

Midwest Creation Fellowship -- Student Essay Contest 2014

Topic Suggestions for Student Essay Contest

Have no fear - there are zillions of possible topics! Literally the whole universe is full of God's fingerprints! Here are a few suggestions.

Astronomy/Cosmology/Physics

- Implications of the **Laws of Thermodynamics**: These laws are so demonstrable that they are called "Laws." Does evolution-by-chance agree with them?
- **Problems with Theories on the Origin of ...**: stars, galaxies, the universe, the earth, the earth/moon system, the solar system
- **Uniqueness of the Earth**: to be habitable by life as we know it, a planet must have many particular properties: size, magnetic field, etc. How common might those be?
- **Comets**: Comets burn up as they pass the sun repeatedly, so why would any still exist if they were billions of years old? The Oort Cloud is a hypothetical cloud of objects, outside the visible solar system, that is claimed by evolutionists to be the source of comets. How much solid evidence



exists for the Oort Cloud? Or, could they be from a breakup of a planet whose fragments are now called "the asteroid belt"? Or what evidence exists that God created them as part of the solar system?

- Do "**Martian**" meteorites contain fossils or life?
- **Radioactive Dating Methods**: how good are they?
- **Physics and Metaphysics**: There are current physicists making astounding claims that contradict the basic reasoning needed for science!

see in the world today are the only processes that have ever occurred, and the Genesis Flood never happened. What do fossils reveal about the history of their containing rocks?

- **Evidence for a World-Wide Flood from the Grand Canyon** (or, pick a different location): fossils and sediments both point to a catastrophic origin.
- **Was there an Ice Age? Ages?** How long did it last? How does it fit into the Bible?
- "**Transitional Fossils**:" what fossils are supposed to be transitional between what life forms? What parts of the bodies have been found? You could include "feathered" dinosaurs, "Ida," "Lucy," etc.
- **How Are Rocks and Fossils "Dated?"** They don't come out of the ground with tags stating their ages, so how do scientists decide how old they are?

Earth Science (earth, fossils, weather)

- **Fossils vs. Uniformitarianism**: Uniformitarianism is the geological doctrine that the same processes we



Bryce Canyon

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Tiger Swallowtail on Bull Thistle

Biology

In general, when investigating questions of biological evolution, you can look at --

- **Where/when and in what order** any claimed transitional forms show up in the geological record
- **How much of an animal's remains have been found** in fossil form?
- **How Similar and dissimilar are the organs** and DNA of alleged related forms?
- How does the **Embryonic development** of different organisms compare?
- **DNA evidence** (what changes would be required, and what DNA evidence exists, for creature A being more related to B than to the totally dissimilar Q)?
- **Antibiotic Resistance:** in all cases in which the reason for antibiotic resistance is known, it is due to DNA damage, not improved DNA. The bacterium is *less able* to feed, process food, or something else has gone wrong - but that problem makes the individual *less susceptible* to feeding on or otherwise processing the toxin in the antibiotic.
- **Insect Metamorphosis** - Could It Have Evolved? Butterflies, beetles, go from one body type to something totally different, some by a gradual process, some - turn to jelly and come out a new life-form!
- **Evolution of consciousness? Of instincts? Of conscience?** Even if we could find a statistical possibility of the spontaneous generation of a one-celled organism, and even if we could statistically justify it becoming a complex organism, why would it not be an unconscious robot?
- **Could DNA arise by chance**, carrying information that would actually form a self-reproducing organism? Could an organism mutate to form a different kind of organism?
- **Reproduction: could sexual reproduction evolve?**
- **Mitochondrial Eve:** scientists can trace the mothers of everyone back to THREE women in the "recent" past; and can trace them back to *one* original mother of the modern human race. How strong is this as evidence for Eve, and for the 3 mothers of the human race who survived the Genesis Flood on the Ark?
- **"Y-Chromosome Adam"** is the Adam of Genesis: every male has one y-chromosome in his cells, which came from his father, who received it from *his* father, etc . Human Y-chromosomes trace male lineages back to one human father. Any reason to believe this is NOT the Adam of Genesis?
- **Statistical Impossibility of Spontaneous Generation of Life:** The origin of life by chance processes is preached as fact by many science teachers and writers. What are the odds of this having happened?
- **Evolution of Flight** - in birds, mammals, insects, and reptiles.
- **Evolution of Fish or Amphibians or Mammals:** Are lungfish the ancestors of amphibians? Are all lungfish related to each other? What would have to happen for a mammal to have come from a non-mammal?
- **Are all [fill in the blank!] related to each other?** Are all sharks related to each other? All bats? All birds? All people?

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Anthropology-Physical

- **Ape-Men:** are there any real "ape men" in the fossil record? What else might those fossils represent? Pick any one, or two, alleged "ape men," and discuss what features do or don't suggest they were proto-humans.
- How did all the "races" come from one human couple?
- Were **Neanderthals** really humans?

Anthropology - Cultures

- **Legends of the Flood** are found in perhaps half the indigenous cultures on earth. Some are amazingly similar to the Genesis Flood, yet they were told to missionaries and explorers by people groups who likely had never seen a Bible nor heard the Gospel. How did the Chinese, Hawaiians, North American Indians, South American Indians, and so many others get such similar legends?
- **Material culture:** for example, the boomerang is now thought of as unique to the Australian aborigines, but it has been found in many parts of the world. The Aboriginal word for it is the same as the word for it in a part of India! How'd the people of Australia have the same word for an



Neandarthal girl. Image released to public domain by Archeological Institute, University of Zurich

object as people they supposedly had to contact with for so many thousands of years?

- **Why do religions around the world have so much in common?** Blood sacrifices, belief in an afterlife, prayer to spirits or gods for help, priests.
- How could such different human **languages** have developed?

Archaeology

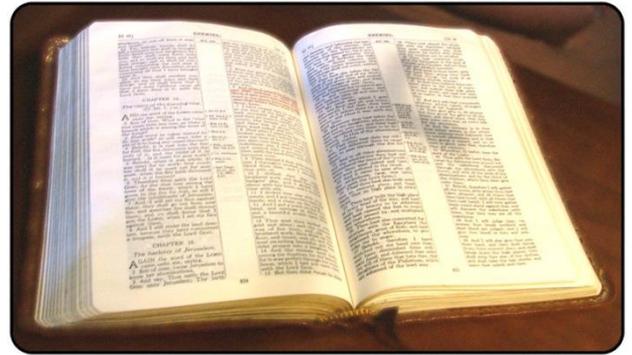
- **Giants in the Bible and in Archaeology:** Can we confirm any claims of giants in archaeology? What difference would that make in substantiating Genesis' statement of "Nephilim" in Genesis?
- **Technology of Early Man:** What does the evolution model tell us that early humans must have been like? What do we see in fact?
- **Ancient Cities, Sunken and Buried:** In the [Sahara Desert](#), and in many places under water, there are abandoned cities. *Some* are claimed by evolutionists to be from 10,000 years ago, when they believe the "last" Ice Age melted! Some are believed to have been drowned when earthquakes caused land to slide into the sea -- but, *without destroying* statues and architecture? Biblical creationists believe the earth is 6,000

years old, and the cities were built after the Flood, which occurred about 4,400 years ago. The Ice Age then occurred **due to** the Flood, and its after-effects included tremendous snow and rain. This lowered ocean level, as evaporation turned snow into glaciers thousands of feet deep. Clearly, some land that is now under water was then coastlands, where people like to build cities. Also, the increased precipitation caused warmer parts of the world that are now deserts to be verdant, so people built cities there. This offers several topics for essays! Dating methods, climate change, technologies of ancient people, Flood, etc.! What can you confirm about this? Don't assume every sunken or buried city is of the Ice Age, and not every claimed "city" is necessarily a city. And don't try to write about this *whole* topic!

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Bible/Theology

- **Couldn't God Have Used Evolution?**
- **Could "Day" Mean "Long Ages" in Genesis 1-3?**
- **Does it Matter How Genesis Is Interpreted?**
Should people not be confronted with creation/evolution, yet, before they consider the claims of Christ?
- **Why does God allow catastrophes, crimes, and tragic mistakes?**



History/Sociology/Government

- **Deadly Religion:** opponents of Christianity, and even of theism in general, have claimed that religions cause wars. Know which belief system has killed by far the most people? Atheism!



Scopes Trial, 1925

- **History of Geology:** the Origin of Uniformitarianism
- **History of Science:** where does the modern scientific method come from? How far back did it originate? Notice that Daniel and his friends conducted a scientific experiment on the effects of eating a vegetarian diet!
- **History of the Church's Teachings on Creation:** How far back does the Six-Day view go? How about the long ages view - was it held by all/most/some/a few/no early church fathers?
 - **The Scopes Trial:** facts and fictions
 - **The Faiths of Our Fathers:** what did the Founding Fathers believe about the Bible and creation, and how did it affect the government they set up? What about in other countries?

There's an endless supply of possible topics. Be specific enough that you can adequately cover your topic without spending more time than you have by April 30! DO remember that you have to find enough published material to research, and you can't just copy some of one paper, and some of another paper, and so on. This needs to be your original work in putting together ideas from different sources. Some topics may have too little already written to be used yet. You will find that the more you know, the more you realize that you don't know!