

The New Defender's Study Bible More Useful Than Ever!


With great thankfulness ICR announces the availability of the expanded *Defender's Study Bible*, with 3,000 new (total 9,400) explanatory notes representing a lifetime of study by Dr. Henry Morris, ICR's founder.

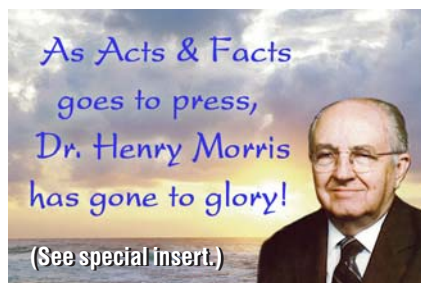
The original edition was published in 1995, with grateful acceptance. It has been widely used both by Christian laymen and pastors. Some churches have used it as their pew Bible, available to any who attend.

This edition adds about 3,000 notes and three appendices to the original. Together they comprise a true study tool. The comments expand one's understanding of Biblical passages—especially those which bear on creation or the Bible's reliability—and stem from a deep love and respect for Scripture. Many Christians have found it especially useful for Bible study preparation and when

cults knock on the door. Every passage which has been questioned is explained and doubts removed.

ICR Board Member and long-time Pastor, Dr. Tim LaHaye, commented: "Of the many writings of Dr. Henry Morris, this stands out as a legacy of his Biblical leadership."

The Bible can be ordered from ICR by calling 800/628-7640 or on the web at icr.org/store. See page 3 of this issue's ad section for more information. 





Darwin Sunday Versus Resurrection Sunday

by John D. Morris

It's hard to imagine, but hundreds of churches all over America reserved Sunday, February 12, to commemorate the work of Charles Darwin, and recommit themselves to spreading his message. Most of these churches were Unitarian or from mainline denominations whose attendance has been dropping for years; but even if the pastor is convinced of evolution, what would possess them to reserve time in their professedly Christian church to pay Darwin homage?

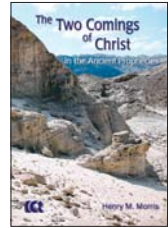
Don't they know that the reason Darwinism exists is to explain our existence without recourse to a supernatural God to whom we are accountable for our actions? Don't they know that "survival of the fittest" really means "extinction of the unfit," and that Darwin's cult of death has brought about unthinkable evil, from the holocaust to the modern-day abortion movement.

Thankfully, many more churches have set aside April 16 to commemorate Christ's resurrection from the dead in victory over death and the grave. The sovereign God had sent His only begotten Son to Earth, where He lived a sinless life for which no death penalty need be paid. Then, the Creator of life willingly gave His life in substitutionary atonement for our sins, thus satisfying God's holy justice. But then He rose in triumph from the grave offering us eternal life.

Of all Christians, creationist Christians best understand the implications surrounding the events of the cross and the tomb. May your Easter Sunday be a time of wondrous celebration and thankfulness. ☪

New Easter Tract!

One of the most fascinating aspects of the Messianic prophecies of the Old Testament is the fact that they often blend the promised first coming




of Christ (the Messiah) with His Second Coming—the first coming in meekness as a seemingly helpless babe, the second in power and great glory as the great King. These prophecies often seem at first to be referring just to a single great event, so that it would have been very difficult for people in ancient times to realize that the prophecies were really dealing with *two* comings of the Lord, separated from each other by more than two thousand years.

So begins the new tract by Dr. Henry Morris. An Easter tract, it consists of praise to God for His great plan of salvation.

ICR supporters may want to purchase a quantity to give as a testimony during this blessed season. It can be ordered at 800/628-7640, and sells for \$.50 per copy, or \$.25 per 100 copies. ☪

ACTS 6 FACTS



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Training the Next Generation of Professional Creation Scientists

by John Baumgardner, Ph.D.

With so many exciting young-earth research issues in genomics, modeling of sedimentary processes and tectonics, and cosmology, to name but a few, what can be done to train a new generation of gifted and motivated Christian students to become mature scientists and make fundamental contributions in these research areas? ICR's answer to this important question is to mentor, at a Ph.D. level, talented students who sense a distinct call by God to invest their lives in creation-related research.

In this new ICR initiative, the student obtains his/her professional training at an existing university with an established program in an appropriate specialty area. An ICR faculty member, working with the student's faculty advisor, serves as a mentor to help the student plan his/her academic program and to assist the student in identifying an appropriate dissertation research topic. The mentor helps advise the student in the research and coaches the student in navigating the challenges of today's academic and professional environments.

To launch this initiative, ICR, together with the Society for the Advancement of Creation Science at Mississippi State University, is sponsoring a Graduate Mentorship Workshop this summer at MSU in Starkville, Mississippi, July 16–21, 2006, for both students and Christian faculty who would like to be involved. ICR faculty, MSU faculty, plus four outside academic speakers will highlight recent research results, focus on promising new research topics, and lead an open forum to discuss how this sort of mentorship can be successful. Do you know someone who should attend this workshop? See <http://msstate.edu/org/sacs/gmw> for schedule and registration information. 🌿

New ICR Board Members

by John D. Morris, Ph.D.

At the recent annual ICR Board of Trustees meeting two new members were added and two accepted Trustee Emeritus status.



Mr. Brian Bissell, currently Vice President for Business Affairs and Chief Financial Officer for Colorado Christian University, brings a great deal of experience in higher education to the Board; he is nearing completion of a Doctor of Education degree and has been successful in guiding Christian ministries through political and legislative hurdles.

Lt. Col. Charles Morse has forged a distinguished career in research and intelligence in the U.S. Air Force. He graduated from San Diego Christian College (formerly Christian Heritage College) where he was trained in creationism and apologetics by Dr. Henry Morris. Both new members actively participate in church leadership and maintain a vital testimony.

Mr. Jim Mather has served faithfully on the ICR Board almost since its inception. Mr. Richard Owen has likewise been a steadfast friend for over a decade, often speaking and writing on creation. Both are entrepreneurs in business and industry. They leave the Board in good standing and with the gratitude of all.

The full ICR Board meets twice a year, while committees meet as needed. They provide ICR with oversight, wisdom, and advocacy through their presence and efforts. God has richly blessed ICR. 🌿



RATE Questions and Answers

by Larry Vardiman, Ph.D.

The Research Column this month continues the theme begun in February 2006 of answering questions about accelerated decay raised by the audience at the RATE conference in San Diego on November 5, 2005. Dr. Eugene Chaffin answers two commonly asked questions.

1. *What caused so many radioactive elements to dramatically accelerate their decay approximately 5000 years ago and then quickly return to today's rate as suggested by the RATE group?*

A case can be made that accelerated decay occurred not only during the Genesis Flood, but also at other times in Earth history, including Creation Week, the time of the Curse in Genesis 2, and possibly other times as well. Accelerated decay may have continued for a time after the Flood in a reduced state, gradually tapering off to today's rate. In the RATE research, we have tried to pin down the exact mechanism that led to accelerated decay, but the results only point to what seems to be possible. The various constraints that were considered in chapter 7 of *Radioisotopes and the Age of The Earth: Results of a Young Earth Research Initiative*, "Accelerated Decay: Theoretical Considerations," seem to allow small changes in the strength of the nuclear force to have occurred. These constraints included general considerations such as the fact that Noah and his family did not die during the Flood due to changes in atomic structure, but also more specific ones such as astrophysical measurements which restrict nuclear masses and other constants, consideration of double

beta-decay rates, and explaining the Samarium data from the Oklo natural nuclear reactor.

2. *What is understood or theorized as the method of accelerated nuclear decay? Would proposed acceleration affect the C-14 decay process?*

My favorite hypothesis for modeling accelerated alpha decay is discussed in chapter 7 of the RATE book, and the quantitative simulations given there show that a small change in the strong nuclear force can lead to several orders of magnitude change in the rate of alpha decay. For beta decay, the predominant nuclear transformations that are important in radioisotope dating are so-called *forbidden transitions*. Forbidden transitions are hindered but not strictly prohibited by the ordinary processes of beta decay. Since radioisotope dating requires nuclear species with long half-lives, the nuclei involved are almost always those which undergo forbidden transitions. It turns out that forbidden transitions are also very sensitive to the strength of the nuclear force. Hence small changes in the strength of the nuclear force can lead to large changes in beta-decay rates, just as for alpha-decay rates.

Carbon-14 decay does not involve a forbidden transition, hence the half-life of C-14 is not as sensitive to the strength of the nuclear force. The half-life of C-14 is 5730 years—although it is not millions of years, it is still relatively long, but this is *not* due to a forbidden transition. Technically, the C-14 transition is called a Gamow-Teller transition, involving a spin flip during the process, but is not forbidden. Dr. Baumgardner has discussed the possible difference in C-14 concentrations before the Flood in chapter 8, Section 9 of the book. He gives a logical argument that concludes the C-14 concentration would have been less in the pre-Flood world. ☞



Are Sharks and People Related?



Evolutionary naturalism (as taught in American taxpayer-paid public schools) preaches that every living thing came from an unknown, unobserved common ancestor billions of years ago that—conveniently—left no fossil trace.

The best evolutionists can do is to point to studies suggesting this is so, but then insist that evolutionism is a fact and should be dogmatically taught as such.

Recent evolution-based studies suggest that people came from marine invertebrates because we have some genes that are the same as sharks—even though these genes don't code for the same structures:

The same genes that give sharks their sixth sense and allow them to detect electrical signals are also responsible for the development of head and facial features in humans, a new study suggests.

The finding supports the idea that the early sea creatures which eventually evolved into humans could also sense electricity before they emerged onto land.¹

On the genetic level, much regarding genes (DNA) is complex and not well understood. Particularly fascinating is how genes interact with each other to activate or deactivate other genes. For example, researchers know of sections of master regulatory genes (e.g., elements of Hox genes) that interact to direct development such as head and facial features. The Creator may very well use similar genes to operate a variety of genetic functions (just as the same switch design can turn on something as different as a motor or a light). This is true whether the genes are in people, sharks, or mice. Darwinists extrapolate, claiming that because the genetic switch is similar, therefore we have an evolutionary connection with these creatures. This is an unscientific leap of faith, but nonetheless must be made by those holding to a secular worldview. Creationists acknowledge the same genetic switch activating the sixth sense in sharks, and face and head development in people. But a similar switch doesn't mean common ancestry. If this were true, the fossil record should document the amusing sea-creature-to-people transition. It does not.

As long as such foolishness is presented as science to the American student (and the public at large), the origins debate in school board meetings nationwide will enjoy top billet.

1. http://livescience.com/animalworld/060207_shark_sense.html 



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

Weekend of: **Title/Topic:**

April 1 The Foolishness of Evolution

While April Fool’s Day is intended to be a day of harmless jokes and pranks, there’s a trick being played on the world that is very harmful—evolution and its claim that everything came into existence without a Creator. To hear Biblical and scientific reasons evolution is foolish, please join us.

April 8 Anthropomorphism

Animals bring a lot of joy to man. But what happens when human characteristics are ascribed to them? Listen in as we learn about anthropomorphism and evolutionary dangers associated with it!

April 15 The Resurrection of the Creator

At Easter, Christians celebrate the resurrection of Jesus. Today there seems to be a constant attack by the media and others on not just His deity, but His very existence—and if His existence be challenged what about His resurrection? Tune in to hear this vital discussion!

April 22 Earth Day

As Christians, not only should we enjoy the created Earth, but we’re commanded to be good stewards as well. But what about the celebration of Earth Day—is there a danger in going overboard in our attempts to preserve nature and its resources? Join us this week as we discuss the pros and cons of Earth Day!

April 22 The Global Warming Debate

Almost daily we hear about global warming and the alleged devastating impact it could have on the earth. But is this fear warranted? Join us this week to learn about global warming. ☞

Boise, Idaho

The stalwart Treasure Valley Baptist Church was host for Dr. John Morris on January 14–15.

On Saturday night he spoke on Genesis 1–11 to about 200 men gathered together for Bible study and joyful singing so many of the old hymns at full volume. Sunday morning and evening worship services were likewise encouraging. Under the leadership of Pastor Rick DeMichele, a strong witness has blossomed. Many told how creation had been instrumental in their salvation and Christian growth.

Fort Collins, Colorado

Pastor John Meyer of Summitview Community Church often teaches on creation, so he invited ICR’s Dr. John Morris to conduct a weekend seminar on the campus of Colorado State University and in his dynamic church from January 19–22.

Airline delays caused Dr. Morris to arrive late for Thursday’s campus lecture, but Pastor Meyer covered for him with a lecture and the DVD “Icons of Evolution.” Almost the entire crowd of 500 had remained until Dr. Morris arrived to talk about creation research, including the RATE discoveries on radioisotope dating. ☞





Guiding Lamp or Simply Luster

“Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path”

(Psalm 119:105).

ICR speakers are often confronted about our insistence on a “literal” approach to Genesis—most often about our “interpretation” that the words of Scripture require viewing the created universe as “young.” Usually, the argument is made that “science” has “proven” the Earth to be very old, and that we (ICR) are hurting our ability to “witness” by ignoring the “evidence.”

The Scripture itself insists *“Every word of God is pure. . . . Add thou not unto His words”* (Proverbs 30:5–6). With the clear text given so precisely in Genesis, it seems impossible (unless there is another motive) to make the words say anything else.

“Interpreting” the Scripture to fit man’s ideas is not new. The Scopes Trial in 1925 used “Day Age” arguments to “prove” creation because that was the “harmony” theory of the day. The “creationists” won the lawsuit but lost in the press and the public. The Dover Trial just concluded in December of 2005, used “Intelligent Design” (old age) as an argument of science. They lost both the lawsuit *and* in the press and the public.

Compromise with Scripture *never* works. All truth is part of the “good news”—and the gospel is *the* power of God unto salvation (Romans 1:16). Science is what is “known” not theory or opinion. Philosophy is based on human “reason” and can “spoil” without Christ (Colossians 2:8).

The *aim* is always to bring the hearer to “the gospel”; not to win an argument; not to prove how much you know; not to “save” the unbeliever. Arguments do not save—the Holy Spirit does. The *purpose* is “sound doctrine” and “wisdom” (Titus 1:9; 2:1; Colossians 1:9–10; II Peter 3:18). The issue is our “worldview.”

Is His Word infallible and inerrant? Is the Word the authority and accurate? *Or*—does His Word change as man changes? Does God’s Word merely contain truth? Does man’s knowledge supersede God’s revelation? How will we treat God’s Word?

ICR is committed to the absolute authority and genuine historicity of the revealed Word of God. Please stand with us in this vital hour.



Dr. Henry Morris III, ICR Executive Vice President

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donations can be made online at www.icr.org/contribute.html