

# CREATION

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## The Authenticity of the Book of Genesis

**Dr Bill Cooper's Introduction to his *The Authenticity of the Book of Genesis* expresses CSM's stance. Everyone who possesses a copy has been loud in its praises:**

This entire book begins and ends with the oft-proven assumption that the Bible is all that it claims to be, the Word of God. It is a definition that embraces and supports the historical accuracy of the Bible in all its parts, prophetic, geographical, linguistic and doctrinal. The Bible is, in short, inerrant in its original autographs. God does not lie. But this is not a fashionable view. It is, unsurprisingly, a view which invites hoots of derision in most academic circles today. But then, it always has.

For men to choose not to believe the Bible on an individual level is one thing. But the world has seen, in the past few hundred years especially, a concerted drive on an institutional level to rubbish the Scriptures altogether. It is nothing new, of course. It is just the scale of the enterprise that takes the breath away.

And it's not just international. It's global.

In fact, such is the scale of the effort that one wonders if this really is just about the literary criticism of a book. Most other written works of man have been subjected to the discipline of literary criticism, from historical epics down to the crossings-out and scribbles of the Lakeland poets. But how many colleges, universities, seminaries and schools around the world are dedicated solely to the literary criticism of just one book? Very few, I'll warrant. But for the denigrating of the Bible, very many. Hundreds, in fact.

As we proceed, we shall see a strange yet consistent phenomenon when it comes to Biblical criticism (the destructive kind, at least). The phenomenon is consistent down



Impression of an ancient cylinder seal showing Eve and Adam with the tree of the knowledge of good and evil between them and a serpent behind Eve - just one of many apposite pieces of historical evidence discussed in Dr Cooper's book. Image: CSM.

the ages and across the world, and involves a countless multitude of hammers being worn down to nothing or shattered to pieces as they strike against this particular anvil, and all to none effect. Indeed so consistent, predictable and inevitable is the phenomenon that one wonders why they bother. But bother they do, and they must be answered.

This book is an attempt to supply such an answer. The book of the Bible that most of its critics have focussed upon down the centuries is the Book of Genesis. Not only have its historical statements been challenged on every level, but in particular its age has been challenged. It is currently said, as it has been for the past two hundred years, that it was written out at a time so remote from the past that it claims to deal with, that it cannot possibly be an accurate account. Indeed, it is said nowadays to be a borrowed and edited account, filched from the myths of Babylonia. Such claims demand to be tested, and tested they shall be. After all, with no Book of Genesis, there is no Creation. And with no Creation, there is no Fall of Man. And with no Fall of Man, there is no Gospel. So the matter is of immense import. Whether the Book of Genesis can stand up to its critics... well, we shall see.

To show something of the sheer authenticity of the Book of Genesis, this book is divided into three parts. Part One deals with the antiquity of Genesis, showing how each of its component parts is considerably older than any of the sources proposed for it by the modernist school. Part Two deals with the pre-Christian Flood traditions that are found around the world, which together present a formidable body of evidence for the truth of Genesis when it speaks of the Flood of

Noah. Finally, Part Three draws the reader's attention to a certain clay tablet which makes a nonsense of the modernist claim that the Flood account found in Genesis was modelled on or derived from the *Epic of Gilgamesh*. We call it here the Genesis Flood Tablet.

*Bill Cooper*

Bill's book is available from CSM at £10.50 + P&P – see [www.csm.org.uk](http://www.csm.org.uk)

## What we believe

In these days when woolly theology, syncretistic beliefs and grievous apostasy seem appallingly commonplace, what we believe is as vitally important as ever: it is literally a matter of life and death. So what does CSM believe? Below can be found our Statement of Faith, dating from 10th February 1989.

If you also subscribe to these tenets of faith and believe that the Lord is calling you to help disseminate the truth about creation and evolution, then CSM would like to hear from you. Could you be one of the Lord's "labourers in the field"? (See Matt. 9: 37-38.)

### *CSM Statement of Faith*

#### Section A

1. The scientific aspects of creation are important but are secondary in importance to the proclamation of the gospel of Jesus Christ as Sovereign Creator and Redeemer.
2. The Doctrines of Creator and Creation cannot ultimately be divorced from the gospel of Jesus Christ.

## Section B

1. The Bible is the written Word of God. It is divinely inspired and inerrant throughout. Its assertions are factually true in all the original autographs. It is the supreme authority in all matters of faith and conduct.
2. The final guide to the interpretation of Scripture is Scripture itself.
3. The account of origins presented in Genesis is a simple but factual presentation of actual events and therefore provides a reliable framework for scientific research into the question of the origin and history of life.
4. The various original life forms (kinds) including man were made by direct creative acts of God. Biological changes which have occurred since the creation have been limited to variation only within the potential possessed by the original kinds.
5. The great flood of Genesis was an actual historic event, worldwide in its extent and effect.
6. The special creation of Adam (as one man) and Eve (as one woman) and their



The central fact of the gospel of Jesus Christ is the astonishing good news that through His sacrificial death and resurrection, the forgiveness of sins and peace with God are available for all who will repent and receive this grace. Image: CSM.

- subsequent fall into sin is the basis for the necessity of salvation for mankind.
7. Death, both physical and spiritual, entered into this world subsequent to and as a direct consequence of man's sin.

## Section C

1. The Godhead is Triune - God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit.
2. All of mankind are sinners inherently from Adam and individually (by choice) and are therefore subject to God's wrath and condemnation.
3. Freedom from the penalty and power of sin is available to man only through the sacrificial death and shed blood of Jesus Christ and His complete and bodily resurrection from the dead.
4. The Holy Spirit enables the sinner to repent and believe in Jesus Christ.
5. The Holy Spirit lives and works in each believer to produce the fruits of righteousness.
6. Salvation is a gift received by faith and expressed in the individual's repentance, recognition of the death of Christ as full payment for sin and acceptance of the risen Christ as Saviour Lord and God.
7. Jesus Christ was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary.
8. Jesus Christ rose from the dead, ascended to Heaven and is presently seated at the right hand of God the Father and shall return in person to this earth as Judge of the living and of the dead.
9. Satan is the personal spiritual adversary of both God and man.
10. Those who do not believe in Christ are subject to everlasting conscious punishment but the believers receive life with God.

## Section D

The following attitudes are held by Trustees to be either consistent with Scripture or implied by Scripture.

1. The Scripture teaches a recent origin for man and for the whole Creation.
2. The days of Genesis do not correspond to Geologic ages but are six (6) consecutive twenty-four (24) hour days of Creation.
3. The Noachian flood was a significant geological event and much (but not all) fossiliferous sediment originated at that time.
4. The Gap Theory has no basis in Scripture.
5. The common view of the division of knowledge into 'secular' and 'religious' is a false view.
6. The chronology of secular world history must conform to that of biblical world history.

## Cuttings & Comments from New Scientist

by Dr David Rosevear

### 15 June p.30 – The great leap forward

This article seeks to explain the major geological event that occurred prior to the deposition of the Cambrian fossils, and why these fossils appear fully formed with no sign of ancestors.

**“Life on Earth [where else?] experienced a singular revolution just over 500 million years ago. In a geological blink of an eye, most groups of the animal kingdom appeared in the Earth’s oceans and then diversified. The acquisition of skeletons, the advent of predation and the rise of complex ecosystems all occurred in what’s known as the Cambrian explosion of marine animals. “Evolutionary change isn’t supposed to**

**happen so abruptly, at least not according to Charles Darwin.”**

The abruptness is explained by the ‘Great Unconformity’ which can be clearly seen at the bottom of the Grand Canyon of the Colorado River. Below this sharp line is base rock, while above are the great variety of fossilised creatures of the Cambrian layers. Evolutionary geologists claim that the unconformity represents a gap of perhaps a billion years, eroded away and missing.

**“The ultimate cause of this gap remains a mystery. What is clear, though, is that over tens or even hundreds of millions of years before the Cambrian, the uppermost rocks of the continents were stripped away, exposing underlying crystalline basement rocks. This process of continental denudation occurred over a vast area. Much of North America from California to New York has a Great Unconformity similar to that in the Grand Canyon, and geologists have reported similar features on other continents as well.”**

**“However, one thing is clear: the physical geological record of the Pre-Cambrian-Cambrian transition is just as remarkable as the Cambrian explosion, and we now think the two are causally**



Fossils of complex multi-segmented creatures are found fully-formed in Cambrian rocks, yet they have no precursors in underlying strata - so no evidence for evolution whatsoever. Image: CSM.

linked.”

Interestingly, this explanation is rather similar to the creationist interpretation, except for the time-scale. A worldwide flood denuded the Earth down to the crystalline basement rocks, and then deposited sediments above it containing fully-formed fossils in great variety, with no evidence of evolution. History puts the flood of Noah at some 2,350 years BC.

### 29 June p. 16 – Erosion helps keep mountains standing tall

This little item is an attempt to explain why rivers carrying abrasive rock fragments do not erode mountains away over an estimated 200 million years. Once some erosion has taken place, they reckon, the slopes are less steep so erosion rates slow down and grind to a halt. Nevertheless, the north face of the Eiger still seems pretty steep. Perhaps mountains arose after the flood/ice age and haven't had time to be ground away.

### 6 July p.30 – The day the Earth exploded

This cover story is an attempt to explain the origin of the moon, by suggesting that a natural nuclear reactor deep within the Earth went critical soon after our planet had condensed and solidified (note assumptions) and exploded, throwing out a large portion of the Earth into space. This became our moon.

**“Accounting for the moon’s origin has always been a problem...No other planet in our solar system has a satellite that is proportionately so large: it is over one quarter of the Earth’s diameter. Such a body could not have been captured in passing, as other planets are thought to have snared their smaller satellites.”**

George Darwin, astronomer son of Charles, thought the Earth originally spun so fast that a chunk broke away to form the moon.



The north face of the Eiger. Can such a steep-sided mountain really be as old as evolutionists claim? Image: Terra3, Wikipedia, under Creative Commons Attribution-Share Alike 3.0 Unported licence..

But calculations of angular momenta indicate such a spinning Earth’s day would have been only 2 hours.

Another theory was that the moon was broken off following a crash involving interplanetary billiards. But such a collision would mean that moon rock composition would be different from those of Earth, whereas the recent re-examination of Apollo rock samples shows we share the same mineral composition. **“It was proposed because nothing else worked”**. Another scientist from Boulder, CO. suggests that two objects of similar size approached each other slowly, coalesced to form the Earth, and the moon was formed from the debris. Such a splat would mean the make-up of minerals was uniform.

If any of these wacky ideas were true, would it result in a moon so precisely distanced from us in comparison to the sun and of such a size, that our tides are within a useful range? We see that solar eclipses enable us to study the sun’s corona, and it turns out that the moon stabilises the Earth’s orbit so that we don’t roll about

wildly.

A better idea for the moon's origin is that our all-powerful, intelligent Creator made the sun, moon and stars on Day 4 of Creation Week and pronounced them very good – 'our faithful witness in the heavens' (Ps. 89:37).

### 13 July p.34 – The unexpected ape

**“Recent discoveries are forcing us to rethink our family history”.** How often have we been told that, when a new fossil ape turns up? Here we are told: **“What’s more, the East African hominin long seen as our direct ancestor may be just a cousin, with our true roots lying further south. Our family tree may have to be completely redrawn.”** It has been found, so far, that East Africa was home to five species of extinct ape. **“How they are all related is far from clear”.** Now a further species has been found near Johannesburg, all six said to be 2 million years old. It has been named *Australopithicus sediba*.

**“The more Berger [the discoverer’s dad] looked at the skeletons, the more convinced he became that *A. seiba* is a pivotal species in our ancestry.”** They all say that about their discoveries! Despite an ape-like brain capacity, it has small teeth and a tapered waist like humans, though its rib cage is conical, preventing it swinging its arms. Its arms are long, fine for swinging in the trees. However its heels are thin and weak making walking difficult. The carbon content of its teeth suggests it lived on tree leaves and bark. We are told that its grip was suited for tool use, and its pelvis, knee and hip were adapted for upright walking.

We predict that the arguments will start all over again when the next new fossil ape is uncovered.

### 13 July p.46 – Wishful thinking

**“Your vagus nerve is in the branch of your nervous system that helps you relax rest and digest.”** It is said to underpin your health and happiness. A psychologist in North Carolina has found a **“link between meditating on kind thoughts and a whole range of indicators of physical health and mental well-being. It might boost your immune system, protect you from cardio-vascular disease, reduce vulnerability to stress, improve thinking and emotional control, and even raise levels of empathy, sociability and self-esteem.”** The vagus nerve transmits feelings but can it originate them as the psychologist seems to imply?

So Paul’s advice to the Ephesians (4:32) to be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ’s sake has forgiven you, could be regarded as self-therapy. Wishful thinking it isn’t.

### 20 July p.6 – Inside the brain of a Neanderthal

We recently reported that a study of the 80 per cent of our DNA that does not code for proteins (formerly called ‘junk DNA’) has been found to consist of switches to control the 20 per cent that codes for proteins (the genes).

Here we find that DNA of three groups of bones, those of modern humans, Neanderthals and Denisovans, has been used to compare which genes have been switched on or off.

[Denisovans are only known from parts of a finger, a toe and a couple of teeth found in a cave in Asia that was shared by all three groups – hardly a representative sample!]

Not surprisingly, Carmel, who led the study, **“found that about 90 per cent of the epigenome was identical across the**

**three species**". The genes themselves were all the same. Genes are switched by methylation and de-methylation whereby a methyl group (CH<sub>3</sub>) is added to or removed from a gene.

Much is made of this limited result to explain **"why humans out-competed their Neanderthal cousins"**. It would be of interest to do a wider study on DNA of ethnic groups of humans alive today. This might show that these differences in our ancestors were reflecting only variations within humankind, and nothing to do with evolution.

### **27 July p.11 – Blind mice receive brand new light-sensing cells**

A new procedure has been developed to allow embryonic stem cells to self-organise into retina-like structures within a blob of jelly. Researchers have then identified the optimal stage in the cells' development to transplant them into the eyes of mice, 24 days. Implanted into the eyes, the immature cells find their own way to where they are needed and then connect to the nerves and mature fully. Not enough cells were used to restore the mice's vision, but this should be possible by making more cells.

How amazingly complex are living things, that cells can use built-in programs to self-organise. Intelligent humans are thinking God's thoughts after him!

A paragraph on **p.7** of this issue announces that a trial has been arranged in Japan to turn induced pluripotent stem cells (IPSC's), derived from skin cells rather than embryos, into retinal pigment epithelial cells in a bid to prevent vision loss from age-related macular degeneration. On **p.8** an article entitled **Better than Nature** speculates that we may one day manage to improve the organs we were born with. This would use the self-organising properties of the cells while introducing DNA capable of, for example, creating a human organ able to detect magnetic fields, as birds can. **"At the moment, it exceeds our knowledge. We would need to re-engineer much more than our gene circuit. But in the long term the limitations will be conceptual rather than technical. What type of new organ or function would one wish for?"**

### **3 August p.9 – Without clouds Earth could boil Venus style**

Without clouds, **"a new study suggests, Earth would be a lot like Venus with its evaporated seas and sweltering 460°C heat...We now know Earth absorbs more radiation than it emits, so a runaway greenhouse scenario could indeed be possible.**

**"In fact, without clouds which reduce the temperature by scattering sunlight and reflecting much of it back into space, the model suggests we could already be in**



Clouds are yet another design feature of our amazingly well-designed planet. Image: CSM.

trouble. ‘Clouds save the day,’ says Goldblatt.

“Despite us offsetting this cooling effect by emitting greenhouse gases, we can breathe easy. Goldblatt calculates that Earth could be pushed into a runaway effect, but only by raising the concentration of CO<sub>2</sub> in the atmosphere

to about 30,000 parts per million – vastly more than it would reach if we burned all available fossil fuels.”

How reassuring is Isaiah 45:18 – ‘For thus says the LORD who created the heavens; God Himself who formed the earth and made it; He has established it; he created it not in vain, He formed it to be inhabited: I am the LORD; and there is none else.’

### 3 August p.16 – Natural booster for organ regeneration

“Your body naturally contains a chemical that can boost organ regeneration and speed up wound healing.”

Epoxyeicosatrienoic acids (EETs) help new blood vessels to form. Could they also accelerate other types of growth? Experiments with mice whose lung or liver had been surgically removed quickly grew more tissue when injected with EETs. They also shortened healing times in mice with injuries.

“The team also showed that EET concentration in blood trebled in the week after human liver donors had undergone surgery.”

This design feature goes well beyond what would be necessary for the survival of species. Moreover, if its structure is as complicated as its name, it could hardly have come about by chance.

### 10 August p.10 – Navigation cells spotted in the human brain

“We all get lost sometimes. Luckily [sic],



Finding our way through complex surroundings is only possible thanks to specialised cells in our brain. If these took millions of years to evolve, how did we find our way to home, safety or food in the meantime? Image: J. Fletcher, www.rgbstock.com.

**specialised cells in the brain can help us find the way home.**

“We know that animals use three cell types to navigate. Direction cells fire when an animal is facing a particular direction, place cells fire only in a specific location, and grid cells fire at regular intervals as an animal moves around.”

It was already known that human brains contained direction and place cells. Now, researchers have used volunteers with electrodes in their brains to play a computer game in which they navigated an open space to find objects that at first could be seen but subsequently were made invisible. They found that single brain cells fired regularly in response to the motion of the volunteers’ avatars, in a similar pattern to that seen in animal grid cells. Finding ways to stimulate such cells could help those with Alzheimer’s disease.

So could these three types of cells used for navigation have formed by chance in just the right areas of the brain? These areas are the entorhinal cortex which is responsible for navigation and memory, the cingulate cortex involved in learning and the prefrontal cortex involved in forming episodic memories. The statistical probability of such ‘luck’ is virtually zero.

### 10 August p.13 – Arabian flights:



### **humanity divided in just 150 years**

Geneticists have analysed the entire DNA sequences in the Y chromosomes of 69 men from Africa, Eurasia and Central America. From differences in the mutation patterns of these groups they have concluded that population splits occurred about 50,000 years ago when humans had left Africa. These three groups can still be seen today. Just a single genetic mutation differentiated the three groups, implying that the split happened at the same time within a period of 150 years. Genesis 11 gives some details of this event, when the families of the three sons of Noah separated from Shinar (Babel) because they couldn't understand each other's speech. The dating of this estimate doesn't fit well with the biblical account, but it did happen quickly. The Y chromosomes show evidence of Neanderthal admixture, showing that these folk were fully human

### **17 August p.17 – DNA mix-ups hint at how to halt cancer**

**“When DNA strands get torn, the pieces can drift apart. Cells have a repair system that tries to reconnect the loose ends, but it sometimes goes wrong and DNA from different chromosomes is spliced together. These mix-ups - known as chromosome translocations – can lead to harmful mutations and are a hallmark of cancer cells.”**

Now workers have deliberately induced splitting of DNA in mice, and tagged the break points with fluorescent markers to make them visible. **“They then watched thousands of cells repair themselves over 24 hours.**

**“They found that an enzyme called DNA-dependent protein kinase plays an important part in correctly reuniting broken strands. Removing the enzyme made a translocation 10 times as likely.”**

Here again is a complex system that could not evolve a little at a time. Without the enzyme, it is questionable whether animals and humans would remain viable for many generations. We are ‘fearfully and wonderfully made’.

### **17 August p.21 – Squid camouflage for soldiers**

**“In a first step toward squid camouflage for soldiers, researchers have made a thin film out of graphene and the protein reflectin, which squid in the *Lolliginidae* family use to hide themselves.”**

Increasing the acidity of the film makes the proteins expand and become reflective, while decreasing it causes it to shrink and make the film invisible to infrared. The soldiers could become invisible to heat detectors.

This is an irreducibly complex defence that required an Intelligence to create it.



## 24 August p.10 – Australia: where oceans go to hide

This page explains the cause of the severe floods in Australia in 2011. In a panel entitled **Sheer weight of water**, it talks about the rise in sea level after the ‘last’ ice age. It is predicted that melting of ice caps will cause an increase in sea level of about 1 metre this century. Satellite data show that the sea level at the moment is rising by 3 millimetres a year.

However, at the close of the ice age, really vast accumulations of ice melted, raising sea levels.

**“According to a new analysis, the extra weight of liquid water deformed the seabed, causing vast submarine landslides and tsunamis, perhaps even releasing extra greenhouse gases... During that time sea levels rose by 120 metres as melting ice sheets poured their cargo into the ocean.”**

The timescale of the melting here is estimated at 5,000 years, while biblical chronology would expect a much shorter period, just a few hundred years. Would a gradual process have produced such landslides and tsunamis as the plastic mantle slowly deformed? Moreover, no normal weather would build up enough ice to melt and raise the sea level by a whopping 120 metres. Only the cataclysm in the days of Noah fits this scenario.



Melting of the great ice sheets - the biblical chronology fits the facts best. Image: CSM.

Uniformitarian geology cannot explain it, but must offer an alternative catastrophic idea, the dumping of a vast quantity of ice from space. We prefer history to science fiction. *The Authenticity of Genesis* by Dr Bill Cooper has a whole section cataloguing stories of the Flood from around the world.

## 31 August p.36 – Portraits of darkness

Here we read that after 80 years of hunting for the elusive dark matter, there are hints that it has been detected by instruments about a mile underground. **“I’m not certain – I just think it’s likely’. If Hooper’s hunch is right, the findings challenge our understanding of what dark matter is. The stuff that makes up 85 per cent of matter in the universe might be even stranger than we imagined.”**

How do they know that dark matter exists if it can’t be detected? **“If the big bang hadn’t created dark matter in abundance, there wouldn’t be enough gravity for gas and dust to coalesce into stars and galaxies. Remove dark matter and the spinning Milky Way would fly apart.”** It doesn’t occur to these secularists that if the Creator made the universe only thousands of years ago, the concept of dark matter becomes redundant.

Instruments hint at two or three particles thought to be WIMPs with a mass of 10 GeV, about ten times the mass of a hydrogen atom. But the theory of supersymmetry suggests that the WIMPs should have masses of about 100 GeV. **“However, the biggest problem is that the world’s largest and most sensitive direct detection experiment, XENON, has seen nothing, casting doubt on all these findings.”**

**“Another Fermi signal once hailed as a ‘smoking gun’ faded when more**

measurements were made.

**“Ultimately, if WIMPs do exist, it should be possible to make them by smashing together particles at high energies.”**

However, they haven't shown up at the Large Hadron Collider at CERN.

**“With the picture so bewildering, everyone agrees that what they need is more time to collect data and to build bigger and better detectors.**

**“Zurek”** described here as ‘a high energy theorist’ (the mind boggles) **“and others are exploring a much richer dark sector, with multiple dark particles and interactions and even dark atoms, dark chemistry, and ultimately a mirror universe matching ours particle for particle and force for force... the dark sector would include dark electromagnetism and dark light.**

**“Perhaps most exciting of all, it might be possible to make dark light in the lab.”** I make light dark every night simply by flicking a switch over the bed.

**“The Mainz Microtron experiment ... has started searching for dark photons, but has not yet seen one.”** Are they serious?

#### **14 September p.10 – Goop cosmos helps crack glass’s secrets**

*New Scientist’s* Feedback page frequently pokes fun (deservedly) at what it calls ‘fruitloopery’ - nonsensical material couched in pseudoscientific language. Adverts for quack cures are a rich source of copy. But some of the magazine’s own serious articles sound rather like gobbledegook also. Here is a piece telling us that String Theory gets gooeey in a supergoop universe. **“If you have lots of these little black holes and you fiddle with them, they exhibit goopy behaviour.**

**“According to string theory, there is an alternative ‘supergoop’ universe where black holes form molecule-like**



Giuseppe investigates String Theory. Image: CSM.

**structures. So could this universe give rise to black-hole-based life?”** And they are not referring to a discarded string vest. All this ridiculous speculation arises from the problem secularists have with the observation that our universe is fine-tuned for man – the Anthropic Principle. It’s almost as though God created everything! Of course, secularists regard creationists as fruit-cakes. The online BBC news magazine for 15th September offers a selection of weird UK museums, including the Genesis Expo in Portsmouth. There is a link to our website – great free publicity, and the following Saturday saw a big influx of visitors.

#### **14 September p.17 – Cell scaffolds found in oddball meteor**

This article offers another desperate attempt to explain how the structure for living cells formed naturally in a pre-biotic earth. By baking bits of a meteor containing carbonaceous material at extreme heat and pressure for six days,

Sandra Pizzarello of Arizona State University cooked up scaffold-like polymers that **“may have trapped other organics within the cell-like enclosure of early life”**. Of course, cell structures need all the complex cell components before they can reproduce, and would certainly not survive such cookery.

### **21 September p.12 – Cosmic baby snaps hint at bubbly birth**

**“The universe was born as a space-time bubble that popped up inside an even bigger metaverse. So hint tiny anomalies in our best maps yet of the infant cosmos.”** This refers to maps of the CMB or cosmic background microwave radiation that is interpreted to represent the light emitted shortly after the assumed big bang. One theory pictures our universe arising **“from quantum fluctuations in a much bigger cosmos called a metaverse. The quantum effects caused a phase transition in the fabric of the metaverse, and our universe popped into being like an air bubble forming in boiling water.”** All very obscure sci-fi stuff! Perhaps the proposed metaverse just popped out from an even bigger paraverse!

### **21 September p.16 Crack a comet to spawn amino acids**

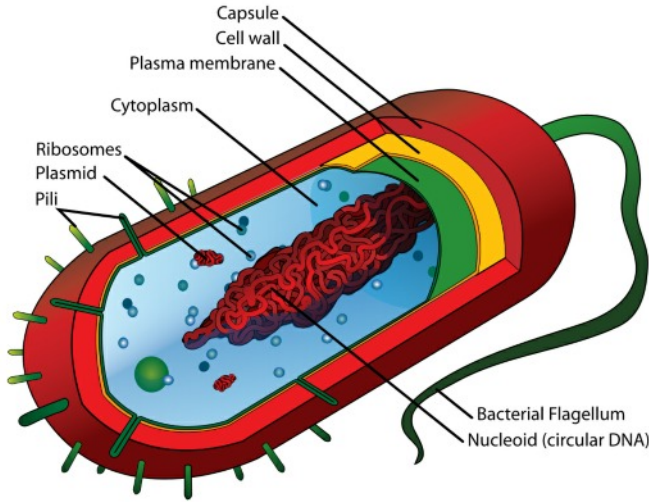
A team of researchers froze a mixture of water, ammonia, carbon dioxide and methanol to imitate the composition of icy comets. They then shot steel pellets at 7 kilometres a second at it to simulate a comet smacking into a planet. When they had finished playing, the lads found they had made some simple amino acids, **“the building blocks of life”**. This simple chemistry was akin to the Miller experiment of the early 1950s. Like that, this game also produced only racemic mixtures (left- & right-handed amino acids

of no biological importance). You can, of course, get whole proteins at the butcher’s but even Frankenstein couldn’t spark them into life.

### **28 September p.12 – Early bacteria had junkyard evolution**

We are informed here that mechanisms for evolution include sex where two organisms combine their genes by mating; random DNA mutation; and the active transfer of genes between live microbes. A little logic should tell us that successful mating only occurs between male and female of the same kind to produce fertile offspring, so no new genes appear. Moreover, random mutations involve a loss of information and the effect varies from neutral to lethal. Genes are a precisely coded string combining four bases that produce a particular string of amino acids (each is one of 20 molecules) making a protein with exact spatial and biological properties. Mutations are accidents that cannot improve on this design. As for gene transfers, these occur between bacteria using a pilus (see pamphlet 278 *Genetics & Creation*). This *NS* article describes it as **“a complex system of around 40 genes”**. Only bacterial genes are transferred.

Denmark’s Nat. Hist. Museum scientist Søren Overballe-Petersen fed short pieces of degraded synthetic DNA to a bacterium which then added them to its own genome. Then he smashed up a ‘43,000-year-old’ mammoth bone, extracted DNA fragments from the shattered bits, and fed them to his cultures. The dead mammoth’s DNA fragments were assimilated into the live bacterium’s genome. Petersen had knocked out part of the bacterium’s 40 gene machinery mentioned above. **“It is not clear what the bacteria do with the new DNA. The fragments are too small to hold a full gene, but could carry a**



Schematic diagram of a bacterial cell, with the pili (singular pilus) shown as green rods. Image in the public domain.

**that they bear live young and gestate for an impressive three years.”**

Two pregnant females accidentally caught, plus their offspring when born, were DNA-fingerprinted to establish that the tiddlers were the product of only one sire.

60,000,000 years is a long time to remain undetected either fossilised or alive. To turn up unchanged is a surprise only to an evolutionist. Maybe their fossils date from being buried by a global inundation just over 4,300 years ago, for which there’s

**promoter to switch other genes on...”**

But those other genes would be the bacteria’s own genes - so no evolutionary mechanism here either.

The structure of bacteria exhibit beautiful design features like the flagellum motor to enable them to move about. These features were not the product of a ‘junkyard’ hit-and-miss process.

**28 September p.18 – Who’s the daddy? Living fossil is a serial monogamist**

**“We thought they died out 60 million years ago, then one popped up alive in a fishing net in 1938. They are cousins of the first fish to clamber onto land, and use their strange fins to walk on the seabed. Now the coelacanth has sprung another surprise. It is a serial monogamist.**

**“Coelacanths are enormous, bottom-dwelling fish that lurk between 100 and 200 metres beneath the surface off the eastern coast of Africa. We know next to nothing about their reproduction, bar**

written evidence all over the world (see Cooper, *The Authenticity of Genesis* available from CSM).

**28 September p.28 – The world won’t listen**

A new assessment of ‘climate change’ (formerly known as global warming) has said that experts are 95 per cent certain that it is due to human activity. The writer bemoans the fact that people are sceptical. In fact apathy and even outright denial are now more widespread than in 2008. Most people want to avoid wasting resources. No one likes pollution. But folk don’t think climate change is man-made, and don’t like it being used as an excuse for raising taxes. An Australian geology professor has pointed out that the volcanic eruption that grounded air traffic all over Europe recently spewed out infinitely more carbon dioxide than all man’s puny efforts at limiting greenhouse gases. There are natural cycles of climate warming and cooling over the centuries, and in the 21st



The volcano Stromboli, which has been erupting more or less continuously for the last 2,000 years, is just one of many active volcanoes in the world. Compared with such enormous natural spewings of gases into the atmosphere, how can human production of carbon dioxide make any significant difference? Image: Tin6789, Wikipedia, under Creative Commons Attribution-Share Alike 3.0 Unported licence.

century the trend has been a cooling one. He didn't refer to the massive climate change that happened a few millennia ago with the flood and ice age. (see also 3 August p.9 above.)

## Cracking the Darwin Code

It is often said by secular scientists that creation is religion whereas evolution and long ages are science. However, the evidence from history tells a different story. In *Cracking the Darwin Code*, I trace the roots of both back through the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, prior to the work of Lyell and Charles Darwin in the nineteenth century. This evidence shows that Enlightenment philosophers and scientists in the early modern period had a strong interest in Greek paganism and Hinduism. The pagan religious leaders had held that the earth was millions or billions of years old, and that the order in the world

arose out of impersonal self-generating powers or gods.

A prime example was Hesiod's *Theogony* of the seventh century BC that told a story about the self-generation of the gods and all life forms, including the gods of chaos. The gods of chaos were known as Tiamat and Dagon amongst the Babylonians and Philistines (see *1 Samuel* 5-7). Dagon is depicted as half-fish and half-man. In the biblical account the Ark of the Covenant was placed in the temple of Dagon, which led to the statue of Dagon falling down in the night with arms and head broken off.

The ancient people also believed in thousands, millions or billions of years of history, perhaps for reasons of national pride or poor translations across cultures. Berosus, a Babylonian priest of Baal, believed the world to be 2,160,000 years old. The Hindus held that a day of Brahma was 8,640,000,000 years. The Hebraic text of Genesis on the other hand was markedly different to that of the surrounding nations, holding that the world was less than 6,000 years old and a direct creation of the true and living God.

So these Greek ideas stemmed from idolatrous beliefs already present in the Ancient Middle East. This paganism later coloured the beliefs of Enlightenment thinkers about the age of the earth and evolution before anyone had attempted to justify it scientifically; men such as Benoit de Maillet in France and David Hume and Erasmus Darwin in Scotland.

A popular belief in the sixteenth and seventeenth century was that fossils were formed by some mystical self-generating power in the ground. This belief was held for instance by Athanasius Kircher in Italy

and by Martin Lister in the British Royal Society. However, others believed they had formed as relics from the Flood of Noah. Scientists such as Nicolai Steno in Italy and Robert Hooke in the Royal Society argued that they were drowned in the Flood and turned to solid stone through fossilisation. This led to fierce debates over subsequent decades, although most came to accept the organic origin of fossils, thanks in part to the authority of John Woodward and John Harris. Woodward had in fact leant heavily upon Steno's work to the point of plagiarism. Harris though defended Woodward and wrote for instance that the 'better and more discerning part of mankind' agreed that fossils were formed in the Flood. The account of the biblical Flood then advanced our scientific understanding of the world, while those who held to the novel pagan beliefs were stopping the progress of science.

However, while those who held to the plastic origin of fossils largely lost that struggle, the belief in self-generating powers re-emerged in the thinking of a number of French and Scottish philosophers. There were close links between them. Benoit de Maillet wrote at length that the Hindu cosmology, with its vast ages, was superior to that of the Bible. He wrote under a pseudonym *Telliamed*; a simple reversal of his name and argued that the earth was two billion years old, although the work was edited and published after his death. Original copies were however circulating privately before his death.

David Hume also alluded to the work of Hesiod in his *Dialogues Concerning Natural Religion*. While there is ambiguity over exactly what Hume's position was in the *Dialogues*, Erasmus Darwin was in no

doubt about the intention. He praised Hume for holding that mystical 'powers of generation' were responsible for the order of the world seen around us. Erasmus Darwin was well read in the pagan works and had as the family motto three scallop shells with the words *E. conchis omnia* – 'everything from sea shells.' This comes from the pagan belief that Aphrodite, the goddess of love, rode ashore on a scallop shell. Erasmus Darwin also believed in millions of ages before any scientific justification. He asked for instance '...would it be too bold to imagine that...perhaps millions of ages before the commencement of the history of mankind...that all warm-blooded animals have arisen from one living filament...'

What we see here is that the older belief in self-generating powers at work in forming fossil shells in the ground had now re-emerged as an evolutionary belief because of an interest in the works of Greek authors such as Hesiod and Homer, and the Hindus. It is also present in the modern belief that life arose from some primordial soup several billion years ago.

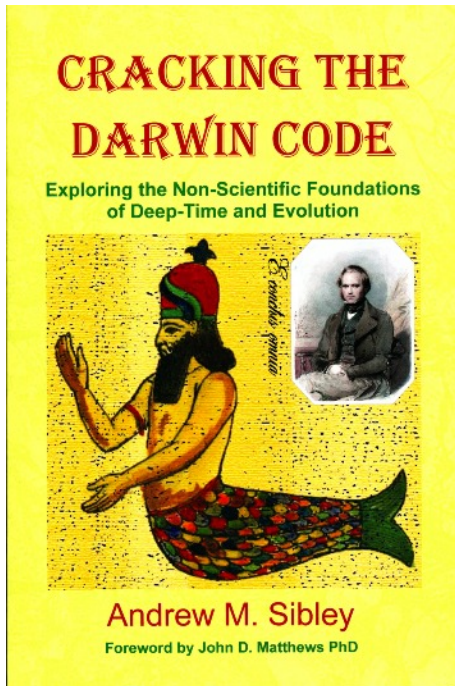
When we turn to the nineteenth century we find that Charles Lyell and Charles Darwin were more careful to avoid the overt paganism of their eighteenth century peers, although it was there nonetheless. Charles Darwin's work was much closer to the Epicureans than to Hesiod. The Epicureans held that the order of the world formed out of the primordial chaos as falling atoms tried out all combinations, although why some combinations should stick and persist was not easily answerable within this scheme. But the overt paganism was removed in preference for a more subtle approach where natural forces do the work. This does however reveal an ambiguity in

the concept of nature. On the one hand nature is all there is, but on the other hand nature still possesses god-like powers such as self-generation, self-ordering and self-existence. It is a small step from natural science to Greek paganism.

Charles Darwin and Lyell were careful to avoid direct confrontation and used concealed methodology to pursue their campaign, as private correspondence

shows. Lyell wanted to ‘free the sciences from Moses’ while Darwin reveals that both were following a path set out by Voltaire, as a ‘slow and silent’ attack against Christianity. Later Thomas Huxley, known as Darwin’s Bulldog, took a more confrontational approach and was accused of engaging in a Reign of Terror against those who opposed Darwin’s position.

*Andrew Sibley*



The new publication *Cracking the Darwin Code* is available from CSM - see [www.csm.org.uk](http://www.csm.org.uk).

## Quote

“Scientists talk cheerfully and with immense confidence about the first few thousandths of a second of time, but secretly most people believe that they are making it up as they go along.”  
(*The Guardian*, 13 March 1997)

## Change of Genesis Expo opening hours

During the off-season, the Genesis Expo will open noon to 4pm Tuesdays to Fridays and 11am to 4pm Saturdays.

We will open at 10am on bank holidays, half-term and Easter school holidays, and during high summer.

We are closed Christmas to New Year.

# Creation Science Movement

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