonation—the fossil record fits into place perfectly. The solution to the mystery of jawed fish is found in Genesis. ✂

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Evolutionary Vocabulary

James J. S. Johnson, J.D., Th.D.

Did you know that words can carry a hidden evolutionary bias? Consider the word prehistoric. It literally means “before history,” i.e., before eyewitnessed events were reported and transmitted by humans. Evolutionists call dinosaurs “prehistoric” to reflect their belief that dinosaurs became extinct eons before humans evolved. To them, humans couldn't have seen living dinosaurs. However, we can be sure that dinosaurs co-existed with people from the beginning because God created both dinosaurs and humans on Day 6 of the creation week. People reported events through both oral histories and writings from the start (Genesis 5:1), so the only truly prehistoric time frame is Days 1 through 5 of creation. To label dinosaurs as prehistoric is just a ploy to promote the evolutionary story!

Created Cuttlebone's Sweet Spot

God created Earth during the creation week just thousands of years ago. This includes its marvelous oceans—128 million square miles of salt water. In the 21st century, scientists and laymen alike are struck with the amazing variety of oceanic creatures found at all depths. Some of the most fascinating marine animals are the cephalopods, which include squid, octopus, and cuttlefish. God has designed the cuttlefish (family Sepiidae) with a strange and important structure called the *cuttlebone*, a brittle, internal shell designed with gas-filled chambers that's used for buoyancy control.



Pharaoh cuttlefish



Cuttlebone

You've probably seen cuttlebone without recognizing what it was. It's used as a dietary supplement for pet birds, placed in their cages as an important source of calcium. Zoologists have recently been fascinated by the design of cuttlebone at the microscopic level. The bone is not exactly robust, yet it can tolerate a great deal of damage. A recent Virginia Tech news release spotlighted a study led by mechanical engineering professor Ling Li, who heads the Laboratory for Biological and Bio-Inspired Materials.¹ The article stated, "The more Li studies these animals, the more he's amazed by the uses their bodies find for intrinsically brittle and fragile material. Especially when the use defies that fragility."²

The design inference of cuttlebone and other biological materials is undeniable.³ Researchers "found that the microstructure's

article highlights

- The squid-like cuttlefish possesses a cuttlebone, a delicate structure used for buoyancy.
- The cuttlebone is equipped with an elegant damage-control microstructure that appears to be engineered to the highest degree.
- Only the Creator's ingenuity can design profound structures like this.

unique, chambered 'wall-septa' design optimizes cuttlebone to be extremely lightweight, stiff, and damage-tolerant."² They found that under various magnification techniques—such as powerful X-ray beams—the shell's microstructure is made up of "wavy walls instead of straight struts. The waviness increases along each wall from floor to ceiling in a 'waviness gradient.'"²

[The] cuttlebone's wavy walls induce or control fractures to form at the middle of walls, rather than at floors or ceilings, which would cause the entire structure to collapse. As one chamber undergoes wall fracture and subsequent densification—in which the fractured walls gradually compact in the damaged chamber—the adjacent chamber remains intact until fractured pieces penetrate its floors and ceilings.²

This wall-septa design gives cuttlebone control of where and how damage occurs in the shell. It allows for graceful, rather than catastrophic, failure: when compressed, chambers fail one by one, progressively rather than instantaneously.²

Not surprisingly, evolution is not mentioned in this article. Why should it be? The cuttlebone microstructure speaks of intricate design, specific purpose, and deliberate plan—denying random processes. The Creator designed it to have an ideal point between the absorption of energy and toughness. The researchers recognized this: "We show that cuttlebone sits in an optimal spot. If the waviness becomes too big, the structure is less stiff. If the waves become smaller, the structure becomes more brittle. Cuttlebone seems to have found a sweet spot, to balance the stiffness and energy absorption."²

Did the cuttlebone "find" this sweet spot? No, the Creator put it there. The Master Engineer is to be praised for such sophistication in His living world.⁴ 📖

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ARCHES NATIONAL PARK:

*Sculptures from
the Flood*

BRIAN THOMAS, P.H.D., AND TIM CLAREY, P.H.D.



Author Brian Thomas stands in Window Arch at dawn with Pillar Arch behind. Two key observations fit a Flood-friendly arch formation scenario.

Image credit: Edward Downing

article highlights

- Experts claim slow erosional processes formed the solid rock arches in Utah's Arches National Park.
- But millions of years of erosion should have toppled all the park's arches by now.
- Experiments show that sand arches can form fast, suggesting that conditions during the Genesis Flood could have sculpted them.

West of the Rocky Mountains in Utah, Arches National Park preserves some 2,000 natural stone arches. Only a handful of them have the grandeur to attract large crowds, and these are glorious! Countless cameras have captured these vaulted and sculpted sandstones, yet seeing them in person demonstrates why mere photos can't do them justice.

Visitors may ponder how the arches formed. Official park stories leave listeners on shifting sand, but two key observations show how a Flood-based scenario puts arch origin explanations on solid rock.

A Rocky Start to the Arches Story

First, there isn't enough debris to fit the official story. The Arches National Park picture book says:

Uplift of the entire region fractured the rocks of the Entrada Sandstone. Erosion has worked on these cracks and formed rows of parallel ridges, or fins. The innumerable grains of sand that comprise the fins are held together by a natural cement. This mortar is dissolved by water trickling down the surface of the rock. Sand grains are loosened, and slowly the wall erodes. Water seeping into the porous rock also dissolves cement inside the rock. If these dissolution processes create a hole through the rock fin, an arch is formed.¹

Some parts of that story make sense, but other parts don't. If entire regions up-

lifted, then why didn't erosion leave behind flat plains over eons instead of these dramatic rocky outcrops and arches? And where do we see erosion carving parallel fins?

Yes, natural cements hold some sand grains together in sandstone, but these can form fast today, such as in creek beds that carry mineral-rich waters. Yes, sandstone erodes slowly by rain, but the surfaces below the arches don't have the enormous piles of sand that eons of today's rain-based erosion would have left behind.

Erosion happens much faster when whole boulders collapse. A few rock piles are visible—perhaps a few thousand years' worth—but after millions of years all the pillars and arches should have collapsed and rubble should completely cover even whole cliffsides.²

On the hike to Landscape Arch, a sign explains that some sandstone broke off in 1991. Other rocks fell away in the 1940s. The few scraps of clearly visible rubble from these events still rest below Landscape Arch. The park's most iconic arch, Delicate Arch, has no rubble at its base. Something swept the ground clean.

Again, the park book says, "Slowly the wall erodes." It may happen slowly today, but that doesn't mean it happened slowly in the past. If erosion happened at today's slow rates for eons, then rubble and sand grains should fill the valleys. Where is the rubble from evolution's eons? Perhaps a colossal power washer removed the sedimentary layers that once connected now-separate mountainsides.

Making Arches in a Lab

Recent research makes up the second key observation. Scientists weighted the top of a block of sand that was wet enough to hold together but not cemented into stone.³ They raised the water level around the sand block. As sand fell away under different setups, pillars, alcoves, and arches formed fast. These experiments refute the park book's statement that "if these dissolution processes create a hole through the

rock fin, an arch is formed."¹

It happened in minutes when the sand was partly submerged, not over eons of rain. The researchers discovered that sand grains lock together when under pressure. They visited Landscape Arch after their experiments and noticed that the rubble "completely disintegrated" after it fell.⁴ Without pressure from overlying rock, the once-hard

sandstone rapidly turned to sand. No cement, no rain, and no eons.

Water Draining from Noah's Flood

Gigantic arches and alcoves imply that Utah once lay beneath deep water. The Bible tells us the Flood covered all the earth—that includes Utah. But as the floodwaters low-



The sun rises behind Double Arch.

Image credit: Brian Thomas



Landscape Arch. The scattered rubble beneath the arch fell in 1991 and in a few prior collapse events. Even at today's slow collapse rate, arches could not remain aloft for millions of years.

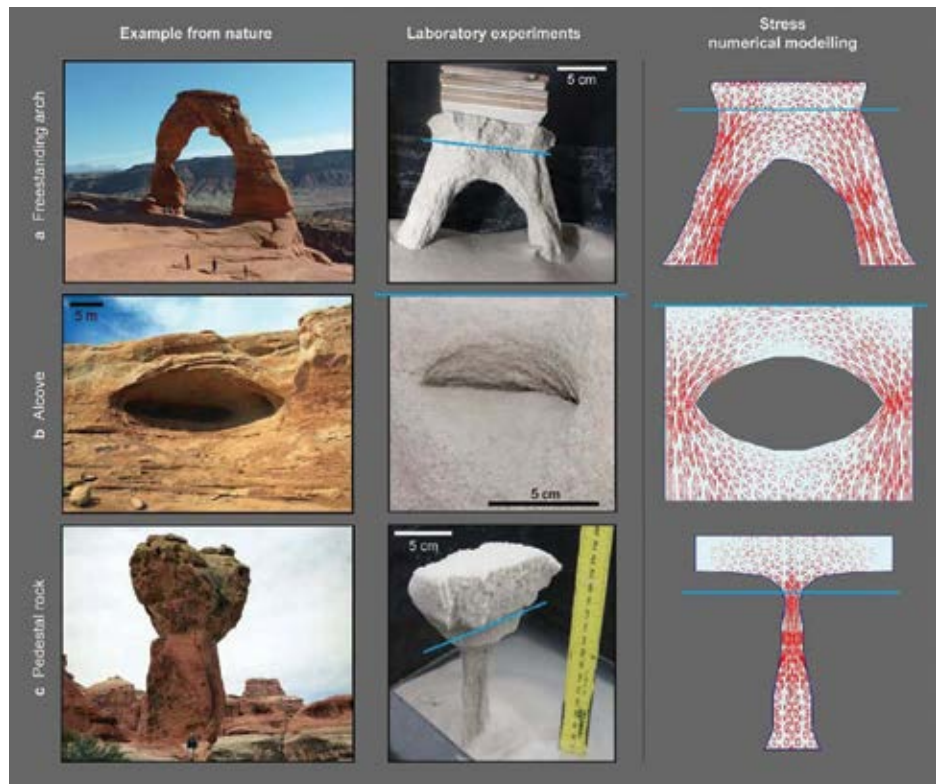
Image credit: Brian Thomas

ered, massive crustal movements lifted land upward. This force fractured sandstones into parallel fins. While still partially submerged, the weight of strata above the Entrada Sandstone solidified sand into arches, pillars, and mesas. Descending waters flushed sand and debris toward the seas. When the Flood's water levels dropped enough to start carving channels instead of overtopping the whole landscape, they left behind buttes, valleys, alcoves, and arches as sculptures from the Flood. 🏞️

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Recent experiments show that the weight of sand, not cement between sand grains, forms arches in mere hours while sand is partially submerged. The blue lines show water level. Also, the land beneath Delicate Arch, shown top left, represents canyons and cliffsides that were swept clean. Where are the piles of sand and rubble from millions of years of erosion?

Image credit: Bruthans et al, Nature Geoscience. Used in accordance with federal copyright (fair use doctrine) law. Usage by ICR does not imply endorsement of copyright holders.

Mesas and valleys. The sun sets on a pillared mesa just west of Utah's Arches National Park. During the Flood, floodwater levels lowered while the whole region uplifted from beneath. These receding waters flushed strata toward today's oceans, leaving behind erosional remnants like mesas and arches.

Image credit: Brian Thomas



- Some concepts that people assume are scientific facts are actually empirically unproven.
- Over a century ago, Albert Einstein determined that the speed of light is relative and essentially impossible to measure.
- Two popular YouTube scientists recently discussed how the speed of light has never actually been measured and honestly admitted they hadn't initially realized that.
- Being open to new discoveries requires a teachable mind and a humble heart.



Dr. Derek Muller (right) discusses measuring the speed of light with guest Destin Sandlin in his Veritasium YouTube video.

Teachable Minds and Scientific Discovery

SCOTT ARLEDGE

“You could see stars hundreds of light-years away, not as they looked centuries ago but exactly as they are right this instant,” says Dr. Derek Muller in a recent YouTube video about measuring the speed of light.¹ Dr. Muller is a well-known science educator who has worked with Neil DeGrasse Tyson and Bill Nye and whose Veritasium YouTube channel has nearly a billion views and around eight million subscribers.

How we can see distant starlight in a universe only 6,000 years old is a primary objection to biblical creation. This video revisits the possibility that starlight might reveal the stars as they are right now—and that’s perfectly okay with known physics.

Albert Einstein reported in 1905 that the one-way speed of light cannot be determined. The relativistic nature of light travel means we could reason that light travels instantaneously in one direction and half the conventional speed of light in the other.

Dr. Muller, whose Ph.D. is in physics education research, featured this little-known quirk in his YouTube post. During the video, he called Destin Sandlin of *Smarter Every Day*, another top YouTube science educator. On camera, Sandlin seemed to

consider for the first time the idea that measuring the speed of light requires a “round trip”—such as reflecting light off a mirror and measuring the total elapsed time. At Muller’s suggestion that we may be seeing stars as they are this instant, Sandlin replied, “This is breaking my brain.”

The two grappled with the topic in a humble and honest manner. It was refreshing. They appeared committed to pursuing the truth even if it meant changing their minds about a strongly held position—a conventional position they’d been taught and that most assume to be simple fact. The two examined how they arrived at a given conclusion and realized that a thing understood to be an empirically verified fact might not be.

When we understand something wrong for so long, it’s easy to respond with a defensive or dismissive attitude when our understanding is challenged. When we are wise in our own eyes and say in our hearts “I’m right” before listening to a new perspective, we can become closed-minded and miss an opportunity to grow in our understanding of the truth.

Christians who develop scientific creation models can need correction too. Our

foundation of truth as revealed in Genesis is immovable, but we can hold on to incorrect ideas. Perhaps many feel the pressure to hold on to an idea for fear that admitting error would be questioning the veracity of Scripture. Quite the contrary—being corrected of an erroneous position clears away obstacles on the path to finding truth.

Genesis 1:14-15 states that God created the sun, moon, and stars to be “lights in the expanse of the heavens to give light upon the earth.” Undoubtedly, Jesus made starlight for Earth.² God asks in Job 38:19-20, “Where is the way to the dwelling of light, and where is the place of darkness, that you may take it to its territory and that you may discern the paths to its home?” God’s question hints at the complexities of this created universe and possibly implies light’s path and home are unknowable.

Dr. Muller reflects in his video’s closing statements, “Personally, I find it fascinating that this is something about the universe that is hidden from us.”¹ Many people surely agree. But one thing not hidden is the fact that the heavens declare the glory of God (Psalm 19:1). ✎

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Buried Secrets Can Be Worth Uncovering

article highlights

- The world around us is full of buried secrets, and digging deeper can pay off in surprising ways.
- One of science's predominant tasks is to explore and diligently uncover the true nature of our world.
- ICR's unique research in bioengineering has brought to light a multitude of innate abilities the Creator has placed in creatures—the opposite of the evolutionary model, which sees nature as the cause of life's diversity.



Buried secrets sometimes surface, revealing hidden things. However, if no one is willing to do some diligent digging, much of what is concealed will remain undiscovered.

For example, last year some “grave secrets” were uncovered: human bones from a Viking cemetery concealed in a coastal cliff near Orkney’s Newark Bay.^{1,2} No gravediggers triggered the coastal cemetery’s discovery—stormy weather did.

Recent storms...have [taken] their toll on a soft sandstone cliff where the [insular coast’s] graveyard is found. As a result, bones are starting to stick out after being exposed and...some are falling down onto the beach...The size of the Viking cemetery has yet to be determined, though hundreds are thought to have been laid to rest [there].¹

Sometimes discoveries, like this one, are unintentional surprises.³ But such fortuitous discoveries can be expanded by “digging deeper.”^{1,3}

Digging Deeper in Biblical History

The Bible’s record of Earth history is completely accurate and reliable. If pieces don’t seem to fit what we think we know about history, dig deeper—Scripture withstands scrutiny.

Years ago, critics scoffed at how Scripture reported King Belshazzar’s offer of “third-highest” rank in the Babylonian empire to the person who could explain the miraculous handwriting on the wall (Daniel 5:7, 16). Since Joseph was promoted to second place in Egypt (Genesis 41:37-45), why was Daniel only given third place?

In 1924, newly found ancient records showed that Belshazzar’s father, King Nabonidus, had commissioned his son as regent (co-king) to rule while Nabonidus was off in faraway places. Belshazzar was thus in second place in the empire, so third place was the highest he could give to anyone.⁴

Digging Deeper in Creation Science

When Charles Darwin announced his theory, few bothered to “check under the hood” to see if there was an empirically verifiable process that substantiated his claim that natural selection serves as a substitute creator to think, favor (or disfavor), and select animals to survive. Thankfully, ICR’s Dr. Randy Guliuzza undertook the her-

culean task of digging deeper into evolutionist research literature and exposed the natural selection model as an etiological bait-and-switch scam like the Emperor’s New Clothes.⁵

Dr. Guliuzza patiently uncovered grave secrets and reported study after study, building a mountain of bioengineering research and analysis that not only refuted natural selection as a causal agent for life’s diversity but pointed irrefutably to the exquisite innate engineering the Creator has invested in every creature.⁵

Sound bites tickle ears, but the truth is often buried in fine print. At ICR, we strive to unearth the truth and provide readable articles on creation science informed by Scripture and biblical apologetics. And we simultaneously aim to report professional scholarship that has depth.

It’s part of the Berean tradition (Acts 17:11). Because digging deeper—finding more truth—will strengthen our faith in God and His Word. ✨

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BY THE NUMBERS

Even with the COVID shutdown, over 60 ICR volunteers served almost 6,000 hours from Labor Day 2019 through Labor Day 2020.

Planting, Watering, and God's Increase

During construction of the ICR Discovery Center for Science & Earth History, I spent a lot of time working with various crews of artists and craftsmen. One day as I watched three men shoveling dirt into wheelbarrows, I stopped and asked what they were doing. The first said, "I'm clearing this dirt and dumping it on the far side of the worksite." The second man shook his head and said, "I've got a large family, so I'm putting food on the table and a roof over our heads." The third man, after quickly surveying the worksite, surprised us all when he stated, "I'm helping to build a beautiful new science museum. It's gonna be great."

Perspective can be a funny thing. The first man viewed his work as drudgery, while the second saw it as a means to an end. The third man, however, saw his efforts with a greater sense of purpose. While each man was technically correct, how he perceived his labor made all the difference.

The immature believers in Corinth needed a similar reminder from the apostle Paul. Several factions had risen up, with some claiming allegiance to the teaching of Apollos, others to Paul, and still others to the apostle Peter (1 Corinthians 3:4, 22). But Paul warned against "boast[ing] in men" (v. 21). Rather, he emphasized teamwork between his fellow ministers who labored for a far greater purpose. Paul could have described

article highlights

- How we perceive the value of our work is largely driven by our perspective.
- Kingdom work focuses on the big picture—building God's body of believers.
- ICR builds on the foundation of Christ alone, and we look for His return as we work together.

his work in terms of the exhausting travel, preaching in hostile synagogues, and the scourgings, beatings, and jail cells that often followed (2 Corinthians 11:23-27). But he looked beyond his current difficulties to see the big picture. "I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the increase....For we are God's fellow workers; you are God's field, you are God's building" (1 Corinthians 3:6, 9).

It was vital for the Corinthians to recognize the importance of their co-labor for "God's building"—the believers who comprise the church. Paul reminded them, "Do you not know that you are the temple of God and that the Spirit of God dwells in you?" (1 Corinthians 3:16). And while they might labor separately, often apart for years at a time, Paul reminded them they were not

in this work alone. "I have laid the foundation, and another builds on it. But let each one take heed how he builds on it" (v. 10). No structure will survive if it's not first built on a firm foundation, and such is true for "God's building," for "no other foundation can anyone lay than that...which is Jesus Christ" (v. 11). No church or Christian ministry can claim to be genuine if it fails to proclaim and worship the Lord Jesus Christ for who He claims to be in all His fullness.

Even with a sure foundation, the danger of heresy and apostasy—rampant today just as in Paul's day—can ruin the work. Paul likened this to using building materials of "gold, silver, precious stones" versus "wood, hay, [and] straw" (1 Corinthians 3:12). Our works will be tested one day by the fire of Christ's judgment seat (2 Corinthians 5:10), and only those of good quality and value will endure.

The Institute for Creation Research takes this charge very seriously. Our ministry is neither mundane nor routine—it's God's work, and we would be blessed by your support. God will "give the increase" (1 Corinthians 3:7) as we labor together to proclaim the truth of our Creator, Jesus Christ. ✨

Mr. Morris is Director of Donor Relations at the Institute for Creation Research.



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GALATIANS 6:9-10

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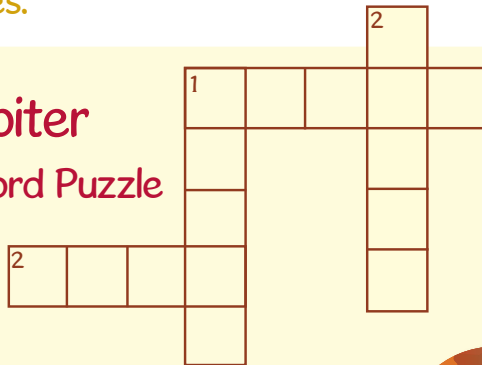
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You may already know Jupiter is a colorful gas giant and the fifth planet from the sun. But did you know...

- ✓ God created Jupiter on Day 4 of creation week only thousands of years ago.
- ✓ Jupiter has a magnetic field that is slowly decaying over time.
- ✓ Jupiter is releasing twice as much heat as it receives from the sun.
- ✓ If Jupiter were billions of years old, it would have lost its magnetic field and its heat by now. Jupiter must be young like the Bible's timeline indicates.



Jupiter Crossword Puzzle



Across:

1. Jupiter is the biggest planet in our _____ system.

2. God created Jupiter on Day _____.

Down:

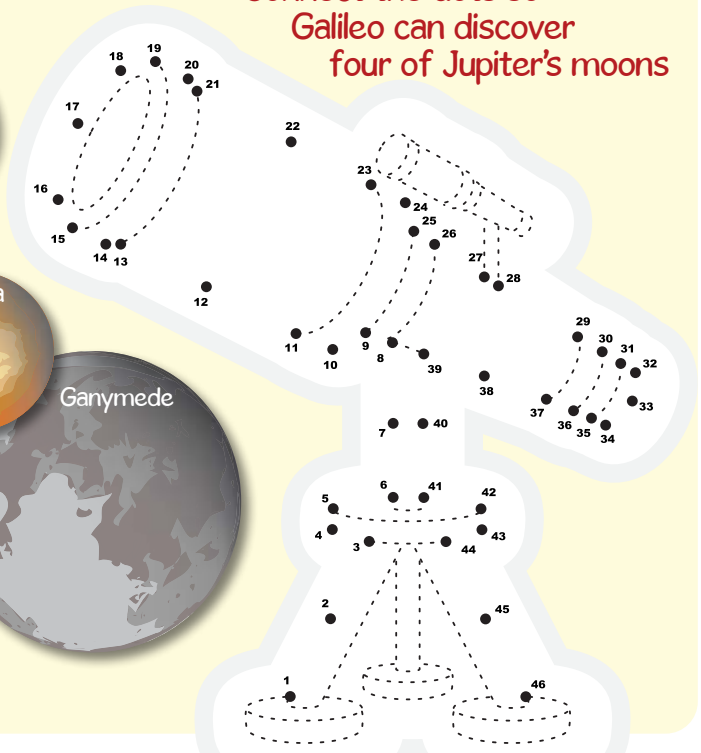
1. Jupiter's Big Red Spot is a _____.

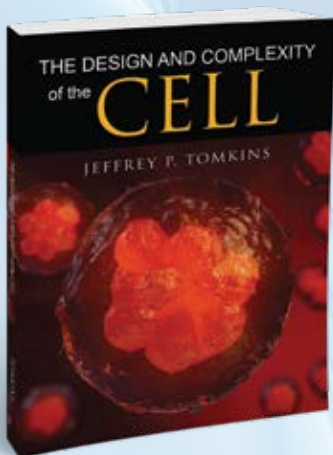
2. Jupiter is made of _____.

Find the objects hidden in Jupiter's belts and zones.



Connect the dots so Galileo can discover four of Jupiter's moons

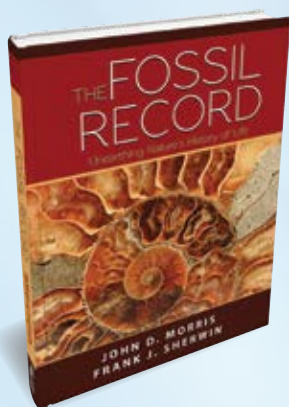




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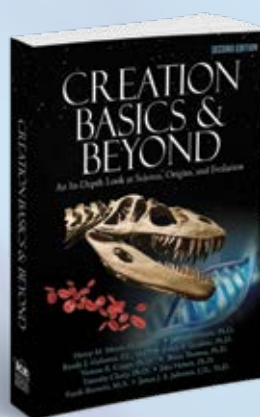
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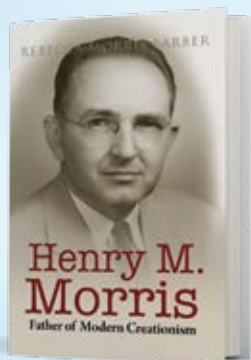
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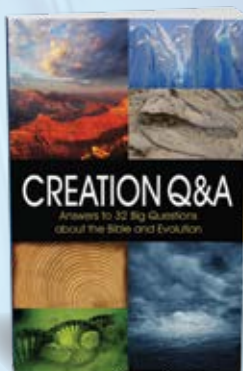
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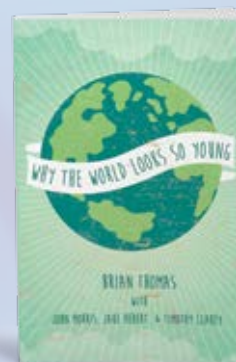


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