

## INTER-OFFICE

To: Dr. G. T. Armstrong and Mr. Norman Smith

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Department: T.V. and Radio

Subject: Geologic Correlations

From: Kenneth C. Herrmann

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I'm back in the Geology area again and will be able to give full attention once more to the problems of correlating Scripture and Historical Geology after getting settled in Texas. There are some factors that should be presented at present in view of the series of programs being put out on geology.

What I taught during those early years here in second year Bible was strongly colored by Adventist doctrine and their writers. It is urgent to recognize that the majority of these fundamentalist writers in the science field are fellow-travellers with the priests of Baal, if they themselves are not actually ordained as such. While they bear the title "fundamentalist" yet the term "funny mentalist" would better suit the illogical way they look at the actual field evidence. The same text twisting procedure they learned to use on the Bible is carried over into their view of fossils and the rock structure.

We acknowledge thrust faults today, especially since the one 18 months ago which shook us all up, Mr. Wilbur Berg tells me that he was for them fifteen years ago when a student in my geology class but I wouldn't listen. The actual field evidence for them is clear, yet the Adventists fought it tooth and nail.

We now acknowledge that Paleozoic and Mesozoic fossils are pre-Adamic, yet the Adventists have "geologists" at Glen Rose, Texas "discovering" Sabre Tooth Tiger tracks and human footprints next to authentic Dinosaur tracks. The tiger tracks are all in their imagination, the human footprints are authentic carvings by Texans done during the Depression to earn a few dollars from tourists.

The Adventists want to put down all the fossil strata during the Flood, and being led astray by the spirit world simply do not see any distinction between Satan's world and God's. (I do not mean to imply here that all fossils even down to the bottom of the Cambrian are the remains of a creation ruled by Satan. One might assume that, but the proof for such a conclusion seems rather elusive.)

I would suggest the following changes in our presentation of Historical Geology in correlating it with Scripture. Yet with the caution that it would be preferable to have time to search the matter out much more thoroughly. It is clear that some of our former conclusions, suppositions and teachings were and are wrong.

- 1) Noah's Flood deposits are not going to be found in the Paleozoic or Mesozoic but at the very surface. In many places there will be no deposit at all.

The early geologists considered only the very surface deposit to be Flood evidence. What we now call glacial till was called "drift" in reference to transport by floating ice. A "pluvial" era was envisaged. Terraces (above and below our present sea level) were associated with this era as were many large inland lakes.

There was no thought whatsoever of putting man back into the Paleozoic, the Mesozoic or the Tertiary as the Adventists and many other fundamentalist writers have done since that time.

- 2) There is a good measure of time involved in the deposition of Paleozoic, Mesozoic and Tertiary rocks and they cannot be put down with the "high speed geology" that I had attempted to hold to for years (yet showing the class the problems we were running into with such a view. "Noah's Flood put down a rapid deposit ... the earlier deposits took longer, at least a 1000 years for a figure to begin with.").
- 3) Some rocks called Tertiary must belong back before Adam, perhaps even the great majority. This is contrary to what I taught for years, "The appearance of mammals, angiosperms and birds in the fossil record is the point at which we should find man on earth." The evidence is becoming increasingly convincing that there was a world of mammals, angiosperms and birds prior to Adam! I do not like the conclusion and yet in facing the situation honestly must list it as a strong possibility. Was Satan allowed rulership over such a world for say a thousand years?
- 4) The date of about 4024 B.C. for Adam's creation and seven literal 24-hour days for Creation Week are not in doubt. Those items have been tested repeatedly and with each such test additional proof appears. Creation of life forms rather than evolution is a true conclusion regardless of whether one deals with trilobites, dinosaurs, mammals or man. The Bible remains as invaluable revealed information on the subject. It is the doctrines of the scribes and the Pharisees that have been weighed in the balance and found wanting.
- 5) It is clear that new creatures were added to the earth at the beginning of the Mesozoic and also at the beginning of the Tertiary, and at the time of Adam. Each world of life forms had a part preparing the earth for the next set of created forms.

Whether all Paleozoic creatures were living at the moment the first Cambrian life forms were deposited? There is increasing evidence that they were not. It will take time to search this problem out thoroughly, yet the evidence on hand points to new assemblages of life forms being added to the earth from time to time. Older forms died out, and three times in earth's history there was a wholesale destruction of many forms, i.e., the trilobites (and other animals and plants) do not survive past the Paleozoic; the dinosaurs (and many other reptiles) are cut off at the end of the Mesozoic; mammals are wiped out some time in the Pleistocene; and one looks forward to the day when all physical life will cease to exist on earth having served its purpose in the formation and training of spirit creatures.

IN SUMMATION: A measure of time is needed to review and digest the geologic facts now at our fingertips. The doctrines we have inherited from the Adventists and others need to be replaced with a fresh unbiased look at the Scriptures. Fossil deposits up even through the Paleozoic and Mesozoic give clear evidence of long periods of time. Mammals, angiosperms and birds arrive on earth as a unit in the Upper Cretaceous, yet man is not there! A destruction of this mammalian world takes place prior to the arrival of man, and thus these deposits generally labelled Tertiary are pre-Adamic. (It should be added here that the problem of labelling of fossil strata will at times produce exceptions to the above statements.)

Man arrives on the scene with a fossil world beneath his feet; how old it is is not clear, the Bible does not say and I have misgivings about most of the scientific dating methods. Noah's Flood submerges the world and does a minimum of physical damage and produces comparatively thin deposits. A world of glacial ice continues for centuries afterward, inland lakes dry up and deserts form. Loess deposits and sand dunes are formed in the early post-Flood years at the borders of the glaciers. The best farm land in the world is in these loess areas (our Corn Belt) and in the moraine regions to the north (in the U.S.). The delta regions also received a thick deposit of "recent" sediments during Noah's Flood and are rich farm land. A curse placed on the land at the time of Adam is thus removed.

Perhaps the above conclusions should have been seen sooner. Year after year I explained to the Historical Geology class, "Dr. Hoeh and I are tunnelling through the mountain from opposite sides, he from History back through Archeology and Paleontology, while I started from Cosmology to Historical Geology up through the Paleozoic and Mesozoic and into the Cenozoic. Something is wrong, we are both over halfway through and yet our tunnels have not met!" To add to their consternation, I teased them that year by year Dr. Hoeh and I were exchanging our stands with regard to how the fossils were put down.

Dr. Hoeh's continued insistence that Archeology could demonstrate pre-Flood cities was a telling blow to some of our former doctrines. These cities are built on Cretaceous and Tertiary fossil formations; Neanderthal men lived in caves in those same strata. Either Dr. Hoeh's Archeology had to give or our Historical Geology. And we do not want a kink in our tunnel.

A careful restudy of the problem and compiling of documentary evidence will take place this coming year. It is long overdue.

cc: Dr. Hoeh  
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