

Think Believe

Discover Creation...Worship the Creator

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“Ida” – The New Fossil Icon

by Dave Nutting

You may have noticed the hype. Hundreds of articles have blitzed the newspapers and web, full documentary TV programs have aired, a website was developed, and a book was even published about a new fossil discovery nicknamed “Ida.” It is being hailed as “THE” missing link for humans that will be “in textbooks for the next 100 years.” Science’s online blog site (May 29, 2009) says of it, “In one remarkable week, Ida was the subject of a media blitz worthy of the winner of American Idol.”

Granted, “Ida” is a very complete and well-preserved fossil. **But** after looking beyond the exorbitant claims about Ida, **I’m not at all impressed with the actual evidence** being presented for evolution. You might say, “Of course you aren’t. You’re a creationist scientist.” True, but then, many evolutionary scientists have also been negative in their reactions to the claims regarding Ida. They have written statements that include: “exaggerated claims,” “not a link,” “data is cherry-picked,” claim is “unsupported,” “hype was not justified.” Science (May 29, 2009) actually says: “But many of the leading scientists who study primate evolution don’t think Ida lives up to her billing as a human ancestor; most think she’s a relative of lemurs instead.” Even the very title of Science’s article, “Celebrity Fossil Primate: Missing Link or Weak Link?” says a lot! An article in Science Now Daily News written by Ann

Gibbons (May 19, 2009) was entitled, “Revolutionary” Fossil Fails to Dazzle Paleontologists and brings out many shortcomings of the fossil.

Not only am I not impressed with the evidence, **neither am I impressed with the way certain people are doing science these days.** Even many evolutionists were miffed about this one. The whole media blitz was put in the same cannonball with the release of the “scientific” report about the discovery. Hence, the world was given the hype before other scientists even got to evaluate the data. In fact the promoters secretly studied the fossil for 2 years while the media blitz was being planned. Where is the all-important “peer review” or the critical analysis of the evidence of this fossil before the discovery hits the popular media and schoolbooks? To me, it looks like a big snow job.

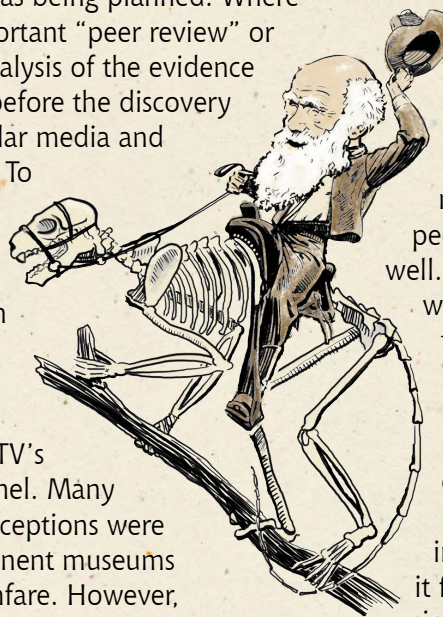
Two million people alone were snowed with the unveiling on TV’s History Channel. Many other huge receptions were held at prominent museums with great fanfare. However, the above Science blog reports, “But one group was conspicuously absent in the toasts to Ida’s success: the scientists who are the world’s experts in primate evolution. Even though they

were impressed by how complete and well-preserved the fossil primate was, many were troubled by the branding of Ida as a ‘missing link’ to humans.” (See Science Now, May 19 for some of the problems.)

So, was this media blitz a propaganda campaign staged by some of the more zealous Darwinists to shore up the failing edifice of human evolution and give the public more confidence in evolution? Just asking. However, the timing of the release to coincide with this year’s 200th B-Day celebration of Darwin along with blatantly pro-Darwinist comments seems to support that notion. One of the chief promoters of Ida as a missing link in human evolution, was quoted (see web links below) as saying, **“You need an icon or two in a museum to drag people in.”**

As such, I suspect one needs an icon or two to keep people hooked on evolution as well. Perhaps a few bare bones would suffice to keep most of the unsuspecting school kids, but I would rather have some real morsels of meat to sink my teeth into — something Ida doesn’t provide.

For more information, including what was found and what it failed to show, and for conclusions that Ida was just a variety of Lemur that perished in a catastrophic event, I suggest the websites: <http://www.icr.org/article/4642/> and <http://www.icr.org/article/4661/>. **AOI**



Monkey-Man Hybrid *by Mary Jo Nutting*

The May 2009 issue of Acts & Facts carried an article by Dr. Jerry Bergman entitled, "Human-Ape Hybridization: A Failed Attempt to Prove Darwinism." In the article, Dr. Bergman reviewed a project attempted in the mid 1920s to produce a human-ape hybrid by artificial insemination. The project was proposed by Professor Ilya Ivanov and supported by the Soviet government. According to Bergman's article, the British government and individual patrons of science in America were supportive of the project, as well as The American Association for the Advancement of Atheism. The latter's hope was that the project would offer further "proof" of human evolution, which would also advance atheistic claims against religion.

The project design reflected the prevailing theory of the day, which taught that different "races" of humans came from different primate lines. It was proposed that the "yellow race" be crossed with orangutans, the "black race" with gorillas, the "white race" with chimpanzees, and the "brachycephalic peoples (presumably Jews) with gibbons. These matches were thought to most likely

result in fertile offspring since they were thought to be the most closely related in the evolutionary chain.

So what were the results? According to the article, Ivanov completed his first experiment in French Guinea in 1924. He "first attempted to produce human male/chimpanzee female hybrids, and all three attempts failed. Ivanov also attempted to use ape males and human females to produce hybrids but was unable to complete the experiment because at least five of the women died." Bergman further states, "To achieve their research goals, the scientists used deception. For example, Ivanov attempted to 'inseminate black females with ape sperm without their consent, under the pretext of medical examination in the local hospital.'" To his credit, the French governor forbade that part of the project.

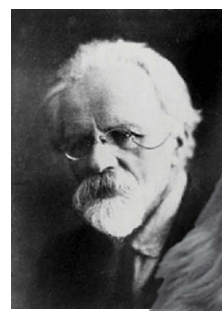
From my perspective, several things stand out from this project: (1) the extent to which some researchers will go to "prove" evolution, (2) the willingness of

some to use deception to advance their goals, (3) the recognized connection between evolution and atheism, and (4) the danger of politically supported "science."

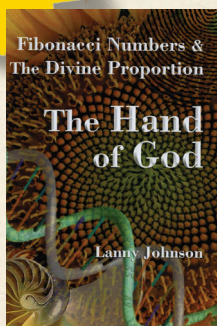
The Word of God clearly teaches that man was created distinct from the various "kinds" of animals. It also expressly forbids sexual union between mankind and animals. Even if scientists someday succeed in manipulating genes and chromosomes to produce some sort of hybrid, it would not "prove" evolution, but would demonstrate both the creativity of man (made in the image of God), and the depravity of fallen man in refusing to believe God's

Word and attempting to thwart His creative order. We believe a much better approach is the one spoken by David in Psalm 139: "I will praise thee; for I am fearfully and wonderfully made: marvellous are thy works; and that my soul knoweth right well." **AOI**

[To read Bergman's full article, see <http://www.icr.org/article/human-ape-hybridization-failed-attempt>]



**Announcing
AOI's Latest
Publication**



After seeing Lanny Johnson's presentation on "the Hand of God," many people have been asking Lanny to put his excellent material into print. Well...it is ready! After reading this booklet, you may never look at a flower or numerous other items in nature again without seeing "The Hand

The Hand of God: Fibonacci Numbers and the Divine Proportion

of God." The dominant clue is a certain pattern that shows up time after time again. The pattern follows mathematical concepts called Fibonacci numbers and the Divine Proportion. That sounds technical, but don't let that scare you! Lanny's numerous examples of these patterns, loaded with vivid color illustrations, make it fascinating. It is almost as if God has left his

fingerprint throughout His creation from living things to the universe itself.

This easy to read booklet could be the perfect tool to point your family and friends to the reality of God. (5.5 x 8.5, 32 pages.) Cost: Free when requested with any donation of \$10 or more to AOI. Extra copies are offered at \$5.00 including shipping. (Offer good until Sept 30, 2009) **AOI**

God Wants to Be Found

by Lanny Johnson

When my grandson, Thad, was about 3 years old, he had a little different way of playing "Hide and Go Seek" than I remember as a child. Thad would find a good place to hide. However, the rest of that day he would hide in the same spot – time and time again! As I entered the area in which he was hiding, I would say, "Hmm, I wonder where Thad could be?" He could not stand it. Immediately upon hearing my words, he would pop up and say, "Here I am, Papa! Here I am!" He would do that every time! The object of the game for Thad was not to hide. He wanted to be found! I think God is the same way. He is not hiding. God wants to be found. He has given us so many clues that make it quite easy to find Him, if we will only look.

The Bible is the primary way to come to know God. However, in Romans 1:20 we find even nature gives powerful evidence for the existence of God. Let me give you some examples.

In the early 13th century, Leonardo Fibonacci discovered what is now known as the Fibonacci sequence, or Fibonacci numbers: 0, 1, 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 13, 21, 34, 55, 89, 144, 233, 377, and so on. Every number in the pattern was the sum of the two that came before it.

Fibonacci numbers are widespread in nature giving powerful evidence of God's handiwork. They appear in the genealogy of a honeybee and the arrangement of many flower petals. Even the arrangement of the

leaves around the stem (phyllotaxis) of many plants follows a specific pattern. Evolution would teach that the reason we see this phyllotaxis expressed in so many plants is because their original plant DNA would have passed that information on to all "evolving" plants. However, we also see the sequence in the revolutions of the planets of our solar system. Evolution cannot explain this pattern in non-living things!

If you ignore the zero, and divide each successive Fibonacci number into the one after it you get: 1, 2, 1.5, 1.67, 1.6, 1.625, 1.6153846, 1.6190476, 1.617647, 1.6181818, 1.6179775, 1.6180555, 1.6180257, etc. After the first ratios, the answer is always close to 1.618. This is called the Divine Proportion. It is also known as the Golden Mean,

Golden Number, or Golden Ratio. It is so frequently encountered that it is actually represented by the Greek letter, Φ (phi). The existence of the Divine Proportion throughout the universe is also compelling evidence for an intelligent Designer.

For centuries, the Divine Proportion has been

seen as the standard for beauty and organization within nature, and has been used as the blueprint for great works of architecture and classic art. Although not every human being has perfect physical dimensions, measurements taken across populations tend to be at, or very close to, the Divine Proportion. These divine proportions are seen as being the most natural or beautiful.

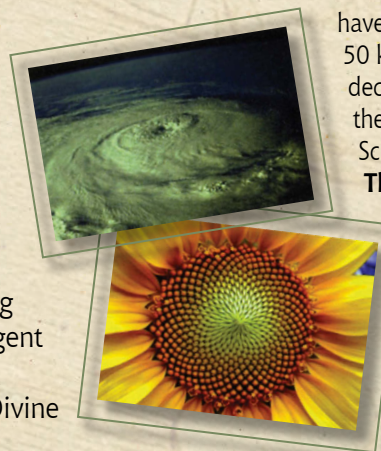
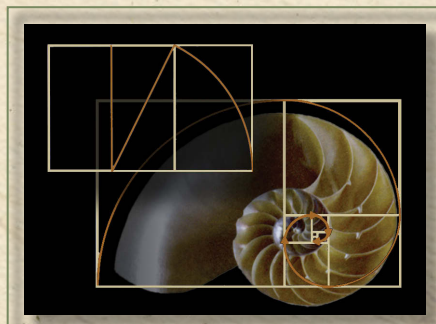
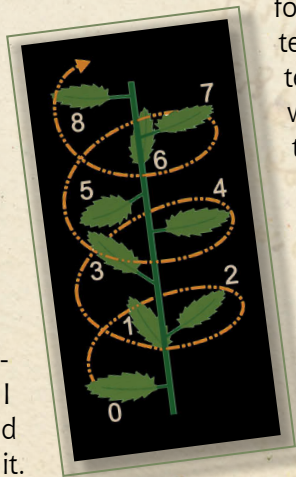
The Golden Spiral, based on the same pattern, also occurs abundantly in nature. Some might contend that the golden spiral in living things is just a product of evolution. However, once again, evolution cannot explain the same repeated phenomena in nonliving things.

Studying "the things that are made" makes it clear that God is crying out, "Find me! Here I am! Only somebody intelligent could have made this universe and everything in it! It never could have happened by the evolutionary methods of chance or accident." God's

handprint is all over creation as evidenced by Fibonacci numbers and the Divine Proportion. **AOI**

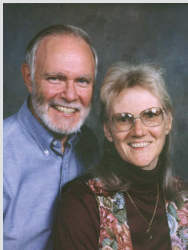
[Editors note: See the Book Review for more on this fascinating study, "The Hand of God." At this writing, the Johnsons have reported that more than 50 kids have indicated first-time decisions or re-commitments to the Lord at their Vacation Bible Schools, and it's only mid-June!

That's Good News! Please pray that these kids would follow through on their commitments and that the adults in their lives would help and encourage them to grow into faithful followers of the Lord Jesus Christ.]



Directors' Column

by Dave Nutting



Your Help is Needed!

The battle over Creation and the reliability of the Bible is really escalating. The atheistic frontline has moved out of science and into media blitzes, propaganda, and ridicule more than ever. In the last issue of T&B, I wrote about the push for greater indoctrination by attempting to prohibit classroom discussion of the weaknesses of evolution. Fortunately, that attempt in Texas failed, but we have heard of a legislative end-run attempt to achieve the same goal. We can't ignore the attack on Creation and the Bible, but we need your help!

You know that we do not inundate your mailbox with requests for funds. **However,**

silence about finances doesn't mean we have no needs. We do! Even with a tight budget, we have been digging deeply into our meager reserves. Please consider how you can help at this time and act accordingly. Both large and small gifts are needed and appreciated. Of course, large gifts get us there more quickly; however, if you can afford \$10 or \$20 at this time, don't think that it's not important. It is – and even more so if it is monthly. If enough people help, it can make a huge difference.

In appreciation for your support, we are offering a free copy of Lanny Johnson's The Hand of God booklet (when requested) with your donation of \$10 or more. Extra copies are only \$5 each and can make a real impact on your friends and family. **AOI**

Please Help AOI Spread the Truth of God's Word

- Pray for the whole AOI staff for strength, energy, boldness, and open doors to continue fighting this battle for the hearts and minds of young and old.



- Ask your church to get involved by sponsoring a Discover Creation event and by supporting the ministry of AOI.

- Contribute financially. Please don't ignore this request thinking someone else will do it. (Note the director's column above.)

Upcoming Events

N=Nutting J=Johnson S=Stepanek G=Galbraith

7/27, Manitou Springs, CO, Summit Ministries, (719) 685-9103, N
7/27-31, Ogden, UT, Pioneer Bible Camp, Steve Ransom, (801) 745-3998, J
8/ 2-7, Lake City, CO, Camp Redcloud, Gail Tompkins, N, S, G
8/3-7, East Carbon, UT, Living Water Baptist, Jodie Wells, (435) 888-4408, J
8/ 9-14, Lake City, CO, Camp Redcloud, Gail Tompkins, (970) 523-9943, N, S, G
8/11& 18, Manitou Springs, CO, Summit Ministries, (719) 685-9103, N
9/4-7, Idaho Falls, ID, Old Faithful Christian Ranch, Dave Harper, (307) 367-4661, S
9/8-10, Ft. Shaw, MT, Fort Shaw Bible Church, Kerby Jones, (406) 264-5559, S
9/12-13, Inkorn, ID, Inkorn Community Bible Church, Russ Blair, (208) 775-4420, S
9/12-19, ICR Yosemite Tour, Danielle Perez, (214) 615-8300, N
9/18-20, San Mateo, CA, Spiritual Development Weedend, Paul Esswein, (650) 342-0959, S
9/25-26, Mesa, CO, Camp Hope 5-6th Graders, Bob (970) 242-7970, N
9/27, Montrose, CO, Calvary Chapel - Montrose, Michael Shaver, (970) 240-9099, N
10/3, Montrose, CO, Calvary Chapel - Montrose, Michael Shaver, (970) 240-9099, N
10/4-5, Liberal, KS, Emmanuel Southern Baptist Church, Wyatt Carpenter, (620) 624-5952, S
10/4-6, Grand Junction, CO, Church on the Rock, (970) 242-7625, N, G
10/6-8, Ulysses, KS, Celebration Baptist Church, Kevin Ross, S
10/11-12, Tribune, KS, First Baptist Church - Tribune, Mark Randoff, (620) 376-4488, S
10/15-16, Plymouth, MN, Twin Cities Creation Society, Byron Twiss, (612) 730-9890, J
10/16, Minneapolis, MN, Redeemer School, Byron Twiss, (612) 730-9890, J
10/25, Farmington, MN, The River Community, Michael Ambrust, N
10/27-30, Minneapolis, MN, University of Minnesota, Grant Buse, (612) 644-0422, N
10/31, Minneapolis, MN, Maranatha Christian Fellowship, Grant Buse, (612) 242-8272, N
11/1, South St. Paul, MN, Miracle Center, Dr. Tom Jestus, (651) 457-4338, N
11/ 3-5, Mankato Homeschoolers, Johnathan Bislew, (612) 644-0422, N
11/ 3-5, Mankato State University, Johnathan Bislew, (612) 644-0422, N
11/7, Youth for Christ - Blue Earth, MN, Aaron Evanson, (507) 402-9388, N
11/ 8, Mankato, MN, Grace Baptist Church, Nate Johnson, (507) 388-9355, N
11/ 9-12, DeKalb, IL, Northern Illinois University, Tom May, (815) 519-5214, N

Creation Family Mountain Adventures

As we write, both weeks of our August Creation Adventures at Redcloud Ranch are full, but sometimes we get last minute cancellations. So call today if you wish to come – or to reserve your spot for next year.

Have a great summer!

Enjoy some quality time with your family this summer! Here are a few ways to fortify your family and help spread the creation message. Explore God's wonderful world together, go out and look at the stars, read a good creation book, invite some friends to watch a quality DVD. Whatever you do, make sure you talk about Creation and the Truth of God's Word!



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