



Creation Matters

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Woe to Teachers of Evolution

by Paul G. Humber

The Lord of Glory used similar words to the title in relation to religious leaders two thousand years ago: “Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You travel over land and sea to win a single convert, and when he becomes one, you make him twice as much a son of hell as you are.”¹

Such words seem harsh (and therefore inappropriate) by today’s standards, but they were actually words the loving and merciful Lord Jesus used when calling smug leaders to repentance and to real life in Himself. He, the Eternal Creator, took the path of scorn and rejection right to the

cross, where He prayed for those who were putting Him to death. A doctor, knowing there is a cure, shows love when he informs a patient that he has cancer. Similarly, Jesus, the greatest physician, was administering “tough love” while warning these leaders. Some Pharisees, like Nicodemus and Paul, heeded His loving rebuke to their eternal benefit.

Today’s Pharisees

There are not many today who think of themselves as Pharisees, but there are people, some with Ph.D.’s, who seem smug like Pharisees in their exalted positions. To use the imagery of our Lord, some of these

academics appear to be straining at gnats while swallowing camels. Continuing with the Lord’s imagery, like ornate tombs, they look scholarly and intelligent on the outside, but on the inside there is hypocrisy.

Our understanding of human sin is far below that of the Savior’s, to be sure; nevertheless, we are encouraged by Scripture to imitate Christ. He wants us to speak the truth in love. I try, however feebly, to do this in this brief article.

For over thirty years I have had the privilege of teaching high school or college level students in a variety of settings, and

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The CRS Welcomes Assistant Director to Research Center

The Creation Research Society recently announced that Mr. Hank Giesecke has become the new Assistant Director at its Van Andel Creation Research Center, located in Chino Valley, AZ.

Mr. Giesecke’s background includes Masters degrees in both Aerospace Engineering and Business Administration. He has been a business consultant for many years and has held numerous management positions in the corporate world. Reporting to Director Dr. John Meyer, Mr. Giesecke will manage fund raising, public relations, administration, and popular-level presentations for the Research Center.

It is a great encouragement to have an individual on board who is experienced in

both business and scientific pursuits. He brings to our operation an immense amount of practical experience and Christian commitment.

We continue to seek a full-time, on-site Director who has a vision of developing the Center into an aggressive research institution and who can set the pace of research and outreach for the next decade. Your prayers for leading us to the right individual are greatly appreciated.

May the Lord continue to use all of us in magnifying the God of creation and our Lord Jesus Christ.

— John Meyer, Ph.D., Director
Van Andel Creation Research Center



Hank Giesecke
Assistant Director

I have seen examples of gnat straining, camel swallowing, and hypocrisy on the part of teachers of evolution. I share one recent example here that seems to have the potential for hypocrisy, but I believe there are many other examples, as well. The one here concerns an individual for whom I have both regard and affection. I had invited this particular person, a professor of anthropology at one of our nation's Ivy League universities, to participate in a creation vs. evolution debate.²

A model gift

We were about to have lunch together, and, perhaps because I reminded him that I would like to have or purchase a less expensive, maybe even damaged, model of a Neanderthal skull, this professor graciously gave me one (Figure 1). When I sought, during lunch, more details about the model, he wrote the following on a sheet of paper: "Reconstructed Skull of the neandertal from: La Chapelle-aux-Saints (SW France)."

In the summer of 2001, six months after my lunch engagement, I had the opportunity to visit the Musee de l'Homme in Paris. I was not able to see the original skull, but I did purchase a postcard showing the right side of the Chapelle Skull. The teeth of the model seem significantly different. There is only one upper tooth remaining in the original. It is a bicuspid with three facets on the edge. Figure 2 shows the one remaining upper tooth in the La Chapelle aux Saints Skull.³ The chips or file-marks can be seen on the tooth.

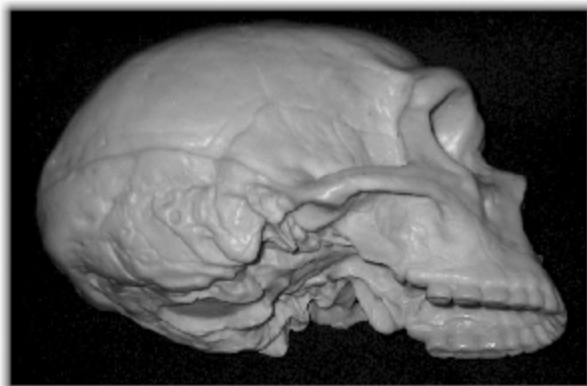


Figure 1. This model of La Chapelle aux Saints Skull was given to Paul Humber in January, 2001.

The plain "tooth"

The reconstructed model which I had been given suggested that sixteen upper teeth would be part of the original, but this is not the case. Should not a reconstruction more closely approximate the original? The model I received, as far as the upper jaw was and is concerned, is quite unlike the original. The one upper tooth that exists in the original does not appear to be adequately represented in the model. There are no file-marks. It is not set off by itself in any special way. In fact, it is confused with the other surrounding (nonexistent) teeth. Some might label such alterations and additions with "anthropo-logical license." I myself probably would not have bothered much about such imperfections had I not received significant criticism from the professor about his debating opponent and relating to yet another Neanderthal skull.

The same professor, though permitting the debate to be videotaped, does not want copies of it to be sold (or even distributed) because his opponent, Dr. Jack Cuozzo, offered evidence that the professor disputes. Dr. Cuozzo claimed that he had found a missing piece of the famous Swanscombe (Neanderthal) Skull and was for the first time, at the debate, announcing it publicly. He claimed that the "mastoid" piece (near the temple) fits a model of the Swanscombe Skull nicely and that there were possible trephination (surgical) marks on the fossil. This, he indicated, suggested that Neanderthals were much more advanced in medicine than evolutionists believe. (Along the same line, the possible file marks on the La Chapelle tooth may suggest more sophistication in dentistry than is normally attributed to Neanderthals.)

As both moderator of the debate and as president⁴ of the organization sponsoring it (Skilton House Ministries), I sensed a responsibility to try to resolve this impasse. On the one hand, it seemed that



Figure 2. The one remaining upper tooth in the La Chapelle aux Saints Skull. The chips or file-marks can be seen on the tooth.

one debater was trying to censor the other, while on the other hand, Skilton House Ministries itself does not want to be involved in promoting falsehood. As Dr. Cuozzo's piece had been submitted to the British Museum, I contacted Professor Chris Stringer, Head of Human Origins, Department of Paleontology, The Natural History Museum, London. He wrote to me a number of times during the summer and fall of 2001.⁵

Acting in good faith

On 11/27/01, Dr. Stringer wrote regarding

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Dr. Cuozzo's artifact from Swanscombe as follows: "It is of course possible that there are, say, Mesozoic fossils in the Swanscombe gravels." (Earlier he had indicated that the artifact was only gravel, but subsequently Dr. Cuozzo pointed to evidence that the piece was true fossil.) Previously, on June 8, 2001, Dr. Stringer had written: "I do consider that Dr. Cuozzo acted in good faith in this case, and did the right thing in returning this material for examination. The pieces in question, particularly the 'mastoid,' were suggestive of human bones in their shape, although I think he would not have considered them to be fossil human bone if he had been able to make direct comparisons of their appearance with genuine fossil bone from Swanscombe."

In summary, Dr. Cuozzo, to use Dr. Stringer's words, "acted in good faith" by submitting the samples to the proper authorities for examination. There remains dispute as to whether Dr. Cuozzo's piece is from the Swanscombe Skull, but is this really just cause for tapes of the debate to be censored? Do not debates, by their very nature, necessarily involve dispute? As a creationist, Dr. Cuozzo undoubtedly discounts much of what his opponent had to say, but he is not attempting to censor a videotape involving his evolutionary opponent's views.

In the end, it may be very difficult to prove one way or the other what the actual truth is concerning Dr. Cuozzo's artifact. I personally do not know. There are arguments on both sides, but to censor the distribution of a videotaped debate because one party believes the other is not accurate seems like censorship. One could well argue from this type of reasoning that most debates should be censored. This seems somewhat like nit-picking or straining at gnats. I believe in truth and so am happy and willing to hear what an opponent has to say. As for the camel imagery, passing off as reconstructions deliberately altered models of the Chapelle aux Saints Skull seems more like camel-swallowing to me. Reconstructions should not be artistic inventions, and their goal should be to attempt as close an approximation to the original as possible—not to an imagined, pre-original.

Hypocrisy?

Is hypocrisy involved? I am not the judge; I do not know for sure the inner working of a fellow human being. However, I did write the following to the professor on November 27, 2001: "Regarding the matter of honesty, when I visited the Musee de l'Homme this past summer, I purchased a postcard of La Chapelle aux Saints. In the model you gave me, there are 16 teeth in the upper jaw. The postcard, however, reveals no such number. You told me over lunch that the model you gave me was of La Chapelle aux Saints, but I don't believe you informed me that ... the teeth were added. Don't you think that giving a deliberately altered model is a bit misleading?"⁶

Why have I not received a response to these words when I had received many previous responses? I do not know. Maybe there are mitigating circumstances I know nothing about. Maybe his computer broke down. I do hold open the possibility, however, that this professor may be a little embarrassed by the inconsistency of distributing and possibly selling misleading models of the La Chapelle Skull while at the same time disallowing the sale and distribution of a videotape containing a claim by Dr. Cuozzo he disputes. To date,⁷ I have received no response from the professor since sending my email message.

As I wrote above, there are many other examples of what I see as evolutionary hypocrisy, events I have personally experienced and/or witnessed, such as the censorship of creation advocates, failing to own up to published fraud, refusal to admit racial bias, etc. Because we are all sinners, each of us tends to be hypocritical in one way or another, and creationists, too, can strain at gnats while swallowing camels.

The solution

There is only one solution to our hypocrisy. Many believers have repented of sin, some perhaps with tears. Others who have never done this might like to reflect further. Pray to your Maker, Creator Christ, the Lord of Glory, with words something like these:

"Lord Jesus, I'm a proud person. I've taken pride in my learning and have all too often pushed aside the many proofs of Your skill in producing intricate beauty. At least occasionally, I have been a hypocrite. I've ignored and even hated You. I've refused to bow

my proud heart before You, but I also consider that You have been long-suffering and patient toward me. You have favored me with many blessings. You even went to the cross for sinners like me. Please forgive me for my pride. Even Moses showed that bloody sacrifices were necessary for atonement. You, my Maker, came to this earth to be the Lamb of God Who takes away the sin of the world. Blood flowed from Your body when you hung on Calvary. I've never before yielded to the truth that You died and rose again for sinners. If I am indeed spiritually blind, please help me to see my blindness. If You really are the promised Messiah of God, come into my heart now and be my Savior. Thank You, Father, for sending Your only Son. In Jesus' precious Name I ask this. Amen."

Endnotes

1. See Matthew 23:15ff.
2. The debate has since taken place with approximately 400 people in attendance.
3. Photo supplied by Dr. Jack Cuozzo.
4. I have since become Executive Director of the organization; there is a new President.
5. Dr. Stringer eventually returned the disputed artifacts to me personally. I subsequently returned them to Dr. Cuozzo.
6. There is evidence that other models with added teeth in the upper jaw have been made by this professor for distribution and possible sale.
7. April 19, 2002.

* Paul G. Humber is Executive Director of Skilton House Ministries (Philadelphia) and is a faculty member of the University of Phoenix (Philadelphia Campus). For those wanting a copy of the second debate, involving Drs. Mastropaolo and Weisenberg, please send \$20 to SHBooks, P.O. Box 1045, Glenside, PA 19038.

An Evening with Richard Dawkins

by Roland Watson

As part of Edinburgh's recent 2002 Science Festival, that world-renowned authority on evolutionary theory, Richard Dawkins, was invited to speak on his life and work in a talk entitled "Climbing Mount Wonderful." Intrigued at the prospect of seeing such an avowed and famous enemy of creation in the flesh, yet not dissuaded by the price of £7, I bought a ticket and made my way with the sell-out crowd to the Royal Museum lecture theatre on the evening of the April 10th.

The man himself was recognizable as I entered the theatre, though I admit I had to look twice, as he did not have the benefit of a TV make-up artist or a professional photographer as when we normally see him in two dimensions! But, as he settled down with our lecture host, I realized that an anti-creationist cloud also began to settle down upon us as our host (a retired professor of biology) set out his stall by injecting a deprecating reference to creationists in the course of his introduction.

At that point, as the responsive and approving sniggers rose up from the audience, I felt that little bit smaller and wondered if I was the only Christian in this adoring crowd. Nevertheless, as the talk proceeded, I began to watch and observe and indeed learn to some extent as the Apostle of Evolution held forth on his favorite subject.

A straw man

Evenings such as this would not be the same without a straw man putting in a brief appearance before being knocked down. Thus, we were led to believe that creationists charge evolutionists with holding to a theory that everything came into being purely by chance. Perhaps there are creationists who do indeed hold to that view but even I, as one who is not a leading creationist, knew the importance that natural selection holds in the mind of evolutionists. But we will return to natural selection later.

As Richard Dawkins continued to expostulate on his life and how he thinks that

life came about across geological time, one or two surprising remarks came to light. Consider his response to the chairman's question on whether intelligent life exists beyond our planet.

Life's origin

Dawkins' reply was forthright in that he thought that intelligent life was a very rare phenomenon in this universe. Why he had this opinion was a bit confusing to me, for he suggested that since we have not had a visit from them or detected radio signals from them, then they either do not exist or are very, very far away and thus thinly spread out.

He then stated that he thought the evolutionary leap from singled-celled life forms to more complex species was a rare event which made me think. Did he hold

Dawkins reassured the enquirer that since evolution is fact, then bigotry is not possible.

to that view because we do not see evidence of aliens, or is his theory of evolution by natural selection a "weak force" at that stage in early life? I don't know and time precluded me from pursuing an answer.

Nevertheless, as the evening progressed, we were given a history of Dawkins' books and how his published ideas "evolved" over that time period from "The Selfish Gene" to his last book "Climbing Mount Improbable." Richard Dawkins was at pains to explain that his first book did not explain how natural selection propagated the success of a species, but rather the success of the DNA that each of the species' animals carried. It was all about DNA posting itself through time. Fair enough, I thought, but no proof either way of evolution by natural selection. For those interested, Mr. Dawkins is working on a new book, but I cannot say that I will be buying it.

In an attempt to get Richard Dawkins to have a go at religion, our "neutral" chairman mentioned the theory of

"memes" which was initially raised in Dawkins' first book. Surprisingly, he did not rise to the challenge of propagating his own meme that religion is a meme and therefore merely a cultural device. One may see some sense in the propagation of ideas in human society as a kind of artificial selection, but no one can tell me that this assigns some kind of truth value to the proposition being propagated, be it theological, scientific or otherwise.

But more questions were certainly forthcoming as the evening concluded with a question and answer session with the audience. Some sensible questions were asked such as: "Are there any things beyond scientific enquiry?" and "How do we stop becoming academic bigots?"

Falsifiability

The last question was obviously asked with the perceived fear on the part of evolutionists that they may become what they think creationists are — religious bigots! Dawkins reassured the enquirer that since evolution is fact, then bigotry is not possible. I think he meant dogma rather than fact.

And, so, midst the forest of arms, came the opportunity for yours truly to put his question. My question went along these lines: "How do you answer the critics of your theories who say that they are scientifically unfalsifiable?" Pretty good question, I thought, and being a covert operator, I didn't even come across as a wild-eyed creationist.

Falsifiability is an aspect of scientific enquiry raised by Karl Popper. Basically, if the proponent of a proposed theory cannot conceive of a situation that proves it false, then it lacks the integrity required of a full-orbed theory. It may seem good at explaining things, but if it begins to explain away even absurd situations, then its validity must be called into question.

Richard Dawkins answered by first dismissing the importance of falsifiability in the philosophy of science and then quoted the late evolutionist J.B.S. Haldane by answering, "Fossil rabbits in the Devo-

nian Period!”

Good answer, I thought, but not to my question, I realized. I had wanted to know what piece of empirical data or scientific experiment would falsify his theory of evolution BY natural selection. Therein lies a difference, for the former questions the event of evolution whilst the latter questions the mechanism of evolution. Or to put it in basic terms, no mechanism means no evolution.

A personal encounter

He was unperturbed by this wrong answer, the meeting drew to a close, and I joined the queue of autograph seekers to explain myself further. I came up to him and explained my question better. Richard Dawkins replied: “Oh, I see! Well, natural selection would be difficult to falsify.”

Then I recycled his initial answer by posing a new one. “Would a three-eared rabbit fossil falsify natural selection?” I asked. “Not really” he replied. He then suggested that a lack of diversity in speciation could perhaps falsify natural selection, but that sounded like a tautology to me.

I then thought my three-eared rabbit maybe wasn’t a good example, since genetic monstrosities do occur in nature and, though they will not reproduce, they may themselves be fossilized. Then again, I imagined that to be a very unlikely event since even normal creatures being fossilized is by definition a rare event.

My time was up and Richard Dawkins looked like a man in a hurry. So, I departed and headed off into the night satisfied that I had learned more about the evolutionist and his theories, but disappointed (or glad

depending on one’s point of view) that my question had not been satisfactorily answered.

Overall, I was in a very definite minority that night. If there were other Christians there, they were most likely of the theistic evolution brand. To them, Dawkins would also give short shrift for he sees no need of God in any of his science. What saddened me most was that as an atheist, he sees no need of God at all, and that is the worst position of all to be in.

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Golly Jeepers

A satirical look at anti-creation letters-to-the-editor

by Helen Setterfield

Dear Editor,

Golly jeepers, I just can’t see how anyone could believe this creation nonsense. Granted, I have not actually made an effort to learn anything about it, but I have learned about evolution since I was in grade school, and my eighth grade teacher assured me it was a fact, and the television shows all say it is a fact, and that’s good enough for me.

Evolution is true because everyone says so. There is overwhelming evidence in every field but mine. I demand that evolution — and evolution only — be taught in the schools. Anything which challenges it is, by definition, pseudo-science. We all know that.

Evidence from a pretzel

Since human intelligence is the highest in the universe, anything we do not understand is probably false. Therefore any concept of a God is false and the idea of an Intelligent Designer is therefore also religious myth in disguise. The universe was not intelligently designed, as we can all see from the President choking on a pretzel. Intelligent design would have prevented from on a pretzel.

It is true that some medical problems may arise because of degeneration of the human genome due to mutations. We all know that bad mutations are deleted by natural selection and good mutations keep changing us toward better and better beings, unless evolution has stopped for the human race. But I don’t think it has. That is not how I would plan it if I were the Designer, so we can see there is no Designer.

We all know that evolution means survival of the fittest. And we all know that the fittest are those who survive. So that makes it obvious that evolution is true!

And we all know that evolution means tiny changes through time, and that all those little variations add up, over long periods of time, to major changes, unless they happen in short amounts of time in small hidden populations which leave no trace. We all know genes have a will of their own, that they are selfish, and that they want to keep going no matter what. So, we know evolution happened, even if we don’t know how or when or why or where.

We all know that this bogus intelligent design movement is really young earth creationism in disguise. And we all know

the world isn’t flat, so the YEC’s and the ID’s are obviously wrong about everything they say. In fact, if they say something, it’s bound to be wrong because they said it.

Evolution is pure science. Of course, we have to change what we say kind of often. Science is like that. It always corrects itself. Science is a process and it never stays the same. This is very different from the unscientific ideas in creationism which never change, as though the truth were something real. We all know science does not worry about the truth, only about its own processes, so that is another reason creationism is wrong. They are trying to invent a truth that doesn’t even exist.

Science ‘r’ us

That is why we must oppose both creationism and intelligent design. We have our own beliefs and our scientists tell us what they are. The other stuff is religion. We are science. People who disagree with science are ignorant and probably religious. In fact, probably the reason they disagree with us is because they are religious. We have facts. They have only beliefs.

Evolution has freed everyone from the

chains of religious superstitions. We know that we have the ability to decide who should live and who should die, especially if we have never seen them. And because we have this ability, we also have this right. It starts with abortion, but our plans are ever so much larger; and because we are so intelligent, we can decide what is right or wrong for ourselves.

We know that, because evolution is true, we cannot help having the natures that we have. Homosexuality is obviously inborn for some people. Probably violence is inborn for some people, too, because of our evolutionary past.

So we should not punish people who murder or rape other people, because it is just their nature. I'm not sure if we can teach them to be better, but we can try. It might take a lot of money. Experiments here should be very interesting. We who understand all this, of course, can control ourselves and we are not *really* subject to our genetic heritage the way they are, so we can be the judges here.

Look at technology! That is proof that evolution is true! If we did not have the theory of evolution — excuse me, the *fact* of evolution — we would not be able to invent anything! We would not yet have evolved far enough to invent things.

Yes, I know evolution ideas have made a few mistakes, like promoting routine removal of tonsils and encouraging lobotomies to change behavior and such, but, after all, we all make mistakes. Science is constantly changing because it is constantly improving and we know what the truth is now. Not that there really is any such thing as truth, and I know that, but we simply have more facts to work with now so we can experiment better.

Little children and foolish people

This belief in God, especially the God of the Bible, is for little children and foolish people. We could let them be, if they did not insist on discussing their foolish beliefs in public and exposing others to them. I'm sure, if we keep these folks as quiet as possible, the whole thing will die down and be forgotten in the light of TRUE science. We will win this battle because

we are what we make of ourselves, and we don't need any supernatural power to "help."

We have evolved past the silly idea of spirituality. We have imagination now, and we can imagine anything we want to go along with the data. We will declare that people who are really being faithful to their religions will also include our intellectual understandings about life and meaning, so there will be no conflict. We can discuss the differences at an academic

I am against religious freaks taking over the academics of our nation. I don't care if they *did* found the universities to begin with.

level, but we will not burden the common folk with these problems.

We must remain very conscious of the scientific elite, who are really the only ones trained to understand what is actually happening. Everyone else must be taught not to think for themselves, but to simply follow what the leaders say, even when they say different things at different times.

Thinking is much too dangerous for the man in the street. It leads him to religion too many times. This is probably a distinction we will see growing evolutionarily, by the way: evolving a new species of humans who understand science. We might want to isolate them in terms of reproduction so that we don't muddy their gene pool. It's an idea ...

We've come a long way, baby

It is imperative that this elite group of humans be given free reign in our education and legal systems, as they obviously understand (as do I) things the rest of the people cannot possibly understand, even though we try to teach them from grade school on. The misunderstandings about evolution are rampant! These religious folks talk about ridiculous things like "irreducible complexity" when we have all seen this answered by scientists, like Ken Miller, who can imagine exactly how things happened.

And, obviously, if we can imagine it,

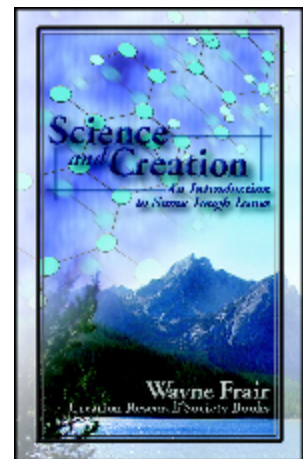
it probably happened that way. Imagination is an integral part of intellectual integrity. Since we will never have all the data, we need brilliant minds to put together the few pieces of the puzzle we do have so that we will all get the true picture. This is so obviously different from the silly faith people have in some kind of deity.

Creation "scientists" are not really scientists. The minute a real scientist decides evolution is not a fact, he quits being a scientist and becomes a religious freak.

I am against religious freaks taking over the academics of our nation. I don't care if they *did* found the universities to begin with. We have come a long way, baby! We should not tolerate disagreement!

Anyone who disagrees with us is just being emotional. We evolutionists have all the facts and evidence, as I have shown above. People who disagree with us are just plain wrong and should be silenced!

— A True Believer



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Origins

by John Gentry

I met a man from academe, a scholar, lettered and wise
He told me where the stars came from that twinkle in the skies,
And all the planets around the sun and life upon the earth.
"It was an infinitesimal thing," said he, "that brought upon the birth
Of everything that ever was or that could ever be;
A Thing that was nothing, and then it went Bang!" And all I could say was, "Gee!"

But if at the beginning there was a 'Thing,' then where did that thing come from?"
This I asked of the learned man, at the risk of sounding dumb.
He sighed and said, "How simple of you! It really wasn't like that.
The 'Thing' was really Nothing," he explained, "Like the inside of your hat."
"Then," said I, after weighing this, "If Nothing was there, as you say,
Then how did Nothing go BANG, like that, in such a powerful way?"

You'd have to be a cosmologist," he said, "To really comprehend all this.
Science deals only with matter and motion, and matter is all there is.
And the Big Bang sent it all flying apart from a central point in space.
Then it collided and coalesced into stars and planets, at a very haphazard pace.
And then on one planet, where things were just right (on earth as it happened to be),
Some methane, ammonia and hydrogen formed in the Paleozoic Sea.

And they all came together in aminoes and proteins, and deoxyribo compounds.
And that became life, which replicated and evolved in wondrous leaps and bounds.
All of which happened by chance and by nature, and the laws of nucleotides,
Over eons of time in oceans of space, without any blueprints or guides."
"One would have thought that God had a hand," I replied from out of a trance.
"Your notions of God are all in your head, a product of chemical chance."

Well, if it is true that chemistry rules, and determines the whole of our thought,
Then wouldn't that be the very same source of the notion that God is not?
So which idea would you prefer, if you can't prove one or the other?
That we were formed in the image of God, or the wild ape is your brother?"
"I believe in science," was his lofty reply, "Where faith is out of line."
"Well, if you think molecules can turn into men, your faith is stronger than mine."

Intentional Editorial Censorship

by Kevin Anderson, Ph.D.

For years we creationists have maintained that scientific journals deliberately reject any and all manuscripts that present a "pro-creation" position (and also reject most manuscripts that present an "anti-evolution" position). This is done regardless of any scientific basis or scientific inadequacies of the manuscript that would actually warrant rejection. Many evolutionists have responded by suggesting this is merely whining on our part. Rather, they claim such manu-

scripts are rejected simply because they are scientifically weak and fail to survive the rigors of the peer review process.

As such, they claim that we complain merely to cover our poor scholarship. However, in the July/August 2002 issue of *Research News*, the editor, Karl Giberson, writes:

"If an editor chooses to publish a hostile review of a book, common politeness would suggest that the

author ought to have some space to respond. But editors have a "higher calling" than common politeness, namely the editorial mission and guidelines that inform every decision as to what will be printed and what will be rejected. I have learned, since becoming the editor of *Research News*, common politeness is often

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Faith vs. Science

Editor's note: An email question was recently received from a British scientist. He asked whether the CRS statement of faith is in direct conflict with scientific research, where experimental results must determine what one believes? Dr. DeYoung, CRS President, provided this response.

Dear Dr. _____:

Thanks for asking about the apparent conflict between the Creation Research Society's statement of faith and scientific research. My explanation may be from a world view unfamiliar to you.

First, I believe the explanatory capability of science is greatly overestimated. In particular, I believe ultimate origins and also design evidence lie beyond the realm of an adequate explanation by science.

Second, I also believe that Scripture is greatly underestimated; I take the Bible as an inspired and correct account of origins and history. Since this document (the Bible) states that the origin of all things was supernatural, this realm lies entirely beyond science by definition. I know that the supernatural has been redefined as superstition in our day, but this trend has actually impoverished science progress.

And by the way, at least 90% of pioneer scientists, mathematicians, physicians, etc., were content with a strong creation presupposition. It did not hinder

their excellence in research, and in fact motivated them to accomplishments never surpassed to this day. I believe the entire science enterprise is made possible by the recognition that there exists created design, regularity, and laws in nature.

If I can be of further help, write again. I hope you will subscribe to the CRS Quarterly and explore our efforts to restore science to its creationist foundation.

Regards,
Don DeYoung

Dinosaur Egg Clutches

Dear Editor:

In a recent issue of *Creation Matters* (Vol. 7, No. 2), Ensign suggested that the existence of dinosaur egg clutches distributed over several stratigraphic layers could be a problem for Flood Catastrophists. He noted that M. Oard has proposed a possible explanation involving vertical tectonics. I believe that a possible explanation can just as well be developed from a multiple-asteroid impact/CPT model. (CPT = catastrophic plate tectonics)

Multiple-asteroid impacts could cause hundreds of massive impact-tsunamis, each of which would sweep further and further ashore leaving successions of sedimentary sheets. Wave retreats could occasionally expose depositions upon which egg clutches could be laid. If these egg clutches are at a high enough elevation and far away enough from the nearest sea, the impact-tsunami

energy might not significantly disturb egg clutches, and yet still be able to carry enough sediment to form succeeding deposits.

If we assume that the Cataclysm began shortly before the dinosaur egg-laying season, then we can imagine that the dinosaurs were interrupted in laying eggs by sediment-depositing waves. After each wave, the dinosaurs would start over, creating a nest and then beginning to lay eggs again. This would occur again and again until they were either out of eggs, or some larger event killed the dinosaurs. Thus, we could have egg clutches buried rapidly one on top of another. The "bioturbation" between the layers with egg clutches could be explained by the dinosaurs trying to find the recently buried egg clutches.

Besides the impact-tsunamis, there would also be wind waves and lunar tides. And after the start of CPT, there would also be earthquake-generated tsunamis of lesser strength than impact-tsunamis.

One thing we need to forget is the idea that the Flood cataclysm was a single, huge, homogenous event out of which settled the various geological layers. Rather, each layer represents a cataclysmic event which may have had little relationship to the preceding or succeeding layers, but for the fact that they were all a part of an overall global catastrophe.

Allen Roy

Censorship

...continued from page 7

in tension with editorial priorities.

"The mission of *Research News*, for example, includes publishing the latest findings in science-and-religion, as reported by credible scholars in those fields. In my role as editor, I must make decisions about the "fringe" material at or beyond the boundaries of the established science-and-religion dialogue. In my editorial judgment, the collection of ideas known as "scientific creationism" (which is not the same as intelli-

gent design) lacks the credibility to justify publishing any submissions that we get from its adherents.

"I would go even further, in fact. The collection of creationist ideas (6,000 year old earth, no common ancestry, all the fossils laid down by Noah's flood, Genesis creation account read literally, etc.) has been so thoroughly discredited by both scientific and religious scholarship that I think it is entirely appropriate for *Research News* to print material designed to move our readers away from this viewpoint. For example, we

might publish a negative review of a book promoting scientific creationism (or astrology, or the healing power of crystals, for that matter), while refusing to allow the author a chance to respond. Is this an unfair bias? Or is it proper stewardship of limited editorial resources?"

Apparently Giberson, for one, has taken it upon himself to use his position as editor to "protect" the world from the ravings of those crazed creationists. Any submission from them doesn't even warrant the normal peer review process. They will be unceremoniously tossed into the trash. Need I say more...?

POSITION AVAILABLE

VAN ANDEL CREATION RESEARCH CENTER

The Creation Research Society (CRS) represents more than 600 member scientists from around the world, who “evaluate science in a Biblical framework.” For nearly forty years it has published a scholarly journal that challenges evolutionary theory.

The Research Center operated by CRS is located in a rapidly-growing community in scenic north-central Arizona. The nearly-new facilities are modestly-equipped and debt-free, providing research space for up to five full-time scientists. Nominations and inquiries are invited for the position of **Director**.

Dedication to full inspiration of Scripture and to faith in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior is essential. Applicants should be committed to a young-earth creationist position and to a worldwide, catastrophic Noahic flood. Strong skills in interpersonal relations, writing and public speaking are required.

DIRECTOR

The ideal candidate for Director will have an earned science Ph.D., be involved in an active research program, develop the research staff and provide general oversight to all aspects of the operation of the Center. The position requires a self starter, working with limited direct supervision.

FOR INFORMATION

If you have any questions, or wish additional information, please contact:

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ERRATUM

In the previous issue (Volume 7, No. 2), there was an editorial error in one of the references at the end of the article entitled "Unleashing the Meme...." For the Wilson article, the reference journal was cited as *Nature*, but the correct citation is *Science*, as stated in the text of the article.

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Creation Calendar

Note: Items in "Creation Calendar" are for information only; the listing of an event does not necessarily imply endorsement by the Creation Research Society.

August 4 - 9

Redcloud Family Mountain Adventure #2
Fun-filled vacation for families, near Lake City, CO
Sponsored by Alpha Omega Institute, Grand Junction, CO
Contact: Andrea Korow (970)523-9943, www.discovercreation.org

August 17

Fossils and Geology of Kansas City
Family Creation Safari, 9:00 am - 4:00 pm
CSA for Mid-America (Kansas City Area)
Contact: Tom Willis (816)618-3610, csahq@juno.com

August 18 - 24

Grand Canyon Raft Trip (7 day, 187 river miles)
Sponsored by Canyon Ministries (Phoenix) and
Design Science Association (Portland)
A creationist view of the canyon's geology / biology will be provided.
Contact: Keith Swenson (503)665-9563, kswenson@mindspring.com

August 24

Evolution: Textbooks Say "Yes," but Experts Say "No"
by Dr. Mace Baker
South Bay Creation Science Association
7:00 p.m., Evangelical Formosan Church, Torrence CA
Contact: Garth Guessman (310)952-0424

August 30 - September 2

Southeast Missouri / Johnson Shut-ins
Family Creation Safari, 9:00 am - 4:00 pm
CSA for Mid-America (Kansas City Area)
Contact: Tom Willis (816)618-3610, csahq@juno.com

September 28

Chronology: A Study from Scripture, Astronomy, and History
by Dr. Christopher Chui
South Bay Creation Science Association
7:00 p.m., Evangelical Formosan Church, Torrence CA
Contact: Garth Guessman (310)952-0424

October 19

KATY Bike Trail
Family Creation Safari, 9:00 am - 6:00 pm
CSA for Mid-America (Kansas City Area)
Contact: Tom Willis (816)618-3610, csahq@juno.com

October 25-26

Case for Creation Seminar featuring Duane Gish, Frank Sherwin,
Russ Humphreys, and Mark Armitage
Grace Church of Glendora, CA (near Pasadena)
Contact: Mark Armitage (626)969-8317, micromark@juno.com

November 26

Why the Church Should Emphasize Creation by David Coppedge, Physi-
cist
South Bay Creation Science Association
7:00 p.m., Evangelical Formosan Church, Torrence CA
Contact: Garth Guessman (310)952-0424

December 7

Squaw Creek Refuge
Family Creation Safari, 9:00 am - 5:00 pm
CSA for Mid-America (Kansas City Area)
Contact: Tom Willis (816)618-3610, csahq@juno.com