



EXTREME CAVING

DISCUSSION

1. When preparing to go caving, Buddy says to bring at least three lights and not to trust just one light in a cave. This is because we know that these lights will eventually fail. Why can we trust Jesus as our one light that will never fail? (John 8:12)

Because of the Fall and the corruption of God's perfect creation, things are going to wear out. We can't trust and rely on one flashlight when we go caving because it will eventually fail. In John 8:12, Jesus told the people that He is "the light of the world" and that "he who follows Me will not walk in darkness, but have the Light of life." Jesus is unfailing, God in the flesh, and perfect in all of His ways. When caving, we physically need multiple flashlights, but in our daily walk of life we can trust Christ as our one Light and never walk in darkness.

2. Dr. Menton shared information about Neanderthal man. What are some of the ways that we know that Neanderthals were truly human and not an evolutionary middle-man?

The skull of the Neanderthal had a vertical face with similar eye orbits and nasal bones as modern humans, and it had a large cranial capacity (brain case) like humans. We also see that Neanderthals made and used tools, jewelry, medicine, and musical instruments. They also show evidence of ritualized burial just like humans today. As Dr. Menton says, Neanderthals were 100% human, just like you and me!

3. As is asked in the pop-up bubble, “Can you think of a reason there would be marine fossils in a cave in Tennessee? Hint: Genesis 7.”

The Genesis 7 hint refers to the global Flood of Noah’s day that covered the whole earth. While every land-dwelling and flying creature that was outside the Ark perished, so did many sea creatures. Today, we find their fossils all over the earth—on the tallest mountains, and even in the deepest caves that have exposed those fossilized creatures.

4. What is the difference between a Speleologist (20:21), a Spelunker (21:11), and a Caver/Potholer (28:44)? If you explored a cave, which would you be?

A Speleologist is a scientist who enters caves for studying and gathers data and has a background in a number of scientific fields. A Spelunker refers to someone who hasn’t been trained for serious caving. A Caver, or potholer, enjoys caves for their own sakes and has the best skills for navigating. Cavers/potholers go through a lot of physical training, while speleologists go through a great deal of educational training. Most people who enter caves are spelunkers.

5. What are some of the evidences that Dr. Snelling shares about the recent formation of caves and the cause of fossils in the caves?

Dr. Snelling shared the effects that a worldwide catastrophic flood would have on caves. He talked about not only the rain but

also the effect of “all of the fountains of the great deep breaking forth.” The fossils in the caves are consistent with what we would expect to find if there were a worldwide flood—“billions of dead things, buried in rock layers, laid down by water all over the earth.”

6. Buddy and the “Tennessee Cave-Man” go through a small opening called “the keyhole” that few people have entered. How does this relate to Matthew 7:14? What is this “narrow gate” referring to?

This passage in Matthew is talking about few people entering to eternal life. We read in John 10:9 that Jesus is the door (or gate) to enter through to be saved. While it can seem easier to take a wider door or follow others who are going a different way, Jesus Christ is the only way to salvation through His perfect life, sacrificial death, and miraculous resurrection.

7. Dr. Purdom shared some of the ways that God provided for the blind cave fish to adapt to life in caves. What are some of these adaptations, and how do we know this is not evolution?

The lateral line of the cavefish allow them to sense danger and interact without eyes. Dr. Purdom also explained that these are present in other fish, so there has been no added information, which evolution would require. Also, the loss of eyes is not the type of change that evolution requires to add features to organisms over time.

8. What interesting fact do we find with the bats in the fossil record?

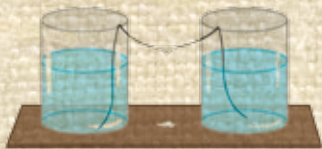
The bats that are found in the fossil record share remarkable similarity to bats that we see today. There is variation between species within the bat kind(s), but there are no transitional forms showing bats have ever been anything other than bats. They did not evolve from another kind of creature.

ACTIVITIES

1. Take a trip with your parents to a local cave and learn all you can about these amazing parts of God's creation.
2. Evolutionists often say that stalagmites and stalactites take thousands or even millions of years to form. We know that this isn't true; it just takes the right conditions. In fact, you can form one in a matter of days in your own home with this experiment! (From *God's Design: Our Planet Earth* science curriculum, pgs. 128–132.)

Procedure:

- a. Fill two cups $\frac{3}{4}$ full with hot water.
- b. Stir Epsom salt into each cup until no more will dissolve.
- c. Cut a 16-inch piece of string and completely submerge the string in one of the cups, then remove it.
- d. Place one end of the string in each cup.
- e. Place the cups on a piece of cardboard so that the string hangs down a little between the cups without touching the cardboard. Place this set-up in an area where it will not be disturbed for several days.
- f. Check the string and the cardboard every day for several days. After several days, what do you observe?



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