Book Review - The Answers Book
Chapter 5 – Distant Stars
Review by Greg Neyman

First Published 11 June 2003
Answers In Creation Website
www.answersincreation.org/abc5.htm

The authors dismiss the standard young-earth explanations from the past, and then present their new theory from Mr. Humphries.

A New Creationist Cosmology (Page 97)

For the most part, I'll skip this chapter. However, some statements must be challenged.

In the first paragraph on page 98, the authors state that his theory passed "peer review." Sorry, but a gathering of young-earth believers hardly qualifies as a "peer review." Peer review is a term used by scientists to claim that their work has stood up to the scrutiny of fellow scientists. In this case, only young-earth "scientists" reviewed the work.

To date, there is no known acceptance of his theory outside of the young earth community. To make a claim about peer review is to claim status for his work that is undeserved.

Finally, in Chapter 12 of this book, Dr. Humphries has the theory that the waters for the flood are stored out beyond the galaxies at the edge of the universe. This would add considerably to the mass at the edge, and would throw off his theory.

The authors mention the affect of gravity upon clocks. It has been shown prior to the 1970s that a clock at the top of a tall building runs faster than clocks at the bottom. My question is…has this been done recently, with digital clocks? We should be able to measure this down to the microsecond using today's digital clocks, but I'm not aware of any modern experiments.

It also stands to reason that if I take an airline flight, my watch will be affected. After all, if you did this on the Empire State Building, the altitude is about 1,400 feet. In an airplane at 35,000 feet, it should be much more dramatic.

To test this theory, I calibrated my watch to the US Naval Observatory the morning of a flight, and then I checked it again when I got on the ground. Technically, it should have been faster than the Observatory when I got back on the ground. However, when I checked it, it was the same time. It can't be due to a bad watch, because normally my watch keeps time to within one second per month.

So then, was time affected by altitude, or was it the springs in the clocks that were affected by the gravity difference? Makes you think…

For more on this theory, please see Dr. Hugh Ross's article on his website, at www.reasons.org.