

Think Believe

Discover Creation...Worship the Creator

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Education or Indoctrination?

by Dave and Mary Jo Nutting

Millions of students are back in school for another year of “education.” Will they receive true “education” or will it be another year of “indoctrination?” Will they learn reading, writing, math, true science, and explore the great literature which teaches sound moral principles? Or, will much of their time be spent on evolutionary dogma and an agenda that undermines solid Biblical teaching and destroys the faith of so many young people?

Many admirable teachers truly love kids and desire to see them grow into productive, morally responsible adults. Unfortunately, even these are usually required to use a particular curriculum, teach standardized objectives, and promote current social ideas. Sadly, many other teachers view their role as “change agents,” promoting particular agendas. Some even think they’re there to “free” their students from traditional moral standards, parental involvement, and anything consistent with Biblical teaching.

This battle is not new, but it’s been escalating greatly in recent years. Some wonder how all this heated up “so quickly.” However, the foundations of these anti-family, anti-Biblical teachings, including the indoctrination of the misused “separation of church and state,” have been slowly laid over years.

In actuality, this phrase is not found in our original founding documents. It’s found in a letter Thomas Jefferson wrote to the Danbury Baptist Association of Connecticut in 1802. The Founders didn’t want to see the establishment of a European style “State Church” even though they recognized, as John Adams wrote: “Our Constitution was made only for a moral and religious People. It is wholly inadequate to the government of any other.”

<https://constitutionallaw.regent.edu/preserving-a-constitution-designed-for-a-moral-and-religious-people/> Accessed 8/6/2023


In the early days of this nation, kids were taught to read through Bible lessons and learned multiple foreign languages. Even teens represented our country on foreign soils. How did they do so much at young ages? One reason is that the focus was **education rather than indoctrination**. Their education was based solidly on a Biblical foundation and understanding of God’s identity as the sovereign Creator of the heavens and earth. This foundation impacted science as well as all other fields of learning.

Back then, scientists, for the most part, had a Biblical and Christian worldview. Scientists saw their work as “thinking God’s thoughts

after Him.” Based on the book of Genesis, they believed in Creation, the Fall, the Flood, and the Dispersion after Babel. They viewed science as a key to understanding this physical world that God created and to fulfill the Genesis 1 mandate to “have dominion” over the physical creation.

So, what can parents and grandparents do? Homeschooled kids have many opportunities to use Christian curriculum and build a Biblical foundation. It’s also vital to maintain good communication and provide Biblically positive resources. For kids in public or “Christian” schools, it’s vitally important to talk about what they’re learning in school, from friends (even “church” friends), and online. Provide quality opportunities like Creation books, videos, camps and tours.

Most importantly, we, as mentoring adults, must model a lifestyle of seeking the Lord, and developing a personal walk with Him, Information alone is not enough. Our kids need to have a personal relationship with the Lord – to know God’s love, presence, and power – to walk in His ways.

Please let us know how we can help and support you in this awesome journey of loving and discipling **His** kids. 



Creation Conference... *by Dave Nutting*

We recently attended the International Conference on Creationism in OH. (See pg. 3.) After the conference, we visited Answers in Genesis' Creation Museum and Ark Encounter. Both are very well done and provide abundant opportunities to learn more about Science, the Bible, Creation, and the Flood. Objections are dealt with tastefully and positive answers are given for numerous "evidences" of evolution.

The Ark is BIG! This full-sized replica of the one described in Genesis 6-8 dispels the idea of a tiny boat packed with animals sticking their heads out the windows like so many kids' books display. Displays on the

Ark's 3 floors show how space may have been used, with plenty of room for stored food, cages for the animals – complete with authentic reproductions. It also showed living and working



quarters for Noah and his family. Many displays answer objections skeptics raise including how they got light and fresh water into the Ark, how Noah and his family cared for all those animals, and even how they managed animal waste.

The Ark and the Creation Museum are both great options for a creation vacation. We were very

impressed with the quality of the exhibits and the information presented. We also enjoyed the beautifully landscaped grounds. There's a small zoo, zip-lines, playgrounds, planetarium, movies, special presentations, food service, and more. Learn more at: www.ArkEncounter.com and www.CreationMuseum.com.

Also check out AOI's quality Creation Vacations to fortify your family with evidence of Creation, amazing design, and the Flood. These include faith-building Creation tours of Yellowstone, Arches, Canyonlands, Colorado National Monument, as well as other camps and tours. Also consider AOI's amazing Costa Rica Creation Tour (Feb 25-Mar 5, 2024). See www.DiscoverCreation.org/camps-tours. **AOI**

Evidence for the Bible *by Clive Anderson and Brian Edwards*

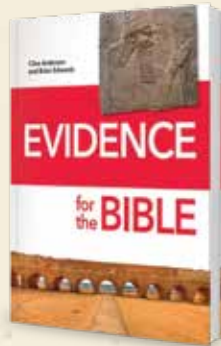
Review by Dave Nutting

I really like this easy to read, well-referenced, and beautifully illustrated book with hundreds of color photos. It would be a great conversation starter with your guests who spot it on your coffee table or for your student who is being bombarded by teachers who say you can't trust the Bible. Does archaeology support the Bible?

Yes! Directly from the introduction of **Evidence for the Bible**, the authors clearly state what the pages of this book certainly illustrate:

"One thing will become clear:

contrary to the claim of many, the records in the Bible are intended to be taken as historical fact. They are not legends or myths. Foreign rulers and kings of Israel and Judah who are featured in the Old Testament are found in the order and places that we discover from contemporary texts; battles and their outcome are exactly as we know them from inscriptions; the setting of narratives fits the period they relate to; and the details of prophetic utterances are precisely what are known to



have happened."

I invite you to take this book's chronological journey through the Bible giving page after page (one page per topic) of archaeological discoveries that authenticate Biblical events and passages. Truly, the Bible is a very accurate historical text that you can trust. (8.7 x 10.9" Hardcover, 252 pages) Special until December 31, 2023: Normally \$35, get it from AOI for \$30 + S/H. Remember, your purchase helps support the Creation Ministry of AOI. **AOI**

Creation Research Shared at the International Conference on Creationism

Years ago, we attended a lecture about the “Pseudo Science of Intelligent Design.” During the Q&A session following the lecture, one science professor said that one of the problems he had with creationists was that their work was not peer-reviewed. Dave was able to share with him that in fact, right then, there was a technical conference with peer-reviewed research in topics related to creation and evolution. The professor said, “I stand corrected. I’m glad to hear that.”

The International Conference on Creationism (ICC) is a technical scientific research conference. Scientists who want to present their research, submit technical papers of their work for peer review by other scientists. This conference has been held every 4-5 years starting in 1986. This year we were able to attend the conference hosted by Cedarville University, in Cedarville, OH.

Though many of the presentations were in areas other than our areas of expertise and went right over our heads, we were blessed by the opportunity to learn about current research, to see “old” friends, make new ones, and to be blessed by the fellowship of several hundred creationists.

Creation science has developed over the years from primarily exposing the errors of evolutionary teaching to developing a creation model, consistent with the Word of God and with sound, innovative scientific research. Here are just

a few of the speakers and topics covered at ICC this year:

- **A Progressive Global Flood Model Confirmed by Rock Data Across Five Continents**

(Tim Clarey and Davis Werner)

- **Radiohalos Through Earth History – What Clues Can They Provide Us?**

(Andrew Snelling)

- **Shoreline Transgressive Terraces: Tufa-Encrusted Landforms Indicate Rapid Filling and Failure of Hopi Lake, Western Bidahochi Basin, Northeastern Arizona**

(Steven Austin, Edmond Holroyd, Thomas Folks, and Nate Loper)

- **Developing a Comprehensive Model of Global Flood Paleontology:**

Integrating the Biostratigraphic Record with Global Megasequence Deposition (Jeffrey Tomkins and Tim Clarey)

- **Human Brain Function Above All Other and The Creation Model**

(James Johansen)

- **How Often Do Radioisotope Ages Agree?**

A Preliminary Study of 29,000 Radioisotope Ages in the USGS National Geochronological Database (Micah Beachy, Benjamin Kinard, Paul Garner)

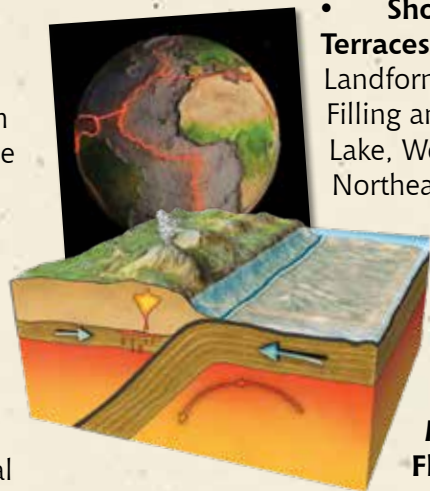
- **Genealogical vs Phylogenetic Mutation Rates:**

Answering a Challenge (Rob Carter)

- **Can Sandstone Cross-Bed Dip Inclinations Determine Depositional Environment?**

(John Whitmore)

- **Receding Noahic Flood Waters**



Led to Seafloor Spreading: A Proposed Geological Model (Harry Dickens)

- **A Rapid Ice Age and Transition to Ice Sheet Growth**

(Steven Gollmer)

- **The Role of Large Tsunamis in the Formation of the Flood Sediment Record** (John Baumgardner and Evan Navarro)
- **How Should Recent Creationists Respond to Dark Matter and Dark Energy?** (Danny Faulkner)

- **Catastrophic Plate Tectonics of Western North America** (Sarah Petersen and John Baumgardner)

- **And lots more ...**

Two afternoons were dedicated to Roundtable Discussions with a variety of presenters. Topics included:

- **Feathered Dinosaurs and Creationism**

- **Pre-Flood and Post-Flood Boundaries** (John Baumgardner, Tim Clarey, Ken Coulson, Harry Dickens, Paul Garner, Michael Oard, Marcus Ross)

- **Biogeography in the Post-Flood Landscape** (Chad Arment et. al.)

You get the idea? LOTS of technical topics! We don’t know yet if videos will be available, but ICC always publishes the proceedings. If you wish to read those let us know and we will try to update you when they are available.

Please pray for God’s leading, for funding, for wisdom and for insight to these scientists and others who

have dedicated their lives and research to the glory of God. Also, if you know students who are interested and gifted in science, please pray for them and encourage them to

get quality education and to grow in their personal relationship with the Lord. Connect them with us if they would like some help pursuing their dreams.

“Great are the works of the LORD; They are studied by all who delight in them.” (Ps. 111:2) AOI

Director's Column: Building Update and More...

by Dave Nutting



Building Remodel:

By the time you receive this, we hope the remodel of our building will

be finished! As I write, two student apartments are nearly finished and all have been painted. The final plumbing and electrical have begun, and we are finishing cabinets, countertops, and sinks. We've begun purchasing and installing appliances and furniture. It's been a long haul, with lots more delays and expenses than anticipated. We are looking forward to having these apartments finished and filled with students who want to be disciplined and mentored by AOI staff. Whether attending Colorado Mesa University, or CMU Tech, if you know of

students or young adults who would like this kind of mentoring or an internship with experienced Creation and worldview trainers, please have them contact us: 970-523-9943. (We still need funding to defray the costs of the remodel. Please help if you can.)

Creation Vacations, Camps and Tours: We have completed our summer camps and tours. If you missed them, start planning for next year! These Creation camps and tours provide excellent opportunities for you and your family to experience the wonders of God's creation and see the deficiencies of the evolutionary models. AOI's Creation camps and tours are known for FUN, Fellowship, Facts, and Food! Check out: www.DiscoverCreation.org/camps-tours to learn more. If you don't see one that fits your needs, contact us about a potential *custom camp* for your family or group.

Creation Seminars and Online Events: AOI's creation seminars are known for being well-researched, **understandable**, and well-illustrated. We aim to keep our programs fast-paced and accessible to kids, youth, and adults. We strive to be Biblically focused and scientifically accurate, with the purpose of educating and equipping you and your family to stand firm on the Word of God and answer questions from skeptics. To schedule a seminar in your area contact AOI: 970-523-9943.

In addition to live in-person seminars, kids' programs, camps, and tours, AOI provides various online learning opportunities including short workshops and on-going classes. Please check out upcoming events at www.DiscoverCreation.org – or contact us for ideas for topics you'd like us to cover in the future. **AOI**

Costa Rica Creation Adventure

February 25 – March 5, 2024



Creation vs Evolution Crash Class

Free

Mary Jo & Dave have begun to offer a repeated version of this Zoom class. Why? Because students are getting blasted by evolution and other anti-God philosophies. This crash class is meant to fortify them with answers to tough questions. We will repeat this class often in hopes that those who have received the information will get their friends involved in the next session, who will get *their* friends involved, who will...The next Crash Classes will be Oct.3-5 and Nov.7-9. Email: AOI@discovercreation.org and express your interest. **AOI**



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