

Acts & Facts

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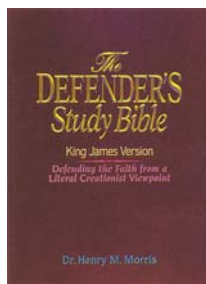
THE DEFENDER'S BIBLE IN CHINESE

ICR founder, Dr. Henry Morris, has made the study of God's Word a priority of his life since childhood. He has made the defense of it against all challenges a major part of his ministry. In 1995 he compiled many of his insights into *The Defender's Study Bible*.

And now the Bible is available in Chinese through the efforts of the Evangelical Mission and Seminary International, under the leadership of its President, Dr. Moses Yang. It retains all the 6400 explanatory notes, the 18 appendices, references, and maps of the original. It not only "defends" many passages against challenges of scientific inaccuracy or Biblical contradictions, it sensitively handles Biblical doctrines and issues of the Christian life. Furthermore, there is no finer tool to have handy when witnessing or when the cults come knocking on your door.

Dr. Yang and the seminary minister primarily to Chinese nationals worldwide, particularly in Europe and America. Headquartered in Towaco, New Jersey, the mission has hosted Drs. Henry Morris and John Morris at its conventions in years past. In late August they are celebrating their 36th anniversary and will include with the presentation of the new Bible. Dr. Henry Morris III will be present representing his father. This mission is a fine work which ICR wholeheartedly supports. They can be found on the web at [<http://www.emsionline.org>].

ICR will make this Chinese Bible available to its constituents. See page 8. 





President's Column

by John D. Morris

Ever since ICR's founding in 1970, the creation/evolution debates have played an important role. At first evolutionists readily accepted the challenge leading to numerous large debates. However, word soon got out that the ICR scientists, primarily Drs. Duane Gish and Henry Morris, were well-prepared and convincing. The debates began to taper off but much of ICR's early growth can be attributed to those who attended these debates and were convinced by the evidence.

Most often the creationist's evidence presented was from the lack of transitional forms in the fossil record, the ubiquitous trend of thermodynamics' second law which negates the possibility of evolutionary development, and the exquisite design and order in the universe, particularly in the living cell, far beyond the reach of mere random mutation and natural selection. The evolutionists usually countered with *ad hominem* attacks, the appeal to authority, and perceived difficulties in the Bible. When evolution evidence was presented, it was inevitably limited to minor variations "within the kind," not addressing the origin of basic types at all.

The ICR debaters could tell some interesting stories, such as the time when the evolutionist imitated an ape behind the creationist speaker, or when an evolutionist challenged Dr. Gish to grab exposed electrical wires, or when a photo of fossil specimens were presented (supposedly showing transitional forms) which were not to scale, not in the geologic order found, and augmented with hypothetical drawings. In all cases, the creationists responded with dignity and scientific decorum, sticking to the scientific subject. Often it was this Christian

attitude and respectful answers which carried the day. Response forms following many debates invariably affirmed that the creationists had the better arguments. This has led some evolutionists, including Dr. Eugenie Scott and the late Drs. Steven Gould and Carl Sagan to refuse to debate, and recommend that others refuse also. Already in total control of education, they have nothing to gain and much to lose by exposing an audience to the creationist position.

Recently, the debates have picked up again. Several evolutionists have developed styles which they feel allows them to improve the odds, often enhanced by slides and arguments provided by the anti-creationist advocacy group, the National Center for Science Education. Dr. Gish has participated in several debates recently, as have his two protégés, Dr. Randy Guliuzza and Dr. Mark Eastman.

The most recent debate was on June 5, in Camarillo, California, with over 300 present, following a Case for Creation Seminar there (see page 6). Dr. Eastman faced off against Mr. William Westmiller, prompting some to refer to it as an East vs. West confrontation. The question to be resolved: "Is Evolution True?"

Mr. Westmiller, associated with the Ventura County Freethinkers Society, (well represented at the debate) chose to

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base his case on the authority of evolutionary proponents. An ex-Catholic, he dwelled on the fact that the Pope has spoken in defense of evolution, as have many leading scientists. Evolution is simply true, and all educated people know it.

Dr. Eastman, on the other hand, stuck to the scientific facts, from the fossil record to the precise arrangement of cellular components. He often quoted recognized authorities, and illustrated his points with photographs and charts. There was no hint of the superior, condescending tone of his opponent.

That Eastman “won” the debate was borne out by the response card “vote,” which was tallied in his favor by 173 to 20. Approximately twenty-one people wanted to be contacted for more information on the truth of creation. Even the President of the Free Thinkers Society voted for him. He still believed in evolution, but felt the creationist did a better job.

It is not known if anyone changed their mind at the debate. Probably the majority were creationists at the start. They and the group of Free Thinkers maintained civility throughout the debate, although conversations afterward were more animated.

The main effect was among the Christians present. They not only saw the evidence for creation outshine evolution, they had seen wrong thinking up close. They had heard from those who openly scoff at their Lord and His Word, and they will never be the same. Perhaps this is the most lasting result of a debate. 🌿

Moving?

Please mail your new address and your old mailing label to:

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“Science, Scripture & Salvation” is heard on over 440 stations, “Back to Genesis” is on 600 radio stations, and its Spanish version *De Regreso a Génesis* is on more than 300 radio stations international, with the recent addition of 40 Brazilian outlets. Numerous specials have also been produced. Truly God has blessed and multiplied the message.

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

- | Weekend of: | Title/Topic: |
|--------------------|---|
| Aug. 7 | <p>Hurricanes, Hypercanes, and Tornadoes
Every year, the southeastern United States, Central Mexico, and the Caribbean brace for hurricane season. But could there have been super hurricanes in the past? And what about fierce mid-west tornados? We’ll discuss these killer storms.</p> |
| Aug. 14 | <p>Mars Exploration
We’ve seen some fantastic pictures transmitted back to earth from the Mars Exploration Rovers. NASA scientists are hoping to find life on Mars, and evidence of water on the Martian surface bolsters their excitement. But does water necessarily mean life? Tune in!</p> |
| Aug. 21 | <p>Bugs That Bug Us
Mosquitoes, ants, flies, and cockroaches. These are definitely <i>not</i> some of our most favorite creatures! But they were designed by our Creator, and they do serve a purpose, but what?</p> |
| Aug. 28 | <p>Our Chemical Make Up
The human body is so complex and detailed that it’s hard to imagine anyone believing in the random chance of evolution. This is especially true when we consider our chemical composition. How does what we’re made of point to creation? Stay tuned! 🌿</p> |



Books in Review

Footprints in the Ash by John Morris & Steven A. Austin; Master Books, Green Forest, AR; 9 chapters, 128 pages; \$16.95.

“. . . it is a beautiful book . . . Along with the photos are charts explaining carefully what took place and why—and what it means. . . .

One result of the blowout is that it proved evolutionists were wrong in thinking some rock formations took millions of years to produce—Mount St. Helens produced them almost overnight, in just a few years: horizontal lamination, cross-bedding and graded massive beds. How quickly limestone and sandstone deposits formed knocked into a cocked hat previous theories about the Grand Canyon. Ditto with the rapid formation of river canyons and the rapid formation of coal (and the accompanying peat)—both of which evolutionists attributed to millions (or billions!) of years. St. Helens also showed that petrified wood and fossils could be produced almost instantly—at least compared with the evolutionists’ theories. . . .

This is a fascinating book, beautifully produced. It has our total endorsement.

Biblical Evangelist
May/June 2004

- Previous *Acts & Facts* and *Days of Praise*
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Testimonies

From a seminar in California

We had a wonderful evening last night with Frank Sherwin and Bruce Wood. Frank gave us two excellent talks. We had 200–250 in attendance with lots of kids. Frank’s talks were easily accessible to both kids and adults. There was a high level of interest, and this came out in the Q&A session at the end. After I reluctantly drew the formal Q&A session to a close, Frank was besieged by people wanting to ask further questions. I hope that we can host ICR again in the future.

From West Virginia

Thank you so much for the *Days of Praise* ministry and your labor of love. The *Days of Praise* has been a comfort to me and met my needs many times. I keep you in my prayers, may God bless the ministry.

From Washington

I recently bought *Grand Canyon: A Different View* by Tom Vail. It is excellent! The pictures beckon me back to that wonderful place. We went there two years ago. The quotes are refreshing to my heart. . . . God bless you! 🙏

CORRECTION FROM DR. HENRY MORRIS

In my June *Back to Genesis* article “The Anti-Creationists” (#186) I referred to Dr. Stan Weinberg, the founder of NCSE, as an atheistic physicist. He was actually a Jewish biologist and I had, indeed, confused him with Dr. Steve Weinberg, as Dr. John Cole (of the NCSE Board) and others have reminded me. I am very sorry for this egregious mistake, but I can perhaps take comfort in noting that some evolutionary leaders are reading *Acts & Facts*. 🙏



ZOOLOGY VS. EVOLUTIONISM

In 2003 evolutionist A.G. Fisher admitted, “Both the origin of life and the origin of the major groups of animals remains unknown.”¹ A well-known zoology text² by three evolutionists reveal the limits of what is really known about the *origin* of animals—

Unraveling the origin of the multicellular animals (metazoans) has presented many problems for zoologists (p. 240).

. . . one of the most intriguing questions is the place of mesozoans in the evolutionary picture (p. 242).

The origin of the cnidarians and ctenophores [comb jellies] is obscure (p. 275).

Any ancestral or other related group that would shed a clue to the phyletic [evolutionary] relationships of the Acanthocephala is probably long since extinct (p. 317).

No truly satisfactory explanation has yet been given for the origins of metamerism [segmentation] and the coelom [a fluid-filled cavity], although the subject has stimulated much speculation and debate over the years (p. 365).

What can we infer about the common ancestor of the annelids [earthworms]? This has been the subject of a long and continuing debate (p. 365).

Controversy on phylogeny [evolution] within the Chelicerata [arthropods] also exists . . . (p. 379).

The relationship of the crustaceans to other arthropods has long been a puzzle (p. 399).

The phylogentic [evolutionary] position of the lophophorates [invertebrates] has been the subject of much controversy and debate (p. 447).

Despite the excellent fossil record, the origin and early evolution of the echinoderms [sea stars] are still obscure (p. 450).

Hemichordate phylogentic [evolution] has long been puzzling (p. 476).

. . . zoologists have debated the question of vertebrate origins. It has been very difficult to reconstruct lines of descent because the earliest protochordates were in all probability soft-bodied creatures that stood little chance of being preserved as fossils even under the most ideal conditions (p. 485).

However, the exact phylogentic [evolutionary] position of the chordates within the animal kingdom is unclear (p. 480).

The fishes are of ancient ancestry, having descended from an unknown free-swimming protochordate [a tunicate or lancelet] ancestor (p. 499).

Let me suggest that biology majors tape this article to the inside cover of your text so you may see where science leaves off and macroevolution begins.

1. Fisher, A., 2003 *Grolier Multimedia Encyclopedia*, fossil section.

2. Hickman, Roberts, and Larson, *Zoology*, W.C. Brown, 1997. 



Meeting Highlights

Florida

Bayside Community Church in Tampa has made it a habit to invite an ICR scientist to speak at least once a year. Over the years they have hosted Drs. Henry Morris, Duane Gish, Gary Parker, Dick Bliss and in recent years John Morris. Their faithful witness has truly impacted their community.

On June 13, Dr. John Morris was asked to present the ICR research at Mount St. Helen's during both the combined Sunday school hour and for the morning worship service. This sounds unorthodox for a Sunday morning, but all who have seen such a presentation know it strongly supports Scripture, and it was well-received.

On Sunday evening he spoke at the growing Grace Bible Church in nearby Brandon. Elder Ken Fuller had invited three other churches to join them for a PowerPoint discussion of "Dinosaurs and the Bible." Dinosaurs are always a favorite, and when Christians see how the Biblical worldview makes the best sense of them, it is a faith-strengthenener and witness-enhancer.

New England Loop Tour

Bill and Alicia Hoesch wish to thank the pastors and sponsors of New England for hosting a wonderful loop tour from May 23 through June 7. Twenty-five lectures were given over these 16 days, at 16 different meeting places that included churches and Christian schools in Connecticut, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Vermont, and one stop in New York State.

One popular lecture, entitled, "Six Trade Secrets of Science," was designed to encourage the Christian and challenge the non-Christian regarding the overwhelming evidence God has placed

within His creation for His existence, per Romans 1:20. Other of the lectures served to confront the false philosophy of the scoffer described by the apostle Peter in his second epistle, chapter 3, by use of geologic evidences from Mount St. Helens, Grand Canyon, and Dinosaur National Monument. The unbeliever is as without excuse for denying God as the Christian is who affirms an old earth on the basis of false philosophy masquerading as science.

About 1400 people received the messages, mostly Christian, but a good number were unbelievers. Probably more than any other region of the country, ears were attentive, hearts were grateful, and minds were ready to be challenged to think more seriously on these important matters of earth history. We hope to visit this region again on a later date and follow up on the many gracious invitations we received to return. What a privilege it was to represent ICR in New England! To those who are beloved of God in that region, grace to you and peace in the name of God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

California

Camarillo Community Church hosted Drs. John and Henry Morris III for a well-attended Case for Creation seminar on June 4–5. Pastor Ralph Rittenhouse put into action his desire to see his people grow in their Biblical understanding and in their ability to impact society.

The Friday night, Saturday morning seminar was followed by a Saturday evening debate between creationist Dr. Mark Eastman and Mr. William Westmiller, described on pages 2–3, and augmented in the two Sunday morning worship services as Dr. John Morris illustrated the majesty of the Creator and extent of creation with an exegesis of Colossians 1:16–20 and illustrations from recent discoveries, particularly from astronomy. Jesus Christ is truly the Creator of *all things*, even those in the heavens. ☞

“GLOBAL IMPACT”

Those of us who were active during the “Reagan Years” renewed a sense of respect and awe at the wide-ranging impact of Ronald Reagan’s legacy—shared by friend and foe alike. There were, of course, those who would marginalize the man and denigrate the “beliefs” he held so strongly—but there was absolute agreement that Ronald Reagan was a man of conviction.

What, you may ask, does the political acumen and societal legacy of President Reagan have to do with ICR?

GREAT EVENTS BRING GREAT OPPOSITION

Remember the word that I said unto you, The servant is not greater than his lord. If they have persecuted me, they will also persecute you; if they have kept my saying, they will keep yours also (John 15:20).

An oft repeated principle in Scripture is that God’s plan and purposes are for an eternal end—the “agents” of His purposes are used *His way in His time*. Romans 13 is God’s “political” mandate—and Ronald Reagan sensed a vision and a place in God’s global work that ultimately required several decades to become appreciated. Today, the majority of civilized society honors the “vision” of President Reagan—even though the majority of civilized society’s elite fought him bitterly while he was in office.

GOD’S CERTAIN OUTCOME!

For the vision is yet for an appointed time, but at the end it shall speak, and not lie: though it tarry, wait for it; because it will surely come, it will not tarry (Habakkuk 2:3).

ICR is sometimes challenged to take a “shortcut” for a more rapid response or less expensive pursuit of information. We are sometimes discouraged by the “slowness” of the work or the apparent “success” of some who seem to be less careful with the Biblical message, but we are more certain of God’s victory and desirous of His commendation than we are of anecdotal measures. The “vision” is for the long term—not for immediate gratification. Thanks for sharing with us.



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