

Stardust Results Support Dr. Walt Brown's Predictions

Increasing Evidence That His Hydroplate Theory Explanation Of
Comet Formation Is Accurate

March 18, 2006

See updated 4/04/06 version in the handouts/creation vs. evolution page to hear pertinent audio clips.

Note from Pastor Kevin Lea: As many know, I have been researching Dr. Walt Brown's Hydroplate Theory explanation for the flood of Noah for about 13 years. The 7th edition of his book was published in 2001 and included a chapter on how the comets of our solar system were formed. The updated version of his book (which will become the published 8th edition in about two years) can be read online at www.creationscience.com.

The magnitude of the global cataclysm associated with the biblical flood of Noah's day is something that few consider or try to understand. I trust that those who do try will be blessed as the Lord lifts the veil and gives the searcher a better glimpse of His awesome power.

The Bible states that the flood occurred when the fountains of the great deep burst up (through the crust) in one day creating a global rainfall for forty days (Gen 7:11-12). This implies that the pre-flood earth was created with a large amount of water under the crust and that the crust broke allowing the trapped waters to explode upward through a growing crack that within hours stretched around the earth.

Dr. Brown, who has a doctorate in mechanical engineering from MIT and was a tenured professor at the Air Force Academy before retiring as a full Colonel, has studied the forces that were at play as water trapped under the earth was released through a crack that circled the earth. He has demonstrated that some of the water, dirt, minerals, etc. of earth would have been expelled with enough velocity to escape earth's gravitational attraction and entered into highly elliptical orbits around our Sun.

Comets are often referred to as dirty ice balls orbiting the Sun. However, evolutionary (big bang) minded astronomers and astrophysicists can't accept (or even consider) that they came from the dirt and water planet (earth), since doing so seems absurd to them. So they have invented various theories of how comets are formed, such as the Oort Cloud (never seen observed or otherwise found outside of the minds of evolutionist fairy tale makers), all of which fall horribly short of explaining even some of what we know about comets.

Dr. Brownlee of the University of Washington is one of the world's leading researchers in Comets (from a Big Bang mindset) and is credited with making the Stardust Probe mission a reality. The Stardust spacecraft, launched in February 1999, came within 150 miles of the comet Wild 2 on Jan. 2, 2004, and collected thousands of tiny dust particles streaming from its nucleus. The Stardust sample-return canister parachuted onto the Utah desert salt flats Jan. 15, 2006, following a journey of nearly 3 million miles.

The week before the Stardust Probe landed safely, a NASA Fellow who has followed Dr. Brown's work encouraged Dr. Brown (in the e-mails below) to put his predictions (of what would be found based on his theory) in writing. I called Dr. Brown on Jan. 13th, 2006 with an encouragement to answer the e-mail request with his written predictions.

*On Jan. 14th, Dr. Brown sent the following predictions in response to our requests. The e-mail history predating the predictions are included, but the name of the NASA Fellow has been replaced with **** since this person desires to maintain a low profile with Dr. Brownlee for obvious reasons. Two brief unrelated statements made in the e-mails to Dr. Brown are also omitted and replaced with [****] to help prevent identity disclosure.*

PREDICTIONS E-MAIL FROM DR. BROWN TO NASA FELLOW

Sent: Saturday, January 14, 2006 3:52 PM

Subject: Stardust Predictions

****,

I am attaching the current version of the comet chapter, as it would appear if the 8th edition were printed today. (It will be printed in two years.) I know you read several drafts of that chapter seven years ago, but there have been many new discoveries, such as the results of Deep Impact mission that I describe on page 222. Reading the whole chapter will be the best way to understand what should be discovered by the Stardust mission and future missions. This chapter is at our web site (www.creationscience.com); the comet chapter begins at www.creationscience.com/Comets.html.

I will try to summarize (a) what I think should be found and (b) what evolutionists think should not be found.

1. The dust particles will be mostly crystalline and mostly silicates.

Silicates contain silicon, oxygen, at least one metal, and perhaps hydrogen.

Silicates comprise about a third of all minerals on Earth. About 95% of the

Earth's crust consists of silicates. Of that 95%, about 60% are feldspars and 12% quartz. Olivine is one silicate that I think will be found, because the metals in olivine—iron and magnesium—make olivine dense and very likely to have been part of the pillars.

A particular type of powdery rock particle that I think the aerogel probably snagged is loess. Loess' outward characteristics are particularly telling: extremely tiny (15-50 μm) and very angular. One-seventh of the earth surface contains loess. In the mind's of evolutionists, the angularity raises the question as to why weathering and millions of years of erosion haven't rounded the sharp edges, and loess' location on high mountains raises the question of how it got up there. Some have said loess must have come from outer space. Finding loess in comets will heighten the mystery, and isotopic studies of what Stardust brings back will clearly identify it as loess. You can read what I believe are the answers in the Frozen Mammoth chapter (pages 166-167, 173-174).

As you will recall, olivine was discovered in comets in 1997. (See Endnote 39.) I explained that to you on the phone in 1999, and you later asked Don Brownlee why crystalline minerals, as opposed to amorphous minerals, should be found in comets. As I recall, you told me that Brownlee's response was that he didn't believe the data, and he wanted to get more definitive data. Let's see.

If crystalline minerals are brought back by Stardust, a good question to ask Brownlee is, "How did crystalline material form in outer space?"

2. Other minerals that might be found are those that require liquid water to form, such as salt (NaCl) and carbonates (limestone, dolomite, and others). According to all theories for the origin of comets, except for the hydroplate theory, the water in comets should never have been liquid because outer space is too cold, especially where comets are thought to have formed.

3. Some have written me saying that Stardust might bring back a few cells from organisms. If cells are snagged, I would not be surprised, but the fraction of a comet that is organic is probably so small that cells will not be retrieved. Organic molecules have been detected in comet tails spectroscopically since 1868.

4. Chemical elements—such as aluminum, iron, calcium, sodium, potassium, magnesium, carbon, oxygen, and the heavier elements—that are extremely rare in space but common on Earth will be brought back in minerals by Stardust.

I am again attaching the PDF I sent yesterday. Made a change to it this morning. I hope the recovery of the space capsule goes as planned tomorrow and that you have a safe and enjoyable trip to Houston to see the canister in the clean room.

Please let me know how it goes.

Walt

At 10:38 PM 1/13/2006 -0600, you wrote:

Walt,

Thank you for sending the information and letter. My students do not understand how the scientists cannot see alternative points of view. I have tried to explain to them that most of the scientific world is trained only in evolutionary thinking; not in critical thinking.

During the Stardust Return Briefing on Thursday, Dr. Don Brownlee showed a new instrument that will be used to analyze the particles. He stated that the particles from this comet dust would be pristine material from the formation of the solar system. He also stated that the ions would show that this dust would be very different than material from Earth. This difference was not in the elements but something to do with the ions. [****]. But, my simple way of understanding this is that I expect he will pop one of those particles in that expensive machine and find out it is the same stuff we find on Earth. And this will be very shocking and unexpected. These are words I hear often from NASA researchers.

Thank you for thinking about this and pondering the possibilities from a different point of view.

Hi Walt,

I was wondering if you have any predations before STARDUST lands on Sunday. I will be flying to Houston on Tuesday to [*****]. I would love to have your comments with me.

See the attachment to see what I'm up to.

The following are two news articles printed the week of March 12, 2006 about preliminary results of comet sample testing. The results are completely contrary to the Big Bang mindset and expectations of evolutionists but are 100% consistent with Dr. Brown's predictions.

NASA FIND THROWS SPACE **EXPERTS**

Mineral traces in Stardust samples upset long-held assumptions about origins of comets

By MARK CARREAU

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March 13, 2006

Tiny pieces of minerals that form at high temperatures have been found in the comet fragments retrieved by NASA's Stardust mission, scientists announced Monday. The discovery challenges conventional thinking on how comets — collections of ice and rock — formed in the early days of the solar system.

The robotic Stardust spacecraft descended into the Utah desert by parachute on Jan. 15, ending a seven-year, nearly 3-billion-mile journey through the solar system to retrieve fragments of the comet Wild 2.

Astronomers have long assumed that comets formed in the most distant reaches of the solar system, where temperatures barely rise above absolute zero. But an initial examination of the Wild 2 fragments revealed tiny pieces of minerals previously extracted from meteorites that had been born close to the sun at temperatures exceeding 2,000 degrees Fahrenheit.

"This is very exciting. It's a mystery story," said University of Washington astronomer Don Brownlee, who served as the chief scientist for the \$212 million Stardust mission. Brownlee and others presented their findings to the 37th annual Lunar and Planetary Conference meeting in League City during a three-hour session.

The tiny fragments are being extracted in the same laboratory at Houston's Johnson Space Center that houses the Apollo moon rocks. They are being shipped to scientists around the world for additional analysis.

Astronomers believe comets are leftovers from a vast swirling disk of gas and dust that provided the building blocks for the assembly of the sun and planets 4.6 billion years ago.

The early studies found microscopic bits of peridot, diopside, anorthite and other minerals rich in magnesium, calcium, aluminum and titanium in the comet fragments. Until the Stardust findings, the minerals were thought to reside no more distant than the asteroid belt between Mars and Jupiter.



"There's a kind of temperature zoning in the solar system," said Mike Zolensky, a mineralogist and Stardust co-investigator from Johnson Space Center.

Celestial dust challenges basic view of comets

http://seattletimes.nwsourc.com/html/localnews/2002863682_cometdust14m.html

Seattle Times

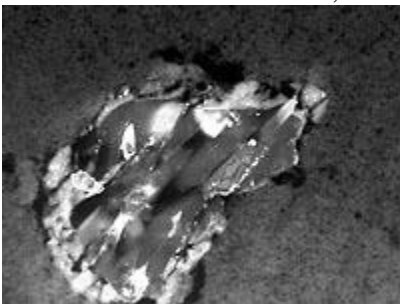
March 14, 2006

By Sandi Doughton



THOMAS JAMES HURST / THE SEATTLE TIMES

University of Washington astronomer Don Brownlee, principal investigator for NASA's Stardust Mission, examines comet particles.



NASA/JPL-CALTECH/UW

This comet particle collected by the Stardust spacecraft is made up of the silicate mineral forsterite, also known as peridot. It is surrounded by a rim of melted aerogel, used to collect the comet dust samples. The particle measures about 2 micrometers across.



NASA/JPL-CALTECH/UW

In the two months since the Stardust capsule parachuted to Earth, scientists have extracted hundreds of bits of comet dust. Averaging less than one-fifth the diameter of a human hair, the particles have been distributed to researchers around the world.

At first, Don Brownlee thought he was looking at a bit of debris from the spacecraft.

The crystals he saw in his microscope were so unexpected, the University of Washington astronomer didn't think they could have possibly come from a comet.

"It was truly astounding," he said Monday at a briefing in Houston to unveil the first scientific results from NASA's Stardust mission. The robotic probe flew by the comet Wild 2 in 2004, grabbed dust from its halo and brought it back to Earth in January.

Tiny grains embedded in the capsule's collector contain minerals such as olivine, found on Hawaii's green sand beaches, and spinel, a rubylike gemstone used in jewelry.

Both form at temperatures higher than 2,000 degrees Fahrenheit.

But that doesn't jibe with the standard view that comets are made up only of materials from the distant fringe of the solar system, where temperatures hover around minus 400 degrees.

"Remarkably enough, we have found fire and ice," said Brownlee, principal investigator for the \$212 million mission. "We have found samples in the coldest part of the solar system that formed at extremely high temperatures."

Unraveling the mystery will reveal much about the creation of the solar system, which scientists believe coalesced about 4.5 billion years ago from a spinning disc of gas and dust. The center of that disc was a turbulent inferno that eventually gave birth to the sun and the inner planets.

The new findings from Stardust suggest high-temperature materials like olivine were somehow hurled from the blistering center of the vortex to the icy edges where comets were born, said Mike Zolensky, of NASA's Johnson Space Center in

Houston.

"They would have been ejected ballistically all the way out across the solar system ... like a conveyor belt," he said.

Astronomers scanning the galaxy with high-powered telescopes have seen massive jets spouting from nebulae where they believe new solar systems are forming, Brownlee said.

It's also possible the high-temperature minerals in the comet dust originated in the fiery environs of far-flung stars, not our own solar system.

Scientists will be able to tell the difference once they have time to analyze the comet particles in greater detail, Brownlee said. Grains that form on other stars differ from those formed in our solar system.

In the two months since the Stardust capsule parachuted to the Utah desert, researchers have extracted hundreds of bits of comet dust from the collector, made of an extremely light-weight material called aerogel. Averaging less than one-fifth the diameter of a human hair, the particles have been distributed to 150 researchers around the world.

Stardust marks the first time a NASA mission has delivered extraterrestrial material to Earth since the Apollo moon missions in the 1970s.

Brownlee has been studying two particles in his Seattle lab. With diamond blades called microtomes, he can carve one speck into a hundred slivers. His electron microscopes are powerful enough to resolve individual molecules.

"For us these are actually quite large rocks," he said.

One of the first particles extracted from the aerogel — on Valentine's Day — was shaped like a heart. Others fractured into dozens of even tinier particles.

While the early results are exciting, there's much more to come, Brownlee said.

Comets almost certainly contain organic material. Some scientists believe comets may have delivered the ingredients of life to Earth. There are already some hints of organic compounds in the Stardust grains, but it's a laborious process to rule out any possibility of contamination from Earth.

"It's a very exciting mystery story," Brownlee said. "So stay tuned."

Sandi Doughton: 206-464-2491 or sdoughton@seattletimes.com

