

ARKY's News

Volume 28, #2

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Aug—Nov 2022

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A CREATIONIST UNDERSTANDING OF SCIENCE

Review of the 2022 ARK Banquet talk by Dr. Aaron Hutchison

Our talk this year was by Cedarville professor of chemistry Aaron Hutchison. He gave a good historical background of science showing that, not only is Christianity compatible with science, but that Christianity created science.

After laying down the Biblical starting point, (1- There is one God in three persons. 2- He has revealed Himself and His glory in both His world and, most clearly, in His word – the Bible. 3- The Bible is the work of God and therefore without error.) he asked the questions: Is there a fundamental conflict between practicing science well and these beliefs? -and- Are religion and science fundamentally different ways of looking at the world? If we look at the secular view, we see opinions like that of Stephen Jay Gould, who held that Faith and Science were fundamentally different and should not mix. Is he right? Aaron showed that the answer is “no” once science is properly understood, and the history of science is considered.

Before going into the history, it was pointed out that science is only a part of how we gain knowledge. We gain knowledge in three ways: transmission, observation, and reason. For all of us, most of our knowledge is gained by transmission. Whatev-

er strides we gain in science is always upon the shoulders of those who came before us, and the information they have passed down to us. The scientific method of course fits under observation. And some knowledge is also gained through our own reason. But Aaron pointed out that all of these methods have been tainted by the fall, and are far from infallible, with the exception of that information which we have received by divine transmission (the Bible).

I love a quote Aaron gave from Robert Boyle with a great illustration on divine transmission versus the tendency for our own truth to stray:

“As I make use of my watch to estimate time, when ever the sun is absent or clouded, but when he shines clearly forth, I scruple not to correct and adjust my watch by his beams cast on a dial; so wherever no better light is to be had, I estimate truth by my own reason; but where divine revelation can be consulted, I willingly submit my fallible reason to the sure informations afforded by celestial light.”

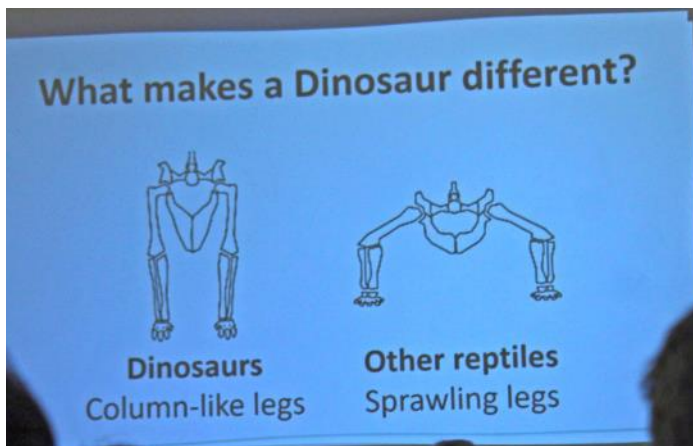
In other words, watches in those days were prone to run fast or

(Continued on page 3 - “Science”)

A review of the Creation Superconference

By Mark Jurkovich

My wife and I had the privilege to attend this conference put on by Creation Ministries International (CMI) this past Memorial Day week in Myrtle Beach. Around 20 different talks and a few special events were spread over a four day period. We got to hear from most, if not all of CMI's speakers (Johnathan Sarfati, Robert Carter, Gary Bates, ...) plus one or two invited speakers, including Spike Psarris. I would like to give you highlights from every one of the talks I attended, but that would take too long. So, I will try to give some highlights from selected talks.



Sample presentation slide: key difference between dinosaurs and lizards.

Dr. Sarfati – “Carbon-14 and Long Ages”. Some key points.

- God created with maturity, not apparent age (i.e. He did not deceive by making everything look old).
- The world's best Carbon-14 labs over a 20 year period all showed Carbon-14 in diamonds! They cannot be millions of years old.
- Did you know that Carbon-14 actually peaked in the 60's? Implies that it was affected by all the nuclear testing done until the test ban treaty. Therefore, atmospheric Carbon-14 has not been constant over time.
- A great article he referenced in the talk: “101 evidences for a young age of the



Dr. Sarfati at one of his talks

earth and the universe” (<https://creation.com/age-of-the-earth>) (by the way, did you know he is a Messianic Jew? Cool!)

Joel Tay – “Dinosaur Evidence Demolishes Evolution”.

- Dinosaurs really are becoming a friend to Biblical creation/global flood. The Bible says all animals ate plants before the fall. Now scientific evidence shows that even about half of all theropods (T-Rex kinds) ate plants!
- Dinosaur fossils shout out rapid and massive burials. Examples given: protoceratops and velociraptor buried while fighting each other; mega bone beds with bones of many dinosaurs jumbled together; backward arching necks are a sign of drowning/suffocating; many armored dinosaurs (ex. ankylosaurus) found upside down, meaning they were drown and/or floated dead before being buried.
- Of course, he covered the many cases of soft tissue found, but it is now up to 120 cases recorded in over 30 scientific journals documenting soft tissue! Even found in supposed 2.5 billion year old bacteria material; how can they still believe it is that old!?

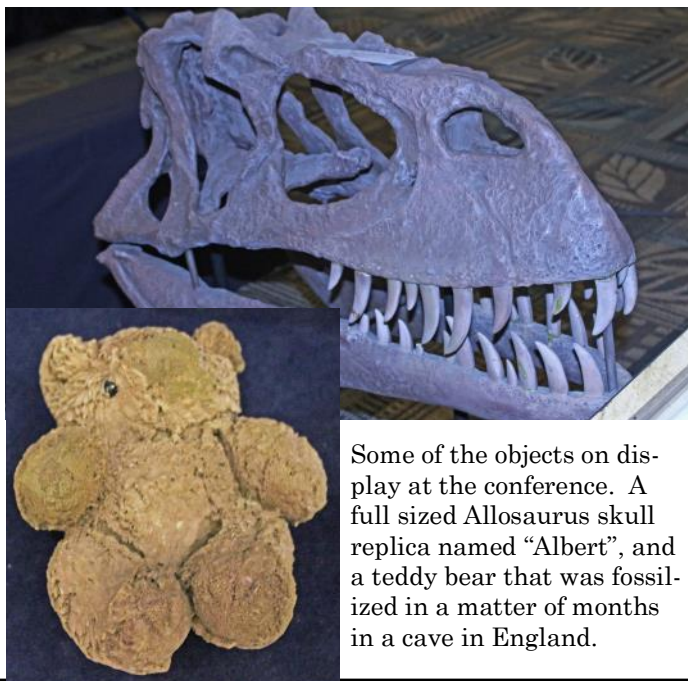
Dr. Jeff Benjamin – “Tree Ring Dating and the Bible”. This was an interesting talk looking at the 10 trees claimed to be the oldest in the world. Several of these trees could very

(Continued on page 3)

(Superconference - continued from previous page)

well have started growing shortly after the flood. Several others have estimated ages that would put them older than the flood. But for all of the trees in question, assumptions had to be made to estimate their ages. Several are hollow in the center with no rings to count. Others are colony trees, which I never heard of before, which share a common root system. No individual tree in that colony is the estimated thousands of year old date, but the colony as a whole is estimated to that great age. Even ones which can be dated by counting tree rings is questionable. One scientist confirmed that drought conditions can cause more than one ring to form in a year. And of these kinds, its only the ones growing in harsh climates that get the ancient age dates. None of their relatives growing in moister climates have nearly the same old age date. This implies the others truly do have more rings than one per year. In summary, none of these trees are older than the flood.

I could cover more of the talks including several by Dr. Carter and Gary Bates, but I will stop here, and encourage you to consider going the next time it comes around. (see page 10 for my favorite talk) The Creation Superconference is held every 3 or 4 years in Myrtle Beach. The next time one comes around, why not plan a family vacation around it? It will be well worth your while.



Some of the objects on display at the conference. A full sized Allosaurus skull replica named "Albert", and a teddy bear that was fossilized in a matter of months in a cave in England.

(Science - Continued from page 1)

slow, and get out of sync with the true time. While the sun, when visible, is the indicator of the true time. Same is true with our own reasoning, which will stray when left to its own. But the light of scripture can always be used to bring it back to truth.

After an introduction on the two ways God interacts with

our world (natural laws and divine intervention), Dr Hutchison traced the history of the development of science starting with Basil of Caesarea in the fourth century. In his lectures on days of creation, Basil laid some of the foundation of ideas science would be based on. Aaron then traced the development from alchemy to chemistry. Starting with Paracelsus of the 1500's who noted that since Jesus had said the sick needed a physician, he believed we must do better (than the alchemy of his day). He was followed by Johan Van Helmont. Then with Robert Boyle, the transition from alchemy to chemistry was complete. All these men were dedicated followers of Christ and believers in the truth revealed in the Bible.

Boyle explicitly said that God had created the world to function according to natural laws that could be determined through experiments. Without these men, and many other men of God who focused on other fields of science, it is highly doubtful that science would have ever progressed nearly as far as it stands today.

In conclusion, I repeat what I said at the start, which is a paraphrase of what Aaron stated at the end of his talk: Not only is Christianity compatible with science, Christianity created science.



Robert Boyle, by Johann Kerseboom, NPG 3930, © National Portrait Gallery, London, <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/3.0/>

Repeated, Yet Refuted Arguments for Evolution

By Kevin Hadsall

Given the lengthy time-span and numerous participants of the Evolution as "Science" Debate on the Friendly Atheist Facebook page, I was not able to read and respond to about 20+ comments until the day after the debate began. Despite my somewhat delayed timing, I assume that many of the humanists saw my rebuttals since some of them responded. With that said, when responding to so many comments, there is so much repetition of common, yet previously-refuted arguments. In response to these comments, I saved myself some time by referring them to my earlier comments in the thread. Also, some humanist comments contained zero substance; these comments were not worthy of any lengthy reply.

In Part 5 of the debate transcript below, I kept my rebuttals short and simple to save time. For some comments, I refer the humanist to my "first response to JW" which can be found here. For other comments, I refer the humanist to "my response to RC" which can be found in my previous blog post.

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. [editor note: skipped numbers indicate comments left out for further brevity]

15. AS: We've seen speciation in bacteria.

16. JW: AS, I hope I have this right but I think we have seen speciation occurring in rabbits which is a bigger thing (pun not intended :)) A rabbit introduced into the north US has spread both into Canada and into the south US/mexico. If I read this aright the N. US population can still breed with both other populations but the two extreme populations are now so diverged that breeding is problematic.

None of this will have any impact on Kevin because he believes evolution doesn't happen and belief trumps science every time :)

17. BA: Methicillin Resistant Staphylococcus Aureus.



20. PM: Speciation has been observed under laboratory conditions. <https://futurism.com/breakthrough-scientists-see-the.../>

21. JK: Kevin, ask an evolutionary biologist. There is a whole field of study. Get real man.

22. JK: Gad flies!

25. TP: Did you know: We've already observed it? Moths recently evolved.

27. DP: Kevin, this is one example of evolution. There are many more if you are willing to open your eyes and mind.

Scientists have discovered the specific mutation that famously turned moths black during the Industrial Revolution. In an iconic evolutionary case study, a black form of the peppered moth rapidly took over in industrial parts of the UK during the 1800s, as soot blackened the tree trunks and walls of its habitat. Jun 1, 2016

Famous peppered moth's dark secret revealed - BBC News - [BBC.com](https://www.bbc.com/news/science-environment-45678901)

28. JB: Kevin - this is such a misunderstanding creationist talking point about what science is, that it's painful.

Evolution is observable, not only in real time, but also through archaeological information, which is observable also.

It is testable through lab experiments that take something like bacteria - and watch it develop and change along the lines one would expect if evolution were true.

It is further testable through its use in medicine and farming for example. If the theory were wrong - its use in those areas wouldn't work.

(Continued on page 5)

(Unmasking Humanism - Continued from page 4)

It's just that simple. It does work - so therefore the understanding of it must be correct.

It is repeatable if any information or experiment is able to be repeated - with the same results - by another scientist.

It has predictive powers - understanding the mechanism allows for scientists to predict a particular creature should be found that bridges an evolutionary gap - and sure enough, many such creatures have been found - both in fossil form and also in currently living form.

There really is no room for doubt anymore about this subject - the information from myriad disciplines in science continues to confirm it to be correct.

It's probably the most studied of all fields in science. So much has been investigated and written about it now, that no one person could possibly ever hope to be across it all in their single life time.

Not even a question.

29. MH: The kind of change your talking about takes a very long time, one species evolving into another one. We can observe evolution on a small scale. You can visit museums and see the fossils that support evolution. Evolution isn't something you believe in, its something you understand.

30. OB: Whales descend from 4 legged mammals...you obviously don't know that

31. NG: Um... it is observable and repeatable. I dont think you realize the time scale.

40. Kevin: AS, see my first response to JW.

41. Kevin: JW, responding to your second comment: creation scientists expect to observe speciation within a created "kind" but not a change of "kind." Assuming your example is true (and I would not be surprised if it is true), then the rabbits are still rabbits. The rabbits did not change into dogs for example. You can learn more about the difference between natural selection and evolution here: (<https://answersingenesis.org/natural-selection/>)

42. Kevin: BA, see my first response to JW

43. Kevin: PM, see my previous responses regarding natural selection versus evolution.

44. Kevin: JK, what about gad flies? Please explain.

47. Kevin: TP, the moths are still moths, and the differences are explained through genetic recombination. This is not an example of new genetic information and functionality. You can learn more here: <https://answersingenesis.org/natural-selection/peppered-moth-again/>

48. Kevin: DP, see my response to TP.

49. Kevin: JB, I answered your arguments in previous comments. See above.

50. Kevin: MH, see my response to RC above.

51. Kevin: OB, did you directly observe the whales descend from four-legged mammals?

52. Kevin: NG, see my response to RC above.

While the above comments did not necessitate lengthy responses due to either (1) my previous posts that rebutted similar arguments or (2) the comments just did not contain substance, there was one comment in the midst of this portion of the debate that I took much more time with. You may have noticed that comment number 19 was missing in this portion of the debate transcript. This comment was from humanist MR who posted a lengthy, detailed set of arguments. I will share MR's comment in my next blog post, along with my response, in Part 6 of the Evolution as "Science" Debate.

Article reproduced from: [Refuted, Yet Repeated Arguments for Evolution \(unmaskinghumanism.org\)](https://www.unmaskinghumanism.org/), Feb 3, 2019.

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

Musings of Mark from ARK

Prehistoric?

Even the term prehistoric denotes an evolutionary paradigm. Pre-recorded history ended with "In the beginning, God created..." There was no such thing as a prehistoric world. Most of what is called prehistoric is really pre-flood (or antediluvian) and early post-flood through the ice age. The Bible gives us history from these eras.

The Builder of the House

By Henry M. Morris, PH.D.

"He who hath builded the house hath more honour than the house. For every house is builded by some man; but he that built all things is God." (Hebrews 3:3-4).

Perhaps the single greatest category of evidence for supernatural creation is in the nature of the creation itself, which everywhere shows such intricate design that it could not have come about by random chance. Consider the earth: Its size, mass, distance from the sun and moon, rotational wobble, chemical makeup, etc., are critical within very narrow limits. Any significant deviation in any of these or other characteristics would make life impossible.

But inorganic molecules, planets, and galaxies are simpler by several orders of magnitude than even the tiniest living organism. The marvelous genetic code that regulates life, growth, and reproduction is so unthinkably complex, so obviously designed, that it would take a "willingly...ignorant" (2 Peter 3:5) mind to conclude a naturalistic origin for it. Life at every stage and at every level of investigation shows symmetry in its order, purpose in its function, and interdependence between its parts; all of these are clear marks of design by an intelligent designer.

The evidence speaks so eloquently that even "the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse" (Romans 1:20) if they choose not to believe and therefore to merit and face His wrath (v. 18). "All things were created by him, and for him" (Colossians 1:16). Mankind can take no pride in it nor rebellious solace in the idea of naturalistic origin, for "thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created" (Revelation 4:11).
JDM

Reprinted from "Days of Praise", Institute for Creation Research, May 28, 2022.

(Astronomy; Continued from page 10)

- Our 24 hour rotation period is just right (too fast – winds too strong, too slow – temperature extremes again).
- Our moon is very unique in size relative to it's planet, and at the right distance to create the right amount of ocean tides for the health of the oceans (not too strong, and not stagnant).
- Our moon's size and position is also just right for man to enjoy solar eclipses. What other purpose but for man's enjoyment and God's glory?
- I did not quite understand this next one, but apparently the moon also helps stabilize earth's orbit.
- Not only are we the right distance from the sun for liquid water, but the sun is just the right size and temperature, not at all a humdrum star as one famous atheist once put it.
- It is brighter than 90% of stars in our galaxy. Around a dimmer star, we would have to be too close for liquid water, and become tidally locked, meaning that one side off the earth would always be facing the sun (like the moon is to the earth)
- Most other stars of similar size are part of binary systems, not conducive for stable planetary orbits
- Of all the other stars similar to the sun, none are nearly as stable as the sun. Life on planets around these stars could not survive the super solar flares given off. Some secular astronomers are now admitting that our sun is indeed unique.
- Even the size and placement of Jupiter has been seen to be needed to support life on earth (I think it's something about sweeping up debris in the solar system, and orbit stabilization)
- When we look at galaxies, apparently only spiral galaxies are conducive to life, and only at the right distance from the galactic center, which our solar system is.
- Lastly Spike touched on some other facts about our universe that are so fine tuned, some of which if they were off by just a little bit would prevent life from existing. Secular scientists realize this, so their only way around this and still deny God's existence is to say there must be an infinite number of universes out there, i.e. the multiverse, and we just happen to be in the one were all factors came together to support life. Oh, the lengths people will go to avoid admitting their accountability to their creator!

In conclusion, truly the heavens declare the glory of God. Praise Him for his infinite care and creativity to so finely design the whole universe to support life on earth, and so carefully and wonderfully form the earth "to be inhabited."

Kids Korner

MAMMOTHS

by Jasmine Ireland, originally published in *Creation* 26 (4):26–27, 2004

As far as we know, no-one living today has ever seen a live mammoth. But did you know that you have probably seen one of its relatives?

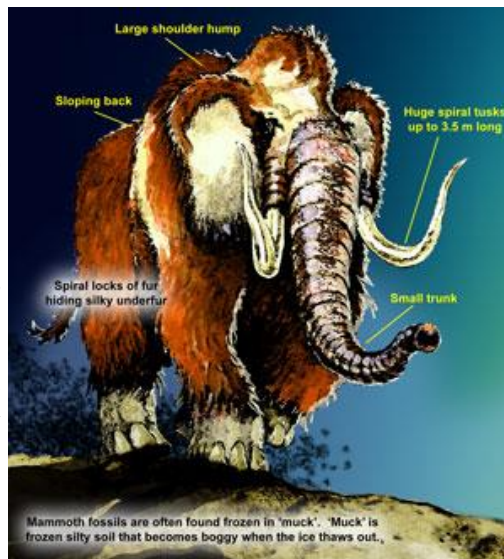
The mammoth is now extinct. We find their remains as fossil bones and sometimes as frozen remains. But different varieties of elephants, which are most likely related to the mammoth, can be found in many parts of the world.

Just as all humans came from Adam and Eve (the first two people), all types of elephants, including mammoths, probably came from the one elephant 'kind' that God originally created. That would mean that all elephants would also be related to each other.

When God made Adam and Eve, He created so much information in their bodies, they could have had zillions of children without two looking the same. Look around the world today. There are about 6 billion people on Earth, and yet we see lots and lots of differences—but they are all humans, and all related.

For instance, consider just one difference—dark or light skin. God did not decorate Adam and Eve with dark and light stripes. Adam and Eve were made with only one basic skin colour, a dark brown pigment called melanin. Yet from Adam and Eve came people with skin ranging from 'black' to 'white'. Actually, 'black' skin just has lots of the brown pigment; 'white' skin has very little. God put the information that can make many different amounts of skin pigment inside Adam and Eve. When Adam and Eve had children, they passed various combinations of this information to their children's bodies. Some would have been dark; others light in colour—and anywhere in between. The

information that makes different amounts of skin pigment has always been passed from parents to their children, just as your parents passed on the information that formed you!



The information in our bodies that determines things like how we are going to look and grow is carried on a large molecule called DNA. DNA sort of looks like two pieces of rope with special molecules, like letters of the alphabet, lined up in an order that contains this information. Almost every cell in our body from our foot to our head carries all this information.

The different elephant types alive today got the information they have for their features from the original elephant 'kind' that God created. For instance, some have information that makes their back slope sharply, whereas others have backs that are fairly level. Today there are two main sorts of these animals—African elephants and Asian elephants. Elephants that are now extinct, such as the Mastodon, Stegodon and Mammoth, probably also belonged to this same elephant kind, even though some had different sorts of features, like long hair. There may even have been more varieties of elephants, which we may find fossils of in the future.



When we look at the elephant kind, we are amazed by our powerful God, who created these creatures in the first place, and gave them enormous amounts of information so they could produce the amazing types of these fascinating creatures. This also reminds us that evolution is not true—after all, elephants only make elephants!

See full article at Mammoths-cfk-creation.com

ARKY's Calendar of Events (as of 4/1/22)

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

***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 1, 10:00 AM to 5:00 pm. **Chocolate Festival** with Faith and Friends radio, at Montgomery Co Fairgrounds Event Cen, 645 Infirmary Rd, Dayton, Dayton, OH.

***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.

***Nov 14**, 7:00 pm to 8:35 pm. **DVD: The Great Missoula Flood** with Michael Oard at Faith Christian Fellowship. Michael Oard will take you on a tour of the ancient shorelines, lake sediments, glacial moraines and more, demonstrating how the geologic features are a small scale example of the Genesis Flood.

***Dec 12**, 6:45 pm to 8:35 pm. **DVD: Amazing Grace** (tentatively scheduled) with Actors at Faith Christian Fellowship. The inspiring story of how one man's passion and perseverance changed the world. Based on the true-life story of William Wilberforce (loan Gruffudd), a leader of the British abolition movement, the

film chronicles his epic struggle to pass a law to end the slave trade in the late 18th century.

***Jan 9**, 7:00 pm to 8:35 pm. DVD: **Astronomy, Vol 2 Stars & Galaxies** with Spike Psarris at Faith Christian Fellowship. What You Aren't Being Told About Astronomy, Vol 2 Stars & Galaxies - See how secular astronomy models fail to explain the heavenly bodies, but the Biblical account of Creation is consistent with what we see. The first half summarizes the many problems with the naturalistic origin of stars and galaxies. The second half goes through the Scriptures that relate to the universe and shows that the Bible correctly describes the universe.

***Feb 13**, 7:00 pm to 8:35 pm. **Astronomy, Vol 3 Created Universe** with Spike Psarris at Faith Christian Fellowship. What You Aren't Being Told About Astronomy, Vol 3 Created Universe - In this third DVD in the series, engineer and former atheist Spike Psarris explores the origin of the universe. Did it form in a big bang event billions of years ago? Or are the heavens consistent with the biblical account of creation instead?

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

Contact Steve McConaughy, 419-450-2483

- August 23 Earth Battles: How Old Is It? (DVD)
- September 27 Dinohunter: High-Tech Dinosaur Digging (DVD)
- October 25 Inerrancy and the Undermining of Biblical Authority (DVD) Dr. Terry Mortenson
- November 22 Programming of Life (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 2022

Balance 1/1/22 \$43,xxx.63

Receipts

Memberships	
/Newsletters	465.00
Donations	5,856.00
Kroger Promotion	163.50
Misc	5.00
ARK Speaker Gifts	0.00
Projects	0.00
Special Events /Banquet	0.00
Garage Sales	0.00
Reimbursed	0.00
Non-Tax Sales	0.00
Total	6,509.50

Disbursements

Newsletter/CC	16.50
Web	374.37
Equipment	0.00
Speaking/Events	243.65
Tithes&Gifts	950.00
Advertising	0.00
Library	0.00
Lease	2,200.00
Exhibitions	0.00
Office	91.27
Telephone	592.34
Supplies	40.62
Insurance	473.00
Professional Fees	50.00
Misc.	238.33
Total	5,270.08
Balance 12/31/21	44,384.05

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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Ph: _____ - _____ - _____ **Cell :** _____ - _____ - _____
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Total Enclosed: \$ _____

Membership(check one): **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.) 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.

NO NEW REPORT AT THIS TIME



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The Wonder of it All: Formed to be inhabited

By Mark Jurkovich

One talk I especially liked from the CMI Super-conference was "A Special Earth in a Special Universe" by Spike Psarris. His talk sought to answer the question on the origin of the universe, "random processes or design?" He gave many strong points that show the earth and universe was clearly designed. I am not sure he used the term, but this talk was really a strong illustration on the truth of the anthropic principal, which is that the earth, and indeed the universe looks created for man to dwell here. The Bible even specifically spells out this fact of God's special care in forming the earth:

For thus says the Lord, Who created the heavens, Who is God, Who formed the earth and made it, Who has established it, Who did not create it in vain, Who formed it to be inhabited: "I am the Lord, and there is no other" (Is 45:18 NKJV)

I will list here some of the facts he pointed out that speak to design by a loving, all powerful God. Some of these I already knew, others I did not know, and some I had taken for granted, but now see they speak of God's special care in balancing everything for life on earth, and some just for mankind's enjoyment and God's own glory.

- We all know earth is in the habitable zone, that is for liquid water to exist, but there is so much more that also had to be just right.
- Our orbit around the sun is nearly circular, minimizing extremes in temperature.
- Our axis of rotation is just right, again to help with temperature extremes (one planet's is nearly vertical while Uranus rotates completely on its side!).
- We have a magnetic field that protects life from harmful radiation, for which the evolutionary argument is very weak as to how it could have lasted billions of years.
- We have just the right amount of atmosphere (Venus – too thick so too hot, Mars too thin so too cold).

(Continued on page 6)

