This question was asked in the 1970’s by the late Francis Shaeffer, and the question is just as valid today as it was back then. (“How Should We Then Live?” book (1976) and 10 part video series (1977)). Back when Dr. Shaeffer wrote this, western civilization still had a significant Christian mindset. But the same cannot be said so easily today. I bet he could see this day coming.

Although the Christian presence is still relatively strong in the U.S. I think it is safe to say that we live in a post-Christian culture now. So, I think this question is even more vital now than it was back then. How shall a lover of Christ live in this world that is increasingly hostile to things Biblical? Similarly, are we to cower in fear as the battles to maintain our religious freedoms have become more intense than ever, and war has broken out overseas?

I put to you that I think it should now be easier to stand out as the salt and light Jesus calls us to be. Our humble compassion should be drawing people to want

(Continued on page 3)

Dr. Aaron Hutchison

of Cedarville University to speak at the next annual ARK banquet! He will be speaking on “A Christian understanding of science.” Monday June 13th. See details on the back page.
Sea Dragons
by Creationstudies Institute

[Originally published as part of Echoes of the Jurassic]

The term "dragon" was used for extinct massive creatures found before British paleontologist Richard Owen (1804-1892) first coined the term "Dinosaur." It is interesting to note that in the British Museum of Natural History there are large fossilized bones of marine reptiles stamped "SEA-DRAG." According to creationist researcher Vance Nelson, the author of Untold Secrets of Planet Earth: Dire Dragons (2012), this was short for sea dragon. He states, "This, along with other evidence and accounts, shows that the early paleontologists often referred to these creatures as dragons, both before and after the word dinosaur was used."

Before Owen's discovery of dinosaurs, large kinds of extinct marine reptiles that lived on land alongside the dinosaurs were classified as "Sea-Dragons." This distinctive category included the Ichthyosauri (Ichthyosaurus) and Plesiosauri (Plesiosaurus). Both are extinct kinds of large marine reptilian animals. Over a hundred-year period, geologists of the day identified these fossils as kinds of fish, crocodiles, and dolphins, but until this complete skeleton was discovered in England in 1834, the Ichthyosaur was categorized as a Sea Dragon.

Dr. William Buckland, professor of Geology at Oxford, was the first scientist to work with these creatures. In his book, Geology and Mineralogy, Considered with Reference to Natural Theology (1836), he gave the following description:

Thus, in the same individual, the snout of a Porpoise is combined with the teeth of a Crocodile, the head of a Lizard with the vertebra of a fish, and the sternum of an Ornithorhynchus (platypus) with the paddles of a Whale. The general outline of an Ichthyosaurus must have most nearly resembled the modern Porpoise, and Grampus (Orca). It had four broad feet, or paddles, and terminated behind in a long and powerful tail. Some of the largest of these reptiles must have exceeded thirty feet in length.

It became apparent as the paleontologists of that time started to put all the fossil evidence together that they had found creatures that were extremely puzzling. Some of them had never been seen before, and the name "Sea-Dragon" was considered an appropriate term. The English word dragon is derived from Greek, "drákon," which relates to a serpent or reptilian type of huge creature. These fossils represented some sort of monster of the sea that had the potential to be a dangerous predator.

Could this fearsome creature, who inhabited the warm and shallow oceans in the past, be the monster addressed in numerous maritime accounts? Could these have wreaked havoc on those who used the sea for transportation and a food source?

Another Sea Dragon was the Plesiosaurus. Like the Ichthyosaurus, it had "saurus" at the end of its name inferring that it was a giant marine reptile. Measuring a modest 11 feet, it was named in 1824 after an almost complete skeleton was found in England in 1823. It had unique features, such as two pairs of elongated large paddles, a long slender neck, a small pointed head with teeth, and a broad, flat body with a tiny tail. It had nostrils on its head, and it was believed to be air-breathing and warm blooded. This very popular Sea Dragon had a plethora of fossils that have been collected over the years, many of them recently. Since 1990, there have been 17 new kinds of plesiosaurs discovered, thereby doubling the varieties that are known today.

The Plesiosaurus was a general category in which all of the long-necked Sea Dragons, in-
including the Elasmosaurus (pictured at the top), were placed. This 34-foot giant was found in Fort Wallace, Kansas in 1868. It was first named by Edward Cope (1840–1897), one of the most famous paleontologists during the Great Dinosaur Rush, or, Bone Wars (1877–1892) in America.

A great rivalry took place between Cope and another renowned American paleontologist, Othniel Marsh (1831–1899). They discovered dinosaur fossil bone beds located in Wyoming, Colorado, and Nebraska. This area is known today as the Morrison Formation. It was, and still is, prolific at producing a plethora of dinosaur kinds including the Triceratops, Stegosaurus, Allosaurus, and many others.

Both men savagely fought to reach dinosaur sites. They spied on and stole from each other. Sadly, they also eventually destroyed each other’s reputations. It was Cope’s discovery of the Elasmosaurus that brought Marsh’s attention to an embarrassing mistake that would separate these two men for as long as they lived. Cope had mistakenly put the head on the tail end of his discovery because he did not account for the correct orientation of the vertebrae as well as the Elasmosaurus’ long neck.

In Marsh’s words, “When I informed Professor Cope of it, his wounded vanity received a shock from which he has never recovered, and he has since become my bitter enemy.”

Read more at the original site: Echoes of the Jurassic

Lord Jesus enable me
To show peace in the midst of turmoil
To show joy midst the sorrow
To love midst the hate
Show blessing midst the persecution
The hope of Christ midst the hopelessness around us

(How to live? - Continued from page 1)

what we have, which is that hope we have in Christ. Those that continue to hate us should only be hating us for the same reasons they hated Jesus when he walked the earth, not because we are shouting back at them in anger.

The times that Jesus did condemn, and overturn tables, was directed at those who claimed to be following God but weren’t. He almost universally acted in compassion and grace to those who were ‘without’ (i.e. non-Jews and those who knew they were not right with God).

We need to be daily bathing ourselves in His word and in prayer, to help us keep our hearts fixed on Christ, the author and finisher of our faith (Hebrews 12:2). Only by daily focusing on Christ can we keep from worrying about the state of our world. And only by daily focusing on Him can his love pour through us as we exhibit his love to those who need to know him.

How should we live? Not in fear, but in humble boldness; asking Christ to help us see and love each person we come across as He sees and loves them. Turning to His Word daily and spending time with him daily, for we cannot do this on our own power. So do not hide because of the darkness of the day, but ask him how you might be used to shine his light and point another towards him each day.
Fossils and Genetics: Evidence for Evolution?
By Kevin Hadsall

Evolutionists commonly believe that fossils and genetic similarities are evidences for evolution. This is what we are taught in schools, colleges, museums, media entertainment, and so forth. Humanist RC’s comment in the Evolution as “Science” Debate was typical in the sense of his arguments. However, I commend RC for being much more respectful compared to the other humanists. In Part 4 of the debate transcript, I share RC’s comment along with my response. Note that when I reference my previous response to KY, you can find that here.

Note: transcript portions are in topical order for clarity, but the posts are numbered to maintain chronological integrity. By the time I share Part 10 of this blog post series, I will have shared the entire debate transcript. Also, all names are abbreviated for privacy and brevity.

14. RC: Evolution on the scale that you're talking about takes a long, long time. We've not been around long enough to witness such a change.

What we can see however is the evidence of that change left behind: fossils in the very oldest strata show more simplistic organisms than in later strata; fossils of species that don't exist anymore are found, and fossils of extant species do not exist throughout the entire fossil record. From those facts alone, we could propose two ideas: the first is that new species spring into existence at random, complex and fully-formed; the second idea is that those species shared common ancestors and evolved from earlier creatures.

Now, if we look at genetics, we can see that all organisms share common genetic elements, and we can follow those gene trails to trace an organisms 'family tree'. Thus, we can lend support to the latter idea over the former.

Finally, we know that offspring inherit traits from their parents (like the old cliche "he has his father's eyes") and that populations change over time as those traits are mixed, and we diversify our gene pool. So we can observe the mechanism that drives evolution in a small timescale, even though we can't directly observe macro-scale evolution in action, much like we can't watch mountains rise from the earth in real-time, but we can see the processes at work and the evidence of their action, and thus understand how it all works.

The evidence for evolution is like a crime scene; we may not have witnessed the crime in action, but we can examine the evidence it leaves behind to piece together what happened.

39. Kevin: RC, I appreciate your honesty when you say “We’ve not been around long enough to witness such a change” and “…we may not have witnessed the crime in action…” Regarding your comment on fossils, see my responses to KY. I'll add to that here and say why not consider a third option? If there really was a global, catastrophic flood about 4,300 years ago, we would expect to find billions of dead organisms buried in the order of ecological zone and elevation. That would explain why the lowest fossil-bearing sediments contain fossilized sea creatures, but you don't find fossilized land animals until you move up to higher strata. (To learn more, see https://answersingenesis.org/fossils/fossil-record/order-in-the-fossil-record/).

Regarding your comment on genetics, I also addressed that in my response to KY. Creation scientists also expect to find genetic similarity due to common Designer rather than common ancestor.

Regarding inherited traits and gene pool diversity, these changes are easily explained by genetic recombination or even loss of genetic information. Natural selection is totally different from “molecules-to-man” evolution. (Continued on page 5)
Who and What to Esteem
By Henry M. Morris, PH.D.

"Esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt: for he had respect unto the recompense of the reward" (Hebrews 11:26).

We hear much today about the importance of self-esteem, with the implication that lack of self-esteem is the cause of many of the personal problems and anti-social activities of so many young people (and others as well) these days.

But this is not the Biblical perspective. The problem really is too much self-esteem. The Biblical command is that we should "in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves" (Philippians 2:3). The man Moses was once a prince of Egypt, probably in line to become the pharaoh, but he chose Christ and the people of God instead, "Esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt" (today's text).

Paul the apostle could have become the greatest teacher and leader in the religio/political life of his own Jewish people, but he said: "What things were gain to me, those I counted loss for Christ. Yea doubtless, and I count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord" (Philippians 3:7-8). In these verses, "count" is the same word in the original Greek language as "esteem."

Similarly, the apostle James assures us that we should "count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations"--that is, trials that test your faith--"Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience" (James 1:2-3).

Therefore, if we would truly conform to the will of God for our lives, we should be esteeming others more than cultivating self-esteem in ourselves, esteem knowing and serving Christ more than all the riches and fame of the world, and esteem it a joyful privilege when we are enabled to grow more like Him through the trials and testings He permits us to share. HMM


(Other text continues from previous page)

video clip within this article: https://answersingenesis.org/natural-selection/natural-selection-is-not-evolution/

Regarding your last point: one way to have strong confidence in your interpretation of the crime scene evidence is to find a reliable witness. Christians have that reliable witness: God. God told us basic facts about the past in His Word, especially the book of Genesis. You and I have the same evidence in the present, but we have different interpretations of the evidence based on different presuppositions or "starting points."

By the way, I appreciate the civil tone of your response.

RC responded toward the very end of the discussion and continued to exhibit a respectful tone. I will share that portion of the debate in Parts 9 and 10 of this blog post series.

Prior to RC's follow-up response, over a dozen more humanists commented on the thread, so those portions of the debate transcript encompass Parts 5 through 8 of this blog post series.

Article reproduced from: Fossils and Genetics: Evidence for Evolution? (unmaskinghumanism.org), Jun 27, 2020

To read more of Kevin’s posts, go to: https://www.unmaskinghumanism.org/

Soundbite: Life

As we continue to learn more about the utterly astounding complexity of life, it becomes ever more a leap of faith to insist that life came about by blind chance processes, rather than from an all-powerful, loving God. MSJ

ARKY Annual Meeting

WE NEED YOU!

Please attend the annual ARK meeting on Monday, May 11. Your input is highly valued. Come help us plan ARK’s future. And PRAY for the Lord’s direction for ARK.

7:00-8:35 at Faith Christian Fellowship. Time permitting, we will also show a short video; "The Heavens Declare: Our Incredible Sun" with several prominent Creation Astronomers.
What Did God Say About The End-Times?

By Charles Brewster, WhatDidGodSay@aol.com

CB is a long time friend of the ARK Foundation and has been a periodic contributor to the newsletters. His extensive studies have lead him to writing a book about the end times. He has recently sent out the first several chapters for review. I have read the first three chapters so far and find it very well thought out. While the subject matter almost guarantees one will not agree with everything written, I believe it will be worth the read. Below is part of chapter one. If you like what you read, contact Charles via his email address above and ask for more.

Ch 1: “Search The Scriptures!” Use God’s Word To Debunk Evangelical Errors

Are the teachings on the End-Times important? Or is this just a side-issue that doesn’t have any bearing on our salvation? One indication of the relative importance of End-Time events is that about one third of the passages in the New Testament and the prophetic books of the Old Testament refer to it.

Certainly, what we believe about the End-Times usually will not affect our standing with Christ. But outspoken Christian leaders in the media forcefully promote the elements of their own pet End-Times theories. The fierce squabbling over the merits of the various viewpoints has created heated divisions in the church. Just mentioning the Rapture can, in many cases, start an argument.

It is true that the word “Rapture” doesn’t occur in any translation of the Bible. Many cult leaders use this fact to draw Christians who have only a shallow knowledge of Scripture away from basic Christianity and into their web.

“Rapture” was coined from the Latin word “rapiemur” (“caught up”) which was used in the Vulgate translation of the passage in First Thessalonians 4:17—“. . . we who are still alive and are left will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air.” But even those who react and say they do not believe in the Rapture would surely acknowledge that they believe that those still alive when the Lord comes down from heaven will be caught up with the resurrected dead. So they should still believe in the event even though they might quibble about the timing or the term “Rapture” itself.

But for those who are still alive at the time of the Rapture (the “caught up”), wrong teachings might cause them to fall away. We will get into the Scriptures that deal with that later.

As you may guess from the title of this chapter, I believe that most evangelical scholars have twisted God’s word concerning End-Times to support their own pet notions. I do not question the Christianity of these men—in most cases they are dear brothers in Christ. But when we get saved, it is usually accompanied by whatever baggage the men who lead us to Christ drag along with them. These men in most cases are simply reiterating and embellishing the baggage drug along by those who evangelized them.

I readily admit that I am no different—but I did have one major advantage. As a new Christian I was blessed to be in a Bible study group at work that had Grace Brethren, Baptist, Nazarene, Church of Christ, Church of God, Catholic, and Methodists in the group—all solid Christian men who were steeped in their own church doctrines. It soon became obvious that we all agreed on what the Scriptures say, the disagreement was about what it meant.

So I learned a valuable lesson there—what I think Scripture means is not important. What is important is, “What did God say about that?” So as we learn and grow in the knowledge of the Lord, we should find that what we think is constantly molded and fine-tuned by what God has said. If so, we eventually will be confronted with a Scripture that requires us to drastically reconsider some notion we previously had—whether that notion came through our own prior misunderstanding, or through misguided teachings we received from those brothers we respected as Bible teachers.

As for my early notions about the End-Times, it was the latter case. I was saved when I was 34 years old partly through the ministry of Hal Lindsey’s book The Late Great Planet Earth. Then, during the first years of my Christian walk, I soaked up everything Hal Lindsey (and the people he recommended) had to say about End-Times. I became a “true believer”. I was totally convinced that the Rapture would come in 1988—the end was near!

(Continued on page 7)
If someone asked you when you came into existence, you might say, “When my mom became pregnant” or you might give them your birthday. But what would you say if someone asked you when Jesus came into existence?

If we want to know something about Jesus, where should we look? The Bible! It is the source of truth about everything, including Jesus. And this is what the Bible tells us about Jesus:

\[
\text{In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through him, and without him was not anything made that was made. (JOHN 1:1–3)}
\]

\[
\text{For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him. And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together. (COLOSSIANS 1:16–17)}
\]

This tells us that Jesus is the Creator! He made everything! This means he existed before anything was created, and since he created time, this means he existed before time. God is outside of time. That’s hard for us to understand because we’re bound by time, but God isn’t. Jesus, who is God, has existed from eternity past. He’s always existed and always will! This means Jesus has always been and always will be with us.

How Is Jesus The Creator?

Jesus is the Creator God because God is a triune God. This means God is one God but three Persons. Those Persons are God the Father, God the Son (Jesus), and the God the Holy Spirit. One God, three Persons.

From: Jesus—He Was Before Creation! | Kids Answers (answersingenesis.org)  —  Check out more Kids Answers at: Kids Answers | (answersingenesis.org)
ARKY’s Calendar of Events
(as of 4/1/22)
See more details and complete list at http://www.arky.org/current/index.htm

*April 12, 7:00 pm to 8:35 pm. The Case for Christ: the Film with Lee Strobel at Faith Christian Fellowship. Lee Strobel's blockbuster bestseller comes alive on your screen in this documentary that chronicles the reporter's journey from atheism to faith. The former legal editor of The Chicago Tribune draws upon his investigative skills to examine the historical viability and accuracy of the Gospels, along with the personal claims and resurrection of Jesus Christ. This remarkable documentary is like reading a captivating, fast-paced novel. But it's not fiction. It's a riveting quest for the truth about history's most compelling figure. What will your verdict be in The Case for Christ?

*May 9, 7:00 pm to 8:35 pm. Annual Member meeting and election of officers with Mark Jurkovich at Faith Christian Fellowship. Come and help us steer the direction of the Ark Foundation's future, and for the election of next year's officers. If time permits, bonus video "The Heavens Declare: Our Incredible Sun" with several prominent Creation Astronomers.

*June 13, 6:00 pm to 8:35 pm. Annual ARK banquet with Dr. Aaron Hutchison at MCL Cafeteria, 4485 Far Hills Ave (just north of David Rd) (937-299-6605)., Dayton, OH.

*July 11, 7:00 pm to 8:35 pm. DVD: The Designer World with Prof. Stuart Burgess at Faith Christian Fellowship. Prof. Stuart Burgess describes how the earth is intricately designed for life (Isaiah 45:18) and especially designed for all the varied needs of mankind. Examples of amazing design that will be described include grass, wood, milk, honey, dogs, horses, and the color scheme of creation.

*Aug 8, 7:00 pm to 8:35 pm. Hearing Ear & Seeing Eye: God Has Made them Both with Dr. David Menton at Faith Christian Fellowship. Anatomist Dr. David Menton takes you on a journey into the marvelous intricacies of the eye and the human ear, which have the clear stamp of the Creator on them and leaves skeptics speechless.

*Sept 9, 7:00 pm to 8:35 pm. Equipping Your Child for Life Relationships with Dennis Rainey at Faith Christian Fellowship. What are the important relationships that your child will have? As parents, how can we equip our children for these relationships? Dennis Rainey addresses parents, friends, your child's future spouse, and even a pet parakeet. But he shares that the most important relationship to prepare your child for is his relationship with Christ.

*Oct 10, 7:00 pm to 8:35 pm. Replacing Darwin: The New Origin of the Species with Dr. Nathaniel Jeanson at Faith Christian Fellowship. Dr. Jeanson effectively and authoritatively documents the newest scientific discoveries, refutes Darwin's claims, and presents evidences that support a compelling alternate explanation for the origin of species.

Monthly meetings are also available in Marysville, OH. "In The Beginning" Meeting Schedule at Living Hope Church, 16701 Square Drive; Marysville, OH 4th Sunday each month (except December) at 6:00 PM

    Contact Steve McConaughy 419-450-2483

April 26 Universe Battles: Big Bang or Big Design? (DVD)

May 24 Mount St. Helens: Modern Day Evidence for the Worldwide Flood Dr. Steve Austin, and Light Years? No Problem! Distant Starlight in a Young Universe Dr. Russel Humphries (DVDs)

June 28 Mitochondrial Eve and the 3 “Daughters” of Noah (DVD) Dr. Robert Carter

July 19 Two Religions (DVD) Ken Ham

August 23 Earth Battles: How Old Is It? (DVD)

Note Asterisk (*) Indicates regular ARK meeting at Faith Christian Fellowship, 1778 Grange Hall Rd, Beavercreek, OH 45432. Located about a quarter mile north of Dayton-Xenia Road. Ph: (937) 256-ARKY.

The ARK monthly meeting is every 2nd Monday of the month.

Membership NOT required to attend meetings! - Get the latest "CURRENT EVENTS" on the web at http://www.arky.org.
Financial Statement 2021

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Is it time for you to renew?

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

Be an ARK Supporter!

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Church: __________________________

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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.) Make checks to: ARK Foundation of Dayton, Inc.

ARK Supporter Benefits

1. Tri-annual newsletter: ARK members receive news and insightful articles;

2. Creation Museum Passes: Several ARK members have made their passes available for use by other ARK members and their guests. FOR FREE;

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. HELPING US IN PROMOTING THE TRUTH OF SCRIPTURE FROM FIRST VERSE TO THE LAST; and that true science is consistent with God’s Word.
26th Annual ARK Banquet
With Dr. Aaron Hutchison of Cedarville University.
Jun 13, 6:00 pm to 8:35 pm
MCL Cafeteria Kettering, 4485 Far Hills Ave (just north of David Rd, 937-299-6605),

Dr. Hutchison is a professor of chemistry and has done research on the geochemistry of the Flood, writing several papers on mercury and arsenic in relation to the flood. His talk this evening will be on “A Christian understanding of science.”

Eat ala carte from the food line between 6 and 7 pm.
Program starts at 7:00 and speaker at about 7:15 pm.
A donation will be requested for Aaron’s honorarium and ARKy expenses.
For more information call (937) 256-ARKY.

Overview of Aaron’s talk:
It is commonly said today that science and Christian faith are two totally separate ways of understanding the world. Yet a proper understanding of both the nature and history of science shows that this is not at all the case. Science is in fact a method of understanding creation that in large part grew out of a distinctly biblical understanding of the world. Rather than hindering the practice of science, a faith grounded on God’s word can enhance a scientist’s ability to understand the world.

The most selfless act the world has ever known was followed three days later by the greatest miracle the world will ever know.