

The Ten Best Young Earth Evidences

Introduction. The Bible gives us the foundation that enables us to build the right worldview to correctly understand how the present and past are connected. We believe it is the only foundation upon which all other evidences can be correctly understand. All other documents written by man are fallible (cf. 2 Timothy 3:16). The Bible clearly and unmistakably, in over 100 verses, describes the creation of the universe just a few thousand years ago. We know that it is true based on the authority of God's own character (Hebrews 6:13).

In one sense, God's testimony is all we need; but God Himself tells us to give reasons for what we believe (1 Peter 3:15). So it is also important to conduct scientific research. With this research we can challenge those who reject God's clear word and defend the biblical worldview.

I. ***Very Little Sediment On The Seafloor***

- A. If sediments have been accumulating on the seafloor for three billion years, the seafloor should be choked with sediments many miles deep.
- B. Every year water and wind erode about 20 billion tons of dirt and rock debris from the continents and deposit them on the seafloor. Most of this material accumulates as loose sediments near the continents. Yet the average thickness of all these sediments globally over the whole seafloor is not even 1,300 feet.
- C. Some sediments appear to be removed as tectonic plates slide slowly (an inch or two per year) beneath continents. An estimated 1 billion tons of sediments are removed this way each year. The net gain is thus 19 billion tons per year. At this rate, 1,300 feet of sediment would accumulate in less than 12 million years, not billions of years.
- D. This evidence makes sense within the context of the Genesis Flood, not the idea of slow and gradual geologic evolution. In the latter stages of the year-long global Flood, water swiftly drained off the emerging land, dumping its sediment loads offshore (Genesis 8:1-3). Thus most seafloor sediments accumulated rapidly about 4,300 years ago.

II. ***Bent Rock Layers***

- A. In many mountainous areas, rock layers thousands of feet thick have been bent and folded without fracturing.
- B. If concrete is still wet, it can easily be shaped and molded before the cement sets. The same principle applies to sedimentary rock layers. They can be bent and folded soon after the sediment is deposited, before the natural cements have a chance to bind the particles together into hard, brittle rocks.

- C. The region around Grand Canyon is a great example showing how most of the earth's fossil-bearing layers were laid down quickly and many were folded while still wet. Exposed in the canyon's walls are about 4,500 feet of fossil-bearing layers that were supposedly deposited over a period lasting from 520 to 250 million years ago. Then, amazingly, this whole sequence of layers rose over a mile around 60 million years ago. The plateau through which Grand Canyon runs is now 7,000-8,000 feet above sea level.
- D. It supposedly took 270 million years to deposit these layers. Surely in that time the layers at the bottom would have dried and the sand grains cemented together, especially with 4,000 feet of rock layers piled on top of it and pressing down on it. The only viable explanation is that the whole sequence was deposited very quickly -- the creation model indicates that it took less than a year, during the global Flood (Genesis 7:11; 8:13-14). So the 520 million years never happened, and the earth is young.

III. ***Soft Tissue In Fossils***

- A. Ask virtually any person how he or she knows that the earth is billions of years old, and that person will probably mention dinosaurs, which nearly everybody "knows" died off 65 million years ago. A recent discovery by Dr. Mary Schweitzer, however, has given reason for all but committed evolutionists to question this assumption.
- B. Bone slices from the fossilized thigh bone of a *Tyrannosaurus rex* found in the Hell Creek formation of Montana were studied under the microscope by Schweitzer. To her amazement, the bone showed what appeared to be blood vessels of the type seen in bone and marrow, and these contained what appeared to be red blood cells with nuclei, typical of reptiles and birds (but not mammals). The vessels even appeared to be lined with specialized endothelial cells found in all blood vessels.
- C. Many studies of Egyptian mummies and other humans of this age (confirmed by historical evidence) show the same kind of detail Schweitzer reported in her *T. rex*. In addition to Egyptian mummies, the Tyrolean iceman, found in the Alps in 1991 and believed to be at least 5,000 years old, shows such incredible preservation of DNA and other microscopic detail. This is perfectly consistent if dinosaurs roamed the earth not that long ago (Job 40:15; 41:1).

IV. ***Faint Sun Paradox***

- A. Evidence now supports astronomers' belief that the sun's power comes from the fusion of hydrogen into helium deep in the sun's core, but there is a huge problem. As the hydrogen fuses, it should change the

composition of the sun's core, gradually increasing the sun's temperature. If true, this means that the earth was colder in the past. In fact, the earth would have been below freezing 3.5 billion years ago, when life supposedly evolved.

- B. The rate of nuclear fusion depends upon the temperature. As the sun's core temperatures increase, the sun's energy output will also increase, causing the sun to brighten over time. Calculations show that the sun would brighten by 25% after 3.5 billion years. This means that an early sun would have been fainter, warming the earth 31°F less than it does now.
- C. But evolutionists acknowledge that there is no evidence of this in the geologic record. They even call this problem the faint young sun paradox. While this is not a problem over thousands of years (Genesis 1:14-19), it is a problem if the world is billions of years old.

V. ***Rapidly Decaying Magnetic Field***

- A. The earth is surrounded by a magnetic field that protects living organisms from solar radiation. Without it, life could not exist. That is why scientists were surprised to discover that the field is quickly wearing down. At the current rate, the field and thus the earth could be no older than 20,000 years old.
- B. Several measurements confirm this decay. Since measuring began in 1845, the total energy stored in the earth's magnetic field has been decaying at the rate of 5% per century. Archaeological measurements show that the field was 40% stronger in A.D. 1000. Recent records of the International Geomagnetic Reference Field, the most accurate ever taken, show a net energy loss of 1.4% in just three decades (1970-2000). This means that the field's energy has halved every 1,465 years or so.
- C. Reliable, accurate, published geological field data have emphatically confirmed the young-earth model: a freely-decaying electric current in the outer core is generating the magnetic field. This means that the electric current naturally loses energy as it flows through the metallic core. Though it differs from the most commonly accepted conventional model, it is consistent with our knowledge of what makes up the earth's core. Furthermore, based on what we know about the conductive properties of liquid iron, this freely decaying current would have started when the earth's outer core was formed. However, if the core were more than 20,000 years old, then the starting energy would have made the earth too hot to be covered by water, as Genesis 1:2 reveals. It all points to an earth and magnetic field only a few thousand years old.

VI. **Helium In Radioactive Rocks**

- A. During the radioactive decay of uranium and thorium contained in rocks, lots of helium is produced. Because helium is a light element and a noble gas -- meaning it does not combine with other atoms -- it readily diffuses (leaks) out and eventually escapes into the atmosphere. Helium diffuses so rapidly that all the helium should have leaked out in less than 100,000 years.
- B. While drilling deep Precambrian (pre-Flood) granite rocks in New Mexico, geologists extracted samples of zircon (zirconium silicate) crystals from different depths. The crystals contained not only uranium but also large amounts of helium. The hotter the rocks, the faster the helium should escape, so researchers were surprised to find that the deepest, and therefore hottest, zircons contained up to 58% of the helium that the uranium could have ever generated still in the crystals.
- C. The helium leakage rate has been determined in several experiments, and all measurements are in agreement. Using the measured rate of helium diffusion (which is a well-understood process), these pre-Flood rocks have an average "diffusion age" of only 6,000 years. The supposed 1.5-billion-year age is based on the unverifiable assumptions of radioisotope dating that are radically wrong.
- D. Another evidence of a young earth is the low amount of helium in the atmosphere. The leakage rate of helium gas into the atmosphere has been measured. Even though some helium escapes into outer space, the amount still present is not nearly enough if the earth is over 4.5 billion years old. In fact, if we assume no helium was in the original atmosphere, all the helium would have accumulated in only 1.8 million years even from an evolutionary standpoint. But when the catastrophic Flood upheaval is factored in, which rapidly released huge amounts of helium into the atmosphere, it could have accumulated in only 6,000 years.

VII. **Carbon-14 In Fossils, Coal, And Diamonds**

- A. Carbon-14 (or radiocarbon) is a radioactive form of carbon that scientists use to date fossils. But it decays so quickly -- with a half-life of only 5,730 years -- that none is expected to remain in fossils after only a few hundred thousand years. Yet carbon-14 has been detected in "ancient" fossils -- supposedly up to hundreds of millions of years old -- ever since the earliest days of radiocarbon dating.
- B. Even if every atom in the whole earth were carbon-14, they would decay so quickly that no carbon-14 would be left on earth after only 1 million years. Analysis of fossilized wood and coal samples, supposedly spanning 32-350 million years of ago, yielded ages between 20,000

- and 50,000 years using carbon-14 dating. Diamonds supposedly 1-3 billion years old similarly yielded carbon-14 ages of only 55,000 years
- C. Even that is too old when you realize that these ages assume that the earth's magnetic field has always been constant. But it was stronger in the past, protecting the atmosphere from solar radiation and reducing the radiocarbon production. As a result, past creatures had much less radiocarbon in their bodies, and their deaths occurred much more recently than reported. So the radiocarbon ages of all fossils and coal should be reduced to less than 5,000 years, matching the timing of their burial during the Flood (Genesis 7:19-20).

VIII. ***Short-Lived Comets***

- A. A comet spends most of its time far from the sun in the deep freeze of space. But once each orbit a comet comes very close to the sun, allowing the sun's heat to evaporate much of the comet's ice and dislodge dust to form a beautiful tail. Comets have little mass, so each close pass to the sun greatly reduces a comet's size, and eventually comets fade away. They cannot survive billions of years.
- B. Two other mechanisms can destroy comets -- ejections from the solar system and collisions with planets. Ejections happen as comets pass too close to the large planets, particularly Jupiter, and the planets' gravity kicks them out of the solar system. While ejections have been observed many times, the first observed collision was in 1994, when Comet Shoemaker-Levi IX slammed into Jupiter.
- C. Given the loss rates, it is easy to compute a maximum age of comets. That maximum age is only a few million years. Obviously, their prevalence makes sense if the entire solar system was created just a few thousand years ago, but not if it is billions of years old.

IX. ***Very Little Salt In The Sea***

- A. If the world's oceans have been around for three billion years as evolutionists believe, they should be filled with vastly more salt than the oceans contain today.
- B. Every year rivers, glaciers, underground seepage, and atmospheric and volcanic dust dump large amounts of salts into the oceans. Consider the influx of sodium chloride. Some 458 million tons of sodium mixes into ocean water each year, but only 122 million tons (27%) is removed by other natural processes.
- C. If seawater originally contained no sodium (salt) and the sodium accumulated at today's rates, then today's ocean saltiness would be reached in only 42 million years -- only about 1/70 the three billion years evolutionists pose. But those assumptions fail to take into account the likelihood that God created a saltwater ocean on the fifth

day (Genesis 1:22-23). Also, the year-long global Flood must have dumped an unprecedented amount of salt into the ocean through erosion, sedimentation, and volcanism. So today's ocean saltiness makes much better sense within the biblical timescale of about 6,000 years.

X. ***DNA In "Ancient" Bacteria***

- A. In 2000, scientists claimed to have "resurrected" bacteria, named Lazarus bacteria, discovered in a salt crystal conventionally dated at 250 million years old. They were shocked that the bacteria's DNA was very similar to modern bacterial DNA. If the modern bacteria were the result of 250 million years of evolution, its DNA should be very different from the Lazarus bacteria (based on known mutation rates).
- B. In addition, the scientists were surprised to find that the DNA was still intact after the supposed 250 million years. DNA normally breaks down quickly, even in ideal conditions. Even evolutionists agree that DNA in bacterial spores (a dormant state) should not last more than a million years. Their quandary is quite substantial.
- C. However, the discovery of Lazarus bacteria is not shocking or surprising when we base our expectations on the Bible accounts. For instance, Noah's Flood likely deposited the salt beds that were home to the bacteria. If the Lazarus bacteria is only about 4,500 years old, its DNA is more likely to be intact and similar to modern bacteria.

Conclusion. The God of the Bible has given us a specific, infallible history, beginning with the six days of creation and followed by detailed genealogies that allow us to determine when the universe began. Based on this history, the beginning was only about 6,000 years ago.