

STUDY GUIDE

NOTES

Many people believe fossils and/or fossil-bearing layers were formed over millions of years ... but is this true? Or are many of the 'billions of dead things buried in rock layers laid down by water all over the Earth' the result of the Flood of Noah's day, which occurred just a few thousand years ago?

1. Expected results from a globe-covering Flood (as found in Genesis 6–9):
 - a. Billions of dead things buried in rock layers laid down by water all over the Earth (i.e. fossils).
 - b. Unknown location of Garden of Eden, as it would have been destroyed in the Flood. Further, present day Tigris and Euphrates rivers sit on thousands of feet of fossil-bearing sediments, indicating these rivers must have formed *after* sin (and its consequence, death) entered the world.
 - c. Fossils recording death, disease, suffering, violence (results of the Fall).
 - d. Names of pre-Flood places carried into 'new world' by Noah and his family.
 - e. Rainbow reminds us of God's promise never again to send a global Flood.
2. Indicators of a 'young' world, supporting the Biblical framework:
 - a. Mt St Helens exploded on May 18, 1980. As a result, catastrophic processes over the next few months occurred, resulting in hundreds of feet of sedimentary layers being laid down. In one instance, over 25 feet of finely-laminated sediments formed within three hours, indicating the power the 'fountains of the great deep' may have had on a much larger scale to form rock layers quickly.
 - b. Dead animals left alone will rot or be consumed by scavengers. Fossilization requires rapid, catastrophic events.
 - c. Ham found petrified in New Zealand a few years after volcanic

C O N T I N U E D . . .

STUDY GUIDE

eruption, indicating fossilization occurs rapidly.

- d. Dinosaur bones found on the North Slope of Alaska that are not permineralized.
- e. Red blood cells found in dinosaur bones.
- f. Opals grown in a laboratory in only months that are indistinguishable under an electron microscope from mined opals.
- g. Diamonds, oil and coal made in a laboratory in short time periods.
- h. Stalactites, stalagmites observed to form quickly.
- i. Coral reefs observed to form quickly.

CONCLUSION

The Pathfinder Mission found supposed evidence of a flood of 'Biblical proportions' on Mars, yet no liquid water has been found on the Red Planet. The Earth is 70% covered with liquid water, yet many deny there was ever a global Flood. Why is this? 2 Peter 3:5,6 indicates people deliberately deny the global Flood as described in the Bible ever occurred. They wrongly interpret evidence of an Earth-covering Flood, because the Apostle Peter and Christ Himself (Luke 17:26–27) clearly link the history of God's past judgment on sin with the certainty of future judgment. Fossils, rather than being a record of 'millions of years' of Earth history, testify instead to the judgment sent by God on man's disobedience. Just as the Ark provided salvation for Noah and his family, so Jesus Christ today provides salvation for all those who believe on Him (Acts 4:12). Which do you trust to tell the truth about the past and about eternal life...the infallible Word of God or the fallible words of man?

NOTES

Q U O T E S

Philip J Currie & Eva B Koppelhus, *101 Questions about Dinosaurs*, Dover Publications, 1996, pp. 11, 12.

'Fossilization is a process that can take anything from a few hours to millions of years...

The amount of time that it takes for a bone to become completely permineralized is highly variable. If the groundwater is heavily laden with minerals in solution, the process can happen rapidly. Modern bones that fall into mineral springs can become permineralized within a matter of weeks.

'Bones do not have to be "turned into stone" to be fossils, and usually most of the original bone is still present in a dinosaur fossil.

'A more spectacular example was found on the North Slope of Alaska, where many thousands of bones lack any significant degree of permineralization. The bones look and feel like old cow bones, and the discoverers of the site did not report it for twenty years because they assumed they were bison, not dinosaur, bones.'

Mary Schweitzer & Tracy Staedter, 'The Real Jurassic Park,' *Earth*, June 1997, pp. 55-57.

'A thin slice of *T. rex* bone glowed amber beneath the lens of my microscope. Blood vessel channels snaked through a bone matrix, and tiny chambers known as lacunae, which house bone-forming cells, appeared as small ovals.... The lab filled with murmurs of amazement, for I had focused on something inside the vessels that none of us had ever noticed before: tiny round objects, translucent red with a dark center....

'Then a colleague took one look at them and shouted, "You've got red blood cells. You've got red blood cells!"...Finding remains of dinosaur blood cells would have astounding implications....

Dr Ralph Molnar (paleontologist for the Queensland Museum speaking on *Megalania*, a large extinct lizard), 'Into the Unknown,' Discovery Channel, 21 October 1997.

'One of the things that we have is a part of the hip bone or pelvis. Now this specimen actually looks like it had come from an animal that looks like it died two or three hundred years ago. All dry, chalky, this sort of thing. Doesn't actually mean it died two or three hundred years ago. In Montana, I've seen dinosaur bones that look like they've come from animals that died two or three hundred years ago, and I know very well that they died much longer than that. It gives the suggestion that *Megalania* may have been alive fairly recently.'

Marilyn Taylor, 'Descent,' *Arizona Highways*, January 1993, p. 11.

'Geologists don't know how long cave development takes. And, while some believe that cave decorations such as S.P. Caves beautiful icicle-looking stalactites take years to form, Jerry Trout (cave specialist with the Forest Service) says that through photo-monitoring, he has watched a stalactite grow several inches in a matter of days.'

Jerry Trout (cave specialist with the Forest Service), 'Descent,' *Arizona Highways*, January 1993, pp. 10-11.

'From 1924 to 1988, there was a visitor's sign above the entrance to Carlsbad Caverns that said Carlsbad was at least 260 million years old. In 1988, the sign was changed to read 7 to 10 million years old. Then, for a little while, the sign read that it was 2 million years old. Now the sign is gone.'

