

Dinosaurs and the Bible

That dinosaurs actually lived on this earth is an undisputed fact simply because we have so many remnants of this mighty family. This being true, then, what happened to them? What caused them to disappear from the earth? What brought about their extinction?

One is told that, "*Dinosaurs were physically unfit to exist in this present world,"... "Dinosaurs became senile and could not exist any longer,"... "It was due to climatic change that the dinosaur became extinct,"...or..."It was due to the lack of food that dinosaurs could no longer exist on earth."*

Evolutionists have theorized that dinosaurs lived 70 million years before man lived on the earth, however, this theory was disproved when, along the dry river bed of the Puluskee River in Glenrose, Texas, they discovered a fossilized footprint of a man inside a fossilized footprint of a dinosaur, which proved, of course, that *man and dinosaur existed together*.

Evolutionists, in their endeavor to grope for some kind of explanation that would *disprove* this finding, came up with such idiotic reasoning as: "*The early Indians must have carved these footprints"..."These footprints were caused by weather erosion"...or..."These footprints were made by a dinosaur and an animal which, now extinct, had man-like feet."*

However, these two prints - a dinosaur's footprint with a man's footprint inside the dinosaur's footprint - give us the irrefutable knowledge that dinosaurs and man lived together. They were contemporaries!

Paintings of the brontosaurus dinosaur, which had been done by bushmen about 3000 years ago, were found on the wall of a cave in Rhodesia, and, since these bushmen could only paint things that they could actually see in real life...things that existed in their own environment and realm of understanding. These paintings also disproved the evolutionists' theory that the dinosaur has been extinct for 70 million years.

What does the Bible have to say about dinosaurs?

Can we get more valid information about dinosaurs from God's Word than we can from evolutionists? Well, let's look at Scripture passages and see:

First of all, Genesis 1:24 tells us that God created, "*all living creatures...creeping things...the beasts of the earth*," and, Genesis 1:21 states, "*God created great whales and every living creature that moveth*" [While, here, the Hebrew word "*tannin*" is translated "*whales*," in other places in the Bible this same Hebrew word is translated as "*dragons*"]....When these Scriptural verses speak of "*all living creatures - beasts - great whales* - this would certainly include "*dinosaurs*."

The book of Job is that oldest book in the Old Testament and gives us information about living conditions in the ancient times that we do not find anywhere else in Scripture. In the last chapters of Job [chapters 38 through 41] God, as He answers, and encourages, Job, shows Job that He is in control of all things by calling Job's attention to the reality of His great power in creating, and sustaining, all things, and, as God speaks to Job of His great creations, He

specifically mentions the "*behemoth*," which is a land dinosaur, and the "*leviathan*" which is a marine [sea] dinosaur. Let's look at these passages:

Job 40:15-24, "Look at the behemoth, which I made along with you and which feeds on grass like an ox. What strength he has in his loins, what power in the muscles of his belly! His tail sways like a cedar; the sinews of his thighs are close-knit. His bones are tubes of bronze, his limbs like rods of iron. He ranks first among the works of God, yet his Maker can approach him with his sword. The hills bring him their produce, and all the wild animals play nearby. Under the lotus plants he lies, hidden among the reeds in the marsh. The lotuses conceal him in their shadow; the poplars by the stream surround him. When the river rages, he is not alarmed; he is secure, though the Jordan should surge against his mouth. Can anyone capture him by the eyes, or trap him and pierce his nose?"

Job 41:1, "Can you pull in the leviathan with a fishhook or tie down his tongue with a rope? Can you put a cord through his nose or pierce his jaw with a hook? Will he keep begging you for mercy? Will he speak to you with gentle words? Will he make an agreement with you for you to take him as your slave for life? Can you make a pet of him like a bird or put him on a leash for your girls? Will traders barter for him? Will they divide him up among the merchants? Can you fill his hide with harpoons or his head with fishing spears? If you lay a hand on him, you will remember the struggle and never do it again! Any hope of subduing him is false; the mere sight of him is overpowering. No one is fierce enough to rouse him. Who then is able to stand against me? Who has a claim against me that I must pay? Everything under heaven belongs to me. I will not fail to speak of his limbs, his strength and his graceful form. Who can strip off his outer coat? Who would approach him with a bridle? Who dares open the doors of his mouth, ringed about with his fearsome teeth? His back has rows of shields tightly sealed together; each is so close to the next that no air can pass between. They are joined fast to one another; they cling together and cannot be parted. His snorting throws out flashes of light; his eyes are like the rays of dawn. Firebrands stream from his mouth; sparks of fire shoot out. Smoke pours from his nostrils as from a boiling pot over a fire of reeds. His breath sets coals ablaze, and flames dart from his mouth. Strength resides in his neck; dismay goes before him. The folds of his flesh are tightly joined; they are firm and immovable. His chest is hard as rock, hard as a lower millstone. When he rises up, the mighty are terrified; they retreat before his thrashing. The sword that reaches him has no effect, nor does the spear or the dart or the javelin. Iron he treats like straw and bronze like rotten wood. Arrows do not make him flee; slingstones are like chaff to him. A club seems to him but a piece of straw; he laughs at the rattling of the lance. His undersides are jagged potsherds, leaving a trail in the mud like a threshing sledge. He makes the depths churn like a boiling caldron and stirs up the sea like a pot of ointment. Behind him he leaves a glistening wake; one would think the deep had white hair. Nothing on earth is his equal - a creature without fear. He looks down on all that are haughty; he is king over all that are proud."

The descriptions of these two great creatures, which come from the mouth of God Himself, certainly do not apply to any animals known today despite the fact that some Bible translators attempt to label them as some modern-day animal.

Visualize the giant Brontosaurus, with its long neck projecting out of the swamp, eating vegetation and washing it down with great quantities of water. Visualize the power of its legs and its tail which, with one overwhelming blow, is easily capable of demolishing his enemies...and then read again the description of the behemoth in Job 40:15-24, "***He eateth grass as an ox...his strength is his loins... and his force is in the navel of his belly...he moveth his tail like a cedar...his bones are as strong as pieces of brass ...his bones are like bars of iron.***"

Imagine the land dinosaur, the Tyrannosaurus, as you read again the description of the leviathan in Job 41:1-34, "***His teeth are fearsome...his back is like shields of cast metal, pressed like scales...each is so close to the next that no air can pass between. They are joined fast to one another, they cling together and cannot be parted...his sneeze throws out flashes of light...his eyes are like the rays of dawn...firebrands stream from his mouth...sparks of fire shoot out...smoke pours from his nostrils as from a boiling pot over a fire of reeds...his breath sets coals ablaze, and flames dart from his mouth...strength resides in his neck...when he rises the mighty are terrified.***"

In verses 12 -15 of the 74th Psalm, David, as he writes about the great power of God, also mentions this great beasts, the Leviathan, "***But you, O God, are my king from of old; you bring salvation upon the earth. It was you who split open the sea by your power; you broke the heads of the monster in the waters. It was you who crushed the heads of Leviathan and gave him as food to the creatures of the desert. It was you who opened up springs and streams; you dried up the ever flowing rivers.***"

And then, in Isaiah 27:1, the prophet, Isaiah, while speaking of God's great power of judgment, says, "***In that day, the LORD will punish with his sword, his fierce, great and powerful sword, Leviathan the gliding serpent, Leviathan the coiling serpent; he will slay the monster of the sea.***"

Now, let take a closer look at all that the Bible teaches us about the ***dinosaur***" . . .

The word "***dinosaur***" comes from a word which means "***terrible lizard,***" or "***large reptile.***" A dinosaur, therefore, is simply a large...that is, **A V-E-R-Y L-A-R-G-E**...reptile!

Another important fact is, a reptile is a creature that will **continue to grow as long as he lives!** If he lives for 100 years, he will keep growing longer for 100 years. Man, on the other hand, grows physically until he is around 20 years of age, and then he ***stops*** growing...[that is, he stops growing *upward*, and starts growing *outward* for the rest of his life!...]...but, the longer a reptile lives, the larger he grows!

As we have seen in a pervious lesson, Genesis teaches us that, in the very beginning, God's creation was perfect. Earth's environment was **perfect** in every respect...the vegetation was perfect for man and animals to eat and the ground, rather than being watered by rain which causes erosion and takes the trace minerals out of the soil, was watered by a "***mist***" which came up from the land [Genesis 2:6].

The environment was such that Adam, even after he left the Garden of Eden, lived to be 930 years old and Methuselah lived to be **969 years old**, which leaves us with the incomprehensible fact that man lived to be almost **1000 years old!**

Man's average life span on earth today is just a little over 70 years while, before the flood, the *average* life span of the men in the Bible was **911 years**, which means that man's life span in the antediluvian period was some 13 to 14 times longer than man's life span of today.

Doesn't it, therefore, seem logical that animals would have lived longer as well?

Let's assess what life must have been like back in those perfect antediluvian days:

1. Animals, no doubt, lived **14 times** longer than they do today **and** reptiles kept growing larger the longer they lived.

2. There was a "*water canopy*" filtering out the solar ultraviolet rays of the sun, which created a hot house, tropical, condition.
3. Man was provided with the proper amount of vitamins, proteins, and trace minerals, which were in the soil and vegetation.

The point is that these conditions certainly would have produced some pretty good sized reptiles!

Even in this day and age, in the Galapagos Islands, the Iguana lizard grows to be 4 feet long and, in Sumatra, the Komodo dragon lizard grows to be **12 feet** long.

A very interesting question that someone might ask would be, since there is evidence that these dinosaurs existed **after** the days of the flood, does it mean that Noah took two **60 ton brontosaurus** dinosaurs into the ark?

The answer is, "absolutely, YES!"

Because so many people have such an insurmountable problem understanding what happened during the days of the flood...because they have such misconceptions about what the Bible teaches us on this subject...let us examine, for ourselves, what the Bible is really saying to us about the flood...and "Noah and the ark." Because God's sole purpose for sending the animals into the ark was to **preserve** animal life upon the earth, there is no doubt that God would have sent **baby** brontosaurus, and tyrannosaurus, dinosaurs into the ark...and... being young, not only would they have taken up a lot less room, and been easier to care for, than had they been older, however, they also, because they were young, would have had a tendency to live longer after the flood. It is also very possible, since reptiles **do** hibernate, that these dinosaurs hibernated during the period of the flood.

The description of the ark that God instructed Noah to build is found in Genesis 6:14-18, and states, "*So make yourself an ark of cypress wood; make rooms in it and coat it with pitch inside and out. This is how you are to build it: The ark is to be 450 feet long, 75 feet wide and 45 feet high. Make a roof for it and finish the ark to within 18 inches of the top. Put a door in the side of the ark and make lower, middle and upper decks. I am going to bring floodwaters on the earth to destroy all life under the heavens, every creature that has the breath of life in it. Everything on earth will perish. But I will establish My covenant with you, and you will enter the ark - you and your sons and your wife and your sons' wives with you.*"

While the flood was God's judgment upon a rebellious world, God's instructions to Noah to build an ark shows us that, despite *circumstances* like the flood, God will provide for, and protect, His own. That was the purpose of the ark, to keep those inside safe and sound during the flood by just, floating free upon the water similar to the way a "*box-like*" river barge does.

Note that the size of the ark was **450 feet long, 75 feet wide and 45 feet high.** That a **B-I-G** ark, the size of which is able to carry over **24,000 tons!**

If one counted all the animals in the whole wide world...[the elephants...the camels... the rats...the mice...the giraffes...the fish and marine life]...he would find that, according to one expert in animals classification, there are about one million different species of animals living on the earth today.

Does this mean that there were one million different pairs of animals that fit inside the ark. **No!** When one subtracts all the fish and marine life, that could live in the waters of the flood, from the total number of the different species of animals, one is left with a figure of about 17,500 species of animals that would actually have been inside the ark. However, since God told Noah, "*You shall bring two of every sort into the ark*" [Genesis 6:19], the total number of animals inside the ark would have been about 35,000.

In trying to figure out how much room was needed for 35,000 animals, one has to keep in mind that, since the animals were of different size. Taking into consideration the size of a large mammal, like the elephant and the size of a small rodent, like the rat or mouse, and averaging these sizes together to determine what size animal we are talking about when we say 35,000 animals. Upon averaging out the size of the large animals with the small ones, one could pretty accurately say that the *average* size of the animals on the ark would have been about the size of sheep. This being true, one could go on to say that the space needed to house all the 17,500 species of animals on the ark would be equivalent to the space needed to house 35,000 sheep, and 35,000 sheep would take up the space of about 146 railroad boxcars.

There are, also, about 850,000 different species of insects in the world, which means, counting both males and females, there were about 1,700,00 insects, on the ark, each one of which needed...[*keeping the termites somewhere in the center of the ark!*]...about two inches of flying space, or the space equivalency of about 21 railroad boxcars.

The total space, then, needed to house **all** the animals, **and** insects, in the whole world, would be the space equivalency of the 167 railroad boxcars. And, since the measurements of the ark that God instructed Noah to build had a space equivalency to **522 railroad boxcars**, Noah could have put all the animals, and insects, of the world in the **first floor** alone while he and his family could have lived on the second floor. This means that not only would the third floor have been free to be used for recreational facilities, but, also, there would have been plenty of room for all the animals which are now extinct, which means that there would have been plenty of room for a pair of brontosaurus, and tyrannosaurs dinosaurs, especially if they were *babies*.

Because, as part of the drastic changes that took place in the world as a result of the flood, much of the foliage was gone, God lifted the ban on man's eating of meat which meant that he no longer had to live as a vegetarian. Genesis 9:1-6 states, "*Then God blessed Noah and his sons, saying to them, `Be fruitful and increase in number and fill the earth. The fear and dread of you will fall upon all the beasts of the earth and all the birds of the air, upon every creature that moves along the ground, and upon all the fish of the sea; they are given into your hands. Everything that lives and moves will be food for you. Just as I gave you the green plants, I now give you everything. But you must not eat meat that has its life- blood still in it. And for your lifeblood I will surely demand an accounting. I will demand an accounting from every animal. And from each man, too, I will demand an accounting for the life of his fellow man. Whoever sheds the blood of man, by man shall his blood be shed; for in the image of God has God made man.*"

While we will deal with a lot of the truths that were taught in this passage at a later date, let us, nonetheless, consider some of these truths now:

1. Man...because he, for the first time, was no longer required to eat just vegetation and could eat meat...began to prey upon living creatures, the beasts of the field.
2. Because the dinosaur was unsuitable to survive in large numbers in this kind of environment, his life span was greatly shortened, which means that he had less time to grow to be the great size that he had been before the flood.
3. Note also that, because animals did not have fear, and dread, of men until after the flood (vs.2) it not only made it a lot easier to bring them into the ark, but also to care for them in the ark as well.
4. Genesis 10:9 describes Nimrod as a "***mighty hunter before the Lord,***" which means that he received a reputation of being a "***mighty hunter***" by hunting on the earth, and, since he would not have gotten this reputation for hunting ***rabbits***, it is certainly more than likely that he hunted the largest of beasts - ***the dinosaur!***

Is it any wonder, then...what with man, for the first time, hunting and killing animals for food, what with animals...for the first time...becoming ferocious as a result of being hunted by man...and what with the environment, as a whole, becoming unfriendly toward life on earth...that the dinosaur became extinct?

So...from all of this Biblical information...we can, therefore, conclude that the Bible gives us a better...more thorough...more accurate...explanation of the dinosaur than do the evolutionists...and their evolutionary "***theory.***"