

IN THE BEGINNING GOD

S. R. Gen 1

INTRODUCTION:

- A. Children are being bombarded with dinosaurs! From dinosaur dolls, balloons, T-shirts, beach toys, cookies, and even on the side of milk cartons and cereal boxes.
- B. Pictures and replicas of dinosaurs conjure up false concept of prehistoric creatures which supposedly evolved 175 to 200 million years ago and became extinct 65 to 75 million years ago, long before man came on scene.
- C. How long ago did the dinosaurs exist? What did they look like? Depending on your answer, you may be accepting evolution. Gen 1:24-25 (accepted by faith)
- D. The idea of dinosaurs is relatively new. Not until 1825 the first dinosaur fossils found. Dr Gideon Mantell found teeth fossilized in rock and concluded they resembled those of an iguana, but larger. He gave the animal the name Iguanodon.
- E. Term dinosaur did not come into existence until 1841 when Robert Owen, noted British Anatomist, called these great beasts Deinos Sauros or terrible lizards.
- F. Dinosaurs often used to promote theory of evolution. They are part of the evolutionary process from which man supposedly descended.
- G. Consider these beasts from a biblical perspective. (In reality this is a lesson on faith Rom 10:17)

DISCUSSION:

I. DID DINOSAURS REALLY EXIST?

- A. There was a time when their existence was denied. Various excuses have been offered: Dinosaurs never really existed; Hoax from God; Extinct before Noah
- B. Today, skeletons (fossils) of these great creatures are continually found. When Did They Live? Evolutionists believe came into existence 200 million years ago, 170 million years or so before man arrived on scene.
- C. Bible explains arrival of dinosaurs Gen 1:20-21, 24-25
 1. Sea & flying creatures created day 5 Gen 1:20-21
 2. Land animals & man created day 6. Gen 1:24-25; Mk 10:6
 3. Behavior of beasts described in a different light.
 - a. All life was actually vegetarians! Gen 1:29-30
 - b. Not until after flood was meat eaten Gen 9:2-3

II. DID DINOSAURS AND MAN CO-EXIST?

- A. Evolution says dinosaurs existed long before man and believe co-existence impossible due to ferocity and carnivorous nature
- B. Bible account has man and beast created on the same day, therefore, they had to co-exist!
- C. Observations of Job
 1. Behemoth - Job 40:15-24 Eats grass like an ox - v 15; Not a modern animal – vv 15-18; First of God (largest?) - vv 19, 24 Peaceful vegetarian - vv 15, 20; Marsh dweller - vv 21-23; Not hippo or elephant; sure sounds like a dinosaur!
 2. Leviathan Job 41:1-34: Not caught v 1-2; Not trained or petted v 3-5; Not hunted or sold v 6-8; Terrifying sight v 9-10; Strong & graceful v 12-17; A dragon - v 18-21 Impossible? What about bombardier beetle (when disturbed, they eject a hot noxious chemical spray from the tip of their abdomen with a popping sound), lightning bugs, etc? (see article on fire breathing dragon)
- D. Extra-biblical support
 1. Paluxy River, TX - dinosaur tracks alongside human tracks (in dispute – some say not enough evidence to positively identify as tracks of a man – others still contend they are)
 2. Cave pictures/drawings (<http://worldnewsdailyreport.com/prehistoric-cave-art-depicting-humans-hunting-dinosaurs-discovered-in-kuwait/>)
 3. In 1970 newspapers reported the discovery of cave paintings in Zimbabwe. The paintings were made by bushmen who ruled that area from about 1500 B.C., until a couple of hundred years ago. Along with accurate representations of the elephant and the giraffe, is a painting of an Apatosaurus (brontosaurus). These art works have greatly puzzled scientists since bushmen are known to have painted from real life! (Bible-Science Newsletter 1970, 2).
 4. About seventy years ago, Dr. Samuel Hubbard, curator of archaeology in the Oakland (California) Museum, discovered dinosaur carvings on the cliff walls of the Hava Supai Canyon in Arizona. One remarkable carving resembles a Tyrannosaurus. Nearby, dinosaur tracks were preserved in the rock surface.

E. Present day accounts

1. Unfossilized bones found in 1981 & 1987 in Canada and Alaska. (which means they are not millions of years but just thousands of years old) <https://answersingenesis.org/dinosaurs/bones/fresh-dinosaur-bones-found/>
2. Mokele-Mbembe (one who stops flow of rivers) a legendary water-dwelling creature of Congo River basin folklore
3. Scotland Loch Ness Monster (Nellie) - June 24, 1993
4. China 1,000 eyewitnesses to dinosaur
5. Canada - "Caddy" Cadborosaurus (in British Columbia)

III. HOW DID THEY DIE?

- A. Evolutionists offer several "explanations" as to what caused the dinosaurs to cease their existence.
1. Asteroid impact - Dust, smoke, etc from impact kept the sun out for 3 mos. thus killing off life.
 2. Volcanoes - Dust, smoke, ash, etc. from eruptions kept sun out, thus killing off life.
 3. Mammal competition - Mammals overtake dinosaurs as dominant force.
 4. Continental drift - Drying up of inland seas and rising of land makes ecosystem change.
- B. These "explanations" are without solid, believable evidence.
- C. Possible explanation for downfall of dinosaurs. (pre-flood world much different from today) Water above and below the earth. Gen. 1:6-7; No rain, mist watered Gen. 2:6; Living beings were vegetarians. Gen. 1:29-30; Cf. 9:2-3; Man lived longer - hundreds of years!; Part of flood; floodgates opened. Gen. 7:11
1. After animals left the ark, the world was different.
 2. Dinosaurs were on the ark.
 3. Ark big enough to contain all wildlife. 450 x 75 x 45 or 1.52 million cubit feet Perhaps baby animals
 4. Possible dinosaurs could not adapt to new conditions on the earth. We do not know for sure, but this is a more believable explanation than what evolution has to offer.
- D. Animals and entire species are becoming extinct every day. Note the following from: From: <http://www.endangeredspeciesinternational.org/overview1.html>
1. Total number of extinct species: 905 (784 in 2006)

2. Of the 44,838 species assessed worldwide using the IUCN Red List criteria, 905 are extinct and 16,928 are listed as threatened to be extinct

CONCLUSION:

- A. The presence of dinosaurs, especially among men, is evidence of God's great ability to create this world and all it contains.
- B. As noted above, just because some particular animal is now extinct does not mean it has never existed
- C. We may never know exactly what happened to the dinosaur, but because of the evidence we cannot say they never existed. We just have to accept that "In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth" (Gen 1:1) and if we believe that we must believe that He created everything in the heaven and the earth which would include the dinosaur as well as many more creatures that are now extinct.
- B. Why not believe in and accept the God of the universe? Impossible to please God without faith Heb 11:6

Adapted from a lesson by Kipp Campbell