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**C1024 – July 14, 2010 – The Fossil Record**

Here are some other suggestions for food stuffs after the Flood. You've got to imagine, when they got off the Ark it was a very different world, probably unrecognizable as far as anything Noah and his family knew. It was a whole new world and the lush vegetation before the Flood that covered the earth from pole to pole was gone. Now they lived in a rather barren habitat comparatively. We said they could have eaten any leftover food in the ark. If the animals hibernated, and this has been shown in most animal phyla that animals can hibernate, not just bears. And if they did then that drastically reduces the amount of food they have to take on the ark. It also opens the possibility that when they got off the ark they had food left over. So that's a food source. Then God also gave them meat to eat, so they could kill animals. I doubt very seriously they killed many animals because if you kill papa, that wipes out that animal kind even if momma is pregnant. How do you know she's going to have any boys, maybe if she has a litter, but in any case, you're talking to people who had never eaten meat before, so it takes a bit to get over that hurdle, psychologically. They could have eaten eggs. Many animals lay eggs. They could have eaten fish. Some fish survived the Flood and that's a food source. They could have eaten seaweed, the waters had receded and that leaves behind seaweed. Not saying they did, just that it's a very rich food source and they probably had plenty of it. They could have eaten mushrooms that grew up in the moist environment. Of course you had vegetation that had re-sprouted on the earth and the fruits. These are some suggestions for food sources immediately after they stepped off the Ark. If you want to get more into these questions about the feasibility of the Ark then the standard work on this was done by John Woodmorappe, his book is called *Noah's Ark: A Feasibility Study*. And in that book he goes through everything

imaginable, from feeding the animals to removing the manure, to special diets, to climate questions, you name it. Woodmorappe has answered all the objections and you can sort of pick and choose what you want to get into. I highly recommend this book as a resource for your family.

Last time we mentioned transitional fossils, sometimes referred to as missing links. Someone asked a question about Archaeopteryx. What about Archaeopteryx? Archaeopteryx had wings; he had three talons on one of his wings, teeth.



Is Archaeopteryx a transitional fossil? Well, as you may know the link they're trying to find here is between dinosaurs and birds. In evolution class you're taught that the descendants of the dinosaurs are the birds. The thing that you're taken through is the idea that the scales of the dinosaurs evolved into feathers and they show you a nice sequence of imaginative drawings of how this happened. This is patently absurd, it's all imagination, drawings. The genetics and the structure of feathers are wildly different from scales. Here's Feduccia. I love what this guy says, he's an evolutionist, and he's an ornithologist, meaning he's an expert on birds. Think in your mind's eye of a dinosaur and think of a bird. Now, he asks, "How do you derive birds from a heavy, earthbound, bipedal reptile that has a deep body, a heavy balancing tail, and fore-shortened forelimbs?"...Biophysically, it's impossible." It's absurd on the face of it. Then he says of the feather, think of this statement. Here's a man who's studied feathers all his life, he says, "...feathers 'have an almost magical complexity,' which 'allows a

mechanical aerodynamic refinement never achieved by other means,' making them one of the most remarkable structures in biology." I don't know if you know much about feathers but under a microscope you're looking at a design that aerodynamic engineers envy. These things are remarkable. So, yeah right, feathers evolved from scales and Archaeopteryx is a transitional form. Baloney. Besides, we know of three birds living today that have claws on their wings, the Hoatzin in South America, the Touraco of Africa and the Ostrich.

Last time I showed you this chart which is a depiction of comparing models and choosing the most adequate model.

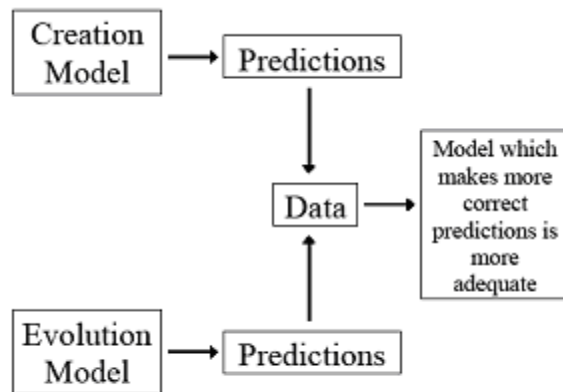


Fig. How to test the adequacy of competing models.

There's a strategy to this, this is not just up in the air. In the case of the Creation vs Evolution model, you can study either one of these views of origins and come to a Model or picture of that view. Then you can think through the Model to what Predictions it would make, what you would expect to find in the data. Then you can go out and look at the Data itself and see how closely the Predictions square with the Data. The model which has the most correlations is the more adequate model.

Last time we said the Predictions of the Evolutionary Model were that you would find a gradual progression from single celled organisms to multi-cellular organisms on an upward scale of development. They call it the tree of life, some call it a bush, there's disagreement in the evolutionary camp. But generally speaking, "The evolution model would predict that, because all life comes from a common ancestor, there should be innumerable transitional forms between basic types."<sup>i</sup>

That's what we should find if Evolution is a good model. I gave you a series of quotes to the effect that that is not what we find at all. Two will suffice today, this one from evolutionist Steven Stanley. He candidly admits, "The known fossil record fails to document a single example of phyletic evolution accomplishing a major morphologic transition and hence offers no evidence that the gradualistic model can be valid."<sup>ii</sup> Here's another one from an evolutionist, "The fossil record...continues to be composed mainly of gaps." So, there it is from a proponent's own mouth, the predictions of the evolutionary model do not correlate with the data. So let's look at the data. What does the fossil record look like?

### The Nature of the Fossil Record

What I want to do here is meet a couple of counter objections so we're aware how they try to handle the lack of evidence in the fossil record for their model. Then we'll familiarize ourselves with the true nature of the fossil record and the geologic column.

First, one objection from evolutionists is that the fossil record is not nearly complete and that's why we haven't found the transitional fossils. So all we need is more time and discovery of fossils and then we'll find the transitional fossils and this will show that gradual evolution has occurred. Here's the problem. I'm going to show you data collected from the known fossil record in the 1960's. We're half a century past this so we have a lot more fossils today. But look at this chart. This chart is depicting the percentage of various orders or families of terrestrial vertebrates. When it says "orders" or "families" don't let that throw you, it's just referring to the classification scheme Kingdom, Phylum, Class, Order, Family, Genus, Species. Is everyone somewhat familiar with this classification scheme? It's just man categorizing organisms, usually according to their appearance; they didn't have genetics when this scheme was developed so they just observed the characteristics of the organism and categorized them. So if it was a bird, that's the largest classification, they would put that in the Bird Kingdom (Aves) and then the bird would be classified in a subgroup called a Phyla, maybe flying versus non-flying, then down to Class and so on down to Species. It's just a classification scheme so men



can talk about these things and have a shared vocabulary. You can do this with airplanes, vocations, any area of life you can classify in a hierarchy.

Number of living orders of terrestrial vertebrates.....	43
Number of living orders of terrestrial vertebrates found as fossils.....	42
<b>Percentage fossilized</b>	<b>98</b>

Number of living families of terrestrial vertebrates.....	329
Number of living families of terrestrial vertebrates found as fossils.....	261
<b>Percentage fossilized</b>	<b>79</b>

Number of living families of terrestrial vertebrates, excluding birds.....	178
Number of living families of terrestrial vertebrates, excluding birds found as fossils.....	156
<b>Percentage fossilized</b>	<b>88</b>

Adapted from Denton, 1985, 190, Figure 8.5.

What the top box in this chart is showing is that the number of living orders of terrestrial vertebrates, those are land animals that have a backbone, and if we go out and count the number of known living land animals with a backbone at the order level we come up with 43. How many of these 43 orders are represented in the fossil record? Answer, 42. And that means that 98 percent of the living orders are represented in the fossil record. Does that look like the fossil record is complete? Just about. Take another one, the center box, these are number of living families of terrestrial vertebrates, the family is a sub-class of the order. Here we have 329 living families, still living today. If we check the fossil record 261 out of the 329 are represented in the fossil record. So at the family level we have represented 79%, that's more than 3/4 complete and this was in the 1960's. So those percentages are higher today. So the objection that if we had a more complete fossil record then the gaps would be filled is just nonsense. Here's an evolutionist himself

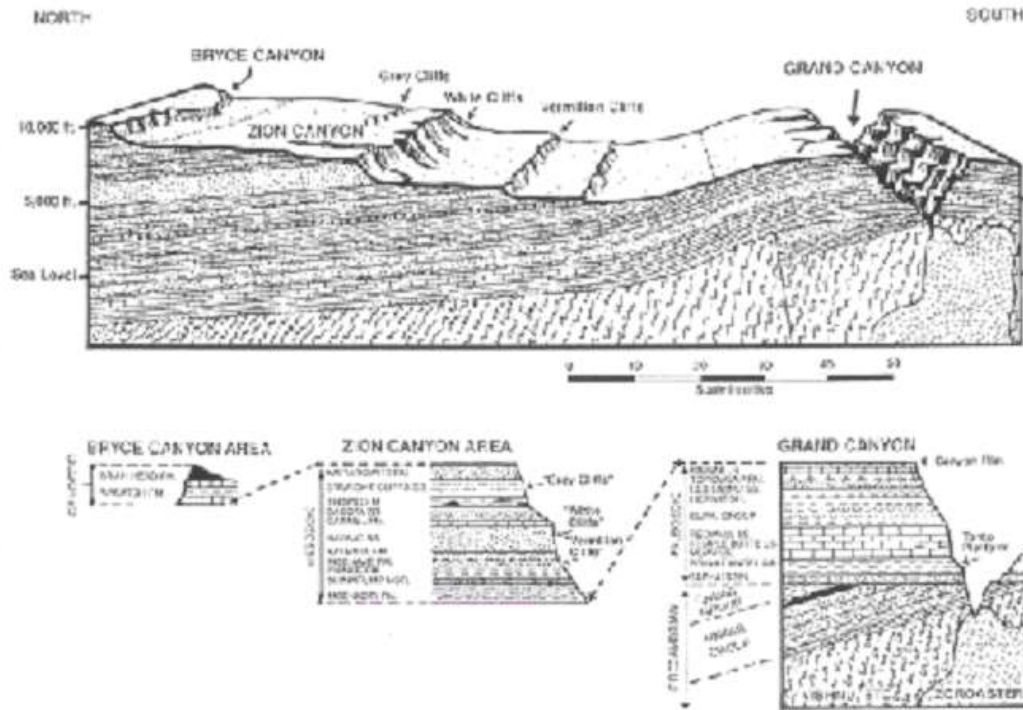
who admits, (this guy worked at the American Museum of Natural History, he's seen a fossil or two "In contrast to what is usually stated...a more complete sample of the fossil record...would only complicate the problem..."<sup>iii</sup> So, no, you can't say, well, in the future when we find more fossils we'll find the transitions we're looking for. Baloney, the fossil record for all intents and purposes is complete!

So let's look at what they're looking at. Here's the geologic column encasing the fossil record and we'll see an even bigger problem they face.

Geologic Timescale with Dominant Fossils				
	ERA	PERIOD	EPOCH	SUCCESSION OF LIFE
Post-Flood Sediments	CENOZOIC Recent Life	QUATERNARY 0-2 Million Years Rise of Man	Recent Pleistocene	MAMMOTH
		TERTIARY 64 Million Years Rise of Mammals	Pliocene Miocene Oligocene Eocene Palaeocene	Woolly Mammoth Saber-toothed Tiger Giant Ground Squirrel
Flood Sediments	MESOZOIC Middle Life	CRETACEOUS 80 Million Years Modern Seed-bearing Plants, Dinosaurs		SCAPHITES INDOCRAMUS HERNA PERSPHINCTES TROPHITES MONGOTIS
		JURASSIC 56 Million Years First Birds		
		TRIASSIC 40 Million Years Crocods, First Dinosaurs		
Flood Sediments	PALEOZOIC Ancient Life	PERMIAN 46 Million Years First Reptiles		LEPTODUS PARAFUSULINA DICTYOCLOSTUS PROLECANITES
		PENNSYLVANIAN 19 Million Years First Insects		CALAMITES MUCKROSPIDEN HEXAMOCERAS CRYSTIPHYLLUM
		MISSISSIPPIAN 41 Million Years Many Crinoids		BATHYURUS (Trilobite) TETRAODONTUS
		DEVONIAN 57 Million Years First Seed Plants Cartilage Fish		PARADOXIDES (Trilobite) BILLINGSHELLA
		SILURIAN 26 Million Years Earliest Land Animals		
		ORDOVICIAN 44 Million Years Early Bony Fish		
		CAMBRIAN 54 Million Years Invertebrate Animals, Brachiopods, Trilobites		
Pre-Flood and Creation Sediments	PRECAMBRIAN TIME	EDICARAN 26 Million Years Very few fossils present (Haceleria, algae, pollen?)		

In all of this we're presupposing that the column is valid. Actually it's a composite of strata from different places on the earth. Woodmorappe has demonstrated that the complete geologic column is found in <1% of the earth's crust. For example, Grand Canyon only represents the Precambrian and Paleozoic era of the geologic column.

# Grand Canyon: Monument to Catastrophe



To see the Mesozoic era you have to go on up to Zion Canyon and to see the Cenozoic you have to go up to Bryce Canyon. If the Geologic Column was complete it would be over 100 miles thick. So the textbooks our children read and study depict an unreal column that misleads them into thinking that geology has for all intents and purposes demonstrated the fact of evolution. This is a geologic column, you see it in every earth science textbook that you'll ever own, presented as fact. We'll see how factual it is today. This is supposedly factual. Nobody doubts this except a few fundamentalists. Rock, obviously on the bottom was there first, and the other rock laid on top of it. We call that the principle of superposition. A good principle, we don't question that, we're not questioning that principle, no problem. What we're questioning is (a) whether this exists as a uniform principle all over the earth, and (b) the time scale associated with it. Let me show you something. Down at the bottom is the Precambrian rock strata. Every high school student who does earth science knows of the Precambrian layer - that's the layer before life really gets going, just algae and so forth found in Precambrian rock. Over that we have all kind of rocks. For our purposes, so we don't lose the forest for the trees, just think of the four major periods: Cenozoic, which means 'new life, "zoic" is the word for 'life', so new or recent life, Mesozoic, 'middle life',



and Paleozoic, 'old life'. Underneath all of that is the Precambrian. So the column is divided in four: new life, middle life, old life and Precambrian. Those are just the words they've given to these parts of the geologic column.

I want you to pay special attention the break between the Precambrian and this little section of the Paleozoic called Cambrian. In the Precambrian what do you see? Hardly anything; very simple life, mostly blue-green algae called cyanobacteria. They're just single-celled organisms and when they die they form these things called stromatolites. Then what do you see in the Cambrian? All kinds of life. Life just explodes on the scene. That's why they call it the Cambrian explosion! Now how could all of that life suddenly explode from blue-green algae? There are quite a number of evolutionary steps that you have to go through to get from blue-green algae to all this stuff. Virtually every major phyla is represented in the Cambrian. If evolution is true and evolution occurs by gradual step-by-step changes how do you suddenly jump from virtually no life to virtually all of life that fast? Look at the organism called a trilobite. He's found in the Cambrian. They have extremely complex eyes. One evolutionist says of the trilobite eye, "the trilobites...used an optimal design which would require a well trained and imaginative optical engineer to develop today." That's the kind of complexity that suddenly appears in the Cambrian explosion. Where are the intermediate evolutionary steps to get the trilobite eye? Sort of a little problem for evolutionists. So to deal with this in the late 60's and early 70's Niles Eldredge and Stephen J Gould<sup>iv</sup> said this is never going to work with gradual step-by-step evolution. It just can't explain the Cambrian explosion. Therefore, "Eldredge and Gould...decided to take the record at face value." See, at least they were being honest here. "On this view, there is little evidence of modification within species, or of forms intermediate [transitional] between species because neither generally occurred. A species forms and evolves almost instantaneously (on the geological timescale) and then remains virtually unchanged until it disappears..." They wrote a new model of evolution in 1971 called Punctuated Equilibrium. It's been in Time magazine, National Geographic and, of course, in the textbooks. Anyone ever heard of it? Here's the basic idea. Evolution happened real fast (relative to the currently accepted geological

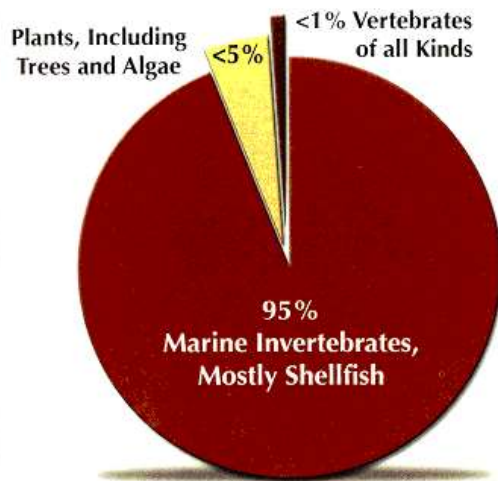


timescale). It happened so fast in fact that there's no evidence it happened and it almost all happened in that period from the Precambrian to the Cambrian. After that everything remains virtually the same, no macroevolution, just minor variations of the same basic kinds. So what Eldredge and Gould proposed to explain the Cambrian explosion is that if evolution is true and we have to go step-by-step to go from these little bacteria and algae to virtually every existing phyla then the steps must have happened pretty fast, extremely fast. And the theory goes that it happened so fast that we have no evidence that it happened. The steps didn't get captured in the fossil record. That's Punctuated Equilibrium. The evidence of evolution is that there is no evidence. This is the kind of crud we creationists have to listen to, and we're the superstitious ones! Here's how they state their position. I'm going to read this quote but think of how this sounds to most people as it rolls off the lips of a highly esteemed academic on PBS channel. "Evolution happens rapidly in small, localized populations, so we're not likely to see it in the fossil record." And everyone says? Ooohhh, ahhhh, how brilliant is mother nature. Here's another frank admission, "...major transitions...must be occurring within small, rapidly evolving populations that leave no legible fossil record." And we all say if we're thinking...excuse me but you're saying that the evidence for evolution is that there is no evidence. Yes, that's what we're saying. Well, don't blame us creationists for not buying it. So anyway, that's the attempt since 1971 to get around the obvious discontinuities in the fossil record. So far neither the gradual model of evolution nor the punctuated equilibrium model of evolution have predicted with any adequacy what we see in the supposed fossil record, even when we grant them the composite column.

So both responses from the modern conventional science community fail miserably. The fossil record is basically complete so we shouldn't expect to find transitional fossils in the future. And the punctuated equilibrium model used to explain the Cambrian explosion simply gives no valid explanation for how that might occur, it rests on pure fantasy and exists only in the imagination of evolutionists.

Now we come to the true nature of the fossil record, the Creation Model and the real geologic column. How well does our model predict the

data? Now we're going to look at the data first. What is the true nature of the fossil record? This pie chart is key.



The great majority of fossils are the remains of marine invertebrates, nearly all found in catastrophic, widespread deposits on the continents. The geologic past of our planet was dominated by processes that were quite unlike those of today.

What it's depicting is the percentage of fossils that we find. What kind of fossils do we find? Notice the bulk. 95% are marine invertebrates, mostly shellfish. 95%, let that sink in. That means if you find 1,000 fossils 950 of them are marine invertebrates. The last 5% are almost all plants, including trees and algae. So that's almost 100%. We're talking about 99.5% of the fossils we find are either marine organisms or plants? What would the conventional geologic column we see in the textbooks lead us to believe? We'll see in a moment. Then we have <1% as vertebrates of all kinds, things like fish, mammals, reptiles, humans, etc...Putting this in perspective what it means is that if you find 1,000 fossils then 995 of them are marine invertebrates or plants. That leaves 5/1000 that are vertebrate fish, mammals, reptiles, birds or humans. So just realize how extremely rare discovery of a fish fossil is. You've seen them but they are extremely rare. Or a bird, bird fossils are extremely rare. Then think about dinosaurs or humans, these fossils are even rarer. Let's talk about human fossils for a moment. Why are human fossils so rare? Sometimes the anti-Global Flood Christians come up with this argument because, "well, if there were a global flood then certainly we would find humans fossils all over the place, we don't, therefore no global flood." Let's think about that for a moment

On Woodmorappe's flood model, what his argument says is that in the pre-Flood earth, before the Flood happened, the earth was flatter than today. When the Flood happened, if you took a map and you have the sea, and you have rivers flowing into the sea, and the human communities were probably along the rivers. At the Flood, these rivers rose rapidly and became torrents and probably swept most of the people in those local areas of human habitat out to sea, in which case their bodies were never fossilized. What happens when a body goes out to sea? They're eaten or they rot. How many fossilized human remains did we find on Titanic? Titanic went down with 1,500 people on board. Not one single fossil remain. We found a pair of shoes just sitting on the bottom where the man was standing dead. But no fossils. Fossils are very rare and they require very rapid burial.

Humans that didn't live in river side communities that got washed away immediately, what would they naturally do when they saw the water rising? They'd move to higher ground and as the water got closer they'd move again to higher ground. People aren't stupid. By the time they ran out of higher ground they'd be swept out to sea, in which case again, their bodies would be eaten or rot. So even if there were, say, 300 million people living in Noah's time, if you divide the total volume of sedimentary rock on the earth's crust, which is 300 million cubic miles, by the number of people, 300 million, you come out with the fact that even if all 300 million human bodies were fossilized, none of them rotted, there would be only one person for every cubic mile of rock. So the probability of ever finding a human fossil is exceedingly small. Woodmorappe reminds us of something else. In Genesis, how many human beings were created in creation week? Two. How many animals and fish and birds were created in creation week? Ah, two of each kind, thousands and thousands. So therefore what's the ratio of human's to animals in the pre-Flood world? Very small, so therefore the statistical likelihood of even finding any fossilized human in any layer of rock is very small.

So let's look at the geologic column. If what I just showed you that the nature of the fossil record on this chart is true, and it is, then what's wrong with the conventional geologic column? Just look at this column

for a second, this is the standard column published by the Geologic Society of America in 2009. What they want to say is that this column traces the evolutionary development of life.

ERA	PERIOD	EPOCH	SUCCESION OF LIFE
CENOZOIC Recent Life	QUATERNARY 2-3 Million Years Rise of Man	Recent Platystrophia	
	TERTIARY 66 Million Years Rise of Mammals	Pliocene Miocene Oligocene Eocene Paleocene	
MESOZOIC Middle Life	CRETACEOUS 60 Million Years Modern Seed-Bearing Plants, Dinosaurs		
	JURASSIC 50 Million Years First Birds		
	TRIASSIC 66 Million Years Crocodiles, First Dinosaurs		
PALEOZOIC Ancient Life	PERMIAN 66 Million Years First Reptiles		
	PENNSYLVANIAN 19 Million Years First Insects		
	MISSISSIPPIAN 41 Million Years Many Crinoids		
	DEVONIAN 27 Million Years First Seed Plants Cartilage Fish		
	SILURIAN 24 Million Years Earliest Land Animals		
	ORDOVICIAN 44 Million Years Early Bony Fish		
PRECAMBRIAN TIME	CAMBRIAN 54 Million Years Invertebrate Animals, Brachiopods, Trilobites		
	EDICARAN 60 Million Years Very few fossils present (Bacteria, algae, pollen?)		

But from what I've just told you what mistaken conclusion(s) could this column lead you to believe? 1) That there are no marine invertebrate fossils in the upper layers. Look at that, no marine invertebrates in the upper layers. That's baloney. Of course they're there. What else do you see? 2) That there is an equal proportion of marine and land fossils in the column. In their column it looks like 50% of the time we find a vertebrate fossil and 50% of the time we find an invertebrate fossil. That's very misleading. 3) It looks like there was an evolutionary upward development of cellular organisms over millions and millions of years finally giving rise to our ancestors, the apes! What problems did we point out on the column for a gradual evolutionary upward development? The evolutionary leap between Precambrian and Cambrian periods! How did life evolve so rapidly? This is a myth, a very nicely drawn myth by the Geologic Society of America.

Now let's look at the actual geologic column on your handout; look at the column labeled common fossils. What are some things that strike you? 1) Marine invertebrate fossils cover the entire strata (except Precambrian). 2) There are living fossils. Look at that. There are fossils



down in the Paleozoic that are still around today, ever see a clam? How about a nautilus? They haven't changed in any noticeable way today, supposedly millions of years later. 3) Almost all fossils are marine organisms (95%). We've pointed that out earlier. 4) Almost all the rest are plant organisms (<5%). Look at the Rare Fossils column. Observe. 5) Very few fossils are land animals or men (<1%). So this conventional column we see here is baloney. It's not an actual depiction of what's in the earth's crust. And that's the one in the public school textbooks. They're led to believe all these lies, that we have evidence in the rocks of life's evolutionary development and that's not at all what we have. It's simply someone's imagination run wild. That's why I love the title of this article. Here's an article written by an evolutionist named Colin Tudge, the title is *Throw Away Your Zoology Textbooks*. That's more like it. Now, are creationists going to get their textbooks published and inserted into the public school system? No. That's what the early Intelligent Design movement tried to do in the late 1980s and early 1990's. They wrote a textbook *Of Pandas and People* and it was considered religiously biased. It was actually published by the Texas-based Foundation for Thought and Ethics. But you think that's ever going to make it into the public sector. Ha. But these outright lies, that's fine to put in the textbooks, we love the children. The religious nuts over there, they might damage them. Yeah, we'll damage your position but at least the kids will know the truth and the truth will set them free. I mean, this is wild, I went on the internet and read all about the intelligent design textbook *Of Pandas and People* and how a prof from Berkeley reviewed it, he runs it into the ground, they give it to Michael Ruse, famous evolutionary philosopher, he runs it into the ground. Then you get a peek inside the pages of the book at what they were running down and it says things like: life appeared abruptly, fully functional organisms, birds with feathers, beaks and wings, fish with fins and scales. And evolutionists are running this down, they're stomping it in the Supreme Court and yet they look at the fossil record and they say, it appears that life appeared abruptly, birds with feathers, beaks and wings; fish with fins and scales and yet when they say it they get a Nobel Prize. This is unbelievable. Richard Dawkins, you all know him, he says, "...we find many of them already in an advanced state of evolution, the very first time they appear. It is as though they were just planted there, without any evolutionary history."

Yeah, exactly, that's what we see, that's what *Of Pandas and People* teaches and that's what the Bible teaches. But we can't teach that in the public schools, we say that behind closed doors but we have to remain religiously neutral. So the kids get liked to, lied to, lied to and that's supposed to be fine. This is the kind of stuff that really burns me up.

What's the real issue? What's really going on? There's an agenda at work to suppress the truth in unrighteousness. Why are they doing this? Why do they persist to lie, lie, lie? Because they are willfully, deliberately, hiding and concealing these things. That's what Peter says. They're sinful and they're hiding from the God with whom they have to do, that's what Paul says. It's really astonishing that they can stare this stuff right in the face, look right at the evidence and not see it. But the answer to that is that Paul said that's what happens to your thinking when you deny the Creator-creature distinction, you inevitably think this screwed up way, your thinking blurs man, animals, birds, the whole thing is just a blend. Professing to be wise they became fools.

Now we want to go to the Creation/Flood Model. But before we can do that we have to ask, how do fossils form? First, the living organism dies, second, flooding occurs that rapidly buries the organism in mud, third, minerals leach through the soil replacing the bone and hardening it rapidly. That's how a fossil forms, death, rapid burial, mineral replacement, those are the three keys. If anything happens to interrupt at any step then no fossil. Of all the buffalo that once roamed the plains do you know how many fossils we have to prove that buffalo once roamed the plains? Zero. There are no fossils of buffalo. Do you know why? Because scavengers and bacteria destroyed them. You've got to have specific conditions for fossilization to occur. So if it dies and is rapidly buried and minerals seep through the soil and into the bone then you can get a fossil. There are other kinds of fossils of course, there are tracks, there are fecal material, there are soft parts caught in amber, like you saw in Jurassic Park, but for the most part, when we're talking about fossils it's those three steps.

Creation Sediments (Gen 1:1-2; 1:6-8; 1:9-10; 1:31)

Now for the Creation-Flood model. You want to talk about how easily the Creation-Flood model predicts what the actual distribution of fossils in the geologic column? This is fantastic. It's very easy. Let's think about the Creation model and what it would predict. First, we have the Creation. In the lowest strata of rocks would we expect to find fossils? Way down in the Hadean and Archaean? No. Why not? Because God created everything very good. Therefore there was no death in the beginning and if there was no death then there are no fossils. Are there fossils in the Hadean and Archaean? No. Therefore prediction 1 of the Creation model, that we would find rock without fossils is confirmed in the data, no fossils in the lowest strata. So those lowest strata are Creation rocks, the date those rocks were laid down is 4,000BC.

#### Pre-Flood Sediments (Gen 2:5; 2:10-14; 3:14, 15, 18, 19; 5:5-31)

Second we have the Fall and at the Fall death entered, both in man and nature. So the question then is, do we find fossils in these layers just above the Hadean and Archaean? Answer, yes, the first fossils are of stromatolites, they're conglomerates of blue-green algae, single celled organisms, also called cyanobacteria, and they're right at the top of the Precambrian. Why don't you find a lot of animal and marine fossils in this section? Because there's been no flood to rapidly bury organisms that die. All you have during the Pre-Flood world for 1,600 years is sediments laid down by normal geological processes such as rain and rivers that flowed out of the Garden of Eden. Rain (I think it did rain before the Flood, but what it causes is erosion. The rain can fill rivers beyond their capacity causing erosion, mud flows, turbid water and rapid burial of organisms that cannot escape the waters path.

Scriptures indicate these processes at work between the Creation and the Flood. Fossils in this layer are extremely rare but given that the Fall of man and nature occurred near the beginning of this period and the statements in Scripture that both man and nature were under the curse of sin and statements to that man died, the possibility of fossils during this period exists. The only known fossils in these rocks are stromatolites look identical to living stromatolites today. These fossils fit the Pre-Flood period, 4,000-2,350BC. Therefore prediction 2, little to no fossilization during the Pre-Flood world is confirmed in the data.

## Early Flood Sediments (Gen 6:7, 11-13, 17-19; 7:3-4; 7-8; **7:11-14, 17-22**)

Third we have the first 150 days of the Flood, the Global Flood of Noah, the first 150 days from the initiation of the flooding until the flooding prevailed over the highest mountain by 22 1/1 feet. What would the Global Flood of Noah predict we would find in this first 150 days? Turn to Gen 6:7, “The LORD said, “I will blot out man whom I have created from the face of the land, from man to animals to creeping things and to birds of the sky; for I am sorry that I have made them.” Verse 11, “Now the earth was corrupt in the sight of God, and the earth was filled with violence. <sup>12</sup>God looked on the earth, and behold, it was corrupt; for all flesh had corrupted their way upon the earth. <sup>13</sup>Then God said to Noah, “The end of all flesh has come before Me; for the earth is filled with violence because of them; and behold, I am about to destroy them with the earth.” That’s a catastrophe on the horizon. Come down to verse 17, “Behold, I, even I am bringing the flood of water upon the earth, to destroy all flesh in which is the breath of life, from under heaven; everything that is on the earth shall perish.” So now we learn it’s a water catastrophe. How are fossils formed? By floods that that rapidly bury organisms in mud. Is it global in scale? Sure sounds like it, it will “destroy all flesh...under heaven, everything on the earth shall perish.” So the prediction of the Creation/Flood model is that we would find millions and millions of fossils, rapidly buried by water in sedimentary rock. What do we find when we look at the Cambrian rock? Millions of fossils, rapidly buried by water in sedimentary rock. What’s the other prediction of the Creation Model here? That the life encased in these rocks are each different kinds. Remember that in Gen 1? God made distinct kinds. Hebrew *min*, and each kind was to produce after it’s own kind, right, there’s reproductivity involved. Now the kind is under intense investigation and has been for years. This branch of science is called baraminology, from Heb *bara*, which means “to create” and *min*, “kinds,” *ology* is “the study of,” so baraminology is “the study of the created kinds.” We are interested as creationists in the original created kinds. Let me say this dogmatically. The “kinds” of Genesis are not the equivalent of the modern “species.” Don’t put yourself in that position because you’ll be trying to argue there were billions of animals



on the ark. The created kinds are “usually broader than the species and even, in many cases, the genus.” Why do I say that? For three reasons. One, “Jones (1972b), largely using Scriptural evidence (e.g. the animal lists in Leviticus), demonstrated that the created kind is approximately equivalent to the subfamily or family, at least in the case of birds and mammals.” Two, “Recently, Scherer (1993) has arrived at the same conclusion, but on the basis of scientific evidence. This evidence includes numerous documented cases of interbreeding between individuals of different species and genera, as well as interbreeding with a third species or genus in situations where two species or genera do not themselves interbreed.” Three, if the biblical “kind” is equivalent to modern “species” then we’d have to have billions of organisms on the ark. However, Woodmorappe’s conclusion is that if the biblical kind is what the Bible and science suggest then no more than 16,000 animals would need to be on the ark.<sup>v</sup> So the point we want to make here about our model is that when we look at this massive amount of fossilization starting in the Cambrian rock, we would predict to find distinct kinds. What do we find? Distinct kinds, just like the model of Gen 1 and 6-8 predicts. Virtually every known phyla exists in this period. So predictions three and four of the Creation Model are confirmed in the data. We find distinct kinds rapidly buried by water in sedimentary rock.

The Genesis text of the early Flood period explains perfectly the mass amounts of fossils in the Paleozoic Era. The fountains of the deep (Mid-Atlantic Rift Valley) burst forth shooting supersonic steam high in the atmosphere, literally ripping the earth’s crust apart sending massive amounts of sediments, mud slides that would rapidly bury billions and billions of fossils. First it would bury marine invertebrates and vertebrates that lived in deeper waters, and then it would bury those that lived in shallower waters. As the waters prevailed on the earth increasing numbers of land animals and men would be buried last, primarily in the Mesozoic layers. These events all occurred during the first 150 days of the Flood. Both the Paleozoic and Mesozoic are sedimentary rock laid down by the Flood

Late Flood Sediments (Gen 8:1; 8:4; 8:17)

The fourth event is the second half of the Flood or the last 211 days, this was the period where the waters abated or ran off the continents and massive mountain building and basin forming occurred. Gen 8:1, "But God remembered Noah and all the beasts and all the cattle that were with him in the ark; and God caused a wind to pass over the earth, and the water subsided." So now we're going to have the water run off and this of course is going to have major geological implications, mud slides, a re-organization of the fossils, fossil graveyards will form, in the Mesozoic especially you will have a mixing up of these higher strata. Gen 8:4, "In the seventh month, on the seventeenth day of the month, the ark rested upon the mountains of Ararat." So the water level is decreasing or the mountains are rising, one or both of these phenomena. Gen 8:6-7 the raven is sent out, the raven is not a picky bird, dove are picky birds. So the raven doesn't come back. Verse 8, "Then he sent out a dove from him, to see if the water was abated from the face of the land;" So it's obvious the water is decreasing. That's the point we make at this stage and that the Mesozoic layers especially are reshuffled, this is where we find fossil graveyards and large groups of organisms buried together en masse, like they were picked up and all thrown in one garbage can.

#### Post-Flood Sediments (Job )

The abundance of fossils suddenly appearing at the Cambrian period on through the upper Paleozoic does not bode well for evolutionary theory. Evolution is a step-by-step gradual, incremental process of one organism giving rise to another by macroevolution over vast periods of time. An article in American Scientist, 1985, admitted that Darwin saw the problem, "As Darwin noted in the *Origin of Species*, the abrupt emergence of arthropods in the fossil record during the Cambrian presents a problem for evolutionary biology. There are no obvious simpler or intermediate forms—either living or in the fossil record—that show convincingly how modern arthropods evolved from wormlike ancestors." According to Darwin's "tree of life", non-life gave rise to life which gave rise to all other life forms. So there is one trunk, which branches into all other life forms that developed over time. In contrast to this picture, the Cambrian portion of the geologic column has preserved all kinds of life that appeared all at the same time! Each very

complex and different from the others. The fact that a sudden leap from practically no life to abundance of life in every phyla suggests not evolution but instant creation of fully-functioning organisms of every known phyla. To get around this obvious blemish in the evolutionary story Dr Stephen J Gould and Niles Eldredge suggested Punctuated Equilibrium as a theory to explain the fossil record in 1971. Gould saw that the fossil record does not support gradual changes in organisms in a nice phylogenetic tree but that the dominant story is stasis or no changes in the organisms. To explain the sudden leap in life at the Cambrian period Gould and Eldredge posited that the Cambrian explosion caused a vast number of genetic changes in organisms that brought about species split. The basic idea is that a rapidly changing environment could cause rapid<sup>vi</sup> macroevolution. What evidence is there to support Punctuated Equilibrium? The evidence is that there is no evidence.<sup>vii</sup>

and we'll find out how they form shortly. It's very simple, it's just that certain conditions have to be met.

think through the text of Scripture and derive a Creation Model, then thinking through that model you can infer Predictions. The Predictions are what we would expect to find in the data if the model were true. Last time we

Turn to Gen 1. What does Genesis say about plants and animals God made? Gen 1:11. Here we are on the third day. "Then God said, "Let the earth sprout vegetation, plants yielding seed, and fruit trees on the earth bearing fruit after their what? "after their kind." Heb – *min*, distinct kinds or types of plants, they don't morph into other plants, there are boundaries, variation yes, complete blending, no. Gen 1:21 "God created the great sea monsters and every living creature that moves, with which the waters swarmed after their" what? Their "kind," that covers sea creatures, now to the rest of the verse, "and every winged bird after its kind, and God saw that it was good." We could go on, verse 24, "the creatures and cattle and creeping things and beast of the earth after their kind." And man, man is made in God's image he's man kind, that's why we say mankind. Kind, kind, kind, kind, kind, there are distinct kinds, not one kind that blends into every other kind

through evolution. That's our model. So one thing our model would predict is that there are distinct kinds in the fossil record. What do we find. WE have a model, we have a prediction of the model, what do the data say. We already showed that it most certainly does not show transitions. If it doesn't show transitions what does it show? Here's American Scientist magazine, James Valentine and Cathryn Campbell, "The abrupt appearance of higher taxa in the fossil record has been a perennial puzzle. Not only do characteristic and distinctive remains of phyla appear suddenly, without known ancestors, but several classes of a phylum, orders of a class, and so on, commonly appear at approximately the same time without known intermediates..." Well yeah, they all appeared in the same week and they were all buried in the flood during the same year! "If we read the record rather literally, it implies that organisms of new grades of complexity arose and radiated relative rapidly." Yeah, instantaneously, that's the kind of rapidity we're talking about. God created instantly functioning, fully developed organisms. That's our model. That's what it would predict and that's what we find. Peter Smith says, and these are the words of evolutionists, these aren't creationists, these are just fantastic admissions, "Eldredge and Gould...decided to take the record at face value. On this view, there is little evidence of modification within species, or of forms intermediate between species because neither generally occurred. A species forms and evolves almost instantaneously (on the geological timescale) and then remains virtually unchanged until it disappears..." yeah, different kinds, that's what our model says and that's what you find in the rocks. So our model is perfect. It makes predictions that we would find distinct kinds and we go out and we find distinct fossil kinds with no transitional fossils.

But let me show you how perfect. I challenged you to re-work the geologic column; I gave you this column and I said, now re-work it to fit what the Biblical text says. When God first created He created everything what? Very good." Was their death, evil and suffering? Better stated, was their death, evil and suffering in the animal kinds or in the human kind. No, everything was very good, there was no sin, the wages of sin is death, there was no sin so no wages, no death. So in the lowest rocks of the earth, the Precambrian rocks, would you expect to find fossils? No. There's no death. What do we find in the lowest rocks?



No fossils. We have Archaean and Hadean, no fossils in there, here in the Proterozoic we have fossils of stromatolites, those are blue-green algae or cyanobacteria, they're actually one-celled organisms that conglomerate and we have found fossils of those in this sedimentary layer, what period is this Proterozoic covering? The period from the Creation to the Flood, that 1650 year period we have some deposition of sediments from rivers, erosion and they trapped these stromatolites and fossilized them. Then what do we have? Then the Flood, what do we see here? Wow, in the Cambrian we have virtually every phyla known to exist in the fossil record. What would our model predict? Virtually every phyla known to exist. We'll be working this out but I just wanted you to see quickly the beauty of our model and the predictions it makes. So Precambrian rock, re-interpreted in terms of the biblical model is basically Creation rock and some of the erosion from the pre-Flood era. When you hit the Cambrian rock that's Flood rock. What's Grand Canyon by the way? Grand Canyon rock is Precambrian and Paleozoic, you have to go on up to Zion Canyon and Bryce Canyon to get to higher elevations that include the Mesozoic and Cenozoic. So all you have at Grand Canyon are Creation rock down deep and early Flood rock, the upper layers used to be there but were washed away during the abatement of the Flood waters, Gen 8, that's why it's so flat on top, then after the Flood you had the Canyon cut out by catastrophic water forces, a dam broke and lakes poured into that area and catastrophic geologic processes ripped out that canyon very rapidly. We'll show some of the geologic processes like cavitation that can cause amazing destruction of rock very rapidly, fascinating stuff.

That's how we analyze models. A model may predict a lot of things but if only one predicted thing is actually found in the data then it's a poor model. If 100 things are predicted by the model then it might be a good model. Now, does it predict what we find? I quoted earlier from 1953, Scientific Monthly, that was 1953 and in 1953 they were saying, oh yes, this is in the strata of the earth. Now we know that to be a total farce.

#### 4. Flood Model of Gen 6-8

#### 5. Predictions of Flood Model of Gen 6-8

Let's start with Acts 17:26, Paul's speech at Athens. We've said from the beginning of this class that we want to build a biblical framework for interpreting the history of the earth. The earth has undergone radical changes since God created it. On one hand, how do we account for the shape of the continents and the people that live on those continents? Paul says in Acts 17:26, "and He made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth," I'm not going to prove to you that's not Adam, that's Noah, but exegetically that is Noah, he's the father of all nations, look what Paul says next, "having determined their appointed times and the boundaries of their habitation," when we talk about the boundaries of nations we are obviously involved in questions regarding the shape of the continents since those form the outer boundaries. Is this just unimportant? Does this matter? Verse 27, purpose clause, "that they would seek God, if perhaps they might grope for Him and find Him, though He is not far from each one of us." That's a fifth class condition, it's an optative, the point being, very rarely do men seek God, but that's the purpose of continental shape, that's the purpose of the boundaries God put on the continents and nations. It's all related directly to the gospel. So we don't say this is arbitrary, this is theologically driven. Different places on the earth have different weather patterns; they have different terrain, all that is involved in getting men in those nations to seek God. It's not by chance, it's not random, it's purposeful. What happens when we have bad weather? People start to pray, it directs them away from themselves because they can't control it, it gets them thinking of a higher power. We could go on with this but we want to make the point that Paul in Acts 17 says that the shape of the continents that resulted from the Flood in Noah's day is related directly to the gospel. Before the Flood in Noah's day the shape of the continents was different. We're not exactly sure the shape. We won't say Pangaea because I'll show you that's a wrong model, latitudinally and longitudinally that won't work, you've got a lot of land missing and the continents don't actually fit together without manipulating a lot of factors. What you want to train your eye to look at, now that we have pretty much mapped the ocean floors is this mid-ocean rift valley, comparing that rift with the shape of the continents, that will get you started in the right direction for understanding what the pre-Flood earth looked like, if it was a supercontinent, which it seems that was probably the case. The

doctrine of God is involved in every event in Scripture and you want to train yourself to see how each page somehow reveals His nature.

I have to confess that the rocks of the earth are a particular interest of mine because they are linked to the doctrine of judgment/salvation. I need something to remind me of the fact that pagan man is under the judgment of God and that salvation comes only by faith in Jesus Christ. The earth and its rocks are a constant reminder of that. What is encased in those rocks is billions and billions of fossils. And you can't have fossils unless you have death. And you can't have death unless you have sin. So it gets back to the historicity of the Fall. And practically speaking, when you go on vacation and you can't decide whether to drive a thousand miles or fly, remember, it's not an exercise in futility to drive; it's an exercise in remembering that God judges sin and that there are billions of people in this world that are standing under God's judgment

rocks worked with the Creation event in Gen 1-2 Genesis

If that's the case, we move to the third event, the Flood. The Flood in the Bible is universally picked up in the pages of the New Testament as a mirror of what? When you think of Jesus and the Apostles talking about Noah's flood what context are they inevitably talking about? The Second Coming of Jesus Christ (cf Matt 24:37-41; Luke 17:26-27; 2 Pet 3:1-7). The Flood is being used as a picture of what is coming, the future culminating act of history, a cosmic catastrophe. So the Bible says that there's a solution to the problem brought in by the Fall. If the Fall brought evil into an otherwise good creation and thereby produced the tension between what we know ought to be and what in fact is happening, the question obviously is, "Well, is there any resolution, is there any solution to the evil problem? What is the culmination of this, is this just going to go on forever and ever or is there a salvation?" And the Bible's answer is there is a salvation and here's the key, which we'll emphasize in this event, the Biblical view of salvation is an intrusion by the Creator again into the creation. It's nothing less than that. He comes in and disrupts, so to speak, the regular course of events. The Fall was something we did; salvation is something God does. And the reason that God has to do this is because man can't do it. Chemically

speaking it's a one-way reaction; man can Fall but man can't undo the Fall. Only God can catalyze the opposite reaction because there are barriers that only He can overcome. And so it requires God's intervention. Having grasped the implications of the Creation and the Fall, now we understand why salvation in the Bible is totally different from all the other religions of the world. Every other religion has man working up some kind of righteousness; man's always the one who has to correct the problem. But it doesn't work because they've never diagnosed the problem correctly. They're not really talking about salvation. They may use the word "salvation," but when you look at the content of what they're talking about, it's like they're prescribing Advil for cancer. But that's the only kind of salvation possible on a pagan basis because there's no major problem. Only the biblical Creation and Fall set up the severity of the problem so we can get to the real solution. So salvation in the Bible is set up by how you understand Creation and the Fall and that's how these three events interrelate. That's why you can't take a part of the Bible and talk about it without taking every other part; it all fits together. If you get the wrong diagnosis you'll always get the wrong prognosis. So the nature of salvation in Scripture is a radical one, and it's radical precisely because of the severity of the problem that we need to be saved from.

## **The Problem of Sin**

Turn to Gen 6 to see the problem because in Gen 6 we have a passage that gives a lot of people difficulty. I won't go into the sons of God coming into the daughters of men, that one's caused difficulty too, but I want to go into something even more profound in difficulty, Gen 6:5-6. "Then the LORD saw that the wickedness of man was great on the earth," just look at the diagnosis of verse 5. This is the diagnosis, it's not the Apostle Paul, it's not something Augustine or Calvin made up. It's something that has been around long before Christian theologians. Look at the diagnosis and description of the human race, "that every intent of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually." Now tell me that Paul and Augustine and Calvin are worse than that; they didn't start that, they just read their Bible. The problem is that people that read them don't read the Bible. Then in verse 6 notice the personal action. "And the LORD was sorry that He had made man on the earth,



and He was grieved in His heart.” Verse 7, “I will blot out man whom I have created from the face of the land, from man to animals, to creeping things and to birds of the sky; for I am sorry that I have made them.” That’s the personal background. We said what distinguishes paganism from Biblical religion—in paganism there’s no ultimate person, paganism only has this impersonal backdrop. Paganism starts with ‘in the beginning gas’...the Bible with ‘in the beginning God’. So there’s a person behind it all, and since He’s a person, that means we are similar to Him. God gets mad, we get mad, God gets sorrowful, we get sorrowful, and this is the anger and sorrow of the Lord here, He is mad here and grieved in His heart over His creation, “I made this universe and look what has happened to it.” A small scale version of this is a woman who cleans the house, spends all day cleaning the house and what comes along behind her? The kids. And you get mad, you have created this clean, beautiful house and look what happened, it’s a mess. That’s a very tiny example of what God thought when He created the universe good and beautiful and look what we did to it.

### **The Solution of Judgment/Salvation**

Now that we understand the nature of the problem we want to introduce two words. This is a word pair. Get down these two words because in the Bible it’s important, you always see these two words hooked together. One is the word “judgment,” the second is the word “salvation.” You cannot in Scripture have one without also having the other. And the Flood is an example. People are saved, but they are saved precisely because God judges evil. Get hold of that idea. The salvation in Scripture is a salvation that happens in conjunction with a judgment. The Flood, the Exodus, the Cross and the Tribulation are the big pictures of judgment/salvation. So the two are linked.

### **3 Approaches to the Genesis Flood Narrative (Gen 6-8)**

The Genesis Flood has given people a hard time because God did this, He caused this global catastrophe. Can we really believe this? For years and years we’ve had the same problem with the Genesis Flood in Gen 6, 7, and 8, that we had with the Genesis Creation and Fall in Gen 1, 2, and 3. Same book, same problem! Did this really happen? What about

the modern story of science? When we went through Gen 1-3 we said there are three approaches you can take. The first approach was *Capitulation*. The Bible is obviously irreconcilable with modern histories of nature so we just capitulate to what modern historians are telling us about the history of nature. So, this is the assumption that modern science is authoritative. Thus, the biblical account must be a myth, just a poetic allegory, the material of fantasy. So, the Capitulation strategy exchanges biblical reliability for scientific reliability and at the same time tries to hold on to a few sacred morals from Scripture but basically what they've done is become traitors and given away the whole house, they have rejected the reliability of Scripture.

The second group, many of them born again, hold to the strategy of *Accommodation*, hoping desperately there's some way to make the Bible fit with the modern history of nature. But the modern story is a moving target so we just end up re-interpreting the Bible over and over and over to keep up with the latest theory. This has been tried for 150 years and people are still trying this and it has never worked and it will never work. You can't wait till science finally settles down to settle down on what the text means.

The third tactic is simply to go on the *Counter-Attack* and say "Look, the Bible must be true and if the Bible is true then we've got a conflict with the modern history of nature, somewhere science has gone wrong in their reconstruction of the past." But those are the only three choices. You can Capitulate to Modern Science, Accommodate to Modern Science or Counter-Attack. So obviously those of us who are the fundamentalists take the choice that if the Bible doesn't fit what modern science says then modern science is wrong not the Bible.

What I want to do is defend the fact that the Bible is speaking here in Gen 6-8 of a literal Global Flood. *Capitulationists* deny this. *Accommodationists* deny this, many Christians deny a global Flood. So, this is an argument going on inside our own camp and we want to deal with a literal Flood interpretation and why that is the meaning of Genesis. There are many arguments, but I just want to cover two or three arguments today that show that the Bible clearly teaches a

catastrophic Global Flood. For some of you this is a waste of time because you say “Well obviously the Bible teaches that.” Don’t be so passive because sooner or later you’re going to be around other Christians who will try to take you to task for that. Be prepared and don’t be shocked if it happens some day because it’s widely prevalent in our own evangelical circles that this is talking about a local flood, it is not some global catastrophe, in fact it’s a flood that’s so local and so small in scale we can’t even find a trace of it in archeology and geology.

### **The Depth-Time Argument**

The first argument we’re going to deal with is the Depth-Time argument. Turn to Gen 7:19. Here’s the structure of this argument. The argument is going to show that I can prove the universality of the flood without using this word “A-L-L.” Throughout the text “all” is used, all the mountains and all the hills, but those who would hold to a local flood say that’s just a relative use of “all,” it just means a lot of them, or all of them in a local area, all of them within the reach of Noah were covered, that’s all it means. So the Depth-Time argument is going to argue without using the word “all”. We’re going to use a line of argument that doesn’t depend on that word. Here’s the argument, it comes out of Gen 7:19-20. It says “And the water prevailed more and more upon the earth, so that all the high mountains everywhere under the heavens were covered. <sup>20</sup>The water prevailed fifteen cubits higher, and the mountains were covered.” We’re going to ignore all the universal statements there and just look at one statement, the depth. It says “fifteen cubits” over the highest mountains. Now, a cubit is 1.5 feet so 15 times 1.5 gives us 22.5 feet. Let’s just say 22 feet. Why 22 feet? Why do you suppose 22 feet is mentioned? If you’re in a boat and you’re floating in a body of water and your hull is below the surface of the water you never want that hull to hit the ground. So, how deep do you want the water to be, at least? At least as deep as the hull. So, what does that tell us about the hull of the Ark when it was loaded down? That it was less than 22 feet beneath the surface, otherwise the ark could run into mountaintops as it floated around. So, with this observation we learn that the ark was able to freely float and never be grounded.

Next question: how long did this depth last? Verse 24 says for 150 days, that's five months. The water remained at that depth for five months before it began to recede. So, for 150 days the earth was undergoing massive geological changes and the Ark sat 22 feet above the highest mountains safe from destruction. Only after things calmed down did the waters recede and the ark rested on Mt Ararat. So, let's think about that; 22 feet above the highest mountains. If I plug my kitchen sink and start filling it with water what will eventually happen? The water will spill over. If I leave the water on when will the water level rise above the top of my sink? When the water outside the sink reaches that level. That's a lot of water. For the sake of Genesis argument, imagine your kitchen sink is on Mt Everest, the highest mountain in the world today (antediluvian mountains were not that tall). Is there any way to inundate your sink without covering the whole earth with water? No. There is a principle of water that it "must seek its own level—and must do so quickly."<sup>viii</sup> If the flood was only local what must it have looked like?



A wall of water encompassing 360 degrees around the region. This is your only alternative. You'd have to say that this is what happened in the Middle East. That you've got all this water in that local region and it's 22 feet above the highest mountains in that region so the ark never hits one of those mountains, that's an interesting Flood. But that creates a problem because if that's the case then why didn't they just migrate a few hundred miles? Why all the trouble of building an ark? A local flood means there are two ways of salvation, the Ark or Migration. And another interesting thing, "What's the natural drainage pattern in

the Mesopotamian valley? From northwest to southeast. Where did the ark ground? Northwest. So not only do we have the problem of somehow keeping thousands of feet of water suspended in this valley, we've got the ark floating in the wrong direction. Instead of going down the river it's going up the river and grounds up there. What I've just shown you is why you cannot *accommodate* the Scripture to fit what science is telling us happened in history. Either the Bible or science or both are in bad shape. That's why we have to rethink this whole thing and that's what I'm pressing you to do.

Notice something else in Gen 7:19. Is the water 22 feet deep just in a local area? Or "under all the heavens"? All the heavens. You can try to relativize the usage of "all" in certain contexts but in this context the Hebrew uses it twice. As Leupold says, "A double "all" (*kol*) cannot allow for so relative a sense. It almost constitutes a Hebrew superlative." And if these highest points must be covered for five months, the Flood must have been global. But the main point here is that you don't have to use the argument resting on the term "all" because the details of the text imply a global flood.<sup>ix</sup>

### **The Ark's Distinctive Size, Design and Purpose**

Second argument, Dr John Whitcomb says, "The problem people have with the flood is the ark." So we want to look at the ark, it's size, design and purpose. Gen 6:14-15. Where did the plan for the ark come from? Popular Science Magazine? No, God revealed it to Noah. Let's observe the dimensions of that ark. Verse 15, "...the length of the ark three hundred cubits, its breadth fifty cubits, and its height thirty cubits." If we multiply those three dimensions by 1.5, the length of a cubit what do we get? 450L x 75W x 50H (ft). Dr Tim Lovett has been studying the Flood and the Ark for about 13 years, he's a Mechanical Engineer and he says, "The proportions in the Bible are...so realistic that...those proportions happen to match a modern cargo ship. And we wouldn't expect that if that were a made up story, we wouldn't expect them to accidentally come up with 300x50x30 cubits as the proportions of this imaginary vessel...It gives you the right stability, not too much, not too little. In fact, those proportions are so good that one of the naval architects I've been working with...actually realized that Genesis was



literal because of those proportions...”<sup>x</sup> See, the Bible isn’t fantasy; those dimensions tell you something about the stability of that boat. They tell you its architecturally stable, it’s a stable platform. Dr. Morris who was the co-author of *The Genesis Flood* had a PhD in hydrodynamics, and he wrote a paper in which he showed when you take the formulas that are used for stability of hulls and you apply it to Noah’s ark it turns out that the ark can be tipped almost 60 degrees in either direction and the center of gravity restores it. So, this is a credible design, *enormously* stable design.

Here’s something else very interesting and striking. If the Bible is just a collection of mythology, where do you suppose these ancient people who never built a boat this big got the skills to do it so successfully? Where did the technology come from? How long did people live before the flood? 900 years. What happens when people live that long is they become very competent in many areas, they are superior in health, their mental and concentrative powers are vastly greater than ours. In fact, long before the Flood, a man named Tubal-cain had already invented every cutting tool for bronze and iron. They had a technology before the Flood that was arguably not matched until pre-industrial Europe. That’s how they could pull this off. Remarkably, there’s not another boat built as large as Noah’s ark until 1864, the best navies of Europe didn’t build boats this big, no boat that we know of was ever built equal to or to exceed the dimensions of Noah’s ark until the 1860’s. But what was going on in the ancient world while this Bible was being written? What was going on in other cultures when the truth of history was preserved by the Holy Spirit in the nation of Israel? Dr Duane Gish has documented that they were writing flood stories, more than 270 of these stories have been found in different cultures around the world. If you look at these other stories you do see parallel elements, there was a flood, there was an ark, humans were saved, animals were saved, there was universal destruction.

“A flood story in China records that Fuh, his wife, three sons, and three daughters escaped a great flood and were the only people alive on earth.”<sup>xi</sup> “A flood story in Hawaii records that Nu-u and his family escaped a global flood by building a great canoe and filling it with animals. Only he and his family were left alive.”<sup>xii</sup> But you also find

extravagant claims. And what those are is truth mutilated by the carnal mind. The carnal mind has selective amnesia and deliberate distorts truth. For example, the Babylonian flood story, the *Gilgamesh Epic*, has been discovered on cuneiform tablets, but notice the ark size. Here Utnapishtim, his wife and family get on an ark that is 120x120x120 cubits, a perfect cube. Now, I challenge you to do an experiment. Take some balsa wood, make Utnapishtim's ark, a perfect cube, put it in the bathtub. Alongside it make Noah's ark out of balsa wood with its rectangular proportions. Put some waves in your tub. Which one would be the most stable? The ark. What happens to a cube in water? The center of gravity is at the center of the mass, so when it's tipped it rotates, it falls all over the place, it just tumbles. What happens to Noah and the animals? They die! It's not realistic. But Noah's ark doesn't tumble. It preserves life. So it's the details of the narrative that reveal to us the reality of Gen 6-8. The details of the mythological narrative don't fit; the details of the true narrative, preserved by the Holy Spirit from men's distorted memories, is now reporting to us out of the text, out of these verses, the true dimensions of a boat that was built thousands of years before modern steel hull boats had the strength to be of this size.

Something else, we also mention the water-sealant. In Gen 6:14, "Make for yourself an ark of gopher wood; you shall make the ark with rooms, and shall *cover* it inside and out with pitch." We don't know exactly what this substance was but note its function, "to cover". It provided a sealant from the dangerous waters outside. It's the Hebrew word *kafar*, and is used later in the Bible for atonement, to cover sin. So, this is a picture of atonement. It's used just like that in the Old Testament for the covering of the blood. The theme of salvation is obvious and note something else, "Is it just man who is saved in that ark?" No, it's man *and* nature. This has implications for the extent of the atonement. For whom or what did Christ die? What is included in Christ's redemptive work on the cross? Whole dimensions of the Bible nobody thinks twice about.

Notice something else, that after the animals are brought to it the door is closed, in Gen 7:16, a radical observation that has never been reproduced in any Hollywood film about the flood that I know. Notice

the last clause in verse 16, who closed the door? “the LORD closed” the door.<sup>xiii</sup> Yet they always depict Noah as closing the door. What problems would you have if Noah closed the door? A waterproofing problem? Whose going to seal it from the outside? So God closed the door and sealed it. There’s a profound salvation truth in there. If you think about it, you are seeing something of eternal security, involved in this little observation, that God seals the vehicle of salvation. What does that do for the inhabitants and the occupants inside the vessel of salvation?

Another difficulty pointed out by skeptics is the volume of the ark. Is there really enough space on the ark for all the animals? But think, the Bible states God made different kinds and that two of each kind came to the ark. It doesn’t say every variety on earth, just two of each kind, a dog kind, a cat kind, that’s all that was needed. Creationists have been researching this area and, for example, they discovered that dogs, wolves, coyotes and jackals are all probably from a canine (dog-like) kind. Or horses, zebras and donkeys are all an equine (horse-like) kind. So, you only need to salvage, on the ark, the genetic variability that can give rise to all the varieties we see today. Dr John Woodmorappe wrote a book *Noah’s Ark: A Feasibility Study* back in the 90’s, he researched all the objections for over 10 years and he said that at most you would need about 16,000 animals on the ark (8,000 male + 8,000 female). But what about the big dinosaurs? Well, you don’t have to take adults, you can take babies. Bottom line is the average size animal is smaller than a sheep. Woodmorappe calculated that the volume of the ark was 522 standard American boxcars. And if you took 16,000 sheep size animals and put them in the boxcars more than half of the ark would be empty; that leaves plenty of room for food and water which could be stored near the animals. So, there’s no problems with the Ark size. People have also raised the objection about how could eight people handle the manure, how could they do the feeding, “C’mon, this was a menagerie on a boat.” Well, Woodmorappe goes into all that and talks about theories about whether the animals were in a semi-hibernating state during the flood, where the food and water could have been stored, what they did with the manure. But the point remains that this ark was a massive thing, equal to a modern vessel in size, as far as the principles of naval architecture and hydrodynamics stability it was outstanding, it was 522 times the size of a standard American boxcar, it

had plenty of volume to do the job, PLENTY of volume to do the job. And remember, this wasn't a luxury cruise liner, this was an emergency situation, they just have to be on the ark for a little over a year and the ark was sufficient for such a rescue operation.

Finally, in Gen 6-7 what are Noah and his family doing on that ark that harps back to Gen 1? Think back to the way God designed man to function in the universe in Gen 1. When God made man, what did God tell man was his relationship to the animal kingdom? He is to rule it, not rule it in the sense of being cruel, he is to take care of the animal kingdom. Who was the agent who saves the gene pool for the new world? God, yes. He gets all the animals on the ark but once they are all there who takes care of them? Notice that when God saves He doesn't undo His creation structures. The original creation structure held man as a little lord, lord with a little "I" and he was to be the custodian of the resources God gave him. And lo and behold when God saves man and the animals on the ark he puts man in charge of caring for the animals on the ark during the flood. So the ark becomes a vehicle. We would say toady he captured the gene pool of the entire land based animal kingdom, and it was the most significant ecological act ever in history and it was accomplished by God and man. Yet you will never hear this spoken of on your local Earth Day. So, we've covered the Depth-Time argument, The Ark's Distinctive Size, Design and Purpose. The point here is very simply: if the Flood is local you can kiss off one way of salvation, you don't need a boat, you can migrate, and that creates tremendous soteriological problems.

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<sup>i</sup> Steve Austin, *Monument to Grand Canyon*.

<sup>ii</sup> Quoted by Henry Morris, *That Their Words May Be Used Against Them*, (Master Books Inc, Green Forest, AR, 1997), 167.

<sup>iii</sup> *Ibid.*, 180.

<sup>iv</sup> In another place Gould said, "The Cambrian explosion was the most remarkable and puzzling event in the history of life."

<sup>v</sup> That would be if the genus were the equivalent taxonomic rank of the created kind. Jones (1972b) placed the family as the taxonomic equivalent of the created kind meaning that only 2,000 animals would have to be on the ark.

<sup>vi</sup> Rapid in evolutionary terms means on the order of 100's of thousands of years.

<sup>vii</sup> [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Punctuated\\_equilibrium](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Punctuated_equilibrium)

<sup>viii</sup> Morris and Whitcomb, *The Genesis Flood*, 2.

<sup>ix</sup> This argument was introduced in 1961 by Morris and Whitcomb in their book, *The Genesis Flood*.

<sup>x</sup> Tim Lovett, *Noah's Ark: Thinking Outside the Box* (DVD).

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<sup>xi</sup> Answers Magazine, Vol 2, No 2 (April-June 2007), 19.

<sup>xii</sup> Ibid, 19.

<sup>xiii</sup> This is a difficult verse, not to understand, but to imagine. It would have been very difficult for Noah to close the door because he knew that in a short time men would be drowning. That God shuts the door also illustrates that there comes a time when there's no more opportunity for salvation. That time comes for all men at the moment they die physically and for one generation when Christ returns. When the door is shut the day of grace has ended and the time for judgment has come.

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