

Origins Insights

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE
CREATION SCIENCE FELLOWSHIP



December 2002

Two New Authors by Bob Harsh

This issue introduces two new authors to our Origins insights. I met Alan Montgomery from Kanata, Ontario, Canada by way of a phone call last summer. Alan called me for some information and his enthusiasm for our creation science cause urged me to interview him about the Creation Science Association of Ontario. Alan has been involved with creationism since 1980 and he served in 1989 and 1990 as President of the Creation Science Association of Ontario. He graduated with a B.Sc.(Hon) from the University of Victoria, Canada. He has presented two papers at the International Conference on Creationism. Alan described himself this way: "I am just an overopinionated Creationist fanatic."

What follows is a letter Alan wrote to the Ottawa Citizen.

Re: God, Darwin meet in School

The letter above referred to a university professor who reconciled Darwinism and the Bible and converted his students to Atheistic Creationism!

Editor,
Ottawa Citizen,

Dear Sir;

I am writing in response to the article about Denis Lamoureux's reconciliation of God and Darwin. As a former evolutionist converted to Christianity, I have had the exact opposite experience. As an evolutionist and son of a university professor, I challenged religious people to explain the fossil record, mutations, geographic variation and radiometric dating. As long I was talking to scientifically illiterate people, it was easy.

When I read books written by qualified Ph.D. scientists who were creationists, I was stumped. The fossil record does not agree with Darwin's theories and Darwin openly admitted it. Not only that, but the fossil discoveries since Darwin have only made matters worse. Mutations occur but none of them have ever produced a new organ never mind a new species. Radiometric dating works, only sometimes.

Worst of all, I discovered that the valid evidence of evolutionary change supported adaptation but not Darwinism. That is to say a change in a species' characteristic, like colour, was a frequency variation rather than an innovation. So if mutations and geographic variation do not innovate then where do new characteristics come from? For me this was a shocking revelation. I began to realize that experiments had been designed to discover "how"-Darwinism but never to discover "if"-Darwinism. This is poor science.

Local Answers in Genesis seminar

Local Answers in Genesis seminar with Dr. Menton will be held at the Christ Church at Grove Farm, www.ccgf.org, on Feb. 8th, 2003, from 9am to Noon. For details call the church at 412-741-4900 or Phil McCaffrey at 412-749-5227

Directions to the AIG Local Conference Meeting:
To get to CCGF take I-79 to the Mt Nebo exit and follow the signs. From the South turn right, from the North turn left. Turn right onto Duff Road across from Andora's Restaurant. The Church is on the left 1/4 mile.

My motto is; When in doubt ask God. So I did. God said "I and most scientists disagree and I do not lie." This is the heart of the matter. There are times when it is impossible to reconcile God's wisdom and human opinion. The good news is that you get to choose which one you want to believe. The bad news is that God is always right.

I first met our second author at a recent Creation Science Fellowship meeting. Phillip McCaffrey is also a convert to young earth creationism. I have only talked with Phillip a couple of times and this is my first impression of Phillip; " just an overopinionated Creationist fanatic." Let me better describe him as a creationist who is extremely serious about sharing truth with anyone whom will listen. Here is how Phillip has asked to be introduced. "I work in sales full time and am a part-time Teaching Associate for Christ Church at Grove Farm. My interest in Biblical creation began shortly after the Lord called me to faith. I simply had to know how it all worked out! I am not a scientist, but a serious seeker of truth. I enjoy giving creation tours of the Carnegie Museum and teaching creation at Eden Christian Academy. I live in Sewickley with my wife Susan and daughter, Alicia."

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An Exegesis of Genesis Biblical Creation (Young Earth) verses

Romans 1:18-20 *The wrath of God is being revealed from heaven against all the godlessness and wickedness of men who **suppress the truth** by their wickedness, since what may be known about God is plain to them, because God has made it plain to them. 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.*

What does God's Word say about the age of the Earth?

The Bible as it is plainly written tells us that God created the Earth in six literal 24 hour normal earth days and that Adam was created on day six of Creation Week and then lived for 930 years. The genealogy from Adam to Abraham is covered in Genesis chapters five and eleven with ages of each man as he has his first son and at death. This timeline is what historic Christian and Hebrew scholars have used to date the earth at approximately 6,000 years old. (Abraham being born approximately 2000 B.C.)

God himself supports a literal 24 hour day for creation when in Exodus 20:8-11, he gives the Ten Commandments to Moses and sites a six-day Creation Week as the reason for a Sabbath,

*"Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy. Six days you shall labor and do all your work, but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the LORD your God. On it you shall not do any work, neither you, nor your son or daughter, nor your manservant or maidservant, nor your animals, nor the alien within your gates. **For in six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them,** but he rested on the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy.*

If God was referring to six long periods of time that would really make for a strange week. Where does the week come from? It comes from God himself.

What has crept into the modern Church in the last 150 years is that science has supposedly proven that a 6,000 year old Earth cannot possibly be true due to "scientific" dating methods that disprove the Bible. Bible-believing Christians are confused by the conflict between the worldviews that use the same facts yet come to amazingly different conclusions. But we should not be confused, it is a simple issue when you trust in God and take science for what it really is.

What is “Science?”

Science is man’s admission that he does not know everything. But man does know that there is order to the universe and that by repeating experiments under observation, he can learn that order and it can be formulated and described. The periodic table of the elements is one such wonderful example. Science is great for making plastics and discovering drugs that can cure disease. For something to be a scientific fact it must be observable, repeatable, and quantifiable.

Science cannot tell us beyond a doubt what happened in the past; so one must use tools to make educated guesses to arrive at theories. Any scientific dating method cannot be repeated under controlled circumstances, so scientists simply do not know the age of the Earth. So who should you believe, the Creator who was there or a scientist who cannot know for certain?

Science and the Bible

There are those who will make the statement, “The Bible is not a textbook on history or science.” Yet God gives us the history of the Universe, how it started and how it will end; so it touches on history (it does not describe all of history, but it does describe some really important historical facts i.e. The Resurrection). The Bible also tells us how all things came to be and what will ultimately happen to them; so it touches on what we would call the physical sciences (it does not describe all of science but it does describe some scientific facts that only the Creator would know). Where the Bible touches (such as history and science) it is infallible and perfect in its original text (autographa).

The Bible does not teach all things, but it teaches us what God wants us to know, about himself (and a little about us as well). Science cannot tell us all things, but God allows us to learn. Knowledge is a gift from God. There are still hidden things that God will not let us learn.

Science would tell us that miracles are not possible. Yet we believe the Hebrews walked through the Red Sea and through the Jordan. We believe that Elijah was taken into Heaven in a chariot of fire. We believe that Jesus rose from the dead and is still alive in a physical man’s body 2,000 years later. We believe that we too will one day rise from the dead. Science and the Bible are in conflict in regard to miracles – yet we are convinced, we believe, we have faith that the Bible is true and science is proof that man does not know everything.

So can I believe in the Atonement of Christ and the Resurrection without believing in a Young Earth?

No one will ever fully understand all of the knowledge of the Universe. If you know that you were born into sin and that you need to be in Him, you need to know very little else. So pray for forgiveness and knowledge and may the Lord bless you with wisdom to see with the veil of darkness lifted.

As for those who believe in Christ, yet believe in long geologic ages and billions of years of Earth history, I will ask them to reconcile what the Bible has to say about things with what they believe, knowing that the Bible will never be proved false. Let’s examine some of the biggest differences between a Young & Old Earth:

Contradictions between the Biblical account & Day-age (Old Earth Theory)

Biblical Account	Old Age Theory
Death is a result of sin. Death bloodshed, disease and suffering all came after Adam and Eve sinned, this is the basis for Christ's atonement	Death, bloodshed, disease and suffering are all normal aspects of life on earth and existed for millions of years before humans.
Earth existed before the sun & stars	Sun and stars existed for billions of years before the Earth.
Earth covered with water initially.	Earth a molten blob initially.
Oceans first then dry land.	Dry land then oceans.
Life first created on the land.	Life started in the oceans.
Plants created before the sun.	Plants came many billions of years after the sun.
Land animals created after birds.	Land animals existed before birds.
Whales before land animals.	Land animals before whales.

If you are having a difficult time understanding how there could be plant life on Earth before the sun existed, (But you find it easy to believe that a Jewish carpenter's execution by the Romans is forgiveness of your sin? On what evidence do you believe? Where is the science behind your faith?) Let's look at sunlight in the beginning and the end of time.

Genesis 1: 3-5: *And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. God saw that the light was good, and he separated the light from the darkness. God called the light "day," and the darkness he called "night." And there was evening, and there was morning--the first day.*

The light that existed initially may not have been from a physical light source it was from God. Lets see about a time when there will be physical light without a sun.

Revelation 22:3-6: *No longer will there be any curse. The throne of God and of the Lamb will be in the city, and his servants will serve him. They will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. There will be no more night. **They will not need the light of a lamp or the light of the sun, for the Lord God will give them light.** And they will reign forever and ever. The angel said to me, "**These words are trustworthy and true.** The Lord, the God of the spirits of the prophets, sent his angel to show his servants the things that must soon take place."*

Death, Bloodshed, Disease, & Suffering.

The Bible is very clear that death is a result of sin and that only a human can sin; yet all creation is subject to the curse. Paul writes in Romans that creation groans under sin. But Revelation promises us that Christ will wipe away all suffering and there will be no more curse.

Romans 8:19-23. *The creation waits in eager expectation for the sons of God to be revealed. For the creation was subjected to frustration, not by its own choice, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be liberated from its bondage to decay and brought into the glorious freedom of the children of God. We know that the whole creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time. Not only so, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for our adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies.*

If there really was death before sin and that the natural order of things was as we see them today, then what stopped Adam from sinning? I mean if he saw lions eating meat and dead animals all around why would he be afraid of death? He would think that death is God's natural order and then he would not fear.

But the Bible clearly says that there will be no more death (Rev 21:4) and that the original natural order of things will be restored (Isaiah 11:6-8). Isn't this what we hope for, isn't this what we long to convert others to? Yes of course it is and it is easy to believe if we just trust God's Word for what it simply says.

Attention all Students in Middle School to College Age:

The CSF extends an invitation to you to present a talk on a topic related to creation science. This is an excellent opportunity for you to research a particular topic and present a 15-20 minute talk at the March 18, 2003, meeting of the Creation Science Fellowship. Home schoolers are especially encouraged to submit a topic for presentation. All that it requires is for you to send a one paragraph or so description of that topic /idea to the CSF by the Deadline of February 1, 2002. We will select from among the topics suggested to get the maximum of 4 presenters for the evening. Each talk should allow for an additional 5 minutes of time for questions and answers. If we accept your topic, we will notify you and assign a contact person from CSF to answer questions you may have regarding your presentation. This is a chance for you to get experience in presentation skills, public speaking and scientific reasoning. You may email your topics to csficc@pittsburgh.org or via regular mail to CSF, PO BOX 99303, Pittsburgh, PA 15233.

So come on, think of a topic and send us your idea.

Attention all Friends of CSF:

We ask that you take the time to review the status of your affiliation with our organization. We need your help in the form of attendance, prayers and giving in order to continue to move forward as a creationist organization. None of the officers on the CSF Board receive any money but give of their time and money to promote this important ministry of support for the church and defense of the simple truth of the Scripture. Won't your consider showing your support through your attendance at our monthly meetings, prayer and gifts. If you wish to renew your membership or join, it is only \$15.00 per year. In addition, we are providing to those who renew or join a CD compilation of "Origins Insights" newsletters from 1999 to 2002. This compilation in Acrobat format will give you a printable resource of all the major articles published in our newsletter over these years. Again, your help and prayers are requested at this time of need.

Thank You!

In Him,
Dennis E. Wert
Chairman CSF

2003 Meeting Topics

Tuesday, January 21 "Good Mutations/Variation/Natural Selection", Bob Harsh

Saturday, February 22 Carnegie Museum Tour - Hosts: Bob Harsh / Dennis Wert

Tuesday, March 18 Young Creationist Presentations by Middle School to College age students. Host: Gail Pinkney

Tuesday, April 15 "Creationist Response to the PBS Series on Evolution", Dennis Wert

Tuesday, May 20 "The Trinity and the Creation", Bob Walsh

Tuesday, Sept. 16 "Highlights and An Overview of the 2003 ICC", Lionel Dahmer and Reid Moon

Tuesday, Oct. 21 "What is Relevance of the Biblical Creation Account to YOUR Christian Faith", Reid Moon

Nov 18 "Neo-Creationist Geology from 2003 ICC", Chuck Danley

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