

[When Pastor Shaun started his series on the book of Genesis, he spent some time discussing the debate between macro-evolutions and creationists. In particular, he discussed information related to the approximate age of the earth. The following information is taken from his sermon presentation.]

How old is the earth?

"Many believe in evolution for the simple reason that they think science has proven it to be a 'fact' and therefore must be accepted. In recent years, a great many people, having finally been persuaded to make a real examination of the problem of evolution, have become convinced of its fallacy and are now convinced anti-evolutionists."

Henry Morris, former evolutionist

"A growing number of respectable scientists are defecting from the evolutionist camp. Moreover, for the most part, these experts have abandoned Darwinism, not on the basis of religious faith or biblical persuasions, but on scientific grounds, and in some instances, regrettably."

Wolfgang Smith, Ph.D., physicist

"Scientists who are teaching that evolution is a fact of life are great con men, and the story that they are telling may be one of the greatest hoaxes ever. In explaining evolution, we do not have one iota of fact."

**Dr. T. N. Tahmisian, physiologist,
U.S. Atomic Energy Commission**

"I think that we should go further than this and admit that the only accepted explanation is creation. I know that is anathema to physicists, as it is to me, but we must not reject a theory that we do not like if the experimental evidence supports it."

**H.J. Lipson, University of Manchester
Physics Bulletin, 1980**

Changing Ages:

At the time of Charles Darwin's Origin of Species, published in 1859, the earth was scientifically determined to be 100 million years old.

By 1932, it was found to be 1.6 billion years old.

In 1947, an age of 3.4 billion years was firmly established.

Finally, in 1976, scientists proclaimed that the true age of the earth is 4.5 billion years old.

Most creationists believe the earth to be much younger, somewhere in the range of 6,000 to 10,000 years.

Evidence that supports a young earth is rarely mentioned in scientific literature and in public education, and with good reason — take away the time element from the macro-evolution theory and it completely collapses.

Magnetic Field:

Scientific calculations show that the total energy in the field has decreased by about 14% since 1829. If this view is correct, then 25,000 or more years ago, the electrical current would have been so large that the earth's structure could not have survived the heat produced.

"Since 1830, the strength of the earth's magnetic field has decreased by about 6% — if it continues to decrease at this rate, it will disappear in about 2000 years."

Stanley Chernikoff, GEOLOGY

“The best physical evidence that the earth is young is the dwindling resource that evolutionists refuse to admit is dwindling — the magnetic energy in the field of the earth's dipole magnet. To deny that it is a dwindling resource is a phony science.”

Dr. Thomas Barnes, Physicist

Helium:

Our atmosphere has fewer than 40,000 years worth of helium, based on the production of helium from the decay of uranium and thorium. The decay of radioactive materials is the only natural source of helium. Helium is a noble gas and does not mix with others. The amount of helium that can escape our atmosphere is fractional and calculable. If the earth were billions of years old, the amount of helium would be far greater.

A study published in the *Journal of Geophysical Research* shows that helium produced by radioactive decay in deep, hot rocks has not had time to escape. Though the rocks are supposed to be over one billion years old, their large helium retention indicates an age of only thousands of years.

Oil Pressure:

When oil drillers first penetrate oil, there is a "gusher." Abnormally high pressures within relatively permeable rock indicate that their fluids were encased less than 10,000 years ago. Natural leakage would have reduced their pressure to a level far below what it is today.

Ocean Salinity:

3.5% of the weight of the ocean's water contains dissolved salts. If these salts were precipitated, they would form a layer measuring 56 meters over the entire floor of the ocean. Each year, over 450 million tons of sodium are dumped into the ocean by rivers, streams, and other sources. Approximately one-fourth of this substance manages to get back out of the sea each year, with the remainder accumulating in the ocean. If the earth were really billions of years old, the salinity of the ocean would be far greater than it is now.

Sun's Diameter:

Since 1836, over 100 different observers at the Royal Greenwich Observatory and the U.S. Naval Observatory have made direct visual measurements, which show that the diameter of the sun is shrinking at the rate of about 5 feet per hour. Records of solar eclipses indicate that this shrinkage has been going on for at least the past 400 years. Several indirect techniques also confirm this reduction. Using the most conservative data, it can be calculated that if the sun existed even as long as one million years ago, it would have been so large that it would have heated the earth to an extent that life could not have survived.












Evidence from the Moon:

1. Dust on the Moon: The moon has virtually no atmosphere, which means that accumulated dust and debris on the moon's surface would remain undisturbed for long periods of time (as evidenced by the human footprints and lunar rover tracks which remain intact). Moon dust is caused by meteor dust, and by ultraviolet sunlight and X-rays constantly spalling off surface layers of moon rocks. Realizing this and assuming that dust had been piling up for millions of years, NASA scientists were concerned that the first lunar ship would sink into hundreds of feet of dust that should have accumulated. Less than a few inches were observed by Apollo astronauts, indicating a very young moon.
2. Isotopes on the Moon: Radioisotopes with very short half-lives (such as thorium 230) have been collected from moon rocks. These isotopes do not last long and quickly decay into lead. If the moon were even 80,000 years old, these isotopes would have decayed out of existence.
3. Moon Drift: The laws of physics indicate that the moon should be slowly moving away from the earth. This type of "moon recession" has been observed since 1754, and instruments left behind by the Apollo missions show that the rate of movement is approximately 2 inches per year. If the earth and moon were actually billions of years old, the moon would never have survived a nearness to the earth of less than 11,500 miles. That distance is known as the Roche limit and is defined as a distance of 2.44 times a planet's radius, as measured from the center of the planet. Within that distance, an orbiting body primarily held together by gravity will be pulled apart.

The Geological Column:

Geology deals with past events and is based on several assumptions which may or may not be true. The geologic column is arranged according to the various types of fossils they contain. Rock strata with simpler fossils (presumed to have evolved first) are placed at the bottom of the column and the more complex fossils are positioned toward the top of the column. Thus the entire column was developed and presumed to be accurate based on the assumption that evolution is a fact.

If this geologic column is correct, we should expect to find the order of the rock strata more or less throughout the entire world. But the geologic column exists only in the minds of geologists and in geology textbooks. Nowhere on earth can all of these levels be found in one place. There are usually no more than 2 or 3 strata in any one place.

THE GEOLOGIC COLUMN		Millions of Years Ago	Typical fossils
Eras	Periods		
CENOZOIC	QUATERNARY	2	
	TERTIARY	65	
MESOZOIC	CRETACEOUS	130	
	JURASSIC	180	
	TRIASSIC	225	
PALAEOZOIC	PERMIAN	275	
	CARBONIFEROUS	345	
	DEVONIAN	405	
	SILURIAN	435	
	ORDOVICIAN	480	
	CAMBRIAN	600	
	PRE-CAMBRIAN		

“Eighty to eighty-five percent of earth’s land surface does not have even 3 geological periods appearing in ‘correct’ consecutive order. Since only a small percentage of the earth’s land surface obeys even a significant portion of the geologic column, it becomes an overall exercise of gargantuan pleading and imagination for the evolutionary-uniformitarian paradigm to maintain that there ever were geologic periods.”

John Woodmorappe, Geologist

The most common method of calculating the age of rock strata is to date them by the “known age” of the fossils they contain. On the other hand, the age of the fossils is dated by the known age of the rock strata in which they are found. This is an outrageous case of Circular Reasoning, and geologists are well aware of the problem.

“The intelligent layman has long suspected circular reasoning in the use of rocks to date fossils and fossils to date rocks. The geologist has never bothered to think of a good reply, feeling that the explanations are not worth the trouble as long as the work brings good results.”

American Journal of Science

“A circular argument arises: Interpret the fossil record in the terms of a particular theory of evolution, inspect the interpretation and note that it confirms the theory. Well, it would, wouldn't it?”

New Scientist

Radiometric Dating:

Radiometric Dating involves several assumptions that are untestable from a scientific standpoint:

- (1) The beginning conditions known;
- (2) Starting amount of the parent isotope;
- (3) Starting amount of daughter isotope;
- (4) No leeching or addition of parent or daughter materials;
- (5) Consistency of atomic decay rates.

Geologic Assumptions:

“Two important assumptions are implicit in this equation. First, that we are dealing with a closed system. And second, that no atoms of the daughter were present in the system when it formed. These assumptions furnish the most serious limitations on the accumulation clock. Rigorously closed systems probably do not exist in nature, but surprisingly, many minerals and rocks satisfy the requirement well enough for nuclear age determination. The problem is one of judicious geologic selection.”

Henry Faul, Ages of Rocks, Planets, and Stars

“It has been suggested that free neutrons could transform lead-206 into lead-207 and then to lead-208, thus tending to reset the clocks and throw thorium-lead and uranium-lead clocks completely off — even to the point of wiping out geological time.”

Dr. Melvin Cook, History of the Earth

The assumption among scientists and geologists is that the decay rate of the radioisotopes has always been constant, but scientific evidence reveals that such decay rates can be altered through environmental conditions.

“The deviations in the decay rate are a function of the environment. We are convinced that the thesis of ‘decay independence’ and the thesis of ‘decay constancy’ needs considerable revision and reexamination. At a minimum, an unreliability factor must be incorporated into the age-dating calculations.”

J. Anderson and G. Spangler,

“Radiometric Dating: Is the Decay Constant?”

“There has been, in recent years, the horrible realization that radio-decay rates are not as constant as previously thought, nor are they immune to environmental influences. And this means that the atomic clocks are reset during global disaster. And events which brought the Mesozoic to a close may not be 65 million years old, but rather within the age and memory of man.”

Frederick B. Juneman,

“Industrial Research & Development”

“It is obvious that radiometric technique may not be the absolute dating method that it is claimed to be. Age estimates on a given geological stratum by different radiometric methods are often quite different (sometimes by hundreds of millions of years). There is absolutely no reliable long-term radiological clock.”

Prof. W. D. Stansfield (anti-creationist),

“The Science of Evolution”

“In general, dates in the ‘correct’ ball park are assumed to be correct and are published, but those in disagreement with other data are seldom published nor are the discrepancies explained.”

R. L. Mauger, East Carolina University,

Contributions to Geology

“Scientists Funkhauser and Naughton at the Hawaii Institute of Geophysics used the potassium-argon method to date rock from Mount Kileau and obtained ages ranging from 160 million years to 3 billion years — when the rock samples were known to have been formed in a volcanic eruption in 1801.”

J. G. Funkhauser & J. J. Naughton,
Journal of Geophysical Research

“At the present state of geological research, we have to admit that there is nothing in the geological record that runs contrary to the view of conservative creationists, that God created each species separately.”

Dr. Edmond J. Ambrose, Professor of Cell biology,
“The Nature and Origin of the Biological World”