

Dinosaurs and the Age of the Earth

Young earth creationists look at the Grand Canyon, and the Dinosaurs, as evidence of a young earth. They assign the rocks of the Grand Canyon to the Early Flood, and according to the book *Grand Canyon: Monument to Catastrophe*, the rocks above the Canyon were deposited in the latter stages of the Flood. Young earth creationists do this, because they believe there was no death before Adam's sin. By saying the Flood killed all these animals, they have a nice solution to all the dead animals in the fossil record.

There are over one mile of rocks at the Grand Canyon which are flood rocks. The uppermost unit at the Canyon, the Kaibab Limestone, is the rocks you are standing on at the rim of the canyon. This rock layer can be seen in the column at right, at the very bottom. The diagram at right is a stratigraphic column, showing the rocks at Zion National Park in Utah. These rock layers are on top of the rocks at the Grand Canyon, and are younger than the Canyon rocks. We do not see them at the canyon due to erosion and depositional thickness.

Note that the next formation is the Moenkopi, and then the Chinle. These are eroded away from the Grand Canyon area. The Chinle's claim to fame is...the first layer in this location, as you proceed up the geologic column, that contains dinosaur fossils. How could these dinosaurs have survived the flood which deposited more than a mile of sediment...were they "treading water" during the first 100 days of the flood?

Young earth creation scientists will point to dinosaur graveyards, and say they are evidence of death by Flood. They are correct...but is it Noah's Flood? All of these mass graveyards (of which there are only a handful) are in Jurassic and Cretaceous sediments. Adding up the rock units at right that are above the Kaibab (the Triassic rocks), taking the minimum thickness, they are about 3,400 feet of Triassic sediment. Thus, these dinosaur graveyards occur only after more than 8,000 feet of sediment have been deposited by the flood. While the first 8,000 feet were being deposited, how did these dinosaurs stay alive?

Here is a picture of what must happen according to the young earth model. On day 1 of the flood, the rain starts, and the fountains of the deep open. On Day 40, the entire earth is flooded, and all creatures perish (Genesis 7:21-23). The waters prevailed (remained above the mountains) for 150 days more (Genesis 7:24). Thus, all the dinosaurs were treading water this entire time, until they could set foot on dry land. (of course, if they all died at Day 40...this could not be).

Young earth creationists get around this problem by saying the water level fluctuated, and thus there would be periods of dry land. So now, after day 40, the dinosaurs find dry land (all over the world!), and start living as if nothing unusual was happening. They start eating, laying down poop, breeding, and leaving footprints all over the place. During this period, the water comes up several times, causing these dinosaur graveyards. Finally after 200+ days into the flood, the dinosaurs are dead!

Not only is this not possible, it provides proof of an old earth. All evidence for dinosaurs is in rock layers above the Grand Canyon. All dinosaur "trace fossils," (footprints, poop, nests, eggs) are in sediments far above the first supposed Flood rock layers. Yes, there are dinosaur graveyards, but most dinosaur fossils do not come from these graveyards.

Young earth creationists preach rapid burial of fossils, yet no dinosaur fossils were "rapidly buried" in the first 5,000 feet of sediment deposited by the flood. Somehow, the dinosaurs only left evidence of their existence during Day 40 and the end of the Flood. The fossil record does not match with the story told by young earth creationists.

Also, note the Navajo Sandstone, in the Jurassic Period. This sandstone is a wind-blown, desert sandstone, deposited right in the middle of Noah's Flood. Usually, you will see young earth creationists arguing against the desert sandstone in the Grand Canyon (the Coconino), but few realize that they use the Navajo as an example of a desert sandstone to argue against the Coconino being desert in origin! In their own literature, they admit to a desert in the middle of Noah's Flood.

No doubt you have heard of taking Bible verses out of context. The same is true of science, which is what young earth scientists do. Yes, when examined alone, there are single evidences that prove a flood caused an event in the fossil record, but when you consider the context of the rest of science, it gives overwhelming evidence of an old earth. The young earth scientist looks at the handful of straw in his hand, but ignores the 100 foot tall haystack he is standing in front of.

		Time Units		Rock Unit		
Era	Period	Epoch	Group	Formation		
Cenozoic	Quaternary	Holocene		Basalt Layers		
		Pleistocene		Sevier River		
	Tertiary	Neogene		Pliocene	Lava Flows	
		Paleogene		Miocene		
		Oligocene				
Mesozoic	Cretaceous					
	Jurassic	Upper	San Rafael	Carmel		
		Middle & Lower	Glen	Navajo Sandstone		
				Kaibata		
	Triassic	Upper	Canyon	Moenave		
				Chinle		
				Moenkopi		
			Lower			
	Paleozoic				Kaibab Limestone	

© 2007, Answers In Creation (www.answersincreation.org)

For the sources for this article, visit:

Dinosaur Evidences for an Old Earth! (www.answersincreation.org/poop.htm)

Desert Problem (www.answersincreation.org/desertproblem.htm)

