NASA's Mars Rover Finds Rock with Earth-Like Chemistry

By Irene Klotz / Reuters – 15 hrs ago (October 12, 2012)

Note from Pastor Kevin Lea follows this article.



This NASA image from Mars Curiosity's Mast Camera taken on September 22, 2012 and released October 11, 2012 shows where NASA's Mars Curiosity rover aimed two different instruments to study a rock known as "Jake."

CAPE CANAVERAL, Florida (Reuters) - When scientists selected a rock to test the Mars rover Curiosity's laser, they expected it to contain the same minerals as rocks found elsewhere on the Red Planet, but learned instead it was more similar to a rock found on Earth.

The rock was chemically more akin to an unusual type of rock found on oceanic islands like Hawaii and St. Helena, as well as in continental rift zones like the Rio Grande, which extends from Colorado to Chihuahua, Mexico.

"It was a bit of a surprise, what we found with this rock," Curiosity scientist Ralf Gellert of the University of Guelph in Ontario, Canada, told reporters on a conference call Thursday. "It's igneous," Gellert said, referring to rock formed from molten material. "But it seems to be a new kind of rock type that we encountered on Mars."

Curiosity arrived on Mars two months ago to learn if the most Earth-like planet in the solar system was suitable for microbial life.

Last month, Curiosity's laser was used to zap the football-sized rock and the rover analyzed the pulverized material, as well as tiny pits left behind, to determine its chemical composition. Scientists found the rock lacks magnesium and iron - elements found in igneous rock examined by previous Mars rovers Spirit and Opportunity.

The rock, named after a Jet Propulsion Laboratory rover engineer, Jake Matijevic, who died shortly after Curiosity's landing, was also rich in feldspar-like minerals, which provided clues about the rock's history.

"The way in which this type of rock forms ...

To read this article in its entirety, go to: <u>http://news.yahoo.com/nasas-mars-rover-finds-rock-earth-chemistry-013132681.html</u>.

Note from Pastor Kevin Lea: How could this rock be different from other Mars rocks and yet be the same as rock found on earth, which is 55 million kilometers away? Scientists are surprised and looking for answers.

However, this discovery is not surprising to those who follow the work of Dr. Walt Brown, Ph.D., MIT, former Air Force Academy professor, and retired Air Force Colonel. Dr. Brown predicted years ago that we would find many things on Mars that would be "earth-like."

In Dr. Brown's book, In the Beginning, Compelling Evidence for Creation and the Flood, the *chapters on comets (<u>http://creationscience.com/onlinebook/Comets.html</u>) and asteroids*

(<u>http://creationscience.com/onlinebook/Asteroids.html</u>) explain how water and entrained rocks, jettisoned from the earth at supersonic velocities during the time of Noah's flood, became comets and asteroids.

Dr. Brown's explanation includes where the energy came from to heat water below the crust to supercritical temperatures. When the crust ruptured, the supercritical water depressurized as it escaped. The associated explosive energy accelerated the rock and water to a velocity that was sufficient to escape earth's gravity thus becoming the asteroids and comets of our solar system. Some of these mass ejections from earth went into an orbital path that put them on a collision course with Mars. At impact, the rock and water hit Mars with enough energy to create the many craters and temporarily heated the water enough to flow as liquid on the surface of Mars even though the average temperature is minus sixty-seven degrees Fahrenheit.

Dr. Brown has published dozens of predictions based on his Hydroplate Theory explanation for the flood of Noah, many of which have been confirmed, and it appears that this finding, along with the already discovered evidence of flowing water, will be added to the list.

As the evidence continues to accumulate, some scientists will eventually embrace the biblical account of the flood as the only sound explanation for the many otherwise impossible-to-explain enigmas. But most will likely continue to cling to the broken Big Bang, billions-of-years view, even though everything we find is contrary to its tenets. Sadly, they just can't handle the truth, so they continue in their make believe world (Romans 1:18-22).