

CSA News

The Creation Science Association for Mid-America

"It is better to trust in the Lord than to put confidence in men" Psalm 118:8

Volume 12(1) May/June, 1995

Science and the New Age

by Ian Taylor

There is nothing new about the New Age or for that matter about the New World Order. The first relates to the coming world religion and the second to a world-wide political process. Both concepts are rising phoenix-like from the ashes of ancient Babylon and will lead to slavery of the minds and bodies of men on a scale never before seen. Nevertheless, we do have a freewill and by being informed we can choose either to be part of these new movements or to resist them like the plague. This article explores the current change in pattern of thinking among scientists from a traditional position of absolute abhorrence of the supernatural to one of acceptance. It is proposed that this will pave the way for the new pagan religion. To set the stage for our excursion into the history of this kind of thinking we go to ancient Greece.

From the earliest times and in every nation until the last few decades there have been traditions which tell of the creation of the world by a God or gods who occupied a dimension beyond our natural world. These gods were immortal, unseen, intelligent and often demanded ritual and sacrifice. When the Greek city of Miletus prospered it became the centre of the materialistic school of philosophy and for the next two hundred years produced a succession of famous intellectuals. These men departed from the traditional accounts of creation by gods and goddesses and proposed instead that natural processes were responsible. We need only mention Leucippus who was active about 500 BC and the author of the theory of "atomism." He proposed that all matter throughout the universe consists of minute indivisible atoms which differ in shape, order and position. About a century later, Democritus (430-370 BC) pointed out that these atoms had to be in motion otherwise nothing creative could occur. Another century passed and Epicurus (341-270 BC) developed the theory further by adding that moving atoms will not do anything either unless there is some opportunity for the atoms to occasionally meet and interact. He proposed that in the beginning atoms were falling through the vacuum of space and fate diverted an atom from its path very slightly and eventually caused it to interact with another atom. The theory of atomism in its fully developed form has been left to us by the Roman poet Lucretius Carus (95-55 BC) in his work *On the Nature of the Universe*. However, the crucial question has always been, Was the diversion of that first atom by blind chance or was it by the hand of some unseen intelligence? In short, is there evidence of purpose in nature?

Lucretius held that there was freewill in all living things and that this will-power was "snatched from the fates" that is, the gods. The source of intelligence was thus shifted from the unseen gods to an innate quality within each living thing. With little effort this would in time become spoken of as "nature" and finally "chance" but this step would not be complete until Charles Darwin in the nineteenth century. In the meantime, the introduction of Christianity, shortly after the time of Lucretius, brought most men throughout the next two thousand years to believe in an unseen Creator God who was present as the life source and directing intelligence in all living things. As the Church grew in power and the cities of Christendom became wealthy, intellectual skeptics rediscovered

Epicurianism through a single copy of Lucretius' poem which had survived and they began to challenge the belief in an unseen Creator. There was much superstition in the Church of the day and it was not difficult to confound superstition with the belief in the Creator thus by association one belief could be dismissed with the other.

In a little 72-page booklet issued in 1628, the English physician William Harvey (1578-1657), described the circulation of the blood in animals as well as man. This was a major discovery but it had bad effects as well as good because it reintroduced the mechanistic view of nature. Living at the same time as Harvey and a physiologist in his own right, the French mathematician René Descartes, was inspired by Harvey's work on the blood. During the next nine years, Descartes wrote his *Discourse on Method*. Published in 1637, this work effectively picked up where Lucretius left off stating that all biological life on this planet was mere mechanism. He said of the animal Kingdom: "they are destitute of mind and that it is nature which acts in them... just as a clock which is composed of wheels and weights, can number the hours and measure time..." He cautiously excluded man from this sweeping statement by adding that mechanistic man had an immortal soul but the reader gets the distinct impression that this was a sop to mollify the Church authorities. Charles Darwin did the same thing later by paying lip-service to "the Creator" in the final sentence of the second and subsequent editions of his *Origin of Species*. However, Thomas Huxley writing in 1882, the year that Darwin died, felt that by this time the power of the Church had been sufficiently eroded and boldly included man among the automata of the animal Kingdom. Thus, little by little all the biological sciences became ruled by the dogma that life is nothing more than physics and chemistry; that dogma persists to this day. [And is supported by the same quantity of evidence and quality of reasoning as it was in the days of Lucretius, Descartes and Darwin... precious little evidence and reasoning that would flunk logic 101. Ed]

One more aspect of today's mind-set among those in the biological sciences needs to be mentioned. Prior to the nineteenth century it was common belief that the perfect must always precede the imperfect. It was argued that in the beginning there was a hierarchy of living things with man at the summit and each was in perfected form as it had left the hand of the Creator. However, following the Fall of man, each living thing began to show signs of imperfection. Lamarck was a product of the French Revolution and turned this concept on its head. As a biologist of his day, he correctly observed that creatures quickly adapt to new environments. He believed that every living thing had a "mind" which enabled it to transform in a generation or two to become better adapted. While this is largely true, in Lamarck's theory of transformations each "mind" continued to direct transformations and simple creatures became more complex; this is progression towards perfection and was an early version of evolution. Darwin was well aware of Lamarck's work and would have nothing to do with the internal "mind" or evidence of purpose in living things. He proposed instead that it was the external environment which pushed or pulled the passive organism in different directions. This was Darwin's mechanism for evolution and it depended upon chance and chance alone; any suggestion of an intelligence and thus purpose inherent within living things was scornfully rejected.

Darwin was extremely careful not to erect a hierarchy and noted

in his diary "Never use the words higher and lower". In the Darwinian view there has always been a marked tendency to see all species in terms of equality in spite of the fact that some were evidently more complex and more intelligent than others. Nevertheless, by including man in this level playing field and emphasizing "instinct" rather than intelligence in nature, Darwin cleverly avoided having to explain the evolution of the human intellect. To this day, man having intellect far in excess of his need for survival is an embarrassment to evolutionary theory and has never been adequately explained. But there was a more profound reason for excluding purpose from biological discussion. Paleontologist Niles Eldredge (1985, 13) has put his finger on the matter and writes, "[Darwin] taught us that we can understand life's history in purely naturalistic terms, without recourse to the supernatural or divine".

Denying purpose by creed is one thing but trying to convince all of the thousands of biologists who work in the field is another. The Russian scientist, A. E. Oparin who first proposed how life could have begun on this planet from nonlife, has stated: "The universal 'purposiveness' of the organization of living things is an objective and self-evident fact which cannot be ignored by any thoughtful student of nature" (Blackburn 1966, 194). More recently, others are raising their voices including Francisco Ayala who writes, "Teleological explanations cannot be dispensed with in biology, and are therefore distinctive of biology as a natural science." (Breck 1972, 7). Sir Karl Popper, the philosopher known to scientists for his influential ideas on how science works, has made some very cogent arguments for the evidence of purpose in living things but ran into opposition from the biologists (Perutz 1986, 36). This kind of honesty from such eminent leaders is refreshing but biology is still burdened under nineteenth century mechanistic thinking. Traditional biologists such as Luria (1973, 80) react to such claims of purpose in nature as follows: "The whole system of chemical catalysts and its regulation is so precise that it almost suggests purpose, and indeed a special term, *teleonomy*, has been coined to denote the pseudo-purposeful functioning of biological mechanisms". The "special term" is nothing more than an invented word to deny the evidence of purpose in nature and leaves Luria to fall back on natural selection as the key to evolution. Mainline biology had given up on Darwin's mechanism fifty years earlier.

What then is meant by "purpose" in living things? Energy and matter have long been considered basic and universal but since the introduction of the computer and the need to compress information, it has become evident that information itself is just as fundamental. After all, nothing is going to happen to a collection of inert atoms without the information to direct each atom to the right location. Within every living cell the long coiled strands of DNA contain literally millions of instructions and very efficiently direct each molecule to precisely the right place. Information is packed into living cells at a density millions of times greater than the most sophisticated computer chip. Computer chips operate in two dimensions whereas the DNA operates in three with a more complex language. However, the language of the information is merely the code used, what is important is the meaning behind it. It is at this point that we confront the incredible mind behind the meaning. Once this is recognized the fact stares back at us from every facet of nature, from the single cell to the beauty of the harmony and balance in the world's ecosystems. As the old guard retire, younger voices from within the cloistered ranks of academia are being heard and they are crying out for a new biology, one which includes purpose and recognizes wisdom. A timorous voice or two have even dared to breathe Lamarck's name but will this bring the Creator into the laboratory, into the biology classroom? We trust that it may, but more likely it will open the floodgates to superstition such as the medieval church never dreamed of. It is

suggested that it will be the biologists and psychologists who will supply the scientific priesthood for the pagan religion of the coming New Age.

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Ian Taylor is the author of the excellent history of evolutionary thought, *In the Minds of Men* (available from **CSA Books**). Ian is a committed Christian, a thorough researcher and a good friend of your editor. He has been a practicing engineer and was the producer of the outstanding 12-part *Crossroads Creation* series, first aired on Canadian television with Crossroads Ministries in Toronto. The series is available in the **CSA Lending Library**. The above article first appeared as Feature # 23 of the Creation Science Association of Ontario (Canada) Spring, 1992 Newsletter. It is reprinted here with permission.

CREATION FAMILY VACATIONS

Twin Peaks Family Science Adventure: July 2-7

Redcloud Family Mountain Adventure August 13-18

Redcloud Family Mountain Adventure August 20-25

These are outstanding family outings.

Contact: Dave & Mary Jo Nutting, Alpha Omega Institute,
Box 4343, Grand Junction, CO 81502 (303) 245-5906

Book of the Month:

Studies in Flood Geology: A Compilation of Research Studies Supporting Creation and the Flood
by: John Woodmorappe

A comprehensive, scholarly series of research papers originally published in the Creation Research Society Quarterly and the International Conferences on Creation. Hundreds of valuable quotes and references. A must for the serious student.

Special: Mar/Apr 1995 Price: \$12.00 (includes postage)

Audio or Video Tape of the Month:

**The Origin of the Universe
The Big Bang Versus The Bible**
by: Cal Myers, Ph.D.

Did God really use a "Big Bang" and billions of years to accomplish creation? Did "hominids" roam the earth before Adam? Was there death before Adam? Cal, whose degree, post-doctoral research, and life work have all been in medical physics, contrasts the popular "Christian Big Bang" view of Hugh Ross with the Bible and science.

Audio Tape #0143: \$4.00, VHS Video #V0143: \$12.00
(Prices Include Postage. Use Coupon in this CSA News)

EVOLVO-THINK DAILY BLEAT

"Where free thinking goes unrestrained by evidence or logic"

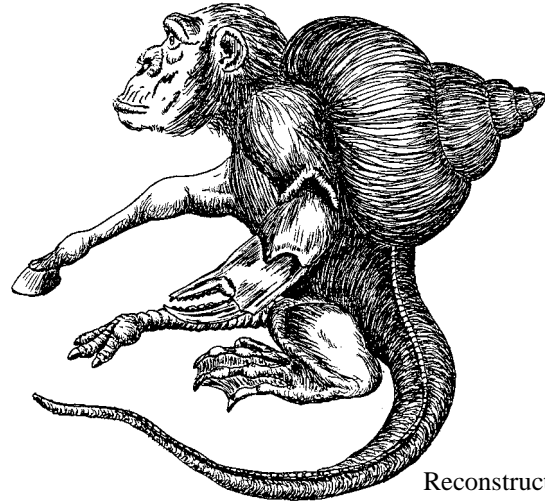
SATURDAY, April 1, 2.6 Billion A.P. (After Present)

GALAXY-WIDE EDITION

MISSING LINK FOUND

The ultimate missing link has recently been discovered. No longer will wild-eyed fundamentalists of the religious right be able to claim that evolution science hasn't produced any transitional forms! *Australopithecus panzoa* is solid proof that everything evolved from everything!

Assembled from remains discovered near a famous African restaurant, the reconstruction did require some expert inferences. The horse leg is assumed based on dung found nearby which dated to the same era, the snail shell actually found was a little small, so it was assumed to be from an infant. Evidence for the right, hind bird-like foot was some fairly clear tracks found less than 300 miles away. The lobster-like hand was also from an infant but is shown as it would appear in the adult of the species. Note the frog-like left leg and lizard-like tail. These were added because the animal is so old it must have been part reptile. Some inference was required for the ape-like head, but some intelligence would be required for an animal this awkward to survive. Marks on the claw indicate forceful removal of muscle tissue, providing strong evidence of infanticide and cannibalism in the species.



Reconstruction by:
Richard Jeffus

Australopithecus panzoa - Roamed the earth somewhere between 4.5 Billion and 1000 B.P.

1995 Creation Safari's

Family Outings That Honor The Creator

South Kansas City Fossil Hunt (*Note change from March/April CSA News)	April 8
Ha Ha Tonka State Park	April 28-29
Western Kansas, Chalk Beds, Monument Rock	May 27-29
Lakewood Fossil Hunt	June 17
K.U. Natural History Museum	July 15
Kansas City Zoo	August 26
KATY Trail Bike Trip (Mo. River Bluffs)	Sept 23
Ozark Cave Outing	Oct 21-22
Squaw Creek Game Refuge	Dec 9
Many Astronomy Safaris	Various

Important Safari Notes!!!

To find out safari details, call or write to request a copy of the brochure: "1995 Detailed Safari Information," which will give you costs, meeting place, time of departure and return, what to bring, safari registration information, etc. **Costs: CSA does not charge for safaris.** However, some of the places we visit **do have entrance fees.** Obviously some of the safaris have other costs associated with them such as lodging.

Please Call or Write to Pre-register for Any Safari You Plan to Attend.

Response to CSA Creation Safaris has risen so dramatically that there is a possibility of over-commitment for all of them. Therefore, we are requesting that, if you plan to come to any safari, please call or write to notify us of the names of each anticipated adult safari participant, and ages of the children.

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CSA Meeting Location: Westbrooke Church 9898 West 95th, Overland Park, KS

Two blocks East of 69 Highway (or Switzer) on North side of 95th

Refreshments: 6:15PM - Meeting: 7:00PM Nursery Available: \$2.50 per child (Reservations required)

CSA Meeting Tuesday, May 2, 1995

The Basic Institute in Creation Science

**"The Ice Age -
Where Does It Fit?"**

by: *Larry Rink*

When was the ice age? How long was it? How many were there? How can you get an ice age in Biblical history? Did you know cold weather will not produce an ice age? Did you know that it was probably impossible for the ice age to have lasted over a few hundred years? Don't miss this interesting meeting!

The Advanced Institute in Creation Science

The Biota and Logistics of Noah's Ark

A Video from the International Conference on Creation

by: *John Woodmorappe, M.S.*

John is one of the most exhaustive researchers I've met. This issue we are featuring his "Studies in Flood Geology," (published by the Institute for Creation Research) as our Book of the Month. This tape, is not as technical as his book, but it is vintage Woodmorappe, thorough, entertaining and thought provoking: "How did Noah manage all those animals? How much food was required? How did he handle the manure? How many hours of labor per day were required?"

**Did you know... CSA meetings are
provocative, free, entertaining, and educational?
If you haven't been coming, you should be.**

Quotable Quotes

"I will admit that some of what you said was over my head, but I did learn something - I learned that there's a lot of information that "they" aren't telling us. I learned that there a lot of facts which support the absolute reliability of the Bible, and that I can learn and understand the details if I read the right books... and, if I don't learn and understand it, it's my own fault."

A lady's remarks after one of Glenn Kailer's presentations

CSA Meeting Tuesday, June 6, 1995

A Joint Session of the Basic & Advanced
Institutes in Creation Science

Creation Science in Eastern Europe

A Personal Account of Christ and Real Science
In Former Communist Nations

by: *Charles B. Thaxton, Ph.D.*

Charles Thaxton is co-author of the widely acclaimed book, *The Mystery of Life's Origin*, and, with Nancy Percy, the newer book, *The Soul of Science*. His wife Carole is co-author of the widely acclaimed *Konos* home-school curriculum. Together, Charles and Carole have been missionaries to eastern European and Russian universities for the last five years. Carole writes of their early experiences: "Everyone had hope that real life would come to replace communism. Professors sat on the edge of their chairs attentively absorbing every word from this "miracle" -- a Christian and a scientist in one body. They innocently asked the questions -- 'Is the Bible really true? Is God real? What do we need?' ... I was amazed at how Charles 'fit in' with these university students and faculty. They loved him, related to every story, laughed at every joke, identified with every analysis, and welcomed every answer."

"We were homeschooling C.J. and Todd when other English-speaking families asked to be included, and thus began Konos Academy of Prague (KAP)... developed two Christian schools in Prague.. our handfull of 12-16 year-old KAP students are thriving." But, "Five years later, we see the old roots taking hold again... 90% still consider themselves atheist..."

For Real Insight Into the Real World - Attend This Meeting

Quotable Quote

According to the World Wildlife Fund, without human interference, one species would naturally go extinct every 27 years. But humankind has pushed the rate of extinction to a species every hour.

No one seems to have noticed that, even at the lower "natural" rate, at least one new species must have evolved every 27 years for us to exist. Where are the new ones? "Evolvo Think" is such marvelous stuff. Things only need to be said, making sense isn't required. Ed.

*Mark McCalmon sent us this clip from
"BackPacker, Sept '91*

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Creation Science Association
for Mid-America**

22509 South State Line Road, Cleveland, MO. 64734

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Editor: Tom Willis.

Subscription rates: No Charge to those requesting.

Gift subscriptions: \$10 per year

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