

DEFENSE OF THE HOPE THAT IS WITHIN YOU

1 PETER 3:15

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APOLOGETICS - ἀπολογία (Greek noun) - A defense of conduct and procedure, a verbal or written defense of what one does or what one believes.

QUESTIONS CHRISTIANS MUST BE ABLE TO ANSWER:

1. Is there a God?
2. Is the Bible divine revelation from God?
3. Is the Bible unique?
4. Are we the product of creation or evolution?
5. How old is the universe and the earth?
6. Where do the dinosaurs fit in?
7. Was there a global flood and a Noah's ark?
8. Are there angels or aliens, and where do they fit in?
9. Is Biblical salvation unique?
10. Is Jesus Christ God?
11. Is there eternal life and resurrection with God?
12. Is the Bible the final authority in making decisions and moral choices?

1. Is there a God?

a. Some people say that they believe in “**theistic evolution**” as the mechanism God used to produce everything in the universe.

(1) **Theistic evolution**, so-called, “is creation by continuous evolutionary processes initiated by God.” This evolutionary scheme is the least objectionable to many Christians who believe that God used the methods assumed by evolutionists to accomplish His purpose in creation as described in Genesis.

(2) Other names for this theory include; “**orthogenesis**” (goal directed evolution), “**emergent evolution**,” “**creative evolution**,” and even “**Biblical evolution**.” However, any sound literal approach to Biblical exegesis precludes any such interpretation.

(3) Other variations espoused by some Christian are “**progressive creation**” and “**threshold evolution**.” Progressive creation is creation by discontinuous evolutionary processes initiated periodically by God to correct what evolution could not accomplish.

b. However, logic and reason demand that pure “**naturalistic evolution**” absolutely eliminates God.

(1) This position usually appeals to the so called “**big bang**” theory plus time, plus mindless random chance processes.

(2) In other words, “Nothing plus no-one equals everything,” or “slime plus time equals me.” (**Note:** “**Nothing**” means an infinitely dense particle that occupies no space. Where this particle called a “**singularity**” came from no-one knows.)

c. Everyone on earth believes in something eternal by faith. Faith, or belief, is one of our systems of perception. It is either **faith in eternal matter and energy** or **faith in an eternal god**. According to the laws discovered by scientific method:

(1) Energy cannot be created or destroyed, but must be converted between a system and its surroundings during any change. (This is known as the 1st Law of Thermodynamics postulated by James Joule and Rudolf Clausius, 1840s)

(2) In 1905 Albert Einstein postulated his famous formula, $E=mc^2$, and it has since been proven true, that matter and energy are two forms of the same thing, thus expanding the 1st Law of Thermodynamics.

(3) This seems to imply that matter and energy are eternal.

- d. However, if matter and energy were eternal before the “**big bang**,” they would have been in a state of equilibrium; and if eternally in equilibrium, there would be nothing to make the “**big bang**” bang!
- (1) This is in keeping with **Newton’s 1st law of motion** which states that “in the **absence of outside forces, an object at rest will remain at rest** and an object in motion will continue in motion in a straight line at constant speed until it is pushed to change its speed or direction.”
 - (2) This is also in keeping with the **2nd Law of Thermodynamics** which summarized says “that all systems in the universe are running down.” This “**running down**” is called “**heat death**.” (Rudolf Clausius, 1850)
 - (a) Heat will always flow “**downhill**,” from an object having a higher temperature to an object having a lower temperature, thus increasing the “**entropy**” of the system.
 - (b) Heat death, called scientifically “**entropy**” is the measure of the total disorder, randomness, or chaos of a system.
 - (c) The effect of **increased entropy is increased disorder** (not increased order).
- e. Therefore, there are **only two options**:
- (1) Either **matter and energy are eternal**, and “**evolution**” violated Newton’s 1st Law of Motion and Clausius’ 2nd Law of Thermodynamics (now operational), and disorder and randomness became the order and design of the universe we see today. Scientists are absolutely certain that the universe had a beginning but have no mechanism for its **first cause** or its apparent design, **teleology** (the study of the evidences of design in nature).
 - (2) Or **God is eternal** and violated, or perhaps better, **created** the 1st Law of Thermodynamics and created matter and energy out of nothing, *ex nihilo* (Latin), or perhaps better, *ex deo* (Latin), and designed the ordered universe we see today, which is running down.
 - (3) Either option requires faith perception. Do you believe in eternal God or do you believe in eternal matter and energy?
- f. The Bible declares the following:
- (1) “***I am the Lord and there is no other, beside me there is no God.***” (Isa. 45:5, 6, 18, 21; 46:9)
 - (2) “***The fool has said in his heart there is no God.***” (Psa. 14:1; 10:4; 53:1)

- (3) **“The heavens are telling of the glory of God and the firmament is declaring the works of His hand.”** (Psa. 19:1; 97:6; Rom. 1:18, 19)
- (4) ***“For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes, His eternal power and divine nature have been clearly seen, being understood through what has been made, so that they are without excuse. For even though they knew God, they did not honor Him as God, or give thanks, but they became futile in their speculation, and their foolish heart was darkened.”*** (Rom. 1:20, 21; cf. Rom. 1:20-32)
- (5) ***“Before the mountains were born, or Thou didst give birth to the earth and the world, even from everlasting to everlasting, Thou art God.”***
(Psa. 90:2; cf. Psa. 41:13; 93:2; 102:25-27; 103:17; 106:48; Rev. 4:10, 11)
- (6) ***“Indeed, the very hairs of your head are all numbered,…”*** (Matt. 10:30; Luke 12:6, 7a)
- (7) God values and provides for His creation. (Matt. 10:31; 12:12; Luke 12:7b; cf. Luke 12:22-32)

2. Is the Bible divine revelation from God?

(NOTE: As a memory device, the “acronym” M.A.P.S. will be used to present the evidence for reliability and divine revelation of the Bible.)

acronym - ἀκρονόμ - (Greek noun) - a word formed from the initial letter or letters of each of the successive parts or major parts of a compound term.

a. **M** - **manuscript** evidence for biblical reliability

(1) While manuscript evidence does not demonstrate divine inspiration of the Bible per se, it does establish historical and literary reliability and scriptural integrity.

(2) When the Bible is compared to all other ancient texts and its historical reliability is tested using the same criteria by which all other historical documents are tested, the Bible is overwhelmingly more reliable.

(a) There are more than 13,000 manuscript copies of portions of the New Testament (N.T.), including 8,000 manuscripts of the Latin Vulgate and close to 5,000 Greek manuscripts.

(b) The books of the N.T. were written between 50 and 100 A.D. and the earliest manuscripts we have are from the fourth century, some 250 to 300 years later.

(c) Not only is the manuscript evidence for the N.T. numerically overwhelming, but the time interval between the original writing and the earliest extant manuscripts is shorter than any secular historical manuscript.

(d) While we do not have the abundance of ancient manuscripts of the Old Testament (O.T.), we do have very accurate copies because of the strict discipline of the ancient Hebrew copyists.

(e) This accuracy is reflected in the intricate system of rules followed by the Talmudists in transcribing the synagogue scrolls (A. D. 100-500). When we consider the rules and accuracies of these Talmudic copyists, the reliability of the copies we have today is confirmed.

(f) The discovery of the Dead Sea Scrolls in 1947 revealed many biblical texts which have been dated between 200 and 68 B.C.

(g) Among the Dead Sea Scrolls is a complete Isaiah scroll, dated from 125 B.C., which pre-dates the *Codex of the Prophets of Leningrad* (A.D. 916) by 1041 years. This demonstrates the extreme accuracy of the biblical copyists over more than a 1000 years.

(h) A Greek translation of the O.T., called the Septuagint (meaning ‘seventy,’ usually abbreviated by the Roman numerals LXX), was commissioned by Ptolemy Philadelphus of Egypt (285-246 B.C.). This translation is very close to the Massoretic Text (A.D. 916), again demonstrating the reliability of transmission over 1200 years.

b. **A - archeological** evidence for biblical reliability

(1) No archeological discovery has ever refuted any biblical reference.

(2) In fact, time after time, biblical archeological has been responsible for discovering ancient peoples and nations, once thought not to exist, and has filled in many historic gaps.

(3) The more archeologists dig and make discoveries, the more they confirm the reliability of the scriptures. A few examples follow:

(a) Archeological evidence confirms the Genesis account of the ancestry of Israel as coming from Mesopotamia. William F. Albright, noted archeologist, states that the Hebrew tradition, “tracing the patriarchs directly back to the Balikh Valley in northwestern Mesopotamia,” was correct.

(b) Many modern philologists subscribe to the idea that all languages had a common origin as per Genesis 11:1. However, after the destruction of the tower of Babel, all the languages of men were confounded by God (Gen. 11:9). Modern philology cannot explain the diversity of languages or even the complexity of ancient so-called primitive languages.

(c) The excavations of Jericho from 1930-1936 found that the walls fell “outward” as opposed to falling “inward,” as would usually be expected, permitting the army of Joshua to enter “*into the city, every man straight ahead, and they took the city.*” (Josh. 6:20)

(d) More recently the city of Ai, thought to have been a biblical fabrication, has been found. (Josh. 8:1-29)

(e) For centuries it was believed that the court where Jesus was tried by Pilate, called Gabbatha (Heb.) or “The Pavement,” did not exist. (John 19:13) However, this court was the court of the Tower of Antonia, the military headquarters of the Roman army in Jerusalem. It was destroyed in the siege of Jerusalem in A.D. 66-70 and not rediscovered until the nineteenth century.

c. **P** - **prophetic** evidence for divine revelation

- (1) According to Dr. John F. Walvoord in his “*Prophecy Knowledge Handbook*,” the Bible was one-fourth prophecy when it was written, and now approximately half of these prophecies have been fulfilled literally.
- (2) Since half of all Bible prophecies have already been fulfilled literally, it can be assumed that those prophecy yet to be fulfilled will also be fulfilled literally.
- (3) Prophecy and its literal fulfillment demonstrate that the Bible must be given as divine revelation by God. (2 Peter 1:20, 21; 2 Timothy 3:16)
- (4) Biblical prophecy teaches that there is a literal future divine judgment by God which is carried out in accordance with the standards of His own character.
- (5) Therefore, fulfilled biblical prophecy gives meaning to history.
- (6) There are approximately 575 prophecies in the Old Testament and 316 prophecies in the New Testament. Several examples of fulfilled prophecies are listed below:
 - (a) The prophecy of the **destruction of the Northern Kingdom of Israel** by the Assyrian Empire in 721 B.C. (Isa. 9:8-10:4 [740 B.C.]) This fulfillment is seen in 2 Kings 17:1-18 [730-721 B.C.].
 - (b) The prophecy of the **destruction of Jerusalem and the Southern Kingdom of Judah** from 606-586 B.C. and the subsequent Babylonian captivity of 70 years. (Jer. 25:1-14 [607 B.C.]; 29:10, 11 [599 B.C.]) This fulfillment is seen in 2 Chron. 36:6-21 [593 B.C.]; 2 Kings 24:1-25:12 [600 B.C.]; Daniel 1:1, 2 [606 B.C.]. The **return of Judah after the 70 years** of captivity is fulfilled in 2 Chron. 36:21-23 [539 B.C.] and Ezra 1:1-8 [537 B.C.]; (cf. Daniel 9:1, 2 [539 B.C.]; 5:24-31 [539 B.C.]).
 - (c) All the prophecies of Daniel concerning the **Babylonian Empire**, the **Medo-Persian Empire**, the **Graeco-Macedonian Empire**, and the **Roman Empire** have been fulfilled. (Daniel 2:31-45; 4:10-33; 5:5, 25-28; Daniel 7:1-7; 8:1-14, 20-25) Some of the most detailed extended prophecies in the Bible concerning the **Ptolemaic Empire of Egypt** and the **Seleucid Empire of Greece** are found in Daniel 11:2-35 [538 B.C.], prophecies given concerning the next 371 years to 167 B.C.

- (d) The Lord prophesied **judgment against the city of Tyre** because it rejoiced over the destruction of Judah. (Ezekiel 26:1-28:10 [590 B.C.])
- [1] First, King Nebuchadnezzar would bring destruction upon Tyre [590 B.C.]; then in 332 B.C. Alexander the Great would finally wipe Tyre off the map by destroying the city completely and scraping the debris into the sea to make a causeway to the island fortress, which he subsequently destroyed as well.
- [2] Tyre would be destroyed, never to be rebuilt. The Lord God Declared, *“I shall bring terrors on you, and you will be no more; though you will be sought, you will never be found again.”*
- (e) According to biblical authority Canon Liddon the Old Testament contains some **332 distinct predictions** which were literally fulfilled in Jesus Christ.
- [1] These were written between 393 and 1436 years before Jesus was born. The first was in Genesis 3:15 [1440 B.C.] and the last was in Malachi 3:1 [397 B.C.]
- [2] Josh McDowell lists **61 Old Testament prophecies**, stretching from **“His birth”** (Genesis 3:15 and Isaiah 7:14) to **“His resurrection”** (Psalm 16:10), **“His ascension”** (Psalm 68:18a), and **“His session”** (Psalm 110:1).
- [3] The **death of Jesus Christ** was predicted in Daniel 9:25, 26 to the precise day, *“...from the issuing of a decree to restore and rebuild Jerusalem until Messiah the Prince seven weeks and sixty-two weeks; ...Then after the sixty-two weeks the Messiah will be cut off and have nothing.”* (from 444B.C. to A.D. 33 = 476 years)
- NOTE:** 476 years x **365 day years** = **173,880 days**
(7x7) + (62x7) years = 483 years
483 years x **360 day years** = **173,880 days**
- [4] There are **29 Old Testament prophecies** concerning Jesus Christ which occurred within one twenty-four-hour period of time, stretching from the **“betrayal by a friend”** (Psalm 41:9; 52:12-14) to **“His burial in a rich man’s tomb.”** (Isa. 53:9)
- [5] Jesus had no control over 23 of these prophecies.

- d. **S - Statistical probability** gives evidence for divine revelation
- (1) **Statistics** is that branch of mathematics dealing with the collection, analysis, interpretation, comparison, and presentation of numerical data.
 - (2) **Probability** is the mathematical discipline concerned with the possibility that a given event will occur out of a total number of possible outcomes.
 - (3) **Statistical probability** looks at the evidentiary data to determine the certainty or lack of certainty that an event will occur as predicted. Note the following examples:
 - (a) If an event occurs 9 out of 10 times, the certainty that it will occur again is great.
 - (b) However, if an event occurs 1 out of 10 times, the certainty that it will occur again is low.
 - (4) Since there are **332 distinct Old Testament predictions** which were literally fulfilled in Jesus Christ, a **statistical probability analysis** may be employed.
 - (5) While it is possible that Jesus Christ could have deliberately fulfilled some of the prophecies ascribed to the coming Hebrew messiah; however, many were totally beyond His control. Note the following eight prophecies:
 - [1] Place of birth - Micah 5:2
 - [2] Time of birth - Gen. 49:10; Dan. 9:25
 - [3] Manner of birth - Isa. 7:14
 - [4] Betrayal - Psalm 41:9; 55:12-14
 - [5] Manner of death - Isa. 53:12
 - [6] People's mocking - Psalm 22:6, 7
 - [7] Piercing - Psa. 22:16; Isa. 53:5
 - [8] Burial - Isa. 53:9
 - (6) Peter Stoner, in his book "*Science Speaks*," first published in 1958, similarly took eight of the Old Testament prophecies ascribed to the coming messiah and painstakingly established the **statistical probability** that they could be fulfilled in one person in history, namely, Jesus Christ.
 - (7) Peter Stoner, former chairman of the Department of Mathematics and Astronomy at Pasadena City College until 1953 and Professor Emeritus of Science at Westmont College from 1953-57, challenged the students in twelve different classes representing some 600 students to work out these probabilities.

(8) Professor Stoner's students carefully weighed all the factors, examining each prophecy and then made conservative estimates of the probabilities of their fulfillment by one person in all of history. Their estimates were conservative enough that there was unanimous agreement among even the most skeptical students. However, Professor Stoner took these estimates and made them even more conservative.

(9) Ultimately the best probability estimates indicated that the chance of one man in human history **fulfilling these 8 prophecies literally** was 1 in 10^{17} , virtually impossible, yet Jesus Christ did just that. We have a better chance of winning the lottery.

Note: 1 in 10^{17} = 1 chance in 100,000,000,000,000,000

Comparison: While blindfolded, find **one marked silver dollar** while walking over the State of Texas covered in silver dollars to a depth of two feet. (Stoner illustration)

(10) Later, Professor Stoner did a similar study using 48 prophecies of the messiah being fulfilled in one person. This study yielded an astonishing number, 1 chance in 10^{157} , that is 1 with 157 zeros behind it. Keep in mind that there are 332 distinct predictions of the coming messiah in the Old Testament, and these were all fulfilled in one person in history, the Lord Jesus Christ.

(11) There are those who reject the estimated probabilities of Peter Stoner and his students; however, when we consider all 332 prophecies concerning the coming messiah, the **evidentiary statistical probability** supports the **virtual certainty** that Jesus Christ **alone** in human history has fulfilled all of the messianic prophecies.

(12) In addition to the prophecies concerning the coming messiah there are over 500 other prophecies in the Bible, of which over 100 have already been fulfilled literally. The chance of all of these prophecies being fulfilled literally is infinitesimal, yet they have been.

(13) **Evidentiary statistical probability** when applied to fulfilled Bible prophecy supports divine revelation by God who knows the beginning from the end. (Isaiah 42:8, 9; 44:6-8; 45:21; 46:10; 48:3, 5; Luke 4:16-21 with Isa. 61:1, 2a)

3. **Is the Bible unique?**

a. The Bible is unique in its continuity:

- (1) It was written over a period of 1536 years, from 1440 B.C. to A.D. 96.
- (2) It covers a period of 60 generations of approximately 20 to 25 years each.
- (3) It was written by more than 40 authors from many diverse backgrounds:
 - (a) Moses - a political leader
 - (b) Joshua - a military commander
 - (c) David - a shepherd and a king
 - (d) Solomon - a king
 - (d) Daniel - a prime minister
 - (e) Ezra - a priest and scribe
 - (f) Nehemiah - a cupbearer and governor
 - (g) Amos - a herdsman
 - (h) Matthew - a tax collector
 - (i) Luke - a doctor
 - (j) Peter - a fisherman
 - (k) Paul - a tentmaker and rabbi
- (4) It was written in many different places: in wilderness areas, in palaces, in prisons, and during military campaigns
- (5) It was written at many different times: in times of peace, in times of adversity, and in times of war.
- (6) It was written in different moods: in times of joy, in times of sorrow, in times of despair.
- (7) It was written on three continents: Asia, Africa, and Europe.
- (8) It was written in three languages: Hebrew, Aramaic, and Koine Greek.
- (9) It includes hundreds of controversial subjects, yet there is perfect harmony and continuity throughout its 66 books.
- (10) It encompasses a wide variety of literary styles **with complete harmony and agreement** including the following: history, law [civil, criminal, ethical, ritual, and sanitary], poetry, parables, allegories, biographies, letters, memoirs, diaries, plus prophetic and apocalyptic literature.

- b. The Bible is unique in its circulation:
 - (1) The Bible has been published in more languages and read by more people than any other book in history.
 - (2) The Latin Vulgate translation of the Bible was the first book printed on the Gutenberg press between A.D. 1450 and 1456 and possibly as early as A.D. 1425.
- c. The Bible is unique in its translation:
 - (1) The Old Testament was first translated into Greek, the *Septuagint*, around 250 B.C.
 - (2) It is the most translated book in all of human history.
 - (3) The Bible has more than 450 English versions and has been translated into more than 2479 languages of the 6909 languages in the world to date, with more translations being made every day.
- d. The Bible is unique in its preservation:
 - (1) As previously stated under the manuscript evidence for biblical reliability, there are more than 13,000 manuscript copies of all or part of the New Testament.
 - (2) The overwhelming manuscript evidence of the New Testament and the extreme accuracy in transmission of the Old Testament demonstrate God's divine preservation of the Bible.
- e. The Bible is unique in its survival during persecution and criticism:
 - (1) There have been many attempts to destroy the Bible down through history.
 - (2) It has had more attacks on it than any other book in history.
 - (3) People, philosophies, and governments have attacked the Bible by burning it, banning it, outlawing it, diminishing it, ridiculing it, and misrepresenting it.
 - (4) However ***“the Word of our God stands forever”*** and is more powerful than ever. (Isa. 40:8; 55:11; 59:21; Matt. 5:18; 1 Pet. 1:23, 25; Heb. 4:12)

- f. The Bible is unique in its teachings:
- (1) The Bible records **hundreds of prophecies** of which about half have already been **fulfilled literally**.
 - (2) No other volume in human history can boast such prophecies and their literal fulfillments.
 - (3) No other ancient volume contains such a **detailed chronology** and **historic record** from the creation to the first century A.D. with specific stated prophecies yet to be fulfilled at the conclusion of human history.
 - (4) The Bible does not cover up the **depravity of mankind**, but deals truthfully with the issue of sin, the sins of its individual characters, and the sins of nations.
 - (a) National sins denounced - Deut. 8:19, 20; 9:12, 16
 - (b) Patriarchs' sins - Gen. 49:5, 6
 - (c) Moses' sin - Num. 20:7-12
 - (d) David's sin - 2 Sam. 11:27; 12:13
 - (e) Peter's sin - John 18:17, 25-27
 - (f) Paul's sin - 1 Tim. 1:15
 - (g) Congregational sin - 1 Cor. 5:1
- g. The Bible is unique in its influence on surrounding literature, art, culture, and history.
- (1) No book has been more studied, analyzed, quoted, discussed, and written about than the Bible.
 - (2) It has furnished themes for more literary works, analytical volumes, poems, hymns, songs, dramas, philosophical and theological discussions, and sermons than any work in history.
 - (3) The words of life and salvation, spoken by Jesus and recorded in the Bible, have changed more lives and conquered more peoples than all of the philosophers, scholars, and rulers in history combined.
 - (4) The birth, the life, the crucifixion, and the resurrection of Jesus Christ found written in the Bible are unique events which have totally influenced and continue to change human history.

4. Are we the product of creation or evolution?

- a. In answering this question we must examine two major factors:
 - (1) The **first cause** of everything.
 - (2) The seeming **infinite design** of everything.
- b. To study the **origins** of all things we are inevitably led to the **first cause** of everything.
- c. Science is based on **absolute truths**. These truths, called “*scientific laws*,” can be discovered and verified by observation and experimentation, that is, using the so-called “**scientific method**.” These observations and experiments must be repeatable always producing the same results, thus verifying the assumptions made. These assumptions are called **theories** or **hypotheses**.
- d. Since scientists cannot observe or repeat origins or the first cause; therefore, it is impossible to use the “**scientific method**” to prove that any particular theory of origins or first cause is true.
- e. The word “theory” is imprecise because it implies a valid scientific hypothesis which can be experimentally observed, tested, and repeated.
- f. The best approach is to speak in terms of two scientific models, the *evolution model* and the *creation model*.
NOTE: We define “model” here as an orderly system which collects, categorizes, and correlates past and current data describing a state of conditions and predicts future outcomes.
- g. When different models are compared, such as the *evolution model* and the *creation model*, the model which more closely correlates the greater amount of data with the least number of contradictions would be the more correct model.
- h. The *evolution model* claims that the origin of all things and their development are the product of natural laws and processes operating now as they always have in past times. The universe and everything in it basically **evolved itself** into higher levels of organization and order. **Particles or energy**, which always existed, evolved into **elements**; these elements evolved into **non-living chemical compounds**; these non-living compounds evolved into **simple life forms** which in turn evolved into **complex life forms**; these complex life forms evolved into **animals**; and finally these animals evolved into **man**.

- i. The *evolution model* can be summarized in 7 points: (1) naturalistic; (2) internally self-directed; (3) without purpose; (4) irreversibly directional upwards toward higher levels of complex order; (5) universally applying everywhere in the universe; (6) continuing; and (7) uniformitarian, after the “*big bang.*”
- j. The *creation model* claims that the origin of all things had a beginning and is the result of a period of **special creation**. During this **creation period** all the elemental particles and energy; all space and time; all the heavenly bodies including the planets, moons, stars, and galaxies; all the major kinds of plants and animals; and man were created “**out of nothing,**” *ex nihilo* (Latin), by God. This special creative work of God is no longer in operation but has been replaced by processes of *conservation* designed to continually sustain and maintain the universe He had created.
- k. The *creation model* can be summarized in 7 points: (1) supernatural; (2) externally directed; (3) divinely purposed; (4) irreversibly directional downward toward lower levels of complexity; (5) universally applying everywhere in the universe; (6) completed; and (7) catastrophic.
- l. The best arguments against the *evolution model* and for the *creation model* have been discussed in the **evidence for the existence of God** (see: pages 2 and 3 in this study). In point 1-c it was stated that there are really only two choices, either we must have **faith in eternal matter and energy** or **faith in eternal God**. Therefore, a belief in **naturalistic evolution** is mutually exclusive of a belief in eternal God.
- m. It is essential that the three scientific **laws of motion** and the three scientific **laws of thermodynamics** are remembered, specifically Newton’s 1st Law of Motion and the 2nd Law of Thermodynamics (see: page 3 in this study).
- n. The 2nd Law of Thermodynamics, in summary, states that the universe and all that exists in it is “**running down,**” moving from higher temperatures to lower temperatures, from more complexity to less complexity, and from order to disorder.
 - (1) This law is diametrically opposed to the *evolution model* which states that chaos, randomness, and disorder evolve into order, complexity and diversity of design.
 - (2) However, the observed scientific laws, the order within the universe, the complexity of life, and the diversity of design are exactly what would be expected of the *creation model*.

- o. God created the universe and all that is in it with His laws established for all of human history. (Gen. 1:1; Job 38:4-11; Psa. 33:6-9; 90:2; 104:2, 5; 148:1-6; Prov. 30:4; Isa. 40:22, 26; 42:5; 45:18; Jer. 31:35-37; 33:19-25; Mark 13:19; John 1:3; Col. 1:16, 17; Heb. 1:2, 3; 11:3; 2 Pet. 3:3-7; Rev. 4:11; 10:6)
- p. There are many problems for the *evolution model*:
- (1) Evolution is **not now taking place**, nor has it ever been seen taking place in all of recorded human history.
NOTE: Variations within species, called “**micro-evolution**” (e.g., breeds of dogs), are not true evolution, called “**macro-evolution**,” neither are **mutations** which are always harmful, sometimes producing sterility, and at the very least reducing viability. No genuine mutation, which is permanently beneficial, has ever been documented.
 - (2) Charles Darwin **never explained the origin of species** in his work, *On the Origin of Species*, 1859.
 - (3) There has never been a single documented example of a new species; and therefore, **no new species** has ever evolved through the so-called mechanism of **natural selection**.
 - (4) There is **no known mechanism** for evolution or for the diversity of design found in nature. While evolutionists appeal to **mutations** and **natural selection** as the mechanism for evolution, such mutations are **random or accidental** and **non directed**; therefore, the process is accidental and not based on the so-called principle of **natural selection**, also called “**survival of the fittest**” (*Principles of Biology*, by Herbert Spencer, 1864).
 - (5) There is **no fossil evidence** of so-called **transitional forms** between kinds of living creatures.
 - (a) The science of classification, called *taxonomy*, is applied to the similarities in structures of creatures. Such similarities are given as evidence of evolution.
 - (b) However, all *taxonomic* categories (phyla, genera, families, classes, orders, etc.) are arbitrarily established and a matter of opinion.
 - (c) There is no experimental proof to show any relationship between these different groups. The *evolution model* demands “continuity” between organisms; yet, we find distinct kinds of living creatures separated by gaps.

- (d) For gradual evolution to have taken place, every geological rock stratum should be filled with transitional or intermediate life forms or “**links**” between species; but **no such fossil evidence exist!**
 - (e) Darwin himself admitted that the **lack of intermediate fossil evidence**, “**missing links**,” completely contradicted his theory of evolution. This is one of the most serious objections to the theory of evolution.
 - (f) In Hebrews 11:1 we read: “*Now faith is the assurance of (things) hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.*” (NASB) A creationist used a distortion of this verse to ridicule the evolutionists’ position regarding these fossils: “***Evolution is the substance of fossils hoped for and the evidence of links not seen.***” (author unknown)
- (6) A complete so-called **geological column**, the standard evolutionary column, which evolutionists claim is the order of appearance of life forms from the earliest to the most recent, does not occur anywhere on earth. It is a complete fabrication based on a belief in the **evolution model**. In fact, in many places on earth, parts of the **geological column** are actually inverted, missing, or found in a mixed order.
- (7) According to Dr. Henry Morris in his work, *Scientific Creationism*, 1974, “There is no truly objective time sequence to the fossil record, since the time connections are based on evolutionary assumptions,” and they are merely arbitrary.
- (8) In addition, there are essentially **no fossils being formed today**. The fact that fossils exist at all is because of **cataclysmic events**, such as the universal flood in the days of Noah, which result in the **rapid and compact burial** of organisms. Otherwise, natural forces such as erosion, decay, weathering, and other disintegrative processes would destroy any plants or animals before their fossilization could take place.
- (9) While evolutionists claim that “**radiometric dating**” can be used to date rocks and fossils from antiquity, none of these can be verified with certainty by the scientific method, including observation and testable experimentation.
- (a) **Radiometric dating** utilizes the fact that **radioactive minerals** in rocks and fossils decay very slowly over time at specified constant rates giving the appearance of great age to any tested specimen.
 - (b) However, all **radiometric dating** methods assume a **uniformitarian context** excluding any catastrophic interruptions. Even with this assumption and many others, dates arrived at by different **radiometric dating** methods vary greatly, rendering their age readings meaningless.

- (10) Therefore, the **rocks** are actually **dated by the fossils**, called “*index fossils*,” which are characteristically abundant in any rock stratum.
- (a) The assumed *geological column* of the fossil record becomes the basis for the theory of evolution and the **expected dating** of the geological age.
 - (b) Those **radiometric dates** which agree with the **accepted geological ages** are accepted, those which do not are rejected!
 - (c) Then, by **circular reasoning**, the fossils can be dated by the established age of the rock strata.
- (11) All of **the continents of the earth** are covered with layers of sedimentary rock, in which are found countless fossils.
- (a) These **fossils are all formed quickly** by water-deposited sedimentary layers, as a result of tremendous hydraulic activity, such as that produced by a universal flood.
 - (b) **95 percent of all fossils** are marine invertebrates and most of these are shellfish such as clams.
 - (c) Of **the remaining 5 percent** of all fossils, 4.75 percent include algae and plant fossils, and 0.2375 percent include insects and all other invertebrates.
 - (d) **Only 0.0125 percent** of the entire fossil record comprises vertebrate fossils including fish, amphibians, birds, and mammals. Also, only 0.00125 percent of these consist of more than a single fossil.
 - (e) It is interesting to note that there are more clam shell fossils found on the tops of mountains than under the ocean floor.
 - (f) All fossils, both invertebrates and vertebrates, **are found mixed together** in all levels of sedimentary rock from bottom to top.
 - (g) Finally, “**All fossil types appear suddenly, fully formed and functional, without less complex ancestors under them.**” (*Exploring the Evidence for Creation*, Henry Morris III, 2009).
- (12) The “*recapitulation theory*,” although discredited by modern embryologists, is still considered by some evolutionists as evidence for evolution.

- (a) The once popular evolutionary cliché, “**ontogeny recapitulates phylogeny,**” was given as a popular definition of the recapitulation theory, the so-called “biogenetic law,” postulated in 1866 by Ernst Haeckel, a contemporary of Charles Darwin.
- (b) *Ontogeny* is the development of an embryo, and *phylogeny* is the imagined evolutionary development of that kind of organism.
- (c) **Recapitulation**, meaning the supposed repetition or summary of evolution, is the theory that each organism in its formation exactly repeats each stage of the evolutionary process of that species.
- (d) This theory was also used to explain so-called **vestigial organs**, “useless organs” believed to have been necessary at some earlier stage of evolution.
 - (1) The **tonsils** and the **appendix** are among 180 structures in the human body thought to be vestigial.
 - (2) Most of these structures have been identified as disease-fighting organs and the sites of immune response formation.
- (13) The evidence from “**molecular biology**” overwhelmingly supports intelligent design and presents the greatest challenge yet to the evolutionary model.
 - (a) **DNA discoveries** and the very **formation of and function within the cell** structure itself remain mysteries to scientists.
 - (b) Every molecular system within the cell structure is interdependent on every other system; and each cannot function without the other members of the complex being already present and functioning.
 - (c) The cell is a molecular version of the **evolutionary quandary**, “which came first, the chicken or the egg?”
- (14) Other major problems for evolution include the following:
 - (a) **The origin of insects** is completely unknown. Insects, which occur in vast numbers and varieties, remain virtually the same over some 70-million years of “evolutionary” time. Although fossilized insects are in many cases larger than their modern relatives, nevertheless, they were similar to those living now.
 - (b) **The origin of plants** is likewise unknown. Professor C.A. Arnold of the University of Michigan stated that, “As yet we have not been able to trace the phylogenic history of a single group of modern plants from its beginning to the present.

[1] Dr. Henry Morris III, in his book *Exploring the Evidence for Creation*, states that while **plants replicate** within their kind as do crystals and some chemicals they **do not have “life.”**

[2] Plants are never said to have life (חַי-*chay*) or soul (נֶפֶשׁ-*nephesh*). Life (the soul) of animals and men are said to be **in the blood**. (Gen. 2:7; 9:3-5; Levit. 17:11, 14) Plants do **not have blood**.

(15) **No evidence** has ever been found of a **common ancestor** from which apes and men are supposed to have evolved. This so-called ancestor **has no name**, but is assumed to have existed because the evolutionary model demands its existence.

(a) This **“no-named” ancestor** is supposed to have existed between **30 and 70 million years ago**. Evolutionists arrive at these dates by assuming the validity of the *geological column*. (cf. page 17, point 6 of this study)

(b) Evolutionists believe that **“true man”** did not appear until sometime between **one and three million years ago**.

(c) Between these two **vast time periods**, man is said to have evolved as evidenced by **fossil hominoids** (a term which includes both apes and men) and **fossil hominids** (a term applied to pre-human creatures evolving towards and culminating in true man).

(d) These creatures are **not human** and are all **various forms of extinct apes**.

[1] *Ramapithecus*, important and typical of these creatures, was discovered in India in 1932 and was fabricated based on several teeth and jaw fragments. In fact, the suffix **“pithecus”** means “ape.” Other such creatures include *Dryopithecus*, *Oreopithecus*, *Limnopithecus*, and *Kenyapithecus*, all dated by evolutionists at roughly **14 million years ago** (give or take a million years)!

[2] *Australopithecus* (meaning “southern ape”) is thought by evolutionists to have lived **two to three million years ago**. Others in this group include *Zinjanthropus*, *Paranthropus*, *Pleianthropus*, *Telanthropus*, and *Homo Habilis*. These show little difference from *Ramapithecus* which evolutionists believe lived **11 to 12 million years earlier**.

(e) *Homo erectus* is the generic name given to the group of **“true men”** based on very meager fossil evidence. These include **Java Man, Peking Man, Heidelberg Man**, and **Meganthropus** who lived about **500,000 years ago**.

[1] These were considered “**true men**” because they stood upright, had a brain capacity of about 1000 cc, and developed simple implements and weapons.

[2] Recent discoveries indicate that *Homo erectus*, while “true man,” seems to be degenerated in size and possibly even a descendent of *Homo sapiens* rather than an ancestor.

(f) *Neanderthal Man* was truly human, categorized as *Homo sapiens*, and not essentially different from “**modern man**” with all his physical diversity.

[1] *Neanderthal Man* had a stooped skeletal structure, which is now considered by most anthropologists to be the **result of disease**, possibly arthritis or rickets.

[2] It is claimed by evolutionists that *Neanderthal Man* was on earth for about 35,000 years (from approximately 22,000 to 57,000 years ago).

(g) *Modern Man*, according to most modern evolutionary researchers, is 200 to 250 thousand years old; however, others (such as Milford Wolpoff) believe modern man to be as much as 2 million years old.

[1] This would place modern man as existing contemporaneously or even prior to all of these hypothetical apelike ancestors (*Neanderthal Man*, *Homo Erectus*, or even *Australopithecus*), eliminating man’s imagined evolutionary progress.

[2] Remember also that all of these dates are based on the **radiometric dating** methods discussed previously. (cf. page 17, point 9 of this study)

(16) Evolutionists have a problem with the **growth of population** on the earth.

(a) If man has been on the earth for about a **million years**, some say 2 million years, then there would have been about **25,000 generations** of people at 40 years for a generation.

(b) **Assuming a growth rate** as low as $\frac{1}{2}$ **percent per year** and an average family size of just **2.5 children per family**, the number of people on planet earth would now exceed 10^{2100} . This number is absolutely absurd because there could be only **10^{130} electrons in the entire universe** if it were packed solid and there were no empty spaces at all.

- (c) The current population of the world as of May 12, 2010 was **6,820,400,000** or approximately **6.8×10^9** which is **less than 10^{10}** . However, if this is the result of a million years of evolution, then trillions of people would have had to have lived and died. Why then is there so little fossil evidence of ancient man?
- (d) The **creation model** fits well with the current world population of **6.8×10^9** beginning with eight people **4358 years ago** and growing at about $\frac{1}{2}$ **percent per year** for about **110 generations** from the flood in the time of Noah, **2348 B.C.**
- (17) Evolutionists have the insurmountable problem of **irreducible complexity**. **Irreducible complexity** is the state of a system which cannot function without all of its constituent parts being present and fully operational.
- (a) A **living cell**, already mentioned, is **irreducibly complex** (cf. page 19, point 13 of this study). The human body contains 100 trillion cells; most are less than 1/10 of a millimeter in diameter. A **living cell** (except bacteria) must have all three of the following existing simultaneously to function or even live:
- (1) **Cell membrane** - this is the **thin covering** of the cell which protects its inner contents, gives the cell its shape, and **supports and regulates** what enters and leaves the cell.
 - (2) **Cytoplasm** - this is the **internal substance** of the cell which contains many micro-molecules and a host of smaller functioning units called **organelles**; some of these are called the **mitochondria**, the power generators (furnaces) for the cells and for intercellular energy transfer.
 - (3) **Nucleus** - this is the **inner core** (the brain) of the cell containing the **genetic material** (DNA and RNA) and proteins. The nucleus is the information processing and administrating center of the cell. It is the location of the cell's hereditary material (DNA), which contains **directions** for making the cell's protein; and it coordinates all cell functions including growth, intermediate metabolism, protein synthesis, and reproduction (cell division).
- (b) **Irreducible complexity** is seen in many of God's creations:
- (1) God designed **the wood pecker** with a special beak and a special built-in shock absorbing cartilage to protect him from the continual pounding. The woodpecker also has a unique tongue, special feet, special tail feathers, and an onboard mini-glue factory. All of these are necessary simultaneously.

- (2) God designed **the giraffe's long neck** with a special supply mechanism to carry blood to its brain. This mechanism regulates the great differences in blood pressure when the giraffe's head is held high as opposed to when it held low.
- (3) God designed **the bombardier beetle** with a complex chemical system that can produce a **caustic and noxious spray** of benzoquinones. It can eject this spray in multiple bursts at its enemies in nearly a 360 degree arc. This spray explodes from twin rear tubes at 212°F. This system must be fully formed and operational or it is of no use to the beetle and in fact would destroy it.
- (4) God designed **the deep sea angler fish** with a special appendage, like a fishing rod above her mouth, tipped with an **"artificial worm,"** which she uses as bait to attract her prey. This lure is tipped with an **artificial heatless light**. This light is produced by a compound called **Luciferin** which is oxidized with an enzyme called **Luciferase**. Although scientists have found that it is made up of more than 1000 proteins, they still do not know how it produces heatless light. Without this lighted appendage the angler fish would die of hunger.
- (5) God designed **the chicken egg** as a mini magic trick. The trick is how the chicken is able to get a shell around a slippery, raw, fertilized egg. The egg itself has 10,000 tiny holes so the developing chick can breathe. Shortly after the egg is laid, four blood vessels grow out from the developing chick; two of these attach to the membrane under the shell and two attach to the yolk. The chick's tiny heart begins pumping blood through these vessels by the fifth day. What causes these actions to take place is unknown. By the time the chick is too large to get enough air through the pores in the shell a small tooth has grown at the end of his beak, called an **"egg tooth."** Using this **"egg tooth,"** the chick first opens the air sac at the flat end of the egg giving it six hours of air; then it must break through the shell in that time to access outside air or die.
- (6) God designed **the human eye** with incredible complexity including the **instantaneous interdependence** of the cornea, the iris, the lens, the vitreous humor fluid, the retina, and 1 percent of the brain. There are **photoreceptors** in the retina of each eye that are electrically connected to the visual cortex in the brain by **one million nerve fibers** to produce the images we see.

John Stevens, biomedical engineer, writes that, “to simulate 10 milliseconds of the complete processing of even a single nerve cell from the retina would require the solution of about **500 simultaneous nonlinear differential equations 100 times**. Keeping in mind that there are 10 million or more such cells interacting with each other in complex ways, it would take a minimum of 100 years of Cray (supercomputer) time to simulate what takes place in your eye many times every second.” (“Reverse Engineering the Brain,” *Byte*, April 1985, pages 287-299)

(7) God designed **the human ear** with a **million moving parts** which can perceive a range of sounds from 20 Hertz (cycles per second) to 20,000 Hertz and can distinguish between 2,000 different pitches. Both ears together can determine the range and direction of sound using a process called *binaural summation* which gauges the direction based on the 0.00003-second difference in its arrival at each ear. The least audible sound the human ear can hear is 0.000000000001 watt per square meter (1×10^{-12}); and the loudest sound it can possibly hear is 10 watts per meter squared (the sound of a Boeing 747 fully loaded and taking off). The loudest sound the human ear can hear is ten trillion times louder than the quietest sound it can hear.

(8) The **irreducible complexity** of the interaction between animals, plants, and insects is nowhere addressed by evolutionists!

(c) **Irreducible complexity** can be examined by the principles of mathematical **combinatorics** and **probability**.

(1) If a complex system has only **four components parts** which must all be formed and functioning completely at the same time, what is the **probability** that these parts could evolve instantly by chance? If there are **four** such component parts, these could combine in 4! (four factorial) ways, that is, 24 ways ($4 \times 3 \times 2 \times 1 = 24$). Assuming that only one of these ways gives the desired result, then the probability of such a success is 1 chance out of 24 possible outcomes, or a 1/24 probability of success.

(2) If the number of **integrated parts** that compose an **irreducible complex organism** is increased, the probability of their formation by random chance is decreases substantially.

- (3) If a complex organism were to have **only 100 integrated parts**, then the **possible combinations** of these parts would be $100! = 10^{158}$. The possible success of a correct combination would be one chance in 10^{158} or $1/10^{158}$, virtually **no chance at all!**
- (18) The evolution model is totally **incapable of explaining** the origin of **human language**.
- (a) Mankind alone has the ability to **communicate abstract ideas** verbally.
 - (b) This ability presents possibly the **greatest evolutionary gap** between man and the animals.
 - (c) Philologists **have no explanation** with regard to the **early stages** in the formation of languages. Language does not show any slow evolutionary development; in fact, the most “primitive” peoples have the most complex languages.
 - (d) While there are **thousands of different languages** in the world, yet all **languages can be analyzed** according to the science of linguistics and can be shown to be related. All of these vastly different and highly complicated languages have been in existence as far back as historical records go.
 - (e) The creation model gives the **only real explanation** for the origin of multiple languages in the Bible where God confounds the language He created for man into many different languages. (Gen. 11:6-9)
- (19) The evolution model suggests that the **origin of moral values** and some kind of **religious predisposition**, which are intrinsic to the very nature of man, are simply the result of **fortuitous mutations** and evolution by **natural selection**.
- (a) How can non-purposive natural selection produce purposive human behavior?
 - (b) How can evolution by random, impersonal, non-moral processes produce complex man with self-consciousness, moral judgment, and a religious sense? Only God can design with purpose and make it evident to man. (Rom. 1:18-25)
- (20) The **evolutionary progression** does not match the creation account in the Bible:

THE BIBLICAL RECORD:

1. God is the creator of all things.
2. God created matter and energy.

EVOLUTION’S ORDER:

- Natural chance processes account for the existence of everything.
- Matter or energy has existed forever.

- | | |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 3. The universe and the earth were created instantaneously by God. | The universe evolved over eons, 13.73 billion years. |
| 4. God's creative preparation on earth took six literal days. | The earth evolved over 4.54 billion years. |
| 5. The earth was created before the sun and stars. | The sun and stars existed before the earth. |
| 6. The ocean was formed before the land. | Land existed before the oceans. |
| 7. There was light before the sun. | The sun was the earth's first light. |
| 8. Atmosphere existed between two hydrospheres. | A contiguous (adjacent) atmosphere and a hydrosphere existed from earth's formation. |
| 9. Land plants were earth's first life. | Marine organisms were earth's first life. |
| 10. Plants were created before the sun. | The sun existed long before plants. |
| 11. Fruit trees were created before fish. | Fish existed long before fruit trees. |
| 12. Birds were created before insects. | Insects existed long before birds. |
| 13. Birds were created before reptiles. | Reptiles existed before birds. |
| 14. Man lived before there was rain. | Rain fell before man existed. |
| 15. Man was created before the woman. | A female <i>homosapiens</i> was first. |
| 16. Man was uniquely formed in perfection. | Man took ages to develop from apes. |
| 17. The creation is finished. | Evolutionary is ongoing. |
| 18. Man is the cause of struggle and death. | Struggle and death are necessary antecedents in the evolution of man. |

5. How old is the universe and the earth?

- a. The age of the universe and the age of the earth according to the evolution model are considered to be very old.
- (1) Evolutionists claims an age for the universe of some **13.7 to 14 billion years**; some have even upped the age to 20 billion years. They claim that the earth is **4.5 to 4.67 billion years old**. These figures are based on the need for evolution to occur in the universe and on planet earth over a very long time, **assuming a uniformitarian universe**, in which the same laws and natural processes have always existed as they do now. There is no scientific proof of these dates or of a uniformitarian universe.
 - (2) The single best argument for an early date for the universe is the time it takes for light to travel from the most distant stars to planet earth. This distance is measured in **“light-years,”** the distance light travels in one year, 299,792.4586 kilometers/second (186,287.4903 miles/second = 5.879×10^{12} miles/year), nearly 6 trillion miles/year.
 - (3) Since the **most distant stars** are thought to be more than 13 billion light-years away, then the universe must be over 13 billion years old.
 - (4) In modern times the speed of light has been considered to be the only constant in the universe. Albert Einstein based his theory of relativity on this constant in his now famous equation $E=mc^2$ (c = the speed of light).
 - (5) However in recent years it has been experimentally shown that the speed of light can be slowed down. The question remains, is there an upper limit for the speed of light?
 - (6) Researchers Barry Setterfield and Trevor Norman hypothesize that the **speed of light** was at one time **10 million times faster** than its present value. Using recorded values for the speed of light in the past, Setterfield and Norman created a graph of the velocity of light versus time. This graph **extrapolates backwards in time** using a mathematical method called **“regression,”** which fits given data points to mathematical curves. Fitting the data to an empirically generated decay curve, similar to Alan Montgomery’s cosecant-squared of time curve, they arrived at an **initial age of the earth** of about **6000 to 8000 years**. However, many researchers are critical of the methodology of Setterfield and Norman and of the **limited number of early data points**.

Note several data points used:

[1] 307,600 ± 5400 kilometers/second -1675 AD

[2] 299,921 ± 13 kilometers/second - 1875 AD

[3] 299,792.4586 ± 0.0003 kilometers/second – 1983 AD

- (7) The **speed of light** has also been experimentally increased to **310 times** its normal speed by passing it through a Cesium chamber, a speed of 57,749,122 miles/sec. This experiment was done by Dr. Lijun Wang at the NEC Research Institute in Princeton, NJ.
- (8) If the speed of light at the creation was millions of times faster than it is today, then other important atomic constants proportional to c (the speed of light), or inversely proportional to c or c^2 would have varied accordingly.
- (9) Since all dating of the so-called geological ages of earth is measured by **radioactive decay processes**, and the **decay rate of radioactive nuclei** are **proportional to c** (the speed of light), then a change in c would affect all dating methods producing a **much shorter earth history**.
- (10) Even evolutionists now believe that the most distant galaxies in the known universe are moving away from earth and each other faster than the speed of light. So it must be acknowledged that things can travel faster than the speed of light.
- (11) There are **other theories** postulated to deal with vast distances to the farthest Stars:
- (a) The whole subject of “**gravitational time dilation**” is explained by Dr. D. Russell Humphreys in his book *Starlight and Time, Solving the Puzzle of Distant Starlight in a Young Universe*.
- [1] According to Einstein’s theory of General relativity (GR) **gravity affects time, therefore, time is not a constant!**
- [2] According to GR and actual observation clocks tick more slowly at lower elevations than at higher elevations; that is, the stronger the **gravitational field** (gravitational attraction) the slower time passes.
- [3] Gravity not only **slows down clocks** but also all physical processes including: motion within atoms and their nuclei, biochemical reactions, electromagnetic waves, nerve impulses in our brains and bodies, the rotation and orbits of planets, and even the speed of light.
- [4] In outer space the speed of light might indeed be constant (or possibly even speeded up), but because of the **lack of gravity** time would be speeded up. There is no direct way of measuring this slowdown in our vicinity of the universe because gravity affects all of our methods of measuring.
- [5] According to Humphrey, **on day four**, during 24 hours on earth, God placed the sun, the moon, and the stars, galaxies of stars and planets, in the expanse of the heavens **where billions of years could have passed**.

[6] When God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was apparently at the **center of the heavens** which were then **spread or stretched out**. This is called **“Geocentricity.”** (Isa. 40:22; 42:5a; 44:24; Psa. 104:2)

(b) **Another theory** to explain the great distances between our earth and the stars and galaxies in the universe is to believe that God not only created these heavenly bodies instantaneously but that He also created the **light beams** from the stars and galaxies to our earth at the same time. God created a light source on day one without any sun or stars in the heavens to produce a light beam. (Gen. 1:3 cf. 1:14-18)

(12) Since no-one has ever been outside of our solar system, much less outside of our galaxy, it is impossible to scientifically prove any of the current theories of the formation of the universe. All measurements of **time** and **space** and the **speed of light** are based on assumptions which cannot be proven scientifically. In fact, it seems that time and space and the speed of light do not necessarily behave in deep space as they do in the vicinity of our solar system.

(13) If the universe is only 6000 to 8000 years old, then the earth must also be young.

b. The age of the universe and the age of the earth according to the creation model are considered to be about 6000 years (with the exception of the **“gap theory”**).

(1) While the Bible states that **“God created the heavens and the earth,”** no time frame is given; but **the heavens and the earth** seem to have been **created at the same time** (Gen. 1:1). However, since Genesis 1:1 is followed immediately by **“and the earth was without form and void”** (Gen. 1:2a), it seems reasonable that the events of Genesis 1:2b, c, **“and darkness was over the surface of the deep,”** **“and the Spirit of God was moving over the surface of the waters,”** and the six days of Geneses 1:3-31 would follow relatively quickly, not some 9-10 billion years later. Some Biblical scholars even believe that Genesis 1:1, 2 are part of the first literal day (24 hour day) of creation.

(2) As previously noted in point #20 (page 325-26), the order of the Genesis 1:1-31 account does not line up in any way with the evolution model even if the days are not considered as 24 hours days but long eons of time.

c. The **age of the earth** is just as difficult to determine as the **age of the universe**, even though the evidence is right under our feet. We are not able to reproduce what occurred in the distant past on earth because **no-one was here** to observe it.

- (1) The **earliest recorded (written) history** ever found on earth is only about 5000 years old, about 3000 BC. This history is recorded in the **Sumerian cuneiform** script which changed from a more pictograph “linear” form to a more wedge shaped form called “**cuneiform.**”
- (a) All of the later Mesopotamian peoples including the Akkadians (2350 BC), the Babylonians, the Assyrians, the Persians, etc. adopted and modified this system.
- (b) **Sumerian**, as a spoken language died out around 1800 BC, but it continued to be used as the “**learned**” **written language** of scholarship until the 1st century AD, making it one of the longest used writing systems in history. Similarly, the Romans used the Koine Greek and the Europeans used Latin during the Middle Ages.

SUMERIAN CUNEIFORM WRITING:

	3200 BCE	3000 BCE	2400 BCE	1000 BCE
sag 'head'				
gin 'to walk'				
šu 'hand'				
še 'barley'				
ninda 'bread'				
a 'water'				
ud 'day'				
mušen 'bird'				

- (c) Therefore, if man has been on earth for nearly **two million years**, either he did not learn to write or he did not write anything down for 1,995,000 years!

- (d) The answer to this seeming impossibility is that the **universal flood** in the time of Noah about 2348 to 3000 BC would have destroyed all written records of the antediluvian (pre-flood) era; at least none have been found to date.
- (2) One very interesting aspect of the Biblical record of the creation of the universe and the earth in **Gen. 1:1-2:3** is the **grammatical construction of the passage**.
- (a) According to much research, it can be seen that Biblical passages which are to be read as **narrative history** have a particular form as opposed to those that are metaphoric or poetic.
- (b) A **statistical analysis** of the use of finite Hebrew verbs in the Bible shows that in narrative passages there is a significantly greater use of what is called the **preterite form** of the verb as compared to other forms, such as the **perfect**, the **imperfect**, the **perfect with waw consecutive** forms. This research was done by Dr. Steven Boyd of the research group **RATE** (an acronym which stands for **Radioisotopes and the Age of the Earth**).
- (c) Although there is great debate over the origin of this so-called **preterite form**, it is nevertheless used extensively to describe **a past action, a state, or an existing condition in literal historic** passages. On average **52% of** the finite verbs in the following examined passages are preterites:
- [1] **Gen. 1:1-2:3 (creation);**
 - [2] **Gen. 7:5-8 (the flood);**
 - [3] Gen. 5 (Detailed genealogy of Adam to Noah);
 - [4] Gen. 11 (Genealogy from Noah to Abraham; tower of Babel);
 - [5] Gen. 37-48, 50 (Life of Joseph);
 - [6] Exodus 14; (Covenant with Abraham);
 - [7] Joshua 1-10 (Joshua's conquest);
 - [8] Judges 4; 13-16 (Samson's life);
 - [9] Psalm 105:8-45 (Brief history - Abraham to Moses);
 - [10] Psalm 106:6-46 (History from Egypt to the promised land);
 - [11] Books of Ruth, Esther and Nehemiah;
 - [12] Samuel 11-20 (Court history of David);
 - [13] Jeremiah (Account of Jehoiakim);
 - [14] 2 Kings 25 (Defeat of Jerusalem by Babylon);
 - [15] Books of 1 and 2 Kings and 1 and 2 Chron.
- (d) Poetic and metaphoric passages in the Bible have a **very low use** of the **preterite forms**, on average about **.04% of the total** finite verbs used, as in the following passages:
- [1] Gen. 49 (Jacob blesses his sons);

- [2] Exodus 15 (Song of Moses);
- [3] Numbers 23-24 (Oracles of Balaam);
- [4] Deuteronomy 32 (Song of Moses);
- [5] Judges 5 (Song of Deborah and Barak);
- [6] 1 Samuel 2:1-10 (Ministry of Elijah, Prayer of Hannah);
- [7] 2 Samuel 22 (Song of David);
- [8] Psalm 119 (The word of God);
- [9] Psalm 136 (The battle cry of thanksgiving);
- [10] Books of Isaiah, Psalms, and Proverbs;
- [11] Books of Job, Lamentations, and the Minor Prophets

(e) The result of this statistical investigation shows that the Gen. 1:1-2:3 passage **must be classified and read as historical narrative** with a probability of 0.9999. This account of creation is not to be taken as poetry, as a metaphor, or as an allegory. It is to be understood that God Created the universe and the earth and everything that is in them in six literal days.

(3) The **actual methods scientists use** for dating the age of the earth are called “**radiometric**” or “**radioisotope**” dating of rocks and meteorites, and they are based on something called “**radioactive decay.**”

(a) These methods claim to use “**Nature’s clock**” which began ticking when radioactive **isotopes** were sealed inside of newly formed crystallized **igneous** rocks.

- [1] **Isotopes** (from the Greek roots, *isos* and *topos*, meaning “same place”) are elements that are chemically similar and have the same space on the periodic table of elements. For example: carbon has 6 protons and 6 neutrons in its nucleus; the 6 protons give carbon an **atomic number** of 6, and the 6 protons with its 6 neutrons give it an **atomic mass** of 12. This element is called Carbon (C-12). Carbon-13 has an extra neutron, and Carbon-14 has two extra neutrons. These **isotopes** are also sometimes written as ^{12}C , ^{13}C , and ^{14}C . ^{14}C is unstable and decays to ^{14}N (Nitrogen 14).
- [2] **Igneous rocks** (from the word *ignite*) are formed when molten material cools; this molten material is called **magma** while it is underground and it becomes **lava** if it reaches the earth’s surface.
- [3] **Meteorites** are small particles of matter in our solar system that fall to earth and reach its surface without being completely vaporized.
- [4] **Radioactive decay** is the process whereby a **radioactive isotope** (called the **parent atom**) emits radiation and particles from within its nucleus (the core of an atom) and becomes a different isotope (a **daughter atom**) which is sometimes an **entirely different element**.

[5] **Nuclear half-life** is the **amount of time** it takes for 50% of a quantity of radioactive material to degenerate or “**decay**,” radiating away energy and particles and be transformed into another isotope or element.

(b) **Some examples** of this **radioactive decay** include the following:

[1] Potassium K-40 + Electron \rightarrow Argon Ar-40 + Gamma (γ) ray {photon}

[2] Potassium K-40 \rightarrow Calcium Ca-40 + Beta (β) emission {a neutron in the nucleus spontaneously converts to a proton plus an electron}

[3] Mercury Hg-190 \rightarrow Gold Au-190 (However, this rare form of mercury is even more valuable than the few atoms of gold formed.)

[4] Uranium U-238 \rightarrow Lead Pb-206 + 8α (alpha particles: including 2 neutrons and 2 protons) + 6β

[5] Uranium U-235 \rightarrow Lead Pb-207 + 7α + 4β

[6] Carbon C-14 \rightarrow Nitrogen N-14 + Beta emission

(c) **Radioisotope dating** measures **the time required** for a quantity of resultant “**daughter**” atoms (different isotopes or totally different elements) to be produced from the **decay** of some radioactive “**parent atoms**” found in igneous rocks.

(d) **Radioactive decay** is measured by its “**nuclear half-life**.” An instrument called a **mass spectrometer** allows scientists to actually separate and count charged molecules, atoms, and isotopes on the basis of their weight and mass.

(e) Scientists who use radiometric or radioisotope dating use a special graph called an **isochron** (meaning “equal time”). This **graphic method** attempts to establish a means of **extrapolating back in time** to the origin of a particular rock sample. The hope is that several problem issues can be addressed:

[1] First, were there any **daughter atoms** present in the rock when it first crystallized from magma before any **parent atoms** had decayed?

[2] Second, has the sample remained a **closed system** with no atoms entering or leaving the sample during its entire history?

[3] Third, can a **statistical average** for the age of a rock sample be determined by using several radioisotope measurements?

(f) These assumptions **cannot be tested scientifically** because conditions at the formation of the earth **cannot be known** but must be assumed. However, the **greatest assumption** of this method is that the nuclear decay rate or half-life of parent isotopes within rock samples has remained constant since their formation. In fact, there is substantial objective physical evidence that nuclear decay rates were much higher in the distant past than they are today.

(g) It must also be remembered that all of the so-called **long term time “clocks,”** (radiometric dating methods: #1-#5 page 33, b) are good only for the age of the **minerals in the rock strata**, not for the fossils found in them.

(h) The **most familiar radiometric dating method** is that of **carbon-14**. It is different from the long term dating methods because its half-life is only **5730 years**, not millions or billions of years. Carbon-14 (^{14}C) is formed in the upper atmosphere by cosmic rays impacting Nitrogen-14 (^{14}N) and converting it to ^{14}C , which is radioactive, unstable, and decays back into ^{14}N . Therefore, ordinary Carbon (^{12}C) and some radioactive Carbon (^{14}C) is found in the atmosphere in the form of carbon dioxide (CO_2).

(i) **Carbon-14 dating** is usually used for dating the remains of once living plants and animals. However, once again certain assumptions have to be made:

[1] It is assumed that the **ratio of ^{14}C to ^{12}C** in the atmosphere has always been the same (1 to 1 trillion), that is, it **has reached equilibrium** on a global basis. However, current research seems to show that the amount of that **^{14}C is increasing** on a global basis and the **^{14}C to ^{12}C ratio** has not yet reached equilibrium.

[2] This **carbon ratio** found in carbon dioxide (CO_2) in the air is taken up by plants and cycled through animals and people so that **this constant ratio** is maintained in all living organisms until death.

[3] It is assumed that **all living systems** are in equilibrium, maintaining this standard ^{14}C to ^{12}C ratio, at the time any of these organisms die.

[4] It is assumed that the **radioactive decay rate** of ^{14}C back into to ^{14}N has also been **constant in the past**; therefore, producing an accurate time clock for fossil remains of plants, animals, and man.

(j) All of the preceding assumptions demand a **uniformitarian past history** for earth. However, Genesis 6-9 gives the history of a **cataclysmic global flood** some 4500 years ago. Three major problems arise for the ^{14}C dating method:

[1] A **worldwide flood** would have **upset the earth's carbon balance**. Lush vegetation in the pre-flood era, indicated by the coal, gas and oil deposits found worldwide, would produce organisms, living at that time, which had very low ^{14}C to ^{12}C ratios. Their fossil remains would now contain virtually no ^{14}C and appear much older than they really are.

[2] Similarly, the **great volcanic activity** of a universal flood would produce tremendous amounts of CO_2 . This again would affect the dates of fossils, making them appear much older than the are.

[3] The **earth's magnetic field** affects the amount of cosmic rays entering our atmosphere and consequently the amount of ^{14}C being produced. Since earth's magnetic field is decreasing, more ^{14}C is being formed now than at any time in the past. This would make any pre flood fossils appear much older than they really are.

(k) The Carbon-14 radiometric dating method seems to correlate well back to the time of earliest recorded history, about the time of the universal flood, 4358 years ago (using a literal Biblical date for the flood of 2348 BC). However, any dates prior to this time cannot be historically verified.

(4) There are many **non-radiometric dating methods** which all give much shorter ages for the formation of the earth.

(a) The Uranium Leaching Method:

[1] By computing the **amount of uranium that is removed** from the earth's crust and deposited in the oceans at the present rate, one achieves an age for the earth which is measured in **thousands of years**.

[2] Depending on the particular form of uranium dating used and the amount of uranium already present in the ocean (this is an assumption), the age of the earth can be calculated to be anywhere from 500,000 years down to as low as **10,000 years**, but not billions of years old.

(b) The Moon Recession from the Earth Method:

[1] The earth and the moon are **very different structurally** and **chemically** and do not appear to have ever been part of the same material in their formation.

[2] It has been established that the **moon is moving away from the earth** at a measurable rate. When this rate is used to calculate how long ago the two would have been in contact, the result yields a maximum figure of 57,000,000 years. This assumes that earth and the moon were once together, and since then the moon's recession has always been constant. This is far short of the 4.5 billion years evolutionists claim for the age of the earth itself. Note also that evolutionists claim that life began on earth about 1.8 billion years ago!

(c) The Meteoric Dust Method:

[1] Computations based on the amount of **meteoric dust deposited yearly** on earth show that **all the nickel and iron** in nearly the entire crust of the earth, down to a depth of about ten mile possibly formed by erosional and mixing processes, would have been **deposited from meteoric origins** over a period of 4.5 billion years (assuming none of the nickel and iron was there to begin with).

- [2] **No geologist believes** that more than a small portion of the crustal nickel and iron came from meteoric dust. Using the uniformitarian model, the age of the earth is thus reduced to millions of years.
- [3] If the meteoric dust settled on the surface of the earth over 4.5 billion years ago, then there would be a **layer of meteoric dust as topsoil** some 54 to 182 feet thick covering the entire surface of the earth and even the moon.
- [4] However, there is only about **seven inches of topsoil** on average worldwide and virtually none on the surface of the moon. Even if the earth was 5,000,000 years old, the topsoil should have at least two inches of accumulated meteoric dust and it has none; neither has the moon.
- [5] In fact, if we assume that topsoil is laid down on the earth at a rate of approximately **one inch per 1,000 years**, then the age of the earth is reduced to **7,000 years or less**.

(d) Salinity of the Ocean Method:

- [1] **Assuming** that there was **no salt at all in the oceans** of the world at sometime in the distant past, then it is possible to determine a maximum age for the oceans based on the **measured quantities of “sea salt”** (sodium chloride, chemical designation NaCl) or its constituent elements, sodium and chlorine, and **their rates of increase** existing today.
- [2] Using a **proportional formula** for the **sodium increase** in the oceans annually to the sodium increase in the annual river run off to the seas, a maximum age for the oceans of 50,000,000 years can be determined. Using chlorine in the same formula yields an age of 90,000,000 years.
- [3] Even though these estimates may vary because the salt carried into the oceans might (i) remain there, (ii) cycle into the atmosphere and be precipitated again and again, (iii) be in rock salt and salt water in the strata; nevertheless, the estimated age of the oceans is still no more than 200,000,000 years. This figure is far short, **less than 5%**, of the 4.5 billion years evolutionists claim for the age of the earth and also short of the 1.8 billion years claimed for the first marine life on the planet.
- [4] Modern marine biologists and oceanographers are convinced that the oceans have always been nearly as saline as they are at present, even though they are continuing to become more saline every year. This process therefore must be of recent origin, probably less than 5000 years. Five thousand years ago there would have been only 1/10,000th as much sodium in the oceans as now.

(e) Helium Method:

- [1] Calculating strictly from the exposed rock on the earth's surface, all the helium presently in the atmosphere would have been produced in 2 million years or less, possibly as few as 6 thousand years!

[2] This assumes that there was no helium in the beginning, an almost certain impossibility.

(f) Volcanic Juvenile Water Method:

[1] At least a cubic mile of water is added annually to the waters of the oceans of the world through “juvenile waters” produced by volcanic activity.

[2] Based on just the 500 or so volcanoes now active on planet earth, all the water in all the oceans of the world have been supplied by these volcanoes in just 315 to 340 million years, assuming there was no water in the oceans to begin with.

[3] However, since there were many times this number of active volcanoes in the recent geological past, this number is far too high.

(g) Volcanic Rock Production Method:

[1] Land is formed by volcanic flow at a fantastic rate. One example of this is the Columbia Plateau which is 5,000 feet thick and covers 200,000 square miles which was produced from one volcano.

[2] Assuming the entire crust of the earth was produced by volcanic activity, and using a minimum average figure of 1000 active volcanoes, the entire earth’s crust would have been formed in less than 20 million years.

[3] Scientists credit only a small amount of earth’s crust to volcanic activity, thus reducing this figure greatly.

(h) Decay of the Earth’s Magnetic Field Method:

[1] There are many theories regarding the earth’s magnetic field and its magnetic poles.

[2] The main magnetic field is generated by turbulent currents deep within the molten mass of iron in the earth’s outer core.

[3] Many scientists believe with good evidence that the magnetic pole wanders, but they question from where to where and why does it move?

[4] Some scientists believe that the polarity of the earth has in the distant past reversed (north for south and south for north) and will reverse again someday in the future. They believe that such reversals have occurred hundreds of times in the distant past. Such a reversal has never occurred in human history.

[5] Historic records show that earth’s magnetic field is currently decaying at a half-life rate of 1465(±165) years, and at its current rate will be as weak as it has ever been by the year AD 3991. At that time earth’s magnetic field may reverse or it may cease to exist, no one knows for sure! At this decay rate earth’s magnetic field could not be reasonably more than 20,000 years old.

- [6] The **earth's magnetic field** is now about 0.58 gauss, on its surface. If we use the 1465 year estimated half-life decay rate of earth's magnetic field, then 60,065 years ago this magnetic field would have been 1.275×10^{12} gauss, a magnetic field as great as **that of a neutron star!**
Note: A **gauss** is a **cgs unit** (centimeter-gram-second) of magnetic field.
- [7] Even if we use only the magnetic field in earth's core, now 25 gauss, then 52,740 years ago the core would still have been 1.718×10^{12} gauss, the **magnetic field of a neutron star**. It is believed that the magnetic field at the surface of a neutron star ranges from 10^{12} to 10^{13} gauss.
- [8] While many evolutionists believe that the magnetic field of the earth has **reversed hundreds of times** in the past and that the most recent reversal occurred 780,000 years ago, the strength of such a magnetic field would have made life on earth impossible 20,000 years ago let alone 780,000 years ago.
- [9] Dr. Russell Humphreys has presented a model which satisfies the magnetic field dilemma. There is evidence of a **very rapid magnetic field reversal event** on earth which took only about 15 days, the time for a pool of molten lava to cool. He suggests that this occurred within the now-hardened basalt rock toward the end of the universal flood year.
(Gen. 8:1-13)
- [10] Dr. Humphrey shows how the **magnetic field's intensity** varies with time, and how it now has a measured half-life decay rate of 1400+ years but a half-life of the **field energy** of only 700 years.
- [11] He believes that this magnetic field was apparently preceded by a series of rapid reversals at the time of the Flood, associated with the earth's plate movement and the breaking up of the **"fountains of the great deep"** (Genesis 7:11). Following the Flood there would have been a lengthy period during which this magnetic field fluctuated, eventually settling back down to the current measured half-life decay rate.
- [12] This model fits well with the creation of earth and the subsequent Flood. God apparently created an **"electrical field"** which formed a **protective shield for the world**, deflecting harmful cosmic radiation back into space; this creative work was **"very good"** (Gen.1:1-10). The decay of the magnetic field must date back to the **curse on earth** because of the sin of Adam. (Gen. 3:17; Rom. 8:20-22)
- (i) Tektite Formation Method:
- [1] Tektites **are glass particles formed** when meteorites hit the ground in sand and fuse the sand, splattering these pellets out in all directions.
- [2] **No tektites** have ever been found in any strata prior to the so-called Tertiary period, 12-70 million years ago.

[2] In fact, by any system of dating used they are no more than 1 to 45 million years old, which is only one percent of the supposed age of the earth.

[3] Again these dates are based on the radiometric dating systems we have already studied, making them much too long.

(j) Disintegration of Comets Method:

[1] No-one knows the ultimate **origin of comets**, but they are definitely part of our solar system and they seem to be **disintegrating continually**.

[2] The so-called **comet cloud** which is part of the sun's family will have completely disintegrated within a maximum time of 1 million years.

[3] If all the comets were formed at the time when the solar system was formed, then the solar system including the earth cannot be older than 1 million years.

(k) Erosion of the Continents Method:

[1] **Uniformitarian evolutionists** believe that the present landmass of the continents of earth have been reshaping themselves over the last 3.5 billion years.

[2] The modern landscape of our planet is believed to be the product of millions of years of **erosion**. Once this erosion has occurred, the sediments are carried away by rivers and streams to be deposited in the oceans.

[3] This **eroded sediment** can be measured and it averages about 27.5 billion (2.75×10^{10}) tons per year.

[4] Since the total volume of all the continents above sea level has been measured to be 383 million billion (3.83×10^{17}) tons, then at the present rate of erosion all the continents of earth would be reduced to sea level in 12 to 14 million years.

[5] The actual amount of sediment on the oceans' floor is consistent with what would have entered the oceans after the flood waters receded about 4500 years ago. This is consistent with the Biblical account.

(l) There are many other **short term time clocks** which could be cited, but all of them present evidence in support of the **young earth** creation model.

(m) The **ultimate authority** for the age of the universe and the earth is God. (Gen. 1:1-2:3; Exodus 20:11; 1 Chron. 16:26; Neh. 9:6; Job 9:8; 26:7-10; Psa. 24:1, 2; 78:69; 89:11, 12; 96:5; 102:25, 26; 103:19; 104:2, 5-9, 19, 20; Psa. 115:15, 16; 121:2; 124:8; 134:3; 136:5-8; 146:6; 147:4; Isa. 40:21, 22, Isa. 40:26, 28; 42:5; 44:24; 45:12, 18; 48:13; 51:13; 55:8, 9; Jer. 27:5; 1 Cor. 10:26; Heb. 1:10-12; 2 Peter 3:4-7)

(n) There are things of God which are **unsearchable**.

(Deut. 29:29; Job 5:9; 9:10; 11:7-9; 33:13; 37:5, 14-18; 38:4-6, 19, 20, 33; Psa. 147:5; Isa. 40:12; 28b; 55:8, 9; Jer. 31:37; Jer. 33:22, 25; Rom. 11:33)

(4) **Biblical time and ancient biblical genealogies** present evidence for a young earth.

(a) **Biblical time is counted in terms of days**; it is **not measured** in seconds, minutes or hours.

[1] God designated the “**day**” as **evening and morning, one day**. (Gen. 1:5)

[2] God created the sun, the moon, and the stars “*to govern the day*” (day and night), and “*for signs, and for seasons, and for days, and years.*” (Gen. 1:14-18)

[3] The “**week**” was first recognized by God as the completion of his work of creation. (Gen. 2:1-3)

NOTE: The Hebrew word found here is the ordinal “**seventh**.”

(שִׁבְעִי - shebiy‘iy – meaning: “**seventh**,” as “**on the seventh day**”). The word “**week**” is actually “**seven**.” (שִׁבְעָה - shebua‘ – meaning: “**week**,” as in “**seven**” days, and it is first found in Gen. 29:27, 28)

[4] The word “**day**” in Hebrew is *yom* (יּוֹם). It is the basic biblical unit for counting time. (Gen. 1:5, 8, 13, 14, 16, 18, 19, 23, 31; 2:2, 3)

[5] The word for “day” can mean **more than one twenty-four hour period** of time; however, it never means millions or billions of years!

[6] The “**day of the Lord (Jehovah)**” refers to the **seven year period** of the **future tribulation**. (Joel 1:15; 2:1, 11, 31; 3:14; Malachi 4:5) It may even include the tribulation and the entire millennial reign of Christ, 1,007 plus years. (Obadiah 15-21)

[7] God emphasizes that **He is not limited by time** in 2 Peter 3:8.

[8] However, when the word “day” is **used with a number or a numeral**, it always refers to a twenty-four hour period of time.

[9] The phrase, “*there was evening and there was morning,*” further restricts the meaning of “**day**” to twenty-four hours. (Gen. 1:5ff)

[10] The Sabbath of Israel is based on the six days of creation and the seventh day of God’s rest which followed. The **fourth commandment** would be meaningless if these days were not twenty-four hours. (Exodus 20:8-10; Ex. 31:13-17; Deut. 5:12-14)

[11] Finally, on the fourth day God filled the sky with stars, the sun, and the moon, “*lights in the expanse of the heavens to separate the day from the night,*” making these lights for “*signs, and for seasons, and for days and years.*” (Gen. 1:14) The terms **seasons, days, and years** used together in this passage imply the normal system of time as we reckon it throughout human history.

- (b) **Ancient biblical genealogies** present evidence for a young earth.
- [1] If the genealogies of the Bible are complete, which they seem to be, then the history of mankind is **6014 years**.
 - [2] The dates given for the **genealogy in Genesis 5** are not given based on B.C. but on A.H., meaning *ano homini* or “**the year of man,**” from the creation. There are some variations between the Hebrew *Masoretic Text*, the *Septuagint Text* (LXX), the Greek translation of an ancient Hebrew manuscript, and something called the *Samaritan Text* or the *Samaritan Torah*. We will follow the genealogy based on the *Masoretic Text*.
 - [3] It is interesting to note that **all ten names** from Adam to Noah are Hebrew names, even though Jewish history had not yet begun. It seems quite possible that the **original language of mankind** from Adam to the time of the tower of Babel in Genesis 11 was Hebrew.
 - [4] The genealogy is complete and **there are no gaps** as some have suggested to accommodate the long ages of man required by the evolutionary model. The Hebrew text uses the word *begat*, which does not necessarily always mean a direct father/son relationship. It could also refer to grandfather, great grandfather, ancestor, etc. However, the text also gives the number of years before and after the birth of the **seed-son** for the next generation in the line of the Messiah to come. This language precludes any gaps in the genealogy.
 - [5] As the word “**day**” in Genesis 1:1-2:3 basically has a duration of 24 hours, so the “**year**” in Genesis is used in its normal sense. As to whether the length of these years was 360 days or 365.25 days cannot be determined from the text. These years could not possibly be construed as months because many of the fathers would have given birth to children while they were themselves children; As an example: Seth would have been 8.75 years old when he *begat* Enos (Enosh).
 - [6] Using a **literal chronology**, the time from **Adam to Noah** was 1056 years, **ten generations**. The time from **Adam to the flood** was 1656 years (A.H.) or 2348 B.C.
 - [7] The Bible later confirms these **ten generations** as being historic prior to the flood in 1 Chronicles 1:1-4 and in Luke 3:36-38.
 - [8] Not one of Adam’s descendents in the line of Messiah died in the flood.
 - [9] **Adam** lived to the 243rd year of **Methuselah** and to the 56th year of **Lamech**, the father of **Noah**. This means that all of the information God imparted to Adam was **transmitted directly** to both Methuselah and Lamech; and they both transmitted this information to Noah. Thus historic continuity was maintained.

- [10] From the first civilization of record after the flood, ancient Sumer, we have **two kings' lists** from archeology that give information concerning chapter 5 in Genesis. The *Sumerian King List*, dated about 2000 B.C., lists ten antediluvian (pre-flood) kings who supposedly reigned for 241,200 years or more than 24,000 years per king. While the number of years are obviously **greatly exaggerated**, it is interesting to note the **longevity** of these kings and the fact that there are **ten kings**. Following the list of these ten kings **the Sumerian text adds** these words, "*and then the flood came.*" The other list is the *Berussos King List* compiled by a 3rd century Babylonian priest who also lists ten kings before the flood. In both lists the flood came with the tenth king just as in the Biblical account in Genesis 5.
- [11] The **divine judgment** by God upon the human race seems to have come in **two parts**. The **first being the flood**, after which there was a sharp drop in age from **Shem** (600 years) to **Arpachshad** (438 years). (Genesis 6-8) The **second judgment** being the **confounding of languages** at the tower of Babel, after which a second sharp drop in age occurred from **Eber** (464 years) to **Peleg** (239 years). (Genesis 10, 11)
- [12] There was great **historic overlap** of the life spans of the so-called **seed-sons** in the line of Messiah. **Adam** lived to the 243rd year of Methuselah, and **Methuselah** lived to the 98th year of Shem, and **Shem** lived to the 150th year of **Abram** and to the 50th year of **Isaac** and possibly to the birth of **Jacob**. **Shem** may even be the illusive **Melchizedek** of Genesis 14:18!

BRIEF GENEALOGY

B.C. (before Christ)

4004 – Creation
 4004 – Adam is created
 3317 – Methuselah is born
 3074 – Adam dies
 2948 – Noah is born
 2446 – Shem is born
 2348 – Methuselah dies
 2348 – Flood
 2247 – Peleg is born
 2008 – Peleg died
 1998 – Noah died
 1996 – Abram is born
 1896 – Isaac is born
 1846 – Shem died
 1836 – Jacob is born
 1821 – Abram died

A.H. (year of man)

0 – Creation
 0 – Adam is created
 687 – Methuselah is born
 930 – Adam dies
 1056 – Noah is born
 1558 – Shem is born
 1656 – Methuselah dies
 1656 - Flood
 1757 – Peleg is born
 1996 – Peleg died
 2006 – Noah died
 2008 – Abram is born
 2108 – Isaac is born
 2158 – Shem died
 2168 – Jacob is born
 2183 – Abram died

6. **Where do the dinosaurs fit in?**

a. The name “**dinosaur**” comes from the Greek *deinos*, meaning “**terrible**,” and *sauros*, meaning “**lizard**.” This name was coined by Sir Richard Owen, a great British anatomist, at a meeting of the Advancement of Science in Plymouth in 1841. Owen believed that these unique reptiles were enormous savage monsters. However, he was not aware that many of these creatures were in fact small.

(1) Obviously the Bible does not use the word **dinosaur** as a translation for any of the creatures God created and made. Therefore, many people believe that there is no mention of these creatures in the Bible. However, the Bible was originally written in Hebrew, Aramaic, and Greek, and translated into other languages long before 1841.

(2) If God created the heavens and the earth in **six literal days** as the Bible states (Gen. 1:1-2:3), then **these creatures** must be accounted for by the plain reading of the text. In other words, these creatures must be part of God’s creative work on the **fifth day** in Genesis 1:20-23, included in the words “**the great sea monsters**,” and on the **sixth day** in Genesis 1:24, 25, included in the words “**living creatures**” and “**beasts of the earth**.”

(3) The word used in Genesis 1:21 is the Hebrew *tanninim* (תַּנִּינִים - meaning: **sea monster**, great fish, serpent, dragon, or crocodile); and in Genesis 1:21 in the Septuagint this word is the Greek *ketos* (κῆτος - meaning: **sea monster**; cf. Matt. 12:40). *Tanninim*, found 27 times in the Old Testament Hebrew, would include crocodiles, sharks, whales, the *Plesiosaurs*, and the *Kronosaurus queenslandicus*, (Gk. δράκων - “**dragon**;” in Job. 7:12; Psa. 74:13; Isa. 27:1).

(4) Another **giant aquatic creature** is described in (Job 41:1-34). He is called *Leviathan* (לִוְיָתָן - meaning: large serpent, very large aquatic creature, dragon cf. Psa. 74:14; 104:26-30; Isa. 27:1).

(5) The word used for “**beasts**” of the earth in Genesis 1:24, 25 is the Hebrew word *chayah* (חַיָּה - meaning: an animal, a beast; in the widest sense it is applied to beasts of all kinds, even to aquatic creatures; usually it is applied to quadrupeds rather than birds and to wild animals rather than tame animals such as cattle). This term would include all land animals created, such as *Behemoth* (בְּהֵמוֹת - meaning large land quadrupeds, Job 40:15-24; perhaps a *Brachiosaurus*).

(6) All of the “**winged creatures**” were created on **day five**. (Gen. 1:20, 21) The words for “**winged bird**” in the text are “birds of wing” or “birds with wing.” The Hebrew is *oph* (עוֹף – a wing, [collective] birds, fowl) plus *kanaph* (כַּנָּף - a wing). These would include the *Pteranodons* (Isa. 30:6; 14:29).

- (7) The Hebrew word *tannin* or its plural *tanninim* is usually translated in the Bible as “**dragon**” or “**serpent.**” (Psa. 74:13; 91:13; 148:7; Jer. 14:6; 51:34; Mal. 1:3)
- (a) The classic depiction of a dragon is based on a dinosaur called *Baryonyx walkeri*, meaning “heavy claw.” This reptile was 34 ft long and 10 to 13 feet tall, and it weighed two tons.
- (b) The only reference to “**fire breathing dragons**” in the Bible is found in the description of *Leviathan*. (Job 41:18-21)
- (c) The **fiercest** candidate for **dragon-hood** was the mighty *Tyrannosaurus Rex*, meaning “tyrant lizard king,” a land creature measuring up to 40 feet in length, 20 feet tall, and weighing in at an estimated 8 tons.
- (d) The **largest** candidate for **dragon-hood** was the mighty *Brachiosaurus*, meaning “arm reptile,” a suborder of the classification Sauropodomorpha. This giant land creature was **75 feet** in length, **41 feet** tall, and weighed in at about **89 tons!** Another Sauropod, *Diplodocus*, measured more than **88 feet** in length. However, two new Sauropods finds, the *Supersaurus* and the *Ultrasaurus*, with 8-foot-long shoulder blades and 5-foot-long vertebrae may have reached **100 feet** in length! These creatures certainly meet the description of *Behemoth* of Job 40:15-24.
- (e) The **dragons in the seas** most likely refer to the *Plesiosaurs*, marine-dwelling reptiles (Psa. 74:13; Isa. 27:1). These ranged from 7-feet to 46-feet long. *Plesiosaurs* include those with long necks and small heads such as the *Elasmosaurus*, and those with short necks and large heads such as the *Kronosaurus*, possibly the *Leviathan* of Job 41:1-34. (cf. Psa. 74:14; 104:26; 148:7)
- Note:** These would not necessarily have died in the **flood**.
- (f) However, the **largest sea creature** ever is the mighty **blue whale**, which can grow to more than 108 feet in length and weigh nearly 220 tons. These are alive and well in our oceans today!
- (g) It is interesting to note that the largest land animal found today is the **African Bush Elephant**. *Loxodonta Africana*. This creature is over 33-feet long, over 13 feet tall, and weighs in at over 13 tons, heavier than *Tyrannosaurus Rex*.
- (h) Many dinosaurs were actually quite small; in fact, the average size of a “dinosaur” was about the size of a modern sheep. The *Struthiomimus* was about the size of an ostrich, and the *Compsognathus* was about the size of a rooster.

- (8) **Dinosaurs lived alongside men** before the flood.
- (a) This is evidenced by the **human footprints** and dinosaur tracks found side by side in the same “cretaceous” rock.
 - (b) There are hundreds of examples of these found in and around the **Paluxy River** bed near Glen Rose, Texas. These **dinosaur footprints** are not disputed by evolutionists. However, the **human footprints** found crisscrossing the dinosaur tracks are rejected as not being genuine or human because dinosaurs were supposed to have died out 65 to 70 million years before men evolved.
 - (c) A fantastic recent discovery is what appears to be a **sandal-shod human footprint** in five or six hundred million year old “Cambrian” rock at Antelope Springs, Utah. Either man is very old or the rock isn’t! The rock must have formed during or after the flood, 2348 BC.
 - (d) No-one knows how coal and oil were formed since it is not happening anywhere today. It is believed that coal, at least, is the end product of massive quantities of plant remains buried under tremendous pressure and heat over time. Coal is thought to have been formed millions of years before man evolved. Yet, **human skeletal remains** have been found in coal, giving evidence that man was on earth during the time coal was being formed.
 - (e) **Human artifacts** such as chains, metal bowls, nails, and wires have been found embedded in solid rock. These remnants are representative of the antediluvian civilization which was judged in the flood. (Job 22:15-17)
- (9) While there are over **600 different names** for dinosaurs, paleontologists believe that there were only about **50 distinct groups** or “kinds” of dinosaurs. These “kinds” could have **easily fit into the ark** built by Noah. According to the calculations of Drs. Henry Morris and John Whitcomb in their book, *The Genesis Flood*, the total number of different “kinds” of individual vertebrate animals needed on the Ark was less than 35,000. The Ark could hold 83,500 animals on only two of its three floors. Therefore, there was more than enough space to carry representatives of every kind of land-dwelling air-breathing animal, including the dinosaurs.
- (10) Another Bible name for **dinosaur** is “**dragon.**” This term comes from the Greek *drakon* (δράκων – dragon). The word **dragon** is used in the *Septuagint* to describe an actual sea creature, *Leviathan*, in Isa. 27:1; and Job 3:8; 41:1; Psa.74:14; 104:26, and *tanninim*, in Psa. 148:7. In the New Testament it is used as a metaphor for **Satan** in Rev. 12:3ff; 13:2, 4, 11; 16:13; 20:2.

- (11) There are many **dragon myths after the flood**, but are they all myths? The Bible speaks of dragons as **actually existing** and being **contemporary with men**. (Psalm 91:13; Isa. 43:20) There are over 150 dragon stories from around the world in addition to the Biblical record of *Leviathan* and *Behemoth* which we have already seen.
- (a) A Sumerian legend describes how *Ninurta*, the Sun God, killed the dragon **Zu** for *Enlil* in order to retrieve the tablets of the law which **Zu** had stolen from *Enlil*, the land god. (2300 BC)
 - (b) Another Sumerian legend tells of the hero *Gilgamesh* who encountered and slew a huge dragon in the forest and cut off its head as a trophy. (2300 BC)
 - (c) The book of Job in the Bible describes a land dragon, *Behemoth*, made by God (Job 40:15-24), and a sea dragon, *Leviathan* (Job 41:1-34). Job lived around 2000-1800 BC
 - (d) In 1611 BC, the Emperor of China commissioned a **Royal Dragon Feeder**; and one Sung Dynasty emperor kept a young dragon in his palace compound. Some Chinese records describe families as keeping and raising dragons as pets. Some dragons were even used to pull royal chariots.
 - (e) David writes about *Leviathan* (**a sea dragon**) as being in the sea along side of ships in Psalm 104:26. (1000-850 BC)
 - (f) Isaiah writes of a lioness and lion, a viper, and a **flying fiery serpent** as being contemporary in the area of the Negev in Isaiah 30:6. (700 BC)(cf. Isa. 14:29)
 - (g) In the non-canonical book (*Daniel*), *Bel, and the Snake* (cf. Dan. 14:23-28), included in the *Apocrypha*, Daniel is reported to have killed a dragon which King Nebuchadnezzar worshipped in the temple of the god Bel in Babylon. (606-562 BC) The Bible records another episode in which Daniel was thrown into a lion's den by King Darius the Mede because of his prayers to his God without the king's permission around 539-536 BC. (Dan. 6:4-28)
 - (h) A legend much embellished is that of **Saint George** and the dragon. The earliest story tells of Saint George who captured and subsequently killed a dragon in Silene, Libya sometime before AD 300. Saint George was later martyred for his Christian faith by Diocletian in AD 303.
 - (i) **Saint Patrick** is said to have killed several dragons in and around Ireland about AD 450 when he banished all the serpents from the island. He killed *Ollipheist*, a sea dragon, and *Caoranach*, a female dragon.

Saint Patrick was a Christian evangelist and was martyred for his faith in Jesus Christ in AD 495. He is remembered for using the shamrock to teach the Doctrine of the Trinity of God.

- (j) There is an epic poem in the Anglo-Saxon culture called *Beowulf* in which the hero kills a monster named *Grendel* (possibly a dragon) and his mother (also a dragon), and some fifty years later kills a third dragon. (about AD 600)
 - (k) Saint Romain, The Archbishop of Rouen, France, is said to have captured a *Gargouille* (Gargoyle), a monster found in the Seine River. (AD 631-641)
 - (l) Ulysses Aldrovandus describes **dinosaur like animals** as still being alive in his scientific book *Historia Animalium*. In fact, he describes a peasant named Baptsita who killed a dragon which looked like what we call the dinosaur *Tanystropheus*. This encounter was near Bologna, Italy in AD 1572.
 - (m) There have been many historic sightings of dragons from the famous **Loch Ness Monster**, seen by Chalmers in AD 550, up to the **White River Monster**, seen by Bramlett Batman in AD 1937.
 - (n) There are 22 references to **dragons** in the Old Testament translated from the Hebrew *tanninim*. (Deut. 32:33; Neh. 2:13; Job 30:29; Psa. 44:19; 74:13; Psa. 91:13; 148:7; Isa. 13:22; 27:1; 34:13; 35:7; 43:20; 51:9; Jer. 9:11; Jer. 10:22; 14:6; 49:33; 51:34, 37; Ezek. 29:3; Micah 1:8; Mal. 1:3) There are two more found in the *Geneva Bible* making a total of 24, including Lamentations 4:3 and Ezekiel 32:2. These do not include those dragons translated from the Hebrew *Behemoth* (Job 40:15) and *Leviathan*. (Job 3:8; Job 41:1; Psa. 74:14; 104:26; Isa. 27:1)
 - (o) Have you seen any dragons lately? Be on the lookout, you never know!
- (12) There are **records in stone** which depict the existence of man and dinosaurs as living together after the flood.
- (a) There are cave and stone paintings known as **pictographs** and stone carvings known as **petroglyphs** of what appears to be dinosaurs created by American Indians.
 - [1] In the Havasupai Canyon, part of Arizona's Grand Canyon, there is a petroglyph that appears to be a dinosaur, possibly an *Edmontosaurus*, and it is unlike any other known creature.
 - [2] Several petroglyphs found near Middle Mesa at Wupatki National Park near Flagstaff, Arizona depict fire breathing dinosaurs; one of these is called "*Puff the Magic Dragon*."

- [3] In the San Rafael Swell, Utah, there is a petroglyph that appears to be a *Pterosaur*, a flying reptile, supposedly from the Cretaceous period. The Fremont Indians are thought to have inhabited the “Swell” between 700 and 1250 BC.
- [4] The Black Dragon Canyon in the “Swell” is named for the pictograph (painted artwork) which appears to be a large winged reptile having a headcrest.
- [5] At Bridges National Monument in Utah there is a petroglyph which looks like what we use to call a *Brontosaurus* with a long neck and a small head, possibly a *Brachiosaurus*. Many of these petroglyphs are thought to have been created by Native Americans called the Anasazi over 1000 years ago.
- (b) Pictographs and petroglyphs of dinosaurs are found in many places around the world.
- [1] Egyptian art found on a Mesopotamian cylinder, supposedly from around 3300 BC (probably 2200 BC) depicts in stunning realism what appears to be several sauropods.
- [2] A royal Egyptian seal of Thutmose III, dated around 1400 BC (probably 1504-1453 BC) just before the Exodus, depicts a *Sauropterygia*, a type of *Plesiosaur*.
- [3] During the reign of King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon around 600 BC artists produced reliefs of animals on blue-glazed bricks on the structures which were part of the Ishtar Gate. This gate, rediscovered in AD 1887, has alternating rows of lions, fierce bulls, and **long necked dragons** (called *sirrush* in Babylonian). These *sirrush* look like the sauropod dinosaur. Daniel is said to have killed a dragon during the reign of King Nebuchadnezzar in the Apocryphal book, *Bel and the Dragon*.
- [4] In the jungles of Cambodia there are many ornate temples and palaces. In one of these 800 year old temples, Ta Prohm, there are stone statues and reliefs of all sorts of ordinary animals, but there is one column containing an intricate carving of what appears to be a *Stegosaurus*.
- [5] In the Bernifal Cave, one of the caverns in France, there is a petroglyph of a dinosaur fighting a mammoth.
- [6] A pictograph found at Lake Superior Provincial Park in Ontario, Canada looks similar to a *Stegosaurus*.
- (c) There are some 11,000 engraved stones in the museum in Ica, Peru which show many different kinds of dinosaurs: some with men riding on them, others with men fighting with and even killing them.
- [1] These stones range in size from four ounces up to 1000 pounds.
- [2] They were carved over a period of 700 years, from AD 700-1400.

7. Was there a global flood and a Noah's Ark?

- a. The Bible clearly teaches that **there was a global flood** and that God told a **man named Noah** to build an ark (a barge) to deliver his family and all land-dwelling air-breathing creatures from that flood. (Gen. 6:13-8:22)
 - (1) The record of a **worldwide flood** is found in other Old and New Testament passages. (Gen. 9:11, 15, 28; 10:1, 32; 11:10; Job 22:16; Psa. 29:10; Isa. 54:9; Matt. 24:38, 39; Luke 17:27; 2 Peter 2:5; 3:6)
 - (2) The **ark built by Noah** at God's direction is also found in other Bible passages. (Gen. 9:10, 18; Matt. 24:38; Luke 17:27; Heb. 11:7; 1 Peter 3:20)
 - (3) **Noah was a historical character** and is listed as **being the tenth generation** from Adam. (Gen. 4:25-5:32; 1 Chron. 1:4) He lived 950 years and was considered one of the **great Old Testament saints**. (Gen. 7:11; 9:28, 29; Ezek. 14:14, 20)
- b. There are many reasons to accept a global flood:
 - (1) A **literal historical interpretation** of the Bible supports a global flood. (Gen. 6:13, 17; 7:4, 19-23) The Hebrew adjective *kol* (כָּל) meaning "all" is used twice in Genesis 7:19 emphasizing the certainty of the universality of the flood.
 - (2) The **Bible describes the flood** as covering and **prevailing 22.5 feet** (15 cubits) **above all the highest mountains** on earth. (Gen. 7:19, 20; 8:5)
 - (a) This does not mean that **all the mountains** of the earth were necessarily the same height nor that they were then the same height that they are today.
 - (b) However, the ark did float above all of them having a **draught**, displacement below the water, of about 20-22 feet or less when the ark was fully loaded, just about half its height of 45 feet.
 - (c) The ark apparently floated **above all the mountains** for 150 days, five months. (Gen. 7:24)
 - (3) The **fossil record**, which includes **sea shells** being found on the tops of all mountains on earth, supports this fact. (*Exploring the Evidence for Creation*, Henry Morris III, 2009, page 76).
 - (4) The **duration of the Biblical flood** was more than a year, **371 days in all**. Local floods are always seasonal and do not last a year.
 - (5) If the flood were only local rather than global, then no boat would have been needed to deliver Noah and his family, let alone all of the animals. Noah, his

family, and anyone else in the wake of the flood could have simply moved to higher ground. Also, many animals could have migrated to higher ground.

- (6) However, if the flood were local and covered the mountains of Ararat by over 22 feet at its present height of 17,000 feet, then that part of the earth would have had water remaining above it (three miles above sea level) for nine months while the rest of the earth was not flooded at all! The impossibility of this being a local flood can be seen immediately.
- (7) Jesus Christ himself spoke of the **universal flood** as recorded in the gospel records. (Matt. 24:37, 38; Luke 17:26, 28)
- (8) The apostle Peter describes a **universal flood** in the days of Noah, the **building of the ark**, and the **eight people saved** in 1 Peter 3:20 and 2 Peter 2:5; 3:6.
- (9) While there have been many local floods in recorded human history, there is no record of any other global flood.
 - (a) The covenant God made with Noah included the promise that He would never again flood the entire world. (Gen. 8:21; 9:11, 15)
 - (b) According to the best chronologies the flood came in 2348 BC, 1656 years after the creation when Noah was 600 years old; that is 4358 years ago.
- (10) **Hundreds of ancient civilizations** which produced written historical records **document a global flood**. These traditions are found in both the Eastern and Western hemispheres. The common thread in all of these traditions is a **great flood** which covered the entire world and destroyed all but a tiny remnant of people. Many of these traditions, including those of American Indians, tell of the construction of a **great boat (ark)** which delivered a **human remnant** and some **animals** from the destruction of the flood and which finally landed **on the top of a mountain!** Some of these include the following: Ancient Akkadian, Sumerian, and Babylonia cultures, Europe, Asia, Australia, the East Indies, Melanesia, Polynesia, South America, Central America, North America, and East Africa.
- (11) The geological evidence for such a universal flood is overwhelming but is largely ignored or reinterpreted by the evolutionists because it contradicts their belief in an old earth (4.5 billion years) and the slow process of fossilization over millions of years.
- (12) However today, even many in the scientific community have come to accept the reality of a universal flood, much to their consternation, albeit much earlier than the time given for the biblical account and not nearly as cataclysmic.

- (13) The statement, *“all the fountains of the great deep burst open,”* indicates that vast geological disturbances occurred which could not have been produced by a local flood. (Gen. 7:11 with 8:2)
- (14) If the human race, possibly **more than a billion people**, was widely scattered across the face of the earth, a local flood would not have destroyed all mankind and all the living creatures except those delivered by God in the ark. (Gen. 7:19-23)
- (15) If the flood did not destroy all of mankind and all of the living creatures outside the ark, then the covenant God made with Noah was meaningless. (Gen. 6:18; Gen. 9:9-17)
- c. **Was the ark big enough** to accommodate everything God wanted to be saved?
- (1) The description of the ark is given in Genesis 6:14-16. The measurements are given in cubits. There is some difference of opinion regarding the length of a cubit. It is basically the distance from the tip of the middle finger to the back of the elbow, approximately 18 inches (possibly 17.6 inches). This is the standard cubit, not the royal cubit which measured a “cubit and a span” (of the hand), approximately 21 inches. (Ezek. 40:5)
- (2) Using these measurements, the ark was from 440 to 450 feet long by 73 to 75 feet wide by 44 to 45 feet high.
- (3) Thus the interior of the ark had a capacity of 1,500,000 cubic feet and 95,700 square feet of floor space based on a three story configuration.
- (4) It had a weight capacity of 43,000 tons, which would be equivalent to 550 livestock railway cars. The ark could hold about 130,000 animals the size of sheep. The actual number of **“kinds”** of animals would vary from 30,000 to 70,000 depending on the size of the animals. Very large animals, such as the dinosaurs and elephants, would have been represented in the ark by very young and small animals.
- (5) Obviously the watering and feeding of the animals as well as the removal of manure and other waste materials was a significant challenge for Noah and his family. However, God **remembered** (זָכַר - zachar - Hebrew verb - to take special care of, to protect, to deliver) the occupants of the ark according to Genesis 8:1. In other words, God **supernaturally provided** for the animals and Noah and his family throughout the ordeal, just as He had supernaturally brought the animals to Noah in the ark. (Gen. 6:20; 7:9, 15)

- (6) It is reasonable to assume that God used the animal's natural but mysterious physiology known as *hibernation*. **Hibernation**, "winter sleep," and **estivation**, "escape from summer heat and drought" which are known to occur in all vertebrates except birds, which may possess a latent capacity of hibernation.
- (7) There is a detailed presentation of the most sensible solutions to the most difficult problems faced by Noah and his family during their year in the ark in John Woodmorappe's book, *Noah's Ark: A Feasibility Study*. 1996
- d. What was the **population of the earth** prior to the flood?
- (1) In the **antediluvian period** (pre-flood history), man's longevity was much greater than it is today. It is recorded that Adam lived 930 years and Methuselah lived 969 years. The average age of the antediluvians, omitting Enoch who lived 365 years, was 912 years. This implies that God created man to live for 1000 years.
- (2) According to the record in Genesis 5, men had large families and were able to procreate for hundreds of years, **from age 65 to age 500** (Gen. 5:15, 32). Each of these men are said to have had their "seed son" and *other* sons and daughters.
- (3) The longevity of the antediluvians and their procreative powers produced large families and mankind rapidly fulfilled God's command to "***Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth, and subdue it; and rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens, and over every living thing that moves on the earth.***" (Gen. 1:28; 6:1, 11, 12)
- (4) As a **conservative estimate** if each family had **only six children**, and each new **generation** required as much as **ninety years** on average, then according to the growth formula $2(3)^n$ where n represents the number of the generation, there would have been 774.8 million people on earth at the end of the 18th generation, even if none of the previous generations were still living (1620 AH or 2384 BC).
- (a) At the end of the **first generation** there would have been $2(3)^1 = 6$ children.
- (b) At the end of **two generations** there would have been $2(3)^2 = 18$ children.
- (c) At the end of **three generations** there would have been $2(3)^3 = 54$ children.
- (d) At the end of **seventeen generations** there would have been $2(3)^{17} = 258.3$ million children.
- (e) At the end of **eighteen generations** there would have been $2(3)^{18} = 774.8$ million children.

- (f) If only the 17th generation of 258.3 million people were still alive with the 774.8 million children of the 18th generation, then the population of the earth would have been **1.033 billion people**.
- (g) However, since people lived to be over 900 years old, perhaps half of all the people who ever lived during this 1620 years would have still been alive. This would give us **1.162 billion people** on planet earth.
- (h) In addition to this, families may have had **more than 6 children** and a generation may have been **shorter than 90 years**, perhaps **40 years**. These considerations would have increased the final population at the time of the flood still more.
- (5) **Current world population** now stands at 6,922,795,245 as of June 4, 2011 and is increasing at a rate of 1.1% per year. The current growth rate has fallen from a high of 2.2% during the year 1962 to 1963. The **antediluvian population** growth rate used in the previous discussion was less than 1.5%. This growth rate seems to be reasonable considering the antediluvians' longevity and their procreative power.
- (6) Several questions often asked are, "**Who did Cain marry and how did he build a city?** (Gen. 4:16, 17)
- (a) Adam and Eve had Cain as their firstborn son, perhaps when Adam was 65 years old, and then they had Able, probably a short time later. (Gen. 4:1, 2)
- (b) Adam and Eve had *other* sons and daughters. (Gen. 5:4) At age 130 Adam became the father of Seth, the "seed son." (Gen. 5:3)
- (c) If a generation can be considered as short as 40 years, then Cain who would have married one of his sisters and could have had children by age 65. By the time he was 465 years old he would have produced 177,144 descendents in 10 generations with only six children per family. Adam would have been 530 years old at this time, and Seth, Cain's brother, would have been 400 years old.
- (d) Cain certainly would have had the manpower to build a city which he called **Enoch** after the name of his son. He built it in a land called **Nod**, meaning "*wandering.*" (Gen. 4:16, 17)
- (7) The **antediluvian population** would have certainly spread over all the earth in 1656 years. The earth was possibly **one large worldwide continent** before the flood, sometimes called *Pangaea*. (Gen. 1:28; 2 Pet. 2:5; 3:5, 6)

- e. **Was there an “ice age,”** when did it occur, and how long did it last?
- (1) There is **no biblical record** of an ice age per se, but “**ice**” is first mentioned in Job 6:16; 37:10; 38:29, 30. **Cold** and **winter** are first mentioned **after the flood** in Gen. 8:21. **Snow** is first mentioned in Job 24:19; 37:6; 38:22.
 - (2) The Bible thus **infers an ice age** by the presence of ice, snow, and cold, but only after the flood. (Job 38:29, 30) Evolutionists and old earth advocates accept the **reality of an ice age** from the evidence left on the landscapes of earth and from the current glacial ice sheets covering Antarctica, 80% of Greenland, and about 10% of Iceland today. However, they place the date of such a cataclysm at about **10,000 BC**. Many believe that there were multiple ice ages in the far distant past.
 - (3) Many geologists and geophysicists are in agreement that there is strong evidence for the earth originally being one super continent; this original gigantic landmass is known as **Pangaea**. This possibility seems to be confirmed in Genesis 1:9, 10.
 - (a) Evolutionists and old earth advocates place the beginning of **Pangaea** at around 225 million years ago.
 - (b) This continent then gradually broke apart into two continents, **Laurasia** toward the northern hemisphere and **Gondwana** toward the southern hemisphere around 180 million years ago. Eventually these two continents gradually separated by the earth’s **crustal movement** and **continental drift** into the continents we see today. The ocean floor shows indication that these landmasses have been ripped apart. This continental drift is inferred by the statement, “*all the fountains of the great deep burst open...*” (Gen. 7:11)
 - (c) Additional evidence of such a worldwide cataclysm can be seen in the more than **50,000 volcanoes and seamounts** on the earth which are relics of the tremendous tectonic activity during and after the flood.
 - (d) From a biblical perspective this **continental drifting** would have taken place **very rapidly** during the year of the flood and possibly shortly thereafter around 2348 BC, not slowly over 225 million years.
 - (4) From a strictly literal interpretation of the Bible there appears to be **only one ice age**, and that occurred **during the 700 years** after the flood, from **2348 to 1648 BC**.
 - (5) The **reasons** for the **ice age** and the dynamics of the post flood earth are carefully detailed in Michael J. Oard’s book, “*An Ice Age Caused by the Genesis Flood*” and Donald Wesley Patten’s book, “*The Biblical Flood and the Ice Epoch.*”

- (6) According to Genesis 7:11, 12; 8:2, ***“the floodgates (windows) of the heavens were opened, and the rain fell upon the earth for forty days and forty nights.”*** This verse states that **“flood gates (windows) of the heavens”** were holding back **great quantities of water**, probably in addition to the rain that fell for forty days and forty nights.
- (a) The Hebrew word for **flood gates** is **“arubah”** (אֲרוּבָה - meaning: interwoven work, network, lattices (as windows closed with lattices, not with glass).
- (b) Many Biblicists believe that these **“floodgates”** represented a **water vapor canopy** surrounding and protecting the planet from harmful ultraviolet rays during the pre-flood period.
- (c) This **“canopy”** would also produce a **greenhouse effect** upon the surface of the earth, resulting in a nearly constant temperatures and a semitropical worldwide environment, which the fossil evidence shows.
- (d) When this water vapor canopy fell to earth, the **climate would change** dramatically, producing **worldwide continental cooling** as well as **ocean cooling**. Part of the worldwide cooling was due to the vast amounts of volcanic particulate in the atmosphere, limiting (infrared) radiant heat from the sun.
- (7) Additional cooling and climate changes would occur as a result of God making a wind to pass over the earth. (Gen. 8:1) The horizontal temperature changes produced by high mountains and low valleys would cause the winds to increase still more at the surface and at high altitudes.
- (8) As the waters of the flood receded over 221 days until the earth was dry, the **mountains apparently rose**, the **sea bottom fell**, and the **continents shifted** to accommodate the vast amounts of water. (Gen. 8:2, 3, 14; Psa. 104:5-9)
NOTE: Although some scholars believe that Psalm 104:5-9 speaks of the creation, verses #6-9 seem to be speaking of the universal flood of Gen.7:19, 20; 9:11, 15.
- (9) The fact that there is **relatively little sediment** on the ocean bottom gives evidence of a recent drop in the ocean basins (4000 to 5000 years ago as opposed to 225 million years ago or longer).
- (10) After the flood catastrophe **the earth** was left **totally barren**. There were no trees, no plants, no animals, and no birds except those which were with Noah on the Ark.

- (11) All of the air-breathing land-dwelling creatures died in the flood. **All of these animals and all plant life** began to be **fossilized** in the sediments laid down by the flood.
- (12) When the **flood waters receded**, they remained about **40 meters**, (131.2 feet) **higher** than they are today because the **Antarctic and Greenland ice sheets** had not begun to develop.
- (13) Because of the **volcanic activity** and the **turbulence** of the flood waters, the oceans would have been **uniformly warm** after the flood, from pole to pole and from the ocean bottom to sea level.
- (14) However, the **newly-positioned continents** devoid of any vegetation would have **cooled relatively quickly**, especially since the **newly formed stratosphere** would contain vast amounts of volcanic particulate due to the volcanic and tectonic activity during the flood. This **volcanic dust cloud** would have circled the globe and created a **very dark and depressing world** or at least parts of it.
- (15) This **rapid cooling of the continents** provided for the establishment of a snow covering, which in turn lowered the temperatures of the continents still further.
- (16) This global **cooling trend**, which continued for **the next 500 years**, from the time of the flood in 2348 BC to about 1848 BC, produced the vast glaciations in the northern hemisphere we know as the **“ice age.”**
- (17) As the great northern hemisphere **ice sheets began forming**, the **sea levels** began to fall and **continued falling** until they were about 100 meters (328 feet) lower than they were immediately after the flood and about some 60 meters (196.8 feet) below current sea levels. Some ice age theorists believe that the sea levels fell 200 to 450 feet below current sea levels in the middle latitudes during this time.
- (18) The **difference in sea level drops** was due to the **over burdening weight** of the ice sheets on these **northern hemisphere continents** which rebounded some hundred feet or more after the ice sheets began to melt and recede, and this water flowed back into the oceans making the net rise in sea levels only 200 feet. This rising of the continents after the ice sheets receded is called **“continental crust rebound”** or **“isostatic rebound.”** This phenomenon probably occurred in the southern hemisphere on Antarctica as well. In the middle latitudes, where there were no ice sheets formed, the sea levels rose 300 feet. This position is presented by James I. Nienhuis in his book, *“Ice Age Civilizations.”*

(19)The Ice Age ice sheets in the **northern hemisphere** formed in roughly a circular pattern having a **diameter of 5,000 to 5,200 miles**, eventually covering some **17,000,000 square miles** and producing some **6,000,000 cubic miles** of ice! These statistics are given by Donald Wesley Patten in his book, *The Biblical Flood and the Ice Epoch*.

(20)There is disagreement among the best scholars as to the actual depth of these ice sheets. Some believe that the **maximum depth of the ice** was about **1200 meter** (3936 feet). However, others believe that the ice sheets at their highest point may have reached **two or even three miles thick**.

- (a) Don Patton believes that there was some additional **astronomical catastrophe** or several **catastrophes** which produced the **rapid cooling phenomena** of the Ice Age and the **great thickness** of the ice sheets.
- (b) As the Ice Age began, animal populations would have multiplied rapidly and spread worldwide over the **first 500 years** after the flood.
- (c) Many **millions of post-flood animals**, among them the **wooly mammoths**, the **sloths**, and the **saber-tooth tigers**, would have been caught in this **quick freeze** and have remained in that **permafrost state** to this day. Many of these animals have been found **frozen** and **fossilized intact** with uneaten food still in their mouths.
- (d) These animals had to reproduce for some time after the flood for there to be **tens of millions** of them. So this **rapid cooling and quick freeze**, if it happened, must have occurred some 500 years after the flood.
- (e) Not all researchers believe in the “**quick freeze extinction**” of these Ice Age animals. Michael Oard, in his book *Frozen in Time-Wooly Mammoths, The Ice Age, and The Biblical Key to Their Secrets*, gives reasons for their extinction as a combination of several factors including the following:
 - [1] Gigantic **dust storms**, created by the **strong cold winds during deglaciation** as the Ice Age wound down, trapped animals, suffocated, and buried them in silt where they stood.
 - [2] As the **ground grew colder**, the **permafrost layer rose up** to the level of these animal carcasses rather quickly and formed around them, preserving the animals intact with food in their mouths and stomach contents still undigested.
 - [3] The **freezing of these carcasses** could have taken several days or longer, allowing the upper part of the animal to begin decaying while preserving the lower portion, even leaving stomach contents only partially decayed.
 - [4] **Climate change**, producing **giant dust storms** and **severe drought** towards the end of the Ice Age, was probably the main cause of the mass extinctions of many larger mammals. These fossil remains are found on many parts of the continents in the Northern Hemisphere. **Drought** was most likely the main cause of extinctions in the Southern Hemisphere.

(21) The drop in sea levels **during the first 500 years** of the Ice Age exposed some **25,000,000 square miles** of ocean bottom, **joining many of the continents** with **land bridges**, such as the Bearing Strait land bridge, the English Channel and Irish Channel land bridges. These land bridges allowed for the both men and animals to traverse the world more easily during that time.

(22) By the **end of the Ice Age**, some **200 years later** (1648 BC), the seas reclaimed all of this land and more. This seems to explain why many **megalithic structures** built after the flood (2150 to 1850 BC) are now submerged in 100 to 300 feet of water off the coasts of many continents worldwide:

- (a) The Kingdom of **Kurmari Kandam**, now submerged on the shallow seafloor off the coast of extreme southeastern India.
- (b) **Ancient Dwarka**, a city of **the Indus-Sarasvati civilization**, now submerged in 70 to 300 feet of water just off the west coast of modern-day Dwarka in India. It is believed by Hindus to be the ancient golden city of their god-man, Lord Krishna.
- (c) There are **submerged megalithic structures** found off the southwestern **Ryuku** islands of Japan near Okinawa, which are very similar in style and function to those found on the current shore.
- (d) There are five **precisely cut multi-tiered levels** of submerged mudstone-rocks, four hundred feet long and forty feet tall, off the coast of southwest **Japan**, called the **Yonaguni complex**.
- (e) **Submerged temples, stone-circles, ancient roads, walls, and megaliths** have been found off the northeast coast of **Malta at Sliema** in the Mediterranean Sea. The area covered is about one-thousand feet by two-hundred feet.
- (f) There are **extensive megalithic structures** on the seafloor off the coast of **Egypt** at Alexandria in the **Bay of Abu Kir**. Among these ruins are two small sphinx's plus other statues!
- (g) There are **submerged megalithic walls** hundreds of feet long, made of hundreds of hewn limestone blocks of the same size (eight feet by eight feet by four feet), on an underwater ridge, **three miles northeast of Alexandria** in the Mediterranean Sea.

f. When was the construction of the tower of Babel begun?

- (1) As the **Ice Age began** after the flood, men again began to multiply but did not immediately **"fill the earth,"** as God had commanded. (Gen. 9:1, 7) In fact, these **post flood peoples** very quickly began to serve themselves rather than God, and they **disobeyed God's command**. (Gen. 11:1-6) **Even Ham**, the son of Noah, is recounted as being disrespectful to his father. (Genesis 9:20-27)

- (2) **God eventually intervened** in approximately 2182 BC, 166 years later, by **confounding men's languages** causing them to scatter "*over the face of the whole earth.*" (Gen. 11:7-9)
- (3) In order to date the time when this event took place, "*the days when the earth was divided,*" the dates of Peleg's life must be considered. (Gen. 10:25)
- (4) The Hebrew name Peleg (פֶּלֶג) means "division, flowing, fluctuating, and bubbling up." Some Biblical scholars associate **the days of Peleg** with the "**continental drift**" which separated the continents into their present locations. However, the biblical context seems to more closely associate the days of Peleg with the confounding of languages than with any inferred connection to the continental drift. (Gen. 10:25, 32; 11:8, 9)
- (5) **Peleg** was the **fifth generation from Shem** after the flood, and therefore was born in 2247 BC and died in 2008 BC, 239 years later. (Gen. 10:25; 11:18, 19)
- (6) **Nimrod**, probably born about 35 or 40 years after the flood in 2313 or 2308 BC, was the **third generation from Ham** but would have been a contemporary of Peleg. Nimrod likely lived 350 years (to 1963 BC) or 400 year (to 1913 BC). Nimrod is said to have been the **founder of the kingdom of Babylon** around 2182 BC, when he was 126 or 131 years old. Babylon was the location where the tower of Babel was begun and where the language of men was "**confounded.**" (בָּלַל - balal - Hebrew verb, meaning: to pour over, to pour together, to mix, to confound, as to confound speech) (Gen. 10:9-11; 11:2-4, 9)

g. Can the post-diluvium population growth be estimated?

- (1) When considering the **post-flood population growth**, we begin with **three families**: 1. Ham and his wife, 2. Shem and his wife, and 3. Japheth and his wife.
- (2) It is quite probable that **each family had (8) children**, since the average number of sons alone in Genesis 10:2-11:27 is **(5.4) sons per family**. If each family had at least (3) daughters also, which is likely, then (8) children per family seems reasonable.
- (3) There are **(5) generations inclusive from Shem to Peleg**, over a period of 99 years, from the birth of Arphachshad in 2346 BC to the birth of Peleg in 2247 BC. **Ninty-nine years** divided by **(5) generations** gives an average of **19.8 years** per generation. The **mathematical formula** for this population growth is $6(4)^n$, where (n) equals the number of generations.

- (4) In as few as **five generations**, about 100 years after the flood in the time of Peleg, there could have been over **8,000 total people on earth**, beginning with only (3) families having (8) children each.
- (5) Since **Peleg lived 239 years** (2247BC to 2008BC), he would have lived through **four more generations**, through the time of Terah, who was born in 2126BC.
- (6) If he was about 65 years old when Nimrod began building the **tower of Babel** in 2182BC, there could have been between **132,000 and 525,000 people on earth**.

h. What happened after the confounding of languages at Babel?

- (1) **Men traveled** over the **whole surface of the earth** from 2182 BC to about the time of Abraham's death in 1821 BC (a period of **some 361 years**).
- (2) During this time the **sea levels continued to drop** 200 to 400 feet lower so that **men could cross** from continent to continent **on land bridges**.
- (3) Since **God created man with perfect intelligence**, the **pre-flood civilizations** would have developed **tremendous technologies**, especially since they lived for hundreds of years.
- (4) The **post-flood peoples** would have retained much of the knowledge of the pre-flood technologies. When they traveled to new lands and distant continents, they began using these ancient technologies to **map the world** and **build pyramids** and **monolithic structures**. Possibly the greatest of these is the **Great Pyramid of Giza** in Egypt, probably built around 2132 BC. Some people believe that Job was involved in the building of the **Great Pyramid** and included Biblical truth in its construction.
- (5) However, this author believes that the **Great Pyramid**, other pyramids, and most of the megalithic structures, found on every continent and even submerged off many coastlines, were **dedicated to pagan worship**. This worship, **inspired by fallen angels**, involved multiple **gods and goddesses**, which were often associated with the **constellations** in the heavens. Many ancient civilizations speak of the **"sky gods."** **This worship** may have had its roots in the **pre-flood angelic infiltration** of the human race, which produced an evil **half-angel/half-human race** known as the *Nephilim*. (Gen. 6:1-5; 2 Pet. 2:4, 9; Jude 6)
- (6) The post-flood peoples had great **astronomical and navigational skills** which gave rise to their ability to travel and map the entire world during the early part of the Ice Age, 2200 BC to 1850 BC.

- (7) Many **ancient copies of maps** show the continents of **Greenland and Antarctica** without any ice sheet covering them. This must have been the situation before these continents were covered with ice, as they have been ever since.
- (8) Geological analysis of the **temperature vs. depth** in drill wells indicates that **the polar ice caps**, including the **Arctic Ocean, Greenland**, and the continent of **Antarctica**, began forming at about the same time, approximately 4000 years ago roughly 2000 BC. Since the **Arctic Ocean** was not frozen during the first 200 to 300 years after the flood, **ancient mariners** would have been able to navigate **an ice free Arctic Ocean** between the **Atlantic and Pacific Oceans**.

8. Are there angels or aliens, and where do they fit in?

- a. The Bible expressly speaks about **superhuman creatures** which we call **angels**. These **spirit beings** (Heb. 1:13, 14) were **created by God** as part of the **original creation**, probably even before Genesis 1:1 (Job 38:4-7 with 26:7), but there is no specific mention of angels made in Genesis chapter one. These **spirit beings** may be implied by the word “**hosts**” in Genesis 2:1. This word can signify **heavenly bodies** (stars, planets galaxies, etc., Jer. 8:2), **angelic beings** (Luke 2:13-15a), or even **human beings** (Psa. 136:15). So this passage is not definitive.
- b. However, the Bible is clear that these **spirit beings** were **created** according to a lamentation by Ezekiel. (Ezek. 28:13, 15) This particular being is said to be “***in Eden, the garden of God.***” This Eden was either a prototype in the presence of God, “***the holy mountain of God***” (Ezek. 28:14b) or the actual Eden on earth in Genesis 2:8, 10, 15 with Gen. 3:1-5. This being is called the **anointed cherub** in Ezekiel 28:14, 16). The title **cherub** is used to identify other angels or spirit beings. (Ezek. 1:5ff; 10:5, 14, 15, 20)
- c. In Isaiah 14:12-15 we find the so-called five “**I wills**” of “**heylel**”, Satan. In these passages he is recorded to have said, “***I will raise my throne above the stars of God, and I will sit on the mount of assembly in the recesses of the north.***” These passages seem to imply that God’s “**holy mountain**” is beyond the stars, possibly beyond the North Star, and therefore outside of time and space as we know them. The **angelic host** may well have been created prior to the actual creation of the heavens and the earth. (Gen. 1:1) This angelic creation would have taken place in the “**heaven of heavens,**” (Neh. 9:6) apparently also known as “**the third heaven.**” (2 Cor. 12:2) The actual work of creation was performed by Jesus Christ. (Col. 1:16)
- d. Therefore, there are **spirit beings**, also generally called **angels**; and they are **aliens**, in that they are outside of the normal observation of mankind. They are supernatural beings, but they are not **highly evolved human beings** from distant star systems. They are a **direct creation** by God. Angels **worship God** (Psa. 97:7; Heb. 1:6; Rev. 4:8, 9) and **minister service** to mankind. (Heb. 1:14) These **spirit beings** are often called “**sons of God**” (Gen. 6:2; Job 1:6; 2:1; 38:7), but **they are not God**. (Isa. 43:10-12; 44:6-8; 45:5, 18, 21) **Fallen angels**, those who rebelled against God, are often called **gods, other gods** or **strange gods**, but they are not God. (Levit. 19:4; Judges 2:12, 17, 19; 5:8; 1 Chron. 16:26; 2 Chron. 13:9; Dan. 2:47; Psa. 96:4, 5; 1 Cor. 8:4-6; Gal 4:8)
- e. Although much information is given in the Bible concerning these **spiritual beings**, there is still much we do not know about them. They are called by **many names** in the Bible including the following: messengers, sons of god, watchers, holy ones, the heavenly host, ministering spirits, seraphim, cherubim, living creature

f. There are currently **five additional studies** prepared by Gary Glenney which may be examined concerning the angels. These studies can be found at our Portland Bible Church website, **portlandbiblechurch.com**. They are the following:

- (1) **Doctrine of Angels**
- (2) **The Phenomenon Known as Angels**
- (3) **Doctrine of the Angel of Jehovah**
- (4) **The Works of the Devil**
- (5) **The Nephilim of Genesis 6:1-4**

9. Is Biblical Salvation Unique?

- a. The Bible is quite clear that there is **genuine and exclusive salvation** only in and through the person and work of the Lord Jesus Christ. *“And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven that has been given among men, by which we must be saved.”* (Acts 4:12)
- (1) **Biblical salvation** is the individual’s **deliverance from sins and spiritual death** and **deliverance to spiritual and eternal life**, with **special eternal rewards**, and with a **special resurrection body** in which the saved individual will live in the presence of God and His Christ **in perpetuity**.
- (a) **Sins** include **any wrong doings or acts of disobedience**, as defined by God, committed by any created being, human or angelic. (Rom. 3:10-12, 23)
Sins include **Adam’s original sin**, which was the basis for God’s condemnation of the entire human race (Romans 5:16), and **Eve’s sin**, which was the first sin. (1 Tim. 2:13, 14)
- (b) **Spiritual death** is separation from God in time, human history, and separation from God in eternity in a place called **“the lake of fire, the second death.”** (Rev. 20:10, 14-15; cf. Matt. 25:41, 46; 1 Thess. 1:9)
- (c) **Spiritual life** is the **new quality of life** God gives to a saved individual. This **new life** is a **“new nature”** which makes possible **fellowship with God** in time (Rom. 6:4; 2 Cor. 5:17) and is the **basis for producing good works**. (Eph. 2:10; Titus 2:14)
- (d) **Eternal life** is the **extension of spiritual life** in time translated into the **never-ending life to come** and into the **resurrection body**. (Rom. 2:7; 1 Cor. 15:42-54; Phil. 3:20, 21; Col. 3:4; 1 John 3:2)
- (e) **Special eternal rewards** are given for Christian production at **“the judgment seat of Christ”** when those saved during the **“church age”** receive their resurrection bodies. (Rom. 2:6, 7; 8:18, 19, 23; 1 Cor. 3:10-15; 2 Cor. 5:10; Col. 3:4)
- (f) A **special resurrection body** is created by God to replace the saved person’s mortal body. This new body is **imperishable and immortal**. (1 Cor. 15:51-54; 1 John 3:2)
- (2) The **God of the Bible** is **one in essence** but three in personality and function, a Trinity - God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. Therefore, Christianity is considered to be **monotheistic** not polytheistic. (Matt. 28:19)
- (3) **Biblical salvation is provided by God** through His Son, Jesus Christ, who died on the cross of Calvary **to pay for the sins of the whole world** (1 John 2:1, 2; 2 Cor. 14, 15; 1 Tim. 2:4, 6) **once and for all time**. (Heb. 9:28, 10:10, 12, 14) Jesus Christ is **the God-man savior** who lived a perfectly sinless life, qualifying Him to be a perfect sacrifice for all sins. (Titus 2:13; 2 Pet. 1:1; 1 Cor. 15:3; 2 Cor. 5:21; 1 Pet. 2:24; cf. Isa. 53:4-6, 10-12)

- (4) **Biblical salvation is appropriated by faith** alone, believing in the Lord Jesus Christ, apart from doing any human works. (John 1:12; John 3:16; Acts. 16:31; 1 Cor. 15:1-4; Eph. 2:8, 9; Titus 3:5; 1 John 5:13) **Salvation** thus appropriated is **demonstrated** by producing good works. (Phil. 2:12; James 1:21, 22)
- b. There are currently **five additional studies** prepared by Gary Glenney which may be examined concerning **this unique salvation**. These studies can be found at our Portland Bible Church website, **portlandbiblechirch.com**. They are the following:
- (1) **Doctrine of Salvation**
 - (2) **Eternal Security**
 - (3) **Doctrine of Reconciliation**
 - (4) **Doctrine of Redemption**
 - (5) **The Doctrine of the Gospel**
- c. There are **no other religions or cults** either past or present which **have the unique salvation** provided for by God as taught in the Bible. (Acts 10:43; 1 Tim. 2:3-6) **Several examples** of religions and cults will illustrate that only the **salvation offered by God in the Bible** is free to all who believe, apart from any human merit:
- (1) **Islam** is a religion which **offers a salvation** that may be obtained by a system of **human works** known as the **Five Pillars of the Faith** and **fate**, as determined by Allah.
 - (a) The **God of Islam** is not the God of the Bible but **Allah, the moon god!**
 - [1] **Muslims** contend that Allah is the only god and that he is **unapproachable** by sinful man.
 - [2] **Allah, was a god known to pre-Islamic Arabs** and was **one of many gods** worshipped in Mecca.
 - [3] **Muhammad, the prophet of Islam**, was born in A.D. 570 into a tribe which was devoted to Allah, the moon god. In Arabia **the sun god**, a female deity, was also worshipped. In pre-Islamic times, the sun god and Allah, the moon god, had three daughters, goddesses called the **Daughters of Allah**.
 - [4] **These deities** were atop the **Arabian pantheon**. However, when Muhammad gained control of Mecca, he destroyed the 360 idols in the Kaaba at Mecca, leaving only the **“black stone”** - believed to have come down from heaven, representing Allah.
 - [5] In pre-Islamic times, as today in the Middle East, the **crescent moon** was the **symbol of worship** of the moon god, Allah.
 - [6] Allah is a **god of judgment and wrath** rather than of grace and love.

- (b) The **salvation of a Muslim** can only be hoped for, even if he fulfills the works of the Five Pillars of the Faith.
- [1] According to the Fourth Pillar of the Faith, Muslims **must atone for their own sins** yearly by fasting from sunrise to sunset daily during the entire month of **Romadan**.
 - [2] **Such work** only holds back the judgment of Allah temporarily but **does not guarantee eternal life**.
 - [3] Actually, Allah does not have to grant eternal life to anyone because no man is perfect, but he simply **grants it capriciously** as he chooses.
 - [4] **Eternal life for a Muslim** consists of living in an earthly paradise of gluttony and sexual gratification.
 - [5] **Divine love is missing** in the religion of Islam, and consequently so is human peace and happiness.
- (2) **Hinduism** has evolved over the past five thousand years and is today a synthesis of various religious ideas and influences from throughout India.
- (a) There is **no unique Hindu idea of God**. According to Walter Martin in his book, *The Kingdom of the Cults* (page 353), Hindu beliefs concerning deity include the following:
- [1] **Monism** - all existence is one substance.
 - [2] **Pantheism** - God is in everything as a soul life and everything is a part of god. Most of the Hindu scriptures are Pantheistic.
 - [3] **Animism** - God or gods live in nonhuman things such as trees, rocks, animals, etc.
 - [4] **Polytheism** - belief in a multitude of gods
 - [5] **Henotheism** - the worship of one god among many gods
 - [6] **Monotheism** - belief and worship of only one God
- (b) There are **hundreds of different Hindu sects** with various perceptions of existence and reality. The **three basic classifications** are as follows:
- [1] **Abstract monists** emphasize the philosophical oneness of the universe rather than its religious or theistic ideas. Those involved in **TM**, Transcendental Meditation, would fit into this category.
 - [2] **Vishnuites** believe in and worship **the god Vishnu** as the highest deity. However, they worship Vishnu in many different ways and in many different forms. Those involved in ISKCON, Hare Krishnas, believe that Krishna, their supreme god, is the same as Vishnu.
 - [3] **Shivaites** believe in and worship **the god Shiva** as their highest deity.
- (c) **Salvation** for the Hindu, is the soul **being set free from** the cycle of repeated lives, **reincarnations**, and finally being **united with the supreme eternal presence**.

- [1] **Hindus believe** that all souls are eternal and are accountable for their own actions throughout their lives. **Bad actions** create a **debt, called Karma**, which **must be atoned for** through various systems of Hindu **devotion, mystical insight, discipline**, and **ritualistic sacrifice** through one or more successive lives. These lives or **reincarnations** involve the soul inhabiting successive human or animal bodies or even plant or inanimate objects.
- [2] **This salvation**, if we can use that term, **is totally impersonal** and based **solely on works**. **Escaping the wheel** of reincarnation does not result in a personal relationship and peace with God or a personal resurrected existence.
- (3) **Buddhism** is the **teaching of Siddhartha Gautama**, born in 563 B.C., a Hindu from birth. He was **seeking to reform Hinduism** and was opposed to the multiplied thousands of gods represented by idols. He felt that Hinduism had lost its true essence and that the very idea of a god or gods was keeping people bound to this physical world of Karma and suffering.
- (a) **Buddha** himself **was an atheist** and did not believe in any god.
- [1] He observed the suffering and pain in the world, **became an ascetic**, and began seeking **enlightenment through meditation**.
- [2] He claimed to have found or achieved **“Enlightenment”** and became the **Buddha**, or the **“Enlightened one.”**
- [3] Buddha did not intend to start a new religion and never claimed to be a god.
- [4] However, the very things that the Buddha hated most, gods, idols and their worship, have become **a major part of Buddhism** today; in fact, for many people, **Buddha has become their god**. Buddhism’s many shrines and statues of Buddha have become places of worship.
- [5] The teaching of Buddha, called *dharmā*, includes the **“Four Noble Truths,”** discovered during his enlightenment.
- (b) **Salvation for the Buddhist** is following the **“Four Noble Truths”** and the **“Eightfold Path”** or the **“Middle Way,”** which is an expansion and application of the Fourth Noble Truth, to achieve the state of **Nirvana**.
- [1] When a Buddhist has fulfilled all of these **“Truths”**, he ceases all sensory experiences and obtains universal knowledge.
- [2] Buddha taught that **the goal of human existence** is to free oneself from the law of Karma and to attain the state of Nirvana where there is no desiring and no suffering. This is final peace without awareness of self.
- [3] **Salvation** for the Buddhist is **no longer being reborn** through reincarnation but becoming one with **Nirvana**, a state of **impersonal “nothingness!”**

NOTE: The “**Four Noble Truths**” and the “**Eightfold Path**” are listed in the book, *Fast Facts on False Teachings*, by Ron Carlson and Ed Decker on page 24.

[4] The “**Four Noble Truths**,” achieved through **morality and meditation**, are the following:

1. Life is suffering
2. Suffering is caused by desire
3. The cessation of desire eliminates suffering
4. The stopping of desire comes by following “the Middle Way between the extremes of sensuousness and asceticism.

[5] The “**Eightfold Path**” includes the following:

1. Right View
2. Right Resolve
3. Right Speech
4. Right Action
5. Right Livelihood
6. Right Effort
7. Right Concentration
8. Right Ecstasy

[6] No matter how many so-called “Noble Truths” man can conceive, there is **only one truth** that can set man free from his sinful condition and his need of a savior. Jesus said, “***I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.***” (John 14:6; cf. Jn. 8:32, 36)

[7] Buddhists have **no absolute standard** to determine right conduct nor any **source of motivation** to produce this conduct. “***But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not carry out the desire of the flesh.***” (Gal. 5:16-18) The Apostle Paul made known God’s manifold wisdom which is “***according to the standard of the eternal purpose which He carried out in Christ Jesus our lord.***” (Eph. 3:11; cf. Psa. 115:1-3; 135:5, 6; Isa. 46:9, 10)

(4) **Confucianism** is often called a religion, although it is more properly described as a **philosophy of life**.

(a) **Confucius** was born in 551 B.C. and **never claimed to be god**, nor did he think of himself as the founder of a religion.

[1] While **he recognized that spirit beings existed** and were indeed powerful, causing people to institute religious worship and sacrificial systems; nevertheless, he was more **concerned with the present** than with the **afterlife**.

[2] Confucius was primarily a **teacher of ethics** who **gave good advice** and **set high ideals** of personal integrity.

(b) **His teaching** outlined how to **establish and maintain right relationships** between people in society and within the family. He believed strongly in the solidarity of the family.

[1] The **four fundamental principles** or cardinal virtues of Confucius are: **regulated attitude, right conduct, clear discernment, and self-consciousness**. While these principles seem noble, **without spiritual discernment** and some **absolute standard of values**, these principles can never overcome evil and the sinfulness of man.

[2] However, since Confucius **believed that man was basically good** and needed only to **strive for self-improvement**, he did not recognize the **sinful condition of man**, much less, the **need for a savior or salvation** to atone for such sin.

(5) **Judaism** is the religious system that **developed out of the Old Testament** teaching about God as the creator of all things and the absolute sovereign.

(a) **Judaism**, as a religious system of worship, **is a departure** from the prescribed Old Testament worship of God in some important points.

[1] **Judaism** is the name given to **the beliefs and worship system** of the Israelites sometime after their return from the Babylonian captivity (586-539 B.C.).

[2] It is uncertain when the name **Judaism** first appeared. The name **Jew** was used first in Esther 2:5 around 486 B.C. because **the Israelites** who returned from the Babylonian captivity were **mostly from the tribe of Judah** and some were from the small tribe of Benjamin.

(b) **God's revelation of Himself** to mankind and the **prescribed system of worship** that He required from man for Himself is recorded in the Old Testament.

[1] **God commanded this people**, "*Hear, O Israel! (The) Lord our God, (the) Lord (is) one! And you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might.*" (Deut 6:5, 6; cf. 4:35, 39)

[2] This **worship system is explained and expanded** in detail in the **Mosaic Covenant/Law**. God gave the **administration** of this system to the Levitical priesthood.

[3] This Mosaic Code **gave exacting laws** and **required ritual sacrifices**, and demanded the respectful **observance of the feast days and holy days**.

[4] Almost immediately after the Israelites had received God's prescribed and detailed system of worship, **they began to fall** away from their love for God and **obedience to Him** in their daily lives. However, they continued to practice the rituals and keep the feast days as the means of gaining God's approval.

- [5] This **decline in reverence for God** continued until the final destruction of the temple in 70 A.D.
- [6] Over the centuries the **Israelites lost their understanding** of the meaning of the **sacrifices**, the **coming messianic savior**, and **salvation** itself. (Gen. 3:15; Psa. 2:2; 14:7; 53:6; 106:4; 110:1; Isa. 43:3; 52:7, 10; 53; Isa. 59:16, 17; 61:1, 2a (cf. Luke 4:16-20); 62:11; Zech. 9:9)
- (c) **Judaism broke away** from the Old Testament authority of the priesthood and its administration of the Mosaic Covenant.
- [1] In its place, Judaism looked to the **scribes and Pharisees** and later the **Rabbinic scholars** for leadership.
- [2] Judaism became a **religious legal system** in which **obedience in the performance of the laws**, those found in the Mosaic Code and also those prescribed later in the **Talmud**, was **considered compliance with the will of God**. (Isa. 29:13; cf. Matt. 15:8, 9)
- [3] This compliance (**works of the Law**) began to **replace belief in God for salvation and a coming savior**. (Psa. 119:166, 174; Isa. 19:20; Isa. 62:11; Zech. 9:9)
- [4] **The Lord God desires belief in Himself** (Gen.15:6; Exodus 4:31; Numbers 14:11; 2 Chron. 20:20; Isa. 43:10-13) and **obedience to His voice** more than burnt offerings and sacrifices. (1 Sam. 15:22; Psa. 40:6-8; Psa. 51:16-19; Isa. 1:11-18; Jer. 7:22, 23; Hosea 6:6, 7; Micah 6:6-8)
- [5] **In modern times**, Judaism has **gradually replaced the sacrifices** with the study of primarily the Law of Moses and prayer.
- [6] In Judaism the **idea of salvation** is **not salvation from sin** as in Christianity; but for many Jews, it is **a deliverance** into a future Messianic Age. (Ezek. 37:21-28) If a literal Messiah is discussed, He does not save from sins but is a valiant and wise **leader who will gather Israel** and restore it to its former glory **in the land of Israel** forever.
- [7] Judaism is divided into **basically four major movements** in the United States today: Reformed, Conservative, Orthodox, and Reconstructionist (smaller than the other three). The **Orthodox** and sometimes **Conservative** movements are described as “traditional,” in that they believe that God wrote the first five books of Moses, the Torah. The **Reformed** and **Reconstructionist** and sometimes **Conservative** Movements are described as “liberal” or “modern,” in that they believe that God did not write the Torah. There are many subtle distinctions between these groups.
- [8] **Judaism is monotheistic**, and Jews believes in the God of the Old Testament. However, their worship and lifestyle is based on compliance with the Law of Moses (**works of the Law**) according to the distinctive interpretation within their particular movement of Judaism.

- (6) **Elohim** (a name I am coining from the Hebrew name for God - Elohim) is the system of worship that **God the creator revealed to mankind** in the pages of the Old Testament, which clearly presents who and what He is, His plan for His creation, what He expects man to understand, and how He expects man to respond to Him.
- (a) God created mankind to have fellowship with Him, to serve Him, to worship Him, and to be blessed eternally by Him. (Deut. 6:5ff; 11:1, 13, 22, 26ff.)
- (b) Man was **created with free will** but **chose to disobey God**, His creator.
- [1] God provided everything for man in the Garden of Eden, including a test of man's obedience. *"From any tree of the garden you may eat freely; but from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat from it you shall surely die."* (Gen. 2:17, 18)
- [2] Because of man's disobedience, Adam's **original sin** and all subsequent personal sins throughout human history, God provided in His omniscience a **plan of salvation**, a **savior** for mankind, and **resurrection** after life. (Gen. 3:11, 12, 15, 20)
- (c) God's **plan of salvation**, including **resurrection**, and the **savior** who would accomplish it are described throughout the Old Testament:
- [1] **Savior:**
- [a] Isaiah wrote, *"In order that you may know and believe Me and understand that I am He...I, even I, am the Lord; there is no savior besides Me.* (Isa. 43:10b, 11)
- [b] *"The Lord has bared His holy arm in the sight of all the nations; that all the ends of the earth may see the savior (salvation) of our God."* (Isa. 52:10)
- [c] *"Who has believed our message? And to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed?"* (Isa. 53:1ff)
- [d] *"Lo, your (salvation) savior comes; behold His reward is with Him, and His recompense before Him."* (Isa. 62:11)
- [e] *"So He became their Savior..."* (Isa. 63:8)
- [2] **Salvation:**
- [a] Job states *"He also shall be my salvation."* (Job 13:16a)
- [b] Jacob wrote, *"For thy salvation I wait."* (Gen. 49:18)
- [c] Moses sang, *"The lord is my strength and song, and he has become my salvation."*
- [d] David wrote in the Ark psalm, *"Proclaim good tidings of His salvation from day to day."* (1 Chron. 16:23); *"Save us, O God of our salvation."* (1 Chron. 16:35a)
- [e] Isaiah wrote, *"Behold, God is my salvation, I will trust and not be afraid..."* (Isa. 12:2; cf. Psa. 37:3, 5; Prov. 3:5; 22:19)

[f] Jonah wrote, “*Salvation is from the Lord.*” (Jonah 2:9)

[g] Micah wrote, “*I will wait for the God of my salvation.*” (Micah 7:7)

[3] **Resurrection:**

[a] “*Though He slay me, I will hope in Him.*” (Job 13:15)

[b] “*He will see offspring, He will prolong His days, and the good pleasure of the Lord will prosper in His hand.*” (Isa. 53:10d)

[c] “*Therefore, I will allot Him a portion with the great, and He will divide the booty with the strong.*” (Isa. 53:12 a)

[d] “*And many of those who sleep in the dust of the ground will awake, these to everlasting life, but the others to disgrace and everlasting contempt.*” (Daniel 12:2)

[e] “*But as for you, go your way to the end; then you will enter rest and rise again for your allotted portion at the end of the days.*”
(Dan. 12:13)

[4] The New Testament, and Christianity which is revealed in it, is simply the fulfillment of what God described and predicted in the Old Testament.

[5] **Judaism** is a religion that **distorted the reality of God’s plan** for mankind in terms of its **salvation from sin**, its **need for a savior**, and its **resurrection to an everlasting life**.

(7) **Christianity** is the name given to the belief system held by those who believe that **Jesus Christ is the God-Man-Savior**, the **promised Messiah and Savior of the Old Testament**. This system of beliefs is established in what is called the New Testament of the Bible. (Deut. 6:5ff; Matt. 22:36-40; 2 Cor. 5:19)

(a) Those who believe in Jesus Christ as God the Son and the only savior were **first called Christians** at Antioch in Syria. (Acts 18:22)

(b) The New Testament writers explain the significance of the Old Testament as the basis for the New Testament revelation of **the savior** (Jesus Christ as the **eternal God** and **promised messiah**), the **plan of salvation**, and the **resurrection** from the dead:

[1] **Eternal God:**

[a] Matthew writes, “...and they shall call His name **Immanuel**, which translated means, **God with us**.” (Matt. 1:23; cf. Isa. 7:14)

[b] John writes that Jesus claimed to be **eternal God**. “...Before Abraham was born, **I am**.” (John 8:58)

[c] Jesus said, “*I and the Father are one.*” (John 10:30)

[d] Jesus said again, “*He who has seen Me has seen the Father.*”
(John 14:9b; cf. 7-11)

[2] **Savior:**

[a] Jesus Himself claimed to be the **savior** of the world. “*Today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.*” (Lk. 4:21; Isa. 61:1, 2)

[b] Jesus told Zaccheus, “*Today salvation has come to this house...For the Son of Man has come to seek and **to save** that which was lost.*” (Luke 19:9, 10)

[c] Jesus Himself claimed to be **the Messiah**. “*...I who speak to you am He.*” (John 4:25, 26)

[3] **Salvation:**

[a] The New Testament writers reaffirm that **salvation is by faith alone in Jesus Christ alone**. (Acts 4:12; Eph. 2:8, 9; Titus 3:5-7)

[b] The Apostle Paul explains that the **Old Testament Law** was a **tutor** (schoolmaster) to lead us to **faith in Jesus Christ**. (Gal. 3:24, 25; cf. Gal. 4:1-7)

[c] Paul states that “*through the Law comes the knowledge of sin.*” (Rom. 3:20)

[d] “*...what the Law could not do... God (did): sending His own Son (as an offering) for sin...in order that the requirement of the Law might be fulfilled in us... ”* (Rom. 8:3, 4)

[e] Jesus states that He came **to fulfill the Law and the prophets**. (Matt. 5:17)

[f] **Christian salvation** is based on **faith in Jesus Christ** not on keeping the Law. “*For Christ is **the end** (goal or culmination) of the Law for righteousness to everyone who believes.*” (Rom. 10:4; cf. 1-3)

[g] Paul teaches that **salvation was always by faith in God** apart from works. “*Then he (Abraham) **believed in the Lord** and He reckoned it to him as righteousness*” (Gen. 15:6; cf. Rom. 4:3, 9; Gal. 3:6; James 2:23)

[h] **He** (God the Father) ***saved us, not on the basis of deeds which we have done in righteousness, but according to His mercy, by the washing of regeneration and the renewal of the Holy Spirit, whom He (God the Father) poured out upon us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior,...***” (Titus 3:5-7; cf. Gal. 2:16, 17, 20, 21; Eph. 2:8, 9)

[3] **Resurrection:**

[a] Jesus predicted His own resurrection. (Matt. 26:32)

[b] Jesus claimed to be the very essence of resurrection. “***I am the resurrection and the life;**...*” (John 11:25, 26; cf. 11:24)

[c] Jesus claimed that it was the will of God the Father, “*that every one who beholds the Son, and believes in Him, may have eternal life; and **I Myself will raise him up** on the last day.*” (Jn. 6:40; 5:25, 26)

(c) Christian Salvation is unique to the Bible. Jesus said, “*...salvation is from the Jews.*” (John 4:24) “*They were entrusted with the oracles of God.*” (Rom. 3:2) Therefore, “*how shall we escape if we neglect so great a salvation?*” (Heb.2:3)

10. Is Jesus Christ God?

a. The New Testament of the Bible is quite clear in its declaration that **Jesus Christ is very God!** (John 1:1-3, 9-10, 14, 18; Colossians 1:15-17; 2:9; Hebrews 1:1-3, 8, 9; cf. Isa. 45:6, 7; Gen. 1:1; 2:1-3)

1. There were some cults which taught that Jesus Christ was **not actually human**, but that He was **only a spirit**; however, these were in the minority.

(a) **Gnosticism** had a variety of forms, but essentially held to the belief that Jesus gave **only the appearance of being human**. (Second to the fourth centuries AD.)

(b) **Valentinianism** was the most sophisticated Gnostic view which saw Jesus as an *aeon* (originally meaning: life, being, or emanation) who **appeared to be in human form** but was actually a spirit. He brought enlightenment to the world rather than forgiveness. (AD 100 to 160)

(c) **Marcionism** founded by Marcion, an anti-Semitic heretic in the early church, who taught that Jesus was **only a spiritual entity** sent to earth to give knowledge that would lead to salvation. (AD 110 to 160)

2. However, there are many cults which teach that **Jesus was human but not absolute and eternal God**. (Matt. 16:13, 14)

(a) **Ebionism** taught by a Jewish philosopher named Ebion who believed that Jesus was the Messiah, but He was only human and not God, being born of Joseph and Mary. (First to fourth centuries AD)

(b) **Cerinthianism** taught by Cerinthus who believed that **the Logos descended on the humanity of Jesus** at His baptism and left Him before He died on the cross. (AD 100)

(c) **Dynamic Monarchianism** taught that God is unipersonal (one person) and **Jesus is only a man**. (Second century AD)

(d) **Arianism**, a view held by Arius, a bishop in Alexandria, taught that the *Logos* was a **being created** by the Father. While the *Logos* had some divine aspects, He was **not of the same essence** as the Father. (Fourth century AD)

(e) **Christian Science** teaches that **Jesus is human** but that the **Christ is the divine idea**. Christian Science adherents teach that **Jesus was not and is not eternal**.

(f) **Spiritualism** teaches that Jesus was **nothing more than a medium**, a “mediator,” Therefore, **He was not divine**.

- (g) **The Way International** teaches that **Jesus was human** and He was the Son of God, but **not God the Son**. Jesus Christ **began His existence** when He was conceived. He **was a perfect** (sinless) man because He was conceived by the Holy Spirit. However, **He is not eternal God**.
- (h) **Islam** teaches that Jesus is **one of the greatest prophets** of their over 124,000 prophets. Jesus was considered to be sinless and born of a virgin, but **He is not God nor the Son of God, and God is not Jesus**.
3. Some cults teach that **Jesus Christ had a spiritual nature** as well as a **human nature**, but He was **not absolute and eternal God**.
- (a) **Jehovah's Witnesses** believe that Jesus Christ is the first son that Jehovah brought forth. **Jesus is not Jehovah God**. Jesus had a **pre-human existence** as **Michael the archangel!** At His baptism Jesus was anointed to become the Messiah (the Christ). While Christ was not resurrected in a fleshly body, He was raised as **a mighty immortal spirit son**.
- (b) **Armstrongism** once taught (and is still taught by some Worldwide Church of God offshoots) that while **Jesus Christ was God the Creator**; nevertheless, He was **not quantitatively equal** to God the Father. At His resurrection **Jesus became a divine spirit being**. He and God the Father are two distinct individuals. There is no Trinity, and therefore no Holy Spirit.
- (c) **Mormonism** teaches that Jesus Christ was the **firstborn among the spirit children** of Elohim. By obedience and devotion **He attained the position of Godhood** in His pre-existent state.
- (d) **Eastern Mysticism** teaches that Jesus is one in a long line of **human "masters"** who **realized their own divinity**. Every member of the human race has this **inner divine nature** which is capable of infinite evolution.
- (e) The **Unification Church** teaches that **Jesus Christ was a man**, yet born without original sin. He **became a perfected Adam**, who could restore His bride and form the first family of God (whatever that is!). Jesus lived God's ideal in fullest measure. **Jesus "attained" a kind of deity** but can in no way be called God Himself.
4. The Bible teaches that Jesus Christ is **both true humanity** and **undiminished Deity** in one person forever. This union is called theologically the "**hypostatic union**." The word "hypostatic" comes from the Greek word ὑπόστασις - hypostasis - meaning: substantial nature, essence, actual being, reality. (Heb. 1:3)

- (a) Jesus Christ is clearly a **real historic figure** and is described as such by the famous Jewish historian, **Flavius Josephus** (AD 37-AD 100) in his *Antiquities of the Jews*, book eighteen, chapter 3, verse 3:
- “Now, there was about this time, Jesus, a wise man, if it be lawful to call him a man, for he was a doer of wonderful works, He drew over to him both many of the Jews, and many of the Gentiles. He was [the] Christ; and when Pilate, at the suggestion of the principal men amongst us, had condemned him to the cross, those that loved him at the first did not forsake him, for he appeared to them alive again the third day, as the divine prophets had foretold these and ten thousand other wonderful things concerning him; and the tribe of Christians, so named from him, are not extinct at this day.”*
- (b) The **humanity of Jesus Christ** is clearly taught in the New Testament of the Bible:
- [1] Jesus Christ was **physically born** to the virgin Mary.
(Matt. 1:16, 18, 21-23, 25; cf. Gal. 4:4; Matt. 1:1-16)
 - [2] Jesus was called the **seed of the woman**. (Gen. 3:15)
 - [3] Jesus was called the **seed of Abraham**. (Gen. 22:18; ‘**son of Abraham**’ Matt.1:1)
 - [4] Jesus was called the **seed of Isaac**. (Gen. 21:12)
 - [5] Jesus was called the **seed of Jacob**. (Gen. 35:12)
 - [6] Jesus was called the **son of Judah**. (Matt. 1:2)
 - [7] Jesus was called the **son of David**. (Matt. 1:1)
 - [8] Jesus came into the world **as flesh** and blood. (John 1:14; cf. 1 John 4:2)
 - [9] Jesus is **declared to be a man**. (Rom. 5:15; 1 Tim. 2:5)
 - [10] Jesus is called the **Son of Man**. (some of the 80 references:
Matt. 8:20; 9:6; 11:19; 12:8, 32, 40; 16:27; Matt. 25:31; Mark 9:9)
 - [11] **Jesus died** a literal physical death. (Matt. 12:40; Matt. 16:21; 17:22, 23; John 19:34; cf. Mk. 8:31; Luke 9:22; John 12:32-34; Rom. 14:9)
 - [12] Jesus **rose from the dead** in an actual physical resurrection body.
(Matt. 28:6, 9; John 21:19; Acts 1:3; 1 Cor. 15:3-8)
- (c) The **deity of Jesus Christ** is likewise clearly taught in the New Testament of the Bible (Matt. 16:13-17):
- [1] Jesus was the Word and “***the Word was God***.” (John 1:1)
 - [2] Jesus Christ is described as being **eternal God** in the word ***Immanuel***, meaning: “*God with us*.” (Matt. 1:23; cf. Isa. 7:14)
 - [3] John writes that Jesus claimed to be **eternal God**. “*...Before Abraham was born, I am*.” (John 8:58; cf. Mk. 14:62; Lk. 22:70)
 - [4] Jesus said, “*I and the Father are one*.” (John 10:30, 33)
 - [5] Jesus said, “*...The Father is in Me, and I in the Father*.”
(John 10:38; 14:9, 11)

- [6] Jesus said again, *“He who has seen Me has seen the Father.”*
(John 14:9b; cf. 7-11)
- [7] Jesus is the **(exact) image of the invisible God.** (Col. 1:15; Heb. 1:3, 10; 2 Cor. 4:4b)
- [8] Jesus is the **radiance of the Father’s glory.** (Heb. 1:3a; John 17:5)
- [9] Jesus possessed **all the fullness of deity** in His human body. (Col. 1:19; 2:9)
- [10] Jesus is said to be **the creator of all things.** (John 1:3; 1 Cor. 8:6; Col. 1:16, 17; Heb. 1:2)
- [11] Jesus is called **the great God and Savior.** (Titus 2:13)
- [12] Jesus is **called God** by God the Father (Heb. 1:8)
- [13] Jesus **receiver worship** as God. (Matt. 14:32; 28:17; John 9:38; 21:28; Heb. 1:6)
- [14] Jesus **forgave sins** which only God can do. (Matt. 9:2-8; Luke 5:20-26)
- [15] Jesus was **declared to be deity, “My beloved Son,”** by God the Father. (Matt. 3:17; 17:5)
- [16] Jesus is called the **Son of God** to indicate His position in the Trinity. (Matt. 4:3, 6; 8:29; 14:33; 16:16; 26:63, 64; 27:54)
- [17] Jesus is declared to be the **Son of God** by the Apostle Paul. (Rom. 1:1-4)
- [18] Jesus possesses all the **attributes of deity** as do the other members of the Trinity, the Father and the Holy Spirit (Col. 2:9):
- [a] Jesus is sovereign. (Matt. 28: 18; John 5:27; 6:38; 10:17, 18; Col 2:10)
 - [b] Jesus is righteous. (1 John 2:1)
 - [c] Jesus is just. (John 5:22)
 - [d] Jesus is love. (Titus 3:4)
 - [e] Jesus is eternal life. (John 10:28; 1 John 5:11)
 - [f] Jesus is omniscient. (Rev. 1:8; 22:13)
 - [g] Jesus is omnipotent. (Col. 1:16, 17)
 - [h] Jesus is omnipresent. (John 8:58)
 - [i] Jesus is immutable. (Heb 13:8)
 - [j] Jesus is truth. (John 14:6)

11. Is There Eternal Life and Resurrection with God?

- a. The concept of **some type of life** after physical death seems to be inherent in the minds of men. This writer believes that all men hope for something after this life. Many religions attempt to explain what this life after-death life experience might be like.
 1. Some religions explain the after-life as a place of blessings and rewards, but they do not explain in detail how these are obtained for certain. Examples of these religions are Mormonism, Islam, and Judaism.
 2. Other religions teach that man is reincarnated, reborn again and again into some other life forms based on works done in previous lives, eventually not being reincarnated but merging with the so-called eternal mind or force. Examples of these are the Hindu sects.
 3. Some people, particularly evolutionists, reject the notion of any after-life at all. They choose to believe that this life is all there is and death is terminal; that is, when human beings or any living things die, they cease to exist. This is not a very satisfying mental state! *“The fool has said in his heart, ‘there is no God.’ ”* (Psa. 14:1)
 4. The Bible clearly describes the concept of **eternal life** in both the Old Testament (Psa. 16:11; 41:13; 103:17; 139:24; Isa. 9:6, 7) and the New Testament. (John 17:1-3)
- b. Biblically there are two concepts described by the Greek phrase “ζωή αἰώνιος,” (zoe aionios) - “life eternal” or “life everlasting.” The meaning must be ascertained by context. The Hebrew phrase is “חַיֵּי עוֹלָם” (chayey ’olam) - “life everlasting.” (Daniel 12:2)
 1. **Eternal life** or **life eternal** is the English phrase which describes God as having no beginning or end. (1 John 1:2; 5:20; cf. Rom. 1:20; 16:26) This “eternal life” is part of the divine nature of God as “eternal.” (Gen. 21:33; Deut. 33:27; Psa. 41:13; 90:2; Isa. 40:28; Jer. 10:10; Rom. 1:20; 16:26, 27)
 2. **Everlasting life** or **life everlasting** is the English phrase used to describe life having a beginning but no end. Often the English translation simply uses “eternal life” to translate either idea. This is **the gift of God** given to all who believe in Him. (Daniel 12:2; Matt. 25:46; John 3:15, 16, 36; 5:24; 6:40, 47; John 10:28; Rom. 6:23; 1 John 2:25; 5:11, 13)
- c. There is also a **final judgment** of all unbelievers (Rev. 20:11-13) and an **eternal punishment** away from God in a place called “*the lake of fire,*” also “*the second death.*” (Matt. 25:41, 46; Rev. 20:10, 14, 15; cf. Dan. 12:2; John 5:29)

- d. There is **physical resurrection of the body** clearly taught in the Bible. This resurrection is a complete physical return to life after physical death. (John 11:21-27; Heb. 6:1, 2)
1. The **resurrection body** is similar to the human body in visual appearance but is apparently different in composition. (Matt. 28:9; Luke 24:31, 35-43; John 20:19, 26; Acts 1:9-11)
 - (a) It is an everlasting and indestructible body. (Dan. 12:2, 3; Rev. 20:10; 21:3, 4)
 - (b) It is a body which has mentality and feeling and can interact with God's creation. (Luke 24:30; 41-43; 1 John 3:2)
 - (c) All members of the human race will receive resurrection bodies after this life at their appointed times. (Daniel 12:2; John 11:24; Acts 24:14, 15)
 - (d) All resurrections **precede the judgments** of God. (Psa. 9:8; 96:13; 98:9; Acts 17:31; Rom. 14:10-12; 2 Cor. 5:10; Heb. 6:2; Rev. 20:12-13)
 - (e) The resurrected bodies of the saved will experience blessings, rewards, joy, and **everlasting fellowship with God**, being in His presence. (Psa. 16:11; Isa. 40:10; 62:11; Ezek. 37:21-28; Dan. 12:3; 1 Cor. 3:10-15; Rev. 22:12)
 - (f) The resurrected bodies of the unsaved will experience everlasting torment, both mental and physical, and **everlasting separation from God** in the "lake of fire." (Matt. 25:41, 46; John 5:29; Rev. 20:10-15; 21:8)
 - (g) Resurrection bodies are comparable to the resurrection body of Jesus Christ. (Rom. 6:5; 2 Cor. 5:1-4; John 3:2)
 2. Jesus Christ, the God-man, Messiah, Savior received **the first resurrection body** following His death and burial, after He had accomplished His work of providing salvation for the sins of all mankind; this was **the prototype resurrection** of all those who are to follow. (Psa. 16:10; John 11:25; Rom. 1:4; 1 Cor. 15:20, 23)
 - (a) Because **Jesus Christ was raised from the dead**, the Bible teaches that all members of the human race will be resurrected. (John 5:28, 29; 1 Cor. 15:12-20)
 - (b) As believers in Jesus Christ we live in the **power of His resurrection anticipating our everlasting life** with Him after our physical death. (Phil 3:10, 11; John 6:40, 54; Acts 23:6; 1 Peter 1:3; 1 John 3:3; Rev. 20:4-6)
 - (c) There is also a **resuscitation which is not resurrection** taught in the Bible: Jonah (Jonah 1:15-2:1); Lazarus (Jn. 11:1-43); Paul (Acts 14:19-21)

3. The **keys to understanding resurrection** are found in 1 Corinthians 15:1-58:
 - (a) The resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead is **central to the gospel of salvation**. (1 Cor. 15:1-11)
 - (b) Jesus Christ was **resurrected literally**. (1 Cor. 15:12-19)
 - (c) The resurrection of believers will **occur in stages**. (1 Cor. 15:20-28; cf. Dan. 12:2, 3, 13; 1 Thess. 4:15-17)
 - (d) The resurrection is **not a license** to have selfish motives and sin. (1 Cor. 15:29-34)
 - (e) The resurrection is **taught by nature**. (1 Cor. 15:35-49)
 - (f) The resurrection **will occur quickly**. (1 Cor. 15:50-58)
- e. There are several Doctrinal Studies dealing with Eternal Life and Resurrections which can be found at portlandbiblechurch.com:
 1. Easter
 2. Eternal Security
 3. Prophecies and Fulfillments of God's Resurrections – A Brief
 4. Resurrection Appearances of the Lord Jesus Christ
 5. Resurrections - Battalion Review
 6. Resurrection Body of Jesus Christ
 7. Resuscitation versus Resurrection

12. Is the Bible the final authority in making decisions and moral choices?

- a. The Bible, Genesis through Revelation - 66 books, is the final authority **in all matters** because it is the **inspired word of God** himself. (Rom. 15:4; 2 Peter 1:20, 21)
 1. The Bible is the basis for **all teaching and learning** to equip mankind for every good work. (2 Tim. 3:16)
 2. The Bible is the **written “word of God”** which *“is living (having life) and energizing (enabling)...and is able to discern the thoughts and intentions of the heart.”* (Heb. 4:12)
 3. The Bible, *“the word of truth,”* must be interpreted **accurately and literally**. (2 Tim. 2:15; 2 Pet. 1:20; cf. Matt. 5:17-19; Luke 16:17)
 4. *“The word of the Lord abides (stands) forever”* and **is unique**. (Isa. 40:8; 1 Pet. 1:23-25; cf. Deut. 4:2; 12:32; Prov. 30:5, 6; Rev. 22:18, 19)
 5. Those who believe the Bible is “the word of God” **must live “on every word that proceeds out of the mouth of God.”** (Deut. 6:1-3; 8:3; Matt. 4:4)
 6. The “word of God” is the very **essence of** life for the human souls of those who believe. (Deut. 32:46, 47; Prov. 3:19-22; 4:13, 20-23; 8:35; 13:13, 14; 16:20-22; Prov. 24:14)
 7. The Bible is **true reality** and is **more reliable than anything** that can be experienced or rationalized. (2 Peter 1:19; cf. Col. 2:8)
 8. The “word of God” must be **implanted** in the human soul and then **applied in life** to produce blessings from God. (James 1:21-25; cf. Deut. 4:5, 6; 5:31-33; Col. 3:16, 17, 23, 24)
 9. The “word of God” gives mankind **the knowledge and understanding of who and what God is and what He expects** of men and women. (Col. 1:9-12; cf. Eph. 1:17; 5:17; Phil. 1:9-11)
 10. In the **future kingdom age**, the millennium, *“the knowledge of the Lord”* will fill the earth. (Isa. 11:9; Hab. 2:14)
- b. **God’s design of and desire for His creation is to glorify Himself**. Therefore, the **goal of mankind** should be **to glorify God** in all things.
 1. The entire **created universe** glorifies God. *“The heavens declare the glory of God.”* (Psa. 19:1; Rom. 1:20-23)

2. The **angelic realm** was created to glorify God. (Psa. 148:2; Isa. 6:3; Rev. 4:8-11; 5:12, 13; 7:11, 12)
3. The **beasts of the earth** were created to glorify God. (Isa. 43:20)
4. Mankind was created to glorify God. (Isa. 43:7)
 - a. Man is to glorify God **in his body**. (1 Cor. 6:20)
 - b. Man is to glorify God **with his voice**. (Rom. 15:6)
 - c. Man is to glorify God **from his substance**. (Prov. 3:9; cf. Isa. 43:21, 23; Psa. 102:18)
 - d. Man is to glorify God **in whatever he does**. (1 Cor. 10:31)
 - e. Man is to glorify God **in all things**. (1 Pet. 4:11)
 - f. The **Lord Jesus Christ is glorified in us** who are believers and **we are glorified in Him** at His coming, the second advent. (2 Thess. 1:9-12; cf. John 17:9, 10; Eph. 1:11-14, 18)
 - g. The **tribulation saints** are to give glory to and worship God. (Isa. 45:25; Rev. 14:6, 7)
 - h. **Millennial saints** will glorify God and worship Him. (Isa. 45:23, 24; Isa. 42:10-12; 60:21)
 - i. Even **unbelievers** will ultimately give glory to God. (Isa. 45:23; Rom. 14:11; Phil. 2:10, 11; cf. Rev. 20:11-15)
- c. God designed a **plan of salvation** for His creation which would glorify Himself, anticipating the **fall of Satan** (Ezek. 28:15, 16) and **the fall of man** (Rom. 5:12, 17, 18, 19):
 1. This plan is **generally described** in Colossians 1:13-20 with Romans 8:19-23.
 2. The **salvation of the human race** is provided by the **substitutionary atoning work** of Jesus Christ on the cross of Calvary:
 - a. Jesus Christ **died on the cross** (1 Cor. 2:2; 15:3; cf. 2 Cor. 5:21)
 - b. **For all sins** (Jn. 1:29; 2 Cor. 5:14, 15; 1 Pet. 2:24; cf. Isa. 53:5-12)
 - c. **Once for all time** (Heb. 9:28; 10:10, 12, 14; 1 Peter 3:18)

3. This **salvation is appropriated** by each member of the human race **by faith alone in Jesus Christ alone**. (Acts 16:31) This plan includes three aspects:
 - a. **Appropriation salvation** (Phase #1) is instantaneous at the moment a person believes the gospel and is *born again* into the family of God. (Eph. 2:8, 9)
 - b. **Demonstration salvation** (Phase #2) is the Christian life from the point of belief in the gospel of Jesus Christ until physical death or the rapture. (1 Cor. 15:2; Phil. 2:12)
 - c. **Anticipation salvation** (Phase #3) is the believer's entrance into and existence in the eternal state in a resurrection body in the presence of God. (1 Cor. 3:15; 1 Pet. 1:5)

4. This **salvation** which God has for mankind **is designed to transform** those who believe in Jesus Christ into His image from glory to glory. (2 Cor. 3:18)
 - a. This **transforming process** has to do with the believer's mental attitude being made into the image of Jesus Christ in respect to humility, obedience, and self-sacrifice toward God. (Phil. 2:5-8; cf. Rom. 12:1, 2)
 - b. This **transformation is ongoing** throughout the life of the believer as he or she follows the command to ***“walk in a manner worthy of the calling with which you have been called.”*** (Eph. 4:1-3)

- d. Therefore, the Christian must **make decisions and moral choices** compatible with the **known will of God**, which is contained in the Bible alone. (2 Tim. 3:16, 17; 2 Tim 2:15; 1 John 2:17; cf. 1 Pet. 2:15; 3:17; 4:2, 19) The Christian life is a process of spiritual growth through the **constant intake and application** of the word of God. (James 1:21-25) There are **ten major Imperatives** of the Christian life:
 1. **Believe** - ***“Believe in the Lord Jesus (Christ)...”*** (Acts 16:31; cf. Heb. 11:1-2):
 - a. **Faith** is placing one's **trust** in someone or something, **believing** in someone or something. The Christian **believes in the person and work of Jesus Christ** (the gospel) for eternal salvation. (Acts 16:31; Rom. 5:1, 2; 1 John 5:4)
 - b. The believer in Jesus Christ **puts his trust in the word of God**, the Bible, as divinely inspired and as divine revelation. (2 Cor. 5:7; Heb. 11:6; 1 Pet. 1:5-9)
 - c. The believer **claims the promises** made in the Bible and **rests in their reality (faith-rest)** because of the **faithfulness of God**. (Heb. 4:1-3; James 1:3)

 2. **Pray** - ***“Pray without ceasing...”*** (1 Thess. 5:16-18):
 - a. Prayer is **communication toward God**. (Heb. 4:16)
 - b. Prayer **protocol**:
 1. Prayer is **addressed to God the Father**. (Matt. 6:9; Eph. 5:20; 1 Pet. 1:17)
 2. Prayer is made **in the power of God the Holy Spirit**. (Eph. 6:18)
 3. Prayer is made **in the name of God the Son**, the Lord Jesus Christ. (John 14:13; 15:16; Eph. 5:20)

- c. **Prayer agenda:**
1. **Confess** - When a believer sins **he must confess his sin or sins** to restore his **filling of the Holy Spirit**, and restore his **fellowship with God**. (1 John 1:9; cf. Eph. 5:18)
 2. **Praise** - Praise is to be offered to God. (Psa. 135:1-3; Heb. 13:15; Rev. 19:5)
 3. **Thanksgiving** - Thanksgiving is to be offered to God for all things and in all things. (Psa. 136:1, 26; 1 Thess. 5:18)
 4. **Intercession** - Prayer is to be offered to God on behalf of others. (Eph. 6:18; Col. 4:12)
 5. **Petition** - Prayer is to be offered on behalf of oneself. (2 Cor. 12:8, 9)
3. **Grow** - ***“...grow in grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.”*** (2 Peter 3:18)
- a. **Study the word of God**. Consistent Bible study **produces spiritual growth** in the believer. (Heb. 4:12; 2 Tim. 2:15; 3:16, 17)
 - b. In humility **receive the word implanted**. (James 1:21b)
 - c. ***“Let the word of Christ richly dwell within you.”*** (Col. 3:16)
 - d. Believers have **the very thinking of God** because the Bible is ***“the mind of Christ.”*** (1 Cor. 2:16)
 - e. **Spiritual growth is a process**. (Heb. 5:12-14)
4. **Hope** - ***“...fix your hope completely on the grace to be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ.”*** (1 Pet. 1:13)
- a. We have **the hope of the gospel**. (Col. 1:23)
 - b. We have put on the helmet, **the hope of salvation**. (1 Thess. 5:8)
 - c. We are made heirs according to **the hope of eternal life**. (Titus 1:2)
 - d. We have been called in **one hope of our calling**. (Eph. 4:4)
 - e. We are to know what is **the hope of His calling** of us into the glory of His inheritance among the saints. (Eph. 1:18)
 - f. We have **hope as an anchor** of the soul. (Heb. 6:19)
 - g. We are waiting for **the hope of righteousness**. (Gal. 5:5)
 - h. We have Jesus Christ in us, **the hope of glory**. (Col. 1:27; Rom. 5:2)
 - i. We have **the hope of the resurrection**. (Acts 23:6; 24:15)
 - j. We are to realize **the full assurance of hope** until the end. (Heb. 6:11)
 - k. We are to sanctify Christ by giving a **defense for the hope** that is in us. (1 Pet. 3:15)
 - l. We **have been sealed** until the day of redemption of our bodies. (Eph. 1:13, 14; Eph. 4:30)
 - m. We who believe in the name of the Son of God may **know that we have everlasting life**. Therefore, we are **eternally secure**. (1 Jn. 5:11-13)

5. **Love** – Jesus said, *“You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength”* and *“You shall love your neighbor as yourself.”* (Mk. 12:29-31; cf. Matt. 22:36-40; Luke 10:26, 28; James 2:8; Deut. 6: 4-5; 11:13; Levit. 19:18)
 - a. Our **love for God** (personal love for God) and our **love for our neighbor** (universal love for all mankind) are the two greatest commandments. (Matt. 22:36, 38, 40; Mk. 12:31)
 - b. **We demonstrate that we are disciples** of Jesus Christ if we have **love for one another (fellow believers)**. This is personal love for a few. (John 13:34, 35; 1 John 3:14; 4:20, 21; cf. Gal. 5:14)
 - c. God is characterized by **His absolute love, an attribute of His essence**, His divine nature. *“God is Love.”* (1 John 4:16)
 - d. *“We love because He (God the Father) first loved us.”* (1 John 4:19)
 - e. Love is **the motivation for God’s sending His Son**, to be a propitiation for the sins of the whole world. (1 John 2:2; 4:9, 10, 14; John 3:16, 17)
 - f. Love is the **dominant aspect of the fruit of the Holy Spirit**. (Gal. 5:22; 1 John 4:13)
 - g. Love is almost **synonymous with the filling of the Holy Spirit**. *“The love of Christ controls us.”* (2 Cor. 5:14; cf. Rom. 8:14; Gal. 5:18)
 - h. **Love is being perfected (matured) in us** as we abide in Him. (1 John 4:12, 17)
 - i. Of the three **great Christian virtues** - faith, hope, and love - **love is the greatest**. (1 Cor. 13:13) Paul lists 16 descriptions of love in 1 Cor. 13:4-8. Paul gives many other qualities and out-workings of love in Romans 12:9-21.
 - j. The **greatest divine motivation** for human endeavor is love. *“Greater love has no one than this, that one lay down his life for his friends.”* (John 15:13; John 10:11, 15, 17, 18; 21:15-17; 1 John 3:16)

6. **Walk** – *“As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him.”* (Col. 2:6) The **Christian way of life** is described in the epistles metaphorically by the word, walk.
 - a. *“Walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, to please Him in all respects, bearing fruit in every good work, and increasing in the full knowledge of God.”* (Col. 1:10)
 - b. *“Walk in a manner worthy of the calling with which you have been called,…”* (recognize your personal sense of destiny in the Lord) (Eph. 4:1, 2; 1 Thess. 2:12)
 - c. *“Walk in newness of life.”* (Rom. 6:4)
 - d. **Walk in good works** which God created beforehand. (Eph. 2:10)
 - e. You received instructions as to **how you ought to walk and please God** (just as you actually do walk), that you may excel still more. (1 Thess. 4:1)
 - f. *“Let us walk properly (decently)…”* (Rom. 13:13)

- g. *“Walk no longer just as the Gentiles also walk, in the futility of their mind,...”* (Eph. 4:17-19)
- h. *“Therefore be careful how you walk, not as unwise men, but as wise, making the most of your time, because the days are evil.”* (Eph. 5:15, 16)
- i. *“...walk by (in) the Spirit, and you will not carry out the desire of the flesh.”* (Gal. 5:16; 18, 26; Rom. 8:13, 14)
- j. Believers *“...do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit.”* (Rom. 8:4, 5)
- k. *“...walk in love,...”* (Eph. 5:2; cf. Gal. 5:22; 1 John 2:6)
- l. *“...walk in the light as He Himself is in the light,...”* (1 John 1:7; cf. Isa. 2:5)
- m. *“For we walk by faith and not by sight”-* (2 Cor. 5:7)
- n. *“Walk in wisdom toward those outside, making the most of the opportunity.”* (Col. 4:5)
- o. Believers are to be *“walking in the truth.”* (3 John 3)
- p. Exercise is another metaphor for the Christian life: *“Run in such a way that you may win.”* (1 Cor. 9:24-26)
- q. Believers like athletes must **exercise self-control** and **compete according to the rules**. (2 Cor. 9:25, 27; cf. 2 Tim. 2:5)
- r. *“Be sober (self-disciplined) in all things.”* (2 Tim. 4:5; cf. 1 Thess. 5:6, 8)
- s. *“Fight the good fight of faith;...”* (1 Tim. 6:12a; cf. 2 Tim. 4:7)
- t. The Christian life is also described as taking a stand: *“Having put on the full armor of God.... ‘Stand firm.’”* (Eph. 6:13, 14)
- u. Believers are to *“contend (struggle) earnestly for the faith that was once for all delivered to the saints.”* (Jude 3b)
- v. Believers are to flee from the following situations:
 - 1. *“Flee from youthful lusts.”* (2 Tim 2:22)
 - 2. *“Flee from idolatry.”* (1 Cor. 10:14)
 - 3. *“Flee from fornication.”* (1 Cor. 6:18)
 - 4. *“Flee from all these things.”* (the evils produced by the love for money which is their root cause). (1 Tim. 6:10, 11)
- w. As believers we are to assemble for the teaching of the word of God, *“not forsaking our own assembling together, as is the habit of some but encouraging one another; and all the more, as you see the day drawing near.”* (Heb. 10:25)
- x. Believers are commanded to take the communion elements as a remembrance of Jesus Christ until He comes. *“Do this in remembrance of Me.”* (1 Cor. 11:24, 25)
- y. *“Let us pursue the things which make for peace and the building up (edification) of one another.”* (Rom. 14:19; cf. Rom. 12:18)
- z. *“Respect (consider) what things are right (honorable things) in the sight of all men.”* (Rom. 12:17)

NOTE: See the **Doctrine of Walking** at portlandbiblechurch.com.

7. **Rejoice** – *“Rejoice always;”* (1 Thess. 5:16)
 - a. *“Consider it all joy my brethren, when you encounter various trials.”* (James 1:2)
 - b. *“Rejoice and be glad, for your reward in heaven is great, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.”* (Matt. 5:12a)
 - c. *“...rejoice that your names are recorded in heaven.”* (Luke 10:20)
 - d. Believers are to be *“rejoicing in hope,...”* (Rom. 12:12)
 - e. Believers are to *“rejoice (exalt) in hope of the glory of God.”* (Rom. 5:1, 2)
 - f. *“Rejoice with those who rejoice,...”* (Rom. 12:15)
 - g. *“Rejoice, O Gentiles with His people (Israel).”* (Rom. 15:10)
 - h. *“Finally, my brethren, rejoice in the Lord.”* (Phil 3:1-3)
 - i. *“Rejoice in the Lord, always, again I will say, rejoice.”* (Phil. 4:4)
 - j. Those who believe in Jesus Christ *“greatly rejoice with joy inexpressible and full of glory,”* (1 Pet. 1:8)
 - k. *“...but to the degree that you share the sufferings of Christ, keep on rejoicing; so that also at the revelation of His glory, you may rejoice with exaltation.”* (1 Pet. 4:13)
 - l. In the future the body of Christ, His bride, *“will rejoice and be glad and give glory to Him.”* (Rev. 19:7)
 - m. Israel is commanded in the future at the return of the Lord, *“rejoice and exalt with all your heart, O daughter of Jerusalem!”* (Zeph. 3:14)
 - n. David gives an axiomatic command for his own day and the future 1st and 2nd advents of Jesus Christ when he says, *“This is the day that the Lord has made; Let us rejoice and be glad in it.”* (Psa. 118:24)

8. **Evangelize** - *“do the work of an evangelist,”* (2 Tim. 4:5)
 - a. *“Go into all the world and preach the gospel.”* (Mark 16:15)
 - b. *“Preach the word;”* (2 Tim. 4:2)
 - c. *“How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the gospel.”* (Rom. 10:15; cf. Isa. 52:7)
 - d. Peter states that *“He (Jesus Christ) ordered us to proclaim to all the people, and solemnly to testify that this is the One who has been appointed by God...”* (Acts 10:42, 43)
 - e. Jesus spoke of the day of Pentecost saying, *“and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in Samaria, and even in the remotest part of the earth.”* (Acts 1:8)
 - f. *“...sanctify Christ as Lord in your hearts, always being ready to make a defense to everyone who asks you to give an account for the hope that is in you, yet with gentleness and reverence;”* (1 Pet. 2:15)
 - g. Paul was *“eager to preach the gospel,”* *“the power of God unto salvation to everyone who believes.”* (Rom. 1:15, 16)
 - h. If you have the spiritual gift of evangelist, exercise your gift. (Eph. 4:11)

9. **Disciple** – *“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations,…”* (Matt. 28:19)
 - a. *“And the things which you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses, these entrust to faithful men who will be able to teach others.”* (2 Tim. 2:2)
 - b. If we have love for one another (other believers) we demonstrate that we are disciples of Jesus Christ. (John 13:35)
 - c. Mature believers ought to be teachers of the elemental principles of the oracles of God; because of practice they should have their senses trained to discern good and evil. (Heb. 5:12-14)
 - d. Believers who were taught over a long period of time were called disciples, and at Antioch they were first called Christians. (Acts 11:27)
 - e. *“...discipline yourself for the purpose of godliness.”* (1 Tim. 4:7)

10. **Glorify** – *“...whatever you do, do all to the glory of God.”* (1 Cor. 10:31)
 - a. Believers are to glorify God **in their bodies**. (1 Cor. 6:20)
 - b. Believers are to glorify God **with their voices**. (Rom. 15:6)
 - c. Believers are to glorify God **from their substance**. (Prov. 3:9; cf. Isa. 43:21, 23; Psa. 102:18)
 - d. Believers are to glorify God **when they suffer as Christians**. (1 Pet. 4:16)
 - e. Believers are to glorify God **in whatever they do**. (1 Cor. 10:31)
 - f. Believers are to glorify God **in all things**. (1 Pet. 4:11)
 - g. Believers are to *“worship the Lord their God and serve Him only.”* (Matt. 4:10; Luke 4:8; cf. Deut. 6:13, 14)
 - h. The **Lord Jesus Christ is glorified in us** who are believers and **we are glorified in Him** at His coming, the second advent. (2 Thess. 1:9-12; cf. John 17:9, 10; Eph. 1:11-14, 18; Col. 3:1-4)

- e. The Christian Way of Life can be described theologically as **“Hodology,”** from two Greek words (ὁδος – hodos – meaning: the way, the road, the path and λόγος – meaning: the word, the thing, the matter, the study) (John 14:6)
 1. The Christian Way of Life can be summarized as doing the things which are pleasing to God so as to glorify Him in all things. (Heb. 13:20, 21)
 - a. We are to *“walk in a manner worthy of the Lord to please Him.”* (Col. 1:10)
 - b. Believers are commanded: *“Whatever, then, you eat or drink or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God.”* (1 Cor. 10:31)

 2. The Christian Way of Life is described as a race, *“and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, fixing our eyes on Jesus the author and perfecter of faith...”* (Heb. 12:1, 2) This is the believer’s total occupation with Jesus Christ. (Col. 3:1-3)
 - a. *“The God made the world and all things in it,…”* (Acts 17:24ff)
 - b. *“...in Him we live and move and exist,...”* (Acts 17:28a; cf. Phil. 4:7-9)

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