

GENESIS ACCEPTED



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TUBAL-CAIN

When did you last think seriously about Tubal-cain? I mean, have you ever thought at all about Tubal-cain, whether seriously or not? Maybe you lie half awake in a blissful morning reverie, when the mind seems to flick over all sorts of abstruse things, and you think, ‘That Tubal-cain was an enigma, wasn’t he?’ Or do you have to put your hand on your heart and admit that his name has never entered your consciousness and you don’t even know where to find him in the Bible, which is hardly surprising since he appears only in one verse? Well, I’ve given him a lot of thought over the years – not just now for this article - and you’ll see why as we move along a little.

The Genesis reference

So what do we know about him? Well, not much just from the simple text of Genesis. *‘Zillah also bore Tubal-cain; he was the forger of all instruments of bronze and iron. The sister of Tubal-cain was Naamah.’* (Gen. 4:22). So Tubal-cain was the first smith and knew how to forge instruments in bronze and iron. Just what these instruments were is open to speculation but weapons and farm implements would no doubt be a reasonable guess, as would domestic things like dishes and plates, beakers, cups and mirrors, and who knows, maybe musical instruments too. That’s a distinct possibility as we’ll soon see. But really, what more is there to say about him from one short sentence? Well, actually quite a bit when you get down to it.

Tubal-cain’s background

As we often say, ‘It’s all about context,’ so let’s give him his: *‘Irad fathered Mehujael, and Mehujael fathered Methushael, and Methushael fathered Lamech. And Lamech took two wives. The name of the one was Adah, and the name of the other Zillah. Adah bore Jubal; he was the father of those who dwell in tents and have livestock. His brother’s name was Jubal; he was the father of all those who play the lyre and pipe. Zillah also bore Tubal-cain; he was the forger of all instruments of bronze and iron. The sister of Tubal-cain was Naamah. Lamech said to his wives:*

Adah and Zillah, hear my voice; you wives of Lamech, listen to what I say: I have killed a man for wounding me, a young man for striking me. If Cain’s revenge is sevenfold, then Lamech’s is seventy-sevenfold.’ (Gen. 4:18-24).

His mother was Zillah, the third woman named in the Bible. He had a full sister called Naamah, and she’s the first daughter named in the Bible as a daughter or sister, and two half-brothers: Jubal and Jubal. Jubal

Adam and Eve	
2. Seth	Cain
3. Enosh	Enoch
4. Kenan	Irad
5. Mahalalel	Mehujael
6. Jared	Methushael
7. Enoch	Lamech
8. Methuselah	<u>Tubal-cain</u>
9. Lamech	?
10. Noah	?
Godly line	Ungodly line

GENEALOGIES OF SETH AND CAIN

was a shepherd and Jubal was a musician – so did Tubal-cain forge musical instruments for his half-brother Jubal? They were obviously a very talented family, so why not?

Family connections

We now know his pedigree, so we probably know a good deal about the sort of man he was. He is the eighth generation from Adam but in Cain’s line. This was not the godly line and by the time of Tubal-cain it had apparently gone from bad to worse. His father was Lamech and he was a nasty piece of work, every bit as bad as his better-known ancestor. We must not get confused with the godly Lamech who was Noah’s father; this Lamech was older than Noah’s dad and was a contemporary of the wonderfully godly Enoch, the seventh from Adam. Indeed the contrast between godly Enoch and ungodly Lamech couldn’t be greater. Enoch walked with God as closely and as faithfully as few have ever done. So much so he was blessed by not seeing death but, like Elijah later, was to be translated into heaven directly (Gen. 5:24. Heb. 11:5) – thereby giving us a little window into what God probably had in mind for us all when He created the Earth and before the Fall introduced death and decay into it. I believe it was not God’s intention that we should live for ever on Earth but that, once our days were finished we would have been smoothly, and beautifully translated to heaven without passing through the vale of death, and all the sorrow that that brings. Lamech, however, did not walk with God. He was a violent, murdering, polygamist, who defied God at every turn. He is the first one on record to take two wives, thereby going against the ‘one man one wife one flesh’ diktat of Genesis 2:24. His first wife was Adah, the second named woman in scripture, and she was the mother of Tubal-cain’s half-brothers Jubal and Jubal. Lamech took vengeance on a young man far in excess of the harm done to him. This bore no resemblance to what we now think of as the harsh Old Testament teaching of ‘an eye for an eye’ but was way way

over the top and out of proportion. That’s injustice and great wickedness.

Tubal-cain therefore must have had a rotten upbringing in a desperately ungodly, and no doubt unhappy home. The giving of names was significant in those days and one possible meaning of ‘Tubal-cain’ is ‘possessed of confusion’. No wonder the child and his mother were confused living in that household. Incidentally the name ‘Jubal’ means ‘trumpet’ and this inclines me to think that Tubal-cain did forge bronze trumpets for his brother. We’ll ‘nail’ this even further a little later on. Tubal-cain was a contemporary of Methuselah and, given the extreme length of life they experienced before the Flood – 912 is the average if you don’t factor in Enoch, who left this Earth at 365 but did not die – it is not beyond the bounds of possibility to believe that he was one of the wicked who drowned in the Flood. It would just depend exactly when he was born, but we’re not told that and further speculation on this is pointless.

Aiming for consistency

I find all of this very interesting but it’s not what really interests me about the man for behind his story is another, even more fascinating one, waiting to be unearthed. In these studies we’ve been presenting there is a serious attempt to forge a consistent picture of what was going on in these early days, and the picture must be consistent not only in terms of Genesis but also with the whole of scripture. It must therefore shed light on the New Testament just as the New Testament must be consistent with the Old in these matters. I want to do this in order to present a logically and scripturally accurate view of the record of early man because people today, including most Christians, generally have no idea of what was going on because they interpret this part of the Bible through modern-day thinking, which is usually based on evolutionary notions of social development. By this I mean that humans have slowly evolved in learning from primitive hunter-gatherers to farmers and then from Stone Age through Bronze Age to Iron Age industry. They think the world is millions of years old and was always essentially the same as today. This is not the biblical picture at all, and particularly the picture with regard to the age of the Earth. A slowly evolving Earth is a very different Earth than a 6,000-year-old Earth. If we miss the background we’ll never grasp the picture, and we see plenty of background in the story of Tubal-cain. And it’s there, in that sentence about him in the one word: ‘bronze’.

The Bronze enigma

Some translations use the word ‘brass’ and some use ‘bronze’ in Genesis 4:22. The

ESV, our translation of choice, uses 'bronze', as do most modern translations, but most of the points are essentially the same with either metal. We will use 'bronze' here.

In the days before I grasped, or even believed in, the biblical view of the development of the world both physically and socially, I used to ponder why the Bronze Age supposedly comes before the Iron Age. This is essentially an evolutionary concept, with little or no validity in reality, but it is so imprinted on to our minds that we accept it as read. Iron is an abundant mineral, easy to find and extract but bronze is an alloy, a mixture, of two fairly rare minerals: copper and tin. Tin is especially rare and Britain was known as the 'Tin Islands' in Phoenician and Roman times because Cornwall was one of the few places where it could readily be found. Yet here, at the beginning of the Earth's history, is a man who learnt how to forge instruments of bronze and iron. Forget the iron for now. No matter which scenario you trade in - the Creationist or the Evolutionary - how did they discover a) how to forge metals and b) how to find and mix - in the right proportions - the minerals of tin and copper to make bronze? And then how did they know that this mixture would even produce a useful metal? Evolutionists have no answer to this conundrum and neither did I, as a Creationist, until very recently!

Igneous rocks and minerals in Genesis

In the early chapters of Genesis, four minerals are present which we know to be of igneous origin, i.e. formed by fire underground and injected as liquid rock into the crust: gold, onyx (which is a form of quartz) (Gen. 2:12), copper and tin (bronze). Bdelium is mentioned in Genesis 2:12 but we are not at all sure what it is if it's a mineral. It's thought to be gum resin, a source of myrrh, and therefore from vegetation not rock, but that doesn't readily accord with the sense in Genesis 2 - so we'll just have to leave bdelium where it is. The presence of these minerals tells us that on Day 3, when the dry land appeared and the waters were separated from the land, there must have been intense, massive igneous activity and swift mineralisation happening to prepare the world for man. So how did Tubal-cain know how to find these minerals and make bronze?

Seeking answers

There's an easy answer for us if we want it, and I must admit I thought that this had to be the case until I started probing around in this part of Genesis. This is that God simply gave Adam all the knowledge he would need without his having to learn anything. After all, he could talk and name the animals even before Eve was created. God certainly could have done that - but did He? I now believe not. I believe it makes better scriptural sense that Adam went through a learning process. When he was created his brain was perfect. It was not fallen and all the trillions of connections in it were in perfect working order. In



the *Daily Mail* for Wednesday 14th October 2009 there was a story of a ten-year old boy, Shane Thomas, who taught himself to play at three and is simply a musical genius (see picture above). He hears a tune once and can play it perfectly. They're likening him to Mozart, and that's an amazing comparison. Adam must have had a brain like that, only better, for it was perfect! His learning curve would be prodigious and his memory wouldn't falter. Eve was the same, of course, but we'll keep the story in the male gender.

How was Adam taught?

So how was he taught? Here we have to think back to what was happening in Eden, and to earlier studies we have made about angels and their function in the creation (see *Genesis Accepted* Number 7, 'Angels as created beings'). Each evening God walked with Adam. This was a theophany, one of those strange events when the Lord, whom we know best as Jesus, met him. What did they talk about? Well it wasn't football, or politics, or even religion and nor, initially, was it child care and development or family enrichment. Adam had to tend the Garden so it might well have been something to do with animal husbandry or plant care. It may also have been to reprise what he'd learned that day. Why do I say this? Well, who was the guardian cherub placed in Eden and what was he put there for? Pop over to Ezekiel 28:11ff and read the lament for the king of Tyre, yet couched quite clearly in terms which could not have applied literally to him but equally clearly is couched as a lament for Satan. It was Satan's job as guardian cherub to oversee what was going on in Eden and probably to teach Adam and Eve what they needed to know. (This is dealt with fully in the earlier article named above. If you haven't got it and would like a copy, let me know - G.A.F.)

How did Adam learn after the Fall?

Then came the Fall, though we have no idea how soon after their creation it came. Adam's brain was still working perfectly; he was still a genius and on an amazing learning curve. He didn't slump into grunting ignorance, like an archetypal Neanderthal - which is a gross injustice to these clever humans - despite being thrown out of Eden. Satan, of course, lost his job so what happened? There's a huge blank in the narrative but over in Hebrews 1:14 we are told about angels and their primary function. '*Are they not all ministering spirits sent out to serve for the sake of those who are to inherit salvation?*' Remember this: angels are created beings and were just six days older than Adam. The main reason they were created was not to praise and glorify God, though they do that, but to serve the elect. Their ministry is earthbound and Earth-orientated, and after the Fall their first job was to teach us humans all the sorts of things we needed to know.

Both Divine and angelic instruction

We know that the Lord continued to visit these early people via theophanies. The next thing we read about is the story of Cain and Abel, and quite clearly Cain expected and encountered the Lord in human form, in a theophany. He seemed not to understand the all-seeing eye of a spirit being for he pretended not to know where his brother was and actually thought he could fool the Lord into believing him. But before he killed Abel, they were taught about sacrificing, which involved making fire. So how did they know how to do this? It's not something you wake up and say, "I think I'll get two rocks and strike them together and make a fire." You can't do this with any old rocks. If we understand the climate of the early Earth, it was balmy and fire was not needed for warmth. Clothes, you remember, were not created for warmth; they were given for

modesty. They had to be taught about fire, and how to make it, so they could learn to sacrifice properly. They were taught about sacrifice so they would learn obedience and the need for shedding of blood to atone for sins, to prepare for Christ. Abel obeyed and Cain thought he knew better, and the rest is history, as they say. So now we know about how Tubal-cain would know about fire, which it was necessary to know if he were to forge and smelt minerals for turning into instruments.

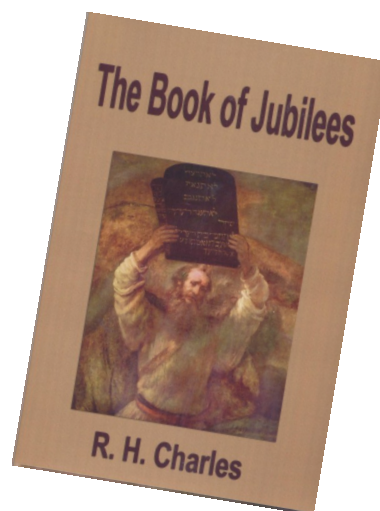
The Book of Jubilees

In the summer of 2009, I bought and read *The Book of Jubilees*. Though not scripture, it contains the teaching and thinking of the Jews and their traditional thoughts about these early days. I see no reason why it has not accurately preserved the oral traditions from those times. *The Book of Enoch* too confirms much of this detail. It was these books which provided the clues to this part of the jigsaw puzzle about those times. We learn that it was angels who were sent to teach humans these arts. They were known as the Watchers. Some of them perverted their calling, according to these sources, in Jared's day, which was before Enoch and the ungodly Lamech were born. This sin is recorded in Genesis 6:1-4. They were sent to Earth and taught about writing – this skill was given to Enoch, who was known as 'Enoch the scribe'. A reference to his prophesies is found in Jude 14. They taught about medicines and which plants could be used. Well, we had lost access to the Tree of Life after the Fall so this knowledge was to become increasingly more important. The Jubilees also teaches that the wicked fallen angels instructed people in the magic arts and astrology, which corrupted them even more, and all of this makes perfect sense. The things our early ancestors needed to know to survive and live fulfilled lives were not obvious things easy to discover. They had to be taught them and this is what the angels did as they served us.

The picture now takes greater shape

We understand that angels serve the elect or those who are being saved. We know there are guardian angels and we are specifically instructed: *'Let brotherly love continue. Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for thereby some have entertained angels unawares.'* (Heb 13:1-2). So whether we appreciated the rôle they play in our lives today, as opposed to 'yesterday', they continue to do God's bidding for our benefit. *Jubilees* and *Enoch* are unequivocal in that some of the Watchers, sent to instruct mankind in these early days, perverted their commission and married human women producing evil, violent offspring and so corrupting the world that God decided to end it in Noah's day. This they reference to Genesis 6:1-4 and this was our position in an article in *Genesis Accepted* Number 6, 'The Sons of God' (again, if you have not got this article and would like a copy reprinted for you, just let me know - G.A.F.).

Until I read *The Book of Jubilees*, though I had this teaching on the Sons of God firmly in place, I had no idea why they would be on Earth mingling with humans so that they noticed that the *'daughters of men were attractive'* (Gen. 6:2). Now it makes consistent sense and sheds more light on Paul's enigmatic throw-away line in 1 Corinthians 11:10 as to why a wife, or woman, should have a symbol of authority on her head *'because of*



the angels'. We read elsewhere that angels, or 'elect angels' are present watching how we conduct ourselves in worship and in the congregation. *'In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus and of the elect angels...'* (1 Ti 5:21), we are being told about elders particularly. Angels do take a keen interest in the affairs of men as Peter reminds us in 1 Pt, 1:12, where he writes that angels longed to look into the prophecies but *'it was revealed to them that they were serving not themselves but [us].'* The angelic Watchers were here to instruct us and, according to *Jubilees*, it was in Jared's day that some of them (200) sinned with the women.

Now back to Tubal-cain

So Tubal-cain learned not only about fire but also about forging, which implies bellows and crucibles, and knowing which minerals to smelt, and how to smelt them and mix them together to make bronze and then how to turn them into instruments. He was not a primitive just a few steps up from an ape; he was a genius who was taught by angels. Enoch learned the art of writing. Jubal learned about making music, and no doubt how to write it down for posterity (I'm not saying he learned modern notation for that's of more recent origin) but the ability to pass on their learning was important. Noah definitely took books or scrolls of learning and knowledge into the Ark and kept written records. The account of the Flood reads just as if Noah kept a log and that Moses had access to it when he penned the Genesis story.

Now if Jubal's name means 'trumpet'

and Tubal-cain was taught how to find minerals and forge metals, and angels taught Jubal about music, and one of the instruments we learn that angels use and love to employ is the trumpet, is it not reasonable to assume that they taught Tubal-cain how to fashion a trumpet out of bronze? You don't have to go along with this, for we only learn that Jubal was connected with the lyre and pipe. It's hardly a salvation matter!

Consider this thought: angels are guardians of God's wonderful, harmonious Creation and would have passed on such a love to those they taught. The wonderful, awe-inspiring, majestic, God-honouring, harmonious music we know and love flows from the Judæo/Christian tradition, as it would if it came from God through angels. Discord comes from Satan and no other religious systems have produced beautiful, harmonic music! That should point to their originator!

Conclusion

Thinking through these things enriches our view of the amazing, mysterious and wonderful antediluvian world and how God provided for us humans to have the knowledge and the skills necessary to survive and not just live, but rather live rich and fulfilled lives of creativity, harmony and beauty. In the story of Tubal-cain we see not just a throw-away line of momentary passing interest but rather an abundant wealth of information about the love and care of God. He didn't just throw Adam and Eve out of Eden and say, "You're on your own now. Get on with it." He cared for them and their children, continued to love them, even giving the ungodly families of Cain great, enriching blessings, unasked for and undeserved. That all but one man threw it back in His face not too long afterwards in our history, and God decided to start again with that man and his family, is the tragedy of the human race. Nevertheless He still gives blessings such as He gave to Jubal and Tubal-cain, in that great talent is not confined only to the godly. The ungodly can still produce amazing things for the benefit of the human race. As Jesus said. *"He makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust."* (Mt 5:45-46). We serve a wonderful, loving and caring God, and, incidentally, we still have the blessings of angelic help – though now not quite in that fashion, to guide and bless us. But that's another study.

I hope you can be encouraged by studies like these. They teach me the amazing richness and depth of the Bible from the word go and that there is a consistent picture being painted on its pages, which gives us confidence in all of the Bible from beginning to end.

The story of Tubal-cain, far from being a throw-away line in the narrative, really does have a lot to teach us.

Consequences

The greatest teacher the world has ever known, Jesus of Nazareth, said, "You will recognize them by their fruits. Are grapes gathered from thorn bushes, or figs from thistles? So, every healthy tree bears good fruit, but the diseased tree bears bad fruit." (Mt 7:16-17). He was talking about false prophets and their teaching. Unfortunately it sometimes takes time before the full impact of their teaching becomes apparent and you can assess it for what it truly is.

Christianity

Looking down the years at Christianity there have been many wrongs committed in its name. The human agencies administering the practicalities of Jesus' teaching have sometimes made horrific mistakes. Mind you, it is very common for critics of Christianity grossly to exaggerate the scale of these evils to help them win the propaganda war if they can. Of course, knowing this does not minimize the enormity of what was perpetrated in Christ's Name at times, nevertheless it needs to be borne in mind when proper balanced assessment, not biased prejudice, is being undertaken. However, it is also true to say that if the real teachings of Jesus were implemented properly, the world would be a wonderful place in which to live. It is equally true to say that more good in the world has been generated by people trying to live as they think that Jesus would have them live than by any other system the world has ever known.

Look carefully at life being lived under different world views today and see which has borne the best fruit. Muslim countries are oppressive and barbaric, not open to freedom and equality. Hinduism has got India into a dreadful mess and its rigid social Caste System prevents social mobility, completely preserving the élite and permanently demeaning the untouchables. Even countries within the broader compass of Christendom, where certain varieties of 'Christianity' have dominated in the past, have not produced the advance of what we now consider to be basic freedoms. The Roman Catholic world-view has not produced the prosperity found where the Protestant view predominated because the Church has borne down on its people and held them back. Whilst not perfect, because humans are now fallen and therefore sinful and fallible, nevertheless it is in the predominantly Protestant countries that mankind has

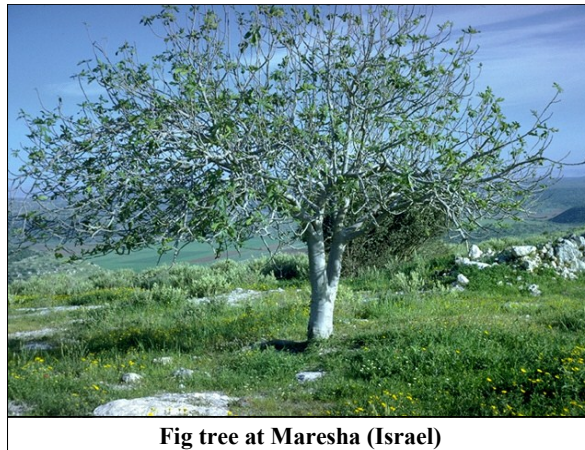


Fig tree at Maresha (Israel)

progressed in worldly terms and to which oppressed people generally wish to emigrate if they can, in order to advance themselves. The 'fruit' speaks for itself and needs little defence.

Evolution and World Views

Evolution is not a science, it is a religion, and we need always to remember this. Mary Midgley, in her book *Evolution as Religion*, (Methuen, 1985) writes that: 'Evolution is the creation myth of our age' (p. 30), and that 'getting rid of religion is the prime aim of science.' (p. 31). The philosophy which undergirds this process is the axiom that Evolution is an established fact and not simply a theory of origins. To question the veracity of Evolution is akin to challenging a person's religion at the most basic and primitive level, and usually elicits a most 'primitive and basic' response from the believer, which can be positively mediaeval at times. Evolution is the foundation stone of modern atheism, and built on to its back are belief systems as politically diverse as Communism and Fascism (including Nazism), plus Humanism in all of its forms. It underpins most modern thinking in disciplines such as sociology, economics, biology (of course!), geology, physics, astronomy, history, philosophy, theology (sadly), and so on. So how does it fare in the 'fruit' stakes?

The Last Century

The Twentieth Century saw the flowering of belief systems built on evolutionary thinking. It also witnessed the flowering of 'man's inhumanity to man' (Burns) on a monstrous scale never before experienced, and, as Burns continued, 'Makes countless thousands mourn,' only it wasn't 'countless thousands' since 1901, it was countless millions! We have already pointed out that the facts of how much blood was spilt in the name of Christ in the past has been well and truly exaggerated, but the record is unequivocal about the realities of the carnage committed under Hitler,

Lenin, Stalin, Mao, Pol Pot, and the like. The question is not whether they slaughtered people or not but rather just how many millions they actually slaughtered between them. Probably only God knows.

Karl Marx wanted to dedicate *Das Kapital* to Darwin who, to his eternal credit, refused to accept. Marx saw in Darwin's work what he thought was the scientific justification for his political theories. One of the reasons why Darwin refused to publish *Origins* for about twenty years was that he recognized in the Theory the fuel for revolution, since it opposed the common notion

of the fixity of species as if by Divine predestination. Being one of the privileged in society, he had no desire to produce a theory which could lead to the demise of his own privileges. Bear in mind that the French Revolution was a frightening reality in the minds of most Europeans at this time. He knew full-well the potential which lay in his Theory to overthrow the current social order. It is one of the ironies of life that the greatest religious opposition to his ideas came initially from the denomination of the privileged - the Church of England. The Free Churches were not at all averse to the notion of the overthrow of Anglicanism since the privileges of position in the C. of E. pervaded all facets of society, from the House of Lords to land ownership. Calvinistic theologies led to the notion that such privileges were ordained by God, hence the Church of England must be God's church! (They had superbly and inconsistently ignored the revolutionary origin of their denomination by the mid Nineteenth Century!) Nowadays it is the Free Churches which are more prepared to embrace Creationism and attack Evolution, whilst the Anglican community has learned to accommodate Evolution and jettison an historical understanding of Genesis.

Social 'Fruit'

When man is reduced to being no more than an animal in the minds of the people, and they truly believe this is so, it will not be too long before they begin to behave like one. It does not matter too much whether he is thought of as a superior animal or not, if he is no more than an animal, ultimately he will be treated thus.

Man is unique

There is no doubt at all that man has many characteristics of an animal. This is hardly surprising since he has the same Creator and he lives in the same natural environment. If we need to breathe air, we need lungs. We all need a nervous system, a reproductive system, and so on. The Bible, however, says that mankind has another dimension to it which separates us from the

animals; we have a soul. Genesis 1:26 has God saying, *'Let us make man in our image, after our likeness.'* Just what this implies has been the subject of debate down the centuries, but whatever else it means, it certainly means that mankind was created special and that we alone have characteristics of the Creator in our make up in addition to any characteristics we might share with the higher animals. This was not an accident of a specific line of development but rather was a deliberate gift given by God for a specific purpose. We notice that all animals were merely spoken into existence but God crafted man out of the dust and breathed life into him - and woman too was created in a special and unique way with thought and care by the Creator. We were created differently and were positively placed on a plane way above the animal level, so much so that we were given dominion over the animals and have to rule them well. We are not one with them no matter what whacky animal-rights believers may think.

Dominion

Evolution denies this special feature of the human species. People have always domesticated animals and used them - some abuse them but on the whole most treat them kindly. No animal has ever had dominion over and used a human for its own purposes. Dominion has always been one way with differing success rates amongst the various species. It is interesting to note that whilst we can entrap and put man's closest relatives, the apes and monkeys, into cages, we have been singularly unable to domesticate them and use them to work for us and serve us - save to advertise tea - despite their so-called intelligence.

Techniques of husbandry

Down the millennia good animal husbandry has seen the development of breeding techniques and other forms of selection. In order to improve the strain, selective breeding has 'improved' the species by breeding for the desired traits, so that mankind has benefitted. (In actual fact, genetic material has usually been bred out of the animal so the more domesticated it is the less comprehensive is its gene-pool.) Artificial insemination has ensured that females mate with especially good specimens of their male kinds and any resulting runts are regularly killed off to keep the breeding stock high. Nobody would think twice about aborting an animal foetus if it were defective, or of killing an aged animal passed its sell-by date.

If man is only an animal

It is not at all difficult to see precisely where such thinking leads, and has led. Hitler applied evolutionary thinking to his notion of the Master Race, and not only tried selective breeding to improve the 'stock', he also cynically exterminated those deemed to be unfit - defining the term 'unfit' in his own unique way to include Jews, gypsies, the insane and homosexual, amongst others.

Artificial insemination techniques are now regularly used on women - albeit by their own choice, of course - some of whom select the sperm for their offspring from sperm banks where the characteristics and intelligence of the donor can be matched to the mother's needs.

Whatever one thinks about that aspect of animal husbandry, applied to the 'human animal' it reaches its nadir when it comes to the issues of abortion and euthanasia. Doctors take human eggs and human sperm and mate them so they can experiment on them for various ends. Once they get to a certain growth level they are disposed of. The unborn baby is treated like an animal foetus and can be aborted if it is



in the way of the mother's life-style. Calling it a 'foetus' and not a 'baby' somehow dehumanises it and makes these things more conscience-troubling proof. It is much easier to kill a 'foetus' than to kill a 'baby', since a baby carries much greater emotional baggage and undertones with it. It's hard to slaughter a baby. Yet once the sperm hits the ovum the union has created a full human being. All of its characteristics are written indelibly, from its eye colour to its intelligence. It is not a blob of meaningless matter; it is a human being!

And finally, when the old have passed their usefulness, or are suffering intolerable pain, they will be put down. After all, we wouldn't let an animal suffer like this, would we? Legalized murder of the old and infirm will become the norm and it will not stop at the relief of agony, it will move surreptitiously on to 'the quality of life'. And it won't necessarily stop at the patient's quality of life but also to that of their family, who could well be simply tired of the old one getting in their selfish way by not dying quickly enough for them - especially if they are housed in a nursing home whose fees are eating away at the family inheritance. They will be eased painlessly into the next life. What we do to animals we will come to do to people because we have learned that people are

simply animals anyway.

The Cult of Man

Evolutionary thought has bred the cult of Man. 'Glory to Man in the highest, For Man is the Master of things,' wrote the poet A.C. Swinburne. Remove God from the scene and the only reference point for behaviour is the self. What *'I'* think is right to do, I will do it. It is in Genesis 2 that male and female were made for each other and the marriage of one man to one woman was established right at the beginning. As Ken Ham of 'Answers in Genesis' said in his video film *The Genesis Solution*, 'God made Adam and Eve, not Adam and Steve.' God also established monogamous marriage and the family as the unit for rearing children and the best formula for happiness. Since most animals are not monogamous, why should man be? Marriage is not now held sacred and homosexuality is an increasing problem. When man chooses, he chooses without reference to God.

Homosexuality

Actually, oddly enough, there is no refuge for homosexuality in either camp. The Bible sets its face against the practicing homosexual (Rom. 1:18-32, Lev. 18:22, etc.) and so does the Theory of Evolution. Homosexuality is an aberration to the latter because it does nothing to promote the survival of the species. If everybody became homosexual, humans would become extinct in one generation. Its very existence in the human species shows that Darwin's concept of natural selection does not work and is not working amongst humans, and it was in amongst humans that he tried to find the ultimate goal of his processes. If it fails here as a Theory, it fails everywhere else too!

Conclusion

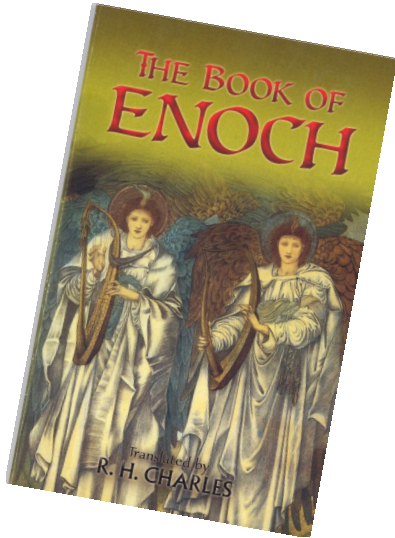
There are many more ramifications to a belief in Evolution. Followed to its logical conclusions one end of the road is Hitler.



There is no fruit produced by the Theory which can be used to commend it, unless it is the atheistic fruit of supposedly freeing mankind from the shackles of God and religion. That always was the agenda for the Theory and most theorists know that if it can be shown to be false, it must show that there is a God and that He created us.

He that eateth my flesh, and drinketh my blood (AV)

In August 2009, I was flat out for a fortnight with some sort of flu bug. Was it swine flu? I can't say, but I know it was a pig. Just sitting in the armchair watching television all day actually wasn't much fun



and, oddly enough, was very tiring. After about eight days or so, two books I'd ordered from Amazon arrived: *The Book of Jubilees* and *The Book of Enoch*, and I've already mentioned both in the article on Tubal-cain. My interest in them actually stems from the fact that I know that both deal with Jewish thought about the earlier parts of the Bible, especially Genesis and, as it turned out, *The Book of Jubilees* was all about Genesis and very early Exodus up to Sinai. Neither are scripture, and it's not too difficult to see why, though some groups have considered them to be so, but I wanted to discover particularly what the Jewish thinking, especially on Genesis, was in the time of Christ. Both books are thought to have originated around the second century BC, give or take a little, but just how accurate that is may be open to doubt.

Some of the value of these books

As mentioned before, though not scripture, and therefore not authoritative or inspired, there is no reason to doubt that they preserve traditional teaching passed down the years from the fathers, much of which fills in gaps left in the biblical narratives, and there is no need to doubt much of their authenticity or accuracy. Reading *Enoch* has enabled me to pick up on some of the teaching style and thoughts which Jesus used. You can 'hear' Him almost referencing it as He taught and see something of the impact which it would have made on His hearers, who were very familiar with these concepts. Jesus as 'Son of Man' and 'Son of Righteousness' now means more to me, as does the passage in Matthew 23 where He pronounces many 'woes' on the scribes and Pharisees. This was a specific teaching for-

mat used in their day. But this was not my agenda for reading them. I wanted to know their thinking particularly on the first 11 chapters of Genesis: Adam to Babel. And I got it in spades. It dominates both books.

My agenda

The thing which was uppermost in my mind was one of my pet beliefs, which regular readers already know: the meaning of the phrase 'the sons of God' in Genesis chapter 6:1-4. It's quite debatable and controversial. To my intense delight, both books confirmed my opinion that 'the sons of God' are indeed angels who sinned. To my surprise, these fallen angels were by far the most important single subject of the books. They gave me insight into the hades-an world and what was popularly thought about it in Jesus' day. They confirmed that these fallen angels were the ones locked away by God in *Tartarus* (the Greek name for their special prison) and is exactly what the readers of Peter and Jude would have understood they were reading about when they read what had been written. I also learned about the great Gulf dividing the Paradise section of Hades from the Torment side, which Jesus mentioned in Luke 16. I loved it. Of course it doesn't mean that I am correct, because these books are not inspired, but it's nice to have confirmed that these ideas were the ones popular in Judaism in New Testament times, and that genuine scriptures do not contradict them on these points.

Unexpected surprises

I learned all sorts of interesting things I didn't expect. My Dad had a brother called Stanley, and his wife, my aunt, was called Edna. I'd never thought much at all about the name 'Edna'. I've known a couple but it's one of those names which seems to be dying out at the moment; whether it will make a comeback, who can tell? Well, would you believe it, it's the most used female name amongst these early peoples. The Bible annoyingly doesn't tell us the names of almost all of the women in this part of the narrative, so I was taken by surprise to find it was the name given to Enoch's wife, Methuselah's wife, and, get this, Abraham's mother. Did you even associate the name of Edna with ancient Hebrew tradition as a popular female name? I certainly didn't.



My aunt: the last Edna!

Abraham and Jacob

Popping a little further down the Bible I have to admit I was taken by surprise when I read this about Abraham:

'Rebecca bare to Isaac two sons, Jacob and Esau, and Jacob was a smooth and upright man, and Esau was fierce, a man of the field, and hairy, and Jacob dwelt in tents. And the youths grew, and Jacob learned to write: but Esau did not learn, for he was a man of the field and a hunter, and he learnt war, and all his deeds were fierce. And Abraham loved Jacob, but Isaac loved Esau. And Abraham saw the deeds of Esau and he knew that in Jacob should his name and seed be called: and he called Rebecca and gave commandment regarding Jacob, for he knew that she (too) loved Jacob more than Esau. And he said unto her:

"My daughter, watch over my son Jacob, For he shall be in my stead on the earth, And for a blessing in the midst of the children of men, And for the glory of the whole seed of Shem. For I know that the Lord will choose him to be a people for possession unto Himself, above all peoples that are upon the face of the earth. And behold, Isaac my son loves Esau more than Jacob, but I see that thou truly lovest Jacob."

(*Jubilees* chapter 19, page 113).

I actually penned in the margin that Abraham could not have known Esau and Jacob so this was wrong, but wisely I decided to check. Sarah was dead before Isaac took Rebekah to be his wife. He was 40 when he married her so Abraham was 140 at the time of the marriage. Rebekah was barren for 20 years before she had the twins because Genesis 25:26 says that Isaac was 60 when she had them. So why did I think Abraham was dead? Because in the Genesis narrative the death of Abraham at 175 is reported in chapter 25 at the beginning before the story of the birth of the lads at the end. So, according to the sequence in the narrative, Abraham dies then the lads are born. We forget so easily that these people frequently didn't write their histories sequentially as we would today. If Isaac was 60 when his twins were born, Abraham was only 160, because he was 100 when Isaac was born. He died at 175 so he must have spent some 15 years watching the lads grow up. Of course this little vignette in *Jubilees* about Abraham fingering Jacob over Esau in Rebekah's ear has no scriptural backing, but it certainly could have taken place. I had egg on my face, I'm afraid to confess, because I should have known better.

There are other interesting things like

this in both *Jubilees* and *Enoch* which made the exercise for me a learning one as much as a confirmation of the teaching I believed was correct about 'the sons of God'.

The main thought

However, I want to leave you with a very different thought from these studies. You remember after the Flood when God made His covenant with Noah? There were essentially five commands either restated or newly introduced: 1) Be fruitful and multiply (the command which has always been kept with great gusto by mankind in general!); 2) Mankind is given charge over the Earth including the beasts, fish, birds etc.; 3) Meat now officially allowed as food; 4) No eating or consuming blood; 5) Capital punishment introduced for murder. Let us refresh our memories from the scriptures:

'And God blessed Noah and his sons and said to them, Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth. The fear of you and the dread of you shall be upon every beast of the earth and upon every bird of the heavens, upon everything that creeps on the ground and all the fish of the sea. Into your hand they are delivered. Every moving thing that lives shall be food for you. And as I gave you the green plants, I give you everything. But you shall not eat flesh with its life, that is, its blood. And for your lifeblood I will require a reckoning: from every beast I will require it and from man. From his fellow man I will require a reckoning for the life of man.'

Whoever sheds the blood of man, by man shall his blood be shed, for God made man in his own image.

And you, be fruitful and multiply, teem on the earth and multiply in it."

Then God said to Noah and to his sons with him, Behold, I establish my covenant with you and your offspring after you, and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the livestock, and every beast of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark; it is for every beast of the earth. I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of the flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth." (Gen 9:1-11)

The focus

Now which one of these things would we focus on today if we had to pick one? Well, we might well focus on man's commission to tend the Earth and look after the animals, if we are into green issues. Or we might elevate the capital punishment regulation for murder if that's a burning social issue dear to our hearts – and we certainly need to remember that this covenant is still extant; it was not nailed to the Cross. It was the religious Law of Moses which went at Calvary, but the Noachian Covenant, with its promises of no more global flooding and seedtime and harvest, summer and winter, day and night, not



The sign of the Noachian Covenant from the Fisher garden

ceasing, is ours to cherish to the end of time.

So which one did *they* focus on, in Jesus' day? It was probably the one we'd think of last: the prohibition on eating blood. This was one of the restated restrictions placed on Christians at the Jerusalem Conference in Acts 15, and therefore must have been especially important in their day. Of course it was a regulation which was emphasized under the Mosaic Covenant and went alongside other dietary prohibitions. Jesus abolished them so we can now eat bacon and egg for breakfast, but the blood consumption remains. Why?

You see, in *Enoch* and *Jubilees* it was closely associated with pagan worship and idolatry, where the ritual drinking of blood was practised as a religious act. This came down the mists of time from Noah and still applies today. Yes, I knew it was important but reading these two books made me realise that though we might think a little about it if black puddings are offered on a full English breakfast menu in a B & B or hotel, we generally hardly ever give it any thought. (How we answer this conundrum might well differ. I never have any problem over rejecting them because I can't abide the thought of what I'm being invited to put into my mouth and stomach so this issue is not on my table from a biblical point of view.) They, however, were preoccupied by the pagan practice of drinking blood around the time of Jesus.

Jesus' enigmatic teaching

This made me think about the rejection of Jesus particularly after He preached a message like this in the synagogue at Capernaum, as recorded in John 6:

"I am the bread of life. Your fathers ate the manna in the wilderness, and they died. This is the bread that comes down from heaven, so that one may eat of it and not die. I am the living bread that came down from heaven. If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever. And the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh."

The Jews then disputed among themselves, saying, How can this man give us his flesh to eat?" So Jesus said to them, Truly, truly, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. Whoever feeds on my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day. For my flesh is true food, and my blood is true

drink. Whoever feeds on my flesh and drinks my blood abides in me, and I in him. As the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever feeds on me, he also will live because of me.'" (Jn 6:48-57).

Our take on this

When we hear those words we have the benefit of hindsight and we know exactly what Jesus was referring to when He taught about them sharing in His flesh and blood. We do it symbolically every Sunday, but they were living before the Cross, before the Last Supper, before the resurrection and before the institution of the breaking of bread and sharing a drink of red liquid to remember our oneness with Him. To the Jew of His day this must have sounded suspiciously like an invitation to paganism and a violation of the blood regulations. Remember Jesus, in chapter 8, was actually claiming to be the 'I AM' and they wanted to stone Him for blasphemy. He, who claimed to be God, was inviting them to partake in His flesh and blood.

Where would we have 'stood' had we heard this message in Capernaum?

We know the Jews got it wrong, horribly wrong, but sometimes Jesus didn't make it easy for them. I often wonder where I would have stood concerning His claims were I to hear these things before the Cross. It's so easy for us to condemn and say that we wouldn't have been on the wrong side because it was patently obvious He was the Christ, but I think I'd like to exercise a little more humility when being quick to condemn them. We have to remember too that Jesus had to go to the Cross, so had He made everything patently clear prior to His death and resurrection He would not have been rejected and crucified. His teaching was intended to be for the Christian Age so we could grasp the full import of His message and credentials, but I have a good deal of sympathy for many of those who found Him difficult to understand at times and were very confused as a result.

Conclusion

By reading these two books I found a tremendous amount to think about and was privileged to get greater insight into what was going on in the background of Jesus' day, much of which is not obvious just from the text of scripture. It's amazing isn't it that even when you're down and out with the flu how God can turn a wretched fortnight into an enlightening experience in the most unexpected of ways?

SHORT NOTES

From time to time we will bring you short-ish items which, for the moment, do not merit full article status but nevertheless reflect some aspects of the work we are doing in *Genesis Accepted*. They will generally be items gleaned from the media which deserve to be brought to your attention. I hope you find them useful and informative.

Editor

CANIONS The formation of canyons under the 'normal' geological explanations of 'the present [being] the key to the past', is to suggest that a little water working over a long, long time will produce the desired feature. It is also suggested that if the land is rising at the same rate as the river is eroding then the result is the steep-sided, narrow valley we call a gorge or, on a larger scale, a canyon. If the rocks over which the river is flowing are relatively soft, the canyon sides will be steeper because vertical erosion will be a lot swifter than lateral erosion.



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On the other hand, the catastrophic Flood model employed by Creationists to explain these phenomena suggests that a lot of water over a very short time, when the rocks were unconsolidated, and therefore soft and easy to erode vertically, is the much better explanation. Recent evidence - being in the present, of course(!) - favours the Flood paradigm.

In 1980 on the flanks of Mount St Helens, in Washington State, after the massive eruption, floodwaters eroded a 200ft mini-canyon in a matter of days. Last year, in July 2009, an astonishing 'canyon' appeared in a field in Durham (see picture above). This is what the experts had to say, as reported beneath the picture in the *Daily Mail*:

'The Durham 'Grand Canyon' carved in a matter of minutes after flooding on 18th July 2009. It measures 110ft across, 15ft deep and 200 yards long. Simultaneously, the high waters of the Wear had broken the banks at

exactly the same point - and in an instant, a new tributary to the river was formed. Luckily, no buildings were near enough to be affected. Now the floodwater has drained away and the river has returned to its normal level, an almost empty canyon remains, with just a trickle of water at the bottom. It is an extraordinary illustration of the power of nature - and shows that enough water, flowing with enough force, doesn't need decades to carve a path through the earth. In fact, it is estimated that the water carried into the river up to 12,000 cubic metres of soil, weighing 15,000 tons, the volume of 25 swimming pools.' (Emphasis ours).

The width and depth dimensions of the real Grand Canyon are only approximately 350 times larger, though its length is about 2,200 times longer. The Durham flood, however, only lasted minutes, but the receding waters of Noah's Flood drained off

the land for weeks and its volume would have been thousands, if not hundreds or millions of times greater.

So did the Grand Canyon really take millions of years to form? One thing is certain, it didn't have to. The mechanism to do so in a matter of days or weeks exists, so it comes down to a matter of how the data is interpreted and which explanation best fits it.

There are other clues as to which scenario is best, such as the fact that the Colorado river has no significant delta so where did it deposit the enormous amount of material it is supposed to have removed over the millennia since it has formed? It is also far too small a river to have carved out a canyon that size even given the time it has supposed to have been eroding. The Noachian Flood scores hands down every time when the facts are closely examined.

How long can soft parts remain?

Recent geological fossil finds have puzzled evolutionary scientists because, though they date them as being millions of years old, nevertheless they still contain discernable unfossilized bones, soft tissue or even blood. Unfossilized bones of a T-Rex have been found and some of them contain soft tissue and blood.



That's not bad for over 65 million years! Now we have another enigma in the same

vein. The palaeontologist, in the photo left, is looking at the preserved ink sac of a giant squid, found recently in Jurassic rocks in Wiltshire, only the ink isn't fossilized and can still be used! Below is the report from the *Daily Mail* of 19th August 2009.

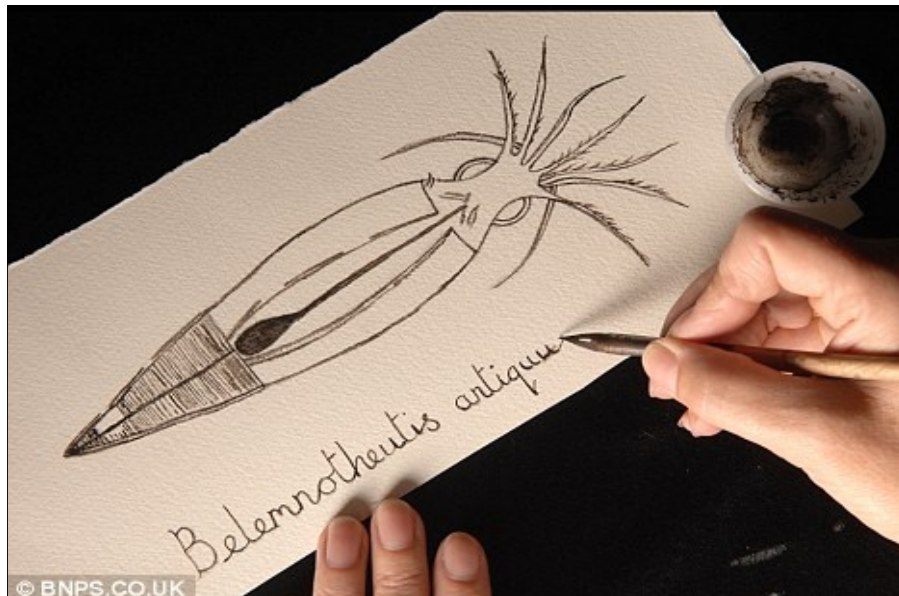
'The squid-like creature perished some 155million years ago. But despite the vast passage of time, experts who unearthed the fossilised remains were able to extract ink from its perfectly-preserved sac and use it to paint a picture of the ancient animal. The odds of finding something as delicate as a squid's ink sac intact after so long are put at a billion to one. The key is the speed with which it was fossilised in rocks in Wiltshire

that were under the sea during the Jurassic period. Scientists describe it as the Medusa effect, after the monster in Greek mythology whose face was so terrible to behold that anyone gazing at her was turned to stone.

Dr Phil Wilby, who led the team which found the fossil, said: 'The decomposition process usually means only the hard parts of an animal are preserved. It is extremely rare to find any fossil with the soft parts preserved. We call it the Medusa effect - specimens turn to stone within a matter of days, before the soft parts can be eaten away.' The inch-long ink sac had become separated from its owner - *Belemnotherutis antiquus* - which Dr Wilby said was 'squid-like but not the same as a modern-day squid'. However the black ink was of exactly the same structure as that of today's version. Although solidified, some was ground up with an ammonia solution to make paint. The ink sac was among several thousand fossils removed from the site by Dr Wilby, of the British Geological Survey. He hopes that analysing them will reveal why so many creatures perished in the area and how some have been so well-preserved they look as if they have only just died.

The site was known about in the Victorian era and was one of the first in the world to yield fossils of fragile muscle and stomach tissue. But its exact location became lost until rediscovered recently by Dr Wilby. [Emphasis ours].

Geological text books tell us that the Jurassic period was one of calm, warm, shallow seas where the shelly limestone deposits, in which this sac was found, built up slowly over the 45 million years they were said to be accumulating. Nevertheless, this fossil was buried and fully entombed swiftly, in a matter of only days, according to a regular



Pen and (very, very old) ink: The squid's pigment is used to draw a description of it

geologist, and maybe only hours, according to Flood geologists. It does not 'speak' of serene conditions in shallow water but of an enormous and sudden cataclysm. Had it just been one lone fossil a freak accident could be invoked, but it is admitted that there were several thousand fossils in the small area of the find in Wiltshire.

We note that the ink 'was of exactly the same structure as that of today's version', so no evolution here. And even more amazing is that Dr Wilby hopes that an analysis 'will reveal why so many creatures perished in the area and how some have been so well-preserved they look as if they have only just died.'

Let's give him a hand. They look

young, as if they've only just died instead of being 155,000,000 years old, because they are young - only 4,500 years old in fact. They were buried swiftly in the Flood of Noah's day and are not really a monument to amazing preservation but rather to God's wrath and judgement on a sinful world. Regular geologists discount the Flood, of course, thereby missing the real, and therefore the best, explanation! Ignorance is not just confined to the intellectually challenged; very clever people can be wilfully ignorant and that, in God's eyes, is far worse. Jesus had great sympathy for the uninformed masses but was scathing about the religious leaders of His day: scribes and Pharisees who should have been shepherds guiding the flock into God's truth.

It's Good Science!

In earlier issues we have been advocating an astro-catastrophic scenario, which suggests that the best explanation for many events in the past is close flybys of large astral bodies, like some planets, which severely disrupted the surface of the Earth to differing degrees, depending on the closeness of the encounters and the size of the incoming bodies. These include the Flood mechanism, mountain building, continental drift and such in the geological field, the explanation of religious apostasy amongst the early biblical peoples and much of the biblical imagery, as well as monuments like Stonehenge, etc. Such events, if they occurred, naturally greatly frightened the ancients who came to worship planets as gods. But is it good science? The answer is 'Yes', but regular scientists will only accept it if these flybys occurred deep in space or way back in time, but not on the Earth in historical

times.

A short item in the *Daily Mail* (13.8.09) illustrates the scientific acceptability of the scenario. Under the heading of 'Largest planet is a backwards sort of place' we read:

'A British astronomer has found a planet larger than any yet known - and it is travelling backwards around its star. The gigantic world is twice the size of Jupiter, the largest planet in our solar system, but unlike any seen before it is orbiting its home sun in the opposite direction to which the star is spinning...

*Astronomer David Anderson of Keele University, Staffs., spotted [it] 1,000 light-years away in the constellation of Scorpius with help from teams in Switzerland and South Africa. He told the *Astrophysical Journal* that its backward orbit could be due to a near miss with another heavenly body that acted like a 'gravitational sling-shot' - swinging the planet around in a U-turn.' (emphasis ours).*

So here we have it, a perfect example of the kind of event we advocate. The 'offenders' in our case had to be very much smaller than the one which was able to shift a planet said to be bigger than Jupiter.

Astronomers believe that one amazing function of Jupiter is to act a shield to prevent many astral bodies penetrating to the inner parts of the Solar System and thereby protecting the Earth from much more danger. We would see in this a blessing from the Creator who made the world for mankind and fashioned the planets for our benefit. Before the Fall this shield would not have been necessary.

Astronomers also believe that comets owe their origins to precisely the same mechanism. They currently teach that beyond the outer reaches of the Solar System is a 'cloud' of small rock/ice bodies, as yet unseen, which occasionally gets disrupted and thus a comet is thrown in our direction. Yes, we're talking okay science!

More 'fossilized' intact tissue!



December 3, 2007—Dakota, a 67-million-year-old "dino mummy" unveiled today by a British palaeontologist, is seen here in an artist's rendering. The extraordinarily preserved hadrosaur, or duck-billed dino, still had much of its tissues and bones intact, encased in an envelope of skin.

Research into the dinosaur's remains may further scientists' understanding of how the ancient creatures' skin appeared and how quickly they moved, said team leader Phillip Manning of the University of Manchester.

"This specimen exceeds the jackpot," Manning said.

Dakota was about 35 feet (12 meters) long and weighed some 3.5 tons, but the dinosaur was no slowpoke, according to preliminary studies.

With the aid of a large-scale CT scanner, researchers determined that Dakota had a more muscular rear end and more powerful legs than previously believed, according to Manning.

[Once again scientists find intact tissue, bones and skin, but never seem to question that dinosaurs died out about 65 million years ago, instead of recently, some 4,500 years ago in the Flood.]

There is absolutely no way that soft parts or unfossilized bones can survive for tens of millions of years, but they are so entrenched in their evolutionary paradigm they unreflectively adapt the data into it. When will they ever learn?]



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All quotations are from the *English Standard Version* of the Bible (Anglicized version, 2002), unless otherwise indicated.

