Is ICR/AiG Helping or Hindering?

General Summary

By Pastor Kevin Lea August 10, 2009 (Rev 5)

Purpose

This general summary (as well as the <u>Part 1</u>, <u>Part 2</u>, and <u>Part 3</u> links) will show why people should ignore derogatory comments by Answers in Genesis (AiG) and the Institute for Creation Research (ICR) about Dr. Walt Brown's Hydroplate Theory (which explains the flood of Noah).

Background

Ken Ham came to the United States, and after spending a short time with ICR, split off to set up AiG. Since then, these two large organizations have been competing for finite donation dollars from Christian supporters. It is clear from my face-to-face conversation with Ken Ham that he thinks the war against the evolution lie will be most easily won if everyone supported and otherwise marched to the AiG drum. I am sure ICR management wants their drum to be heard and financially supported too, since failure to do so will result in their decline.

However, Dr. Walt Brown does not have to drum up support for a large organization, he does not march to the AiG/ICR drums, and he never requests donations. Yet his research and writing (in book form and on the web) have helped equip hundreds-of-thousands of people with scientific arguments against the evolution deception.

For several years, Ken Ham (AiG America), Creation Ministries International (CMI, formally AiG Australia), and ICR have grossly misrepresented Dr. Brown's theories to a wide audience. ICR began this practice in 1984. Many ask why? Is it because competition for the donation dollar requires that Dr. Brown must be marginalized and shown to be wrong? Otherwise, AiG/ICR will be marginalized? Some refer to this as the "Not invented here" posture. If AiG/ICR didn't invent it, they can't take credit for it (and make a buck on it). Therefore, it must be demonized and otherwise labeled as bad science.

Those who have read Dr. Brown's work can easily recognize the misrepresentations, which are documented in Part 2 of this series. But those who have not read Dr. Brown's work because they trusted the AiG/ICR critiques are missing out on learning about the only existing theory that explains (1) where the flood water came from and (2) where it went, in a manner that is scientifically valid, is in complete agreement with Scripture, and does not require miracles.

Similarly, Dr. Brown's work includes a very detailed scientific explanation for the formation of the Grand Canyon which answers most if not all of the puzzling questions that have plagued evolutionists and creationists for decades. (ICR and AiG, do not have a scientifically credible explanation for the formation of the Grand Canyon, do not address the key questions, and provide little if any scientific evidence.)

So people who desire a biblically and scientifically sound explanation of the flood of Noah and the associated formation of the Grand Canyon should read Dr. Brown's book rather than trusting what AiG and ICR say about his theory. The 8th edition of Brown's book, *In the Beginning: Compelling Evidence for Creation and the Flood*, is available to read or print for free from his web site, www.creationscience.com and will be available in hard copy in December 2008.

Introduction

This general summary and Part 1 and Part 2 were written and posted here after many, many attempts, both through face-to-face encounters and written correspondence with Ken Ham, other AiG personnel, Carl Wieland (now Creation Ministries International), and ICR, to get these organizations and individuals to stop their misrepresentations of and campaign against Dr. Brown's work. These efforts all failed. Although to varying degrees, AiG and ICR have acknowledged that they *have* misrepresented Dr. Brown's work, they have refused to correct their errors. Part 3 documents my attempts in 2008 and July 2009 to get AiG to correct the Grand Canyon displays in their museum, which depict information that ICR's Dr. Steve Austin plagiarized from Dr. Walt Brown's discoveries and then repackaged into bad science which he published in his own book. These attempts have also failed.

A History of Bias and Malice

The following are a few of many examples of unprofessional behavior by these stalwart creation "ministries."

Example I — AiG distributes to the public Baumgardner's inaccurate and misleading critique of Brown's work.

For several years, people who wrote or called AiG asking their opinion of Dr. Brown's hydroplate theory were given a standard response written by Dr. Baumgardner who at the time was employed by ICR. (Dr. Baumgardner left ICR in July 2008).

Dr. Baumgardner's response grossly misrepresented Dr. Brown's theory, and he made no attempt to contact Dr. Brown to ensure his paper was accurate before giving it to AiG. AiG also made no attempt to ensure the paper was accurate before sending it out to others.

Dr. Baumgardner has a conflict of interest in the matter, because he has been trying to gain acceptance for his own Catastrophic Plate Tectonic (CPT) Theory. (It should be noted that Henry Morris III acknowledged in August of 2008 that the CPT theory requires miracles in order to work as an explanation for the biblical flood.) AiG was aware of Dr. Baumgardner's competing theory and therefore should have been aware of the conflict of interest. For this reason, as well as normal professional courtesy, they should have contacted Dr. Brown to ensure Baumgardner's critique was accurate before publishing it. However, they did not.

Example 2 — When confronted, AiG pulls Baumgardner's Paper, but makes no effort to correct the error for the public.

After several years of ignoring this practice by AiG, Dr. Brown wrote to AiG in 2001 documenting the errors in Baumgardner's paper. As a result, AiG stopped distributing Baumgardner's response, but have done nothing to correct the misrepresentations that they sent to thousands of people.

Example 3 —AiG (Ham) discourages production of video about Brown's Hydroplate Theory and promises that AiG will not distribute it if it is produced.

In 1998/99, a video producer who had done work for AiG called Ken Ham to get his opinion about animating Dr. Brown's hydroplate theory. Ken Ham strongly encouraged the video producer not to do so and said that if he did produce this video, AiG would not carry or promote it.

Ken Ham is entitled to choose what AiG will and will not sell, but when I asked Mr. Ham in a face-to-face meeting why he felt this way, he admitted he had never read Dr. Brown's book. He then proceeded to misrepresent Dr. Brown's work.

Why is Ken Ham so adamant that he would not carry a video that had not yet been produced, about a theory he had not studied? Is it because Ham has no interest in anything that isn't discovered by AiG/ICR "insiders," even if it would be of value to the Christian community?

Example 4 – AiG web site labels Brown's theory as "doubtful," claiming (without documentation) no "significant" support from the "creationist geological community."

For several years, AiG had a section on their web site that was titled, "Doubtful, so don't use at present." Dr. Brown's hydroplate model was listed on this page with a statement that it had not attracted "significant" support from the creationist geological community.

After extensive correspondence between Dr. Brown, Carl Wieland of AiG, and me, this statement was pulled from the AiG web site.

Others and I have asked AiG for the list of these "creationist geologists" who are purportedly skeptical of Dr. Brown's theories, but AiG has not produced any names.

People who have heard this argument against Dr. Brown's theory should realize AiG is probably talking about two geologists, Steve Austin and Andrew Snelling. Assuming this is the case, let's see if they are credible critics of Dr. Brown.

The Two Critics – Are they Credible? No!

Steve Austin

For background, Walt Brown spent one full year in 1987/88 studying the Grand Canyon, seeking to discover how it formed. After making some very important and unique discoveries in the

surrounding high country, he was the first to publish data on the elevation, name, location, and breach point of a former lake that Dr. Brown named "Grand Lake" and how this lake relates to the formation of the Grand Canyon.

Steve Austin (who at the time was employed at ICR but who, as of July of 2008, is no longer an ICR employee) was also "supposing" (his word) the concept that the Grand Canyon was a post-flood related marvel created by a large lake that breached a dam. However, he focused on the wrong lake (Hopi Lake) and did not address, let alone answer, several perplexing questions. For example, what uplifted the massive Colorado Plateau 6200 feet above sea level? (Had that not happened, the mile-deep Grand Canyon would not exist.) How did Grand Lake form and how did both Grand Lake and Hopi Lake breach and flow over the high Kaibab Plateau? Where did the 800 cubic miles of dirt that was carved out of the Grand Canyon go? Dr. Brown laid out dozens of evidences to support his Grand Lake discoveries and explanation; Austin did not make original breached-dam discoveries but used Brown's Grand Lake explanation and provided few, if any, evidences of his own.

Dr. Austin purchased Dr. Brown's book in August of 1989 and for several years afterwards, took credit for (plagiarized) Dr. Brown's discoveries. Austin began by backdating an ICR publication (trying to claim priority) and later published as his own, key information from Dr. Brown's work, including the name of Grand Lake. He then began telling others that Dr. Brown had plagiarized *his* work. When confronted by Dr. Brown about this, he denied, (in writing) that he had accused Dr. Brown of plagiarizing his (Austin's) work. Despite his denials Austin continues this slander as late as August 3, 2008 (at the ICC conference) in a conversation with Joe Bardwell.

To this day, Dr. Austin has not provided a scientifically sound explanation for *how* Grand Lake formed, *how* it breached its dam, or *how* it cut through the Kaibab Plateau because he could not and cannot. All he could do was plagiarize what he could of Dr. Brown's work without embracing Dr. Brown's hydroplate theory explanations for the **HOWS** of these critical details.

Austin and Dr. Henry M. Morris II, after denying Austin's unethical practices, signed an agreement on June 21, 1994, to correct Austin's misstatements in any future printing of his book (Grand Canyon: Monument to Catastrophe) and to insert an errata sheet in the remaining inventory of the current edition. (These actions resulted from evidence brought before a Christian mediation panel of four judges on June 21, 1994.) However, as the mediation meeting was breaking up, Austin requested an exemption on the errata sheet because his first edition was (he said) almost gone. The next edition would contain all corrections. Brown said that would be fine if fewer than 1000 copies of his book remained. The mediators agreed. However, for the next three months, Austin refused to provide the count of the number of books remaining, despite dozens of efforts (phone call and letters) by Brown to get that number (See Part 3 for details). Finally, on 24 September, 1994, Brown asked Austin to join him in a phone call to Don Rohr, ICR's business manager, who certainly knew how many books remained at the time of the mediation. Austin's reply: "It's none of your business." Therefore, Brown called Don Rohr, who confirmed that more than 1000 books remained on June 21, 1994. Brown then contacted all involved, including Austin and the head mediator, and announced that Austin had "eviscerated the mediation agreement."

False statements continue to this day and some were reproduced in: *Red Rock Pass: Spillway of the Bonneville Flood* by Austin, published by ICR in July of 2008, when Austin still worked for ICR (See Part 3 for details).

Austin has taken deceptive measures to conceal his plagiarism, including changing the name of Grand Lake (after using it for three years) to "Canyonlands" Lake.

After the mediation referred to above, Austin made the following statement in a letter to the lead mediator, Professor Peter Robinson, dated August, 29, 1994.

Unfortunately, I did not reference Brown as the source of the name "Grand Lake" until the 1993 issue of Grand Canyon Field Study Tour Guidebook. That lack of citation of Brown in the earlier issues [1990-1992] of the Field Guidebook may have led some to believe that I was the source for the name "Grand Lake." That supposition is, of course, incorrect.

Austin's confession that he plagiarized the name Grand Lake from Dr. Brown (before he changed it to Canyonlands Lake) is one of the rare moments where Austin told the truth. It followed months of lying to Brown and the mediation panel that he had independently come up with the Grand Lake explanation.

He continues to falsely claim he independently discovered Grand Lake and its breach point, which the written record shows he came up with after reading Dr. Brown's work. I pray, for his sake, that Austin will also come clean on these lies that are adversely affecting creationists.

Austin's deceptions are fully documented in <u>Part 3</u>, and in the book I am co-authoring with Pastor Diego Rodriquez titled, *Canyonlands Lake –Monument to Plagiarism*.

Andrew Snelling

Another creation geologist associated with AiG and ICR who has gone on record as disagreeing with Dr. Brown's Hydroplate Theory is Dr. Andrew Snelling.

Before looking at Snelling's credibility as a critic of Dr. Brown, it is important to know some background. Both Snelling and Austin received their doctorates from secular universities whose geology is based on evolution.

Even if they were both able to keep the evolutionary lies from penetrating their minds, they at least had to be less than honest during their exams, repeating back to the professors the evolutionary dogma in order to make the grade. Once someone becomes accustomed to telling people what they want to hear, despite what they believe Canyonlands
Lake

The True History of the Discovery of the Origin of the Grand Canyon (What ICR and AiG Don't Want You to Know)

the facts to be, what keeps them from continuing this dishonest practice?

In fact, Steve Austin wrote creation papers for ICR under a pen name (Stuart Nevins) during his post-graduate training to prevent his university from finding out he was an "undercover" creationist. It is easy to see how this deception led to plagiarism which later, to cover his tracks, required lying. (The cover up is often worse than the original misdeed.)

In the case of Snelling, his lack of integrity at the university did not stop after receiving his Ph.D. In 1990, when Snelling was writing a scientific paper for Hughes (published by the Australasian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy, Melbourne), he mentions weathering and erosion periods of 150 million years, regional metamorphism lasting from 1870 to 1800 million years ago, and other ancient dates. But when working for creation organizations, Snelling writes as a young earth creationist. A Google search on Snelling provides documentation of this unethical behavior in his published writings.

When confronted about this inconsistency, Snelling defends himself by saying that he was *forced* (his word) to write what his employers expected to hear. So, while working with creationists, was he "forced" to support the scientifically bankrupt canopy theory when it was in vogue? Is he now "forced" to be on the equally unscientific (and more importantly, unbiblical) Catastrophic Plate Tectonic Theory bandwagon in order to be part of the ICR/AiG "in crowd?"

In summary, we must be just as wary of the credibility of a creation geologist with a doctorate from a secular university as we would a so-called Christian Pastor who has a doctorate in Buddhism. Some Buddhist teachings would probably come from the pulpit.

With that said, Snelling was once asked to submit a written critique of the Hydroplate Theory. He declined on 4 November 1992, saying:

It is not that I don't believe in amateurs [meaning Walt Brown and others] having a role in this process, but if amateurs and those with deficient knowledge are left to build and evaluate a flood model then there is no way that it will ultimately be satisfactory and successful ... If those of us who have a professional geological background are still struggling to reach consensus amongst ourselves (for example, Steve Austin, Kurt Wise [Ph.D. geology (paleontology) from Harvard University, where the famous evolutionist, Stephen J. Gould was his principle advisor] and myself), then it is hard to see how in the short term there is going to be consensus amongst a wider circle which includes both amateurs and professionals.

Dr. Brown is a National Science Foundation Fellow with a Ph.D. in Mechanical Engineering from Massachusetts Institute of Technology, probably the most prestigious scientific and engineering university and graduate school in the world. Brown also has a long list of scientific career achievements. While his doctoral degree is in engineering, not in geology, he is *not* an "amateur" in geological issues involving the flood. Why doesn't Snelling use his geology education to enter into the written scientific debate that Dr. Brown has been offering for years, but which ICR and AiG (and their employees) refuse to take part in? Again, why?

Dr. Brown has taken college courses in geology, and he did not hide the fact he was a creation scientist. Dr. Brown's credentials, professionalism, and honesty gave him much favor with the late Dr. Bob Dietz, who received the 1988 Penrose Medal from the Geological Society of

America. (The Penrose Medal is awarded annually to the most eminent American geologist who has not yet received the medal.)

Although Brown and Dietz differed on many foundational issues, they quickly became friends and respected each others scientific abilities.

Note: Dr. Dietz was one of the founders of the evolutionary Plate Tectonic Theory and was the one credited with the concept of "sea-floor spreading" as required by plate tectonics. Austin and Snelling embrace this same evolutionary model, except they believe various miracles caused it to happen millions of times faster. They name their theory Catastrophic Plate Tectonics (CPT) and teach it to Christian lay audiences. Dr. Dietz, in his private conversations with Walt Brown, frequently acknowledged problems with plate tectonics.

At Dr. Dietz's invitation, he and Dr. Brown met for three hours each week for a year to discuss evolution vs. creation, secular geology vs. the flood, and the Plate Tectonic Theory vs. the Hydroplate Theory. These hundreds of hours of discussions resulted in Dr. Brown adding much new information to his book which, among many other things, gives 15 reasons why subduction and sea floor spreading has not, cannot, and *will not* occur.

In a letter to Dr. Bill Curtis (1998), Snelling wrote:

...I am not the only trained geologist who has critiqued the Brown Hydroplate Theory. Steve Austin has also outlined his geological concerns with the theory and as a consequence there has been some 'bad blood.'

According to Dr. Brown, this is hardly an honest statement because Austin has never "outlined his concerns." After reading the above, Dr. Brown wrote to Snelling to explain:

In a face-to-face conversation with Steve Austin on 21 June 1994, he told me he didn't understand the Hydroplate Theory. (He not only did not understand it, it appeared he never tried to understand it.) Therefore, I explained a few things dealing with mountain formation, the Kaibab Upwarp, faulting within the Grand Canyon especially at monoclines, some physical reasons why subduction and mantle convection cannot occur, and a very important engineering phenomenon called "the buckling of a beam on an elastic foundation." Austin had no comment. In fact, he seemed unable to respond. I turned to Henry Morris, who was standing next to us, and said, "What are your reactions, Henry?" He smiled and said, "Sounds good to me." Morris then invited me to visit ICR sometime.

In the same letter to Curtis, Snelling wrote:

Walt Brown submitted his theory to the third ICC [International Conference on Creationism] (1994) and I ended up writing a critique. The relevant paperwork is still in files at the AiG office, but I am still hoping to have access to those files again soon. If I can achieve that, then I would be able to send you a copy of that critique.

Dr. Brown responds:

No. Snelling didn't submit a critique. He simply said he would provide no critique, because some of us were amateurs. [The essence of his letter is quoted above.] The group in Minneapolis was disappointed that Snelling would not comment. Nor did Snelling's letter relate to any ICC conference, as I have explained. It dealt with the Minneapolis Flood Project [an effort to compare, contrast, and critique different ideas concerning the flood]. Snelling is confused.

Snelling goes on in his letter to Curtis saying:

The major problem with the hydroplate theory is the logistics of having a layer of water as a distinct entity around the globe under the continents and the ocean floor.

But with careful reading, this is what the Bible says, and the flood was a result of all the fountains of the great deep bursting up in one day. So Snelling doesn't just have a problem with Dr. Brown, he has a problem with what the Bible says.

Snelling also goes on to say:

The pressure on such a water layer from the overlying rocks would be incredible. Thus the overlying rocks would have to form a sealed layer to hold the water in. Even the slightest imperfection in the overlying rocks would be exploited by the water under such high confining pressures so that it would literally 'burst forth.'

With his knowledge of physics, engineering, and mechanics of materials as well as geology, Dr. Brown has shown how the overlying, highly-compressed rock would be sealed, despite any imperfections. In summary, five miles or more below the surface of the earth (one half of the estimated thickness of the pre-flood crust), the pressure is so great that the rock would actually flow, slowly, like tar if the rock were not rigidly contained. (In engineering terms, the compressive stress in the rock would greatly exceed its crushing strength, causing the rock to creep.) In a written response to Dr. Snelling, Dr. Brown concluded:

Although water cannot flow up through cracks in this situation, it would flow up for limited distances in a special pattern. I will leave it to you, Andrew, to think that through. Let's see if a geologist identifies the same equilibrium state as this mechanical engineer.

Snelling never responded.

Finally, Dr. Snelling wrote Curtis:

Another problem is that Brown's model starts with an oversimplified description of the rock compositions of the continents and the ocean floors. I am not sure what I was referring to when I spoke to you at ICC 98 about the subterranean basalt configuration being wrong. However, I suppose I was referring to the current distribution of the basalt layer of the ocean floors and the way it goes down under the continents, or so it would seem.

Dr. Brown responded to Snelling:

Yes, the basalt layer does bend down under the thick continents, and the Hydroplate Theory explains why. This feature, I maintain, presents a problem for CPT and Plate Tectonics. If you and the other five [authors of the Catastrophic Plate Tectonic Theory] ever decide to accept my offer for a thorough, publishable exchange of our respective views, we can go into the details.

Conclusion. Since AiG and ICR have relied heavily on the work and influence of these two geologists, it is probable that they are the sole source for AiG's recommendation against considering Dr. Brown's Hydroplate Theory because "It had not attracted significant support from the creationist geological community." After reading the above, I hope those interested in truth realize that Austin's plagiarism of Dr. Brown's work, Austin's and Snelling's misrepresentations of Dr. Brown's theory, and their false claims about having critiqued it in writing, excludes them from being credible critics.

Example 5 – AiG maligns Brown because he does not publish in their journal.

AiG also misleads people by saying that Dr. Brown knows his theory is weak because he is unwilling to defend it by publishing in their "peer-reviewed" *Technical Journal*. (Since 1986, John Baumgardner has told audiences that story. Nevertheless, he and others in his circle, including AiG, have declined a written debate with Dr. Brown.)

The AiG authored *Technical Journal* is *not* a "peer reviewed" journal. It would be more accurate to say it is a "good-ole-boys-reviewed, you publish me, I'll publish you, you sell my books, I'll sell your books," journal. What apparently irks AiG is that Dr. Brown refuses to join their boys' club, so they publicly castigate him by calling him a "lone wolf." On the contrary, Brown probably interacts with more people who call, write, and visit him than Austin and Snelling combined. Anyone who "googles" on {creation evolution flood} will see why.

AiG saying that Brown's theory is "weak" because he does not publish in the *Technical Journal* is like the editors of *Science* magazine saying that creationists have no credibility because creation scientists don't publish in the evolutionist-oriented *Science* magazine. Such a statement is factually true, but hides the fact they refuse to publish the creationist view and thus disguises their hostility towards and bias against the creation science community. As we've shown, AiG and ICR hold this same unbiblical and unscientific hostility towards, and bias against, Dr. Brown and his work.

There is no reason for Dr. Brown to try to condense the 220-page Hydroplate Theory into a short article. His entire 456-page book is available to read or print for free from his web site. Why would Brown have it published in the *Technical Journal*, since AiG has used this publication to misrepresent his theory, then refused to correct the errors when others pointed them out (see the Part 2 link). Finally, peer-reviewed science journals will not publish material that has already been published, as has the hydroplate theory.

Example 6 – AiG uses plagiarized information from Brown in new museum.

ICR/AiG have continued to misrepresent Dr. Brown's theory and have otherwise acted unprofessionally and unethically toward Dr. Brown to this day.

In fact, in January 2008, ICR again disseminated false statements about Walt Brown's work, and AiG's new museum features information plagiarized from Dr. Brown. Despite attempts by others, and me, both organizations have refused to correct their errors. As a result, we have posted my efforts of written correspondence to AiG and ICR, with documentation of the historical correspondence between Dr. Brown and Austin/Morris II proving Austin's plagiarism, as Part 3.

Readers will be able to decide for themselves whether Austin/AiG/ICR are credible critics of Dr. Brown's work.

Disturbing Questions – and Possible, Equally Disturbing Answers

I spoke with another creationist speaker who also sees AiG using unbiblical and heavy-handed tactics against others besides Dr. Brown. That speaker asked me not to use his name because he did not want to "come up on Ken Ham's radar screen." Why was he afraid of being on Ham's "radar screen?" Was it because AiG and ICR might also target him?

The historical back-scratching relationship between AiG and ICR has allowed book-selling monies to flow to both organizations. Dr. Brown has made it clear to both organizations that he is not interested in this kind of "good-ole-boys" relationship, which often corrupts the pursuit of good science. Could this be why they have both misrepresented his work behind his back and blackballed him? Of course they both deny that these unchristian attitudes have driven their decisions. But why do AiG and ICR fail to correct their errors and misstatements about Brown's Hydroplate Theory? Is it possible that they worry that Christian donors might be less generous if they learned that their publications have misled and been inaccurate for so many years?

Are donations more important to AiG/ICR than truth and integrity? Are they more interested in promoting themselves than creation? Why does AiG campaign against Brown and other creationists who are using their gifts independently of AiG's or ICR's control? Is it possible they want all creationists on their bandwagons so they can continue to elevate their organizations in the eyes of the Christian community in order to maximize donations?

ICR/AiG fail to point people to Dr. Brown's work on the Grand Canyon so they can learn about a very powerful scientific explanation for how the Grand Canyon formed in a matter of weeks. Why? Is it perhaps because to do so would be embarrassing in light of their prior maligning of Dr. Brown and his work?

Why I Believe Brown's Hydroplate Theory Provides the Best Explanation for the Flood of Noah

The global flood of Genesis 7 resulted in the death of all land bound, breathing things on the earth except for those preserved on Noah's ark. This is true because the Bible says so.

Any explanation of the flood must be 100% biblical, or it is untrue. Explanations that agree with the Bible but require miracles are still possible because the Lord God is a God of miracles. However, miracles should not be used to prop up scientific theories. (This is how evolutionists think creationists do science.)

However, if the flood of Noah can be explained with superior scientific as well as biblical evidence — and at the same time solve dozens of recognized problems within science — then Christians will have a powerful case against the evolutionary lie.

After 23 years of technical background in Navy nuclear engineering, 34 years of studying, outlining, and teaching the entire Bible, and 15 years of following the progress of Brown's work, I am convinced (along with many, many others) that the Hydroplate Theory gives Christians a commanding apologetic tool for the flood of Noah.

For example, we can explain why evidence of former salt water was found on Mars. In fact, Dr. Brown predicted it in his work published three years before the Mars' Rovers landed and made that discovery. We can also explain why there is methane in Mars' atmosphere, large amounts of water under the earth's major mountains, an electrically conductive layer under our continents, remnants of supercritical water still inside the earth, and organic material in comet tails.

Comets

On 4 July 2005, NASA's *Deep Impact* spacecraft fired an 820-pound bullet into comet Temple 1, revealing as never before the composition of the surface layers of a comet. The material blasted from the comet into space included:

- (1) *Crystalline* silicates that could not have formed in very cold outer space (almost minus 460 degrees Fahrenheit) unless the temperature reached 1,300 degrees Fahrenheit and then slowly cooled under some pressure.
- (2) Minerals, such as calcium carbonates (limestone) and clays, that form only in *liquid* water.
- (3) Organic material of unknown origin.
- (4) Sodium, which is seldom seen in interplanetary space.
- (5) Very fine dirt—like talcum powder—that was "tens of meters deep" on the comet's surface.

Although the above findings were baffling to evolutionary scientists, every one is completely consistent with Brown's theory that the material in comets came from the earth when the

fountains of the great deep burst up through a rupture in the earth's crust. (The energy was so immense that some water/dirt material was able to escape earth's gravity and began traveling in elliptical orbits around the sun, and later merged to form comets — and asteroids. Astronomers sometimes called comets and asteroids "the mavericks of the solar system," because their origin defies current understanding by conventional astronomy.)

Based on the scientific evidence of comet orbits and the theory that the material in comets came from earth at the time of the flood, Brown predicts that beyond Pluto's orbit there is additional mass equal to the mass of Jupiter. Dr. John Anderson of JPL has discovered that a mysterious force was inexplicably slowing the Pioneer and Voyager space probes down as they left the solar system. Dr. Brown's theory explains this anomaly.

Earthquake Effects

Dr. Brown's theory also explains why earthquakes occur and why every major earthquake causes the earth to spin slightly faster, something that was widely reported after the December 26, 2004 earthquake that caused the Indian Ocean tsunamis that killed 225,000 people! His theory also explains why this massive earthquake occurred near the north tip of "Ninety East" ridge, why the aftershocks were moving northward, and why the earth's axis changed slightly.

I could go on and on with many scientific facts and recent discoveries that all support the Hydroplate Theory, and I know of none that could be used to disprove it.

Why this Matters so Much

Satan has invested much in the evolutionary lie, because if properly packaged, evolution can very effectively sterilize a believer and harden the heart of nonbelievers to the point they have only scorn for the Bible and Christians who speak of the gospel and follow Jesus Christ.

If someone can be convinced that evolution is the truth, then they are swayed to believe that the biblical account of Creation is a fairy tale (a lie), and they will never consider anything else the Bible says.

The Bible teaches that we are in a spiritual war against Satan and his demons (Ephesians 6). In this war we are to pull down the lies of the enemy.

For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh. 4 For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds, 5 casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ.. 2 Corinthians 10:3: (NKJ)

It is clear from this passage that this war is not won by fleshly tactics, but by spiritual weapons. The greatest weapon we have as Christians is the TRUTH. Jesus is the way, the TRUTH, and the life.

It was Jesus' refusal to depart from the TRUTH that so angered the powers of His day. If Jesus would have only refrained from His claim to be "the King of the Jews" then Pilate might have refused to go along with the Pharisees.

If Jesus had heaped accolades on the Scribes and Pharisees rather than expose their pride and corruption, then maybe they would not have been enraged to the point of saying, "[we] consider that it is expedient for us that one man should die for the people, and not that the whole nation should perish." (John 11:50)

But it was impossible for Jesus to lie (John 8:55, Hebrews 6:18), and the mission of the Father can only be served by the TRUTH.

If it is impossible for God to lie, and if it is God's desire to dwell in our hearts by the power of His Spirit, then it should be our goal to "never tell a lie" also. Therefore, all Christians and Christian organizations involved in the Creation message should cease from telling fairly tales (like the Canopy Theory and the unbiblical and unscientific Catastrophic Plate Tectonic Theory), even if it requires sacrificing closely attached agendas.

Conclusion

Dr. Brown has stated many times that he will correct any misinformation (Biblical or scientific) that is contained in his written work. In fact he has done so many times during the eight editions of his book. He welcomes a written debate.

It is my hope, readers, that you will see through the AiG and ICR campaigns against Dr. Brown and consider adding the Hydroplate Theory explanation to your list of apologetic tools. In doing so you will be better equipped to tear down the lies of the enemy as you seek to witness to the lost.

I should also note that copies of a preliminary version of the Revision 4 posting were sent to ICR, AiG, Drs. Steve Austin and John Baumgardner asking them to point out any inaccuracies that may exist in the above discourse. To date, I have not received any responses from them. If I do receive a response that documents an error on my part, then a correction will be made and posted immediately. This Revision 5 posting has only activated the Part 3 link which points to my July 6, 2009 documentation detailing Austin's plagiarism and bad science, and AiG's/ICR's year long refusal to get it out of the AiG museum. This July 6, 2009 documentation was also sent to ICR, AiG, and Dr. Austin asking for their comments or corrections. As of August 7, 2009, no one has responded with concerns about accuracy. The letters to these men and their responses (if any) are part of the Part 3 posting.

Sincerely,

Kevin Lea

Pastor, Calvary Church of Port Orchard Washington