

PREDICTIONS AND CREATION

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One the most common criticisms of the Creationist Movement is that Creationism offers no useful basis for science, as it cannot make any testable predictions. To test this criticism we have made many predictions over the years that could be tested. Now we have compiled them into a file, along with some already proven results. Entries are arranged alphabetically as subject categories and then in chronological order (with few exceptions). Don't miss our new upgraded web site

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John Mackay for the Creation Research Team

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1. ANIMALS AND BIRDS

26th August 2004

FIRST PRIMATE HIBERNATOR FOUND, as reported in *Nature*, vol. 429, p825 and *New Scientist*, 26 June 2004, p16. A group of scientists from three German Universities have studied the sleeping habits of the Madagascan fat tailed lemur and found that it hibernates for up to seven months of the year. This makes it the first tropical animal known to undergo prolonged hibernation. Because the temperatures remain warm in Madagascar all year round the lemurs can hibernate in tree hollows, which are less well insulated than the burrows used by cold climate hibernators. During hibernation lemurs allow their body temperatures to rise and fall in line with the ambient temperature and remain asleep even if the temperature goes above 30 degrees Celsius (85 degrees F). Hibernation has been defined as a state of low metabolic activity and low body temperature. The scientists who carried out this study suggest that hibernation be re-defined as a state of low metabolic activity, irrespective of body temperature.

ED. COM. Hibernation is usually associated with cold climates, but the fact that an animal can hibernate for such a long time in tropical conditions provides a clue as to how the animals on Noah's Ark were able to survive their year of confinement during the flood, and how Noah and his seven family members were able to care for so many animals. Since the climate before the flood seems to have been without any severe winter, **Creation Research predicts** the ability to hibernate, i.e. to go into a torpid or prolonged sleep state, will be found to exist in many other land animals, since all land creatures were on the ark. (Ref. lemur, hibernation, Madagascar)

23rd February 2005

BIRD CLASSIFICATION PROBLEM described in *New Scientist* 11 Dec 2004, p11. Matthew Fain and Peter Houde of New Mexico State University, Las Cruces, USA have studied the gene for a protein called beta fibrinogen in an attempt to work out evolutionary relationships between different birds. They looked at differences in the DNA code letters in this gene in 150 bird families and concluded that birds that had been classified as *Neoaves* (literally "new birds") really consist of two subgroups called *Metaves* and *Coronaves*. (*Neoaves* includes all living birds other than waterfowl, landfowl or flightless birds.) They were surprised to find that some birds that are apparently related because they are similar in appearance and behaviour, were not in the same subgroups. For example: flamingos and roseate spoonbills are wading birds with long legs and similar heads, wings and plumage, but flamingos are in the *Metave* category and spoonbills in the *Coronaves*. The researchers found many examples of birds of similar form, behaviour and ecological niche that were divided between the two groups. In fact, both group had representatives of most types of birds. The researchers considered these to be examples of convergent evolution, i.e. living creatures evolving similar form and behaviour because they inhabit similar ecological niches. Peter Houde commented: "People have been trying to classify birds based on their appearance for hundreds of years. It is valuable at some levels, but when you get to really deep divergences, you just hit a wall." In order to corroborate their results Fan and Houde are doing similar studies on 11 other bird genes.

ED. COM. **Creation Research predicts** that classification will ultimately show there are as many separate kingdoms as there were created kinds. The results of this study are no problem if you understand that each kind of bird is a unique combination of non-unique components resulting from the fact that each kind was made separately and kinds are biologically unrelated. The best way to classify living creatures is to group them together on the basis of a number of similar characteristics. This is what traditional taxonomists (people who classify living organisms) have been doing since the time of Linnaeus - the man who invented the first really workable method of classifying living things. Linnaeus believed that living creatures were created, according to their kinds, as described in Genesis. His classification system was a means of organising our knowledge of living things and it worked. When the evolutionists took over taxonomy they assumed that the various groups and subgroups within the classification system represented actual lines of descent, and therefore, all the organisms within one category should have the same genes and proteins. Determining evolutionary relationships by comparing individual molecules has been tried in the past and generated nothing but confusion. Analysing individual genes is not going to produce any more coherent results. WE ALSO PREDICT that analysis of the 11 other bird genes will only produce more confusing results for evolutionists. (Ref. birds, classification, genes)

30th March 2005

KILLER LADYBIRD ARRIVES in UK according to a report in the *Daily Mail*, UK 15 Mar 2005, p20. After only six months the Asian Harlequin ladybird has become a threat to Britain's 46 milder mannered native ladybirds. It was first spotted in Britain in September 2004, and since then there have been some 200 sightings. Dr Michael Majerus (Cambridge University) has stated, "The harlequin is a deadly threat to British Ladybirds" and, "over half of British Ladybirds are going to be in direct competition with it." It is currently eating its way aggressively through the aphid population and is expected to attack native ladybirds when the aphids are exhausted.

ED.COM. The hypocrisy of evolutionists is amazing. First they believe in the survival of the fittest as the force of evolution, and then they don't want it to happen so UK ladybirds will stay the same. **Creation Research predicts** that even if they let the Asian Ladybird expand into UK countryside unopposed, evolution will not happen, but natural selection will. As a result the number of species of ladybirds will decrease. Natural selection always reduces the gene pool - the opposite of evolution, which is a further verification that Genesis is correct. Creatures produce their own kind and in this fallen world are declining in variety. (Ref. insects, migration, competition)

28th July 2005

EYE SPOTS ATTRACT FEMALES, as reported in ScienceNOW, 29 June 2005. Many butterflies have large spots on their wings that resemble eyes, complete with a white reflective spot in the middle of the black 'pupil' to reinforce the effect of a real eye. These are generally explained as a means of scaring off predators, but biologists at the University of New York, Buffalo, noticed that the spots are just as prominent on the inner dorsal wings of many butterflies, and therefore would not be visible to predators, but are exposed to other butterflies during courtship displays. Kendra Robertson and colleagues studied the mating habits of a butterfly named *Bicyclus anyana* that has 'eyespot' on the inner side of its wings, and found that females were most attracted to males that had white spots in the 'pupils'. The Researchers noted that the scales on white spots reflect ultra violet (UV) light and wondered if that was the attraction for the females. To test this they coated the spots of fifty male butterflies with a colourless UV absorbing pigment so that the spots still appeared white but did not reflect UV light. The females were less attracted to treated males, compared with untreated males whose wing spots still reflected UV light. The biologists suggest that UV reflectance decreases with wear and tear as the butterflies age, so that males with highly reflective spots look younger and more healthy.

ED. COM. The patterns and colours of many creatures are usually explained as having evolved to evade predators in an evolutionary world of struggle and survival. This has led sceptics to ask why God had equipped creatures with such defences if He made all animals to be vegetarian, as described in Genesis 1:29-31. This study helps answer that question. The butterfly wing spots were originally made as courtship displays. Following the Fall and the Flood, as animals devolved to be scavengers and carnivores, the spots were useful for predator avoidance as well as attracting mates. **Creation Research predicts** that if biologists made the effort to do the research, they would find many features currently useful in the present day struggle to survive also have/had other functions useful in the original world God created, where everything was good, and no camouflage was needed for protection. (Ref. camouflage, fluorescence, insects)

8th February 2006

NEW ROO SPECIES IN NEW GUINEA reported The Independent Online Edition, 7 Feb 2006. A group of scientists led by Bruce Beehler of Conservation International have discovered many new species of animals, birds and plants whilst exploring the upper slopes of the Foja Mountains in western New Guinea. The region has not been colonised by local tribes or previously explored by visiting scientists. Among the animals they found a new species of tree kangaroo, named the golden mantled tree kangaroo. They also found many animals that have almost been hunted to extinction in other parts of the island, including wallabies and the rare long beaked echidna. Amongst birds the expedition found a new species of honey eater, and living specimens of birds of paradise that were previously

believed to be extinct and were only known from dead specimens and feathers. Beehler commented: "It was a close to the Garden of Eden as you're going to find on earth. We found dozens, if not hundreds of new species in what is probably the most pristine ecosystem in the whole Asia-Pacific region." The scientists were also surprised by the "lack of wariness" of the birds and animals.

Independent Article: <http://news.independent.co.uk/environment/article343740.ece>

ED. COM. The abundance of plants, animals and birds found in this uninhabited region of New Guinea gives us a clue as to why animals such as kangaroos and echidnas are now confined to Australia and New Guinea – they have survived due to lack of predation, particularly by humans. They did not evolve there. Fossils of marsupials are even more widespread, being found as far as China and South America, Canada and France. Both living and fossil evidence of marsupials and monotremes (platypus and echidna) fits the Biblical history of world. After Noah's flood, animals from the ark migrated over the earth. During this time there were extremes of climate and sea levels varied, enabling animals to migrate across land bridges when the levels were low, but then trapping them in those regions when the sea levels rose. After the flood, some animals became predators and humans began hunting and killing animals. As a result some animals quickly became extinct, but those that found themselves in remote places like mountains of New Guinea or inland Australia have survived. The next step is obvious-as people move into this newly discovered "Garden of Eden" – **Creation Research predicts** the current fauna and flora will start to become extinct as they can not and will not evolve to cope with the change. (Ref. migration, extinction, devolution)

1st March 2006

"TOXIC TOADS EVOLVING INTO ECO-NIGHTMARE" reports an article on BBC online news, 15 Feb 2006, about a study of Australian cane toads also reported in the *Daily Telegraph*, news@nature and *Nature*, Vol 439, p803, 16 Feb 2006. Cane toads from the USA were introduced into Australia over 70 years ago and are gradually spreading over the northern regions of Australia. Biologists at the University of Sydney have studied the rate of advance of the invasion front and compared the size of the toads found at the front with toads in older more established populations. Ben Philips, one of the researchers, explained the results: "During an invasion process the individuals at the front are there because they have moved the furthest. We showed that the toads that are the first to arrive at the front are the ones with the longest legs, and the ones last to arrive have shorter legs. The front toads also have much longer legs than the older populations in Queensland." Amphibian ecologist David Skelly of Yale University commented to news@nature that this study is "one the first known examples of a vertebrate rapidly evolving in a new environment." He went on to say: "People have this deep seated feeling that vertebrates don't evolve on these sorts of timescales. But this work shows that it can happen."

ED. COM. What ever cane toads are up to in Australia, they are not evolving. All that is happening here is that the toads which are winning the race across Australia, are the ones that already have genes for longer legs. As a result of leaving the others behind, the faster toads are becoming temporarily separated from the shorter legged toads. Therefore, toads at the invasion front can only mate with toads of similar leg length and thus reinforce the long legged tendency. **Creation Research predicts** that when the short legged toads catch up to the front line they will breed with the long legged animals once more, resulting in a return to the average leg length seen in older established populations. When this happens will the evolutionists claim they are devolving, or revolving? (Ref. Bufo, ecology, evolution)

IT'S A GOOD TIME TO REMEMBER a previous article on Toad/ Snake evolution from Evidence News, 2 Feb 2005.

AUSSIE SNAKES ARE EVOLVING, according to articles in BBC News Online, 8 Dec 2004, and Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences (PNAS), vol. 101 p17150, 7 Dec 2004. The BBC article begins: "Snakes in Australia have evolved to counter the threat of invasive poisonous cane toads, scientists have found." Cane toads were introduced into Australia in the 1930's and have had a devastating effect on native animals that normally eat frogs and toads, because the toads have highly toxic chemicals in their skin. Ben Phillips and Richard Shine of the University of Sydney studied changes in head and body sizes of snakes in regions of Australia that have been invaded by cane toads. They compared two snakes, the red-bellied black snake and the green tree snake, both of which are poisoned if they eat cane toads, with two other species that are less susceptible to cane toad poison. They found that surviving susceptible snakes have smaller heads in comparison to their overall body size. Because snakes swallow their prey whole, susceptible snakes with smaller heads are less likely to eat a cane toad large enough to kill them.

"These results provide strong evidence of adaptive changes in native predators as a result of the invasion of toxic prey" wrote Ben Phillips. PNAS classifies this study as an example of "contemporary evolution". BBC article: <http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/sci/tech/4073359.stm>

ED. COM. The change in snake head size is not really adaptation, and is certainly not evolution. Adaptation is the built in ability of organisms to cope with changes in their environment. However, when a snake's head has grown big enough to eat a large poisonous cane toad, it is too late to adapt once it has eaten one. What has really happened over the last 70 years in cane toad infested regions of Australia, is that snakes that already had large heads have been killed by eating cane toads, leaving only snakes that already had small heads to reproduce. ScienceNOW (the online news service associated with the journal Science) called it "survival of the pinheads".

This is the process of natural selection, and selection, natural or otherwise, is not evolution. Creation Research has said this many times, and will go on saying it. To select something is to choose it from an already existing group of alternatives. It does not explain how the alternatives came into existence, and it certainly does not make them change into other alternatives. All it does is eliminate some alternatives, which is the opposite of evolution. (Ref, snakes, toads, adaptation)

2. DISEASES AND MICROBES

19th September 2001

THE LEPROSY BACTERIUM has had its genome added to the growing list of micro-organisms whose DNA has been mapped. The scientists who reported it in *Nature*, Vol. 409, p1007, 22 February, 2001, found that many of its genes are non-functional, which they claim explains why the bacterium can only live inside other living cells and will not grow in laboratory culture media. Scientists studying the leprosy genome claim it is an example of "reductive evolution".

ED. COM. "Reductive" it may be, but "evolution" it is not. Loss of genetic information has turned a fully functioning bacterium into a partially defunct bacterium. Because of its non-functional genes, the bacterium has to absorb many nutrients that other bacteria are able to make for themselves and it cannot carry out important chemical processes that would allow it to live a more independent life outside other cells. Breakdown in the human immune system

also allow such bacterium to invade human cells, where they can absorb nutrients (and wreak havoc with their by-products). But this is not evolution. It is degeneration from an original perfectly functioning creation. It also means God did not invent disease. Disease is the natural outcome of degeneration from perfection, of both humans and micro-organisms. Based on Genesis, **Creation Research predicts** we will see many new diseases, not because bacteria are evolving, but because man and bacteria are degenerating, and a once perfectly balanced relationship has been ruined. (Ref. leprosy, bacterium, degeneration)

21st May 2003

SARS SEARCH zeros in on cold virus, according to news@nature 2 Apr 2003. The cause of the new form of deadly pneumonia seems to be a coronavirus – a virus known to cause colds, but not previously known as a killer. The coronavirus may have infected the same cells as another virus, where it gained a gene by normal viral exchange. This swapped gene changed its protein coat. (The protein coat is the outer layer of viruses that contacts cells the virus infects.)

Scientists at Utrecht University have recently shown that protein coat changes can enable viruses to cross species. They added a gene fragment from a mouse coronavirus to cat cells infected with feline infectious peritonitis virus which produces inflammation of the abdomen lining. The cat virus does not normally harm mice, but after gaining the coronavirus gene, its altered protein coat could infect mice. According to virus expert Michael Lai, at the University of Southern California, these coronaviruses have an unusual ability to reshuffle genes and could have produced the more virulent form this way.

ED. COM. The best suggestion to date about the origin of SARS is that it may be an animal virus which somehow got into the human system in a household where animals and humans lived together in less than sanitary conditions. The result: a new combination that had never had the opportunity to occur before. This is not evolution because no new genetic information has been formed. Existing genes and proteins, previously kept separate, have been moved around with devastating results. This is exactly what you would expect in a world that was created good, but has been corrupted by sin and judged by God. This downhill slide into biological chaos will go on until the Creator's return puts a stop to the whole process by completely destroying this world and making a new heavens and earth "wherein dwelleth righteousness" (2 Peter 3:13). He freely offers this to any who by faith will accept Christ as their Lord and Saviour God.

On this non evolutionary Biblical Creation basis **Creation Research predicts** there will be more new infectious diseases appearing as time goes on. (Ref, SARS, virus, disease)

18th February 2004

BACTERIA EASE BELLY ACHES, as reported in *New Scientist*, 10 Jan 2004, p16. Some chronic intestinal diseases result from the intestinal lining not being able to turn off the inflammatory response after it has fought off infection by nasty bacteria. A harmless bacterium, "Bacteroides thetaiotaomicron" (pronounced theta-ota-omicron), that lives in the intestines has been found to secrete a chemical signal that helps the lining of the intestines turn off inflammation after the bad bacteria have gone.

ED. COM. Scientists have known for a long time that most bacteria living in our bodies are harmless. Here is one that actually does positive good. This study affirms the creationist belief that originally all micro-organisms were originally harmless and lived in a state of co-operation with man and other living creatures. **Creation Research predicts** that as more

studies of chemical signalling between cells are done, more examples of co-operation will be found. (Ref. bacteria, inflammation, disease)

13th July 2005

THIRTY NEW HUMAN DISEASES have emerged in the past decade, according to Dr Baszak, a US Trade expert, reported the Australian *Courier Mail*, Wednesday June 29, 2005, page 5. Dr Baszak said cures had not been found for most of the new diseases, and we needed to find ways to limit their spread in the first place which is caused largely by airline passenger traffic and international trade. Australia, he said, was leading the world in that area through its innovative quarantine program.

ED.COM. These new diseases are no surprise to someone who accepts the Biblical framework, rather than the evolutionary one. The Biblical picture of Creation indicates that the world began good without any diseases, but following man's rebellion against the Creator, the earth began a long progression downhill from good to bad to worse to the present day. This degeneration commenced with God judging man's sin by cursing the ground with thorns and thistles and imposing the biological phenomenon of death. The world further degenerated following God's judgment at the flood which destroyed the original balanced environment and soil, and the ideal atmospheric conditions. The flood was followed by an increasingly erratic climate with the coming of winter and summer, ice and snow, etc. Human diseases have been on the increase as a result of this degenerate trend, which includes the degeneration of the human genome. **Creation Research predicts** on the basis of this history, that we will see even more new diseases in the next 50 years, in man, animals and plants, as evidence of this trend. (Ref. sickness, illness, germs)

NEW HUMAN DISEASES RAPIDLY EMERGING according to a report in BBC online news 20 Feb 2006. Scientists speaking at the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) conference claim that new infectious diseases are emerging at faster rates than ever before. Every year scientists discover one or two new infectious diseases in humans. Many of these such as HIV (AIDS) and avian influenza (bird flu) are coming from animals. Professor Mark Woolhouse, an epidemiologist at the University of Edinburgh, UK has catalogued over 1,400 disease causing agents. He commented to the BBC: "This accumulation of new pathogens has been going on for millennia - this is how we acquired TB, malaria, smallpox, but at the moment, this accumulation does seem to be happening very fast. So it seems there is something special about modern times - these are good times for pathogens to be invading the human population." Some of the reasons given for the increase in new diseases are changes in land use and agricultural practices, global travel and trade and hospitalisation. Prof Woolhouse also commented: "Pathogens are evolving ways to combat our control methods."

BBC article: <http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/sci/tech/4732924.stm>

ED. COM. Many sceptics have claimed creation cannot be used as a basis for science because it cannot be used to make predictions. Over the last few years we have made the following predictions about human diseases and we are pleased to see AAAS scientists confirming we were right. In 2002 we wrote: *The fact that new bacterial diseases are being discovered is good evidence that the world in general, and humans in particular, are degenerating – exactly what you would predict if you take Biblical history seriously.* (See Beware of Bartonella, 21 Mar 2002).

Last year (2005) following a report that a US trade expert claimed 30 new diseases had emerged in the last decade we wrote: *These new diseases are no surprise to someone who accepts the Biblical framework, rather than the evolutionary one. The Biblical picture of Creation indicates that the world began good without any diseases, but following man's rebellion against the Creator, the earth began a long progression downhill from good to bad to worse to the present day. This degeneration commenced with God judging man's sin by cursing the ground with thorns and thistles and imposing the biological phenomenon of death. The world further degenerated following God's judgment at the flood which destroyed the original balanced environment and soil, and the ideal atmospheric conditions. The flood was followed by an increasingly erratic climate with the coming of winter and summer, ice and snow, etc. Human diseases have been on the increase as a result of this degenerate trend, which includes the degeneration of the human genome. **Creation Research predicts** on the basis of this history, that we will see even more new diseases in the next 50 years, in man, animals and plants, as evidence of this trend.*

As for the present report, please note also the fact that some organisms can combat our control methods is not evolution either. Our control methods are eliminating (selecting out) germs already resistant to our control methods. (See "Soil Superbugs Found" E-NEWS 8 Feb 2006). (Ref. predictions, diseases, devolution)

3. EVOLUTION EXPERIMENTS

19th September 2001

GRANTS EVOLVE, as NZ Herald, September 8-9, 2001, pA19, reported the NZ Government has allocated \$475 000 over three years to Dr David Saul of Auckland University's school of Biological Sciences to "find out how hot it was in the primordial soup from which living things evolved". The NZ press reports that recent discoveries "have left the scientific community split between people that support hot start and cold start theories".

ED.COM. **Creation Research predicts** that in 3 years, Dr David Saul will have found nothing at all about how life evolved, and his research will be wonderful evidence that evolution wastes taxpayers' money. (Ref. Research, Evolution, Grants)

UPDATE: We have heard nothing more of David Saul's research, but we have found a recent report of another "primordial soup experiment".

23rd February 2005

NO EVOLUTION FOR ALGAE, according to a report in Nature, vol 431, p566, 30 Sep 2004. Sinead Collins and Graham Bell of McGill University believe that as atmospheric carbon dioxide will increase over the next century, plants may have to adapt to the changing atmosphere. Therefore "such evolved plant communities of the next century are likely to be genetically different from contemporary communities." To test this theory they grew *Chlamydomonas*, a single celled green alga in a high carbon dioxide atmosphere in order to see how plants would evolve. However, they found after about 1,000 generations of selection for growth in high carbon dioxide conditions, the alga "failed to evolve specific adaptations to a CO₂ concentration of 1,050 parts per million". Normal carbon dioxide is about 400 parts per million. They did find a few cells that developed high rates of photosynthesis and respiration in the high carbon dioxide atmosphere, but these had a smaller cell size and grew poorly at normal carbon dioxide levels. The researchers suggested that these cells had undergone mutations that decreased their ability to concentrate carbon dioxide inside the cell.

ED. COM. We are pleased to see the authors of this study did not claim the mutated algae were evolving. Instead they acknowledged that although the unusual environment the algae were grown in compensated for loss of a normal function, overall the cells were degenerate. This experiment provides good evidence that plants either maintain or lose genetic information as they reproduce, but do not invent (evolve) any new genetic information no matter what selection pressure they are subjected to. This study shows that evolutionary theory is a poor predictor of scientific results. However, the results are **exactly what you would predict on the basis of Biblical Creation**, i.e. plants were created as fully functioning different kinds that reproduce after their kinds, although some have degenerated as they reproduced in a world damaged by sin and judgement. (Ref. algae, plants, mutations)

1st March 2006

VOLCANIC VENTS TOO HOT FOR EVOLVING LIFE, according to a Royal society press release, 13 Feb 2006 and ScienceNOW, 15 Feb 2006. A current theory on the origin of life is that the first living organisms evolved from chemicals around hydrothermal vents - deep sea volcanoes, because numerous strange "primitive" bacteria are found living on the sides of these. A team of scientists led by David Deamer of University of California, Santa Cruz set out to test this theory by finding a volcanic pool devoid on any signs of life and pouring in "a can of primordial soup containing the building blocks of proteins, DNA, as well as fatty acids that could form rudimentary cell membranes". They found such a pool in Kamchatka on the east coast of Russia, but when they tested the water a few hours after adding the biological building blocks they found most of the added material was no longer dissolved in the water but was bound to the clay lining the pool. According to Deamer, the molecules were "nailed down, so they can't interact". Deamer commented to the Royal Society, "The results are surprising and in some ways disappointing. It seems that hot acidic waters containing clay do not provide the right conditions for chemicals to assemble themselves in 'pioneer organisms'. We don't know what to make of this yet, but these results do appear to narrow down some of our ideas about where life could have begun. One possibility is that life really did begin in a 'warm little pond', (as proposed by Darwin 140 years ago) but not in hot volcanic springs or marine hydrothermal vents."

ED. COM. **Creation Research predicts** that scientists hoping to find the origin of life by experimenting with chemicals will continue to be disappointed because they are looking in the wrong place. Living cells are made up of the chemicals that Deamer's team used in their study, but living cells work because of the organisation of the chemicals, in the same way that a complex machine won't work until its component parts are put together in the right way by the outside intelligence of the machine's creator. The key to understanding the origin of life is not in the chemistry, but in finding the source of information that organises the chemicals. We suggest that origin of life researchers start by copying "In the beginning was the Word" (John 1:1). If they really want results, they will have to play creator. (Ref. abiogenesis, biochemistry, thermophiles)

4. FOSSILS

17th May 2000

CAMBRIAN LAND PLANT fossils found in Grand Canyon and Tennessee rocks (USA), reports *New Scientist* 18 Mar. 2000, p15. Geologist Paul Strother of Boston College, Massachusetts presented his Cambrian discoveries to a recent meeting of Geological Society of America – the fossil spores are similar to those of present day liverworts. Land plant

spores had previously been found in middle Ordovician rocks but the new spores are believed (by evolutionists) to be 510 million years old, a time when most claim life was rapidly evolving only in the sea.

ED COM. Perhaps Clifford Burdick will now get the credit he deserves. Who's Burdick? The geologist who reported finding fossil plant spores and pollen in Grand Canyon Cambrian Rocks almost 40 years ago, but was laughed at because he was a creationist. (See *Creation Research Society Annuals*, 1966 and onwards). **Creation Research predicts** (if evolutionists continue researching) they will discover all kinds of plants and animals have been here since the beginning (give or take a few days) - just as Genesis says. (Ref. plant, fossil, Cambrian)

17th April 2002

REAL DINO FEATHER PHOTOS claims palaeontologist Mark Norell of the American Museum of Natural History, New York, in a report to *Nature* vol. 416, p.36, 7th March 2002. Norell and a team of Chinese colleagues describe a dromeosaur fossil collected in the Liaoning Province, China. The report includes two photos, one of which does show imprints of some fibres organised in a symmetrical feather-like pattern. However, some scientists are not impressed. Storrs Olsen, Senior Zoologist at the National Museum of Natural History at the Smithsonian Institution said he was "unable to discern from photographs any modern feathers or feathery structure." Storrs Olsen is an ardent critic of the dinosaur-bird theory and was one of the scientists who revealed that *Archaeoraptor*, a fossil claimed to be half bird/half dinosaur, was a fraud. "I'm not impressed," said Olsen. "I would want to be very certain that the fossils had not been deliberately salted with feathers from another source." Larry Martin of the University of Kansas, described by *New Scientist* as "a long term sceptic of the notion that dinosaurs evolved into birds" commented that "researchers have been duped before by elaborate fakes such as *Archaeoraptor* and it is important that the fossil is a true dinosaur and not an elaborate fake". (*New Scientist*, 9th March, 2002, p.11)

ED. COM. It is interesting that this fossil did not receive the widespread publicity in the popular media that previous claims about 'feathered dinosaurs' were given. Perhaps even true believers in dinosaur-to-bird evolution have learnt caution after the embarrassing *Archaeoraptor* affair. That specimen was displayed triumphantly by *National Geographic* magazine as a half-bird, half-dinosaur, and that's what it was - half bird fossil and half dinosaur fossil, cleverly glued together. Further study of the specimen proved it to be made from "two, possibly five separate fossils". (*Nature* vol.410, p.539, 29 March, 2001) Scientists who have studied the original "feathered dinosaur" *Caudipteryx*, now consider it to be a flightless bird **just as Creation Research predicted** when it was first announced in a blaze of publicity in 1998. (See *Creation News*, vol. 12, No. 3)

13th July 2005

FIRST AMERICAN FOOTPRINTS SHOCK reports BBC online news. "Human settlers made it to the Americas 30,000 years earlier than previously thought, according to new evidence. A team of scientists came to this controversial conclusion by dating human footprints preserved by volcanic ash in an abandoned quarry in Mexico. They say the first Americans may have arrived by sea, rather than by foot. The currently accepted theory is that the continent's early settlers arrived around 11,000 years ago, by crossing a land bridge between Siberia and Alaska. Details of the latest findings were unveiled at the UK Royal Society's Summer Science Exhibition.

Dr Silvia Gonzalez of Liverpool's John Moores University and her colleagues found the footprints in the quarry, some 130km (80 miles) south-east of Mexico City, in 2003. But they have only finished dating them this year.

The footprints were preserved as trace fossils in volcanic ash along what was the shoreline of an ancient volcanic lake. They were soon covered in more ash and lake sediments and, when water levels rose, became as solid as concrete. Dr Gonzalez was under no illusions that the finding would be controversial: "It's going to be an archaeological bomb," she told the BBC News website, "and we're up for a fight." The team used several methods to date a variety of material from the site near Puebla, Mexico, in order to be sure they were right about the age.

BBC article: <http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/sci/tech/4650307.stm>

Nature: <http://www.nature.com/news/2005/050704/full/050704-4.html>

University site: <http://www.mexicanfootprints.co.uk/>

ED.COM. Our own research on North American native peoples shows that they nearly all have a flood story similar to the one recorded in Genesis 6-9. One elder of the Dakota Sioux, said, as we interviewed him for our video series *The Origin of the Races*, that his people had come from the east by boat. He was also adamant that the white man's story of natives coming from the northwest via Alaska was not true for his people. Most of the flood legends from the southern half of Mexico down to Brazil and Peru also indicate an eastern origin by boat. This new finding therefore does not surprise us. Our only **PREDICTION** will be that they will be forced to change the date sooner or later. (Ref. history, Babel, migration)

12th October 2005

VENOMOUS MAMMAL FOSSIL reported in *Nature*, vol. 435, p1091, 23 June and *Science News* 25 Jun 2005. Palaeontologists Richard Fox and Craig Scott have found fossilised teeth of an extinct mouse-size creature named *Bisonalveus browni*. The teeth have a groove running down one side, similar in shape to that on the fangs of venomous snakes. Venomous snakes have glands at the base of their teeth. When the snake bites down on its prey venom is squeezed from the gland and runs down the groove. Venomous mammals are very rare. The only living mammals that inject venom via grooves in their teeth are *Solenodons* – rat-sized animals that live in Haiti and Cuba. The short tailed shrew of North America has poisonous saliva but does not have a groove in its teeth. According to *Science News*, "the dearth of venomous mammals has posed an enigma for evolutionary biologists."

ED. COM. As this animal is extinct there is no way of knowing whether it really had venom or what it ate. Venomous animals, especially snakes, are often used by sceptics to challenge Genesis, which states that all animals, including snakes and mammals originally ate plants in a good world. Venomous snakes seem so well designed to kill other animals they argue. Many snake venoms are similar to digestive enzymes – proteins used to help break down food. As snakes swallow their food whole, without chewing it, having a system that injects digestive enzymes into the food helps the snake break down and absorb its food more quickly. When the world degenerated after the Fall of Man and Noah's flood, snakes started eating other animals. Now the enzymes in their saliva not only helped digest their prey, but help kill it as well. Some snake venom does contain chemicals that paralyse prey, rather than digestive enzymes, so **Creation Research predicts** that research of these nerve toxins will find they had/have some other function as well. (Ref. venom, predators, digestion)

5. GENES

19th December 2002

MOUSE GENOME HAS SCIENTISTS WONDERING what it takes to distinguish a man from a mouse, according to reports in news@nature and *Nature* vol 420, p509, 5 Dec 2002. When comparing the mouse and human genomes, Genomics researcher Bob Waterston of Washington University St Louis, commented: "The first thing is how similar they are. The second is how different." It seems that mice have a similar number of protein making genes to people, (between 27,000 and 30,500) and only 300 seem to be unique to each organism. But according to John Whitfield of the *Nature* news service, "its not what you've got that matters, its what you do with it".

Over the last few years biologists have come to understand that building a body from a single cell into a mouse or a man depends as much on what genes are switched on and when, as on proteins coded by their genes. Japanese scientists have been working on the mouse 'transcriptome'. This is a description of which genes have their DNA information transcribed (copied) into RNA, which is the first step in using genetic information stored on DNA. To their great surprise they found about one third of the transcribed regions of DNA did not code for protein making genes. These genes and RNA molecules seem to have another function and probably regulate other parts of the genome.

Similarities up to 99% between mice and men were quoted in articles about the mouse genome, which is in the same range as the supposed similarity between apes and humans that so much was made of when the results of the Human Genome Project were first reported.

ED. COM. The similarities in protein making genes shared by mice and mankind explain why mice make such good animal models for studying many human biological processes and diseases. The 'transcriptome' research shows that many differences between the mouse and human body come from the way in which genes are controlled. This is no surprise to creationists. A clever creator can build two very different structures using similar materials. The difference lies in the instructions about where and when to use them. **Creation Research said this** when the human genome sequence came out in 2001 and **predicts** it will become more obvious as other mammal genomes are sequenced and control genes identified. (Ref. Mouse, man, genome)

1st October 2003

BAFFLED MOLECULAR BIOLOGISTS, according to a report in *Nature*, vol. 423 p91, 1 May 2003 and ScienceNOW, 2 May 2003. In recent years numerous pieces of DNA have been found that do not code for proteins. Many pieces are shortened versions of known functional genes, so biologists named them "pseudogenes" and have written them off as "genetic train wrecks", the result of functional genes being knocked around in the hurly-burly of evolution. There are an estimated 20,000 of these and, according to ScienceNOW writer Aparna Sreenivasan, "their existence baffles molecular biologists, who know that a vast number can make unfinished RNA bits, but not proteins. After all, if the genome worked efficiently, you'd think pseudogenes would be removed over time." An experiment that went wrong at the University of California, San Diego, indicates pseudogenes actually have an important function. When attempting to produce a genetically modified mouse Shinji Hirotsune and colleagues knocked out a pseudogene instead of a 'real' gene. The mutant mice had numerous birth defects and shortened life-span. Further investigation showed that the pseudogene information is used to make RNA, a working copy of genetic information that is

usually used to make protein. The pseudogene RNA did not make protein, but seemed to protect "real gene" RNA from being damaged. The scientists believe this shows they have found another way that cells regulate genes.

ED. COM. This is another example of how evolutionary theory is a hindrance, rather than help, to the advancement of science. **A creationist would predict** that since there are so many non protein coding genes in the human genome they must have a purpose, and should be investigated. **Creation Research predicts** that most apparently non-coding DNA sequences will turn out to be functional, in spite of the degeneration that has occurred since the Fall of Man and Noah's flood, which will have damaged some of our original DNA. (Ref. pseudogenes, genes, mutation)

23rd April 2004

JUNK GENERATED RNA "ASTONISHES" SCIENTISTS, according to a report in *New Scientist*, 21 Feb 2004, p.10. When the information encoded on DNA needs to be used to make proteins, the information is copied onto a similar molecule called RNA. However, not all DNA codes for proteins and it has been assumed that the non-coding DNA, often called "junk DNA" is not transcribed onto RNA because it has no function. A team of scientists who have been studying the fine detail of human chromosomes numbers 21 and 22 looked for places where transcription factors (proteins that copy DNA code to RNA) attach to the DNA. As summarised by *New Scientist* the results were "Only 22% of these binding sites were located in the classic '5-prime' position, where the process of turning the DNA from each gene into RNA usually begins. Another 36% of the binding sites were found at unexpected points within a gene. Most astonishingly of all, 24% were found in DNA thought not to be connected with genes. The remainder were found in 'pseudogenes', that is genes that no longer function (*Cell*, vol.116, p 499)." Tom Gingeras of Affymetrix (a private company involved in the study) commented: "It turns out that we have mischaracterised the architecture of the genome." All this unexpected RNA may help explain why the number of coding genes found by the human genome project seems so small, somewhere between 30,000 and 40,000, compared with the overall size of the genome. Gingeras suggests the RNA from the 'non-gene' DNA provides the fine tuning that separates one species from another.

ED. COM. This study illustrates a monumental failure of evolutionary theory as a useful paradigm for science. The idea that the vast amounts of non-protein-coding DNA in the human genome is useless junk came from the assumption that our genome is the end result of millions of years of natural processes bashing DNA around, when even the most hardened evolutionists admit that random, natural processes make a mess of whatever they touch.

Creation Research predicted in July 2000 that since non-protein-coding DNA is there for a purpose it should be investigated to see what it does. Following the publicity about the Human Genome Project many people wrote in with questions about genes and DNA. A common question was: "Is Junk DNA' a leftover from evolution?"

Our Creation Research reply was: "*Junk DNA is defined as DNA without genetic meaning. We have not identified a function for most of the DNA in the human genome but this does not mean it is junk. The problem for junk DNA proponents is the same as it was for vestigial organs (e.g. appendix). The fact that we don't know the function of something in the body, whether it is an organ or a piece of DNA, is an indication of our ignorance, not our origin. If we don't know the function of something the true scientific approach is to do more research and find out what it does.*"

Vestigial organs and junk DNA are examples of evolution being an anti-scientific idea. Fortunately human curiosity prevailed in the case of vestigial organs and we have since discovered the functions of organs such as the pituitary gland, the pineal gland, the appendix and thymus, all of which were once considered vestigial leftovers from evolution but turn out to be essential to life."

This new evidence of meaningful "junk DNA" is good evidence for creation, but no help to evolution. (Ref. DNA, RNA, genes)

10th June 2004

CHIMP GENES 83% NON-HUMAN, according to The International Chimpanzee Chromosome 22 Consortium's report in *Nature*, vol. 429, p382, and news@nature 27 May 2004. The consortium carried out a detailed study of one chimpanzee chromosome, number 22, and compared it with the equivalent human chromosome, number 21. (The reason for comparing chimp chromosome 22 with human chromosome 21 is that chimps have 48 chromosomes and humans have 46, so equivalent gene sequences are not on the same numbered chromosome.) In the regions that had the same genes as humans they found 1.44% single-base "substitutions", i.e. different DNA letters. This was in line with claims that chimps are 98.5% the same as humans. But to complicate matters, there were also 68,000 "insertions and deletions", i.e. regions where there were extra pieces or missing pieces when compared with the human chromosome. According to Consortium scientists, "These differences are sufficient to generate changes in most of the proteins. Indeed, 83 percent of the 231 coding sequences, including important genes for brain function, show differences at the amino acid level." (This means proteins made from these genes would be different in structure and function.) As this chromosome makes up only one percent of the total genome, there could be thousands of genes that are significantly different from humans. The team also looked at how active the genes were, and found that 20% of the genes were very different in their pattern of activity.

news@nature: <http://www.nature.com/nsu/040524/040524-8.html>

ED. COM. The chimp genome has been much anticipated by scientific news services, but they don't seem to be too pleased about these findings. It was not reported in BBC online news and ScienceNOW had only the following small paragraph: "Head scratcher. The DNA sequence of chimpanzee chromosome 22, reported in the 27 May issue of *Nature*, may overturn the common assumption that only slight genetic differences separate us from our closest primate relatives. The researchers say 83% of 231 genes on the chimp chromosome would produce different amino acid sequences than their human counterparts (on our chromosome 21)." This is the first study that actually compares specific genes and gene activity. Therefore, it gives a truer picture of differences between the chimp and human genomes. **Creation Research predicts** that as more chimp gene studies are done, even more differences will be found, especially when scientists understand how genes are activated and interact with one another. The basis of this prediction is that Genesis states that human beings are unique creations, made in the image of God. (Ref. Chimpanzee, chromosome, genes)

20th April 2005

MORE TO MALE CHROMOSOME than previously thought, according to report in news@nature 19 Jan 2005. In June 2003 scientists in the USA announced they had fully sequenced the human male Y chromosome and found 78 genes. This is a small number of genes, but the Y chromosome is very small and has generally been considered to be genetic

wasteland. However, scientists in Germany have now found a previously undiscovered sequence of over half a million DNA letters that may contain genes involved in determining men's height and susceptibility to cancers of male reproductive organs.

news@nature article: <http://www.nature.com/news/2005/050117/full/050117-8.html>

ED. COM. Here is another example where evolution proves to be a poor prediction tool. The concept of the male Y chromosome being a genetic wasteland, comes from the evolutionary assumption that the Y chromosome was once a part of a pair of larger chromosomes, which somehow became unpaired during the evolution of mammals. This meant it could no longer use the gene repair mechanisms that paired chromosomes have, so it lost much of its structure and function over millions of years of mutations and breakages. However, a previous study of the chromosome revealed it actually had a unique method of gene repair built into it, so that it didn't need to be part of a chromosome pair. This new study reinforces evidence that the male Y chromosome is a fully functional chromosome, well designed for its special role – just what **creation based science would predict**. (Ref. predictions, scientific models, human genome)

20th April 2005

RNA EDITING MAKES US HUMAN suggests a report in *New Scientist*, 29 Jan 2005, p13. RNA editing is a process that changes genetic information after it has been copied onto a molecule called messenger RNA (mRNA), which carries the information to the protein making machinery in the cell. One editing process changes adenosine molecules to inosine. This kind of editing occurs commonly in RNA from regions called Alu sequences, which were thought to be genomic junk. A team of scientists at Tel Aviv University carried out a survey of these RNA edits in corresponding mRNAs in humans and other species, and found that humans had over ten times more edits than mice, rats, chickens and flies. This could be because humans have more Alu sequences. The function of the RNA editing has yet to be understood, although previous studies have shown it is most common in brain tissue. This has led some scientists to speculate that RNA editing gave humans their complex brains and may explain why mice and humans are so different, when they have similar numbers of genes.

ED. COM. This study reminds us that comparing DNA between human and any other species does not fully explain the differences between the species. The way genetic information is used and modified is proving to be as important as the genes themselves. Stored genetic information certainly does not explain the origin of any species. Popular claims that humans are 95-99% the same as chimpanzees on the basis of similarities in DNA are therefore meaningless.

This study also confirms claims made by Creation Research that "junk DNA" is there for a purpose and is not an evolutionary leftover. **Creation Research predicts** that when RNA is further studied it will reveal even more differences between humans and other species. (Ref. predictions, evolution, gene expression)

18th August 2005

JUMPING GENES MAKE BRAINS UNIQUE according to reports in ScienceNOW 15 June 2005, *Nature* Vol 435, p903 and *New Scientist* 18 June 2005, p21. "Jumping genes" are pieces of DNA that can spontaneously move from one place in the genome to another. When they insert themselves into a new part of the genome they can change the activity of the genes in that place. Ever since they were first discovered they were considered to be useless

parasites or remnants from ancient viruses that have been gradually acquired over millions of years of random evolution, because they seem to jump about in an unpredictable pattern and can cause problems when they move. A group of researchers at the Salk Institute, La Jolla, California have been studying the cells that develop into brain cells during embryonic development and noticed that a type of jumping gene, called L1 retrotransposons, was active in cells that were developing into neurones - the cells that process information in the brain, but not in other cells. Fred Gage, who led the study, suggested that the activity of L1 genes could change the proportions of different neurones in the brain and vary their activity, resulting in differences in brain function between individuals. This would help explain why even identical twins have different personalities and abilities, even though they start out with the same genes. Other scientists who study transposons are not convinced. Haig Kazazian of University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, said it would be surprising if the L1 jumping gene proves to be important in brain development. "These are genetic parasites as far as we know, and we never thought they might have a function like this," he commented. "It has the potential to open a new paradigm, but it is not there yet."

ED. COM. The reason for the genetic parasite view is that transposons can jump into the wrong places and wreck some genes, or turn them on at the wrong time. Both outcomes can cause serious diseases like cancer, so it was assumed that transposons were the result of millions of years of blind evolutionary blundering, and they were simply the price we paid for having evolved the most. Here we have another example of evolutionary assumptions being a hindrance to science, not a help. Genesis is a much better place to start for understanding transposons. Genesis tells us the world was created with plan and purpose, and it was originally very good, therefore it is reasonable to assume that transposons originally had a useful function, such as the one proposed by the research above. However, the world did not stay very good - it has degenerated considerably following the Fall of Man and Noah's flood, and the human genome has taken a battering. As a result we can propose that some transposons don't work properly any more so when they move they settle in the wrong place and wreak havoc. Therefore, we suggest the Salk Institute scientists try the following paradigm for understanding their results: each human being is meant to be a unique creation with a heritage "in the image of God", and transposons are one means for making each brain unique. **Creation Research predicts** that if biologists studied the human genome from the 'Creation followed by Degeneration' paradigm, they would find that most of the genome has a useful function, and the parts that don't, will show signs of having been useful in the past, but have been damaged. (Ref. assumptions, genetics, paradigm)

18th September 2005

CHIMP GENOME SEQUENCE COMPLETED reported news@nature, ScienceNOW 31 Aug 2005, and *Nature*, vol 437, p69, 1 Sep 2005. The Chimpanzee Sequencing and Analysis Consortium, a group of 67 scientists working from 23 scientific institutions in five countries, have published the first draft of the complete chimpanzee genome and have begun to make comparisons with the human genome. The differences found between chimps and man were "35 million single nucleotide substitutions (DNA letter changes), 5 million insertions and deletions, local rearrangements and a chromosome fusion."

Chimp Genome Special at *Nature*:

<http://www.nature.com/news/specials/chimpgenome/index.html>

ED. COM. Whilst most articles about the chimp genome are concentrating on how similar chimps and humans are, the millions of differences now known for sure actually indicate how

unlike chimps are to humans. Genes are like long sentences made up of many words. Just as it is possible to completely change the meaning of a sentence by changing a few letters, or inserting or removing a few words, a few small changes in DNA letters can completely change the way a gene works. In the last few years we have also learnt more about how genes are turned on and off. Small changes to the controlling genes that turn other genes on and off can result in very big differences in structure and function. The first clue to how significant these types of differences are came in May 2004, when genome scientists closely compared one chromosome (no. 22) from the chimp with its human equivalent. Despite the widespread claim that chimp and man have 98% similar DNA code letters, after looking at the effects on actual gene function made by the substitutions, insertions and deletions, they concluded equivalent chimp and human chromosomes were actually 83% different. (See our report *Evidence News* no 9, 2004.) **We predict** that when the two genomes are fully analysed they will find just as much difference for the whole genome as they did for this one chromosome. (Ref. genome, genetics, information)

CHROMOSOME RESEARCH CONFIRMS BIBLE according to a report in *Science News*, vol 154, pp218 - 219 admitting that a study of genes on the Y chromosome in some Jewish families supports the Biblical account of the origin and descent of the Jewish priesthood. They even printed references from Exodus 40:1,12-16. *Science News* 3 Oct 1998.

ED. COM. It is not often we find reports in the secular science press about how scientific research confirms Biblical history, but **Creation Research predicts** that all research into chromosomes and genes will ultimately confirm the Bible history of man, i.e. created perfection followed by degeneration, which explains the structure of chromosomes and current state of genetic information carried on them, and which was put into isolated gene pools after Babel divided the races of man. One day the evolutionary scientific community may admit it. (Ref. chromosome, genes, Jews)

6. PHYSICS AND ASTRONOMY

19th April 2000

OUTER SPACE, OUT OF LIFE as most scientists at International Conference on Astrobiology at the NASA's AMES Research Centre last week, dismissed the Martian rock evidence, disclaimed "new" planets as unsuitable for life, and were pessimistic about the evolutionary significance of tiny bugs discovered in harsh environments on earth. British paleontologist Simon Conway Morris, told the conference "I don't think there is anything out there at all except ourselves". University of Pennsylvania astronomer James Casting said Martian temperatures may have been too cold and "we don't understand how to make early Mars warm". The claimed discovery of 34 planets around what turns out to be scalding hot gas giant stars, most as big or bigger than Jupiter, led astrophysicist, Alan Boss, from the Carnegie Institute Washington to say: "none of the systems found so far are consistent with habitable planets". (Source *Courier Mail*, Australia April 14, 2000, p.10) (Ref. Astrobiology, space, Mars)

ED. COM. No reference was made to **creationists' predictions** that life would only be found where God had created it and Genesis says it was created on earth.

22nd August 2001

SPEED OF LIGHT CHANGING reports Dr John K Webb, University of New South Wales, Sydney Australia, in a press release of his work to be published August 27th in *Physical Review Letters*. As this press release is a very long one, we made it available as an attachment. Contact info@creationresearch.net and ask for "Webb - Speed of Light attachment".

ED.COM. Many years ago, Australian creationist Barry Setterfield, created a furore when he published his thesis that the speed of light was decreasing. This new paper is taking a totally different tack with the data. The current view of world physics is a parasitized Christian view, based on the immutability of physical laws in the Creation, based originally on the immutability of the Creator. Physics has long departed from having God the Creator as its centre, yet it has clung to the immutability of natural laws. It is not surprising in a now evolutionist world to find Webb and colleagues suggesting that if we can prove the speed of light has changed, it means the physical laws of the universe are evolving. This is a trend we have long **predicted** will happen in the pagan mindset. Keep watching for more of the same. (Ref. light, speed, laws)

2nd July 2003

UNIVERSE LACKS LUMPS, according to a report in news@nature 13 Mar 2003. Quantum theory states that space is made up of indivisible lumps like grains in a photograph or pixels in a digital image. Physicists were therefore surprised by recent Hubble Space Telescope photos of distant galaxies that indicate the universe is smooth. "Without graininess, our current theories predict that the Big Bang was infinitely hot and dense. Tough to explain, to say the least," writes John Whitfield for *Nature*. The observations cast doubt on a physical quantity called the 'Planck length', the distance a photon (particle of light) moving at the speed of light travels in Planck time: 5×10^{-44} seconds. According to the theory this is the smallest measurable unit of space. Any smaller space should become lumpy.

ED. COM. In 1999 Professor John D Barrow (UK) claimed that all the big cosmological problems will simply melt away if you break one rule - the rule that says the speed of light never varies. (See *New Scientist*, 24 July, 1999. p.29) As 'Planck length' is determined by the speed of light, this may be one of the problems that could be solved if we accept that light was faster in the past. An increasing number of secular scientists are seriously considering that the velocity of light may be changing. However, a creationist scientist, Barry Setterfield, has been researching and publishing material on the decreasing velocity of light and the effects resulting from the decrease, for over 20 years. **Here is an example of Biblical Creation based science being far ahead of evolution based science.** (Ref. space, quantum, light)

24th June 2004

BIG BANG THEORY POPS reports *New Scientist*, 22 May 2004, p20 and www.cosmologystatement.org Eric Lerner of Lawrenceville Plasma Physics, plus 33 other scientists from 10 countries write "Big Bang theory relies on a growing number of hypothetical entities - things that we have never observed. Inflation, dark matter and dark energy are the most prominent. Without them, there would be fatal contradictions between the observations made by astronomers and the predictions of the big bang theory. In no other field of physics would this continual recourse to new hypothetical objects be accepted as a way of bridging the gap between theory and observation. It would, at the least, raise serious questions about

the validity of the underlying theory. But the big bang theory can't survive without these fudge factors.”

Lerner believes Big Bang theory has predominated in spite of these failings because research grant money is almost completely restricted to projects that set out to prove the Big Bang. Evidence that does not fit the theory such as discordant data on red shifts, lithium and helium abundance, and galaxy distribution is ignored or ridiculed. “This reflects a growing dogmatic mindset that is alien to the spirit of free scientific enquiry,” warns Lerner. Furthermore, he states the theory “can boast of no quantitative predictions that have since been validated”.

ED. COM. Creation Research has commented in the past that Big Bang theory is based on imaginary items, such as cold dark matter. It is good to see secular scientists catching up. Lerner correctly, points out the reason unpopular ideas do not get published has nothing to do with science - it is because of preconceived dogma. Keep that in mind when people ask why creation based research does not get published in mainstream scientific journals where the prevailing dogma is evolution. We encourage astronomers to concentrate on studying the real universe they can see, so they may come to understand that the heavens do display the handiwork of the Creator God. (Ref. Big-Bang, astronomy, science)

9th June 2005

NON-RANDOM RIPPLE PROBLEM reported in *New Scientist*, 30 April 2005, p19. The Big Bang theory says the universe was formed by sudden expansion of space which produced hot and cold spots in the cosmic microwave radiation formed from random quantum fluctuations. Therefore, the distribution of these fluctuations should be random. David Larson and Benjamin Wandelt of the university of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign have analysed data from Wilkinson Microwave Anisotropy Probe (WMAP) and found “a subtle but statistically significant deviation” from the expected random distribution.

The problem may be a technical problem with the probe’s instruments, but if it is not, then according to Wendelt the origin of the universe is a complete mystery.

ED. COM. The origin of the universe is only a complete mystery to those who refuse to believe the non-random written record left by the Creator. God made it quite clear that the universe did not begin with a random big bang. **Creation Research predicts** that if cosmologists were prepared to accept Genesis, they will find their observations would fit together a lot better. (Ref. cosmology, astronomy, universe)

7. MISCELLANEOUS

STILL THREE SCORE AND TEN as a recent World Health Organisation report (quoted in *The Tennessean*, 5 Nov 1998) predicts that by the year 2025 the average life expectancy could increase to 73 years compared with the current 66 years. One result is that many people have asked us how modern science has been able to increase the human lifespan since in the middle ages the average life expectancy was somewhere around 45 years, and isn't this one evidence that man is evolving.

The answer is fairly simple: People who lived in the 10th - 14th centuries did not die of old age at 45. They died of disease, famine and war - just as many relatively young people in poor or war-torn countries do today. Those who survived such hazards often lived to great ages, as can be seen on the gravestones in the old cemeteries of Europe.

The average length of life at which people die from 'old age' has not changed since Moses wrote "The length of our days is seventy years - or eighty if we have the strength" (Psalm 90:10 NIV) Moses himself actually lived 120 years, some 40 - 50 years beyond the average and wrote Psalm 90 over 3,000 years ago. **Creation Research predicts** life expectancy will remain in the 70's and 80's.

Whilst we should be grateful that modern science is able to prevent people from dying in their 30's and 40's we should never put our hope in medical science to enable us to live forever. Only the Lord Jesus Christ, Who gave created life, can give us back the eternal life which Adam lost for mankind when he rebelled against our Creator. (Ref. Ageing, Lifespan, Moses)

SEVEN DAY WEAK reported in *New Scientist* 10 Jul 1999, p53. A recent survey of 1500 men, average age 33, in Britain, paints a grim picture of stress, permanent exhaustion and lives overwhelmed by their jobs. The *New Scientist* writer acknowledged that one cause of this problem is the loss of Sunday as a day of rest.

ED COM. In today's evolution-based anti-God materialistic society, many claim they cannot make ends meet unless they work seven days a week. The Creator told us to work six days and rest for one (Exodus 20:9-11) and trust Him for the Rest - He is the Provider. **Creation Research predicts** that as our society pressures people into working seven days a week, the levels of stress and illness will increase correspondingly.

20th August 2003

NO FUTURE IN HOROSCOPES according to a medical study reported in *The Courier Mail* (Australia) 19 Aug 2003, p5. Astrologers claim many physical, psychological and social characteristics of people are determined by what star sign they were born under, and where the sun, moon and planets are at the time, eg. those born under the sign of Pisces should be kind, sensitive, selfless and intuitive but prone to escapism, secrecy and being easily led. Medical researchers who have been carrying out a long term study since 1958 on how circumstances surrounding birth affect long term health, analysed data collected from over 2000 people born within minutes of one another, i.e. under the same star sign, with the sun, moon and planets in the same positions. Rather than finding similarities in many characteristics claimed to be predictable by astrology, they found "beyond reasonable doubt that there is no similarity in character between people born within minutes of one another".

ED. COM. Johannes Kepler (1571-1630) was a prominent court astrologer who became a Christian. He then tested his own predictions and those of fellow astrologers and found them to be wrong. That was four centuries ago! The Hebrew writer of Ecclesiastes proved a better predictor of truth when he wrote: "There is nothing new under the sun." (Eccl 1:9) Kepler went on to become the founding father of modern astronomy and his work was the death knell of astrology in his day and for centuries afterwards. One hidden reason for the recent increase in belief in astrology is increasing acceptance of an evolutionary world view that robs people of confidence in the Creator God's guidance for their lives, leaving a vacuum, which they fill with astrological foolishness. **Creation Research predicts** that as our culture turns away from the Creator, the more people will look for guidance from astrology and other pagan practices, much to the frustrations of the ruling elites who want to run society on a "scientific" basis.

23rd February 2005

WARM, WET MARS WAS "SCIENCE" BREAKTHROUGH OF 2004, as reported in Science, 17 Dec 2004, p2001 (Editorial) and pp2010ff. At the end of each year the editors and news writers of the journal Science vote for the most important scientific discoveries from that year. Top of the list in 2004 was "new evidence that Mars was once warm, wet and salty: a candidate for environment for early life." Second on the list was *Homo floresiensis*, although the editor of Science admits that the claims made about this were controversial and "the lone skull and related post-cranial material are now under re-examination." Third on the list was a cloned human embryo experiment carried out by Korean scientists in an attempt to produce embryonic stem cells. Other discoveries that made it into the top ten were "hidden DNA treasures" in what used to be called 'junk DNA', decreasing biodiversity of amphibians, butterflies and plants, and the application of genome sequence methods for identifying micro-organisms from soil and water samples. The "Breakdown of the Year" was described as loss of the "tacit promise from the federal government to support research by US academic researchers in return for working toward the public good and training the next generation of scientists and engineers." Evidence for this included lack of support for stem research and the fact that educators have to "battle anti-evolutionists seeking to influence science instruction in public schools across the country".

ED. COM. Those who complain about the breakdown of support for science, accuse politicians and community leaders of putting ideology before science, but the list of "breakthroughs" reveals more ideology than science, eg. no-one actually found any water on Mars, but the obsession with finding water on Mars is due to the belief it will help the theory of evolution. Creation Research is pleased that 'junk DNA' made it onto the list. **Creation Research predicted** it would be found to have a function several years ago. In fact, it has turned out to have many important functions in regulating gene activity and probably holds the key to understanding differences between species with apparently similar DNA. (Ref. peer review, prejudice, reward)

UPDATE: The Korean stem cell experiments referred to above have since been found to be frauds.

HERES THE LAST PREDICTION. When you have read this you will have discovered that the very common criticism of Creation, "that it can make no testable predictions", is little more than a widespread disinformation campaign by worried evolutionists.

If you know of other creation based predictions that can be made, send suggestions to "Predictions" on info@creationresearch.net
Look forward to hearing from you.