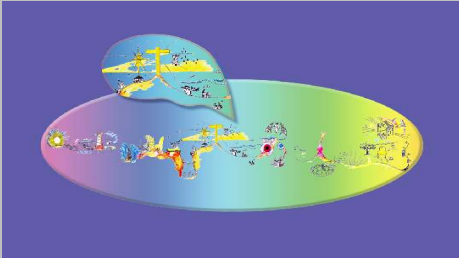


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## Eternal Fellowship News Bulletin

We believe in one GOD, in three persons; FATHER, SON and HOLY SPIRIT. We regard the Bible (both Hebrew Bible and New Testaments) as the only infallible authoritative WORD OF GOD.

HULDAH MINISTRY aims to return to the Word Of God, founded on Hebrew background and to interpret it from Hebraic perspective, acknowledging that Jesus is a Jew and the Jewish-ness of His teaching as a continuation from the Hebrew Bible. The Ministry also aims to put His teaching into practice, to have a closer relationship with the Lord, Jesus Christ, and to regularly have a Christian fellowship so that this-worldly kingdom of God will materialise in the midst of the followers of Jesus here and now, as well as earnestly seeking Christ's Return to establish the otherworldly Kingdom of God on earth.

*All activities are free of charge and no obligation whatever. Just enjoy our fellowship!*

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HULDAH MINISTRY

# LETTER TO THE BROTHERS AND SISTERS IN CHRIST

## [ SIX-DAY CREATION ]

*“ Look at the behemoth, which I made along with you and which feeds on grass like an ox. What strength he has in his loins, what power in the muscles of his belly! His tail sways like a cedar; the sinews of his thighs are close-knit. His bones are tubes of bronze, his limbs like rods of iron. He ranks first among the works of God, yet his Maker can approach him with his sword. ...When the river rages, he is not alarmed; he is secure, though the Jordan should surge against his mouth. Can anyone capture him by the eyes, or trap him and pierce his nose?*

*“ Can you pull in the leviathan with a fishhook or tie down his tongue with a rope? Can you put a cord through his nose or pierce his jaw with a hook? ...Can you fill his hide with harpoons or his head with fishing spears? If you lay a hand on him, you will remember the struggle and never do it again! Any hope of subduing him is false; the mere sight of him is overpowering. No-one is fierce enough to rouse him. ... Who can strip off his outer coat? Who would approach him with a bridle? Who dares open the doors of his mouth, ringed about with his fearsome teeth? His back has rows of shields tightly sealed together; each is so close the next that no air can pass between. They are joined fast to one another; they cling together and cannot be parted....Strength resides in his neck; dismay goes before him. The folds of his flesh are tightly joined; they are firm and immovable. His chest is hard as rock, hard as a lower millstone. When he rises up, the mighty are terrified; they retreat before his thrashing. The sword that reaches him has no effect, nor does the spear or the dart or the javelin. Iron he treats like straw and bronze like rotten wood. Arrows do not make him flee; slingstones are like chaff to him. A club seems to him but a piece of straw; he laughs at the rattling of the lance. His undersides are jagged postsheds, leaving a trail in the mud like a threshing-sledge....*

*Nothing on earth is his equal—a creature without fear. He looks down on all that are haughty; he is king over all that are proud.*

JOB 40:15~41:34.

Last month we briefly examined a summary of theories concerning the creation, mainly focussing on the “Gap Theory” and the “Six-day Theory”. Having acknowledged each of their claims, in turn, it would be appropriate to search for scriptural statements about creation.

Moses who wrote: *‘In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.’* in Genesis 1:1, also proclaimed: *‘For in six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but he rested on the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy.’* in Exodus 20:11 and *‘It will be a sign between me and the Israelites for ever, for in six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth, and on the seventh day he abstained from work and rested.’* in Exodus 31:17(Lines added). While Moses’ emphasis in these passages simply appears to be on the ‘**six day**’ creation of the heavens and the earth, gap theorists, drawing a sharp distinction between the two Hebrew verbs; “bara (created)” and “asa (made),” regard those statements written in Genesis1:1 and Exodus as two distinct and separated events by assigning the former to original creation and the latter to the recreation. Nehemiah 9:6 also uses “asa” to describe God’s creation: *‘You made the heavens, even the highest heavens, and all their starry hosts, the earth and all that is on it, the seas and all that is in them. You give life to everything, and the multitudes of heaven worship you.’* (Line added).

In their arguments, six-day creationists explain the usage of these two different verbs as interchangeable, especially when creation is referred to, by presenting some examples of Hebraic parallelism in Scripture. Employing two or more verbs and different words in the same passage to repeatedly express an almost same thought in the form of varied phrases is known as “parallelism” in Hebraic poetry and prose. One of the examples using both verbs; ‘bara’ and ‘asa’ in direct parallelism interchangeably is found in Isaiah41:20; *‘the hand of the LORD has done this, that the Holy One of Israel has created it’* (Lines added). Isaiah43:7 and 45:7 use three verbs; ‘bara’ and ‘asa’ and ‘yatsa (form)’ interchangeably for God’s creative activity. Accordingly, along with other scriptural evidence found in Genesis2:4 and Exodus34:10 and so on, it may be reasonable to conclude that the three verses quoted from Exodus20:11,31:17 and Nehemiah9:6 simply re-state a time-limited Six-day creation written in Genesis 1:1-2:25, rather than to understand them as proof texts of two distinct creation activities separated by a lengthy period of time claimed by gap theorists (For detailed examination, Weston W. Fields, *‘Unformed and Unfilled’*, Burgener Enterprise).

On the whole, the six-day creationists’ view; of a young earth and young universe, seems to find increasing support by recent biblical and scientific research, yet, even so, some problems still remain, making the view scientifically difficult to adopt.

- (1) Scientific data point to very old earth and heavens. The age of the universe is estimated to be at least ten billion years old by the mode of the light-travel-time reckoning and further, even fifteen to twenty billion years by other modes of reckoning based on the speed of the expanding universe or star ages.
- (2) The radioactive methods of dating of earth rocks, which are very common ways to give an appropriate age of the sample, evaluate the earth very old far from six thousand years old or so.
- (3) The formation of the various “strata” of the earth’s outer crust, which usually show the same general fossil distribution from the simpler to the more complex forms is thought difficult to be explained by the Flood alone.

To harmonise the biblical statements with such scientific observation, various means have been attempted. However, in contradiction to such effort, the reality is that more people are now searching for evidence for the young age of the catastrophic Flood. Among many, some recent investigations on the issues of “magnetic field” and “radiocarbon dating” are really worth examining. The following is quoted from a book written by one of the critics of the Gap Theory, Weston W. Fields.

Firstly, regarding the huge difference between the age of the earth estimated by geologists and by creationists, he says: ‘The reason for the difference is obvious: if present processes are to account not only for the geological features of the earth (coal, petroleum, fossils, mountains, coral reefs, etc.) but also for the biological evolution of man, and if we see very few of these phenomena occurring in any significant way today, or for that matter (in the case of biological evolution particularly) during all of recorded history, then we must have huge quantities of time for these changes and processes to transpire. Time, and more time, is the key: if we have enough of it (geologists and biologists glibly suppose), we may account for almost anything, if not everything, except, of course, the origin of matter and energy and natural processes (gravitation, etc.)’(Weston W. Fields, 1997, *‘Unformed and Unfilled’*, p.198.).

According to Dr. Fields, regardless of scientific validation, astounding indications of a very young earth have been investigated in the earth's magnetic field. The fact that the earth's magnet is decaying at a remarkably rapid rate has been observed by a long period of real-time record of the earth's magnet since 1835 after Karl Gauss invented ways to measure the absolute value of the magnetic field. He argues that if the initial value of the magnetic field were known, then the age of the earth could be computed because the magnetic moment is decaying at a known rate and having set a premise of a probable upper limit on the initial value of the earth's magnetic field, he evaluated that the earth's magnetic field could not have originated before 8,000BCE. If the earth's magnetic field is assumed to have originated at the same time as the creation of earth, biblical chronology of the earth would fit much better than the data of geological chronology, i.e., some billions of years old. He also presents from another standpoint that is based on the amount of heat produced by the field, that the origin of the earth's magnetic moment must have been less than 20,000 years ago.

Secondly, concerning "radiocarbon dating" we should properly be informed about problems residing in this popular method of dating. Dr. Fields points out several important assumptions on which the method is based. In other words, if these assumptions were not validated, then data evaluated by it will be concluded not to be reliable.

- 4) The decay rate of carbon-14 has remained constant.
- 5) The intensity of the cosmic ray bombardment has remained constant over the past 10,000~20,000 years because the formation of carbon-14 is directly dependent on the intensity of the cosmic radiation. This radiation is also dependent on the intensity of the magnetic field of the earth.
- 6) There has been equilibrium between the reservoirs of carbon for many millennia.

However, in reality, concerning the first point, the decay rates of carbon-14 are not fully predictable and the half-life of it today has been observed to be longer than the one previously set. Concerning the second and third points, some scientists claim that such equilibrium has never been reached. According to the "non-equilibrium" theory of radiocarbon dating proposed by Melvin A. Cook, even enormously computed ages are to be amazingly reduced to not more than 12,500 years! Thus, ample evidence challenges against the basic assumptions of the radiocarbon dating method and the fact of the rapidly decaying earth's magnetic field objects to the validity of the method itself.

Apart from numerous indications of a young earth in the light of the magnetic field and radiocarbon dating, there are also many exciting indications that scientifically favour the earth history based on the catastrophic effects of a global Flood in Noah's days, i.e., earth history supported by six-day creationists.

- 1) The geographic pole is now tilted from the magnetic pole by about 16 degrees. Such a sudden change of axis, even if the degree were less than that figure at the time of Noah's Flood, would cause disastrous global flood sufficient enough to cover the whole land. In passing, it was reported that the whole earth had been shaken by, and that the earth axis had actually been tilted by the last violent Indian Ocean tsunami on 26<sup>th</sup> December '04.
- 2) Tracks of worldwide new sea levels, fossil beaches in mountains such as the Andes, and angled coral beds are all evidence of a changed axis.
- 3) Horizontally flat-lying strata such as seen in the Grand Canyon, Arizona provide visible evidence of deposition rapidly caused by the 'sediment-laden water of the Flood' (Whitcomb and Morris, *The Genesis Flood*, Presbyterian and Reformed Pub.Co. ).
- 4) Formation of large-scale fossil beds consisting of billions of plants and animals cannot be accounted for without torrents of the Flood waters of a world wide scope. While any fossil of a lion has yet not been found in Palestine despite habitation of lions being indicated in Scripture, Mammoths' bones are unearthed in America along with horses, lions and camels which are all regarded as pre-Flood animals in the US. All these prove that formation of fossil graveyards in sedimentary deposits could not have been caused by uniform processes over many ages. Fossils, geographically characteristic phenomena such as horizontal strata and present high mountain ranges, and the ice age cannot be explained without a global flood.
- 5) Mammoths frozen whole and undamaged in ice blocks in Siberia, sometimes either standing or kneeling upright or preserving green on the tongue are obvious evidence of an instant freeze and death. Nothing but a sudden and violent global flood can explain causes of such volume of freezing

waters colder than ‘— 150 degrees F’ (John C. Whitcomb, *The World that Perished*, Baker Book House.)

- 6) According to John C. Whitcomb, one of the remarkable discoveries is the fact that a large tree trunk remaining in an upright position turned into coal as it was. Such an extraordinary example as penetrating vertically through several layers of sedimentary strata demonstrates a very short time of formation of coal from woody material but not from “peat” as previously cited.
- 7) One of the remarkable discoveries is the perfectly preserved tracks of reptilian ‘dinosaurs’ along with many kinds of animals, which simply could not have been preserved apart from unique sedimentation processes after a sudden, global Flood. Although ‘dinosaurs’ have generally been taught to have come to extinct millions of years ago and that men never coexisted with them, the Scriptures indicate otherwise. To say nothing of foundational biblical principle that death entered the world through man’s Fall (Ro.5:12), Job’s passages in 40:15~41:34 quoted at the beginning seem to depict an encounter of man with fearsome ‘dinosaurs.’ There is no commentary which give satisfactory explanations about the identities of **‘behemoth (“beast par excellence” in Hebrew)’** and **‘leviathan (sea monster).’** Both appear as representatives of a mighty land animal and of a mighty and huge marine animal, and the prime message in context is that God alone is sovereign over such huge animals. However, the more you read, the more convinced you will be that such strange animals likened to hippopotamus, river horse, water-ox or crocodile must be ‘dinosaurs.’ None of the other proposed animals fit all the details described except a herbivorous dinosaur. For example, a “cedar-like tail”, i.e., straight and long tail, applies to neither a “hippopotamus” nor a “river horse”. Also, quite significantly, the fact that the crocodile has no tongue large enough to be hooked would exclude it from being the most probable candidates for **‘leviathan.’** If this indication is true, it might be said that the Bible unexpectedly testifies man’s coexistence with ‘dinosaurs’.

As examined so far from last month, the catastrophic universal Flood concept explains earth history visibly featured on the earth’s crust far better than a century of evolutionary concept. Now that we accept the biblical statements of a young earth, “Six-day creation,” we would be led to the most significant claim that the Flood which left large-scale fossil beds on the earth’s crust should have taken place after Adam’s Fall, but never in a period of the gap between Genesis 1:1 and 1:2 because fossil is a proof of death but does not speak of evolutionary development, and Scripture states that death came as a result of man’s sin after the Fall: ***‘Therefore, just as sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin, and in this way death, came to all men, because all sinned —’ (Ro.5:12)*** and ***‘The creation waits in eager expectation for the sons of God to be revealed. For the creation was subjected to frustration, not by its own choice, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be liberated from its bondage to decay and brought into the glorious freedom of the children of God. We know that the whole creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time’ (Ro.8:19-22 Lines added).*** This means that there was no such thing as a “Lucifer’s flood” that would have formed fossil beds and fossil graveyards before the six-day creation as gap theorists advocate but that only Noah’s Flood is sufficient enough to form strata of fossils. Only a few month ago last December, we witnessed the terribly destructive power of rapidly moving currents of water when more than twelve countries in the Indian Ocean were hit by the colossal scale of earthquakes and tsunamis, which claimed more than 200,000 lives. So now we can easily imagine the tremendous power of a flood of rushing water.

Furthermore, as John C. Whitcomb states: ‘Rivers in flood stage normally excavate their beds to tremendous depths, carrying vast quantities of sediment along in suspension or along the bed, to be redeposited downstream when the flood subsides’ (1997, *The World That Perished*, p.71.), so, interestingly enough, a similar phenomenon actually took place on India’s south coast. As a result of the Indian Ocean tsunamis washing away quantities of sediment along the eroded beds, a 1200-year-old lost city has been exposed. What was found in the ocean by a diving expedition team three years ago has suddenly emerged and now stand in sand (some 2 meter high structures). This was a dramatic change of landscape after the flood waters subsided. Indeed, especially recently witnessing what the effects of even such localised floods would be, we are actually living in the days when no biblical statement of extraordinary and catastrophic global events in any field is beyond our understanding any more.