960915 AM DDD-7 DEVIL, DEMONS AND DINOSAURS SERIES DINOSAURS & DRAGONS GENESIS 1-2 REJOICE IN OUR CREATOR GOD.

Would you join me at the Creation week? It was quite a world God made!

GOD CREATED THE LAND THAT FLOURISHED WITH PLANTS v. 9-13

God created the land that flourished with plants v. 9-13. The power of growth in plants is astounding! A sunflower will produce 4,000 seeds from one seed planted. A kernel of corn can do better than that. If every kernal produced by one seed were planted again at the end of the harvest and again at the end of the second year, all of the USA could be planted with the 3rd years crop. That is today. What about then?

What is THE FOSSIL EVIDENCE¹ of "Special Creation?" As we have seen, the fossils of invertebrates, the most abundant by far of all fossils, do offer strong support for the concept of creation. But let's look now at fossil evidence from other groups. Fossil Plants are the same today!

Did you even wonder what kind of plants the dinosaurs tromped around on? The answer may surprise you. These unfamiliar animals, now extinct, wandered around among some very familiar plants: oak, willow, magnolia, sassafras, palms, and other such common flowering plants.

In the geologic sequence, the flowering plants first appear suddenly and in great diversity in Cretaceous ("dinosaur") rock. Darwin was aware of the situation and called the origin of these plants "an abominable mystery." As my professor of paleobotany summarized it,

¹ Evolution of Creationist, p. 133

nothing has happened in the last 120 years to solve that mystery. As far as the fossil evidence is concerned, we simply find different varieties of the same types of plants we have today, nlus extinction in many cases.

In Lincoln² County, Wyoming, almost perfect specimens of fish, turtles, insects, and mammals have been found together with huge palm leaves, from 6 to 8 feet in length and from 3 to 4 feet wide . Even more significantly, trillions of tons of vegetation much of it perfectly preserved, even to leaves and flowers, have been buried in all parts of the world, including Antarctica in the form of coal. Each foot of coal represents many feet of compressed plant remains, and some coal seams are as much as thirty or forty feet in thickness. Obviously, no such process of coal formation is going on today, and the so-called "peat-bog theory" is a poor attempt to cope with this problem.

In THE EVOLUTION OF A CREATIONIST³ Dr. Martin explains that scientists have found tropical forests and coal deposits in Antarctica. Ninety-foot Plum trees which were quick frozen and over ninety feet in height with green leaves have been found in the New Siberian islands where, today, only one-inch high willows grow [see Charles Hapgood, The Mystery of the Frozen Mammoths; from Bassett Digby, <u>The Mammoth and Mammoth Hunting Grounds in Northeast Siberia</u> (N.Y.: Appleton, 1926), pp. 150-151].

In these frigid zones many trees, some fossilized and some quickfrozen, have been found with rings, signifying rapid, warm temperature growth. The Evolutionist asks, "How did they get here?" The Creationist says, they grew there before the Flood when the earth was pole to pole greenhouse warm."

GOD CREATED SEAS THAT SWARMED WITH FISH v. 20-23

EVOLUTION CHALLENGE OF THE FOSSIL RECORD⁴ model contend that it is impossible to account for most of the important geological formations according to uniformitarian principles. These formations include the vast Tibetan Plateau, 750,000 square miles of sedimentary deposits many thousands of feet in thickness and now at an elevation of three miles; the Karoo Supergroup of Africa, which has been

² The World that perished, p.80.

³ Martin, Evolution creationist, p. 124.

⁴ Gish, p. 50.

estimated by Robert Broom to contain the fossils of 800 billion vertebrate animals;' the herring fossil bed in the Miocene shales of California, containing evidence that a billion fish died within a foursquare mile area;' and the Cumberland Bone Cave of Maryland, containing fossilized remains of dozens of species of mammals, from bats to mastodons, along with the fossils of some reptiles and birdsincluding animals which now have accommodated to different climates and habitats from the Arctic region to tropical zones.' Neither has the uniformitarian concept been sufficient to explain mountain building nor the formation of such vast lava beds as the Columbian Plateau in the northwest United States, a lava bed several thousand feet thick covering 200,000 square miles.

WHAT IS CREATION⁵ SCIENCE? generally accepted evolutionary dogma of gradualism or uniformitarianism. But several scientists-still evolutionists-recognize that catastrophism, including massive flooding, mountain building, glaciation, and similar catastrophes, is the more logical inference from our scientific observations. Furthermore, catastrophism helps us to explain several features of the fossil evidence.

First of all, there's the very existence of fossils themselves. Fossils don't form when plants and animals simply die and rot away on the surface of the ground or on the bottom of the sea. To have any chance at all to be preserved as a fossil, a plant or animal must be buried rapidly under a relatively heavy load of sediment. Otherwise, scavengers or the forces of erosion will obliterate the specimen. That's one reason why there's scarcely a trace of the millions of bison slaughtered in America's move westward.

Once a plant or animal is buried deeply enough in the right kind of sediment, there's no special trick involved in turning it into a fossil, and no huge amount of time is required. Minerals simply accumulate in the specimen itself or in the cavity left by the specimen after it rots away. So, fossils could be formed in the laboratory, and they are probably forming here and there today.

But nowhere on earth today do we have fossils forming on the scale that we see in geologic deposits. The Karroo Beds in Africa, for example, contain the remains of perhaps 800 billion vertebrates! A million fish can be killed in red tides in the Gulf of Mexico today, but they simply decay away and do not become fossils. Similarly, debris

⁵ p. 172.

from vegetation mats doesn)t become coal unless it is buried under a heavy load of sediment.

The water⁶ vapor canopy may have m re than doubled atmospheric pressure on earth. In this environment of heavier atmospheric pressure, healing would be more efficient. Many hospitals have pressurized rooms called Hyperbaric Rooms. Into these rooms oxygen is pumped under pressure and healing is miraculously speeded up. Very sick people and the severely burned are treated in this high pressure envirorunent." In the pre-flood, high efficiency atmosphere, reptiles could have grown to immense sizes, giant flying creatures could have flown more easily, and gigantism would have been much more likely."

For more information about "Hyperbaric Therapy" see: J. C. Davis, "Hyperbaric Oxygen 'Merapy," *Journal of Intensive Care Medicine*, 4 (1989), 55-57. Also: *Textbook of Hyperbaric Medicine*, ed. K. K. Jain (Toronto: Hogrefe and Huber Pubs., 1990), p. 492. Also: *Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy: A Committee Report (UHMS PUB 30 CRHOB)*, ed. J. T. Mader (Bethesda: Undersea and Hyperbaric Medical Society, Inc., 1989), p. 90. Most Of My conunents about the effects of the vapor canopy came from Dr. Joseph Dillow's excellent discussion of the effects of the vapor canopy in *The Water's Above: Earth's Pre-Flood Water Vapor Canopy* (Moody Press, 1982).

GOD CREATED ANIMALS THAT FILLED THE EARTH v. 24-25

Dinos that range in size from the size of a chicken to 160,000 pound, 80 ton Brachiosaurus, are in 5 groups:

- ✓ HORNED Triceratops and Stegosaurus
- ✓ DUCKBILLED Anatosaurus 18 feet high with 2,000 teeth!
- ✓ MEATEATERS Tyrannosaurus Rex 20 feet high and 50 feet long.
- ✓ SMALL Strut hiomimus [ostrich mimic] ate eggs small reptiles.
- ✓ BIG PLANT EATERS Diplodocus [double beamed] 100 feet I; ong; Brontosaurus >Apatosaurus 80 feet long, 40 tons; Brachiosaurus [biggest] 50 feet high, 80 feet long, 80 tons, nostrils atop dome of head!

THE GREAT DINOSAUR MYSTERY⁷ Evolution has a problem called The Great Dinosaur Mystery. Where did the great dinosaurs come from;

⁶ Martin, p. 124.

⁷ Martin, p. 125.

how did they grow so big; and, if it is "survival of the fittest", why did these powerful creatures become extinct?

A creationist would answer, "no problem". God created the giant reptiles and may have referred to one or two of them which existed in Job's day (see Job 40:15 - 41:34). Reptiles do not have a built-in growth inhibiting factor like other animals and man. The dinosaurs would have continued growing as long as they lived. The older they got, the bigger they grew. Reptiles function best, as cold-blooded animals, in warm temperature climates. God created large reptiles which kept growing in an efficient high pressure atmosphere with plenty of warmth and unlimited supplies of lush vegetation to eat and nothing to eat them. The Bible says, "And to every beast of the earth, and to every fowl of the air, and to every thing that creepeth upon the earth, wherein there is fife, I have given every green herb for meat.... (Genesis 1:30)

A creationist⁸ might say that a stable body temperature in a giant cold-blooded reptile is consistent with the creationist view that the earth's temperature was uniformly wan-n in the tropical pre-Flood heaven and earth system number one. Creationists would expect to find "...remarkable consistency of the oxygen isotopes in the dinosaur's bones..... Apparently these evolutionistic researchers would rather pretend that cold-blooded reptiles were actually wannblooded than to consider the pre-Flood pole-to-pole greenhouse wann condition of earth (6,000 years ago, not 70 million years ago) as presented by the creationist model.

The giant flying reptiles such as the pterosaurs (pterodactyls and pteranodons) would be unable to fly in our present atmosphere. They needed a heavier atmosphere to get enough air to lift them with their 40 to 50-foot wingspans. Heaven and earth system #1 would have provided the heavier atmospheric pressure necessary for the flight of these huge creatures. Evolutionists say we don't know how these giant reptiles could have flown in our atmosphere. To a creationist, this is not a problem. Heaven and earth system #1, before the water canopy cwne down at the flood of Noah's day, would have provided the air density needed for these huge creatures to fly. In order to protect their jobs the evolutionists dare not even suggest the global flood of Noah's day as part of the solution to their problems, and yet the Flood supplies the explanation for what we "see".

⁸ Martin, p. 128.

We even read in our older history books about ancient cultures which taught a global flood. Gigantism was common in the heavy pre-flood atmosphere. Fossil dragonflies with a 32-inch wingspan have been discovered and would be a frightful bug to hit your windshield! The homless rhinoceros grew to about "...seventeen feet high and nearly 30 feet long!"⁹

Dinosaurs lived alongside people as Job testifies as well as "caveman" drawings. And God created them all!

INSECTS

Among the incredible diversity of members in the insect world none are more pointing to their Creator than the bees. Born of a set of parents that possess none of the features or skills they will use. Yet from day one the worker bee serves its Queen with absolute skills. Never learned, never forgotten, innate and created by God. The woker bee sweats wax. As that vital substance is produced the worker slices, trims and fastens it into the honeycomb renowned for its perfectly engineered strength and utility. Where did it get wax generators, wax cutters, trimmers and a trowel to lay each piece in the right spot? From the God who made "every winged creature"!

FISH with the perfect body shape to sail through its environment, and protective equipment that exactly meet its every need fish live in seeming effortless motion. Distilling from the water its needed oxygen, fitted with eyes that rotate to look ahead, under and behind, with the hi tech gear it needs to navigate across trackless expanses of water, harvest and multiply. Fish are amazing reflections of an All Wise Creator. Take the scales that are like armor on the exterior edge and yet feather to perfect mesh that is so water tight, no current of water is so swift, no jet of water so powerful that it could ever get past the seams of this aquatic raincoat? Why, God designed the scales to mesh so perfectly, there are no seams to leak. They become a solid wall of individual scales.

PROTOZOA

v. 20 (sharats = lit. "breed abundantly") are the champions of obeying God's order to multiply. Maturing at 12 hours old, these animals can reproduce at the rate of 60 young every 12 hours for the duration of their life time. If one protozoan were to live for a year and

⁹ Petersen, Unlocking the Mysteries of creation, pp. 28,29.

reproduce at this rate the total would be more than all the particles in the universe which is 10 to the 130th. Thankfully they don't multiply at that speed at all times. But only an inspired Moses taking the words from the Creator could describe them so perfectly.

BIRDS what a wonder. Can I describe just one? The Pacific Coastal ouzel only lives in those white rapids on Pacific Mountain streams. Studied and found to be the most buoyant of all ornithological family members (birds), they build their nests under waterfalls. Living life floating above (not 1/3 into the water like ducks), these birds defy all laws of nature. In an instant they can plummet to the depths of the stream like a lead sinker and WALK on the stream bed. After filling their beaks with all they can hold, they walk up onto the bank, swollow and immediately revert to floating like smoke atop the water. How do they do it? God gave them a muscular system that can instantly exhaust al air from their bodies to let them sink. The same system inflate them just as fast!

Dinosaurs were positively a part of those beasts God created. They exhibit a powerful testimony to the Majesty and Power of God.

DINOSAURS ARE IN THE BIBLE.

Dinosaurs are not mentioned in the Bible, in the sense that the word appears in the Bible, because that name wasrct invented until 1841, and the Bible was translated into English in about 1600-over 200 years earlier-but I do believe that dinosaur are *described* in the Bible! The oldest book of the Bible, the Book of Job, records the existence of several large unusual creatures. In a passage describing a dozen representative animals, we find more space, 44 verses in fact, devoted to two animals that apparently are now extinct. One of these was a huge land animal called a "behemoth"¹⁰, that was also extremely powerful, the largest of all the land animals¹¹, and impossible to capture. Fanciful attempts to identify him with existing animals are ludicrous. 0930 {be-hay-mohth'} AV - behemoth 1; 1 perhaps an extinct dinosaur, a Diplodocus or Brachiosaurus, exact meaning unknown. Some translate as elephant or hippopotamus but from the description in Job 40:15-24, this is patently absurd.

¹⁰ The Hebrew term literally implies 'beasts." Job 40:15-24.

¹¹ Job 40:15, 19

In Job Job 40:15-24, we read: Behold now behemoth, which I made with thee; he eateth grass as an ox. Lo now, his strength is in his loins, and his force is in the navel of his belly. He moveth his tail like a cedar. The sinews of his stones are wrapped together. His bones are as strong pieces of brass; his bones are like bars of iron. He is the chief of the ways of God: He that made him can make his sword to approach unto him. Surely the mountains bring him forth food, where all the beasts of the field play. He lieth under the shady trees, in the covert of the reed, and fens. The shady trees cover him with their shadow; the willows of the brook compass him about. Behold, he drinketh up a river, and hasteth not: He trusteth that he can draw up Jordan into his mouth. He taketh it with his eyes: His nose pierceth through snares.

What is the Biblical view of dinosaurs? And whatever really happened to these remarkable creatures?

The Bible records the fact that Dinosaurs did not become extinct "millions" of years ago. They are mentioned in the Bible. Some of them were alive *after* the Flood of Noah. In Genesis 1:21 *And God created great whales, and every living creature that moveth, which the waters brought forth abundantly, after their kind,* and *every winged fowl after his* kind.- and *God saw that it was good.* The Hebrew tanniyn is translated "whales," but in 20 other places it is translated "dragons," "sea monster", or "serpent". ¹²

God also describes a type of sea dragon which is translated "leviathan"¹³. He apparently was a fire-breathing monster with a hide that could not be pierced with sword, spears, or hooks. 03882 livyathan {liv-yaw-thawn'} - leviathan 6; 6 leviathan, sea monster, dragon, large aquatic animal [perhaps the extinct dinosaur, plesiosaurus, exact meaning unknown]. Some think this to be a crocodile but from the description in Job 41 this is patently absurd. It appears to be a large fire breathing animal of some sort. Just as the bomardier beetle has an explosion producing mechanism, so the great sea dragon may have an explosive producing mechanism to enable it to be a real fire breathing dragon.

It is interesting that some dinosaur fossils have been excavated that show a strange protuberance with an internal cavity on the top of the head. It has been suggested that this might have served as a mixing chamber for combustible gases that would ignite when exhaled into

¹² Isaiah 34:13; Micah 1:8; Malachi 1:3.

¹³ Job 41:1-34. Also, Psalm 74:14; 104:26.

the outside oxygen. It is interesting that the many dragon legends also allude to this "fire-breathing" characteristic. Whatever Happened to the Dinosaurs?

Dinosaur beds have, of course, been found on every continent, as far north as Spitzbergen in the Arctic Ocean, and as far south as Antartica. Hundreds of dinosaur tracks and trails have been found all over the world.¹⁴ Most researchers believe that the age of the dinosaurs came to a sudden end as a result of a global catastrophe of some kind. There are numerous theories and conjectures, with no general agreement among scientists.

The Formation of Fossil Beds Not only do sedimentary deposits demand the dynamics of a gigantic flood for adequate explanation, but so also do the fossils of billions of plants and animals that are found within them. This is indeed a serious problem for evolutionary uniformitarianism, for large-scale fossilization is simply not occurring anywhere in the world today. When fishes die in the oceans they do not sink to the bottom and become fossils. Instead, they either decompose or are picked to pieces by scavengers. Likewise, as one prominent geologist has pointed out, "The buffalo carcasses strewn over the plains in uncounted millions two generations ago have left hardly a present trace. The flesh was devoured by wolves or vultures within hours or days after death, and even the skeletons have now largely disappeared, the bones dissolving and crumbling into dust under the attack of weather."¹⁵ The Old Testament indicates that Palestine was infested with lions for centuries (Job 38:39, Prov. 22:13, 11 Kings 17:25), but no fossil of a lion has yet been found there. ¹⁶

In contrast to this lack of fossilization going on in the world today, consider the almost unbelievable amount of fossilization that has occurred in the past. "It has been estimated that more than 100,000 different species of fossils have already been found. Some rocks are composed almost entirely of the remains of marine animals.¹⁷ " Nothing could be more obvious than the fact that billions of fossils of crustaceans, fishes, land animals, and plants, many of them almost perfectly preserved in huge sedimentary deposits, could not have been buried by processes observable in the world today.

A startling illustration of the fact that a great catastrophe once struck this planet may be found in the four or five million mammoths and

¹⁴ Dinosaur Tracks and Traces, D.D. Gillette and M.G. Lockley, ed., Cambridge University Press, 1989.

¹⁵ Carl O. *Dunbar, Historical Geology* (New York: Wiley & Sons, 1949),p.39.

¹⁶ Personal communication from Dr. Nelson Glueck to Dr. John Whitcomb, April 20, 1959.

¹⁷ International Christian Crusade, Evolution: Science Falsely So-called, 18th ed. (205 Yonge St., Rm. 31, Toronto 1; 1970), p. 17

other large animals which were destroyed in the north polar regions, many of them frozen instantly and preserved whole and undamaged, and in some cases either standing or kneeling upright!

Ivan T. Sanderson, a prominent field zoologist who spent many years studying these phenomena, had attempted at first to explain the mass destruction of Arctic mammoths in non-catastrophic terms.¹⁸ But a special study of the Beresovka mammoth, which Russian scientists had transported from Siberia to the Leningrad Museum, caused his position to be "almost completely reversed."

First, the mammoth was upright, but it had a broken hip. Second, its exterior was whole and perfect, with none of its two-foot long shaggy fur rubbed or torn off. Third, it was fresh; its parts, although they started to rot when the heat of fire got at them, were just as they had been in life; the stomach contents had not begun to decompose. Finally, there were buttercups on its tongue.¹⁹

Animals as large as mammoths would require several hundred pounds of food daily just to survive; and there were many millions of them in this region where very little vegetation grows today. In order to freeze animals of this size in such a way that large crystals would not form within their body cells, temperatures of 150 degrees below zero would have to descend upon them instantly. Such conditions

MAMMOTHS²⁰ An estimated 5,000,000 mammoths, whose remains are buried all along the coastline of northern Siberia and Alaska, were frozen and buried not many thousands of years ago. "The Siberian deposits have been worked now for nearly two centuries. The store appears to be as inexhaustible as a coalfield. Some think that a day may come when the spread of civilization may cause the utter disappearance of the elephant in Africa, and that it will be to these deposits that we may have to turn as the only source of animal ivory"²¹

"One mine in Siberia reportedly yielded twenty thousand tusks. When Vitus Bering, the Danish explorer of the Arctic, visited Bear Island, north of Siberia in the Artic Ocean, he reported it was composed of two ingredients, mammoth remains and sand. But the predominant ingredient was mammoth bones. During the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, reports occasionally came in of mammoths found in frozen state. Sotne of these reports were investigated by the

 ¹⁸ Ivan T. Sanderson, "The Riddle of the Mammoths," *Saturday Evening Post* (Dec. 7, 1946), pp. 127, 142, 144, 147.
¹⁹ Ivan T. Sanderson, "Riddle of the Frozen Giants," *Saturday Evening Post* (Jan. 16, 1960), p. 82

²⁰ World that Perished, pp. 78-79.

²¹ "Ivory," Encyclopedia Britannica, 1956, XII, 834.

Tsarist governments, and a few mammoths were exhumed and brought to St. Petersburg. They were rather sensational evidences of the time when Siberia had had a much more temperate or subtropical climate. When Baron Toll explored Bennet Island, some three hundred miles north of the Siberian mainland, he reported finding a quickfrozen mammoth, in a land where today, during the height of the Arctic summer, willows will grow perhaps two inches high. . . . And yet here, Baron Toll found evidence of former life under conditions which today could not possibly exist. Concerning mammoth bones in Russia, Pallas claimed that there was not a river bed in all Russia, from the Don to the Bering Strait, which did not contain mammoth bones. Other writers have observed that, strangely enough, the farther one goes north, the more numerous are mammoth remains"²²

The fact that only a catastrophe of the proportions described in Genesis 6-9 could have suddenly destroyed these vast numbers of large animals is becoming more and more obvious to unprejudiced investigators.

The Flood of Noah would easily fit the requirements. There are many scientists who have become creationists and are convinced that the Biblical flood provides a more plausible explanation than the traditional geological-age conjectures. Remember that all animals known can fit on Noah's ark. How? 60% of all known creatures are aquatic so wouldn't have been on board. Of the 40 % of animals that are land bases, 70 % are insects. So only 12% of animals had to ride and they fit including all dinosaurs! Infact that totals only 20,000 present land animals and if 20,000 are now extinct that means 40,000 animals x 2 = 80 thousand with an average size being a sheep. That would take only 1/2 the ark!

Certainly the antediluvian population would have been well acquainted with their existence. Noah and his descendants would certainly have continued the numerous tales of their exploits.

Survival in the post-flood world would also account for the many dragon stories embellished throughout the centuries²³. There are some scientists that believe that some dinosaurs may have survived into the Middle Ages. As recent in history as 1500 AD a textbook of animals known as *Historiua Animalium*, published in Europe, listed five animals as alive in Europe that we know as dinosaurs today.

 ²² Donald W. Patten, "The Ice Epoch," in *A Symposium on Creation*, by Henry M. Morris and others: Grand Rapids: Baker Book House, 1968, p. 128.
²³ Bill Cooper, "Living Dinosaurs from Anglo-Saxon and other Early Records," *Creation Ex Nihilo Technical Journal*, Vol. 6, N. 1, 1992, pp.49-66.

DINOSAURS TODAY?

There are also some that believe that dinosaurs still survive in isolated regions, deep oceans and lakes of the world. The famous plesiosaurlike creature dredged up near New Zealand in 1977 is one example²⁴, and the numerous native accounts of a brontosaur-like animal in the swampy interior of the Congolese rain forests²⁵ are difficult to ignore. Inverness, Scotland, the location of Loch Ness, which also has been the subject of continuing sightings of the legendary monster even in recent history. Despite substantial efforts, with highly advanced equipment, to locate the fabled creature, the results have been inconclusive.

RESIST THE DRAGON OF OLD

Dragons Throughout History. The term "dragon" comes from the Greek drakon, which was used originally for any large serpent. (The term "dinosaur" is derived from the Greek meaning "terrible lizard," alluding to its gigantic size.)

The notion that dinosaurs were extinct "millions of years ago' doesn't seem to explain the prevalence of the "dragons" so prevalent throughout early history.

The dragon of mythology, despite whatever shape it later assumed, was essentially a serpent.

In the Middle East, the serpent or dragon was symbolic of evil. The Egyptian god Apepi was the great serpent of the world of darkness.

The Chaldean dragon tiamat had four legs, a scaly body and wings. The Greeks and the Romans also at times conceived the *drakontes* as beneficent powers dwelling in the inner parts of the Earth.

Their protective and terror inspiring qualities led to their adaptation as warlike emblems on shields, prows of ships, etc.

The Chinese dragon, lung, was a majestic mythological beast that dwelt in rivers, lakes, oceans, and roamed the skies. They were generally depicted as four-legged animals with scales, snakelike body,

²⁴ Oceans magazine, November 1977, pp. 56-59.

²⁵ Science magazine, November 1980, pp. 6,7.

horns, claws, and large, demonic eyes. They were regarded as the source of power and commonly adopted as imperial emblems.

Ancient Chinese cosmogonists defined four types: *Ten Lung*, "Celestial Dragon," who guards the heavenly dwellings of the gods; *Fu Tsang Lung*, "Dragon of Hidden Treasure"; *Ti Lung*, "Earth Dragon," who controls the waterways; and *Shen Lung*, the "Spiritual Dragon," who controls the winds and rain.

Both Chinese and Japanese dragons are usually wingless, but were also regarded as being able to change their size at will, even to the point of becoming invisible. It is remarkable that they were also referred to as the "power of the air," which is also a provocative Biblical reference.²⁶

THE BIBLICAL "DRAGON"

The *Nachash*, or "Shining One" of Genesis 3 is, of course, well known.²⁷ Here we encounter the "anointed cherub" that is rendered a serpent as a result of the curse.

Leviathan Re-examined. The passage describing the "leviathan" in Job also goes beyond his denotative zoological characteristics and alludes metaphorically to him as a malevolent evil spirit.²⁸ In fact, "He beholdeth all high things: he is king over all the children of pride".²⁹

This secondary allusion technique is repeatedly employed to describe the background and career of Satan.³⁰ He, indeed, is the father of the children of pride.

In the Book of Revelation, Satan is also presented as the "Red Dragon"³¹. This identification with the "dragon" seems to be also picked up in the prophecies in Isaiah: *Isaiah 27:1* In that day the LORD with his sore and great and strong sword shall punish leviathan the piercing serpent, even leviathan that crooked serpent; and he shall slay the dragon that is in the sea. (KJV)

²⁶ Cf. Ephesians 2:2.

²⁷ Genesis 3:lff.

²⁸ Job 41:3-4, 9, 25, 33.

²⁹ Job 41:34.

³⁰ Isaiah 14:12-15 and Ezekiel 28:11-19. In each of these passages, the scope clearly goes beyond immediate subject, the Mng of Babylon and the King of Tyre, respectively, to the power that lies behind them.

³¹ Revelation 12:7-9.

(It is interesting that in the Book of Revelation, we notice that the two final players are also presented as "beasts" that rise out of the sea and land, provocatively parallel to the two large creatures highlighted in the book of Job.)

REMEMBER THE PLAN OF GOD

In the Book of Revelation, we also view Satan's doom:

And I saw an angel come down from heaven, having the key of the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand. And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan, and bound him a thousand years, And cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal upon him, that he should deceive the nations no more, till the thousand years should be fulfilled.- and after that he must be loosed a little season.... the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are, and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever. Revelation 20:1-3, 10

The Reality. So there is a real "dragon" far more fearful than any "cloned dinosaur" of Jurassic Park fame. His destiny, fortunately, is sealed as result of the empty tomb that we celebrate each Easter morning. The next time someone brings up "dinosaurs," then why not really get into it. (After all, he brought it up.) It can be a great witnessing opportunity if you do your homework.

WE MUST WORSHIP OUR CREATOR

Revelation 4:11 "You are worthy, O Lord, To receive glory and honor and power; For You created all things, And by Your will they exist and were created." (NKJV)

The Eternal Gospel is a gospel that reveals God as Creator Revelation 14:7 saying with a loud voice, "Fear God and give glory to Him, for the hour of His judgment has come; and worship Him who made heaven and earth, the sea and springs of water." (NKJV) = We must respond to our CREATOR

Our Creator is the Judge first by water then by fire 2 Peter 3:3-7 knowing this first: that scoffers will come in the last days, walking

according to their own lusts, 4 and saying, "Where is the promise of His coming? For since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as [they were] from the beginning of creation." 5 For this they willfully forget: that by the word of God the heavens were of old, and the earth standing out of water and in the water, 6 by which the world [that] then existed perished, being flooded with water. 7 But the heavens and the earth [which] are now preserved by the same word, are reserved for fire until the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men. (NKJV)

Christ as creator is the head of the Church and He alones gives us the order for Leadership, home, church, role of men and women, standards of modesty, etc. Colossians 1:15-18 He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. 16 For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him. 17 And He is before all things, and in Him all things consist. 18 And He is the head of the body, the church, who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in all things He may have the preeminence. (NKJV)

Creation Groans waiting for Redemption Romans 8:20-22 For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of Him who subjected [it] in hope; 21 because the creation itself also will be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God. 22 For we know that the whole creation groans and labors with birth pangs together until now. (NKJV)

Adam's sin cursed the world Romans 5:12, 19 Therefore, just as through one man sin entered the world, and death through sin, and thus death spread to all men, because all sinned -- 19 For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so also by one Man's obedience many will be made righteous. (NKJV)

The decline and descent of man versus the ascent of Darwin's man Romans 1:18-320

We need to: Let our eyes see the Majesty of our Creator Let our hearts overflow with worship of our Creator Let our mouths be confessing Him as Creator