

CSA News

The Creation Science Association for Mid-America

"It is better to trust in the Lord than to put confidence in man" Psalm 118:8

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The Age of the Earth - The Longest Myth - Part II by Tom Willis

Highlights of Part I

We saw In Part I that Hutton (late 1700's, early 1800's) and Lyell (1830+) were the principle storytellers for a new belief system, promoted as science (in general) and geology (in particular). The key slogan of this view of history is, "The Present is the Key to the Past." We did not mention, but should now, that neither had any training in geology. Hutton was a rich man who failed at three avocations. He was a farmer when he became an expert in geology. Some claim he was responsible for some innovations in farming, but my view is that he, like other rich men, could afford to play with new ideas. No one will ever know whether his ideas were profitable. Lyell was a lawyer.

Both had a clear agenda to overthrow the prevailing religious order, and both set out to do this by "proving" that the earth was much older than the Bible obviously teaches. Their strategy was to pretend they could elevate tales about history to the status of "science." The strategy they employed was not science, but persuasion. They coined cute phrases like "The present is the key to the past," marketing the idea that processes we see in nature are all that have ever happened.

Problems with Hutton and Lyell are Manifest

We also saw that the ideas they championed are empirically and intellectually bankrupt. By their own reckoning, the earth and cosmos have a history millions of times longer than they had observed or read about. Belief that the processes observed today have been essentially the same forever is a naive faith, not a science. As we saw that deposition of sediments by slow processes is a virtually impossible way to make rock, vast amounts of evidence within the rocks clearly indicate extremely rapid deposition by moving waters, not minuscule annual deposition over millions of years by placid waters. We also saw that belief by these men that canyon formation took millions of years was influenced more by their pagan religion than by science. Science does not require slow canyon formation, nor is it even possible to have formed the large canyons on Earth by the slow process of river erosion.

As science has progressed, we have even further proof of the unscientific character of their beliefs. Both these men essentially believed in eternal matter, but the 2nd Law of Thermodynamics clearly teaches, at least to everyone with a degree in physics, that matter could not have been here forever. The 1st Law of Thermodynamics clearly teaches that there is no force in nature that can possibly create matter in real time.

Further, matter and life are the most complex entities in the cosmos. But complex systems have never been observed to form in "nature." From pocket combs to spacecraft, all complex systems require acts of creation, in spite of whether we observed it, or wish to believe it. There is not one iota of science one can cite to permit matter or other complex systems to spontaneously generate. As one scientist commented in Scientific American a number of years back, "It is tempting to speculate that matter began as a



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- 7/22: KU Museum
- 7/28: Astronomy - 8:30 to 10:30 PM
- 8/12: Rock Bridge Cave
- 8/25: Astronomy - 8:00 - 10:00 PM - The Berry Patch
- 9/1- 4: SE Missouri, Johnson's Shut-ins
- 9/22: Astronomy - 7:15 - 9:15PM - The Berry Patch
- 10/20: Astronomy - 7:15 - 9:15PM - The Berry Patch
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quantum fluctuation in a vacuum." Tempting for a materialist, but not for an honest scientist. If you even believe quantum theory (I know a number of physicists who do not), quanta are already matter, and they are everywhere.

Thus, Hutton and Lyell and their contemporary disciples, clearly had/have a religious agenda, not a scientific one. I do not mean they were necessarily practitioners of their religion, many do not live fully consistent with their professed beliefs, but they were essentially promoting an apologetic system for a religious myth.

Darwin, Huxley, Haeckel, Asa Gray, Hitler, Marx, Mussolini, Carl Sagan, Stephen Jay Gould and countless others all preferred their religion, so they promoted the myth, each creating their own denominational absurdities. For example, virtually all the original disciples of evolutionist religion clearly taught that some human races were inferior and should be exterminated. Most of their current co-religionists still believe this, but many are quiet about it. Some even claim to have repudiated this belief as a cult of the true religion of evolutionism, but our subject requires us to leave this discussion for another time.

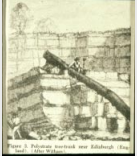
Other Evidence of the Lack of Time in Geology

Consider the picture of tree trunks embedded in rock displayed on the following page. Trees like these occur all over the world.

The Age of the Earth - The Longest Myth - Part II (From pg 1)

Each tree is embedded in rock which, according to evolutionist faith, took 10's of thousands to 10's of millions of years to be deposited, and many more to be lithified (turned to rock). If the Geology of Hutton, Lyell and their co-religionists were true, these trees could not possibly exist, yet they are found everywhere!

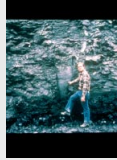
Polystrate Trees - Falsify "Millions of Years" and "Swamps"



Edinburgh, Scotland



St. Etien, France



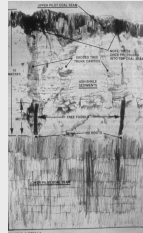
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Yellowstone, USA



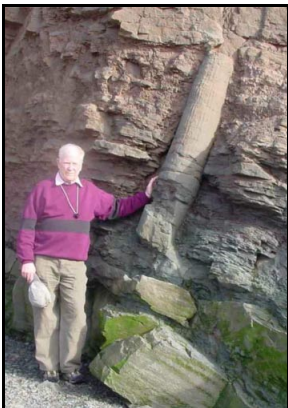
Germany



New Castle, Australia

These upright trees are found all over the world. In just the one slide above, Scotland, France, Kentucky, Yellowstone Park, Germany and Australia are represented.

Another site famous for polystrate fossils (fossils which pass through many strata) is Jovins, Nova Scotia (below, left). One less well known is shown on the right, Ottawa, Kansas. We have found a number of small trees and ferns passing through many strata.



The fern leaves above are sticking up through about 1000 strata. Did they lie there for 1000 years?

The old-earth faith is that these strata represent at least 1000 years per inch. In Grand Canyon, for example, the strata purportedly represent an average 833 years per inch, but, 200 millions of rock are "missing," so you'll have to figure what to do with those "missing years." Regardless, we see that all of these trees are devoid of roots and limbs, and each, but the Nova Scotia tree, is over ten feet tall. Thus, each tree had to stand upright at least 10 ft x 12 inches x (about) 1000 years per inch = at least 120 thousand years, with no limbs or roots! That is, if you believe evolutionist religion. Even worse, these trees quite often pass through strata which are "known" by evolutionists to represent over 100 million years of earth history.

Only a committed fool can believe a tree, with or without roots and limbs, can stand for even a few thousand years, much less a few million!

The Age of the Earth - The Longest Myth (from column 1)

These trees are incredibly easy to explain. Their existence has long been known, and creationists have long known how they formed. The world got a life-sized laboratory in their formation beginning May 18, 1980 when Mt. St. Helens erupted, stripping millions of trees from their roots and removing their limbs with 700 mph winds. Countless trees were deposited in Spirit Lake (and nearby rivers). In the lake, they formed a floating mat, just as they would have in a global flood. As they became water-logged, about 19,000 of them rotated to an upright posture, apparently because of the larger, water-logged base.



Many of these trees eventually sank to the bottom, some upright, some prone. The lake was calm after the eruption, yet many feet of rock dust accumulated rapidly. In a larger catastrophe with thousands of volcanos, this would have been replicated globally. Experiments have repeatedly determined that wood deposited, in the absence of air, mixed with volcanic ash and/or clays, with modest heat will turn to coal in less than a year. Without the heat, but in highly mineralized water, they will petrify very quickly.

This catastrophic scenario explains the formation of polystrate fossils, coal and petrified wood. Old earth "geology" cannot even explain the polystrate trees. One humorous post on "Talk Origins" claims to have addressed this "problem" over 100 years ago in a paper by Lyell and Dawson, who visited Nova Scotia. Their "solution to the problem" was that they claimed to have found a long root on a fossilized tree there. Golly, gee! So their tree, if they really found one with a root, stood there 10's of thousands (or millions) of years, with its lower trunk encased in, or turned to, rock. In a modest distortion of the famous phrase from the movie, "Charlotte's Web," **"That's some tree!"**

What I have presented herein is not exhaustive, but I believe is sufficient for a wise man who is genuinely seeking to know the truth, and perhaps investigates for himself whether my account is truthful and sound, should be able to definitively conclude that it is not possible to intelligently explain the existence of thousands of feet of sedimentary rock by invoking processes of gradual sedimentation over millions of years.

Next time we will consider whether it is possible to invoke neo-catastrophism to explain what we find in the rocks. That is, can the rocks be explained by a series of small catastrophes over millions of years? Unfortunately for evolutionism, the answer will be clearly seen to be a resounding **"NO!"**

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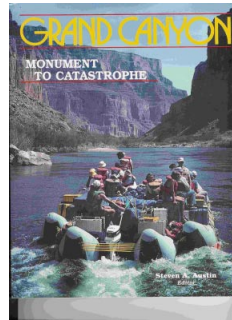
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**The Creation Science Association
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Fellowship & Book Table: 6:15PM - Meeting: 7:00PM Nursery Available: \$2.50 per child (Reservations required for nursery)

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By: Lynn Lemons

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