

ARKY's News

Volume 15, #4

January-March 2010 Issue

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Nehemiah's Walls Are Ours Also

The full sound file of this message delivered by Ron Cooper is at: http://www.belmontchurch.org/images/resources/sermons/2009/20090222-Ron_Cooper.mp3

The doom of history is in repeating it, instead of learning from it. Nehemiah lived 600 years before Christ in a terrible time for the exiles. They had their temple rebuilt, but were at the minimal mercy of the people around them. They were under constant threat, but

lacked the necessary means to defend themselves or their temple. (Neh. 1 and 4:6-23)

Today we have our churches, but our churches are isolated and losing their abilities to physically defend themselves or legally defend our beliefs. Each year another piece of the foundation is being removed.

Like Nehemiah, we can rebuild the walls protecting our liberties, if we can identify the foundation to rebuild on and do it in a Godly manner.

If Things Are Getting Bad, When Did It Start And Why Isn't It Fixed?

By Ron Cooper

We are cleaning up some old magazines that I stored starting 25 years ago. It was public knowledge that a whole lot of things seemed to be bad. The nature of the news is always bad, but do we learn from it or try to fix it? Let me review some of 1988.

Starting with the headline on the cover of Insight, April 11, 1988 is "Murder in the Capital," Washington DC. I am comparing this with the web story at <http://www.benbest.com/lifeext/murder.html#usa>. It has a listing for the ten worst states for murder, 2003, per 100,000 and world

murder rates by city, per 100,000, in 2003. The rate for Washington DC is almost equal to the total of the worst rates for eight states! One city is worst than 8 of the worst states in America. **The chance of being murdered in Washington, DC in 1990 was 3 times greater than the chance of an American soldier being killed in the Gulf War.** Washington is not and cannot defend its own citizens, nor does it let them defend themselves. **According to a recent study (2009), Dublin has the highest rate of gun murder in Europe. The rate is almost as high as some cities in the U.S. like Washington D.C.** It seems a total disarming of citizens in DC did not work, if anything, it made it a target for easy

(Continued on page 2)



Newsletter Editor
Mark Jurkovich

ARK Board Members
Ron Cooper
Mark Jurkovich
Tom Lawrence
Bill Nicholas
Adrian Rose

(Things Getting Bad—Continued from page 1)

crime and murder. Government is creating an environment ripe for crime!

Today statistics show some interesting results not usually thought of. Looking at all the similar developed nations, here is a picture of the USA. We have increasingly limited personal rights, yet in this limited environment of religious rights (1st amendment) and the right to bear arms (2nd amendment) some curious opposites are occurring. At least they are the opposite of what is reported in the news.

The USA has the highest rate of gun ownership by its citizens in the western world and gun opponents proclaim our violence is caused by it (Guns kill, not people kill, like the Bible states). The following countries have removed gun ownership from their citizens and note their Assault victim's rates: United Kingdom (2.8%), Australia: (2.4%), New Zealand: (2.4%), Canada (2.3%), while the USA is at 1.2%, less than half of most (Canada may be enjoying some benefits of being close by). In kidnappings, UK and Canada are #1 and #3, while the USA didn't even make the list. In rapes, these 4 countries have rates 2 to 3 times higher than the USA. Drug offense rates per 100,000 are unreal with the USA only at 561, while UK is **183,419** and Canada is **92,590**. Murder rates in the USA are high, but they are dominated by areas with strict gun control laws, like Washington DC and Chicago. Guns protect law abiding citizens; Criminals will always get weapons to kill, rob, rape, and steal. Support the 2nd Amendment or lose it. (Crime Statistics Source: <http://www.nationmaster.com>)

Our 1st Amendment rights give us religious rights unparalleled in the world, but they are taking a slow retreat. We petition Congress, but Congress ignores us. We have freedom of the press, but we sold the press to Socialists/Liberals. We have religious rights, but we have just forgotten what is right. We have freedom of speech, but it seems like movies and

porn shops are the major users. We have freedom of peaceable assembly, but crowd around the TV or in stadiums watching passively to be entertained.

Are there any solutions? Yes, educate yourselves on the Constitution. See our web site

for a class starting in January. Yes, attend a "Refuse to be a Victim" (no firearms) the next time it is offered. Yes, learn firearms safety from an approved NRA

(National Rifle Association) class. Yes, attend serious Bible study at a Bible believing church of your choice or start one in your home. Yes, learn the moral value of the 10 Commandments by memorizing them, teaching them, honoring them, and promoting the Lord of them.

Institute on the Constitution

starting January 14 (see page 6)

with Ricki Pepin

at Fairmont High School

Travel Thoughts:

"Not all those who wander are lost." *JRR Tolkien, The Fellowship of the Ring*

"When preparing to travel, lay out all your clothes and all your money. Then take half the clothes and twice the money." *Susan Heller, writer*

"If God had intended men to fly, he'd make it easier to get to the airport." *George Winters*

"Thanks to the Interstate Highway System, it is now possible to travel across the country from coast to coast without seeing anything." *Charles Kuralt, On the Road with Charles Kuralt*

"Travel is fatal to prejudice, bigotry, and narrow-mindedness." *Mark Twain, Innocents Abroad*



Scientific Truths of the Bible Part 6: The Antediluvian World

By Mark Jurkovich

What was the world like before the flood? Does the Bible tell us? How does it match up with the evidence? Is there any evidence to match up with? This article will delve into what scripture has to say about the antediluvian world, that is the world before the flood. We will look at key verses, see their implications and lastly look to see how it stacks up to the evidence.

Gen 1:6-8. *And God said, "Let there be an expanse between the waters to separate water from water."... God called the expanse "sky."*

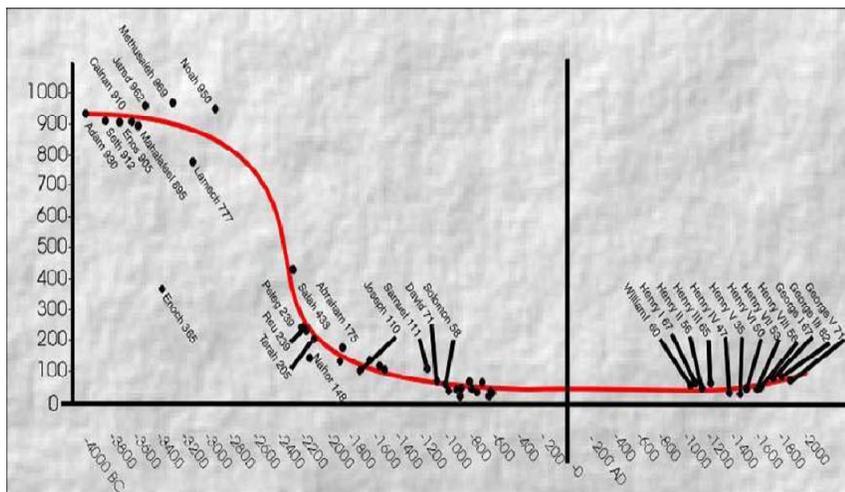
A popular interpretation of this verse is that there was a water vapor canopy surrounding the earth that was destroyed at the time of the flood. Such a canopy would create a greenhouse effect with a pleasant subtropical climate all around the globe.

However, in recent years, creation scientists have determined the canopy would have to be fairly small, otherwise temperatures would have gotten too high. Dr. Russell Humphreys interprets this verse as water at the edge of the universe. His interpretation fits with Psalm 148:4, "Praise Him... you waters above the heavens." We will not try to settle this difference of interpretation here, but keep in mind the possibility of a vapor canopy.

Gen 1:29-31, *Then God said, "I give you every seed-bearing plant ...everything that has the breath of life in it—I give every green plant for food."* These verses tell us that there were no carnivores before the fall (and perhaps few to

none before the flood, see Gen 9:3). This implies there had to be much more vegetation than around today, and it had to be much richer in nutrients. A key reason many animals are carnivorous today is because they cannot get enough nutrition from the plants in their environment.

Gen 2:4-6, *... but streams [or mist] came up from the earth and watered the whole surface of the ground.* This verse speaks of conditions during creation week that may or may not have continued until the flood. If so, that implies that it did not rain before the flood. That fits the symbol of the rainbow of God's promise better, but scholars point out that it is not scripturally necessary.



from "Living for 900 years" Creation 20(4): September 1998

Gen 2:25, *The man and his wife were both naked, and they felt no shame.* This implies a warm climate. The only stated need for clothing at the fall was to hide their shame.

Then there are the incredibly long life spans of the patriarchs, which drops off dramatically after the flood (see Genesis 5 and 11). Some have speculated it indicates the earth was well protected from harmful radiation among other favorable conditions enabling long life (vapor canopy again?)

In summarizing we see implications for the following: Conditions favorable for long life; Sufficient volume and nutrition in plants to minimize or preclude need for carnivorous traits; Globally warm conditions including a possible vapor canopy.

So is there evidence to support what the Bible describes? The answer is a resounding YES! 1-The fossil record is filled with giant versions of plants and animals alive today; trees, ferns,

dragonflies, crocs, sloths, beavers, peccaries, kangaroos and wombats just to name a few.



2-Huge dinosaurs: Lizards grow their whole life. Implies they lived very long, and/or conditions were favorable for growing rapidly.

3-Massive coal seams all around the world. These are organic in origin, there had to be an awful lot of vegetation to make all that coal!

4-Virtually all fossil layers indicate warm climates (The Genesis Flood, p 243-249).

Once again, scripture shows itself to be true.

References:

John Whitcomb & Henry Morris, The Genesis Flood, The Presbyterian and Reformed Pub. Co., 1961, p 243-249.

<http://www.answersingenesis.org/articles/2008/06/04/did-people-live-over-900-years>



The Problem of Astronomy

By Ron Cooper

There are several extremely common problems in the Christian (and other) communities about our perception of Astronomy (we are not addressing Astrology). If you would like to improve the understanding process for yourself or your children or your grandchildren, read on.

PROBLEMS

The first issue is our perception of the Universe as so big, that it is thought it must be very old! In simple BELIEF terms, since the Universe is thought to be 20 billion light-years across to the farthest celestial object in it, the Universe must be 20 billion years old. THIS IS FALSE! A "light-year" is a unit of distance, not a unit of time!

The second problem is our understanding of constants. As examples, we tend to think of every day as just like the last in our perceived viewpoints, or every car as just transportation (Ford F150, Honda Civic, etc.) or every food product just what we eat (potato, tomato, bean, beef, chicken etc) to have basically the same utility. It is this assumption of sameness being a constant or an identical item

that causes most of our perception problem. We ignore differences that we think are minimal differences! **False examples** are, every point of light in the sky is a star, or we can count the stars.

Our third problem is in language. The confusion of language starting in Babylon did not end in Babylon. We still have the different languages and are getting more. English may be the standard world language, but at the price of it having incorporated many pieces of many other languages into it. It has incorporated words and definitions, diction and syntax, idiom and rhythm, accent and flavor from most common other groups. It is very complex. These pieces are not even consistent, so we are confused easily. For example, we think of the KJV Bible as difficult to read. It is essentially another language that we have forgotten, but a simpler one with fewer words and fixed definitions. We have forgotten or confused the old definitions with new ones, or similar sounds with similar spellings, etc.

So our perceptions of bigness (or smallness), our need for constants (uniform perceptions), and our methods of communications all combine to make many things more difficult, including Astronomy. Yet we manage to muddle through. If you would like to improve the process for yourself or your children or your grandchildren, read on.

SOLUTIONS

The first solution is to understand bigness in our Universe (the only universe by definition). The easiest way is to get the DVD, "*Created Cosmos*." Or see it at the Creation Museum Planetarium. This DVD retails for \$14.99 and is available from ARKY's Bookstore for \$11.99 or \$14.00 shipped to you. (It is \$14.34 shipped from Answers in Genesis.) The DVD begins from an amazing perspective just above the International Space Station; you'll travel from this earth station to the moon and the outer reaches of the universe and back again in 22 minutes – WOW! This awe-inspiring planetarium show combines eye popping images and animations with faith affirming facts from science and Scripture. The result is that a difficult message, the immense size and scale of the universe, is made simple (understandable)!

The second solution is learning how to understand constants in a real sense. We need constants to even be able to manage getting

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(Astronomy—Continued from page 4)

through each day: What time to get up? How much to eat? How long to get somewhere? What do words mean? What does specific body language mean? How do we measure something? These all depend on a constant standard. But on a cosmic or cultural level, they are all changing in small or large extents. Our entire Universe is under the law of entropy (2nd law of thermodynamics), everything is getting less ordered, slowing down, getting colder. Our cultures are all different and even standards like cubits, feet, or meters illustrate the changes. Standards are the best “approximation” of what we define our changing understanding. The speed of light has been considered a constant, ignoring entropy, yet recent lab experiments have actual determined conditions that slow light or increase its speed. We are guessing at the reality of this Universe. We just know it is bigger than we are and smaller than God. God sustains it, but we don't know how, at least scientists don't know. Perhaps the only real constants are ratios between certain items and God Himself. We muddle along thinking our perceptions are good enough, but in eternal terms or in the world of the very large or very small, we are but very little children in our true understanding of these things.

The third issue that needs some resolution is language, to understand how our perceptions are affected. Unlike C3P0, of *Star Wars* fame, we do not understand thousands of languages perfectly. We don't even understand our own “ancient” languages perfectly. In fact, we don't really understand the language of our own children. Nor do we always insist they learn our imperfect and confusing communication, especially when we are inconsistent or deceptive or ignorant ourselves. We fortunately are able to pass on our “tribal language or culture” on the local level if we work at it. But, it is difficult even on the husband and



wife level. Every level beyond that has added complexity. The Bible calls this the curse starting in Babylon and is why we babble and are so afraid of public speaking or even writing.

There are techniques for communications that help immensely:

One is Jerry Lucas' method for remembering names by instantly associating names with the person and a visual picture of the name.

Early languages, like Hebrew, started out as phonetic and picture alphabets where each letter had a sound and a range of meanings associated with the “picture” characters. Modern Hebrew has lost (forgotten) that valuable aid and most languages have also done the same.

Using Webster's 1828 dictionary for constant meaning and Biblical understanding will increase true learning vastly. This \$69.95 book is available from ARKY's for \$55.96 (member price = \$48.96), with \$6.00 to ship in the USA.

Poems, rhythm, and song are all devices to improve our ability to learn and memorize what would otherwise be very confusing concepts. When we string words together to give concepts and thoughts, the abstraction is a uniquely human ability along with doing it by speech, art, writing, and reading. If we can focus on doing well everything we do, then the total process works better.

Today a well educated person commonly uses about 20,000 words. The Bible is: 31,102 verses, 14,298 original words, 12,143 English KJV words, 1,189 chapters, in 66 books. Studying and knowing the complete Bible is a sure way to become a well educated person in English, especially the KJV and perhaps the Amplified for normal study.

Using this basic level of education as a standard and then learning specific technical knowledge, like Astronomy, will condition us to demand precise communications and less “just so” story telling used in evolutionary dogma about space and time.

ARKY's Calendar of Events **(as of 1/5/10)**

See more details and complete list at
<http://www.arky.org/current/index.htm>

Jan10-11: 7:00 pm until 8:35 pm. **Answers in Genesis Conference, Not Ashamed:...** with Ken Ham at Christ's Church at Mason, 5165 Western Row Road, Mason, OH. Ph: (513) 229-3200. Sun 9:30 and 11:00 am, 6:00 pm, and Mon 6:30 pm. More details at: <http://www.answersingenesis.org/outreach/event/6500/>

***Jan 11:** 7:00 pm until 8:35 pm. **Darwin: The Voyage That Shook the World** at ARKY's House. In this expansive documentary the HMS Beagle once again sets sail as it retraces Darwin's voyage in lavish detail, examining his findings and remarkable conclusions in the light of modern knowledge. Discussion follows.

Jan 14: 6:30 pm until 8:00 pm. **Institute on the Constitution** classes sponsored by the Kettering Liberty Group at Fairmont High School, 3301 Shroyer Rd, South Unit- RM 527, Kettering, OH. Ph: (937) 545-3213. The class on the US Constitution starts January 14, 2010 and will continue for 12 consecutive weeks, ending on April 1. The cost will be \$35.00 for DVD and workbook materials. Payment for class materials must be submitted prior to December 23, 2009 so the materials can be delivered for class. There can be ordered later. <http://www.iotconline.com/>

Each session will be 90 minutes. If you are interested in learning more or would like to sign up, please contact Julie Kemp at (937) 545-3213 or jkemproad@gmail.com. The instructor, Ricki Pepin, has been teaching this course for over 10 years. This will be a fun and exciting way to increase your knowledge on how and what our Nation was founded on.

Beginning with the Bible in the book of Genesis, you will learn of the origins of history, law and government. From there, you'll hear of America's discovery, settlement and evangelization from exciting, primary sources you never saw in school! Then, the worldview of the founding fathers is discussed, which leads straight to the text of the Constitution.

***Feb 8:** 7:00 pm until 8:35 pm. DVD: **State of the Nation - 2009 with Ken Ham** at ARKY's House. The Collapse of Christian America: While highlighting blatant, anti-Christian agendas espoused by

some of the most visible culture icons of our time, it explains why nearly 70% of young people are abandoning the church. Discover the reasons behind the collapse of Christianity in the Western world! Discussion follows.

***Mar 8:** 7:00 pm until 8:35 pm. DVD: **Unwrapping the Pharaohs** with Dr. David Down at ARKY's House. Fascinating facts about ancient Egypt -- and the Bible: Conventional Egyptian chronologists claim there are no records of the Hebrew nation in captivity in Egypt. Hear exciting evidence from a leading Christian archaeologist that demonstrates the Bible had it right all along! Discussion follows.

***Apr 12:** 7:00 pm until 8:35 pm. DVD: **Creation & Cosmology** with Dr. Danny Faulkner at ARKY's House. This gives an overview of the evolving theories in secular astronomy. By dissecting various flaws in past and current big bang models, it encourages Christians to critically examine all theories. It shows how the big bang model is insufficient to explain the universe as we see it today.

April 23-25, Attend the **Worldview Weekend** Family Reunion. Hear great speakers like Dr. David Jeremiah, Ron Carlson, David Noebel, Dr. David Reagan and more. Entertainment by Christian musicians and comedians, including Dino. 3 days and 2 nights at the Christian owned and operated Thousand Hills Comfort Inn of Branson. Only \$67.00 per night which includes breakfast. W.W. tickets cost only \$65.00 per person for the entire weekend. The entire trip, including transportation, meals, lodging and event fee is only \$264 per person from Dayton (snacks, souvenirs, extras not included in price). Share a room & save \$33-\$50! Sign up today and reserve your seat on Greater Connections Travel Bus. Email Tammy Collins at: tjcollins@donet.com, or call (937) 570-8296.

Note Asterisk () Indicates regular ARK meeting at ARKY's House, 2002 S Smithville Rd, Dayton, OH. One mile South of US 35, just past Wayne Ave. Park on North side (Farnham Ave), Dayton, OH. Ph: (937) 256-ARKY.*

The ARK monthly meeting is every 2nd Monday.

Membership NOT required to attend meetings! - Get the latest "CURRENT

Financial Statement

General Fund

Balance 1/1/09 \$3,740.16

Receipts

Memberships	1,065.00
Donations	4,801.55
Speaker Gifts	230.50
Projects – inc Darwin books	3201.30
CEF-Collins	220.00
Children's Ministry	20.00
Special Events /Banquet	0.00
Equipment Sold	20.00
Miscellaneous	621.50
Reimbursements	761.94
Refunds	0.00
Non-Tax Sales	2,766.97
Taxable Sales	24,283.25
Sales tax collected	1,655.59
Shipping & Handling	31.75
Total	43,419.51

Disbursements

Newsletter/CC	335.64
Projects	2,190.00
Office	374.55
Telephone	810.88
Children's Ministry	119.99
CEF-Collins	220.00
Exhibiting	6,098.58
Web	669.40
Inventory	17,295.55
Equipment	658.57
Supplies	795.23
Insurance	1,549.00
Professional Fees	645.92
Sales Tax Paid	1,662.98
Speaking/Events	425.00
Misc.	1,211.93
Tithes&Gifts	600.00
Museum Trailer	105.50
Reimbursed	555.20
Sales Returns	108.00
Total	36,431.92

Balance 11/30/09 6,987.59

Building Fund

Balance 1/1/09 -1,559.59

Receipts

8,677.13

Expenses

Mortgage	4,857.36
Building	41.66
Utilities	1,952.55
Real Estate Taxes	22.50
Advertising	339.00
Repairs	0.00
Total Bld. Expenses	7,213.07

Balance 11/30/09 -565.53

Net Balance, Both Funds 3,961.29

ARK Supporter Benefits

1. **30% discount:** minimum on all purchases;
2. **Quarterly newsletter:** ARK members receive news and expansion plans;
3. **National support:** 10% of supporters' general donations is given to Answers in Genesis, our voluntary support for a national Biblical creation science organization;
4. **Webpage:** www.arky.org provides logical, Biblical information to a world saturated with an unbiblical, ill-suited naturalism for the needs of people;
5. **Monthly ARK meetings:** interesting speakers or DVD program on a variety of subjects, provided FREE to the community;
6. **Major speaker programs:** sponsored into the area or promoted by ARK;
7. **Local ARK speakers:** available for community and church events;
8. **Encouragement and Answers:** for belief in the Biblical Creator;
9. **Leadership training:** periodically opportunity to learn how to serve in your church or school or study group;
10. **Public materials:** make available Creation resources – books, audios, and DVDs to public;
11. **Lending library:** by mail or at ARKY house for supporters;
12. **Bookstore available:** during regular hours and by appointment;
13. **Bookstore honors specials:** when offered by AiG, ICR, and WallBuilder if items are in stock.

Is it time for you to renew?

Please check the date above your name and address. If the date has past or coming up soon, please renew today.

Be an ARK Supporter!

Name: _____
 Addr: _____
 City, ST ZIP: _____
 Ph: () _____ - _____ Work: _____ - _____
 Email: _____
 Church: _____
 City/Zip: _____
 Membership Amount : \$ _____
 Gift Amount : \$ _____
 Total Enclosed: \$ _____
 Building Pledge: \$ _____ per _____
 Membership: One Spousal Family

ARK individual membership is only \$25/year (\$30 couple, \$40 family). To receive this newsletter quarterly for free, please complete the address form and put "Jesus" in amount. (Please include mailing label, if you are renewing.)

ARKY's Bookstore

Bookstore hours manned by volunteers are:

- Tuesday 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm;**
- Thursday 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm;**
- Saturday 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm;**
- OTHER TIMES BY APPOINTMENT**





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Kids Korner

Creation Science Investigators (C.S.I.)

By TJ

Hey, kids! TJ here again and this time have I got some news for you! We need to get out our hiking gear and prepare for a Safari. Not the animal kind, where you look for giraffe's, elephants, and tigers.

Rather, the kind of exploration that will take you (or just your imagination) to places like Egypt, where places are built with a point to it. Journey to the hot and dry Sahara Desert (not dessert, Ray), where a cup of cold water would make anyone say, "Thank you, Jesus." Places like Big Bend, the Grand Canyon, Mount Rushmore, and Yosemite make a nation proud.

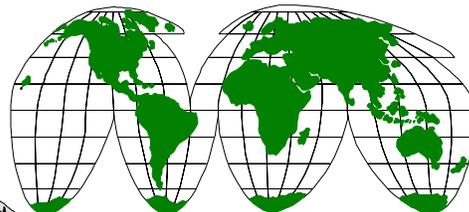
You'll really be a world traveler if you journey around the bitter cold temperatures of the Antarctica! Brrrr! By the way, who in their right mind would travel to the Tropic of Cancer?! It doesn't even



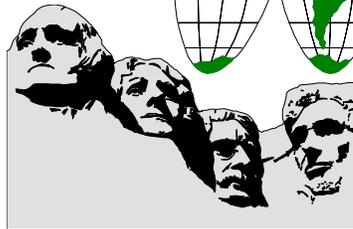
sound like a healthy place! Don't forget to be careful where you are standing on this trek; you just might be standing on the Prime Meridian! Ouch!

Oh, and don't get lost in the West Indies. If it could happen to Christopher Columbus, it could happen to you! Get your globe dusted off, kids, and locate these amazing places on this planet.

There's no other planet like Planet Earth!



W h i l e you're at it, look for other interesting places with names that



you can have fun with. Even the Cincinnati Bengals have something in common with the globe! Just take your snorkel

with you while searching for it! Later on, TJ!