

# EVOLUTION? DEGENERATION? CREATION?

## Preface to Second English Edition

After the initial publication of my Chinese version of this book, there have been requests for an English version. It is not that there is a lack of English creationist books, but this book fits a certain need and addresses a certain popular readership. Many welcome the concise and orderly but comprehensive nature of this book. I must also give credit to my beloved wife, Dr. Esther Su, Ph.D. in Biochemistry (University of Michigan), who first presented the discussion in the tabulated form presented in this book. We admit that much of the material has been collected from several prominent creationist organizations such as the Institute for Creation Research (San Diego, CA) and Answers in Genesis, and we hereby acknowledge the tremendous work they have done towards the cause of Biblical creationism.

Brother Willie Chui of Hong Kong was the first one to really take action on the production of the English version. He was able to enlist the help of the Alliance Press in Hong Kong and underwrite the entire expense of the first English edition.

For this second edition, primarily for use in North America, valuable contributions to the wording of the book were initially given by Brother Chui's son, Benjamin. But it was my beloved niece, Mrs. Melody Graves, who undertook the tedious work of the final editing of the entire book. To both of them, I offer my sincere thanks.

My sincere thanks also to my beloved sister, Sophia Chan, for all her work in raising the funds for the printing of the book and to Ambassadors For Christ, Inc, for their work in preparing and printing as well as in distributing this book.

May all glory be to our Almighty Creator God and His only begotten Son, our Lord Jesus Christ. May all who read this book find God's eternal truth both in His written Word and in His handiwork. Unless otherwise indicated, all quoted passages of Scripture are from the NIV.

## Preface

Among modern men, there are two basic attitudes towards religion. One views religion as a man-made psychological crutch, used by individuals to make them feel better about themselves. The other views religion as superstition without scientific basis. It can be used as a means of anesthetizing the mind, and is subject to the abuse of political powers to poison the populace, thus becoming the root of wars and carnage. However, there is a general consensus in human history that major religions all speak of doing good. Of course, there will be devious cults that prey on people for gain, but we admit that, in general, religions have good intentions.

Is the Gospel of Jesus Christ a religion? How is the Christian Gospel different from other religions of the world?

First, we seek after a TRUTH, that is, Is there a Creator for this universe? Who is the true Creator? Objectively, regardless of perceived need, this question is vitally important. For example, a man drinks water, but a car drinks gas. Reversing the two can cause death to both. Who said so? Of course the one who made them. Every car has its factory-designed specifications and equipment. Ideal operation necessitates following the manufacturer's manual. Smooth operation requires following instructions. This makes sense. Likewise, man can and should lead a better life. Yet he does not realize this because he does not read his own Creator's manual. What a shame!

Secondly, we seek after a DIFFERENT LIFE. Having decided who the true Creator is, we can then ask, Is physical death the ultimate end? Is there a world after death? If so, how do we live in that world beyond our own?

Thirdly, we seek after a RELATIONSHIP OF LOVE. We need love in life. But this world seems to have less and less love, and love has become confused with other things that are not real love. Where is true love? The Gospel of Jesus Christ speaks of the love of the true God the Creator. He wants to establish with us a relationship of love.

The key questions are, Is there a Creator? And if so, can we know Him through science? This book is a collection of articles, initially written in Chinese, that strives to address these two questions. Perhaps you will find some answers here and come to know the truth.

Isaiah 41:21-23a "Present your case," says the LORD. "Set forth your arguments," says Jacob's King. "Bring in your idols to tell us what is going to happen. Tell us what the former things were, so that we may consider them and know their final outcome. Or declare to us the things to come, tell us what the future holds."

Let us see if scientific evidence supports this statement.

Chart 1 on the following page compares the basic principles of evolution and creation, and chart 2 looks at the basic predictions made by both the evolution and the creation models. These then are examined and compared

in more detail in the chapters that follow.

**TABLE 1: Basic Principles of Evolution and Creation**

	<b>EVOLUTION</b>	<b>CREATION</b>
ORIGIN OF LIFE	Life from non-life	Life from same kind of life Each according to its kind
KINDS OF LIFE	Continuous change Transitional kinds	Each according to its kind No transitional kinds
NEW KINDS	New kinds appearing	No new kinds Extinction--result of the entrance of death
MUTATION	Some should be beneficial to organism's survival	All are harmful to organism Original design was perfect
NATURAL SELECTION	Some mutants have greater chance of survival May lead to different kinds Resulting effect--creation	Mutants have less chance of survival Original design preserved Resulting effect--conservation
FOSSIL RECORD	Numerous transitional organisms Incomplete organs	No transitional organisms Complete organs "Sudden appearance" of kinds
ANCIENT MAN	Primitive ape-man	No primitive ape-man Man created in God's image and likeness
AGE OF THE EARTH	Very old	Not necessarily very old Dependent upon the power of the Creator

**TABLE 2: Basic Predictions of Evolution and Creation**

<b>EVOLUTION</b>	<b>CREATION</b>
No Creator No design Everything by chance	There is a Creator There is intelligence There is design
Evolution still in progress: Increasing in complexity Increasing in organization	Creation was completed: Each according to its kind Everything created perfect Later death and degeneration entered
Uniformitarianism: All observed phenomena remain at a constant rate, past, present and future "The present is the key to the past."	Catastrophism: Violet cataclysm occurred in the earth's history, resulting in present geological features Entrance of death (Gen 3) Noahic flood (Gen 7) The earth was divided (Gen 10)

# EVOLUTION? DEGENERATION? CREATION?

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## 1. EXPERIMENTAL SCIENCE AND TRUTH

### PHILOSOPHY AND TRUTH

In this high-tech age, discussions about truth cannot avoid demanding scientific proof. Many would naturally equate experimental science with materialism, assuming that all supernatural phenomena, being outside the material realm, are obviously not provable by experimental science, or perhaps actually had already been disproved by science. Actually materialism (Epicureans) and stoicism were prominent Greek philosophies as early as 100 BC. The Epicureans believed that all things come from the fortuitous collision of atoms. This coincides with the basic idea of evolution. As for the Stoics, they believed that all creation is god. In other words, the Creator is in everything. Both are accepted philosophies with corresponding arguments.

### SCIENCE AND RATIONALISM

There is of course a reason why modern man demands scientific evidence, judging everything with a scientific rationale. Human history has seen many treacherous events during the past hundred years, most notably the Jewish Holocaust. Victims of such atrocities outnumber those killed in natural disasters. The rationale leading up to many of these events originated in certain ideologies, philosophies or religious beliefs. To quote a young scholar, "We have been deceived once; not again!" A philosophy can sound reasonable, but if it is just a fancy, one ends up deceived. The one who told you may not be trying to deceive you. He himself may also be deceived.

### EXPERIMENTAL SCIENCE

The method of experimental science was first developed by the 17<sup>th</sup> century scientist Francis Bacon and has been followed since then. In Bacon's paradigm, **science** itself merely means knowledge. One formulates a conclusion through objective observation and collection of data. The method first involves **observation**, then the creation of a **hypothesis**; then, based upon the hypothesis, one performs an **experiment**. If the **result** of the experiment does not support the hypothesis, then one should amend the hypothesis and repeat the experiment. If upon repetition, the hypothesis is always correct, then one has a **theory**. A theory that has never been disproved is then called a **law**. Several such examples are, the law of gravity, the first law of thermodynamics (conservation of energy) and the second law of thermodynamics (with time, entropy will increase). In other words, absolute experimental science requires repetition of the experiment. Two parts of hydrogen with one part of oxygen, ignited with a spark, gives one part of water. For the past hundred years, this experiment has been repeated innumerable times from high school to doctoral science programs, and has always been true. This is the essence of experimental science.

## **EVIDENTIAL SCIENCE**

However, it is unreasonable to demand the repetition of experimental science in certain cases. For example, a man wants to know if his father is his biological father. Of course it is impossible to repeat history. Eyewitness testimony (such as doctors and the mother) would be one source of evidence. But we know that a better way exists in science today, that is, the parent/child chromosome examination. When the son was conceived, half of his chromosomes came from the father and the other half came from the mother. All these years, as his cells divided, he has been carrying his father's chromosomes. This is the evidence his father left in his body. Basically this is the way attempts to prove evolution are made. Of course it is not reasonable to demand a repeat of the entire evolutionary scenario, because evolution involves a long period of time. For example, according to current evolutionary estimates, man started to evolve from apes four million years ago. Who can live that long to observe this process repeated? Therefore, to call evolution an absolute fact of experimental science is a violation of the basic principles of scientific methodology. Evolution presumes that there are certain **principles**, thereby certain **deductions**, and from that, one can make some **predictions**. Then one can search for **evidences** in the material world in support of the predictions. This is evidential science.

## **THE CHALLENGE OF THE BIBLE**

The opposite of evolution is creationism. The Bible indeed introduces to us a true Creator. He calls Himself the "**I AM**", the **self-existent One**. His challenge to us is,

**Rom. 1:20 For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities—His eternal power and divine nature—have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that men are without excuse.**

Because man is so infinitesimally small in this universe, it is not surprising that no one can see the Creator with his naked eye. But God says we can know Him in an obvious manner through what He created. For example, no one has seen electricity, but through the study of its effects, we can know that electricity exists. If there is a Creator, then, when He created everything, no one would have been around. Neither would the **principles** of creation be known by any man. But if He instructed His servants to write down these principles of creation, then likewise there would be **deductions**, and from these, certain **predictions**. If He is the true Creator, we should be able to find the **supporting evidences** for these predictions in the material world. This is also evidential science.

Let us examine and compare.

## **2. IN THE BEGINNING**

### **BASIC PRINCIPLES**

Currently, the most popular explanation for the origin of the material universe based upon scientific evidence is the theory of evolution. We have already pointed out that evolution cannot be treated as a fact of absolute experimental science. It is only an evidential science. Since Darwin revived the viewpoint of ancient Greek Epicureans, evolution has undergone some revisions as a result of progressive scientific discoveries. To compare and discuss those changes is beyond the scope of this book. Nevertheless, the basic principles are still the same:

1. All things came into existence by chance without a designer.
2. The process started from the most basic atom, hydrogen, and has evolved over a prolonged period of time into the present complex system.
3. The processes and changes upon the earth have been uniform in speed. The present is the key to the past.

### **BIBLICAL PRINCIPLES:**

1. Creation indicates a designer and initiator.
2. The created universe was perfect, and each living organism is reproduced according to its kind. But the factor of death came into this world leading to the degeneration of the material world.
3. Catastrophic changes in the history of the earth lead to present geological phenomena.

### **THE BIG BANG AND THE SOURCE OF ENERGY**

The most popular view among atheists and evolutionists concerning the beginning of the universe is the **Big Bang theory**. They believe this occurred a long time ago. Opinions vary, but it is estimated to be about twenty billion years ago. The basic reason for this approximation of time is the mathematical necessity for the numerous chance events to evolve into the complex world of today. Actually, for the genetic material of even the smallest living organism to form by chance, the mathematical possibility is next to zero. Therefore, evolution demands a very long period of time.

Actually, the Big Bang itself is a mathematical guess, still full of problems. Is it possible for the Big Bang to evolve into the complex world of today? Let us quote a former Big Bang scientist, Dr. Fred Hoyle, who is not a Christian. He said, "For higher forms of life to emerge from such [a Big



Bang], is like a tornado sweeping through a junk yard, and out flew [sic] a Boeing 747” (*Nature*: Vol. 294, Nov. 12, 1981. p. 105).

The Bible says, **“In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth”** (Gen 1:1). The word **God** is translated from a Hebrew word that means “the Mighty One,” or the “Source of Energy.” Therefore the Bible calls Him **“a consuming fire”** (Heb 12:29), **“the Father of the heavenly lights”** (Jas 1:17), **“who lives in unapproachable light, whom no one has seen or can see”** (1 Tim 6:16).

Regarding creation the Bible explains **“what is seen was not made out of what was visible”** (Heb 11:3). The material universe that is visible to us came from the infinite energy of the Creator who is the source of all energy. The concept that energy and mass are interchangeable was a great discovery of the famous scientist of this century, Albert Einstein. It can be expressed in his famous equation,  $e = mc^2$ , where  $e$  = energy,  $m$  = mass and  $c$  = speed of light. We can see mass turning into energy every day, from cars burning gasoline to nuclear bombs. But the transformation from energy to mass is still humanly impossible, perhaps because of the immensity of the required energy.

The Bible tells us that time was also created by the Creator, who transcends time. According to Einstein’s equation, when the speed of a matter reaches that of light, does time stand still? However, the speed of light is currently still humanly unattainable. So, what will we discover if we ever achieve the speed of light? Who knows? But we can understand that the speed at which a deed is done depends upon the power of the one who does it. Since the Creator is the source of all energy, He does not necessarily need a long period of time to accomplish great things.

Next let us examine whether the material universe is a chance occurrence or a created design. What is the climax of evolution or creation? Where is the focus of all creation?

### 3. CHANCE OR DESIGN

**According to the theory of evolution**, chance is an important principle, requiring no designer or creator. This was so at the beginning, as well as throughout the process of evolution up to the present. Therefore, the environment is a chance occurrence. This includes the earth's water, oxygen, nitrogen, amino acids—virtually all the essentials of life. Even the earth itself is a chance occurrence. Therefore, the universe could possibly produce at least one other planet just like the earth. Furthermore, all living organisms come into being through environmental factors. Thus, the environment becomes the catalyst that forces the appearance of certain survival skills and selects the creatures that have such skills so that they may survive.

**The Bible emphasizes** that a Creator, the source of energy and life, carefully designed the universe. The aim of His creation was the earth, and the focus of His creation is life. In the first eight verses of the first book of the Bible (Gen 1:1-8, ASV), the writer concisely lists the five essential aspects of life:

1. **The Earth. “In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth”** (v. 1). The Creator who transcends time created time. And at the beginning of time, He prepared the materials for life, that is, the various elements in the earth. The Bible also says, **“Now the earth was formless and empty.”** We see a picture similar to that of a lump of clay before anything is formed out of it.
2. **Water. “...darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters”** (v. 2), **“... and the earth was formed out of water and by water”** (2 Pet 3:5). The abundance of water upon the earth is unique in the universe. To this date, space travel does not reveal any other heavenly body with this much water. The correlation of water to life is well known. Even upon the driest parts of the planet, the earth is not totally devoid of water. There are creatures that can survive with just that little bit of moisture.
3. **Light. “And God said, ‘Let there be light,’ and there was light”** (v. 3). The relation of material light to the appearance of life is obvious. This light originates from the Creator, the source of energy. The Bible emphasizes that on the third day, with this light, plants were created, obviously before the creation of the sun, the moon and the stars. The Bible indicates that on the fourth day, God assigned the functions of this light to the sun, the moon and the stars, which are the light bearers. These heavenly bodies are vessels which themselves cannot produce energy to cause the light, but they store light to provide for the earth's needs. Therefore, their energy will decrease over time.

This is exactly what scientists have observed in relation to the sun.

4. **Day and Night. “And there was evening and there was morning, one day”** (v.5). The Bible emphasizes that “evening,” “morning” and “day” are all singular. Of course, the phenomenon of day and night is not just the result of having a light source, but also because of the rotation of the earth. The mystery that the earth is suspended in space was stated in the Bible as early as 3,500 years ago in Job 26:7, **“He [God] suspends the earth over nothing.”** The relationship between the rotation of the earth and life upon it is evident. For instance, the moon does not rotate. Its surface temperature varies from extreme cold to extreme heat. Some other planets rotate too fast, creating violent storms in the atmosphere. The big red spot of Jupiter is such an example. The earth’s rotation is just right for life. The Bible affirms this from the beginning.
5. **The Atmosphere. “And God said, ‘Let there be an expanse between the waters to separate water from water’”** (Gen 1:6). The earth is called the blue planet because of its large volume of water and its atmosphere. The atmosphere consists of about 20% oxygen, not quite 80% nitrogen and other gases. This combination of gases is optimal for the presence of life. Thirty years ago, the American medical community created a disaster. They figured that if 20% oxygen was good for premature babies, won’t 100% be better? The result was blindness from retrolental hyperplasia. The composition of the earth’s atmosphere is unique in the solar system. Current space exploration has not revealed any similar atmosphere.

## **THE MEANING OF LIFE**

### **So, what is the meaning of life?**

**Under evolutionary principles,** life is only a process in evolution, a chance occurrence. Under the principle of “survival of the fittest,” life is ruthless, morality is artificial, and the individual life has no eternal value. Any artificial system can decide at will who should die and who should live. Therefore everyone’s supreme concern should be the survival of self. It is logical to be self-centered, and selfishness is a natural phenomenon.

**The Bible teaches** that life has dignity and worth since it came from the Creator. The Creator of the Bible is called Yahweh (or Jehovah), that is, the self-existent One (Exodus 3:13-15), or Source, the source of life. Life is in Him. He is our heavenly Father. Therefore, the relationship He builds with us is one of love. **“How great is the love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God!”** (1 John 3:1). He is also the Judge. Therefore, in eternity everyone must give an account to Him.

#### 4. LIFE AND NON-LIFE

We have discussed the contrast between the basic principles of the origin of the universe and life proposed by atheistic scientists and the opposing principles presented in the Bible. We noted that the evidence of both can be compared in the observable material world. Now let us compare some of their **predictions** to see which side is supported by the evidence in the material world.

**According to evolution**, life should evolve from non-life. Therefore, when Darwin first proposed evolution, some scientists still believed in “spontaneous generation.” They pointed out that a piece of dead meat can turn into worms, and a bunch of rags and a handful of wheat can turn into mice. Is this not life from non-life? Of course such a viewpoint has its obvious problems today. We now know that those scientists did not consider other factors that introduced life into their observable phenomena.

Modern evolution has had some revisions, although the emphasis is still on “life from non-life.” What is now believed is that after the Big Bang (estimated at about 7.5-20 billion years ago), there were hydrogen atoms. From this, more complex elements developed by chance, then different molecules. After the birth of the earth, then came different organic chemicals. Among these, the most important would be amino acids, the basic chemicals of life. According to evolution, the emergence of amino acids occurred in an environment without oxygen. This was of course the focus of the famous experiment by Stanley L. Miller of the University of Chicago. But amino acids would still have to evolve into very complex proteins and ultimately into the nucleic acids (RNA, DNA), in order to form the basic essence of the cell. All these components of life came about without any design through many chance occurrences. Therefore, evolution states that from the birth of the earth (estimated at 4.5 billion years ago) to the appearance of the first unicellular organism required about 1 billion years. However, mathematically, the probability for unicellular life to appear in 1 billion years is infinitesimally small.

**Biblical predictions** are completely different. Life originally came from the source of life (Jehovah/Yahweh means the source of life). Then the first of the three principles of life states, “Each according to its kind.” Therefore, in the present material world, what we expect to observe would be, 1. Life cannot come from non-life, and. 2. Life must come from the same kind of life.

**Objective scientific experiments** give us these results:

1. Life is still a riddle. There is obviously a big difference between a living and a dead creature. The difference is *life* which is not measurable, not weighed, not to be analyzed.

2. Miller's experiment perfectly demonstrated that even the creation of amino acids (which is a far cry from life) could only happen in a carefully designed scientific experiment.
  
3. As early as the late nineteenth century, a famous scientist, Dr. Louis Pasteur, demonstrated through his experiments that life must come from life, thereby overthrowing the idea of spontaneous generation. Dr. Pasteur put some meat broth in a long-necked flask. Having first boiled the broth to kill whatever bacteria was still living inside, he filtered all of the bacteria in the air going into the flask and sealed it. The broth remains unspoiled to this date at the Paris Institute. This proved that bacteria did not spontaneously generate in the broth. When the broth spoiled, it was as a result of contamination through the air. Dr. Pasteur's experiment marked an epoch for medicine, becoming the foundation of modern surgery, antisepsis, microbiology and infectious disease. Dr. Pasteur's method of sterilization is still widely used as a standard, as seen on any milk carton with a pasteurization label. Dr. Pasteur was a Christian. He once said, "As I know more, my faith more approaches that of a simple farmer. If I knew all, my faith would be like that of a simple [farmer's wife]." Every so often, we read in the media that some scientist has created life. Upon close examination, what was done was to take the content of one cell and insert it into the shell of another. It was a mere change of packaging. There was no creation of life.

Life--did it come from non-life by chance, or did it come originally from the source of life? In this day and age, has any scientist truly created life from non-life, or simply repackaged life of the same kind in a weak counterfeit of true creation? Which prediction does scientific evidence support? Surely you can tell.

## 5. Each According to its Kind

We have pointed out that the earth is the only currently known oasis in space which has the essentials of life, the elements of the earth which are, water, light, rotation and atmosphere. Upon this little planet, the variety and beauty of life is amazing.

Evolution uses the biological world and the fossil record as evidence of evolution of the smallest so-called simple organisms into the so-called higher organisms, such as human beings. But the principle of the Bible is “each according to its kind.” Let us look at a few examples in nature to see which idea is scientifically sound and supported by the evidence.

### AMONG KINDS

**Evolution demands no design.** The rate of change in material laws remains the same. Evolution is the result of the accumulation of minute changes due to numerous chance occurrences in nature. Therefore, it requires a prolonged period of time. If this is the case, there should be innumerable transitional creatures that are in the process of changing from one kind to another. For example, according to evolution, birds evolved from reptiles. A simple observation reveals immense differences between the two:

1. Reptiles creep. Birds fly. Flying is of course a complex scientific discipline. For thousands of years, scientists have tried to design machines that could fly using birds as their example, but to this date, birds are still the most practical and efficient flying machines.
2. Reptiles are cold-blooded. Birds are warm-blooded, perhaps one of the warmest creatures of all. Birds can reach a body temperature of over 110°F (43°C) when flying. The control of body temperature is a complex procedure, involving endocrine and exocrine functions, metabolism, musculature and other internal organs.
3. Reptiles are covered with heavy scales or tough skin. Birds are covered with feathers.
4. Reptiles have heavy, solid bones. Birds have hollow bones.

Let us just consider these four differences. According to evolution, the evolution of reptiles into birds must go through numerous small changes. Scales suddenly changing into feathers would be a miracle, not evolution. Mathematically, of course one expects to find numerous creatures in transition. Assuming these four points can be divided into 100 little steps (actually from the perspective of biology, a complete list of steps would be too numerous to list.), then the prediction would be to find creatures that have changed 1 little step, 2, 3... and so on. Furthermore, say that among

those that have taken 10 steps, the sequence need not be 1 to 10. It could be, 1, 3, 11, 25, 34, 56, 69, 73, 82, 97, or any other combination. Mathematically, this could mean 100! kinds of transitional creatures between the reptile and the bird (100! means 100 x 99 x 98 x 97 x....x 1). The distribution should also be even among these numerous transitional kinds.

**The Biblical prediction** is totally different. The first chapter of Genesis repeats the phrase **“each according to its kind”** ten times. "Kind" designates a boundary. Each kind of creature was created for its own particular environment. Therefore, the Creator has provided them certain special predispositions to survive in that environment. Such predispositions were programmed in the genetic code of the creature to meet the special situations of its environment. Under various circumstances, these predispositions would be expressed. Therefore, there should be unbridgeable gaps between kinds. The results according to this prediction would be:

1. No transitional creatures, let alone numerous such creatures.
2. The biological world should be orderly, each according to its kind.
3. One cannot cross-breed creatures of different kinds.
4. Male and female are created for each other, so that though structurally quite different, genetically they are compatible.
5. Within each kind, in spite of superficial differences, interbreeding is possible.
6. Among creatures of different kinds, there can be similar organs with similar functions. It shows a common designer, in the same way that houses with different floor-plans can bear the unmistakable mark of the same designer through the use of similar fixtures.
7. Apparent simple creatures can have certain organs that are more complex than a so-called higher creature.

#### **SCIENTIFIC EVIDENCE SHOWS:**

1. Creation is obviously each according to its kind. There are no transitional kinds. This is why taxonomy (the classification of life forms) is possible. The father of taxonomy, French scientist Carolus Linnaeus, was a Christian. He based the idea of taxonomy on the principle in Genesis, “each according to its kind.”
2. There are no transitional kinds in the fossil record, only each according to its kind. There are gaps between kinds. When Darwin first came up with evolution, he also acknowledged that the fossil record spoke against his theory, because of the lack of transitional

kinds. But he felt that the current fossil record of his time was sorely incomplete and that given time to discover more fossils, there would be many transitional kinds found. Yet today, a hundred years later, the number of fossils that have been discovered is more than museums can hold. In the Red Deer River Valley near Calgary, Alberta, scientists estimate that millions of dinosaurs were fossilized. In Nebraska, fossilized fish numbered in the hundreds of millions. Yet, to this date, we cannot find any transitional kinds in the fossil record, not even one!

3. Cross-breeding is not possible between kinds, because of incompatibility in genes, physical structure, body temperature, etc. Half-breed, part man, part animal supermen only occur in comic books.
4. Conversely, among creatures of the same kind, the outer appearance may be very different, yet interbreeding is possible. An example is interbreeding among different breeds of dogs. Interbreeding a horse with a donkey produces a mule, although mules themselves are sterile.
5. Certain organs of lower life forms are indeed more complex than those of higher forms. An example is the fly's eye, which is much more complex than the human eye. However, quite a few unearthed ancient creatures are identical to their modern counterparts. For instance, scientists discovered that ancient cockroaches (by evolution dating techniques, in layers 350 million years old) are identical to modern cockroaches, even down to their genetic makeup. No change in 350 million years! Have cockroaches evolved to perfection? Or, were cockroaches created this way? There has not been any change.

Let us continue to examine some interesting facts of the biological world.



## **6. VARIETY AND CHANGE**

Be it in the air, on land or in the water, the amazing variety of life is a sight to behold; unimaginably strange, yet at once magnificent and beautiful. The ability of life forms to change in response to their environment is what evolutionists consider to be the strongest support for the theory of evolution. It is the force of the environment, with old father time, which necessitates the survival of the fittest and the demise of the weak. Is this not what we behold all around us? Or, is it indeed?

### **GENETIC MUTATION**

Before we discuss biological changes, let us first explain the cause of these changes. During the nineteenth century, at the dawn of the theory of evolution, the famous evolutionist Lamarck, along with Darwin, initially believed that biological change leading to evolution was purely a result of the environment. An example was the evolution of the giraffe. At that time, the current view was that the giraffe used to be a short-necked creature. Because of the shortage of grass, it had to stretch its neck to reach leaves on the trees. This elongated neck promoted better survival, and these giraffes therefore survived to bear children with longer necks. And so it continued down to the grandchildren, eventually producing the giraffe of today!

Such a view is ignorant and ridiculous in light of modern genetics. For one thing, the long neck of the giraffe is not that simple. Let us just consider the blood pressure in its head. As it raises and lowers its head, will it not pass out when it raises its head or die of a stroke when it lowers its head? Actually, within the veins of its neck, there are many pumps that closely regulate the blood pressure inside the head. Therefore, changes in the environment cannot force the emergence of an ability that is not already programmed into the nature of the creature. This potential has to be within its original genetic pool. Whether the trait is expressed or not is another matter. This is an objective fact of science.

One such “long-neck” example can be seen among some hill tribes along the Sino-Burmese border. The women prefer a long neck. So, from childhood, they wear metal or wooden rings stacked around their necks to stretch them out as they grow. Of course, they still bear daughters of normal neck length. Each girl still must have these rings placed on her neck to produce the desirable long neck. Their genetic makeup decides the length of their necks. The long necks are purely superficial.

Modern science has concluded that for a creature to be born with characteristics different from its ancestors, the change must start from the genes. This gene sequence is like a computer software program, determining the result of the product. It is made up of two intertwining strands of

nucleic acids, the so-called double strand DNA helix. Its construction is like a long rope ladder. At the connecting point of each “rung” of the ladder, there is a choice of four nucleic acids. Molecular biologists estimate that just one such strand of human chromosome can have ten million to twenty billion “rungs.” The complexity of the possible combinations of nucleic acids in a single chromosome is beyond imagination and is a topic still intensely studied by scientists.

Among the above-mentioned choice of four nucleic acids, just one change can affect the characteristics of expressed traits of a creature. Such change can occur during cellular division. This is called **genetic mutation**.

**According to evolution**, it is acknowledged that most mutations are detrimental to the creature, but some should be good, so that the creature can better survive. This means that it can propagate better, not just having sons and daughters but specifically, having grandchildren. Evolution predicts that we should be able to find such beneficial mutations in the biological world. The accumulation of such changes should give us better breeds and even new kinds. In other words, new creatures should evolve!

**The Biblical view is opposite.** Since the original creation was perfect, and the factor of death and degeneration was added after the fall of Adam, any change can only go downhill, say to 99%, 90%, 80% and so on. The resulting creatures will not be as good as the original 100%. Therefore, true genetic mutation cannot be beneficial to the creature. Adaptive changes of creatures in adverse environments are expressions of preexistent genetic potentials. The purpose is to preserve the kind, not create a new change. There cannot be a new kind, but rather the extinction of certain species.

## **MATERIAL EVIDENCES**

1. No genetic mutations discovered to this date are genuinely beneficial to the overall survival of the creature. An example is the fruit fly (*drisophyla*), the little fly that comes when fruits begin to decay. This little creature is a favorite of geneticists because it produces a new generation in eleven days. This abbreviated lifespan is very useful for the observation of genetic mutations. For nearly one hundred years, generations of geneticists all over the world have been bombarding these flies with radiation, ultraviolet light, chemicals, etc. to make them mutate. Thousands of generations of mutated flies have been studied. The result, all sorts of deformities such as irregular-sized heads and abdomens, blind and defective eyes, lameness, deformed or absent wings. Obviously, the survival of such mutated flies is much poorer than the normal “wild” breed.
2. Medically, as ultraviolet rays shine upon the human skin, skin cells may mutate as they divide. The result could be skin cancer. Would such a person survive better?! All cancers are essentially mutations.

Cigarette smoking causes irritation of the bronchial cells by the tar of the cigarette smoke, and they mutate. One then develops lung cancer. Consuming too much barbecued meat can cause irritation of colonic mucosal cells by chemicals in the barbecue. One then develops colon cancer.

3. Why should people of reproductive age avoid x-rays to their lower torso? Because irradiation of reproductive cells may cause mutations. The result is not super kids, but rather congenital deformities or mental retardation. Down's Syndrome occurs in individuals having an extra strand at the twenty-first pair of their chromosomes. Such children rarely survive beyond the age of thirty.
4. We do not see constant appearance of new kinds in the zoo. Conversely, we see relentless extinction. Ancient fossil records tell us that in those days, there were more kinds of creatures. Modern history has also witnessed this relentless tide of biological extinction. Of course, our abuse of natural resources and pollution of the environment are important contributing factors. The Chinese Great Panda is one example. Much of Sichuan's wild bamboo forests had been reported coming to flower and seed, a sign of impending death and renewal of the bamboo forest. In the past, the pandas could simply relocate to neighboring bamboo forests over the slopes nearby while the present bamboo forest re-seeded itself and regenerated. But now, these nearby slopes have been converted to farms, thus terminating the life cycle of the panda's natural habitat—a dead end for the poor creatures!

Next, let us examine natural selection.

## 7. SURVIVAL AND SELECTION

**Competition and selection, survival of the fittest, demise of the weak!** These are the mottos of modern biology. Unwittingly, these have also become the mottos of modern sociology. One must be at the forefront of the current wave of thought, lest one become obsolete.

In this age of rapid accumulation of information, falling behind the times or living in total ignorance can leave a person, a community or even a nation in a disadvantageous position. But in the biological world, what exactly is selection? Is the younger generation always more viable than the previous generation? Do life forms compete against each other or can they survive through mutual cooperation in a symbiotic relationship? Is this world forever a battlefield? Is love a sign of weakness?

### **SURVIVAL OF THE FITTEST**

An amazing biological phenomenon is the unusual behavior some creatures manifest under various extreme conditions in order to survive. In the salt lakes of America's Death Valley, the high saline content of the water can blind humans and damage their skin, but little worms thrive in such waters. In the dark caves of Carlsbad Caverns in Texas, a little blind fish survives. In the blazing deserts of South Africa, many small creatures survive by absorbing the drops of dew in the evening. The hardiness and keen survival instinct of such creatures is astonishing.

Evolution points to certain evidences as validation of the theory. Adverse environments cause the development of unusual survival skills, so that the creature can adapt accordingly. Those that cannot adapt are eliminated. But the question is, Are these instincts newly evolved or innate genetic predispositions?

The peppered moth of England is a creature widely discussed in evolutionist literature. Before the Industrial Revolution, trees in England, such as the birch, had light-colored tree bark. The color of the moth tended to be white. With air pollution after the Industrial Revolution, tree bark turned dark, and the moths tended to become dark as well. In biology, this is called protective coloration. Evolutionist theory hails this as a prime example of adaptation and concludes that the moth evolved a new characteristic, dark color, in response to the changes in its environment.

Actually, closer examination shows that there were already white and dark moths before the Industrial Revolution. But on the lighter tree bark, dark moths tended to be eaten by birds first, resulting in a majority of white moths. With the darkening of tree bark after the Industrial Revolution, the white moths then became the first to be eaten, and the dark moths became predominant. Regardless of color, the peppered moth survived. Was there

any new change? Furthermore, we have now discovered that as the air in London has become cleaner as a result environmental protection, the tree bark is turning light again, and the proportion of white moths is again increasing. This is evidence that dark and white tones were part of original genetic makeup of the peppered moth, enabling it to survive in different environments. This is the prediction of the Bible. God created everything good. Even with the entrance of death and degeneration, the potential to survive still emerges in order to preserve the existence of the creature. Such potentials may be expressed under special circumstances.

## **SELECTION**

Do we see in the biological world a picture of competition (as evolution proposes), or a picture of complementation? A simple example is the respiration between animals and plants. Animals breathe in oxygen and breathe out carbon dioxide. Plants breathe in carbon dioxide and breathe out oxygen. This is an illustration of mutual help. Initially, God created animals to be vegetarians. Human beings were also vegetarians. Each creature existed in its own perfect environment. This place of peaceful coexistence was called the Garden of Eden (delight). It was after man took things into his own hands, rejecting the Creator, that degeneration entered this world, resulting in all kinds of imperfections today.

Then what is **selection**? According to evolution, selection should be creative. But in fact, as we have previously pointed out, we know of no mutation that has been good. Mutated creatures just do not survive as well. We have also just pointed out that an adaptive instinct is only the expression of an innate potential in the original gene pool. It is not newly evolved. Therefore, in the real world, selection is designed to eliminate mutated creatures, or in exigent circumstances, to express a potential previously hidden to ensure the survival of the species.

This is a principle recently recognized by wildlife zoologists. Previously, zoologists cared for herds of wildlife such as zebras, wildebeest and antelopes by keeping them away from their natural predators, such as lions, leopards, etc. This actually deteriorated the health of the herd, because of the increase of the deformed, sick and injured. Contact with natural predators served to weed out the weaker animals and preserve the quality of the original herd. Clearly then, selection has the effect of conservation, preserving the original quality of the kind, and not creating new kinds.

Considering **competition** and the **elimination of the weak** as necessary and good has spawned a great deal of damage in human society. Such tragedies of human history include racial prejudice, colonialism, militarism, genocide, international wars and massacres. God has created man to be perfect and to engage in loving communication with Him and with each other. This beautiful plan has been destroyed by our willfulness. But now, through God's grace, we can strive to maintain what we have. This is what

we call **environmental protection**. Believers of the evolutionary theory should not and cannot practice environmental protection, because under the principle of eliminating the weak, one should take the attitude of live and let live.

## 8. HOW OLD IS THE EARTH?

Something that has been around a long time is said to be, “as old as heaven and earth.” How old is the earth? This is an interesting and relevant question. All scientists studying the origin of the universe and the human race have to address this question. Living in the material world, man cannot avoid the limitation of time. The history of the earth will of course impact how we look upon this oasis in space, the blue planet.

Every year Earth Day promotes the protection of our unique little environment. How was it formed? How long has it existed? Evidences on earth, geological formations, buried fossils, ancient animals frozen in polar ice, rugged mountains and deep canyons--what can they reveal to us?

### THE CALCULATION OF AGE

It is not simple to calculate age by scientific methods. For example, suppose someone asks you, “How old are you?” You reply, “Thirty-five.” How do you know that? Your birth certificate, of course, and the word of your mother. This uses the method of the testimony of historical eye-witnesses. They are your parents, the doctor or the midwife and others. Without eye-witnesses, however, the calculation of the age of an unidentified human body would be more difficult. Because of the lack of witnesses, one can use a different method. One can compare what one observes on a body against observed milestones in the growth of a normal human. This second method presupposes a careful study of the entire growth history of such a creature, thereby establishing a calibrated standard.

Practically speaking, it is impossible to calculate the age of the earth using the above two methods:

1. From human observation — Since there were no humans at the birth of the earth, there can be no eye-witnesses.
2. From a calibrated standard — Since human beings cannot and never have observed a similar heavenly body from birth to destruction, there is no absolute calibrated standard for us to compare.

### 4.5 BILLION YEARS?

How did we get this figure? Some scientists suggest certain methods of calculation. One such method is absolute radiometric dating.

#### ***Absolute Radiometric Dating***

This sounds complicated, but let us examine its basic principle. Articles on earth do contain a certain amount of different radioisotopes. Such a *mother* element would decay into a *daughter* element. The rate of this decay

is observable and is called the *half-life*. The half-life of a radioisotope is the period of time it takes for half of the mother element to decay into the daughter element. A common one used is uranium 238, the material used in the construction of the atomic bomb. Uranium 238, the mother element, decays into lead, the daughter element. The half-life of uranium 238 is about four billion years. That is, in a rock unearthed that is four billion years old, half of its uranium would have decayed into lead.

To understand the absolute radiometric dating method, we can use a simple illustration. Say I am reading a book alone in a room. When you enter the room, you make some observations:

1. When you came in, I was reading page 1,000.
2. After you came in, you observed my rate of reading to be one page per minute.

Based upon these two observations, you want to calculate the following: How long have I been reading this book before you came into the room? If your answer is 1,000 minutes, this is similar to the calculation of the absolute radiometric method.

We need not be specialists to observe the problem of such a conclusion. There are at least three assumptions that cannot be confirmed:

1. The “1,000 minute” answer presupposes that I started from page 1. But if you were not in the room, how would you know? What if I started from page 999, then I could have been in the room only for one minute. Applied to the radiometric method, this presupposes that there was only uranium and no lead when the rock first emerged from the center of the earth. This is of course not what we have observed. We cannot assume that rocks emerge from the earth without lead.
2. The “1,000 minute” answer presupposes that my rate of reading before you came into the room has always been one page per minute. Of course this is also not necessarily true. In radiometric dating, we know that the discovery of radiation was made by Madame Curie, just over a hundred years ago. How can we be sure about the rate of decay millions of years ago? Different environments can affect the rate of decay. Furthermore, some scientists actually believe that even the speed of light is changing.
3. The “1,000 minute” answer presupposes no external factors. In radiometric dating, this means assuming that no external uranium or lead had entered the specimen and that no internal uranium or lead had been leached out. With the rock having survived hundreds of millions of years of water, wind, fire and geological changes, how



can we assume the system to be closed?

Because of the above three uncertainties, the absolute radiometric method has calculated seven different ages from zero to three million years for the same specimen of Hawaiian lava rock. This rock is in fact only two hundred years old, having been produced by a historically documented volcanic eruption.

A collection of over sixty experiments based upon these presuppositions calculated the age of the earth to range from zero to 4.5 billion years. Using the population of the earth, based upon the present rate of increase, doubling every 150 years, it would take 4,000 years for the present population to be created from one couple. Using the decay rate of the earth's magnetic field, only 10,000 years ago the earth would have been a magnetic star.

Therefore, how absolute is this method? Of all the answers, why would one choose the very long age? Next, let us discuss a second method of calculation.

## 9. DID DINOSAURS EXIST 100 MILLION YEARS AGO?

In calculating the age of the earth or of ancient creatures, we have pointed out in the previous chapter how inaccurate the absolute radiometric dating method is. However, objectively speaking, in science we generally have other methods to double-check with our main point of reference. This is a reasonable thing to do. After all, you need two points to make a line.

The second method proposed by some scientists is the **index fossil method**. In the late nineteenth century, under the organization of the lawyer/geologist Charles Lyell, some evolutionary geologists composed the so-called **geological column**, the ideal evolutionary timetable of rock layers.

### CLAIMS OF THE HYPOTHESIS OF THE IDEAL GEOLOGICAL COLUMN

1. Present fossil-bearing rock layers have been accumulated by uniform sediment-tation at the rate of one inch per 150 years.
2. The simpler the life form, the older it should be. Of course *simple* has been an arbitrary definition. Generally, one would expect the simpler life forms to be found in lower rock layers, but this has not always been the case. Therefore, if any rock layer was found to contain the fossils of certain simple life forms (e.g., the Trilobite), then even if it was located in a relatively upper rock layer, its age would be considered older than the layer(s) below it. In the case of the Trilobite, the index fossil method dated its age at 500 million years.
3. Each geological layer has its representative index fossil. Regardless of the result one gets from radiometric dating, the index fossil of a rock layer can determine its age.

### OUR QUERY

1. The rate of sedimentation need not be uniform. Tidal waves, storms and volcanic eruptions frequently give us unpredictable rates of sedimentation. Therefore, all over the world, we can find petrified trees or even a giant creature, such as a whale, vertically positioned through scores of feet deep of rock layers. Evolutionary reasoning would require this tree or creature to remain vertical for several thousand years, with its roots/base becoming petrified while the top remained unburied and perfectly preserved. This is a very unreasonable assumption! The famous Yellowstone National Park in Wyoming has several such upright petrified trees, some taller than twenty feet. From this example it is clear that the sedimentation rate need not be uniform. What about during a flood? Could the sediments be rapidly accumulated in such an event?
2. Paleontological study of the trilobite has found that its eyes are more

complex than the human eye. If humans are further up the evolutionary chain, then is this an example of evolution or degeneration? Or, perhaps each is different, each according to its kind? The dogmatic stance of evolution has caused several problems. One is seen in the Matterhorn in Switzerland. This rocky mountain is dated by evolution to be 200 million years old, but it sits upon rock layers that are 60 million years old. Calling for it to sit in mid-air for 140 million years is of course unreasonable. So geologists said the Matterhorn had to have traveled from 35 miles away. Yet there is not a trace of this massive movement.

3. Where can one find this neat geological column? Instinctively, one points to the Grand Canyon in the U.S. The depth of erosion into rock layers is unsurpassed in the Grand Canyon. It is a majestic sight to stand at the North Rim during dusk or dawn. Along the cliffs, layers of sedimentation are clearly seen, yet not necessarily according to the layout of the standard geological column. An obvious example occurs where the Mississippian layer (250 million years old according to evolution) is located under the Cambrian layer (500 million years old according to evolution). Indeed, we cannot find this neat column of evidence anywhere on earth except in books and museums.

### **CIRCULAR REASONING**

Put simply, let's consider an example of the index fossil method of dating. We have a dinosaur fossil. How old is it?

The paleontologist tells us, "150 million years old, because it belongs to the Jurassic Age." "How do you know?" you ask. "Because this was found in the Jurassic Layer." "How do you know that this Jurassic Layer is 150 million years old?" "Go ask the geologist."

The geologist answers, "We have the absolute radiometric dating method." We have pointed out how inexact this method is, yielding varying results. "How can you be sure this fossil is 150 million years old?" you ask. "According to the index fossil method, any rock layer with such dinosaur fossil is determined to be of the Jurassic Age."

This is obviously circular reasoning. You can say, "I am a king. How do I know? My wife is a queen." And conversely, "How does my wife know that she is a queen? Because her husband, me, is a king."

Do fossils really support the theory of evolution? We have pointed out what Darwin himself said about the lack of transitional kinds in the fossil record. Were these creatures accumulated over the course of hundreds of million of years, or could they be accumulated in a short period of time by a singular world catastrophe? Such worldwide catastrophes were reported by the Bible, including the Noahic flood and the division of ancient continent during the time of the Tower of Babel. Such changes need not happen a very

long time ago. They could be just a few thousand years ago.

Next, let us examine the third method that evolutionists use for calculating age--carbon-14 dating.

## 10. LET THE DEAD WOOD SPEAK UP

We have been discussing the methods of calculating age. We showed that the absolute radiometric dating method is not really accurate. Furthermore, the index fossil method is nothing but circular reasoning. Therefore, strictly speaking, to this date, using scientific methods to calculate age outside of recorded history only gives us a big “I don’t know.”

### CARBON-14 DATING

Well, science has a third method for calculating an age, carbon-14 dating. This is essentially another radiometric dating method, because C-14 is just an isotope of the normal C-12. The method is essentially this:

1. Cosmic rays bombard the atmosphere, producing high-speed neutrons. When these neutrons hit the nitrogen of the atmosphere, carbon-14 is produced.
2. Just like ordinary C-12, these C-14 molecules can also combine with oxygen to form CO<sub>2</sub>. Plants absorb this radioactive CO<sub>2</sub> in the process of photosynthesis and maintain equilibrium as some of the radioactive CO<sub>2</sub> decays. Scientists assume that the concentration of such C-14 in the plant is the same as that of the atmosphere while it is living. This concentration is currently estimated to be 1/1,000,000,000,000, twelve 0’s in all. That is, in 1,000,000,000,000 C-12’s there would be one C-14.
3. Animals eat plants, thereby adding to the concentration of C-14 in the animal’s body. Although the C-14 in the plant or animal will constantly decay back into nitrogen, while the plant/animal is living, it will continue to absorb new C-14 from the atmosphere. Therefore scientists presuppose that while the creature is living, the concentration of C-14 in its body should be the same as that of the atmosphere.
4. When the creature dies, it ceases to breathe and absorb nutrients. Therefore, as the remaining C-14 in the body slowly decays, there will be no replenishment. Therefore the concentration of C-14 (compared to that of C-12) will progressively decrease. Scientists believe this change can tell us how long ago the creature died. Currently, the half-life of C-14 is about 5,500 years, meaning in 5,500 years, half of the C-14 in a dead body will have decayed into nitrogen.

### ANALYZING THE ASSUMPTION

This method appears to be more accurate than the uranium/lead method, but there are also some assumptions we have to discuss to see if they are reasonable.

1. This method assumes that the concentration of C-14 in the atmosphere now is the same as the concentration in the atmosphere when the creature was living. Actually, this concentration is directly related to the atmospheric conditions of the earth. If there were better protection for the atmosphere when the creature was living, the C-14 concentration at the time could be much lower, and the bones of the creature would test to be much older than their actual age. The Bible tells us that before the Noahic flood, atmospheric conditions of the earth were quite different from the present. This we will discuss in more detail later.
2. C-14 dating assumes that the concentration of C-14 of the living organism is the same as that of its atmosphere. Actually, some organisms are able to reject isotopes. This is called the isotope effect. For example, once a live clam was tested using C-14 dating, and from the test, it was concluded that the poor clam (though still living) had been dead for 3,000 years!
3. Since the half-life of C-14 is only about 5,500 years, anything over 30,000 years cannot be reliably dated, because of the minuteness of the remaining C-14. It is not possible to have results of millions of years old by the C-14 method.
4. Obviously C-14 calculation dictates that the specimen contains carbon. Therefore, this would not apply to fossils. By definition, in a fossil, the organic materials in the carcass have been replaced by silica. There would be no carbon. In other words, one cannot get a 100 million year date on a fossilized dinosaur bone using C-14.

Therefore, although C-14 is a more closed system, it is not able to give us the extended period that evolution demands. Furthermore, even in dates less than 30,000 years, its accuracy can be seriously affected by different environmental conditions in the past.

#### **THE BIBLE SAYS:**

1. Since life forms were created at about the same time, they coexisted, even though many have become extinct since then. Therefore, it is not surprising that human footprints have been discovered alongside dinosaur footprints in the same rock layer.
2. The Bible tells of a worldwide flood in the past, about 4,000 years ago. The environment before the flood was very different, geographically and climatically. Due to a more protective atmosphere, the conditions were much more ideal then. The percentage of C-14 in the atmosphere at that time could have been much smaller than its current composition.
3. This flood was a world-wide violent catastrophe leaving deep impact

upon the rock strata. Most fossils may have been formed during the flood.

In later chapters we will discuss in greater detail such questions as the following: How did dinosaurs grow to their immense size? Are dinosaurs really extinct?

But let us first discuss the origin of human beings.

## 11. WHO ARE OUR ANCESTORS?

As one searches for the origin of life, the most relevant question is the origin of mankind. Determining our ancestry as humans can affirm the worth of human life, explain racial differences, and provide the foundations of interracial relationships.

Did human beings evolve from apes? Did these primitive humanoids compete to survive, thereby creating the modern man? As a result of this competition, were many of these humanoids ruthlessly exterminated? Is racial difference due to the separate evolution of humanoid ancestors in different parts of the world? If so, which race is the most evolved?

### AN EVOLUTIONARY DIFFICULTY

Evolutionary anthropologists must address the same basic problem of evolution. That is, since evolution presupposes no special design and no creator, and states that since all creatures evolve through numerous chance occurrences from simple to complex, then we should find innumerable transitional organisms. We have pointed out that in the biological world, life forms all reproduce according to their own kind without transitional kinds. This of course also applies to human beings. Be it physiologically, anatomically, psychologically, or intellectually, there is an unfathomable gap between the most intelligent ape and man. Several years ago, a scientist spent several years to teach a chimpanzee to type out, "I love you" on a keyboard. This achievement earned him an article in the esteemed scientific magazine, *Scientific American*. Actually the ability to say "I love you" is the simple instinct of a child. An uneducated farmer's wife can easily teach her two-year-old to say this. Besides, animal behavior scientists can tell us that food is the major behavior modification tool used in training animals. The reward for typing "I" could be just one banana; "L", two bananas; and "I love you" perhaps a bunch of bananas to the chimpanzee. So perhaps the phrase "I love you" simply yields the highest number of bananas to the chimpanzee.

### THE APE-MAN

Indeed, evolutionists have had difficulty finding the transitional creature between man and apes in the biological world. Therefore, they called them *missing links*, and they remain missing to this day. During the past one hundred years or so, evolutionary anthropologists have struggled to find the missing links. Of these, the most important are the upright ape-men (*Homo Erectus*). This is of course a very important link. For although apes can sometimes stand on their hind limbs, their limb structures are still very different from those of man. Even the great gorilla is more comfortable walking on all fours. But the most important difference, according to modern biologists, is the presence of the inner ear organ (*Vestibula*) in the human being, essential for balance, yet lacking in the ape. Evolution claims



that *Homo Erectus* had evolved this organ. Evolutionary anthropologists claim that *Homo Erectus* could walk upright like modern man but had smaller brains and lower intelligence. They are considered a less-evolved species of primitive man. They are considered evolutionary dead ends, and therefore do not survive to this day. All they have left behind are bones.

### **ANALYZING THE APE-MAN**

We quoted Darwin as saying that the fossil record did not support his theory because of the lack of transitional kinds. For evolutionary anthropologists to find the fossils of primitive men was understandably a joyous breakthrough. At the museum, and in books and magazines, pictures and models of these creatures are all so lively and real. Did anthropologists really unearth such a creature? Actually, what they found were merely a few fragments of bones—no flesh, no skin, no fur. Two vastly different conceptions of early man have been formed based upon the same pieces of bones. Therefore, we must insist upon examining the content of what was found. This is the true evidence.

### **PEKING MAN**

To the Asian, the Peking Man is probably the most important *Homo Erectus*. It was discovered around 1920–30 at Zhou Kou Dian near Beijing. The co-discoverers were Dr. Pei Wen Zhong of China and Dr. Davidson Black of Canada. Based upon three teeth, Dr. Black immediately designated this as the Peking Man, *Sinanthropus Pekinensis*. She was allegedly a female, nicknamed Nellie. She consisted of just a few teeth. Later, a skull-cap and fragments of the jaw were also found. The skull-cap was allegedly smaller than that of the modern man, but amazingly, no other body parts or limbs were found. Furthermore, Nellie's bones mysteriously disappeared during World War II around 1941–45. The only evidence we have now of their initial discovery are the plaster models provided by the two doctors. However, at the site, many more such small skull caps were allegedly found, but currently, only two small skull fragments discovered in 1966 have been catalogued in the archeological record.

I had the privilege of personally visiting the site in 1999, and later in 2001, initially with the advantage of an expert guide. The site is actually a rather deep canyon with caves in the cliff face. The bones were found on the canyon wall. Looking further into the evidence of the site, we found it to be a massive limestone mine (a common industry there to this date) that excavators claimed had later collapsed. At the site, there were numerous kilns and stoves with many more of these little skull-caps and bones of other animals. The wood ash was six meters deep. What is seldom known or publicized is that at the site, the skulls and skeletal bones of several **modern men** were found. They are of course on display at Zhou Kou Dian. These are labeled the **Hilltop (Upper) Cave Men**. Researchers claim that these bones fell into the site during the supposed cave-in of the Upper Cave located nearly a hundred feet above, near the top of the cliff. But there is no

evidence that these modern human skulls actually came from the top of the cliff. There are also no eyewitnesses to this event. Furthermore, a sign next to the Upper Cave points to the site of the discovery of the 1966 skull-cap, the most important and complete evidence at present. This indicates, according to evolutionary reckoning, that they were of the same time period.

A more reasonable explanation can be that these modern men were the actual miners and Nellie and her friends were captured apes whose brains these miners ate and whose skull-caps the miners discarded at the site. No wonder in mid-1999, the scientists at the Beijing Ancient Anthropology Museum announced that the ancestors of the Chinese were probably ruthless cannibals who especially enjoyed eating each other's brains! Why? All of the little skull caps had holes or cracks punched into their tops.

In actuality, ancient Chinese people believed in a single Creator. Before the introduction of foreign idols, emperors worshipped the Heaven without any idols. This is what we see at the Heavenly Altar in Beijing. All of the gates in the Heavenly Altar compound are composed of three adjoining segments, aptly named the Gate of the Three Spirits. This is an interesting parallel to the Trinity. The sages also most assuredly acknowledged human uniqueness and dignity. Unfortunately, generations later, according to evolutionary theorists, our ancestors are regarded as brute beasts.

The Bible says,

**Psalm 8:4-8 . . . what is man that you are mindful of him, the son of man that you care for him? You made him a little lower than the heavenly beings and crowned him with glory and honor. You made him ruler over the works of your hands; you put everything under his feet: all flocks and herds, and the beasts of the field, the birds of the air, and the fish of the sea, all that swim the paths of the seas.**

What a pity that modern man has degraded and abused himself and members of his own kind, and that he is capable of unspeakable cruelty to the other creatures with which he has been charged.

## 12. WHO ARE THE MOST EVOLVED?

A hot topic of discussion among evolutionary anthropologists is this: “On which continent did the first *Homo Erectus* appear?” Not long ago, evolutionists from China claimed that the Peking Man (Nellie and her kind) was the earliest example of *Homo Erectus*. But we have pointed out that Nellie was most likely a monkey that miners ate for dinner.

### OTHER EXAMPLES OF HOMO ERECTUS

Evolutionary anthropologists around the world still mostly claim that the evolution of man began in Africa three to four million years ago. Then *Homo Erectus* spread out across the major continents. The most prominent examples are the Peking Man of Asia, the Java Man of Polynesia, the Nebraska Man of the Americas, the Piltdown Man of England and the Neanderthal Man of Germany. These primitive men can be called the foundations of evolutionary anthropology. Evolutionists claim that the *Homo Erectus* began to migrate from Africa to different regions one to two million years ago. Evolving independently, they produced the obvious racial differences in modern man.

Such a viewpoint uses the principle of racial difference to justify the following conclusions about race:

1. Racial color comes from adaptation to different environments.
2. Since the races evolved independently for a million years, the level of evolutionary progress differs among races.
3. Actually, even among people of the same race, some can be viewed as more evolved while others are more primitive tribes.
4. Under the principle of survival of the fittest, advanced races are justified in the elimination of primitive races to promote the evolution of the entire human race.

History has produced some of the most horrifying atrocities known to mankind as a result of this line of thinking. Racial prejudice leading to blatant genocide is one of the most extreme expressions of self-centeredness and narcissism. Before discussing the Biblical view of race, let us first examine in more detail the other alleged examples of *Homo Erectus*.

### JAVA MAN

In 1891, the French scientist Eugene Dubois was so determined to find the missing human evolutionary link that he joined the legionnaires. During

his travels, he discovered a skull-cap on the Indonesian island of Java. A year later, he also found the thigh bone of a modern man fifty feet away. The skull was obviously from an ape, but the thigh bone was human. Java Man was called *Pithecanthropus*. Dubois therefore concluded that the Java Man had only evolved to the erect posture. His brain had not yet developed, and therefore he was dumb. Thirty years later, just before other scientists were going to publish their works, Dubois himself admitted that in the same area and rock layer, he had also found two complete skulls of modern man, as well as other thigh bones of modern man. Before his death, Dubois admitted that he had only found the skull-cap of an orangutan.

### **NEBRASKA MAN**

The Nebraska Man *Hesperopithecus* was discovered in 1922. The sole evidence for this primitive man was a tooth! Yet scientists were able to reconstruct its lower jaw, skull, body, limbs and even its entire family. What imagination! In 1927, it was discovered that this tooth belonged to a pig!

### **PILTDOWN MAN**

The Piltdown Man *Eoanthropus* is the opposite of the Java Man. What anthropologists found in 1912 in England were a skull of a modern man and the jaw of an ape. Therefore, they concluded that human evolution started from the brain, arguing that with just brawn and no brains, apes could not have evolved into primitive man. Forty years later, in 1953, the Piltdown Man was discovered to be a hoax. Someone had taken the skull of a modern man about a thousand years old, and the jaw of a modern ape, worked on them a little, using some chemicals to create an antique look, and buried them. The discovering scientist thought he had found a treasure!

### **NEANDERTHAL MAN**

This specimen was discovered in the Neander Valley near Dusseldorf, Germany, a hundred years ago. At first, it was thought that the Neanderthals moved about on all fours, and they appeared to be rather barbaric. But now, with much more evidences, anthropologist concluded that they were truly erect. Their somewhat grotesque deformities may have been due to their living in caves and suffering from arthritis and a lack of vitamin C. Some skeptics have superimposed the silhouette of the French and American revolutionary hero, Marquis de Lafayette, over the skull of the Neanderthal and found them to match perfectly. It is no leap, then, to assume that the Neanderthal Man and the Marquis de Lafayette were both modern Europeans! According to James Shreeves in the September 1995 issue of *Discover*:

Thick-boned, barrel-chested, a healthy Neanderthal male could lift an average NFL linebacker over his head and throw him through the goalposts. But despite the Neanderthal's reputation for dim-wittedness, there is nothing that clearly distinguishes its brain from

that of a modern human except that, on average, the Neanderthal version was slightly larger. (*The Neanderthal Peace*, p. 72)

Neanderthals were just true European human beings of the past. They were giants and certainly had brains bigger than ours. Our visit to the Neanderthal Museum in 2001 showed us that Neanderthals are now recognized as *Homo Sapiens*. A most interesting scenario was a Neanderthal sitting in front of a TV. A most chilling panel was the statement that man may be controlling his own evolution and, not far from it, a little TV footage of children showing how aggression is “natural” with human evolution!

What a pity! To this day, museums and textbooks still carry the typical progression of human evolution. The early ones are essentially extinct apes that could not stand upright, and the subsequent important five are those we have discussed: the Peking Man, the Java Man, the Nebraska Man, the Piltdown Man and the Neanderthal Man. Furthermore, one cannot help but notice that of these primitive ape-men, the most primitive were allegedly found in Africa, the most evolved allegedly in Europe, and those in between, allegedly in the Asia-Pacific region. The ranking of these examples of primitive man clearly reveals the widespread European ethnocentrism within the evolutionary community which became a solid cornerstone of racial prejudice in the past. Fortunately, today this viewpoint is no longer viewed as politically correct, but sadly, it is still held by evolutionists.

## **BIBLICAL VIEW**

**Acts 17:26** says, “**And He has made from one blood every nation of men to dwell on all the face of the earth, and has determined their preappointed times and the boundaries of their dwellings . . .**” (NKJV). The superficial cultural differences between human races are basically the result of segregated living.

**Skin Color** Actually, all human races have only one skin color which is brown, the color of **melanin**. Skin color depends upon the amount of **melanocytes** in the skin. Generally, the dark color of tropical people and the light color of the temperate people are climate-related.

**Appearance** Races may appear different, but physiologically they are identical and certainly capable of intermarriage and reproduction, although the children will be mixed in appearance. Just as there are different breeds of dogs (French poodles, Labradors, German shepherds, Scotch terriers and others), these types of dogs are actually the results of segregated breeding. If allowed to freely crossbreed, after a few generations, the offspring of different types of dogs would eventually revert back to the “mongrel.” All dogs are dogs, and all men are men.

**Intellect** Some anthropologists think that some races are less intelligent, but genius and mental retardation are present in all races. Intellectual potential is often wasted because of the lack of proper nurture. I was once

speaking to a well-educated, genteel and articulate Ph.D. in Australia, only to find out later that he is a son of the chief of one of the Dayak tribes in Borneo, a group that has only recently given up the practice of headhunting. We are all blood brothers; we all have the same potential.

**Blood** Acts 17:26 points out that there is only one blood. Even two thousand years ago, the Bible had pointed out that all human races share the same blood. The knowledge of blood in medicine is less than a hundred years old, but we now know how complex the nature of blood is. Just for coagulation of blood, over twelve factors are needed, among which most have to be specifically human. For example, hemophiliacs lack factor VIII. Although this same factor is present in animals, such as cows, horses, sheep and monkeys, the treatment of hemophilia requires specifically human factor VIII in order to be effective. Likewise, for transfusions, the blood in blood banks is not classified by race, but by the basic blood types present in all races. Blood can be transfused between races, but animal blood transfused into humans can cause severe reactions, shock and death. This is also true when human blood is transfused into animals.

Yes, we are all created in God's image and His likeness. We came from the same ancestor. Therefore, all human beings have the same genetic makeup, the same blood and the same intellect. This is something evolutionists cannot explain. The Gospel of Jesus Christ is universal and transcends culture because human beings have the same ancestor, created by our loving Heavenly Father. Therefore, between races there should be mutual love, respect and appreciation. This is indeed the basis for an ideal world.

### **13. WHAT IS MAN?**

When discussing the origin of man, one must unavoidably address the issue of the sanctity and intrinsic worth of human life. How we view this subject affects first our self-worth, then our family relationships, then our societal system, then national policy, and eventually also our attitude toward other races and international relations. The extent of its repercussions is no small matter.

#### **THE EVOLUTIONARY PARADOX**

On one hand, evolution insists that man is only the product of the unrelenting tide of time, evolving from the simple hydrogen atom through numerous chance occurrences. Since man is essentially no different from animals, in the unstoppable progression of time, the principle of survival of the fittest and elimination of the weak reigns as the supreme law of the universe. Then, the uniform laws of nature persistently demand all creatures, including man, to continue to evolve. So evolution presumes that a hundred million years ago, dinosaurs ruled over all the world. Yet, seventy million years ago, these dinosaurs suddenly went extinct, being replaced by mammals. How then did dinosaurs become extinct? There are no less than forty-one opinions about this subject to date! This topic deserves our discussion later. However, under this principle, human beings also could be eliminated at any time. This is one reason why many science fiction stories adopt the theme of intelligent humanoid life, either in the future or in outer space. Some of these creatures would look like monkeys and others like reptiles or insects. However, even the wildest imaginations are unwilling to abandon the model of life as we see it on the earth.

On the other hand, evolutionists are quick to shout the motto, "Man over Nature." Man must control evolution to maintain the superior position. This motto stems basically from the desire to be the Creator, or, dare we say, God! This attitude can be seen in the current zeal for creating life, genetic engineering, selective breeding and, as chillingly put by some evolutionists, eugenics. This idea, then, is in direct contradiction to the basic concept of evolution.

#### **ETHICAL ISSUES**

##### ***Problem with Self-Image***

A distorted self-image leads to self-abuse. An example is marijuana, a plant frequently grown illegally in the Northwest. Today, many Western countries actually consider it to be harmless. My son was tested during elementary school in the state of Washington with an IQ of over 160. The psychologist said he had seen only one other such child, a young man who was initially tested at fourteen. Unfortunately, when this youth was retested

two years later, his intellect had fragmented. The reason was marijuana. Actually, in the case of my son, someone had also tried to give him marijuana when he was eight. But, thanks be to God, at that time, he already had the life of Jesus Christ in him and he knew what marijuana was. Wisely he refused and later by God's grace, he entered the University of Washington at ten and graduated from the mathematics department at thirteen.

Furthermore, today many people lose themselves in pornographic books and videos, premarital sex and other forms of immorality. All of these degrade the dignity and value of humanity, treating man as animals.

### ***Interpersonal Relationships***

If human beings are essentially animals, and puppets to bestial impulses, then one is free to do anything to obtain immediate gratification of one's desires. It is no wonder that the wholesome family unit is constantly under attack today. Indeed, if evolution is the truth, then homosexuality could be viewed as a favorable method to control the population growth, and children could be bred on ranches like cattle.

### ***Societal Issues***

The policy of so-called **euthanasia** (the good death) can rapidly develop into the slaughter of millions of innocent people at the whim of the ruling political power, as witnessed in Nazi Germany. The rationale for euthanasia sounds more like, "It is good for me that you die." In the U.S., it is legal to abort a human baby before the sixteenth week of pregnancy. Who decided this? A panel of Supreme Court judges took a vote. Why the sixteenth week? One reason is the notion that before the sixteenth week the fetus is not a human. Where did this idea come from? Its basis was an outdated evolutionary concept--the embryological recapitulation of evolution. That is, the fetus mimics evolution in the womb. So let us ask, Does a sixteen-week-old fetus look like a fish? No! Indeed, at the sixteenth week, the human fetus has all the characteristics of a human being, including sexual features. Does this sixteen-week-old fetus have worth and dignity? Was he murdered for the convenience of his mother? A baby such as he can survive about six days outside his mother's womb. In the Seattle hospital where I used to practice, we saw one that survived thirty days! In some parts of the world, some doctors even do experiments on these babies while they are still alive. If evolution is the truth, this should be quite a reasonable practice. The gruesome and brutal practice of partial birth abortion is only an extension of the above.

### ***Interracial and International Relationship***

We have already discussed how the assumptions of evolution are conducive to interracial strife, mutual annihilation and violent



expansionism.

## **BIBLICAL VIEW**

We have pointed out that the Bible declares that human beings are a unique creation of God.

**Genesis 1:26** Then God said, “Let us make man in our image, in our likeness, and let them rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air, over the livestock, over all the earth, and over all the creatures that move along the ground.”

### ***Image***

This means a copy. Although he has the *contents* of God, man is not God. Still, humans, regardless of what race, all have the gift that the Creator has given them, a uniqueness that separates them from the other animals of the earth.

### ***Likeness***

In the Hebrew of the Old Testament, this word was frequently used to describe God’s glory or outer appearance. Humans used to carry the glory of their Creator. But when they chose to reject God, his glory left. Now it seems that we only see each other’s ugliness. In truth, every human has been crowned by the Creator with “glory and honor” (Psalm 8:5). They are not to be slaughtered at will.

### ***Management (Rule)***

This is the proper relationship that man should have with the environment. Genesis 2:15 also said, “work [the field] and take care of it.” Therefore, man should not destroy the natural environment, nor abuse animals and plants. Since we are stewards of God, one day we will have to give an account to the Master.

### ***The Creation of Woman***

Woman was created from one rib or side of man (*Rib* of Gen 2:21-24 was *one side* in the original text). Therefore, the genetic makeup of man and woman is the same and compatible. She is called a “suitable” helper (Gen. 1:28) which means that she is equal with the man, standing with him face to face. Therefore, in worth and dignity, the woman is equal with the man. She is the helper; therefore, whether it be in the family or in society, men and women should complement each other and help each other, instead of competing against each other as we see today.

This is the beautiful plan of the Creator. Sadly, we generally do not see much evidence of it in today’s society. Let us return to Him and receive His

love through His Son Jesus Christ, who came down to earth to become a man, to die and to be resurrected, so as to bring us a new life.

## 14. FOSSILS AND DINOSAURS

Of all the discoveries of modern archaeology, one of the most popular is that of dinosaur fossils. Even as mere skeletons, the colossal nature of these structures bespeak the dinosaur's natural might. People approach them with both fear and curiosity. When did they live? How long ago was it? Why were they so big? Could they survive in the present environment of the earth? Why are there so many of their bones buried? And why are millions of these bones buried in massive piles? Did these creatures all die together suddenly, or did their bones accumulate over a long period of time? If a sudden, catastrophic event was to be blamed for their extinction, what was it?

These are questions of interest to biologists, paleontologists, geologists, researchers on the origin of life, and even scientists studying the extraction of petroleum and other energy sources. The recent popularity of science fiction movies, such as *Jurassic Park*, bears witness to this widespread interest in dinosaurs.

### FOSSIL FORMATION

First, we must understand how fossils are formed. Geologists agree upon two conditions under which the remains of an organism may become fossilized:

1. After the organism dies, it must be immediately buried. Otherwise, over the course of time, even the bones will decay completely, because all organic matter (containing carbon) decays.
2. After immediate burial, there has to be pressure from a large amount of sediment, such as sand and soil, as well as appropriate heat. This causes the silica in the sediment to seep into the body of the organism, replacing the organic matter inside the body with silica. Essentially, fossils are silica replicas, retaining the shape and form of the original organism.

Today this process can be duplicated to a certain extent in the laboratory.

### EVOLUTIONARY EXPLANATION

In books, in museums, or at places where fossils are found (one such place that we visited is the Drumheller Valley near Calgary, Alberta, Canada), the evolutionary explanation of dinosaurs is predominant. First, evolutionists tell us that these creatures lived hundreds of millions of years ago according to their method of calculation. We have already pointed out that the absolute radiometric dating method is not absolute after all. We have also noted that the index fossil method truly lacks objectivity, being merely circular reasoning based entirely upon the assumptions of evolution.

1. Displays at these sites usually tell us that the site used to be a shallow sea hundreds of millions of years ago, where numerous prehistoric creatures lived. As they died, their carcasses sank to the bottom of the sea and were slowly covered by sediments. According to evolution, this rate is about one inch per 150 years. However, with some dinosaurs as large as 140 feet long and weighing approximately 90 tons, how many thousand of years would it take for them to be buried?
2. Evolutionists continue to explain that after the creatures were buried, the land must have been elevated and the sea dried up, and then there would have been something like a volcanic eruption to create additional layers of rock pressing down upon the carcasses. Of course, this would have taken another few million years. Let us consider this. Even if the creatures did not rot away while slowly being buried, without the tremendous pressure of the sediment layers, they still would have decayed in the ground. Modern humans, buried six feet deep, turn to dust in less than a hundred years.
3. All over the world, fossil graveyards not only contain numerous fossils, but also the fossils are most often piled together in large clusters, indicating sudden or violent death of the creatures. We do not see a picture of each animal lying down peacefully as it died. We have mentioned the dinosaur valley near Calgary, where scientists estimated the presence of over a million dinosaur fossils. In Nebraska, fossilized fish number in the hundreds of millions. Some of these were caught in the act of swimming or feeding, showing that they were quickly buried. Because of this, evolutionists have proposed no less than forty-one opinions regarding the extinction of the dinosaurs. The most popular of these of course is the theory of meteorite impact which has been widely debated. The most recent one that has gained popular support is the impact of worldwide volcanism. We will discuss these in more detail later.

### **BIBLICAL EXPLANATION**

The Bible states that in the past, but not necessarily hundreds of million years ago, there was a worldwide flood.

**Genesis 7:17 For forty days the flood kept coming on the earth, and as the waters increased they lifted the ark high above the earth . . .**

And later, **vs. 19 [The waters] rose greatly on the earth, and all the high mountains under the entire heavens were covered. 20 The waters rose and covered the mountains to a depth of more than twenty feet.**

Where did the water of the flood come from? What triggered the flood? Why were the dinosaurs so massive? How did they turn to fossils? Let us discuss these questions later. Here we simply want to emphasize that the

Bible has provided the two most important fossilization conditions of quick burial and immediate pressure, as well as an explanation for the unusual clusters of fossils found together, indicating a violent demise. Next, let us examine whether man actually did coexist with dinosaurs. Are there still dinosaurs today? Furthermore, how did dinosaurs survive in the past?

## 15. HAS MAN SEEN DINOSAURS?

We have pointed out that the movie *Jurassic Park* is fiction. Both the producer of the film as well as the author of the book have acknowledged that the premise is genetically impossible. According to evolution, man could not have coexisted with dinosaurs because evolution believes that dinosaurs became extinct seventy million years ago. At that time, the only mammals were shrew-like creatures. Man did not begin to evolve until four million years ago! Therefore, the idea of a cartoon character taking his pet dinosaur Dino for a walk is preposterous to evolutionists.

But amazingly, among many different ancient civilizations, there exists a record of legendary ancient reptiles, loosely called dragons. Perhaps there is a common source for these legends. Furthermore, recent scientific discoveries have produced similar reports of large reptiles. One such example is the massive creature hooked by a Japanese fisherman off the coast of New Zealand at a depth of nine hundred feet on April 10, 1977. This sea monster measured about thirty-two feet long and weighed about four thousand pounds. Its neck was five feet long, it had a tail length of six feet, and it had four flippers, each three feet long. The dead creature was rotting and foul-smelling. Unfortunately, the Japanese fisherman just took pictures, kept a sample of the carcass, and dumped it back into the sea. Later, Japanese scientists declared they were convinced it was a marine dinosaur, the Plesiosaur, claimed by evolution to be a creature of the Jurassic Era (100 million years ago) which had become extinct 70 million years ago. That year, the Japanese Post Office issued a stamp in commemoration of the event.

Actually, all over the world, there have been similar discoveries, such as the Loch Ness monster of Scotland and the Ogopogo of Lake Okanagan in British Columbia, Canada. The latter actually revealed itself to a Greyhound busload of passengers during the summer of 1977. This was the same year our family was on a fossil expedition in Calgary. Unfortunately, though we rushed over to Okanagan, we were not graced by the reappearance of Ogopogo.

In the Paluxy River of Texas, fossilized human footprints and dinosaur footprints were found together on the riverbed. We had the opportunity to examine these footprints ourselves and concluded that they were obviously those of humans and dinosaurs. Similar footprints were also found in New Mexico, Arizona and Russia. Some might venture to speculate that these may be ape or bear prints, but these footprints have distinct human characteristics: toes that point straight forward, characteristic metatarsal and tarsal arches, and the unmistakable heel print of the human foot.

## WHAT ARE DINOSAURS?

The term *dino* means *terrible*, and *saur* means *lizard*. Dinosaurs were reptiles, a classification to which our modern day lizard belongs.

**Genesis 1:24 And God said, “Let the land produce living creatures according to their kinds: livestock, creatures that move along the ground, and wild animals, each according to its kind.” And it was so. 25 God made the wild animals according to their kinds, the livestock according to their kinds, and all the creatures that move along the ground according to their kinds. And God saw that it was good.**

**Genesis 1: 21 So God created the great creatures of the sea and every living and moving thing with which the water teems, according to their kinds, and every winged bird according to its kind. And God saw that it was good.**

Reptiles were created on the sixth day and sea monsters on the fifth day.

## BIBLICAL DESCRIPTION OF DINOSAURS

Therefore, it is obviously possible, Biblically speaking, for man and reptiles to coexist. Has the Bible ever described such creatures?

In Job 40:15-24, God, challenging Job with the marvel of His creation, said, **“Look at the behemoth, which I made along with you...”** (The New International Version does not translate the name of this creature, but just gives the phonetic rendition) **“...and which feeds on grass like an ox. What strength he has in his loins, what power in the muscles of his belly!”** This creature also has an unusual tail: **“His tail sways like a cedar....”** The cedar is a common tree in the American Northwest. The tall evergreen easily reaches a hundred feet tall. Rendering the behemoth as a hippopotamus, as some versions do, is wildly inappropriate, considering the tiny tail of the hippopotamus; and rendering it as an elephant is equally unlikely, since the elephant’s tail at best can be compared to a rope! **“...the sinews of his thighs are close-knit. His bones are tubes of bronze, his limbs like rods of iron. He ranks first among the works of God....”** This creature was the largest of all animals. His favorite resting place is given as well. **“Under the lotus plants he lies, hidden among the reeds in the marsh. The lotuses conceal him in their shadow; the poplars by the stream surround him.”** As he enjoyed lying in the water, the water level did not bother him. **“When the river rages, he is not alarmed; he is secure, though the Jordan should surge against his mouth.”** Perhaps he had a long neck. Indeed, in the earth’s history, the biggest animals were the long-necked and long-tailed *Sauropods*. The greatest of these used to be the *Brontosaurus/Apatosaurus*, measuring 90 feet long. Later, it was the *Ultrasaur* of Nebraska, measuring 120 feet long. Eggs and babies were also found. A newly-hatched *Ultrasaur* measured about six feet long. But currently, the champion is the *Seismosaur*, meaning “Earthquake Lizard,” of New Mexico and Argentina.

Discovered around 1989, this behemoth measures 140 feet long and is estimated to have weighed 90 tons. So, it is not a stretch to imagine the earth shaking when it walked.

However, even this giant cannot escape the destruction of man. Job also recorded, **“Can anyone capture him by the eyes, or trap him and pierce his nose?”** (Job 40:24) This seems to indicate that, even in the times of Job, human beings were hunting these colossal creatures. Thus, human destruction was a factor, just as it plays a role today in the extinction of many modern creatures.

Next, let us discuss how these giants became so big.



## **16. THE ANCIENT WORLD**

Most descriptions of dinosaurs picture their world and environment to be very different from ours today. First, there was widespread volcanic activity. Second, the plants and animals were massive compared to today. Even a dragonfly could have a wingspan of six feet! Third, some of the creatures of the ancient world are now extinct. Fourthly, the weather appeared to be much warmer and wetter than today. In the hands of artists and fiction writers, the stereotypical images of dinosaurs may be somewhat overblown, but these characterizations are not without scientific basis.

### **VOLCANIC ACTIVITY**

The preservation of the fossils and footprints of ancient creatures is directly linked to volcanic eruption. In our discussion of dinosaur and human footprints, we have discussed how, immediately after the prints were made on wet, muddy riverbeds, they had to be covered by very hot volcanic ash. The baking of the mud into stone preserved the prints. We can see this phenomenon even in modern history. A famous example is in Hawaii Volcanoes National Park. Preserved within the volcanic ashes are the footprints of the escaping troops of a Hawaiian chief during a volcanic eruption in 1790. So the next question is this. Were the numerous preserved fossils all over the world all formed as a result of local volcanic eruptions, or could it have been a worldwide catastrophe? Why are these fossils and footprints so numerous and the mode of preservation so similar?

### **MASSIVE CREATURES**

Although ancient creatures may seem very different from those of today, upon closer examination, we notice that modern creatures and plants were present then as well. The difference between them was their size. For example, an ancient orangutan found in Java was estimated to be about six feet tall. Modern orangutans only grow about three to four feet tall. Likewise, among plants, the lowly ferns were thirty feet tall back then. Scientists agree that it must have been the weather. But how could this theory support the global prevalence of mammoth-sized creatures? Weather alone could not have produced such massive and healthy creatures.

Scientists observe that the greatest crisis to large animals is extinction. One example is the endangered status of big cats such as lions, tigers and leopards. In spite of wildlife preservation efforts, the danger has not abated. The reason for this is because genetic mutations have led to widespread infertility in the male cats. This has something to do with radiation from space. Therefore, a hot topic in environmental protection today is the preservation of the ozone layer, which, though thin and full of holes, is still an important shield to the earth.

## **EXTINCT ORGANISMS**

Indeed, many ancient organisms are extinct. We have pointed out before that the fossil record shows many more varieties of organisms in the past. Still, extinction goes unchecked. Why did these organisms become extinct? The most likely explanation is a change in the environment. It is ironic that evolutionists point to multiple extinctions of certain creatures as proof of the impact of environmental stresses on evolution; however, each successive phase of organism generally leaves behind a few of its kind, which then evolve back into some of the extinct organisms! What a coincidence!

## **WORLDWIDE WARM CLIMATE**

Evidence from the earth supports an ancient climate that was globally warm and wet, but not overcast, because for the plants to be as luxuriant as they were, there had to be sufficient sunshine. Therefore, whether it is Antarctica, the Himalayas, or the Arctic Circle in Greenland, fossils of tropical animals and plants can be found in all parts of the early. Since the current geography of the earth has distinct frigid and tropical zones, why would the ancient earth have been uniformly tropical?

## **THE BIBLE TELLS US**

In the past, there was a time when the environment of the earth was very different from the way it is now.

**Genesis 1:6-7 And God said, “Let there be an expanse between the waters to separate water from water.” So God made the expanse and separated the water under the expanse from the water above it. And it was so.**

The word *between* means *middle* in Hebrew. Since the atmosphere at that time was situated in the middle of the waters, it essentially divided the waters into two halves: one half under the atmosphere and the other half above the atmosphere.

## **WATER ABOVE THE ATMOSPHERE**

We know that the total amount of water upon the earth is greater than the oceans can hold. Therefore, if the polar ice caps melt, most of the population centers and plains of the earth would be submerged under water. The failure of the ozone layer is said to have something to do with this. However, the Bible tells us that in the earth of the past, half of the earth's water was kept above (or, outside of) the atmosphere. What is this water? Is it still there? It cannot refer to the clouds, for clouds are in the atmosphere. Obviously, as the airplane cruises at 35,000 feet, the clouds are beneath the plane. Furthermore, compared to what is upon the earth, the water in the clouds is minuscule—definitely not half of all of the waters. This amount of water above the atmosphere was probably in a gaseous state, for the Bible tells us that through this vapor canopy, the sun, moon

and stars were clearly visible.

### **THE ANCIENT PARADISE**

First, this vapor canopy could filter off harmful rays entering the atmosphere. Therefore, radioactive rays in the earth's environment would be greatly reduced. That would give us a much lower carbon-14 content. This also would greatly reduce genetic mutations (we have pointed out that all mutations are harmful to the organism) and aging factors. As evidence of this, Genesis 5 records an average life span of 900 years for the patriarchs. In Genesis 11, this life span suddenly fell to 400 years after the flood, then to 200 after the division of the continents. These were the results of worldwide catastrophes, showing that the environment had changed. This topic deserves further discussion at a later time.

Secondly, water is a good capacitor for heat. Vancouver is located farther north than Boston. Why is it warmer in Vancouver during wintertime? It is because of the warm Pacific current that initiates off the coast of the Philippines. Similarly, in the past, a thick vapor canopy could absorb the heat of the sun and evenly distribute it throughout the earth's atmosphere. Essentially, the earth would be a greenhouse, uniformly tropical, without seasons and without climatic zones. Without climatic zones, there would be no weather systems. Put simply, our weather systems today come from cold air descending at the poles and hot air rising at the equator, creating unstable air currents, and thereby wind and rain. **Genesis 2:5-6 says, "For the LORD God had not caused it to rain on the earth, and there was no man to till the ground; but a mist went up from the earth and watered the whole face of the ground."** With this form of irrigation, buds do not fall, leaves do not wilt, and fruits will not drop before ripening. The rivers in those days were also different. **Genesis 2:10 says, "A river watering the garden flowed from Eden; from there it was separated into four headwaters."** The water of the river flowed from the main stream to the tributaries, opposite of today's rivers. Today water flows from tributaries to the main stream, because the water source is usually from rainfall or other surface water. This shows that the source of the river in Eden was underground water. With these two methods of irrigation, plus the protection of the greenhouse environment, it is no wonder that both animals and plants grew so luxuriously then. What does this have to do with dinosaurs?

### **17. DINOSAURS AND GIANTS**

The word *dinosaur* actually means *terrible* (dino) *lizard* (saur). This name makes them sound like fierce, colossal creatures. Scientists used to view them as being simpleminded, slow-moving and irritable, making them good

candidates for stereotypical monsters. However, recent geological discoveries have indicated that some of them could move very quickly, and others may have been gentler species, peacefully coexisting in large herds and caring for their young. But how did they grow to such large sizes? Opinions vary.

We have previously mentioned that the Bible indicates that the earth's environment was very different in the past. The vapor canopy above the atmosphere supplied the earth with a tropical greenhouse environment. No wonder plants grew to be very large. Oversized plants can still be found sometimes in tropical jungles. As a matter of fact, when placed in hyperbaric oxygen chambers (high pressure), tomatoes can grow to the size of a watermelon. This concept can also be applied to animals and insects.

### **A THOUSAND YEARS OLD**

In Genesis 5, the Bible records that Adam's descendants, except Enoch, had a life span of about 900 years. Some scholars have discounted these records as exaggerated legend, or proposed that the calculation of age may have been different in those days. But the Bible tells us that the calculation of days, months and years has not changed since then. **Genesis 1:14 says, "And God said, 'Let there be lights in the expanse of the sky to separate the day from the night, and let them serve as signs to mark seasons and days and years...'"**, and Genesis 7:11 speaks specifically of the date of the flood, **"In the six hundredth year of Noah's life, on the seventeenth day of the second month..."** After the flood, Genesis 8:22 reemphasizes this, **"As long as the earth endures, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night will never cease."**

### **THE SHORTENING YEARS**

In the record of Shem's genealogy in Genesis 11, we discover that starting from Arphaxad (the first generation born after the flood), human life span dropped to only 400 years, clearly the effect of environmental changes. The antediluvian ancient paradise had been lost. But in Genesis 11:19, after the birth of Peleg, human life span dropped again to 200 years. Genesis 10:25 tells us that Peleg was so named **"because in his time the earth was divided."** This would be about the time of the Tower of Babel. We will discuss the flood and Babel later, but for now we want to simply point out that with the violent changes in the environment in the past, human life span has progressively dropped from its original 900 years. At the time of Moses, over 3,000 years ago, the Bible says, **"The length of our days is seventy years—or eighty, if we have the strength" (Psalm 90:10).** Today, in North America, the average human life span for men is 74 and for women, 76. This shortened life span, of course, has a lot to do with harmful rays, environmental pollution and climatic change.

### **ANCIENT GIANTS**

In addition to longevity, ancient patriarchs were healthier than modern

man. We have mentioned fossilized human footprints found together with dinosaur footprints in the United States and other places. The footprints found in the Paluxy River of Texas near Dallas average 18 inches long. A person with this size foot would be about 8–9 feet tall. There, a woman's skeleton was also discovered to have a height of 7.5 feet. In an Italian coalmine, a skeleton measuring 11.5 feet was also discovered. Such evidence of ancient giants remains an insoluble puzzle. But Genesis 6:4 states, **“There were giants on the earth in those days.”** Actually the Bible records that even after the flood, there were giants as late as David's time, which was 2,500 years ago. But giants did indeed slowly disappear. Today, most giants are pathological anomalies, have short life spans and lead miserable lives, unlike the giants of old.

### **GIANT LIZARDS**

What were these dinosaurs? They were actually overgrown lizards. The different ancient environment caused plants, animals and humans to grow to massive size. Ancient cockroaches were genetically identical to modern cockroaches, just much bigger. Modern orangutans are only about four feet tall, but were six feet tall in the past. The same is true for elephants. But lizards and fellow reptiles in particular will continue to grow in size the longer they live. Marine creatures also share this feature. It is not surprising, then, that many different sea monsters and reptiles of old have been called dinosaurs. It is likely that these giant reptiles survived the flood, but because of the environmental changes, they slowly became extinct. Modern sightings of such giant creatures are mostly in the water, or in the jungles of Africa and South America. In fact, the strange mythological creatures and dragons of ancient lore may not have been fiction after all. Their descriptions frequently coincide with the bones of dinosaurs. In this case, environmental and other factors may have caused them to grow much smaller than their original sizes. Some of them, though, actually became extinct.

How did such an ideal world become the world we know today?

## **18. FOSSILS AND DINOSAURS – EVOLUTION OR CATASTROPHE?**

How long did it take the Grand Canyon to be formed? How fast can a new island appear? How long did it take for a tree with a twenty-six-foot circumference to turn to stone? How long did it take for millions of dinosaurs to fossilize?

### **THE QUESTION OF FOSSILS**

We have previously pointed out that one encounters many problems when we try to explain rock layers, geographical phenomena and fossils using the uniformitarian view of evolution. We have also pointed out that the two most important conditions for fossils to be formed are quick burial and heavy sedimentation overlay. Both of these conditions directly undercut the millions of years necessary for the same phenomenon to occur through evolution. In the laboratory, scientists have also discovered that they are able to petrify wood in just in a few days using the right pH, temperature and a silica colloid! This technology is useful in protecting wood against fire and insects and to increase its durability. This kind of research is being conducted at the University of Washington and could prove to be very useful to the timber industry in the Northwest.

### **EVOLUTION OR CATASTROPHE**

Actually, many of the features on earth need not be formed over a very long period of time. On the contrary, catastrophe is frequently the catalyst for these kinds of geological events. In 1980 the volcano Mt. St. Helens erupted. It was actually not a very large eruption, but it was one that was observed very carefully by scientists. Scientists predicted at the time that it would take 150 years for trees to grow back, but the forest began to re-emerge in less than ten years, and in Mt. St. Helens Volcanic National Park, there is a grand canyon that is quite similar to some of the canyons that evolutionists claim have been formed over tens of thousands of years. We all know that a natural disaster like a volcanic eruption, earthquake, flood or tidal wave can cause violent changes in a very short period of time.

### **THE LEGEND OF THE FLOOD**

The Bible indicates that in the history of the earth, a few catastrophes left deep impressions upon the surface of the earth. One of the most important is an ancient worldwide flood. Some are quick to argue that the legend of a destructive worldwide flood is almost universally present in most of the world's major cultures. How is the Biblical account different? Are these not all myths of primitive religions? Interestingly enough, throughout the world, all of the legends of the flood have certain similarities, whether they are from northern Europe, native North America, Babylon, ancient China, Polynesia or the semi-nomadic Miao people of Indochina:

1. The flood was a natural catastrophe.

2. It covered the entire earth.
3. All creatures on earth died.
4. Only one family was saved.
5. They were saved by the means of a boat.

The Chinese word for *boat* has a picture of a boat on one side and eight mouths on the other side. Noah, his three sons and their wives add up to eight people. Instead of being myths, perhaps these legends were based on an actual incident. According to evolution, different races evolved from different ancestors over one million years ago. If this is true, how could the legends be so similar? Contrary to the evolutionist point of view, these myths appear to be documentation of a real historical event, although through the course of transmittal, the details differ. Whose account, then, is the most reliable?

### **BIBLICAL RECORD**

The Biblical record of this epochal catastrophe is in stark contrast to the legends. Just as the account of the creation, the Biblical account of the flood is concise and essential, contained within four chapters, without unnecessary ornamentation or tedium. It solemnly tells of the conditions leading to the disaster, the method of preserving life on earth, the coming of the flood and the new promise after the catastrophe. As we discuss them, you can decide for yourself whether the Biblical record stands apart from the legends and whether evidence from the earth supports what was recorded.

### **THE FLOOD IS A JUDGMENT**

We have already discussed that mankind wanted to take things into his own hands by not following God's laws. Man wanted to decide for himself what was good and evil, and as a result death, degeneration, pollution and pain entered the world. This corruption manifested itself first through an act of violence from Adam's firstborn, Cain. God did not accept him because what he did was not right. He did not solely rely upon faith to come before God. In his anger, he killed his brother Abel. Later, although Cain's descendants were highly achieved in civilization, technology and music, they became increasingly violent and cruel.

**Gen 4:23 Lamech said to his wives, "Adah and Zillah, listen to me; wives of Lamech, hear my words. I have killed a man for wounding me, a young man for injuring me..."**

Later, even the godly lineage (Seth's descendants) began intermarrying with those who had forsaken God, and there was no resistance on earth against the evil of violence.

**Gen 6:5 And God saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually. 11 The earth also was corrupt before God, and the earth was filled with violence. (KJV)**

We have shown that because of the different environment of the antediluvian world, the human life span then averaged about 900 years. Yet with so many strong giants who were clever and capable, but also evil, cruel and violent, what a horrible world that would be! In recent human history, we have seen some tyrants, but they all died before reaching the age of 100. Society can rally back after a short period of tyranny, and the shortened life span gives nations respite. In the antediluvian world, however, such tyrants would have ten times longer to rule with an evil hand. No wonder the earth was corrupt. That was the condition of the world less than 2,000 years after creation. Therefore, the Creator had to judge that world.

### **THE WORLD TODAY**

The Lord Jesus in speaking of His return said, **“As it was in the days of Noah, so it will be at the coming of the Son of Man”** (Matt 24:37). Violence had corrupted the world of Noah. Jesus also describes the world we live in today in this way:

**2 Tim 3:1-5 But mark this: There will be terrible times in the last days. People will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boastful, proud, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy, without love, unforgiving, slanderous, without self-control, brutal, not lovers of the good, treacherous, rash, conceited, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God—having a form of godliness but denying its power. Have nothing to do with them.**

These behaviors are evident in the world today. Generation after generation, this world is becoming increasingly indifferent to violence. We are facing the next coming judgment. Are you prepared to meet your Creator?

Next, we will discuss the method of salvation God prepared in the days of Noah.



## 19. HOW DID THE ARK SAVE LIVES?

To many, Noah's ark is a confounding enigma, a mythological object, or a ridiculous legend. How could the ancients make such a huge ship? How could Noah collect every single kind of creature? How could the ark accommodate all those huge animals? What did they eat in the ark? For me it has been a challenge just to care for my four children. How did Noah keep peace in the ark? Has the ark been found?

### GOD'S VESSEL

The Bible tells us that before the coming of this unprecedented worldwide flood, God first found His vessel for salvation--a man and his family, namely, Noah.

**Gen 6:9 This is the account of Noah. Noah was a righteous man, blameless among the people of his time, and he walked with God.**

The name *Noah* means *rest*, and his name was his parents' response to the curse and labor sin brought into the world. We have noted that because of the protection from the waters above the air, the life spans of humans and beasts in the antediluvian world were much longer than they are now. In those days, the human life span averaged nine hundred years, including Noah's. Others would have many children by the age of one hundred, but poor Noah had only three sons by the age of five hundred. God had a special mission for Noah because Noah walked with God. *Walk* in the original text implied that Noah chose to walk with God. It was not chance. It was not by force. It was a voluntary decision to walk with God. Such a person dares to be different, not an easy thing to do in his time. Choosing to live a life of obedience to God left Noah vulnerable to open misunderstanding, ridicule or even physical attack.

**Gen 6:17-19 I am going to bring floodwaters on the earth to destroy all life under the heavens, every creature that has the breath of life in it. Everything on earth will perish. But I will establish my covenant with you, and you will enter the ark—you and your sons and your wife and your sons' wives with you. You are to bring into the ark two of all living creatures, male and female, to keep them alive with you.**

We have concluded that the world then was uniformly subtropical, a paradise without wind or rain. Even with the thorns and thistles that grew after man's sin, the environment was definitely better than our environment today. Irrigation still came from underground water and the condensation of the moist, humid air (the mist that moisturized, Gen 2:5). Noah may have been told by God to start building the ark as early as 120 years before the flood. Those must have been hard years.

**Heb 11:7 By faith Noah, when warned about things not yet seen, in holy fear built an ark to save his family. By his faith he condemned the**

**world and became heir of the righteousness that comes by faith.**

He was also called “**the preacher of righteousness.**” 2 Peter 2:5

### **GOD’S WAY OF SALVATION**

From the description of the ark, some consider it clumsy and unseaworthy. But we must understand that the ark was intended for preserving life during the flood. It was not for sailing. Therefore, the ark was essentially constructed like a barge. At 450 feet long, 75 feet wide and 45 feet tall, it was a rectangular box with the width slightly larger than its height. Floating in the water, this structure would be similar to a log with a small longitudinal slice cut off of it. The center of gravity made it almost impossible to capsize. We cannot be sure what type of wood was used for its construction. We do know that ancient trees were bigger, and many are also extinct now. For waterproofing and durability, Noah used pine resin that was probably common then. Pine resin hardens into amber, a substance that can remain unchanged for a prolonged period of time. We have pointed out previously how ancient insects (flies, mosquitoes, cockroaches, wasps, etc.) had been preserved in amber.

### **HOW MUCH COULD THE ARK HOLD?**

Because of its three levels, the ark could have a total living area of 95,700 square feet, about the size of twenty basketball courts. Its holding capacity could accommodate up to 13,900 tons, about the equivalent of 522 double-decker railway cars. The average size of all animals of the world is about equivalent to that of a sheep. If a railway car can hold about 240 sheep, then, given our previous calculations, the ark would have been capable of holding 125,280 sheep. Modern taxonomy tells us that there are about one million different kinds of creatures of the earth. Most of these are aquatic, or those not having breath. The American taxonomist Ernst Mayr, has counted only 17,600 kinds of modern birds, mammals, reptiles and amphibians. If Noah took one male and one female of each kind, and seven males and seven females for the clean kinds, the ark would have more than enough space for all. But what about the dinosaurs? Let us remember that dinosaurs were only overgrown reptiles that had lived for a long time. Would Noah have taken along a massive, elderly creature in order to preserve its kind (Gen 7:2-3)? Eggs and babies were found along with the 120-foot long *Ultrasaur* in Nebraska. The newborn *Ultrasaurs*, though much bigger than human babies, were only six feet long, and could be easily accommodated in the ark.

### **HOW DID THE ANIMALS COME?**

Another practical question is, how did Noah collect so many animals and get them into the ark?

**Gen 7:8-10 Pairs of clean and unclean animals, of birds and of all**

**creatures that move along the ground, male and female, came to Noah and entered the ark, as God had commanded Noah. And after the seven days the floodwaters came on the earth.**

These animals came to Noah by themselves! Today, many animals still perform according to instinct. How do geese know when to fly south? How do swallows come back to the nest where they were hatched? Whatever God commands His believers to do, He will surely provide the strength and prepare a way. Just as Abraham believed in God and was prepared to sacrifice his son, indeed upon the mountain of Jehovah, God was preparing the way for Noah. "Jehovah Jireh!"

**Heb 11:19 Abraham reasoned that God could raise the dead, and figuratively speaking, he did receive Isaac back from death.**

Today, whatever God wants us to do, we must do it by faith. Then, regardless of how great the difficulty, how strong the opposition, how intense the ridicule or how tedious the matter, we can boldly say, "**The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can man do to me?**" (Heb 13:6).

**Jer 32:17 Ah, Sovereign LORD, you have made the heavens and the earth by your great power and outstretched arm. Nothing is too hard for you . . .**

**Phil 4:13 I can do everything through him who gives me strength.**

Next we will discuss how the flood came, how fossils were formed and what it could have been like inside the ark.

## 20. THE EARTH CRACKED; THE SKY COLLAPSED

Geological evidence speaks of violent catastrophes on the earth. We can see the story of the earth just by looking at her precipitous canyons, her majestic peaks, and the myriad of fossils that have been recovered. We have also pointed out that this catastrophe, a worldwide flood, is supported by ancient history in all civilizations.

### GOD'S PATIENCE

From the Biblical record in Genesis 5, the coming of the flood was foretold as early as a thousand years beforehand.

**Gen 5:22 And after he became the father of Methuselah, Enoch walked with God 300 years and had other sons and daughters.**

Why did Enoch suddenly decide to walk with God in that evil generation? The Bible states it was the birth of Methuselah. Methuselah's name means "He dies; destruction is sent." Upon receiving God's revelations, Enoch walked with God by faith for three hundred years. A little calculation tells us the following:

**Gen 5:25 When Methuselah had lived 187 years, he became the father of Lamech. 28-29 When Lamech had lived 182 years, he had a son. He named him Noah . . .**

Genesis 7:11 states that "**in the six hundredth year of Noah's life,**" the flood came. Calculating all three generations of ages, we get  $187+182+600=969$ . **Gen 5:27 "Altogether, Methuselah lived 969 years, and then he died."** The flood came at the death of Methuselah. This was fulfillment of the revelation Enoch received.

Methuselah was the longest living person on record. He lived almost a thousand years. What incredible patience God had, waiting all those years for man to repent! Even the ark took Noah 120 years to build, standing as a silent testimony of the judgment to come. Yet no one else heeded God's warning. Even today, do not human beings still possess the same rebellious nature?

**2 Pet 3:3-4 First of all, you must understand that in the last days scoffers will come, scoffing and following their own evil desires. They will say, "Where is this 'coming' he promised? Ever since our fathers died, everything goes on as it has since the beginning of creation."**

**Rom 2:4-5 Or do you show contempt for the riches of his kindness, tolerance and patience, not realizing that God's kindness leads you towards repentance? But because of your stubbornness and your unrepentant heart, you are storing up wrath against yourself for the day of God's wrath, when his righteous judgment will be revealed.**

## **THE FINAL WARNING**

What a pity for the people of Noah's time, that even at the last moment, they did not awaken to the reality of their impending death.

**Gen 7:8-10 Pairs of clean and unclean animals, of birds and of all creatures that move along the ground, male and female, came to Noah and entered the ark, as God had commanded Noah. And after the seven days the floodwaters came on the earth.**

With such a mass of creatures entering, of their own accord, the odd-looking structure Noah had built, wouldn't the onlookers be even the least bit curious? Why would they not take Noah's message seriously? They obviously were witnessing a miracle with their own eyes and yet they did not perceive, nor repent, nor even move. Their opportunity to repent could only last so long.

**Gen 7:16 The animals going in were male and female of every living thing, as God had commanded Noah. Then the LORD shut him in.** God closed the door of the ark when the time came. After that, no one could open it.

Today the signs of the return of the Lord Jesus Christ are being fulfilled before our eyes one by one:

**Matt 24:7-8 Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be famines and earthquakes in various places. All these are the beginning of birth pains.**

Then, one day, the Lord shall return.

**Matt 24:37-39 As it was in the days of Noah, so it will be at the coming of the Son of Man. For in the days before the flood, people were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, up to the day Noah entered the ark; and they knew nothing about what would happen until the flood came and took them all away. That is how it will be at the coming of the Son of Man.**

## **SPRINGS OF THE DEEP WERE BROKEN**

People usually assume the water of Noah's flood came from rain only. Actually, the Bible clearly recorded the order of the coming of the flood:

**Gen 7:11-12 In the six hundredth year of Noah's life, in the second month, the seventeenth day of the month, on that day all the fountains of the great deep were broken up, and the windows of heaven were opened. And the rain was on the earth forty days and forty nights. (NKJV)**

The first event of the coming of the flood was that the fountains of the great deep were broken up. The abundant underground water is one of the major sources of our everyday water use. Today, one of the greatest of the sources is the Ogallala Aquifer beneath the continent of North America which covers an area of 156,000 square miles. But the underground water released during Noah's flood most likely mingled with the ocean, and most of its volume remains there today. The phrase "were broken up," a passive verb conjugation, means being violently torn apart. In other words, upon the closure of the ark's door, the crust of the earth cracked open all over the world. The opening of massive fissures in the earth's crust resulted not only in torrents of water gushing out, but also in cataclysmic earthquakes and volcanic eruptions worldwide.

### **THE WINDOWS OF HEAVEN WERE OPENED**

One of the most closely observed volcanic eruptions in modern science must be that of Mt. St. Helens in the state of Washington on May 18, 1980. We have previously referred to this awesome sight in earlier chapters, how this beautiful snow-capped mountain, sometimes dubbed the Mt. Fuji of the United States, finally erupted at 8:32 A.M. on May 18<sup>th</sup> after smoking for two months. In a moment, over one square mile of the mountain top, including rocks, soil and ice, were blown into nothing but a plume of smoke, rising into the sky as steam and volcanic ash. The ash column rose to an altitude of 60,000 feet and was visible from space. The ash circulated around the earth three times and the altitude of the peak was reduced from 9677 feet by 1277 feet to its current altitude of 8400 feet. A beautiful snow-capped mountain was transformed in a moment into a charred, gaping hole. That day was a Sunday, a beautiful sunny day, cloudless over the entire Pacific Northwest. My family and I heard the explosion when we were just about to go to church. At the time, a strange phenomenon happened near the volcano, something that is not observed around tropical volcanoes. There was a torrential rain shower. However, this rain was unusual. The rain was pitch black, accompanied by lightning and thunder and mixed with scalding volcanic ash. Some bystanders were scalded to death by the hot mixture. A popular video recording at the time was made by a TV photographer. The image on the tape was of a dark screen with only one spot of light. For about ten minutes, the soundtrack on the video consisted only of the sounds of the photographer's cries of agony. Fortunately, he was probably walking on a straight path and the spot of light was an area without rain. So he escaped and brought out the TV clip page, so the newspaper reported.

Why was there rain without clouds? Scientists found two factors:

1. The top one thousand feet of Mt. St. Helens contained a large number of glaciers. During the eruption, these turned into steam.
2. Volcanic ash is made of fine pieces of glass. Glass is actually silica melted into liquid under high heat and then quickly super cooled.

During volcanic eruption, rock and sand were melted under high heat and then blown into the sky as foam. Upon quick cooling, they turned into fine pieces of glass. Such volcanic glass contains minerals, mostly iron, so they are of a dark brown color, called obsidian. You can find obsidian in any volcanic area. As these fine pieces of glass come into contact with steam, they formed condensation surfaces and came back down to the earth as black rain.

Likewise during the flood, the first event was the cracking open of the earth's crust, like a worldwide volcanic eruption, something far surpassing that of Mt. St. Helens. In fact, in recent history, the ash column of Krakatoa of Indonesia rose to 100,000 feet and the sunset took on a different look for three years. From these examples, we can surmise that during the flood, the tremendous volume of ash in the form of fine pieces of glass rose into the sky. Condensing upon these fine pieces of glass, the moisture of the vapor canopy came down as unprecedented rain. And the vapor canopy that was protecting the earth collapsed. **“. . . and the windows of heaven were opened. And the rain was on the earth forty days and forty nights”** (Gen 7:11-12 NKJV). Scalding hot, this rain was mixed with volcanic ash, thunder and lightning. It must have been a horrible sight.

Indeed, when we reject the Creator who **“sustains all things by his powerful word” (Heb 1:3)**, our world collapses. What is judgment? It is falling outside of the sustaining power of God's grace.

**Heb 10:26-27 If we deliberately keep on sinning after we have received the knowledge of the truth, no sacrifice for sins is left, but only a fearful expectation of judgment and of raging fire that will consume the enemies of God. Vs. 31 It is a dreadful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.**

## 21. THE CATASTROPHE

The fossil record throughout the world contains an abundance of the fossils of certain kinds of creatures. Whether in Utah, Nebraska, or Alberta (Canada), in the Xinjiang or Sichuan provinces of China, or the Great Outback of Australia, reptiles and aquatic fossils number in the hundreds of millions. In Nebraska, hundreds of millions of fish were fossilized in the act of swimming and with food in their mouths. They were apparently buried in the cataclysm. In contrast, land and air creatures have left very few fossils behind.

### EVOLUTION EXPLAINS

The typical evolutionary explanation is that after the death of the animals, their skeletons sank to the bottom of the sea where they accumulated over millions of years, eventually becoming a large cache of fossils. Some problems arise with this theory:

1. If skeletons are not immediately buried as they sink to the bottom of the sea, why wouldn't they decompose? At the uniform sedimentation rate of 1 inch per 150 years, evolution demands tens of thousands of years for these creatures to be buried!
2. We have pointed out that for fossils to form, they must be compressed by sediments and have the right temperature and acidity. The fossilization process can then take place before the bones decompose. This is in direct contradiction to the long times needed for the process by evolutionary thinking.

### MULTIPLE EXTINCTION

Because of the weaknesses in the sedimentation theory, a popular view has sprung up among evolutionists in recent years called *multiple extinction*. The most famous example of this is, of course, the extinction of the dinosaurs. These scientists have postulated at least ten massive worldwide extinctions at intervals of about 24 million years. But amazingly, after a few million years, through numerous chance occurrences, nearly identical creatures have evolved again! Some of these creatures were thought to be extinct, but they actually survived several extinctions and are still found today. These are called *living fossils*. What a coincidence! Actually, there have been over forty viewpoints brought forth just to explain the extinction of dinosaurs. The very popular *meteorite impact theory* was the fortieth. The next explanation on the list is *worldwide volcanism*. It is remarkably similar to what we just discussed about the flood! The evolutionary basis for these extinctions is the fossil record of the geological column. We have also pointed out that all over the world, scientists have not yet found an example of rock layers in this particular sequence. Furthermore, we have also noticed how unreliable dating methods are. Yet, we might still ask, "How were these rock layers formed?" Evolution insists on a long period of time



with the layers being laid down over long periods of time. We have just discussed the problems with that theory.

### **THE BIBLICAL VIEW**

In the previous chapter, we referred to the worldwide volcanic eruption at the beginning of the flood. During the eruption of Mt. St. Helens, observers noticed another phenomenon. A pyroclastic flow gushed down from the volcano at speeds of 200 to 400 mph. It contained poisonous gas and volcanic ash, reaching a temperature of 250° C (500° F). In its path, plants burst into flames or were quickly buried. Animals suffocated and were buried. In the path of such a flow, as it crashed down to the ocean, those buried in the bottom would, of course, be those living on the continental shelf, then those in the water, such as fish, and then amphibians and reptiles who lived by the edge of the water.

### **THE WATERS PREVAILED**

Reptiles of course included dinosaurs. We have discussed the fact that dinosaurs could grow to such enormous sizes because of the difference between the environments of the antediluvian and postdiluvian world. But one might ask, How could a 140-foot *sauropod* (remember the *Seismosaur*?) be buried quickly? It is common knowledge that earthquakes cause oceanic tidal waves (tsunamis). Years ago, when the Indonesian volcano Krakatoa erupted, tidal waves formed as a result measured as high as 260 feet on the island of Sumatra. Such huge waves could easily lift and relocate a 140-foot carcass. In Genesis 7:18, 20, the Bible says that **“the waters prevailed.”** The Hebrew word *hazaq* used in this passage refers to the power of the water. We can only imagine the power that multiple tidal waves colliding with each other would generate, producing enough force to instantly bury numerous carcasses of these giant reptiles. This is exactly what the fossil record shows today.

Since fossils were buried at the same time, finding an eighty-foot-tall tree standing upright, fossilized down to its roots is not surprising, because the rock layers around it were not deposited over millions of years, but all at once. Furthermore, even if a bottom dweller, such as the trilobite, is found in a rock layer above that of an amphibian, it would not be very surprising, because its unusual location might simply be attributed to a difference in the trilobite’s local habitat, or to the mixing of the dead creatures. After all, they all died at the same time.

### **THE WATERS INCREASED GREATLY**

There is another difficult enigma with fossils. Compared with aquatic creatures and reptiles, birds and mammals left very few fossils. The multitude of birds is obvious. According to evolution, there should be many bird fossils. But this is not the case. Even fossils of the famous archaeopteryx amount to just a dozen or so worldwide.

The Bible gives us a different perspective. **Genesis 7:17** says “**The waters increased greatly.**” The word *ravah* refers to quantity, and the Bible continues to emphasize it,

**Gen 7:18-20 And the waters prevailed, and increased greatly upon the earth; and the ark went upon the face of the waters. And the waters prevailed exceedingly upon the earth; and all the high mountains that were under the whole heaven were covered. Fifteen cubits [about 22.5 feet] upward did the waters prevail; and the mountains were covered (ASV).**

Even according to present conditions, the general consensus among geographers is that the earth has more water than the oceans can hold. That is why an important issue in environmental protection is the safeguarding of the ozone layer to prevent a greenhouse effect on the earth. If the polar ice caps melted only slightly, many of the major population centers of the earth would be submerged under water. In the early stages of the Noachic flood, birds and land animals still had places of refuge. They were not immediately buried. Eventually, however, there were no more places to hide, and the water level by then would have been very high. When they perished, their carcasses would then float upon the water and decompose. Still, a few would have been buried, leaving us some fossils.

### **ALL DIED**

**Gen 7:21-22 Every living thing that moved on the earth perished—birds, livestock, wild animals, all the creatures that swarm over the earth, and all mankind. Everything on dry land that had the breath of life in its nostrils died.** This was indeed a great extinction, but the Bible describes some conditions as well.

- 1) This extinction only included birds, livestock, wild animals, humans and reptiles. That is, all land creatures. It did not include aquatic creatures. Therefore, it would not be surprising if aquatic dinosaurs were to exist today. Remember the plesiosaur the Japanese fishermen caught in 1977?
- 2) The creatures that died had representatives of their kind spared by Noah through God’s command. Therefore, after the flood, these animals would multiply anew and replenish the earth. Basically, these offspring were the same kinds of creatures as those that existed before the flood. The only difference lay in their living environment, which perhaps attributed to their smaller statures.

Next, let us see how creatures in the ark survived the catastrophe.

## 22. IN THE STORM

An obvious problem with the current evolutionary view of multiple extinction is that when certain creatures became extinct, how could they, given the low statistical probability of a given evolutionary sequence, how could they evolve again into exactly the same creatures? The Biblical explanation is simple. Noah saved the remnant of each kind of animal by means of the ark.

We have discussed how the capacity of the ark was more than enough to accommodate all kinds of land and air creatures. So as these creatures multiplied and repopulated their world after the flood, it stands to reason that their offspring would be the same as their antediluvian ancestors. After all, their genetic material was the same. But logistically, how did Noah care for them in that epic catastrophe, this unique worldwide flood? For me, even caring for two children is a load to bear!

### STORING FOOD

The first problem is food, especially for the carnivores. Where does one get a full year's supply of meat? The Bible records God's words before the flood:

**Gen 1:30 “And to all the beasts of the earth and all the birds of the air and all the creatures that move on the ground—everything that has the breath of life in it—I give every green plant for food.” And it was so.**

Some might ask, What about those dinosaurs with big teeth, such as the *Tyrannosaurus Rex*? Are they not carnivorous? What did tyrannosaurus actually eat? We do not know. But the teeth of tyrannosaurus have been problematic for paleontologists. The teeth were longer than their corresponding roots. This indicates that they could and would break off if the dinosaur bit into hard objects such as bone and heavy hide. The fact that today there are many animals with big teeth that eat hard-shelled fruits and tree bark raises some speculation that perhaps the tyrannosaurus was in fact a plant-eater.

Furthermore, under adverse conditions, animals still have the instinct to go into hibernation. In such a state, the metabolic rate drops to a very low level and the animal can survive for a prolonged period without food or drink. The best known example of this is the hibernation of animals in the winter. But in hot and dry environments, animals can also go into a similar type of dormancy, called *estivation*. Where did this instinct come from?

### THE TRANSCENDING LIFE

Constructed in the form of a barge, the ark was not easily capsized in the waves. Above all, it was under the protection of the almighty hand of God.

**Gen 7:17 For forty days the flood kept coming on the earth, and as the waters increased they lifted the ark high above the earth.**

This “increase” refers to the quantity of the water. A life that is in the keeping of God will transcend whatever adverse circumstances and whatever intensity of pressure. All these only cause us to be closer to God. The Apostle Paul’s victorious cry echoes this.

**Rom 8:37 No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.**

**Gen 7:18 The waters prevailed and greatly increased on the earth, and the ark moved about on the surface of the waters. (NKJV).** This verse refers both to the volume (increased) and the power (prevailed) of the water. There were also mighty tidal waves. *Moved about* is the same word as *walked* in **Gen 6:9**, where “**Noah walked with God.**” It is just like a child taking a walk with his father. When one holds the hand of the Almighty Creator, no matter how fierce the opposition, he can remain calm and free, experiencing the peace that surpasses all understanding. The Lord Jesus said,

**John 16:33 I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world.**

**Gen 7:19-20 [The waters] rose greatly on the earth, and all the high mountains under the entire heavens were covered. The waters rose and covered the mountains to a depth of more than twenty feet.**

As already indicated, geographers tell us that the earth has more water than its oceans can hold. Geologists have determined that thick layers of sedimentary rock are found worldwide. A careful study of the fossils shows that they were formed through sudden and violent burials. The numerous legends in various civilizations all point to a universal flood. In that catastrophe, no one who was not in God’s ark of grace could escape His judgment.

**Gen 7:23 Every living thing on the face of the earth was wiped out; men and animals and the creatures that move along the ground and the birds of the air were wiped from the earth. Only Noah was left, and those with him in the ark.**

The Lord Jesus said,

**Matt 24:38-39 For in the days before the flood, people were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, up to the day Noah entered the ark; and they knew nothing about what would happen until the flood came and took them all away. That is how it will be at the coming of the Son of Man.**

My dear friend, are you in the grace of the Lord Jesus yet?

## **GOD REMEMBERED**

**Gen 8:1 But God remembered Noah and all the wild animals and the livestock that were with him in the ark, and he sent a wind over the earth, and the waters receded.**

Although the ark served to keep its inhabitants alive, being cooped up in there for a prolonged period would have been miserable. The Bible says it was 150 days. In the midst of trials, even a man of God may ask, **“Watchman, what is left of the night? Watchman, what is left of the night?” (Isa 21:11).** “But” is a turning point, and the key is that “God remembered.” No matter how bitter our lot, how easily people forget us, as long as our loving Heavenly Father remembers us, we can always have hope, knowing that He will surely **“turn our captivity”** (Job 42:10 renders it, **“make prosperous again”**).

## **WIND OVER THE EARTH**

In reference to the receding of the flood, the first thing the Bible records is the “wind over the earth.” This was something not present before the flood. In the antediluvian world, because of the protection of a water vapor canopy, the earth was a greenhouse without frigid or equatorial zones, a year-round subtropical climate without wind or rain. After the flood, the earth suddenly lost its protection. Whatever carbon dioxide present in the atmosphere was probably all washed out. The extreme contrast of the polar temperature as opposed to the equatorial must have been immense. The resulting prevailing airflow would have been incredibly powerful. Even today the high-altitude jetstream frequently reaches 175 mph and has a great influence upon the earth’s weather systems. Every winter a slight southern shift can bring blizzard-like storms to both North American coasts. After the flood, the wind could first cause heavy snow at the poles, followed by the formation of the polar ice caps. This would be the first Ice Age. Geographers agree that much of the earth’s water is held in the polar ice caps where the ice can be thousands of feet deep. A rise of one to two degrees of the earth’s temperature would be enough to put most of the earth’s populated areas under water. As the poles quickly froze after the flood, “the water receded”. This statement was repeated three times in Gen 8:3-5. Just as the flood prevailed upon the earth for 150 days (Gen 7:24), it took the flood 150 days to recede.

## **THE MOUNTAINS ROSE**

**Gen 8:4-5 and on the seventeenth day of the seventh month the ark came to rest on the mountains of Ararat. The waters continued to recede until the tenth month, and on the first day of the tenth month the tops of the mountains became visible.**

Notice the last words of verse 5: “became visible,” or make themselves visible. This is an active verb. The process is explained elsewhere:

**Ps 104:6-9 Thou coveredst it with the deep as with a garment: the waters stood above the mountains. At thy rebuke they fled; at the voice of thy thunder they hasted away. They go up by the mountains; they go down by the valleys unto the place which thou hast founded for them. Thou hast set a bound that they may not pass over; that they turn not again to cover the earth. (KJV).** The phrase “they go up by the mountains; they go down by the valleys” in the original text can also be rendered, “The mountains go up; the valleys go down” (The Chinese Version).

We all know about the deep ocean trenches, the most famous being the Manila Trench off the coast of the Philippines. At over 40,000 feet deep, it could take in Mt. Everest with over 10,000 feet to spare! We also know that the mountain ranges of the earth are still rising. The evolutionists insist that the present rate of growth has been consistent over the earth’s history, thereby supporting a long period of evolutionary change. We have pointed out that evidence on the earth points to violent changes. After the flood, the mountains quickly rose and the valleys quickly sank, and the ark came to rest upon Mt. Ararat. Mt. Ararat is located in present-day Turkey in the Kurdish region near the Armenian and Iranian border. Historically, many of the local people have claimed to have seen the ark resting in a glacial lake high up on the mountain, visible only during very dry and hot summers. The most substantial European expedition to the ark occurred in 1916-1917, towards the end of the Czarist era. The Czar of Russia sent a small troop of men to explore the ark. They took some pictures, drew a map, and even entered the ark to look at the stables for the animals. Unfortunately, upon their return to Russia, the revolution had started, and the Czar was executed. The group scattered, and the materials were lost. It was not until recent years that one of the surviving soldiers drew a picture from memory based upon what he saw during the expedition. There have been recent sightings of the ark, but none can yet be confirmed.

**Gen 8:6 After forty days Noah opened the window he had made in the ark.**

Noah opened the window on a new world! How different was this world? How did the creatures in the ark become as they are today? What about the various races? Let us consider that in the next chapter.

## 23. THE PRESENT WORLD

According to the geological evidence, it is undeniable that the environment at the time of the dinosaurs was very different from the present climate. Why is it that the earth could not return to its original climate? The Bible explains that with the collapse of the water above the air, the water was spilled, and paradise was lost.

### THE SIGN OF LIFE

After the flood, the world Noah faced was very different from before. Genesis 8 records how Noah explored this new world.

**Gen 8:6-7 After forty days Noah opened the window he had made in the ark and sent out a raven, and it kept flying back and forth until the water had dried up from the earth**

This raven (crow) had a special mission: to bring back the sign of life to Noah. But what could have been so captivating outside to make it forget its mission? If you remember, not all the creatures that perished in the flood were buried. Many of the carcasses floated upon the water. Perhaps the raven, a scavenger, was distracted by the abundance of dead things. In its enjoyment, it neglected its mission.

**Gen 8:8-9 Then he sent out a dove to see if the water had receded from the surface of the ground. But the dove could find no place to set its feet because there was water over all the surface of the earth; so it returned to Noah in the ark. He reached out his hand and took the dove and brought it back to himself in the ark.**

The dove, on the other hand, refused to linger over the carcasses. So it returned to the ark. But seven days later, it was sent out a second time:

**Gen 8:11 When the dove returned to him in the evening, there in its beak was a freshly plucked olive leaf! Then Noah knew that the water had receded from the earth.**

The dove had carried out its mission, bringing to Noah the message of life. In Noah's new world, the first things to grow were the trees on high mountains. Today, the oldest living thing on earth is a pine tree, the bristlecone pine. By counting the tree rings in a core sample, the age of oldest specimen was calculated to be just over 4,000 years, dating back to the time of the flood.

### THE RAINBOW COVENANT

By God's mercy, there was still grace after the judgment. He promised never to destroy the creatures on earth with the flood again.

**Gen 8:22 As long as the earth endures, seedtime and harvest, cold**

**and heat, summer and winter, day and night will never cease.**

Contrast this with an earlier description of the earth's seasons in its original form:

**Gen 1:14 Let there be lights to separate the day from the night, and let them serve as signs to mark seasons and days and years . . .** The phrase “seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter” indicates that after the flood, the earth experienced seasonal changes in weather. We have pointed out that this type of climate was the result of the collapse of the water vapor canopy. Even so, in this new system, life was able to thrive. It was by God's word that the heavens and the earth were created, and it was by the same word that this new world was sustained.

**2 Pet 3:7 By the same word the present heavens and earth are reserved for fire, being kept for the day of judgment and destruction of ungodly men.**

God also gave man a sign of His promise--the rainbow covenant. We know that the rainbow is caused by the refraction of sunlight shining through raindrops. There were no rainbows before the flood, probably because of two things. First, there was no rain, and second, the refractive index of water could have changed during the flood.

Still, in spite of God's mercy after the flood, the relationship between humans and their environment went from bad to worse, and they began to think more of themselves than of God.

**Gen 9:2 The fear and dread of you will fall upon all the beasts of the earth and all the birds of the air, upon every creature that moves along the ground, and upon all the fish of the sea; they are given into your hands.** People also began having the need of eating meat.

## **WRONG AGAIN**

Alas, in less than four generations after the flood, people exalted themselves again.

**Gen 11:4 Then they said, “Come, let us build ourselves a city, with a tower that reaches to the heavens, so that we may make a name for ourselves and not be scattered over the face of the whole earth.”**

Their leader was Nimrod, the grandson of Noah's youngest son, Ham (Gen 10:6-10). Because of man's selfish pride at Babel, God's judgment once again came to this world.

**Gen 11:9 That is why it was called Babel—because there the LORD confused the language of the whole world. From there the LORD scattered them over the face of the whole earth.**



## **TWO THINGS HAPPENED AT BABEL:**

- 1) God confused the language of the whole world. Gen 11:1 describes the world before the Tower of Babel as “[having] one language and a common speech.” *Language* in Hebrew is *mouth* (literally, shape of the mouth). *Speech* in Hebrew can be translated as *the word used*. These are the primary factors that decided the differences between languages.
- 2) God scattered the people over the face of the whole earth. He purposely scattered the human race at the Tower of Babel. But by what means?

**Gen 10:25 Two sons were born to Eber: One was named Peleg, because in his time the earth was divided; his brother was named Joktan.**

Notice the reference to the time when “the earth was divided.” Peleg was born at Nimrod’s age of strength. The effect of the event can be seen in the genealogy of Gen 11:10-26. We have pointed out that human life span was shortened after the flood from 900 years to 400 years. This life span remained until Eber.

**Gen 11:18-19 When Peleg had lived 30 years, he became the father of Reu. And after he became the father of Reu, Peleg lived 209 years and had other sons and daughters.**

Peleg lived only 239 years. Human life span had been halved again, leading us to believe that the effects upon the earth’s environment as a result of this catastrophic continental division were very profound. Geographers and geologists all agree that the continents of the earth were originally one large continent that became divided at some point in the past. The most obvious example of a rift between continents is the Atlantic Ocean. This fissure is still present and moving apart at a slow rate. Assuming this slow rate to be constant in the past and using this against the distance between the two coasts of the Atlantic, evolutionists estimate that the continents have been drifting apart for hundreds of million of years. But does the evidence bear this out?

## **FAST-FROZEN MAMMOTHS**

In North America and Siberia, near the North Pole, under the shallow layer of soil, lie thousands of feet of ice, called permafrost. Frozen in this ice are millions of mammoths. Local people frequently use the meat to feed their dogs, but there was one baby mammoth whose flesh was still edible to humans. Evolution explains that tens of thousands of years ago during the Ice Age, these mammoths, while wandering on the glaciers, accidentally fell into crevasse, and were immediately frozen. Yet these animals had buttercup seeds in their stomachs. The baby mammoth actually had

buttercups in its mouth when it died. Where does one get fresh buttercups on a glacier? Actually, in the Siberian permafrost, not only are there frozen mammoths, there are also cows, horses, sheep, tigers and lions. On the land below the permafrost, there are also flash-frozen plants of the temperate zone. This supports the proposal that when these animals were frozen, they were living in a warmer place. After the rapid freezing, the continent immediately migrated to its present location in the arctic zone. The division of the earth during the incident at Babel recorded in the Bible provides the best explanation of this phenomenon. Of course, this kind of colossal movement of the earth's crust could only be caused by another volcanic eruption. However, this time around, there was no water vapor canopy to wash the ash down. With its minute pieces of black glass, this ash could float high in the atmosphere for quite a while, thereby blocking out the sunlight. This in turn would create a fast-cooling effect upon the earth, and the earth would enter its second Ice Age. Essentially, a nuclear winter is based upon the same scenario. Over time however, the volcanic ashes eventually fell and the earth's climate became warm again. Carcasses remaining in tropical or temperate zones eventually decomposed, like those found in the state of Missouri, where the ancient elephants left behind only bones and ivory.

### **THE ORIGIN OF RACES**

Genesis 10 tells us how the descendants of the three sons of Noah scattered across the whole earth. Noah himself, however, did not bear any more children after the flood. Gen 10:2-5 records the descendants of Japheth, the ancestor of the Europeans--people of Greece, the Caucasus, Italy, Spain, and others. Gen 10:6-20 lists the descendants of Ham, Africans--people of Egypt, Cush (i.e. Ethiopia), Libya, etc. Gen 10:21-31 lists the descendants of Shem, the Asians. Some might ask, How is it possible for racial differences to be so obvious after only 4,000 years? We must note that, even to this day, interracial marriages are still in the minority because of language, geographical and cultural factors. In biology, it is well-known that segregated breeding can result in the expression of different genetic traits. For example, in 1960, there were estimated to be over 200 breeds of dogs in Europe. Yet historically, they all came from one breed in 1700. Even now, when we buy a special breed of dog, we ask for a pedigree. A mixed breed looks neither like this breed nor that breed, but it is still very much a dog. Today, we can see that interracial marriages do not result in strange mutations. The offspring are all normal human beings. Many are quite handsomely blended, but the racial characteristics have become diluted.

### **THE BRIDGE TO HEAVEN**

**Mal 2:10 Have we not all one Father? Did not one God create us?** Indeed, in the plan of the Creator, the entire human race is composed of brothers and sisters, designed to live in love. But in repeated rebellion, we have hurt ourselves and others. Even so, God is still our loving heavenly

Father.

**Ps 103:8-10 The LORD is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in love. He will not always accuse, nor will he harbor his anger for ever; he does not treat us as our sins deserve or repay us according to our iniquities.**

A rainbow is like a bridge that links us to heaven. In our imperfect life and world, it reminds us that God through His Son “[sustains] all things by his powerful word” (Heb 1:3). Noah’s rainbow foretold the birth of Jesus Christ, the Son of God, 2,000 years after the flood, who came to earth personally to express God’s love, specifically through His death upon the cross for our sins. He shed His precious blood to cleanse us of our wrongs, and rose from the dead to give us new life. He is the true bridge to Heaven. Do you want to accept Him as your personal Lord and Savior? You can invite Him in even now.

## 24. THE LOST PARADISE

The atheistic evolutionary view dictates that in the real world, survival of the fittest and the elimination of the weak is the reigning moral principle. Therefore, it is permissible to have mutual annihilation, genocide, even the extermination of the weak and defenseless at will within one's own race. Those who are unable to defend themselves are expendable, such as unborn children, the elderly and disabled, even people who hold a different political view. In one's environment, one can selfishly abuse and pollute the environment, and slaughter creatures, all in the name of evolution.

Yet the universal human conscience dreams of Utopia, a just world, an ideal paradise. Furthermore, as history testifies, mutual annihilation has never resulted in the progress of civilization. A civilization that took thousands of years to build can be wiped out by war in a moment, to the extent that its origins are all but untraceable. How were the pyramids of ancient Egypt constructed? Today, scientists from many different cultures cannot explain Egyptian engineering, and even the people of Egypt have not completely deciphered the mysteries of their own ancestors. The indigenous peoples of South America enjoyed a civilization filled with glorious culture, architecture, science, mathematics and astronomy only a few hundred years ago. Yet, under the ravages of Spanish imperialism, the descendants of these civilizations cannot even read their own ancient languages.

We have mentioned that the Creator revealed in the Bible established three principles when He created life:

- 1) Creatures are each produced according to their own kind.
- 2) The universe was created perfect.
- 3) Later death and degeneration entered the world.

We have carefully compared the deductions and predictions of these three principles against those of evolution. We have also shown that evidences on the earth clearly support the principles of the Bible.

### PARADISE LOST

Indeed, what the Creator prepared for us originally was a perfectly beautiful ancient Paradise. We have discussed the beautiful climate, the irrigation with mist and spring water and the luxuriant growth of plants and animals to immense size and longevity. The geography then was probably different from today. Gen 2:11-14 describes the river that came out of Eden and divided into four streams. These streams covered Arabia and Cush (Ethiopia), indicating that Africa was in union with Asia at that time.

**Gen 2:8 Now the LORD God had planted a garden in the east, in Eden; and there he put the man he had formed.**

The word *put* implies permanency. Today modern man drifts from coast to coast, from the north to the east. And what for? Just to find a permanent place to settle down. As an ethnic Chinese in America, I can appreciate this sense of wandering. Where is home? Indeed, the Creator originally prepared for us a permanent place so that we would settle down in Him. His garden had all kinds of trees which God had caused to grow, **“trees that were pleasing to the eye and good for food.”** Today, man uses all sorts of devices to grow plants, but frequently discovers that for whatever improvements he has made, other problems crop up. This is one reason for the current trend toward the return to natural food. Actually, before sin and degeneration entered the world, it was God who caused the plants to grow so pleasing to the eye and good for food. Human beings were vegetarians then and most healthy. But today, humans lack a particular digestive enzyme, so that a purely vegetarian diet can lead to nutritional problems without additional nutritional supplementation. But in the center of the garden, the most beautiful main attraction was the Tree of Life. According to Gen 2:16, man was **“free to eat”** from this tree. According to **Rev 22:2, it “[bore] twelve manner of fruits, and [yielded] her fruit every month: and the leaves of the tree [were] for the healing of the nations.”** This was to be the supply of our food of life, and the source of wisdom.

**Prov 3:18 She (wisdom) is a tree of life to them that lay hold upon her. (KJV).**

### **HUMAN RESPONSIBILITY**

Furthermore, in Gen 2:15, the word *put* implies *rest*. Indeed, our environment should also be a place of rest. This should be the case for our home as well as for our working place. It is a pity that many working places today are literal war zones, filled with so much intrigue, back-stabbing and open attacks with very little mutual help and admiration. Even more dismal is the average family, where the husband and wife will not support each other and father and son despise each other. How can one rest? It is not surprising that many young people would rather loiter around with their friends than go home.

In this earthly home that God has given us, the responsibility of man is to **“work and take care”**. *Work* has the meaning of a servant. We are only stewards, not the masters of this world. Whatever we do, we must give an account to the true Master. *Take care* also means to protect and keep safe. The world and all therein is not for us to abuse and waste. God has also allowed man to name all creatures (Gen 2:19-20). This is a special characteristic of human beings. Animals can respond to the name Adam gave them, but they themselves do not have the instinct or ability to name things. This is a special honor God has bestowed upon man. Everyone has worth and dignity. The Creator, the Good Shepherd, **“calls his own sheep by name”** (John 10:3, ).

## THE ONLY WARNING

In the tranquil paradise of Eden, an ideal life was expected. Indeed, there was only one solemn warning:

**Gen 2:17 but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for when you eat of it you will surely die.**

The word *knowledge* has at least three meanings in the Bible:

- 1) Experiential knowledge. Let's say, I know this apple is sweet. Experiential knowledge would be to take a bite. But what if the apple is poisoned?
- 2) Technical knowledge. Namely, knowing the intellectual details or steps of carrying out an action. For example, learning the technical intricacies of how to rob a bank might provide enough temptation to actually try it. We seem to have this instinct of curiosity. Today's sex education in North America is an example.
- 3) Judgmental knowledge. This is deciding for oneself what is good and bad, righteous or evil. The Chinese translation of this Gen 2:17 emphasizes this aspect. In the physical world, does man have the right to decide which physical law is good or bad? Are not all scientific researches in pursuit of discovery of these laws so as to follow them? Likewise, we do not have the right to willfully decide for ourselves the nature of our relationship with the Creator, the conduct of our personal life and relationship, and our management of all creation. We were designed to follow the original plan and eternal principles of the Creator. Yet man preferred his freedom of choice. Indeed, God allowed us to have the freedom of choice between following His plan and following our own will. But not without a warning to Adam, for He said, **"for when you eat of it you will surely die."** The juxtaposition of the words **"free to eat"** in 2:16 and **"surely die"** in 2:17 creates a stark contrast between righteousness and the consequences of disobedience. The text can be literally rendered, "Eat, you eat, and die, you die". A person refusing to believe in the law of gravity, jumped to his death from a high-rise building. He asked for it. Can we say, Why did the Creator establish such a cruel law? This is a law that holds all things together. Violation can only bring damage to oneself. In all aspects of our life, violating the natural law of the Creator will likewise bring destruction. Violating physical laws bring physical damage and death. The violation of spiritual laws brought decay and death to all creation.

Next, let us examine the ideal family God created.



## 25. THE IDEAL FAMILY

When viewed through the evolutionary model of social psychology, the modern family can claim that human family life is only an evolved version of a group of monkeys picking lice off each other. It is no wonder that the modern family dynamic includes nit-picking, competition between the sexes and strife between the generations. When the father becomes angry, he can be like King Kong. When the kids are out of hand, they can be a band of monkeys. It's a zoo out there!

### QUALITY FAMILY LIFE

Is the family simply a group of animals that stay together because of mutual instinct? Is the home just a motel in which one resides? Does it have to be as volatile as a powder keg waiting to explode? Or as cold and indifferent as a mausoleum? Is it a noisy battlefield? Or a silent cold war zone? What is the most important quality in the family? A twelve-year-old boy wandering in the red light district said, "There is no love in my home." A young man about to wed said, "I hope to have a family full of love." A divorced young woman said, "I am looking for an unchanging love." A U.S. statistical survey for one week singled out the following two predominant age groups from all suicide candidates: teenagers and people in their 60's. The reason for their suicide was the same. No love! This is the tragedy of the modern man. With the prevalence of high technology and material prosperity, the sanctity of human life and relationships becomes diluted. **"Because of the increase of wickedness (violence), the love of most will grow cold" (Matt 24:12).** This was what the Lord Jesus predicted 2,000 years ago. This is why a nine-year-old is capable of pushing a five-year-old off a high-rise building to his death.

### THE ORIGINAL PLAN

The original plan of the Creator was not so. Man was created in God's image (content) and likeness (glory). Therefore, every person is bestowed with individual dignity and worth. No one is the possession of another person. The first interpersonal relationship God gave man was not between parent and child, nor between brothers and sisters, nor among friends, but between husband and wife. We have pointed out that the evolutionary explanation for the appearance of the sexes is very strained; for evolution states that all simple forms of life are unisexual. For two organisms to separately evolve into male and female, the difference between the sexes would be great. Yet after such different evolutionary paths, their genetic makeup would still have to be compatible in order to produce children.

### IT IS NOT GOOD TO BE ALONE

Husbands and wives are meant to be companions. Unfortunately, today, many couples pursue their separate ideals, dreams and sometimes even live



apart from each other. After dozens of years of marriage, they remain strangers. Some long-time couples try to stay together, but do not talk to each other, not even bothering to say “Good morning.” Even the Chinese divorce rate is rapidly catching up with the West. The Bible has a sad commentary about such a life:

**Eccl 4:8 There was a man all alone; he had neither son nor brother. There was no end to his toil, yet his eyes were not content with his wealth. “For whom am I toiling,” he asked, “and why am I depriving myself of enjoyment?” This too is meaningless—a miserable business!**

This is why man needs a spouse, a person who has the same position and worth to stand beside him. Although the man and the woman have different functions, the Bible affirms that they are equal in position.

**1 Cor 11:11 In the Lord, however, woman is not independent of man, nor is man independent of woman.**

God’s way is very practical.

**Gen 2:21-22 So the LORD God caused the man to fall into a deep sleep; and while he was sleeping, he took one of the man's ribs (original text, side) and closed up the place with flesh. Then the LORD God made a woman from the rib (side) he had taken out of the man, and he brought her to the man.**

Therefore, since the man and the woman were created out of the same material, their genetic makeup is of course the same.

### **SUITABLE HELPER**

This is the function between husband and wife. *Helper* implies that someone (the man) needs help. Living alone was not good, and he needed help. An autocratic macho man not only strangles the achievements of his wife, but also places himself in the bonds of false pretense. This is why some modern psychologists insist the release of a good cry is healthy for a man’s well-being. But “Men don’t cry!” This dictum prevents the healing of many emotional scars in a man’s heart. Ecclesiastes 4 gives us a beautiful description of mutual help:

**Eccl 4:9 Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their work.** It should be a beautiful thing for a couple to work together in the home and at work. God created a helper so that man and woman would have mutual respect for each other and enjoy the fruit of their labor together. Yet many couples subscribe to the attitude that good things are mine and bad things are yours, even when referring to their children, in whom the good aspects are from my side and the bad are from your side. Why can’t we say that everything is ours? The good is a product of cooperative effort. The bad means we have to try harder.

**Eccl 4:10 If one falls down, his friend can help him up. But pity the man who falls and has no one to help him up!** Rough times come in life. When we are weak inside, can our spouse help sustain us? When one is spiritually backsliding, can the spouse express his/her love in prayers and conversations and lift the other up? I thank God for the spouse He has given me. She has indeed been my strength in my weakness, my path when I am lost and my comfort in my pain.

**Eccl 4:11 Also, if two lie down together, they will keep warm. But how can one keep warm alone?** Obviously, the home must be warm. This warmth comes from love. The relationship between a husband and his wife is often reflected in the response of their children. It was a common sight in my family to see even my teenage son pile onto the parents' bed with us in the evening, refusing to leave. He did not usually speak that much, but occasionally, at the right moment, he would quietly snuggle over. For our family, this became the golden time for our family devotion.

It is tough to be alone. When there is a vibrant living love between husband and wife, outside pressure only brings them closer together, and they work harder together. It is a shame how many families today cannot withstand even the slightest external pressure and collapse. When someone encounters difficulties in the outside world, he tends to vent his frustrations at his loved ones. A golden opportunity to help each other turns to mutual abuse. The secret to make this golden opportunity work is explained in the book of Ecclesiastes:

**Eccl 4:12 Though one may be overpowered, two can defend themselves. A cord of three strands is not quickly broken.** When interpersonal relationships are built upon the Creator as the center, the power of His life becomes the third strand, and the warmth of His love will join the two into one.

### **THE TWO SHALL BECOME ONE**

Husbands and wives should be one in heart, mind and action. Medically, we see the joining of two gene pools into one in the process of conception, in which the father provides one half of the genes, and the mother the other half. The result of this blending is a new individual. Likewise in the family, the man's side provides one half, and the woman's side provides the other half. Joined together, we have a new family unit. The man's parents should become "our parents", and woman's parents also should become "our parents". Both sets of parents are offered the same honor and love. This is the ideal in-law relationship.

May every family return to the original plan of the Heavenly Father. Let every home become a nest of love. But how was this destroyed by sin?

## 26. TROUBLE STRIKES

A serious problem facing modern man is the collapse of the basic family unit. Social psychologists sometimes blame industrialization for destroying the family-based agricultural society. Others blame the mobility of modern life, which lacks the centrifugal force that used to keep families geographically closer to their roots. Still others might attribute this decline to open rebellion against the traditional family unit.

### THE ROOT OF THE PROBLEM

The Bible clearly points out that the root of the problem is man's departure from the original plan and provision of the Creator.

**I John 4:7 For love comes from God.** Today, many families do not know what love is. Therefore, young people spend much of their time seeking love, but since love has been distorted and contaminated, children from broken homes frequently become a factor in the breakdown of their own families later on, because they do not know how to model true love. This self-destructive cycle of emotional poverty begins with a self-centered worldview, a product of Satan's original deception of Adam:

**Gen 3:5 For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.** This is the original sin of man:

- 1) To be like God. We want to be the Creator Himself, thinking that we can be our own sustenance. (God is the source of all energy.)
- 2) To know (original text means *to judge*). That is why the tree is called "the tree of the knowledge of good and evil." It is the desire to be able to decide subjectively what is good and evil, and not objectively, according to God's truth. By ignoring the truth and the principles the Creator established, man appointed himself as the supreme lawmaker. In doing so, we cut ourselves off from the source of life and energy.

Isn't this self-centered attitude a basic human instinct? God declares this to be the root of the problem.

### I AM AFRAID

**Gen 3:7 Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they realized that they were naked.** Men used to be under the protection of the power of God, having God's glory. (*Likeness* in Gen 1:26, means *the glory of God*.) After their sin, the glory of God departed. What they then saw were each other's weakness and filth. Once the self-image has been polluted, the true self is gone. Adam and Eve began to abuse and cheapen themselves, not allowing the Creator to affirm their worth, just as modern men do today.

Without self-worth, there can be neither self-respect nor mutual respect. Interpersonal relationships, even between husbands and wives, become murky, and are no longer based on honesty toward each other. Today, man's attitude towards the Creator, our loving Heavenly Father, is fear: **“to hid[e] from God”**. Many people do not want to discuss things about the Creator or things that have to do with the eternal because of this deep-rooted fear, just like Felix's response to Paul:

**Acts 24:25 As Paul discoursed on righteousness, self-control and the judgment to come, Felix was afraid and said, “That's enough for now! You may leave. When I find it convenient, I will send for you.”** Even so, throughout human history, God still calls out, “Where are you?”

### **SHE DID IT**

When a problem struck, our ancestor Adam's reply was:

**Gen 3:12 The man said, “The woman you put here with me—she gave me some fruit from the tree, and I ate it.”** Actually, when the woman was speaking to Satan, the man was with her (Gen 3:6). He did not voice his dissent. But afterwards, not only did he blame the woman, but he also blamed the Creator for giving him a wife! Isn't blaming God and others for one's mistakes a common excuse today? Likewise, the woman cast the blame on Satan:

**Gen 3:13 The woman said, “The serpent deceived me, and I ate.”** The Devil made me do it! But in truth, it is one's own hand that does it, one's own heart that decides, one's own mouth that speaks it, and one's own feet that walk the path of disobedience. The Bible says,

**James 1:14 But each one is tempted when, by his own evil desire, he is dragged away and enticed.**

It is indeed not easy to confess one's guilt. How many disputes would be settled if each side would simply confess and apologize? Yet many apologies are like this. “I am sorry for my temper. But I wouldn't have lost it if you had not said that!” Such an apology blames the temper on the other party as well.

### **WHO IS THE ENEMY?**

From the beginning, the Bible tells us our true enemy is Satan, or the Devil, the spirit that opposes the Creator. In Genesis, he appeared in the form of a snake. His desire is to sabotage God's design of love for mankind. The godly design for His relationship with humans extols the value of the woman. It is evident in human history, from foot binding in imperial China, to adolescent female prostitution in Thailand, to the prevalence of domestic violence, that because of Satan's deception, women have been abused. As human beings take things into their own hands, rejecting the Creator, their

interpersonal relationships become dysfunctional. God's word to the woman was,

**Gen 3:16 Your desire will be for your husband, and he will rule over you.** The ideal husband and wife would have been equal to each other and mutually helpful. Now, it seems that most husbands and wives play games to manipulate each other into doing what they want. The word *desire* means *to entwine*. Sadly, in this day and age, many women, not knowing the meaning of true godly love and having never experienced a life lived in godly love, seek to trap a man in marriage by using material things, deceptive ploys and sex. This only brings disappointment and produces a relationship devoid of honesty, mutual respect and pure love. The home then becomes a war zone, full of intrigue. Injured, the children grow up to perpetuate the vicious cycle. But God has left behind a ray of hope. He said to the snake,

**Gen 3:15 And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will crush your head, and you will strike his heel.** God declared that there would be an offspring of the woman who would crush Satan's head. And so it came to pass four thousand years later when God's Son, Jesus Christ, was indeed born of a woman. With Christ's death upon the cross, the enemy struck Christ's heel, but through Christ's resurrection, He crushed Satan's head!

### **THE PAINS OF LIFE**

Genesis 3 continues to list the pains that came to man because of his sin, which cut him off from the source of power and life, the Creator. Both pertain to life in general.

- 1) The woman has the pains of pregnancy and childbirth. God's blessing was to be fruitful and multiply. Bringing a new life into the world should be a happy celebration. But now, life is imperfect. The factor of death and degeneration has come. The birth of new life becomes a painful struggle. To this day, medical science still cannot totally eliminate the pains of pregnancy and childbirth. Although there are many drugs to reduce the pain, they are not without side effects. This is one reason there is a movement to return to natural childbirth in the West.
- 2) To the man God said, **"Cursed is the ground because of you; through painful toil you will eat of it all the days of your life."** **Gen 3:17.** Since man is steward of the land, his decision also affected the earth, so that the curse of death and degeneration also came upon the land. Therefore, the scripture says, **"[heaven and earth] will perish, but you [God] remain; they will all wear out like a garment."** **Ps 102:26. Rom 8:20-21** It acknowledges the present corruption of the earth:

**“For the creation was subjected to frustration, not by its own choice, but by the will of the one who subjected it (man)”** and it describes the earth’s current condition as being a **“bondage to decay.”** This bondage to decay is the cause of the pain experienced in maintaining life.

With the inexhaustible supply of the source of energy in the Garden of Eden, all kinds of pleasant and tasty fruit trees, including the tree of life, which supplies life, grew by the command of God. Now, man must painfully toil over the land for the rest of his days. The land has to be cultivated. Otherwise, it will produce thorns and thistles. Man’s original duty was just to “work [the garden] and take care of it,” an easy yoke. Now, it has all become laborious and a heavy burden. This is the result of man’s choice not to have life (not eating of the tree of life), but rather to be God himself (eating of the tree of knowledge of good and evil). To this day, human management of this world is still a stopgap solution, with such things running rampant as famine and poverty, environmental pollution, the abuse of energy resources, inefficient water supply and the indiscriminate slaughter of animals to provide meat for human consumption. The misery in life stems from man’s original sin and departure from the Creator. Without God we have no power, no direction and no principles.

## **27.ON ACCEPTING JESUS CHRIST INTO YOUR “HEART”**

*Dear Heavenly Father, I praise You. Jesus Christ, I thank You. For You are the True Creator, but You have come down to earth to become man, to tell me that You love me, to die for my sins upon the cross, to shed Your precious blood and rid me of guilt, to rise from the dead and give me a new life.*

*I want You, dear Lord Jesus. Please come into my heart. Be my Lord and Savior and forgive my sins, the sin of relying on myself and not trusting in You.*

*Please give me eternal life, that is, Your life. Take control of my life, and let Your wonderful plan be fulfilled in me. Let me experience Your love, peace and joy. Grant me the Holy Spirit to guide my ways. Bless my family and fill it with Your love.*

*This I pray in Your precious name, dear Lord Jesus Christ. Amen*

### **WHAT YOUR PRAYER MEANS**

You have sincerely asked Jesus Christ to be your personal Lord and Savior. Looking at it more carefully your prayer means the following:

**HEAVENLY FATHER.** God, the Creator of your life is also your loving Heavenly Father.

**JESUS.** Historically, about 2,000 years ago, a baby was born in Bethlehem of Judea. The baby’s foster father, Joseph, was told by the angel of God to name Him Jesus, which means *Savior*, “because He will save His people from their sins.” Jesus came from the Heavenly Father. He and the Father are one.

**CHRIST.** Means “the Anointed One.” When the Jews commissioned someone to be king, priest or prophet, they anointed him with oil. *Christ* is a Greek word and *Messiah* is a Hebrew word with the same meaning, *the One who is sent*. Jesus was sent to fulfill God’s plan of salvation. He is the King,

the Priest and the Prophet. First, He is King. Being the Creator, He is the King of kings. Second, He is the Priest. He prays for us. Last, He is the Prophet. He conveys the truth of the Kingdom of Heaven.

**THE TRUE CREATOR.** God in the Bible means *the Mighty One*, the source of all energy. Only the true Creator of the universe is the true God. All things were created by Him and belong to Him. There is no other God. He is the source of life and the Creator of our life. He is also the Lord of heaven and earth.

**COME DOWN TO EARTH TO BECOME MAN.** From His place of glory in Heaven, Jesus willingly came down to earth to become man because He loves the people of the world. Though He took upon Himself our sinful human body, He was without sin. The historicity of Jesus is undeniably evident in the division of the common eras we use every day: B.C., meaning *before Christ*, and A.D., meaning *in the year of our Lord*.

Second, what Jesus did for you.

**JESUS LOVES ME.** Jesus' birth, His whole life and particularly His substitutional death demonstrated His love for us.

**TO DIE FOR MY SINS UPON THE CROSS.** Jesus' friends and foes admitted that He was without sin. He atoned for our wrongdoings by using Himself as the sacrifice, the righteous taking the place of the unrighteous. The cross was a cruel and merciless method of execution throughout history. The victim hung on the cross for days, dying slowly. The way Jesus would die was predicted a thousand years before. He would be beaten and tortured, pierced in the hands and feet, joints dislocated, but not a bone would be broken.

**TO SHED YOUR PRECIOUS BLOOD AND RID ME OF GUILT.** By shedding His blood, Jesus established an unchangeable new covenant. Whoever confesses that Jesus bled for him will be cleansed by God according to this covenant. By Jesus' blood and through man's faith, God's demand for righteousness is satisfied, justifying those who believe in Jesus. Jesus is the sacrificial lamb.

**TO RISE FROM THE DEAD.** Both the Jewish historian of the time, Josephus, and a Roman historian, Pliny the Elder, neither one of them friends of Jesus, both objectively recorded the death and resurrection of Jesus. There were also many eyewitnesses to His death, resurrection and ascension into heaven. Historically, Jesus is the only person that has resurrected and will not die again.

**TO GIVE ME A NEW LIFE.** The resurrection of Jesus showed Him to be the Lord of Life, overcoming the power of sin, that is, death. He is the eternal God, the Creator of life. Those in Jesus Christ will also rise from the dead,



overcoming death. Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!

**PLEASE COME INTO MY HEART.** That is, come into my whole being.

**I WANT YOU.** The Creator respects your freedom of choice, but when you sincerely invite Him to come in, He will.

**BE MY LORD AND SAVIOR.** To save me from the bondage of sin and, the power of Satan and to deliver me into His marvelous light. He is greater than all, and no one can snatch us out of His hand. He is also the Lord of our life.

**FORGIVE MY SINS.** Sin is failure to reach the standard the Creator has set for us. Just as all cars have manufacturer's specifications, so there is a blue print for our lives set by the Creator. Just as not operating the car according to the manufacturer's instructions causes problems, so it is with our lives when we do not operate according to the law of the Creator. The damage caused by this rebellion against the plan has to be repaired.

**THE SIN OF ONLY TRUSTING MYSELF AND NOT TRUSTING YOU.** Self-centeredness, which is making decisions based on what we selfishly want instead of what we were designed to do, is the root of all problems in this world.

**ETERNAL LIFE.** This is God's life. It transcends time and is therefore eternal. It enables us to enjoy living in God's realm, the realm of infinite energy. The Bible describes God as the source of energy. He is both the Father of Lights as well as a Consuming Fire. This is energy. To come to His presence, we need to have His life. Then His infinite energy supplies us and it is a world of marvelous light. Without God's life, we cannot stand His infinite energy and we suffer the condemnation of eternal fire in His presence.

**AND LET YOUR WONDERFUL PLAN BE FULFILLED IN ME.** Now having put our trust in Christ, we want to discover from God's Word, the Bible, what His design is for us, because His way is the best.

**LOVE.** God is love. Jesus loves me. The relationship I establish with Him is one of unconditional love.

**PEACE.** The peace that the Lord Jesus gives is not like that of the world. It is a peace that overcomes the world even in the face of trouble, and it surpasses all understanding.

**JOY.** The joy that Jesus gives is fulfilling, will not be taken away and is glorious beyond words.

**HOLY SPIRIT.** The Holy Spirit is the Spirit of Truth who leads us into all

truth, teaches us all things and reminds us of everything Jesus has said to us. He is the third Person of the Godhead. The mystery that God is One but exists in three Persons is beyond our understanding. At baptism we are baptized “in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.” The word *name* is singular.

**TO GUIDE MY WAYS.** No one knows what the future holds, but the loving Creator says, “For I know the plans I have for you, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.”

**BLESS MY FAMILY.** God established the family for us, to provide help, love and blessings. However, many families have become battlefields and places of suffering. We want to rebuild the family according to the plan of the Creator.

**AND FILL IT WITH YOUR LOVE.** By ourselves, we can not know what love is. With God’s life in us and after experiencing His love, we can know that pure love is patient and kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, and always perseveres. Love never fails.

**IN YOUR PRECIOUS NAME.** Jesus promised, You may ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it. This means coming under His name and according to His will.

**AMEN.** This means *truthfully and faithfully*. I sincerely mean what I truthfully say in this prayer and I believe Jesus is faithful and true to His promises.

**EXPERIENCE GOD.** Jesus said, “If you love me, you will obey what I command.” The Bible also says, “But if anyone obeys God’s word, God’s love is truly made complete in him.” Give your life over to Him, and you will begin to experience God’s love in your life.

**READ GOD’S WORD, THE BIBLE.** This is God’s manual for our life. Start by reading the Gospels to be familiar with the life of Jesus. Ask God to give you at least one practical lesson to learn from the chapter and think on it and apply it the whole day. Then go on to read the entire Bible as many times as possible. Read God’s word **every day**.

**COMMUNICATE WITH GOD BY PRAYING.** Praying is just talking to God. Every day, you want to commit your life to Him, presenting your body as a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service. Then continue to cast all of your cares on God all day, for He cares for you and He will give you peace, joy, strength and guidance.

May God himself, the God of peace, sanctify you through and through.

May your whole spirit, soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The one who calls you is faithful and He will do it.