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Discovery

Scripture & Science for Kids





KYLE BUTT

Many museums have amazing exhibits of dinosaurs. Some dinosaurs have huge bones, massive teeth, and monster claws. It is fun to look at fossils of reptiles from the past and see what they may have looked like and how they might have lived. But we must be careful. Not everything we see in museums, in movies or television, or read in books, is correct. In fact, much of it is wrong.

For instance, several years ago a movie titled *Jurassic Park* was released. This movie presented a dinosaur called *Velociraptor* as a dangerous, deadly dinosaur that was about seven feet tall. This creature was supposed to be very smart and hunted in packs of three. But in reality, *Velociraptor* was a small dinosaur only about 1.5 feet high—the size of an average dog. The movie producers enlarged the creature for the movie, but it was not really that big. Plus, there is virtually no way to know from the fossils if *Velociraptor* hunted in packs of three.

If you read dinosaur books, watch dinosaur movies, or visit museums, you probably have seen some dinosaurs with feathers. According to evolutionists, dinosaurs evolved into birds, and that is why they picture some of them with feathers. The problem with this idea is that no one has ever found any dino-

saur fossils that have feathers. Furthermore, the Bible says that birds were created on day five of Creation and land animals like dinosaurs were created on day six. Dinosaurs could not have evolved into birds if God created birds first.

Just last year, one of the biggest dinosaur museums in the world, the Carnegie Museum of Natural History, located in Pittsburgh, decided to redo their entire dinosaur collection. They realized that many of the fossils and exhibits that once were thought to be right, were very wrong. In fact, they said that they were changing them to be as accurate as possible, but in a few years, they might have to redo their exhibit again.

The Bible is the only source of information that is right all the time, and will always be right. Anything that you see, hear, or read about dinosaurs that does not agree with the Bible, is wrong. It is fun to learn about dinosaurs, but we must be careful to remember that even scientists and those who study dinosaurs make mistakes—but God never makes mistakes.



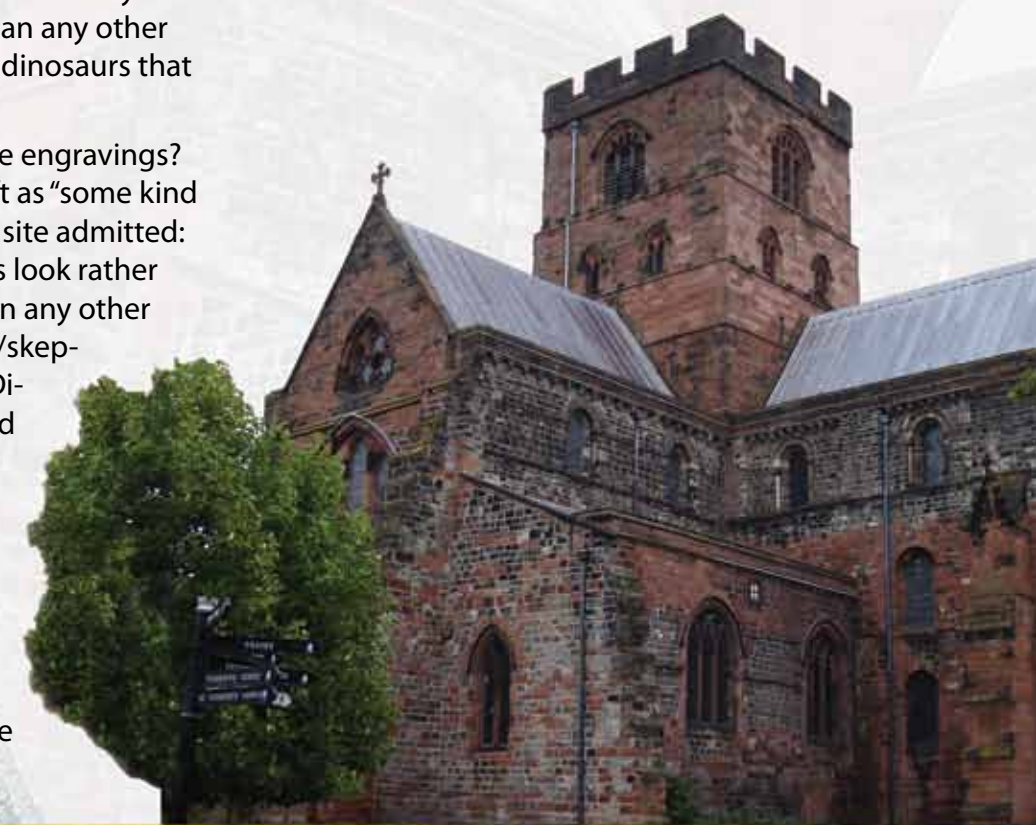
ERIC LYONS

Founded in the 12th century A.D., the Carlisle Cathedral has served as a meeting place for the people of northwest England for 900 years. One of the bishops of Carlisle in the 15th century was Richard Bell. History records that he served in this position for 17 years, resigned in 1495, and died one year later. Bell's body was then laid to rest in a tomb along a main aisle inside the cathedral. So what does all of this have to do with dinosaurs?

On the edge of Bell's 500-year-old tomb is a narrow strip of brass on which various animals have been engraved, including a bird, fish, dog, and pig. Most remarkable, however, is an engraving of two animals with long necks and long tails. Although some of the brass engraving is worn due to 500 years of wear, these curious creatures are clearly of some extinct animal. In truth, more than any other creature, they resemble the longneck dinosaurs that once roamed the Earth.

What do critics have to say about the engravings? After passing off the animal on the left as "some kind of big cat," one popular skeptical Web site admitted: "The animal to the right, though, does look rather more like a quadrupedal dinosaur than any other sort of animal, past or present" (http://skepticiwiki.org/index.php/Bishop_Bell's_Dinosaurs). The skeptics even recognized the unlikelihood of the engraving being a fraud: "In the case of Bishop Bell's dinosaur, there is no corresponding profit motive, or any other apparent motive; and also, any tampering with the tomb would have to be done...in Carlisle Cathedral, and it is hard to see how a hoaxer could have gone about his work unobserved."

It seems clear, even to skeptics, that at least one of the two curious engravings looks like a dinosaur. What is so spectacular about a dinosaur being engraved on a tomb built in 1496? Simply that the engraving is more than 300 years older than the first dinosaur fossils found in modern times. We have no evidence of humans finding dinosaur fossils and reconstructing their skeletons until the middle of the 19th century. So how did someone engrave such a convincing picture of a dinosaur in the late 15th century? The obvious, but often rejected, answer is men once lived with these creatures, and proof of their coexistence is found all over the world in the form of physical, historical, and biblical evidence. The fact is, evolution's multi-million-year dinosaur timetable is wrong.



A GOAT, AN ELEPHANT, AND ... A DINOSAUR!!!

ERIC LYONS

In the fall of 1924, archaeologist Samuel Hubbard, along with several others, visited an area of the Grand Canyon known as the Havasupai Canyon.



Members of Samuel Hubbard's team taking pictures at the Grand Canyon

Hubbard and his team of scientists and photographers observed a lot of interesting rock art on the canyon walls during this trip. Hubbard was not merely impressed with the fact that the ancients drew and carved images on rock, or that the rock art showed every sign of being very old. More than anything else,

Hubbard was amazed by the **kind** of animals the ancients had carved.

Hubbard's team discovered carvings of wild goats, called ibexes. Even though, according to Hubbard, "no ibex, not even fossil ones, have ever been found in America," the presence of ibex images at Havasupai and other places out West seems to indicate that these animals once inhabited the Grand Canyon region. After all, how could the ancients have inscribed such accurate pictures of them, if they had never seen them?



Image of ibexes (wild goats)

On one rock wall in the Havasupai Canyon, just above a group of ibex images, is a carving of an elephant. The remains of elephants have been found all over North America and prove that they once roamed this continent. And, for the ancients to have drawn images of these massive creatures with long trunks, it makes sense that early Native Americans must have seen elephants. Interestingly, the inscriptions at Havasupai even show an elephant hitting a man with its trunk.

Ancient American elephant and ibex rock art is amazing in and of itself, as is the American rhinoceros carved on a rock wall near Moab, Utah. But, what caught Hubbard's attention more than anything else at Havasupai was a figure even more deeply cut into the sandstone wall than the elephant. Its height was 11.2 inches, its neck was approximately 5.1 inches in length, and its tail was about 9.1 inches. What kind of animal is it? What kind of animal had a long neck, long tail, wide body, and once roamed northern Arizona? Hubbard believed that he had found an ancient drawing of a dinosaur. He said: "The fact that some...man made a pictograph [rock art] of a dinosaur on the walls of this canyon upsets



This picture shows the carving that Samuel Hubbard and his team discovered.

completely all of our theories regarding the antiquity of man.... The fact that the animal is upright and balanced on its tail would seem to indicate that the prehistoric artist must have seen it alive."

Once again, we have a carving of an animal that looks more like a dinosaur than any other animal, living or extinct. What's more, all of the evidence points to the carving being genuine. Finally, dinosaur fossil footprints found about 100 miles away

from Havasupai prove that dinosaurs once lived in the same general area of the dinosaur-like rock art. Again, we ask: How could man have drawn such an accurate picture of a creature he supposedly had never seen?

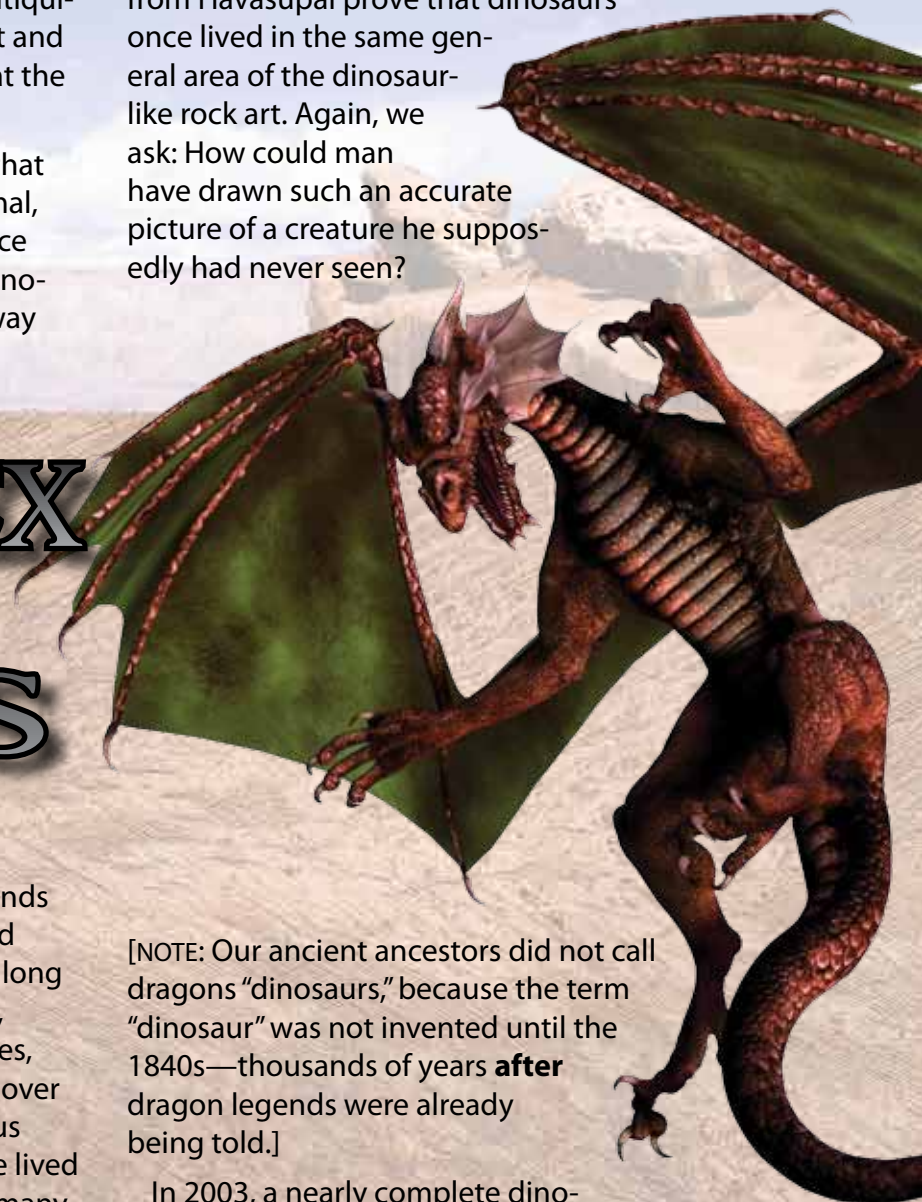
DRACOREX AND DRAGONS

ERIC LYONS

Have you ever wondered where dragon legends came from? For thousands of years, people told stories of seeing large, reptilian creatures with long necks, massive tails, hard, scaly skin, stout legs, knobby heads, terrible teeth, snake-like tongues, and/or bat-like wings. How is it that people all over the world came to tell such stories? The obvious (but often rejected) answer is that people once lived with dinosaurs (Exodus 20:11; Genesis 1), and many dragon legends are simply the stories people told of dinosaurs.

[NOTE: Our ancient ancestors did not call dragons "dinosaurs," because the term "dinosaur" was not invented until the 1840s—thousands of years **after** dragon legends were already being told.]

In 2003, a nearly complete dinosaur skull was excavated in South Dakota. The long, knobby, spiky skull appeared so similar to descriptions and paintings of certain dragons, it actually was named *Dracorex*, which means "dragon king." The Children's Museum of Indianapolis, which now has the skull, referred to it as "a new type of dinosaur" that "**looks like a dragon.**" The Children's Museum even displayed a statement next to a *Dracorex* image that reads: "When we saw this creature's head, we weren't sure what kind of dinosaur it was. Its spiky horns, bumps and long muzzle **looked more like a dragon.**" A dinosaur that looks more like a dragon? Maybe that's because dinosaurs were dragons! "Dragons" and "dinosaurs" are simply two different words that refer to the same creature.



Dracorex

Members of Samuel Hubbard's team.



ACTIVITY PAGES



FILL IN THE BLANKS

- _____ was the size of an average dog.
- We have no evidence of humans finding dinosaur fossils and reconstructing their skeletons until the middle of the _____ century.
- On the edge of Richard Bell's tomb are engravings of various animals, including a bird, fish, dog, pig, and _____.
- In the 1920s, Dr. Samuel Hubbard found rock art of an ibex, an _____, and what appears to be a dinosaur.
- _____ is the name of a _____ that had a long, knobby skull that appeared similar to descriptions and paintings of certain dragons.
- God made everything in _____ days.



TRUE OR FALSE

- Dinosaurs are a favorite topic of books, movies, and magazines that teach evolution.
- Evolutionists teach that dinosaurs lived millions of years before humans.
- Museums always display accurate information about dinosaurs.
- God never makes mistakes.
- Dinosaurs once lived in the American Southwest.
- Dracorex proves that "dragons" were all mythical animals.
- The term "dinosaur" was not invented until the 1840s—thousands of years after dragon legends were already being told.
- One piece of rock art at Havasupai shows an elephant hitting a man with its trunk.
- Proof for the coexistence of dinosaurs and humans can be found all over the world in the form of physical, historical, and biblical evidence.
- Dinosaurs and humans never lived together on Earth.

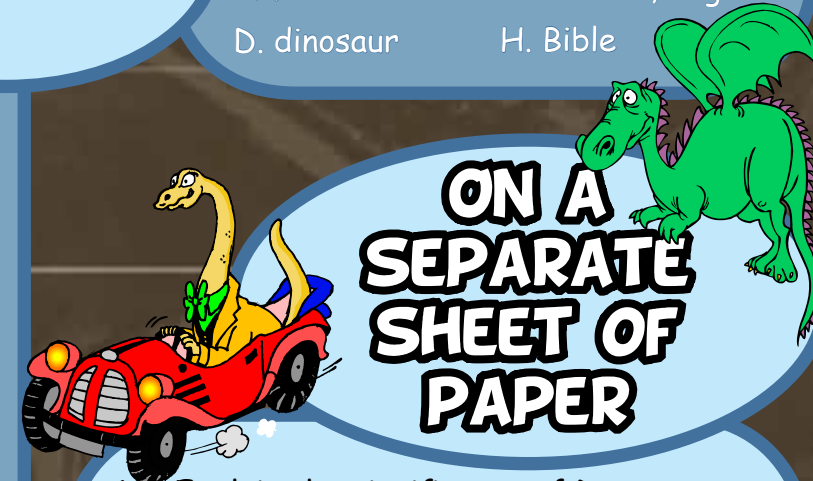


MATCHING

- The day on which God made dinosaurs.
- The day on which God created birds.
- The book of information that is right all the time, and will always be right.
- Location of 500-year-old brass carving of a dinosaur.
- The kind of animal that once lived on Earth that had a long neck, long tail, and wide body.
- A wild goat that appears to have once lived in North America, based upon ancient Indian rock art.
- Ancient stories of reptiles that sound like dinosaurs.
- A movie that presented *Velociraptor* as being seven feet tall when it really was only about 1.5 feet high.

- | | |
|-------------------------|----------------------|
| A. <i>Jurassic Park</i> | E. ibex |
| B. six | F. dragon legends |
| C. five | G. Carlisle, England |
| D. dinosaur | H. Bible |

ON A SEPARATE SHEET OF PAPER



- Explain the significance of Dr. Hubbard's discovery of ibex, elephant, and dinosaur rock art in the American Southwest.
- What does *Dracorex* mean? Why do you think scientists named a dinosaur *Dracorex*?
- Where do you think dragon legends came from?

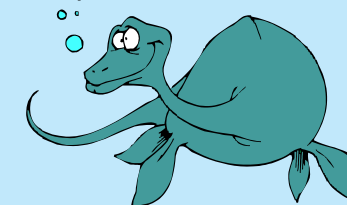
Dear Digger Doug,

If some dinosaurs could swim in the waters of Noah's Flood, why are they not still alive today?

—Kendall, Loudon, TN

Dear Kendall,

Thank you very much for sending this thoughtful question. Dinosaurs were land-living reptiles. Even though some of them could swim, like other land-living animals such as tigers or horses, they would not have been able to swim long enough to survive the Flood. There were, however, marine reptiles that lived in the water that resembled dinosaurs. Why are those marine reptiles extinct? First, we must understand that the Flood was so powerful that it not only killed all the land-living animals, but it killed many of the creatures that lived in water. In fact, most of the fossils caused by the Flood are creatures that lived in the oceans. Second, many of the marine reptiles lived for hundreds or thousands of years after the Flood. Stories from ancient cultures tell of sea dragons that match the descriptions of marine reptiles. Third, there are still some very interesting marine reptiles that are alive today. The saltwater crocodile can grow to be 20 feet long and weigh more than 2,000 pounds. According to the evolutionary time scale, saltwater crocodiles lived during the time of the dinosaurs (of course, we know this was not millions of years ago). The truth is, if the saltwater crocodile was extinct, scientists would include it with the other ferocious, marine reptiles. Furthermore, other marine reptiles like sea turtles that supposedly go back to the time of the dinosaurs are still alive today.





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WHY ARE DINOSAURS IMPORTANT?

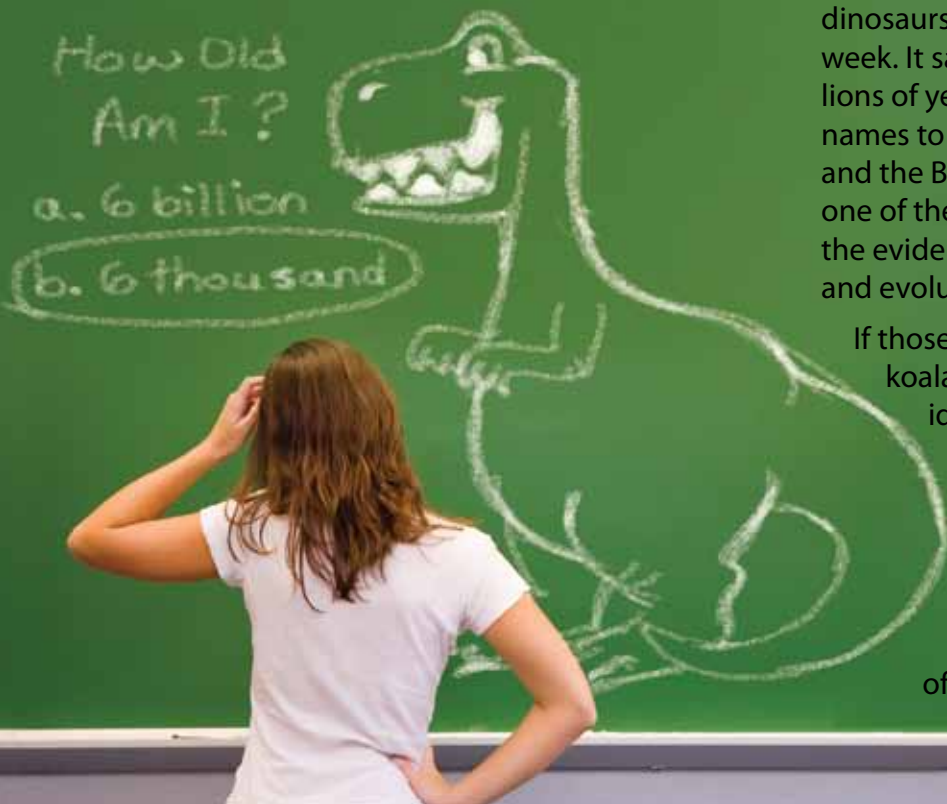
KYLE BUTT

Discovery is a magazine that discusses science and the Bible, but we often write about dinosaurs. In fact, about one issue every year deals with dinosaurs. Some people wonder why we write so much about dinosaurs. After all, we don't write that much about kangaroos, koala bears, or kittens. Why do we spend so much time on dinosaurs?

The answer to that question is very simple. Evolutionists often use dinosaurs to teach about evolution. In fact, dinosaurs seem to be the favorite topic of books, movies, and magazines that teach evolution. One popular science book that many middle-school children have used is titled *Evolution: Change Over Time*. That book has approximately 100 pages. About 32 of those pages deal with dinosaurs in some way.

Evolutionists know that if they can teach children that dinosaurs lived millions of years before humans, then those children will have a problem accepting what the Bible says. The Bible says that humans and dinosaurs were created on day six of the Creation week. It says that they were not separated by millions of years, and it also tells us that Adam gave names to the dinosaurs (Genesis 2:20). Evolution and the Bible disagree about dinosaurs, and only one of them can be right. In *Discovery*, we show you the evidence that the Bible is right about dinosaurs and evolution is wrong.

If those who teach evolution used kangaroos, koalas, and kittens regularly to teach the false ideas about evolution, then we would write about them much more often. But for now, dinosaurs seem to be the most popular way to teach evolution. As long as that is the case, you can expect to see in *Discovery* plenty of material on dinosaurs that refutes the incorrect teachings of evolutionists.



ANSWERS

7. F (dragon legends); 8. A (Jurassic Park).
 5-T; 6-F; 7-T; 8-T; 9-T; 10-F. MATCHING: 1. B (six); 2. C (five); 3. H (Bible); 4. G (Carlisle, England); 5. D (dinosaur); 6. E (ibex).
 FILL IN THE BLANKS: 1. Velociraptor; 2. 19th; 3. dinosaur; 4. elephant; 5. Dracorex, dinosaur; 6. six. TRUE OR FALSE: 1-T; 2-T; 3-F; 4-T;
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