

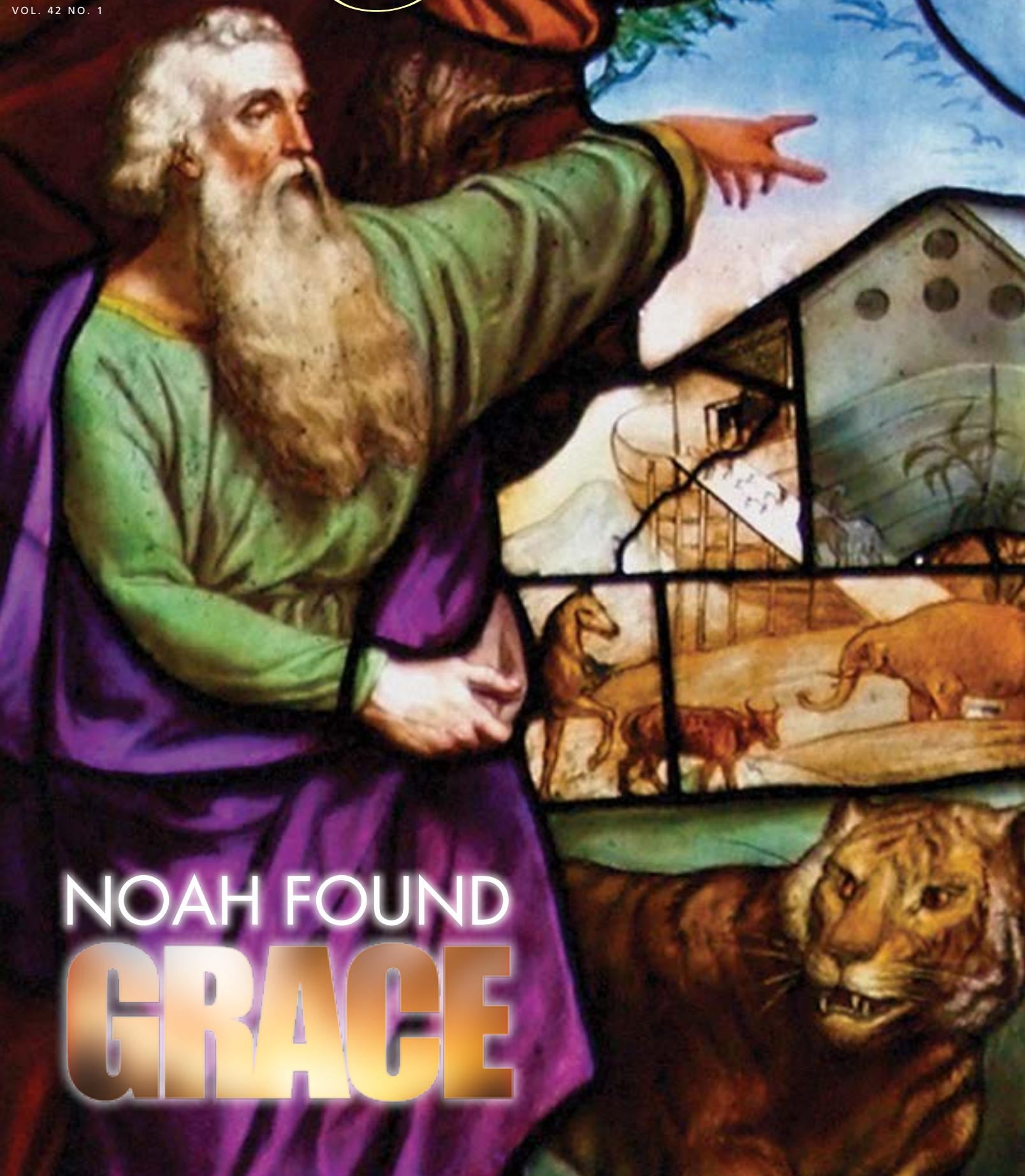
# ACTS & FACTS

INSTITUTE FOR  
CREATION RESEARCH

[www.icr.org](http://www.icr.org)

JANUARY 2013

VOL. 42 NO. 1



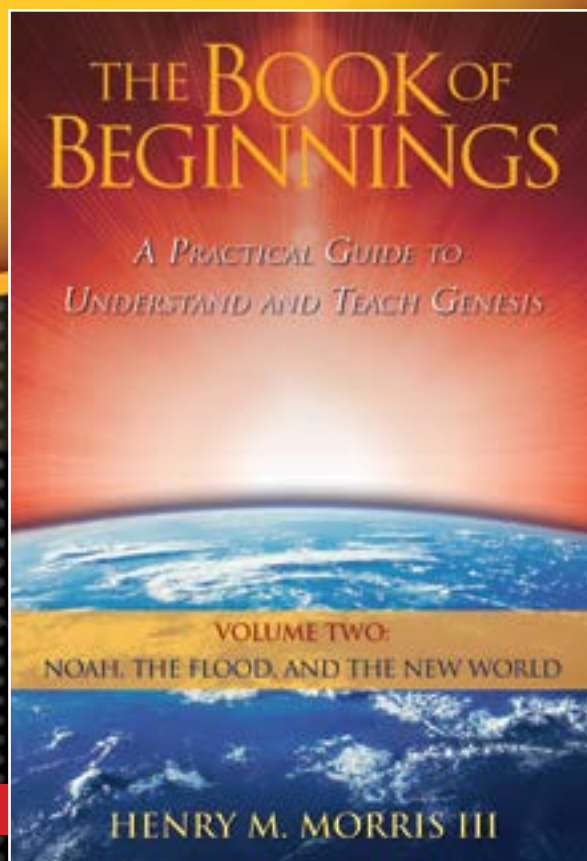
NOAH FOUND  
**GRACE**

# COMING SOON

*from Dr. Henry M. Morris III*

In the first volume of his Book of Beginnings trilogy, Dr. Henry Morris III offered clear, concise commentary on the Genesis account through the eve of the great Flood of judgment. Join him now in volume 2 as he explores the pre-Flood world, Noah's preparations for the coming cataclysm, the tremendous destruction wreaked by the deluge, and the restarting of human history up through the time of Abraham.

Visit [icr.org/store](http://icr.org/store) for product information and availability



## Mark Your Calendar for the JACKSONVILLE PASTORS' CONFERENCE 2013

January 24-27

*Come hear Dr. Henry Morris III, Dr. Jason Lisle,  
Dr. Mac Brunson, and Dr. Al Mohler*



Dr. Henry M. Morris III



Dr. Jason Lisle



Dr. Mac Brunson



Dr. Al Mohler

### FRIDAY, JANUARY 25

12:30 - 1:15 p.m.

Dr. Lisle – The Importance of Genesis

### SATURDAY, JANUARY 26

11:15 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.

Dr. Morris, Dr. Lisle, Dr. Mohler,  
Dr. Brunson – Pastors and Creation:  
Panel Discussion and Q&A

1:30 - 2:15 p.m.

Dr. Lisle – The Ultimate Proof of Creation



First Baptist Church Jacksonville  
124 W. Ashley St.  
Jacksonville, FL 32202

For more information and registration, please call  
888.827.1825 or visit [jaxpastorsconference.com](http://jaxpastorsconference.com).

Published by  
**INSTITUTE FOR CREATION RESEARCH**  
P. O. Box 59029  
Dallas, TX 75229  
214.615.8300  
www.icr.org

**EXECUTIVE EDITOR**  
Jayme Durant

**SENIOR EDITOR**  
Beth Mull

**EDITOR**  
Christine Dao

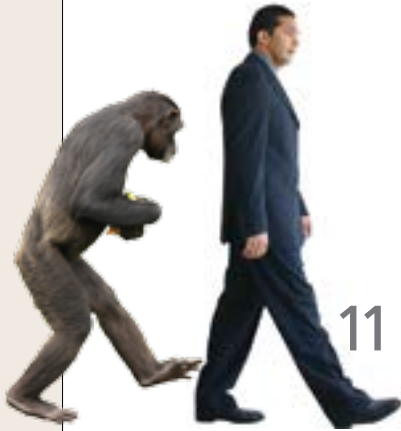
**DESIGNER**  
Dennis Davidson

No articles may be reprinted in whole or in part without obtaining permission from ICR.

Copyright © 2013  
Institute for Creation Research



5



11



14



15

**FEATURE**

**5 Noah Found Grace**

HENRY M. MORRIS III, D.MIN.

**RESEARCH**

**9 The Two-Book Fallacy**

JASON LISLE, PH.D.

**APOLOGETICS**

**10 No Backdated Punishment in Eden**

JAMES J. S. JOHNSON, J.D., TH.D.

**IMPACT**

**11 Epigenetics Proves Humans and Chimps Are Different**

JEFFREY TOMKINS, PH.D.

**BACK TO GENESIS**

**13 The Survival of Noah's Ark**

JOHN D. MORRIS, PH.D.

**14 The Ever-Changing Big Bang Story**

JAKE HEBERT, PH.D.

**15 DNA in Dinosaur Bones?**

BRIAN THOMAS, M.S.

**16 A Mountain of Snow after the Genesis Flood**

LARRY VARDIMAN, PH.D.

**CREATION Q & A**

**20 Is Evolution an Observable Fact?**

NATHANIEL T. JEANSON, PH.D.

**STEWARDSHIP**

**21 Occupy Till He Comes**

HENRY M. MORRIS IV



# Grace from Beginning to End

**G**race is the scarlet thread woven throughout all of Scripture. From the beginning in Genesis when God offered the first sacrifice for Adam and Eve's sin, to the ending of Revelation when Jesus promises to return for His own, God provides portraits of His never-ending grace.

Dr. Henry Morris III's feature article points out that Noah found grace—he received specific instructions from God for an unfamiliar task, endured the ridicule of a wicked world, and stepped into an uncertain future because the grace of God led him to save his family from judgment (see page 5). And as Dr. John Morris illustrates on page 13, the Ark was perfectly suited for this task because “God was in full control.”



In grace, God promised childless Abraham that he would become the father of a great nation. An angel seized Lot by the hand and pulled him from destruction, demonstrating how God's grace is bestowed even on the most reluctant of followers. Jacob experienced grace at Bethel when a rock was his pillow, and he saw angels ascending and descending from heaven to earth on a ladder.

By grace, God snatched Moses from the Nile, protected him in the midst of a hostile kingdom, and eventually confronted him with truth at a burning bush. The Israelites witnessed the grace of God through the parting of the Red Sea and through God's steadfast presence even when His children forsook Him.

Rahab the harlot tied a scarlet thread in her window as a sign of her faith in salvation through the God of Israel, and she found grace. Ruth found grace in the fields of

Boaz, and Hannah found grace at an altar bathed in tears. Abigail found grace when she interceded for an evil husband.

David experienced grace when he acknowledged his sin with a broken and contrite heart.

In grace, God heard Hezekiah's prayer for healing from a mortal illness. God granted grace to captive Nehemiah—cupbearer to the king of a foreign land—when he petitioned the king to allow him to leave, rebuild the walls of Jerusalem, and serve his people and his God. Esther experienced God's grace when she interceded on behalf of her people before King Ahasuerus. Job endured many sufferings by the grace of God, and the prophets of old spoke God's truth by His grace.

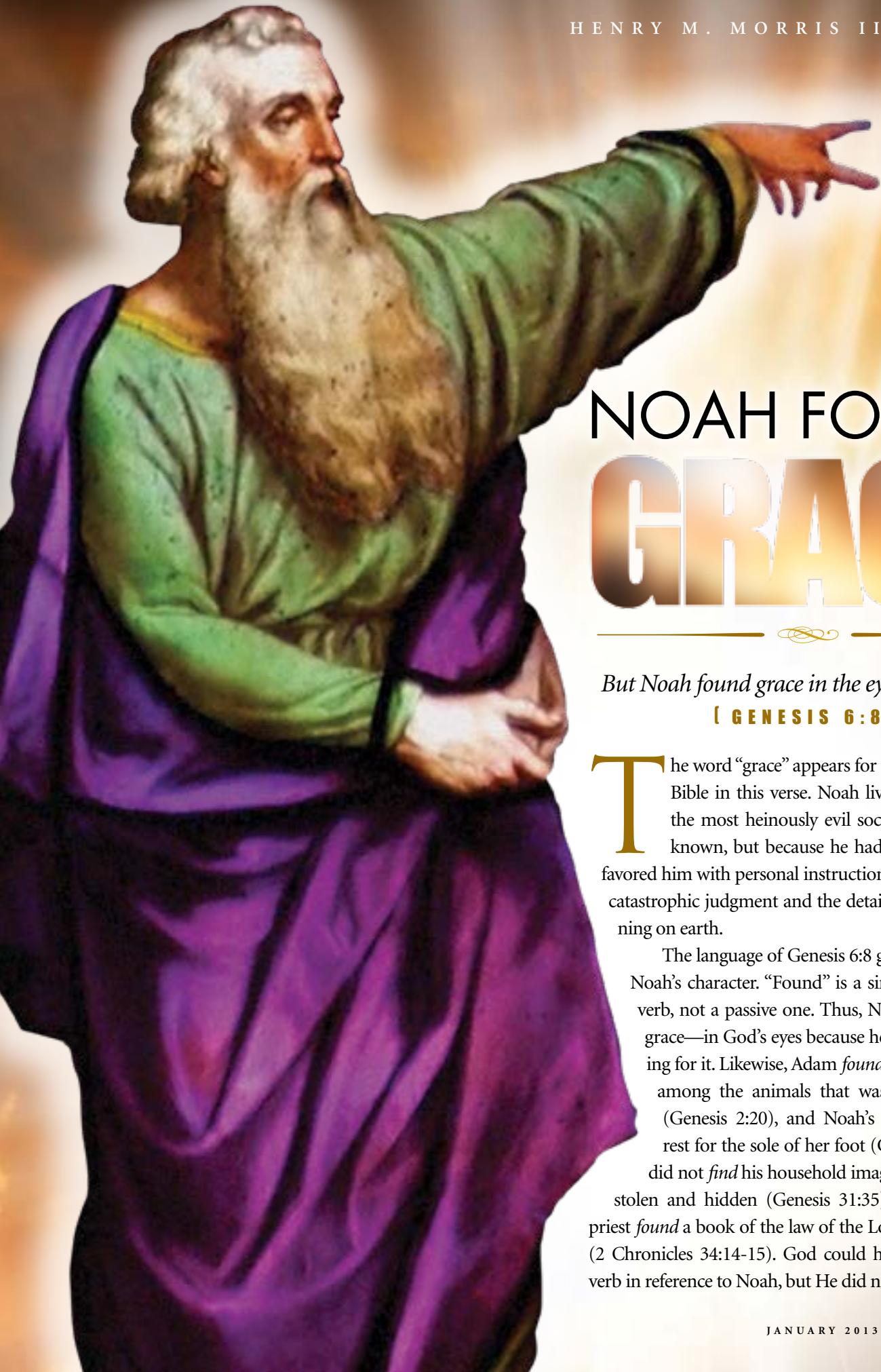
The virgin Mary became the mother of baby Jesus, and lived in a world that didn't understand the miraculous conception, all by God's grace. And by grace, John the Baptist prepared the way for Jesus' public ministry and endured a martyr's death.

Christ's disciples left everything to follow Him, trusting the grace of God rather than the traditions of men for their salvation. Christ called Zacchaeus down from a tree, and the little publican joyfully embraced the grace Jesus offered him that day. The Samaritan woman at the well experienced grace despite her lengthy list of husbands, and the adulteress received forgiveness rather than a stoning.

The apostles faithfully proclaimed truth in a hostile world, enduring torture and death, and built the early church through the message of salvation by grace through faith in Jesus Christ. The New Testament ends, “The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen” (Revelation 22:21).

As Dr. Henry Morris III reminds us on page 7, “God's grace is always available.” Even today, we experience abundant life, eternal life, because the scarlet thread ties us to Him—our God who has bestowed life on us through His son Jesus Christ. None of us deserves to live in His presence eternally. But He grants it because, like Noah, we found grace.

**Jayme Durant**  
EXECUTIVE EDITOR



# NOAH FOUND GRACE

*But Noah found grace in the eyes of the LORD.*

[ GENESIS 6:8 ]

**T**he word “grace” appears for the first time in the Bible in this verse. Noah lived in the midst of the most heinously evil society the world had known, but because he had found grace, God favored him with personal instruction about the coming catastrophic judgment and the details for a new beginning on earth.

The language of Genesis 6:8 gives us insight into Noah’s character. “Found” is a simple active perfect verb, not a passive one. Thus, Noah found favor—grace—in God’s eyes because he was actively looking for it. Likewise, Adam *found* no helpmate from among the animals that was suitable for him (Genesis 2:20), and Noah’s dove did not *find* rest for the sole of her foot (Genesis 8:9). Laban did not *find* his household images that Rachel had stolen and hidden (Genesis 31:35), and Hilkiah the priest *found* a book of the law of the Lord given by Moses (2 Chronicles 34:14-15). God could have used a passive verb in reference to Noah, but He did not.

What can we learn from the life of this great man?

Evidently, God intended for us to know this key factor: Noah's life was righteous—in spite of the horrible condition of the world of his day. He was looking for God's direction and for the answers to his heart's cry. Noah wasn't merely hanging around waiting for the inevitable destruction that he sensed must come as a result of the awful rebellion that surrounded him. Noah was anticipating a response from God—and when God finally did give him instruction, Noah “found” the favor that he sought!

### Captain of Industry

Many centuries later, God warned Ezekiel of future judgment that would happen to the land of Israel because of its wickedness. God identified three men—Noah, Daniel, and Job—as examples of the best “righteous” men in history (Ezekiel 14:14, 20). If that comparison has any meaning, Noah was much more than a mere chance recipient of God's grace.

Job was “the greatest of all the men of the east” (Job 1:3). His livestock resources (mainly those for caravan duty) were enormous. That certainly meant that he was a successful trade broker and possibly a source for prized stock. He had multiple houses and land—so much so that “bands” from nearby nations were necessary to destroy his wealth.

God had labeled Job “my servant...there is none like him in the earth, a perfect [blameless] and an upright man, one that feareth God, and escheweth [shuns] evil” (Job 1:8). Job was much more than a “nice guy.” He was probably the wealthiest man of his day, and yet he was of such godly character that God used him to teach Satan a lesson!

Daniel was one of the king's descendants and nobles from Judah taken captive by Nebu-

chadnezzar (Daniel 1:3). The account of Daniel and his three godly friends is well known among Christians, but the young adult experiences of Daniel often overshadow the long life that he led as the leader of the “scientists” (learned men) of that day. He was commissioned as a “great man” by Nebuchadnezzar and “sat in the gate of the king” (Daniel 2:48-49). Daniel served in some form of senior political and advisory position for six kings over some 70 years. Not bad for a captive!

God identified Daniel as a “man greatly beloved” (Daniel 10:11). He was privileged to have unusual spiritual insight, which he could have used to his personal advantage. But he always made it clear that he was gifted by God's

---



## NOAH WAS MUCH MORE THAN A MERE CHANCE RECIPIENT OF GOD'S GRACE.

---

grace—to whom he always gave credit. Furthermore, God used Daniel to record several of the most remarkable prophecies in all of Scripture. Scholars are still discussing the book of Daniel. He was a significant person indeed!

If the comparisons of the righteous men listed in Ezekiel 14 are to be genuine comparisons, Noah must have been a person of significance in his region—if not well known throughout the world of his day. He clearly possessed or had access to the resources and skills needed to accomplish the monumental task that was assigned to him. Since God's instructions to build the Ark are somewhat general, it is not beyond reason to assume that Noah ran an architectural and contracting business of some kind.

The pre-Flood civilization would certainly have been advanced enough for such an

enterprise. The evolutionary cloud has mesmerized most of the world into relegating the “ancient” world into some sort of pre-human existence—living in caves and grass huts with animal skins for clothing. The Bible paints a much different picture! There were cities during Noah's day, as well as developed technology that included metallurgy and the skills to build and market musical instruments (Genesis 4:17-22). Somebody had to construct the habitations for the growing population, and someone had to coordinate the distribution and development of those manufacturing places that produced the products needed by that society.

The world of Noah was very wicked, but it functioned with much the same needs as our current world. When the Lord Jesus wanted to emphasize the suddenness of the destruction in the coming end-times judgment, He did it by drawing a comparison with the “ordinary” life of the populations around Noah.

And as it was in the days of Noe, so shall it be also in the days of the Son of man. They did eat, they drank, they married wives, they were given in marriage, until the day that Noah entered into the ark, and the flood came, and destroyed them all. (Luke 17:26-27)

Noah was an important man in his day. Whether he was a general contractor, an architect, or a business baron is pretty much an educated guess. But the fact that he *found grace* is important. Noah was fully dedicated to the work of God during his life.

### Walked with God

The Bible says that Noah was one of only two men in all of history who “walked with God” (Genesis 6:9). The other is Enoch, who may be more well known since he was taken up into God's presence without dying (Gen-

esis 5:24). Efforts by some to portray Noah as a bumbling, drunken hypocrite are simply not true. God's commentary is that Noah was "just" and "perfect" (upright, without blemish). The Creator entrusted him with a monumental task that is unique in all of history.

Noah was "just." That simply means that he was known for his equitable dealings with others. Even in the wicked world that disgusted the Creator, Noah was "justified" in his dealings. He charged reasonable prices for his work. He gave a good product (whatever it was) to those who employed his services. His honest dealings gave rise to his influence in the community. He was proven to be a man of integrity (Genesis 7:1).

Noah was "perfect." That precious reputation, at least from God's perspective, means that he was a man without condemnation. His "just" dealings resulted in a "blameless" record. Whatever the wicked people of his day may have said behind his back, they *knew* that Noah was above reproach. Just as folks today often resort to rumor-mongering and distortion of facts to cover their own guilt, those around Noah no doubt employed some of the same practices to discredit righteous Noah. He may well have had that kind of treatment, but God saw that he was "perfect."

### Preacher of Righteousness

Peter called Noah a "preacher of righteousness" (2 Peter 2:5). Think of what that means in the context of Genesis 6! The whole earth was "filled with violence" and "every heart" only thought of evil. The social milieu must have been a real mess. Yet Noah had the guts to stand up publically for the righteous behavior that just about everyone else openly and loudly rejected.

Perhaps his extended family members, and even some or most of his employees, were

under his influence. But by the time the judgment of God fell, only Noah, his wife, and three of their sons and their wives were willing to follow his leadership into the Ark. Many would consider a ministry with such results a failure today, and yet God insisted that Noah's faith not only "saved" his family but the future world from extinction (Hebrews 11:7)!

We are not told in Scripture what Noah preached about. Enoch (the other man who walked with God) preached about the return of the Lord in judgment (Jude 1:14-15).



Noah may well have preached about the coming judgment of the Flood and the desperate need of the world's people to turn back to their Creator for salvation. Whatever he may have preached and however he implemented his heart's desire, Noah was labeled a "preacher of righteousness" by the only Judge that ultimately counts.

God's grace is always available. It is not hidden from anyone. But it must be "found" by God's servants as we "come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need" (Hebrews 4:16). ●

Adapted from Dr. Henry Morris III's *Book of Beginnings*, Volume 2, available soon from the Institute for Creation Research.

*Dr. Morris is Chief Executive Officer of the Institute for Creation Research.*



## ICR JANUARY EVENTS

## ■ JANUARY 9

Plano, TX  
Prestonwood Baptist Church  
(J. Lisle) 972.920.5000

## ■ JANUARY 23

Plano, TX  
Prestonwood Baptist Church  
(J. Hebert) 972.920.5000

## ■ JANUARY 25

San Diego, CA  
San Diego Christian College  
(C. Morse) 619.441.2200

## ■ JANUARY 16

Plano, TX  
Prestonwood Baptist Church  
(R. Guliuzza) 972.920.5000

## ■ JANUARY 24-27

Jacksonville, FL  
Jacksonville Pastors' Conference 2013  
(H. Morris III, J. Lisle) 888.827.1825

## ■ JANUARY 28-29

San Diego, CA  
Creation Conference 2013:  
Why Origins Matter  
(J. Lisle) 619.201.8951

For more information on these events or to schedule an event, please contact the ICR Events Department at **800.337.0375** or [events@icr.org](mailto:events@icr.org).

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA SEMINARY PRESENTS  
CREATION CONFERENCE 2013



# WHY ORIGINS MATTER

A FREE EVENT  
Perfect for Family and Friends

January 28 & 29  
6:30 – 9:15 p.m.

Shadow Mountain Community Church  
2100 Greenfield Drive  
El Cajon, CA 92019

[www.socalsem.edu/creaion](http://www.socalsem.edu/creaion)

FEATURING KEYNOTE SPEAKERS



ANDREW SNELLING, PH.D.  
Answers in Genesis



JASON LISLE, PH.D.  
Institute for Creation Research



The founder of the scientific method, Francis Bacon, taught that God has written two books: the Scriptures and the book of creation (or nature).<sup>1</sup> Today, many professing Christians affirm this view. After all, the Scriptures teach that God's attributes are clearly seen in nature (Romans 1:20). So we can learn about God through both Scripture and science—the systematic study of nature.

But can nature really be considered a *book*? And what happens when there is an apparent discrepancy between what the Bible teaches and the “record” of nature?

Advocates of the “two-book” view would say that any apparent conflict between science and the Bible is due to a faulty interpretation of one or the other. Thus, our interpretation of Scripture must match our interpretation of nature. They might say that both the Bible and the “book of nature” are inerrant since both were written by God. But our *interpretations* of each are subject to error. Is this view biblical? Is it logical?

The two-book view has been used to justify all sorts of unbiblical teaching. For example, some people say that the book of nature clearly reveals that all life has evolved from a common ancestor. Thus, we must take Genesis as a metaphor. Others deny evolution but insist that the book of nature teaches that the earth is billions of years old. Therefore, we must interpret the days of Genesis as long ages, not ordinary days.

Such a procedure is dangerous. Interpreting the Bible in light of some other “book of God” is a distinguishing characteristic of cults.

The two-book view is actually a fallacy. The reason is simple: Nature is not a book. It is not something that is comprised of statements in human language. It is not something that a person can literally read or interpret in the same way that we interpret a sentence. This isn't to say that people cannot learn

# THE TWO-BOOK FALLACY

JASON LISLE, PH.D.

anything from nature. But it is not a book or record that contains propositional truth.

The advantage of a book is that it is comprised of clear statements in human language that are designed to be understood by the reader. The meaning of a book is the intention of the author. But that's not the case with nature. What does a rock *mean*? What does a fossil *mean*? They don't literally mean anything because they are not statements made by an author who is intending to convey an idea.

Some advocates of the two-book view refer to things like rocks and fossils as the “record of nature.” But a record is an account *in writing* that preserves the knowledge of facts or events. Rocks and fossils are not in the written form and are, therefore, not a record.

The Bible, however, records the major events of history in the natural world. The Bible cannot conflict with the record of nature because the Bible *is* the record of nature!

God knew that people would not properly understand the world around them without clear instructions. After all, the primary purpose of nature is not to teach, but to function. Consequently, the world is not comprised of statements that are easy to understand. Moreover, nature is cursed due to sin. Therefore, God gave us a clear, inerrant account of the major events of history in writing so that we can begin to properly understand nature. Thus, if it is to yield reliable results, scientific research must be conducted in light of the clear teaching of Scripture. God has only written one book—the Bible. ●

#### Reference

1. Bacon, F. 1828. *Of the proficience and advancement of learning*. Divine and Human. London: J. F. Dove, 53.

Dr. Lisle is Director of Research at the Institute for Creation Research and received his Ph.D. in Astrophysics from the University of Colorado.





# No Backdated Punishment in Eden

JAMES J. S. JOHNSON, J.D., T.H.D.



At the end of Day Six, God said all was “very good” (Genesis 1:31), which means no death existed on earth because death is not good (Romans 8:20-22, 1 Corinthians 15). No animals died or were eaten before Adam sinned (Genesis 1:29-30, 9:1-4). Likewise, the Bible doesn’t mention the existence, much less the death, of any pre-Adamite subhuman primates before Adam sinned.<sup>1</sup>

Adam’s sin triggered the curse of death, fulfilling God’s warning (Romans 5:12-21). Only then did Adam experience the death that God had warned about. But dying was not limited to Adam! The animals under his authority (Genesis 1:26-31, Psalm 8) also became cursed with death (Genesis 3:17-19, Romans 8:20-22).

Theistic evolutionists argue that animal death existed before Adam sinned, alleging that because God *foreknew* Adam’s sin, He justly imposed death on creation before Adam actually sinned (*retroactive punishment*).<sup>1</sup> Yet the Bible never says that God punished Adam or animals before Adam sinned—to do so would be unjust. To punish a bad choice in advance would negate the decision as a true test of faith and loyalty.

Consider how people are tested by their choices.<sup>2</sup> Joseph tested his brothers (Genesis 42-44), not revealing himself until after they made character-revealing choices. Daniel’s three friends were also tested (Daniel 3), yet they could not foreknow whether their godly choices would be rewarded with miraculous deliverance or agonizing martyrdom.

So why do theistic evolutionists teach death before Adam’s sin? They reject the authoritative truth of Genesis and Romans in order to accommodate evolutionary teachings (e.g., eons of death before Adam sinned).<sup>3</sup>

But the Lord Jesus Christ *did not accommodate* false teachings when He physically walked this earth. Rather, He healed the blind

on the Sabbath (see John 9) to prove that the Pharisees taught bad theology.

Why does it matter? The New Testament directly links sin’s cause and its cure by tying the gospel of salvation to Adam’s sin (Romans 5, 1 Corinthians 15). Paul’s definition of the gospel of Christ contextualizes the gospel as being “according to the [Old Testament] scriptures” (1 Corinthians 15:3-4). The gospel depends on the Old Testament being true!

Indeed, the Old Testament is authoritatively relevant, true, and perfect—every “jot and tittle” (Matthew 5:18) of it. Christ Himself said that Moses would judge people after they die according to whether they believed the words of Moses (John 5:45-47).

If the books of Moses, which include Genesis, were authoritatively good enough for the Lord Jesus (Matthew 24:35, John 17:17)—and they were—they are authoritatively good enough for us. What we believe about death being the consequence of Adam’s sin in Eden is a test of our own loyalty to God. ●

## References

1. Some theistic evolutionists imagine eons of time, with animals and pre-Adamite subhumans dying, before Adam sinned. All of these are imaginary concepts accommodating secularists’ evolutionary dogmas that clash with Genesis. See Dembski, W. 2009. *The End of Christianity: Finding a Good God in an Evil World*. Nashville, TN: Broadman & Holman Academic, 77, 154-155; Dembski, W. 2011. Christian Theodicy in Light of Genesis and Modern Science. In Ham, K. and G. Hall, eds. *Already Compromised*. Green Forest, AR: Master Books, 173-174, 202.
2. Consider the amazing testing of Job’s faith in God. Job praised God throughout his undeserved suffering (James 5:11, 1 Peter 4:19), yet he did not foreknow how his suffering would end. Likewise, because God wanted to truly test Adam’s character (as He later tested Job), God did *not* reveal the consequence of Adam’s sin visibly until Adam actually made his historic choice. Only then did the horrible reality called “death” arrive on earth.
3. Johnson, J. J. S. 2011. Biblical Devastation in the Wake of a “Tranquil Flood.” *Acts & Facts*. 40 (9): 8-10; Johnson, J. J. S. 2011. Culpable Passivity: The Failure of Going with the Flow. *Acts & Facts*. 40 (7): 8-10. This controversy challenges Genesis’s perfect authenticity, accuracy, authority, understandability, and authoritative relevance. See also Cooper, W. R. 2011. *The Authenticity of Genesis*. Portsmouth, UK: Creation Science Movement, 7-27, 33-99, 109-130, 162-359, 369-405.

Dr. Johnson is Associate Professor of Apologetics and Chief Academic Officer at the Institute for Creation Research.



# EPIGENETICS PROVES HUMANS AND CHIMPS ARE DIFFERENT

J E F F R E Y T O M K I N S , P H . D .

One of the rapidly expanding and exciting research fields in molecular biology is the area of epigenetics. In the study of epigenetic modifications, scientists analyze DNA that has been modified in such a way that its chemistry is changed, but not the actual base pairs that make up the genetic code of the sequence. It's like a separate control code and system imposed upon and within the standard code of DNA sequence.

There are two general ways in which the DNA of an organism can be modified chemically. First, methyl groups can be added to DNA base molecules. Second, proteins called histones that integrate with the DNA can also be modified in different ways. Both of these types of DNA modi-

fications determine how accessible the DNA is to proteins that bind to the DNA and control and help regulate gene activity. Epigenetic DNA modification is highly controlled in the genome and plays a major role in the way that many different types of genes are expressed. In fact, a variety of human diseases are associated with epigenetic changes that are not part of a normal genomic profile.

Because chimpanzees are thought to be our closest living relatives, they have been compared genetically to modern humans in a variety of different types of studies. One seg-





ment of human-chimp genetic comparison research—comparisons of gene expression—has been particularly unfruitful for evolutionists. A number of research reports show how large differences in gene expression are commonly observed between humans and chimps for many genes that both species share, particularly in those associated with brain activity.<sup>1,2</sup>

Because epigenetic modifications in the genome are related to gene expression, researchers have been using highly advanced technologies for comparing these differences in humans and chimps for regions of the genome that they both have in common.

Several recent studies show that dramatic differences exist between humans and chimps in regard to the methylation aspect of epigenetics. When considering this type of research, it is important to know that the epigenome is tissue-specific and the patterns vary between the types of cells that are studied.

In 2011, a study was performed on purified white blood cells (neutrophils) from living humans, chimps, and orangutans. The researchers selected neutrophils because they are nearly similar in their appearance and characteristics between humans and apes. Despite the fact that the most similar type of cell known between humans and apes was selected, scientists were surprised that they detected major methylation profile differences in over 1,500 different regions of the human genome when they were compared to chimp genomes. The orangutans also showed uniqueness from humans and chimps in their epigenome data clustering.

Another exciting discovery in this study was that these epigenetic differences between humans and chimps were not only present in adult white blood cells, but also in the germ-line (sperm and egg cells)—indicating that these were permanent heritable differences between humans and apes. The authors of the report wrote:

The mechanisms leading to the methylation differences between species are

unknown. The separate clustering of humans and chimps is consistent with the stable inheritance of methylation states within the two species.<sup>3</sup>

An even more recent study in 2012 used a new, highly accurate method of studying methylation profiles of DNA surrounding genes in brain genes shared by both humans and chimps. The differences noted between humans and chimps were strikingly marked and extensive:

We also found extensive species-level divergence in patterns of DNA methylation and that hundreds of genes exhibit significantly lower levels of promoter methylation in the human brain than in the chimpanzee brain.<sup>4</sup>

This study reported that these types of brain genes could tolerate very little epigenetic

## A NUMBER OF RESEARCH REPORTS SHOW HOW LARGE DIFFERENCES IN GENE EXPRESSION ARE COMMONLY OBSERVED BETWEEN HUMANS AND CHIMPS.

modification outside the normal profile for the human brain. In fact, researchers found that abnormal human brain gene methylation patterns are associated with a wide variety of severe human neurological diseases. These findings show how methylation changes in brain genes are not well-tolerated, thus negating ideas of epigenetic evolution in primates. Obviously, brain gene methylation patterns are finely tuned and species specific. The authors made the following comment regarding this discovery:

Finally, we found that differentially methylated genes are strikingly enriched with loci associated with neurological disorders, psychological disorders, and cancers.<sup>4</sup>

This research further broke down the gene regions into different areas. One key area of interest was the promoter region—the area preceding a gene that controls its function like a genetic switch. The researchers also studied the main gene body, which is the region of a gene that includes the protein-coding seg-

ments. Finally, they also analyzed the ends of genes because they play key roles in genetic regulation. In this regard, they found that the largest differences between human and chimp brain gene methylation patterns were in the control regions that play a major role in regulation. The human gene promoters were much less methylated, a finding that corresponded well to the higher levels of human brain gene activity, compared to their gene counterparts in chimps. The other regions of the genes also exhibited differences between species but were less dramatic.

Overall, 1,055 genes showed significantly different methylation patterns between humans and chimps. Of these, the researchers found 468 different genes that were highly diverse in their methylation patterns. These were the types of genes that play key roles in controlling other genes and mod-

ifying the types of proteins in the cell that regulate processes at the top of the cell system hierarchy. In other words, the genes that showed these

marked differences were the key controlling regions in the genome for brain cell activity.

These results derived from the field of epigenetics dramatically illustrate the profound genetic differences that exist between humans and apes. Once again, cutting-edge science fits closely with the biblical paradigm that God created all animals “after their kind” (Genesis 1:21) and humans uniquely in the “image of God” (Genesis 1:27). ●

### References

1. Khaitovich, P. et al. 2005. Parallel patterns of evolution in the genomes and transcriptomes of humans and chimpanzees. *Science*. 309 (5742): 1850-1854.
2. Konopka, G. et al. 2012. Human-Specific Transcriptional Networks in the Brain. *Neuron*. 75 (4): 601-617.
3. Martin, D. I. K. et al. 2011. Phyloepigenomic comparison of great apes reveals a correlation between somatic and germline methylation states. *Genome Research*. 21 (12): 2049-2057.
4. Zeng, J. et al. 2012. Divergent Whole-Genome Methylation Maps of Human and Chimpanzee Brains Reveal Epigenetic Basis of Human Regulatory Evolution. *American Journal of Human Genetics*. 91 (3): 455-465.

Dr. Tomkins is Research Associate at the Institute for Creation Research and received his Ph.D. in Genetics from Clemson University.



# The Survival of Noah's Ark

JOHN D. MORRIS, P.H.D.

Skeptics raise a serious objection to the Flood account given in Scripture: How could Noah's Ark and its precious cargo survive the turmoil of the Flood? Wouldn't it have sunk beneath the waves, sending its cargo to a watery grave?

Without a doubt, the Flood involved unimaginable forces and processes. Simultaneously, "the fountains of the great deep" broke open (Genesis 7:11), and the resulting volcanic eruptions, earthquakes, asteroid impacts, colliding tsunamis, and underwater gravity slides all contributed a great tectonic convulsion that permanently altered the planet.

Some of the waves would have been hundreds of feet high and moved at near jet speed. Yet the Ark rode through this cataclysm safe and sound. How could it do so? Wouldn't it have capsized? If it had, it would have spelled doom for all land-dwelling animals and the image of God in man. Satan would have won the war.

So how could the Ark have survived?

One important thing to remember is that the Ark was not de-

signed to go anywhere. In fact, once the whole earth was flooded, there was nowhere to go. It only had to float and keep the occupants alive. Obviously, the whole Flood account involves supernatural oversight. God was in full control. When we investigate how He exercised that control, we stand amazed.

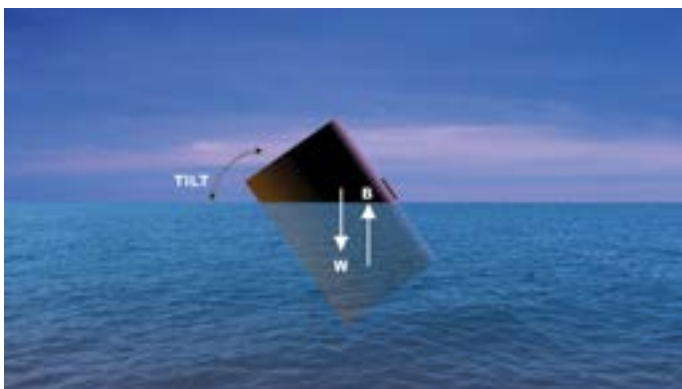
Note the ratio of length to width of the Ark's design: 300 cubits to 50 cubits, or approximately 450 feet long to 75 feet wide. This ratio of 6 to 1 is well known in naval design for optimum stability. Many modern naval engineers, when designing cargo ships to battleships, utilize this same basic design ratio.

The Ark's long, slender shape would have maximized cargo space and kept the vessel pointed into wave trends, thereby minimizing chances of it being broadsided by a wave that could capsize it. If we could take a cross-section of the Ark, we would see a pair of forces consisting of the Ark's weight acting downward and buoyancy acting upward that form what naval engineers term a "righting couple." This pair of forces acting in opposite, but parallel, directions tends to force the vessel to "right" itself when tilted. As shown in the figure, for any degree of tilt up to 90 degrees, the couple would right the Ark and return it to an upright orientation.

Several engineering studies of Ark models have compared the design, as given in Scripture, to several other potential design ratios and plans. The most elaborate and extensive comparison was carried out by the Korea Institute of Ship and Ocean Engineering. As in each of the studies, the Ark's design was shown to be optimum for its task and circumstances.

Scientific research confirms what the Bible says. The whole Flood account in Scripture has "the ring of truth" to it. Its Author evidently intended us to believe it. ●

*Dr. Morris is President of the Institute for Creation Research.*



*The two forces of weight and buoyancy working together (a "righting couple") would tend to keep the Ark from capsizing in rough seas.*

Image Credit: Susan Windsor

# THE EVER-CHANGING BIG BANG STORY

J A K E H E B E R T , P H . D .

Some say that Christians should re-interpret what Genesis states about the origin of the universe to match the claims of the Big Bang model. But *which* Big Bang model are they talking about? Several versions have cropped up since Georges Lemaitre suggested the idea in 1931.<sup>1</sup> Although these versions all say the universe expanded and cooled over many billions of years, they differ significantly in the details of events.

In 1979, physicist Alan Guth envisioned a major modification to solve a number of serious difficulties. He posited that shortly after the Big Bang, the universe supposedly underwent an enormous but extremely brief growth spurt called *inflation*. After this brief inflationary period, the universe continued to expand but at a slower rate.<sup>2</sup> Inflation became an essential part of the Big Bang model.

Theorists eventually concluded that inflation, once started, would never completely stop. Rather, quantum mechanical uncertainties would cause different regions of space to stop inflating at different times. This would have resulted in the formation of pockets of non-inflating space contained within a sea of still-inflating space. These islands of space would become, in effect, their own universes.

This newer version of inflation theory predicted the existence of infinitely many universes within a great *multiverse*.<sup>3</sup> In this version, inflation actually caused the Big Bang.<sup>4</sup>

Many secular theorists liked the multiverse idea. They acknowledged that it seemed

wildly improbable that our existence could be the result of a cosmic accident, but the multiverse seemed to give them a way to dodge the argument for design. With infinitely many universes supposedly in existence, they claimed that we were simply lucky enough to live in a universe that has conditions for life to exist. However, as noted in a previous *Acts & Facts* article, this argument is fatally flawed.<sup>5</sup>

The current version of the Big Bang model involves a number of quantities (such as “dark energy” and “dark matter”) that earlier versions did not have. Furthermore, the bizarre logical consequences of inflation theory are now leading some theorists to propose *another* version of the Big Bang called the Ekpyrotic Model.<sup>6</sup> They speculate that the Big Bang was caused by a collision between two 3-D worlds (called “branes”) moving along a fourth hidden dimension.<sup>7</sup> Of course, we only know of one 3-D world that actually exists!

Is there a lesson here? Secularists have long pressured Christians to compromise with

these origins tales, yet the secular theorists themselves eventually abandoned them. Instead of trusting the changing, fallible stories of sinful men who were not present at creation, how much better it is to trust the written record of the One who knows all things, who never lies, and who was there—creating. ●

## References

1. Profile: Georges Lemaitre, Father of the Big Bang. 2000. In Soter, S. and N. deGrasse Tyson, eds. *Cosmic Horizons: Astronomy at the Cutting Edge*. New York, NY: New Press.
2. Lemley, B. Guth's Grand Guess. *Discover Magazine*. Posted on discovermagazine.com April 1, 2002, accessed October 22, 2012.
3. Steinhardt, P. J. 2011. The Inflation Debate. *Scientific American*. 304 (4): 36-43.
4. Guth, A. The Inflationary Universe. *Edge*. Posted on edge.org, accessed October 22, 2012.
5. Hebert, J. 2012. A Universe from Nothing? *Acts & Facts*. 41 (7): 11-13.
6. Ekpyrosis is the Greek word for “conflagration.” The name reflects the fact that this particular evolutionary model (and an extension of it called the Cyclic Model) is somewhat similar to an evolutionary model of the ancient Greek Stoic philosophers.
7. Steinhardt, P. J. A Brief Introduction to the Ekpyrotic Universe. Princeton University. Posted on princeton.edu, accessed October 22, 2012.

Dr. Hebert is Research Associate at the Institute for Creation Research and received his Ph.D. in Physics from the University of Texas at Dallas.



# DNA IN DINOSAUR BONES?

BRIAN THOMAS, M.S.

Finding dinosaur DNA is as unthinkable to an evolutionist as finding a flat earth would be to a geographer. This is because DNA decays far too quickly to last millions of years. Thus, a recent report of possible dinosaur DNA promises to meet resistance from secular scientists. But combined with new DNA decay data, it builds a strong argument against evolutionary time.

Fossil experts have studied original dinosaur tissues and biochemicals for a long time. When tyrannosaur and hadrosaur bones from Montana were viewed under a microscope, they were found to harbor fresh-looking bone cells called osteocytes. Researchers even verified original—not mineralized—dinosaur proteins called collagen and elastin in 2009.<sup>1</sup>

The new report in the journal *Bone* identified vertebrate-specific proteins named actin and PHEX. It also described DNA in the dinosaur cells.<sup>2</sup>

Many secular scientists have sought to resolve the dilemma of fast-decaying biochemicals found deep within fossils by asserting that

bacteria produced them after creeping into the bone sometime after the creatures were catastrophically buried. One way to help disprove the bacteria idea is to find exclusively animal proteins.

The researchers did just that. They also applied two different DNA-sensitive stains to the osteocytes. Both stains visualized DNA in a central location inside the long-dead dinosaur cells—where the cell's nucleus should be.

They also applied an antibody that binds to a DNA-packaging protein called histone H4; bacteria do not have histone H4, but vertebrates do. The antibody bound its target, identifying yet another kind of original vertebrate protein. And the histone was sitting in the same nucleus-like central region within the cells. The stains and antibody did not bind other parts of the cell, nor the sediment that surrounded the dinosaur fossils. In short, this study strongly supported the presence of original dinosaur proteins and DNA.

The dinosaur cells certainly contain DNA, and it sits right where one would expect

if it were original dinosaur DNA. Without sequencing the DNA, it is difficult to be absolutely sure. However, scientists have reported ancient DNA from various fossils, including dinosaur bone.<sup>3</sup>

If it is dinosaur DNA, then it cannot be millions of years old because of the results of a separate study. Scientists examined 158 ancient leg bones from the extinct giant moa bird that lived on New Zealand's South Island. The study authors generated a DNA decay rate with unprecedented rigor.<sup>4</sup>

The moa research team measured the half-life of DNA to be 521 years under average local temperatures.<sup>5</sup> After this time, only half of the amount of DNA present when the animal died should remain. And after another 521 years, only half of *that* remains, and so on until none is left. At this rate, DNA molecules in bone break down after only 10,000 years into tiny chemical segments too short for modern technology to sequence. And this result assumes preservation factors that optimize biochemical longevity.

DNA could not last half a million years, but paleontologists describe DNA in samples designated millions of years old. Ditching the millions-of-years dogma would resolve this dilemma. The clearly detected dinosaur proteins and what looks like dinosaur DNA make sense if the earth layers that contain them were deposited by Noah's Flood only thousands of years ago. ●

## References

1. Schweitzer, M. H. et al. 2009. Biomolecular Characterization and Protein Sequences of the Campanian Hadrosaur *B. Canadensis*. *Science*. 324 (5927): 626-631.
2. Schweitzer, M. H. et al. 2013. Molecular analyses of dinosaur osteocytes support the presence of endogenous molecules. *Bone*. 52 (1): 414-423.
3. Woodward, S. R., N. J. Weyand, and M. Bunnell. 1994. DNA Sequence from Cretaceous Period Bone Fragments. *Science*. 266 (5188): 1229-1232.
4. Allentoft, M. E. et al. 2012. The half-life of DNA in bone: measuring decay kinetics in 158 dated fossils. *Proceedings of the Royal Society B*. 279 (1748): 4224-4733.
5. This is the half-life of a 242 bp region of moa mitochondrial DNA, calibrated using radiocarbon years to approximate calendar years.

Mr. Thomas is Science Writer at the Institute for Creation Research.



Image credit: Heritage Auctions, Inc.

# A Mountain of Snow after the Genesis Flood

L A R R Y V A R D I M A N , P H . D .

**N**or'easters enhanced by a warm Atlantic Ocean following the Genesis Flood would have dumped large quantities of snow in eastern Canada.<sup>1</sup> This could explain why the Laurentide Ice Sheet was thicker farther to the east in North America during the Ice Age.

A nor'easter is a type of synoptic scale storm that occurs along the east coast of the United States and the Atlantic coast of Canada. It is so named because the storm travels up the coast, and the winds spiral around the storm from the northeast in coastal areas. The storms sometimes have characteristics similar to a hurricane. They feature a low-pressure area with the center of the rotation just off the east coast and with leading winds in the left front quadrant rotating onto land.

Figure 1 shows the North American blizzard of February 5-6, 2010, approaching the east coast of the United States. The precipitation pattern is similar to that of an extratropical storm. Nor'easters can cause severe coastal flooding, coastal erosion, hurricane-force winds, and heavy snow or rain. Nor'easters occur at any time of the year, but mostly in the winter.



**Figure 1.** Visible satellite image of the February 5-6, 2010, blizzard approaching the east coast of the United States.

Image credit: NASA, Goddard Space Flight Center



A blizzard is a severe snowstorm characterized by strong winds. By definition, the difference between a blizzard and a snowstorm is the strength of the wind. To be defined as a blizzard, a snowstorm must have winds in excess of 35 miles per hour with blowing or drifting snow that reduces visibility to one-fourth of a mile or less and must last for a prolonged period of time—typically three hours or more. Blizzards can bring near-whiteout conditions and can paralyze regions for days at a time, particularly where snowfall is rare. The blizzard of February 5-6, 2010, closed down most transportation in the nation's capital for almost a week.

Nor'easters can be devastating, especially in winter months when most damage and deaths are cold-related. The storms are known for bringing extremely cold air southward from the Arctic. They thrive on the temperature contrast between converging polar air masses and warm ocean water off the North American coast.

Researchers Michael Oard, Steve Austin, and others have argued that heat released from catastrophic processes of the Genesis Flood would have heated the oceans.<sup>2,3</sup> Drilling of ocean sediments led researchers to conclude that the oceans were at least 36°F hotter in the past. Also, oceanographic cartographers Bruce Heezen and Marie Tharp published images of the ocean floor obtained in the 1960s that show mid-ocean ridges and undersea volcanoes that likely released large quantities of heat during past earth upheavals.<sup>4</sup> Higher sea-surface temperatures would have evaporated large quantities of water vapor from the oceans, energized mid-latitude storms and hurricanes, and precipitated large quantities of rain and snow on the continents.

My study with computational engineer Wesley Brewer hypothesized that warmer than normal oceans would have energized nor'easters, generated larger and more intense circulations, and produced heavier precipitation farther inland over large regions of the northeastern United States and southeastern Canada for several hundred years following the Genesis Flood.<sup>1</sup> The greater frequency and more intense nor'easters that probably developed during the Ice Age would have likely contributed significant quantities of snow to the Laurentide Ice Sheet in eastern Canada and the eastern United States. The study analyzed the wind and precipitation fields for three simulated nor'easters to determine how much they would have been enhanced by a warmer Atlantic Ocean. The three storms were different meteorologically and typified nor'easters that commonly occur on the east coast of the United States.

We compared the three actual nor'easters and the simulated storms to ensure that the numerical model used faithfully replicated them. The sea-surface temperatures in the Atlantic were then artificially warmed by 18°F, and the storms were re-analyzed for any changes.

### The North American Blizzard of February 5-6, 2010

One of the three storms—Snowmagedon, the blizzard that became a nor'easter once it reached the east coast—will be discussed briefly here to illustrate some of the effects of a warm Atlantic Ocean. Snowmagedon was a severe weather event that tracked from California

to Arizona through northern Mexico, the American Southwest, the Midwest, Southeast, and mid-Atlantic regions. The storm caused extensive flooding and landslides in Mexico, as well as historic snowfall totals in the mid-Atlantic states. The storm stretched from Mexico and New Mexico to New Jersey before moving out to sea, and then turned north to impact the Maritime Provinces of Canada. The storm caused deaths in Mexico, New Mexico, Maryland, and Virginia.

Blizzard conditions were reported in a relatively small area of Maryland, but near-blizzard conditions occurred throughout a large part of the mid-Atlantic region. Additionally, some places across eastern West Virginia, Maryland, northern Virginia, Delaware, southwestern Pennsylvania, south central Pennsylvania, southeastern Pennsylvania, southern New Jersey, and Washington, D.C., received between 20 to 40 inches of snow, bringing air travel and interstate highway traffic to a halt. Rail service was impacted as well—it was suspended south and west of Washington, D.C., and only limited service was available between Washington, D.C., and Boston.

The pressure-height contours, isotherms, and winds at about 5,000 feet above sea level over the United States were studied, as well as the 24-hour accumulated precipitation ending at 0700 EST on Saturday, February 6, 2010. The heaviest precipitation occurred in the mid-Atlantic region (see Figure 2).

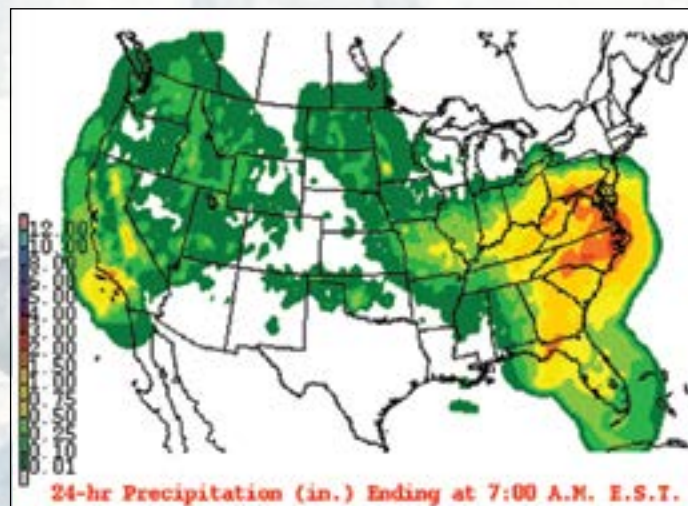
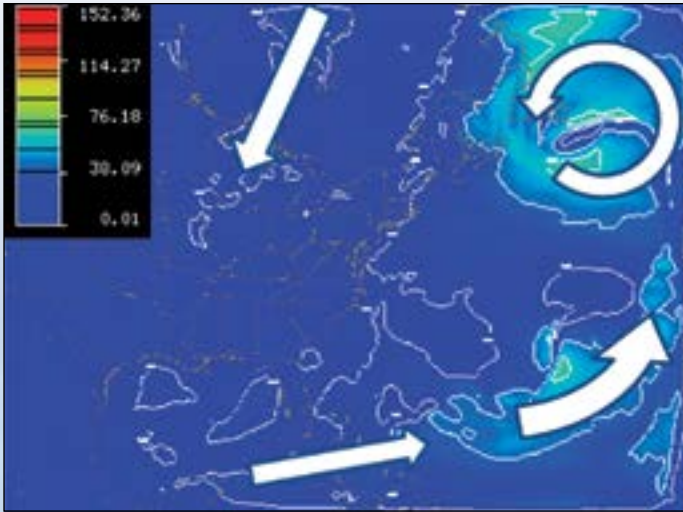


Figure 2. 24-hour accumulated precipitation (inches water equivalent) ending at 0700 EST on Saturday, February 6, 2010. Image credit: NOAA

### The Enhanced Storm

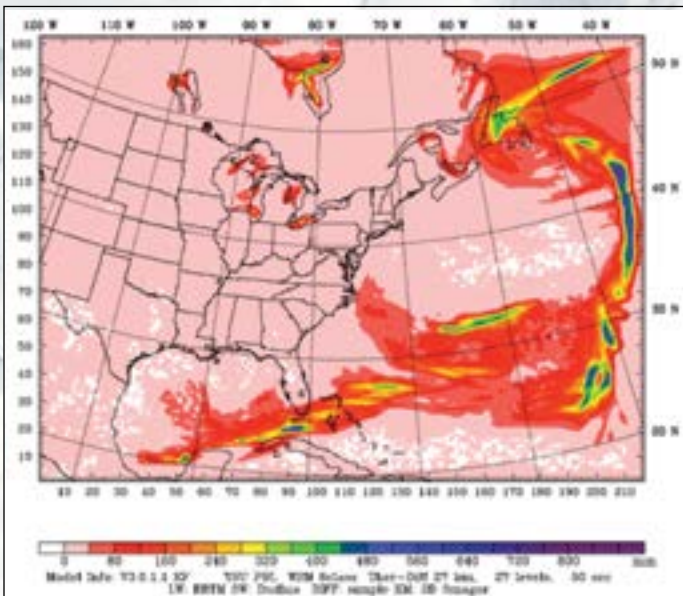
When the sea-surface temperature was artificially warmed to 104°F, the winds throughout the storm greatly increased, the circulation pattern shifted eastward and northward, and the precipitation rate was much higher. Figure 3 shows the contours of wind speed at 5,000 feet above sea level at 0700 EST on Saturday, February 6, 2010, for a sea-surface temperature of 104°F over the eastern United States. Wind speeds exceeded 120 knots (~137 mph) in the Atlantic Ocean east of Maine—faster speeds than the winds in a Category 2 hurricane. Notice



**Figure 3.** Contours of wind speed in 40-knot intervals (~46 mph) at 0700 EST on Saturday, February 6, 2010, for the enhanced storm. The arrows show wind direction. Image credit: NOAA

that a strong northeasterly flow occurred along the entire east coast. The wind speeds were over twice that of the actual storm, and the center of circulation was farther east and to the north. Over land, the enhanced storm winds exceeded 40 knots (~46 mph) along most of the coast. But in Maine, Quebec, and Newfoundland, winds exceeded 100 knots (~114 mph). Severe blizzard conditions would occur under these conditions if the temperature were cold enough to produce snow.

Figure 4 shows the 12-hour accumulated precipitation ending at 0700 EST on Saturday, February 6, for the enhanced February 5-6, 2010, North American blizzard. Most of the heaviest precipitation occurred far off the east coast in the Atlantic, where the storm dynamics



**Figure 4.** 12-hour accumulated precipitation in mm (~0.04 inches) ending at 0700 EST on Saturday, February 6, 2010, for the enhanced storm. Image credit: NOAA

were the strongest. The accumulated precipitation exceeded 40 inches of water equivalent per 12 hours over several locations of the ocean and about two inches over most of the domain, except in the southern states and the northern part of the Gulf of Mexico. In addition, precipitation exceeded about four inches around Newfoundland, New Brunswick, and in the ocean just south of Maine. The counterclockwise circulation around this enhanced storm also extended to long distances and produced snow streaks southward from Hudson Bay and the Great Lakes. The model calculations showed that over 20 inches of snow would have fallen during 24 hours in Canada and the northeastern United States. Two other typical nor'easters were successfully simulated in this study and produced similar results to the February 5-6, 2010, blizzard described previously.

### Conclusions

When the surface temperature of the Atlantic Ocean was theoretically warmed to 104°F, all three nor'easters were invigorated, wind speeds were increased, new circulation patterns emerged, and precipitation was increased and redistributed. In one of the enhanced cases, the winds exceeded a Category 5 hurricane.

Even with the heaviest precipitation falling over the Atlantic Ocean in these simulations, precipitation of about eight inches per 24 hours would have built a mountain of snow and ice over southeastern Canada. Brewer and I suggested that a storm would have formed and moved across the United States every three days all year round. This would have produced an uncompressed snow pack of about 200 feet per year. Upon compression to solid ice, an ice layer would have grown to about 4,000 feet in 100 years. If bands of additional precipitation were swept around the centers of circulation of enhanced nor'easters off the coast of New England, the accumulation would have been even greater. The additional snow from enhanced nor'easters would explain a thicker Laurentide Ice Sheet in eastern Canada during a recent ice age.

### Acknowledgments

The mesoscale model (Weather Research and Forecasting) and data used in this study were developed and maintained by the National Center for Atmospheric Research (NCAR). NCAR is sponsored by the National Science Foundation (NSF). This research was funded by the National Creation Research Foundation at the Institute for Creation Research. ●

### References

1. Vardiman, L. and W. Brewer, 2012. Numerical Simulations of Three Nor'easters with a Warm Atlantic Ocean. *Answers Research Journal*. 5: 39-58.
2. Oard, M. 1990. *An Ice Age Caused by the Genesis Flood*. El Cajon, CA: Institute for Creation Research.
3. Austin, S. A., et al. 1994. Catastrophic plate tectonics: A global flood model of earth history. In *Proceedings of the Third International Conference on Creationism*. Walsh, R. E. ed., Pittsburgh, PA: Creation Science Fellowship, 609-621.
4. Heezen, B. and M. Tharp, 1977. Map of the world ocean floor. Office of Naval Research, Columbia University.

Dr. Vardiman retired from the Institute for Creation Research in June 2012 as Senior Research Scientist in Astro/Geophysics.



# Creation & Earth History Museum Updates

The Institute for Creation Research launched the Creation & Earth History Museum in Santee, California, in 1992. For 16 years, ICR developed and grew the exhibits with a mission to equip believers with evidence of the Bible's accuracy and authority through scientific research, educational programs, and media presentations, all conducted within a thoroughly biblical framework. When ICR moved to Texas in 2008, the entire museum and its contents were sold to Scantibodies Laboratory, Inc.

Tom Cantor, the owner of Scantibodies, and his wife Cheryl established a nonprofit 501(c)(3) ministry called Light and Life Foundation. The foundation owns and operates the museum and continues creation evangelism by offering free admission, resources, and monthly activities to its visitors.

Celebrating 21 years of ministry, the museum has undergone

recent expansions and offers some exciting new attractions and exhibits. In September 2011, the new 2,400-square-foot Human Anatomy Exhibit opened, treating guests to an exploration of God's amazing and complex design of the human body. Interactive displays provide educational information on DNA, various types of



as carbon-14, potassium-argon, and other radioisotope processes. The 300-square-foot exhibit offers the experience of touring an underground cavern and presents ten compelling evidences for a young earth from leading creation scientists Russ Humphreys, Steve Austin, John Baumgardner, Andrew Snelling, and the rest of the RATE (Radioisotopes and the Age of the Earth) team.

Admission is free to the Creation & Earth History Museum, located at 10946 Woodside Ave. N, Santee, California. To plan your visit, call 619.599.1104 or go to [www.creationsd.org](http://www.creationsd.org).



human cells, body systems, and the stages of human life beginning with conception.

In September 2012, the museum opened the Tabernacle Theatre, which features daily 45-minute presentations narrated by Tom Cantor. The word "tabernacle" means tent, house, or dwelling. The Tabernacle was the place where God's glory dwelt, and this new exhibit featuring an 80-seat theatre gives visitors an overview of the sacrifice and love of our Creator and the terms He put in place to have a relationship with mankind.

The Age of the Earth Mineral Cave, also opened in September 2012, showcases rare minerals and scientific data with explanations defending a young-earth view while dealing with today's common dating methods such



# Q: Is Evolution an Observable Fact?

NATHANIEL T. JEANSON, PH.D.

# A:

“Evolution is fact!” is one of the most popular evolutionary assertions made by evolutionists, ranging from those at the National Center for Science Education to those working for PBS.<sup>1,2</sup> Proponents of Charles Darwin want you to believe that his hypothesis is being confirmed right before our eyes.

Darwin’s ideas directly contradict the scriptural teaching on the origin of species. He proposed that all species derive from one or a few species (universal common ancestry). This concept contradicts Genesis 1, which teaches that God created different creatures “after their kind.” Darwin also claimed that each species’ original ancestors arose by natural selection, not by a direct act of God. Finally, Darwin’s timescale for the origin of species—millions of years—is irreconcilable with the time of creation, which occurred about 6,000 years ago.

So how do evolutionists get away with making this claim? By assuming that *all* change is evolutionary change. Why is this assumption wrong? Because the Bible permits biological change to a certain degree and, therefore, not all change is evolutionary change.

Specifically, the Flood account of Genesis 6-8 demonstrates that limited biological change can occur and has already occurred. When God commanded Noah to bring the land-dwelling, air-breathing “kinds” on board the Ark, He required that “male and female” of each kind be taken. This implies that reproductive compatibility identifies membership within a kind. Breeding experiments identify the classification rank of family (kingdom-phylum-class-order-*family*-genus-species) as roughly defining the boundaries of each kind.<sup>3</sup>

Since Noah brought only two of each kind instead of two of each species, we know that many new species have arisen since the Flood. For example, Noah likely had two members of the family Equidae, and from this pair we have the species (horses, donkeys, zebras) and breeds (pony to Clydesdale) of equids observed today. Big biological changes within created kinds are perfectly compatible with Scripture.

Conversely, the Flood account makes it clear that changes from one kind into another are naturally impossible. Again, God commanded Noah to bring two of *every* land-dwelling, air-breathing kind to preserve the offspring of each kind. If organisms in one kind could be changed into another kind, this command would be superfluous. Hence, biological change on the scale that Darwin proposed is biblically unimaginable.

We can now revisit the evolutionary claim with which we began this article and evaluate it without making the erroneous evolutionary assumption that all change is evolutionary change. Using biblically appropriate language, we can interrogate the claim that evolution is fact with two questions. Do we observe change within a kind? Yes. Breeding experiments are the premier example of this. Do we ever observe one kind (i.e., one family) of species change into another kind (or family)? No. Every example of biological change that has ever been observed in real time has been change within a kind.

Even the classic textbook examples of evolution—changes in the size and shape of the beaks of Darwin’s finches, *E. coli* developing resistance to antibiotics, and HIV developing resistance to the immune system—all demonstrate change *within* a kind and never change from one kind into another. Evolution, as Darwin conceived it, has never been observed.

The evidence for the biblical model is so strong that even the world’s most famous living evolutionist, Richard Dawkins, must concede this point. “We can’t see evolution happening because we don’t live long enough,” he said in a 2009 interview.<sup>4</sup> In other words, evolution is unobservable.

Wow. Not only is the “Evolution is fact!” claim false, but the complete opposite is true. Furthermore, since evolution is not observable, evolution isn’t even science! Yet, somehow in spite of this, Dawkins still concludes, “Evolution is a fact.”<sup>4</sup> In light of what we’ve just discussed and what he himself admitted, we know he reached his conclusion in spite of the evidence—not because of it. ●

## References

1. Evolution Education: Understanding and Teaching the Science of Evolution. *National Center for Science Education*. Posted on ncse.com, accessed November 28, 2012.
2. Frequently Asked Questions About Evolution. PBS. Posted on pbs.org, accessed November 28, 2012.
3. Wood, T. C. 2006. The Current Status of Baraminology. *Creation Research Society Quarterly Journal*. 43 (3): 149-158.
4. The Hour 56: Episode 5—Richard Dawkins & Drew Barrymore. *George Stroumboulopoulos Tonight*. Posted on cbc.ca September 2, 2009, accessed November 28, 2012.

Dr. Jeanson is Deputy Director for Life Sciences and received his Ph.D. in Cell and Developmental Biology from Harvard University.



# OCCUPY TILL HE COMES

H E N R Y M . M O R R I S I V

No doubt many of you, like me, have been earnestly looking for the return of the Lord Jesus. Recent national and world events have only increased my longing for Christ's return to bring sweet relief from the tribulations of this fallen world. And while the promise of Christ's second coming is assured—perhaps today might even be that day—it is far too easy to grow weary, even despondent, while we wait for His glorious appearing.

In times like these, we do well to remember Christ's admonition to "occupy till I come" (Luke 19:13). Rather than hunkering down and waiting idly for Christ's return, He has called us to stay busy using whatever abilities and opportunities we have to sow, water, and reap in fruitful service to Him. Then "blessed is that servant, whom his lord when he cometh shall find so doing" (Luke 12:43). With that mindset, there is still much work left to do!

The Institute for Creation Research, now in our 43rd year of service, is thankful for God's many blessings upon our ministry. Through it all, His providential hand has unmistakably guided our steps, supplied our needs, and enabled our ministry to plan for the future. As a new year begins, ICR has identified several needs we could really use your help with. We invite you to "occupy" with

us, in prayer and with your gifts of support, as we work toward that day when He returns.

- **Campus Expansion:** The Lord has blessed ICR with three buildings situated on a seven-acre campus—all purchased completely debt-free over several years as God provided through His people. As part of a long-range plan, ICR was thankful to complete a partial conversion of one building into a much-needed warehouse, expanding our storage capacity from 2,000 to 12,000 square feet! Lord willing, we hope to do much more one day as the Lord provides the financial resources. Please prayerfully consider how you could partner with us.
- **Video Series:** ICR receives more seminar requests each year than we are able to fulfill. This is particularly true of small churches, Christian schools, and college and homeschool groups who are hungry to learn the scientific evidence that supports Scripture. To fill this need, ICR has embarked on a major project to design a series of high-quality science-oriented videos to teach in situations where ICR can't. We want to do this right, so ICR is consulting with a creative media group to design the video series. As you can imagine, the production costs are substantial, but

## PRAYERFULLY CONSIDER SUPPORTING ICR

(GALATIANS 6:9-10)

### Through

- Online Donations
- Stocks and Securities
- Matching Gift Programs
- CFC (federal/military workers)
- Gift Planning
  - Charitable Gift Annuities
  - Wills
  - Trusts

Visit [icr.org/give](http://icr.org/give) and explore how you can support the vital work of ICR ministries. Or contact us at [stewardship@icr.org](mailto:stewardship@icr.org) or **800.337.0375** for personal assistance.

ICR is a recognized 501(c)(3) nonprofit ministry, and all gifts are tax-deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law.

we believe the ministry outreach will be profound. Please help if you are able.

- **Book Projects:** 2012 was a banner year for new books from ICR, and 2013 looks to be equally robust. ICR's staff is currently working on major books we hope to release soon. Apart from the time and effort required by our authors and editorial staff, ICR's biggest need is the significant upfront costs associated with printing quality books. ICR welcomes your help to bring these wonderful new resources to fruition.

As you make your plans for the coming year, please consider joining with ICR in meeting these ministry needs. It won't be long before Christ returns. May we all be found in the midst of fruitful service at the moment of "the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ" (Titus 2:13). ●

*Mr. Morris is Director of Donor Relations at the Institute for Creation Research.*



I am a student at a local community college and find this app [ICR app, see page 23] helpful when I need to support my position and beliefs. Instructors will accept my difference of opinion when evolution topics are addressed if I can support my position. This app makes that easy when I am in class. The information is easy to find, and I am able to give a respectable reference.

— Nursing Student

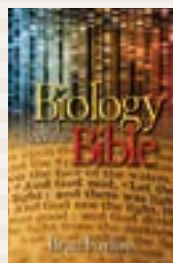


I read the article by Mr. Brian Thomas [“Human Mutation Clock Confirms Creation,” November *Acts & Facts*]—it never occurred to me that about 200 generations exist for man and that a comparison of DNA difference (or mutation) occurs for a generation at a rate of approximately 60 new mutations. If that is the case, mankind and animals could never have existed millions of years ago! Thank you for the insight.

— J.B.

We certainly appreciate the work that you all do there at ICR. You all give us tools that help us to persuade men of the reliability of the Word of God.

— R.



Thank you for the booklet *Biology and the Bible*. I found it interesting, particularly the last chapter and the point made that all that God does is always in keeping with His character. This, in turn, goes strongly against evolution and its blind chance, plus death before sin, approach to the origin of our existence. I never made that connection before.

— F.B.

I SO thank you all for this ministry of truth! Thank you for putting it out there—line upon line, precept upon precept, etc., in a day where one finds it difficult to know and find truth. You have solved an age-old problem for me in not having enough study books to seek God’s Word and understand God’s Word, the Bible, and I’m now hopeful of better understanding, particularly when you have the links on Scripture references and the Hebrew and/or Greek meanings. Please, keep up the good work until He comes. I appreciate you and your mighty work for God.

— V.W.

Just wanted to say Happy Thanksgiving, and I am very thankful for all you do. Keep up the good fight of faith. Your work is an encouragement to me, and I have learned a lot from the information that you provide and the study that you have done. Please stay faithful to the work of God.

— S.G.

Thank you for the recent article “Evolutionary Math?” by Dr. Jason Lisle. An evolutionary atheist once told me, “If there is any solid evidence for God, it is in mathematics.” Your article alluded to this same fact. Why have creationists not used the mathematical evidence any more than they have in the battle with atheism and evolution? Could not more be done in this field? I would like to see more articles like this.



— C.W.

I certainly appreciated Dr. John Morris’ article “An Impossible Task?” It is the first commentary I have read that suggests that only Noah’s

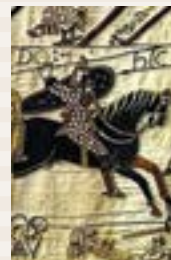


family was involved in the building of the Ark. [Also, most books I have read] fail to recognize Noah’s ark as a type of Christ, the ark of our salvation.

— B.W.

I agree very much with what you [Jayme Durrant] said about Thanksgiving and the words of Dr. Henry Morris III in your November issue of *Acts & Facts*. Thanksgiving is about giving thanks. God uses your words as tools to reach people.

— J.J.



I really enjoyed “Christmas, Vikings, and the Providence of God” by Dr. James Johnson in the December issue of *Acts & Facts*. Specifically, [I enjoyed the part about] the

Battle of Hastings, 1066, in England. I am of Scottish descent, and my last name is Hastings. I have studied this military history and never realized how much biblical importance was attached to it. George Washington is a descendant of Henry I (a son of William the Conqueror), and King James—of the King James Bible in 1611—is a descendant of King Godwinson of Norway. The Norwegian king’s son Olaf Kyrre was an ancestor of King James. Yes, God is all-knowing, all-powerful. Thank you, ICR, for this piece of extremely important history and for your wonderful stand on biblical creation!

— G.H.



Have a comment? Email us at [editor@icr.org](mailto:editor@icr.org).

Or write to Editor,

P. O. Box 59029, Dallas, Texas 75229

**Available in your App Store**

*Another Resource from ICR*

Search for "Creation Science Update"



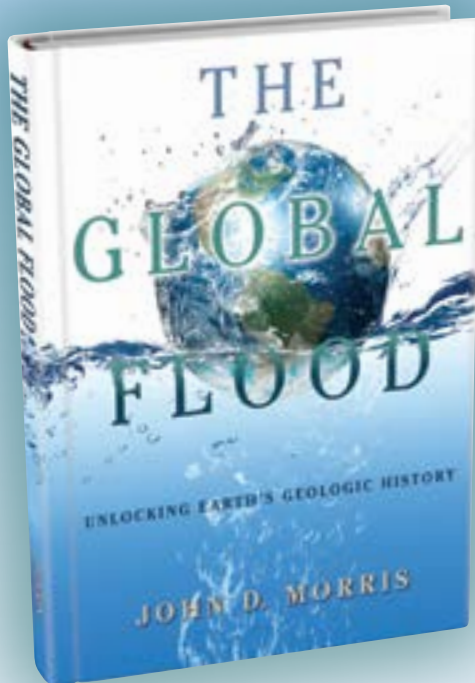
SCAN TO DOWNLOAD



**NEW FROM ICR!**



P. O. Box 59029, Dallas, TX 75229  
www.icr.org

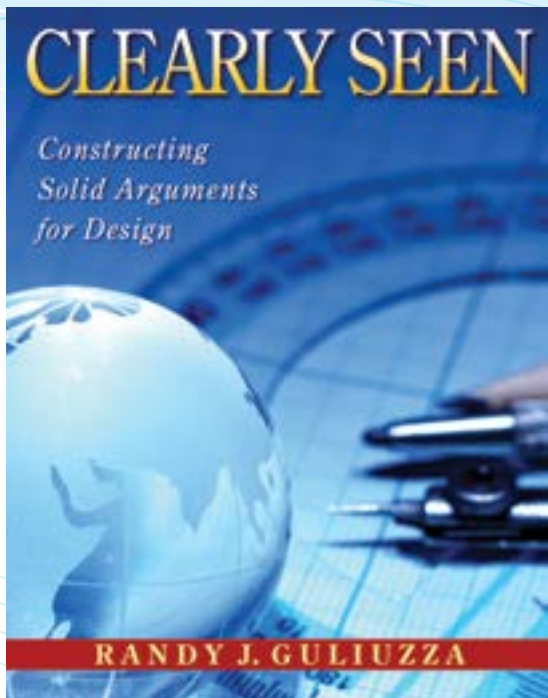


*This beautiful hardcover, full-color book by creation geologist Dr. John Morris is a must-have for every Christian who is serious about sharing the authenticity and authority of God's Word.*

For some, the thought of a worldwide flood is ludicrous. But for scientists who researched the various formations of the earth and the catastrophic processes that shaped the world we see around us, the evidence of a global flood is indisputable. *The Global Flood* presents that evidence in a way that clearly demonstrates why the biblical account of the Flood matters to all of us who want to understand and communicate the truth of the Genesis Flood with confidence.

**\$19.99**

*Plus shipping and handling*



This is possibly the first creation book devoted to training Christians on the best methods to explain intelligent design. Written by medical doctor and professional engineer Randy Guliuzza, it provides a step-by-step teaching guide for using the living things that the Lord Jesus has made as a witness to His reality...and capably unwraps their astounding designs as a witness for His engineering genius. *Clearly Seen: Constructing Solid Arguments for Design* affirms the biblical truth that the design in created things is clearly seen by everyone.

**\$9.99**

*Plus shipping and handling*

To order or for product information, call **800.628.7640** or visit **www.icr.org/store**.