

January 10, 2008 email from ICR to Jeremy Schooler in response
to Jeremy's email of January 8, 2008

From: Bruce Wood [mailto:BWood@ICR.org]
Sent: Thursday, January 10, 2008 12:59 PM
To: Jeremy Schooler
Subject: Do you know Walt Brown? To Bruce Wood

Dear Jeremy,

I thank you for your thought-out response. Despite the acknowledgeable statement you made several times about not being well educated, you are to be commended for your willingness to discuss and examine evidences. For example, you strived to reply to the eight questions below. In truth, and with all due respect, I honestly do not have the time to reply to your submitted information.

In many of my College and seminary courses, I was often told that the information given was not to be considered as the ultimate truth regarding a scientific theory. The student must evaluate and research the topic further until he could accept a particular viewpoint and back it up with reasonable evidence.

ICR scientists have indeed recanted on some of their earlier viewpoints. ICR founder, Dr. Henry Morris, for example, did significant studies on the Noahic flood to find that God did not use evolutionary ways to form the earth. Thus, Dr. Morris gave up his belief in theistic evolution and exchanged it for a literal creation week. Too, the "canopy theory" once held by ICR scientists has been withdrawn in part because of new information that has contrary data that disallows for 40 days and nights worth of water above the earth.

You are amiss in your idea that ICR is attacking Dr. Walt Brown in any way. Please reread my opening statement (with **my emphasis**):

ICR does not have an official position about Walt Brown's science. However, **ICR respects Dr. Walter Brown's expertise in physics, mathematics, and military logistics, and his position as a young earth creationist.** Due to his physics specialty, the hydroplate theory focuses on the earth's surface and the mechanics of the separation of the continents. ICR scientists hold to the catastrophic plate tectonics theory. **Both theories have a lot in common** but there are a number of geological factors that play a roll in our differences on this topic. **Dr. Brown has discussed his ideas with ICR scientists and for the time-being agrees to disagree. We share a common belief as Christians, as young-earth creationists, and as scientists.**

When it comes to the evaluation of various scientific topics, ICR scientists are knowledgeable about conflicting data from other viewpoints, but nevertheless argue for their particular view, being satisfied with their research to support it. In defending his theory, apparently Dr. Brown has avoided intense scrutiny of it from other scientists and is not a specialist in this field, according to one of the quotes I gave you below from one of our experts in this field:

He has never welcomed peer review, or any level of criticism, as far as I know. This is a grave mistake, in my opinion. His ideas look very impressive to someone not trained . . . in geoscience.

Too, ICR does not enter into lengthy discussions or debates in many creation topics. The hydro-plate theory is one of them. suffice it to say, you must do the footwork and come to your own conclusion on this topic. Unfortunately, time does not allow me to help you much more in this area, or with your excellent view points. I have inserted an attachment above on our views on plate tectonics.

All in all, Christians should indeed conduct discussions in a loving and respectful manner, as you said. Taking a callous stand on a particular subject is not wise, especially when information from other sources could aid in a better construct of a model. I am not privy to the thoughts of our scientists on many subjects, and so I must ask you to rely on what evidences they have submitted and come to your best conclusion.

Respectfully yours,

Bruce Wood
Public Information Office
Institute for Creation Research

