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INSTITUTE FOR
CREATION RESEARCH

www.icr.org

SEPTEMBER 2016

VOL. 45 NO. 9

Hearing Revival

page 5

Genesis Prophecies

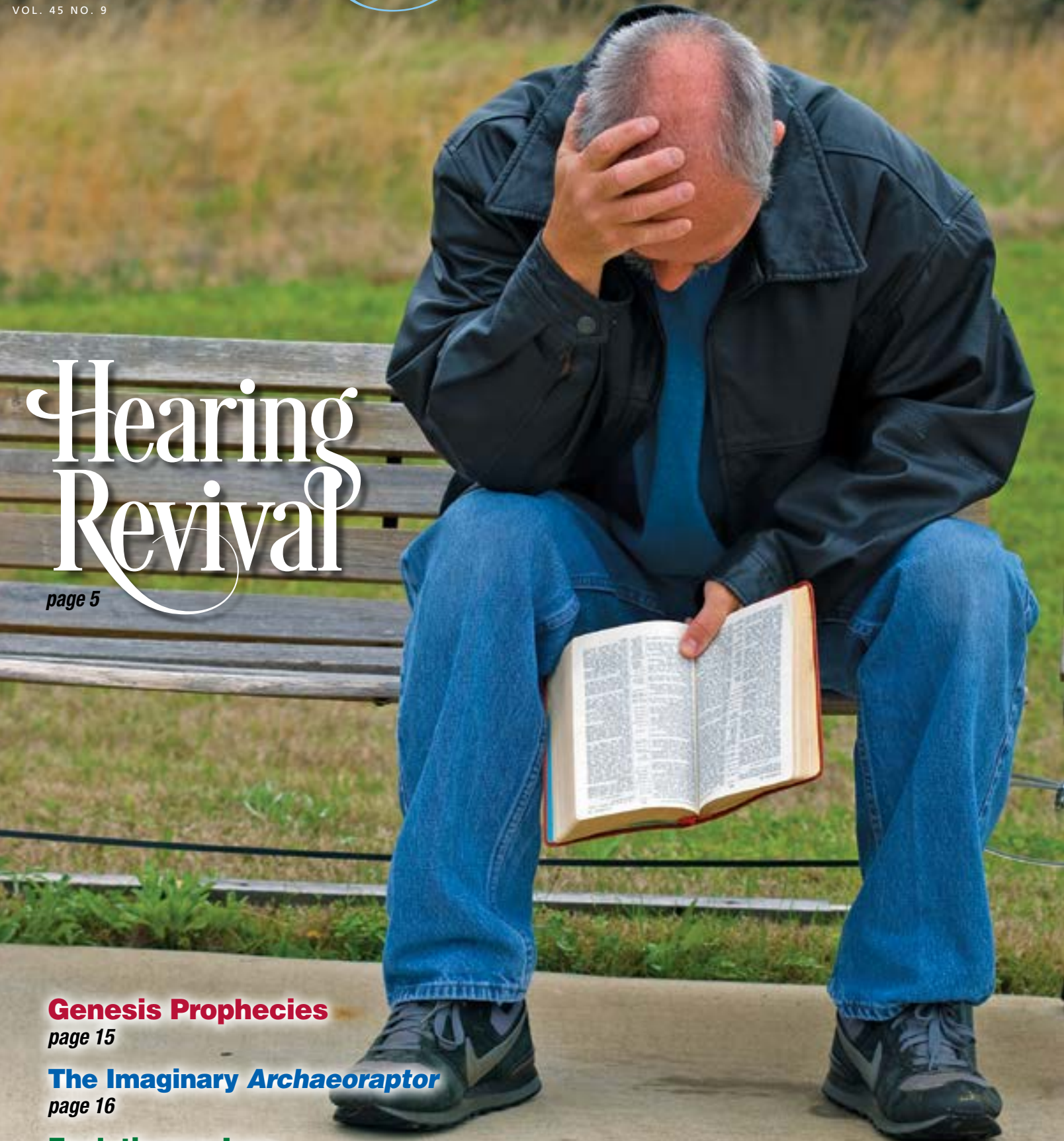
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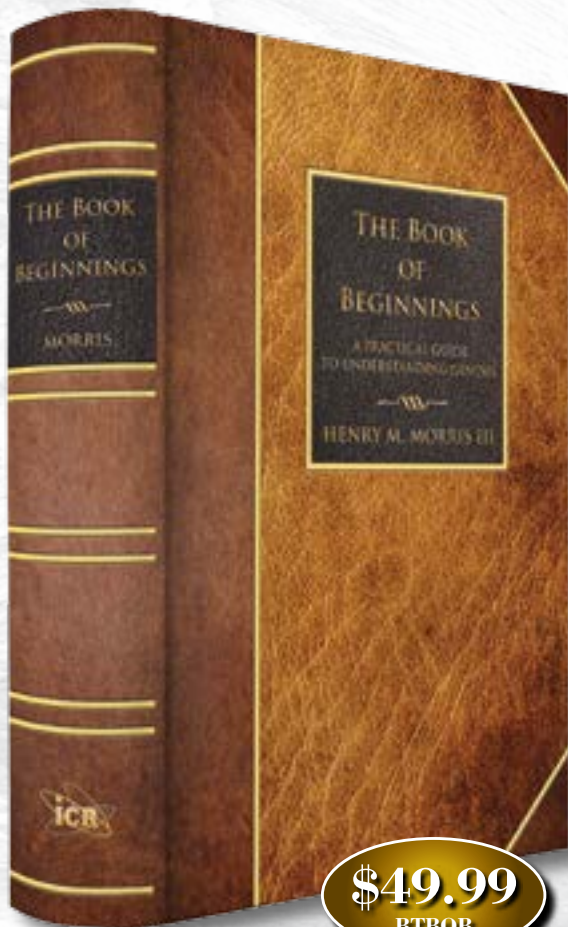
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Published by
INSTITUTE FOR CREATION RESEARCH
P. O. Box 59029
Dallas, TX 75229
214.615.8300
www.icr.org

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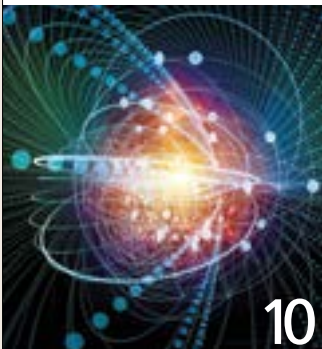
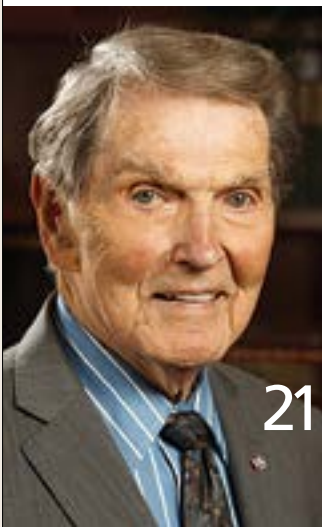
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HENRY M. MORRIS IV



Wise Listeners and Influencers

Do you have a few trusted people who influence your life? Wise people understand the importance of surrounding themselves with those who are willing to speak the truth in love, ask good questions, encourage, offer solid direction, and even challenge them when they falter. These faithful advisors recognize their strength comes from God. Their lives validate their words. Their writings reflect God’s perspective. They’re in tune with the Holy Spirit’s moment-by-moment direction. And other lives are changed because of their influence.



I’d like to point you to four such men who have influenced the work of ICR. Dr. Mac Brunson wrote this month’s feature, “Hearing Revival” (pages 5-7). As Senior Pastor of First Baptist Church of Jacksonville, he overflows with the wisdom of a church leader with many years’ experience. He encourages us to listen—and really hear—the Word of God. He says, “Hearing is a tremendous gift from God, but hearing is not the same as receiving what is said” (page 5). Dr. Brunson emphasizes that reading and hearing the Word should lead to changed lives. He challenges us, “When was the last time you wept when the Word of God was read?” (page 6). Dr. Brunson also serves on ICR’s Board, and his wisdom influences the direction of

our ministry. His willingness to offer a godly perspective helps shape ICR’s outreach efforts.

CEO Dr. Henry Morris III guides ICR. As the son of ICR founder Dr. Henry Morris, he provides unique insight into the needs and challenges that surround creation ministry. He has written two new books to help readers understand how science confirms what the Bible says. *Unlocking the Mysteries of Genesis* is a stand-alone study that examines compelling evidence connecting science with Scripture (page 24). Newly updated and expanded, *The Book of Beginnings* is a classic keepsake with extensive indexes to help readers gain a deeper understanding of Genesis and our origins (page 2). Dr. Morris III was greatly influenced, and understandably so, by his father.

Dr. Henry Morris, often referred to as the Father of Modern Creationism, founded ICR with a vision to “reclaim science and education for Christ” (page 21). This year marks the 10th anniversary of his passing, but his influence continues today. Look for the upcoming biography *Henry M. Morris: Father of Modern Creationism* for a fresh look into this man’s vision, ministry, and life.

We were so saddened by the recent passing of another influential man, Dr. Tim LaHaye, who was instrumental in the founding of ICR (page 21). His relationship with Dr. Henry Morris forged a creation ministry that has touched many lives through almost 45 years. We are grateful for his impact on this organization that has continued to this day!

Humility marks both wise listeners and wise advisors—wise listeners understand they can’t go through life on their own, and Spirit-led advisors know they must depend on God for His clear direction, yielding their personal desires to God’s sovereign plans. Our ministry has experienced the blessing of wise advisors and the impact of founders with expertise in wise listening. As Dr. Brunson says on page 7, “We must not just hear the Word of God but also receive it... and let it do its mighty work in us!”

Jayme Durant
EXECUTIVE EDITOR

Hearing Revival

NEHEMIAH 8:9-18

MAC BRUNSON, D.MIN.

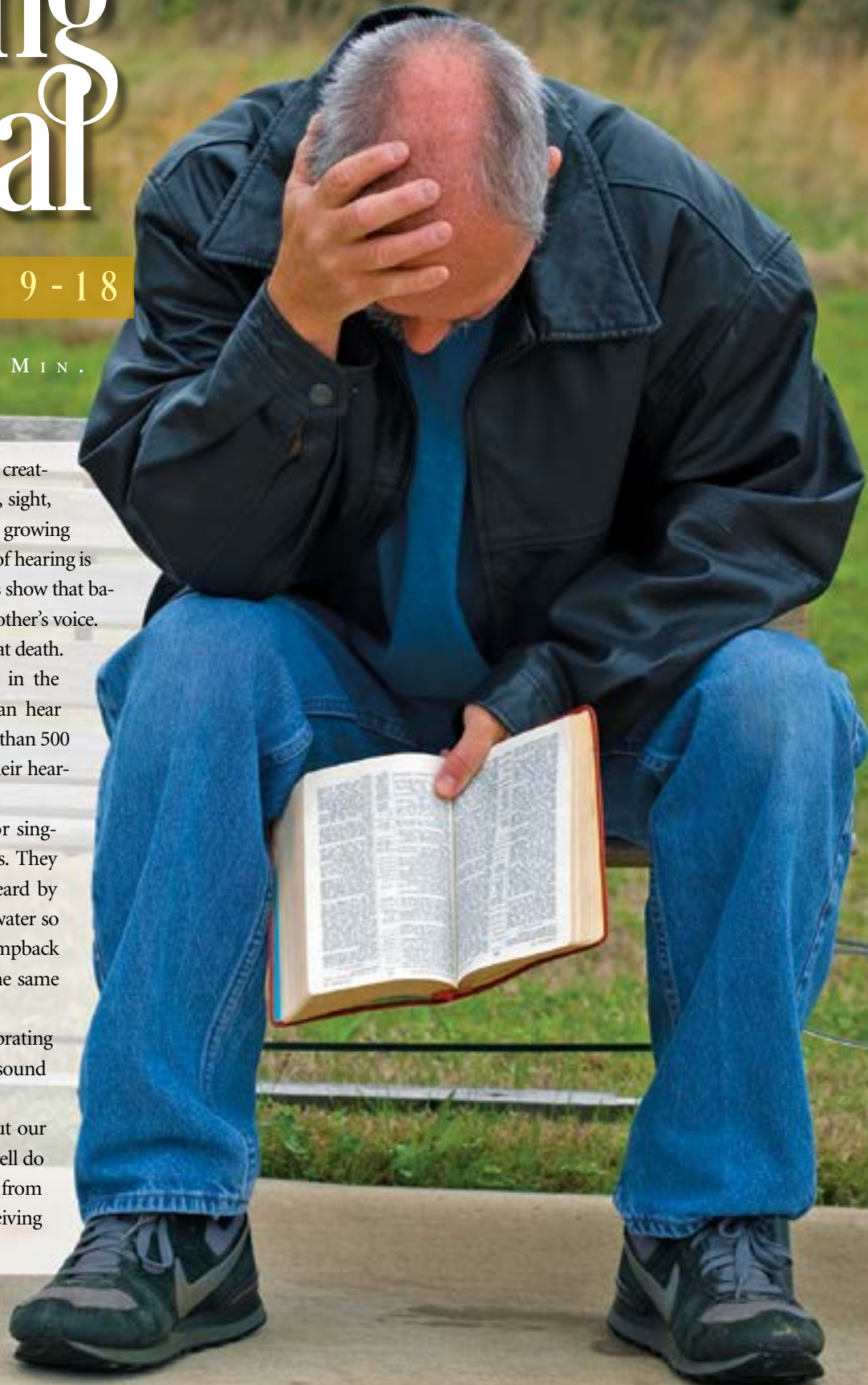
When God created man, He created five senses: taste, touch, sight, smell, and sound. For the growing human embryo, the sense of hearing is the first to develop. Studies show that babies in the womb hear and know their mother's voice. Hearing is also the last of the senses to go at death.

Hearing is beautifully represented in the animal world. Experts say fin whales can hear the bleeps of other fin whales from more than 500 miles away. Some scientists even claim their hearing range is thousands of miles.

Humpback whales are famous for singing songs that can last up to 30 minutes. They sing in rhyme, and the songs can be heard by other male whales. It's passed along the water so that an entire ocean may have all the humpback whales singing the same exact song at the same time—a kind of great whale choir.

Physicists tell us that we are all a vibrating loop of energy. We are always giving off sound that human ears cannot hear.¹

At some point we stop growing, but our ears never do.² With that in mind, how well do you hear? Hearing is a tremendous gift from God, but hearing is not the same as receiving what is said.



In Nehemiah 8:9-18, the people of Jerusalem and the surrounding area gather to hear the Word of God. The people do far more than that, though, because they actually receive the Word. This text shows that how we receive the Word determines the extent of God's work in our lives. It's not enough to have a Bible in hand. It is not enough to come and sit in a church service and simply hear. The question is whether we receive the Word of God.

Paul says to the Thessalonians:

When you received the word of God which you heard from us, you welcomed it not as the word of men, but as it is in truth, the word of God, which also effectively works in you who believe. (1 Thessalonians 2:13)

the people would stagger across the land in search of it but would be unable to find it. It wasn't that they would not hear, but they would not understand when they heard it.

Have you ever been in a foreign country and tried to find someone who could speak English? You ask for directions, and the response comes in the native tongue. Although you could hear it, you couldn't receive it because you couldn't understand it. Israel had "Hebrew hearts" but Babylonian ears. God warned that they would yearn for His Word, but even when it came, they wouldn't hear and understand it.

In this passage, a word is repeated seven times. It's the word "understand." We are told in Nehemiah 8:13 that the people came back the second day to gain insight into the

wanted to receive it, apply it, and live it out. In fact, they called for it (8:1) and it brought about conviction (8:9).

When was the last time you wept when the Word of God was read? I don't watch church services on TV, but when I come across something in religious broadcasting it seems to be comedic. They're whooping, laughing, jumping up and down, and shouting. But I can't remember the last time I've been in a service marked by people crying. I hear people laughing, coughing, talking, or even walking out—but not crying. In our day, the lack of conviction is very easy to see because no one weeps in church anymore.

Many people cannot take the preaching of the Word of God. They can be entertained, but not challenged. This is due to

Receiving God's Word when you hear it does ενεργείται—a "work"—in your life.

Because they received the Word, Paul says that it performed its work in them. The word there is ενεργείται or "energy," also translated as "work." Receiving God's Word when you hear it does ενεργείται—a "work"—in your life.

Receiving the Word Brings the Work of Conviction

In Nehemiah 8:8, the Word is read. But it's clear the people do more than hear. As they receive the Word, they begin to grieve, mourn, and weep. The Bible says the people understand the Word. The implication is that they don't just hear the Word, but they understand the Word, which implies hearing with the intention of being obedient. They realize that everything that happened to them, including the Babylonian captivity, was because of their sin. The destruction of their nation was a result of their sin.

At this point in the text, they begin to weep. Those tears became the rain that broke the famine of the hearing of the Word of God. If you go back to Amos 8:11-12, the prophet told the people there was a day coming when there would be a famine of hearing the Word of God. In fact, Amos states that

words of the law. The word "insight" in the Hebrew means to be wise or prudent. They didn't just want to hear the Word. They wanted to apply it, to live it out, and for the Word to be lived out through them.

Let me provide some help into this idea of insight. In Mark 6, Jesus feeds the 5,000 and then sends the disciples off across the Sea of Galilee while He goes to the mountain to pray. A storm blows up, Jesus approaches the boat by walking on the water, He gets into the boat, and the storm suddenly subsides.

Then He went up into the boat to them, and the wind ceased. And they were greatly amazed in themselves beyond measure, and marveled. For they had not understood about the loaves, because their heart was hardened. (Mark 6:51-52)

The disciples gained virtually no insight. A lot of people want to give biblical input, but they have very little biblical insight. The Hebrews in Nehemiah's day didn't just want to hear the Word, they

sin in their lives. They want to hear but not receive it.

George Bernard Shaw, the great British playwright, owned a Bible. A few years before his death, he sold it to auctioneers who later sold it for 50 dollars after he died. Shaw had written in the flyleaf of the Bible the following words:

This book is a most undesirable possession. . . . I must get rid of it. I really cannot bear it in my house!

The Word was too convicting to read or even have around, so he sold it. I'm afraid many Christians in our day



look for the church of the least resistance to their sins.

Receiving the Word Brings a Genuine Celebration

It takes the combined efforts of Nehemiah, Ezra, and the Levites to quiet the people and call them to celebration. There is a time for weeping and a time for celebration—and this was a specific celebration. We're told that the reading of the Word of God began on the first day of the seventh month, which happened to be the Feast of Tabernacles. This feast was a reenactment of the wilderness wanderings. The Hebrews

previous years, they hadn't done it the way God told them to do it. When they observed the feast as God had designed, there was an outbreak of celebration.

Obedience Brings About Joy

It might be hard to understand why building lean-tos would make a difference in their experience. Keep in mind it isn't about the structure but rather about being obedient to what God said. Perhaps this is why there is so little joy among Christians in our day—there is so little obedience to the Lord in our lives.

In this passage, the people hunger for the Word of God and ask for it. They don't want to just hear it, but they actually receive it, and it brings conviction. When they become obedient to it, they begin to celebrate and then experience joy.

Why don't we experience this joy? We haven't experienced this conviction. Why don't we experience the conviction? We aren't ready for confession.

In 1992, the Texas educational bureaucracy reviewed and approved a new set of history textbooks for the public school system. A group of parents concerned about the information their children were being

When was the last time you wept when the Word of God was read?

would come to Jerusalem, build little lean-tos out of branches and palm fronds, and remember how God brought them out of the house of bondage and provided for them. It's also a picture of God's coming Messiah, who would one day tabernacle among them. It's exactly what John is saying in John 1:14: "And the Word became flesh and dwelt [tabernacled] among us." It was a great time of celebration and the favorite of all the feasts and celebrations of the Jews.

They had observed the Feast of Tabernacles in the past, during the days of Zerubbabel's return (Ezra 3:4) after the Babylonian captivity. But they hadn't built the booths and lived in them as God had instructed. For the first time since the days of Joshua, they did as they had been instructed.

Throughout the

The Christian Life Should Be Characterized by Joy

- » The Ethiopian eunuch went on his way rejoicing in Acts 8:39.
- » Believers were taking their meals together with gladness in Acts 2:46.
- » "Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you" (1 Thessalonians 5:16-18).
- » In Galatians 5:22, one fruit of the Spirit is joy.
- » In Acts 16:25, having been beaten and now in chains in prison, Paul and Silas sing hymns of praise.

All through the Word of God, we see that the people of God are to be characterized and their lives personified by joy.

Our Strength Comes from Our Joy in the Lord

In the middle of all this celebration we have a very familiar verse: "The joy of the LORD is your strength" (Nehemiah 8:10). Your joy doesn't come from ideal circumstances, material prosperity, or social popularity. Your joy comes from the knowledge of who He is, what He's done for you, what He says, and what He and only He can give.

taught began to review these textbooks. They found 231 errors. The textbooks reported that Napoleon actually won the battle of Waterloo, President Truman dropped the atomic bomb on Korea, and that General Douglas MacArthur led the anticommunist campaign in the 1950s instead of Senator Joe McCarthy.

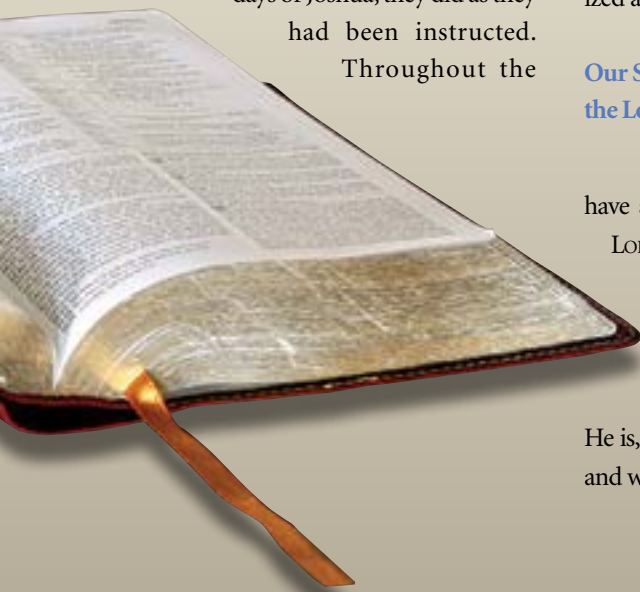
When they took their complaints to Texas officials, they found even more errors. In fact, the errors totaled over 3,500 mistakes published by Prentice-Hall, Houghton Mifflin, Rinehart, and Winston. How did the publishers react? They reported that except for the errors, these were the finest textbooks they had ever seen.³ Excuses.

How well do you hear? If we want our understanding of the Word of God to be more than mere hearing and our confession to be more than excuses, we must not just hear the Word of God but also receive it... and let it do its mighty work in us! ✨

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1. Sweet, L. I. 2004. *Summoned to Lead*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 60.
2. *Ibid*, 59.
3. Davey, S. 2005. *Nehemiah: Memoirs of an Ordinary Man*. Greenville, SC: Ambassador Emerald International, 149.

Dr. Mac Brunson serves as Senior Pastor of First Baptist Church, Jacksonville. He earned his B.A. from Furman University and his M.Div. and D.Min. from Southwestern Seminary. Dr. Brunson serves on ICR's Board of Trustees.



September 2016 Events

◆ September 23–25



Made in His Image Conference

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Calvary Chapel Fluvanna
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Henry Morris III



Randy Guliuzza

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◆ September 21

Waipahu, HI – Calvary Chapel Pearl Harbor
(F. Sherwin) 808.678.3994

◆ September 21

Aiea, HI – Calvary Chapel Honolulu
(T. Clarey) 808.524.0844

◆ September 23–25

Back to Genesis Conference
Waipahu, HI – Calvary Chapel Pearl Harbor
(T. Clarey, F. Sherwin) 808.678.3994



OTHER EVENTS IN SEPTEMBER

◆ September 12 & 19

Unlocking the Mysteries of Genesis Series
Denton, TX – Denton Bible Church
(F. Sherwin, H. Morris III) 940.297.6700

◆ September 25

Knoxville, TN – Calvary Chapel Knoxville
(J. Lisle) 865.609.1385

◆ September 25

Knoxville, TN – University of Tennessee
(J. Lisle) 865.609.1385

◆ September 26

Powell, TN – Crown College of the Bible
(J. Lisle) 865.938.8186

SAVE THE DATE!

◆ October 7–9

Back to Genesis Conference
Oceanside, CA – Calvary Chapel Oceanside
(H. Morris III, J. Lisle, J. Hebert) 760.754.1234

For more information on these events or to schedule an event, please contact the ICR Events Department at **800.337.0375**, visit **ICR.org/events**, or email us at **events@icr.org**

ISS Commander Returns from Space

Col. Jeff Williams took his Bible with him to space. He posted this on Facebook, May 22: "Sunday thought...60 days into the stay at this orbital outpost. The weeks are flying by and they have been incredibly productive. Three of our crewmates have less than four weeks until returning to Earth...three of us have more than 100 days to go. On this Sunday, I spent some time in Psalm 90. Two petitions stand out; 'Let Your work be shown' and 'establish the work of our hands.' And He does."

NASA astronaut and International Space Station (ISS) commander Col. Jeff Williams is scheduled to return to Earth September 6, 2016, along with cosmonauts Alexey Ovchinin and Oleg Skripochka—Expedition 47/48's crew. On March 18, 2016, the trio launched into space from Kazakhstan in a Soyuz rocket for a five-and-a-half month mission.

At the close of this trip, his fourth space mission and third long-term space flight, the 58-year-old Col. Williams will set the record for the most cumulative days in space by a NASA astronaut, with 534 total days over the four missions.

During Expedition 47 and 48, Col. Williams and the diligent ISS crew worked on approximately 250 science and research investigations. This involved experiments related to plants, animals, cells, DNA, and physics. Several focused on the effects of spaceflight on the body—especially eye, muscle, bone, and heart function—as the team used the unique microgravity environment of the ISS to study human physiology in preparation for NASA's future journeys to Mars.

Research ranged from testing an expandable habitat (BEAM) for deep-space exploration to studying brain function, sleep studies, real-time gene analysis, testing new spacesuits, 3-D printing, and even launching a series of nanosatellites.

Cruising at 17,500 mph at an altitude of around 250 miles, the ISS passed a major milestone on Monday, May 16, as it began its 100,000th orbit of Earth. For over 15 years, more than 220 astronauts and cosmonauts from 18 countries have provided continual human presence onboard the ISS. This accomplishment is a great tribute to the international cooperation between the U.S., Russia, Japan, the European Space Agency, and Canada.

Col. Tim Kopra turned over command of the ISS to Col. Williams on July 17 as Expedition 47 ended and 48 began. On June 20, after 186 days in space, Expedition 47 crew members Tim Peake, Yuri Malenchenko, and Tim Korpa returned to Earth. Three new



Image credit: NASA J. Williams.

members were added to Expedition 48's crew on July 9.

Bold about his faith, Col. Williams often quotes Scripture in his Facebook posts. In a recent videoconference with ICR, he mentioned he now has a deeper admiration for God's providence. He sees how God worked throughout his life, eventually preparing him to be where he is now as an astronaut.

In addition to being an ISS commander and setting the record for days in space by a NASA astronaut, Col. Williams has also taken well over 200,000 pictures from space.

Col. Williams' brief NASA biography touches on his incredible accomplishments.

A West Point graduate, Col. Williams received his commission as a second lieutenant in 1980 and was designated an Army aviator in 1981. He earned a Master of Science Degree in Aeronautical Engineering and the Degree of Aeronautical Engineer from the U.S. Naval Postgraduate School in 1987.

Col. Williams graduated first in U.S. Naval Test Pilot School class 103 in 1993. He earned a second graduate degree, Master of Arts Degree in National Security and Strategic Studies from the U.S. Naval War College in 1996.

Williams was selected for the NASA Astronaut Class of 1996. Williams retired from active duty in 2007 after more than 27 years of service. His special honors and awards are almost too numerous to list.

While these achievements are impressive, there's even more to this remarkable man. It's been inspiring to follow along with him on his journey in space and see the glory of God's creation through his eyes. ✨

Mr. Stamp is an editor at the Institute for Creation Research.



Image credit: NASA.



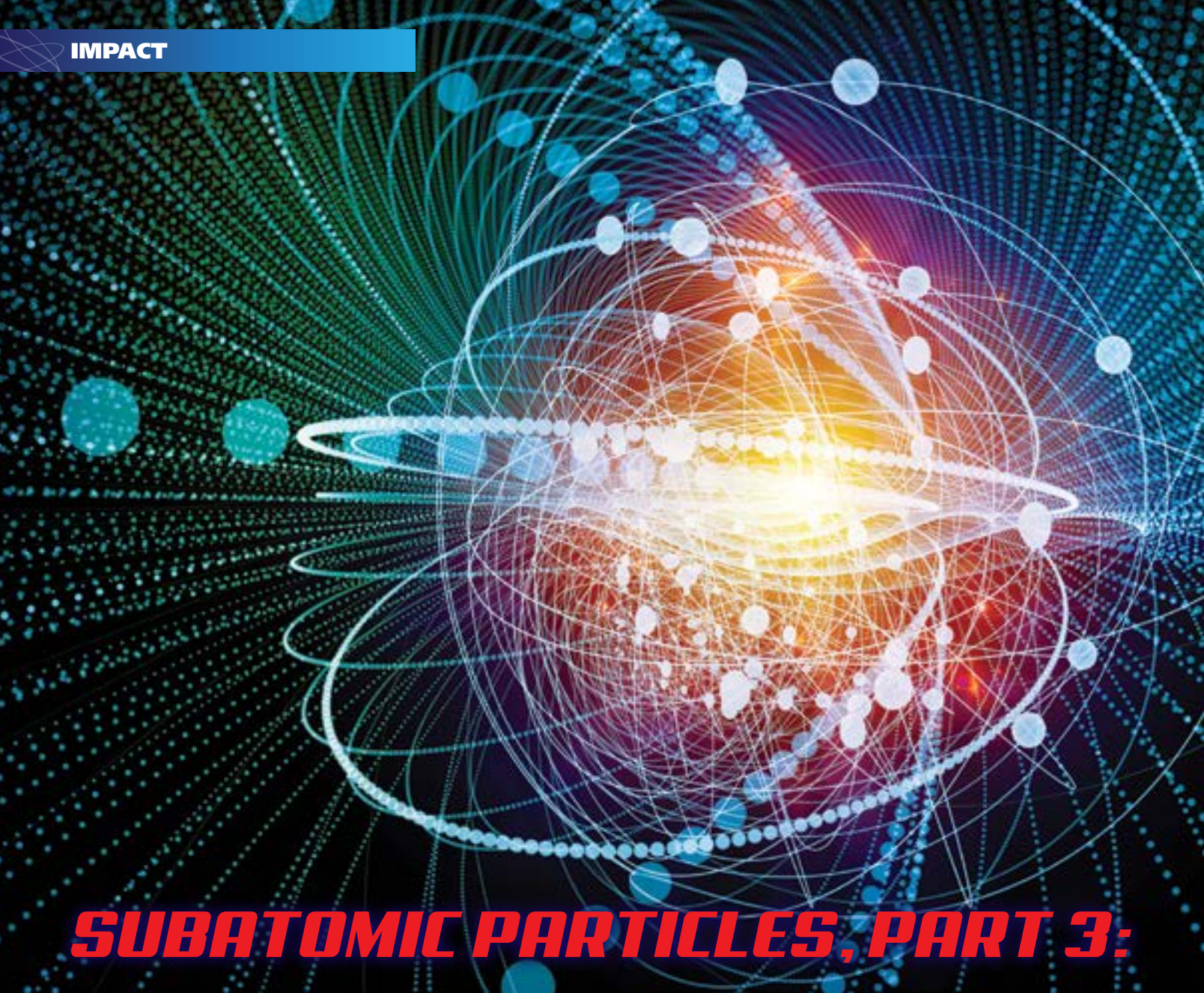
Glacier in northern Pakistan.

Image credit: NASA J. Williams.



Mozambique coral reefs in the Indian Ocean.

Image credit: NASA J. Williams.



SUBATOMIC PARTICLES, PART 3:

MESONS

J A S O N L I S L E , P H . D . , A N D V E R N O N R . C U P P S , P H . D .

When considering the term *subatomic particles*, many people typically think of things like electrons, protons, or neutrons. We have some experience with these particles because we were

taught about them in school. Indeed, we are made of them—electrons, protons, and neutrons comprise atoms, and atoms comprise our bodies. In earlier articles within this series, we have seen that electrons are part of a class of particle called *leptons*,

which are elementary and tend to have very low mass. Protons and neutrons belong to a group of particles called *baryons*, which are hundreds of times more massive than electrons.

But a type of particle with mass



between leptons and baryons also exists; these are *mesons*. A bit more mysterious than protons and electrons, mesons have a fleeting existence, lasting only a fraction of a microsecond. But they provide us with great insight into how the laws of physics work and thus the organized and mathematical way that God upholds what He has created.¹

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Mesons have a fleeting existence, lasting only a fraction of a microsecond. But they provide us with great insight into how the laws of physics work and thus the organized and mathematical way that God upholds what He has created.

.....

The Strong Force and Color Charge

To make sense of mesons, we need to explore how the strong nuclear force operates. In the previous article, we saw that protons and neutrons in the nucleus of an atom are each made of three quarks.² The fractional $+2/3$ charge of the up quark and the $-1/3$ charge of the down quark causes the proton and neutron to have a total charge of $+1$ and 0 , respectively. The strong nuclear force is able to overcome the mutual repulsion of protons, but the strong force is also what holds the quarks together within a given proton or neutron. The strong force is similar in some ways to the electric force, but it also has some differences. Without these differences, matter could not exist and biological life would be impossible.

First, as implied by the name, the strong force is much more powerful than the electric force at subatomic distances. If this were not the case, then the positively charged protons would repel each other and atoms could not exist. Furthermore, the two positively charged up quarks within a proton would repel each other and the proton would break apart. The strong force makes baryons possible.

Second, the strong force has an extremely limited range. This is a phenomenally important design feature because if the strong force had the same infinite range as the electric force, then the former would overwhelm the latter and all the matter in the universe would collapse into a single nucleus. God gave each force the right strength and range so that matter would be possible in all its wondrous forms.

The third difference is particularly interesting and involves the type of charge.

The electric force has two types of charge that we simply refer to as *positive* and *negative*. But with the strong force, there are six charges. Physicists have labeled these six charges *red*, *green*, *blue*, *antired*, *antigreen*, and *antiblue*.³ Quarks always have one of the first three color charges—red, green, or blue—whereas antiquarks come in antired, antigreen, and antiblue varieties.⁴

These terms have nothing to do with the literal colors that we perceive in nature. They are simply names that help us keep track of the six types of color charge and how they combine. Physicists have selected these names so that the color charges “add” in the same way the colors of light add.⁵ Just as the proton’s electric charge is the sum of the electric charges of its quarks, so its color charge is the combination of the combined color charges of its constituent parts. And protons are always white, or colorless. This is because one quark will be red, one will be green, and one will be blue—these add to make white.⁶

There is no way to predict which quark within a proton has a given color.⁷ The only requirement is that they must add to a colorless combination. The same is true of neutrons and all other baryons. There seems to be a law of nature that quarks will only combine to form colorless composite particles. This is why baryons must always have exactly three quarks. Only a red-green-blue combination will form a colorless composite particle, as shown on the left side of Figure 1. Likewise, antibaryons are also white because they are made of three antiquarks and always have the combination of antired, antigreen, and antiblue. These also combine to make white.

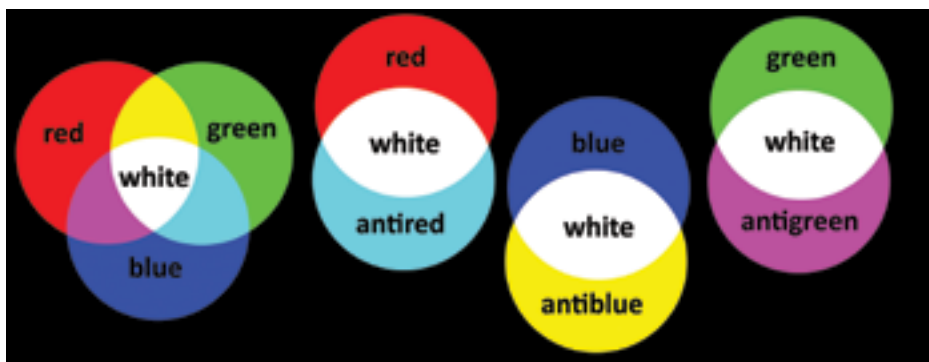


Figure 1. Illustration of the way color charges combine. Baryons always have a red, green, and blue combination, as shown in the left illustration. Mesons have one of the color-anticolor combinations, as shown in the remaining three panels.

Baryons and Mesons

There is another way in which quarks and antiquarks can combine to form a colorless particle (see Figure 1). A red quark could combine with an antired antiquark. Red and antired exactly cancel, so the resulting particle will be colorless. The particle resulting from this quark-antiquark combination is called a meson. Mesons are, by definition, composed of one quark and one antiquark of the quark's anticolor.⁸

Since baryons are made of three quarks, whereas mesons are made of only two (one quark and one antiquark), we would expect mesons to be lighter (on average) than baryons. This is, in fact, the case. What is surprising, perhaps, is how much lighter.

Consider the *pi meson*, also called a *pion*. The positive pion (π^+) is made of an up quark and a down antiquark. Since up and down quarks and antiquarks have nearly the same mass, we might expect that the pion would have about 2/3 the mass of the proton. But, in fact, it is less than 1/6 the mass of the proton. This is because the binding energy and kinetic energy of the quarks in a meson differ from that of a baryon, and these energies affect the total mass.⁹

Mesons are named after lowercase Greek letters ($\pi, \rho, \eta, \omega, \phi, \psi$) or uppercase Latin letters (K, D, B, J).¹⁰

Mesons Are Bosons

Subatomic particles have a property called *spin* that is a bit like a rotating planet. But unlike a planet, the spin of a particle only comes in integer or half-integer units (0, 1/2, 1, 3/2, 2, ...) and cannot be changed. Previously, we found that quarks and leptons have a spin of 1/2. Their direction of spin can either be spin up (1/2) or spin down (-1/2), but the magnitude is always 1/2. When quarks combine to form a had-

ron, their spins can either add or subtract depending on whether the spins are aligned or anti-aligned. Particles with half-integer spins are called *fermions* and obey the Pauli Exclusion Principle, which states that no two identical fermions can exist in the same place with the same quantum values. Quarks, leptons, and baryons are fermions.

But since mesons have an even number of quarks, their spins always combine to form an integer. Thus, mesons are either spin 0 (if the two quarks are anti-aligned) or spin 1 (if the two quarks are aligned).¹¹ Integer spin particles are called *bosons*. Since all mesons are bosons, they are not required to obey the Pauli Exclusion Principle. Basically, this means we can put many mesons into

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The longest-lived mesons (the pions and kaons) last only 10 to 50 nanoseconds—a nanosecond is one billionth of a second!

.....

Particle family Comp / Spin Particles in family Particle Charge Spin Mass (MeV/c ²) Half-life (s)	pi meson (pion) only u and d flavors, spin 0 3: π^+, π^0, π^-	K meson (kaon) s and either d or u flavor, spin 0 or 1 10: $K^+, K^0, \bar{K}^0, K^-, \bar{K}^+, \bar{K}^0, \bar{K}^-, \bar{K}^+$
	 π^+ +1 139.570 1.804e-8	 π^- -1 139.570 1.804e-8
	 K^+ +1 493.677 8.581e-9	 K^0 0 895.81 9.63e-24
	rho meson only u and d flavors, spin 1 3: ρ^+, ρ^0, ρ^-	eta meson s,c, or b, anti-particle is self, spin 0 4: $\eta, \eta', \eta_s, \eta_b$
	 ρ^+ +1 775.11 3.05e-24	 ρ^- -1 775.11 3.05e-24
	 η_c 0 2983.6 1.41e-23	 η_b 0 9398.0 unknown
	D meson c and 1 of u,d,s, spin 0 or 1 12: $D^+, D^0, D_s^+, D_s^0, D^{*+}, D^{*0}, D^{*+}, D^{*0}$ (& 6 anti)	B meson 1 b and 1 non-b flavor, spin 0 or 1 16 (8, 8 anti)
	 D^{*+} +1 2010.26 5.47e-21	 B^{*+} +1 5415.4 unknown
	 D_s^0 0 1968.30 3.47e-13	 B^0 0 5279.3 1.135-12

Figure 2. Various meson families are listed with two examples from each family. The $\omega, \phi, J/\psi,$ and Υ mesons are not listed. The quark-antiquark composition is illustrated along with a possible spin state.

Mesons challenge our understanding of reality and reveal the creativity of the Lord. Perhaps this is the Lord's way of reminding us that as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are His thoughts and ways higher than ours.

the same location with the same quantum numbers.

All mesons are unstable.¹² They are created during high-energy collisions and then promptly decay into other particles in a fraction of a second. The longest-lived mesons (the pions and kaons) last only 10 to 50 nanoseconds—a nanosecond is one billionth of a second! The heavier mesons tend to decay into various combinations of pions, which then decay into muons, neutrinos, or photons. Figure 2 shows a list of some of the more common mesons and their properties.

Antimesons Are Mesons

With baryons, there is a clear distinction between particle and antiparticle. Baryons are made of quarks and are common, whereas antibaryons are made of antiquarks and are quite rare. But all mesons are made of one quark and one antiquark; likewise, so is each meson antiparticle. For example, the positive pion (π^+) is made of an up quark and down antiquark. Its antiparticle, the negative pion (π^-), is made of a down quark and an up antiquark. The two particles are equally abundant, so we could just as well call the negative pion (π^-) the particle, and the positive pion (π^+) the antiparticle. It is purely a matter of convention.

Some neutral mesons are, by definition, their own antiparticle. For example, the *phi meson* is made of a strange quark and strange antiquark. Swapping quarks with antiquarks and vice versa leaves the particle unchanged. Likewise, the charmed *eta meson* (μ_c) is made up of a charmed quark and a charmed antiquark.

Indeterminate Composition

We encounter a particularly bizarre situation when we study the composition of the neutral pion (π^0). It's the lightest meson, and so we naturally expect it to be made of the lightest quark and antiquark pairs, either the up or down varieties. The total charge is 0. So, it could either be an up quark and up antiquark, or a down quark and down antiquark. But which combination is it? In a sense, it's both.

If we could measure the quark content of the neutral pion, we would find that there is a 50% chance of detecting the up and anti-up combination and a 50% chance of detecting a down and anti-down combination. If we did the same measurement a fraction of a second later on the same particle, we again have a 50-50 chance. The mass difference between the up and down quark varieties is so small that there is nothing to prevent them from converting from one to the other as long as the net charge of the particle is conserved.

Similarly, the neutral rho (ρ^0), eta (η), eta prime (η'), K (K_L , K_S), and omega (ω) mesons have indeterminate compositions. We can only assign the probability that a particular quark combination will be observed. Each of these is its own antiparticle since swapping quarks with antiquarks does not change the composition probability.

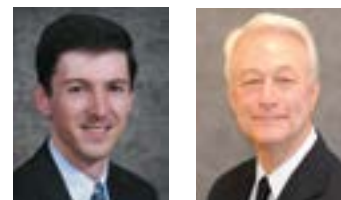
Since mesons have only a momentary existence, we might naturally ask what purpose God has for them. There are several possibilities. For one, they give us great insight into the laws of physics that govern the behavior of *all* particles. By studying mesons, we can better understand the nature of baryons—like protons and neutrons. In fact, the quark substructure of protons and

neutrons might never have been discovered or understood if God had not permitted the existence of mesons. Furthermore, mesons challenge our understanding of reality and reveal the creativity of the Lord.¹³ Perhaps this is the Lord's way of reminding us that as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are His thoughts and ways higher than ours.¹⁴ ✎

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3. As with the electric charge, like charges repel (red repels red) and opposite charges attract (red attracts antired). But other combinations are also possible. For example, red will also attract green or blue and repel antigreen and antiblue.
4. Models proposed by some physicists predict that fleeting quark-antiquark pairs are constantly produced and annihilated within baryons. However, even these models agree that there are three "main" quarks called *valence quarks*.
5. Quark color charges combine in an additive way, just like the literal colors of light. Red combined with green yields yellow—yellow plus blue yields white. This is the opposite of the way paints mix, which is subtractive. In paints, yellow combined with blue yields green, not white.
6. This is a simplified picture because the gluons can contribute to the total color charge as well. But on average, the three quarks will indeed have three different colors.
7. In other words, the down quark might be red while one up quark is green and the other is blue. This is one of six possibilities.
8. A *hadron* is defined as any particle made of any combination of quarks or antiquarks. Since apparently a composite particle must be colorless, there are two types of hadrons: baryons and mesons. Theoretically, combinations of more than three quarks and antiquarks are possible as long as they add to a colorless combination. Some have been claimed, but none have been experimentally confirmed.
9. The reduction in mass that occurs as isolated particles fall into a bound state is well known and is called *mass defect*. As one example, a helium nucleus is slightly less massive than the sum of two isolated protons and two isolated neutrons. The more tightly bound a system is, the greater its mass defect will be.
10. One exception is the *upsilon meson*, which uses the capital Greek letter Y. This naming scheme is for ground-state mesons.
11. Mesons can also have a spin of 2 or higher if one or both of the quark and antiquark pairs exist in an excited state such that their orbital momentum contributes to the total spin. This can only occur in integer steps, so the meson continues to be a boson.
12. Protons and electrons cannot decay because they are the lightest baryon and charged lepton, respectively. Such a decay would violate conservation of baryon number or violate lepton number. But there is no such conservation principle for mesons.
13. A particularly striking example of this concerns the neutral K-meson (kaon). This is the only particle known to violate a physics principle called *CP symmetry*. We won't go into details, but suffice it to say that physicists would never have known that CP symmetry is not absolute if it were not for the neutral kaon.
14. Isaiah 55:6-9.

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Modern Science and Vain Philosophy

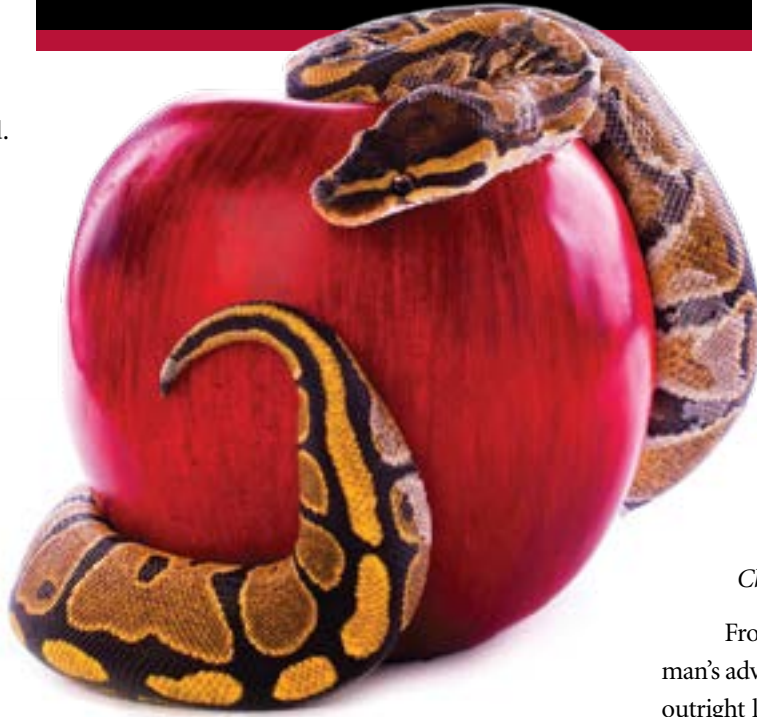
An Ancient Deception in Our Midst

The account of Adam and Eve's temptation and subsequent expulsion from the Garden of Eden is familiar to many. It contains hidden truths that are just as true today as they were when the world was new. One of these truths concerns how Satan deals in the world. Satan consistently tempts his victims through both outright lies and subtle deception. If we are to remain firm in our faith, then we should learn how to resist his tactics by rooting ourselves in the inspired Word of God.

Unlike Adam and Eve, Jesus shows us the proper way of resisting the devil's temptations. When Jesus was tempted in the wilderness, the devil did not test Him by obvious manifestations of sin but by subtly applying half-truths from the Bible.¹ The devil tried to get Jesus to doubt the Father's declaration concerning Himself,² misquoted Psalm 91:11-12 to test God's love, and even tempted Jesus with the desires of the flesh. But at every turn Jesus remained steadfast, answering Satan with Scripture.

Jesus' example can be applied to the deceptions of modern science that try to undermine the authority of God's Word. Some would say that the con game played on Adam and Eve couldn't happen in today's world—we put everything through the ruthless filter of naturalism,³ and so we are much too sophisticated and knowledgeable to fall for such a deception.

Now the serpent was more cunning than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said to the woman, "Has God indeed said, 'You shall not eat of every tree of the garden?'" (Genesis 3:1)



However, naturalism has turned much of modern science into a dizzy array of conjecture, wishful thinking, assumptions, and will-driven consensus far removed from the constraints of true science, which rests on observation and reproducible experimentation. Yet this "science" has replaced God's Word as the absolute authority.

Suppose we listen to a conversation between a naturalist who believes in concepts like deep time (millions and billions of years) and a naïve professing Christian who goes to church and does many good deeds but is not rooted in the authority of God's Word.

Naturalist: "Did God really say that He created the heavens and the earth in six

days? That's preposterous because science has demonstrated through radioactive dating, core drilling, tree-ring studies, and biological evidence that the earth must be at least 3.4 billion years old."

Christian: "But God said plainly that He created from nothingness the heavens and the earth in six distinct steps...six actual days."

Naturalist: "The six days could be six very long time periods. Only ignorant people believe the myths and fairy tales in the Bible, especially Genesis. Very long time periods agree better with modern science."

Christian: "Maybe you're right."

From the beginning, Satan has been man's adversary. He operates in the realm of outright lies and half-truths so that he may deceive us.⁴ Beware of those who peddle various philosophies and vain deceits after the traditions of men, people who set science before and over the Word of God.⁵

All of this reduces to faith, something all people possess—even skeptics and atheists. The real question is: What are you going to put your faith in, the word of man or the Word of God? ✂

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1. Matthew 4:1-11.
2. Matthew 3:17.
3. Naturalism is a philosophy that denies any event or object has a supernatural origin or significance. Specifically, it states that scientific laws adequately account for all phenomena.
4. 1 Peter 5:8.
5. Colossians 2:8.

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GENESIS PROPHECIES

A young traveler recently picked up my book *Dinosaurs and the Bible* from a convenience store and read the introduction to his friends. The group included Christians and atheists, so the topic sparked quite a discussion. Some objected to my statement “In studying creation materials, I found real evidence that the Bible, not the words of fallible humans, conveys truthful world history.”¹ Scoffers in the group insisted that the Bible itself was written by fallible humans. Were they right, or was God involved in writing the Bible, including Genesis?

To find out, one could look for signs of fallible human authorship, like place names or people names that don't match other reliable historical sources. The Table of Nations in Genesis 10 and 11 is loaded with people and place names. Historian Bill Cooper wrote, “I spent more than 25 years digging into the Table of Nations, looking for a fault, an error, a false statement, or an historical inaccuracy. I found not one.”²

In addition to historical accuracy, Genesis contains the unmistakably divine signature of fulfilled prophecies. How could uninspired fallible men have foretold future events? In Genesis 3, God forewarned the Serpent that he would bruise the heel of the woman's Seed (descendant), but that descendant would bruise the Serpent's head, implying a death blow.³ When the Spirit of God conceived the Lord Jesus in Mary's womb over 4,000 years later, He fulfilled the part of the prophecy that mentioned the Seed of the woman.⁴ The serpent bruised the Lord Jesus' heel when He suffered crucifixion for our sins.⁵ Revelation 20:10 glimpses the future time when the Lord Jesus will bruise the serpent's head and destroy him.

God embedded a prophecy into His post-Flood promise to Noah, saying, “While the earth remains, seedtime

and harvest, cold and heat, winter and summer, and day and night shall not cease.”⁶ We get a reminder of God's faithfulness and the Bible's veracity when we watch the seasons unfold every year.

The apostle Paul explains how a prophecy God spoke to Abraham continues to be fulfilled, saying, “And the Scripture [Genesis 12:3], foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, preached the gospel to Abraham beforehand, saying, ‘In you all the nations shall be blessed.’ So then those who are of faith are blessed with believing Abraham.”⁷ Other passages reinforce the “all the nations” aspect of this Genesis prophecy,⁸ and even now the gospel is going out into all the world, blessing people and changing lives.

Finally, God confirmed the Genesis 3 promised seed for each generation of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.⁹ Then Jacob prophesied, “The scepter shall not depart from Judah...until Shiloh comes; and to Him shall be the obedience of the people,” indicating that one of Judah's descendants would become the long-awaited King of all.¹⁰ Christ, the King, was a descendant of Judah, just as Genesis prophesied.¹¹

Because Jesus, other biblical people and events, and even those who today trust God's promises all fulfill Genesis prophecies, we have every reason to believe that God directed the writing of Genesis. ✚

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3. Genesis 3:15.
4. Isaiah 7:14 made the virgin birth explicit, and Matthew 1 described its fulfillment.
5. “That serpent of old, called the Devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world” (Revelation 12:9) deceived the crowds to crucify Jesus, even entering Judas Iscariot (John 13:27) to betray the Lord into the hands of the mob (John 18:5).
6. Genesis 8:22.
7. Galatians 3:8-9.
8. Acts 1:8; Revelation 5:9.
9. Genesis 21:12.
10. Genesis 49:10.
11. Luke 3:33.

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The Imaginary *Archaeoraptor*

R A N D Y J . G U L I U Z Z A , P . E . , M . D .

The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) is quite serious about flying safety. If an aircraft crashes, the FAA will conduct an investigation called a Root Cause Analysis. This involves methodical detective work that tracks events from the moment of the crash back in time. Flight and voice data recorders are invaluable to the inquiry. Root Cause Analy-

sis identifies the most obvious problem that led to the crash and then lists the problem's cause. That cause is then treated like a problem in itself, and the cause for its occurrence is investigated. This cycle is repeated until the very first cause is discovered. Finding that initial problem, the root cause, helps prevent similar crashes in the future.

It would seem completely irrational if

these problems weren't fixed in future airplanes and were somehow accepted as just a fact of flying. Amazingly, evolutionary theory tolerates a built-in root-cause problem: fossil forgery.

One frustrated evolutionary paleontologist vented his feelings after a highly publicized "missing link" was exposed as yet another hoax.

Red-faced and downhearted, paleontologists are growing convinced that they have been snookered by a bit of fossil fakery from China. The “feathered dinosaur” specimen that they recently unveiled to much fanfare apparently combines the tail of a dinosaur with the body of a bird, they say. “It’s the craziest thing I’ve ever been involved with in my career,” says paleontologist Philip J. Currie of the Royal Tyrrell Museum of Paleontology in Drumheller, Alberta.¹

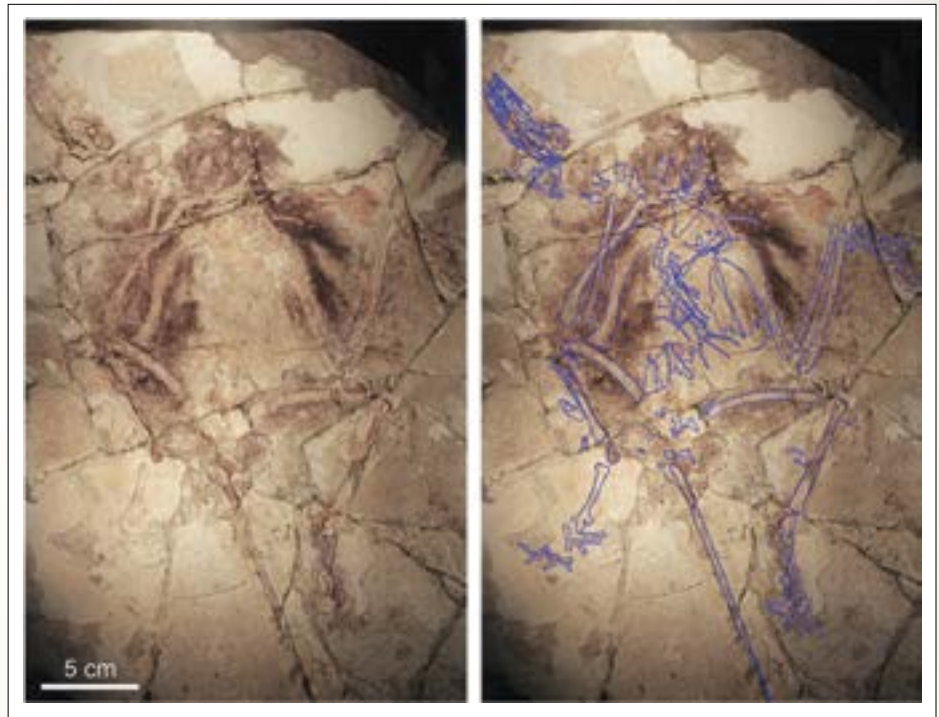


Currie is referring to an embarrassing major evolutionary blunder linked to a fossil forgery. This time it involved *Archaeoptor liaoningensis* (“ancient bird of prey from Liaoning”), featured in the 1999 *National Geographic* article “Feathers for *T. rex*?”² After this fraudulent fossil was exposed, commentators pointed out similarities with the notorious Piltdown Man hoax.³

Two Fossils Equal One *Archaeoptor*

Scientists still don’t know how the *Archaeoptor* specimen was smuggled out of China and ended up in the United States. We do know that in 1998 Stephen Czerkas, curator of the Dinosaur Museum in Utah, purchased it for the tidy sum of \$80,000. Czerkas labored with Xu Xing of China’s prestigious Institute of Vertebrate Paleontology and Paleoanthropology and Phillip Currie to study the specimen. The National Geographic Society sponsored the project.

Archaeoptor’s debut was accomplished with widespread publicity. *National Geographic*’s November 1999 press release used language remarkably similar to other fossil forgeries—such as the 1913 description of Piltdown Man and the 2009 description of *Ida*, a lemur-like animal thought to



The Archaeoptor amalgamation: multiple fossils and rocks crafted to perpetrate a fraud.

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document human evolution.³ In the *Archaeoptor* press release, Czerkas states, “It’s a missing link that has the advanced characters of birds and undeniable dinosaurian characters as well.”⁴

The National Geographic Society has since pulled that press release from their website, but ICR geologist Steven Austin captured the release’s salient points in a contemporaneous *Acts & Facts* article in 2000. He states,

The turkey-sized animal according to *National Geographic* “...is a true missing link in the complex chain that connects dinosaurs to birds. It seems to capture the paleontological ‘moment’ when dinosaurs were becoming birds.” According to their press release, the anatomy of *Archaeoptor* proves a feathered theropod dinosaur was capable of flight. The features include: “...a very advanced, birdlike shoulder structure, wishbone and big sternum—all indicating the animal was a powerful flier. Remains of feathers surround the specimen’s bones. Yet its tail was strikingly similar to the stiff tails of a family of predatory dinosaurs known as dromaeosaurs, which includes the

‘raptors’ of Jurassic Park.” Several remarkable characteristics are noted. “This mix of advanced and primitive features is exactly what scientists would expect to find in dinosaurs experimenting with flight,” and, “It’s a missing link between terrestrial dinosaurs and birds that could actually fly.”⁴

Just like the Piltdown Man blunder, these evolutionists saw what they wanted to see. Unfortunately, their strong belief in dinosaur-to-bird evolution led to mental images that overcame the empirical data. A Chinese craftsman apparently made a fossil to match their imaginations!

Based on nothing more than a mental visualization of what they already believed, the *National Geographic* article made the definitive pronouncement, “We can now say that birds are theropods just as confidently as we say that humans are mammals. Everything from lunch boxes to museum exhibits will change to reflect this revelation.”⁵ Within months, paleontologists showed that *Archaeoptor* was the upper body of a bird literally glued to the legs and tail of a dinosaur.⁶

Imagination and Evolution

It is enlightening to observe the rapid sequence of events surrounding *Archaeoraptor*. All of us can empathize with someone getting carried away with excitement. But how could a whole team of scientific researchers demonstrate a wholesale lack of cautious judgment?

Well, the root cause of evolution's continuing problem with far-flung conjectures is pretty basic: *imagination*. The late evolutionary theorist Stephen Jay Gould calls it *extrapolation* and says it is an essential element of evolutionary theory.

Gould writes that paleontologists use "a set of procedures for making strong inferences about phyletic [evolutionary] history from data of an imperfect record that cannot, in any case, 'see' past causes directly, but can only draw conclusions from preserved results of these causes." They explain the past through "large scale results by extrapolation from short-term processes...[and] extrapolation to longer times and effects of evolutionary changes actually observed in historic times (usually by analogy to domestication and horticulture)."⁷

Of course, the "longer times" that Gould envisions are enormous, as is the amount of imagination needed to fill the gaps. Thus, Charles Darwin unashamedly invoked imagination—as do leading evolutionists like Richard Dawkins and Jerry Coyne. Yet these scientists imply that creationists suffer from *far too little* scientific imagination.³

This helps explain how evolutionists can merely look at fossil bones and see "transitional" features, or look at an odd fish from the ocean depths and see "primitive" features. Since imagination is a fundamental element of evolutionary theory, the blunders that accompany it will continue.

National Geographic published a few details of how they were duped. They write,

The tail and hind limbs were identified in 2000 as belonging to a *Microraptor*



Archaeoraptor model displayed in The Dinosaur Museum, Blanding, Utah. Display comments accompanying the model admit the tail of the original fossil belonged to a dinosaur—not to a bird.

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zhaoianus, a small, bipedal, meat-eating dinosaur with some bird-like features" while "the avian parts of the false dinosaur-bird fossil are from one specimen, a fish-eating bird known as *Yanornis martini*....*Yanornis* had advanced features approaching those of modern birds, and strong flying abilities."⁸

Imagination enables evolutionists to see both *Microraptor* and *Yanornis* somehow evolving into "modern" birds with "advanced" features. Unfortunately, the criteria for "primitive," "advanced," and so on reside only in imagination.

ICR Science Writer Brian Thomas recently documented that, in spite of Czerka's *Archaeoraptor* blunder, the cycle continues with other fossils.

In 2002, Czerkas and his wife self-published a book called *Feathered Dinosaurs and the Origin of Flight* in which they discussed *Scansoriopteryx* in context of dinosaur evolution into birds. His stance on *Archaeoraptor* as a real fossil did a complete flip-flop shortly after its exposure as a fraud, and now his stance on *Scansoriopteryx* as a dinosaur has reversed as well.⁹

On the same topic, Thomas also reports on some major anatomical barriers for dinosaur-to-bird evolution.¹⁰

Evolution Continues to Blunder

Obviously the FAA and evolutionists handle root cause problems quite differently. The root cause of being duped by fossil forgeries is the need for evolutionists to fill substantial time gaps with imagination. So, in spite of the fact that birds have only been observed to reproduce other birds, evolutionary imagination spawns an eternal optimism of finding a "missing link" that may make researchers gullible to forgeries. One evolutionary paleoanthropologist admitted, "We have only to recall the Piltdown adventure to see how easily susceptible researchers can be manipulated into believing that they have actually found just what they had been looking for."¹¹

It's valid for a scientist to ask, "How much of the evolutionary story, from its evidence to its mechanism, is only an extrapolated mystical mental construct?" This question is also somewhat of a warning. Once these mental constructs take on a life of their own by getting swept into the day-to-day evolutionary rhetoric and literature, everyone dealing with these imaginary concepts may tend to begin treating them as if they were real. ✎

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Q: Do Creation Scientists Publish in Mainstream Journals?

A: If ICR scientists are “real” scientists, then they should publish in respected, peer-reviewed, mainstream journals, right? In fact, many have.¹ But mainstream journal editors’ zeal for naturalism can keep them from fairly analyzing contrasting views on origins—leading them to say “no” to quality creation science.

Science reviewers and journal editors serve as gatekeepers, closing the gate to prevent bad science from reaching the printed page. For example, they are right to reject a submitted article if its conclusions rest more on speculation than on results.² But they can also close the gate for unscientific reasons.

Mainstream gatekeepers generally maintain a bias against God, His work, and His Word. They therefore can close the publication gate to science that confirms Scripture, regardless of the quality of that science. The problem peaks in historical disciplines where naturalist gatekeepers axe all challenges to their tightly held belief in billions of years of evolution.

Take geology, for example. Geologists fit observable rock features into an unobservable rock history. Naturalist geologists strongly favor rock histories that include millions of years, even if they must disregard evidence for recent rock origins.³ Gatekeepers exercise their anti-Bible bias when they reject manuscripts that challenge uniformitarianism—the belief that the rates and intensities of *present* processes like erosion, river flows, and seismic activity explain all of geology.

I once spoke with a creation geologist who submitted a paper about billions of straight-shelled nautiloid fossils entombed in a single limestone layer that spans several southwestern U.S. states. The mainstream editor replied that he rejected the paper because it implies that a *no-longer-present* process best explains this titanic rock layer. It seems he was uncomfortable with the idea that only a flood with enough force to affect the whole globe could leave that many sea creatures stranded on a continent beneath that much lime mud.

Another rejected manuscript included photos taken through a microscope of sharply angled sand grains. These convincingly reveal that deep and fast-moving water, not wind, deposited the Grand Canyon’s Coconino Sandstone.⁴ Wind abrasion should have rounded its sand grains. The Coconino also contains animal footprints, which only wet sand can preserve. But no mainstream journal was willing to



Image credit: B. Thomas

print evidence that contradicts their dogma that a present process like desert wind formed this ancient sandstone.

The mainstream journal *PLOS ONE* published a paper describing the precise coordination between nerves, muscles, and finger motions in the human hand. Its Chinese authors wrote that this anatomy reflects “proper design by the Creator.”⁵ The evolutionary community revolted and forced the journal to retract the paper,⁶ which is available online.

Mainstream journals will sometimes publish a creation scientist’s results that deal more with straightforward observations than origins, like modeling the sun’s effect on global temperature or crafting algorithms to improve pacemakers. But these God-fearing authors generally keep a low profile. If they draw too much attention to the fact that they believe the Bible, then those gates could close. And creation scientists who take their salaries from naturalist-dominated institutions cannot obtain research grants unless they publish results.

Creation research would appear in mainstream journals if naturalist gatekeepers stuck strictly with data and logic. Instead, they also judge work based on evolutionary doctrines like millions of years and an infinite potential for creatures to change from one type to another. For this reason, ICR funds scientific research into origins questions that naturalists wouldn’t dare ask.⁷

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1. Access some of the ICR scientists’ peer-reviewed technical articles at ICR.org/events/speakers
2. Other legitimate reasons to reject a submission include too few results, a lack of adequate experimental control, or other problems like internal contradictions.
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7. Three main creation-based technical journals provide peer-reviewed outlets for ICR and other creation scientists. In order of longevity, these are the *Creation Research Society Quarterly*, *Journal of Creation*, and *Answers Research Journal*.

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ICR SCIENTIST	EXPERTISE
Frank Sherwin, M.A.	Parasitology
Jake Hebert, Ph.D.	Atmospheric physics
Jason Lisle, Ph.D.	Astrophysics
Jeff Tomkins, Ph.D.	Genomics
Randy Guliuzza, M.A., P.E., M.D.	Aerospace medicine
Tim Clarey, Ph.D.	Petroleum geology
Vernon Cupps, Ph.D.	Nuclear physics
Brian Thomas, M.S.	Biochemistry

BALANCING CHURCH AND STATE, PART 2:

Evolutionary Law

What is law and the rule of law? Is law objective and stable, like a wooden ruler, or is it stretchy and unstable, like a rubber band? Many citizens expect government officials to obey the law, yet many officials, due to their positions of power, act as if they *are* the law, as if might makes right.

As noted in a previous article, the phrase “separation of church and state” has often been used to force-fit an unbalanced understanding of the First Amendment.¹ How did this happen? In short, the interpretation of law became “evolutionized” during the late 1800s, so the objective and stable meaning of the First Amendment was replaced by “evolving” interpretations, selected by whoever sat on the judicial bench.

Constitutional law professor John Eidsmoe writes,



“The Constitution like all legal documents was viewed as a fixed document, to be interpreted according to its plain meaning.”

Twentieth-century jurisprudence is based on a Darwinian world view. Life [supposedly] evolves... and therefore laws and constitutions [supposedly] evolve. According to the Darwinian principle, the Constitution’s meaning evolves and changes with time... This is not the way the founding fathers viewed constitutional interpretation. They saw the Constitution as the supreme law, and also as a covenant or contract. The Constitution like all legal documents was viewed as a fixed document, to be interpreted according to its plain meaning. And if its meaning was ambiguous as applied to a specific situation, it was to be interpreted according to the intent of those who wrote it, signed it, and ratified it. James Madison expressed this view when he wrote, ‘(If) the sense in which the Constitution was accepted and ratified by the Nation... be not the guide in expounding it, there can be no security for a faithful exercise of its powers.’²

This anti-objective approach to defining or redefining laws, as if law somehow has an animistic life of its own and evolves, is misleadingly called *legal positivism*. Dean Christopher Columbus Langdell of Harvard Law School pioneered this approach in 1870. It consists of five assumptions.

1. There are no divine absolutes in law, or if there are they are irrelevant to the modern legal system.
2. Law is simply man-made—whatever the state says is law.
3. Law evolves as man evolves.
4. Judges guide the evolution of the law by writing decisions.
5. To study law the “scientific way” [we must use] the decisions of judges (case-law method of legal study).³

But regardless of how popular evolutionary theory, thought, and jargon may be in the academy or in the courthouse, judicial might does not create right. Truth is not a man-made construct, nor can truth change! The true meaning of the First Amendment does not “evolve.”^{2,3}

The authors of the First Amendment had a creationist worldview. They treated law (like truth) as firm and foundational, not stretchy and shapeable.⁴ Accordingly, the evolutionary approach to interpreting law should be exposed as the lie it is. The roots

of legal positivism did not come from the authors of our Constitution; they came from unfounded evolutionary ideas a century later. Legal positivists impose an evolutionary arbitrariness to constitutional law, but the founding fathers intended our Constitution to be an objective standard, like a ruler, for defining the rule of law. ❧

References

1. Johnson, J.J.S. 2016. Balancing Church and State. *Acts & Facts*. 45 (7): 21. A full treatment of the First Amendment’s purpose is provided in *Rector, etc., of Holy Trinity Church v. United States*, 143 U.S. 457, 12 S.Ct. 511 (1892), by Justice David Josiah Brewer, a Smyrna native. See also Romans 13:1-4.
2. Eidsmoe, J. 1987. *Christianity and the Constitution: The Faith of our Founding Fathers*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Books, 391-392.
3. Eidsmoe, J. 1995. *Institute on the Constitution*. Bridgewater, VA: American Foundation Publications, 76.
4. George Mason’s religious liberty tenet, which he had drafted 12 years earlier for the Virginia Declaration of Rights, became the precursor for Virginia’s proposal to Congress to approve a religious freedom amendment for the new Constitution: “That Religion or the Duty which we owe to our Creator, and the manner of discharging it, can be directed only by Reason and Conviction, not by Force or violence, and therefore all men have an equal, natural, and unalienable Right to the free Exercise of Religion according to the Dictates of Conscience, and that no particular religious Sect or Society of Christians ought to be favored or established by Law in preference to others.”

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



Tim LaHaye and the Institute for Creation Research

Tim LaHaye, well-known evangelical leader and co-author of the *Left Behind* series, went home to be with the Lord on July 25, 2016, after suffering a stroke. Dr. LaHaye was instrumental in the start of the Institute for Creation Research and served on its Board of Trustees for many years. In September 1970, he invited Dr. Henry Morris, then head of an engineering department at Virginia Tech, to move to San Diego to help with the founding of Christian Heritage College (now San Diego Christian College). ICR was a division of the college for a decade before forming its own ministry of researching the science that supports the accuracy and authority of the Bible.

The following is adapted from ICR’s upcoming book *Henry M. Morris: Father of Modern Creationism*.

Henry Morris saw that the only way to have a genuine creationist school and research center would be to establish one himself. He traveled to the Torrey Conference at Biola College in January 1970 for what turned into a divine appointment with Dr. Tim LaHaye. Consequently, Henry Morris made a decision that took him to San Diego to start a new ministry—one that required a lifelong commitment.

He joined Dr. LaHaye and Dr. Art Pe-

ters in California where these two pastors hoped to start a Bible college modeled after Bob Jones University. Dr. LaHaye was well-known for his books, but neither pastor had experience in education or developing plans for curriculum or faculty.

Dr. Morris’ goal was to establish a “true university system with undergraduate, graduate, and professional schools, with active research, extension, consulting and publishing programs as well. Such a center could take the lead in reclaiming science and education for Christ and then eventually the churches and the state as well.”¹

His far-reaching vision struck a responsive chord with LaHaye and Peters. They named the new liberal arts school Christian Heritage College. Dr. Morris assumed the role of Vice President for Academic Affairs and also served as Director of the Creation Research Science Center, a division “dedicated to restructuring all fields of learning and practice in the integrating framework of genuine creationism.”² Art Peters served as executive Vice President and Tim LaHaye the President. Classes began in the fall of 1970.

Through the years, as different ministry needs arose, the leadership decided to branch out and organize an additional outreach focused on communicating the creation-science message, and the Institute for Creation Research was born. The original Science Center’s advisory board elected to join ICR as well. The new leadership established the ICR constitution and tied it to Christian Heritage. They started the monthly newsletter *Acts & Facts*, and a new mailing list began to grow. It was a financially difficult time, but for Henry Morris:

This had been the culmination of a long-cherished dream, the beginning of a creationist liberal arts college, with a special creation studies division, commissioned to do research, writing, and extension teaching on creationism.³



Tim LaHaye and Henry Morris

Image Credit: Institute for Creation Research.

Within a few months, the success of *Acts & Facts* encouraged many donors to get involved, and ICR became essentially self-supporting. In the next few years, many talented scientists and researchers connected with ICR, either serving full-time or contracting for various college courses, special projects, or as speakers.

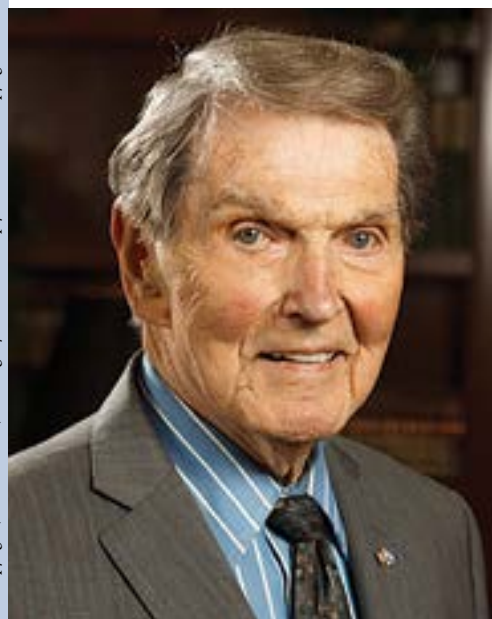
ICR’s activities revolved around literature, research, and teaching. ICR staff and other creation scientists were producing so many books, pamphlets, articles, and textbooks that Henry Morris and others determined to start a publishing company dedicated to the creation and apologetics genre. Named Creation-Life Publishers, the company produced books on creation and those from LaHaye’s Family-Life Seminars.

Tim LaHaye went on to serve as a Board member to ICR until 2007. He continued to be a friend to our ministry, even speaking at ICR’s 25th anniversary celebration in Washington, D.C.

Through Dr. LaHaye’s work with Dr. Morris, countless people have heard the evidence that the Bible is true and authoritative in everything it says. We are profoundly grateful for the influence of this godly man. ✨

References

1. Morris, H. M. 1997. *Contending for the Faith*. Unpublished manuscript, 172.
2. Morris, H. M. 1985. ICR - Fifteen Years in a Unique Mission 1970-1985. *Acts & Facts*. 14 (9).
3. Morris, H. M. 1984. *A History of Modern Creationism*. San Diego, CA: Master Book Publishers, 236.



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One of the strongest exhortations for Christian giving is found in Paul's charge to the believers in Corinth. Paul first praises the sacrificial support of the Macedonian churches who, in spite of "great trial" and "deep poverty," had given "beyond their ability" to relieve the suffering of believers in Jerusalem (2 Corinthians 8:1-4). After urging the Corinthians to follow their example (v. 7), Paul then lays down a challenge: "I speak not by commandment, but I am testing the sincerity of your love by the diligence of others" (v. 8).

If ICR's work has been a blessing to you, please know we offer a wide variety of ways to show "the sincerity of your love" for our ministry. Several are listed below, and like the apostle Paul we encourage you to consider how you can help ICR's ministry this fall.

IRA Donors: The popular IRA Charitable Rollover (now a permanent provision of the tax code!) allows IRA owners 70½ years or older to make gifts up to \$100,000 directly to ICR without declaring it as income. These gifts are not only exempt from federal tax, but they also count toward the minimum withdrawal requirement! Please contact your IRA administrator if this seems right for you.

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Federal and Military Employees: U.S. federal government workers and military personnel can support ICR via automatic payroll deduction through the Combined Federal Campaign (CFC). Our CFC identification number is 23095, or look for

ICR in the National/International section of your campaign brochure when making your pledge this fall.

State Employees in CA and TX: Like the CFC program, state employees in California and Texas can give directly to ICR through their state employee workplace campaigns. Please consider designating the *Institute for Creation Research* on your pledge form this season.

Matching Gift Donors: Many companies match gifts made by employees and retirees to qualifying organizations like ICR. With matches typically made dollar for dollar, this is a great opportunity to "sow bountifully" (2 Corinthians 9:6) by doubling the value of gifts you are already making. Please check with your HR department today to get started.

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ICR is grateful for those who serve alongside us with their financial support, and we truly "thank...God upon every remembrance of you" (Philippians 1:3). We only move forward as the Lord provides through you, so please prayerfully consider these special opportunities to support ICR. We welcome the opportunity to serve you at **800.337.0375** or stewardship@ICR.org.

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



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

Posted on NASA astronaut Jeff Williams' Facebook page

I saw the article about you in *Acts & Facts*. I praise God for men who are in public view and openly glorify Him. Science (B.S. geology) was a stumbling block for me until 25 years ago when the Lord revealed to me the truth of Genesis. I was saved soon after. I'll be praying for you and your family as well as the mission and fellow crew members.

— E. C.

What a blessing to have your publication [*Acts & Facts*] coming to us. My husband was skeptical about Bible creation as a teen. He believed the theory of evolution taught to him at public school. His godly dad began laying your publications around the house for him to read—articles by Duane Gish and Henry Morris began to convince him. His heart began to be open to God. On March 28, 1979, he became a child of God, forever changed! He has been my dear husband for 37 years and a pastor for 35! Thank you, ICR, for your major part in his salvation. You continue to fuel us with the power of God's Word in such an interesting way. God's power is evident in your ministry!

— C. L.

I love ICR! Have followed you for 40 years, love your books and DVDs, and am so looking forward to the opening of the museum in Dallas!

— D. L.

Why Does Genesis Matter? video

It's crystal clear that Genesis [1] is speaking literal days. It's nonsensical that God would give an historical account that would only be correctly interpreted at the turn of the 20th century.

— M. M.

Excellent video and thank you! Ex 31:17: "For in six days the LORD made the heaven and the earth, and on the seventh day He rested, and was refreshed." This verse aced it for me—Moses repeats the days of creation about 2,500 years later.

— J. M.

"Did Jesus Teach Recent Creation?," July 2016 *Acts & Facts*

If you don't believe Moses, you can't believe Jesus.

— T. E.



Yes, of course Jesus believed in a young earth, because He indeed created it Himself.

— P. K.

Science doesn't allow for long ages either. The billions of years are completely made up without a shred of science behind them.

— R. F.



No mumbling, no grumbling, just search the Scriptures daily to show yourself approved by God. I found years ago that a cursory approach to Bible study just leaves you confused. Just go at it, a little each day, with the right heart, attitude, and with prayer. It made a huge difference in my life.

— S. F.

[Henry Morris] is one of my favorites. His book on Job is the best book I ever read on the Bible.

— J. J.



It took me years of study to fully trust God's Word as God's Word. I no longer have any doubts. Our God doesn't want us to be confused, so He wrote to us plainly. We just need to study His Word with a humble heart. There are no errors in Scripture, only errors in interpretation, by fallible men and sometimes arrogant men. Trust God, He is omnipotent, omniscient, and omnipresent.

— S. F.



Man has to answer to the One who created all and is above all.

Even if you don't accept this truth, the day your body dies you will be face-to-face with the One you rejected, you will be in awe, and there is no hiding from His face. Do you really believe this creation came about without some powerful Creator? Think for yourself.

— N. T.

Forever thankful for the patience Jesus had for me until I recognized His voice and His plan for my life. Thank you, Jesus.

— S. M.

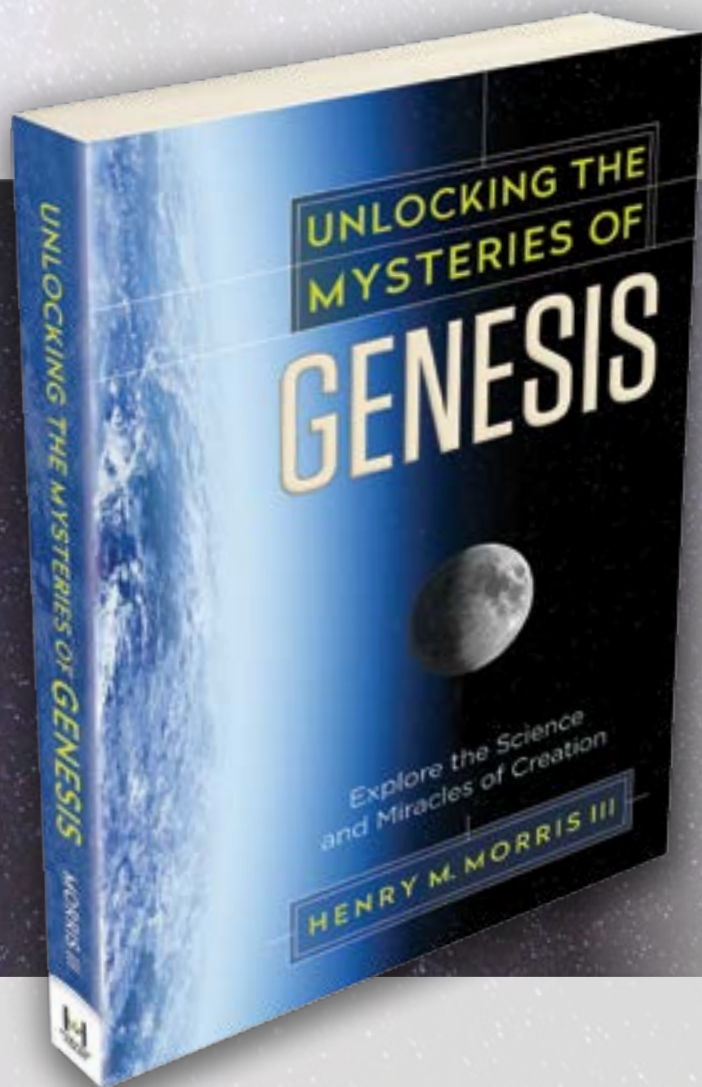
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