

**Review: Answers in Genesis, Noah's Flood and the Earth's Age – Crucial Apologetics for Reaching Today's Global Culture (ft . Dr. Andrew Snelling), 2009**

Runtime: 61 min

A quite solid and largely non-technical apologia focusing around II Peter 3.1-6. A number of older but telling quotes from the giants of evolution are presented and worth memorising, if only in paraphrase.

At the outset the speaker seeks to define the problem, i.e. what evolution is actually saying:

\*it is *unseen* ['macroevolution'] yet still happening [microevolution, or simply small changes].

\**evidence* of the fossil record ['evidence' simply means subjective interpretation of an observation and the fossil record is burial mound of Noah's flood].

\*amphibians turned into reptiles which turned into birds [the 'transitional' fossils have no preserved soft body parts, thus the artist interpretations].

\*missing links that have been found, e.g. Ida the Lemur (*Darwinius*) [these are immediately trumpeted by the main stream media - yet after further investigation claims are found to be bankrupt with deafening silence].

Ultimately it is molecules turning into men.

The two main pillars/mechanisms/escape clauses for evolution are probed: (i) transitional fossils, and (ii) millions of years. The more important is vast ages of time, for even without a single transitional fossil this fall back is still available.

A number of hostile witnesses are brought forward against the 'evidence' contained in the fossil record:

\*Darwin's self-incriminating quote on missing links is shown – in 1859

there were *zero* transitional fossils and the explanation is said to lie in the “imperfection of the fossil record”. At its core this is merely an argument from silence and nothing has changed in 154 years.

\*In 1980 Stephen Jay Gould admitted there are no transitional fossils and that difficulty exists even in *imaginations* to construct functional intermediaries.

\*In 1979 David Raup wrote as a result of more detailed information transitional fossils in Darwin's time have been discarded. The irony is *no transition fossils existed in Darwin's time!*

\*Colin Patterson in 1979 said if he knew of one such fossil that existed, either dead or alive, he would have included it in his book.

\*In 1981 M. Ridley stated that while palaeontologists disagreed on the mechanism(s) of evolution none doubt the idea as a whole. He stated the evidence does not depend to the fossil record.

The suitability of the mechanism of natural selection in generating viable transitional life forms is questioned as it would actively *eliminate* any such creature – what use is half a wing in a hypothetical organism?

The quote that best epitomises the millions-of-years dogma is from George Wald, who in 1954 said (paraphrased), “Time is the hero of the plot. With enough time the impossible becomes possible, the possible becomes probable, and the probable becomes certain.”

The impossible becoming possible is clearly a *delusional* belief. An interesting note is in this time the earth was only thought to be 2Ga - this has increased to the 4.6Ga of today!

In line with the fiendish Hegelian dialectic, Christians today profess God yet still hold to the millions-of years belief. This is a betrayal of history and gospel truth. II Peter is appropriate because people have *forgotten* how God destroyed the world in judgement. The speaker astutely points out Peter's personal affinity with *remembering* the past, having denied the Lord three times and weeping bitterly (Matthew 26.75).

Importance of a memorial in the Old Testament is seen in Joshua's stone memorial (Joshua 4.6-7) where twelve stones from the *dry* riverbed were

set on the riverbank in the camp at Gilgal. To counter theistic evolutionists a natural dam stopped the water, such a scenario would have left *muddy* ground as the river was in flood. Only an abrupt cessation of flow could result in dry land.

Fossils today need to be seen by Christians as a permanent reminder of God's judgement of destruction on the earth during the flood.

Another geological gem is in II Peter 3.5 where the earth standing *out* of the water alludes to the creation of land on day three as a consequence of the gathering together of the seas in one place.

Vast ages are built upon squarely upon the philosophy of *uniformitarianism*, precisely what was foretold scoffers would say (verse 3) in II Peter 3.4. This belief is summarised with the present is key to the past.

Around 1795, Scottish doctor turned farmer and geologist James Hutton first espoused the philosophy of naturalism and uniformitarianism in *Theory of the Earth*. No powers outside of nature and that whose principle was not understood could be employed, and past events must be explained by events happening now.

Hutton was succeeded by the infamous lawyer turned geologist Charles Lyell. His *Principles of Geology* (1830-1833 of three volumes and 13 editions) is the canonical textbook for long ages and using advocating slow geological processes. Only towards the end of the volume are conclusions drawn that eliminate the possibility of a global Flood.

Some of Lyell's personal correspondences are telling. To a British parliamentarian (one Scopes) on 14/6/1830 his spiritual crusade is made clear – his goal was to “free the science from Moses”. The link back to Hutton is also clear as he quotes his conclusion in the letter (“no signs of a beginning, no prospect of an end”).

In the correspondence to Oxford Professor of Geology Murchinson on 11/8/1829 Lyell confesses of his “anti-Mosaical conclusions”.

The next key scoffer in the history of uniformitarianism is Charles Darwin, who on his famous voyage to South America and the Galapagos Islands

took Lyell's *Principles of Geology*. This was his foundation text-he made more geological than biological observations. Evidence for the connection is found in the beginning of *On the Origin of Species* (paraphrased): “those not agreeing with the fact of vast periods of time proposed in *Principles of Geology* should close this book immediately.”

Professor Ramsay gave Darwin data of maximum thickness of successive formations across different parts of Great Britain:

\*Paleozoic-57 154ft

\*Mesozoic-13 190ft

\*Tertiary- 2 240ft

72 585ft. The *fact* of vast ages of time required to accumulate such a thickness was said to be hard to grasp (in the *opinion* of most geologists). The use of the word fact is telling – it is merely equivocation as without an eyewitness, interpretations of objects in the present based on assumptions are being called facts.

In an area South of London, Darwin applied an erosion rate of  $\frac{1}{2}$  in per 100 years to erode the mountain to what is now a Weald. This gave an erosion time of 306 662 400 years.

An important note is radiological dating methods were *not* available during this period so these were not the source of long age dating calculations. This was achieved for example by observing [in the present] rates of riverbed layer accumulation such as in the Mississippi delta (e.g. 1ft/100 years) then applying this rate when measuring thicknesses of superimposed sedimentary rock layers. A 100ft sandstone layer would then take 10 000 years to lay down.

Also, one mile in GC plus two miles up to Bryce canyon gives millions of years worth of deposition.

Next, supposed Christian Geologist's views are looked at. These hold to theistic evolution, claim the *facts* [see above] support evolution, yet still believe in supernatural events like the resurrection. This is an incongruous belief system.

Two such geologists are Davis Young and Ralph Stearley (*The Bible*,

*Rocks and Time*) who conflate historical events (such as King David's kingship) as facts with the facts of geological formations millions of years ago.

Scripture in II Peter is used to counter the above brand of *human reasoning*.

1a - the coming judgement by fire will be global.

1b - the creation of the world was global.

2a - God will supernaturally intervene in the coming judgement.

2b – God supernaturally intervened to create the world.

The only way to maintain a consistent analogy is to have a *global and* supernatural flood.

The craftiness of Satan is identified – uniformitarianism is a 180° turn against the truth – the *past* is actually key to the present!

As to the Old Testament in Hebrew, the word *yom* is used 2301 times yet it only seems to be questioned in the first two chapters of Genesis.

Another interesting observation of naturalism is the wedding at Cana, where the master of the feast deceived himself by *assuming* the wine must have formed via natural processes from grapes (i.e. taken a long time). The truth was the servants knew by *eyewitness* evidence the 'old' wine was created instantaneously from water!

Scientific evidence of fossilised thorns is thrown in which destroys theistic evolution seeing as thorns would arise only *after* Adam existed and had sinned bringing in the curse. The thorns are dated at 400 Ma.

An appropriate quote from Martin Luther is given:

“If I profess with the loudest voice and clearest expression every portion of the truth of God except precisely that little point which the world and the devil are at that moment attacking, I am not confessing Christ, however boldly I may be professing Christ. Where the battle rages, there the loyalty of the soldier is proved, and to be steady on all the battlefield besides, is mere flight and disgrace if he flinches at that point.”

Giving ground on the age of the earth is a fatal error and will lose the battle. As with the serpent one could ask, did God really say six days?

600Ma of rock formation versus a single catastrophic event c4300 years ago.

Wise advice is given to the viewer in the conclusion – they must *saturate* themselves with this evidence to be effective witnesses.