



# Christian Evidences

Lesson 13:  
The Age of the Earth,  
The Global Flood,  
& Dinosaurs

# How Old is the Earth?

- Evolutionists claim that it is billions of years old
  - Use supposedly accurate dating methods to come up with such large estimates
- The Bible record reveals it to be much younger
  - Can deduce it is between 6000 and 8000 years old
- If Earth is that young, why does it look so old?
- Why do evolutionary scientists assign such an astonishingly ancient age to our planet?
  - Some of their dating methods point to an age that is measured in billions of years.
- If the Universe is the result of a very recent creation, how do we deal with the contradictions posed by the scientists' research?

# Dating Methods

- All dating methods are based on certain assumptions
  - Depending on the assumptions, a very large variation in estimated ages can be produced
  - If you start with the assumption that evolution is true and that the earth must be billions of years old, then other assumptions will be made along those lines



# Geologic Dating

- O.H. Schindewolf, a paleontologist:
  - “the only chronometric scale applicable in geologic history ... is furnished by the fossils. Owing to the irreversibility of evolution, they offer an unambiguous time-scale for relative age determinations and for worldwide correlations of rocks.”
- Henry Morris:
  - Rocks containing fossils representing a certain stage of evolution are assumed to have been formed during the age when that evolutionary stage was attained.
  - Would certainly be the best way of dating rocks, if we knew for certain that evolution was true.
  - But if the Creation Model is a better model than the Evolution Model, then evolution is *not* true, and there is no way to distinguish one geologic age from another.
  - In fact, they may all be essentially the *same* age!

# Geologic Dating

- Henry Morris (cont.):
  - How can the fossil sequence prove evolution if the rocks containing the fossils have been dated by those fossils on the basis of the assumed stage of evolution of those same fossils?
  - Pure circular reasoning, based on the arbitrary assumption that the Evolution Model is true.
- Ronald West:
  - “Contrary to what most scientists write, the fossil record does not support the Darwinian theory of evolution because it is this theory which we use to interpret the fossil record. By doing so, we are guilty of circular reasoning if we then say the fossil record supports this theory.”

# Invalid Assumptions

- All dating methods are based on certain assumptions
- Long-term, full-scale evolution is assumed by the dating methods commonly employed
  - Produces contradictions between the results of these methods and the testimony of Scripture
- Assuming that current processes (such as erosion from wind and rain) have remained constant throughout the Earth's entire history yield older dates
- Assuming the possibility of various catastrophes yield younger dates
  - A global Flood could obviously accomplish more in one year than could countless seasons of wind and rain.
- If one accepts a global Flood, then one has to make allowances for its effects



# Invalid Assumptions

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Law of Thermodynamics
  - All systems are decaying.
- Decay rate for each physical quantity varies with a specific process and with different factors affecting the process
  - Many chronometric dating methods are based on such processes
  - Evolutionists tend to use only the three or four that yield ages in billions of years
- Even on the basis of the usual uniformitarian-evolutionary assumptions, there are far more chronometers that yield a young age for the earth than yield an old age
  - e.g., fall of extraterrestrial material on the earth, erosion of lands, influx of chemicals into the ocean, etc.
  - With standard evolutionary assumptions (initial boundary values of zero, uniformity of process rates, closed system), these yield a terrestrial age of far less than a billion years

# Tables of Dating Methods

- If uniformitarian processes are assumed, various dating methods produce large disparities in the age of the earth

	<b>Process</b>	<b>Indicated Age of Earth</b>	<b>Refer- ence</b>
1.	Decay of earth's magnetic field	10,000 years	1
2.	<i>Influx of radiocarbon to the earth system</i>	10,000 years	2
3.	<i>Influx of meteoritic dust from space</i>	too small to calculate	3
4.	<i>Influx of juvenile water to oceans</i>	340,000,000 years	3
5.	<i>Influx of magma from mantle to form crust</i>	500,000,000 years	3
6.	<i>Growth of oldest living part of biosphere</i>	5,000 years	3
7.	<i>Origin of human civilizations</i>	5,000 years	3
8.	<i>Efflux of Helium-4 into the atmosphere</i>	1,750 - 175,000 years	4
9.	<i>Development of total human population</i>	4,000 years	5
10.	<i>Influx of sediment to the ocean via rivers</i>	30,000,000 years	6
11.	<i>Erosion of sediment from continents</i>	14,000,000 years	6
12.	<i>Leaching of sodium from continents</i>	32,000,000 years	7
13.	<i>Leaching of chlorine from continents</i>	1,000,000 years	7
14.	<i>Leaching of calcium from continents</i>	12,000,000 years	7



# DNA Trends Confirm Noah's Family

- <https://www.icr.org/article/dna-trends-confirm-noahs-family>

# The Miracle of Creation

- Creation is a miraculous event
  - Therefore, the Earth should look older than it is
- The feeding of the five thousand (Mk. 6:35-44)
- How does this event differ from the natural process by which such a crowd would be fed?
  - No seed planted which germinated and grew into grain.
  - Grain was not processed and then baked.
- What was the “apparent age” of the bread they ate?
  - From germination, ~ 4-6 months
- When something is made by miracle, its apparent age is always going to be different than its actual age

# The Mature Creation

- The Universe was created in a mature state
  - Therefore, the Earth's apparent age would be different from its actual age
- Earth's creatures brought into existence mature, and capable of performing their intended functions
  - Birds normally do not fly immediately upon hatching
  - God created birds flying, fish swimming, and animals roaming (Gen. 1:20-25)
- Also, the presence of light from the heavens
  - Takes tremendous lengths of time for light to travel from the stars to earth
  - Created already visible (Gen. 1:15-19)
- If Adam had used scientific inquiry to evaluate the age of the world after he was created, what would he have found?



# Did a Flood Cover the Entire Earth?

- The unbeliever scoffs at the idea of a global Flood
- To the believer, all things are possible
  - The Bible is accurate and reliable in all areas
  - It is the inspired word of God
  - If the Bible says the whole Earth was flooded with water, it was
- Surprisingly, a large number of people who claim belief in Scripture deny the global extent of the Flood
  - Suggest such is too incredible to conceive
  - For them, a local flood makes more sense
- Which is it: local or global? Is there any way to be sure?

# Supposed Arguments Against a Global Flood

- 1) The word 'earth' used in the Flood account may also be translated 'land' (see Gen. 7:4,6,8,etc.)
  - When Moses says the whole earth, he may have had reference simply to all of the land in a particular location
- 2) There is not enough water on the Earth to cover the highest mountains
  - If the Flood were global, where did the water go?
- 3) Third, the distribution of unusual animals (such as those found only in Australia) cannot be reconciled with a global Flood
- 4) Fourth, since the Flood was designed to destroy sinful people, it needed to reach only the extent of human habitation
  - The common assumption is that people dwelt only in the area of Mesopotamia

# Weakness of These Arguments:

## 1) Use of the word “earth”

- Context must determine meaning of “earth” (erets)
  - Earth - 'erets - the earth (at large, or partitively a land) - common, country, earth, field, ground, land
- Gen. 6:17 – How extensive was the destruction to be?
  - Same word used here.
  - Destruction – all flesh under heaven; everything on the earth
- Gen. 6:19-20 – Were the animals taken into the ark from just one region?
  - No. Of every living thing; every creeping thing after its kind
- Gen. 7:21-23 – What were the effects of the flood?
  - All flesh died.
- Moses was describing more than a local event. The Flood and its effects extended to all parts of the earth.



# Weakness of These Arguments:

## 2) Not enough water?

- That the Earth's current water supply is incapable of covering the high mountains is unimportant
- Reasonable to believe that the mountains were raised and the ocean basins were lowered to accommodate the Flood's receding waters
- Psa. 104:6-10
  - *"... The waters stood above the mountains. At Your rebuke they fled ..."*
- Mountains show evidence of having been submerged at some point in the past
- The water did not 'go' anywhere – it is all around us
- Two-thirds of our planet is under water

# Weakness of These Arguments:

## 3) The distribution of animals

- How did the animals get on the ark to begin with?
  - Gen. 6:20 – “... *two of every kind will come to you to keep them alive.*”
- If God could cause all these animals to come to Noah, could He not just have easily dispersed them to the areas He chose afterward?
- Which is the greater miracle?

# Weakness of These Arguments:

## 4) The extent of human habitation

- Even though the Flood was sent to punish human sinfulness, its extent was not limited by human habitation.
- What did God decree?
  - Gen. 7:4 – all living things would be destroyed.
- Even if people only lived in one small area (which cannot be proved to begin with) the world's animal population was not so limited.
  - Fossils around the globe testify to this fact.
- Also, do we even know where Noah's original home was?
  - Some just assume that it was in Mesopotamia, but this is not revealed in Scripture.



# Support for a Global Flood

- The Flood is used as a symbol of coming judgment (Mt. 24:37-39; 2 Pet. 3:1-13) – universal
  - A local flood is hardly an adequate foreshadow of such judgment.
- Water seeks its only level
  - Water could not have heaped above Mt. Ararat and stayed only in that region
- Size of the ark much larger than would have been necessary if it were merely a local flood
- If the Flood was local, would the ark have even been necessary?
  - God could have easily instructed Noah and his family to move away if only a small region was to be destroyed.
  - He could have caused the animals and birds to migrate as well.

# Support for a Global Flood

- What about God's covenant? (Gen. 9:8-17)
- What did God promise?
  - Never again would the earth be destroyed by a flood
  - Local floods occur frequently around the globe
  - If the Flood of Noah's day was merely local, God routinely breaks this covenant. But we know God's promises are sure.
- Fossil graveyards found around the world testify to a global Flood
  - The process of fossilization requires rapid burial
  - A global Flood provides an easy explanation for the Earth's extensive fossil deposits.
- On every continent, fossils of sea creatures found in rock layers which today are high above sea level
  - Marine fossils in Grand Canyon (~ 8,000 ft. above sea level)
  - Fossil ammonites in limestone beds in the Himalayas



# Support for a Global Flood

- Further evidence: virtually every culture has some reference in folklore to a global flood
- The common essence of the stories is instructive:
  - Is there a favored family? 88%
  - Were they forewarned? 66%
  - Is flood due to wickedness of man? 66%
  - Is catastrophe only a flood? 95%
  - Was flood global? 95%
  - Is survival due to a boat? 70%
  - Were animals also saved? 67%
  - Did animals play any part? 73%
  - Did survivors land on a mountain? 57%
  - Was the geography local? 82%
  - Were birds sent out? 35%



# What About Dinosaurs?

- Bible-believers sometimes feel threatened by any discussion of dinosaurs.
  - May think that you can't believe in both the Bible and in dinosaurs
- Why do some feel this way?
  - Scientists who believe in evolution say dinosaurs became extinct 70 million years before humans arrived on the scene. If they are right, the Bible is wrong about Earth's history.
  - Dinosaurs are used to popularize the theory of evolution. Christians may feel intimidated by arguments presented about them.
- When dinosaurs are placed in a proper biblical perspective, they pose no threat to the Christian Faith.

# Did Dinosaurs Really Exist?

- Some have tried to say they did not exist
  - Contend that dinosaurs are part of a big hoax to try to prove evolution
- Ample evidence to prove they existed
  - Too many fossils were left by the global Flood to ignore
  - Fossilized bones, dinosaur eggs, imprints of their skin, and even footprints have all been observed
- We should not deny that dinosaurs lived, nor is there any reason to.

# When Did Dinosaurs Live?

- Dinosaurs lived at the same time as humans and became extinct several thousand years ago.
  - Everything God created to inhabit the Earth was made in six days (Ex. 20:11).
  - Land-dwelling creatures were made on Day 6 which would have included the dinosaurs.
- The Bible chronology leads us to conclude that Creation occurred 6000 to 8000 thousand years ago.
  - The millions of years discussed by scientists don't fit the Bible account.
- Dr. Don Patton and Dr. Dennis Swift visited an ancient Khmer Temple in Cambodia built about 1100 years ago
  - Found a figure of what appears to be a Stegosaurus engraved on one of the columns!





# Dinosaurs Too Dangerous?



- Some say that God would not have allowed dinosaurs and mankind to live together on the Earth at the same time.
  - Argue that dinosaurs would have been far too dangerous for man.
- Creatures exist today that are very dangerous
  - Hippo, crocodile, elephant, killer whale, etc.
  - People have learned how to avoid or deal with them just fine.
- In fact, human populations have been far more threatened by microscopic threats (diseases) than by any large creature.
- Note that many of the largest dinosaurs were actually herbivores not carnivores

# Are Dinosaurs in the Bible?

- Some suggest is that there is no mention of dinosaurs in the Bible.
  - Argue that if dinosaurs were created on Day 6, why is there no mention of them?
  - A great many animals not specifically mentioned in the Bible, but we do not doubt their existence and the fact that they were created.
  - The Bible is not a zoology textbook.
- Bible does refer to all types of animals that ever existed in Ex. 20:11.
- Also, the “behemoth” described in Job 40:15-24 was very likely a dinosaur
  - Probably one of the diplodocids or brachiosaurids
  - *“Look now at the behemoth ... moves his tail like a cedar ... bones are like beams of bronze, his ribs like bars of iron ...”*

# Dinosaurs on the Ark?

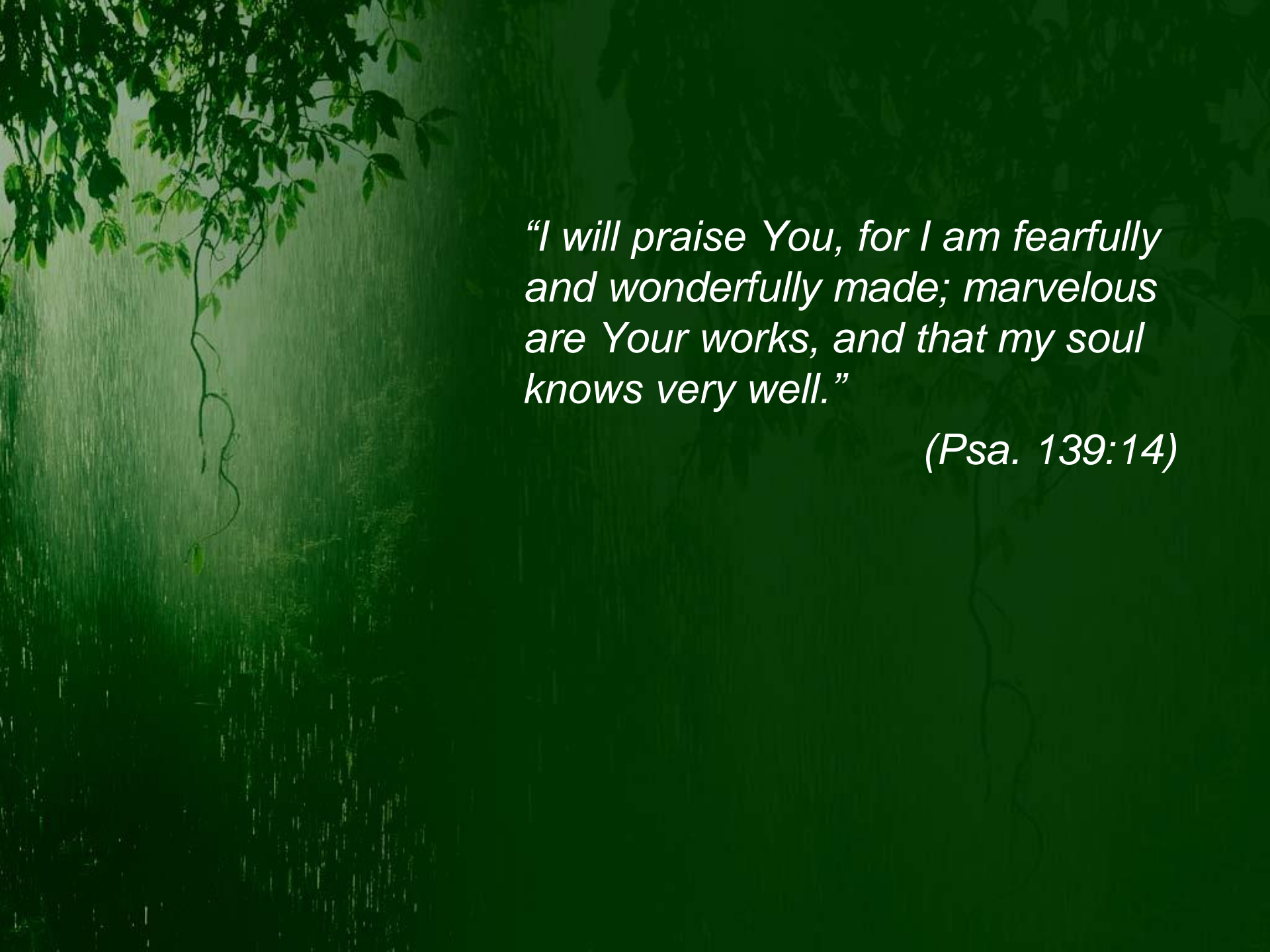
- If Job makes reference to a dinosaur, then he must have seen one.
  - Some dinosaurs must have been present in the ark
- How could dinosaurs have fit on the ark?
  - Noah's ark was a barge-like structure 450 feet long, 75 feet wide, and 45 feet high
  - Calculations show that the ark easily could have carried representatives of all creatures, living and extinct with room to spare
    - Probably less than half-full
- With larger creatures (such as large dinosaurs), logical that they were represented by younger (hence smaller) samples of their kind



# Where Did the Dinosaurs Go?

- Why no dinosaurs living today?
  - Some scientists think an object from space (a huge comet or asteroid) was responsible for the demise of the dinosaurs
  - Bible says nothing about an asteroid impact
  - Does mention a global event that explains dinosaur extinctions
  - Most of them probably killed in the Flood
- Those taken on the ark were unable to reestablish long-lasting populations, and died-off soon after
  - What was so different after the Flood?
  - The Flood brought important changes to the environment
  - Before the Flood people lived hundreds of years but afterwards, it was unusual to live much beyond one hundred years
  - Likely, the post-Flood climate was hostile to the dinosaurs
  - May have stepped from the ark into a climate with which they eventually could not cope
- They lived and became extinct within human history





*“I will praise You, for I am fearfully  
and wonderfully made; marvelous  
are Your works, and that my soul  
knows very well.”*

*(Psa. 139:14)*