

BROKEN WHEEL REVEALS WATER ON MARS

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/main.jhtml?xml=/news/2007/05/23/nchelsea123.xml>

By Nic Fleming, Science Correspondent
Last Updated: 1:59am BST 23/05/2007

Note from Pastor Kevin Lea follows this article:

A broken wheel on a space vehicle has helped uncover strong evidence that water did flow on Mars, which could prove that there was life on the planet.

Analysis of soil uncovered when a wheel jammed on Spirit, one of Nasa's two Rover buggies, has revealed that it contains 90 per cent silica - a concentration only likely to have formed when water is present.

Experts said last night that the finding showed that water had flowed on the surface of Mars within the last tens of millions of years.

The discovery was said to have been greeted with "gasps of astonishment" by mission scientists at Nasa's Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, California.

If it can be proved that Mars had water within the last few millions of years then it would make the discovery of either past or current life more likely.

Water cannot remain in liquid form for long today because sub-zero surface temperatures and low atmospheric pressure would turn it into ice or gas.

One theory is that the silica was formed by acid vapours when soil mixed with water during periods of volcanic activity.

Doug McCuiston, director of the exploration programme, said: "This unexpected discovery reinforces the fact that significant amounts of water were present, which continues to spur the hope that we can show that Mars was once habitable and possibly supported life."

Prof Jan-Peter Muller, from University College London, said: "Evidence on the surface shows there is no question water flowed, but the real questions are how recently did it flow and did it hang around long enough to actually sit around on the surface."

"If water has been around in the last few million years then the possibility that there might be



Tyre tracks left by the Spirit rover have revealed the presence of silica in the Martian soil.

some kind of organisms that we would call life are greater."

Spirit, and Opportunity, its twin, have been sending back information and images from the surface of Mars for more than three years. They were only expected to be there for three months when their missions started in 2004.

Steven Squyres, professor of astronomy at Cornell University, New York, said: "This is a remarkable discovery.

"And the fact that we found something this new and different after nearly 1,200 days on Mars makes it even more remarkable. It makes you wonder what else is still out there."

Note from Pastor Kevin Lea:

This discovery is shocking to evolutionary minded scientists. Tragically, it will also be shocking to creationist organizations like Institute for Creation Research (ICR) and Answers in Genesis (AiG). The biblical Christian believes the solar system was created by God in one day and that the planets and moons have been in their configuration around the sun/planets since then. This understanding does not easily explain why there is evidence that liquid water containing minerals common to earth was at one time flowing on Mars. Therefore, unless there is another explanation, the Christian is left with, "It must have been a miracle, God just did it."

The AiG and ICR's pet theories (Canopy Theory, Catastrophic Plate Tectonics) pertaining to the biblically recorded global cataclysm of Noah's flood are also unable to explain how liquid water with minerals common to earth are found on Mars. As a result, AiG and ICR will only be able to lead the thousands of Christians looking to them for answers with the shrugged shoulder, blank stare, I don't know. However, there is an answer for how liquid water with minerals common to earth flowed on Mars, but you won't hear about it from them.

But before explaining how, those who are familiar with ICR and AiG may be shocked that a Christian pastor would make a disparaging statement about these two self proclaimed pillars of creation/flood science. My answer to them is that the actions of these organizations lead me to believe that along with the good they are doing, they are also engaged in a great disservice to all as they promote themselves rather than giving people true answers from Genesis about all the science available to answer the perplexing questions of today.

ICR and AiG have both advocated or are advocating the nonbiblical and unscientific Canopy Theory and Catastrophic Plate Tectonic Theory pertaining to Noah's flood and have ignored or misrepresented the one explanation that is biblical and scientific, Dr. Walt Brown's Hydroplate Theory.

They are also unethical in how they treat others in their quest for more of the donation dollar. As one example, AiG – USA is now being sued by AiG Australia (now Creation Ministries International) because Ken Ham (AiG – USA) used hostile empire building tactics to cut off AiG Australia from the USA donor base (click here for details [Ken Ham's Hostile Takeover](#))

Why would these power-house organizations stick to theories they know are very weak in explaining where the water came from (to flood the entire earth) and where the water went to give us the conditions we see today, while misrepresenting Dr. Walt Brown and his work which does give sound biblical and scientific answers to both of these questions?

Is it because a few people in their organizations didn't come up with it? Is it because of the adverse effect they think it will have on the donations they continuously seek and their unsold books that will become out of date? More and more people are seeing that the Hydroplate Theory is superior to what ICR and AiG have been putting out for decades. Just google on: [creation evolution flood] and you will see how a million people view it.

I have personally met face to face with Ken Ham and a manager from ICR to encourage them and/or their organizations to stop this unethical smear campaign against Dr. Brown and to correct past deeds. I have followed up these meetings with correspondence, some of which is posted at our site ([General Summary](#), [Part 1](#), [Part 2](#)). To date, it has been to no avail.

If the following explanation for how mineral laden water flowed in liquid form on Mars makes sense to you, then I encourage the reader to join the increasing number of people who are contacting ICR and AiG asking why they are keeping this sound science out of their offered materials.

About the evidence of flowing mineral water on Mars: To one scientist, Dr. Walt Brown, this discovery (along with many others like it coming from Mars explorations and the recent return of the Stardust probe filled with scooped up comet tail matter) fits perfectly with his Hydroplate Theory predictions.

*I have included (below) Dr. Brown's email to a NASA Fellow the day before the Stardust space probe landed on Earth in January 2006. In this email, Dr. Brown predicted (and now confirmed by scientific results) what would be found in the Stardust capsule. **These predictions also relate to what is being found on Mars.***

I have been researching Dr. Walt Brown's Hydroplate Theory explanation for the flood of Noah for about 14 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. From that understanding, the Stardust predictions become obvious.

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 trillions upon trillions of gallons of water trapped between the created earth's crust and mantle reached temperatures and pressures which ruptured the crust.

Once ruptured, the trapped supercritical water escaped from under the crust with the explosive power of thirty trillion hydrogen bombs. By way of comparison, the explosive power of the Mount Saint Helens eruption involved several thousands of gallons of high pressure/temperature water (which likely had not even gotten to the supercritical state) finding a mode of escape to atmospheric pressure. Imagine the forces at play when the volume of supercritical temperature

water is multiplied billions of times.

Dr. Brown has demonstrated that some of the water escaping the subterranean chambers would have had enough energy to exceed earth's escape velocity and thus entered the solar system. This ultra high velocity escaping water would have carried with it some eroded dirt, minerals, etc. from the crust and mantle as it headed on its way into space. As the water and debris left earth, some would have collided with the moon, planets and sun. This explains why the near side of the moon shows signs of severe impacts which generated massive lava flows (seen as the face of the Moon), where the far side of the moon does not (the opposite of what would be expected since the earth should shield the moon unless the earth is the source of what hit the moon).

It also explains why there is evidence that liquid water at one time flowed on Mars, a planet with an average temperature of minus eighty degrees Fahrenheit. The water escaping from the earth would have flash-frozen in the vacuum of space, but would have returned to a liquid state during the collision with Mars, then evaporated or refroze into the soils of Mars (as the evidence supports).

According to Dr. Brown's theory, most of the ejected water and debris that avoided collisions with other planets, moons, and the sun became our comets and asteroids and all the scientific evidence gained during the recent comet missions support Dr. Brown's theory.

The updated version of Dr. Brown's book (with other facts associated with what has recently been discovered on planets and comets and will become the published 8th edition in about one year) can be read on line at www.creationscience.com.

I realize that the above may seem preposterous to some, but the magnitude of the global cataclysm associated with the biblical flood of Noah's day is something that few consider or try to understand.

The Bible states that the flood occurred when the fountains of the great deep burst open 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.

If Dr. Brown's theory is correct. The ejected water that hit Mars should contain the same type of minerals and other Earth-born debris that will be found in comets, and indeed, this is what is being found.

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 Comet 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.*

On Sunday, Jan. 15th, (the day that Stardust landed) I made a public statement during our morning study about how the evolutionists would be surprised by the Stardust data results, but that the data would be consistent with Dr. Brown's theory and predictions. This brief statement can be listened to by clicking here: [Stardust prediction statement](#). To listen to the Jan. 15th Galatians study which contains this public statement (about 15 minutes into the study), then click here: [Galatians 3:4-29](#).

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.

Note from Pastor Kevin: As a reminder the above article about Mars starts with the following:

Analysis of soil uncovered when a wheel jammed on Spirit, one of NASA's two Rover buggies, has revealed that it contains 90 per cent silica - a

concentration only likely to have formed when water is present.

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, and they also shed light on the discovery of silicates on Mars.

NASA FIND THROWS SPACE EXPERTS

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

By MARK CARREAU, Copyright 2006 Houston Chronicle
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
By Sandi Doughton
March 14, 2006

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