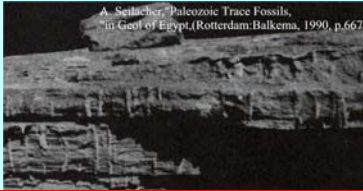


# Why The Bible Teaches an Old Earth

by  
Glenn R. Morton



A. Sellacher, 'Paleozoic Trace Fossils, in Geol of Egypt, (Rotterdam: Balkema, 1990, p.667)

What are burrows doing in sediments deposited by the flood????  
36,000 ft of flood sediment means 4 feet per hour!  
How do the animals have time to make the burrows?

## Three Important Stands

- Having the Bible be historically true
  - Harold Slusher: "If God can't be creator how can He be savior?"
- Accepting what you can see with your own eyes
  - Thomas—Jesus: "Reach hither thy finger, and behold my hands" Jesus SHOWED the EVIDENCE.
  - If humans can't trust what they see, how do we know that the tomb was really empty?
  - Christianity is an OBSERVATIONAL religion!
- Logical consistency or theory is wrong
  - Can't have round squares or circular triangles



Nibbling one's way through the Flood  
Nibbling is what a bird does when it eats  
How does this bird have time to do this?

## Days of Proclamation

- St. Basil (4<sup>th</sup> century) began this view.
- What did God say?
  - "Let there be light and it was so"
  - "Let there be light!" Someone else said "and it was so"
  - Time separates proclamation from human writer who said 'and it was so'
- God Proclaimed in Genesis 1;
- He created before Chapter 2
- Chapter 2 billions of years later
- Genesis 1 is PREPLANNING for the universe
  - Events are in planning order, not creation order-Trees before the Sun etc

Creation Time begins

10 Proclamations Genesis 1 → Creation of Man Genesis 2

Sequence cant happen in global flood (Remember 4 ft/hr sedimentation)

1. Sediment laid down
2. Termites Dig nest
3. Animal digs for termites

## Days of Proclamation

- God said: "Let there be light";
- Narrator said: " and there was light.--He Doesn't say when there was light!"
- God said, "Let there be a expanse in the midst of the waters,
- Narrator said: "And God made the expanse,
- God said, "Let the waters under the heaven be gathered together unto one place, and let the dry land appear:"
- Narrator said, "and it was so.
- God said, "Earth bring forth grass,
- Narrator said, "and it was so.
- God said, "Let there be lights in the expanse of the heaven
- Narrator said "and it was so.
- God said, "Waters bring forth abundantly the moving creature that hath life, and fowl
- Narrator said, "And God created great whales,
- God said, "Earth bring forth the living creature after his kind,
- Narrator said, "and it was so.
- God said, "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness;
- Narrator said, So God created man in his own image,
- God said, "Behold, I have given you every herb bearing seed,
- Narrator said, "and it was so.



15,000 feet of fossiliferous sediment below (2ft/hr)  
Pointy ends mean eroded by rain. How in a Flood?

## The Big Question: Does the Bible Rule Out Biological Change?

I say: Dave, Mow the Lawn!

- Who does the mowing?--My Son
- Where am I?--On the couch watching football
- Where is Dave?--Sweating in the yard
- I 'created' my son; taught him how to mow

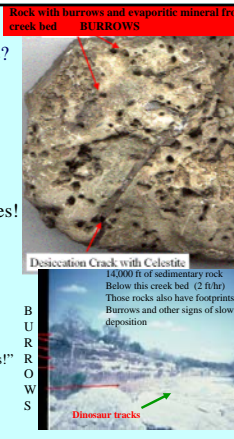
God said: Earth, bring forth living creatures!

- Whose command?==God!
- Who brings forth?==Earth does the work
- Why do we read this as if the Earth isn't doing anything?

Modern Science and the Bible agree.

- Bible: "Earth (command) bring forth living creatures!"
- Science: Earth brought forth living creatures

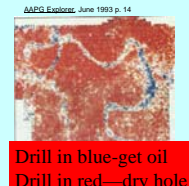
The young-earth view forces us to ignore the grammar



## No Limit to Biological Change

- Earth, bring forth living creatures after his kind
  - What is the subject?--Earth
  - What is the object?-- Living Creatures
  - Subjects are the doer; objects the 'done to'
- What this DOESN'T say
  - Creatures bring forth creatures after his kind.
  - Nowhere does the Bible say this--not anywhere.
  - Thus, how does this make a Biblical limit to biological change?

River channel (blue=river sand)  
Eroded into limestone(red)  
Requires fresh water  
15,000 feet of sediment  
Below this buried river



## Big Bang

- A young earth view prevents this valid scientific evidence of creation
  - The Big Bang takes too much time
- But the Bible may teach the Big Bang
  - Let there be light!

"The heat of this 'primeval fireball' meant that the universe was filled with intense [light]. Indeed, in technical jargon, the universe was '[light] dominated' for the first several million years of its existence." Stephen Barr

- Let there be 'expanse'
  - *Raqiya* comes from *Raqa*
  - *Raqa* means to stretch out
    - That is what space is doing
    - it is expanding stretching out.

"We prefer to think of space itself expanding and carrying the nebulae with it" W. B. Bonner

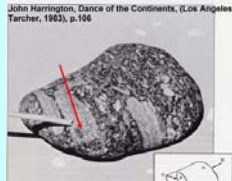


Figure 8.4. Crustal movement in the Atlantic. The upper part shows the Atlantic basin 100 million years ago. The lower part shows the Atlantic basin 10 million years ago.

Four generations of erosion and sedimentation

## Biblical Evidence of an Ancient Earth

- Olam used to describe the Everlasting God
  - Long duration, antiquity, futurity, for ever, ever, everlasting, evermore, perpetual, old, ancient, world
  - Olam uod olam means from eternity past to eternity future
  - Blessed be the LORD God of Israel from everlasting to everlasting[olam uod olam] Psalm 106:48
- It is also used to describe the time of mankind!
  - Isaiah 64:4 For from of old [olam ] men have not heard, ...the things God has prepared
  - Gen 6:4 mighty men which were of *olam*, men of renown
    - They lived before the flood

The Bible says the Earth is old and the Flood an Olam ago!

Average Flood Sedimentation Rate-4 ft/hr

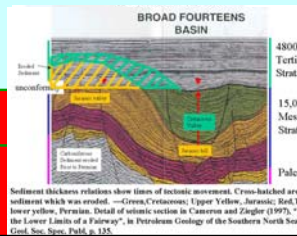
In a Flood, how does a Dinosaur Have time to make a nest?



## Biblical Evidence for Old Earth

- Hills older than mountains
  - "And for the chief things of the ancient[*qedem*] mountains, and for the precious things of the everlasting[*olam*] hills" Deuteronomy 33:15
- To say that olam is only for 6000 years means God only lasts for 6000 years
  - The everlasting (*olam*) God Gen 21:33
- To say that *olam* is only for 6000 years means Saints preserved for 6000 years
  - saints are preserved forever(*olam*) Ps 37:8

Given a global flood all fossils should be at bottom they aren't  
How do we have time to harden rocks; Fold the rocks; then erode 15,000 ft! Then cover them with more rocks? All layers have fossils



## Genealogies have C

- Luke Genealogy—Young Earth Chronology
  - 42 names between Jesus and David 23 yrs/generation
  - 13 names between David and Abraham 61 yrs/generation
  - 10 names between Abraham and Noah 120 yrs/generation
- Did only 61 year old geezers get the girls between David and Abraham?
- Yeled—begat
  - Atheist converts people to atheism using Yeled to show father son relationship in Gen 10
    - He is wrong
    - Converted many to atheism
  - "And Canaan begat Sidon his firstborn, and Heth, <sup>16</sup>And the Jebusite, and the Amorite, and the Gergasite" Gen 10:15-16
  - Begat is yeled—doesn't necessarily mean father son
- When my great-great-grandfather had my grandfather, he *yeled* me. Became my ancestor

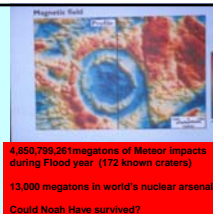
In 100 years hardly any erosion along a major river

Think how long it would take to erode this landscape with no river



## Global or Local Flood?

- Young-earthers want Global Flood
- Old earthers want Local Flood
- The *eretz* and *adamah* was flooded
  - *Eretz* means "land", "earth"
    - Land, ground or country 1780 times
    - Earth or World 716 times
      - Most of these readings should be 'land' or 'ground'
      - 1 Sam 5:3 "Dagon was fallen upon his face to the earth before the ark"
  - *Adamah* means "ground" or "land" **NOT PLANET EARTH**
    - Land, ground or country 172 times
    - Earth 53 times
- Most likely translation is 'land' or 'ground'.




## The Land was Flooded not the Planet

- Gen. 2:7 And the Lord formed *adamah* from the dust of the *adamah*(land)
- Genesis 6:7 I will destroy man whom I have created from the face of the *adamah* (land)
- Genesis 7:4 "and every living substance that I have made will I destroy from off the face of the *adamah* (land).
- Genesis 7:8,9 of every thing that creepeth upon the *adamah*(land) There went in two and two unto Noah into the ark
- **NOT EVERY ANIMAL ON EARTH!**



### If *eretz*=Planet was Abraham a Martian?


- Where was Abram from?
  - Gen 12:1 Now the LORD had said unto Abram, Get thee out of thy planet, and from thy kindred, and from thy father's house, unto a planet that I will show thee:
- Planet Havilah, Planet Cush, Planet Nod?
  - Gen 2:11-13, The name of the first is Pishon: that is it which compasseth the whole Planet of Havilah, where there is gold; <sup>12</sup>and the gold of that planet is good: ...the second river is Gihon: the same is it that compasseth the whole Planet of Cush
  - Gen 4:16 Cain went .... and dwelt in the Planet of Nod
  - Gen 10:10 And the beginning of his kingdom was Babel, .... in the Planet of Shinar
- Clearly *eretz* doesn't mean planet earth
  - Usage before and after Flood account
  - *Eretz* is 'land'
    - And the flood was forty days upon the land
    - the waters ...increased greatly upon the land
    - all flesh died that moved upon the land




15,000 layers have  
Burrows on each layer

### God's promise

- Gen 8:21 "I will not again curse the *adamah* any more for man's sake."
- This doesn't say "I will not 'flood' the *adamah*."



Turtle poo found abundantly  
In 55 myr old rocks of  
Madagascar  
Turtles today still leave their  
Marks on Madagascar



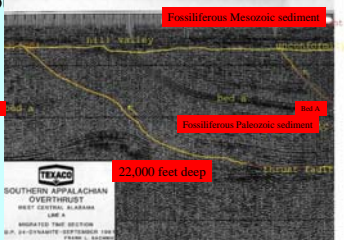
Ophiomorpha  
dung lining  
burrow

### Conclusion

- Earth is old
  - The Bible says so (olam)
  - The Bible say flood was an *olam* ago
  - Only the *adamah* was flooded
  - The geologic evidence says so.
- I can accept

Sequence

- 1 Paleozoic deposited
- 2 Paleozoic hardened
- 3 Paleozoic thrust
- 4 Paleozoic eroded
- 5 Mesozoic deposited
- 6 Whole area tilted



Young-  
earthers say  
overthrusts  
don't exist.  
They do, this is  
one.