

CSA News

The Creation Science Association for Mid-America

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

Volume 23 (6) Nov - Dec, 2006

The Age of the Earth - The Longest Myth

Part III by Tom Willis

Highlights of Part I & II

We learned in Parts I & II that Hutton and Lyell did not produce a science. They developed a strategy called "Uniformitarian Geology" for marketing the idea that it takes enormous amounts of time to cause and shape rocks. The strategy worked poorly on real scientists of the day, but worked (and works today) quite well on fools eagerly seeking an argument against Christianity or pseudochristianity (most folks can't tell the difference). Uniformitarianism is the name given to this strategic tool.

The Rise of Neocatastrophism

We also saw that the ideas championed by uniformitarians are empirically and intellectually bankrupt. They simply do not work to produce the effects claimed for them. One of the reasons they do not work is the manifest, global evidence for catastrophe in the rocks. It can be quite a source of amusement watching antichrists react over the last 150 years to the accumulating reports of evidence for catastrophe. The "classical uniformitarians" tended to hate and distrust catastrophists, often accusing them of being creationists in disguise.

After all, the Bible clearly teaches in Genesis 1 and Exodus 20, and never once backs off, that the basic entities of the earth were created in six days, were under water three of those days, experienced extremely rapid continental uplift and runoff during the following few days. Then, it clearly teaches that the entire world was purposefully destroyed by water in the days of Noah. Thus it is quite easy to see those with an antichrist spirit, over the last 100 years or so, being distrustful of anyone promoting catastrophes. And this distrust survives to this day, but evidence for catastrophe is legion and necessity is the mother of invention. Gradually the obvious losing game to catastrophism resulted in the development of some neat new theories to allow evolution to happen quickly... well in bursts separated by millions of years. Thus, gradually, antichrist geology and biology are surrendering gradualism. It has been a painful process with many dissenters of all flavors. For an agonizing summary of this history, by one of their own, see <http://www.knowledge.co.uk/sis/controv.htm>

So, What is Neocatastrophism?

First, we must warn that historical "science" is largely pseudo science, therefore, learning the definition of their words can be a bit frustrating. To many, neocatastrophism is still "creationism in disguise." To this day, for example, even after his death, many do not like, or trust, Stephen Gould, an atheist promoter of neocatastrophism, especially in biology. They feel strongly that his neocatastrophism threw too many bones to creationists, and they will do anything to avoid bones to creationists.

Thus there are caveats: some antichrists like it fast; some like it slow, neither trust the other, and many use the term derogatorily. But, roughly the term "neocatastrophism" refers to faith that "Catastrophes played a major role in Earth History, but, these



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catastrophes are Marxist in nature, rather than Christian." This means, like the life of a soldier, or the march of Marxism, there are long periods of boredom with short periods of terror. Or, to put it another way, like Marxism and soldiering, the major significant events were sudden and large, but separated by long periods of time (boredom).

The problem for them that I alluded to above is that the Bible depicts few, sudden and large events, and the entire sense of the Bible, both explicit and implied, describes an earth history that began in a brief time and includes only thousands of years, not billions. But, to support meaningful antibible goals with catastrophism, one needs a "science" that has many catastrophes over billions of years, which is inconsistent with the earth we observe. Thus, many antichrists still distrust this "science." "We simply cannot have a science that lends a hint of credence to the Bible."

We would truly love to help them out of their problem but there seems to be no way out. Their problem is that they are committed to an impossible religion of naturalism, postulating many natural catastrophes over long ages wins only some dupes. There is no scientific escape except to repent of their silly naturalism. The debate over gradualism/catastrophism is actually irrelevant. Naturalism does not work whether you market a fast or a slow one. P. T. Barnum summed up the situation, "There is a fool born every minute." Both gradualism and catastrophism will have a lot of devotees. Only a few of us "fundamentalist nut cases" are more interested in truth than we are in which team we are on. Our position is that old-earth gradualism has been refuted (though these essays provided only a few examples), so we will examine next old-earth neocatastrophism. Neocatastrophism Is Easily Dealt With When Understood

Consider three key problems that must be solved by neocatastrophism. **1. Get Life Started, 2. Show Life Evolving, 3. Place**

a lot of time between rock layers (not in them, because “they happened “catastrophically”).

1. Get Life Started - Science provided no help for gradualist naturalists in getting life started. Requiring them to get it started in much less time does not improve their lot. This is one reason many will not get on board. There is no science of life formation... slowly, or rapidly.

2. Life Evolving - Stephen Gould and Niles Eldridge gave the neocatastrophist evolutionists comfort with their “theory” of “Punctuated Equilibrium.” This quaint story held that, rather than Darwinnian gradual evolution, animals would experience long periods of boredom in which no evolution occurred, but then some catastrophe-like event would “isolate” some of them, hopefully under some extreme environmental pressure which would make them experience a burst of rapid evolution. “Scientific evidence” for this is claimed for experiments like the ones where, for example, 100 populations of bacteria are subjected to some stress and some or all of the populations “evolve,” apparently in response to the stress. There are serious problems with this “science:” A. Not one new biological structure has ever been observed in these, or any other experiments. This is the same type of adaptation that man routinely designs in his cars, houses and countless other things he builds. It has nothing to do with producing a bird from pond scum. B. In every one of these experiments, the creatures that purportedly evolved were, in fact, less fit in virtually all situations but the one in which they “evolved.” And the change was trivial. Adaptation had occurred. One may choose to call this “evolution” but it will not produce the results needed by evolutionists for their religion to be true. C. In the vast majority, or all, of the cases, the “improvement” needed already existed in the population, but was made more obvious when the ones lacking the feature died off due to the stress factor. D. Rather than linear, onward evolution, when the stress is removed, the population reverts to the norm.

All of these tend to provide comprehensive support for the position that these experiments demonstrate designed adaptation. “Evolution” is merely the name given the process by its devotees.

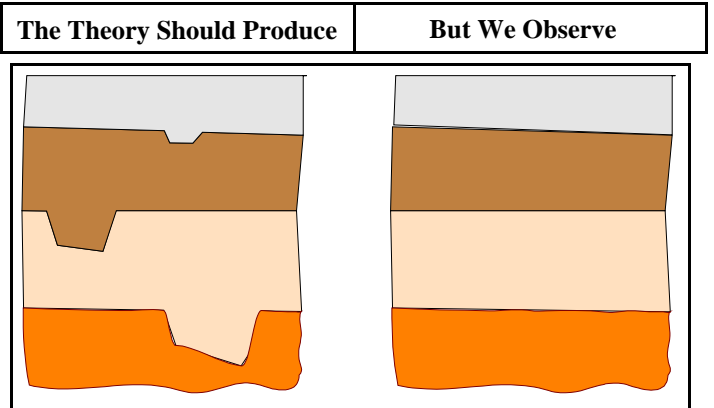
3. Place a Lot of Time Between Rock Layers. If catastrophes are going to produce many or all of the rocks, the antichrist mentality still feels much more at ease if he can have his millions of years, simply because the millions of years alone, once conceded, refute the Bible to anybody who bothers to read it. Thus, many automatically distrust and reject, out of hand, any theory that would yield a time frame consistent with the Bible.

Therefore, the one immutable doctrine of neocatastrophism is: “If the events that made the rocks happened quickly (‘catastrophe’), then there must be a whole bunch of time between events!” Of the old earthers I know, atheist, Romanist, claimed Christian, or other, all identify belief in a young earth with “ignorant, idiotic, dangerous fundamentalism.” Most would rather kill than concede the earth is young, for fear of lending credence to a serious reading of the Bible, which their religion requires be without intelligible substance.

Now here is a funny thing about this... There, quite plainly, is **no evidence for time between the rock layers that were purportedly deposited by these sudden catastrophic events!** You already could know this, but, may have never thought about it. Suppose we put some light-colored pancake batter in a hot skillet, cook it on both sides, then put some darker buckwheat batter in the skillet, cook it, then make a stack of the two cakes. They will

not be stiff, so the upper will conform somewhat to the shape of the lower, but there will be the cooked surfaces, between, “evidence of the cooking time.” My point is simply that time leaves some evidence. If a layer is present a million years before the next, we should see soil horizon, root fossils, erosion, etc.

In the crude drawings below, if there had been millions of years between each of the four rock units, we would expect to see erosion of the layers, with the next sediments filling the eroded gully (or valley) and then building on up, as illustrated on the left. But, when we drive down the highway, what we universally see is illustrated on the right. We do frequently see tilting, or valleys cutting down from the top through many of the layers.



But, if there was much time between the rock units, then the view on the left should be common, nearly everywhere. It plainly is not. It is very rarely seen. The only rational explanation for this is, “There simply is no time between the layers (or units).” In fact, the layers are typically found resting “conformably” (That’s geology-talk for “Nothing happened between them.”) on top of each other, meaning there cannot be much time between them, else something would surely have happened. It is almost as if they were all laid down one right after the other, by huge waves in a single large flood, lasting, oh, say, about a year. But, there I go, sounding like one of those ignorant fundamentalists.

There is much more, but we are out of space. Yes, old-earthers have produced some claimed refutation, but not for what we have been discussing. Also, for examples of other solid evidence, go back to the previous newsletter (09/2006 - CSANews on www.csama.org, under “CSA News”). Stare at those pictures of polystrate trees going through “millions of years” of rock. Consider also, that there is an example from every continent but Asia and S. America. It is truly insane to believe those trees stood there, even hundreds of years, especially, without roots or limbs.

Consider also that, not merely tall trees, essentially, all fossils are polystrate. To believe in these atheist views, you must believe that, even dead fern leaves extend through a thousand years of earth history, a truly preposterous situation. Hopefully, the foregoing should be enough for you to realize that something is amiss with both Uniformitarian Geology and Neocatastrophism. Neither can produce what we see on the right, above, or in the cuts along the roads. Both are bankrupt religious myths. But, they were the primary “proof” that the earth is old. Perhaps that is myth, too.

And, think. The logic and/or science, that refutes atheist neocatastrophism, also refutes the “science” of old-earth deism, cultism and roll-your-own Christianity.

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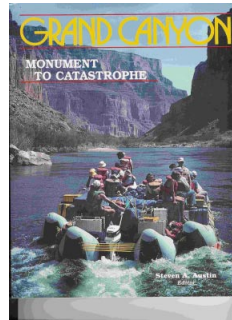
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By Tom Willis

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**The Creation Science Association
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CSA Monthly Meeting Location: Westbrooke Church 9898 West 95th, Overland Park, KS

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CSA Meeting - Tuesday, Nov 7, 2006

Naturalism and Court Decisions

By: David Penny

Since the 1940s, Supreme Court decisions on the nature of science have been establishing precedents that exclude supernaturalism (God, prayer, miracles, religious holidays, creationism, etc.) from public supported education or governmental affairs. On the surface this is based on a "wall of separation between church and state" from a letter by Thomas Jefferson to a Baptist group. Purportedly, the Constitutional prohibition against governmental establishment of religion in the first amendment of the US Constitution prohibits state moneys from supporting religious ideas in schools. The Court changed the assumption subtly to a "wall of separation between the state and supernaturalism." "Naturalism is scientific, supernaturalism is religious." One fallacy of this assumption is that from the basic laws of science, the origin of matter and energy (the sum total of the Universe) and the order of matter and energy in the Universe, require a supernatural creation and supernatural creator. Naturalism, the basis of the Court decisions, is antiscientific concerning the very existence and nature of the Universe. **Dave Penny is a physics graduate of MIT, an inventor and was a member of the US Space Team.**

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CSA Meeting - Tuesday, Dec 5, 2006

Velocity of Light - Proof of Old Earth?

By: David Penny

Light travel time to Earth from distance stars is supposed to prove Earth is very old. Einstein's theories of relativity are based on a constant speed of light and the equivalence of gravity and acceleration with its warped space and time dilation. Einstein rejected the idea that light is transported by a medium and that anything can travel faster than the speed of light which is approximately 186,000 miles per second. Simple observations about the nature of light and gravity are totally contrary to Einstein's theory. A modified classical Gallilean relativity, without warped space and with commonly known phenomena of light and gravity, can explain light travel time and other problems like the Pioneer anomaly and the Shapiro effect where light appears to fail to obey either Einstein's or Newton's theories of light. The speed of light, according to Maxwell's equations, may in fact approach infinite speeds in deep or interstellar space.

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See page 1



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