

“Creation” - Take Thoughts Captive

*We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we **take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ.** (2 Corinthians 10:5, NIV)*

Jesus As Creator

A. What Is To Be The Source Of Truth—God’s Ideas Or Man’s Ideas?

- In the beginning, God or...nothing!
- God told us in audible and written form what and how He created—*Genesis 1; Exodus 20:11; 31:17-18; 34:28*

B. Examine The Evidence

1. Age of the earth: what did God mean by 6 days?
 - “Day” (*Yom* in Hebrew) plus a number (1,2,3, 1st, 2nd...) or with the words “evening, morning, night” outside of Genesis 1 always mean an ordinary day. Why question Genesis 1?
 - Examining validity of every dating method.
2. Biological Creation. There is no evidence that God used evolution to create.
3. Physical Creation. Earth’s surface now reveals the consequences of the flood.

Jesus As Redeemer

The Curse affected creation, introducing death and suffering into God’s perfect world.

Jesus As Our Salvation

1. God’s Judgment—the Flood. Evidence for a global flood—billions of dead things buried in rock layers laid down by water all over the earth.
2. God’s Salvation—the Ark

Application

- Research what you hear and see. Look for the facts. Evaluate in light of your source of truth, the Bible.
- Access quality resources: 1) answersingenesis.org and 2) icr.org (Institute for Creation Research).

What we read in God’s word agrees with what we see in God’s world!

“Creation” – The Age of the Earth

What we see in God’s World agrees with what we read in God’s Word.

The Influence of the Scopes Trial (1925)

We need to train ourselves to think, to be able to recognize the difference between scientific facts, which can be observed in the present, and ideas about the past, which can be used to interpret the facts.

The Elements of True Science

1. True Science is testable, repeatable, & falsifiable. Evidence exists in / is testable only in the present.
2. Limitations of a scientist in the present: unique events such as creation of universe/earth/biological life; non-measurable events or processes such as the rate of evolution, the rate of sedimentary deposition. No one can prove creation or evolution. Anyone can look at the historical record and build a model then test it.
3. The **Evolution Model**—Evolution is a belief about the past to explain the evidence that only exists in the present, and the belief is based on the words of men who were not there. Evolution is an untestable story about the past and so is not scientific.
4. **The Biblical Model**—Three past events that affected earth history from a scientific viewpoint and one event that affected the history of the nations:
 - Creation—6 days, the celestial objects, land and sea, plants, animals, and man
 - Curse—ground, pain and death, food chain, poisonous and nuisance creatures, affected the whole creation according to Romans 8:20-22
 - Flood—affected the planet surface entirely for > 1 year, afterwards man’s diet changed to become meat eaters; also, the animals’ diet
 - Tower of Babel—the existing population was divided into language groups that spread out and repopulated the earth

Assigning Age to the Earth, Rocks and Fossils

Using Evolution to Date Rocks and Fossils

Neither rocks nor fossils have birthdates stamped on them when they are collected. Yet, the theory of evolution demands *old* age. An evolutionist dates the rocks by the kinds of fossils in them (primitive or advanced). Then, the fossils are dated by the sequence location of the rock in which it is found. Layers on the bottom were obviously deposited first. The age of the rocks are determined by the stage of evolution of the index fossils found therein, which are themselves dated and organized by the age of the rocks. This is circular reasoning.

Using Process "Clocks" to Date Rocks and Fossils

Observe and measure a present process. Assume it acted the same way in the past. Calculate the time necessary for that process to produce the present state. The system (clock) that gives the oldest "time" is radioactivity; the dating method is known as Radioisotope Dating. Radioisotope methods commonly used for obtaining age of a substance formed in prehistory are Uranium/Lead (Ur/Pb), Potassium/Argon (K/Ar) and the presence of Helium.

Assumptions of Radioisotope Dating and Objections to Them

1. Constant **DECAY** rate—Assume the rate hasn't changed over time. The decay rate has only been observed in this century. Some rocks show that the decay rate must have been more rapid in the past.
2. System **CLOSED** to the environment—Assume that nothing has been leached into or out of the rock over the years. It is known that the uranium isotope can be leached out of, and the lead can migrate into, rocks over the years.
3. Known concentrations at **START**—Assume that no daughter element was present in the rock when it was formed. Some lead occurs naturally in rocks when they are formed.
4. Enough **TIME** to produce present state through measured processes—Assume the result will give the *desired* date for the sample. Time is history and history cannot be observed scientifically. There is *no way* for a scientist in the present to come up with an age for things of the past without written historical record.

Examples of Radioisotope Failure on Rocks of Known Age

- Sunset Crater, Arizona—erupted in 1065 A.D. Dated by K/Ar method at 210,000-230,000 years.
- Mt. Rangitoto, New Zealand—erupted 300 years ago. Dated by K/Ar method: 485,000 years.
- Vulcan's Throne, Grand Canyon, Arizona—erupted within last 2000 years. Dated by K/Ar method at 10,000 years.
- Hualalai Volcano, Hawaii—the people on the island of Kauapelehu watched the rock form during a volcanic eruption in 1801. Dated by K/Argon method at 1-2.96 billion years; dated by Helium method at 140-670 million years.
- Mt. Kilauea, Hawaii—erupted less than 200 years ago. Dated by K/Ar method at 21 million years.

Examples of Radioisotope Failure on Rocks of Unknown Age

Two lava flow formations—the Cardenas Basalt and the western Grand Canyon lava flows. Both are basalts (lavas), ideal for radioactive isotope dating. The one on the top repeatedly dated older (by a billion years or so) than the one on the bottom.

Radioisotope dating has not been disproved. It has been called into question, flaws in its foundation exposed, and its results shown to be inconsistent. Bible-believing Christians need not be intimidated by radioisotope dating.

The Carbon-14 Process Clock

Carbon-14 method can be used only on materials containing carbon, particularly once-living substances such as bones, skin, and trees. Cosmic rays from the sun bombard nitrogen in the upper atmosphere producing C-14, which then mixes with the other carbon in the world's supply and eventually finds its way into all living organisms. When an organism dies, no new carbon-14 is brought in from the outside. That which is present decays into nitrogen, and radioactivity continually decreases. After 5730 years, half the original C-14 decays to nitrogen. Only the amount of C-14 changes over time. The method measures the remaining C-12/C-14 ratio but is still based on the assumptions mentioned above.

Examples of Carbon-14 Method Failure on Fossils of Known Age

- An Allosaurus from a rock layer near Grand Junction, CO supposedly 140 million years old—The bones, heavily blackened, contained 3% carbon and were tested to show a C-14 date of < 16,120 years.
- An Acrocanthosaurus found along the Paluxy River near Glen Rose, Texas—The C-14 analysis of the bone samples showed it to have died < 9890 years ago. Yet, the rock in which it is found is dated to have formed ~99 million years ago.
- Carbonized wood from Glen Rose found in the same layer as dinosaur footprints (99 million years old)—The C-14 analysis showed the wood to be ~12,000 years old.
- Coal from Russia with a rock layer evolutionary age of 300 million years—The C-14 analysis showed a date of only 1,680 years.
- Examples of living creatures and resulting C-14 analysis in years old): a freshly killed seal (1300 years old); living mollusk shells (2300 years old); snail shells (27,000 years old)

How to Interpret what You Read and Hear:

- Look for the facts. Discern facts from interpretation.
- Question the assumptions used to derive the facts and/or interpretations.
- Consider the same facts with the assumption of Biblical history.

“Creation” – Creation, Not Evolution

What we see in God’s World agrees with what we read in God’s Word.

Biblical Creation: What God Said He Did

What is separated & gathered? What’s the expected evidence?

God spends 2 1/2 days separating & gathering to give the earth form.

- Light from darkness. Expected evidence of day and night being continual and universal—regular rotation of the earth.
- Waters above from waters below with an expanse between. Expected evidence of waters above, perhaps a water vapor canopy of some kind, high above the earth.
- Land from sea. Expected evidence of all continents once having been joined.

What is made & filled? What’s the expected evidence?

God spends 3 1/2 days making & filling to remove the emptiness.

- All plant kinds—grasses, seed plants, trees that produce seeds and fruit; land surface filled w/food. Expected evidence of fully formed and functioning plants, fruit and seeds from the start of life on earth.
- Sun, moon, stars—separating light and darkness was really important to God—their light filled the expanse. They served a purpose for man. Expected evidence that these were fully functioning in a mature state from the beginning.
- All water creatures, All birds—seas and expanse of sky filled. All land creatures plus man and woman—land surface filled. Expected evidence of all water creatures, birds, land creatures and man to be fully functioning in a mature form since the beginning.

Result: a fully functioning, mature creation

- Continents with topsoil and rivers flowing from a source of water.
- Rocks with crystalline minerals in them—some already beginning the radioactive process to add warmth and other elements to our planet.
- Stars visible from earth.
- Plants bearing seed and fruit; bees pollinating flowers.
- Marine animals swimming; birds flying.
- Land animals creeping and running; adult Adam and Eve talking—all capable of reproducing.

Creation or Evolution

What evidence from life in the present would you expect to find if creation is true?

- Intelligent design in all living things
- Separate, distinct kinds of creatures with lots of variation within them.
- Death and disease because of the curse.

- Extinction of some creatures because of the Flood.

What evidence from life in the present would you expect to find if evolution is true?

- Life coming from non-life.
- Beneficial Mutations that continually create new systems in every living creature observable in the present. Producing...
- Billions of transitional Forms—a hypothetical organism that is "between" evolutionary stages. We should have transitional structures for every part of every system of every living creature in the present.
- Things Getting Better—no death due to aging or disease

What evidence from life in the present do you find?

- Intelligent design in all living things is obvious.
- Separate, distinct kinds are evident; transitional forms are non-existent. Mutations are not adding new information, creating new creatures.
- New "kinds" are not being formed. In nature, we see variety within a species or "kind" but no changes from one species to another—dogs are not changing to cat kinds so they can climb the tree after the squirrels.
- Variation within a species or kind is not evolution. Adaptation of a species is not evolution.
- Living things that defy explanation by evolution—There are hundreds of living creatures that have systems so marvelously complex and symbiotic that they could not work until all parts work. These totally defy explanation by evolution. The butterfly, giraffe, bombardier beetle, and woodpecker are just a few.

Conclusion

God created all plants, animals, and man according to kinds with lots of room for variation and adaptation within kinds. Each was subsequently affected by the curse.

“Creation” – The Fossils Say “No” to Evolution

What we see in God’s World agrees with what we read in God’s Word.

Creation or Evolution

What evidence from life in the past would we expect to find if evolution is true?

- Fossils that show a progressive change from one organism to another—the transitional forms.
- Lines of descent from a few simple forms to the many complex forms of life that we see today.

What evidence from life in the past would we expect to find if creation is true?

- Each basic kind would appear in the fossil record complete, with no incomplete ancestors.
- Fossils similar to living forms, separate kinds possessing some variations.

What do we find in the fossil record?

- Complex and diverse life appears abruptly in the fossil record.
- Each basic body style has been present right from the start including vertebrates.
- Transitional forms are absent.
- Extinctions have taken place but not because of evolution.

What else would it take to discredit evolution based upon the fossil record?

“Out of Place” fossils—There are over 2000 such examples! Here are some of these in the fossil record:

- An iron pot was found in coal dated at 286 million years old.
- Pine pollen found in the Grand Canyon in the lowest strata (Precambrian).
- Fossil wood, dated by C-14 method to be 4000 years old, was found embedded in Precambrian rock in northern Canada.
- Cambrian and Mississippian layers alternate back and forth twice in the Grand Canyon.

Fossilized footprints, which cannot have been redeposited. Consider the following finds:

- Prints that look identical to horse hoof prints are found in Devonian rock in the British Isles, 300 million years older than the horse’s supposed evolutionary appearance.
- Mammal tracks are found in Permian/Pennsylvanian rock (100 million years too early).
- A giant cat print found in the Cretaceous dinosaur layer at Glen Rose. It is not supposed to be
- A verified human footprint found in limestone “dated” Permian, 250 MYO, near Socorro, NM.
- A human shoe print 10.5 inches long was found in shale of Cambrian age at Antelope Springs, Utah with trilobites imbedded in the heel and instep.

The fossil record defies evolution and is better explained by Noah’s Flood—billions of dead things buried in rock layers laid down by water all over the earth.

“Corruption” – What Takes Women “Captive”?

*"See to it that no one takes you captive through hollow and deceptive philosophy, which depends on human tradition and the basic principles of this world rather than on Christ."
(Colossians 2:8)*

Let Christ Alone Take Your Captive

- Hollow / empty
- Deceptive
- Philosophy
- Based upon human tradition
- Basic principles of this world

Christ is the yardstick by which to measure philosophy and all phases of human knowledge. Ask: "Where does Jesus fit into their thinking, their philosophy?"

Why Are Women Easily Taken Captive? (2 Timothy 3:1-7)

False teachers worm their way into homes to gain control ("take captive") weak-willed women (undisciplined, unsatisfied, and therefore unstable women) who are:

- Loaded down, weighed down with sins, guilt-ridden
- Swayed by all kinds of evil desires or led on by various impulses/lusts"
- Always learning but never able to come to the knowledge of the truth. Being dissatisfied makes us vulnerable and gullible.

What takes us captive?

Being weighed down with guilt feeds our vulnerability to expectations of others or ourselves:

- Beauty
- Parents
- Husband
- Education
- Homes
- Past mistakes

Feasting on various lusts increases our discontentment.

- Immorality
- Marriage and children.
- To have it all
- Children to excel in everything
- Money

Touching but never grasping (incorporating) the full truth

"Take every thought captive to the obedience of Christ." (2 Corinthians 10:5)

“Corruption” – The Flesh & The War Within

What Is The Flesh?

The flesh is the human being in rebellion against God, which includes the body and that part of the soul where sin dwells. A Ryrie Study Bible note describes the flesh as “the personality of man controlled by sin and directed to selfish pursuits rather than the service of God.” Evidence of the flesh is described in Mark 7:20-23 and Gal 5:19-20, the source of this behavior is **Self-effort, Self-sufficiency, Self-belief, Self-dependence.**

Why Is The Flesh Still With Us?

A. The Nature of Man

B. Born again "of the Spirit."

1. Spirit—the past
2. Soul—the present
3. Body—the future

C. Getting Entangled, Ambushed Or Encircled—Five Truths About The Flesh:

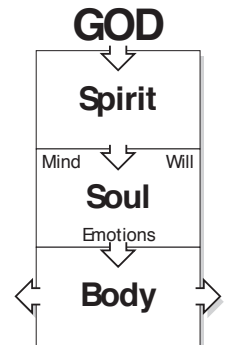
Truth #1: The flesh won't go away.

Truth #2: The flesh doesn't improve over time.

Truth #3: The flesh won't leave us alone to be spiritual.

Truth #4: The flesh wants control.

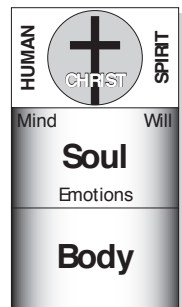
Truth #5: The flesh doesn't become less temptable over time.



Walk By The Spirit, Not By The Flesh

A. The Holy Spirit delivers us from the **power** of sin in us.

B. The Holy Spirit offers us release from the **presence** of sin in us.



What Is Our Responsibility?

A. Recognize the need and pray:

- For humility and yielding
- For protection from myself
- Admit weakness and ask for help: “Lord, I can’t, but You can.”
- For compassion

B. Repent of wrong thoughts and behavior

C. Renew your mind with a regular input of God's Word

D. Choose to develop new habits

“Catastrophe” – The Flood & The Fossils, Part 1

What We See in God’s World Agrees with What We Read in God’s Word

A Unique Pre-Flood World — The Evidence Matches the Prediction

Worldwide Tropical Climate

- Waters Above—Ice Crystals, Liquid Water or Vapor; invisible; A specially-created pre-Flood atmosphere. Some refer to it as a canopy. Venus, Saturn, and Jupiter have “canopy” type atmospheres. Mars—perhaps in the past, has since dissipated
- Greenhouse effect of a worldwide tropical climate creating a humid terrarium; warm ~70°f average temperature; increased carbon dioxide; greater surface atmospheric pressure
- Giant animals and plants.
- Fossils of tropical plants and animals are found at North and South Poles and on top of the highest mountains
- Widespread, thick coal beds are found worldwide. Not being formed today like that!
- Extensive limestone deposits worldwide. Also, not being formed today like that!

Greater Atmospheric Pressure

- Giants: A pteranodon with a wingspan of 26 feet. A pterosaur, found in West Texas, wingspan of >50 feet (size of a Lear jet). Turtles 11 ft. long, 12-14 ft. wide; Scorpion-like insects 5 ft. long!
- Longevity of Life: Adam’s kin who lived 900 years. Huge reptiles, which grow until death.

The Flood Begins — The Evidence Matches the Prediction

Fountains of the deep burst forth and Floodgates of the heavens opened

- Subterranean waters burst forth/massive amounts of water once held back are now released—violent splitting open released the trapped water below. Expected evidence of subterranean water sources, splitting of the Earth’s crust, volcanics, tsunamis, waters from the existing ocean spilling over land; massive water-lain deposits, increased water on the earth.
- Subterranean water sources—Ocean floor springs/vents discovered in the 1960’s. Metal-rich, hot brines, 400° C. 40 cubic miles of water may flow out of springs each year.
- Splitting of the Earth’s Crust—The continents appear to have separated. Reduced subterranean pressure would result in sinking of land. The land covered by water—again!
- Volcanoes add tremendous amounts of water to the atmosphere. Mt. Etna issued 460 million gallons of steam in 100 days. One volcanic cone, 4.6 million gallons of water per day. Tons of volcanic ash in the Antarctic and inside the Arctic Circle, evidence of violent volcanism
- Volcanic activity affecting atmosphere—In 1883, Krakatoa sent up 3 cubic miles of volcanic dust into the stratosphere. Distributed globally. Caused red sunsets for 10 years and lowered the average temperature of the earth 4° F for about 3 years.
- Increased Water on the Earth—The oceans do hold more water now than in the past. Enlarged and deepened ocean basins. Continental shelves and slopes. Drowned canyons. “Seamounts”—flat-topped drowned islands.

“Catastrophe” – The Flood & The Fossils, Part 2

What We See in God’s World Agrees with What We Read in God’s Word

Rock Layers Laid Down by Water

Nature of water as an agent for rapid erosion and deposition.

- River floods
- Tsunamis
- Turbidity currents
- Mud Flows

Nature of the rock layers themselves.

- *Widespread rock layers*—Dakota Sandstone, one of the most distinctive in the Rockies, covers parts of 10 states. No process today forming similar deposit. Morrison formation, famous for its dinosaurs, covers 11 states. Thick sandstones reach from the Grand Canyon eastward to the Appalachian Mtns.
- *Redbeds*—Colored by decomposed iron (rust). Extensive volcanism during a worldwide flood would release tons of mineral-rich water to mix with sediments as they are deposited.
- *Ripple marks, “raindrop impressions,” animal tracks, cross beds, mud cracks*—All must be covered up quickly in order to be preserved at all!!
- Evidence of Rapid Deposition—*Grand Canyon*, Exhibit A used to prove millions of years to form rock strata. Sediments a mile thick; horizontal. They are widespread water-laid deposits, layered with particles sorted by size and preserving crossbeds, ripple marks and animal tracks—all evidence of rapid deposition. Closer examination shows that they could have been laid down quickly with little time delay between formations. A lot of water; not a lot of time.

Billions of Dead Things Buried in Rock Layers Laid Down by Water

How is a fossil formed? A fossil forms through: (1) rapid burial and (2) burial under deep sediment. Most scientists agree that flooding provides the best way to start forming fossils.

Evidence of Rapid Burial

- Creatures in the process of eating or giving birth.
- *Soft-bodied creatures* such as worms, jellyfish. A three-foot thick layer composed primarily of millions of closed clams near Glen Rose. Must have been washed into the layer and buried alive. Also, fossilized worms in clam layer. Requires rapid burial
- *Fossil Graveyards*—Thousands of creatures buried together—marine and terrestrial—in a jumbled heap all over the earth. Dinosaur National Monument; the dinosaurs are in life position indicating muscles and ligaments were in tact at time of burial. Nebraska Agate Quarry, thousands of rhinoceros, zebra, pig and camel bones in one layer. Whole herds buried at one time. Fossil Butte National Monument, multitudes of perfectly preserved fish, crocodiles, insects, turtles and palm fronds. No signs of decay so were buried rapidly.
- Rapid cementation

The Sequence in the Fossil Record

- 95% of all fossils are marine invertebrates, particularly shellfish; 4.98% are plants and other invertebrates; 0.0125% are vertebrates, mostly fish.
- 95% of land vertebrates consist of < 1 bone. Most mammal fossils are considered to have been deposited during Ice Age.
- Simple marine vertebrates would be buried first, since they live in the deep ocean. Next, free-swimming vertebrates. Then, birds, mammals, and man.
- Water sorts objects out to be with others of similar size and shape. Streamlined objects fall out first. Objects with appendages float longest.
- Out-of-Place Fossils—Over 2000 documented examples of fossils found that don't fit into the evolutionary sequence. Many examples of entire rock layers being out of place with "older" fossils overlying "younger" ones. All of which are explained away without reason.

The fossil record is best understood as the result of a marine cataclysm that utterly annihilated the continents and land dwellers.

7 Global Flood Clues

#1: Size of the Ark

#2: Need for an Ark

#3: Purpose of the Flood

#4: Depth of the Flood

#5: Duration of Flood

#6: Use of universal terms, >30 times

#7: The Rest of Scripture: Psalm 29:10; 104:6-9; Isaiah 34:9; Matthew 24:39; Luke 17:26-27; 1 Peter 3:20; 2 Peter 2:5; 3:5-6; Hebrews 11:7

“Catastrophe” – The New World

“You did cover it [the earth] with the deep as with a garment; the waters were standing above the mountains. At your rebuke, they fled, at the sound of thunder they hurried away. The mountains rose; the valleys sank down to the place which you did establish for them. You did set a boundary they may not pass over; that they may not return to cover the earth.” (Ps 104:6-9)

God’s Grace Displayed Again

God closed the ocean geysers and restrained (limited, restricted) the rain so that it was no longer torrential. The waters stopped rising. God put forces into place to turn the raging waters into receding waters. Wind, earth rising and sinking.

What evidence would we expect to find?

- Continents once below sea level having thick deposits, especially marine
- Soft sediments folded, thrust, overturned and uplifted in a short time
- Massive volcanic deposits throughout the rock record.
- Mass erosional features from receding waters.
- Larger and deeper ocean basins to hold the receding water.

The Earth Gets a New Look

Uplift of sediment-covered land

The continents were once below sea level. Thick water-laid sediments full of marine fossils were deposited on them. Those rocks have been uplifted thousands of feet, folded, thrust and overturned on a gigantic scale. Scientists believe present mountain ranges were uplifted almost simultaneously and during relatively recent times (*70 million years ago*). Marine fossils are found at the top of the highest mountains.

How are mountains formed?

- Folding of rock layers— Appalachians, Arbuckles
- Faulting (cracking and shifting of rock)— Guadalupe Mtns, Big Bend region of W. TX
- Volcanic eruption above the surface or bulging from below after hardening below the surface—Mt St Helens, Stone Mtn, GA
- Uplift of land above sea level—the Ozarks
- Combination of the four— the Rockies

Strata is too tightly bent for extended time

In many mountainous areas, strata thousands of feet thick are bent and folded into hairpin shapes. If the rocks were old at the time of folding and uplift, having been deeply buried and cemented, they should behave in a brittle fashion, shattering in the process. Yet, cement binding the grains has not been broken. Each grain in the rock layer had to rotate.

Injected Sandstone Shortens Time

Sandstone dikes (vertical wall-like features) several miles long, 150 ft. high. Squeezed upward into cracks in a thick limestone layer. Deposited millions of years apart. No evidence the sand was cemented. Had to be semi-fluid when squeezed into the overlying cracks (like toothpaste).

Massive volcanic activity also built up the land

During the past, lava flowed much more freely than now, spouting from craters, and pushing upward from immense cracks, miles long. Volcanic rocks are mixed with sedimentary rocks everywhere. Huge quantities of granite bulged up from below the surface to form great domes (Pikes Peak).

- Columbia Plateau in Northwestern U.S.—oozing lava covered 200,000 sq. mi., 1000's of ft. thick
- India's Deccan Plateau—lava is 2 miles thick!

Uplift of land above sea level resulted in enlarged, defined ocean basins

Release of water and magma would cause readjusting of oceans and continents.

- Grand Canyon is currently 7-8000 ft. above sea level. The land supposedly went up and down several times and remained horizontal. The ocean was over the continent each time. Harder to believe than a onetime event!
- Continental shelves and slopes plus drowned river canyons indicate sea level was once lower than today.

The Waters Receded

Once the crust began to move (the previous land surfaces downward to form the new ocean basins, the previous sea bottoms and their new deposits of stratified sediments upward to form the new continents), the waters began to drain off the emerging lands, "and the water receded steadily from, the earth" (Genesis 8:3). The expression in the Hebrew indicates a rapid subsidence. The waters began to drain off the emerging lands.

Terraces and valleys

Subsiding waters leave water lines. Ancient water lines can be clearly seen along the coasts of all continents. In California, cities are built on them. Also seen along the great inland lakes that have now dried (Lake Bonneville, Death Valley).

Leveled Land with Remnant High Spots

Rapid withdrawal of water causes sheet erosion.

- Llano Estacado or "Staked Plain" stretches from Glen Rio, Texas, to Santa Rosa, New Mexico. Early travelers put stakes into the ground to find their way from place to place on this almost featureless surface.
- Great Plains
- Mesas and Buttes—Leveling off the tops of hills to form mesas in west Texas and New Mexico.
- Caves—the Flood waters receding is the best explanation for the formation of caves.

Rapidly Developed Mature Landscapes

Erosion of fresh surfaces takes place rapidly then slows down as an equilibrium is reached with the stability of the surface, plant coverage, cementation.

- Modern example in *Surtsey Island*—born in 1963; developed beaches, soil, meadows, and canyons by 1970.
- *Carved Valleys Adopted by Rivers*—In less flat areas, the receding waters would split into channels, which cut deep valleys in the soft, unconsolidated earth. Practically all river valleys are far deeper and wider than their present river systems require indicating they once carried a far greater volume of water. More in line with a flood than river erosion.

- *Canyons*—Modern example in Mt St Helens where layers of ancient solid rock, 500' thick eroded by mud flows and water in 1 day. Produced canyons 100' deep; had mature looking in only 4 years. Later creeks formed at the bottom of the canyons. The canyons caused the creeks, not vice versa.

Followed by an Ice Age

Besides the changes in landscape, climate had changed as well. Water was being taken off the land by taking the form of ice.

Conditions provided for an Ice Age

- *Increased evaporation*—Heat added to the ocean during the Flood would encourage evaporation and more snowfall available to high latitudes and elevations. Expect to find thick snow accumulation forming ice sheets.
- *Increased snowfall*—The key to snow rather than rain falling in an area is cooling. The condensed canopy would cause drastic cooling in the polar regions. Expect quick-frozen creatures, plants and soil.
- *Decreased snowmelt*—Slick continents, denuded of vegetation, would radiate heat back to the atmosphere. Volcanic ash would have reduced incoming solar radiation, enhancing the cooling. Resulting in cooler summers, not necessarily colder winters. Example: the eruption of Krakatoa in 1883.

Post-Flood Ice Age

- Vast ice sheets covered about one third of the land surface at their greatest extent. Today's polar ice caps and alpine glaciers are just remnants of those vast ice sheets. The ice left behind some pretty good clues—those frozen animals and plants plus volcanic ash throughout the glaciers at both Poles and in the tundra muck.
- The rest of the land close to the warm oceans and on either side of the equator would still have had a pleasantly warm climate like today. Two-thirds of the land was NOT covered by ice. The buildup and advance of the ice sheets would have ended as the oceans gave up their heat and conditions stabilized. The ice then retreated. Because the sea level was ~600 ft. lower at this time, land bridges connected continents and islands which assisted the migration of animals and later people after the Flood.

Conclusion

The earth's features appear to have been fashioned largely by rapid, catastrophic processes that affected the earth on a global scale.

- Deposition of thick fossil-bearing water-laid sediments
- Uplift of mountain ranges
- Initiation of the ice age
- Extinction of animals

Fourteen references to the Flood in the New Testament including Jesus' own words. Combined with all this evidence, it must be true!

What We See in God's World Agrees with What We Read in God's Word

“Confusion” – The Great Dispersion

*"Now the whole earth used the same language and the same words. And it came about as they journeyed east, that they found a plain in the land of Shinar and settled there."
(Genesis 11:1-2)*

Leaving the Ark

Where they settled—The most ancient people leaving written, historical records were inhabitants of that valley (the Sumerians), followed by the Nile Valley of Egypt and other near-Eastern areas.

What they did—Within 100 years, built cities, making brick for stone and using tar for mortar. Built a tower that probably acted as an artificial mountain with a miniature temple at the top of the Tower.

Who they were—Intelligent, yet foolish, men! Their forefathers built cities, herded livestock, played musical instruments, made tools of bronze and iron (Gen. 4:17-22) and built the unsinkable Ark! The builders' sin was immense pride which led to open rebellion against God, declaring independence of Him. A common language enabled the rebellion.

Did It Really Happen?

Expected evidence through archaeology, written records, and language studies that all people have migrated from that area and similarities of cultures in civilizations spread thousands of miles apart, including histories that contained traces of the Creation, Fall, and Flood.

All people have migrated from Shinar

Ice Age land bridges connected England to mainland Europe, Asia to North America, and the Malaysian Straits to New Guinea and perhaps Australia. Travel on foot, by wagon and by boat. Most civilizations appeared about the same time, only a few thousand years ago. We find ziggurats (or, variations of the same shape, i.e. pyramids) in nearly all the ancient civilizations around the world! Just as expected!

How long ago?

All recorded history in the past several thousand years only. Before that is purely speculation. Man is the only reliable recorder of history, and people were already writing on clay tablets and scrolls (books), inscribing with an iron stylus on lead, and engraving in rock slabs (Job 19:23-24). Truly verified archaeological datings (based upon written records, not radiocarbon dates) do not predate the Flood ~3000-2500 BC. Illogical if men have been living around the world for hundreds of thousands of years!

How did it happen?

Genesis 10, the Table of Nations, is called "an astonishingly accurate document," unique. After the languages were confused, people who spoke the same language likely formed into groups—the "families" growing larger, separating into new families that traveled farther, their languages gradually changing as well as their lifestyles. Each family group learned how to survive in the land where it had migrated. Many of these early nations kept an accurate record of their beginnings down the centuries, writing down the names of their founding patriarchs, providing us with a surprising link between the ancient post-Flood era (Genesis 9-11) and the rest of recorded history.

Japheth, the Oldest, and His Kin

Japheth's 6 sons headed north to Europe & western Asia, 1 headed east to Persia and India—Gomer, Magog, Javan, Tubal, Meschech, and Tiras. Trace these names and recognize them as ancestors of the

Indo-European peoples, classed by common languages spoken in most of Europe, India, Pakistan and parts of western Asia. Gomer's sons formed the Celtic and Germanic language families which included Irish, Welsh, Breton, Italic (forerunner of Latin, French and Spanish), German, English, Dutch, Slavic and Baltic languages. Javan's families formed the Greek language group. Madai's languages were spoken in Iran and India. Some of Shem's and Ham's kin fit into this language group as well.

Japheth's Clan—North by Northwest

- Gomer's name preserved in Cimmeria (Crimea) north of the Black Sea and to Germany.
- Son Ashkenaz: first in Armenia (their tribe, the Askuzas, called Scythians by the Greeks), and the Germanic peoples (Jews identified Ashkenaz w/Germany (German Jews are called the Ashkenazi) and Denmark (Anglo-Saxons) & the northern islands. Also, the western shores of the continent (the Gauls) plus the British Isles (the Irish Celts)
- Magog, Meschech, and Tubal formed the nations around the Caspian and Black Seas all the way to Russia including the Scythians who mixed w/Ashkenaz's descendants.
- Recorded ancestries (predating Christianization) of the early Britons, Irish Celts, Anglo-Saxons, Danes and Norwegians all include their descent from Noah through Japheth. The early Britons recorded (58 surviving manuscripts) their ancestors to be from Asia Minor (and that they traveled by sea, stopping at various countries along the way before reaching the shores of England). The Irish Celts have king lists that go back to Noah through Japheth via Gomer and Magog; the earliest Irish Chronicles insisted the people were of Scythian stock—the associated name *Scot* being a Greek and Saxon conversion from Scythian. The Saxons considered Japheth, whom they called Scaef, the son of Noah, to be the founder of the European nations and traced their own ancestry through Gomer.
- Galatia in Asia Minor was populated by a migrating colony of Gallic Celts whose relatives had spread to France (Gauls) and to the British Isles. Confirmed by archaeology.
- The Miautso People of China claim descent from Japheth through Gomer (recorded as recited ancient couplets) before Christian contact. Surprisingly accurate accounts of Creation, Fall and Flood (w/names of Noah, his wife and sons) + a graphic account of Babel and the confusion of tongues resulting in nations spreading out, encircling the globe.

Japheth's Clan—East by Southeast

- *Madai's* grandkids became the Medes + early inhabitants of Iran, from whom came the Aryans who migrated to India. *Japheth* is preserved as Pra-Japati (Father Japheth), the reputed ancestor of the Aryans, worshipped as lord of creation for those descended from him.
- Indus civilization (~2600-1900 BC) flourished in what is now Pakistan and western India. The culture was very organized and largely unmilitary. Built efficient cities, not elaborate, out of baked bricks. Practiced millet cultivation similar to that done in Africa (common source?)

Japheth's Clan—Northwest by West

- *Javan's* group went to Turkey, continuing west to Greece, Cyprus, Rhodes and eventually Spain (the Mediterranean Sea once known as Sea of Tarshish, Javan's son) and NW Africa. *Javan* became Ionia which = Greece. His son Elishah is preserved in the name "Hellas" which came to be applied to Greece as a whole (Hellenism, Hellenic) and is probably perpetuated in the Greek paradise, the Elysian Fields.
- *Japheth* is preserved in Greek literature as Iapetos, son of heaven and earth, father of many nations, esp. Greeks. The ancient Romans kept his name as Iu-Pater, Father Jove, which became Jupiter.
- *Tiras's* kids settled Thrace; they were ruddy, blue-eyed and always tipsy!

Shem, the Middle Son

Shem's 5 Sons headed east, north and south from Babel—Elam, Asshur, Arphaxad, Lud, and Aram.

- *Elamites* settled east of Babel, later merging with the Medes to form the Persian Empire.
- *Asshur's* name is preserved in his descendants, the Assyrians, whose culture also included the Hamites (Nimrod and company). Unfortunately, Asshur was one of the earliest men to be deified and worshipped by his descendants—leading to idolatry.

Shem's Clan—North & Central

- *Arphaxad*—in Assyria, the earliest known settlement is 4 miles east of ancient Nineveh. Father of the Chaldeans, and his descendants were adept astrologers, magicians, and mathematicians.
- Son, *Eber*—name is preserved in his descendants—the Hebrews. (Was Hebrew the original language? It is likely that it was!)
- Arphaxad's grandson, *Peleg*, may have been born shortly after the time of the dispersion. According to Genesis 11:25, "in his days the earth was divided" which combined with Genesis 10:5, 32 clearly refers to a linguistic and geographical division.

Shem's Clan—North & Central

- *Lud* is historically associated with the Lydians, in Asia Minor, who were reputed archers and spoke an Indo-European language.
- *Aram's* sons became the Arameans, equivalent to Syrians. Their language was adopted as the trade language for the ancient world, commonly spoken even among Jews in Jesus' day. Some Arameans migrated to Arabia where Job later lived.

Ham and His Kin

Ham's 4 sons stayed central or headed south and west—Cush, Mizraim, Put, and Canaan.

Ham—West & Southwest

- *Cushites* migrated south to Arabia, then crossed the Red Sea into Ethiopia.
- *Mizraim*—the Egyptians, and possibly was the founder of Egypt's first dynasty, Menes.
- *Put* is identified with North Africa west of Egypt, including Libya.
- *Canaan*—in and around the land of Canaan and in Asia Minor (the Hittites, from son Heth).

Ham's Clan—East by Northeast

Some perhaps migrated later to the Far East. Two sons—*Heth* and *Sin*—the most likely to have become ancestors of the Oriental peoples. Similarities between the Hittites & the Mongolians, carrying with them the art of smelting and casting iron plus the breeding and training of horses. Native Americans have their ancestry in the Mongolian people (share 4 genetic markers).

- The Biblical Hittites were known to the Sumerians as Khittae and to the Assyrians as Khatti which may be the origin of Cathay (oriental).
- Biblical and secular references to a people in the Far East named "Sinim", "Sinae" suggesting some of the descendants of Canaan's son Sin migrated eastward. The Assyrians knew the Biblical Sinites as the Siannu. China/Chinese people have always been identified by the prefix "Sino-" (e.g., Sino-Japanese War). Scientists found a distinct genetic difference between people living in northern China from those living in southern China. Just as expected!

Onward to America

- 3,000 years ago, the first civilization developed in the Western Hemisphere—the Olmec culture in Mexico and Central America. Coincides with the Chinese Shang Dynasty's fall to enemies,

forcing thousands of refugees to flee across the "Eastern Sea." 100 ancient Chinese language symbols are seen embedded in motifs decorating Olmec art! Common elements of the two societies: transportation skills, worship of earth and ancestors on similarly built mounds, human sacrifice, veneration of the same animals, and art carvings. Just as expected!

- It's believed that humans migrated across a land bridge that connected Asia with what is now Alaska. That land bridge disappeared when the sea level rose following the last ice age. From Alaska south were 2 corridors free of ice. Migration campsites indicate they had boats and did offshore fishing. The animals had preceded them by several hundred years so hunters provided meat.

A Corrupted Witness to the Truth

"We are bringing you good news, telling you to turn to the living God. In the past, He let all nations go their own way. Yet He has not left Himself without testimony: He has shown kindness by giving you rain, crops, plenty of food and fills your hearts with joy." (Paul, Acts 14:15-17)

It is highly possible that pagan man was indeed aware of God and of His attributes, and that this awareness had existed and flourished for centuries without exposure to the Scriptures.

Flood Legends

People spread out, took the story of the Creation, Curse, and Flood with them. There are >300 flood legends that predate contact with outsiders (especially missionaries). Found in almost every culture around the world, 30 of them in writing.

- 66% say that the Flood was caused by the sinfulness of man
- 95% say that the whole world was covered by water
- 86% say that there was a favored family told to build a boat to save the animals

From Mexico—Toltec Indians of southern Mexico (Ham's great-grandkids) tell of first world lasting 1,716 years, destroyed by a great flood covering the highest mtns. A few escaped in a "toptlipetlocali" (closed chest). After, these men built a very high zacuali," (great tower) to provide a safe place if the world was destroyed again. Languages became confused, so different language groups wandered to other parts of the world. Toltecs started as family of seven friends + wives who spoke the same language. Crossed great waters, lived in caves, and wandered 104 years southern Mexico—520 years after the great flood.

From British Isles—The Irish Chronicles tell of Creation and the Flood being recent and historical, dated historical events by counting the years since the Creation (4000 BC). Early Britons believed in a recent creation and flood as well.

From Denmark—Anglo-Saxon chronicles record 5200 years from Creation until the year AD 6. The epic poem *Beowulf* contains many references to Genesis 1-6 (including Cain, giants and a flood) with an abrupt cutoff at that point. Saxons (Japheth's great-grandkids) brought it to England from Denmark. Beowulf (historical person) descended from Saxon kings who claimed their ancestry from Japheth.

From China—Creation, the Fall, and the Flood preserved in ancient Chinese characters (combine pictographs to form new ideas):

- "to forbid" (combines 2 trees and to command, God)
- "to sacrifice" (ox + sheep + unblemished + spear)
- "righteousness" (lamb + me, with the lamb placed over the me)
- "boat" (vessel + 8 + person)

The characters (found on ancient bronzes) were well-established (before 800 BC) and already used by other oriental countries before Christians influenced China

One Blood, The Biblical Answer to Racism

The Bible never talks about races but about tribes/nations. There is only one race—mankind! Modern concept of "race" is based on evolution; used by man to divide people, justify social stratification. Everyone has the same color from the skin pigment "melanin" but not the same intensity. Some just have more of it. Inbreeding produces dominant characteristics we call "racial."

From The Great Dispersion, a repeated pattern emerges: 1) Tribe moves to a new area, 2) Sets up temporary camp w/shelters made of stones, hides, sticks or caves, and 3) Determines support-capability of area. Remains of these living zones suggest to evolutionists a "stone age culture" but actually reflect only a very temporary situation. As soon as material for ceramics and metals could be found, the "stone age" at the site was succeeded by a "bronze age" or "iron age."

One people, several tribes — where Neanderthal and Cro-Magnon fits!

Bones of a man with massive features, heavy brow ridges, rickets and arthritis found in Germany—called Neanderthal, sketched as stooped-over brute—cave man; bones that looked more normal found in France—called Cro-Magnon. Over 200 skeletons found in Palestine, Iraq, NW Africa, throughout Europe. Those found in northern/western Europe are generally more Neanderthal-like than those found in southern Europe, northern Africa, or western Asia.

- *Fully Human*—walked upright (stood ~5'7"); used tools, built houses, contained fires in hearths; wore body ornaments, constructed and played musical instruments, and painted on cave walls; had religious rites and ceremonially buried their dead. They had a simple culture but NOT an animal culture. "Neanderthal" features—heavy brow ridges, teeth crowding forward, deterioration of the chin, excessive wear on the teeth, arthritis, thick skulls—are features of very old people. Both groups were fully human. The heavy brow ridges and sloping forehead found in Neanderthal skeletons are found in people living today. Neanderthals would probably go unnoticed if dressed in modern clothing, especially football gear.
- *Japheth's grandkids*—migrating from the Tower of Babel. Some reached Europe first during the worst part of the Ice Age (~14°F colder than today), perhaps Gomer's group. Others went south then crossed the Mediterranean Sea at the Rock of Gibraltar to live in northwest Africa, perhaps Javan's group?
- *Affected by Ice Age*—Living in caves with little sunlight, wearing heavy clothes, and eating a poor diet results in arthritis and rickets (a deforming bone disease caused by lack of vitamin D) lead to a stooped over walk.

Dinosaurs and History

Dinosaurs got on the Ark, got off the Ark, and subsequently died off. Lots of animals have died out from this earth. After the Flood, animals spread out—by land, by swimming, by riding vegetation mats (examples on handout). The dinosaurs spread out as well. All the nations of antiquity wrote about dinosaur-like animals they called dragons. The Biblical writers, inspired by God, wrote about creatures described by the Hebrew word *tanniyn* which was translated "dragons" in over 20 passages until this century. Dwelled in different types of habitats and were various sizes (Isa 34:13; Micah 1:8; Malachi 1:3). Modern translators choose not to use "dragon"; use jackal, whale, serpent, etc. but the Hebrew word means "dragon" or "monster", not jackal.

Leviathan—"water monster"

- A sea dragon in Isaiah 27:1, Psalm 74:14. Psalm 104:24-26 says *leviathan* initially created to frolic in the sea. Something happened; the description doesn't sound like frolicking!
- Described by God Himself in Job 41:1-34 as a living, fearsome, fire-breathing monster who lived in water and on land, had huge teeth, whose scaly hide could not be pierced with sword or spear,

was absolutely without fear and could not be trapped or domesticated. Neither whales, sharks, nor crocodiles fit this description. The description possibly fits that of a marine reptile or dinosaur called *Kronosaurus*.

- Fire-breathing—Some dinosaur skulls have 2 chambers in them, particularly the duck-billed or crested ones, similar to the bombardier beetle's two chambers for chemical mixing to produce smoke.

Dragon legends, art & historical records

Evidently the dinosaurs gradually died out or were hunted to extinction. Their existence has been preserved for us by people all over the world through the many legends of dragons, the descriptions of which closely resemble dinosaurs. Faded and/or embellished memories of real human encounters with dinosaur-like animals have been drawn, written about and told about since the beginning of recorded history on every continent. Flying reptiles have also been seen and described in written form by respected writers (Herodotus, Aristotle, Strabo) in ancient Egypt, Ethiopia, India and Arabia.

- *Ireland*—In the 10th century, an Irishman wrote of his encounter with a large beast with "iron" nails on its tail that pointed backwards and a head shaped like a horse. *Stegasaurus*?
- *Scandinavia*—A Scandinavian legend describes a reptile-like animal that had a body the size of a large cow covered w/scales; two long, strong back legs; two very short front legs; with very large jaws; could leap like a frog. Perhaps a T-Rex!
- *France*—The city of Nerluc, France was renamed in honor of slayed dragon that was bigger than an ox, and had long, sharp pointed horns on its head. *Triceratops*? In 1856 France, a flying reptile was blasted out of a tunnel and died. It was studied by a scientist, declared to be a *pterosaur* with a 10' wingspan.
- *Americas*—Ancient Native American drawing found in a Grand Canyon cave looks very much like an *Edmontosaurus*. The ancient Incas sketched creatures that look just like *Triceratops*.
- In the 1500's, a European scientific book listed several animals, which to us are dinosaurs, as still living, though relatively small and extremely rare.
- *British Isles*—More than 80 places recorded encounters w/men, women and children. Not just Loch Ness. Many written accounts include detailed descriptions of skin and scale colors, refer to multiple witnesses and creatures spitting poisonous venom at its victims. One was "vast in body, with a crested head, teeth like a saw, and a tail extending to an enormous length." It liked to eat sheep, and shepherds; local archers tried to kill the beast, unsuccessfully, due to its impenetrable hide.
- *Wales*—flying reptiles common until recently, country folk predicted weather for centuries by their movements. Ancient carving of a local lake-dwelling giant reptile w/large paddle-like flippers, long neck, small head. Flying reptiles considered as bad as foxes for poultry so were routinely killed.
- *Saxons, Beowulf, & 3 Monsters*—1) Flying reptile (matches a *pteranodon*), 2) Sea dragon (harbor menace, on Viking ships), and 3) Land monster (grendels) larger than humans; bipedal w/small, puny forelimbs (T-rex?); growled angrily; slayed with his mouth or jaws—swallowing the body of its victims rapidly in large gobbles! A nocturnal, solitary hunter, approaching human settlements and waiting silently in the darkness for his prey to fall asleep. Danes employed a giant watcher to watch for the approach of grendels! A large carved stone in an old Saxon church (early England) shows such a creature biting the necks of other quadrupedal creatures. Danes hunted and killed marine reptiles hanging around harbors.

It is reasonable to consider the earth to have been created in 6 days in a perfect state, affected by the curse and death after creation, then completely reshaped by a global Flood and repopulated by Noah's descendants—all less than 10,000 years ago.

“Christ” – Messiah the King

God, King of Creation—Direct Rule

Kingship is God's idea; it refers to the sphere of His rule in the universe. God, the king has always been Sovereign, Omnipotent and Omniscient. His kingdom is eternal. *Daniel 4:34*

Man's Rejection of God's Kingship through Sin

Adam & Eve disobeyed God in that one area of accountability. Because of sin, man's efforts to rule the earth would be much more difficult. God now delegated His rule to people whom He allowed to be rulers.

God's Rule through Humans—Representative Rule

Human rulers permitted a sphere of political rule under God's permission and direction; God's rule became a representative rule. *Romans 13:1; Daniel 5:21; Genesis 10:8-12; Genesis 17:6; Genesis 35:11; Genesis 49:10*

God set up Israel as a theocratic nation; God would be its king. The sacrificial system temporarily removed sin from the people so God could dwell with them. *Deuteronomy 33:1-5*

Israel's Rejection through Desiring a Human Ruler

Israel was not content with the theocracy, though. The people demanded a physical king as a strong human ruler. *Deuteronomy 17:14, 15; 28:36; 1 Samuel 8:5,22*

Hannah's song in *1 Samuel 2:10* is the first reference in the Bible to the Lord's anointed—i.e., his anointed king, anticipating the establishment of kingship in Israel and the Messianic ideal in David.

God and Israel's King—Representative Rule

For God's chosen people, a rightful king was designated by God and anointed by His representative (usually the High Priest) with the approval of the people. He ruled by virtue of a covenant between God and His people, to which the king was a party.

God and Messiah—Promise of Direct Rule

The Lord's Anointed—"Anointed" is the English translation of the Hebrew word. "Messiah" is the interpretation (transliteration) of it. Since the king is anointed, Messiah equals King.

Messiah as a king differs from earthly kings in that he is also Lord. *Psalms 2:2,10; Isaiah 33:22; 43:3,15*

Messiah as a descendant of David is one God has chosen and enthroned to rule in His name as the official representative of God's rule over His people. The ultimate fulfillment is in Jesus. *2 Samuel 7:14*

Israel Waits through the Exile, Greek Empire, and Roman Empire

Exile—Spiritual Changes

Cut off from the temple, divested of nationhood and surrounded by pagan religious practices, Israel focused on

- The Law (Torah, first five books of the Old Testament) rather than nationhood
- The belief that they were God's people which found its expression through personal piety and prayer rather than the sacrifices now denied to them. The center of worship was the synagogue.

Result: Judaism became a faith that could be practiced wherever the Torah could be carried which helped preserve Judaism but also prepared the way for the Christian gospel.

Israel in the Greek Empire

After Alexander the Great's death, Israel was ruled by descendants of Alexander's general, Ptolemy, from Egypt. The Ptolemies were considerate of Jewish religious sensitivities.

In 198 B.C., descendants of another of Alexander's generals, Seleucid, took control. Antiochus IV Epiphanes (175-164 B.C.) imposed Greek language and culture on Israel. A segment of the Jewish aristocracy adopted Greek ways; the majority of Jews were outraged. Laws were enforced with extreme cruelty as Antiochus attempted to eradicate the Jewish religion by prohibiting some of the central elements of Jewish practice, destroying copies of the Torah (the Pentateuch), and requiring offerings to the Greek god Zeus. The crowning outrage was the erection of a statue of Zeus and the sacrificing of a pig in the Jerusalem temple itself!

Opposition to Antiochus led by Mattathias, an elderly villager from a priestly family, and his five sons (one named Judas the Maccabee—thus the Maccabean revolt). The event is memorialized in the celebration of Hanukkah. Judas Maccabeus destroyed a Greek altar and killed Antiochus' emissary to their village, triggering a 24-year war resulting in the independence of Judah with Mattathias's sons as rulers. Sadly, the dynasty became corrupted and turned into an aristocratic Hellenistic regime (represented later by the Sadducees). Those who had supported the Maccabean revolt soon fell out of favor. The Pharisees (whose sect formed during this turbulent time period) were actually persecuted by their own leaders for about 30 years of this period in Israel's history.

Israel in the Roman Empire

In 63 B.C., an expanding Roman empire entered in the picture. Pompey took Jerusalem after a three-month siege of the temple area, massacring priests in the performance of their duties and entering the Most Holy Place. This sacrilege began Roman rule in a way that Jews could neither forgive nor forget!

The Pharisees built a "hedge" around the law to enable Jews to live righteously before God in a world that had changed drastically since the days of Moses. Few in number, they enjoyed the support of the people and were the only group to survive the destruction of the temple in A.D. 70, thus being the spiritual progenitors of modern Judaism. The Roman Senate appointed Herod, a non-Jew, king in 40 B.C. Subject to Rome.

God Sends Messiah Jesus—Direct Rule Offered

At his birth, Jesus came announced as a King. For 3 years as an adult, Jesus proclaimed God's truth to men and demonstrated that He is God. He delivered men and women from their physical and spiritual ills. The time had come for Him to move on in his role as Israel's Messiah. So, he headed for Jerusalem.

At Bethany, he stopped until the way could be prepared so that when He entered the city people would recognize Him as the Messiah (*Luke 19*), fulfilling Zechariah 9:9 by riding on a young donkey. The crowds understood that Jesus was presenting Himself as the Messiah, capable of bringing in the Kingdom. He entered as a king like David would have entered.

The crowd quoted from *Psalms 118*, a Messianic psalm of praise traditionally sung at Passover. They are filled with joy that Jesus at last is making public proclamation of His Messiahship. All history had pointed towards this single, spectacular event when the Messiah publicly presented Himself to the nation, and God desired that this fact be acknowledged.

Israel Rejects Messiah and Direct Rule Once Again

As a King, he was rejected as He Himself prophesied. *Luke 19:14; Luke 18:31-33*

When He was crucified He died as the King of the Jews. *Mt 27:37*

Because the people did not recognize the time of God's coming to them, the city would be totally destroyed. Roman soldiers did this starting in AD 70. Roman general Titus conquered it after a 1-year siege. Only the towers of Herod's palace and a part of the western wall of the temple platform were left. 600,000 Jews were killed. The rest were taken to Rome as slaves. Incidentally, Titus wanted the Temple spared, but it was inadvertently (or so he thought) torched. God's promise was fulfilled.

Why the king had to suffer first to deliver his people:

It was God's plan to deal with sin once and for all so he could have a restored relationship with His creation. *Isaiah 53:5; Luke 24:26; Matthew 26:54*

Humans are less sensitive to their sin than they are to their circumstances. The Israelites never could come to grip with their sins. The leaders had their laws. They didn't need a savior. Because they declared themselves righteous God was expected to do the same. So, they didn't recognize who Jesus really is. *Luke 19:42,44; John 1:10-11*

God gave them further opportunity to repent. *Acts 3:17-21*

This offer of salvation and of the Kingdom pointed both to God's graciousness and to Israel's unbelief. God was giving the Jews an opportunity to repent after the sign of Christ's resurrection. They had refused the "pre-Cross" Jesus; now they were being offered a post-resurrection Messiah. Peter's words underscore Israel's rejection. They had been given the sign of Jonah but still they refused to believe.

Jesus—King of Believers

In addition to the sovereignty of God manifested in political governments and their rulers, Scripture also bears testimony to a spiritual government...

- In which God rules in the hearts of men
- True ever since the beginning of time
- Includes all who are willingly subject to God, whether men or angels
- Especially includes the rule of God in the hearts of believers in the Church age

The Church Age began—the Kingdom of God present in the hearts of believers through the Holy Spirit. *Colossians 1:13*

Jesus—King of Kings

All will see His visible and glorious kingdom on the earth after the Second Coming. In Revelation, Jesus Christ, the Lamb, is introduced as King of the kings of the earth. *Revelation 1:5; 19:16; 17:14*

Jesus is sovereign over the Kingdom of God until at the resurrection He delivers the Kingdom to His Father. *1 Corinthians 15:24-28*

The Kingdom of God is the dynamic rule of God manifested in Christ to destroy His (spiritual) enemies and to bring to men the blessings of God's reign. The New Testament pictures two victories of God's kingdom:

- Victory over death. Death is denied spiritually through Christ's death and resurrection. Death will be physically defeated at the end of the millennial reign of Christ.
- Victory over Satan. Defeated spiritually at the Cross. Satan will be physically defeated in the lake of fire at the end of the Millennium.

The Millennial Kingdom, Direct Rule of God on Earth.

In the Millennial Kingdom, Christ will actually be the supreme political ruler as well as the spiritual leader and object of worship.

Psalms 2 and *Isaiah 11* picture an absolute monarch who will put down wicked men and bring them to subjection. Neither is the description of the present age nor of heaven.

Major features of the Government of the Millennium are:

- It will be over the entire earth, far beyond the boundaries of any previous earthly kingdom or the kingdom of David himself.
- In establishing this worldwide government, God fulfilled His purpose that man should rule the earth. Christ as the last Adam is able to fulfill this goal. *Daniel 7:13-14*
- The government of Christ will be one of absolute authority and power. *Revelation 19:15*
- During this time, Satan is bound and rendered inoperative. The only source of evil in the world will be the sin nature of men still in their human flesh.
- All who oppose him will be punished by even to the point of death. No one will be allowed to rebel against the King. *Psalms 2:9*
- Such an absolute rule does not characterize the rule of Christ over His Church or over the world in the present age.
- The government of Christ in the Millennium will be one of righteousness and peace. *Isaiah 11* and *Psalms 72* are classic passages describing this.
- His reign will be characterized by light. *2 Sam 23:3-4; Psalms 36:9; 27:1; 72:1-8*
- The Messiah will have 4 throne names: 1) Wonderful Counselor, 2) Mighty God, 3) Everlasting Father, and 4) Prince of Peace. He will also be called "The Lord Our Righteousness." *Isaiah 9:6-7; Jeremiah 23:5-6*

Jesus is Our King — Every Knee Will Bow!

"Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus: Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, but made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself and became obedient to death — even death on a cross! Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father." (Philippians 2:5-11)

“Christ” – Messiah the Savior

God is in the business of making ugly “beautiful.”

Messianic Psalms

These are considered to be Messianic Psalms: 2, 8, 16, 22, 23, 24, 40, 41, 45, 68, 69, 72, 89, 102, 110, 118.

Agony of Feeling Forsaken

“Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you.” (Hebrews 13:5)

Crucifixion and Psalm 22

Agony & Disgrace

Crucifixion as God’s Plan

Why Did Jesus Have to Die?

Romans 5:12 — After Adam and Eve sinned, two kinds of death entered the world:

- 1) Spiritual death for man
- 2) Physical death for man and for animals

Why the Cross?

Acts 2:23

1 Corinthians 1:23-24

Crucifixion and Christ’s life in me

Because of His resurrection, from the moment we trust in Jesus, we get eternal spiritual life now and the promise of eternal physical life when Christ returns.

- Colossians 2:13-14
- Hebrews 2:14-15

“I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.” (Gal. 2:20)

What ugliness in your life has God made beautiful because of Jesus Christ living in you?

“Cross” – Restoration: New Identity

“How we see ourselves directs how we live our faith walk.”

You’ve got to know your identity *Rom 5:19-6:2*

Believers get a new life with a **radical** new identity and are set free to live a radically new kind of life. You are not who you used to be. (*2 Cor. 5:14-17*)

Not knowing your identity enslaves you

Being enslaved to illiteracy of the Bible and poor teaching...results in having no idea what your new identity is and all the benefits that come with it.

Knowing your identity sets you free *Rom. 6:3-5*

From God’s point of view, there are two kinds of people in the world—those “in Adam” and those “in Christ”. Who you are “in” determines your identity and your options for living.

World’s Lies

- You are still a sinner because you sometimes sin.
- You get your identity from what you have done.
- You get your identity from what people say about you.
- Your behavior tells you what to believe about yourself.

God’s Truth

- You are a saint who sometimes sins.
- You get your identity from what God has done for you.
- You get your identity from what God says about you.
- Your belief about yourself directs your behavior.

Romans 5:19-6:5 (NIV)

For just as through the disobedience of the one man the many were made sinners, so also through the obedience of the one man the many will be made righteous.

20 The law was added so that the trespass might increase. But where sin increased, grace increased all the more, **21** so that, just as sin reigned in death, so also grace might reign through righteousness to bring eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

1 What shall we say, then? Shall we go on sinning so that grace may increase? **2** By no means! We died to sin; how can we live in it any longer? **3** Or don't you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? **4** We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life.

5 If we have been united with him like this in his death, we will certainly also be united with him in his resurrection.

As a believer in Jesus Christ, you can assuredly say,

“I am in Christ, a child of God and one of God’s saints, totally accepted and loved by Him.”

“Cross” – Transformed Relationship

“Set free from sin’s power because a greater power has moved in.”

My Relationship to Sin

Sin’s power is broken by Jesus’ transforming power.

Sin no longer makes me guilty before God, separated from Him

- **Confession** is agreeing with God what you and He both know to be true.
- **Repentance** is changing your mind about that sin, mourning its ugliness.
- **Dependence** is relying on the transforming power of Jesus inside for that change to take place.
- **Forgiveness** is God’s continual removal of sin from our account with Him.

My Daily Choice How to Serve Jesus as His Woman

Option 1: Actively serve my new master Jesus

- Step 1: View yourself rightly. “I am a child of God who sometimes _____.”
- Step 2: Agree with God that _____ is sin and doesn’t fit one who is serving Him.
- Step 3: Desire not to _____ any longer. “Lord Jesus, please nudge me when I am _____. When He does, agree with Him.
- Step 4: Depend on Jesus’ power in you to replace your _____ with something better. “Okay, Lord, by faith, I am going to let you do that in my life.”

Option 2: Be passive to my new master; say “yes” to the old master sin.

Having been set free from the power of sin, you can choose to say,

“Lord Jesus, I am YOUR woman today, tomorrow, and the next day.”

Romans 6:6-14 (NIV)

6 For we know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves to sin — **7** because anyone who has died has been freed from sin.

8 Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. **9** For we know that since Christ was raised from the dead, he cannot die again; death no longer has mastery over him. **10** The death he died, he died to sin once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God.

11 In the same way, count yourselves dead to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus. **12** Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body so that you obey its evil desires. **13** Do not offer the parts of your body to sin, as instruments of wickedness, but rather offer yourselves to God, as those who have been brought from death to life; and offer the parts of your body to him as instruments of righteousness. **14** For sin shall not be your master, because you are not under law, but under grace.

“Consummation” – Resurrection & The Restored Creation

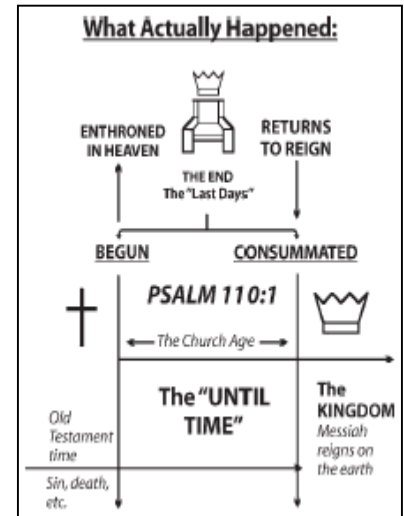
Jesus’ Resurrection

What Jesus’ resurrection did **not** mean:

- It was **not** meant to prove life after death.
- It was **not** the appearance of Jesus’ spirit or ghost—a “spiritual” resurrection.
- It does **not** directly prove that Jesus is God.

What Jesus’ resurrection **does** mean:

- It declared the debt for sin has been paid by Jesus and accepted by God so He can give His life to anyone who comes to Him by faith. *All of the New Testament.*
- It announced the beginning of the kingdom. *Daniel 12:2; Isaiah 26:19; John 5:28-29; Acts 3:20-21*



Moving Out

Out of this body, made perfect, and instantly with the Lord. *Luke 23:43; Hebrews 12:23; John 17:24; Phil 1:23; 2 Cor. 5:6, 8*

Enjoying the blessings of heaven in the UNTIL time.

- In a roomy, prepared place, with Jesus, enjoying rest and happiness. *John 14:2-3; Rev. 14:13*
- We’ll have personal identity, memory and ability to talk and receive comfort. *Luke 16:22-23; Luke 9:30-31.*
- We may wear white robes and be cognizant of what is happening on earth. *Revelation 6:11; Luke 9:30-31*
- Those who died as babies and small children will be there. *Matt. 19:14; 2 Sam 12:23*

Moving In

Into new bodies when Jesus calls out for us sometime before His second coming to earth when the “fullness of the Gentiles” has been reached. *1 Thess 4:13-17; 1 Cor. 15:51-52; Phil 3:20-21*

Our new body will be like Jesus’ body which was the same as it had been but also different.

- Same—He looked like a normal human being (not glowing or with a halo). He talked, walked and preached a sermon at the same time, which means He had memory. His followers could touch him, hold onto Him, and see he was real; referred to Himself as having flesh and blood; used his hands to break bread, and he ate seafood.
- Different—Sometimes it was hard to recognize him. Jesus could also appear and disappear at will, through walls. His body was physically robust without apparent evidence of his beatings.
- For us, gone will be our sin nature—forever!

Moving Back

We'll come with Him for the battle and stay on to serve Him as He is King of planet Earth for 1000 years. *Isaiah 11; 65; Rev. 19-20* King Jesus will be king over:

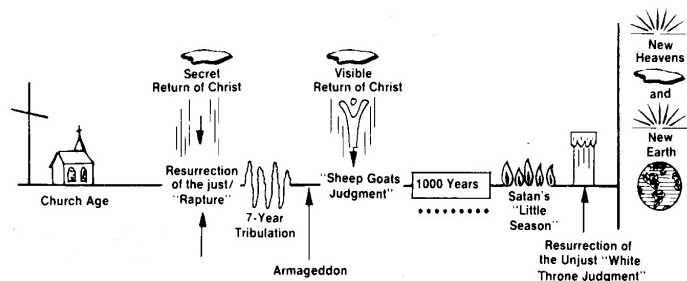
- All nations. Jerusalem will be His capital.
- The righteous humans alive at the end of the Tribulation who will marry and have babies but still have a sin nature.
- An earth that is partially restored. Animals will revert back to being vegetarian; animals and people will not fear one another. People will live to be well over 100 years again. Never will a baby or child die. Only the wicked will die early. Everyone will build houses, plant crops, and eat well. They will work and enjoy the benefits. Worship will focus on Jesus in Jerusalem. All will call on Jesus' name together meaning there's probably one language again.
- Resurrected believers who will be priests of God and reign with Him. *Rev. 20:6; Malachi 2:7*

Moving Up

When God's heaven comes to a new Earth, and we get to live in it!

A Possible Timetable for the End

When the time comes that God has predetermined to end the "fullness of the Gentiles" (Romans 11), believers (those living and those who have already died) will be "raptured" or "caught up" to meet Christ in the air and then go to heaven to be with Christ in new glorified, resurrected bodies. Afterwards, the Bema judgment of works and the Marriage Supper of the Lamb will take place in heaven.



Meanwhile, on earth a 7-year period of tribulation involving extreme deception, wars, and suffering will follow the rapture of believers. Some Gentiles still on earth will become Christians during this time. However, God's focus will be on Israel, showing Himself to her in such a way that many will believe in Jesus as their Messiah and deliverer and thus reach "the fullness of Israel (Romans 11)."

At the end of the 7-year period, Christ will gloriously return to earth as He promised, setting up His kingdom on earth with Jerusalem as His capital. Those who died as believers during the Tribulation period will be given resurrection bodies and, along with the raptured believers, will rule with Christ on the earth. At this time, Satan will be bound for 1000 years (which is often called "The Millennium"). Worship will center at the Temple in Jerusalem. There will be worldwide peace among people and even among animals. Earth will be filled with the knowledge of the Lord but still not all will believe in Christ because man's sin nature has not been removed from those who live past the Tribulation time. At the end of the 1000 years, Satan will be freed and will lead unbelievers against Christ but will be defeated and cast into the lake of fire. There will then be a resurrection of all the unsaved from throughout the ages who will be judged as sinners and cast into the lake of fire. God will then create a new universe and new earth, removing all aspects of sin, and will move His heaven to earth as the New Jerusalem. We will live here with Him forever.