BIBLICAL ACCURACY IN SCIENCE AND MEDICINE



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Survey

• When discussing the issues of origins, we are dealing with two truths. We are dealing with Biblical truths and we are dealing with scientific truths.

• When science and the Bible disagree, we must reinterpret scripture to match science.

Author of Genesis – Documentary Hypothesis

- Written during the period between King Hezekiah to Ezra the Scribe
- Compiled and edited several old legends and traditions from:
 - Egyptians
 - Babylonians
 - Others
- Circulated as having come down from Moses
- Adherents believed that writing was unknown in Moses day

Problem with Documentary Hypothesis

- The time of Moses was around 3,500 years ago (about 1,500BC)
- "Writing appears almost simultaneously some 5,000 6,000 years ago in Egypt, Mesopotamia, and the Indus Valley"
- The Sumerian Kings List shows that "The first identifiable use of purely phonetic elements and grammar appeared during" the Early Dynastic I—II Periods (2,900–2,600 BC)

Example of writings over 3,000 years ago

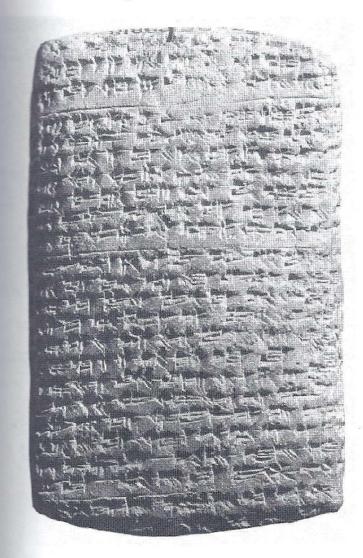


Figure 8: One of the tablets, EA 191, from Tell El Amarna.

Clay Tablet from Ebla





The people of Ebla were Semites and spoke a Semitic language that resembled ancient Hebrew. The most likely date of these archives is about 2,500 B.C.

Alternative Theory

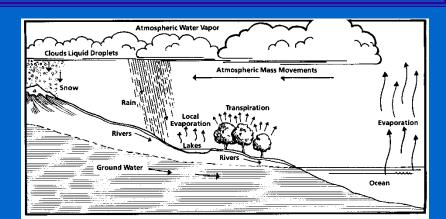
- Moses compiled Genesis from previous written records
- Patriarchs, beginning with Adam, recorded events as they occurred
- Records passed down from generation to generation
- Records kept on tables or stones
- Moses compiled into a single book with divine inspiration

Subdivision	Author
Genesis $1:2-2:4$ "The generations of the heavens and the earth"	God (either written and provided to Adam or dictated to Adam)
Genesis 2:4b – 5:1 "The book of the generations of Adam"	Adam (the word "book" makes it clear that it was written down)
Genesis 5:1b – 6:9 "The generations of Noah"	Noah (compiled earlier information and took on ark)
Genesis 6:9b – 10:1 "The generations of the sons of Noah"	Combined work of Shem, Ham, and Japheth
Genesis 10:1b – 11:10 "The generations of Shem"	Shem (after the dispersion of Babel Shem maintained the record)
Genesis 11:10b – 11:27 "The generations of Terah"	Terah (provides Semitic genealogies and chronology form the flood to Abraham)
Genesis 11:27b – 25:19 "The generations of Isaac"	Isaac (includes a section of the generations of Ishmael)
Genesis 25:19b – 37:2 "The generations of Jacob"	Jacob (includes a section of the generations of Esau)
Genesis 37:2b – Exodus 1:1 "the names of the sons of Israel, which came into Egypt"	Unnamed (records maintained during Egyptian sojourn)

HYDROLOGIC CYCLE

"All the rivers run into the sea; yet the sea is not full; unto the place from whence the rivers come, thither they return again." Ecclesiastes 1:7

- Eccesiastes was written about 935 BC.
- Described the cycle of oceanic evaporation, rain, and the water returning to the sea.



- "The hydrologic cycle has only been adequately understood by science in the past few centuries" 1
- "...half of our precipitation on land is evaporated from the ocean."²

SPRINGS IN THE SEA

"Hast thou entered into the springs of the sea?" Job 38:16

• The events of Job occurred approximately 2000 BC



• Ocean currents and streams, like the Gulf Stream, were scientifically discovered by Matthew Maury in late 1800's³

SHAPE OF THE EARTH

"It is He that sitteth upon the circle of the earth..." Isaiah 40:22

• Isaiah wrote this as a revelation from God in about 700 BC.

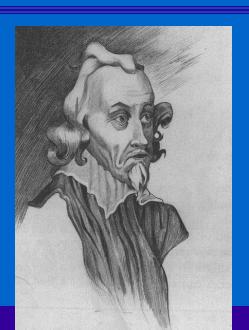


• The shape of the earth was deduced by ancients before Christ. The size of the earth was measured by Eritosthenes around 250 BC.4

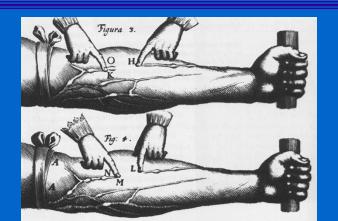
BLOOD CIRCULATION

"For the life of the flesh is in the blood:" Leviticus 17:11

 Moses wrote, under the inspiration of God that the blood was a key part of life around 1400 BC.



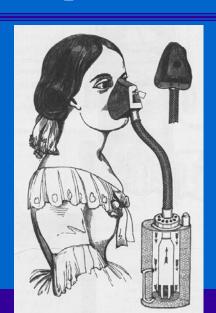
• The blood circulatory system and the importance of blood to life was scientifically discovered by William Harvey around 1616 AD.⁵



PAINLESS SURGERY

"And the Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall upon Adam and he slept; and he took one of his ribs and closed up the flesh instead thereof." Gen. 2:21

 Over 6000 years ago God knew that the key to painless surgery was to put the patient to sleep.



- Until the 1800's surgery was performed without anesthesia.
- Anesthetic gases discovered in early 1800's
- Anesthesia was perfected by William Morton around 1846.
- Morton's inspiration was Gen. 2:21

GERMS CAUSE INFECTIONS

"he also that beareth the carcase of it shall wash his clothes, and be unclean until even." Lev. 11:40

• God told Moses around 1400 B.C. to wash after handling dead things.



- Through the 1800's doctors handled the dead and then treated patients without washing.
- Around 1846 Phillip
 Semmelweiss proved that
 disease can be transferred
 by not washing after
 handling dead things.

PROPER NUTRITION

"And out of the Ground the Lord God made every tree grow that is pleasant to the sight and good for food." Gen. 2:9 "He [God] causeth the grass to grow for the cattle, and herb for the service of man: that he may bring forth food out of the earth." Ps. 104:14

- God designed plant life to be nutritional.
- The Psalmist recognized the benefits of the grass and herbs.

- In the middle 1700's

 James Lind discovered
 the benefits of vitamin C.
- In the late 1800's
 Christiaan Eijkman
 discovered the benefits of
 thiamine.

GRAVITATION

"He stretcheth out the north over the empty place, and hangeth the earth upon nothing" Job 26:7 "Whereupon are the foundations [of the earth] fastened?" Job 38:6

• God tells Job about 2000 B.C. that the earth is "floating" in space.



- Gravity explained by Sir Isaac Newton in 1687.
- Science did not confirm that the earth is "floating" in space until the space program in the 1950's.

DINOSAURS

"Behold now behemoth, which I made with thee" Job 40:15 "Canst thou draw out leviathan with an hook?" Job 41:1

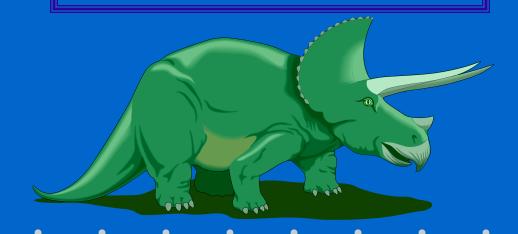
 God describes dinosaurs to Job around 2000 B.C.



Figure 24. Dinosaur and mammoth in head-to-head confrontation, Bernifal Cave.

• Dinosaur fossils first found in late 1700's.

• Word dinosaur invented in 1840.



CONSTELLATIONS

"Canst thou bind the sweet influences of Pleiades, or loose the bands of Orion?" Job 38:31

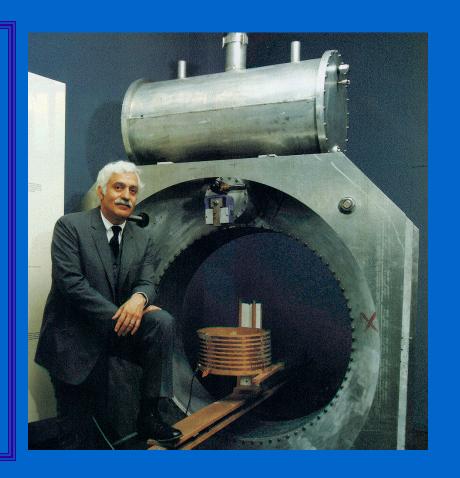
- God told Job in approximately 2000
 BC that the seven stars of Pleiades were bound together and the stars of Orion are not.
- Pleiades used to be called the "seven sisters"
- We learned in 20th century that the stars of Pleiades are gravitationally bound and the stars of Orion are not.





MRI

- MRI invented by Dr. Raymond Damadian in 1977.
- Dr. Damadian points to God as his inspiration.
- Dr. Damadian believes the Biblical account of creation



CONCLUSIONS

- Science is good, but it needs to take it's lead from the Bible.
- Scientists that ignore the Bible often go down wrong and dangerous paths.
- If the Bible and science disagree, the Bible is always shown to be right. Scientists just have not figured it out yet.

END NOTES

- 1. Biblical Basis for Modern Science 271
- 2. The Weather Book 20
- 3. Biblical Basis for Modern Science 290
- 4. Danny Faulkner, "Creation and the Flat Earth", Creation Matters Vol. 2, Num. 6, November/December 1997.
- 5. Biblical Basis for Modern Science 371