

GENESIS STUDY



The Beginning

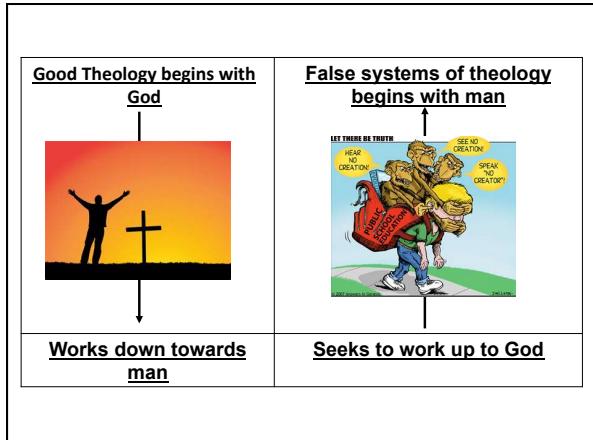
Genesis Means Origin Or Beginning



- "This is the foundation truth of all real theology. God is the great originator and initiator. It is the ignoring of this which is the basic error in all human schemes. False systems of theology and philosophy begin with man, and seek to work up towards God. But this is the turning of things upside down. We must, in all our thinking begin with God, and work down to man." —Pink, Gleanings in Genesis

God Is The Originator And Initiator Of All Revelation

- "The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave Him
- "We love Him because He first loved us.—1 John 4:19
- **protos (pro'-tos);** foremost (in time, place, order or importance)
- **When did God first love man?**
- **How does man know God's love?**
- Through Revelation!



Jesus Is The Revealed Truth To Man

- "And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth ." -- **John 1:14**
- "Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth , and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me." -- **John 14:6**
- Ultimate reality begins and ends with Jesus, the Truth

- "Paul, a bondservant of God and an apostle of Jesus Christ, according to the faith of God's elect and the acknowledgment of the truth which accords with godliness, in hope of eternal life which God, who cannot lie, promised before time began ." -- **Titus 1:2**
- Revelation always begins with God the foundation of all truth. Man never creates the truth but receives the truth as revealed by God.

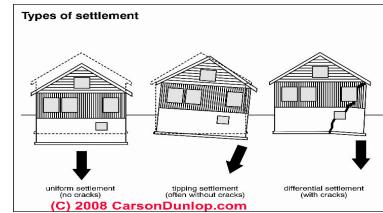
The Foundation Of History

- The Book of Genesis is in reality the foundation of all true history. It is the foundational Book of the Bible, and the first eleven chapters are the foundational chapters of the Book of Genesis, and the first verse is the foundational verse to those eleven chapters thus it is the foundational verse to the whole Bible.

The Nature Of History

- Most of the world starts from the foundation that God plays no part in the movement of history. In fact most are driven to diminish or eliminate God's role in history.
- This is in direct conflict with a Biblical worldview that begins with God who is involved in all of history not just religious history but all of secular and sacred movements in time.

A Strong Foundation



- If God has not spoken there isn't a foundation for us to believe about Him therefore there is nothing to hope for other than our vain imaginations.

God Is Involved In History

- Daniel answered and said: "Blessed be the name of God forever and ever, for wisdom and might are His. **And He changes the times and the seasons; He removes kings and raises up kings;** He gives wisdom to the wise and knowledge to those who have understanding. He reveals deep and secret things; He knows what *is* in the darkness, and light dwells with Him.-**Daniel 2:20-21**
- "Let every soul be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and **the authorities that exist are appointed by God.**"-**Romans 13:1**

Revelation Is The Means To Know God

- "Surely I am more stupid than any man, and do not have the understanding of a man. I neither learned wisdom nor have knowledge of the Holy One. Who has ascended into heaven, or descended? Who has gathered the wind in His fists? Who has bound the waters in a garment? Who has established all the ends of the earth? What is His name, and what is His Son's name, if you know? Every word of God is pure; He is a shield to those who put their trust in Him. **Do not add to His words, lest He rebuke you, and you be found a liar.**"-**Proverbs 30:2-6**
- Genesis is the beginning of the gospel message and it comes by revelation not speculation. Man was not there at the beginning therefore any other theory than what the Bible has revealed is mere speculation. We either believe or we don't.

- “I marvel that you are turning away so soon from Him who called you in the grace of Christ, to a different gospel, which is not another; but there are some who trouble you and want to pervert the gospel of Christ. But even if we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel to you than what we have preached to you, let him be accursed. As we have said before, so now I say again, if anyone preaches any other gospel to you than what you have received, let him be accursed. For do I now persuade men, or God? Or do I seek to please men? For if I still pleased men, I would not be a bondservant of Christ. But I make known to you, brethren, that **the gospel which was preached by me is not according to man. For I neither received it from man, nor was I taught it, but it came through the revelation of Jesus Christ.**” -Galatians 1:6-12

Evolution Is Not Compatible With The Revelation Of Scripture

- “Christianity has fought, still fights, and will fight science to the desperate end over evolution, because evolution destroys utterly, and finally the very reason Jesus' earthly life was supposedly made necessary. Destroy Adam and Eve and the original sin, and in the rubble, you'll find the sorry remains of the son of god. Take away the meaning of his death. If Jesus **was not** the Redeemer who died for our sins, and this is what evolution means, then Christianity is nothing!”-Richard Bozarth
- “If evolution happened, then a tremendous amount of death occurred before man evolved. But if death preceded man, and was not the result of Adam's sin, then sin is a fiction. If sin is a fiction, then we have no need of a Savior.”-Walter Brown

Hebrews 11:3

By faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that the things which are seen were not made of things which are visible.

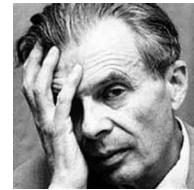
The Creation

- The word for **“worlds”** in the original text is **“aion”** which means “the ages” or “worlds” or “universe”
- The word for “framed” in the original text is **“katartizo”** which means **“to fit out, equip, put in order, arrange, adjust”**.
- Not only did God create the universe out of nothing but also put in order the universe from the very beginning to the end to accomplish His purposes and through faith we understand that He created and He is at work arranging things according to His will even though we don't see Him.

PSALM 33:6&9

“By the word of the LORD the heavens were made, And all the host of them by the breath of His mouth..... For He spoke, and it was done; He commanded, and it stood fast.”

Aldous Huxley—“It is clear that the doctrine of evolution is directly antagonistic to that of creation....Evolution, if consistently accepted, makes it impossible to believe in the bible.”



Jesus Brought Understanding

- When Jesus came into the world He gave us the reason and understanding of our existence
- He brought real purpose and understanding for who we are and who we are created to be
- It is a different way of seeing the world and why we are here
- It is a world view based solely in the person of Jesus Christ

“For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him. And He is before all things, and in Him all things consist.- **Colossians 1:13-17**

Everything is here because of Jesus!

Genesis Refutes All False Philosophies

<u>World Philosophies</u>	<u>What Genesis Says</u>
Atheism	In the beginning God
Pantheism	God is separate and Holy
Polytheism	One God
Materialism	Matter not at the beginning
Humanism	God, not man, is the ultimate reality
Evolutionism	God created
Uniformitarianism	God interacts with creation

Rules of Right Thinking

Every thought begins with a presupposition or bias.

The rules of right thinking asks the question: Does that presupposition agree with reality or make logical sense.

After understanding the presupposition we need to look at the evidence.

Cultural evidence: What do people groups have to say about creation?

The last step in the process is to logically explain the presupposition.

“...always be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you...”-1 Peter 3:15

Various Theories About Creation

- “The book of Genesis and the science currently taught are at intense odds with each other. There are a number of folk who want to believe in the Bible and also want to believe what modern science says and so try to deal with Genesis in a number of ways.” **Setterfield**

Theory Interpretation

Gap Theory	• There is a time period gap between Genesis 1:1 and Genesis 1:2. The gap theory allows for the millions or billions of years, and seems to accommodate the ancient ages declared by radiometric dating and appears to give time for evolution. They believe the earth was destroyed when Satan rebelled. The problem is that God said at the end of the creation week the entire creation was "very good" which means Lucifer/Satan had not yet rebelled/sinned. • "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. The earth was without form, and void; and darkness"
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GAP THEORY REFUTED

- Scofield Reference Bible supports the "Gap Theory"
- Gap between Genesis. 1:1 and Genesis 1:2
- Creation time not given therefore could be billions of years
- First creation was for angels when angels were in charge of planets and this is when Lucifer fell and took his fallen angels with him
- "For this they willfully forget: that by the word of God the heavens were of old, and the earth standing out of water and in the water, by which the world that then existed perished, being flooded with water."-2 Peter 3:5-6

- God needed to recreate the world from its fall from the angelic rebellion.
- Gap theorist not only place a huge emphasis upon the word "hayah" as "had become" but also upon the word "asah" "made" as "recreate".
- "And God made the beast of the earth according to its kind...." -**Genesis 1:25**
- "When "asah" is used, it refers to a re-creation a "making out" of something previously existing."- Fields
- In 98 percent of the occurrence of "hayah" it is translated as "was" and not "became" as some have used it:

- This verb simply stated is concerned with the state in which things are and who is to effect the event.
- "Now the LORD had prepared a great fish to swallow Jonah. And Jonah was in the belly of the fish three days and three nights."--**Jonah 1:17**
- Fossils are reminder of this time
- Gap Theory is a theological disaster:
- Fossils equal death; no death before Adam Makes god responsible death, pain, and suffering (Romans 5:12, I Corinthians 15:21)

Theory	Interpretation
Theistic Evolution	God used evolution to create the world. Theistic evolution compromises the historical and accuracy of Scripture beyond all other popular viewpoints, theories of theistic evolution force interpreters to allegorize all the Genesis narrative.
Day-Age Theory	The word in Genesis for "day" is "yom" in Hebrew. The day-age theorist believe the word "yom" can be interpreted as an indefinite period of time. The creation account was in their view an "era" or "age". God is a casual agent Who merely observes the evolution process.

Was This A Literal Day?

- "Yom" = 24 hour day
- "Yom" can mean a period of time like "The day of the Lord"
- Exodus 20:11: creation of the work week
- "Yom" is used 2301 times in the Old Testament
- "Yom" when used with a number, i.e. "first day...etc. ;
- 410 times "Yom" is always a 24 hour period
- When qualified with "evening and morning" 38 times "Yom" means a 24 hour period

2 Peter 3:8

- "But, beloved, do not forget this one thing, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day."
- 2 Peter 3:8 is used by Day Age proponents to mean that God could have taken an indefinite period of time to create.
- In this context it is the Lord's patience that is being referenced. The Lord is patient to bring all to repentance.

Jonah and 2 Peter 3:8

- "Now the LORD had prepared a great fish to swallow Jonah. And Jonah was in the belly of the fish **three days and three nights.**"--**Jonah 1:17**
- " But, beloved, do not forget this one thing, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day."
- A 3,000 year old Jonah



Theory	Interpretation
Myth	"Those who consider Genesis myth consider it to have been simply copied from other creation myths of the Middle East. This approach discounts any validity it may have at all. A major problem with this approach is that Genesis does not present itself as a myth, but as history. Literary honesty demands it be accepted or rejected on its own terms."--Setterfield
JEPD Theory	This theory seeks to interpret the first five books of the Bible through four different authors.
Two Creation Events	Some believe that there were two accounts of creation. Genesis 1:2-4, is the first creative act. Genesis 2:4-25 is the second creative act. There are not two creation accounts. Genesis 1:26, is a general statement about the making of man. Genesis 2:7, is the particular account of man's creation.

JEPD Theory

- The *Jehovah* documents, which date approximately, 850 B.C.; These writers use the term Jehovah when referring to God.
- The *Elohist* documents, which date approximately ,750 B.C; these writers refer to Elohim when referring to God.
- The *Deuteronomist* documents which date approximately, 620 B.C.; These writers did most of the book of Deuteronomy, and edited some of the previous writers work.
- The *Priestly* documents, which date approximately, 500 B.C., These writers represent a group of Jewish priests who wrote the final editorial version of the documents.

JEPD Problems

- Genesis itself purports to be the original history.
- It contained exact conversations and details which later writers would not have known or had to make up.
- Archeology supports the Biblical narrative.
- This theory assumes that man had not evolved enough to be able to write, until much later than the time of Moses; therefore, Moses could not have written, or edited these books. However, modern archeology has shown that writing existed long before Moses. This is even confirmed by an evolutionary anthropologist, Ralph Linton: "writing appears almost simultaneously some 5,000-6,000 years ago in Egypt, Mesopotamia, and the Indus valley."

Genesis As True History

- Moses as the editor of Genesis.
- In Genesis names are given, but with the addition of the name in which they were known in the time of Moses:
- Gen 14:2,8: Bela, which is Zoar
- Gen 14:3: the valley of Siddim, which is the Salt Sea
- Gen. 14:7: Enmishpat, which is Kadesh
- Gen. 14:15: Hobah, which is on the left hand of Damascus
- Gen. 14:17: valley of Shaveh, which is the King's Valley
- Gen. 16:14: the well of Beerlahairoi...between Kadesh and Bered
- Gen. 23:2: Kirjatharba, the same as Hebron...in Canaan
- Gen. 35:19: Ephrath, which is Bethlehem

The Tablet Hypothesis

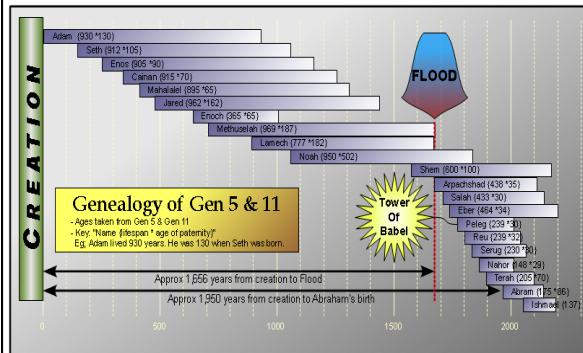
- This Hypothesis is the idea that Genesis is a series of eyewitness accounts with some editorial comments and names inserted later by Moses as points of explanation.
- This attributes the organization of the books by Moses and reflects Moses as editor of the Genesis account and the author of Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, and Deuteronomy.
- Moses would have been organizing the first five books under the guidance of divine inspiration.
- Jesus believed Moses was the editor/author: (Luke 24:27,44)

Evidence Of Moses As The Editor Of Genesis

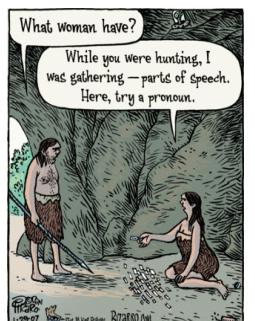
- In Genesis one, God was the only person present at the time, thus he would have had to reveal what he did at creation to Adam.
- God could have written it down like He did the ten commandments at Mount Sinai, or He told Adam directly and Adam wrote it down.
- In Genesis 1:16, God calls the sun: "the greater light" and He calls the moon: "the lesser light". If writers were writing this event why did they not call it sun and moon, almost all ancient oral traditions had a name for the sun and moon. In Genesis 15:12, it is first called sun. If compiled later should have sun and moon here.

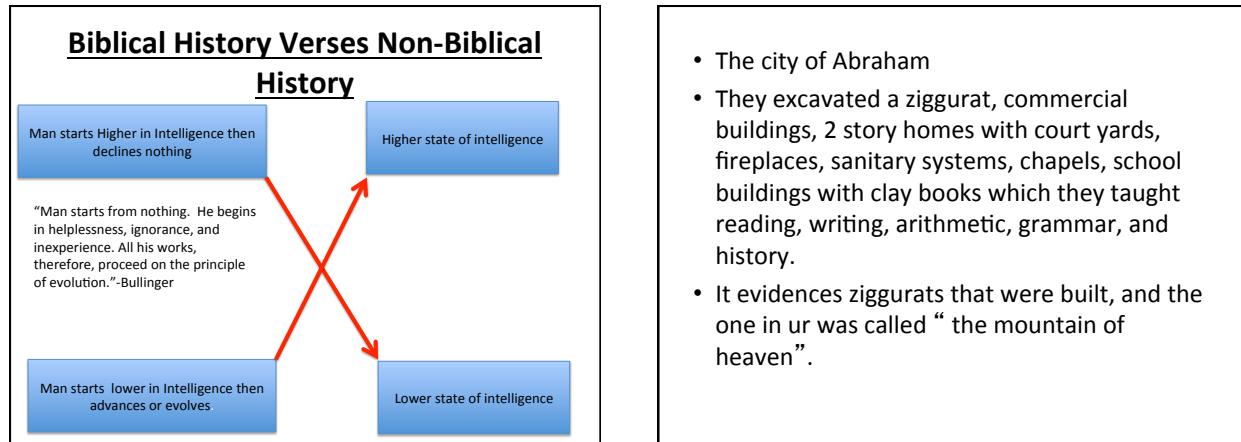
- In Genesis 2:4 - 5:1, this account may have been recorded directly by Adam himself. He was there and was writing about his relationship with God. He quotes direct commandments he received in direct conversation with God.
- Romans 10:17 says, "...faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God." And Hebrews 11:6 says. ..."Without faith it is impossible to please him (God)..."
- The phrase "and God said" is used over and over again in the creation account in Genesis. Each person from Adam to us are required to believe God at his word and His account.
- These manuscripts may have been passed down: God, Adam, Seth, Noah, Shem, then Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and finally Moses.

Longevity of Life Allowed For The Spreading of God's Word



How Far Back Did Writing Exist?





- It evidences reading and writing long before Moses, and it demonstrates that Abraham was probably a schooled individual. They found an 8 foot water laid strata of clean clay and sand, with signs of occupation both above and below showing a definite break in the continuity of the culture. Critics claim that it was a localized flood
- It demonstrates support for the flood accounts of the Sumerian, Babylonian and the Bible.

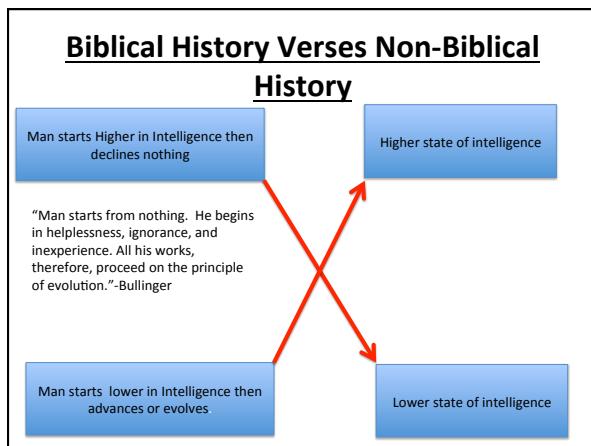
Writing Tablets From Around 3300 B. C.



Job 19:23-24

- ""Oh, that my words were written! Oh, that they were inscribed in a book! That they were engraved on a rock With an iron pen and lead, forever!"'

Rules of Right Thinking	
Every thought begins with a presupposition or bias.	The rules of right thinking asks the question: Does that presupposition agree with reality or make logical sense.
After understanding the presupposition we need to look at the evidence.	Cultural evidence: What do people groups have to say about creation?
	Biblical evidence: What does the Bible or say about itself?
	Physical evidence: Archeological findings?
The last step in the process is to logically explain the presupposition.	“...always be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you...”-1 Peter 3:15



Colophones

- P. J. Wiseman**
- Air Commodore P. J. Wiseman, a British officer who visited many active archaeological sites during his career in the Middle East, found that ancient narrative tablets usually ended in **colophon phrases** which had a very specific format consisting of three parts:
 1. "this has been the history/book/genealogy of..."
 2. The name of the person who wrote or owned the tablet.

3. A date (such as "in the year of the great earthquake," or "the 3rd year of king so-and-so", etc.
- Wiseman noted that there are eleven phrases in Genesis which have the same colophon format, which have long been identified as the **toledah** (Hebrew for "generations especially family history") passages.
- **Colophon:** "A drawing or device at the beginning or end of a chapter or section of a book."--Webster

"Toledah"

- Descendants, results, proceedings, generations, genealogies
- An account of men and their descendants
- A genealogical list of one's descendants
- One's contemporaries
- The course of history (used of creation, etc.)
- Brown Driver & Briggs Hebrew Lexicon
- **Toledah implies the telling of a story**
- The Hebrew word "dor" is predominately used for Generation.

Colophon Phrases in Genesis:

1. These are the generations of the heavens and of the earth"—Genesis 2:4
 - This is an account of the history of the universe and its creation in six days. It has no human name attached to it because no human would have been present at this event.
2. "These are the generations of Adam"—Genesis. 2:4-5:1
 - These events describe the creation of man and woman, giving them personal names, naming of the animals, the giving of the commandment, the Fall, the sacrifice for sin, the first murder, the first religion opposed to God in Cain, the industrialization of man into civilizations. It also ties the Old Testament to the new with the phrase in Matthew. 1:1: "the book of the generation of Jesus Christ"

3. "The generations of Noah"—Genesis. 5:1-6:9
 - These events describe the family lineage of Noah from Adam. It is interesting to point out that Noah's father Lamech, according to the genealogy would have lived along side of Adam, Seth, Enoch etc.. Noah himself would have lived along all of them except Adam, Seth and Enoch. It also records the downward spiral of man until finally God is upset with the creation of man and states that He is going to destroy the world.
4. "The generations of the sons of Noah"—Genesis 6:9-10:1

- These events describe the building of the ark, the gathering of the animals, the new covenant with Noah after the flood, and Noah's prophecy about his son's and ultimately mankind. It concludes with Noah's death.

5. "The generations of Shem"-Genesis 10:1---11:10

- These events describe the table of nations, the building of the tower, the confusion and dispersion of the people groups. It also lists in great detail the formation of a great empire, and its center and surrounding cities, of which has yet to be disproved by archeology, but has been confirmed by many finds and location of the cities themselves.

6. "These are the generations of Terah"-Genesis 11:10-11:27

- This is a very brief document to describe the genealogies in the Semitic line, from Shem down to Terah and his three sons.

7. "These are the generations of Isaac"—Genesis 11:27—25:49

- These events describe the call of Abraham, the blessings of the chosen people, the life of Abraham until his death. It also contains a sub topic in the "generations of Ishmael"

8. "These are the generations of Jacob"-Genesis 25:19—37:2

- These contain the events in the life of Jacob. It also has a sub topic in the "generations of Esau"

9. "These are the generations of the sons of Jacob"-Genesis. 37:2---Exodus 1:1

- These contain the life of the sons of Israel, their troubles with Joseph. Their eventual reconciliation with Joseph, and their coming into the land of Egypt. It also contains the blessing of Jacob upon his sons. It ends with the death of Joseph.

The Tablet Divisions

Tablet	Starting Verse	Ending Verse	Writer
1	Genesis 1:1	Genesis 2:4	God
2	Genesis 2:4	Genesis 5:1	Adam
3	Genesis 5:1	Genesis 6:9	Noah
4	Genesis 6:9	Genesis 10:1	Shem, Ham and Japheth
5	Genesis 10:1	Genesis 11:10	Shem
6	Genesis 11:10	Genesis 11:27	Terah
7	Genesis 11:27	Genesis 25:12	Isaac
8	Genesis 25:12	Genesis 25:19	Ishmael
9	Genesis 25:19	Genesis 36:1	Jacob
10	Genesis 36:1	Genesis 36:43	Esau
11	Genesis 37:2	Exodus 1:6	Jacob's 12 sons

OOPArts

- The term "OOPArts is an acronym for Out Of Place Artifacts.
- "Human beings leave behind evidence of their presence and activities. Artifacts from the past can be used to provide much information about ancient man and his activities. However such artifacts pose a very great problem for the evolutionary picture that man developed upward from animals. If evolution is correct, and man came from an animal, then the further into the past one goes, the more primitive ought man to be. Artifacts should be increasingly primitive as we move further into the past. The actual case with the evidence, however, seems to be just the opposite". -Chittick



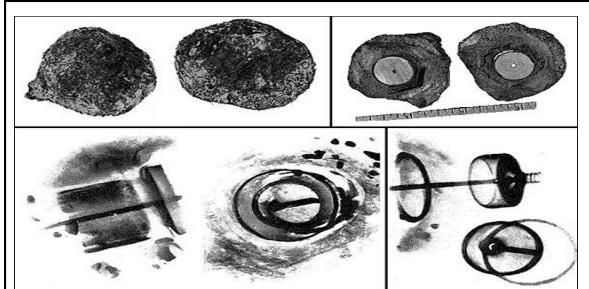
- ""Humans were not even around 65 million years ago, never mind people who could work metal. So then how does science explain semi-ovoid metallic tubes dug out of 65-million-year-old Cretaceous chalk in France? In 1885, a block of coal was broken open to find a metal cube obviously worked by intelligent hands. In 1912, employees at an electric plant broke apart a large chunk of coal out of which fell an iron pot! A nail was found embedded in a sandstone block from the Mesozoic Era. And there are many, many more anomalies"



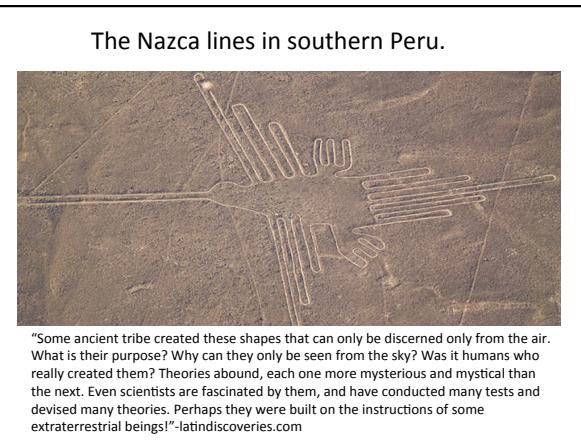
A mechanism, often referred to as an ancient "computer," that was built by Greeks around 150 B.C. was able to calculate astronomical changes with great precision. This device utilized sophisticated gears, even differential gears, a type not discovered until modern time.



The size of these ancient stones, some weighing in excess of 100 tons, along with how they have been fitted together precisely in their correct spot would be hard to duplicate today. Over the passage of time the stones are still fitting together as the original architects intended.



Rock hounds in the Cosa Mountains of California dug up this electrical device in what geologists originally estimated to be in 500,000 year old geodes. Evidence of the advanced technology of spark plugs should not be in fossilized rocks according to evolutionists.



What Are We To Make Of These Discoveries?

- Intelligent humans date back much, much further, than we realize.
- Other intelligent beings and civilizations existed on earth far beyond our recorded history.
- "This contentious group of anomalous artefacts includes anthropomorphic discoveries which have been found in geological strata formed before humans are believed to have existed." -ancient-wisdom.com

Extraterrestrials



"This is what happened: Extraterrestrials visited our Earth many millennia ago. They behaved similar to how current ethnologists behave today. They studied a few languages, visited different tribes, gave suggestions and disappeared sometime - however, with the promise to return in the distant future. Our Stone Age ancestors could not grasp what happened back then. They wrongfully believed that the extraterrestrials were gods. The supposed <gods> then wandered into our mythology and became the founders of many religions." -Eric Von Daniken

- "Perhaps we've never been visited by aliens because they have looked upon Earth and decided there's no sign of intelligent life." -Tyson
- "I believe alien life is quite common in the universe, although intelligent life is less so. Some say it has yet to appear on planet Earth." -Hawking
- The U.S. government spends about 100 million dollars annually looking for intelligent life on other planets. **It would be more beneficial to spend money looking for intelligent life in Washington DC.**

The Battle For The Mind

- Having a correct understanding and interpretation of the Bible influences how we view history.
- If a believer does not have a correct understanding of Biblical history then when he watches television or sees a movie about ancient history from a secular viewpoint he may begin to believe that the secular account is true.
- The believer may begin to see Biblical history in the context of that secular viewpoint and over time this could begin to have a devastating effect. A struggle may begin to take place in his mind as he tries to reconcile what the Bible claims verses what secular history claims.

A Huge Problem Exists Today

- Although people believe that the Bible is God's sacred word they rarely read it let alone take the time to study it. Therefore there is a lack of knowledge when it comes to spiritual, historical, and future understanding when it comes to the Bible.
- "Bible illiteracy is stealing the next generation of Christians. We're at genuine risk of losing biblical Christianity in just one generation." Today, 86 percent of American teenagers claim to be Christian. Three out of five say they believe the Bible is totally accurate in all that it teaches. They [teenagers] don't know the Bible for the same reason their parents don't know the Bible—neglect."-Kroll
- The result is that teenagers are getting their understanding from the movies and the novels that they see and read.

Suppressing The Truth For A Lie

- "For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who suppress the truth in unrighteousness, because what may be known of God is manifest in them, for God has shown it to them. For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse, because, although they knew God, they did not glorify Him as God, nor were thankful, but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened. Professing to be wise, they became fools, and changed the glory of the incorruptible God into an image made like corruptible man—and birds and four-footed animals and creeping things....who exchanged the truth of God for the lie, and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever. Amen."-Romans 1:18-23,25

- "Rejecting the truth God has revealed to everyone, man perverts the witness of creation and conscience and creates his own gods."-Hunt
- The abandonment of a Biblical Worldview and the God of the Bible will result in something or someone to replace Him. As G. K. Chesterton observed, "When men choose not to believe in God, they do not thereafter believe in nothing, they then become capable of believing in anything."
- It is unfortunate that people in the Church today are changing the truth of creation given to us in Scripture for the lie of evolution in order to be more accepted by society.