

An Account of the Origin and Early History of Earth from a Creationist Standpoint

Beginning Assumptions:

1. The Bible gives an accurate account of the origin and early history of the earth.
2. You cannot have creation without having that which is created look older than it really is. For example, the moment God created Adam, he looked 25 years old, even though he was only seconds old. Example, God created trees that were 40 or 60 feet tall. They looked as though they were decades old, but were only moments old. God created stars and galaxies that looked as though they were billions of light years old, but they were only moments old. Jesus created good aged wine that, seconds before, had only been water.
3. Evolution is man's attempt to explain the existence of everything absent God.
4. Evolution is actually intellectually indefensible. How can all of matter have begun with an infinitely dense singularity? How can incredible design and complexity come from random chance? How can mind and personality and morality and purpose come from inert matter? How can mistakes (mutations) improve anything?

A. The Original, Pre-Flood Earth

1. The original earth God created had no sin, no sinners, no death, no fossils, no signs of a global flood, no layers of sediment, no "geologic ages." It was uniformly "good." (Genesis 1:31)
2. The time recorded in Genesis 1 is actual. These were literal days, not billions of years.
3. Man and the animal kingdom were vegetarian (Gen.1:29-30)
4. Man and dinosaurs lived together.
5. God created the earth with an atmosphere that separated a considerable water vapor canopy above from the waters of the seas below (Gen.1:6-8).
6. This water vapor canopy made the earth a gigantic terrarium with uniformly warm temperatures. Man needed no clothing.
7. This water vapor canopy enabled man and animals to live prodigious amounts of time, even after sin and death entered the world (Gen. 5:1-32).
8. There were no seasons. There were massive amounts of vegetation all over the land. There were no polar ice caps.

B. The Post-Fall, Pre-Flood World

1. Adam's sin brought death to mankind and to the animal kingdom (Gen. 2:15-17; 3:1-7; Rom. 5:12).
2. God placed a curse on the earth. Decay and entropy set in (Gen. 3:17-19).
3. Yet man (and animals, including dinosaurs), lived prodigious amounts of time in today's terms (Gen. 5:1-32).
4. Apart from the effects of Adam's sin, the earth remained a gigantic terrarium with a water vapor canopy above and with prodigious amounts of subterranean water.
5. Tropical forests grew inside what is now the Arctic Circle. It is possible that there was one connected land mass (Gen. 1:9).
6. Both the land and the ocean(s) were warm.

C. The Effect of the Global Flood

1. The water vapor canopy collapsed over a period of 40 days (Gen. 7:4, 7).
2. The fountains of the great deep burst open and, along with the rain, flooded the earth, submerging all the land and mountains, which at that time were much lower.
3. There were incredible volcanic explosions all over the world.
4. The massive amounts of vegetation were trapped and buried under enormous pressure and formed great beds of coal and oil and natural gas.
5. Sediments were mixed up all over the earth.
6. The one world broke into hydroplates and began migrating underneath the flood waters at "warp speed," geologically speaking. (The Mid-Atlantic Ridge is testimony to this event.)
7. When the hydroplates began to run out of water lubricant they ground to a halt and their leading edges subducted into the ground. There was enormous friction and volcanic activity. The "Ring of Fire" around the Pacific came into being.
8. The land masses were forced upwards. At their weakest points, mountains were driven upwards at amazing speeds.
9. As the flood began to settle down, massive layers of sediment were deposited all over the world. Billions of animal fossils, buried under enormous pressure, were created all over the earth. Fossils and sedimentary layers are irrefutable evidence, not of evolution, but of the global flood described in Genesis 6-8.

D. Life After the Flood

1. Because of the remarkable decrease in vegetation, man and certain animals would become carnivorous (Gen. 9:1-7).
2. God put a fear of man into the animals to prevent animals from attacking man (Gen. 9:1-7).
3. God issued the decree of capital punishment for any animal or man who killed man, because God had made man in His own image (Gen. 9:1-7)
4. For the first time there would be rain, clouds, and seasons (Gen. 9:8-17).
5. From the three sons of Noah, all the earth was repopulated (Gen. 9:18-19).
6. Man's life expectancy began to plummet (Gen. 11:10-32)
7. Without the water vapor canopy, cold air was introduced into the earth's atmosphere.
8. The warm sea water in the oceans began to cause snow at both poles.
9. As the single ice age began, more and more water turned to ice. The average ice depth over the Northern Hemisphere ranged from 515 meters to 906 meters, with an average of 700 meters.
10. With significant amounts of sea water locked up in the ice age, land bridges formed, enabling animal and human migration.
11. As the oceans gradually cooled off, less and less evaporation took place and snowfall at the poles began to lessen.
12. The recession rate of Niagara Falls (presently 5 feet a year), can easily be fit into a termination of the ice age 3-4,000 years ago, granted other assumptions (see "An Ice Age Caused By The Genesis Flood," pp. 169-170).

Bibliography:

The Genesis Flood by John C. Whitcomb and Henry Morris

An Ice Age Caused by the Genesis Flood by Michael J. Oard

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