

# CREATION

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## Consider the beewolf

The curiously named beewolf is actually a species of wasp, *Philanthus triangulum*. Much like a wolf, the female attacks animals larger than itself: it is a specialist hunter of honeybees.

It inhabits sandy areas such as dunes or heathland, where it digs a burrow in which to raise its young. The completed burrow may be up to one metre in length with around 30 side chambers. All this is accomplished through a vigorous shovelling action of its front legs, flinging sand backwards under its body and beyond. A number of videoclips of the beewolf in action can be found on the internet, e.g., [goo.gl/7vGmdm](http://goo.gl/7vGmdm) and [goo.gl/Ric3Pk](http://goo.gl/Ric3Pk).

Honeybees are ambushed by the beewolf whilst they are visiting flowers. The beewolf stings its victim to paralyse it and then turns it on its back in order to hold it by its legs whilst it flies back to its burrow entrance. There it secretes a special substance onto the bee to help prevent it becoming

mouldy. The hapless captive is then dragged into the burrow and stashed as living food for one of the beewolf's offspring. Each side chamber may contain up to five such victims. The beewolf then comes back out and carefully conceals the entrance of its burrow before flying off to find another honeybee.

Now, let's consider what's happening here. For this fierce little predator to survive and raise the next generation successfully, it needs a whole suite of abilities acting in concert. First it needs to be able to navigate successfully,



A female beewolf outside its burrow. Image: CSM.

both to find its prey and to find its way back to its burrow – even though the latter is camouflaged. It needs to be able to recognise its prey and to have the means to overcome it quickly; it also needs to know how to transport it effectively. It then needs the capability to produce a substance that is effective in helping prevent mould and the ability to recognise when and where this should be applied. It also needs the ability to recognise when it needs to camouflage the burrow entrance to prevent intrusion. And last but by no means least, it needs the ability both to dig and to recognise when it has found a suitable digging site.

How, then, could the beewolf possibly have evolved over millions of years? How could it have survived and raised its progeny whilst this necessary suite of abilities all gradually ‘developed’? Surely what we are seeing here is a creature to whom Someone has endowed these essential characteristics in combination from the outset. The beewolf is intelligently designed.

(For further information on the beewolf in the UK see [goo.gl/wNzsQq](http://goo.gl/wNzsQq).)

## Space telescope mask

A recent item on the BBC News website ([goo.gl/tH4Duq](http://goo.gl/tH4Duq)) publicises the remarkable achievements of engineers working on the James Webb space

telescope, the most sophisticated ever built.

One component of the telescope is an enormous kite-shaped mask. This will shade the lens from the glare and heat of the Sun during its operations to image the deep universe. The mask is so large – about the size of a tennis court – that it has to be designed to fold, like origami, in order to fit into the space vehicle that will take it into orbit.

Engineers have recently completed joining together the layers of the mask, which are as thin as a human hair. Their achievements are rightly celebrated, as the precise and reliable folding of the mask is essential to the success of the telescope. It is an excellent example of intelligent design.

What then of the proteins in the human body? When these highly complex molecules are constructed, they too have to be reliably and precisely folded in order to be operational. Evolutionists would claim that these proteins arose just by chance, but surely logic tells us that they too must have been intelligently designed by Someone.

## Cyborg bacteria

Much was made of 'cyborg bacteria' in an article on the BBC News website ([goo.gl/qmc3Dx](http://goo.gl/qmc3Dx)) on 23 August, but some might consider this to be largely hyperbole. “Scientists have created

bacteria covered in tiny semiconductors” shouted a headline, but in fact the bacteria had the ability to do this all along. All the scientists have done is to encourage the bacteria to make more semiconductors than usual by growing them in a cadmium-rich environment.

And why do the bacteria do this? Because cadmium is toxic; cadmium compounds are generally carcinogenic. The bacteria produce cadmium sulphide and remove it safely to the outside of their cells. There it functions as a semi-conductor, capturing energy much like a solar cell and enabling these micro-organisms to produce greater quantities of acetic acid than they would otherwise be able to achieve. The scientists are then able to harvest the acetic acid and utilise other bacteria to transform it into butanol and polyhydroxybutyrate, which can then be used as the basis for manufacturing plastics and fuel.

Yes, the research team deserve recognition for spotting the potential of these micro-organisms and intelligently designing a process to maximise their capabilities. But the real stars of the show are the bacteria themselves. How could these bacteria have gradually evolved, over millions of years, the ability not only to safely neutralise cadmium but also to put it to good use? As cadmium is toxic and carcinogenic, the bacteria needed a solution far quicker than that in order to survive! Surely their remarkable

ability is yet one more example of intelligent design by Someone far wiser and more powerful than these scientists.

## Monkey selfies

In the previous issue of this journal we commented on the activities of the Nonhuman Rights Project, which seeks to give animals legal rights as if they were somehow equal to humans. In the meantime another organization, PETA, has also been stirring up legal waters with regard to a photographer and a monkey “selfie”.

On 11 September the BBC News website ([goo.gl/dyuFdE](http://goo.gl/dyuFdE)) reported on the case of David Slater. A photographer and conservationist, he spent numerous hours gradually gaining the trust of a group of crested black macaques in Indonesia.



An Indonesian crested black macaque. Image: Dighini, [www.pixabay.com](http://www.pixabay.com), under CC0 licence.

Eventually one of the macaques grasped hold of Slater's camera out of curiosity and managed to take a photo of itself.

Slater subsequently published the photo – and found himself embroiled in legal action mounted by PETA that has lasted two years. The case was complicated by some doubts as to the macaque's identity, with PETA claiming it is a female called Naruto but Slater saying it is a different male macaque.

Although the judges ruled that copyright protection cannot be extended to monkeys, in its appeal PETA argued that the monkey should benefit. This appeal was dismissed, but nevertheless Slater has generously agreed to give a quarter of the funds he receives from selling copies of the monkey selfies to registered charities "dedicated to protecting the welfare or habitat of Naruto".

In a case such as this, your writer would be fascinated to know how exactly PETA managed to establish that the macaque (whether Naruto or not) wished to be represented by them. Did they ask it to sign on the dotted line? Did their lawyer consult with it, and if not, did that breach its rights?

It's also amusing to note that as PETA is an acronym for 'People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals' they clearly make a distinction between people on the one hand and animals on

the other – thereby putting themselves somewhat at odds with the Nonhuman Rights Project. Oh, the irony.

## Cuttings & Comments from *New Scientist*

by *Dr David Rosevear*

**8 July p.28 – Should we...?**

**“Science and technology are constantly pitting our values against each other...What ethical principles are at stake – and what should we do?”**

The article highlights a number of issues such as animal rights, climate change, designer children, privacy and security, robotics and population control. Can ethical questions be decided by popular vote, fashion and convenience?

The secular science starts from the stance that there is no God. But if God makes the rules, and He has, these should guide our ethical decisions. So-called 'British values' that run contrary to God's law should not be imposed on anyone.

**15 July p.28 – Holy moley!**

It is widely suspected that we have a black hole at the heart of our galaxy, the Milky Way. Such a feature would be super massive, with its gravity attracting everything within its influence. Once swallowed, even light could not be re-emitted – hence 'black hole'. Is the information swallowed by a black hole destroyed, contrary to the

tenets of quantum theory? So are black holes a reality?

**“The black hole is a celestial lobster pot, with the difference that it never gets emptied and just keeps on accumulating lobsters, no trace of which is ever seen again.”**

**“This year, we should have the clincher: the first direct image of the supermassive black hole at the Milky Way’s centre. But as we gear up for that shadowy mugshot, some physicists are entertaining a maverick thought: what if it isn’t there?”**

We may need to dream up some alternative to explain the gravity effects, such as a state of matter known as a Bose-Einstein condensate. Apparently these should be in the form of a giant doughnut. You can’t eat it, but it might swallow you up!

‘Curiouser and curiouser’ said Alice.

## **22 July p.6 – Most of your DNA is junk after all**

This article by arch-atheist Michael Le Page wants to turn on its head everything the researchers into the DNA’s epigenome have found.

**“After 20 years of biologists arguing that most of the human genome must have some kind of function, it now seems that, because of the way evolution works, the vast majority of our DNA has to be useless - a suggestion that contradicts claims from prominent researchers.**

**“But around 90 per cent of our genome is still junk DNA, they suggested – an uncomfortable idea**

**for creationists, who struggled to explain why an intelligently designed genome would consist mostly of rubbish.”**

What evidence does Le Page offer for this idea which contradicts many teams of geneticists around the world who have worked on the ENCODE project? He says that a bit of DNA can only be described as functional if it has evolved to do something useful, and if a mutation disrupting it would have a harmful effect. (But the beauty of the DNA is that it is designed to be tolerant of a limited number of mutations.)

**“Graur’s team has now calculated how many children a couple would need to conceive for evolution to stop us accumulating too many bad mutations in different cases. If the entire genome has a function, couples would need to have around 100 million children, and almost all would have to die, they found.”**

Using this logic, Graur’s team calculated that only about 8 to 14 per cent of our genome is functional.

Adam and Eve started with perfect genomes with built-in flexibility, only some 6000 years ago. A tiny fraction of the genome collects mutations with each generation, so that today we are seeing a drop in fitness of the population. The parts of the genome formerly labelled ‘junk’ are now shown to code for RNA that makes switches to control the working of the protein-making genes.

We have reported in these columns in the past that Le Page has said that the peppered moth is the most famous

example of evolution, that Darwin's evidence for evolution is compelling, and that creationists are superstitious.

### 22 July p.48 – A very British coup

Several fossils from China, claimed to be feathered dinosaurs, are on display in a natural history museum in Nottingham.

**“The Sinosauropteryx – a small, predatory theropod – is so finely preserved that a halo of soft tissue is visible around its skeleton. Palaeontologists interpreted this as a coat of downy feathers, probably used for display or insulation.”** Not flight feathers, mind you, but ‘a halo of soft tissue’. Such is the evidence that dinosaurs evolved into birds.

**“There is also the genuine holotype specimen of Caudipteryx, which had**



Cast of a *Caudipteryx* fossil in the Houston Museum of Natural Science. Image in the public domain.

**long feathers on its arms and tail.”** But is it a dinosaur? It is said elsewhere to resemble a pheasant, with symmetrical feathers such as are found on non-flying birds. Its clawed arms are too short to act as wings to support its weight.

**““These are the pieces of evidence that prove beyond any doubt that dinosaurs have feathers, and that birds evolved, from dinosaurs”, said the exhibition’s curator, Adam Smith.”**

### 5 August p.7 – Fate of the Canaanites

**“DNA extracted from five skeletons buried 3700 years ago in what is now Lebanon live on... people in Lebanon still share 90 per cent of their DNA with the ancient skeletons.”**

Some newspapers this week have said that this shows that the Bible is wrong to claim that Joshua annihilated the Canaanites from the land. However, Scripture says in several places that they were still in the land, even as late as Zechariah 14.

### 5 August p.20 – Maths solves flight of the bumblebee

**“A bee shouldn’t be able to fly, maths insists. Its tiny wings shouldn’t create enough lift to get its big body off the ground.”**

*In days when science seems to be the only truth we know, it would behove the bumble bee, most humbly, to go slow. For those with scientific zest, and brows described as high, have proved by every modern test that the bumblebee can’t fly!*



*The streamlined look it sadly lacks. It's also overweight. And wings for such broad, velvet backs are most inadequate.*

*But ignorant and unaware of inability, the witless insect takes the air, defying gravity!*

**“Then in 1996, it was found that tiny, tornado-like airflows called LEVs form on the leading edges of their wings.”** But now these are not thought to provide the extra lift needed. They simply let a bee angle each wing more sharply to the sky, improving the airflow over them.

**“If the LEVs stop, the pressure difference between the top and the underside of the wing that creates lift would drop, and the bee would fall from the air.”**

So, the bee is more cleverly designed than we knew. Add to this the wiggle dance wherewith they communicate to their fellow foragers the direction of the nectar source. Then there's their built-in satnav that enables them to make a bee-line to the nectar, their air-conditioning wing flapping to regulate the temperature at which their eggs incubate and the production of honey and wax. Most especially, they pollinate flowers and blossoms, without which we might starve. One could wax lyrical about these little insects.

And just as we who admire the spitfire aircraft recognise the skill of R.J. Mitchell, so we should praise the One who designed the flight of the bumblebee, namely the Lord Jesus Christ.



A bumblebee, flying quite happily. Image: Skeeze, www.pixabay.com., under CC0 licence.

## **12 August p.6 – Dwindling dark matter**

Belief that God created the universe cannot be confirmed by scientific investigation. If you don't like the thought of a Creator who sets moral standards, then a scientific theory of origins is attractive. The problem is that there isn't one, since no imagined scheme can be verified.

The current best-buy is the Big Bang theory which requires a number of fudge factors to support it. Occam's razor makes this a doubtful bet.

Among the fudge factors, for which there is no observational evidence, are dark matter and dark energy. Undetectable dark matter was proposed to enable stars to cluster together into galaxies and not fly off into space. It is needed by the theory to supply gravitational attraction. Mysterious dark energy is required to inflate the

universe in the beginning into a flat plane. It is a sort of anti-gravity force. A new map of the distribution of matter across 26 million galaxies, the work of the Dark Energy Survey (DES), does not match an earlier survey. The map is **“so powerful because knowing this distribution helps us understand the cosmic game of tug of war between dark energy, the mysterious force accelerating the universe’s expansion, and dark matter, the hidden extra mass in the universe. Dark energy tends to pull each galaxy apart, while dark matter’s gravity brings each galaxy together. From the relative strengths of these effects, we can predict how the cosmos will change in the future...”**

**“The latest mismatch could mean that one or both of the measurements is wrong. If so, it might disappear with more data. Then again, it might not. And the fate of the universe hangs in the balance.”**

This theory chooses to ignore another scientific observation – the Anthropic Principle. It is found that all the scientific constants are precisely right to enable matter to exist and life to flourish. A small difference in these values would mean no universe, along with everything in it. The obvious explanation for this is an intelligent designer, a Creator. His Word tells us that He spread out the heaven in the beginning and that He will fold it up and create new heavens and a new earth when He, the Lord Jesus Christ, returns to Mount Zion to reign. And

that is something that the DES cannot change.

### **12 August p.14 – The dragon blood that may save lives**

Most medicines are derived initially from the natural world, and this latest potential antibiotic is extracted from dragons’ blood.

**“Komodos generally eat carrion, which may be tainted with disease, but they rarely succumb to illness. Investigations showed that this is because the lizards’ blood is loaded with antimicrobial peptides, or AMPs – an all-purpose immune defence. .. So far the researchers have identified nearly 50 AMPs with drug potential.”**

Such large complex biomolecules could not arise by chance. Partial molecules would decompose over time. First catch your dragon.



A pair of mating Komodo dragons. Image: Spencer Weart, Wikipedia, [goo.gl/qbpvEH](http://goo.gl/qbpvEH), under CCSA 3.0 Unported licence.



## 26 August p.28 – Losing the plot

**“Everything we thought we knew about who we are and where we came from needs a major rethink.”**

**“Think again, because over the past 15 years, almost every part of our story, every assumption about who our ancestors were and where we came from, has been called into question.”**

Those professors of pseudo-science who reject the truth of the Creator who made us in his own image, have been teaching for years that our lineage goes back some 6 million years to some East African forest, with a chimpanzee-like ape. Lucy was said to be our arch-grandmother, coming from an extinct branch of the family, the australopithecines. Apparently we marched out of Africa 60,000 years ago, with Neanderthal and Denisoven cousins later dying out to leave *Homo sapiens* to be fruitful and multiply.

But discoveries this century are changing all that, adding layer upon layer of complexity and confusion.

**“In 2001 and 2002 alone, researchers revealed three newly discovered ancient species, all dating back to a virtually unknown period of human prehistory between 5.8 and 7 million years ago.”** There have been eight new ‘ancestors’ uncovered so far this century. Yet these fresh daddies, with their reassuringly scientific names, looked more like us than modern chimps do, despite predating the presumed human-chimp split. It now seems that split may have happened between 7 and 13 million years ago in

order to have time for the changes to occur. In this scenario there are plenty of missing chapters.

The experts who discovered these pieces of skulls each claim that their beast is the most human-looking, as well as the oldest.

**“Most of the research community remains unconvinced by these ideas, says Spoor... In any event, determining which hominins evolved into humans is no longer as clear cut as it was.”**

**“In fact, the entire out-of-Africa narrative is in flux, with genetic and fossil evidence suggesting that even the once widely held opinion that our species left Africa 60,000 years ago is hopelessly wrong. Some lines of evidence suggest *H. sapiens* may have reached China as early as 100,000 years ago.**

**“‘We were trying to tell the story too early, on too little evidence,’ says Berger. ‘It made great sense right up until the moment it didn’t.’”**

Genetic analysis shows that *H. sapiens*, Neanderthals and Denisovans (these latter known only from one finger bone and three teeth from a single cave) all interbred with one another. That suggests they were all true humans who had lived under different conditions, such as during the ice age that followed the flood of Noah. Our *NS* writer seems to half-agree: **“With evidence of so much ancient interbreeding, it becomes far more complicated to decide where to draw lines between the different groups, or even if any lines are justified.”**

The Psalmist also asked and answered the question ‘What is man? You made him a little lower than the angels; you crowned him with glory and honour, and set him over the works of your hands.’ The writer to the Hebrews adds concerning the Word made flesh, ‘we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels for the suffering of death, crowned with glory and honour; that He by the grace of God should taste death for every man.’

## **2 September p.6 - The gene tweaks that let us speak**

**“Liran Carmel of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem and his colleagues examined DNA from two modern people and four humans who lived within the last 50,000 years. They also looked at Neanderthals, a Denisovan, six chimpanzees and data from public gene databases.**

**“They looked for genes that became more or less active over the course of evolution. To identify these epigenetic changes, they examined whether genes had methyl groups attached to them...In particular, genes linked to vocal cord and larynx development were significantly altered.**

**“Our results support the notion that evolution of the vocalisation apparatus of modern humans is unique.”**

Note the faulty logic. They begin by assuming that there has been evolutionary change from apes to modern humans via Neanderthals. All they show is that the various groups,

while using similar genes for vocalisation, nevertheless have some genes inactivated. Only Homo can speak; the others vocalise a range of simple cries to show their feelings. That region of the human brain that processes speech is just as necessary as the vocal cords and the position of the hyoid bone for speech.

## **2 September p.46 – Reduced fact content**

The reviewer John van Wyhe of this hostile biography of *Charles Darwin: Victorian mythmaker* by A N Wilson, writes that the book is deeply flawed. Van Wyhe claims: **“DNA evidence indicates that all living things are related genealogically on a vast ever-branching tree of life. This is Darwinism.”**

What the DNA shows is that all living things use the same code in making proteins for their structures and metabolic processes. Their complexity shows intelligent design rather than descent with modification. Mutations destroy.

**“Wilson’s book contains numerous factual errors, such as ‘if Darwin were correct, there would be hundreds, thousands of examples’ of transitional fossils. There are.”**

Surely van Wyhe is aware that even Darwin himself bemoaned the lack of transitional fossils, famously claimed by Stephen Jay Gould, the inventor of punctuated equilibrium theory, as the trade secret of palaeontology. The book claims that Darwin believed that his own theory made it impossible to

believe in the Bible. ‘Not so’, claims the reviewer. Actually, the only way a Darwinist can ‘believe’ the Bible is by ignoring the first eleven chapters and much else besides. Theistic evolutionists have got both their science and their theology wrong.

### **16 September p.11 – Longer lifespan may be driving down average IQ**

**“We’re getting stupider – and now we may know why.”**

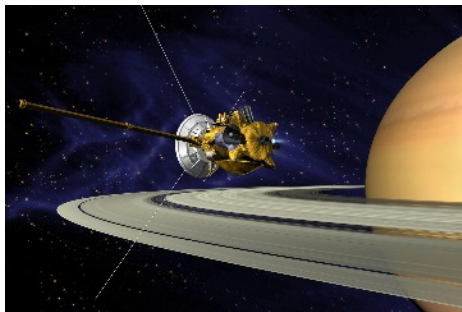
For a century, results of IQ tests continued to rise, as education, nutrition and public health improved. But by 2004, results began to decline by some 7 points per century.

One possible reason is that as lifespans have increased, more doddering oldies are taking the test. Working memories slow down with age, I’m told.

What isn’t considered is the effect of the Second Law of Thermodynamics on the brain’s performance. Other studies have shown that people in past generations have been brighter and stronger on average than we are today.

### **16 September p.38 – The next voyage**

The Cassini probe ended its life by crashing into the planet Saturn this week. Much has been learned through these 13 years of orbiting Saturn and its moons. We now know that some moons such as Europa and Ganymede have water ice surfaces, with the possibility of liquid oceans beneath their crusts. We also know that Saturn’s moon Titan has a thick, hydrocarbon-rich atmosphere.



Artist's depiction of the Cassini probe orbiting Saturn. Image: NASA, in the public domain.

**“Just 40 years ago, we never would have suspected that the secrets of how life formed on Earth, and whether it exists elsewhere, may lie in the icy moons of the outer solar system...”**

**“Cassini suggests that virtually all moons and planets in the solar system might have been seeded with the ingredients of life, but ‘how chemistry turns into biology is probably the biggest open question in science,’ says Desai [of UCL].”**

Observation tells us that life only comes from life. The ‘simplest’ life form is far, far too complex to have formed from scratch by chance.

Perhaps the most ignorant sentences in this article are: **“In this picture, life is made up of small electrical engines, driven by the movement of free electrons in our environment.**

**Replication- or reproduction – is just something that evolved to keep that going.”**

These engines, common to all life forms, are known as ATP synthase. Each consists of 31 complicated

proteins working in harmony. Without one of them, they do not work.

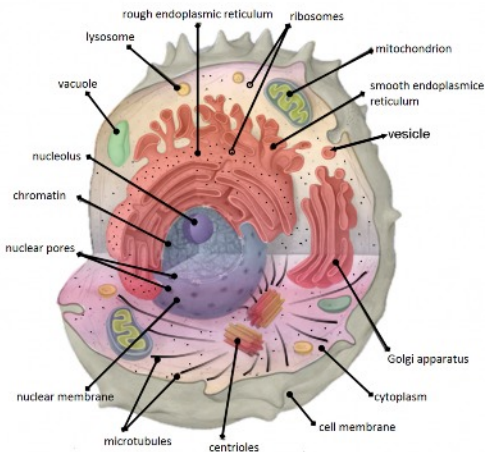
### 23 September p.12 – Blind people use visual brain for language

**“People who are blind use parts of their brain that usually handle vision to process language – highlighting the brain’s extraordinary ability to requisition unused real estate for new functions.**

**“In blind people, neurons in the part of the brain normally responsible for vision synchronise their activity to the sounds of speech...”**

Researchers at the Catholic University at Louvain, (UCL) Belgium used magneto-encephalography to scan electrical activity in the brains of both sighted and blind volunteers whilst listening to speech.

This adaptability of the brain is evidence of the ingenuity of its designer, the Lord Jesus Christ (‘All things were made by Him’ –John 1.)



A eukaryote (animal) cell with organelles labelled.  
Image: Koswac, Wikipedia, [goo.gl/2sLt3e](http://goo.gl/2sLt3e), under CCSA 4.0 International licence.

needed to produce the factory and replicate itself.

It makes the scaffold structure that permits the building of the protective wall. It forms and sizes the walls with gates that permit cargo in and out, and recognition mechanisms that only let the right cargo in.

It has specific sites and production lines, "employees" busily instructed to produce all kinds of necessary products, parts and sub-parts with the right form and size, with the right materials. It produces others that mount the parts together in the right order, in the right place, in the right sequence, at the right time.

It has sophisticated check and error detection mechanisms all along the production process with the ability to compare correctly produced parts to faulty ones and discard the faulty ones.

## The cell

The cell is like a factory. It has various, computer-like hierarchically organized systems of hardware and software. It has various language-based informational systems, a translation system and huge amounts of precise and instructional, specific, complex information. It has storage and extraction systems to make all the parts

Then it repeats the process to make the correct ones.

It has highways and cargo carriers that have tags which recognize where to drop the cargo when it's needed, and cleans up waste using waste bins and sophisticated recycle mechanisms. It has storage departments. It produces its own energy and shuttles it where and when it's needed, and last but not least, reproduces itself completely.

The salient thing is that the individual parts and compartments have no function on their own. They had to emerge all at once. No step-wise manner is possible, all systems are interdependent and irreducible. And it could not be through evolution, since evolution depends on fully working, self replicating cells in order to function. How can someone rationally argue that the origin of the most sophisticated factory in the universe would be based on natural occurrences, without involving any guiding intelligence?

*Nancy Reisiger Rice*, summarising work by *Otangelo Grasso*; used with permission.

## **Catastrophism v. Uniformitarianism**

Until the 18<sup>th</sup> century, the consensus was that the earth was about 6,000 year old, and that sedimentary rocks were deposited in the worldwide flood of Noah's day. This was followed by an

ice age of, maybe, a few hundred years. Most geological changes take place under such high energy conditions. Events can be catastrophic.

However, the men who surveyed and built our canals, proposed that all changes take place slowly under similar conditions to those that pertain today, and this led to the notion of hundreds of millions of years to lay down the vast thicknesses of limestone etc. that they observed. Charles Lyell, a 19<sup>th</sup> century solicitor, wrote *Principles of Geology*, describing these uniformitarian ideas, and Darwin adopted the long ages to present his ideas of biological evolution over deep time. From then to the present, biblical catastrophism has been regarded as a load of primitive legends.

In the middle of eastern Washington is a desert that enjoys less than eight inches of rain a year. Yet here is what was once a huge waterfall three miles wide and 400 feet high, with plunge pools beneath as evidence of an immense flow of water. Today it is quite dry. Geologists could not account for features of these scablands, with their dry canyons, gravel mounds as tall as skyscrapers and holes in the basalt bedrock big enough to swallow a city block.

Then in 1922 Harley Bretz, a young high school teacher, offered a remarkable explanation after he had studied maps and walked through the scablands for more than a decade. He



View of the Channeled Scablands in eastern Washington State, USA. Image: NOAA (on Flickr), [goo.gl/YwDCiU](http://goo.gl/YwDCiU), under CCA 2.0 Generic licence.

concluded that a really massive flood had ripped the landscape apart in a matter of days. He said that the water accumulated when ice dammed the rivers, and the dam was subsequently breached late in the ice age. When basaltic rock solidifies from lava, it contracts and forms hexagonal columns. These would break apart under catastrophic conditions.

Bretz's hypothesis was greeted with scorn by geologists, who used epithets such as 'wholly inadequate', 'preposterous' and 'incompetent'.

Then in the 1940s further evidence came to light that confirmed that Bretz was right. Over the following two decades many of the gainsayers died off and modern catastrophism became acceptable. In the 1980s the volcanic explosion of Mt St Helens in Washington State allowed a catastrophe to be observed. Tens of feet of finely layered rock were deposited in a day. Two years later, the river that these deposits had dammed breached the top

and immediately gouged out a large canyon. This latter had all the features of the grand canyon of the Colorado River, formed catastrophically.

Needless to say, the biblical scenario of Noah's flood, permitting the abolition of the notion of millions of years, is still regarded as geological heresy to all but creationists.

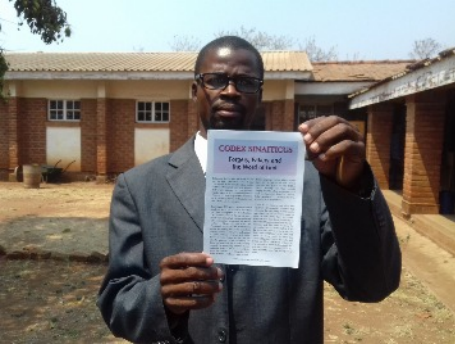
We thank CSM member Chris Wainwright for drawing our attention to information at [goo.gl/wcLvKf](http://goo.gl/wcLvKf) used in this article.

## Good news travels!

How widely do CSM materials get circulated, and what sort of impact do they have? By the grace of God, much more than one might suppose! One recent example is our pamphlet no. 406 by Bill Cooper, in which he exposes Codex Sinaiticus conclusively as a forgery, thereby demonstrating that the Textus Receptus ("received text") is much more reliable than had been claimed by liberal scholars.

CSM member Ian Sadler kindly arranged to take a large quantity of these pamphlets to Africa, where they have been distributed to churches in several countries. Ian reports that there have been "many answers to prayer despite Satan's fierce opposition" and that a local representative told him "how he had been deeply struck and his





CSM's pamphlet on Codex Sinaiticus has been widely distributed in several African countries, helping consolidate an appreciation of the reliability of the Scriptures. Image: Ian Sadler.

eyes opened to see the need for a faithful version of God's Word". Hence, he reported, "the subject for the meetings throughout the visit in Africa was 'Faithful to the Word of God', speaking of Christ the Word, the attacks of Satan upon the truth, and the vital need of faithfulness. This covered teaching on how the faithful versions of the scriptures were given by God's gracious hand, followed by a warning of how Satan has attacked the truth by bringing confusion through corrupt Bible versions and the spreading of error."

Ian further reported that "There was abundant evidence that churches and lives were being changed by the Holy Spirit through reading and searching the Scriptures. Some of the people present had a background in various cults or churches that up to recently had had little concern for the scriptural truth. Some testified that the Lord had used the Bible distribution and teaching in numerous conversions,

including from members of heretical sects."

CSM is humbled and privileged to have played a small part in this. We are grateful to all of you, our members, for your support that helps to make this sort of outreach possible. As Someone has said, 'And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free' (John 8:32, KJV). This is why CSM confronts the lie of Evolution too.

## Quotes

"In Genesis 1:26 we read, 'Then God said, "Let us make man in our image"'. Who is the 'us'? John 1:1-3 gives us the answer 'In the beginning was the word and the word was with God and the word was God'. So, Jesus was the word who was with God in the beginning. When God says, "Let us make man" the 'us' is God, the Father, and Jesus Christ, the Son. But we are also told 'the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters' (Gen. 1:2). We are made in God's image and His Spirit, breathed into us, makes each one of us unique.

"How sad then that Darwin's theory of evolution has tried to replace the truth of the word of God and is taught as fact, not theory, in our educational establishments. This is the enemy's plan to undermine belief in Almighty God as creator of the universe.

"I don't believe that a biblical Christian can believe in evolution. Why? If we don't believe in the first Adam and his

sin affecting the whole of the human race, then, of course, we don't need the second Adam (Jesus Christ) to die on the cross, to be the rescue plan for all mankind. 1 Corinthians 15:45 says, 'So it is written the first man Adam became a living being, the last Adam; a life-giving spirit'.

"Therefore, we should say "No" to the theory of evolution and "Yes" to the eternal truth of the word of God. We should rejoice that God has made us in His image to have personal relationship with Him, the living God."

(Reproduced with kind permission from *Seeds of the Kingdom*, 30 July 2017)

"I look a lot like my dad because, yes, he's my dad. I'm descended from him. Darwinists often point to similarities across species, classes and phyla, and argue that this proves we're all descended from a common ancestor. DNA, for example, crops up practically everywhere in the living world.

But to say such things prove common descent ignores another possibility. A common feature may be due to

common ancestry. But it might instead be due to a common design strategy. Think of cars. A Jaguar and a Mustang share many features — four wheels, rubber tyres, two axles, windshield wipers, lights, petrol engines. That doesn't mean the Mustang evolved from the Jaguar. No, designers re-use design features proven to work for specific engineering needs.

"We see this pattern even across disparate technology platforms. In one case the wheel is used and adapted for a water mill. In another case for a bicycle. In another, for a truck.

So, what about with living things? Might a designer have used and re-used a good design concept in widely different biological contexts? The only way to jump straight from biological similarities to evolution is to rule out the design hypothesis from the start. But if we're debating evolution vs. intelligent design, then ruling out design is just question begging. It's a way to shut down debate and protect modern evolutionary theory from critique."

(*Dr J. Witt*, 6 Sep. 2017, *The Stream*)

# Creation Science Movement

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