

Acts & Facts



Institute for Creation Research
www.icr.org

Facts
Facts

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TIME IS RUNNING OUT FOR THE THEORY OF EVOLUTION

Time is absolutely essential for evolution. Time has become the carpet under which all of evolution's problems are swept. Consider the lack of beneficial mutations, extinctions far more prevalent than speciation, the "downward" direction of all processes, the paucity of transitional fossils, the exquisite design of living things. Just sweep these facts under the rug of time and keep teaching evolution.

As a leading evolutionist has said, "Time is . . . the hero of the plot. . . . Given so much time, the 'impossible' becomes possible, the possible probable, and the probable virtually certain. One has only to wait: time itself performs miracles." (Wald, in *The Physics and Chemistry of Life*, p. 12.)

The Institute for Creation Research has attacked this issue head on especially in its RATE initiative (Radioisotopes and the Age of The Earth). This eight-year study has yielded stunning results. Each individual research project has added another strong evidence for recent creation, some of which are discussed in the following pages, and in the first technical RATE book published in 2000. Others will appear in the upcoming 2005, RATE volume, and in a laymen's "translation" of the technical material to appear as a separate book. Plans are to launch a

national presentation of this material in a series of both non-technical and technical conferences around the country.

The first such conference will be held right here in San Diego at Christian Heritage College where ICR was "birthed" in 1970. Current Chancellor and pastor of the sponsoring church, Dr. David Jeremiah, has agreed to host the conference and attendant media event. All the participating scientists will be present, as will, we expect, many scientists trying to debunk the evidence.


The date has been set for November 5, 2005, and it's not too early to mark your calendar. This will be a significant milestone in the history of both science and the church, and Christians and scientists of all persuasions will want to be present. ☪



DIAMONDS ARE A CREATIONIST'S BEST FRIEND


Last month's *Acts & Facts* related how three of the RATE (Radioisotopes and the Age of The Earth) researchers were able to present their discoveries to about ten thousand scientists at the American Geophysical Union's national convention. This breakthrough opportunity to present creationist research in a secular professional setting was well received by nearly all of the scientists who interacted with the creationists, and even yielded ideas for follow-up on research.

Last month's article didn't discuss the most recent discovery, made just days before the convention, but which generated much discussion. Dr. John Baumgardner's study of *The Enigma of the Ubiquity of ¹⁴C in Organic Samples Older than 100 Ka* included a late investigation of Carbon-14 in diamonds, which are a crystalline form of carbon formed deep inside the earth and brought to the surface by volcanic action. Diamonds are so closely packed that contamination is very unlikely and are thought to be very old, so old that no Carbon-14 would remain. Since Carbon-14 is produced in the upper atmosphere by cosmic ray bombardment of nitrogen atoms, thus none should be in diamonds.

When diamond samples were investigated, however, Carbon-14 was present, dating those extremely "old" specimens to be only thousands of years old. No one at the conference could think of a way to dismiss the evidence and implications, but they must do so to maintain an "old" earth. It will be interesting to watch old-earth advocates try. Meanwhile, this is a wonderful confirmation of Biblical truth. [Editor's Note: For an extensive article by Dr. Larry Vardiman, visit the ICR home page, icr.org and click on *RATE Posters Well Received at AGU Conference.*] 



MUSEUM DISPLAY COMPLETED

The large design case on Day 5 and 6 in the museum has been redesigned. The display now features over 1200 insects along with replicas, shells, and pictures which exhibit the diversity of the animal kingdom. This display is the first step in utilizing the large donated collection of Mr. Erwin Carls. Mr. Carls amassed this collection over 60 years—trading worldwide for specimens. Volunteer tour guide, and in this case contracted artist, Donna Burner, created the new display over several months under the direction of Ron Hight, the museum art director, and John Rajca, the museum director. Ms. Burner, a full-time middle school science teacher, has been an integral part of the museum artwork since the creation of the present museum in 1992. As funds become available the museum staff hope to spread the collection in displays throughout the ICR complex. 

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Radio Log

This month on “Science, Scripture, & Salvation”:

Weekend of: **Title/Topic:**

Feb. 7 The Immune System
Our immune system works to keep us healthy and fights for us when we do get sick; without it, we would die. God created this wonderful design within us, but did our immune system always operate the way it does today? Tune in!

Feb. 14 Heart Design
The human heart is an amazing design! And although we often take it for granted, it continues to beat on its own, supplying our body with life-sustaining blood flow. How does this super organ work and where does it fit in spiritually? Stay tuned!

Feb. 21 The Search for Noah’s Ark—Part 1
Explorers have been searching for decades hoping to find perhaps what would be the greatest archeological find of all: Noah’s Ark. Despite years of disappointments and deadly turmoil, the search goes on!

Feb. 28 The Search for Noah’s Ark—Part 2
At times, the Lord may call us to certain tasks which seem almost impossible, but yet exciting and alluring. Such is the case of the three Noah’s Ark researchers we’ll hear from today. What can we learn from them? Stay tuned! 🎧



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NEW PRINTING MARKS TWENTIETH YEAR OF THE REVELATION RECORD



Dr. Henry Morris and ICR learned recently that the fifteenth printing of his verse-by-verse commentary on the book of Revelation has just been issued with an attractive new jacket and sturdy cloth binding. There are now over 52,000 copies in print, an excellent record for a book of this kind. The book is 521 pages in length, including substantial subject and Scripture indexes, and takes a firmly literal approach in its exposition of the climactic and most exciting book of the Bible.

Two Christian leaders, Tim LaHaye and Jerry Falwell, both wrote Forewords for the book when it was first published twenty years ago, in 1983. Dr. LaHaye, known especially for his best-selling prophetic writings, wrote

Of all the commentaries on Revelation which I have in my library (and I have more than fifty-five) none treats the interpretation more literally. None were more fascinating to read and none offered me more surprises. . . . This book is well worth reading and teaching to others.

Dr. Falwell also noted that it takes the most literal approach to Revelation of any exposition and then added:

I believe that it will offer the most understandable and valuable insights that you could read on this topic.

This new printing is available from ICR by calling 1/800-628-7640 or on-line at www.icr.org/store for \$24.95. 🎧

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2004 TENTATIVE SUMMER SCHEDULE

The schedule below gives the list of courses to be offered by the ICR Graduate School this summer. Interested students should write or call as soon as possible for further information and application forms. Details can also be found at [<http://www.icr.edu>].

Department	Course #	Course Name
MODULE 0 06/14/2004; 07/05/2004; 07/26/2004		
Suppl. Crs.	501 (0)	Orientation and Seminar
MODULE A 06/14/2004–07/02/2004		
Biology	507 (3)	Advanced Paleontology
Biology	510 (1)	Field Studies in Biology
Biology	501 (3)	Comparative Biochemistry
Biology	509 (1)	Laboratory Studies in Biology
Geology	502 (3)	Advanced Sedimentary Geology
Astro/Geophysics	501 (3)	Classical Mechanics
Sci. Ed.	502 (3)	Advanced Educational Psychology/Lab
Sci. Ed.	504 (3)	Applied Science Education Research
MODULE B 07/05/2004–07/23/2004		
Biology	502 (3)	Population Genetics & Speciation
Biology	508 (3)	Microbial Genetics
Geology	513 (3)	Igneous Petrology
Astro/Geophysics	506 (3)	Intro to Theoretical Meteorology
Astro/Geophysics	509 (3)	Introduction to Astronomy
Sci. Ed.	501 (3)	Applied Statistics for Scientists
Sci. Ed.	505 (3)	Curriculum Design and Analysis in Science
MODULE C 07/26/2004–08/13/2004		
Biology	506 (3)	Advanced Ecology
Biology	504 (3)	Advanced Comparative Anatomy
Biology	509 (1)	Laboratory Studies in Biology
Geology	503 (3)	Stratigraphic Analysis
Sci. Ed.	503 (3)	Instructional Design/Production
Sci. Ed.	506 (3)	Curriculum Implementation in Science
MODULE D 06/14/2004–08/13/2004		
Biology	505 (3)	Biological Concepts
Geology	506 (1)	Geological Field Studies
Suppl. Crs.	502 (3)	Advanced Studies in Creationism–Distance
Astro/Geophysics	580 (3)	Astro/Geophysics Thesis Proposal
Biology	580 (3)	Biology Thesis Proposal
Geology	580 (3)	Geology Thesis Proposal



THE *DOGMA* OF EVOLUTION



It has been almost one hundred fifty years since Darwin published his infamous *On the Origin of Species* in 1859. No species *origin* has ever been described, however, not even the ubiquitous and popular pup. Dog breeding has resulted in over 400 different varieties, from the Alsatian to the Great Dane, but each remains *Canis familiaris*—dog. Regardless, evolutionism demands a purely naturalistic explanation for canine *origin*. Such insistence has led wildlife ecologist I. L. Brisbin to state, “Everything that anyone publishes about the origin of the dog is controversial.”¹

Let’s see why this is so. The first problem encountered—a major dilemma for Darwinists—is molecular data (DNA sequences) compared to fossils. An essential structure of the typical cell is the mitochondrion. Known as the cellular “powerhouse,” critical chemical reactions occur there, producing the energy compound ATP. Researchers have found that mitochondria contain short segments of DNA, and that this mitochondrial DNA (mtDNA) is inherited solely from the mother. Secular scientists have since attempted to use mtDNA to trace cryptic evolutionary pathways. Evolutionist James Trefil states, “the amount of difference in [mitochondrial] DNA sequences between any two groups is taken to be a measure of the length of time since those groups shared a common ancestor.”² They shouldn’t place too much stock in this technique, however, because “mitochondrial sequences have notoriously high and uneven rates of change.”³

Despite using this questionable dating method, molecular biologists assert mitochondrial genomes show dogs arising some 135,000 years ago. *This does not agree with the fossils found in sedimentary rock layers.* “The earliest accepted dog fossils date from just 14,000 years ago” according to paleontology.⁴ Which is correct? Not only that, but “the date and place of domestication [of dogs] continues to be a mystery as well.”⁵

Creationists maintain that dogs were created as dogs and will always be dogs including their dog varieties such as hyenas, wolves, foxes, and jackals. An interesting statement is made by evolutionist Peter Savolainen in the journal *Science* and sounds almost like he is referring to a pair of dogs trotting off the Ark, “we can say now there was probably one geographic origin [of dogs].”⁶ Evolutionist E. H. Colbert suggests this geographic area as eastern Turkey⁷—the Mt. Ararat region! Dogs undoubtedly followed people during their post-Flood migration, which included crossing a possible land bridge between Asia and North America.⁸ Indeed, according to DNA taken from fossil canines, dogs of the Western Hemisphere have Asian ancestries.

1. Pennisi, E., “A Shaggy Dog History” *Science*, Nov. 22, 2002, v. 298, p. 1540.
2. Trefil, J., *101 Things You Don’t Know about Science*, Mariner Books, 1996, p. 289.
3. Morell, V., “The Origin of Dogs,” *Science*, June 13, 1997, v. 276, p. 1647.
4. Pennisi, p. 1541 (see also T. Gura, *Nature*, v. 406, pp. 230–233).
5. Pennisi, p. 1540.
6. Morell, p. 1647.
7. Colbert, E., *Evolution of the Vertebrates*, 5th ed., Wiley-Liss, p. 381.
8. Pennisi, p. 1541. 🌀

Meeting Highlights

ICR AT CALVARY MEN'S CONFERENCE

10,000 men! This was the estimated attendance at the Anaheim Convention Center as Christian men from all over the Southwest gathered for the recent Calvary Chapel Men's Conference. ICR was invited to host an exhibit booth and offer creation materials at the event. Throughout the conference hundreds of men visited ICR's booth to share their testimonies, express their enthusiastic support of ICR ministries, and obtain a variety of new creation resources being offered.



Long-time volunteer and supporter Rob Yardley assists in the selection of creation materials.

Pastor Chuck Smith, the founder of the Calvary Chapel movement, has been a friend and partner of ICR for over thirty years. In the 60s and 70s, Pastor Chuck was burdened with the desire to reach youth with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Recognizing that one of the biggest blocks to reaching these young people was evolutionary thinking, he began to distribute creation materials in an effort to remove this stronghold. God blessed Pastor Chuck's faithful heart for evangelism and now, with over 2,000 churches worldwide,

Calvary Chapel has blossomed to a powerful and influential ministry. ICR is grateful for this long-standing partnership and the lasting fruit from the many creation seminars over the years.

ICR ATTENDS ACSI

The Anaheim Convention Center was buzzing at the 2003 ACSI convention in Anaheim, California. The ACSI, Associated Christian Schools International, holds conventions every year all over the world. The conventions are designed to reach Christian teachers and equip them to teach truth to their students.

This was ICR's fifth year exhibiting at the Anaheim ACSI. Teachers come every year to find important resources and many faithfully visit the ICR booth. ICR videos, DVD's, and books are of particular interest to teachers who utilize them in the classroom. This time was no different. Teachers flooded the booth with questions and concerns about the influence of evolutionary thinking on their classes. Many of them walked away with resources to help teach their kids to think critically about the issue of origins. ICR continues to seek new ways to impact the next generation. Being at the ACSI convention is always an important part of this endeavor. ☪

Testimonies

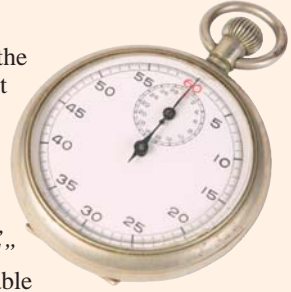
From Colorado Loop Tour

We want to pay a huge compliment to Mike Riddle for his excellent dinosaur presentation. . . . Mike has a gift with children. He got down to their level and explained dinosaurs to them in an intelligent and engaging manner. Our kids had a blast learning about God's creativity and diversity. It was a memorable evening! Thank You! ☪



ABOUT TIME

How did you react to the title? Some would apply the phrase as a “I-told-you-so” epithet (as in “it’s about time!”). Others might see a more Biblically purposeful idea, as in “Walk in wisdom . . . redeeming the time” (Colossians 4:5). Perhaps, however, you might want to consider a Biblical futuristic focus: “*See then that ye walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise, Redeeming the time, because the days are evil*” (Ephesians 5:15–16). Time is the one resource available to each of us. How we use it may be the most carefully scrutinized “work” evaluated by our heavenly Judge.



“REDEEMING” (BUYING BACK) TIME

Viewing time is paradoxical. In one sense, time “flows” from the future, through the present, into the past. Our practical experience is that we are “riding” time from the past, through the present, into the future. God instructs us to “buy back” time through wisdom and “circumspect” (precisely straight) behavior. Certainly this applies to our character and our lifestyle. The Scriptures promise more “time” to those who obey God (Exodus 20:12; Proverbs 3:2; Psalms 34:12–16; I Timothy 4:8; etc.). These instructions also involve our resources, personal wealth, and earning potential (Luke 16:9; Galatians 6:7–8; Matthew 25:35–40; II Corinthians 9:6; etc.).

The Will is the cornerstone. This is the basic document to secure your heart’s intent for your family and for your Kingdom responsibilities. Please be sure that you have executed this important matter.

Trusts are major tools. These broad instruments permit transfers of properties, instructions to executors, gifts of assets (both current and future), and prevention of a State-ordered disbursement of your wealth. They can be simple or complex, contained in a single document, or multiplied many times.

ICR has an introductory booklet available for your review entitled, “*Reflecting on Tomorrow.*” If you have not yet evaluated your basic estate plans, please send for this booklet. It will help you consider what may be important for your personal “redemption” of time.



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