

Critique of video: “Defending the truth of biblical creation” presented by Dr. Grady S. McMurtry

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January 18, 2024

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Introduction

Chris Peacock from the SFT organization (standingfortruthministries.com) asks questions to Dr. Grady S. McMurtry from Creation Worldview Ministries in a video https://youtu.be/JKpMaRAZcpc?si=3RYun0Vv4j_z5M65 that lasts 2 hours and 11 minutes in which McMurtry gives answers to the questions that Peacock asks. Dr. McMurtry said that early in his life he began believing in evolution but after extensive study, he found no evidence for it and became a young-Earth creationist, believing that the evidence pointed to the Earth being 6,000 years old.

Many scientific errors occur in this video, and no attempt is made in this article to cover all of them or to respond to all the theology that he promoted. Theology is not my expertise. But the following are 16 scientific topics on which McMurtry expressed his interpretations that require appropriate responses.

Old age of the Earth versus young age of the Earth

McMurtry claims that the idea that the Earth has a very old age in billions of years is wrong and asserts that the Earth is 6,000 years old. He insists there is no evidence for a very old age of the Earth. In the geologic time scale (**Figure 1**) rock layers at the bottom of the geologic column are clearly older than successive sedimentary rock layers on top of each lower layer. The geologic column can only give relative ages but cannot give chronological numerical ages in time. But where these rocks are interlayered with or penetrated by igneous rocks that have minerals that contain radioactive elements and these elements have decay rates with laboratory-measured half-lives that enable the determination of times in years (within experimental laboratory error limits), then these ages are shown on **Figure 1**.

Geologic Time Scale		
Eras	Periods	millions of years ago
Cenozoic	Quaternary - Q	Holocene 0
		Pleistocene 0.01
	Tertiary - T	Pliocene 2.6
		Neocene - N 5.3
		Miocene 23
	Paleogene - P _E	Oligocene 34
		Eocene 56
		Paleocene 66
	Cretaceous - K	
	Jurassic - J	
Mesozoic	Triassic - T _r	
	Permian - P	
	Pennsylvanian* - P	
Paleozoic	Mississippian* - M	
	Devonian - D	
	Silurian - S	
	Ordovician - O	
	Cambrian - C	
	Proterozoic - P	
Precambrian	pC	Archean - A 2,500
		~4,600

*Mississippian and Pennsylvanian were known first in the UK as 'Carboniferous'.

Figure 1. Geologic time scale in the geologic column of rocks.

McMurtry may object to the use of radiometric dating for estimating time when rocks have been created on Earth on the basis that such dating methods make too many assumptions. However, God must have created the natural laws, and God cannot be trusted if these laws are not dependable. Dalrymple (1984) explains this dependability for radiometric age dating in his article (with a link) in the **References** section and explains how assumptions are handled correctly. Geochronologists would not spend their careers in laboratories with very expensive equipment doing age measurements unless the dates that they measured were dependable and which other geochronologists can repeat the measurements and get duplicate ages within experimental error. That is, the idea of the accuracy of radiometric dating is repeatedly tested over and over again (1 Thessalonians 5:18-22).

For rocks or archaeological sites with artifacts that contain plant and animal remains, Davidson and Wolgemuth (2018) give supporting evidence for using C-14 dating for determining their dependable ages and also account correctly for any assumptions that are made.

Testing and Verifying Old Age Evidence: Lake Suigetsu Varves, Tree Rings, and Carbon-14 [Nr53Carbon.pdf \(csun.edu\)](#)

At any rate, tree rings give ages up to 14,000 years, varves in Lake Suigetsu in Japan were deposited for 50,000 years (the time limit for accurate C-14 dating) and ice cores in Greenland

show 100,000 years of snowfall and 450,000 years in Antarctica (**Figure 2**).



Figure 2. Four major glacial periods in Antarctica.

Near the city of Two Creeks, Wisconsin, are buried Douglas fir logs in a moraine of the Wisconsin glacial episode (the youngest episode of the Ice Age), which have a C-14 date of 11,850 years old (**Figure 3**). Apparently, a Douglas fir forest developed before a re-advance of the glacial ice over-rode the forest and buried the trees.

<https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/statenaturalareas/TwoCreeksBuriedForest>



Figure 3. Douglas tree logs buried under a moraine of Wisconsin age.

This is clear evidence that the Earth is older than 6,000 years.

Also, more than 250,000 varves of annual deposition of diatoms can be counted in ancient shallow lakes of the Ice Age as seen in **Figure 4**.

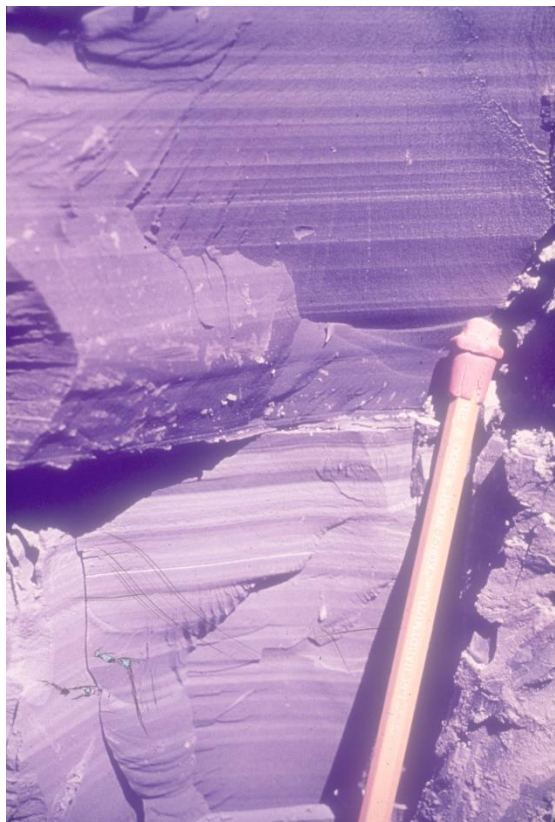


Figure 4. Glacial lake varves.

That is, during the summer, melt water exists coming from a melting glacier drains into a shallow lake behind a moraine, and in the warm water of the shallow lake, diatoms grow. While that is happening, the melt water also washes in tiny sand grains that are deposited as a white layer. During the winter, the lake freezes over and prevents sunlight from reaching the diatoms, so they die and settle and become a black carbonaceous layer. The pair of black and white layers makes an annual deposit. More than 250,000 years is definitely older than 6,000 years.

Another example that the Earth is more than 6,000 years old is the existence of radiolarian deposits on the Pacific Ocean floor where the oceanic crust splits apart in the mid-ocean to separate North and South America from the Japanese Islands,

Asia, and Indonesia. Radiolarians are tiny organisms that have silica (glass-like) skeletons (**Figure 5**) but have green chloroplasts in dinoflagellates (Zooxanthellae) that require sunlight and, thus, they grow and reproduce near the ocean surface.

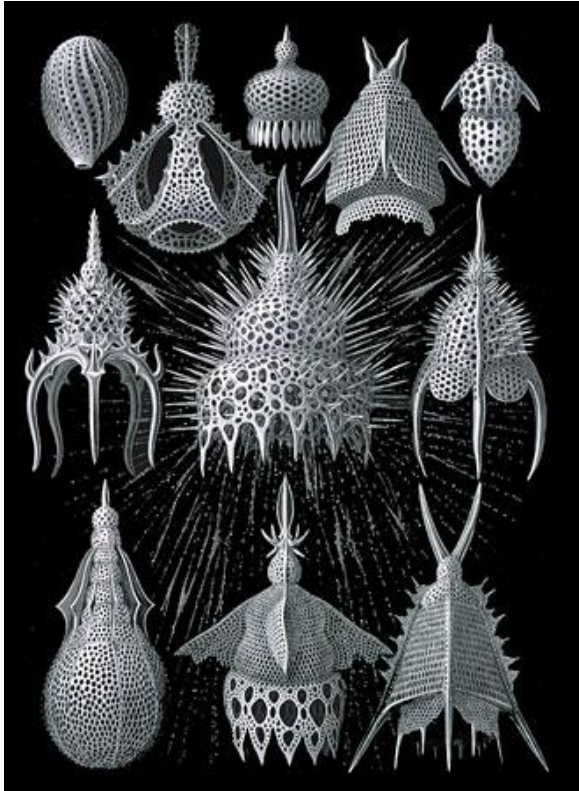


Figure 5. Radiolarian fossils.

Their dead skeletons have elaborate spikes that cause them to settle extremely slowly down from the ocean surface to the ocean floor when they die. At any rate, where fresh lava appears on the Pacific Ocean mid-ocean spreading center, no radiolarians occur there. But as the ocean crust spreads apart, the solidified basaltic crust that moves apart from the spreading center – on both sides dead radiolarians can fall there and accumulate in increasing thicknesses as the crust on either side

is moved farther and farther apart. At the greatest distance apart the thickness of radiolarian layers can be as much as 4,000 feet thick. So, how fast do radiolarian skeletons accumulate on an ocean floor? Japanese scientists have made such a determination and have found that it takes 2 to 56 weeks for radiolarians to fall through a water column that is 5,000 meters (15,000 feet) deep which is far longer than the theoretical 4 days that are available in the rate of accumulation calculated in the young-Earth flood-geology model (6,000-year-age) for radiolarian deposition. (See <http://www.csun.edu/~vcgeo005/Collins3.pdf>) .Therefore, the sliding apart of the oceanic crust is consistent with the rate of 2 to 10 inches per year by GPS or radiometric age-dating measurements, and the oceanic crust must be millions of years old and not 6,000 years old because millions of years are necessary to deposit a 4,000-foot thickness of radiolarians. It also must be recognized that all those radiolarians were not living at the same time else the dense concentrations of all creatures living together would have blocked out sunlight for those occurring a few feet below the surface, and there would not be enough nutrients on which they could feed or enough silica in the water to produce their skeletal structures. Thus, the radiolarian fossil layers on the Pacific Ocean floor could not have been formed in 4,350 years since Noah's Flood nor could other radiolarian-bearing layers of different older ages be deposited during the one-year Noah's flood.

Still another bit of evidence that the Earth cannot be 6,000 years old is the occurrence of enormous thicknesses of salt layers near the east coast of Brazil (**Figure 6**) and equivalent thicknesses of salt layers on the west coast of Africa. The place

where these two salt areas were once together was in the distant, once-hot, desert interior of Pangaea.

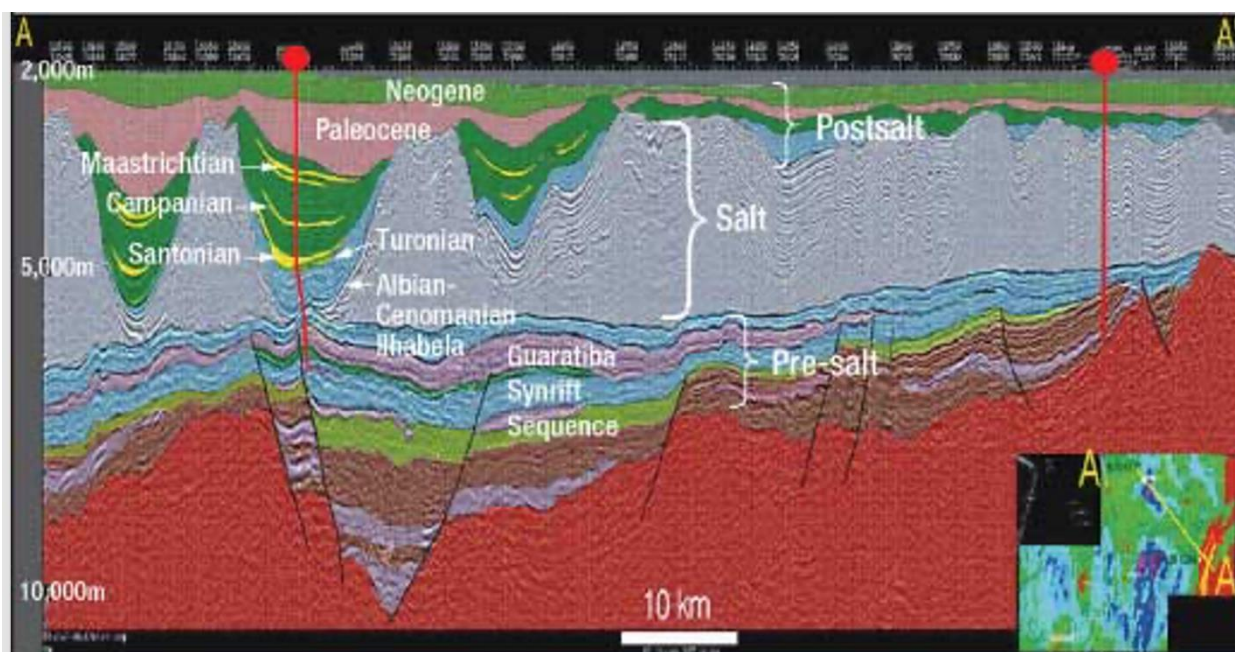


Figure 6. Salt layers near east coast of Brazil.

The scale on the left side of the figure of the salt layers east of the Brazil coast is measured in thousands of meters, but it shows that thicknesses of salt beds here are almost as much as 10,000 feet thick. How can this be? It happened because as Pangaea was slowly ripped apart at its spreading center, salty sea water flooded into a gap opened between two parts of Pangaea, and the sea water evaporated repeatedly there to deposit the salt. Eventually, Pangaea was pulled apart far enough that more ocean water came in than could evaporate and then the ocean began to come over this area and became wider as Pangaea was farther split apart. This second bit of evidence clearly shows that the spreading apart of the oceanic crust in

mid-ocean spreading centers is not remarkably fast but very slow.

To make that thickness of salt would require millions of years of evaporation which means that the Earth cannot be 6,000 years old. Furthermore, four continents (except Antarctica) have thick salt layers (100 to 3,000 feet thick) of different ages that are in the geologic column of rock layers supposedly deposited by Noah's flood waters. But the only time that the Bible reports that the Earth was drying out and the flood waters were receding was at the end of the flood.

Therefore, McMurtry, with these six examples (radiometric dating in millions of years, four glacial periods of long ages, Douglas tree logs at 11,850 years old, 250,000 glacial varves, radiolarians 4,000 feet thick, and thick salt layers), has **NO** valid reason for claiming that the Earth can only be 6,000 years old.

Magnetic field

McMurtry claims that the magnetic field around the Earth protects animal life from intense radiation from outer space and that it is steadily decreasing and soon will flip its north-pole orientation to a south-pole orientation in reversals of polar orientations and, thereby, the high radiation would kill life on Earth causing extinctions and that the rate of approaching the next reversal is soon with respect to the Earth being supposedly 6,000 years old, and, therefore, humans and animal life are in real trouble.

It is true that the Earth's magnetic field plays a big role in protecting people and animals from hazardous radiation. But

these reversals do not happen instantaneously. Instead, they occur over thousands of years and are statistically random. At least 183 reversals have occurred in the last 83 million years (on average once every ~450,000 years) and although variable, the duration of a full reversal is typically between 2,000 and 12,000 years. See: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Geomagnetic_reversal Although McMurtry's claims that humans and animal life are in real danger from cosmic radiation because he predicts that the next reversal is coming soon, the geologic record of the existence of many such reversals shows that they have had little effect on the extinctions of animal life in comparison to meteorite impacts and poisonous gases released during extensive volcanic eruptions as described later on pages 25 and 26 in this article.

Dinosaurs lived at the same time as humans

Because of figurines of dinosaurs on archaeological artifacts and the reported existence of alleged dragon slayers by farmers who supposedly killed dinosaurs to keep them out of their corn fields, McMurtry argues that dinosaurs and humans lived at the same time during the time after Noah's flood. But nowhere are human fossil footprints or skeletons of humans ever found in the same geological formation. Dinosaur fossils are only found in the Mesozoic era (**see Figure 1**) while human skeletons only occur in Holocene times. McMurtry's belief simply has **NO** scientific support.

No snow or glaciers existed before the Ice Age

McMurtry asserts that there was no snow or glaciers that existed before the Ice Age which he believes occurred after the Flood. This assertion simply is not true on the basis of studies

by Dr. Roberta Rudnick and her students as reported in the following article.

Glacial tillites, geologic history, and biblical scientific accuracy [Nr40tillites.pdf \(csun.edu\)](#)

The relation of apes to humans

McMurtry makes several points because of genome studies that humans have some of the same genes that occur in squids and other different animal species, and he argues that such is the plan of the God in producing different kinds of animal life in 6,000 years of God's time of creating life on Earth.

But biologists now know that chromosomes in the sperm and eggs of both humans and great apes (e.g., chimpanzees, gorillas, and orangutans) consist of DNA molecules in different arrangements of base pairs, and these arrangements are called genomes. The humans, however, have 46 chromosomes (23 pairs) while the other related great apes have 48 chromosomes (24 pairs) (**Figure 7**).

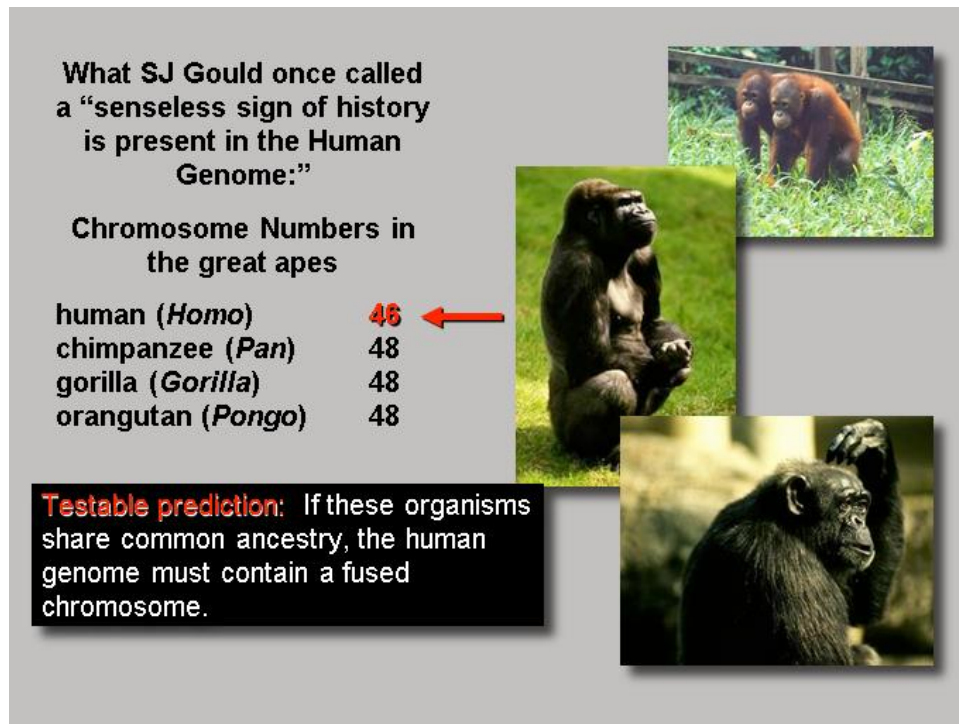


Figure 7. Comparison of chromosome numbers in humans and three other great apes. Permission granted by Kenneth Miller.

If both humans and the other great apes have a common ancestry, then the human genome must contain a fused chromosome. This is a testable hypothesis. It is testable because biologists know that each chromosome has sequences of certain pair-arrangements in what is called a telomere at each end of a chromosome (dark blue on **Figure 8**) and another set of pair-arrangements in the middle of each chromosome that is called a centromere (red on **Figure 8**). If fusion occurs, then there should be a doubling of the centromeres in the middle of the human genome. (**Figure 8**).

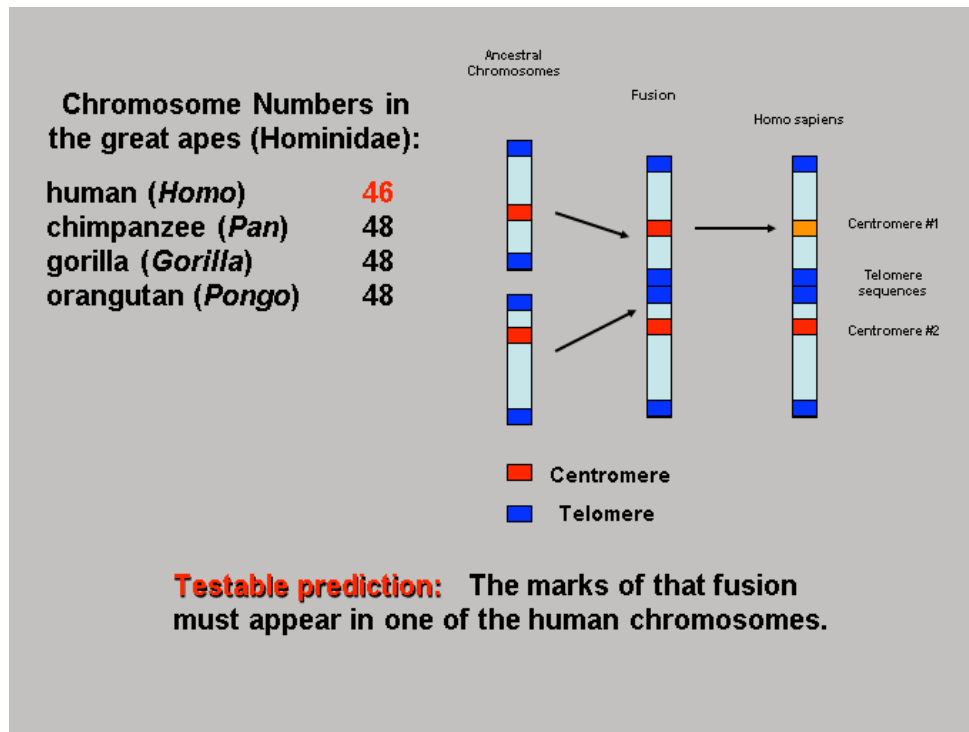


Figure 8. Comparison of two chromosomes in the chimpanzee (left side) with the single chromosome in the human chromosome #2 (right side) with the point of fusion indicated in the middle. Permission granted by Kenneth Miller.

That is, it turns out that two of the chromosomes found in the great apes were fused together to create chromosome #2 that occurs in humans and that this fusion occurred sometime during the evolutionary process. At one end of chromosome #2 in the DNA sequence of base pairs in humans is the same sequence of base pairs that occurs in the other primates (**Figure 9**). See also, Averella et al., 1992).

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chromosome_2

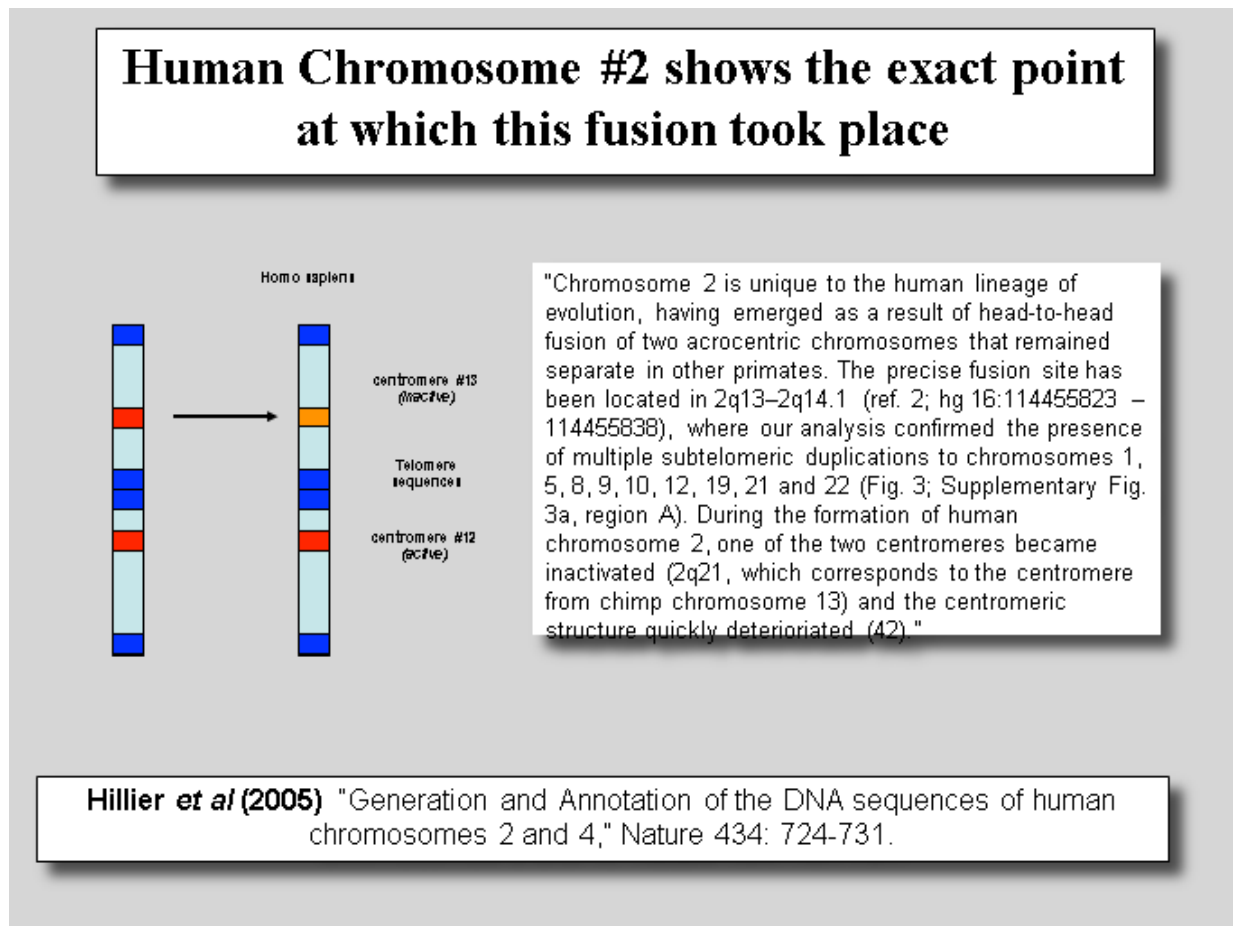


Figure 9. Image shows the exact point at which fusion of (dark blue) terminal telomeres of ape chromosomes 12 and 13 occurred to form human chromosome #2, but then chromosomes remained the same in other primates. Permission granted by Kenneth Miller.

The source of all the above information comes from a video talk by Kenneth R. Miller at the annual meeting of the American Scientific Affiliation [ASA], Wheaton College, 2019; available at www.asa3.org.

The fusion of two telomeres of the ape chromosomes 12 and 13 that fused to make the human chromosome #2 explains

why humans have 23 chromosome pairs, and the same sequences of base pairs as in other primates are clear evidence that humans and great apes have a common ancestor. Humans have just split off from the great apes in a new branch of the tree of evolution. Therefore, young-Earth creationists have no valid reason to object to how the Creator has formed humans. It is not done magically during the Genesis Week 6,000 years ago but is the result of an evolutionary process of the Creator's own design near the end of billions of years. ([Nr116Archean4.pdf \(csun.edu\)](#))

With respect to human and great ape evolution, young-Earth creationists and McMurtry need to realize what is said by Davidson (2019, p. 82-83).

*"Changes in the design and functions of organisms in successive generations are thought possible due to changes in genetic code that occur by several different processes, including copying errors during cell division, transfer of genetic information between different organisms, and even programmed change carried out by specialized sections of DNA. All forms of change are collectively referred to as **mutations**. Changes in form and function resulting from mutations may have deleterious, advantages, or neutral effects on an organism ability to survive and reproduce. These with other features better adapted for a particular environment will tend to populate that environment with offspring possessing the same features. Those ill-suited for their environment either migrate or die out. The cumulative effect of small changes from one*

generation to the next adds up to large changes when looking across thousands of generations."

On that basis, the Creator made it possible for humans to be related to great apes, but evolutionists agree that apes and humans are in separate branches of a hominid origin and not in the same branch of the evolutionary tree.

Evolution began in changes in kinds of animals

McMurtry does not believe that evolution of life started with single cells in early Precambrian time ([Nr116Archean4.pdf \(csun.edu\)](#)) in a branching tree, to change into multicellular life and then to marine life (trilobites, clams, snails, brachiopods, sponges, etc.), fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds, and finally mammals (culminating in humans). Instead, he wants to believe that life evolved in a style of an orchard of different trees with “kinds of animals” where “kinds” are approximately equivalent to the taxonomic category of families of animals. For example, the cat family would include lions, tigers, cheetahs, leopards, pumas, caracals, jaguarundis, servals, ocelots, and other species of cats that make the 30 to 40 known cat species in the world today, including domesticated cats. Moreover, it does not include the large number of extinct cat species, including the saber-toothed tiger. In McMurtry’s model, each family is the base of an orchard tree in a single line of evolutionary change and not in a branching tree of evolution.

But evolutionary science has no evidence that indicates that development of so much diversity can occur in a short a time of biblical history of less than 6,000 years that McMurtry wants the age of the universe and Earth to be. These changes take much

more time. The geologic fossil record clearly shows that plant and animal life evolved in a definite evolutionary sequence and the Creator used this method to produce life on Earth in an awesome way through billions of years of time, beginning in the mid-Archean time. [Nr116BigHTheory.pdf \(csun.edu\)](#)

All animals during Noah's flood time were vegetarians

McMurtry claims that all animals during Noah's flood time were vegetarians, including the dinosaurs although some were carnivores. He provided evidence that lions and tigers can survive by eating lettuce. But really all such claims by McMurtry are just to make his model fit what he wants to believe and are not what geologists would say is a requirement for life to have evolved that way during Noah's flood time of one year. Incidentally, it is a bit amazing (if not impossible in the McMurtry model) that more than 6.5 million species of life were created in the one-year of Noah's flood and including those that exist now.

Noah's flood was global

McMurtry claims that there is no evidence that Noah's flood was a local flood in southeastern Mesopotamia and supports the biblical verses in Genesis that a global flood covered the highest mountains, drowning all human life except for Noah and his family and animals on the ark. But there are numerous bits of evidence that Noah's flood CANNOT have been global that are provided in the following articles with links and references.

Position Statement: Science, Bible, Noah's Flood, and Evolution [GrandCanyon.pdf \(csun.edu\)](#)

Philosophical thinking about Noah's ark and the Flood
[Nr76Philo.pdf \(csun.edu\)](#)

Yes, Noah's Flood May Have Happened, But Not Over the Whole Earth [RNCSE25.5-6cdt \(csun.edu\)](#)

The Noachian Flood: Universal or Local? [Hill.vp \(csun.edu\)](#)

More Geological Reasons Noah's Flood Did Not Happen
[Collins3.pdf \(csun.edu\)](#)

Twenty-one Reasons Noah's Worldwide Flood Never Happened [Nr38Reasons.pdf \(csun.edu\)](#)

Response to Ken Ham and YouTube Comments by Andrew Snelling [Nr42Response.pdf \(csun.edu\)](#)

Biological Reasons Young-Earth Creationists' Worldwide Flood Never Happened [Nr45Biological.pdf \(csun.edu\)](#)

Good science versus bad science and the Genesis flood story [Nr46Genflood.pdf \(csun.edu\)](#)

Stokes' Law, Burrows, and an Ordovician Ice Age – Why Noah's Worldwide Flood Never Happened and Why the Earth is More Than 6,000 to 10,000 Years Old
[Nr54Stokes.pdf \(csun.edu\)](#)

Two early basal-amniote fossil trackways in eolian dune sandstone in the Pennsylvanian Manakacha Formation in the Supai Group of the Grand Canyon and multiple reptile trackways in the Permian Hermit Shale show that these formations cannot have been deposited by Noah's flood
[Nr72amniote.pdf \(csun.edu\)](#)

Understanding Noah's Flood Story [Nr94Moses.pdf \(csun.edu\)](#)

Why Noah's Flood Could Never Have Been Global and Deposited the Sedimentary Rocks in the Grand Canyon [Nr99Why.pdf \(csun.edu\)](#)

Arguments for a local Noah's flood; the Bible is NOT a Modern Science Textbook [Nr100Arguments.pdf \(csun.edu\)](#)

The following two articles give scientific evidence that Noah's flood can have occurred in southeastern Mesopotamia during early biblical time.

Yes, Noah's Flood May Have Happened, But Not Over the Whole Earth [RNCSE25.5-6cdt \(csun.edu\)](#)

Fountains of the Great Deep and Noah's Flood [Nr64Fountains.pdf \(csun.edu\)](#)

Promoters of the old-Earth model are calling God a liar

McMurtry says that those persons who promote an old-Earth model are calling God a liar. But if Genesis 1 is recognized as being excellent theology and **NOT** as a science textbook, giving an explanation of how the universe, the Earth, and plant and animal life were created, then God is **NOT** being called a liar ([.bas467.pdf \(ualberta.ca\)](#)). That is, I agree with the view of Conrad Hyers, a Presbyterian minister, in that he has the correct interpretation of understanding Genesis 1. He says that the issue being faced by the early Hebrews was not how the universe, Earth, and life were created but by the beliefs of their neighbor tribes who thought that the gods that they worshiped

were bad and were out to get them. These gods included night, water, sun, moon, stars, planets, plants, and animal gods, and these Hebrews had to make daily sacrifices to idols of these gods if they wanted to survive. The author of Genesis 1 said: “These are not gods. There is only one God and He made all of these objects and they are all GOOD. I agree with pastor Hyers.

On the other hand, if Genesis 1 is interpreted to be a science lesson with the Earth being 6,000 years old, as McMurtry asserts, and the universe, the Earth, and plant and animal life were created in that time frame, it is then when God can be called a liar because the order in which plants and animals are created, day by day, in the Genesis Week is not the same as the actual order revealed in the geologic fossil record (**Figure 10**).

Evolutionary Order	Biblical Order
Life in ocean before land plants	Land plants before life in ocean
Simple plants before fruit trees	Fruit trees, the first plants
Land animals before flowering plants	Flowering plants before animals
Small animals first land life	Cattle before creeping things
Dinosaurs evolved into birds	Birds before land animals
Land reptiles evolved into plesiosaurs	Flying animals before land animals
Land reptiles evolved into pterosaurs	Marine animals before land animals
Land mammals evolved into bats	Flying animals before land animals
Land mammals evolved into whales	Whales before land animals
Death of the unfit produced man	Man was the cause of death

Figure 10. Comparison of evolutionary order with biblical order of plant and animal life.

Also, the Bible uses the word “heart” in 826 places in the Bible to say that it is the source of all knowledge, emotions (love and hate), and thinking. But the heart consists of muscle tissue and has no network of neuro-cellular tissue that exists in the brain that stores all knowledge and enables emotions and thinking to be expressed. Therefore, saying that the heart is the source of all knowledge, emotions (love and hate), and thinking makes God a liar. Both the order of creation of plants and animals in Genesis 1 and the use of the word “heart” need to be interpreted in a theological sense (as suggested by Conrad

Hyers) and not in a scientific sense. (See <https://sites.ualberta.ca/~dlamoure/bas467.pdf>)

The Chicxulub crater-impact occurred late in Noah's flood time

McMurtry claims that the impact of a large meteorite that hit the Yucatan peninsula did not wipe out the dinosaurs and must have occurred late in Noah's flood time, and his claim is likely partly correct in that the dinosaur fossil record does not show an abrupt disappearance of dinosaurs but that they were gradually disappearing. Moreover, in this same time period on the opposite side of the Earth, massive eruptions of thick flood-basalt layers (so-called "traps"; more than 6,000 feet thick) were being deposited in which great volumes of poisonous gases (sulfur dioxide, SO₂, and hydrogen sulfide, H₂S) that poisoned the Earth's atmosphere were released. Therefore, it may have been a combination of the meteorite impact and the great thicknesses of volcanic trap eruptions that caused the demise of the dinosaurs.

Upside-down rock layers are proof Noah's flood was global

McMurtry asserts that the occurrence of upside-down, vertical, and missing layers of sedimentary rocks of certain ages are proof that Noah's flood was global. But geologists have carefully studied the places where upside-down layers of sedimentary rocks occur, and they have found that they exist where thrusting of rock layers have rolled them over to overturn the layers so that upside-down layers are produced or has turned them to a vertical position (**Figure 11**).

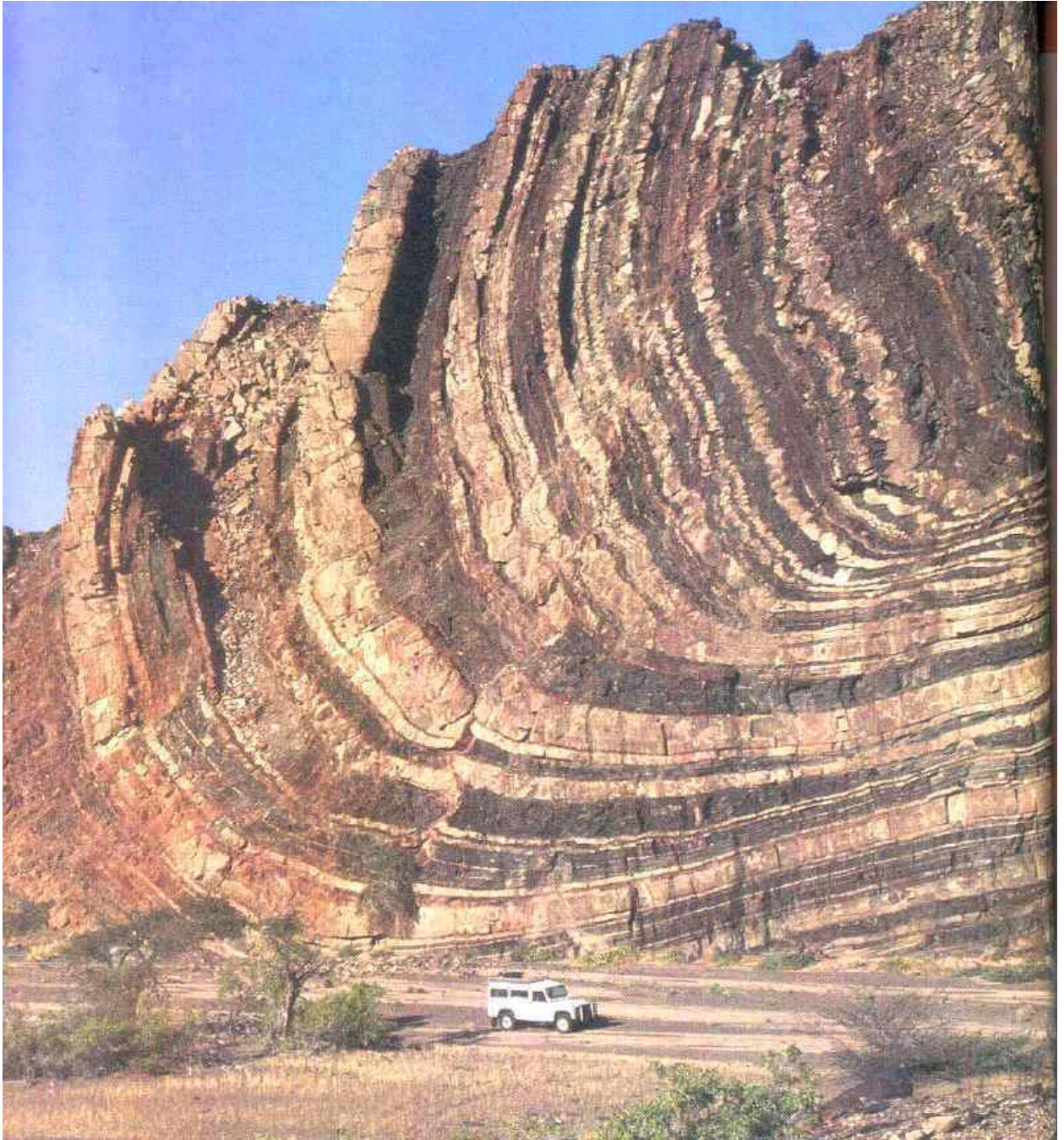


Figure 11. Rolled over sedimentary layers to make upside-down layers (bottom right) and vertical layers; outcrop exposure is in Namibia. <https://www.geologyin.com/2016/09/10-amazing-geological-folds-you-should.html>

Of course, in the above image the sedimentary layers on the bottom right could be right-side up, but if the thrusting had

continued to the right, the vertical layers would have been turned into an upside-down position.

Also, it is quite common for stream-or ocean-wave-erosion locally to remove some layers or in some places high ground occurs where no layers of a certain age are deposited. Therefore, missing layers are logically and scientifically explained. Also, studies by Glenn Morton show that there are 25 places around the world where all 14 rock ages (**Figure 1**) exist in layers as is reported at this link [Collins4.pdf \(csun.edu\)](#). On that basis, McMurtry has no valid reason for saying that the unusual positioning of rock layers supports his view that Noah's flood was global.

The real reason why McMurtry believes that the upside-down and vertical layers are evidence that Noah's flood occurred and was worldwide is that he thinks that such changes in structural orientation mean that these sediments were quickly folded while they were soft and still wet with water and unfractured instead of being folded when consolidated some millions of years later. But studies show that the sedimentary rocks in the fold in the Tapeats Sandstone are fractured (Hill et al. 2016) and that the grains in thin sections are fractured (Snelling 2021). Moreover, it is well known from geologic studies that deformation at high pressures and temperatures causes grains in sedimentary rocks to slowly rotate and recrystallize their crystal structures to adjust to changes in position as the folding slowly occurs during millions of years of time. Therefore, McMurtry has reached a false conclusion.

Evolutionary processes

It is apparent that McMurtry has little understanding of evolutionary processes. He claims that in evolution all mutations are detrimental and most are lethal and, therefore, he claims that humans and animal life are progressively going downhill with their lives getting worse through time since Noah's flood. He also claims that Darwin's natural selection is a false idea and that it is survival by elimination that causes changes in life species. However, scientists, who are experts in biology and evolutionary processes, show why natural selection is a valid method for producing new species to survive in new environmental conditions, and these scientists describe six critical failures that young-Earth creationists, like McMurtry, make. These failures are described in the following article by a person who discusses the false views of John Michael Fischer, who is a young-Earth creationist. See:

Fischer hooks himself on disproved notions and logical fallacies in his attacks on science and evolution

[Nr114Fischer1.pdf \(csun.edu\)](#)

Most life went extinct after the flood

McMurtry claims that most life went extinct AFTER the flood. However, this is not what the geologic fossil record indicates as is illustrated in **Figure 12**. This figure shows that five major extinctions occur in the time of the supposed Noah's one-year flood. These extinctions occur when major volcanic eruptions occurred that expelled great volumes of poisonous gases into the atmosphere that caused major extinctions or impacts of large meteorites that caused the burning of vegetation that poisoned the atmosphere or both events occurred in the same time range.

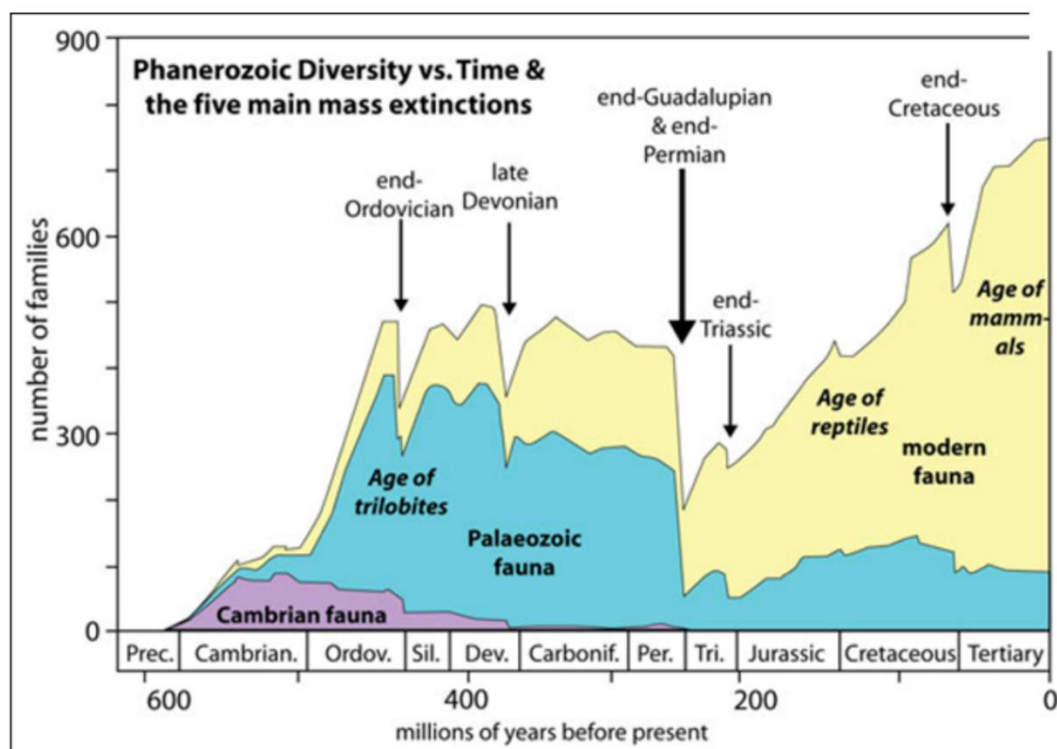


Figure 12. Five major extinctions in the geologic record.

Fossils can be produced in a short time which is proof that Noah's flood was global

McMurtry says that fossils can be formed very quickly in a short time, and he gives several examples. That is certainly true, but it might take several thousands of years to produce fossils because their formations are dependent on the availability of necessary elemental ions in solutions and proper chemical conditions of whether the solutions are acids or bases. For example, buried tree logs may simply be consumed by fungi or bacteria or by oxidation and never become petrified wood in some environments. But if these logs are buried quickly in mud or volcanic ash and cut off from exposure to fungi or bacteria or oxidation occurs, they may sit in such an environment for longer than 6,000 years before sedimentary rock layers are deposited on

top of them of the right composition so that fluids migrating from these layers to the buried logs are basic instead of acidic (silica is soluble in basic fluids), the dissolved silica can replace the carbon atoms in the wood cellulose with silicon to change the cellulose into quartz in petrified wood. Therefore, the short time for possible fossilization that McMurtry says can occur is not proof that Noah's flood was global because in some places, times longer than 6,000 years are required and proper chemical conditions must exist.

Coal can be made quickly and is proof that Noah's flood is global

McMurtry claims that coal can be made quickly in the laboratory and, therefore, coal beds in Carboniferous time (see **Figure 1**) were formed quickly during Noah's flood. But large volumes of coal deposits occur in the world that would require the rapid covering of vast quantities of vegetation if they were buried by sediments deposited by Noah's flood. The reason why coal layers were NOT deposited in the one year of Noah's flood is because fossils of *Lepidodendron* trees (see **Figure 13**) have been found that became as tall as 100 feet in successive overlying 15 coal layers of the Carboniferous (Mississippian and Pennsylvanian) ages (mid-Noah's flood time of one year). Trees do not grow 100 feet high in one year let alone in each of 15 successive overlying layers, and these trees had to be growing at the time of the supposed Noah's global flood to be buried in coal layers of Mississippian and Pennsylvanian ages.



Figure 13. *Lepidodendron* trees.

Also, in Kentucky in the midst of the 15 coal layers is a distinct layer of blue bentonite clay (**Figure 14**) that acts as a marker bed for knowing which different coal layers are above and below this clay layer when this clay layer is intersected during drilling.

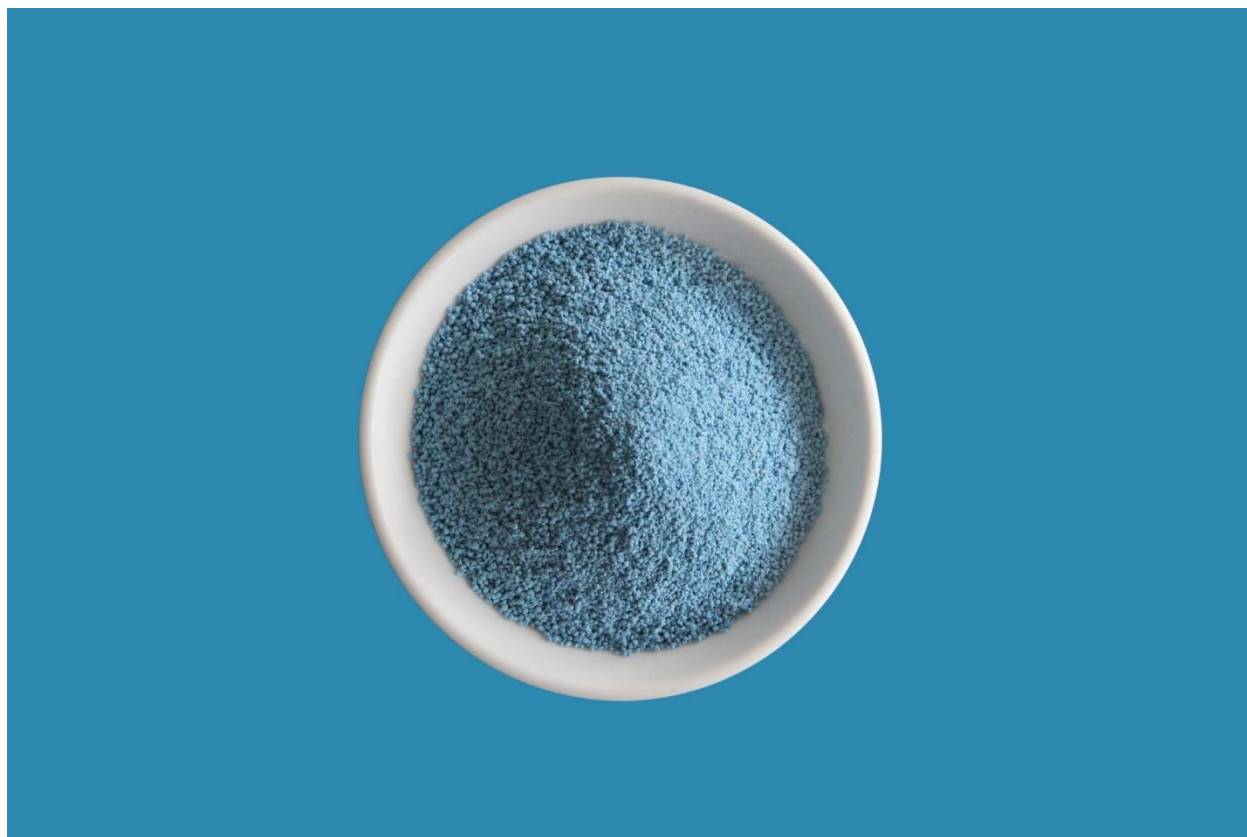


Figure 14. Blue bentonite clay.

If the volcano that erupted this ash (now converted to bentonite clay) in Mississippian time, which is in the middle of Noah's flood time (**Figure 1**), the supposed rushing waters of the Flood would have scattered the ash particles and mixed them in with the deposited quartz sand grains in sandstones and calcite crystals in limestones and NOT allowed the ash particles to settle in quiet water as a distinct separate layer. Therefore, the layer of blue bentonite clay in Kentucky is definite evidence that Noah's flood did not exist as a global flood.

Polystrate tree fossils are formed quickly during Noah's flood

Polystrate tree fossils are vertical fossilized tree trunks that extend up through many rock layers. Commonly, they indicate rapid burial of trees. That is, in many places around the world vertical trunks of trees are stacked on top of each other on subsequent overlying levels. A probable explanation is that such trees were once growing in muds deposited on a former river floodplain. Periodic occasional powerful storms have buried the trees in mud a few feet deep, killing the trees, while only the trunk buried in mud survives, but tree trunks and branches above the mud rot away and disappear. When that happens, new trees grow on the flood plains and then a new local powerful storm buries these trees, and this cycle may be repeated many times. If the tree rings are counted in the fossilized trunks in each subsequent overlying layer, the sum of the yearly-growth times might be 100 years or more and not be the time of one year represented by the one-year Noah's flood or represent millions of years of time. Therefore, McMurtry cannot use polystrate fossilized trees to say that they are evidence for Noah's flood.

Another example of a supposed polystrate fossil is a baleen whale skeleton that is found buried in diatomite near Lompoc, California. See this link: [Nr89Lompoc.pdf \(csun.edu\)](#)

Conclusion

I need to tell you that I am now 92 years old and am starting to forget things. Some of the items and words in this article I used to remember instantly, and now I had to search for them on the internet. What did you say your name was, you

who have read this article, and how do you spell your last name? Oh – “Ball.” This article got started when someone (I will not name him) said that his daughter was a staunch young-Earth creationist who was sure from the answers given by Grady McMurtry to the questions asked by Chris Peacock in a video that the Earth was 6,000 years old and that Noah’s flood was global. She wondered whether I was even a Christian because I never mentioned Jesus Christ in any of my articles. To answer that question, I invite you to read my Christian witness “**Salt, Pepper, and Blah**” at this link: [OPPOSITION TO CREATIONISM 8 of 9 \(csun.edu\)](#) However, on the basis of the scientific information that I have supplied on 16 items in this article which shows that McMurtry’s model of the Earth **CANNOT** be 6,000 years old and Noah’s flood **CANNOT** be global, this video totally misled his daughter and the audience that watches the contents of this video. Perhaps you have a family member who is a staunch young-Earth creationist or you know someone who you can share this article with and would find this article to be helpful. (???)

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