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Discovery

Scripture & Science for Kids



The Bible and the Age of the Earth

DAVE MILLER

The Bible was not meant to be a science book, a geography book, or a math book. Yet, since God is the Author, when it refers to science, geography, or math, it is absolutely true. It has no mistakes or blunders like books written by humans. One of the amazing aspects of the Bible is the way it gives us the outline of human history with a general timeframe for when things happened. In doing so, it reveals the approximate age of the Earth.

Evolutionists say that the Earth is billions of years old. But that is not true. The Bible clearly teaches that the Earth has only been here a few thousand years. In Genesis 1 the word “day” is used several times to refer to an ordinary, 24-hour day. Each has an “evening and morning” just like days today. The words “year” and “night” are also used in their ordinary sense

(vs. 14). Moses and the Israelites understood that the days of the Creation week were regular days, since God said to them: “For in six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested the seventh day” (Exodus 20:11). The Israelites worked six days of every week (Sunday to Friday), and then did not work on Saturday. So they understood that the entire Universe was created in six **literal** days.

If evolutionists are correct, the Earth was here billions of years **before humans**. But Jesus disagreed. He said: “[F]rom the beginning of the creation, God ‘made them male and female’” (Mark 10:6), which means that Adam and Eve were created very near the beginning of Creation. Matthew’s wording of Jesus’ comment is that God made the first human beings “**at the beginning**” (Matthew 19:4).

Jesus also said that the blood of righteous people has been shed “from the foundation of the world” (Luke 11:50). But what righteous person was on Earth near the beginning of the world that was killed? Jesus named Abel (vs. 51)—the son of Adam and Eve (Genesis 4:2). Paul agreed with Jesus. In Romans 1:20, he said human beings have “clearly seen” and “understood” who God is “**since** the creation of the world.” So the Earth is only five days older than man—and even evolutionists would admit that man has not been on Earth for billions of years. The Bible is right!

Fossils

Evolution Cannot Explain

KYLE BUTT

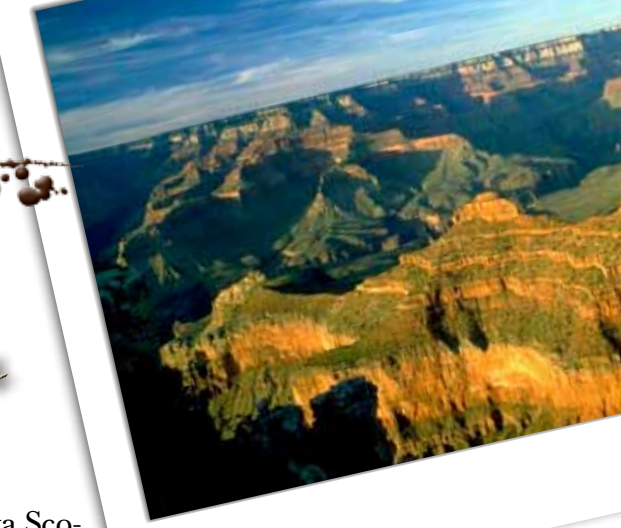
Many evolutionists claim that the layers of rocks in the ground prove that the Earth is millions of years old. Scientists (and park rangers) show us examples like the Grand Canyon and say that each layer took eons of time to be deposited. Creationists, however, know that this is not right. A closer look at the “record of the rocks” shows that the Earth is young, not old.

Embedded in rocks all over the globe are “polystrate” fossils. Polystrate means “many layers,” and refers to fossils that cut through at least two layers of the geologic column. For example, geologists have discovered tree trunks buried vertically in two, three, four, or more sections of rock—rock that evolutionists suggest was deposited over millions of

years. In Nova Scotia, there are many erect fossil trees scattered throughout layers extending upward more than 2,500 feet. However, organic material (like wood) that is exposed to the elements will rot, not fossilize. Scientists have had to admit that the entire trees must have been preserved quickly, which suggests that the layers surrounding them must have been deposited rapidly. The rock layers did not build up slowly over millions or billions of years.

Geologists also have discovered polystrate animal fossils. Probably the most famous is the fossilized skeleton of a whale discovered in 1976 near Lompoc, California. The whale is covered in “diatomaceous [die-uh-toe-MAY-shus] earth.” Diatoms are microscopic algae. As diatoms die, their skeletons form deposits—a process that evolutionists say is extremely slow. But the whale (with a skull more than seven feet thick) is completely covered by the diatomaceous earth. There simply is no way a whale could have remained on its back for hundreds or thousands of years while diatoms covered it, because it would have decayed or been eaten by scavengers. It is clear from this extraordinary evidence that the long ages attached to the geologic column simply are not correct.

Trees, whales, fish, and the other organisms with which the fossil record abounds did not die and lie around for hundreds, thousands, or millions of years while slowly being turned into polystrate fossils. Truth be told, polystrate fossils testify loudly to a young Earth whose layers formed quickly—not very long ago.



Scientific Evidence for a Young Earth

KYLE BUTT

It is very difficult to find any common ground between evolutionists and creationists. In fact, the two groups disagree on just about every subject in the Universe. But there is one area where they see eye to eye: the age of the Earth. No, of course they do not agree about how old the Earth is, but they both agree that if the Earth is young (with an age measured in thousands of years instead of billions), then evolution could not have happened.

Even though most science textbooks and journals teach that the Earth is billions of years old, many scientific findings do not agree. In fact, there are over 75 different scientific methods for calculating the age of the Earth, and most of those give an age of the Earth measured in thousands of years, not billions.

FIGHTING THE CROWD

One of the strongest arguments for a young Earth comes from the field of human population statistics. According to the records that are available, the human population on Earth doubles approximately every 35 years. Two scientists named Henry Morris and John Morris have written about this in their book titled *Science and Creation*. Let's suppose that humankind started with just two people who lived on the Earth one million years ago. Also, let's say that a generation was 42 years, and that each family had an average of 2.4 children (they probably had many more than that). Even if we allow for wars, epidemic diseases, and other things that would have killed lots of people, there would still be approximately 1×10^{5000} people on the Earth today! That number is a 1 followed by 5,000 zeroes. But the entire **Universe** (at an estimated size of 20 billion light-years in diameter) would hold only 1×10^{100} people. Using young Earth figures, however, the current world population would be approximately five billion people. Evolutionary dates would mean that the Earth's population would be 10^{4900} times greater than would fit into the entire Universe! The question is—which of the two figures is very close to the current population of six and a half billion people, and which could not possibly be correct?

THE EARTH'S DECAYING

MAGNETIC FIELD



If you go hiking or camping, you might take along a compass to make sure that you do not get lost. When you look at the compass, you see that the arrow of the compass always points to the north; it never points to the south or west (unless your compass is broken). Have you ever wondered why compasses point north?

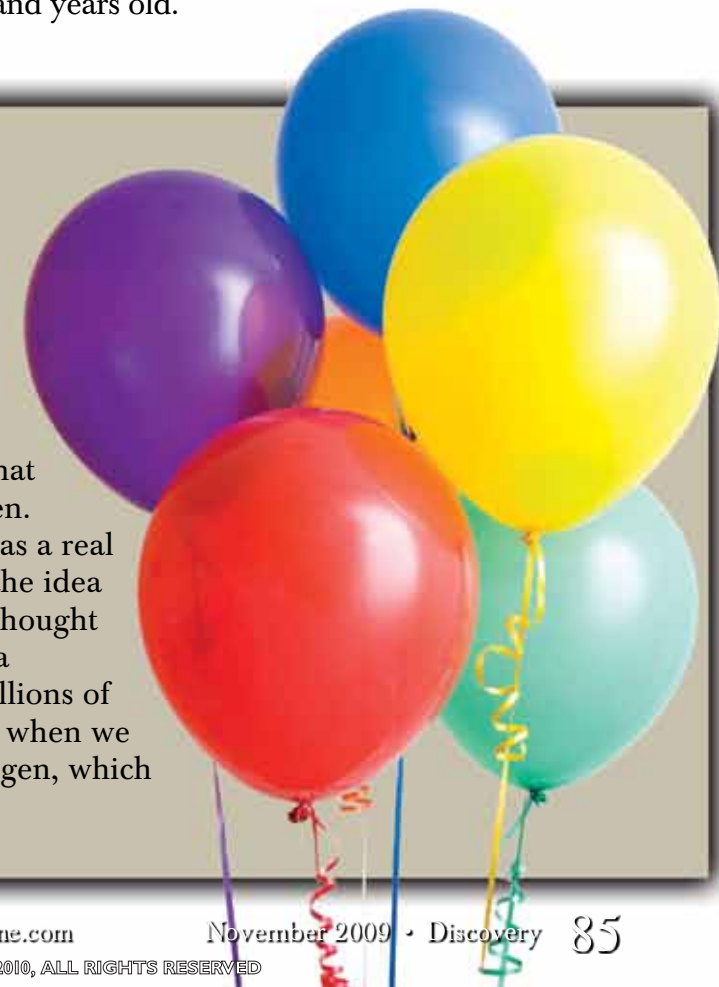
The answer has to do with the Earth's magnetic field. In the core of the Earth, a huge electric current is produced that causes the Earth to produce a magnetic attraction. That magnetic attraction is what causes the arrow on your compass to point North. What does this have to do with the Earth's age? Scientists who have been studying the Earth's magnetic forces have discovered that they are getting weaker and weaker every year. One government report

stated that the magnetic field will be gone by the year A.D. 3991.

If we look at how fast the magnetic field is decaying today, and try to calculate how long it has been decaying, we learn something very interesting. If you go backward for just a few thousand years, the heat inside the Earth would have been so great that the Earth would have broken apart and cracked. One scientist, Thomas G. Barnes, indicated that, after measuring the magnetic field, the Earth can only be about 10,000 years old. Maybe the Earth's magnetic field did not decay in the past like it is decaying today. But, if we look at how it is decaying today, like evolutionists do with other dating methods, we get a very young Earth that is only a few thousand years old.

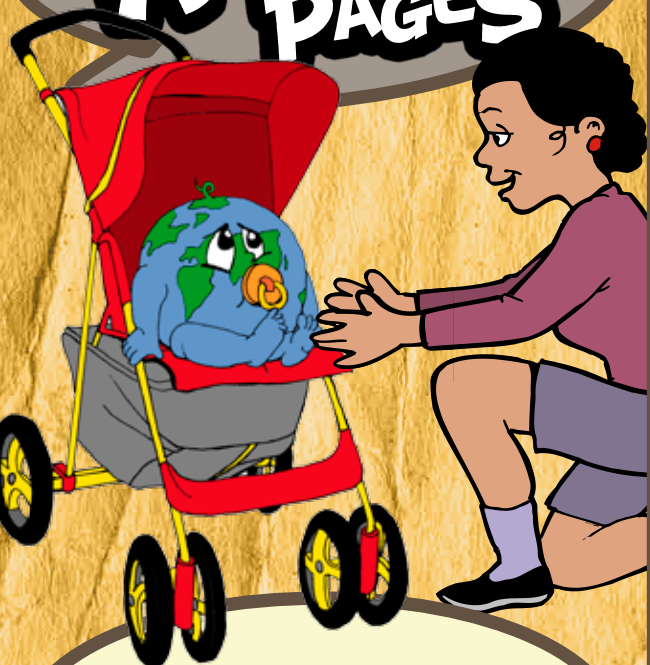
HYDROGEN IN THE UNIVERSE

Our Universe is made up mostly of an element called hydrogen. In nature, however, hydrogen is converted into another element known as helium. It does not turn back into hydrogen once it changes, and we have not found any way that hydrogen can be produced in large amounts. If the Universe were millions or billions of years old, then all the hydrogen would have changed into helium. But that is not what we find. The Universe still contains huge amounts of hydrogen. One famous astronomer by the name of Fred Hoyle saw this as a real dilemma. After studying it for some time, he concluded that the idea of an old age for the Universe had some problems. He even thought that this piece of evidence, along with others, might point to a Creator. He was right. If the Universe has been around for billions of years, all the hydrogen would have changed into helium. But when we look at the Universe, we still see enormous amounts of hydrogen, which shows that the Universe cannot be billions of years old.



PLEASE
Take A
Number

ACTIVITY PAGES



SOLVE, FIND, AND CIRCLE

- ## TRUE OR FALSE
- ___ THE EARTH IS BILLIONS OF YEARS OLD.
 - ___ MAN HAS BEEN ON EARTH FOR MANY MILLIONS OF YEARS.
 - ___ IT TOOK GOD SIX BILLION YEARS TO CREATE THE EARTH.
 - ___ A STRONG ARGUMENT FOR A YOUNG EARTH COMES FROM THE FIELD OF HUMAN POPULATION STATISTICS.
 - ___ WHENEVER THE BIBLE REFERS TO SCIENCE, GEOGRAPHY, OR MATH, IT SOMETIMES IS WRONG.
 - ___ POLYSTRATE FOSSILS PROVE THAT THE LAYERS OF THE EARTH WERE LAID DOWN OVER MANY MILLIONS OF YEARS.
 - ___ IN NATURE, HYDROGEN IS CONVERTED INTO ANOTHER ELEMENT KNOWN AS HELIUM.
 - ___ THE BIBLE TEACHES THAT GOD'S CREATION IS RELATIVELY YOUNG.
 - ___ THERE ARE OVER 75 DIFFERENT SCIENTIFIC METHODS FOR CALCULATING THE AGE OF THE EARTH, AND MOST OF THOSE GIVE AN AGE OF THE EARTH MEASURED IN THOUSANDS OF YEARS, NOT BILLIONS.
 - ___ CHRISTIANS SHOULD SHY AWAY FROM TALKING ABOUT THE AGE OF THE EARTH.

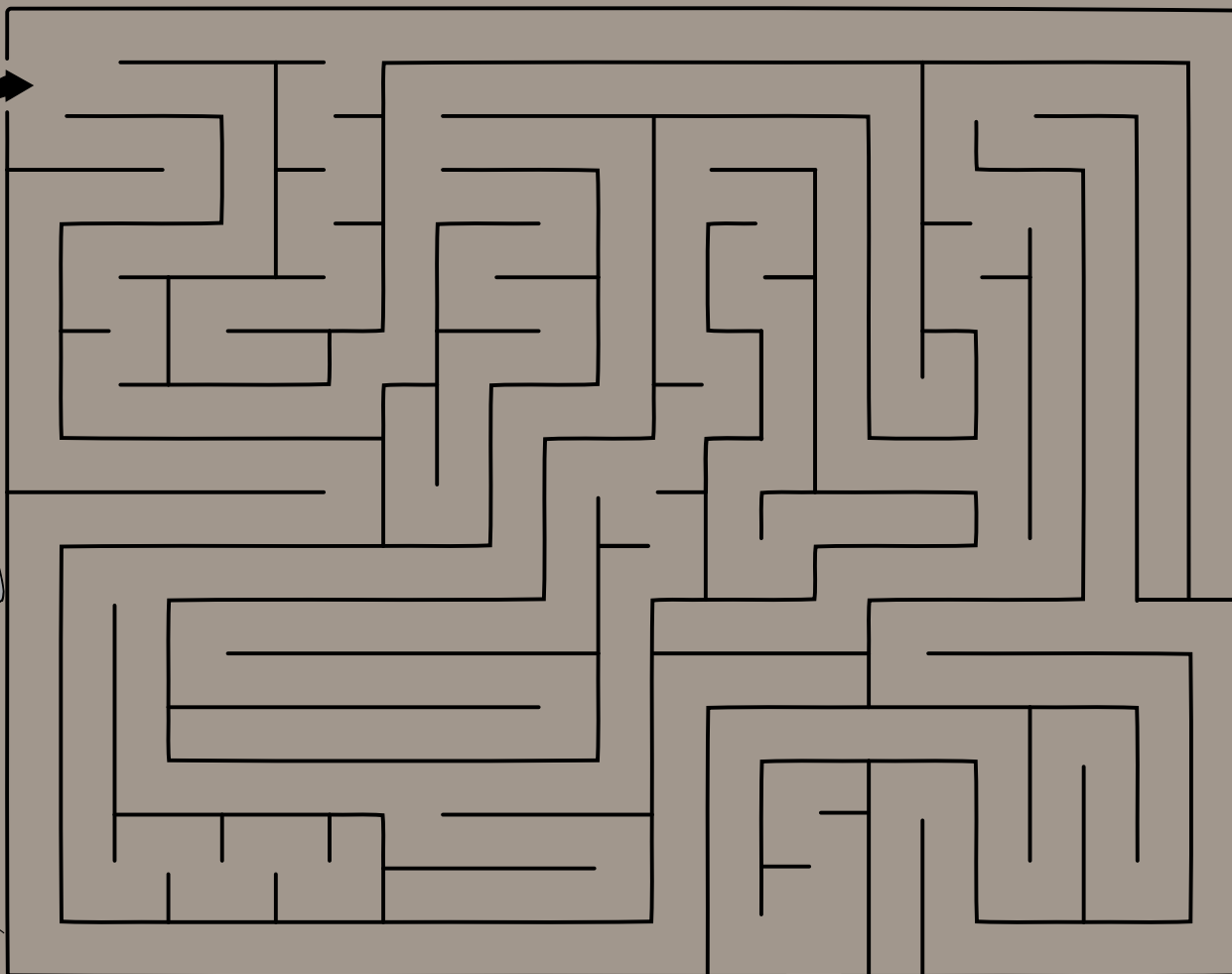
- Means "many layers" _____
- The Earth is only five days older than this man _____
- Adam's son that Jesus mentioned in Luke 11:50-51 _____
- Our Universe is made up mostly of this element _____
- Lived to be 969 years old _____
- Microscopic algae _____
- The word used repeatedly in Genesis one to refer to a regular 24-hour period _____
- Created everything in six days _____
- Said, "God 'made them male and female'... from the beginning of the creation" _____
- In nature, hydrogen is converted into this element _____

Y E K O T Z T L X B E T E T
 K H D A Y L J E S U S D Q U
 X A K B R U L F B H T U Q J
 D L H Y L H F C B K L F U R
 O E N D A G L Q D G S L C N
 G S M M P E W Z D Q E Z E L
 H U U S B S E Y I C J G S U
 G H I A Q U U B T R O M D M
 A T L Z K N O V C R O L L A
 U E E F G X T P D T B P O D
 V M H N B B J Y A B G G B A
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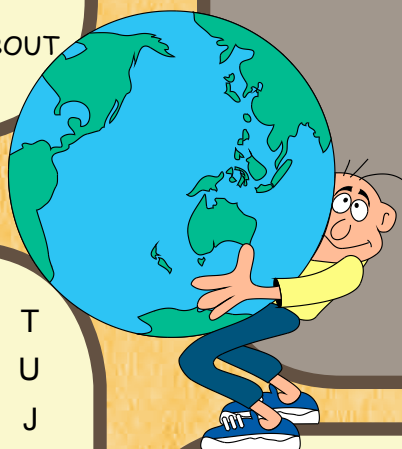
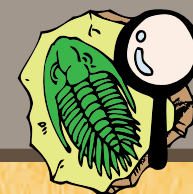
MAZE

HELP IGUANA DON FIND THE TRILOBITE FOSSIL.

Start



Finish



Ok, Iggy, you're always cracking jokes. Now I've got one for you!

You do? Well, let's hear it.

What animal likes to sing, but can't remember any of the words?

I dunno. Tell me!

HMM HMM
MMMMMM...

A HUMMINGBIRD!!

HA HA HA
HA HA HA

Ha! Good one, Doug!



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WHY DISCUSS THE AGE OF THE EARTH

ERIC LYONS

Through the years, many Christians have questioned the importance of discussing the age of the Earth. Does it really matter if the Earth is thousands or billions of years old? What is the big deal? What does the Earth's age have to do with Christianity?

First, the Bible teaches that God's creation is relatively young. Although this truth certainly is not the main theme of Scripture (that honor belongs to our Lord Jesus Christ), Christians should respect this Bible teaching, just as we should respect all other inspired facts. For example, when God says that Methuselah lived to be 969 years old (Genesis 5:27), we should believe what He says. When Jesus says that Jonah was swallowed by a great fish (Matthew 12:40), we should take Him at His word. And, when

the Bible teaches that the Earth is only five days older than man, we should confidently accept this truth. All Christians should respect what God's Word says about any subject, including the age of the Earth.

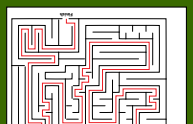
Second, the age of the Earth is extremely important to the creation/evolution debate. How so? Evolutionists admit that one of the things that could disprove their theory is "a young Earth." Evolutionists maintain that their theory cannot work without billions of years of time. Thus, if the Earth is relatively young (measured in **thousands** of years), their multi-**billion**-year theory crumbles.

As a result, one should expect that, since the Bible teaches the Earth **is** young (and not billions of years old), Christians would use God's Word, along with many scientific facts supporting a young Earth, to disprove the General Theory of Evolution. Bible believers who choose not to make use of such information in their defense of Creation are rejecting one of the weapons the Creator has given us to confront the ungodly, unscriptural theory of evolution. The fact is, the age of the Earth is a **very important** topic to discuss in the 21st century, and Christians should never be ashamed to talk about the subject.

ANSWERS



TRUE OR FALSE: 1-F; 2-F; 3-F; 4-T; 5-F; 6-F; 7-T; 8-T; 9-T; 10-F.
 SOLVE, FIND, AND CIRCLE: 1. polystyrene; 2. Adam; 3. Abel; 4. hydrogen; 5. Methuselah; 6. dinosaur; 7. day; 8. God; 9. Jesus; 10. helium.



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