

Origins Insights

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Testimony of a Smart Guy

By David Golinski

A few years ago someone asked me why so much of my Bible teaching revolves around Genesis, Creation, and Science. I began to tell this person about my own personal experience and how I came to know the Lord. At the time, I didn't even realize that I was giving my testimony to this person, but I have since found that it's the best way of witnessing to many people in this science driven secular world we live in today.

I spent my childhood growing up in a Catholic home with two wonderful parents and attended a Christian school through my first 8 grades. I knew all the Bible stories and at the ripe age of 13 I believed everything I had heard; then came public high school and science class. For the first time in my life I began to question everything I had learned in my childhood, and wondered whether someone had told me the whole truth or didn't give me all the information. I was hearing about "science", from teachers in a school, and reading things in textbooks about the earth that I had never heard before. No one had ever equipped me with a defense against this secular education. Soon I was watching all the PBS TV shows about "life on earth", and considered myself more informed than the average person. By now I thought I was a pretty smart guy; so where did this leave me in my Christian faith? Well, it left me thinking that someone had told me a bunch of stories as I grew up, and now I was finally learning the real history of the world. After all, how many people question a scientist about the age of the earth or about evolution; all of this information is what lead me to become a "confusionist". Now don't go running for your dictionary, I made up the term "confusionist" myself to better describe a person who is confused about creation and evolution.

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Last month's CSF South meeting was very successful. 49 people, the largest CSF South attendance to date, enjoyed Bob Walsh's enthusiastic and well informed talk on Mt. St. Helens. The enlightening and visually captivating slides and video clips really drove the point home that we live in a world full of recent geologic history and full of catastrophic events.

CSF Meetings

CSF South

New Wine Harvest Church
268 Old Clairton Road, Pleasant Hills

No meeting in June

October 17 Speaker: Dennis Wert
Topic to be announced

CSF North

No meeting in June

So there I was; a middle aged smart guy who had started his own business and built his own home; but someone who couldn't figure out the truth between these two belief systems. The one thing I did know for sure was; only one could be true and the other had to be a lie; but which one. I didn't know where to turn and finally resigned in thinking, "if these intelligent scientists all say the world is billions of years old, and we slowly evolved from apes millions of years ago; who am I to question it."

As time went on I slowly began to drift away from attending any church; I didn't see any point in listening to bible stories anymore. If you had asked me if I believed in Jesus Christ, I would have said yes I do, but I don't know how much of the Bible I believe anymore. My faith in Jesus never changed; but my confidence in the bible had been shaken, all because of "science". I knew that I was not the only one who had questions, but where does a confusionist turn. I couldn't go to a pastor; I was searching for answers that I never heard any pastor talk about before and still most don't talk about today. I couldn't go to a professor or scientist; I would be looked at as someone who didn't understand "science" by their terms.

Finally, as fate would have it, I noticed a few video tapes in a church library about creation and science. I thought that was the strangest thing I had ever seen in a church; but I couldn't wait to watch them. I had never seen anyone confront a scientist before about issues such as "the age of the earth" or "evolution". Watching a debate between two scientists did for me what 25 years of my science education could not; it proved to me who was making up the stories to promote their own agenda. It reminded me of a Presidential debate; forget about all the hype and mudslinging that goes on during the campaign; I wanted to see the two men go face to face with the facts so I could decide who was being truthful and who wasn't.

Well, as for that smart guy that once thought he knew all the answers; he realized that he had been a fool for a long time. During my so called "science education", I had been taught by people that I assumed were trustworthy, intelligent, and dedicated; I'm talking about today's teachers, professors, and scientists. If we can't trust our teachers; who can we trust? It never entered my mind to think that teachers could also be deceived just as I had been. What we see today is one generation teaching a lie to the next generation. Our ultimate goal should be to have these false teachings removed completely from the public school system; but for now the Intelligent Design movement lead by lawyer John Calvert is making progress with this strategy; "the teachers must be required to adequately inform students of problems with the evolutionary theory". We also need changes in the textbooks that our children use and to re-educate the teachers. When the truth is known to all, the next generation will have a much easier time than I had in making up their minds about the real origins of the earth and life.

I am happy to say that I discovered the facts and proof that I was searching for, and that in turn helped strengthen my faith in our Lord 100%. I also discovered that God always has a plan. All those years watching science programs and reading about "life on earth" was not a waste of time; it has given me an education on both sides of the issue; and now God is using me to help show others what he really wants us to see. So now you know why I teach about History, Science, Creation and Genesis all the time; it's my life's passion and God's plan.

How to get de-evolutionized?

For people that are confused about all the information they hear on these issues, I would recommend Creation Magazine and the Answers in Genesis website www.answersingenesis.org. They provide a tremendous amount of information that investigates and examines the evidence, and helps us tie together our Bible with the science of astronomy, anthropology, geology and biology.

David presents this information in children's programs and for Adult Bible Study at South Hills Bible Chapel in McMurray, Penna. He can be reached at golinskiphoto@msn.com

Links to many Creationists web sites are available on the CSF web site, www.csfpittsburgh.org

Book Review: "The Privileged Planet: How Our Place in the Cosmos is Designed for Discovery," by Guillermo Gonzalez and Jay W. Richards.

Review by Bill Clarke



Both the book and the 1-hour DVD of "The Privileged Planet" present an "old earth" viewpoint of origins of the earth and universe since the authors are part of the Intelligence Design movement. The DVD was shown at the June, 2005 meeting of CSF South. Yet the authors do present some excellent arguments that planet Earth may be unique in the entire universe, not only to support complex life but also for scientific discovery.

Secular scientists such as Carl Sagan say that our planet earth is just an insignificant pale blue dot lost in a cosmic sea. This view is an outgrowth of the Copernican Principle, discovered by Nicolaus Copernicus in 1543, that the earth rotates on its axis and revolves around the sun. Today, it has been expanded to a Principle of Mediocrity that earth is ordinary and has no special place in the universe.

So Gonzales and Richards ask the question, "Are habitable planets rare or common in the universe?" Although over 100 billion stars make up our Milky Way galaxy, there are a number of factors that must be considered in the probability of the existence of a habitable planet in the Milky Way:

- How Earth has a hydrological cycle with an abundance of water on the surface of the planet. Liquid water doesn't behave like most other liquids but allows chemical reactions needed to sustain life.
- How Earth is precisely positioned in a Circumstellar Habitable Zone in the solar system so that its water remains liquid over most of its surface (not too hot or not too cold).
- How Earth is orbited by one large moon one fourth its size — to provide tidal action to clean and aerate the oceans and also stabilize the tilt of earth's axis to moderate temperatures on the surface. Also, how this system produces the best solar eclipses just where there are observers to see them.
- How Earth's oxygen/nitrogen atmosphere helps protect us from harmful radiation, yet allows enough radiation from the sun needed for life. This atmosphere also is transparent, allowing observations of the sky for scientific knowledge.
- How large outer planets Jupiter and Saturn protect Earth from destruction of asteroids and comets.
- How Earth is precisely positioned in a Galactic Habitable Zone in the Milky Way—not only for life, but also to allow us to discover answers to mysteries of the universe. We are located about half way from the densely packed galactic center with its giant black hole and between spiral arms where there is little galactic dust to obscure our view of other galaxies in the universe.
- How the laws and constants that govern the universe must be narrowly fine-tuned for the existence of any complex life.

Gonzalez and Richards demonstrate that our planet Earth is uniquely fit not only to support life, but also to give us the best view of the universe, as if Earth—and the universe itself—were designed both for life and for scientific discovery. They suggest that it exists for purpose, design, and intention which can only be the product of an Intelligent Being.

*Submit your Creation Science book review, 250 words or less to:
bookreview@csfpittsburgh.org.
Be sure to include your name along with your city and state.*

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