

GLAD TIDINGS

“And we bring you good tidings of the promise made unto the fathers...” (Acts 13:32)

Vol. XIX

March 21, 2010

No. 12

Does The Bible Indicate A Young Earth?

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If organic evolution is true, the earth must be billions of years old. The complexity of life and life forms would need enormous amounts of time to evolve into what we presently observe. Such theorists also believe it would take billions of years for the particles to cool after the so-called “Big Bang”, and then solidify to form earth and the other planets in our universe. Thinking of the earth as being between 6,000 and 10,000 years old is unconscionable, because the present known complexities would take much more time for mere chance to work.

Evolutionists therefore consider the earth to be 4.5 billion to 20 billion years old. People who advocate a young earth believe the earth is between 6,000 and 10,000 years old. God creating, instead of chance operating, does not need large blocks of time to work. We are therefore looking at an enormous difference between the two camps.

Does the Bible indicate a comparatively young earth? While we may not have the exact month, day and year of creation, does the Bible lead us to reject the

notion of the earth being billions and billions years old?

Some who want to hold to the teachings of the Bible and an old earth believe the six days of creation could have covered billions and billions of years. Each day would therefore be a long period of time, not twenty four hours as we know it. What does the Bible have for us to consider?

The life span of Adam shows that such a theory is unsustainable. God reports, “*And all the days that Adam lived were nine hundred and thirty years: and he died*” (Genesis 5:5). According to the Bible, Adam was created on the sixth day and lived through the seventh day (Genesis 1:25-31). If each day were “ages long” or billions of years long, Adam’s life span would not be 930 years, having lived in part of one age and continuing beyond the completion of the next “day”.

On the fourth day of creation, God made the sun, moon and the stars. These lights were placed in the firmament of heaven “*to divide the day from the night. . .*” (Genesis 1:14). “Evening and morning” were not the only things dividing the day, but the sun was

now giving light on one side of the earth while the other side was experiencing nightfall. For a day to be a billion years old, the earth would have the light from the sun for 500,000 years while the other side was going through half a million years of darkness. Life would not be sustainable. The Bible here and observable life show that a day, ruled by the light of the sun and the night by the lesser light, could not be billions of years.

Moses, in Exodus, gives an inspired commentary on what he revealed in Genesis. Moses is commanding the Israelites that they will work six days and rest on the seventh day, “*for in six days Jehovah made heaven and earth the sea, and all that in them is, and rested on the seventh day*” (Exodus 20:11). As Jehovah’s day had an “evening and morning” in his days of creation, so the Israelite would recognize the same in his days of work. Six days, not six ages would they work. They would rest on the seventh day, not rest for a billion years. If the Bible is true, the foundation for an old earth theory does not exist.