

How Fast Was The Fossil Record Created?



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Many people I have talked with over the course of time, have often asked me how it is possible for the earth to be 6,000 to 10,000 years old, when we see fossils and petrified forests that obviously **MUST** have taken millions of years to form. In reality however, fossils can form very rapidly under flood-like conditions, as many professional scientists fully know. In general the public does not understand nor realize this fact.

There are a few things one must consider when discussing the phenomena seen in the fossil record. One is, just what type of conditions must be present for fossils to form. Under normal circumstance, when an animal dies naturally, a fossil is not left behind of the animal. In short, the carcass is torn apart by other animals, and bugs, bacteria, fungi and many other elements working on it to dissolve its body; leaving **NO** trace the animal ever existed.

You see if a plant or animal just dies it is quickly decomposed or eaten by scavengers, degenerated by the elements such as wind, and in water, hydrolysis and similar forces. Even sunlight works to break the dead animal down. Under normal circumstances when a tree falls to the ground in a forest, termites, funguses and various chemical reactions will turn it to **DUST** in a relatively short period of time!

As a point of fact, the vast majority of fossils are formed when an animal or plant is quickly buried in mud, lime or sand sediments high in cementing

materials, rapidly hardening and preserving the plant or animal, in part or in whole. The ideal conditions for the creation of fossils as well as fossil laden rock layers ARE flood conditions. Both Creationists and Evolutionists agree on this point. Petrification and fossils are created when a plant or animal is rapidly buried in mineral-rich sediments. These sediments then begin to quickly crystallize throughout the buried animal and plant and in the process convert them to stone before decay can take place. This same turning to stone process is the cause of the worlds petrified forests, such as the one found in Arizona.

Evolutionary views on the fossils are, these creatures were buried one at a time over eons of time as the stratified sedimentary layers gradually built-up over millions of years. To them, these fossil records represent many isolated floods over millions of years rather than a single, global catastrophic flooding event. However, this view of geologic history does not adequately fit all the known facts. Sedimentary build-up does occur slowly at the mouth of many rivers, but this could in no way adequately explain the actual artifacts in the geologic column that we see.



Gradual deposition of the stratum of earth's layers with localized flooding producing individual fossils does NOT explain two very glaring anomalies of the fossil record. First, it does not tell us how it is we find great fossil grave yards all over there earth, with some grave yards estimated to contain the bones of nearly 80 million individual creatures, all buried together in the same stratum layers; this evidence demonstrating a single mass extinction event. These fossil graves alone strongly suggest a cataclysmic global flood, since they are found world wide, and with signs of very rapid burial as well. There are creatures buried in the stratum still in fighting positions, in the process of birth and even some with prey still locked in their mouths! This argues very powerfully for rapid burial and again a worldwide flood.



The graveyards are seen posited in scattered locations throughout the whole world. Another characteristic of these graveyards is the fact they contain the fossilized remains of creatures from every geographical location and climate known; Suggesting these animals were swept away by huge walls of water, intermixed and then suddenly dumped sometimes thousands of miles from their

places of origin. Again, this bespeaks very powerfully for rapid deposition and a global flood. In addition to these great fossil graveyards, containing creatures from every climatic region on earth, we have anomalies, which are impossible to explain with any degree of adequacy by the evolutionist model of geologic history.

Whereas, Evolutionists teach the strata layers were laid down over millions of years, and represent evolutionary eras of time, the creation scientist see these layers as more indicative of an ecological sequence of events rather than age periods of earth's history. Evolutionist may ask, "Why aren't trilobites and dinosaurs found together in the stratum layers." The answer they give is simple enough to their mind. It is because according to evolutionists these creatures lived at different times, the trilobite dying out millions of years before the appearance of dinosaurs.



Creationists on the other hand, believe these creatures lived at the same time, and the stratum layer represents NOT geological ages, but, rather, differing ecological zones. The creationist rightly asks, "If the stratum actually represents eras of time as evolution claims, rather than different environmental zones, then why don't we see all on those strata. What Why don't we see prehistoric forests intermixed with these these stratums signify of the earth? Where amounts of these layers so supply for the



the fossilized plant life did the dinosaurs eat? evidence of and vegetation animals, if indeed different age periods are the enormous vegetation evidence in necessary as a food dinosaur?

Another reason we are likely to see things like trilobite, crustaceous creatures and a vast amount of plants at the lower stratum, while at higher levels we see more mobile animals are simple. Animals possessing more mobility would be better able to move toward higher ground as the flood waters advance than would crustaceans, plants and similar organisms. Therefore, finding the more mobile animals on supposedly younger stratum layers shouldn't be much of a surprise to a creationist.

Many geologists specializing in the stratum layers have noted, in places like limestone quarries in Indiana, there are sections within the layers of Ordovician and Devonian layers that are separated by only millimeters. In these places there are neither signs of depositing or eroding in the stratum, nor even the faintest color changes do to different exposures to the elements. As some professors have commented. There is no physical evidence at all for these 25 million years of supposed evolutionary history. It is difficult indeed, to imagine some supposed layer anomalies representing supposedly some 25 million years worth of time, and yet, completely lacking evidence of significant deposition or erosion and then only millimeters thick! Evolutionists call these kinds of anomalies a "paraconformity."

Disconformity is the name given to describe layer sections where there is actual evidence erosion has removed part of the sequences in the rock. In paraconformity however, there is neither such evidence for erosion, nor any other geophysical evidence for a break in time, just numerous fossils on the wrong stratum layers; these being referred to as "out of place" fossils. The reality is, the only way one can even see a "paraconformity" is if they already presuppose evolution as a fact. Evolution MUST accept there was something missing in these layer sequences, or else the evolutionary paradigm of historical ages would be broken. Therefore, they hypothesize the existence of a 25 million year period, even when the geological evidence tells no such story.

Besides, these Para conformities in the geologic column, and out of place fossils, archeologists have also found manmade artifacts at Cambrian and even Precambrian strata layers, supposedly in layers when no humans, by evolutionary teachings, existed on the earth. Though the author has misinterpreted the real historical significance of these artifacts, and is clearly Hindu oriented in his beliefs, Dr. Michael Cremo does an excellent job at presenting some of these findings, known in scientific circles as Anomalous Artifacts, in his book, Forbidden Archeology.

Creation Scientists on the other hand really do not require special words to describe and explain away what the evidence shows. We do not require terms like "out of place" fossils, or layer paraconformity, or anomalous artifacts. These are terms that apply to those who reject the real history of earlier world events as recorded in the bible. However, all these pieces of evidence make total sense just as they are, requiring NO special interpretation or explaining away, when one begins their pursuit from the point of view, the bible is a trustworthy and accurate record of ancient world events. Indeed, only the creationist can actually accept the physical evidence just as it is found and without the extra need for a bunch of

hypothetical extrapolations, that go beyond what the actual evidence permits. And what do these bits of evidence suggest? Sudden burial of millions of creatures and rapid, continuous deposition with no time breaks within the geologic column!

These columns or strata represent different eco-system locations of animals living at the same time, NOT different age periods in the earth's history. One article I read in preparing this article talked about an evolutionary professor who was examining a rock layer believed to represent about 20 million years worth of gradual accumulation. As he continued his examination he came across a shellfish embedded in the rock layer, with a shell shaped like an ice-cream cone and perched on its tip through the entire 20 million year stratum layer! This evolutionary professor wondered in amazement, how this could possibly be? It certainly couldn't have perched itself on its tip like that for 20 million years, waiting for the sediments to accumulate!

This professor found an example of a special type of fossil known as a polystratic fossil, or "a fossil going through poly-many, and stratum-layers, of supposed evolutionary time lines. There are numerous examples of fossilized trees standing upright through many strata of supposed evolutionary time.



These Polystratic fossils are most assuredly a great mystery in regards their formation to evolutionary geologists. If however, one would view the rock formations as being deposited suddenly as the biblical flood speaks of, there would be no mystery about them at all.

It has actually been witnessed in modern times, trees washed out of the forest during tropical storms will often become water logged and then sink in a vertical position. We have dramatic evidence based on Dr. Steven Austin's work from Penn State University, that these polystratic tree fossils could have easily been created, in a global flood. This evidence comes though his probing studies of the eruptions of Mount Saint Helens and its after math.

When the mountain erupted it sent huge walls of debris and mud hurling down into the lakes below. As it entered into Spirit Lake, it sent a 900 foot wave roaring over its initially tree covered slopes. This giant wave stripped bear the branches, bark and leaves from the trees and broke many of them off at their roots. This left thousands of stripped logs washing out into the lake below. As these logs became engorged with water, they tilted toward their ends and sank to the bottom of the lake, in an upright position, and obscured themselves deep into and through numerous layers of ashy mud at lake's bottom. Several geologists point out the very similar features between the bottom of Spirit Lake today, and the ancient coal deposits. This would also explain nicely why it is, the vast majority of polystratic fossils are found in coal deposits.



You might think this is great...but it still doesn't explain how all these trees could be fossilized. The petrified forests for example, to turn to stone, must have taken millions of years. However, going back to what was said earlier, mineralization seeping into the trees, or any other material, under the right conditions, could turn it to stone in a short few years, NOT billions of years. In fact, less than 50 years ago a miner accidentally dropped his felt hat into the lime-rich water in a mine. In less than a decade the limewater turned the felt hat into stone! That hat is now an exhibit at a central Tasmania museum, and I include a photograph of the hat here.

So, findings like this, and by no means is this, a rare artifact, clearly show, fossils, and petrification can occur given the right conditions very, very rapidly. It doesn't take millions or billions of years!



In addition to this, anthropologists have actually found dinosaur bones that were NOT completely turned to stone or mineralized. Parts of these bones were fossilized and other parts were still just like NORMAL bone. This is a scientific FACT. In fact, they have even found red blood cells.

To find dinosaur bones with in tact red blood cells and in a condition of only partial petrification is clear evidence they have NOT been buried for millions of years...but only thousands! This again would be in full agreement with the biblical view of geologic history! But that's a subject for a whole different article. Two things all of this evidence does seem to support are, 1. A global flood has actually taken place, just as the bible records, and 2. Fossils can form in decades without requiring millions of years. These facts only help to support that to

believe in the bible, a flood and a young earth, is in NO way, to reject or ignore verifiable science!

References and Notes:

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