

CSA News

The Creation Science Association for Mid-America

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

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The Continuing Saga of

The Great Kansas Science Wars

by Tom Willis

One result of the Kansas Science Wars has been the opportunity to watch the intellectual giants of our *institutions of higher learning*, as well as the fine products of their labor, perform at their peak by showing us how they can use their great learning to assault Jesus Christ and the Bible. Here are some of the most impressive intellectual and scientific arguments:

"Noah's ark is a wonderful fable, but treating it as science is like shooting at a dirigible"

Leonard Krishtalka is director of the KU Natural History Museum and Biodiversity Research Center and a professor of ecology and evolutionary biology at KU. We've already discussed his "withering" argument that Jesus didn't make pigs because Krishtalka doesn't like the design (See: "The 'Proof' from Sub optimality", CSA News Jul/Aug, 1999. See [//www.csama.org/csaneews](http://www.csama.org/csaneews)).

Why is the ark such an easy target for "great scientists?" Well, because "Michael Shermer of Occidental College has fired the obvious shots: How does a ship 450 feet long, 75 feet wide and 45 feet high house two each of the earth's 30 million or so species... And feed them for 371 days... clean up... And what about trees and other plants?"

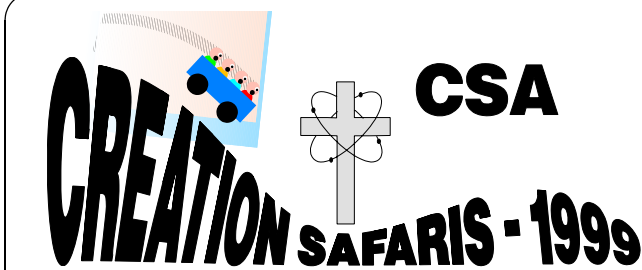
Answer: Well, the best way to start is with a God who knows He doesn't need 60 million animals on the ark. The word "species" has long been known to be virtually meaningless. There are today 20 different definitions of species in use. Virtually none of them deal with the issue Krishtalka pretends to address, "What animals were necessary to achieve God's purpose of reseeding the earth with the created kinds?" Some folks claim we have 850,000 species of rain forest beetles. Some list 12 species of fox plus several wolves, coyotes,

dogs, hyenas, etc. But only one pair of dogs was needed on the ark, and no beetles (at least a pair of each true created kind could easily have floated on the enormous rafts of logs and vegetation). Only mammals, reptiles and birds were on the ark. Estimates vary but always range from 6000 to less than 20,000 sheep-sized (average) animals, in a vessel capable of holding 125,000. There was plenty of room for food; water was easy to catch and hold; waste was largely a matter of good design and some work. Speaking of firing good shots, John Woodmorappe, who obviously knows far more than Shermer and Kristalka has addressed every argument against the ark in "Noah's Ark, A Feasibility Study" (see [//www.csama.org/book](http://www.csama.org/book) table).

To supplement this devastating assault, Krishtalka condescended to help us all learn to read the Bible better, instructing us that Thomas Aquinas, the Pontifical Bible Commission and Pope Paul all felt that the Bible was not to be used to contradict science. However, Jesus had some words on the ark:

"But as the days of Noah were, so shall also the coming of the Son of man be. For as in the days that were before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage [conducting business as usual], until the day that Noah entered into the ark, And knew not until the flood came, and took them all away; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be. -Matt 24:37-39.

Peter, in discussing the signal attributes of "last days scoffers" specifically lists two things the scoffers will "willingly ignore:" that the world was initially covered with water [not hot 600 million years] and the world was later overflowed [flooded and destroyed] by these same waters (2 Peter 3:1-7. Aquinas, the Pope and his commissions are all incompetent to save anyone. Jesus not only can save us, but is the only one with the authority to do so. Only a fool would trade His view of the ark, or anything else, for the opinion of folks like Krishtalka and the others he recommended.



Creation Safaris are family recreational outings with educational sessions providing a view of *nature* superior to the mythology offered in textbooks, movies, parks, museums and TV programs.

Safari Report... 17 Canoes and 35 folks went on the Ozark Stream Float. All agreed it was a great outing.

Remaining Safaris...

October 16: KATY Bike Trail, 9:00AM-5:00PM

November 5: Astronomy Safari, 7:00 - 9:00PM

November 20: Squaw Creek Game Refuge, 9 AM-5 PM

CSA Creation Safari Detail Booklet for 1999

The calendar above gives you only an outline of dates and events. To seriously consider participating in a Creation Safari, you should call or write for the booklet: [CSA Creation Safari Details for 1999](#), then make reservations.

CSA, 22509 State Line Road, Cleveland, MO 64734

Also inquire about **CSA** membership, Free Lending Library and Resource Catalogs, and a free subscription to CSA News.

“The Bible Misreports the Value of pi”

This was one thesis of a letter from Steve Dahlberg, to the KC Star (8/16/99). Dahlberg proposed that a piano be pushed off a 12 story building on me and other authors of the alternate science standards because we said gravity was just a theory. We also said that the key part of gravity theory was in use thousands of years before Newton, and some parts were impossible to test. Dahlberg also suggested that all Christian homes be burned to the ground since “some fundamentalists claim pi is 3, not 3.14,” but the homes had been built using the “*satanic 3.14*.” Dahlberg knows less of home building it seems than he does about gravity, the Bible and pi. Pi would not be used in structural calculations for 9,999 of 10,000 U.S. homes, no structural arcs are used. In homes with arcs, pi rounded to 3 would almost never alter the structure.

The “pi” claim is a common skeptics claim. But Dahlberg had not even read the Bible or the claim which derives from:

“*And he made a molten sea, ten cubits from the one brim to the other: it was round all about, and the height was five cubits: and a line of thirty cubits did compass it round about.*” 1Kings 7:23

Circles are involved here. In mathematics, the lower case Greek letter, “pi” traditionally refers to the ratio of the diameter of a circle to its circumference. A circle with diameter of 10 (cubits, about 15 feet), has a circumference 10 times pi = 31.416 (five digit precision. Valid values of pi are 3, 3.1, 3.14, 3.142, 3.1416, etc.). Apparently some sloppy reader of 1st Kings decided that the circumference and diameter refer to the same circle, so one must be in error. Seeking to do more damage, skeptics claim the Bible “misreports pi.”

A careful reading shows that the passage is reporting two different circles (plus the depth of the bowl): 1. Circumference of the molten sea (which is the inside dimension of the bowl), 30 cubits (~45 feet), about 9.5 cubits across), and 2. Outside diameter of the “**brim**” of the bowl (10 cubits). If you’ll forgive my *dogmatism* that is what the words say. Simple math reveals the diameter of the bowl, or it’s contents, is about a half-cubit (9 inches) smaller than the brim, indicating a brim width of about 4 ½ inches. Probably the brim was flared to help support the enormous weight.

Not only is this interpretation consistent with the actual words of the Bible, further confirmation comes from many other dimensions reported near this passage in 1 Kings, all of them given only once. The skeptic requires you believe 1. That just this once, the Bible reported the same dimension twice, and blew it, 2. The precise words of the Bible should be ignored in favor of his sloppy interpretation.

Interestingly, a group of KU professors formed a club they called FLAT to attack the Bible and Christianity. This “*pi error*” was one of their favorite *weapons*. Rather than impart damage to the Bible, this claim tends to illustrate the shallow character, and mean spirit found in our “*institutions of higher learning*,” and their progeny. Note also the ignorance and hypocrisy of the Star editor who featured this letter in a box with an editor-supplied picture of a Dodo, but would have refused to print a letter suggesting violent actions aimed at any other group.

The Bible and the Flat Earth

Perhaps the favorite claim of KU *intellectuals* and other Biblical enemies in the last 150 years is that “*the Bible reports and Christianity, in the past, believed, that the earth was flat.*” This myth seems to have been willfully cultivated by several authors. One of the best was Washington Irving, a struggling young fiction writer who later wrote *Rip Van Winckle and the Legend of Sleepy Hollow*.” During an extended stay in Europe, he got a job in the Spanish Navy translating some valuable manuscripts relating to the travels of Columbus. Irving published, in 1828, *The Life and Voyages of Christopher Columbus*, in which he demonstrated his skills as a fiction writer. Among others, he developed the false theme that Columbus had the primary problem of overcoming dogmatic clergy who believed the earth was flat. In fact the main problem Columbus had was that he was either dead wrong about the distance involved, or fudged his figures. His key problems were that he wanted someone else to pay, and his ego was large. When Isabella was finally sold, Columbus had the audacity to demand to be named Admiral of the Ocean Seas by a country he was merely visiting with hat in hand; to be made governor of all he set his foot on; and to get a fat percent of the “take.” He was thrown out of court.

But Irving was good at fiction. His book sold well. Shortly a French scholar steeped in the writings of Voltaire and clearly committed to attacking Christianity, published a paper in which he claimed that the writings of one obscure cleric represented the majority view of the early church leaders. In the late 1800’s John William Draper made similar claims in a popular work *History of the Conflict Between Religion and Science*. Then, Andrew Dickson White, a well documented hater of Christianity, and founder of Cornell University wrote *History of the Warfare of Science with Theology in Christendom*. He perpetuated the myth.

Well, you say, why should we believe your view? Well, we might start with the fact that 3000 years before Columbus, the Bible said the earth was round (Isaiah 40:22)! Also, the facts are documented history, source material is available. The most thorough work is “*Inventing the Flat Earth: Columbus and Modern Historians*” by Jeffrey Burton Russell (a University of California professor of history), 1991. Russell’s research is so thoroughly documented that the notion of the “Flat Earth” is now totally discredited. Even before Russell, several scholars had uncovered the hoax. It is documented in *The New Encyclopedia Britannica* (1985), *Colliers Encyclopedia* (1984), *The Encyclopedia Americana* (1987) and *The World Book for Children* (1989), and even in a number of textbooks. The story simply was never true. In fact, Russell was able to find only five obscure clerics in the entire history of the Church who supported the flat earth, and virtually all of them had philosophical, non-Christian reasons for doing so. It is a fact that the notion of a flat earth was never even close to a doctrine of the Church, even at its “worst,” nor was it the view of the clerics who were the leading scientists, that Columbus had to convince of the soundness of his plans in hopes they would help persuade the king. **History records that the subject didn’t even come up.**

Such is the anti-Christian Scholarship of Kansas University and its illustrious progeny. We’ve certainly been impressed with the decibel level and the mean spirit displayed, but more impressed with the lack of scientific, truthful, or even sensible, content.

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Audio/Video Tapes of CSA Meetings:

Is Creation Science?

by: Tom Willis

Virtually everyone says that both creation and evolution are not science. This always sounds so scientific. Unfortunately God says Creation **IS** Science (Romans 1:18-25). Is this possible? It absolutely is. We will propose key creation hypotheses and show that they have already been exhaustively tested.

Audio A0174: \$5.00. Video: V0174 - \$13.00

Book of the Month

Tornado in a Junkyard The Relentless Myth of Darwinism

by: James Perloff

This new book may be one of the very best. Easy reading, loaded with great quotes and very well illustrated, this could be an excellent resource book for student papers, or just the right book for Uncle Fred. 321 Pages, Soft Cover

Regular Price: \$16.00. Special Nov/Dec: \$14.00

Audio/Video Tapes of CSA Meetings:

The Age of the Earth: Evidence for a Young Earth

by: Bob Farwell

Most people have been deceived into believing there is lots of evidence for an old earth when actually only a small minority of the evidence even suggests an old earth. Most evidence demands a young earth.

Audio: A0176 - \$5.00. Video: V0176 - \$13.00

Book of the Month

Refuting Evolution

**A Response to the National Academy of Sciences':
"Teaching About Evolution and the Nature of Science"**

by: Jonathan Sarfati, Ph.D.

Another new book, more brief and a little more technical. Intended for School Teachers and Administrators who are continually bombarded with propaganda from organizations like the National Academy of Sciences. This book specifically addresses a number of false claims in one such book distributed by NAS to schools throughout the nation.

Regular Price: \$10.00. Special Nov/Dec: \$8.00

CSA Bumper Stickers: 3-3/4" x 17"

Black on Bright Yellow,

Price: 1: \$1.75, 5: \$7.00, 10: \$13.00, 50: \$50, 100: \$70



Too Far Away To Attend CSA Meetings? Why Not Attend Via Audio or Video Tape

Attend CSA Meetings by ordering the Audio (\$5.00) or Video (\$13.00) tape by requesting the meeting date, topic, or item number (at the end of the meeting announcement), e.g. V0188. Basic and Advanced Session tapes may also be checked out of the library:

**The CSA Lending Library - Librarian: Larry Rink
8904 Mastin, Overland Park, Ks 66212, (913) 492-6545**

Are You Participating in CSA As Much as You Should?

"The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few." Are you doing all the Lord has called you to do in the war for the minds and hearts of our citizens... especially our youth? CSA is not a closed fraternity. Any born-again believer who is abiding in the words of Jesus, and has been gifted in research, computers, speaking, clerical activities, writing of articles or book reviews, etc., and who has heard a call to serve in an origins ministry should consider and pray about serving with us. Write or call for more information.

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**The Creation Science Association
for Mid-America**

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BULK RATE

Address Service Requested

CSA Monthly Meeting Location: Westbrooke Church 9898 West 95th, Overland Park, KS

Two blocks East of 69 Highway (or Switzer) on North side of 95th Street

Refreshments: 6:15PM - Meeting: 7:00PM Nursery Available: \$2.50 per child (Reservations required for nursery)

CSA Meeting - Tuesday, Nov 2, 1999

The Basic Institute in Creation Science

Evolutionary Origin of the Solar System

Plausibility Arguments with no Theory

by: Cal Myers, Ph.D.

Museum, textbooks and journals present several supposedly *scientific theories* of how the Solar System *evolved*. Few people seem to notice that none of these are really *theories*, they are all, like the rest of *evolution science*, just plausibility arguments. Cal spices this talk with a CDROM with great planet motion pictures via his projector.

(Tapes: A0199: \$5.00 or V0199: \$13.00)

The Advanced Institute in Creation Science

**A Giant Meteorite Impact
and Rapid Continental Drift**

by: J. Michael Fischer

Both Advanced Sessions are Videos of Papers Presented
at the 1994 International Conference on Creation

Plate Tectonics theory proposes that an original large continent broke and "drifted" over millions of years to the present location of the pieces. Fischer proposes that a large meteorite striking the Somali Basin did the work in a much shorter time frame. [IC94T-027]

CSA Meeting - Tuesday, Dec 7, 1999

The Basic Institute in Creation Science

**Horses, Moths and Finches -
Evolution or Creation?**

by: Mark Matthews

The Bible teaches these are separately created *kinds* (Hebrew: *min*) of animals. Evolutionism teaches these kinds are all derived from a common ancestor by change and selection. In evolution think diversity within kind, mutation, and adaptation are all "*proofs of evolution*." However, these processes are all consistent with the Biblical account of origins. How can we learn to recognize these pseudo-proofs of evolution?

(Tapes: A0200, \$5.00 or V0200 \$13.00)

The Advanced Institute in Creation Science

**Magnetic Monopoles
and Grand Unification Theory**

Jerry Bergman, Ph.D.

The theory of Magnetic Monopoles is critical to Big Bang and Grand Unification theories, especially for the "evolution of matter," a rather key naturalist, non-God requirement. The Monopole theory is supported by only one 1982 experiment which no one has been able to duplicate. One more fraud in *evolution science*?? [IC94T-033]

Special Youth Sessions at CSA Meetings
for High School Students. 7:00 - 8:30PM.

November 2: "Red River of Life" - Moody Science

October 5: "God of Creation" - Moody Science

Moody Science Videos followed by discussion.

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Real Scientists
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Seminar**

Have you had one in your
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