

that of Scripture, and it tells of creation. The "fossil record" is not a record at all, as records go in history; rather the "fossil record" is a series of archaeological finds. And the "fossil record," like the others which Courville mentioned, may be interpreted in several ways.

Actually, archaeology is most useful when used to illuminate the story of times which are already known, in outline at least, by those who read the records of history. This is how the archaeology of Greece or Rome would be used.

Likewise, the information from fossils would be employed most usefully in filling in the story of creation and subsequent destruction in the flood, of which an outline is already at hand in Scripture.

### Conclusion

In conclusion, then, creation is not a matter (in the sense of subject matter) of science, nor of philosophy; it is a matter of history. We know that creation happened in the same way as we know that any other event before our time happened: we know it because we have reliable records.

Evolution, if it were true, and if we had any written record, would be a matter of history. But it is not true, and we have no written records to support it. The only evidence which can be adduced for evolution, which is even worth con-

sidering is the "fossil records." But we have seen that the fossils do not constitute a record as records are used in history. Fossils are more like archaeological finds, subject to various interpretations. Evolutionary thinking, then, consists of a mistaken interpretation of these finds, and is certainly not science.

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- <sup>10</sup>Lammerts, W. E. 1961. Neutron-induced variation of roses, *Pacific Rose Society News*, XXVI (3):7, 16 and 17; and (4):11, 18 and 19.
- <sup>11</sup>Courville, D. A. 1971. The Exodus problem and its ramifications. Challenge Books, Loma Linda, California. Volume 2, p. 3. (See particularly the whole of Chapter I.)

## TIME UPSIDE DOWN

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*A new look at world prehistory is presented. Substantiations are enumerated at length to support the author's contention that much, much evidence has been ignored too long by authors of conventional textbooks. Upside down formations, odd things in wrong places, extensive challenges of dating methods, the fading magnetic field of the earth, stalagmite formation, footprints in stone, petrified wood, reexamination of the Sahara, Neanderthal man, and other oddities found below the earth's surface are itemized. Keys to unlocking mysteries of ancient history are discussed also.*

### I. Introduction

According to many textbooks, the Antarctic ice cap is 60,000,000 years old. Earliest man was thought to have emerged into history about 1,000,000 years ago.<sup>1,2</sup>

In the National Museum of Turkey two map fragments dated 1513 and 1528 are on display. The maps were compiled from a number of now lost ancient originals which existed long before the time of the Greeks. At the bottom of one of these fragments the coastline of the Antarctic continent is shown, including rivers and mountains.

The original map, which shows amazing knowledge and accuracy, was made when the Antarctic was ice-free.<sup>3</sup> Antarctic mountains and portions of the coastline depicted on the map were confirmed by scientific studies in 1952 and again more recently.

The evidence of the maps cannot be ignored, according to responsible reviewers who have studied them. Independent evidence of the recency of the Antarctic ice cap came to light with the discovery of 81 mummified seals in some mountain caves, 2500 feet above the present sea level.<sup>4</sup>

The story of the earth as found in the Scriptures and the testimony of scientists in textbooks

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and in the news media are quite disparate. About 107 years ago T. H. Huxley stated the issue very well:

You (clergy) tell your congregations that the world was made 6,000 years ago in six days, and that all living animals were made within that period. . . . I am bound to say, I do not believe these statements you make; and I am further bound to say that I cannot call up to mind amongst men of science and research, and truthful men, one who believes those things, but, on the other hand, who does not believe the exact contrary.<sup>5</sup>

Many facts are reported in journals and books which conflict with commonly accepted ideas about the world. If these data are used at all in texts, they may be referred to as anomalies or mysteries, but with no attempt to change the ideas undermined.

There is, of course, always some risk involved in accepting data reported in newspapers and journals. "Facts" reported earlier may be retracted in a new edition or succeeding issues of a journal or newspaper. Readers perform a genuine service when they point out such errors to the author.

Most scientists assume a very old, evolved world, and they use evidence which seems to support this assumption. They disregard, or reject, or label as anomaly, anything which does not support this world view. One is not inclined to be false to his assumptions, even when the assumptions turn out to be false. A professor of biology at a state college said in 1972:

For many years I have been very disenchanted with the current theories of evolution as well as those dealing with fossilization, extinction, geological processes, etc. Other biologists have argued at length with me basing their position on the claim that there is no other possible alternative.<sup>6</sup>

The author of a recent geology text speaks of the need to study a patient unhurried universe.<sup>7</sup> For more than a century any sudden change has been anathema, as well as any sort of divine role in the process.

In the past decade or so, however, it is interesting to note that old hard-line uniformitarianism is being changed to what is now called uniformity. Geologists admit that some catastrophes did have some effect on some formations. Long pauses in time are placed between catastrophic events to keep the total number of years for the age of the earth the same. And one candid historian says:

In this age, on principle, we are inclined to prefer even the most farfetched of material explanations to the possibility of any kind of divine guidance or intervention, or the fulfillment of any divine purpose. Change and

probability appear to us so much more scientific, and therefore more credible. . . .<sup>8</sup>

Based on earlier work by Bishop Usher (1654), Lightfoot popularized the statement that creation took place at 9:00 a.m. on October 26, 4004 B.C. Other sources have given such dates as 3761 B.C. (Hebrews); 5509 B.C. (Russian Orthodox). Hebrew, Samaritan, and Septuagint versions give variant readings on early chronology.<sup>9, 10, 11</sup>

In sharp contrast, Darwin carefully inspected the once forested, open rolling upland of England and announced its age as 306,662,400 years.<sup>12</sup> All these estimates were based on certain assumptions and certain logical results followed from the assumptions made.

Of course there are many intriguing questions, problems, and puzzles about which the Scriptures are silent. Neither scientists nor biblical scholars can satisfy much of human curiosity. There is plenty of room for humility on both sides.

This paper is focused primarily on people's beliefs about time—time as presented from scientific sources versus time as indicated in Scripture. Is textbook time or science time vulnerable? Can one break down textbook time? If the answer is "Yes," a great deal will have been accomplished.

(*Author's Note:* References to the conventional geological "clock" in Table I are indicated by letters of the alphabet, each of which refers to a specific time division.)

## II. Evidence About Textbook Time

### (1) *Surtsey Island Shouldn't Be!*

Seventy kilometers south of Iceland a new island was formed in 1963. That was not an unusual occurrence. The following year, Sigurdur Thorarinsson, Iceland's foremost geophysicist, wrote a little book about the island. Here is part of his description of the island:

Only a few months have sufficed for a landscape to be created which is so varied and mature that it is almost beyond belief. . . . Here we see wide sandy beaches and precipitous crags lashed by breakers of the sea. There are gravel banks and lagoons, impressive cliffs resembling the White Cliffs on the English Channel. There are hollows, glens, and soft undulating land. There are fractures and faulted cliffs, channels and rock debris. There are boulders worn by the surf, some of which are almost round, and further out there is a sandy beach where you can wade at low tide without getting wet.

An Icelander who has studied geology and geomorphology at foreign universities is later taught by experience in his own homeland that the time scale he had been trained to attach to geological developments is mislead-

Table 1: The Conventional Geologic Clock

	MILLION YRS. AGO	YRS. IN MILLIONS	ERAS	PERIODS	EPOCHS	NOTES
A	—	—	Cenozoic	Quaternary	Recent	
B	—	1			Pleistocene	(a great dying)
C	—	12		Tertiary	Pliocene	man
D	—	12			Miocene	
E	—	11			Oligocene	
F	—	22			Eocene	
G	—	5			Paleocene	mammals, birds
	63					(a great dying)
H	—	72	Mesozoic	Cretaceous		
I	—	46		Jurassic		
J	—	49		Triassic		
	230					(a great dying)
K	—	50	Paleozoic	Permian		reptiles
L	—	30		Pennsylvanian		
M	—	35		Mississippian		amphibians
N	—	60		Devonian		
O	—	20		Silurian		
P	—	75		Ordovician		fishes
Q	—	100		Cambrian		trilobites; shellfish
	600					
R	—	3,900	Precambrian			soft-bodied species
	4,500					

ing. . . . What elsewhere may take thousands of years may be accomplished here in one century. All the same he is amazed whenever he goes to Surtsey, because there the same development may take a few weeks or even a few days.<sup>13</sup>

There are other surprises. Evidence was submitted by authorities from Harvard and Carnegie Institute that the mighty Himalayas, during violent upheavals, reached their present form and height in the age of man, in historic times. Evidence for the same phenomenon has been noted regarding the Andes, that in historic times the mountains rose many thousands of feet.<sup>14</sup>

If at least some mountains are very, very young, what reason is there to believe that other mountains are untold millions of years old?

(2) *Upside Down Formations That Can't Be*

When Pre-Cambrian strata seem to be water deposited on top of Cretaceous formations, billions of years of rock are resting in the wrong order. (See R and H). Field work carried out in 1968 resulted in the above conclusion. This geologic puzzle is the Lewis Overthrust, which extends from Glacier National Park 350 miles into Alberta, Canada, in a strip 15-30 miles wide.

This phenomenon is cited in texts as the classic example of a large overthrust, i.e. older rock pushed up and out over younger rock. The problem of the overthrust concept here is the absence of the usual evidence left by actual overthrusts: gouging, ground rock and powder, breccia, and

striated stone. The fossils, too, are in the wrong order.<sup>15</sup>

Another mystery is found in the Franklin Mountains near El Paso, Texas, at a location known as West Crazy Cat Canyon. Here massive Upper Ordovician limestones are found lying immediately on top of an Upper Cretaceous formation. (See P and H). A geologist who conducted a tour there a few years ago explained that no actual physical evidence of an overthrust had yet been discovered, but since the fossils were completely out of order, geologists assumed an overthrust.<sup>16</sup>

In 1948 a startling observation was made at Mount Vesuvius. Researchers found that blocks of limestone enveloped in molten lava at Vesuvius have, by the absorption of silicates, developed into forms that are similar to Pre-Cambrian rock, e.g., those found by Dawson in Canada.<sup>17</sup>

Another famous location is the Glarus Overthrust near Schwanden, Switzerland. Instead of the textbook order of Permian, Jurassic, and Eocene (See K, I, and F), a 21-mile overthrust is assumed because the order of formations is Eocene at the bottom, Jurassic next and Permian on top. (See F, I, K). A so-called gouge layer shows no striations, and irregularities at the bottom of each formation have not even been worn away. Again the fossils are in the wrong places.<sup>18</sup>

In the Empire Mountains in southern Arizona, Permian limestone rests on top of Cretaceous. (See K and H). The contact resembles gear meshing. There could have been no sliding without

the projections of the lower formation being ground off. Yet it is called an overthrust.<sup>19</sup>

Fossils are in the wrong order in Heart Mountain, Wyoming, and in nearby Sheep Mountain. These mountains are capped with Paleozoic limestone. Lower down are Jurassic and Tertiary sediments. (See K, I, and C).<sup>20</sup>

An impossible combination of fossils was reported in 1970 in Guryul Ravine, Kashmir. Permian brachiopods were found mixed with lower Triassic pelecypods. Since the one is supposed to have been extinct long before the other evolved, no explanation of the puzzle was offered. (See K and J).<sup>21</sup>

One text writer stated that some of the strata above could scarcely be supposed to have been inverted if it had not been for a study of the fossils in them. He also said, "Had these sections been planned for the purpose of deception they could not have been more skillfully devised."<sup>22</sup>

### (3) *Odd Things in Wrong Places*

According to conventional dating, coal was formed about 300,000,000 years ago. (See L and M). Other coal formation took place in Tertiary times. (See C). Man, of course, did not emerge until about a million years ago. From time to time, some very odd things have been found in coal. Modern methods of coal mining make other finds very unlikely today. The following reports have stirred considerable question and debate:

(a) In 1885 at a foundry belonging to Isidor Braun of Vöcklabruck, Austria, when a block of coal was broken, a small steel cube with a deep incision around it and with the edges rounded on two faces fell out of the coal. Some who examined it concluded that only human beings could have made the object. The son of the owner took it to the Linz Museum in Austria, but later it was lost. A cast of the cube, however, is still kept by the museum. Debate on the object was never closed, but some authorities held it to be a meteorite.<sup>23</sup>

(b) In 1912, some coal mined near Wilburton, Oklahoma, continues to be an unsolved mystery. Two employees of the Municipal Electric Plant, Thomas, Oklahoma, came upon a solid chunk of coal too large for the furnace. They broke it up with a sledge. An iron pot fell from the center leaving an impression, or mold, in the piece of coal. An affidavit was made out by the two witnesses, and the pot was photographed. Thousands of people have examined this strange object.<sup>24</sup>

(c) Proceedings of a society of antiquities in Scotland contain a report that an iron instrument had been found in the heart of a piece of coal from a mine in Scotland. The instrument was considered to be modern, but there was no sign of boring in the piece of coal.<sup>25</sup>

(d) Other things have been reported in other kinds of rocks. For example, a nail was reported to have been found by David Brewster in a Cretaceous block from the Mesozoic era. In a report of the British Association, 1845-51, it was stated that a nail was found in a block of stone from Kingoodie Quarry, North Britain. The block was eight inches thick and came from below the surface. The point of the nail projected into some till and was quite rusted, but the last inch, including the head, was embedded in the stone.<sup>26, 27</sup>

(e) Workmen quarrying rock near Tweed below Rutherford Mills discovered a gold thread embedded in stone at a depth of eight feet. A piece of this object was sent to the office of the Kelso Chronicle in that district.<sup>28</sup>

(f) A report was carried in the *Scientific American* that in June, 1851, workmen were blasting near Dorchester, Massachusetts. Cast out from a bed of solid rock was a bell-shaped metal vessel. The vessel, with inlaid floral designs in silver, showed a remarkably high degree of craftsmanship.<sup>29</sup>

(g) In the sixteenth century, Spanish conquistadors came across an iron nail about six inches long solidly incrusting in rock in a Peruvian mine. The rock was estimated to be tens of thousands of years old. Iron was unknown to the Indians there. The Spanish Viceroy kept the mysterious nail in his study as a souvenir, and the account of this find was recorded by letter in the Madrid Archives, 1572.<sup>30</sup>

(h) The *London Times*, 1851, contained a report that Hiram de Witt found a piece of auriferous quartz in California. When it was accidentally dropped an iron nail with a perfect head was found inside.

### (4) *A Jawbone in Coal*

The jawbone of a child about six years old, flattened like a piece of sheet iron, was found embedded in a lump of coal in Tuscany in 1958. The coal is dated from the Miocene age. (See D). The finder was Prof. Johannes Hurzeler of the Museum of Natural History in Basel, Switzerland. According to conventional dating, man did not live that long ago. Calling this the "world's oldest man" raises more questions than it solves.<sup>31</sup>

In the collection of the Freiberg Mining Academy, West Germany, was an object supposed to be a human skull reputedly fossilized in brown coal, first described in 1842, before Darwin's book on the origin of species. The specific source of the "skull" is unknown. While the object is frequently labelled as a fake, the early date of its description is important. A specialist in Germany referred to it as a puzzling human skull just a few decades ago. The matter is still an open question, but the problem is that it was found in

a formation too old for concordance with conventional dating assumptions.<sup>32</sup>

In the Number Three Eagle Coal Mine at Bear Creek, Montana, miners found two huge human molars in strata dated at least 30 million years ago. The discovery was made in 1926. Again, man was not yet supposed to have existed at this time.<sup>33</sup>

In the 1870's, Dr. Scheuermann discovered a number of sticks, apparently artificially pointed by the hand of man, which had been found in lignite. The lignite, however, was considered to predate man.<sup>34</sup>

Only a few years ago Dr. Henry Morris reported that he had interviewed a coal miner in West Virginia who had excavated a perfectly formed human leg that had changed into coal. Years before in the same general area another party of miners unearthed a well-constructed concrete building. Not enough evidence exists to evaluate these supposed finds.<sup>35</sup>

Eminent scientists have taught that peat forms at the rate of about one-fifth inch per century, or one foot in 6,000 years. More than a century ago, however, peat farmers said that the rate was about 2½ inches per year. A large number of embarrassing finds soon supported the experience of the peat farmers.

However, elephant bones found under a few inches or feet of peat in America are still dated in terms of many thousands of years. In some places in Scotland old Roman roads were covered with peat to a depth of eight feet in some places, but one could hardly argue for an age of 48,000 years for such work by human beings.<sup>36</sup>

Other finds included datable metal objects found at great depths in peat. In Abbeville, France, a boat loaded with Roman bricks was found in the lowest tier of the peat. In the Somme Valley, beech stumps up to four feet in height were found covered by peat before they had decayed.<sup>37</sup>

##### (5) *Bristlecone Pines Tell on C-14*

Certain discovered truths are held to be beyond any question or doubt. Among these of course are the unchallenged constants of absolute zero, the speed of light, and the decay rate of radioactive materials. Certainly nothing in today's newspapers and children's textbooks give any hint that these are not sacred truths to be completely accepted.

One of the first suggestions that the constant decay rate of radioactive material might be open to challenge appeared in a news magazine in 1964, when a group of physicists reported that they had proved that they could influence the rate of radioactive decay. Yet radioactive dating methods stand or fall on the assumption that the rate is a constant.<sup>38</sup>

More difficulties developed several years ago with studies of bristlecone pine borings. These trees are the oldest living matter known on earth. C-14 tests made with wood from these pines of known age showed that C-14 readings are in error from a few centuries up to a thousand years. This shocking find casts doubt on the assumptions of the method.<sup>39</sup>

The author of a text on nuclear geology admits that most of the time scales used in geology are based on the uncritical compilation of a wide variety of data, so that the overall figures are necessarily very rough. Just how rough these figures are is the main point of this paper. The author further notes that some geologists question the use of the C-14 method for samples stored under moist conditions. This is a most serious limitation, for who can be sure that a given sample has not been moistened?<sup>40</sup>

Dr. Libby, the discoverer of the C-14 method for which he won a Nobel prize, expressed his shock that history extended back only 5000 years, a finding totally in conflict with any evolutionary concept. Older dates are very unreliable.<sup>41</sup>

Other methods, e.g., uranium-lead and thorium-lead ages, have resulted in contradictory evidence. A classic example is that the dust samples on the moon seem to be older than the rocks underneath.<sup>42</sup>

Another remarkable example appears in a book published by Stanford University Press. Six C-14 ages were determined from a core in an attempt to date the formation of the Bering land bridge. The dates ranged from 4390 to 15,500 Before Present.

The first problem was that the results were so disarranged from bottom to top of the core that no two samples were in the same order. Then the oldest date was discarded because it was inconsistent with other tests elsewhere.

Then the remaining dates were assumed to be contaminated by a fixed amount, after which the authors concluded that the delta under study had been formed 12,000 years ago. This is what happens to men who operate without an alternative.<sup>43</sup>

Even more astonishing is this statement made at a symposium of Nobel Prize winners in Uppsala, Sweden, in 1969: "If a C-14 date supports our theories, we put it in the main text. If it does not entirely contradict them, we put it in a footnote. And if it is completely 'out-of-date,' we just drop it."<sup>44</sup>

##### (6) *Impossible Dates to Remember*

By this time tens of thousands of C-14 dates have been published from tests performed in various laboratories around the world. In the annual volumes in which the dates are published, concern has been expressed about many rela-

tively young datings which violate established geological age notions. One example given was ice-age materials that were dated within the Christian era by C-14 methods.<sup>45</sup>

In his book on prehistoric America, Ceram notes a classic case of the difficulties that befall C-14 dating. Bones dated at 30,000 years old were found lying above wood which was dated at 16,000 years.<sup>46</sup>

Another classic C-14 problem is noted for Jarmo, a prehistoric village in northern Iraq. Eleven samples from the various strata were dated and a 6000-year spread from oldest to most recent resulted. On the basis of all the archaeological evidence, however, analysts concluded that the village was occupied no more than 500 years before it was finally abandoned.<sup>47</sup>

Mortar samples can be tested by usual C-14 means, since mortar absorbs carbon dioxide from the air. Mortar, however, from Oxford Castle in England was assigned an age of 7,370 years. The castle was built 785 years ago. The kind of contamination is unclear.<sup>48</sup>

Living trees near an airport were dated as 10,000 years old with C-14, because the wood contained contamination from airplane exhaust.<sup>49</sup>

C-14 analysis of oil from the Gulf of Mexico deposits resulted in an age measured in thousands of years—not millions.<sup>50</sup>

Data produced by the Petroleum Institute at Victoria, New Zealand, showed that petroleum deposits were formed 6-7,000 years ago. Textbook authors state that petroleum was formed about 300,000,000 years ago.<sup>51</sup> (See A, L).

A geophysical research journal reports that lava which formed in the year 1800-1 was assigned an age of 160 million up to 3 billion years in age after testing by the potassium-argon dating method. Similar dates for young rocks in Norway, Germany, France, and the Soviet Union have been published in other reports.<sup>52</sup>

In the Canadian Arctic on a rock ledge on Victoria Island, researchers found a number of brachiopods and tracks in what was almost surely a Precambrian deposit. No such life was known to appear until the Cambrian period, however. The impossibly young date of 445 million years (Ordovician period) was obtained from laboratory dating. Presumably laboratory tests will continue until a more "reassuring" date of more than 600 million years is secured.<sup>53</sup> (See P, Q, R).

Fossil wood was found in an iron mine in Shefferville, Ontario, which was a Precambrian deposit. Later the wood was described as coming from Late Cretaceous rubble, which made it about 100 million years old instead of more than 600 million years old. Two independent C-14 tests showed an age of about 4000 years.<sup>54</sup> (See A, H, R).

The last major glacial advance in America was long dated at about 25,000 years ago. However, a revision down to 11,400 years was required to accord with C-14 dating. United States Geological Survey scientists carried out studies which gave a C-14 date as recent as 3300 years ago, but no textbook author treats such a puzzling find which falls well within historic times.<sup>55, 56</sup>

In the past decade studies of plant spores have been made in the formations of the Grand Canyon. Spores of conifers were found in the Permian, Mississippian, Cambrian, and Precambrian, and pollen of flowering plants were also found in the Precambrian. No evolutionary theorists can accommodate these findings.<sup>57, 58, 59</sup> (See K, M, Q, R).

Bones with man-made incisions on the surface have been found in a number of Pliocene and earlier formations. Some preserved in the museum of Florence, Italy, along with implements, are of so recent a type that a great mystery is evident, or some kind of contamination must be assumed.<sup>60, 61</sup> (See A and C).

The age of moon rocks reported in the press is not as clear cut as might appear. Dates acceptable according to preconceived notions have been published generally. Much less is reported about unacceptable dates found by means of potassium-argon dating, ranging from 7 to 20 billion years in age. Rather than question the method and the assumptions underlying the method, scientists seem to regard the samples with variable dates as contaminated.<sup>62, 63, 64</sup>

#### (7) *Earth's Magnetic Field—Fading Fast*

By 3991 A.D. the earth's magnetic field may have disappeared according to a report in *Time*, 1968. Here is what may happen (and these events have happened before on the earth): catastrophic mutation of plant and animal life, widespread climatic changes, lush valleys becoming barren wastes, deserts blooming, icecaps growing and covering the land or melting and drowning coastal cities.<sup>65</sup>

For the past 130 years careful measurements of earth's magnetic field have been conducted. The rapid decay of the field is startling, and it is possible to project the rate back for as much as 20,000 years and thus deduce impossible, unknown conditions. These data can be used as strong evidence for a young earth.<sup>66</sup>

Authors of standard texts claim that 171 reversals of the earth's magnetic field have occurred in the last 76 million years, i.e., since Late Cretaceous times. (See H). The last reversal is said to have occurred 700,000 years ago, and the next event is long overdue.<sup>67</sup>

Yet some authorities say that the 171 reversals are nothing more than arbitrary interpretations of selectively chosen samples.<sup>68</sup>

But while geologists proclaim and debate these ideas, sophisticated research by archaeologists shows that there was a magnetic reversal as recently as the eighth century B.C. These studies were made with Etruscan pottery. The authors also claim that polarity changes also would bring about faunal extinctions, climatic changes, fantastic extent of volcanic activity, earthquakes, tidal waves, and other awesome phenomena.<sup>69</sup>

#### (8) *Stalagmites in a Hurry*

During a tour through a cave, one is often told that stalagmites and stalactites took many millions of years to form. Little specifically seems to be known about the growth rate, except that it is a vaguely slow process.

Some formations are believed to be about 100,000 years old since they rest on silt and fossils dated at about that age. The usual orthodox view is that only rarely will more than one hundredth of an inch be deposited per ten-year period, or one inch in a thousand years.<sup>70, 71</sup>

About twenty years ago the clear outline of a bat was found inside a stalagmite in Carlsbad Caverns, New Mexico. It had been cemented over before bacteria, decay, or predators could destroy it. The suggestion was made that under the right conditions the growth of the stalagmite might be amazingly rapid.<sup>72</sup>

In a cave in the Tehuacan Valley of Mexico, a vast chamber known as the Hall of the Dead was found. A massive cave-in had occurred and one can still see the skeletons of people of the Olmec period there. The skeletons are all covered with stalagmites. Rather than an age in the millions of years, the skeletons are dated as no earlier than 1200 B.C.<sup>73</sup>

A writer in *Nature* some years ago was able to show that a stalagmite about 15 years old from a lead mine exactly paralleled in form and height another which, in association with human remains, had been estimated by experts as being 220,800 years old. Some authorities are suggesting that the association of human bones with long extinct animals may not be proof of the antiquity of man but rather that these animals lived into quite recent times.<sup>74</sup>

In the British Museum there is a skeleton embedded in solid rock which came from the island of Guadaloupe in the West Indies. The rock is a hard limestone and also contains fragments of shells and coral. The skeleton is that of an Indian killed in battle with the British only two centuries ago.<sup>75</sup>

In a cave in England water passing through a lime deposit was channeled through a four-inch pipe. In eight weeks the diameter of the pipe

was reduced to only one inch and the crystalized deposit, which had grown in layers like tree rings, gave every appearance of being thousands of years old.<sup>76</sup> There are numerous reports of other quick-grow stalagmites:

(a) In the Carrara district, Italy, stalagmitic deposits are a local source of income. The water is so impregnated that any object placed in it is thickly coated in two weeks.

(b) In New England spouts carrying water from mines become choked up with deposits within two or three years. . . . (c) A stalactite a foot long was found hanging under a railroad bridge in Alliance, Ohio. . . . (d) Indisputable evidence was produced to show that a deposit  $\frac{3}{4}$ -inches thick had been formed in fifteen years in a lead mine in England. . . .

(e) Grown stalactites were found one year after the atomic explosion set off in Gnome Cavern, New Mexico. . . . (f) A five-inch stalactite was found in the man-made Hetch Hetchy tunnel, California, less than 20 years after it was built. . . . (g) Another eight inches long was found hanging from a flume in Georgia which formed in less than a century. . . . (h) About a hundred miles from Zagreb, Yugoslavia, lakes fed by waters coming through limestone underground beds are so charged that deposits are more in the hour range than the century. Objects placed in these waters are soon coated by lime deposits.<sup>77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82</sup>

#### (9) *Footprints Tell Tales*

Handprints and footprints have held a fascination since ancient times. Paintings and rock carvings of these representations are found in many parts of the world. On rare occasions footprints are found or uncovered in rock strata. Such prints must have been covered rapidly or they would have eroded away from wind and water action.

From time to time human prints have been reported in strange places. Understandably, paleontologists are not interested in considering the possibility of human prints in formations they believe to be older than the emergence of man.

One paleontologist warned his colleagues about the extraordinary forms which false prints may take. He described a print found in Triassic rock. (See J). It appeared to be the fossilized leather sole of a shoe, about size 13, which showed a double line of sewed stitches, one line close to the outside edge and the other parallel at a distance of about a third of an inch. The edges of the sole were rounded off smoothly as if cut, and the right side of the heel seemed to be worn more than the left.<sup>83</sup>

An astonishing find was reported in the newspapers in 1968, but geologists had no comment about it. Sandal footprints of an adult and the footprints of a child were found embedded in strata right on top of trilobite fossils. This is a Cambrian deposit near Antelope Springs, Utah. (See Q). Photographs have been published of these finds, but more evaluation is needed.<sup>84</sup>

In the *American Journal of Science* the following references to footprints in rock strata are discussed and reproduced:

(a) Human impressions were reported in various locations in South America, but details are lacking. . . . (b) Human footprints in a limestone slab in a paved area between a house and garden in New Harmony, Indiana. . . . (c) A rock outcrop extending for three miles in front of St. Louis, Missouri, one to 200 feet wide, was observed during low water stages. The large number of human footprints there were noted already by early French explorers. The prints are in crinoidal limestone. The prints are described as of a man standing erect with toes spread apart. They appeared strikingly natural with every muscular impression, and the swell of heel and toes. The print described was about 10½ inches long. The observer contrasted these prints with carved footprints he had observed elsewhere. . . . (d) Other prints were reported in a quarry at Herculaneum, Missouri, and on rocks near Kingston, New York.<sup>85</sup>

Footprints were found in sandstone near Carson City, Nevada. The prints are very clear and well-defined and were reproduced in the *American Journal of Science*. The finder later believed them to be of the giant sloth.<sup>86, 87</sup>

The State Geologist of Kentucky performed extensive tests on footprints found near Berea, Kentucky. The prints were discovered when the overburden from a sandstone formation was removed in logging operations about 1930. One series of prints found included some arranged in a normal walking stride.

Microscopic studies showed that the grain counts were greater in the soles than in the adjacent sandstone, showing greater compression within the print areas. Distinct left and right foot impressions were found, each with five toes and with a distinct arch.

The prints could not have been carved since some of the tracks were still partly covered by higher sandstone strata. Other prints have been reported in nearby areas, but further information is lacking so far.<sup>88</sup>

A shoeprint was discovered in a coal seam in Fisher Canyon, Pershing County, Nevada. The imprint of the sole is so clear that traces of sewed thread are visible. The age of the coal is esti-

mated to be more than 15,000,000 years.<sup>89</sup> (See D).

Perhaps the most famous footprints in the world were found close to a lake near Managua, Nicaragua. They lie under eleven strata of solid rock from 16-24 feet under the surface.

Heated debate about the age of the prints has gone on for almost a century. Initially they were dated about 200,000 years old, but since the feet were perfectly modern the age was reduced to older than 50,000 years.

The only geologist to visit the scene at the initial discovery also found traces of domesticated dogs and horses with the prints—an impossible situation to resolve. Polished stone artifacts and projectile points were also found.

The prints are now dated at about 3000 B.C. on the basis of C-14 tests, but this means that a considerable number of catastrophic events occurred in a short period of time. Since fossils and mastodon remains have been found in strata above the human prints, the conclusion then is logical that the mastodon lived into very recent times.

Near the city of San Raphael other human and animal tracks have been found, including a sandal print which is now in the museum at Harvard.<sup>90, 91</sup>

Near Glen Rose, Texas, in the river bed of the Paluxy River, human and dinosaur tracks can be seen together in stone! The rock formation is the Cretaceous. (See H).

In 1970 James Ryals, who had been cutting out tracks and selling them since the 1930's, was interviewed. He reported the human tracks as caused mostly by bare feet, but sometimes apparently by feet enclosed in some form of wrapping. The strides varied from two to seven feet.

There are human tracks crossing dinosaur tracks, and dinosaur tracks which have blotted out human tracks in sequence. Excavation of tracks show a compressed layer pattern underneath as would be expected.

A scientist who did not examine the evidence ruled out the possibility that the tracks were human. A professor of medicine from Illinois University examined the tracks and was convinced that they were genuine.<sup>92, 93, 94</sup>

#### (10) *Llamas and Elephants—Village Pets*

According to conventional formulations, the camel family appeared on the scene in Eocene times, and then underwent rapid changes. By Oligocene times (26-38 million years ago) the feet were two-toed, the other three toes having completely disappeared. The camel family also includes the llamas which have two toes, but at a very early stage they supposedly had five.<sup>95</sup> (See F and E).



The Tiahuanacan empire in Bolivia predates the Incas. About 1920 an archeologist was digging in the ruins of two coastal sites which belonged to this empire. He came upon pottery jugs with representations of llamas. The llamas had five toes, which seemed most strange, since by no stretch of the imagination could the Tiahuanacan civilization be made out to be that old.

According to evolutionary thinking man "evolved" many millions of years after the last five-toed llama lived. The mystery deepened when the same archeologist discovered the skeletons of llamas, all with five toes.<sup>96</sup>

The mastodon arrived in America during the Miocene epoch (Sec D), according to authors of texts, multiplied astonishingly, and then for no known reason became extinct. Various dates, e.g., 4500 B.C., are given when the last elephant in America died.

Near Concordia, Columbia, a complete skeleton of a mastodon was found in an artificial salt pond, which had been constructed by Indians. The pond, with a bottom of paved stones together with the animal, had been entombed by a sudden landslide.<sup>97</sup>

Rock carvings of the mastodon were found in Hava Supai Canyon, Arizona, which were believed to date back to 10,000 B.C. In the same location, however, utensils were found made out of recent, not fossil, ivory, which means the date must be lowered considerably.<sup>98</sup>

In 1929 the skeleton of a mastodon was found in Ecuador. Evidently killed by Indians, a circle of fires had been built around the body for convenient roasting of the flesh. A landslide covered the site, which also included broken painted pottery and artifacts. This remarkable find was dated at the beginning of the Christian era.<sup>99</sup>

In 1928 a Mayan workshop was uncovered in Central America. The archeologist concluded that the owner of the shop, dated from the second to the fourth century A.D., must have kept a mastodon, for the bones of the animal were found among smashed bowls and jars.<sup>100</sup>

One paleontologist believed that mammoths still lived in the interior of the American continent at the time of the first Spanish explorers. He supported his belief by the fact that such bones are found under a few inches of peat. Many accurate descriptions of the elephant have been collected from various Indian tribes in America and Canada.<sup>101</sup>

David Ingram, an English adventurer, was put ashore with 113 other men between Mexico and Florida in 1568 and wandered for years in the American interior before making his way to the east coast of the American colonies. In his report to the state secretary of Queen Elizabeth, he described precisely and drew accurate pictures of

elephants as well as bison and other animals they had observed during the journey.

This account is not taken seriously, but it is a curious fact that 200 years later President Jefferson was informed by a delegation of Indian chiefs that the hunting in the interior lands included animals described as elephants. It is a matter of record that President Jefferson asked Lewis and Clark to be on the alert for elephant herds during their exploration of the West.<sup>102</sup>

#### (11) *Petrified Wood and Fossils While You Wait*

Drop by drop the water which bears a trace of minerals trickled on the log which had been buried in a storm. Millions of years pass. Today tourists look in awe at the Petrified Forest in Arizona. Who can doubt the immense age of the earth?

More than a century ago, in 1867, a scientist asked how one would account for the fact that wood had turned to stone without injury to the most delicate vegetable fibers. If long periods of time passed during the process of petrification, decay would destroy much of the structure long before.

The same problem was noted in the case of fossilized sponges. The most delicate structures are perfectly preserved in flint. Yet these same structures are destroyed usually by decomposition only a few hours after the death of the sponge. If petrification occurs at all under the right conditions, it happens very quickly.<sup>103</sup>

Counter to commonly held beliefs and popular textbooks, a scientist in 1947 noted that logs had petrified in less than one year.<sup>104</sup>

Several years ago a surprising find was discovered in India. Small pieces of wood had been worked by man before they had become fossilized.<sup>105</sup>

A number of cut fossil bones were discovered in various parts of Lombardy, Italy. Scientists who studied the finds determined that they had been produced by a cutting implement before they became mineralized. The fossils were dated from the Pliocene Epoch, i.e., before the age of man.<sup>106</sup> (See C).

Much more startling was the report of two saurian bones distinctly scored at regular intervals by cuts, such as might be produced by a flint knife. If the bones had been of a modern species along with implements, there would be no question but what they were of human workmanship. The bones were from a Jurassic deposit, however, so the evidence was not acceptable.<sup>107</sup> (See I).

The *Popular Science News* contained a report of a find of quartz crystals in a Nevada mine which could have been formed only in a maximum of 15 years. In the same area a mill had

been torn down and the discovery was made that sandstone had formed during a period of 12 years. A piece of wood with a nail in the wood was found in the sandstone.<sup>108</sup>

The diatomite fossil beds in Santa Barbara County, California, contain striking evidence of a sudden catastrophe. Fish fossils are heavily matted together in foot-thick layers so well preserved they retain a fish odor when a fragment is broken.

There are many indications that the fish were suddenly trapped. The fossils show wide open gasping mouths, fins widely spread, back fiercely arched, body twisted, and head back. Many fossil fish are partly on end through bedding planes of the rock which led to the observation that the heads and tails are millions of years apart according to conventional dating.<sup>109</sup>

#### (12) *The Lush Green Sahara Resort*

The ancients handed down some "wild" tales. One of these is the account of the travels of the Argonauts who sailed from the Mediterranean across the Sahara (including portages) all the way to the west coast of Africa. To put it mildly, the tale makes no sense at all.<sup>110</sup>

Yet the map fragments referred to at the beginning of this paper also include a large portion of the Sahara which shows a network of lakes and rivers which could well have been navigable in historic times. Some day, therefore, the reported voyage of the Argonauts may have to be reexamined.<sup>111</sup>

Recently researchers have learned that abundant fresh water lies beneath the enormous area of the desert, enough probably to meet all human and animal needs several times over. The potential up to now has scarcely been tapped. There is abundant evidence that the desert did not exist in historic times.<sup>112</sup>

Because of the location of the Sphinx, the conclusion that the Sahara was not a desert at the time the Sphinx was constructed is quite logical. The base is repeatedly cleared, but the next wind storm covers it again.<sup>113</sup>

In areas where even camels now turn away in despair, lush vegetation grew in historic times. Most of the Sahara was a land of lakes and rivers full of fish. There were meadows, forests, and fertile valleys offering sustenance for a large human and animal population.

In remote areas rock carvings and paintings exist by the tens of thousands. The cattle wore discs between the horns as in Egyptian drawings. Some rock drawings show Phoenician work or influence. Pottery, tools, and polished stone weapons have been found in abundance. The desert did not form gradually over long eons of time. It occurred suddenly in historic times.<sup>114, 115</sup>

(Editor's Note: Further reading on desert formation may be found in the W. E. Lammerts article, "On the Recent Origin of the Pacific Southwest Desert," *Creation Research Society Quarterly*, 8(1):50-54.)

#### (13) *What Ailed Old Neanderthal Man?*

The Piltdown Hoax is too well known to merit much discussion here. At the least it illustrates an eagerness to believe in anything that might help to support preconceived ideas.

One can almost picture men in museums all over the world hurrying with gray paint and a brush to paint out that imagined branch of the human tree on the day the hoax was exposed. The next day, Piltdown Man had never existed.

No orthodox evolutionist would dare to propose a recent beginning of man which would correspond to the Biblical account. Although various authorities have pointed out that the variability found among human fossils is really no different from the amazing variability found among man today, little or nothing is made of this fact in the textbooks today. White, middle-class scientists should not necessarily make themselves the model from which fossil bones are judged.<sup>116</sup>

From the same skull fragment, astonishingly different reconstructions have been made. As someone has noted, the features of the ape or the philosopher may be constructed on the surface of the bone.<sup>117</sup>

Of more than passing interest is the consideration of fossil man stated recently by an anthropologist that habits of life, climate, and diet can influence the anatomical features of the skull to the point that experts may place such species into different genera. An additional factor of great significance is the physical degeneration and extraordinary physical variability that occurs among isolated inbred populations.<sup>118</sup>

The fact is well known that when "primitive" Java man was discovered in 1891, two other skulls were found in the same formation and of the same age which were no different from skulls of Australian aborigines living today. The news of the modern skulls found with Java man was not made public for 20 years because they did not fit the preconceived ideas of the investigator.<sup>119</sup>

In 1963 Dr. Leakey found the human fossil, which he named *Homo habilis*, at the lowest level of strata—a complete contradiction to evolutionary concepts since *Homo habilis* was like modern man. Many aspects of this discovery are highly controversial. While Dr. Leakey suggested that all anthropology works be rewritten, there is really no way this can be done while anthropologists cling to the conventional view of how man supposedly evolved.<sup>120</sup>

Neanderthal Man entails a separate story. When the first discovery was made about 1856, scientists thought they had at last had the overwhelming evidence they needed to show an intermediate stage between man and ape. Texts today still faithfully illustrate this famous beetle-browed, bent-kneed, subhuman "slob." There was only one slight drawback. The brain case on the average was more than 13% larger than that of the average of modern man. Yet the Neander skeletons were still considered the perfect illustration of an important step in the presumed evolutionary sequence of man.<sup>121</sup>

Famous early evolutionists made much of Neanderthal man, and texts published in 1973 still reflect their views. Haeckel proposed to solve the world riddles once and for all with the Neanderthal man. Lyell and Huxley pointed confidently to the Neanderthal skull as evidence that there had been a low-caste, half-human creature, intermediate between man and ape.<sup>122, 123</sup>

Most interesting is the fact that *Time*, May 17, 1971, contained the proclamation that the primitiveness of Neanderthal was unwarranted. Apparently, except for physical ailments, he could walk the streets today and be unrecognized. One could very well expect that in later centuries historians may inquire as to why this incredible blunder was not detected at once and was not refuted with adequate determination.

Though a tragic commentary on the scientific community, the following must be stated. Back in 1872, Virchow, probably the greatest biologist of his day, maintained that the peculiarities of Neanderthal man were not due to any special place in the lineage of mankind, but rather to a bad case of rickets. An authority reported in *Nature*, 1970, that every Neanderthal child's skull studied so far shows signs compatible with severe rickets. Again back in 1872 another medical authority declared that Neanderthal skulls showed medical problems, and that similar skulls of modern man may be found in any medical school.<sup>124, 125, 126, 127</sup>

#### (14) *Funny Things Under the Earth*

Perhaps the most prodigious lava flow in the history of the world occurred in the Pacific Northwest. The lava spread over an estimated 200,000 square miles in depths up to 5,000 feet. Much of Washington, Oregon, Idaho, and portions of neighboring states was covered.

In 1972 a competent geologist stated that the eruptions took place a mere fifteen million years ago. The immense age of the deposit can easily be imagined by the fact that the Snake River has cut canyons through the deposit to depths of 3000 feet.<sup>128, 129, 130</sup>

Still, there are several curious things about this lava flow. Many competent observers have

commented on the remarkable "freshness" of the deposit, as though the eruption had taken place in very recent times.

A startling find was made in 1889, near Nampa, Idaho. While workers were boring an artesian well, a small figurine of baked clay was extracted from a depth of 320 feet. Above the figurine the drill, inside a 6-inch tubing, had cut through fifteen feet of basalt lava.

The find has never been challenged adequately. The conclusion is unmistakable. Before the basalt flowed, sophisticated humans lived in the area.<sup>131</sup>

Before the Ice Age when many Tertiary fauna were destroyed (See B, C), an advanced civilization of men lived in California.

They worked the hardest stones, fabricated perfect granite mortars and dishes, used a skillet-like vessel made of lava hard as iron which was circular and had three legs and a spout, made polished stone axes with perfect holes drilled in them for a handle, ladles, disks or quoits.

They were able to bore into mountains for gold and silver. One ancient shaft was drilled 210 feet down into solid rock. An altar for worship was found.

Fossil plants and animals found associated with human remains and artifacts were described as Miocene (See D), long before man appeared on earth, according to textbooks.

Other finds include the following: a mortar for grinding gold ore at a depth of 300 feet in a mining tunnel; a mortar and pestle weighing 30 pounds, beads, perforated stones; a 40-pound oval granite dish. One human skull was found at a depth of 130 feet under five beds of lava and tufa separated by layers of gravel. Evidently man came before the lava flows, and deep canyons have been cut by rivers since the lava flows.

An amazing number of stone relics have been found among the bones of the camel, rhinoceros, hippopotamus, horse, and other animals. The findings are almost always in gold-bearing rock or gravel.<sup>132, 133</sup>

Nothing describes what has been discovered in California quite as well as Job 28. And similar locations have been studied in many parts of the world.

Far from where anyone lives or human feet ever travel, men dig the shafts of mines. There they work in loneliness, clinging to ropes in the pits. There are mines where silver is dug. There are places where gold is refined. Men dig iron out of the ground and melt copper out of the stones. Men explore the deepest darkness. They search the depths of the earth and dig for rocks in the darkness. Food grows out of the earth, but underneath the same earth all is torn up and crushed.

The stones of the earth contain sapphires, and the dust contains gold. No hawk sees the roads to the mines, and no vulture ever flies over them. No lion or other fierce beast ever travels those lonely roads. Men dig the hardest rocks, dig mountains away at their base. As they tunnel through the rocks, they discover precious stones. They dig to the sources of rivers and bring to light what is hidden. The value of wisdom is more than coral, or crystal, or rubies, or the finest topaz and the purest gold.<sup>134</sup>

In 1871 near Chillicothe, Illinois, well drillers brought up a bronze coin from a depth of 114 feet. This remarkable discovery was described in the Proceedings of the American Philosophic Society. This is additional evidence that man had been present there. Rapid change of the terrain may also be deduced.<sup>135</sup>

A California newspaper contained the report that an elaborately carved rock and other worked stones weighing up to 800 pounds had been found in hydraulic operations hundreds of feet underground. The original site was an ancient river bed assigned a date long before the last Ice Age.<sup>136</sup>

Some very crude scrapers, which were found under a glacial morain, are on exhibit in the museum at Moses Lake, Washington. This would appear to date man in Washington at a time before the Pleistocene epoch, which scientists are reluctant to accept.<sup>137</sup> (See B and C).

A similar discovery was made near Sudbury, Ontario. Crude choppers and scrapers of quartzite were found deep in the earth. Evidently they had been tumbled and mixed in glacial till. Again this is evidence that man lived in Canada before the glacial advance. Yet some scientists do not want to think of man in America that long ago.<sup>138</sup>

A strange account comes from the little village of Plateau City, Colorado, a short distance east of Grand Junction. A resident was digging a cellar in 1936. At a depth of ten feet he found paved tile laid in some kind of mortar, different from any other construction in the valley. While the tiles are dated anywhere from 20,000 to 80,000 years old, they lie in a Miocene formation, which could make it up to 25,000,000 years old by conventional dating.<sup>139</sup>

Heizer has noted a number of impossibilities according to commonly accepted geological dating: (1) a hyena tooth sawn by a flint, (2) cutting operations on the fossilized bone of an extinct rhinoceros and on other animals at a site near Paris, and (3) evidence of the use of a sharp tool on the horn of a rhino in Ireland. In the North Sea the trunk of an oak was removed from a long submerged forest. The trunk showed the marks of a hatchet.<sup>140</sup>

According to conventional majority opinion early hunters migrated from Asia to America. One of the best known early projectile points is the Folsom point, and the identical pattern is found both in China and over much of America. However, this point is dated as early as 10,000 B.C. in America, but no earlier than 2000 B.C. in China<sup>141</sup>

### III. Some Keys to Unlocking Mysteries of Ancient History

At this point the reader should be satisfied that conventional dating in the news media and in textbooks is radically in error and is based on assumptions which do not hold up against evidence to the contrary. And the fact that scientists are really not equipped to reconstruct the past nor to foretell the future should be easily conceded. Then how do creationists proceed in developing an adequate framework for ancient history? While answers will not be found for many questions, there is nevertheless much material available of value and interest for study and synthesis.

#### A. Sources for a Reconstruction of Ancient History

Despite the most fervent attempts to undermine the historicity of the Scriptures, the Bible remains a reliable and indispensable key for any attempt to reconstruct ancient history. Among events described in the Bible (but not explored in this paper) which need investigation are the following: (a) the geological implications of God cursing the earth after the fall of man; (b) attempts to fix the point in geological time of the flood; (c) the curious passage about Peleg and the dividing of the earth; (d) the consequences of Babel when men were subsequently "splattered" across the face of the earth; (e) the plagues and the exodus; (f) events recorded in the Bible around the time of King Hezekiah; (g) the astonishing number of Old Testament passages which contain references to catastrophic events.

In recent years a number of scholars have urged that universal myths and other ancient writings need decoding for the truths they contain about man's past. As one example of many which could be cited, Stahlman has urged a new approach to the study of prehistory.

He noted that modern man revels in the denial that ancient myth has truth-value, that historians have blinded themselves to essential clues that lie right before their eyes, and that they misuse the biological seedbed of "evolution" by trying to apply this concept to history. He criticized the simplistic notion that all fields of knowledge are very modern and that they simply "evolved."<sup>142</sup>

The value of research in geology, paleontology, and archaeology is obvious from the content of

this paper. Much of the focus of these fields is on painstaking analysis. These findings should become the raw material for syntheses which are based on new assumptions and an appropriate model of prehistory based on Scriptures.

Other scholars have pointed to the value of word and language studies including ancient place names, many of which have come down to modern times, as important clues to prehistory.

#### B. Issues Involved in a Model of Prehistory

1. The present disaster in current attempts to write prehistory results from the fact that the evidence is completely counter to evolutionary assumptions. Historians know that something is wrong, but they are frustrated by a lack of any alternative that they can find acceptable. Creationists can hardly appreciate how bad the situation is unless one hears the scholars scolding the scholars.

Historian Easton, more candid than most, has admitted that very little indeed is known about prehistoric man. No two experts agree on what is known even. Although Easton accepts biological evolution, he does not want it applied to history:

There are still many inconvenient facts which seem very difficult to explain on the basis of natural selection; and the entire theory (of evolution), if viewed dispassionately, often seems to a layman so extraordinarily unlikely as an explanation of how the present . . . including man evolved, as to suggest a willful perversity in present-day man.<sup>143</sup>

de Santillana and von Dechend have stated that the word "evolution" has blinded modern scientists to the real complexities of the past. The simple idea of evolution, which is taken for granted, is spread like a tent over all those ages that lead from primitivism into civilization. Gradually, we are told, step by step, men produced the arts and crafts, this and that, until they emerged into the light of history.

These soporific words "gradually" and "step by step," repeated incessantly, are aimed at covering an ignorance which is both vast and surprising. One should like to inquire: Which steps? But one is lulled, overwhelmed and stupefied by the gradualness of it all, which is at best a platitude, only good for pacifying the mind, since no one is willing to imagine that civilization appeared in a thunderclap.<sup>144</sup>

Yet acceptance of the word "gradually" leads into all sorts of difficulties, and so the word "suddenly" is used to explain what cannot be explained. Marshack has been disturbed by the frequent use of this word in historical writings, e.g., science began *suddenly* with the Greeks, other sciences appeared *suddenly* in Mesopo-

tamia and in Egypt, civilization itself had begun *suddenly* in the Fertile Crescent, writing began *suddenly*, agriculture appeared *suddenly*, and the calendar *suddenly* appeared fully developed.<sup>145</sup>

As the late French scientist Bounoure said<sup>146</sup> so elegantly, "Evolutionism is a fairy tale for grownups. This theory has helped nothing in the progress of science. It is useless."

With only one option, i.e., evolution, acceptable to most scholars today, there is simply no intellectually honest way prehistory can be written, except to repeat parrot-like what others have written. Thus more and more writers of ancient history texts are "copping out."

Instead of writing the usual Chapter I on the caveman, followed by Chapter II on the Greeks, with perhaps a nod toward Egypt and Mesopotamia, many authors are now beginning their texts with the Greeks. Evidently they are embarrassed to keep on writing the same old first chapter, generation after generation, which bears no relation to following chapters.

2. Those who attempt to reconstruct ancient history must cope with the fact of a Golden Age before the time of Abraham, and of which by comparison the Greeks were "little children."

More than a century ago a scholar observed that man has not originated from a state of barbarism, and then risen to civilization; but that, wherever man has been found in a state of barbarism, it is barbarism arising from a degenerated civilization. All known peoples with a knowledge of their past have some tradition of their having been raised from the barbarism by a people more civilized than themselves.<sup>147</sup>

Stefansson, the great explorer, has stated that those scholars who were taught history the traditional way, namely: that navigation of the high seas was supposed to have started with the Phoenicians, cannot believe that men sailed over at least three of the oceans, the Atlantic, Indian, and Pacific, during remote periods.

Yet no stir was caused at an international congress of archaeologists at Oslo in 1936 when the president of the congress lectured about a Golden Age of deep-sea navigation as being at its height long before the time of Abraham, and that it was on the decline after 1500 B.C. Thus the very period, which most scholars select as the beginning of real seamanship, was actually only a pale image of what had been earlier.<sup>148</sup>

The evidence presented in books such as *Hamlet's Mill*, *Maps of the Ancient Sea Kings*, and *Children of the Sun*, is compelling and fascinating.<sup>149</sup>

3. Because of ancient man's total obsession with and terror of the planets, radically different treatment of the role of astronomy in the ancient

world is required in contrast to what is customary today. Strange events occurred in historic times which had dreadful consequences on the earth.

de Santillana noted that modern archaeological scholars have been singularly obtuse by cultivating a pristine ignorance of astronomical thought, which has had a crucial impact on reconstructions of ancient history. Besides the terror factor, the ancients knew from the stars precisely where they were anywhere on the earth. The ancients knew when they crossed the equator, and could navigate to remote specks of islands thousands of miles away in the oceans.<sup>150, 151</sup>

von Dechend, a scholar of ancient history, determined never to become involved in astronomical matters, under any conditions. That is until she discovered two prehistoric shrines on two little specks of islands in the Pacific, one precisely on the Tropic of Cancer and the other precisely on the Tropic of Capricorn. These facts struck her like a sledgehammer, according to her own report, and she realized that astronomy could not be ignored.<sup>152</sup>

4. No reconstruction of ancient history can be valid without treatment of catastrophic events. Darwin personally examined evidence of catastrophic events and passed them off as insoluble problems, giving them no place in his thought patterns. He was ready to concede, however, from his study of the apparent recent and sudden upheaval of the Andes, that the resulting catastrophe might have produced world-wide flood traditions.<sup>153, 154</sup>

Such events still happen today on a lesser scale. Only a year ago observers reported that a mountain in the Caucasus moved 1.2 miles, blocking off a river along the way. Yet fields, crops, and huts on the mountain remained intact.<sup>155</sup>

More and more scientists are looking seriously at documentation for the following description of catastrophes in historic times:

Hurricanes of global magnitude, of forests burning and swept away, of dust, stones, fire, and ashes falling from the sky, of mountains melting like wax, of lava flowing from riven ground, of boiling sea, of bituminous rain, of shaking ground and destroyed cities, of humans seeking refuge in caverns and fissures of the rock in the mountains, of oceans upheaved and falling on the land, of tidal waves moving toward the poles and back, of land becoming sea by submerging and the expanse of sea turning into desert, islands born and others drowned, mountain ridges leveled and others rising, of crowds of rivers seeking new beds, of sources that disappeared and others that became bitter, of great destructions in the animal kingdom, of decimated mankind, of migrations, of heavy clouds of dust covering the face of the earth for decades, of mag-

netic disturbances, of changed climates, of displaced cardinal points and altered latitudes, of disrupted calendars and of sundials and water clocks that point to changed length of day, month, and year, mountains springing from plains and other mountains levelled, strata folded and pressed together and overturned and moved and put on top of other formations, melted rock flooding enormous areas of land with miles-thick sheets, ocean and lake shores tilted or raised or lowered as much as a thousand feet, whales cast out of oceans onto mountains, the Alps and the Rocky Mountains moved as much as a hundred miles.<sup>156</sup>

5. As prehistory is made continuous with recorded history, a problem of ancient chronology exerts a crippling effect on both the study of the Old Testament and on ancient history in general. Evidence is accumulating rapidly that Egyptian chronology is off by as much as 500-600 years. Since most scholars calibrate Old Testament events and the history of other ancient cultures by Egyptian dates, the effect is devastating, crippling, and stifling.

#### C. *New Directions in the Study of Prehistory*

1. Pensée, P.O. Box 414, Portland, Oregon 97207.

2. Immanuel Velikovsky, *Worlds in Collision*. Garden City, New York: Doubleday, 1950; *Ages in Chaos*. Garden City, New York: Doubleday, 1952; and *Earth in Upheaval*. New York: Dell, 1955.

3. Arthur C. Custance. *Doorway Papers*. (A Series). Box 291, Brockville, Ontario.

Without endorsing all the contents of these sources, readers will find a tremendous and refreshing stimulation in them. The authors are almost unique in their treatment of evidence—evidence that has been ignored too long in conventional text books.

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- <sup>5</sup>TRA, 2:304
- <sup>6</sup>PEN, 2(3):49
- <sup>7</sup>BRO, p. 384-5
- <sup>8</sup>EAS, p. 11-2
- <sup>9</sup>SEN, p. 17
- <sup>10</sup>TRA, 2:304
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- <sup>12</sup>TUT
- <sup>13</sup>THO
- <sup>14</sup>VEL, p. 286
- <sup>15</sup>CRE, 6(2):96
- <sup>16</sup>CRE, 3(1):59
- <sup>17</sup>TRA, 80:25
- <sup>18</sup>CRE, 8(4):251-5
- <sup>19</sup>CRE, 1(4):45
- <sup>20</sup>CRE, 1(4):44
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- <sup>23</sup>TOA, p. 28-9
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- <sup>27</sup>FOR, p. 131
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- <sup>29</sup>FOR, p. 128
- <sup>30</sup>TOA, p. 28-9
- <sup>31</sup>CHA, p. 29
- <sup>32</sup>CRE, 5(4):132
- <sup>33</sup>ED7, p. 77
- <sup>34</sup>TRA, 11:27
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- <sup>39</sup>REA, 12/72, p. 86-90
- <sup>40</sup>FAU, p. 258, 352
- <sup>41</sup>CRE, 9(3):157
- <sup>42</sup>CRE, 8(3):203
- <sup>43</sup>HOP, p. 110-1
- <sup>44</sup>PEN, 3(1):44
- <sup>45</sup>CRE, 6(2):114
- <sup>46</sup>CER, p. 257-9
- <sup>47</sup>CUS, p. 19
- <sup>48</sup>CRE, 7(2):126
- <sup>49</sup>CRE, 2(4):31
- <sup>50</sup>VEL, p. 287
- <sup>51</sup>CRE, 2(4):10
- <sup>52</sup>JOU, 7/15/68
- <sup>53</sup>TIM, 11/12/65, p. 100 & 11/19 letter
- <sup>54</sup>PEN, 2(3):43
- <sup>55</sup>VEL, p. 158-9
- <sup>56</sup>CRE, 5(2):67
- <sup>57</sup>CRE, 9(1):25
- <sup>58</sup>CRE, 3(1):49
- <sup>59</sup>CRE, 9(4):238
- <sup>60</sup>TRA, 20:89
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- <sup>62</sup>JOU, 7/15/68
- <sup>63</sup>CRE, 7(3):145
- <sup>64</sup>TIM, 10/3/69, p. 72-4
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- <sup>70</sup>CRE, 8(2):144
- <sup>71</sup>PEN, 3(1):48
- <sup>72</sup>CRE, 8(2):144
- <sup>73</sup>PEN, 3(1):48
- <sup>74</sup>CUS, p. 20
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