

Catholic Church Teaching on Origins

- God created everything “in its whole substance” from nothing (*ex nihilo*) in the beginning. (Lateran IV; Vatican Council I)
- Various senses are employed in the Bible, but the literal obvious sense must be believed unless reason dictates or necessity requires (Leo XIII, *Providentissimus Deus*).
- We must believe any interpretation of Scripture that the Early Church Fathers taught unanimously on a matter of faith or morals (Council of Trent and Vatican Council I).
- All the Early Church Fathers who wrote on the subject believed that the Creation days were no longer than 24-hour-days. (Consensus of the Fathers of the Church)
- The work of Creation was finished by the close of Day Six, and nothing completely new has since been created—except for each human rational soul at conception (Vatican Council I)
- St. Peter and Christ Himself in the New Testament confirmed the global Flood of Noah. It covered all the then high mountains and destroyed all land dwelling creatures except eight human beings and all kinds of non-human creatures aboard the Ark (*Unam Sanctam*, 1302)
- The historical existence of Noah’s Ark is regarded as most important in typology, as central to Redemption. (1566 *Catechism of the Council of Trent*)
- Evolution must not be taught, but Catholic scholars should examine the evidence for and against the evolutionary hypothesis.(Pius XII, *Humani Generis*).

The Kolbe Center aims to equip Catholic evangelists with a decisive advantage in the third millennium by rooting their apologetics in the true Catholic doctrine of creation, supported by sound arguments from theology, philosophy and natural science.

Once persuaded of the bankruptcy of molecules-to-man evolution and of the reasonableness of special creation, the practical atheist will be able to hear the Gospel of Jesus Christ and the claims of the Catholic Church.

The Kolbe Center for the Study of Creation is a non-profit 501(c)3 charitable organization. Donations to support this effort may be forwarded to:

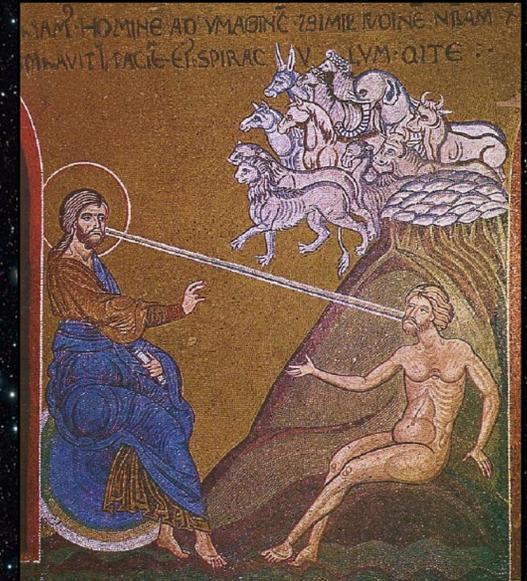
Hugh Owen, Director
The Kolbe Center for the Study of Creation
952 Kelly Rd.
Mt. Jackson, VA 22842

Inquiries:
www.kolbecenter.org
howen@shentel.net
Phone: 540-856-8453

-
1. Juergen Scheiber, Indiana University Shale Research: <http://www.shale-mudstone-research-schieber.indiana.edu/>
 2. G. Berthault. “SEDIMENTOLOGICAL INTERPRETATION OF THE TONTO GROUP STRATIGRAPHY (GRAND CANYON COLORADO RIVER) *Journal of the Russian Academy of Science* “Lithology and Mineral Resources”, Vol.39. No.5, 2004.
 3. A.V. Lalomov, RECONSTRUCTION OF PALEOHYDRODYNAMIC CONDITIONS DURING THE FORMATION OF UPPER JURASSIC CONGLOMERATES OF THE CRIMEAN PENINSULA, *Lithology and Mineral Resources*, Vol. 42. N° 3, 2007, pp. 298-311.
 4. Riccardo Levi-Setti, *Trilobites*, 2nd edition (Chicago: The University of Chicago Press, 1993), pp. 29–74.



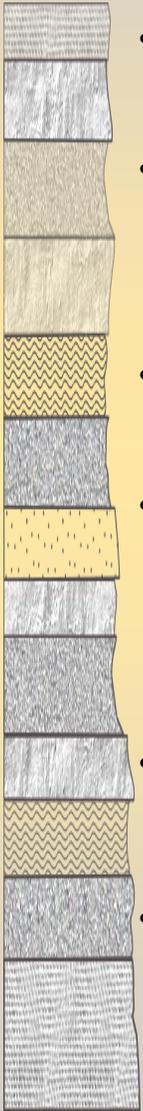
THE KOLBE CENTER FOR THE STUDY OF CREATION



THE GEOLOGIC COLUMN
TESTIMONY TO A GLOBAL FLOOD
BY HUGH OWEN

The following is a summary of points that can be made in favor of the Genesis Flood and provide evidence against evolution theory. This evidence is available to anyone who is willing to pull off the road at a "road cut" and ponder what he sees in the water-deposited sedimentary rocks before him. The "testimony of the rocks" is very compelling when interpreted as follows:

The Geologic Column



- The geologic column has successive horizontal layers, 2/3 of which is water-deposited sediments, such as mudstones like shale.¹
- Charles Lyell and other geologists formulated the geological column in the 19th century. They **assumed** that sedimentary rocks resulted from the slow and gradual deposition of sediment, but did not have sedimentology labs to verify their theories.
- Modern sedimentology research **shows** that water currents deposit sediments **rapidly** and in successive layers called strata.²
- A paper by Russian sedimentologist Alexander Lalomov discussed the sedimentary rock in the Crimean region. His analysis indicated that the entire formation was deposited **at one time** and **not over millions of years** as supposed by the conventional interpretation of the geological column.³
- Erosion and channeling features from heavy rains and floods are seldom seen between expansive layers of bedrock; therefore, **rapid deposition** must have occurred.
- Many mudstones were thought to form only in quiet environments, but recent research by Juergen Schieber and others has proven experimentally that **mudstones form rapidly**.

Coal

The content of coal deposits worldwide strongly suggests that a catastrophic global flood ripped the vegetation from the soils in the pre-flood world. This vegetation floated on the flood waters and eventually settled down through the waters to form coal seams.

Dinosaurs are buried in the same strata where some coal seams are found. In fact, there are dinosaur footprints in the tops of some coal seams. Some of the vegetal matter that these dinosaurs ate was later eroded by the flood waters, buried, and converted into coal.

We do not find much evidence for ancient fossil soils called paleosols where the vegetation eaten by the dinosaurs and other animals should have grown. We only find some paleosols at the very top of the geologic column or in the pre-Flood (Cambrian) bedrocks.

Carbon-14 testing of coal samples from deposits thought to be 30, 60 and 100 million years old, according to evolutionary interpretations, has produced virtually identical radiocarbon ages, another powerful **confirmation** that all of these coal deposits were laid down at the same time.



Fig. 2: Fossilized clams, Madagascar

Fossilization requires rapid burial and we have evidence of this. For example, clams are found in the closed position indicating **they were alive when buried**. If they had been dead, the shells would have been left open and probably broken in pieces. Fossils also often show intricate details, **indicating quick burial**.

Fossils

As one moves from the Pre-Cambrian/Cambrian flood boundary to the top of the geologic column, the fossil record shows scant evidence for evolution. Virtually all of the major life forms appear suddenly in the earliest sediments of the Cambrian Period, referred to as the **Cambrian Explosion**. The earliest life forms, such as the trilobite, are complex - not simple. According to Riccardo Levi-Setti, trilobite eyes "represent an all-time feat of function optimization."⁴

There is little evidence of significant change or macro evolution for these life forms. Many fossils in their earliest appearance are quite similar to what we observe in the present. So-called "living fossils" such as the coelacanth and cockroaches are virtually identical (other than size) to those creatures which appear in the fossil record.

Radiometric dating used by geologists to support **the old earth theory has been contradicted** by the discovery of fossilized soft tissues. The rocks containing fossilized soft tissues have been radiometrically dated as tens or hundreds of millions of years old. However, scientific studies reveal that soft tissues should not survive beyond 200,000 years. Their remarkable preservation at every level of the so-called geological column testifies to rapid and recent burial.



Fig. 1: Coelacanth—Ambilobe, Madagascar

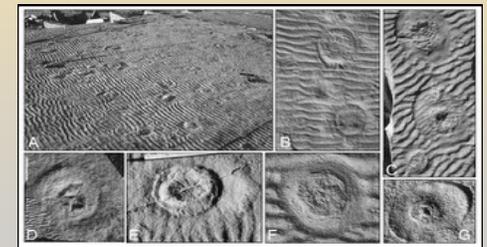


Fig. 1: Jellyfish Fossils from Wisconsin. Fossil D=70cm.

The fossil record that we observe on all continents supports the rapid burial of pre-flood life forms during a worldwide flood... the Genesis Flood.