



Creation Matters

A NEWSLETTER PROVIDING CHRISTIANS UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION ABOUT THE
CREATION/EVOLUTION ISSUE AND THE MUSEUM AT "CREATION MINISTRIES OF THE OZARKS"

NO. 92

5,000 AND COUNTING



Emory

We recently had the privilege of hosting a group that included our 5,000th visitor pictured on left. It is such a privilege to share biblical truth backed up and confirmed by real science with those who visit us.

People of all ages and backgrounds come to the museum. A few weeks ago a young man came through the door and told me right away that he was a Jehovah's Witness. I welcomed him and told him he was welcome. He wanted to know what we talk about as people tour the museum. I gave him a verbal tour mentioning our basic creation section, as well as our biology, geology and archaeology sections. Then I said we include the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus Christ as part of the tour. When I said this he handed back the informational rack card that I had given him, and then turned around and walked out.

Everything appeared acceptable to him until I mentioned the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Jehovah's Witnesses have been taught that Jesus only rose from the dead spiritually and was not God. It is a shame that their Bible translation of the New Testament was poorly done by a few people who were only partially proficient in Greek. Not only that, but they also took the liberty to translate in such a way in order to agree with their particular doctrines. For example, their Watchtower translation of John 1:1 says, "In the beginning was the word, and the word was with God, and the word was a god." The last part of this verse should read, "and the word was God" not "was a god."

The Bible teaches us that it is dangerous to add or subtract from what it clearly says. Obviously there is deceit involved when the text is changed and made to fit the doctrines of a particular group. But altering the Bible in this way is not limited to those groups we would call cults. Professed Christians are similarly guilty of this if they impose meanings and interpretations on the Scriptures that differ from a plain reading of the text.

For example, many Christians choose to ignore the plain reading of the Genesis account, and add ideas and interpretations that they arbitrarily impose on the text.

One popular idea is that the days of creation could have each been long periods of time. But the Bible could not be clearer on this, that the days were ordinary approximate 24-hour days similar to our present days. Exodus 20:9,11 reads:

"Six days you shall labor and do all your work...For in six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested the seventh day."

The word "heavens" refers to the universe and God said He did it in six ordinary days. If God is truly the Creator of all things, is this something that He could do? Of course it is! There is no need to come up with other ideas to try to be more scientific than God!

At Creation Experience Museum we stand uncompromisingly on what God has told us in His Word. If we were not to do this we would be guilty of diminishing the authority of God's supernatural revelation to His creation—the Bible.

Thanks to all for your support in prayer and giving as we continue to follow the vision for CMOTO.

MONTHLY CREATION CLASS ON

MONDAY, DECEMBER 14, 6.30 P.M.

AT THE BRANSON MUSEUM LOCATION

Dr. Dale Scheusner will continue his series of talks combined with media presentations.

VISIT OUR

"CREATION EXPERIENCE MUSEUM"

4180 US Hwy. 65 North MO 65771

(Just 7 miles north of Branson)

Wednesdays — Saturdays 10.00 a.m. to 5 p.m.

417-561-0750

844-219-7116 & MAP AT CMOTO.ORG

See page 4 for Christmas, New Year, and January & February schedules.

THE IMPORTANCE OF GENESIS

“Unless we are told about our beginnings, we cannot make sense of our present history. And secular study is incapable of doing that. This is not to say that the study of history and science is irrelevant or useless, but when secular study is finished, the most important questions are left unanswered. It can tell us much of patterns and statistics, but not the reason or meaning or significance of it all...This is where the early chapters of Genesis are so important. These chapters give the history that comes before anything that secular historians have been able to ascertain, and *it is this presecular [sic] history which gives meaning to mankind’s present history*” (Emphasis author’s) (Francis A. Schaeffer and C. Everett Koop, *Whatever Happened to the Human Race?*, Fleming H. Revell Company, 1979, 156-157).

Francis Schaeffer, (1912-1984), was a highly respected evangelical missionary, philosopher, author, and lecturer. He understood the dangers of Hegel’s philosophy of relativism—that there are no absolutes. He pointed out how such philosophies conflict with the Bible’s clear teaching on moral authority and that the reality of the distinction between right and wrong is very real.

This is why he emphasized in the quote above the importance of the foundations given to us in Genesis as a record of real history. If Genesis is not real history we have no answers or basic information as to who we are and why we are here. Not only that, but without Genesis we would not have access to the awesome insights it gives us into the personal nature of this Creator God.

The philosophy of relativism makes no logical sense, and it is certainly not common sense. If everyone were to have the freedom to decide for themselves what is right it would create continuing chaos. For example, school teachers would be totally unable to exert authority and discipline in the classrooms. Based on such relative freedom students could decide it was right for them to skip as many classes as they wanted, and would no doubt still expect a passing grade. We would find ourselves in the impossible position of accepting contradictory opposite opinions as both being right!

The Bible is completely without any trace of

such foolishness. It gives us reliable information about the basic questions of life in clear readable format. We can easily see from the Bible why some would come up with the senseless philosophy of relativism. It is because humans are sinners in need of experiencing a meaningful and loving relationship with their Creator.

What is needful in order to have confidence in the history recorded in the Book of Genesis? Our confidence should be great if the record is inspired by a reliable witness who was there from the beginning. This is exactly what we have in the Bible.

Sometimes people still say today: How do we know that Jesus even existed as a person? This is as foolish as saying: How do we know that Napoleon Bonaparte existed? How do we know that Julius Caesar existed? How do we know that George Washington was a real person? The reason we can know these things with confidence that they are real history is by having reliable records from reliable witnesses. This is exactly what we have in the Bible.

God has made sure that we are not ignorant of His plan and purpose for us by giving us the Holy-Spirit inspired Scriptures. Let’s believe them without contaminating their truths with an ungodly and foolish philosophy like relativism.

“Sanctify them by Your truth. Your Word is truth” (John 17:17).

A CREATION WORTH GIVING THANKS FOR

by Dalton Ford

With the holiday season now upon us, it would be hard to miss the constant reminder to be thankful! Faith, family, and friends (and food) may be a few things that lead you to give God thanks. Yet, although there are likely plenty of things you are thankful for, I would like to suggest four things in God's creation that warrant some extra appreciation.

First, we can thank God for placing the **moon** at just the right distance from the Earth. As you may know, the moon is a major cause of the tides. If the moon were too far away, tides would be significantly smaller, reducing the much-needed *stirring* of the oceans. On the other hand, were the moon too close to the Earth, your home would have a less-than-helpful ocean-front view (followed by an ocean-bottom view) twice a day. The nomadic lifestyle this would create could hardly be called beneficial. We see that God did it just right!

Second, we can thank God for His amazing provision in the **creation of plants**. In addition to serving as food, these wonders continually renew our oxygen supply and provide us with fuel and building materials. Let's take time to deal with each of these things in more depth. Day 3 of creation may be more important than you had thought!

On tours, I often point out that if, after God had made the atmosphere (Day 2), He had skipped to making animals and man, we would be in a lot of trouble. One problem, of course, is that we would eventually use up our supply of oxygen. However, God created plants with a respiration cycle that's the reverse of our *inhale oxygen/exhale CO₂*. In this way, plants and animals (and people) continually produce what the other needs. What a perfect design!

Regarding plants as a food source, their ability to harness the energy from the sun to make their own food places them in a foundationally important position. Wherever you classify yourself in the food chain (herbivore, carnivore, omnivore), plants are at the base of that, enabling you to survive.

Also, the versatility of plants as fuel and building materials further points to the wisdom in God's handiwork. Imagine, for a moment, a world without plant materials. There's a good possibility that your house, furniture, and even clothing would suffer radically

from such a change! If fossil fuels (e.g. coal and oil) are included, then the effect of this loss of plants would be even more drastic. Take some time to add to this list. You will have all the more reason to thank God for Day 3.

The third creation marvel to give thanks for is the **human brain**. Containing numerous folds that allow for high surface areas in a small space, the brain is well-designed to be compact. This compact part of the body has an importance which is greater than its size. From its position in the skull, it controls the body's movement, vital organs, and (of course) our ability to think and learn. Further, a comparison of the human and ape skulls in CMOTO's museum reveals a much larger portion of the human head devoted to the brain. Unlike apes, God has placed an extra emphasis on our brains, allowing for man to *have dominion* over His creation (Genesis 1:26-28).

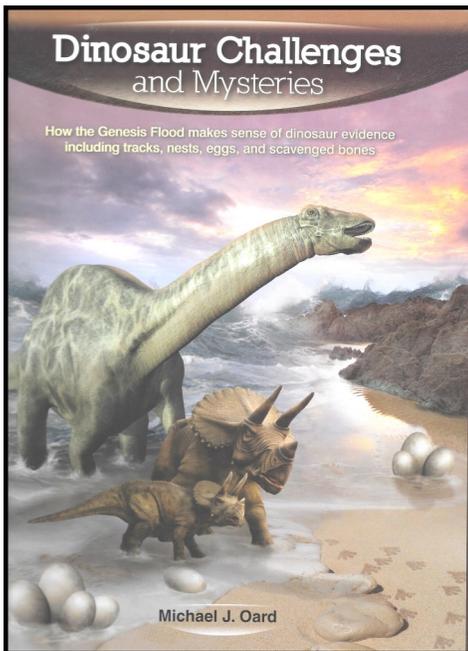
This gift to *have dominion* points to our fourth thing to be thankful for, and it is truly the best. We see it in our being both a part of and above the rest of creation. It is simply the fact that God has given us a **special place in His creation**. In addition to dominion, the Lord has given us commands and direction, and has a specific purpose for each one of our lives. But beyond that, the Lord wants a relationship with every one of us, just as He did with Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden. There are no animals so privileged as that! He reserves that for us. He desires not only to save us, but also for us to walk alongside Him. And *that* is something to be thankful for.

As we look back at these few parts of creation that we have mentioned, we see the design, wisdom, and love of our Creator. Whether the moon's location, the wonderful blessings from plants, the compactness of our brains, or our special place in creation, they all point upward and draw our thanksgiving to the One who is worthy.

Dalton is one of our excellent trained tour guides at Creation Experience Museum.

"Be thankful to Him, and bless His name. For the Lord is good"

Psalm 100:4,5



Looking at the cover of Michael Oard's book *Dinosaur Challenges and Mysteries*, one might think that this would be a great book for young children, but it's not. It is definitely a great book for adults who would like more detailed information about these fascinating creatures. Oard writes:

"Evolutionists give the impression that they know a lot about dinosaurs and how they lived. They seem to have all the answers, or at least most of them. But this 'detailed knowledge' does not hold up under scrutiny. There is a thin layer of facts. Overlying it is a much thicker layer of inference, interpretation, and common wisdom, usually leaning more heavily on the assumptions of evolution and uniformitarian geologic history than on real knowledge"

This book is available at our Branson bookstore for \$16.00.

Michael Oard earned his B.S. and M.S. degrees in atmospheric science from the University of Washington. Now retired from the National Weather Service, he engages in full time research, writing, and speaking on creationist earth sci-

COME AND VISIT US

CREATION EXPERIENCE MUSEUM IN **BRANSON** IS OPEN WEDNESDAYS THROUGH SATURDAYS 10.00 A.M. TO 5.00 P.M.

ADMISSION FREE—DONATIONS APPRECIATED

PLEASE NOTE: WE WILL BE CLOSED NEW YEAR'S WEEK. JANUARY & FEBRUARY OF 2016 WE WILL OPEN BY APPOINTMENT ONLY UNTIL RESUMING REGULAR SCHEDULE ON MARCH 3, 2016.

SOME CURRENT NEEDS FOR THIS MINISTRY:

Praise God that we have just received promise of a second gift of \$5,000 which we are suggesting as a matching challenge for our parking lot improvement. However, the two estimates we received project the total cost to be at least \$38,000. So we need about \$20,000 more to complete this project that will be a great blessing to all who visit us.

FIND MORE INFORMATION AT:

www.CMOTO.org (SIGN UP FOR OUR FREE NEWSLETTER ONLINE)

Or call: 844-219-7116

Donations can be made online or sent to:

CMOTO

1440 State Hwy. 248

Suite Q 461

Branson, MO 65616 **Please make checks to CMOTO**

A WORD ABOUT FINANCIAL ACCOUNTABILITY

Financial accountability is extremely important to us. To this end *Creation Ministries of the Ozarks* has a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt status from the IRS. Donations can be claimed as charitable giving for tax purposes. We have engaged the services of Mr. Dan Wisner, Certified Public Accountant in Springfield, Missouri.

"CREATION MATTERS"

You can hear our two-minute creation broadcasts on KWFC 89.1 FM at 11.21 a.m. CST Monday thru Friday each week which covers the Springfield and southwest MO area.

Or, hear previous recordings at our online radio archive anytime at: www.CMOTO.org