

The New
Answers
Book 2

**Study Guide
&
Workbook**



answersingenesis.org

believing it. defending it. proclaiming it.

Answers for this study guide may be found online at
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First Printing: August 2008

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Printed in the United States of America

www.answersingenesis.org

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Introduction

1. Describe how thinking about morality has shifted since America's founding.

2. How can the culture war be fought using Scripture?

1

Can Natural Processes Explain the Origin of Life?

1. Identify the objective of the Miller experiment.
2. Explain the oxygen paradox with respect to the naturalistic origin of life.
3. Explain why proteins could not have formed in the primordial oceans.

4. Describe the handedness (chirality) problem encountered in assembling proteins in a naturalistic scenario.

5. Describe the origin of information in all known systems and why this prohibits the origin of life by naturalistic processes.

6. Explain how the laws of probability disprove the naturalistic origin of life hypothesis.

2

Are Mutations Part of the “Engine” of Evolution?

1. Describe how DNA stores information in the nucleotide sequence of A, C, T, and G.
2. Identify the five basic forms of mutations and the outcome of each in terms of information content. Give an example of each using the sequence ACTGAGCAGTAG.
3. How are proteins, DNA, and amino acids related?
4. Describe key differences between the evolutionary and biblical views on mutations and their role in life.

3

Did Humans Really Evolve from Ape-like Creatures?

1. How do the starting assumptions of evolutionists and Bible-believing Christians influence their understanding of the relationship between apes and humans?
2. Use an analogy to describe the proportion of hominid fossils in the fossil record.
3. Discuss the major differences in anatomy between apes and humans.

4

Does the Bible Say Anything about Astronomy?

1. Identify instances in the Scriptures that predate recent scientific understanding of the nature of the universe.
2. What do the recession of the moon, magnetic fields, spiral galaxies, and comets show us about the universe?
3. How would you argue for the position that the universe was supernaturally created?

5

Does the Big Bang Fit with the Bible?

1. Give a brief summary of what happened in the big bang.
2. Identify three inconsistencies that are exposed when people try to fit the big bang into the Bible.
3. In your own words, describe at least three scientific problems with the big bang.
4. Scientific theories are constantly reworked or rejected as new information comes to light. If secular scientists reject the big bang model in the future, what might be the reaction of a believer who insists that God used the big bang to create the universe?

6

Where Did the Idea of “Millions of Years” Come From?

1. Explain how looking at a road cut could be used to demonstrate the principle of superposition originally described by Niels Steno.
2. Describe the dominant view of the origin of the geologic layers prior to 1800.
3. Distinguish between the catastrophist and the uniformitarian views of geology popular in the 1800s.

7

What's Wrong with Progressive Creation?

1. List at least four ways that progressive creation is distinct from biblical creation.
2. Explain how the days of creation in Genesis 1 are twisted by progressive creationists to blend with the big bang.
3. How would you respond to a friend who referred to what we see in nature as the sixty-seventh book of the Bible?

4. How does Dr. Ross's use of the words "universal" and "worldwide" mislead people?
5. Why is it necessary for progressive creationists to talk about spiritless hominids? What are they?
6. What passage(s) would you use to show someone that the Flood covered the entire surface of the earth?

8

Is the Intelligent Design Movement Christian?

1. How does William Paley fit into the discussion of ID?
2. Use the 3-step explanatory filter to evaluate:
 - a. The human eye
 - b. A telephone
 - c. Paintings found in a cave

3. If an individual is “converted” to believe in intelligent design, which maker/designer would he or she honor?

4. Describe some of the positive and negative aspects of the ID movement from a biblical perspective.

5. Romans 1:20 makes it clear that nature reveals some of the attributes of God as the Creator. Is the knowledge gained by studying nature, and only nature, enough to bring an individual to salvation in Jesus Christ?

6. Review the FAQ section of the Discovery Institute’s Center for Science and Culture (www.discovery.org/csc/topQuestions.php) and read the answer to the question, is Discovery Institute a religious organization? How would you respond to a person who claims that the ID movement is just a cover to promote Christianity?

9

Can Creationists Be “Real” Scientists?

1. What does the National Academy of Sciences view as the key to understanding biology and the world around us?
2. How does the answer to the question above relate to the real-life experiences and confessions of medical researchers?
3. Discuss the difference between scientific interpretation of historical events and the scientific development of technology and processes.

4. Give some examples of “real” scientists who trust(ed) the Bible to help them understand science. The next time someone claims that “no real scientists believe the Bible is true” you could use these as examples.

5. Which statement do you believe is more accurate? Explain.
 - a. Science is only possible because of God.

 - b. God can be proven through science.

10

How Should a Christian Respond to “Gay Marriage”?

1. What Bible verse gives the answer to the question, “Where did Cain get his wife?” In one sentence, answer the question.
2. What is the fundamental question Christians should ask skeptics when discussing morality?
3. Look up the definition for the philosophy of pragmatism. What is the source of truth for a pragmatist? Can you identify any areas where you (or others) have based arguments concerning social issues on the results rather than on biblical principles?
4. What danger lies in dealing with social issues from a pragmatic approach?

5. If homosexual marriage is allowed by “majority vote,” what other types of relationships might also be allowed in the future?

6. According to the following Bible passages, what is the biblical view of gay marriage?
 - a. Genesis 2:18–25

 - b. Leviticus 18:22

 - c. Mark 10:6

 - d. Romans 1:26–27

 - e. 1 Corinthians 6:9–10

 - f. 1 Timothy 1:9–10

7. How does the study of genetics relate to the gay marriage issue?

8. What is the biblical solution to the gay marriage issue?

11

What's the Best “Proof” of Creation?

1. Support or refute the claim, “The facts speak for themselves!”
2. What is a presupposition? Who has presuppositions?
3. Develop an analogy for agreeing to a debate without using the Bible.
4. Pick a topic of interest that is related to scriptural authority or creation/evolution. Write a fictitious dialog between yourself and a skeptic of the issue using the Bible and any other relevant evidence.

12

What Is a Biblical Worldview?

1. Summarize each of the 7 C's in your own words.
2. How could you personally use the 7 C's framework in witnessing to the unsaved?
3. How could you personally use the 7 C's framework in discipling or teaching other Christians?
4. Which of the 7 C's would you use to explain the following situations from a biblical perspective?
 - a. Layers of sedimentary rock in a stream bed

- b. The birth of a mule
- c. Thistles growing along the roadside
- d. A manger scene outside of a church
- e. An evangelistic crusade at a local arena
- f. A rainbow after a storm

- g. Walking through a shopping center and hearing several different languages being spoken

- h. The beauty of a star-filled sky

- i. A nature program showing lions hunting zebra

- j. A disobedient child

13

Did People Like Adam and Noah Really Live Over 900 Years of Age?

1. After which historical event did the longevity of humans begin to decline?
2. Research the biological causes of aging. Prepare a small brochure or chart that communicates the information.
3. What is a genetic bottleneck? What two biblical events have produced this effect?

4. Explain why we might say that “most of the organs in the body of a 90-year-old man are perhaps no older than those of a child.”
5. Write a short essay about whether you believe science will ever be able to offer eternal life for humans. Defend your position with biblical and other resources.

14

Are Biblical Creationists Divisive?

1. Based on the Bible, how should we determine who is the divisive person in a dispute? What Scriptures support this view?
2. What divisive doctrine(s) entered the church about two hundred years ago?
3. During a discussion someone claims, “Jesus would not teach us to be divided over religious ideas!” How would you respond?
4. What guidance for dealing with divisive individuals do we find in Titus?
5. How does the biblical explanation of unity differ from what is often heard among those in the evangelical community?

15

Why 66?

1. Why do we refer to the 66 books of the Bible as the canon of Scripture?
2. What evidence supports the exclusion of the Apocrypha as part of the Bible?
3. Why are the Dead Sea Scrolls significant in a discussion of biblical authority?
4. Research the Dead Sea Scrolls to understand how they play an important role in the textual criticism of the Old Testament.

5. What is the difference between the Pentateuch, the Apocrypha, and the Septuagint?

6. How soon was the New Testament recognized, and who named it such?

7. In your own words, describe some of the reasons the canon of Scripture was not formalized quickly.

8. What criteria were used by the early church to decide which books belonged in the canon?

9. What is the ultimate reason behind the Bible being compiled in the way that it has been?

16

What Was the Christmas Star?

1. Describe some of the physical explanations that have been proposed to explain the star.
2. Does the Christmas star need to be explained by a natural phenomenon? Explain.
3. How is Daniel possibly connected to the magi and the star?
4. Think of the movies or other dramatic presentations of the Christmas account that you have seen in the past. What unbiblical ideas or misconceptions were presented about the star and the magi?

17

Is Jesus God?

1. How do the names used for God and Jesus in both the Old and New Testaments demonstrate the deity of Jesus?
2. Jesus was worshipped by many while on earth. If Jesus were actually an angel, as claimed by some religions, would He have allowed this worship? Use references from the Bible to support your position.
3. How does the doctrine of the Trinity require that Jesus is God?
4. Pick two of the objections from the chapter and respond to them in your own words.

18

Are There Gaps in the Genesis Genealogies?

1. Why is there a conflict between the genealogies in the Bible and secular history?
2. How has the above conflict impacted the church?
3. Pick three of the six arguments and summarize their answers in your own words.
4. How do some creationists try to expand the age of the earth to 10,000 years by using the genealogies?
5. How do the Hebrew words used to indicate relatives in the genealogies get translated into English? What problem does this create?

19

How Old Is the Earth?

1. Write a brief description of how the biblical age of the earth is determined.
2. What is the general range for the age of the earth when the Bible is used for the calculation?
3. Who introduced the idea of long ages into the study of the earth's history?
4. How has the secular view of the age of the earth changed over time compared to the biblical age?
5. Are radiometric dating techniques the only uniformitarian methods that set a limit on the age of the earth? How do the ages determined from the other methods compare to the 4.5 billion year age of the earth?

20

Information: Evidence for a Creator?

1. Describe the philosophy of materialism without using any negative words (non-, anti-, reject, not, etc.).

2. Identify each of the following items as material or nonmaterial:
 - a. Water

 - b. Logic

c. Light

d. Space

e. Thoughts

f. Emotions

g. Sound

3. How could you demonstrate to someone that information is not part of the material universe?

4. Based on the Universal Definition of Information (UDI), does the Bible contain information? Support your position.

5. Look around the room you are in. Identify two things that clearly meet the UDI standard and two things that are organized, but do not meet the standard.

6. Why is matter necessary to transfer information?

7. How can the existence of information be used to prove evolution false?

21

Is Evolution a Religion?

1. What is the best evidence for the existence of people who lived in the past?
2. How is observational science related to understanding history?
3. Why are descriptions of the origin of life on earth actually unscientific?

4. Compare the documentation for the evolutionary and biblical explanations of the origin and history of life on earth.

5. Look up the definition of religion and explain why atheism and evolution fit the definition.

6. Why does evolution appeal to so many as a religious belief?

22

Is the Bible Enough?

1. How have recent movies, books, and “documentaries” about the Bible worked to undermine the authority of Scripture?
2. What consistency tests does the Apocrypha fail to meet?
3. When *extrabiblical* is used to refer to a book, what is meant?

4. How is gnosticism related to the discussion of extrabiblical writings? What did the Gnostics teach?

5. Cite some examples from gnostic writings that are clearly blasphemous and contrary to Scripture.

6. How do the Mormons and Jehovah's Witnesses view the authority of the Bible?

7. What passages from Scripture would you use to demonstrate the authority of the Word?

23

Aren't Millions of Years Required for Geological Processes?

1. How does the uniformitarian philosophy view the relationship between the present and the past?

2. What assumption do most people make about the formation of sedimentary rocks? What do observations tell us about their formation?

3. What evidence can be used to support the claim that layered rocks can form rapidly?

4. Research the history of the understanding of the flood that carved the Channeled Scabland region of Washington. How has the view of uniformitarian scientists changed?

5. What conditions are required to form fossils?

6. What is the secular view of the formation of deposits like coal, salts, and reefs?

7. What shift appears to be happening in the community of secular geologists?

24

Doesn't Egyptian Chronology Prove That the Bible Is Unreliable?

1. Why is it incorrect to add the length of the reign of the Egyptian pharaohs together to determine the length of the Egyptian dynasties?
2. What types of discrepancies are used to evaluate the authenticity of any history? What should be used as the ultimate standard?
3. What type of Flood would have to be described in Genesis if the pyramids are older than the biblical date of the Flood (2348 BC)? What other problems does the idea of a local flood create?
4. By starting from the Bible, what has been the conclusion of the revised chronology of Egypt?

25

What about Satan and the Origin of Evil?

1. What other names does the Bible use for Satan?
2. Is it biblical to call Satan an angel?
3. Summarize the biblical argument that identifies when Satan was created. What passages of Scripture are useful in the argument?
4. Is it possible, from a biblical perspective, that Satan fell before the end of Day Six of Creation Week?

5. According to the Bible, does Satan cause us to sin? Does God cause us to sin?
6. What is the role of Satan after the final judgment?
7. Where will you be after the final judgment? Explain.

26

Why Is the Scopes Trial Significant?

1. Who were the parties involved in the Scopes trial?
2. What was the essence of the Butler Act?
3. Compare the intentions of Darrow and Bryan for participating in the trials (according to their memoirs).
4. When Bryan was on the stand during the trial, how did Darrow discredit the Bible?

27

Isn't the Bible Full of Contradictions?

1. Explain the Law of Noncontradiction in your own words.
2. What does Psalm 119:160 suggest about the truth of Scripture?
3. Which copies of the Bible would contain no errors?
4. What makes contradictions based on “scientific” reasoning invalid?
5. Why is the context of a verse or phrase important when considering alleged contradictions?

6. Why might it be beneficial to look at many different translations of the Bible to understand an alleged contradiction?

7. What is the result of understanding Scripture (or any text for that matter) if we do not accept that the meanings of words change over time?

8. Is it possible that errors could be introduced into the Bible as it is copied? Does this mean that the Bible contains errors?

28

Was the Dispersion at Babel a Real Event?

1. How does mentioning Peleg in Genesis 10:25 and by the historian Josephus help establish a date for the dispersion of people groups at Babel?
2. What structural evidence found around the world supports the claim that the Tower of Babel was likely a pyramidal structure?
3. How do the names found in the genealogies of different nations around the world compare to the names of the post-Flood generations?
4. What names used around the world today (for regions, people, or languages) reflect names found in the Bible?
5. What is a language family and how does it relate to the events at Babel?

29

When Does Life Begin?

1. Identify the three basic positions that describe when life begins.
2. Summarize the basic process of human development in the womb.
3. Why is important to define the terms fertilization and conception when discussing when life begins?

4. Pick three of the “scientific” views on the beginning of life and explain them in your own words. Why does each of these arguments fail?
5. If science fails in providing a clear answer, what source or authority can we use to answer the question?
6. How does the Bible describe those in the womb?
7. What social/medical issues are related to understanding when life begins?

30

Do Creationist Believe in “Weird” Physics like Relativity, Quantum Mechanics, and String Theory?

1. Describe the marks of “good science.”
2. Does the scientific method prove things to be true? Explain.
3. How did the “truth” of Newtonian physics change over time?
4. How did Einstein’s theories change the understanding of space and time?
5. How does the evidence for string theory compare to the evidence for quantum mechanics and relativity?

31

Doesn't the Order of Fossils in the Rock Record Favor Long Ages?

1. If plants and animals are found fossilized together, what can we solidly conclude?
2. How do evolutionists link asteroids to mass extinctions? What is the biblical perspective on these mass extinctions?
3. How can our current understanding of how life exists in different ecological zones help us to understand the order of life found in the rock record?

4. Based on the biblical description of the Flood, why should we expect to find sea creatures in the lowest fossil-bearing rocks?

5. How does the shape, size, etc. of the creatures being transported determine how the fossil deposits will be organized?

6. What characteristics of vertebrates help to explain their relatively high position in the rock record?

The Biggest Question of All?

1. Compare the need for understanding the issues regarding science and the Bible with a proper understanding of salvation through Christ.

2. Can you remember a point in your life when you repented of your sins before God and put your trust in Jesus Christ to pay for those sins?
 - a. If the answer is yes, take a minute to write out a personal testimony and consider sharing it with a friend or relative who is not saved.

 - b. If the answer is no, what is keeping you from submitting to God and putting your trust in Christ? Consider talking to a local pastor about the good news of the gospel.