BIG QUESTIONS, BIBLICAL ANSWERS

**Brad Alles • brad.alles@cuw.edu • bradalles.com**

Does science confirm the Bible? (TEST)

 Truth claims

*- The truth fits facts and reality*

*- Of all religions, only Christianity has such confirmation*

 Exploits

*- “At this time there was a wise man called Jesus, and his conduct was good, and he was*

 *known to be virtuous. Many people among the Jews and the other nations became his*

 *disciples. Pilate condemned him to be crucified and to die. But those who had become*

 *his disciples did not abandon his discipleship. They reported that he had appeared to*

 *them three days after his crucifixion, and that he was alive. Accordingly, he was*

 *perhaps the Messiah, concerning whom the prophets have reported wonders. And the*

 *tribe of the Christians, so named after him, has not disappeared to this day.”*

 *(Josephus,* Jewish Antiquities18:63*)*

Settings

*- Over 92% of OT, 98% of NT sites located*

Traces

*- Jericho’s existence & destruction*

Why believe in a 6-day creation? (READ)

Reinterpreting Scripture

- Exchanging God’s inspired Word with man’s fallible ideas

 Explanation

 - Yom is always “day,” or a 24-hour period, when used with numbers (“the first day”)

 - Yom is always “day,” or a 24-hour period, when used with context of “evening and morning”

 - A 6-day creation week was the basis for remembering the Sabbath (Exodus 20:11; 31:17)

Anti-science alternative

*- Matter arranges itself (against law of entropy)*

*- Matter comes to life (against law of biogenesis)*

*- Information cannot arise from disorder by chance*

 Doubting Scripture

 *- Did death come before the Fall?*

Does the age of the earth matter? (ROCK)

Ranges of age

 *- 68 methods yield ages ranging from less than 10,000 years to 500 million years[[1]](#endnote-1)*

 *- None yield ages from 500 million to 4 billion years (the current accepted age)*

 Observation

 *- Why believe radiometric dating when it fails to give accurate age from known date?[[2]](#endnote-2)*

 Conjecture[[3]](#endnote-3) (“How long was that candle burning?”)

 *- Initial amount of element is known (Height of the candle)*

 *- Nothing was added or removed (No one broke the candle)*

 *- Decay rate is constant (Burn rate is same)*

 Killing faith

 *- The age of the earth is the most misunderstood issue for people who have left church*

 *- Why take this unscientific & outdated book seriously on any theological or moral issue?*

Did dinosaurs and humans live together? (DINOS)

 Discoveries[[4]](#endnote-4)

*- Alexander the Great (330 BC)*

*- Marco Polo (1200’s) “Here are seen huge serpents, ten paces in length (about 30*

*feet), and ten spans (about 8 feet) girt of the body. At the fore part, near the head, they*

*have two short legs, having three claws like those of a tiger…The jaws are wide enough*

*to swallow a man, the teeth are large and sharp, and their whole appearance is so*

*formidable, that neither man, nor any kind of animal can approach them without terror.”*

(The Travels of Marco Polo)

*- Carvings; sightings today: In December 1999, Papua New Guinea’s newspaper*

 *reported a “dinosaur-like reptile” as “long as a dump truck,” nearly two meters wide, with*

 *a long neck and slender tail. It walked on two back legs that were as thick as “coconut*

 *palm tree trunks,” had two smaller forelegs, “sharp teeth as long as fingers,” and skin*

 *like a crocodile.[[5]](#endnote-5) [[6]](#endnote-6)*

 Identification

 *-* Tannin*--great land or sea monster (Ps 74:13; 91:13; 148:7; Is 27:1; 51:9; Jer 51:34)*

 *-* Behemoth*--large beast (Job 40:15-24)*

 *-* Leviathan*--great water animal (Job 41:1-34)*

 Named “dragons”

 - *Called “terrible lizards” (dinosaurs) by Sir Richard Owen in 1841[[7]](#endnote-7)*

 Origin

 *- God made the wild animals according to their kinds, the livestock according to their*

 *kinds, and all the creatures that move along the ground according to their kinds...” (Ge 1:25)*

 Size

*- Size of a sheep (about 50 kinds)[[8]](#endnote-8)*

 *- Lizards grow as long as they live*

- *Noah could fit young ones on the Ark, for ease in care & for replenishing the earth*

 *- The post-Flood climate could kill some from the Ark (along with starvation, disease, & man)[[9]](#endnote-9)*

From where did the different races come? (RACE)

 Reality

*- The genetic difference between any 2 people is only 0.2%[[10]](#endnote-10)*

*- There are different people groups, with culture the biggest difference*

 Adam & Eve

 *- Noah’s ark had 8 people on board & refilled the earth*

 Color is same; shade differs

 *- Amount of melanin determines skin shade (along with eye & hair color)[[11]](#endnote-11)*

 Explanation—middle brown skin people[[12]](#endnote-12)

 *- Noah’s descendants could range from very light to very dark skin shades[[13]](#endnote-13)*

 *- The scattering at the Tower of Babel split the gene pool & explains why languages arose*

1. Ken Ham, *The New Answers Book 2* (Green Forest, AR: Master Books, 2008), p. 192. [↑](#endnote-ref-1)
2. "Radiometric Dating: Problems with the Assumptions." Available online at http://www.answersingenesis.org/articles/am/v4/n4/assumptions (cited October 2011). [↑](#endnote-ref-2)
3. Ken Ham, *The New Answers Book 2* (Green Forest, AR: Master Books, 2008), p. 191. [↑](#endnote-ref-3)
4. Ibid,, p. 192. [↑](#endnote-ref-4)
5. "Are dinosaurs alive today?” Available online at

http://www.answersingenesis.org/creation/v15/i4/dinosaurs.asp (cited October 2011). [↑](#endnote-ref-5)
6. “A living dinosaur?” *Creation*, December 2000-February 2001, p. 56. [↑](#endnote-ref-6)
7. Ken Ham, *The New Answers Book* (Green Forest, AR: Master Books, 2006), p. 158. [↑](#endnote-ref-7)
8. Ibid, p. 167. [↑](#endnote-ref-8)
9. Ibid, p. 170. [↑](#endnote-ref-9)
10. Ken Ham, *The New Answers Book* (Green Forest, AR: Master Books, 2006), p. 225. [↑](#endnote-ref-10)
11. Ibid, p. 229. [↑](#endnote-ref-11)
12. Ibid, p. 229. [↑](#endnote-ref-12)
13. Ibid, p. 228. [↑](#endnote-ref-13)