



- ⇒ Sharks and Sea Slugs
- ⇒ 'Man Created God' Ads Say
- ⇒ Did St. Peter Predict the Coming of Darwinism?

LUTHERAN SCIENCE INSTITUTE, INC.

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The mission of the Lutheran Science Institute is to learn, share, and promote the glory of God as revealed in His holy Word and demonstrated in His created world, beginning with the pastors, teachers, and laity of the WELS (Wis. Ev. Lutheran Synod) and the ELS (Ev. Lutheran Synod).

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The Annual Meeting of the Institute is held the Saturday *after* Thanksgiving. At least three other meetings are held during the year at locations selected by the president. Meetings are open to the public and announced in the LSI JOURNAL and/or on our web site.

MEETING SCHEDULE*

- ◆ 4th Saturday in January, 1:00 p.m.
- ◆ 2nd Saturday in June, 1:00 p.m.
- ◆ Last Saturday in October, 1:00 p.m.
- ◆ Saturday *after* Thanksgiving in November, 1:00 p.m.

*Dates, times, and locations subject to change. Additional meetings may be scheduled. Check with the president, secretary, or editor or see our web site for verification.

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Martin Luther and Science

What did the Great Reformer believe about Jonah, Creation, and the "two creation accounts"?

For Roman Catholics in Brooklyn, It's Back to Indulgences

Catholics in Brooklyn can receive plenary indulgences for participation in events connected with a jubilee year.

THE AGE OF THE EARTH—PART 2

BY WARREN KRUG



Editor's note: *In Part 1 of this two-part series (available on our Web site) we looked at two events in the recent past that cast serious doubt about the reliability of current methods being used to test rocks and rock strata in order to determine their ages.*

The volcanic explosion at Mt. St. Helens in 1980 created land features appearing to be thousands and millions of years old. Surtsey island, created by an undersea volcano in 1963, demonstrated that gullies, canyons and other land features can be formed in less than a decade.

We also looked at the questionable assumptions that lie behind the conventional radioisotope dating methods. In Part 2 we will consider other ways to

measure the ages of the earth and solar system.

Why Secular Scientists Need Long Ages

The theory of gradual evolution by chance and by means of natural selection needs a long, long time to seem the least bit reasonable to the general public. Charles Darwin himself wrote:

"The belief that species are immutable [unchangeable] productions was almost unavoidable as long as the history of the world was thought to be of short duration."—*Charles Darwin, *Origin of the Species* (conclusion to second edition).

The author is the editor of the *LSI Journal*.

Often we will read in a secular science magazine about an amazingly well-designed feature in some organism with the explanation that “well, it had X million years to evolve and perfect that adaptation.”

However, even 4.5 billion years (the assigned age for the earth and solar system) are not nearly long enough to account for life as we now know it. Some computer studies such as one by Dr. William Dembski, show life evolving by random chance to be impossible even in a universe billions of years old.

Dembski took the estimate of the number of atoms in the entire universe (10^{80}) and multiplied it by the smallest division of time during which there could be an evolutionary change (10^{45} changes per second) and multiplied that by the commonly accepted age of the universe (10^{25} seconds) to arrive at an absolute limit of 10^{150} . The odds of even a simple body protein evolving out of amino-acid components is 10^{325} , far beyond the boundary of zero probability.¹

To arrive at an age of 4.5 billion years for the earth and the solar system, scientists have to (1) ignore the assumptions that lie behind radioisotope dating and (2) ignore many clues that our planet cannot be billions of years old. Here are some yardsticks that give an age of far less

than 4.5 billion years. Many more examples could have been provided.



THE RECEDING MOON

The laws of physics indicate that the moon should be receding from the earth, and it is. The same laws have set an absolute limit to how close to the earth the moon could possibly have been. Known as the Roche limit, the distance of 11,500 miles is the point at which the earth's tidal forces would have broken the moon into pieces, something like the rings of Saturn. Using the known speed of recession, the moon could not have been receding from the earth for 4.5 billion years or even 1 billion years or it would have been inside the Roche limit.²

THE SLOWING DOWN OF THE EARTH'S ROTATION

The earth-moon tidal friction is causing the spin rate of the earth to be gradually slowing

down. British physicist, Lord Kelvin, used the rate at which the earth's rotation is slowing, and assuming an initial molten earth, proved that the earth must be less than a billion years or its shape would be different. If the earth's molten land masses had consolidated billions of years ago, centrifugal force would have caused the elevation of land at the equator to be up some 40 kilometers higher than it actually is now and eventually would have caused the oceans to settle into two very deep basins at the two polar regions.²

THE DECAY OF THE EARTH'S THERMAL ENERGY AND MAGNETIC FIELD

Due to the process of conduction to the earth's surface, the thermal energy within the earth has been decaying. Also, the earth's magnetic field, which shields the planet from cosmic and solar radiation hazards, has been decaying. Using the measured decay rates for thermal energy and the magnetic field together with reasonable estimates as to their initial states, physicists can determine reasonable limits to the earth's age. In the case of thermal energy, Lord Kelvin said the earth's age has to be less than one billion years; in the case of the magnetic field, less than 24 million years.²

METEORITE DUST

The amount of meteorites in the earth's strata and meteorite dust in the crust has been determined. Using present rates at which meteorites are reaching the earth, the earth's age should be measured in thousands of years, not millions or billions.³



PRESSURE IN OIL FIELDS

The strong pressures that have been found in oil reservoirs couldn't have been sustained for more than a few thousand years.³

HELIUM

At present rates, the amount of helium in the atmosphere could have accumulated in only a few thousand years.³

RADIOCARBON IN THE ATMOSPHERE

Several thousand years is all that would be needed for the buildup of radiocarbons in the atmosphere to have reached present levels.³

HUMAN HISTORY

According to evolution the-

ory, mankind has been around on this planet about a million years. Why is it then that written records can be traced back only a few thousand years? The origin of written records fits nicely with the biblical age for the Flood.⁴

EARTH'S POPULATION

Granted that events such as famines, wars, natural catastrophes, and famines can wipe out large segments of the population at once, the fact remains if humans have been around for a million years and the population had increased just 1/100 of a percent a year, the world's population at the time of Christ would have been 2×10^{43} or enough people to fill all the planets in our solar system 1,000 times⁴



COMETS

Comets are continuously breaking apart because each time one circles the sun, some of its ice is evaporated and some of the gas is boiled away by the sun's heat. Additional material is lost through gravitational forces. According to studies, all short-term comets should have totally dissipated within 10,000 years. Despite the invention by astrono-

mers of something called the Oort Cloud, an imaginary birthplace for comets, there is no known way new comets can come into existence.⁴⁵

TOPSOIL

It has been calculated that 300 to 1,000 years are needed to build one inch of topsoil. Since the average depth of topsoil around the world is about eight inches, a few thousand years is all that is needed for the topsoil to have been deposited.⁴

NIAGARA FALLS

Recent calculations indicate the Niagara Falls is eroding at a rate of about 3.5 feet per year. Since the length of the Niagara Falls gorge is about 7 miles, the age of the falls can't be more than 5,000-10,000 years. Of course, Noah's Flood would have caused a great amount of the initial erosion.⁴



OCEAN SEDIMENTS

About 29 billion tons of sediment are added to the ocean every year. Because there are only a few thousand feet of

sediment on the ocean floor, they could have accumulated in only a few thousand years. If the earth were billions of years old, the sediment should be close to 100 miles in depth.⁴



TREE RINGS

California's giant sequoias have no known enemies, not even insects or fire can bother them. They are probably the oldest living things on earth. Yet their rings indicate they can't be more than 4,000 years ago, placing their initial growth during the era following Noah's Flood.⁴

Some people say the earth looks old because it is old. Some others may say the earth looks old but is young. What's wrong though with the observation that the earth looks young because it IS young?

Our planet still has a molten interior, experiences volcanoes, earthquakes and shifting plates, and is home to a wide variety of living organisms. It is not some cold, dead rock floating in space. While other bodies in the solar system do not support life, they

are not necessarily cold or dead either. For instance, Satan's moon Enceladus has been found to be relatively smooth (lacking a lot of craters), has active geysers, and possibly even a warm, radioactive interior.⁶

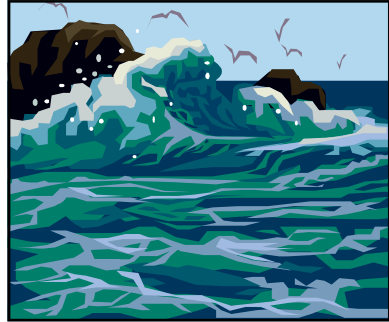
Many people likely reject a literal interpretation of Genesis because it can't be harmonized with a 4.5 million year old earth. This is a mistake because we don't live on a planet anywhere near that old. There is no reason we should doubt Genesis. Especially should we not doubt its account of the first sin and the first promise of a Savior. LSI

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Sharks and Sea Slugs:

Weird
and
Wonderful



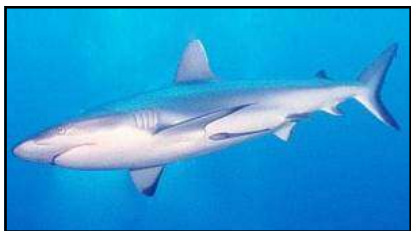
Sharks

Although most people think of sharks as being giants, they are not all large. The smallest is only 15cm (6 inches) long, while the Whale Shark can be as long as 15 metres (48 feet)! Not all sharks are dangerous to hu-

mans, but the Great White Shark is a swimmer's nightmare in some parts of the world.

Sharks have no bones, but instead have a skeleton of a rubbery substance called cartilage. They have hundreds of teeth in rows along the edges of their upper and lower

Reprinted from publications of the Creation Resources Trust, England. Photos from Wikipedia.



Grey Reef Shark

jaws. These are on a kind of "conveyor belt", and new teeth keep growing and moving forward to replace those which are loose or worn out, sometimes as often as every 10 days.



Tiger shark teeth

Sharks have senses that are well designed for life in the water. Their eyes are ten times better than ours for seeing in dim light, and they can hear sounds more than a mile away. They also have an electrical sensing system, using special receptors in their snout to detect movements.

Evolutionists sometimes call sharks "primitive" because they have no bones, and believe that all fish, including sharks, evolved

from the same ancestor. However; in 2003, a fossil shark was discovered in Canada. It was claimed to be "409 million years old", yet is very much like the sharks that swim in the oceans now. We don't believe the fossil is as old as that, but it does show that sharks haven't evolved, and have always been sharks since they were created by God in the beginning.



Whale shark



Sea slugs

Sea Slugs

Sea slugs live in the oceans all around the world. Unlike the slugs which eat the plants in our gardens, many sea slugs are very colourful. There are some sea slugs called *nudibranches* which have a very strange diet—they eat sea anemones, including their poisonous stingers, which normally burst and kill anything which attacks them. Although scientists don't know how, these sea slugs swallow the sea anemones' stingers without bursting them.



Spanish Shawl—a nudibranch

This is quite amazing, but even more amazing is what happens to the stingers when they reach the sea slug's stomach. There are tiny tubes, lined with moving hairs, leading from its stomach to the tips of those waving spurs on its back.

The stolen stingers move through those tubes to the spurs, where they are stored to be used as a defence against its own enemies. If a fish should come along and attack the sea slug, it will fire one of those stolen stingers at it!

Evolution simply can't explain how the sea slug is able to do this, because it couldn't have happened gradually. If, at some time in the past; a sea slug happened to attack a sea anemone, and swallow its stingers without bursting them, they would have exploded inside it! It needed to have those special tubes leading from its stomach the very first time it swallowed the stingers. It also had to be able to shoot them out when it needed to. So all this clever equipment must have been there right from the beginning.

Charles Darwin believed that all life on earth evolved gradually, and said that if any complex organ existed which could not have evolved by small, gradual steps his theory would be destroyed. The sea slug is surely an excellent example of this. Only creation by God can explain how it came to be! L&I





NUGGETS

Lacking Evidence

● MOON LANDINGS WERE FAKES.

Those who believe this conspiracy theory think it was designed to deceive the Soviets during the space race in the 1960s.



● **MARS WILL COME CLOSE TO EARTH.** Mars will come so close, some people say, it will appear as large as the moon in the nighttime sky. Not true. Mars will never appear larger than 1/100 the size of our moon.

● **NASA DISCOVERED THE MISSING DAY.** It is an urban legend that NASA's computers discovered proof of Joshua's long day (Joshua 10:13 and 2 Kings 20:11). How could modern astronomers know the locations of heavenly bodies prior to the events concerning the long day?



● TOO LITTLE MOON DUST.

Although some scientists had predicted the first astronauts on the moon would find a deep layer of dust, satellite measurements of space dust had already determined the moon had a much smaller accumulation of space dust than previously estimated.



● **THE SHRINKING SUN.** Current solar telescopes do not detect any dramatic solar shrinkage from an imagined gravitational collapse. Once "missing" neutrinos were cited as proof of a shrinking sun, but the missing neutrinos have been found.

● **DECAY OF THE SPEED OF LIGHT.** Light appears to be a constant at about 186,000 miles/second. Scientists continue to research the question of whether or not its speed was much greater in the past.

—*Answers (January-March, 2008)*

A female leather-back turtle has been tracked undertaking a journey of 13,000 miles, from Indonesia to Oregon. It was the "longest ocean migration ever recorded," said the *Daily Mail* (2/9/08).

France was once a jungle. Amber (fossilized resin from trees) discovered here could only have come from trees that now grow exclusively in Brazilian rain forests.

—*Creation Resources Trust, England*

Where Did That Expression Come From? — Part 3

► *“Happy as a clam”*—the original expression was “happy as a clam in high tide” which comes from the fact that clam diggers only collect clams at low tide, thus making the clams happy when the waters rise.

► *“High on the hog”*—refers to the idea that the best pork meat comes from the top of the pig. It is used to describe those who try to live and eat well.

► *“Fly off the handle”*—comes from the danger of an ax head flying off its handle in mid-swing. A reminder of the danger from a person’s extreme anger.

—*American Profile* (Oct. 5-11, 2008)

Reverend Ole is the pastor of the local Norwegian Lutheran Church and Pastor Sven is the minister of the Swedish Covenant Church across the road.

One day they were seen pounding a sign into the ground that said:

DA END ISS NEAR!
TURN YERSELF AROUND
NOW BAFOR IT'S
TOO LATE!

As a car sped past them, the driver leaned out his window and yelled, “Leave me alone, you Skandihooovian religious nuts!”

From the curve they heard screeching tires and a big splash.

Rev. Ole runs to Pastor Sven and asks, “Do you tink maybe da sign should just say, “BRIDGE OUT”?”

--From a letter published in *Christian News* (6/1/09)

TIME TO GIVE UP THE KEYS?

Some signs that a driver may need to retire from driving:

- ☒ Moving too slowly on the road.
- ☒ Reacting too slowly.
- ☒ Failing to come to a full stop at stop signs.
- ☒ Being inattentive.
- ☒ Failing to hear emergency vehicles.
- ☒ Having a hard time turning your head to see behind you.
- ☒ Making erratic moves.
- ☒ Being honked at by other drivers.
- ☒ Missing traffic signs or signals or being uncertain what they mean.
- ☒ Being nervous at busy intersections, not knowing what to do, becoming afraid to drive.
- ☒ Upsetting your passengers who may not want to ride with you again.

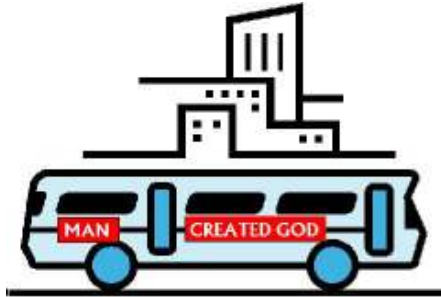


—*Mayo Clinic: Your Independence*

Wednesday, June 10, 2009 post

'Man Created God', Chicago Buses Proclaim

Indiana Group Spending up to \$60,000 to spread atheism.



SUMMARY: "In the beginning, man created God." So say advertisements on 25 Chicago buses, put there by the Indiana Atheist Bus Campaign. Their message is that "man created God as well as all religions." The ads were inspired by similar campaigns elsewhere, such as one in England sponsored by the British Humanist Association.

The project began in Bloomington, Indiana. A group of about a dozen people set up a Web site [inatheistbus.org] and began collecting donations. They took phrases from the book of Genesis--"In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth" (Genesis 1:1) and "So God created man in his own image" (Genesis 1:27)--and revised them to come up with the message now being displayed on the buses.

The ads are scheduled to be posted for several weeks. In order to keep the campaign going, the atheist group with support from the American Humanist Association hopes to raise \$50,000 in addition to the \$10,000 they have already raised.

In commenting on this Indiana atheist program, *The Christian Post* suggested that although atheists make up only a small percentage of America's population, they are trying and succeeding in getting

noticed. Gallup polls have shown only 6% of Americans do not believe in God or a higher power, and 61% of those polled rejected the idea that humans have evolved.

Entire article available at <<http://www.icr.org/article/4742/>>

COMMENT: This blog on Feb 23 reported on research that seemed to indicate children are born to believe and people must reprogram their brains to in order to become atheists. A later blog (March 4) reported on other research that hinted creationism and the need to see a purpose in life are also quite natural. So, do these Indiana atheists realize that their campaign puts them out of step with science?

There was already plenty of reason during Old Testament times for the psalmist to write, "The fool has said in his heart there is no God." (Psalm 14:1) With what we know today about the fine tuning of the universe, the obvious evidence of intelligent design in living things, and the complexities of almost everything, atheism today is beyond foolishness.

May the Holy Spirit in His mercy knock at least one more time on the hearts of these unbelievers, and may they not reject His free gifts of faith and forgiveness. God is a God of mercy but He is also a God of justice. On the Day of judgment, there will be no more atheists, but unhappily for many people it will be too late to come to faith in the Savior, Jesus Christ.

—Warren Krug, blogger

QUESTION OF THE DAY

Why did German biologist August Friedrich Leopold Weismann cut off the tails of mice?

Weismaan (1834-1914) disproved the Lamarckian notion of "inheritance of acquired characteristics" as in the example of giraffes evolving their long necks over the years by having to stretch their necks to reach high branches. In his experiment Weismann cut off the tails of 19 successive generations of mice. The last generation of mice was born with tails just as long as the first generation, showing evolution can't happen that way.

—Source: <http://evolution-facts.org/>

► Book Review



Robinson, Jerry. *Bankruptcy of Our Nation*, Green Forest, AR: New Leaf Press, © 2009, 272 pages.

A Real Horror Story

This is a horror story without ghosts or blood. The author paints a bleak picture of the USA's chances of surviving as we know it much longer. The main emphasis in this book is on economics and how the federal government is spending money we don't have, which will inevitably lead to a complete financial collapse, a situation our children and grandchildren will inherit and have to deal with.

The author at times seems to suggest the only solution is to wait for the second coming of Jesus to set up an earthly kingdom because, as he says more than once, “man was not created to rule other men.” Yet, I wonder why he sounds so pessimistic but so sure the Second Coming is imminent, and still writes a book which offers suggestions for survival.

I am not an economics major and cannot verify that all his financial views are on target. However, I'm sure much of what he says is correct and needs to be taken to heart by our politicians and citizens. Yet his millennialism and his depiction of modern Israel as God's chosen people make this book unsuitable for the Lutheran who is not thoroughly grounded in Lutheran biblical doctrine.

If you share Robinson's view that this nation is going from bad to worse, you may “enjoy” reading *Bankruptcy*. I don't think this book will end up in our LSI library, but write or e-mail me if you want to read it.

—Warren Krug



facebook

We're on Facebook

Thanks to the efforts of vice-president Patrick Winkler, LSI now has a presence on Facebook.com. To visit the page, type "Lutheran Science Institute" in the Facebook search window.

Economy Affecting LSI Too

It is not news that many magazines and newspapers have ceased publication because of rising printing and mailing costs. That situation is affecting us too even though we try to be economical by printing everything in-house.



Until our financial situation improves, we will have to limit the number of complimentary copies of the *LSI Journal* we print and mail out. If you want to read every issue, why not consider becoming a member/subscriber? See the inside back cover to sign up.

Some of the Journal articles and the news briefs are posted on our Web site. But the following never or rarely end up on the

Web site: articles reprinted from other publications, Kids' pages, Nuggets, letters to the editor, and many of the book reviews.

Marcus Hagen, 1925-2009

Longtime member of the LSI Board of Directors, Marcus Hagen, passed on to a better life



on March 18 after battling health issues for quite some time. The funeral was held at Trinity Ev.

Lutheran Church, Union Grove, WI where he was a member. Even when he was not in the best of health, Marcus tried to make every Board meeting he possibly could.

Marcus was born in 1925, served in the U.S. Navy during World War 2, worked as a design engineer, was married in 1952, and retired in the early 1990s. Our sympathies go out to his wife, Marcie, and their five sons and one daughter. It is a blessing being a Christian at a time such as this, knowing that the separation is only temporary.

Next Meeting

Our next meeting, God willing, will be held in the home of Patrick Winkler (2584 S. Sterling Circle, East Troy, Wisconsin) on Saturday, October 24 with the time to be announced later.

► News

Abortion Doctor Tiller Murdered at Church

The clinic run by abortion doctor George Tiller will be "permanently closed," effective immediately, his family said June 9. Tiller was shot and killed May 31 while he was serving as an usher at a Lutheran church in Wichita, Kansas. The suspect, Scott Roeder, is known as an anti-abortionist. Tiller was one of the few doctors who still performed late-term abortions.—*www.usatoday* (6.9/09)

Partial Birth Abortion Banned in Arkansas

Partial birth abortion has been banned in Arkansas. On Feb. 20, Gov. Mike Beebe signed a bill banning the procedure with overwhelming support from both houses of the legislature. The bill authorizes the state medical board to take action against doctors who perform partial-birth abortions with a maximum sentence of six years in prison.—*Clearly Caring* (Second Quarter, 2009)

Gutmacher Lauds Family Planning Efforts

Family planning efforts funded by the government prevent nearly 2 million unintended pregnancies and more than 800,000 abortions in the U.S. each year and save taxpayers \$4 for each \$1 spent. So claims the Guttmacher Institute which advocates for abortion rights. However, funding by the government for family planning remains a divisive issue.—(*Racine*) *Journal Times* (2/24/09)

Fail to Make Human-Animal Hybrids

Attempts to make useful hybrid embryos by mixing human and animal cells apparently have failed. Scientists said the embryos "are of no use to science," according to a study published in *Cloning and Stem Cells*. Scientists at Advanced Cell Technology in Massachusetts had attempted to use cow, mouse and rabbit eggs to produce human embryonic stem cells in cloning experiments, but the hybrid embryos were genetically flawed.—*Clearly Caring* (Second Quarter, 2009)

Human Evolution Slows

A geneticist and evolutionist at University College London says human evolution is slowing and may stop. Prof. Steve Jones notes that most older males are no longer having children. Since offspring of older fathers suffer more mutations and evolutionists think mutations are a driving force for evolution, human evolution may soon come to a stop. Of course, nobody has ever observed humans evolving.—*Answers* (April-June, 2009)

School Recess Helps Children Succeed

Recess and downtime may be as important for a child to succeed academically as reading, science and math, new research suggests. A study published by the journal *Pediatrics* in February found that regular recess, fitness and nature time can improve behavior, concentration and even grades. Unfortunately, the study found that 30% of the children had few or no daily recesses.—*Milwaukee Journal Sentinel* (3/10/09)

WCC Wants Common Easter Date

The World Council of Churches says consensus is emerging that all Christians should begin celebrating Easter on the same date. Normally Roman Catholics and Protestants have a different date for Easter than Orthodox churches because the two groups use a different calendar. However, a coincidence in the Julian and Gregorian calendars for 2010 and 2011 means Catholics, Protestants, and Orthodox will have a common Easter those two years. The World Council of Churches, which represents some 350 Protestant and Orthodox churches, wants to see a common Easter become permanent.—*Milwaukee Journal Sentinel* (5/29/09)

California Court Says No to Same-Sex Marriage

The California Supreme Court has upheld Proposition 8, a ban on same-sex marriage, but also decided that some 18,000 homosexual "marriages" that took place before the law went into effect were legal. The 6-1 decision rejected the argument that the California constitution's equal protection clause required the Legislature's approval of such a ban. The constitutional amendment approved in November by 52% of the voters says, "Only a marriage between a man and a woman is valid or recognized in California."—*USA Today* (5/26/09)



BPA Being Phased Out

Manufacturers have begun to remove BPA (*bisphenol A*) from their products because the toxin has been shown to cause neurological and developmental damage in laboratory animals. BPA is found in hard clear plastic, metal food can linings, frozen food trays, microwaveable soup containers and plastic baby-food packaging. Researchers are especially concerned about how the chemical affects fetuses and newborns.—*Bottom Line Personal* (3/15/09)

Cancer Rate Declining

Better prevention and treatment are mainly responsible for the declining death rate due to cancer, according to the American Cancer Society. During a 15-year period, the cancer death rate among men dropped by 19.2%, largely due to a decrease in lung, prostate, and colon cancer deaths. For women, the cancer death rate fell by 11.4%, due mainly to a decline in breast and colorectal cancer deaths.—*www.cnn.com* (5/27/09)



Chocolate Helps Make People Smarter

Chocolate apparently can make people smarter. A recent study found mental arithmetic was easier for volunteers after they received 500 milligrams of flavanols, compounds in chocolate that increase blood flow to the brain. They also reported feeling less tired or mentally drained. Dark chocolate has the most flavanols.—*Bottom Line Personal* (6/15/09)

Multiracial Group Grows

The fastest growing demographic group in the United States is that of multiracial Americans. The number of multiracial Americans rose 3.4% to about 5.2 million, according to the latest census estimates. Americans in 2000 were for the first time given the option of checking more than one box for race on census surveys. The use of that option has risen by 33%, and multiracial people now make up 5% of the minority population, with millions more believed to be uncounted.—(*Racine*) *Journal Times* (5/29/09)

Need Mixed-race Donors

Despite a rise in the number of mixed-race Americans, it is still exceedingly difficult for a multiracial patient to find a potential donor with appropriate bone marrow. Only a small number of donors on a national bone-marrow registry are multiracial. The National Marrow Donor Program is seeking a more diverse group of donors for patients suffering from leukemia, lymphoma and other blood diseases.—(*Racine*) *Journal Sentinel* (5/28/09)

Resurrecting Mammoths

The possibility the woolly mammoth can be brought back from extinction has been made more likely with the mapping of its genetic code. Scientists have recovered DNA from frozen mammoth "hairballs" found in Siberia, a better source they say than the DNA found in mammoth bones. By combining the mammoth DNA with that from modern elephants, scientists may be able to produce an elephant hybrid or "hairy elephant." —*Answers* (April-June, 2009)

Mercury an Active Planet

Mercury is a planet that is far more active than previously thought. The U.S. Messenger space probes on fly-bys of Mercury in January and October of 2008 uncovered evidence of a volcanic past as well as changes in the dynamics of the interaction between its magnetic field and solar wind. Taking more than 1,200 images of the planet's surface, the latest probe photographed some 30% of Mercury. When combined with pictures from previous missions, about 95% of the planet has now been photographed.—*Yahoo News* AFP (4/30/09)



Terrain on Mercury

Corot-7b is Like Earth

A recently-discovered planet named Corot-7b is the first Earth-like planet to have its size measured. Unlike gas giants spotted elsewhere in our galaxy, planets like Corot-7b are dense and compact. Astronomers have spotted other "super-Earths" in solar systems which have small planets closer to the star and giants farther out.—*Discover* (May, 2009)

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Ravens

After forty days Noah opened the window he had made in the ark and sent out a *raven*, and it kept flying back and forth until the water had dried up from the earth. Genesis 8:6 (NIV)



Common Raven

After the waters of the Flood had gone done for a while, Noah selected a smart bird called a raven to find out if dry land had now appeared. The raven's actions showed it wasn't time to leave the ark yet.

What is a raven? A raven is a member of the crow family of birds. There

are several types of ravens. The Common Raven is the best known of the ravens because it can be found in the most places.

What does a raven look like? It is mostly black, about 22 to 27 inches long, and has a large and slightly curved beak and a long tail. Its eyes are dark brown.

What sounds can it make? The raven can make several different sounds including a high, knocking *toc-toc-toc*, a low rattle sound, and some calls that sound almost like music. They are able to copy sounds from nature and human speech, and their calls include alarm calls, chase calls, flight calls, whistles, clapping sounds and clicking noises.

Where do they live? Common ravens can live in different climates including the Arctic region, North America, Europe, the North African deserts, and the islands of the Pacific Ocean.



A raven's feathers may look bluish or purple in sunlight.

Most like to live in the woods with some open land nearby. They don't mind living near humans if that helps them get food.

What do ravens eat?

Their diets will depend a lot on what is available. They may eat meat, small animals, bugs, grain, berries, fruit, and food humans throw out. Ravens have been known to steal food from other animals. Sometimes ravens will follow large predators like wolves to feed on the scraps after the wolves are done eating.

How smart are ravens?

Ravens like some other crows are very intelligent, as smart as chimps. They are known to be able to solve problems, trick other

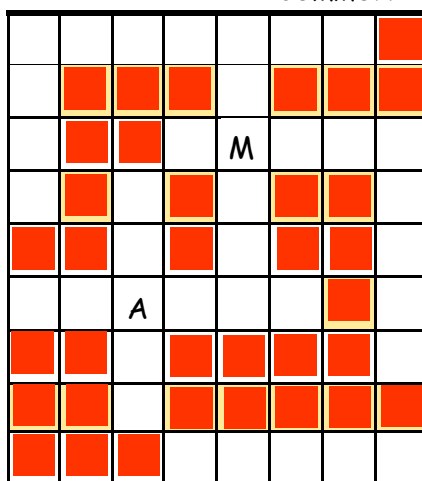
animals into doing work for them, and use tools to reach food. They have the largest brains of any bird species.

Noah's raven was looking for land and unable to find it. That can remind us that we also are looking for a land, a land called heaven which we will surely find. We know Jesus, our Savior, will show us the way there.

Source: Wikipedia

Activity: The following words describe ravens. See if you can fit them in the crossword puzzle. Some letters are already provided.

CROW	NOISY	COPYCAT
BLACK	THIEF	BRAINY
SMART		COMMON



► My View



Did St. Peter Predict the Coming of Darwinism?

One of the characteristics of classic Darwinism is known as *uniformitarianism*, commonly known by its slogan: “the present is the key to the past.” Using this idea, evolutionists examine present processes to determine what they think went on in the past.

Creationists and other Bible scholars know there have been events in the past that are not occurring today, such as a catastrophic worldwide flood, that could seriously affect interpretations of the past as seen in nature. This idea is called *catastrophism*.

Since they generally reject the reality of catastrophes in the past, secular scientists can make serious errors such as in determining the age of the earth or in analyzing rock strata.

These scientists should know better. Frequently animal and plant fossils are found where they shouldn't be according to the present climate. One example: the discovery of fossil remains of a crocodile-like creature in the high Canadian Arctic zone shows the

climate once was far different from what it is today.

With this in mind, it is interesting what St. Peter wrote in 2 Peter 3:3-7: “First of all, you must understand that in the last days scoffers will come, scoffing and following their own evil desires. They will say, ‘Where is this “coming” he promised? Ever since our fathers died, *everything goes on as it has since the beginning of creation.*’ ”

At least one commentator has seen a possible reference to evolution in these words. Mark A. Jeske, writing in *the People's Bible* series, says about this passage: “In this (uniformitarian) view, a view that seems to rule the world of science today, it is assumed that all physical and chemical processes going on in the world have always been going on, that there have never been any interventions in the world by outside forces. Satan uses these persuasive and reassuring lies to keep people asleep.”

Writing under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, perhaps Peter could indeed foresee the coming of Darwinism. But more important, he could see even farther into the future—a ultimate catastrophe—the death of our present earth and the coming of a new wonderful heavenly world. For believers, and only for believers, this is good news indeed! LSI

—Warren Krug

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