

Origins Insights

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CREATION SCIENCE FELLOWSHIP



April 2005

CSF Meetings

Robert E. Walsh

Bob Walsh, former CSF Chairman and ICC Coordinator will be addressing both CSF North and CSF South meetings on two different topics. Both of these topics are of utmost importance in the Creation Movement and you will want to attend both meetings.

CSF South

Springs in the Valley Church
264 Old Clairton Road, Pleasant Hills

Monday April 18, 2005, 7:30 PM

The Importance of the Age Issue and the Magnetic Field of the Earth

One of the most important elements within the Creation Model of Origins is the "Age Issue". How old is the earth? How old is the Universe? Does science have anything to say on this matter? What do the Scriptures say with regard to the age issue?

In this multi-media graphical presentation, Mr. Walsh, former Chairman of CSF, will present "the guts" of the "age issue". In particular he will begin by examining how we ought to view and approach the "age issue". Many leading creationists state that they are "young-earth" creationists because of the "evidence". Is this a good argument or is there a "more excellent way"? How are we to view "evidence"? What is "evidence"? How is evidence to be used? Once we understand how to think about evidence, we will look at a host of "evidences" that are typically discussed when examining the age of the earth. The focus of this presentation will be within the Creation Model of Origins, rather than the broader topic of Creation .vs. Evolution.

See Age – P4

CSF North

Mars Alliance Church, Rt. 228

Tuesday April 19, 2005, 7:30 PM

A History of the Creation Movement and the Role of the International Conferences on Creationism

Understanding the History of the Creation Movement, helps us understand the debates and positions held by many on "both sides of the aisle". In this remarkable and unusual presentation, Robert Walsh, former CSF Chairman, will outline for CSF a history of Creationism that will help us understand where Creation Science has been, where it is, and where it needs to go. What are the stages in Creationism's history? Who are its key figures? What are some its key and defining moments?

See History – P4

Inside

**Sideling Hill, Interstate I-68,
Maryland USA.**

By Phil McCaffrey

Sideling Hill, Interstate I-68, Maryland USA.

By Phil McCaffrey



Just a few hours' drive southeast of Pittsburgh is an amazing geological formation, Sideling Hill on Interstate 68. The road was cut through the rolling mountains of the Appalachians and the cut reveals an spectacular sight, a "*syncline*" of sedimentary rock.

A syncline is a trough of stratified rock in which the beds dip toward each other from either side. Notice the layers of sedimentary rock are bent into a very large "U" shape from one side of the hill to the other at left – that's the syncline.

There is a very nice observation bridge and a building that hosts an information center devoted to teaching the evolutionary tale of Sideling Hill. The first official government sponsored plaque (#1) that one sees has a narrative that reads:

The sweep of geologic time exposed by the 380 foot slice into Sideling Hill spans about 20 million years from the dark gray marine rocks at the far end of the North Slope which are about 360 million years old, to the white continental sandstones at the top of the cut which are about 340 million years old. Seas, rivers and marshes have left behind sediments in a layered story of the earth's formation and reformation.

The photo above was taken on the observation bridge that spans the highway. For years, I have wanted to stop and simply take a look at the formation, it is truly beautiful and worth the drive. Lately, I have truly wanted to stop and take a look since I have changed my mind on the "millions of years," theory and have embraced the Biblical perspective of a young earth. On the bridge itself are "camera ports" through a fence. There is another plaque (#2) there that reads:

The "U" shape of the rock layers (called a syncline) demonstrates the intense compression which folded these rocks about 240 million years ago. Subsequent erosion has shaped Sideling Hill into its present form because the white sandstone layer at the top of the ridge has resisted erosion.

I have been studying geology and have wondered things like, why do geologists think that the sedimentary layers show an old age to the earth? Is this a scientific fact or theory? What is coal and how is it formed? (I am a second generation American citizen and my European ancestors were all in the coal industry in Western Pennsylvania – so my interest in coal is natural). How can I make sense of these "millions of years" theories and still believe in the Bible that clearly teaches against it? And of course how do I use the evidence around us scientifically while witnessing to people who do not believe that the Bible is the true Word of God? Could this be evidence of a global catastrophic world-wide flood?

It always intrigues me that all of the explanations proposed by the official interpretations (I would love to say propaganda) give me clues that lead to the truth in Genesis. Let's look at Sideling Hill and see what facts a non-professional scientist can uncover.

Fact #1: Sedimentary rock

Sideling Hill is composed of layers (stratified) of sedimentary rocks. Sedimentary rocks are formed of fragments of other rock transported from its source and deposited in water. Sandstone is the classic example. Plaque #1 tells us that “**Seas, rivers and marshes have left behind sediments in a layered story.**”

So what do we REALLY know?

- Sideling Hill was formed by a very large amount of water that transported the pieces of rock and sediment and deposited it in the Appalachians.
- If it truly took 20 million years to form the layers from bottom to top then why is there no evidence of erosion, between the layers – but there is plenty of erosion on the top of the hill.
- Why is the contact boundary between layers so distinct?
- And if it was million of years between the layers why is there no top-soil instead of just rock on rock?

Fact #2: Rocks bend under pressure

Plaque #2 tells us that “**intense compression . . . folded these rocks.**” Well they are rocks and the layer of them bends, so what makes a rock bend? Intense compression makes a stratum of sedimentary rock bend, while it is *still plastic*. But rocks that are 100 million years old would probably not bend, but break. Sedimentary rocks are only still plastic while being formed by water.

- How does a rock bend?
- How does intense pressure get on the top of the mountains in Maryland?
- How can it be that the rocks were formed 360 to 340 million years ago and then 100 million years later they all bent in this perfect formation?
- How could these layers have remained unhardened for 100 million years so as to be still plastic enough to then bend without fracturing?

Fact #3: Erosion has shaped Sideling Hill

The shape of the hill and the surrounding vista (truly breathtaking on the day I was there during the calm before the storm of a Hurricane in 2003) is shaped by erosion. It is commonly accepted that the hills of the Appalachians have been eroded over time and form nice round hills. I am truly at home in the Appalachians; their unique beauty is unsurpassed in all the Earth, deep forest greens and rolling hills – you must visit them.

So what do we REALLY know?

- Erosion causes layers on the surface of the land to be cut into and shaped into hills and valleys.
- What about the layers exposed by the cut?
- How was this erosion accomplished, and how long would it have taken?

The official government-sponsored explanation leaves me with questions. But this much I know, Sideling Hill is beautiful and it was formed by a massive amount of water and then bent under intense pressure, some time ago. Is it possible that the syncline was formed in The Flood and the erosion of today's landscape occurred as the waters retreated?

Age – After setting the groundwork and un-wrapping the various layers of the "age issue", Mr. Walsh will examine in more detail the Earth's Magnetic Field and show how it plays an important role in forming the Young-Earth Creation Model of Origins.

This is a presentation you don't want to miss! You will learn the importance of the age issue, as well as, how to think about and approach these fundamental issues within the Origins Debate.

History – Few understand the role that the International Conferences on Creationism have had on both the history and development of Creation Science. Mr. Walsh will outline a unique understanding of "Creationism's History" and discuss the role that CSF and in particular the ICCs have had in this remarkable journey.

In the second part of his presentation, Mr. Walsh will discuss important areas of past research that have proven vital to a coherent model of Creation history. Next he will look at research areas and topics that are on-going and also expected to play a needed role in our model development. Finally, Bob will examine areas of needed development that without them the "scientific" Creation Model can not ultimately be coherent.

You do not want to miss this vitally important and unusual presentation.

CSF North – May 2005 – Dennis Wert, "The Human Body: A Wonderfully Designed Instrument"?

September 2005 – Carnegie Museum Tour

CSF North – October 2005 – Brad Harrub, "Creation Apologetics"

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