

Geology and Fossils: Evidence of Creation

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The debate over the origins of the universe has been raging for over a century. The theory of creation by God was the widely accepted theory until the 1800's. Simply stated, creationists believe the Bible is the word of God and gives an accurate history of how the universe came into existence. This belief includes the account of the flood that destroyed all life on earth with the exception of the occupants of Noah's ark. Creationists believe the geologic structure of the earth proves their beliefs. Then, in the late 1800's, a new theory was introduced, known as evolution, or uniformitarianism. The uniformitarian credo states that the present is the key to the past and all things continue as they have been since the beginning. This theory states that the universe is billions of years old and that all life evolved from simple, one-celled organisms that arose, by an unknown process, from non-living matter. It also states that the layers of the earth were gradually laid down in a uniform manner, made up of products of erosion and the carcasses of dead plants and animals. However, contrary to evolutionist claims, physical evidence shows that the earth is too young for evolution to have occurred.

Evolutionists rely on a diagram called the geologic column to determine the age of the earth. The column is supposed to represent the layers of the earth, which were purportedly laid down very gradually and uniformly. The layers are assigned ages based on the fossils that are found in them. They use the age they believe the fossil to be to assign a date to a particular layer, or stratum, of the earth. If there is a large number of the same kind of fossil in a certain layer, scientists call this fossil an index fossil. Index fossils are then used to date strata around the world. Fossils would be a very good means of identifying different ages if there were only certain creatures in existence at the different ages (Morris, 2006). However, no one was there to make that observation. In addition, there are many different species in the world today, including

the simple, one-celled organisms that evolutionists say life started with. A more reasonable assumption is that they were all present in the past, just as they are all present today. Fossils are assigned an age based solely on the assumption that evolution occurred. Dr. Henry Morris states:

The use of fossils as time-markers thus depends completely on their record of evolution.

But, then, how do we know that evolution is true? Why, because of the fossil record! So the only proof of evolution is based on the assumption of evolution! The system of evolution arranges the fossils, the fossils date the rocks, and the resulting system of fossil-dated rocks proves evolution. Around and around we go. (2006)

Scientists have other methods of dating rocks. However, they are flawed. For example, radiometric dating is a common method in which a rock's radioactive isotopes are measured. Scientists look at the ratio between uranium and lead, for example. The uranium is called a "parent" component. The lead is called a "daughter" component. Over time, the parent component gradually changes into the daughter component. The proportions of the two isotopes are used to determine the age of a rock. This age is usually in the millions of years. However, again, this method is based on assumption. No one can know what the chemical make up of any rock was when it was formed, because no one alive today was there at the time when the rock was formed. One must assume that there was no daughter component present in the initial composition of the rock. Scientists must also assume that the rock was in a closed environment, meaning that it was not subject to any outside influences that may have affected its isotope levels. Finally, it assumes a steady decay rate (Morris, 1974). In the example of uranium, its decay rate cannot be verified since no one was around to monitor it for millions of years. Scientists have only been measuring the isotope levels in rocks for a century. They assume that the same conditions have existed for millions of years (Morris, 1974).

Creationists believe the earth is approximately 6,000 years old. The geologic evidence is very easily explained by looking in the Bible. According to the Bible, God created the earth and everything on it in six days. Then, when mankind became too evil for God to tolerate, He created a flood of epic proportions in order to destroy all living things, with the exception of Noah, his family, and a pair of every kind of animal on earth. The flood was so vast that it covered the entire planet, over all the high hills that then existed. It rained for forty days and nights; a driving, torrential downpour. In addition, the Bible says the fountains of the deep were broken open. The great fields of hardened lava throughout the world indicate that there was volcanic activity on a scale never seen before or since, with huge amounts of lava pouring out. According to the Bible, there were vast stores of water contained deep under ground. The volcanic action broke these open and the water gushed out. The flood, with its volcanic activity, tidal waves, currents, and driving rains would have accomplished a vast amount of geologic work in a very short time. There was erosion and sedimentary action all over the world on a massive scale. The emptying of enormous underground reservoirs, both of water and lava, allowed the weight of the water to force the earth's crust downward, creating deep ocean basins. Simultaneously, the adjacent, still soft sediments were squeezed upward into the great mountain ranges. The result was smaller land masses that were now separated by great oceans of water. As the waters receded off the land, the sediment was laid down quickly in fairly uniform layers.

The flood created the ideal conditions for the fossilization of the plants and animals killed in the flood. A creature needs some unique conditions to become a fossil. It needs to be buried quickly to prevent decay. Then it needs to remain undisturbed during the fossilization process (Morris, 2006). Fossils are only found in sedimentary rocks. Sedimentary rocks are formed when water erodes the land. The eroded materials are carried away by the running water and deposited



in a new location. Then it eventually hardens into sedimentary rock (Whitcomb & Morris, 1961). As the sediment from the flood settled into its new locations, it buried millions of plants and animals that died in the flood. Then the sediment hardened into rock, encasing the carcasses and eventually fossilizing them. This is the most logical explanation for the multitude of fossils that have been discovered. This is also the reason fossils are found in the order they are in the geologic column. The simple marine organisms are found at the deepest levels because that is where they lived. They had fairly low mobility and would have died quickly in the raging flood waters. Reptiles were buried higher up due to their habitat and because they would have had a hard time escaping from rapidly rising waters. The mammals are found at the highest elevations because they tried to escape the rising flood waters. The fossil record testifies to a catastrophic event, not evolution.

The Noachian flood changed the world in drastic ways. Prior to the flood, there was a tropical climate in all parts of the world (Morris, 1974). This is evidenced by the discoveries of giant palm leaves and alligator fossils in Wyoming, in what is now a cold, snowy area. Furthermore, fossils of tropical plants are found in polar regions. The land masses were also much larger and probably connected by land bridges. The creatures of the land could have roamed freely from place to place in the pre-flood climate. After the flood waters receded, the oceans were much larger and now cover much of the land that existed before the flood.

Massive fossil graveyards are another indicator of a once worldwide tropical climate. These graveyards contain fossils of creatures that now live very far from each other. For example, in Maryland, there is a cave known as the Cumberland Bone Cave. There are fossils of dozens of species contained within this cave. There are bats and elephants, wolverines and antelopes, grizzly bears, beavers, coyotes, rabbits, muskrats, and several others. These animals

are now found in different parts of the earth, yet they all ended up in one cave. There are many huge fossil beds around the world. There are huge beds of elephant bones in Siberia, a large area filled with amphibian fossils in Texas, enormous beds of hippopotamuses in Sicily, and many more (Morris, 1974). These fossil beds indicate that all creatures were able to roam freely throughout the entire world. The existence of these graveyards is also a violation of the doctrine of uniformitarianism and is powerful evidence for a world destroying flood. Mass burial and fossilization has never been observed, except by Noah.

Evolutionists have been searching for years for the so-called “missing links”, also known as transitional forms. Transitional forms are fossils of creatures that are partly evolved from one species into another, such as a creature that is part bird and part reptile. With the number of fossils found, one would expect to find many transitional forms in the fossil record. That is not the case. There have only been a few questionable missing links discovered over the years. One famous example is a fossil named *archaeopteryx*. Archaeologists have long claimed that *archaeopteryx* is the oldest bird-like creature, a transitional form between bird and reptile. They base their claims on the fact that *archaeopteryx* had claws at the end of its wings, had teeth, and what looked like a reptilian tail. However, these features do not make it a transitional form. There are birds today that have claws at their wingtips. It is not surprising that it had teeth. In every other class of vertebrates, there are species that have teeth and species that don't. Furthermore, reptilian teeth and the teeth found on *archaeopteryx* are distinctly different (Gish, 2006). As for the tail, it's remarkably similar to the tail of a swan. A final blow was dealt to the claim of *archaeopteryx* as a transitional form with the discovery of a bird-like fossil that geologists dated to be 75 million years older than *archaeopteryx* (Gish, 2006). If evolution was factual, that fossil should have been even more lizard-like than *archaeopteryx* is touted to be.

However, the opposite is true. That fossil is almost identical to birds in present times.

Archaeopteryx is nothing more than an extinct species.

“Lucy” is another example of an alleged missing link. Fossilized remains of small, ape-like creatures were discovered in Ethiopia. Evolutionists classified the remains, called australopithecines, as a transitional form between apes and humans based on the fact that the teeth were somewhat more human looking than those found in modern apes. Teeth and pieces of jaw are the most frequently discovered fossils of primates because they are comprised of very hard substances. As a result, a lot of the evidence that evolutionists use to prove humans evolved from apes is based on teeth similarities (Menton, 2005). Apes molars are usually smaller than their incisors and canines and usually have thin enamel. Human teeth have thicker enamel and their molars are the largest in their mouths. Evolutionists are quick to declare a fossilized ape tooth to be a human ancestor based on these characteristics (Menton, 2005). However, there are living species of apes that exhibit these same tooth characteristics. Some baboons have small canines and incisors and larger molars, and orangutans have thick enamel. No one suggests that they are ancestors of man. The characteristics of their teeth depend upon their diet (Menton, 2005). “Lucy” and the other australopithecines were dated to be about 3.8 million years old.

Then, fossils were discovered in Tanzania that evolutionists claimed were more advanced than the australopithecines. Evolutionists believed they could make simple tools and classified them in the same genus as man (Gish, 2006). They were called *Homo habilis*, (*H. habilis*). They were dated to be about 2 million years younger than Lucy. The fossils were, however, very similar, and many paleontologists believe they are simply variants of the same creature. A few years later, the fossilized remains of a boy believed to be about twelve years old were discovered in Kenya. This boy had a skeleton that was essentially the same as modern man. However,



evolutionary dating methods put the age of the fossils at 1.6 million years old (Gish, 2006). This posed a problem for evolutionists, because they believed *Homo sapiens*, (humans), hadn't evolved for another 1.5 million years. So, even though his skeleton was remarkably similar to modern men, they were forced to classify him as *Homo erectus*, a sub-human species, or admit there were major problems with their theory and dating methods (Gish, 2006). So, according to evolutionists, the australopithecines appeared about 3.8 million years ago. Over the next 2 million years, they remained basically unchanged from australopithecines to *H. habilis*. Then, in the next 200,000 years, their skeleton abruptly changed from a creature of short stature with long arms and long, curved fingers and toes into a creature with a skeleton essentially the same as modern man (Gish, 2006). Both the australopithecines and the *H. habilis* creatures were a type of ape, not human ancestors. Carl O. Dunbar, a former professor at Yale and an author of several books on historical geology, states:

The only chronometric scale applicable in geologic history for the stratigraphic classification of rocks and for dating geologic events exactly is furnished by the fossils. Although the comparative study of living animals and plants may give very convincing circumstantial evidence, fossils provide the only historical documentary evidence that life has evolved from simpler to more complex forms (1949).

According to this respected professor, the fossils are the only evidence of evolution. Yet there are no convincing transitional forms to support evolution. Every family of creatures seen today is represented in the fossil record, as well as many extinct creatures. Their fossils are the same as what is seen today. Yet these fossils are dated to be millions of years old.

Upside down geologic columns are another tricky point for evolutionists. An upside down column occurs when the order that evolutionists think fossils should be in is reversed and



the “older” fossils are on top. The Matterhorn is a good example of this. By evolutionary geology, the mountain is old, and the rocks it rests on are young. This type of upside down geologic column is found all over the world. Evolutionists use the theory of thrust fault to explain this. They say that the rocks were originally lying flat and connected to each other. Then they were suddenly separated by a vertical or sloping fault. The rocks on one side of the fault was thrust higher than the other side and then slid over on top of the other half. Eventually the top layers eroded, leaving only the older rocks on top of the younger ones. Since the uniformitarian theory limits itself to geologic processes observable in action today, the thrust theory is an invalid argument. Thrusting is not happening in the present time (Whitcomb & Morris, 1961). There is no plausible explanation for upside down geologic columns, other than the flood. The flood killed many creatures and some of them would have been swept to different elevations by the currents. This explains how fossils of seashells and fish could be found on mountaintops.

The scientific community believes itself to be enlightened and considers believers of creation to be idiots with their heads in the sand, refusing to believe the “proof” they offer. They frequently ridicule creationists. It is interesting to note that they are fulfilling a Biblical prophecy with their actions. In 2 Peter 3: 3-7, it states:

Knowing this first, that there shall come in the last days, scoffers, walking after their own lusts, and saying, Where is the promise of His coming? For since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as from the beginning of the creation. For this they willingly are ignorant of, that by the word of God the heavens were of old, and the earth standing out of the water and in the water: Whereby the world that then was, being overflowed with water, perished.

The Bible makes it clear that men will willingly be ignorant of the truth of God's word. They will scoff at believers. They will say that all things continue as they always have been. That is the credo of evolutionists. The prophecy is being fulfilled.

Evolution relies on assumptions and flawed dating methods. Geologic evidence is twisted and forced to fit this theory. The belief of creation and a global flood is based on the Bible. The Bible has been around for centuries. It has stood the test of time. It provides an eyewitness account for the beginning of the world and the flood. The geology of the earth fits neatly into this account. Fossils were created by the Biblical flood. They cannot be millions of years old. All the evidence points to creation, yet evolutionists are willingly ignorant of the truth.

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