Why do we all know so little of British history before Julius Caesar landed in 55 BC? Read any modern account of the history of Britain and you will find that virtually no historical material is given for the period prior to this. Vague references are made to this group of "hunter-gatherers" or that group of lake-dwellers. Yet no individual is named. No exploits are set out. No episodes are recounted. It is as if the period prior to 55 BC is entirely prehistoric, and that no written accounts exists of the vast expanse of time predating the coming to Britain of the Romans. Yet, such accounts do exist, both in abundance and in great detail covering some two thousand years or more of recorded history. They are those of the early Britons, the early Irish-Celts, and the Saxons.

The British Chronicles

The main body of records dealing with the history of the early Britons is contained especially in two ancient books. The first is Historia Britonum or "The History of the Britons" compiled by Nennius in the ninth century AD; the second, Historia Regum Britonum, or "History of the Kings of Britain" as recounted by Geoffrey of Monmouth and published by him in AD 1136. Both accounts deal with the arrival in the British isles of the earliest settlers after the Flood.

Nennius, for his history, gathered together many different sources that were extant in his own day. Among them were various surviving oral traditions, but many were written sources also, including certain Irish records, a Roman chronicle and other written histories. Most of these records were already of great age by the time Nennius copied them out, and it is important to remember that in copying them Nennius made no attempt to doctor them. It was a magnificent achievement. The level of his achievement is demonstrated in the seventeenth and eighteenth chapters of his book in which are recounted the origins of various European nations. These include the Franks, Britons, Saxons, Bavarians, Thuningians, Goths, Valagoths, and several others. The descent of these nations is traced in detail - verifiable detail - and Nennius follows them back to their very beginnings, to Noah through his son, Japheth, thus supplementing the broader account that is contained in the tenth and eleventh chapters of the book of Genesis. There was a time-span of several centuries between the birth of the European nations, as recounted by Nennius, and the invasion of Britain by the Romans in 55 BC. This eventful period is described in the afore-mentioned work of Geoffrey of Monmouth. Geoffrey's book covers in great detail the history of the early Britons, beginning with the founder of the race, Brutus, who colonized the British Isles in about the twelfth century BC. Until the coming of the Britons, the British Isles had remained uninhabited since the Flood. His history goes right up to the time of King Yvor and Yni, the last kings of purely British descent who both died in the seventh century AD. Thus some two thousand years of continuous history are preserved in Geoffrey's book.

Geoffrey of Monmouth was an eminent Oxford cleric who became Bishop of Asaph. His history, however, was itself a translation into Latin of a much earlier work which was written in the ancient British language now better known to us as Welsh; the Welsh are directly descended from the early Britons. Today it is fashionable to decry Geoffrey's History as a work of fiction. However, to accept such a notion, we would have to ignore the considerable body of archaeological evidence which tells us that whatever else it was that Geoffrey of Monmouth was writing, it was not pure fiction. One instance will illustrate the point. In the fourth chapter of Book Five of his History, Geoffrey related the occupation of London by Roman troops. They in turn were besieged by the troops of the British king Asclepiodotus. The king demanded the surrender of the Roman forces, and he offered them their lives. However, the Venodoti (a British warrior tribe) thought it better to punish the foreign invaders and they beheaded the Romans en masse. The slaughter took place at a stream in London which the Britons called Nantgallum. The same stream became known to the later Saxons as Galabroc, and still later to the Londoners as Wallbrook. The stream has since been built over. It is interesting to note that when its bed was excavated in the 1860's a large number of human skulls was found. These skulls were the
remnants of what had once been a pile of human heads. Now, is it likely that Geoffrey of Monmouth could have guessed what would be discovered under the Wallbrook in centuries to come, and have made up a story to fit? Either the History is a true translation, or Geoffrey was a forger with uncanny prescience. It is much more likely that he was recounting an actual incident, taking his information from an early and authentic record of the event. There are several other archaeological corroboration of the genuineness of Geoffrey's source book. Taken together, they tell us that his History is generally reliable. In short, Geoffrey's "History of the Kings of Britain" provides us with a vital historical link between the early post-Flood world and modern times. The same can be said for certain other ancient documents.

**The Irish Chronicles**

The early Irish chronicles are among the most fascinating of all the ancient records that have come down to us. They trace in detail the coming to Ireland of various peoples over many centuries, beginning with the first colony that of Partholan, who landed with his people in the 1484 BC. (Interestingly, the pagan Irish historians dated every important event from the year of creation--*Anno Mundi*--the year of the world, and their date for creation is not far removed from the Ussher's of 4004 BC. Moreover, the chronicles tell us that Ireland had remained uninhabited for some 864 years after the Flood--waters had receded--the Flood also being a very real event in the memory of pagan Irish). Partholan died in 1454 BC. Some two hundred and seventy years after his death his colony was wiped out by a plague. About nine thousand people perished in one week. It is interesting to consider that the place where they died is still littered with ancient burial mounds. It is called "Tallaght", a name denoting a place where plague victims lie buried.

Later settlements of Ireland are recorded, notably those of the children of Nemedth--the Nemedian invasion that occurred sometime after the year 764 BC. (Again, all dates were calculated from the year of creation). A mysterious people called the Tuatha de Danann then appeared on Ireland's shores in 701 BC, and lastly there was the Milesian invasion led by Eber and Eremon in the year 504 BC. This last invasion gives us a firm point of reference in other histories from which we can check these various dates, and it shows them to have possessed a fair degree of accuracy.

We know from the histories of other nations that, around the time of the Milesian invasion of Ireland the city of Miletus on the Turkish mainland was under severe threat from the Persian army, causing many Milesian refugees to leave in search of a safe land. Ireland was already very well known to the Phoenician traders of the time, so it is fairly certain that the refugees knew exactly where they wanted to go. The city of Miletus was finally destroyed by the Persians in the year 494 BC, which leaves a discrepancy of only ten years between the early Irish chronology and that of the city of Miletus. Many an Egyptologist wished that he could get that close!

**The Saxon Genealogies**

Moreover, the records of another ancient race have survived, and this race was ethnically, geographically, linguistically and culturally distinct from both the Irish-Celts and the Britons. These records are the genealogies of the Saxons, and these also contain remarkable details concerning the early, pre-Roman, history of Europe.

The Saxons began their prolonged migration to England in about the middle of the fifth century AD under the invitation of Vortigern, then King of the Britons. It is usually from this point that modern historians begin their own accounts of Saxon history, implying by this that nothing definite is known of any individual among the Saxons before this date. But the actual history of the Saxons, their early recorded history, goes back much further than the fifth century. Indeed, like the British and Irish chronicles, the records of the Saxons go way back to the time of the Flood and the scattering of the nations from Babel. When the Saxons arrived here from Europe they became divided up into seven separate kingdoms. This was called the Saxon Heptarchy (i.e. seven kingdoms as opposed to monarchy, one kingdom). Naturally, each separate kingdom had its own royal family, and these various royal families each kept their own genealogies. This was important for determining the succession and a host of other legal matters.

Now, regarding the Saxon genealogies, there is one remarkable fact that has not been referred to in any modern work. All seven genealogies trace the lineages of their various kings back to the same ancestors--ancestors, moreover, who were themselves descended from Noah through Japheth's line! That cannot be coincidence. Yet we are persistently asked to believe that, say, the kings of Northumbria fraudulently and accidently traced their lineage back to the same ancestry as those of Kent. Yet these kingdoms were separated by hundreds of miles, and their people spoke somewhat different dialects, rarely wandering beyond their own borders unless it was to fight!

Those modern historians who do deal with the Saxon genealogies, consistently voice the opinion that these genealogies were invented by upstart tyrants who were seeking legal justification for their pretended claims to the throne. Yet this assertion could not be further from the truth. In those days, great importance was attached by force of law to the keeping and preserving of genealogies, and especially the royal genealogies. Everyone who mattered knew these records virtually by heart, and it would have been a very reckless man who attempted to tamper with them in any way. The attempt alone would have fooled no one, and it would have brought the full rigour of the law, if not the more immediate remedy of someone's sword, down on the culprit's head.

Massive stone alignments in such sites as Newgrange and Stonehenge reveal a people of advanced abilities in science and technology. The king lists provide a link between the biblical record in Japheth and the Roman times. This framework is in contradistinction to the evolutionary view of primitive man grunting and shuffling his way up from the ape over imagined millions of years. Small wonder that Geoffrey of Monmouth's translation is not accepted! Yet these histories confirm one another, and archaeology has, time and time again, reinforced the veracity of the records.

Clearly, then, it is time to reassess these ancient records. The book of Genesis necessarily touches upon the immediate post-Flood history of the nations only briefly. The records that have come down to us from the British, Irish, and Saxons, however, enable us greatly to enlarge our understanding of those times, and therein lies their immense and lasting value.

Tom Willis

*This article first appeared as Feature #22 CSA of Ontario (Canada) Newsletter, Winter 1992. Reprinted with permission*

[Evolutionists are famous for rejecting all the evidence that doesn't agree with evolution, then claiming all the evidence agrees with evolution. This article shows that this strategy of unbelief extends to historians as well. Surprise, surprise. "... there is no new thing under the sun." Ecclesiastes 1:9]
Book of the Month:

The Collapse of Evolution
by: Scott Huse, Ph.D.

Since 1983, this has been an excellent, brief, but quite thorough review of the highlights of the evidence against evolution and for Biblical Creation presented by creation scientists over the last 30 years. Revised with many new illustrations in 1993, "Collapse" covers Geology, Physics, Mathematics, Biology, Anthropology, and Common "Proofs" of evolution. Fairly easy reading, but probably best for senior high and up. Softcover, 186 pages.

Regular Price: $10.00 (plus postage)
May/June, 1994 price: $9.00 (including postage)

Audio/Video Tape of the Month:

What Is Science and How Does it Relate to Discussions of Origins... and to Faith
by: Tom Willis

Many people recognize this material as essential to origins discussions, as well as to discussions of theology, business decisions, etc. We not only define Creation and Evolution, but we define science and faith, which requires that we fully understand the question: "How do we know that what we know is true?" If you truly understand this material, you are well on your way to understanding the Creation/Evolution issue, as well as many other life issues.

Special: May/June 1994 Price: Audio Tape #110: $4.00, VHS Video #V0110: * $12.00 (includes postage)
*Note: Since January, 1994 Mark Christenson has filmed CSA sessions with his new HI-8 camera, using external sound, dramatically improving the sound and the video quality.

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Book of the month (May/June, 1994)
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Other:

"Pornography Destroys" trash bags (help CSA get a large screen TV projector) 1 Roll = 30 bags, at $10.00/roll.

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Many of you have been reading CSA News for years. Perhaps you've noticed that very little is said about the expenses of CSA's ministry. You've never been billed for the newsletter (which now goes to almost 6000 people). CSA does not charge for conducting a seminar in any church or city. The lending library services have been extended to hundreds of individuals and groups free of charge. How is this possible?

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Your investment of $17 for a full membership today, multiplied by the gifts and prayers of others, will insure that more and more people will come to a knowledge of the truth and the freedom which it brings.
There are four major propositions of evolution: A self-created (or else eternal) universe and earth, self-creating life, self-creating kinds of life, and billions of years. The first three are easily testable and have been repeatedly tested in the laboratory, with 100% failure. Thus making "evolution science" the opposite of all other sciences, which we accept because they are repeatedly verified. But you cannot put an event claimed to have occurred a billion years ago in a laboratory and test it. How then do we who are interested in truth test these claims? There are many ways. Greg Hinnors is a practicing meteorologist who has this question on his heart. Join us for an interesting and informative evening.

Cavitation (a hydraulic process capable of rapidly destroying rock, concrete and even steel) has been well recognized in hydraulic engineering for many years, but virtually unknown in geology. Recently it has been discovered that very rapidly moving water can begin cavitating simply because of a small bump in its path. It is now becoming obvious that cavitation was a factor in geologic history. Especially during the rupture of enormous natural dams after the "Ice Age," cavitation probably played a major role in forming large canyons and river valleys in weeks rather than eons. A fascinating topic.

In some circles a scientist is essentially defined as anyone who cannot see evidence for God anywhere. Obviously then, in these circles, anyone who can see the evidence cannot be a competent scientist. But the Bible still asserts plainly that "The heavens declare the glory of God" (Psalms ), "Because that which may be known of God is manifest in them; for God hath shewed it unto them. For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse: Because that, when they knew God, they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened. Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools," Romans 1:19-22. For a beautiful, breathtaking, and often humorous review of how the modern discoveries in astronomy continue to verify these passages, be sure to attend the June meeting.

The Raytown, Mo. biology text, like nearly all the others, tells the students that the evidence missing in the biology laboratory for evolution (it is all missing) is found in "A Story Written in Rock." However, just as the Evolutionary Tree of Life is often aptly called "A biological organism that grows only in textbooks," the Geologic Column, should be correctly understood as "A series of rock and fossil layers which were only deposited in textbooks!" This paper by Ed Holroyd furnishes even more evidence of the mythologic nature of the geologic column.

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