

# WORLD BY DESIGN

## Creation Research, Science Education Foundation

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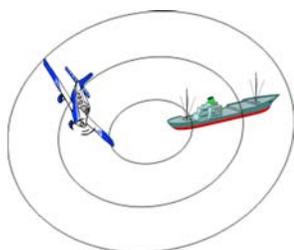
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### THE MYSTERIOUS “NORWEGIAN TRIANGLE”



You've heard of the Bermuda Triangle where planes and ships are alleged to mysteriously disappear.

Now, if Norwegian evolutionists are right, something similar must have happened 150 million years ago in the ocean off Norway. But, instead of planes and ships going down to the murky depths of the ocean, it was plesiosaurs and ichthyosaurs.

An "ABC News, Science & Technology" story reported on October 5 that Norwegian scientists found the remains of 28 plesiosaurs and ichthyosaurs (large, allegedly ancient marine predators). The fossils were discovered at a site on the island of Spitsbergen, off Norway, about 800 miles from the North Pole.

In avoiding the conclusion that this large concentration of sea animals could have died in some sort of huge cataclysm (like Noah's Flood?), the scientists asserted that the deaths took place over a time span of several thousands years! For a scenario like this to happen, it seems like a mysterious "Norwegian Triangle" for sea monsters had to have existed! - NOT

Belief in modern evolution makes atheists of people. One can have a religious view that is compatible with evolution only if that religious view is indistinguishable from atheism.

- Biology Professor William Provine, Cornell Univ., atheist

### Peer Review Bias

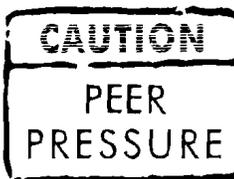
Creationists have been saying all along that there are a good number of scientists who believe that God had a hand in Creation and are sympathetic to some form of Creationism. To hear evolutionists talk however, one would never know it, because they want to think, and want everyone else to think, that to be scientifically minded means to be atheistic, or at least naturalistic in matters of origins.

And even though there are a good number of scientists who are firm believers in Creation and have respected degrees and accomplishments to their names equal or better than many evolutionary scientists, it is a forgone conclusion to evolutionists that research that supports Creation, either does not exist, or is not worthy to be published in secular scientific journals. If an editor happens to know that a contributor is a Creationist, the submitted paper is likely not even considered, even though it doesn't even touch on origins.

If this bias isn't bad enough, evolutionists then like to point out the paucity of research papers that Creationists have published in professional peer reviewed journals. They then use this as primary evidence that Creationists are not real scientists. Many examples of this type of behavior can be found.

For example, Barbara Forrest, in her book, **The Wedge at Work: How Intelligent Design Creationism Is Wedging Its Way into the Cultural and Academic Mainstream** (MIT Press, 2001, Chap. 1), chides Intelligent Design scientists by saying, "They are not attempting to change the way science is currently done by introducing a better methodology or more viable hypotheses; if they were, they would actually be doing scientific research and presenting it at scientific conferences to be vetted by scientific peers."

Obviously this makes publishing a no-win situation for the many excellent Creation scientists who then have no choice but to publish their work in Creationist publications. Occasionally one will find an undercover Creationist who has managed to publish his research in a secular journal. However, this was accomplished only by camouflaging everything in his writing that could be interpreted as having Creationist connotations.



Of course, even though there are many horror stories of jobs lost, tenure denied, and other underhanded action against Creationists, all these accusations of bias are easily denied because there is no proof of intentional discrimination, even though some court decisions have come close in a few instances.

However, a recent study by the American Medical Association indirectly supports the claims that Creationists have been making over the years. While the study did not involve bias against Creationist authors, it did show that the peer review process – as it is presently utilized – is indeed biased. This is relevant because evolutionists have touted long and hard how scientists are objective and that the

peer review process is next to flawless.

Beginning in 2002, the AMA changed its review process so that authors' names and affiliations were stripped from abstracts before they were sent out for peer review. Joseph S. Ross of the Yale University School of Medicine and his colleagues report that this change triggered major shifts in which categories of authors were most likely to have their abstracts accepted.

For instance, during 2000 and 2001, abstracts from U.S. authors were 80 percent more likely to be accepted than were those from non-U.S. authors. After blinding, the U.S.-based papers were only 41 percent more likely to be accepted.

Similarly, the share of abstracts from faculty at highly regarded U.S. research universities dropped by about 20 percent, after blinding. For authors in government agencies, the acceptance rate fell by 30 percent.

The study also says that although it focused on abstract acceptance at one organization's scientific meeting, they believe there is no reason to assume the same thing doesn't happen at other meetings or in other disciplines (*Science News*, May 6, 2006).

While one would not expect that evolutionists would soon open their arms to competing theories of origins and risk losing Darwin's had-won place in the scientific enterprise, it is not too much to envision a time in the near future when the public finally learns about and comes to respect the work of modern Creation scientists.

At one time in the not too distant past, scientists openly expressed their faith in God and took the Bible literally. Men like Newton, Pasteur, Faraday, and Kepler lived in a time when anti-Christian (and Creation) bias was not standard fare and they got lots of respect.

Even if modern Creationists have to fund their own research and use their own

publishing companies to tell others about it, if the public eventually learns about their work, I can envision a time when the tide will eventually turn and Creation scientists again will be judged by the quality and importance of their research rather than if they believe in evolution or not.



After all, a science that is based on correct paradigms will have more successes and correct predictions than a science that is based on false models. On research involving origins, Creationists can therefore outperform evolutionists. This fact needs to be tracked and publicized so the public will see which theory is more worthy.

### SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH CAPABILITIES OF THE MODERN CREATION MOVEMENT

by Denver Seely

Creation ministries, and other ministries that support the authority of God's word, are the absolute necessity and prerequisite for the awakening that our country and world desperately need. Creation Science is of fundamental importance in facilitating the spread of the Gospel to technically inclined (first world) countries.



Upon surveying the state of the Scientific Research capabilities of the modern Creation movement (including facilities, personal, and financing) it is apparent that this Research community cannot survive as an enterprise unto itself, dependant exclusively on donations from believers. Secular research science can't survive that way either. The secular research engine is dependant on the forced extraction of resources from the citizenry by taxpayer funded grants. Technology research enterprises, however, are able to derive funding based on their own merit; that is the expectation by investors of real or perceived benefit as compensation for providing up front capital for research

endeavors.

While apologetic science has done much to discredit the intentional deceptions of secular theory, it has done little to provide practical benefit to the Christian community at large (let alone the world community). What is necessary is a center for creation research that pursues dual purpose research; the cultivation of ideas that provide a tangible benefit to the Christian community while at the same time discovering or validating scientific principles made evident in the scriptures. Such an enterprise, after reaching critical mass, would be capable, not only of sustaining ongoing research through economic activity, but also the education and dissemination of research results that advance the cause of Christ.

If the scriptures provide us (by faith) with a better starting point for asking the questions that lead to a testable hypothesis, then validation of that hypothesis is in turn a validation of the source materia: the Scriptures. A research center of this type would require a substantial amount of startup capital that would be most feasible to obtain through a large and aggressive investment campaign similar to the efforts required to fund a startup technology company in Silicon Valley. This type of investment campaign will only be successful in the Christian community that is sympathetic to the Creation

message.

"Evolution has been observed. It's just that it hasn't been observed while it's happening."

- Richard Dawkins, PBS interview by Bill Moyer, 12/3/04

### Science Fiction, UFO's, Aliens, And the Search For God

Part 3

It goes without saying that Christian parents should be keenly aware of what is being watched and read in their households. It is no less true with science

fiction. Actor and director Avery Brooks, said on season 4 in the lead-in of episode 6 of the television series *Star Trek: Deep Space Nine*, "When the original Star Trek series was created, Gene Roddenberry's intent was to take very specific social commentary and slip it past the sensors by masking it as science fiction." That episode contained the first TV same-sex kiss.

While most artisans have a statement or two to make in their creative works, science fiction writers sometimes go out of their way to push the envelope on social commentary. Most often, such people have been educated at liberal institutions and have swallowed the dogma that man is an evolved creation of chance processes, and that his future is dependent upon his own efforts in technology and social structuring. Some science fiction writers therefore view it as their responsibility to mold public opinion (especially children) in the direction that they want it to go because their writing is explicitly about society as they see it in the future.

While leading people down the path of humanism is not the prime directive of all science fiction writers, it is certainly something we should be aware of when we take impressionable children to see science fiction movies, or when they read science fiction books. At the very least, parents should use the incorrect or misleading comments in movies and books as a springboard to pointing out what is true and good. When a writer's belief of human progress is to abandon "primitive religious myths" or to jettison the "stifling morality of our grandparents", we should take it as an opportunity to reaffirm biblical truth.

In the early days of science fiction, writers were not as blatant as they are today. In

Buck Rogers heyday, the primary purpose of kids shows was to entertain, fire the imagination, and to show that good wins over evil. Adult science fiction also was more "Christian friendly" as well. Even though the atheist, H. G. Wells, was wont to express his bias in his fiction, such as his famous classics, *War of the Worlds*, and *The Time Machine*, his social commentary was not blatantly offensive to Christians as one sometimes finds in today's science fiction, such as in atheist Carl Sagan's *Contact*.

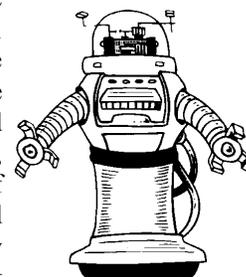
In spite of some bad things that one should watch out for in reading science fiction books or watching science fiction movies, there is also a lot of good content that is captivating and intriguing from a Christian standpoint. For example, in spite of the fact that most SF writers have the wrong world view about life and the universe, it is interesting how many writers reveal an inner longing for God or a savior figure which is revealed in the actions or words of their characters.

Through their characters, one can also see a strong desire to live forever or at least to have a greatly extended life span. Another revealed desire is to possess God-like powers. Of course, these are concepts that are very familiar to Christians because they are in the Bible. It is intriguing to see non-Christians write about them in the way they do. A science fiction book is in effect, a case study in psychology because the writer's world view and innermost desires are often exposed. These things are not as apparent in other types of writing.

A good amount of science fiction has no anti-Christian bias, and does not contradict biblical principles. Some of Ray Bradbury's works, and even some of Isaac Asimov's science fiction fit this category. In addition, there is a growing amount of "Christian science fiction" that have themes that are pro-Christian, or even a story-line that addresses biblical events or principles (to find lists of such books, just type in "Christian science fiction" in your search engine). *Ice*, by Shane Johnson is one such example of this genre that makes for

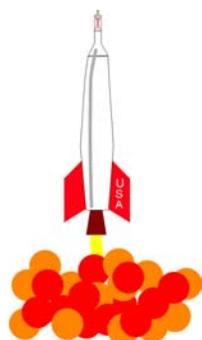
fascinating reading.

If one prefers science fiction that is true to the Bible, there are at least two criteria to consider: no evolution and no aliens. Obviously, a good amount of current science fiction assumes the truth of both of these things. However, there is much that is left that could be written about even without these false assumptions. Robots, time travel, space exploration, end time scenarios, clashes of futuristic world views, and many other themes exist that Christians would find suitable.



Of all types of movies, science fiction generates the most money. And, as long as man looks toward the future and wonders what life will be like, there will be science fiction.. Therein lies an opportunity for Christians to evangelize an unbelieving world. People who never set a foot in a church will read a book or see a movie if it is not blatantly religious. C. S. Lewis was good at this in the science fiction and fantasy that he wrote, even though it contained a Christian message. Christians therefore would do well if they could participate in the writing of good science fiction for the general public so that a biblically principled world view can be presented to an unbelieving world.

"Asimov also disposes of another popular myth—that one day we will journey to the stars. ~~Here he is tampering with something that might have been better left alone.~~ He quietly knives the idea in the back, and thereby murders much popular culture on which today's young people are raised. Space travel is possible between the planets of the Solar System, but that is all. Whatever probe we launch from planet Earth into the cosmos will get nowhere. It will slowly come to rest between here and the next star. A manned spacecraft would suffer the same fate.



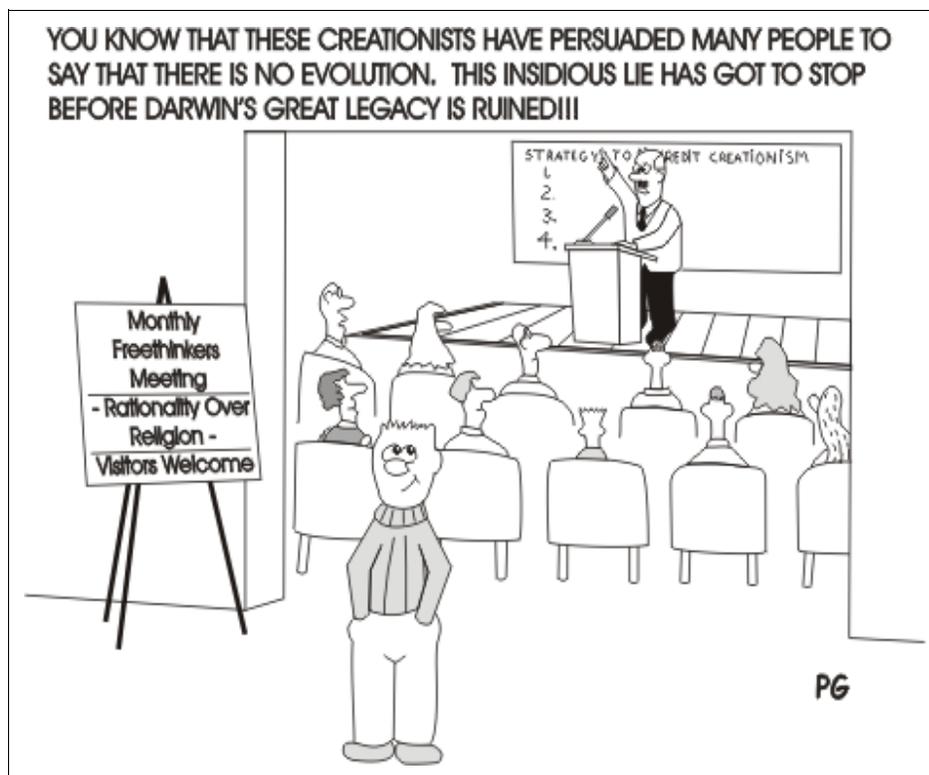
“Only if we use antimatter as a fuel can we make a return trip to the nearest star, and that form of energy is likely to remain forever beyond our grasp. In any case, the effort would never justify the visit; our intrepid voyagers, or their descendants, would not arrive back before AD 50,000.

“Because we can never visit another star, so we can never be visited by aliens from another Solar System. Another chunk of popular science folklore bites the dust. Space travel is a meaningless phrase. Star Wars, Star Trek, and a log of science fiction suddenly seems merely silly. Asimov, you’re a spoilsport!”

- Emsley, John, “Demolisher of Myths,” review of *The Relativity of Wrong*, by Isaac Asimov (Oxford University Press, 1988), 225 pp., *New Scientist*, vol. 122 (April 8, 1989), p. 60.

Freethought is a philosophical doctrine that holds that beliefs should be formed on the basis of science and logical principles and not be comprised by authority, tradition or any other dogmatic or other belief system that restricts logical reasoning. [Sure!]

### PALEOZOO



### IT LOOKS LIKE A STEGOSAURUS!

**YES, KANGAROOS USED TO BE IN THE MIDDLE EAST**

On a recent trip to the Valley of the Kings in Egypt, our tour group saw a hieroglyph of a kangaroo in the tomb of Ramses III (~1183 - 1152 BC). Unfortunately, no photographs were allowed, and a Google search had only one reference to this unusual etching, but no photograph.

The magnificent jungle temples of Cambodia were produced by the Khmer civilization. The temple of Ta Prohm at Angkor Wat, dedicated in 1186 AD, has a carving of a pretty good likeness of a stegosaurus. It is situated in a column containing carvings of water buffalo, monkeys, crocodiles, parrots, and other recognizable animals. You can check out other photos at [www.bible.ca/tracks/tracks-cambodia.htm](http://www.bible.ca/tracks/tracks-cambodia.htm).

