

God's Blessings in 2006 Anticipating 2007

by John D. Morris

It does Christians good from time to time, to stop, take a deep breath, and remember what great blessings God has showered upon us and thank Him for the fruit granted to our labors. Having just come through the Thanksgiving/Christmas season, we have done so at ICR and in the paragraphs to follow I'd like to share our thoughts with you, our co-laborers and supporters.

The year 2006 was a year of significant re-alignment of duties and refocusing of priorities. Throughout its history, ICR has enjoyed a small ministry mindset and administration but continued growth has necessitated individual specialization. Shifting of responsibilities has also been forced by the death in February of my father, ICR's Founder and long-time President, Dr. Henry M. Morris. He relinquished the active presidency in 1995, but remained quite active as President Emeritus, frequent contributor to our publications and unofficial "advisor" to me. Shortly before that, one of ICR's major spokesman, Dr. Duane Gish, retired from daily responsibilities, although he remains busy with an active speaking schedule. They both have left large shoes to fill.

Meanwhile, this has been a banner year for research at ICR. The RATE research on radioisotope dating concluded

its formal eight-year program in 2005, but this past year experienced several major seminars proclaiming the stunning results. Several discoveries confirmed our suspicion that the decay rates of unstable elements have changed over time, calling all radioisotope dating efforts into question.

The format employed by RATE has become the model for the FAST (Flood Activated Sedimentation and Tectonics) project in flood geology. With special interest in Western North America, it has global implications. Similarly the GENE project will continue to investigate the human genome. ICR expects irrefutable evidence for creation to result. Other research projects will continue to delve into areas crucial to the creation/evolution question.

The Graduate School continues to be the hub of the wheel of ICR scholarly activities. The Graduate School is receiving a major boost by moving its distance education program to the Dallas site, providing an impetus for including as much of the other science majors online as possible.

The non-specialist outreach ministry of ICR has also been an important part in disseminating ICR's cutting-edge research. Our website has had approximately 3,000,000 separate visitors. Various speak-



ing engagements reached about 63,000 attendees, including three well-attended RATE conferences. Nearly 1,500 radio stations carry one or more of our radio broadcasts, “Back to Genesis” (or its Spanish translation “De Regreso a Génesis”) and “Science, Scripture, & Salvation.” More in-depth teaching was accomplished in the study tours to Yosemite National Park and Grand Canyon.

Several published products emanated from ICR faculty, including *The Fossil Book* and *Creation: Facts of Life* (revised) by Dr. Gary Parker, *Days to Remember* and *Some Call it Science* by Dr. Henry Morris. A new series of study guides was instituted beginning with *Thousands . . . Not Billions*, with others to follow.

Acts & Facts continues to be sent to nearly 100,000 people with over 300,000 copies of *Days of Praise* being printed.

Looking Ahead

The years ahead look bright for ICR as new policies are in place to accomplish ICR’s mandate. The worldwide growth of the creation movement has seen numerous creation ministries carrying the creation message, primarily to Christians not trained in science, for which ICR gives thanks. The ICR collection of credentialed research scientists has thus become the primary source of new creation information and deeper understanding of origin questions within the movement, a role relished at ICR. As with the RATE discoveries, our commitment is to original cutting-edge research, able to stand up to scientific scrutiny. Creation thinking at large receives credibility from this, and can continue to impact society.


The creation message in general and especially the original research will continue to be presented to all who will listen. We attempt to obey Christ’s Great Commission by equipping Christians in creation doctrine and use creation evangelism to pave the way for the gospel message. For the new, more technical information, we plan to employ focused

dissemination means. Thus we can educate both Christian and skeptic, scientist and non-scientist, with creation information, and equip creation enthusiasts to reach even further.

We have banded with the Creation Science Fellowship in Pittsburgh to host the International Conference on Creation. Already scores of technical papers are being peer-reviewed under ICR leadership, in preparation for the technical conference in San Diego in August, 2008. Our desire is to raise creation theory to the level accepted by the secular scientific world, and change the world.

God has chosen to bless ICR’s research efforts, not only with groundbreaking results, but also with the significant funding to underwrite it. We think He is pleased by these efforts to understand His creation more fully, especially as we work so in submission to His Word and ascribe all glory to Him. We view His financial supply as an endorsement of this thrust and thank both Him and His people through whom the supply has come. He has graciously allowed us to finish the year with all bills paid, in spite of rapidly growing expenditures.

“Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honor and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created” (Revelation 4:11). ☩



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Meeting Highlights

ICR seminar in Augusta, Georgia

Dr. Duane Gish was the speaker at a seminar in Augusta, Georgia, October 20–22. On Friday morning at the Imperial Theatre he spoke to 400 junior and senior high school students from Christian schools and homeschools. He emphasized the fact that each basic type of dinosaur appears in the fossil record with no evidence for evolution. He related the dinosaurs to the Biblical record. On Saturday morning Dr. Gish lectured at the University Hospital, University of Georgia Medical School, on “Cloning and Genetic Therapy.” At another meeting at the First Christian Apologetics Conference sponsored by Christ Church Presbyterian (Dr. Gordon Reed, pastor), Dr. Gish’s lectures covered the scientific and Biblical evidence for creation and the vital importance of creation to our Christian faith. The conference had been arranged by Dr. Carl Fliermans, a microbiologist and member of the ICR Technical Board.

Arizona Tour

In early November, ICR zoologist Frank Sherwin spoke in several cities in the Grand Canyon state. Frank’s host was Joseph Kezele, M.D., president of the

highly successful Arizona Origin Science Association (AzOSA). Dr. Kezele and Frank traveled to churches in Tucson, Tempe, Chandler, Phoenix, and Cave Creek presenting the compelling case for creation (Romans 1:20). The two were also able to tour Kitt Peak National Observatory, which so clearly reflects Psalm 104:24 and Kartchner Caverns, which also demonstrate Romans 1:20.

Loop Tour: East Coast

Jim Gardner’s fall loop tour resulted in some sweet testimonies from the string of creation presentations he gave during October and November. At one presentation, “Consequences of the Path You Choose,” Jim shared about the time a young girl came to know Jesus at a creation talk. In Virginia, Jim ended a talk with the little girl’s story. The next morning, the pastor called Jim to tell him that in the audience was a father whose 12-year-old daughter turned to him and said, “Daddy, I don’t know the Lord, and I want to.” Then in Kentucky, another young girl wanted to know Jesus after a presentation where Jim spoke about dinosaurs. Please pray for these young hearts that are coming to know Jesus through ICR’s creation presentations.

Mackinaw, Illinois

New Castle Bible Church, Mackinaw, Illinois, held a Case for Creation seminar on November 10 and 11. The efforts of Pastor Dennis Schlappi and his CFC staff were rewarded with a record-breaking attendance despite a downpour of rain on Friday night. Drs. John Morris and Henry III delighted the audience with the latest findings from ICR research, as well as other relevant scientific and theological evidences of importance. The fellowship of like-minded believers was rich and sweet.

York, Pennsylvania

In mid-November, Dr. John Morris addressed all the weekend services of the



dynamic Still Meadow Church of the Nazarene in this beautiful area rich with Civil War history. The Saturday night service, which normally mirrors the three Sunday morning services, was switched to a presentation on the evidences from Mount St. Helens, which drew a record crowd, most of whom returned on Sunday to hear “Evolution and the Character of God,” listing reasons why a Christian should not believe in evolution.

In the evening he spoke twice, on “Cloning and Stem Cell Research,” and “Creation and the Second Coming”—talks laden with scientific evidences and Scripture.

Local creation advocates Warren Ehrman and Art St. Onge sponsored the

meetings. Numerous Christians, including some on the pastoral staff admitted that they had never known how important creation is to the Christian faith. All were concerned with the drift in their denomination and pray that this series will help bring them back.

Anaheim, California

ICR participated in the Association of Christian Schools International (ACSI) conference, the largest of its kind in southern California with over 7,500 teachers in attendance. GENE project researcher John Rajca informed delegates about the Mitochondrial Eve study (e.g., tracing genealogies through female ancestries) and signed up donors of DNA specimens. ☪

Mrs. Henry M. Morris Passes into Eternity

A precious member of the ICR family was freed from her frail body on November 8, 2006, at the age of 89, preceded just nine months by her beloved husband of sixty years, Dr. Henry Morris, ICR’s founder.

Mary Louise had been a facilitator of and prayer warrior for the ICR ministry since its formation in 1970, performing numerous volunteer tasks for the Institute and its original sister ministry, Christian Heritage College (now San Diego Christian College).

As mother of six (including ICR’s current President, Dr. John Morris, and Executive Vice President Dr. Henry M. Morris III), grandmother of seventeen, and great grandmother of eleven (and counting), she will be sorely missed. Her long-standing habit of intercessory prayer for her family and the ICR ministry will be gratefully remembered, as will her unselfish love, freely offered to all (John 15:13).

Her prayers have been abundantly answered, and she shares in the fruit borne. We trust the answers to her prayers will continue to be realized until Jesus comes for us all. We thank God for her ministry among us (Revelation 14:13).



by Larry Vardiman, Ph.D.

In the December research column Dr. Andrew Snelling responded to a question from an attendee at our “Thousands . . . Not Billions” conference on how polonium radiohalos formed in granite.

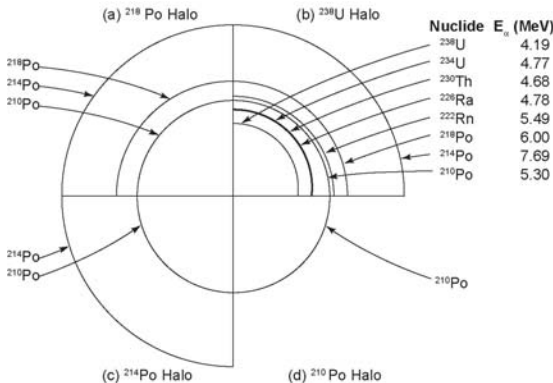
This month he will continue his response and discuss the significance of the short formation time of polonium radiohalos.

There are severe time limits on the transport of polonium by the hot water in granite and its concentration in discrete locations to produce polonium radiohalos. This is because the half-lives of the three polonium isotopes involved are 3.1 minutes (polonium-218), 164 microseconds (polonium-214), and 138 days (polonium-210). This explains why the polonium radiohalos are generally found adjacent to uranium radiohalos, because there is only sufficient time for the polonium to be carried by the hot water very short distances before it decays.

Now to produce the 500 million–1 billion polonium atoms needed to produce each visible, dark polonium radiohalo requires the decay of the same number of uranium atoms, which at today’s slow de-

cay rate would be equivalent to 100 million years worth of decay. However, the hot water only flows for a relatively brief period. If it took so long for uranium atoms to decay and produce the needed polonium atoms, then the polonium could not have been transported but would have quickly decayed away and not produced the separate polonium radiohalos. Instead, the uranium atoms have to decay fast enough while the hot water is flowing to deliver the polonium to form the polonium radiohalos within the half-lives of the polonium atoms. Those very short polonium half-lives mean that the polonium radiohalos could only have formed very rapidly, within hours or days.

So because the uranium decay in the zircon crystals provides the polonium for the polonium radiohalos at the same time as more of the uranium is decaying in the zircon grains to form the uranium radiohalos, the uranium radiohalos had to form as rapidly as the polonium radiohalos and at the same time. Therefore, rather than decaying at today’s slow rates, the radioactive decay of uranium to provide the polonium for the polonium radiohalos must have occurred at a greatly accelerated rate, so that 100 million years worth of uranium decay occurred in just a few hours or days, the time over which the polonium radiohalos were concurrently formed. ☞



Composite schematic of radiohalo radii [After Genry].



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

Weekend of: **Title/Topic:**

Jan. 6 Noah’s Flood: A Universal Catastrophe?

Volcanoes, tsunamis, meteor impacts: these are some of the natural disasters creationists believe happened during the Genesis Flood that destroyed the early Earth. Is it possible that as our planet was going through this turmoil and devastation, that other bodies in the solar system were experiencing catastrophic changes as well? Listen in to this fascinating discussion!

Jan. 13 Science Misconceptions

You have probably heard the cliché “truth is stranger than fiction.” Perhaps this is why man is prone to accept popular ideas as science fact when they are really science fiction. What are some of these common misconceptions we mistakenly believe? To find out—tune in!


Jan. 20 The Science of Life

While pro-life advocates continue to fight for the lives of unborn children, abortion proponents contend that an unborn baby is not a human being. But, is there scientific evidence that supports either side? Tune in to this interesting discussion!

Jan. 27 What Really Happened at Grand Canyon?

Geologists have different ideas about how Arizona’s Grand Canyon was formed. Some think it was carved by the Colorado River over millions of years. Others believe it eroded during Noah’s Flood. But what really happened? Join us as we learn about the origin of Grand Canyon and how it relates to scientific creation!

Do you enjoy ICR radio programs in your area? We encourage you to contact your local radio station and let them know

how you value our programming. It will be an encouragement to the station staff and will reinforce the impact of the creation message. To find out where you can hear ICR broadcasts, please email radio@icr.org with your name and address. We will gladly send you a radio station listing for your state. If our programs are not aired in your area, we would be happy to send you a free demo packet for you to take to your local Christian station. 



From a radio program listener

Thanks to you and all the ICR radio team for your continued support and encouragement. Thank you for making it possible for many thousands of people all over Africa to listen to “Science, Scripture, & Salvation” as well as “Back to Genesis.” You are a continual source of joy and encouragement to us.

Days of Praise reader in Wisconsin

Thank you for blessing our home with your God-centered *Days of Praise*. We appreciate your articles. You minister to our spirit and challenge us to want to grow like Christ and share Him with others.

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New Year, New Rulers, New Resolve

“Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth”
(Colossians 3:2).

This month the 110th Congress will convene on Capitol Hill. New leaders will be elevated to posts previously held by the other political party. Many are fearful of what these changes could mean for our country.

Post-election pundits predict that previous economic accomplishments, such as lower taxes and sustained economic growth, will be overturned. Others see a battle mounting against President Bush on morality issues like abortion, euthanasia, embryonic stem cell cloning, and the definition of marriage. However, regardless of the uncertainty of the coming months and years, I am reminded of three larger truths:

The election results did not surprise God. Romans 13:1 says that “there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God.” In the Old Testament, God raised up Cyrus, a pagan king, to carry out His greater purposes. “For Jacob my servant’s sake, and Israel mine elect, I have even called thee by thy name: I have surnamed thee, though thou hast not known me” (Isaiah 45:4). God is sovereign.

The shift in policy will not last. In 2008, the citizenry will make their will known once more. But apart from that a far greater change is coming. Christ will return in glory as the King of kings to rule the world in righteousness. II Corinthians 4:17 assures us that “our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory.” God’s truth abides.

Our mandate is larger than the economy. God will handle kings and princes and would-be rulers so that we can focus on the task at hand: representing Him within our spheres of influence as “ambassadors for Christ” (II Corinthians 5:20).

Make a renewed commitment this new year to know His truth, follow His truth, and teach His truth. This is our calling at ICR and I am grateful for your ongoing support that enables us to fulfill this mission.

