

TWO IMPORTANT NEW TOOLS FOR CREATION EVANGELISM

Creation enthusiasts have long awaited a book on the stunning discoveries at Mount St. Helens, and finally it has arrived! Ongoing research there had postponed a definitive statement, but the arguments are rock solid now and ready for publication.

Entitled *Footprints in the Ash: The Explosive Story of Mount St. Helens*, the book contains over 100 color photographs. Its two authors, Drs. Steve Austin and John Morris, have conducted much research on the mountain's 1980 eruption and the amazing restoration of the ecosystem in subsequent years. Many claims for long ages have been refuted by the copious scientific facts discovered through this research from rapid sedimentation, erosion, fossilization, coalification, regrowth, etc.

What makes this publication even more outstanding is its full-color, coffee-table format, chock-full of stunning photographs and illustrations. In addition to being a beautiful Christmas gift, this book is also a great evangelistic tool to give to your non-Christian friends as the concluding chapter gives a clear presentation of the Gospel.

The second book is the most recent product of Dr. Henry Morris' fertile pen. In the tradition of *The Genesis Record*, *The Revelation Record*, *The Remarkable Record of Job*, and *The Remarkable Wisdom of Solomon*, this book, *The Remark-*

able Journey of Jonah, brings that thrilling book to life. As is his trademark, he finds insights in Scripture that others overlook but appear obvious once seen.

The Book of Jonah has fascinated and frustrated readers for a long time. Was there such a fish? How could a man live for three days inside? Did Jonah actually die and did God bring him back? What was the long-range effect on Nineveh?

Both books are available from ICR by calling 1/800-628-7640 or on-line at www.icr.org/store. Costs are \$9.95 and \$16.95 respectively. ☪



ICR COMPLETES FOURTH YELLOWSTONE TOUR

Ninety-one intrepid explorers attended the 2003 ICR Tour to Yellowstone and Grand Teton National Parks and Fossil Butte and Dinosaur National Monuments from September 5–13 this fall.

On one day, thirty of the participants climbed Specimen Ridge (an evolution icon for long ages) to see the petrified trees better understood as being buried rapidly during volcanic eruptions. Another twenty enthusiastic naturalists hiked down to the Yellowstone River at Tower Falls to view the magnificent scenery below the “Grand Canyon of the Yellowstone.” And the remainder traveled to the Norris Geyser Basin to view Echinus and Steamboat Geysers.

On other days the tour participants hiked through the Old Faithful Geyser Basin, along the Yellowstone Gorge, and around Jenny Lake. The weather was challenging this year because of an intense early storm which dropped a few inches of snow and air temperatures to below freezing. The Tetons were barely visible through the clouds but the group was treated to blue skies and warm temperatures at Flaming Gorge Reservoir later in the week.

The purpose of the Yellowstone Tour is to visit the site of some of the largest tectonic events in earth history. Yellowstone and the Tetons provide rare opportunities to observe rapid recovery from forest fires which are similar to the conditions following the Genesis Flood. Then there are those rare glimpses of unusual flora and fauna such as bison, elk, antelope, and bear as well as many types of trees, grasses, and flowers. We also saw evidence for massive glacial features in Yellowstone and the Tetons, large fish burial deposits at Fossil Butte, and the massive dinosaur graveyard at Dinosaur National Monument. Each of these sites



added to our understanding of the Flood and post-Flood world that Noah and his descendants experienced.

Many of this year’s participants were supporters who have attended other ICR tours in the past. Planned future tours include a Grand Canyon Tour May 1–9 of 2004 and Mount St. Helens Tour, August 29 through September 4, 2004. If you haven’t been on one of our tours, you should make plans to do so. This is one of the best ways to hear recent research results on Creation and the Flood, get to know ICR scientists in a personal way, and experience some of the sweetest Christian fellowship this side of heaven. Come join us on one of our future tours! For further information please contact Cindy Gabay at 619/448-0900, ext. 6034 or e-mail, cgabay@icr.org. More details may also be found on the ICR website [ICR.org/tours]. 

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by John D. Morris

This is the time of year we traditionally set aside to reflect on God's goodness—things for which we are thankful. Let me list several things as I see them from the President's chair here at ICR.

Organizationally, I am thankful for His consistent financial supply of ICR's every need. This includes designated funds for special research projects, but also for the much larger general operating expenses. Without endowments, big savings accounts, (and without debt too), He has provided every true need. I am also thankful for the staff of ICR. Each one considers the work here their own personal ministry too, making ICR a wonderful place to work.

I am also thankful for God's Word, which reveals His grand plan for His creation, and how we fit in. We are expected to believe what He says, but I'm so glad He didn't ask us to believe things that are obviously not true—things like evolution, which insists our ancestors were fish, and that life, which is so intricately designed, arose spontaneously by natural processes. Nor are we asked to believe silly things like the Colorado River carved Grand Canyon, or that a long-ago explosion produced galaxies, planets, and people. I'm thankful that His message to us is so "believable," and our faith a "reasonable faith."

The modern creation movement as a whole spurs great thankfulness in my heart. From very humble beginnings just a few decades ago, it has blossomed into a major national and international force. Today many creation scientists and creation organizations are involved, carrying the news to anyone who will listen. Today creation materials cover every subject and at all levels. Things will never go back to the way they were.

(Continued on page 6)

This month on "Science, Scripture, & Salvation":

Weekend of: **Title/Topic:**

- Nov. 1 **Autumn Leaves**
Ah, Autumn! The beautiful sight of colored leaves floating to the ground. Groves of trees turned red, yellow, and orange. Autumn truly is a wonderful season. But what causes such beauty in certain leaves during this time? Tune in!
- Nov. 8 **American Indians**
As we near the Thanksgiving holiday, many stores and classrooms put up displays of Pilgrims and Indians. Some schools may even host a program depicting that first Thanksgiving nearly 400 years ago. But have you ever wondered how the first American Indians got here?
- Nov. 15 **Flightless Birds**
Have you ever heard the saying, "birds gotta fly?" Well, for some birds that's impossible. God has created some beautiful flightless birds. But, evolutionists claim these creatures used to fly, but gave up that ability. We'll take a closer look.
- Nov. 22 **Thanksgiving**
As Thanksgiving Day approaches, we should all take time to reflect on God's goodness to us and to give Him thanks. On this special Thanksgiving edition of our program, we'll hear testimonies from three of ICR's top leaders.
- Nov. 29 **Migrating Whales**
Humpback, gray, blue, orca and beluga. Whales are a beautiful and fascinating example of our Creator's handiwork. But, why do many of them migrate back and forth each year, and how do they know where to go? Stay tuned! 🎧


Meeting Highlights

Here at ICR we are thankful for the wonderful and talented speakers God has blessed us with. This month we're highlighting two of best and sharing testimonies about them from supporters in the field. The first is Frank Sherwin, a zoologist here at ICR. Frank has been speaking for years and always "knocks their socks off" with the undeniable truths of creation. Barbara Miller, Assembly Coordinator for Gateway Christian School wrote this:

Our students and adults thoroughly enjoyed Frank Sherwin's presentation of creation. It was so exciting to see a man of God who is a scientist refute many of the things we are told by evolutionists . . . One of the most appealing things was his passion for his subject—it was totally infectious. The kids really picked up on it and they became passionate about creationism and our wonderful God! I truly was sorry to see the session end and am looking forward to our next visit from the Institute for Creation Research!

The next speaker we are focusing on is Mike Riddle. Mike has been a keynote speaker at several home school conventions and has the knack for energizing the audience. He hits the ball out of the park when he presents creation science issues. Debra Wieder from the SETHSA board said this:


The Southeast Texas Home School Association (SETHSA) was pleased to have Mr. Mike Riddle of ICR present five speaking sessions . . . His keynote address and the four workshops were entitled: "Reasons

Why A Christian Should Not Believe In Evolution," "Carbon-14 Dating," "Astronomy and the Bible," "Dinosaurs," and "Evidence That Demands a Creator." We have received many favorable comments from those attending his presentations. For instance, comments such as: "Mike was amazingly knowledgeable and the information was awe inspiring"; "To know these facts will help me to reach others with the gospel"; "I am eager to learn more about the true facts of creation." We were able to tell by Mike's presentations . . . that he really enjoyed doing what he was doing. He was able to effectively minister to and help the area home schoolers. 

Testimonies

From Ireland

I just want to take this brief opportunity to THANK YOU for the ICR daily devotionals [*Days of Praise*]. I am a young Christian and derive an enormous deal of comfort, inspiration, and fine, fine teaching from these daily nuggets. I start my day with my devotional and meditate upon its daily message again at the close of day.

So, please keep spreading the Word of God to people like I once was, ignorant of the Lord's divine purpose and arrogant in my own importance. 

Correction Notice

Impact #363, September 2003 "Mediated Design" (end of first paragraph on p. i) should read: "In CAM plants, the acids are generated at night when the temperature is lower and converted to sugars during the day."



FOR EVERY STRUCTURE THERE IS A REASON

If you're a baby boomer (or earlier) you've no doubt been presented in high school and college the story of the alleged lack of function of our appendix. Instructors called it—and continue to call it—"degenerate" or "rudimentary"—a nonfunctional vestige of evolution that modern man no longer needs.

The appendix is a finger-sized tube that attaches to the cecum (blind pouch) in our gastrointestinal tract. A disorder is *appendicitis*, a rapid inflammation of this structure. People who undergo abdominal surgery occasionally have their appendix removed as long as the surgeon was in that area because the patient "didn't need it." Really? How does the surgeon *know* that? Medical students were—and are—falsely educated in their university and medical school programs, thanks to publications such as the *Atlas of Human Functional Anatomy* that calls the appendix "a vestigial structure in man."¹

As a zoology graduate student, I took a course in histology—the study of tissues. A course requirement was to write a paper on the ultrastructure (organization studied at the level of an electron microscope) of some tissue in the human body. I chose the appendix because, as a creationist, I did not accept the unscientific idea of vestigial structures. I determined there had to be a function for the appendix, a scientific prediction of the creation model that further research would either prove or disprove. Unfortunately, my professor dismissed my plans. This is just one more example of how evolutionism is anti-science. He and other secular biologists have regarded the appendix as not worth researching, and investigation of this lymphatic tissue languished as a result.

Recently, evolutionary activists are strangely silent regarding their insistence of the non-function of the appendix. There could be several reasons for this, but perhaps the best is that scientific research has indeed revealed an important function.

The *Grolier Encyclopedia* admitted, "Long regarded as a vestigial organ with no function in the human body, the appendix is now thought to be one of the sites where immune responses are initiated."² Authors Van De Graff and Fox state, "The appendix contains masses of lymphoid tissue that may serve to resist infection."³ Kenneth Saladin states, "The appendix is densely populated with lymphocytes [a type of white blood cell] and is a significant source of immune cells."⁴ Anatomist Fred Martini describes the appendix as saying, "The mucosa and submucosa of the appendix are dominated by lymphoid nodules, and the appendix's primary function is as an organ of the lymphatic system."⁵


Vestigial structure indeed. Lymphatic tissue is important! God is not the Author of confusion, and He does not riddle the body with useless tissues or organs. Every tissue in our body has a purpose—designed by our all-wise Creator.

1. Zuidema, G., *Johns Hopkins Atlas of Human Functional Anatomy*, 1980, p. 86.

2. Hartenstein, Roy, *Grolier Encyclopedia*, 2002, Grolier Interactive Inc.

3. Van De Graff & Fox, *Concepts of Human Anatomy & Physiology*, 1999, p. 837.

4. Saladin, K., *Anatomy & Physiology*, McGraw Hill, 2001, p. 974.

5. Martini, F., *Fundamentals of Anatomy & Physiology*, Prentice Hall, 1998, p. 899. 

President's Column (cont. from page 3)

As a scientist, I am quite thankful for the high-quality research being conducted here at ICR and elsewhere, fueling the creation movement and providing solid answers to questions people have. Creation's scientific footing is so strong now that one must be "willingly ignorant" (II Peter 3:5) not to see it.

I am thankful too, for the faithful supporters of ICR, the readers of *Acts & Facts* like you. Many people regularly tell me they uphold the ministry in prayer. God showers His blessings in answer to those prayers. We thankfully consider you partners in the work in every regard.

My greatest thankfulness is reserved for our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, Himself the Creator and Sustainer of all. Through His completed work on the Cross we have forgiveness of sins and eternal life with God. In response to all He has done for us, we study His creation, uphold His Word, and extol His Name, and are thankful for the privilege. ☞



MARTY FINDS GOLD!

The Institute for Creation Research received a 2003 Aurora Award for the video, *Marty's Grand Adventure*. The Aurora Awards recognize those in the film and video industries that have the ability to captivate their audiences. And captivating it is! Marty's fun filled, action packed adventure is a humorous and evangelistic journey. The Aurora "Gold Award" was given within the category of Children's Religious Instruction. The actual award (pictured with Marty) was "designed to embody the creative reach for higher ground." Congratulations go out to Marty (actually, ICR's Mr. Kim Elmore, who wrote and starred in the film) and the team! ☞



FLORIDA CREATION CAMPS!

March 7-12 • March 21-26
April 4-10 • April 11-16, 2004

Call 863/494-9558 or e-mail creation@strato.net

Dates may be requested for senior trips and for college field study courses in paleontology, ecology, earth science, or creation apologetics. College and CEU credit may be arranged. Those who qualify can earn ICR graduate credit.



“And the harp, and the viol, the tabret, and pipe, and wine, are in their feasts: but they regard not the work of the LORD, neither consider the operation of His hands” (Isaiah 5:12).

All of God’s children must overcome the temptation to allow God’s sovereign provision of our needs to be overshadowed by the pleasure of our bounty and blessings—especially during this very American celebration of the Thanksgiving holiday. Here are some of the “original” thoughts.

George Washington’s 1789 Thanksgiving Proclamation

Whereas it is the duty of all nations to acknowledge the providence of Almighty God, to obey His will, to be grateful for His benefits, and humbly to implore His protection and favor; . . . a day of public thanksgiving and prayer, to be observed by acknowledging with grateful hearts the many and signal favors of Almighty God, especially by affording them an opportunity peaceably to establish a form of government for their safety and happiness:

Now, . . . I do . . . assign Thursday, the 26th day of November next, to be devoted by the people of these States to the service of that great and glorious Being who is the beneficent author of all the good that was, that is, or that will be; . . .

And also that we may then unite in most humbly offering our prayers and supplications to the great Lord and Ruler of Nations and beseech Him to pardon our national and other transgressions; . . . to promote the knowledge and practice of true religion and virtue, and the increase of science among them and us; and, generally to grant unto all mankind such a degree of temporal prosperity as He alone knows to be best. . . . the 3rd day of October, A.D. 1789. (signed) G. Washington.

Remember the ThanksGIVING

Scripture refers to various ways to express our “offerings” of thanksgiving. Singing (Psalm 30:12); recalling God’s creation (Psalm 75:1); telling of God’s holiness (Psalm 91:12); remembering those who have helped us (Colossians 1:3).

May this Thanksgiving season be one of great thankfulness to Him for His great blessings and a rededication to use His bounty to please Him and serve others.



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