

of the garden?" —Genesis 3:1

and did eat, and also
and he did eat, and also

ARTH

INLANDS RAPIDLY AFTER THE FLOOD

Power Over Death

OTARIID: EARED SEAL KIND

Eared seals are currently represented by 15 species, including various fur seals and sea lions. While resembling true or earless seals and walruses, the three groups are likely not members of the same kind.

Jesus and Genesis

Many Christians have been taught that it is not important to understand Genesis 1–11 as accurately describing real history. But how did Jesus Christ view these chapters?

Jesus called Abel a righteous man and talked about him as being the first person to be murdered.

2) SHALLOW SEAFLOOR

SHALLOW SEAFLOOR BIOMES MODEL

4,350 YEARS AGO

Building further on the CPT model, the earthquakes caused by the breakup of the earth's crust generated enormous flood waves which passed over the storm-tossed sea and began destroying the shallow seafloor ecosystems on the possible wide underwater continental shelves. This stage of the ecological transition model has ecosystem after ecosystem being carried further out to sea and buried.

Above Venetian anatomists, we find from many exotic ocean environments including thousands of viscous spaces

CREATION MUSEUM

SIGNS

For we know that the whole creation groans and labors with birth pangs together until now. *Romans 8:22*

OUR DIFFERENCES

Whole earth was overgrown — Genesis 1:11

DIFFERENT NATIONS

THESE ROCK LAYERS WERE LAID DOWN DURING THE FLOOD OF NOAH'S DAY ABOUT 4,350 YEARS AGO

DIG SITE LOCATED

Recovered in 2001–2002, this 140-million-year-old fossil was found in a sedimentary layer in the upper Morrison Formation within the section of the geologic column commonly labeled Jurassic. The Morrison Formation extends from Montana, New Mexico, but the site where Elencozer was unearthed is near Monticello, Colorado, about 40 miles south of the Dinosaur Quarry in Dinosaur National Monument.

THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL RECORD

CULTURE: Canaanite "EARL 15" century BC • FEATURED ELEMENT: Pigeon eggs, Bull and Asherah

IS TELL ES-SULTAN RAHAB'S JERICHO?

Tell es-Sultan is the famous ruin identified as the ancient city of Jericho, one of the oldest cities in the world, and it provides compelling evidence consistent with the biblical account of the city's destruction.

Multitude excavations from 1907 through 2014 have confirmed the sudden destruction of the well-fortified Middle Bronze Age city, as recorded in the Bible (Joshua 6). The city's massive mud-brick walls completely collapsed and fell outward to the base of the mound. Some excavators suggest Jericho was destroyed by a powerful earthquake. This evidence fits the biblical account of the fortified walls falling in dramatic fashion, allowing the Israelites to enter the city to take the people into the promised land (Joshua 6:20).

A heavy burn layer, several feet thick, covers the ruins, Jericho brimming with charred grain, confirm the Bible's report that the Israelites burned the city shortly after the spring harvest during the Jordan River's flood stage (Joshua 3:18). In like circumstances, the Bible's claim that the Israelites only plundered items made of gold, silver, bronze, or iron. Even though some of value was burned with the city, including the intact food stores (Joshua 6:29, 24).

Additionally, the earliest excavations in 1907–1909 found evidence for the survival of a small portion of the north-lower city wall with houses built against it. This matches the biblical account of how Rahab helped the spies escape the city through a window on the city's outer wall (Joshua 2:35).

THE KEY: GOD'S WORD
THE PRESENT IS NOT THE KEY TO THE PAST

Noah's Flood and times following involved more violent catastrophism than anything known in the present.

At best, modern catastrophes provide only clues about those times.

TEMPORARY COVERINGS

Recognizing their nakedness, Adam and Eve made coverings of fig leaves for themselves, and tried to hide from God's presence in the garden. But their garments were insufficient. Since "the wages of sin is death" (Romans 6:23), blood needed to be shed to cover or atone for their sin, because "the life of the flesh is in the blood" (Leviticus 17:11).

PERMANENT ATONEMENT

To permanently remove our sins, a perfect, sinless man would need to be sacrificed in our place (Hebrews 9:14, 11–14). Jesus Christ is the "Lamb of God" who died on the cross to take away the sin of the world (John 1:29). Three days later, he demonstrated his power over sin and death by rising from the grave.

of the women, and the "Lamb of God" who died on the cross to take away the sin of the world (John 1:29). Three days later, he demonstrated his power over sin and death by rising from the grave.

WHAT DID DINOSAURS EAT?

God said, "To every beast of the earth, and to every bird of the air, and to everything that creeps upon the earth, wherein there is life, I have given every green herb for food." —Genesis 1:30

Before man's Fall, animals were vegetarians. In a "very good" creation, no animal would die, so there were no carnivores. All the beasts of the earth, not just the "beasts of the field" that God brought to Adam to name, ate only plants.

CREATION MUSEUM



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Creation Museum, Petersburg, KY

Introduction

I have been blessed with the opportunity to develop the signage content for many of the exhibits at the Creation Museum. From a personal perspective, it is exciting to walk through a finished exhibit knowing that I played a key role in what people see, and it is gratifying to know that my words can be read by hundreds of thousands of people every year. But far more important than any personal satisfaction is the reality that these signs teach the biblical worldview, defend the Scriptures, and proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Another benefit of my role is that I regularly consult with specialists on the topics addressed in the exhibits. My areas of expertise relate to biblical studies, theology, and church history, and my assistant, Mike Belknap, specializes in animal studies, so it is extremely helpful for us to be able to discuss other subjects with experts in relevant disciplines. For example, while researching the Fearfully & Wonderfully Made exhibit, we consulted Dr. David Menton (biology and anatomy), Dr. Georgia Purdom (molecular genetics), and Dr. Elizabeth Mitchell (obstetrics and gynecology) in their areas of expertise.

Working with talented designers, artists, and fabricators is another blessing of my position. Each exhibit is the result of countless hours of brainstorming, planning, research, design, and construction. The exhibit designers shape the room's theme and design in a way that points people to the teaching and reinforces it. Then the talented graphic designers take the content and create the eye-catching signs guests encounter in the museum.



There are several interesting challenges presented by each exhibit. For example, how should the teaching be arranged to help people understand it? How much information can go on each sign? How can we state something in a way appropriate for a non-denominational ministry?

Finally, since our exhibits focus on teaching biblical history and doctrine, we have a serious responsibility to make sure God's Word is handled faithfully. Thus, every word is carefully examined in light of Scripture and undergoes a thorough review process.

We trust you will find these signs to be informative and God-honoring as we point people to our Creator and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Sincerely,
Tim Chaffey,

Content Manager, Attractions Division of Answers in Genesis

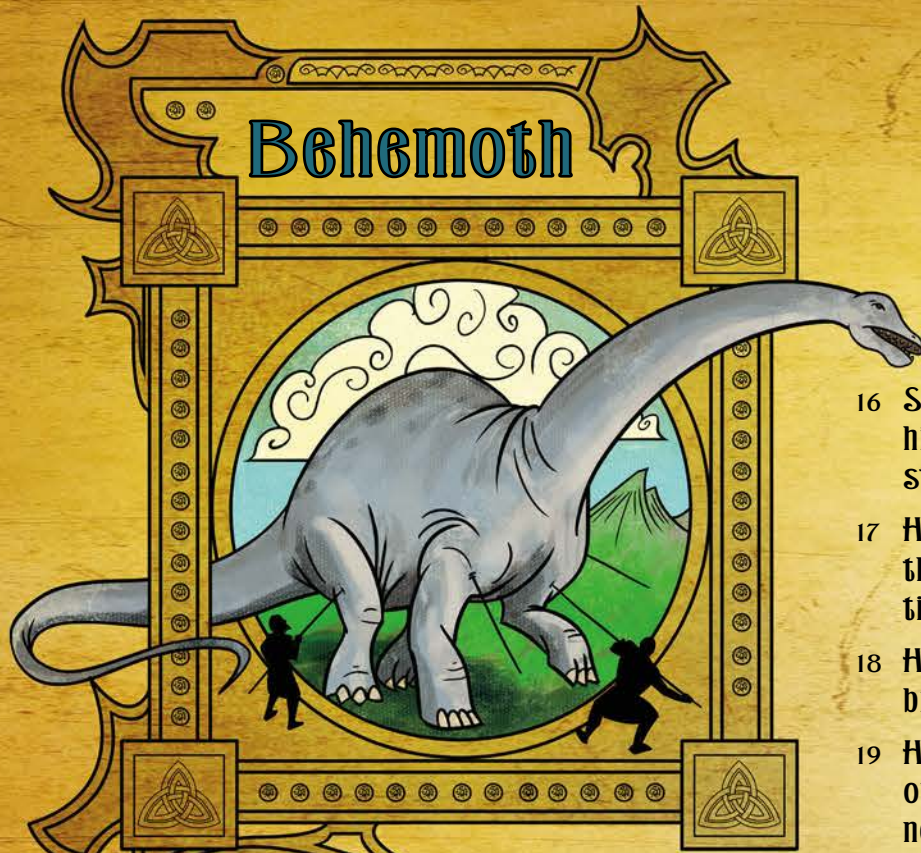
A special recognition goes to Mike Matthews who served as content manager when the Creation Museum opened.

Approximately half of the signs in this book were written by him.



Behemoth

Look now at the Behemoth, which I made along with you; he eats grass like an ox.



- 1 Can you mark when the deer gives birth?
- 5 Who set the wild donkey free?
- 19 Have you given the horse strength?
- 26 Does the hawk fly by your wisdom?
- 27 Does the eagle mount up at your command?

— Job 39 —

- 16 See now, his strength is in his hips, and his power is in his stomach muscles.
- 17 He moves his tail like a cedar; the sinews of his thighs are tightly knit.
- 18 His bones are like beams of bronze, his ribs like bars of iron.
- 19 He is the first of the ways of God; only He who made him can bring near His sword.
- 20 Surely the mountains yield food for him, and all the beasts of the field play there.
- 21 He lies under the lotus trees, in a covert of reeds and marsh.
- 22 The lotus trees cover him with their shade; the willows by the brook surround him.
- 23 Indeed the river may rage, yet he is not disturbed; he is confident, though the Jordan gushes into his mouth,
- 24 Though he takes it in his eyes, or one pierces his nose with a snare.

— Job 40 —



**an you draw
out Leviathan
with a hook,**

or snare his tongue with a line
which you lower?

- 2 Can you put a reed through his
nose, or pierce his jaw with a
hook?
- 9 Indeed, any hope of overcoming
him is false; shall one not be
overwhelmed at the sight of him?
- 18 His sneezings flash forth light,
and his eyes are like the eyelids
of the morning.
- 19 Out of his mouth go burning
lights; sparks of fire shoot out.
- 20 Smoke goes out of his nostrils,
as from a boiling pot and burning
rushes.
- 21 His breath kindles goals, and a
flame goes out of his mouth.
- 22 Strength dwells in his neck, and
sorrow dances before him.
- 23 The folds of his flesh are joined
together; they are firm on him
and cannot be moved.
- 24 His heart is as hard as stone,
even as hard as the lower
millstone.

25 When he raises himself up, the
mighty are afraid; because of
his crashings they are beside
themselves.

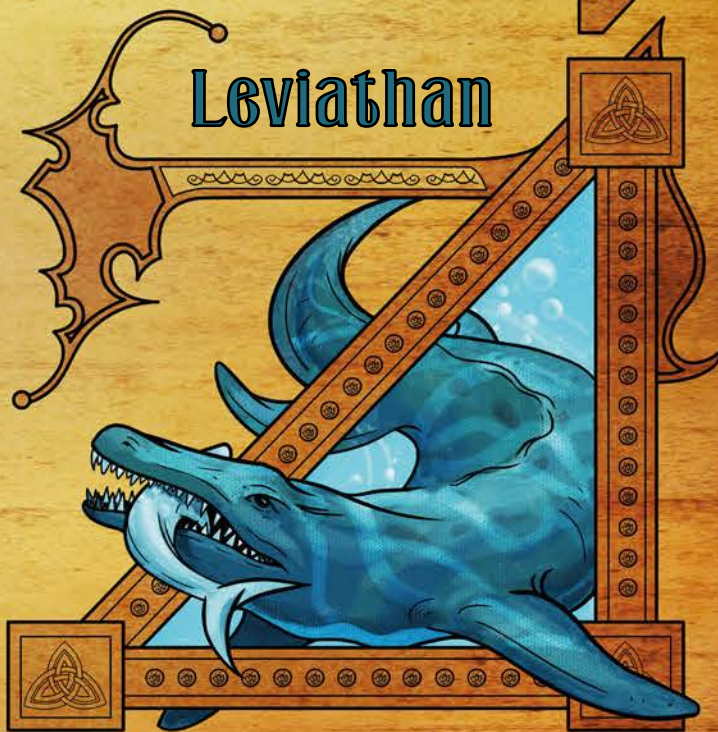
26 Though the sword reaches him,
it cannot avail; nor does spear,
dart, or javelin.

27 He regards iron as straw, and
bronze as rotten wood.

28 The arrow cannot make him flee;
slingstones become like stubble
to him.

— Job 41 —

Leviathan





Not the Stuff of Legends!

The Bible is authoritative, without error, and inspired by God

While dragon legends may be fanciful retellings of actual events
God's Word tells us about two real dragon-like creatures

Were Dinosaurs Dragons?

Some dragons flew and other dragons lived in the water, so not all dragons could be called dinosaurs. But all dinosaurs could have been dragons.



Some reptiles are mistakenly called dinosaurs.



Dinosaur

Legs directly under the body
Land-dwelling animal



Not a Dinosaur

Dimetrodon (legs out to the side)
Plesiosaurs (marine reptiles)
Pterosaurs (flying reptiles)



Dragon Legends: Fact or Fiction?

Legends of an ancient flood exist in hundreds of cultures around the world. A large number of these traditions share common elements with the biblical Flood described in Genesis. For example, many of these stories assert that man's wickedness brought divine judgment upon the whole world and that eight people and some animals survived aboard a large boat.

The Bible provides the historical account of the worldwide Flood. By carefully comparing these legends with God's Word, we see that many of these traditions have distorted, embellished, or lost information about the actual events.

Similarly, cultures from all over the globe also have dragon legends. Epic battles between gallant knights and fierce dragons are rather common, and the descriptions of these beasts are often very similar to those of dinosaurs.

Of course, ancient people would not have called them "dinosaurs," since that word was coined in 1841. Carvings and cave paintings of these monsters have been discovered. Some of these dragon legends contain mythical elements, while others likely lost all the true details and retain nothing more than tall tales. But in many cases, the dragons were viewed as real animals. Do some of these dragon legends actually speak of dinosaurs?

In the Bible, God told Job about two creatures that could be considered dragons: the Behemoth and the Leviathan. Some Christians suggest that these are mythical monsters, but the mention of Behemoth and Leviathan in the book of Job follows the descriptions of about a dozen real animals. Furthermore, why would God tell Job to consider two beasts that did not even exist?



Eighth-century scholar John of Damascus wrote *On Dragons and Ghosts*, in which he differentiated between real creatures and fictional creatures. After describing some dragons as extremely large serpents, he stated:

There is one more kind of [dragon]; those [that] have wide head, goldish eyes and horny protuberances on the back of the head. They also have a beard [protruding] out of the throat ... This dragon is a sort of [beast], like the rest of the animals, for it has a beard, like a goat, and horn at the back of its head. Its eyes are big and goldish. These dragons can be both big and small. All serpent kinds are poisonous, except dragons, for they do not emit poison.

Famed thirteenth-century explorer Marco Polo described dragons in the Far East:

In this province [Carajan] are found snakes and great serpents of such vast size as to strike fear into those who see them ... Some of them are ten paces in length ... The bigger ones are about ten palms in girth. They have two forelegs near the head, but for foot nothing but a claw.... The head is very big, and the eyes are bigger than a great loaf of bread. The mouth is large enough to swallow a man whole, and is garnished with great [pointed] teeth.

The animals described here are believable, and these men intended to relay information about what they had discovered. Did these men actually see or hear about real dragons—creatures that are today called dinosaurs?

ST. GEORGE and the Dragon

St. George (c. AD 275–303) was a devout Christian and Roman military officer. The famous legend of his battle with the dragon is said to have occurred during his journey to join his men in Diocletian's army.

As he neared the city of Selene in Libya, he saw a young princess outside the city wall. She pleaded with him to leave so that he would not be killed by the dragon to which she was being offered as a sacrifice. George refused to leave and vowed to protect her.

Suddenly, the dragon appeared and attacked the soldier. During his fierce battle against the fire-breathing foe, George found a weak spot under the beast's left wing and delivered a crippling blow. The legend explains that the princess then led the maimed creature back into the city, where George killed it in the presence of the people.

The king asked George what he wanted as a reward. The dragonslayer replied, "I desire only that ye believe in the God who strengthened my hand to gain this victory." After baptizing the city into the Christian faith, George resumed his trek to join his troops.

BEOWULF and the Dragon

Originally written in Old English, the epic poem *Beowulf* is named for its hero and tells of his mighty deeds in sixth-century Scandinavia, a time known as the Vendel Era.

The most famous creature in the tale is Grendel, a fierce monster that devoured scores of Danish nobles. Beowulf defeated this creature by ripping its arm from the socket, causing the beast to bleed to death. The hero also defeated Grendel's mother, as well as numerous sea dragons.

Beowulf died from wounds sustained from a vicious fire dragon that terrorized the land after a thief had stolen a golden cup from the beast's hoard. Aided by a brave warrior, Beowulf vanquished the flying dragon and saved the land.

The epic contains accurate historical information as well as fiction. The stories of battling dragons may be legendary, but do they have any basis in reality? Did these men or their ancestors actually fight dinosaurs and pterosaurs? This idea would be consistent with the Bible. But those who believe dinosaurs lived millions of years before man cannot adequately explain why cultures around the world have dragon legends whose creatures often match descriptions of dinosaurs.

DRAGON LEGENDS AROUND THE WORLD

Red Dragon of Wales

Many tales describe how Y Ddraig Goch ("the red dragon") came to be closely associated with Wales. One popular story tells of an epic battle between a red dragon and a white dragon in which the red dragon saved the people of the land by defeating the white dragon.

the Lernaean Hydra

According to Greek mythology, Hercules performed twelve labors, including a battle with a great creature known as the Hydra. This serpentine dragon had nine heads and poisonous breath. When one head was cut off, two more would grow in its place. Hercules battled fiercely and ultimately defeated the serpent.

Quetzalcoatl

The Mesoamerican Aztecs and Toltecs worshipped the feathered serpent Quetzalcoatl (called Kukulcan by the Maya people). According to their mythology, he was the god of the wind and the morning and evening stars.

Daniel and the Dragon

Not accepted as part of the Old Testament canon by Jews or Protestants, the Apocrypha include extra chapters in the book of Daniel. Here we are told about Daniel's encounter with a great dragon.

The king of Babylon commanded Daniel to worship his dragon as a god. The prophet refused and told the king that he could prove the creature was not a god by killing it without sword or club. Daniel made cakes of pitch, fat, and hair and fed them to the dragon, causing it to burst open.

Athanasius Kircher (1601-1680) has been called a polymath (a person with encyclopedic learning). In his exhaustive study of everything underground, *Mundus Subterraneus*, Kircher included a chapter on dragons, describing multiple dragon artifacts and legendary encounters with the beasts. He covered the dragon like any other animal in his book, citing their dwellings (often caves) and habits:

Of winged dragons, dispute has only arisen between authors, most of whom declare them to be fanciful, but these authors are contradicted by the histories and eyewitnesses. Winged dragons—small, great, and greatest—have been produced in all times in every land.

Known as the "father of history," Herodotus (fifth century BC) was a Greek historian who traveled extensively and reported what he heard and saw. He described a boneyard in Arabia filled with skeletons of winged serpents and explained where they came from:

Winged serpents are said to fly from Arabia at the beginning of spring, making for Egypt; but the ibis birds encounter the invaders in this pass and kill them ... The serpents are like water snakes. Their wings are not feathered but very like the wings of a bat.

Both of these men wrote more about dragons and flying serpents. Could they possibly have been writing about creatures we call pterosaurs?

STARTING POINTS

EXPLORE TWO VIEWS OF
THE SAME EVIDENCE

NATURALISTIC
EVOLUTION

BIBLICAL
CREATION

SAME ROCKS. FOSSILS. PLANTS. PEOPLE.
ANIMALS. OCEANS. CONTINENTS.
WORLD. STARS. UNIVERSE.
EVIDENCE

WHY DO CREATIONISTS AND EVOLUTIONISTS
REACH DIFFERENT CONCLUSIONS?



DID DINOSAURS AND HUMANS COEXIST?



NATURALISTIC EVOLUTIONIST WORLDVIEW

- ▶ In recent years, birds have been reclassified as avian dinosaurs, but humans have never lived at the same time as non-avian dinosaurs.

"Non-bird dinosaurs lived between about 245 and 66 million years ago, in a time known as the Mesozoic Era. This was many millions of years before the first modern humans, Homo sapiens, appeared."

—The Natural History Museum¹

"We keep dinosaurs as pets, eat them, enjoy looking at them in nature and in zoos, and treat them as mascots for some of our favorite sports teams."

—Stephen Brusatte²

¹ "When Did Dinosaurs Live?" at www.nhm.ac.uk/discover/when-did-dinosaurs-live.html

² John Pickrell, "Could Humans and Dinosaurs Coexist? Here's the Science" at www.nationalgeographic.com/news/2018/06/dinosaurs-humans-coexist-jurassic-world-paleontology-science



BIBLICAL CREATIONIST WORLDVIEW

- ▶ Dinosaurs and all other land animals were created on the sixth day—the same day as the first man and woman and one day after the flying creatures (Genesis 1:20–31). Thus, dinosaurs lived at the same time as man and did not evolve into birds.

"And God made the beasts of the earth according to their kinds, the livestock according to their kinds, and all the creatures that creep along the ground according to their kinds...Then God said, 'Let us make man in our image, after our likeness.'

And there was evening, and there was morning, the sixth day."—Genesis 1:25–26, 31



NATURALISTIC EVOLUTIONIST WORLDVIEW

- ▶ At no point in earth's history was it ever completely covered by water.

"There simply is no good evidence that a global flood ever happened...The story of Noah is self-contradictory, uncorroborated by independent historical evidence, and is generally at odds with everything we know about our planet's geology, biology, and species diversity."—Kyle Hill¹

¹ Kyle Hill, "Noah Isn't Accurate Because It Can't Be" at blogs.discovermagazine.com/but-not-simpler/2014/03/28/noah-isnt-accurate-cant



BIBLICAL CREATIONIST WORLDVIEW

- ▶ The Bible unequivocally teaches that the Genesis Flood destroyed the whole world and all the land animals that were not aboard Noah's Ark.

*"And the waters increased greatly on the earth and covered all the high hills under the whole heaven. The waters prevailed above the mountains, covering them fifteen cubits deep. And all creatures that moved on the earth died—birds, cattle, beasts, all the creatures that swarm on the earth, and all mankind."
—Genesis 7:19–21*



NATURALISTIC EVOLUTIONIST WORLDVIEW

- ▶ While most evolutionists reject racism, their philosophy is inherently racist.

"Biological arguments for racism may have been common before 1850, but they increased by orders of magnitude following the acceptance of evolutionary theory. The litany is familiar: cold, dispassionate, objective, modern science shows us that races can be ranked on a scale of superiority. If this offends Christian morality or a sentimental belief in human unity, so be it; science must be free to proclaim unpleasant truths."

—Stephen Jay Gould¹

¹Stephen Jay Gould, *Ontogeny and Phylogeny* (Cambridge, MA: The Belknap Press of Harvard University Press, 1977), p. 127.



BIBLICAL CREATIONIST WORLDVIEW

- ▶ All human beings are made in God's image and are descendants of Adam, so there is no basis for racism from a biblical perspective.

"And He has made from one man every nation of men to dwell on the face of all the earth"—Acts 17:26

"And Adam called his wife's name Eve, because she was the mother of all the living"—Genesis 3:20



NATURALISTIC EVOLUTIONIST WORLDVIEW

- ▶ Humans and apes share a common ancestor that lived several million years ago.

"The human lineage diverged from that of apes at least seven million years ago and maybe as long as 13 million years ago. The earliest undisputed members of our lineage to regularly walk upright were the australopithecines, of which the most famous is Lucy's species, Australopithecus afarensis. (Lucy herself is dated to 3.2 million years ago.)"

—Human Evolution 101¹

¹ Nadia Drake, "Human Evolution 101" at www.nationalgeographic.com/news/2015/09/human-evolution-101

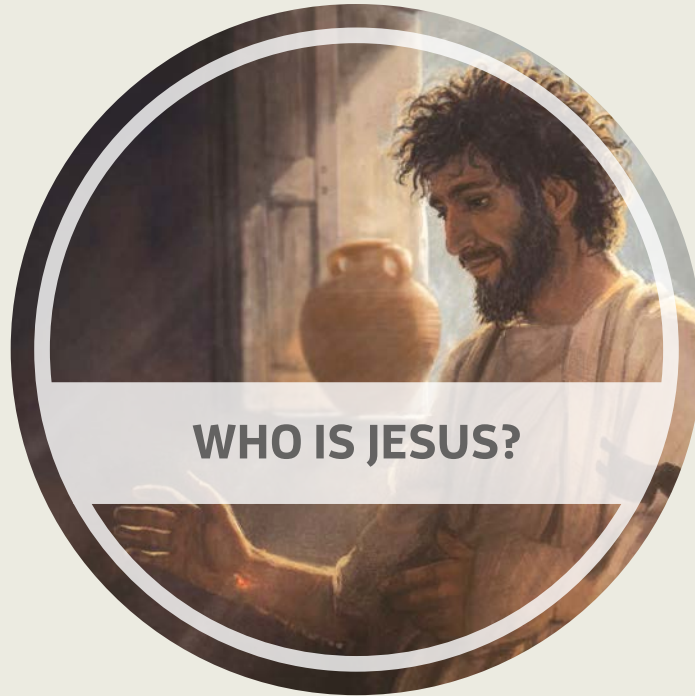


BIBLICAL CREATIONIST WORLDVIEW

- ▶ God created the land animals, including the apes, on the Sixth Day. Then He made man in His image from the dust of the ground—not from an ape-like ancestor.

Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. Let them rule over the fish of the sea, the birds of the air, and every creature that moves on the ground."—Genesis 1:26

The LORD God formed man from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living being.—Genesis 2:7



NATURALISTIC EVOLUTIONIST WORLDVIEW

- ▶ Most atheists believe Jesus of Nazareth was a real person, but they reject His deity and miracles. A vocal minority of modern atheists deny that Jesus even existed.

"The consensus of scholars, including non-Christian scholars, is that a historical Jesus most likely existed and the later stories about 'Jesus Christ' were told about him. The idea that there was no such historical person at all and that 'Jesus Christ' was a purely mythical figure has been posited in one form or another since the eighteenth century, but is not taken seriously by anyone but a tiny handful of fringe scholars and amateurs."—Tim O'Neill¹

¹ Tim O'Neill, "Did Jesus Exist? The Jesus Myth Theory, Again" at historyforatheists.com/2017/05/did-jesus-exist-the-jesus-myth-theory-again



BIBLICAL CREATIONIST WORLDVIEW

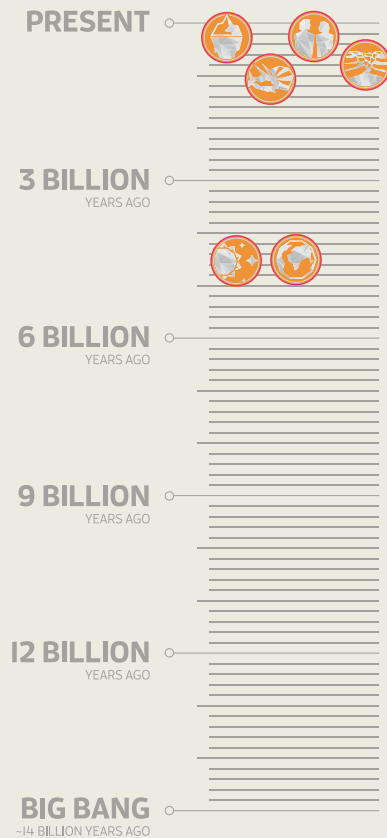
- ▶ Jesus is the Son of God—our Creator, Savior, and Lord.

"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God...And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us."—John 1:1, 14

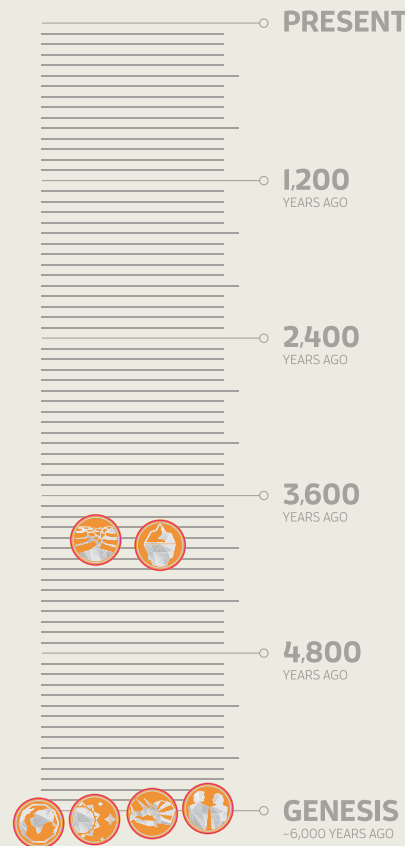
"He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. He created all things that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him. He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together."—Colossians 1:15-17

Exhibit: **Starting Points**

NATURALISTIC EVOLUTION



BIBLICAL CREATION



TWO MODELS

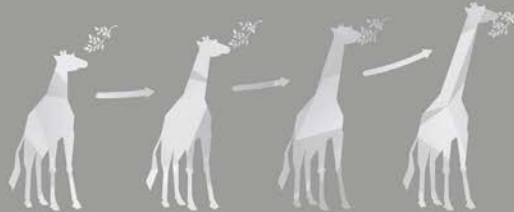
Creationists and evolutionists share the same data. We study the same fossils, trees, and stars. We observe the same world, but we reach different conclusions because we have different starting points. Each worldview develops its own models to explain the data. Consider how these two models understand six sets of data.



CHANGING **EVOLUTIONIST** MODELS

Evolutionary models are frequently adjusted based on new findings and updated understandings of existing data. Occasionally, outdated models are discarded and replaced by new models.

LAMARCKISM



In the early 1800s, French biologist Jean Baptiste Lamarck popularized an early evolutionary idea to explain how animals gradually acquired certain traits. He thought that an animal might pass on characteristics it had gained during its lifetime. The classic example is the giraffe's long neck: Lamarck believed that giraffes originally had shorter

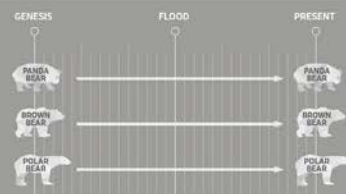
necks, but if one continually stretched upward for foliage, it might develop a slightly longer neck, and that acquired characteristic would be passed on to the next generation. Lamarckism was replaced by Darwinism, which posits natural selection as the mechanism that drove the evolution of the giraffe's neck.

CHANGING **CREATIONIST** MODELS

Creationists build scientific models, interpreting the evidence as they understand it in light of Scripture. Although the models based on the Bible can be modified, refined, and even discarded, the Bible itself does not change.

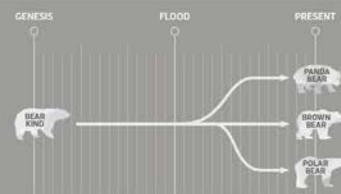
FIXITY OF SPECIES

OUTDATED VIEW FIXITY OF SPECIES



In the 1800s, some Christians believed that God created each of the species in their respective forms and locations. They did not realize that new species can develop quickly due to the incredible amount of genetic diversity God created within each kind of organism. This belief in the

UPDATED VIEW SPECIATION WITHIN A KIND



fixity of species provided an opportunity for Charles Darwin to popularize his evolutionary view, which is based on observable changes within types of animals. However, since no new traits are produced that could change one kind of animal into another kind, the changes we observe do not support evolution.