



DAYLIGHT

ORIGINS SCIENCE FOR CATHOLICS

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Chameleon from Madagascar

Chameleons are a diverse family of lizards with highly specialized features for arboreal life. Their feet are modified for grasping branches, for which they also employ a prehensile tail. The tongue is very long when extended, with a sticky club-shaped tip for catching prey. The eyes can move independently and allow for binocular vision suited for accurate judgment of distances. Their proverbial ability to change colour lies in chromatophore cells in the lower layers of skin, having branches into which coloured pigments may flow or be withdrawn, hence changing the predominant colour. This may be a response to temperature, light intensity or ‘emotion’, but often not actually for cryptic camouflage.

Yet another remarkable instance of **design!**

Picture: www.stockphotosecrets.com



Patrons

**The Immaculate Conception
St Thomas Aquinas**

**St Michael
St Bonaventure**

St Oliver Plunkett (for Ireland)

Honorary Member

Professor Maciej Giertych, BA, MA (Oxon), PhD, DSc

AIMS

To inform Catholics and others of the scientific evidence supporting Special Creation as opposed to Evolution, and to show that the true discoveries of Science are in conformity with Catholic doctrines on Origins.

ACTIVITIES

Daylight Origins Society is a non-profit educational organisation funded from subscriptions, donations and sales of publications.

- ❖ Publishes the periodical *Daylight* for subscribers in 20 countries.
- ❖ Operates a website at www.daylightorigins.com
- ❖ Publishes and distributes pamphlets on Origins issues.
- ❖ Provides mail-order service for literature and audio-visual material.
- ❖ Promotes links with other Catholic Origins groups worldwide

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EDITORIAL

Welcome back, dear readers! I apologise for the delay in production of this issue owing mainly to my period of ill health in September and October. Many thanks for your support and prayers. It is now 30 years since we relaunched *Daylight* and there is still material that I should like to write or republish, if the good Lord wills it. However, it seems possible that issues will appear more periodically and less often than three numbers a year. We are praying for guidance as we consider possible options for continuing publication. In the meantime, we shall continue subscription ‘membership’ for all those in credit. We know there are many of you who appreciate a ‘hard copy’ magazine and who may not have ready access to the Internet. Deacon Paul has permitted me to tell you that *Daylight* played a significant part in fostering his vocation.

I’m sorry that our website has given some problems for you lately. It is quite costly to operate and we are reconsidering its viability. I invite you to visit the *Kolbe Center for the Study of Creation* website at www.kolbecenter.org for a great range of resources, based on sound Catholic principles.

Concerns about ‘climate science’

Our major mission with *Daylight* is to counter the false claims of evolutionary theories in relation to origins and creation, and show how real science supports Catholic doctrines on human nature and the interpretation of Holy Scripture. However, there are other scientific issues with moral, social and religious

connections that raise concerns whenever truth, justice, human rights and freedoms are under attack. For this reason we included material in our May 2021 issue [#68] on the subject of vaccination, and in August 2020 [#66] on climate change. In this number I have selected an online article which illustrates, using original sources, several failed climate-related predictions from recent publications that demonstrate that this is an area where alarmist ‘science’ can be seriously misleading.

In an article in *The Spectator* [19 October 2013]¹, Matt Ridley asserts that “The scientific consensus is that warmer temperatures do more good than harm.” This is also the conclusion of Prof. Richard Tol, of Sussex University, who reviewed 14 different studies on the effects of future climate trends. “Climate change would be beneficial up to 2.2°C of warming from 2009.” From his calculations based on past economic benefits over the last century, he expects continued global economic output to rise by over 1% per year until around 2080.

The chief benefits of global warming include: fewer winter deaths; lower energy costs; better agricultural yields; probably fewer droughts; maybe richer biodiversity [...] Cold, not heat, is the biggest killer, and excess winter deaths hit the poor harder than the rich [...] The greatest benefit from climate change comes from not from temperature change but from carbon dioxide itself [...] The increase in carbon dioxide levels over the past century, from 0.03 per cent to 0.04 per cent, has had a measureable impact on plant growth rates.

This ‘greening’ of the planet has been analysed from satellite data and is benefiting both agriculture in dry areas and natural ecosystems. According to a study by Indur Goklany, the death rate from droughts, floods and storms has dropped by 98 per cent since the 1920s. Climate policy is already doing harm:

Building wind turbines, growing biofuels and substituting wood for coal in power stations — all policies designed explicitly to fight climate change — have had negligible effects on carbon dioxide emissions. But they have driven people into fuel poverty, made industries uncompetitive, driven up food prices, accelerated the destruction of forests, killed rare birds of prey, and divided communities.

Some policies developed over the past ten years that claim to help ‘save the planet’ in reality attack human rights, freedoms and welfare through population control and undermining the economy. The Catholic Church should oppose political systems based on socialism and designed to destroy nation states and set up world government. Our Lady at Fatima asks for ‘Prayer and penance.’

¹ <https://www.spectator.co.uk/article/why-climate-change-is-good-for-the-world>

There's No Place Like Earth!

Uniquely created for human life



Anthony Nevard

Speculation about life being found on other planets, or elsewhere in the universe, necessarily requires consideration of the physical conditions required for a living organism to survive. Space missions have required the design and creation of living quarters for the astronauts that provide a similar environment to what we find naturally here on Earth. These conditions comprise a great many physical and chemical features that make possible the huge variety of life forms on land and in water. No other planet or moon in our solar system, or indeed anywhere else, is known to have these unique conditions. This article will outline some of these facts about our planet and their implications for life.

The Earth's shape and size

The sphericity of the Earth has long been known. In the third century B.C, the Greek Eratosthenes devised a way of calculating its circumference, using measurements of the size and angles of the shadows of sticks placed a known distance apart. His figure of about 40,000 km was within a few percent of modern data. The Earth is

not a perfect sphere, but somewhat flattened at its poles to form an 'oblate spheroid.' This is believed to be caused by centrifugal force from the Earth's rotation resulting in bulging at the equator. Hence the equatorial diameter is 7927 miles but the polar diameter is 7901 miles.

The mass of the Earth has been estimated by indirect means. Isaac Newton (1642-1727) derived his Law of Universal Gravitation, stating that two objects are attracted to each other by a force that is directly proportional to their masses and inversely proportional to the square of the distance between them. As an equation, this involves a 'gravitational constant,' symbol G. In 1798, Henry Cavendish (1731-1810) calculated the value of G by measuring the force between two lead spheres a known distance apart. This made it possible to calculate a figure for the mass of the Earth – 6 trillion trillion kg. Another method can be used involving the movements of the Moon and applying Newton's laws of circular motion.

These facts are crucial in the fine-tuning of our planet for life. Even a 10% reduction in mass would decrease the Earth's gravitational force and result in the loss of much of our atmosphere, which would also lead to freezing conditions over much of the globe. Conversely, an increase of 10% in diameter could raise atmospheric pressure, temperature and sea levels, with greater gravitational force on the surface; again, these changes would be to the detriment of life.

Fundamental forces

Physicists have discovered three other forces apart from gravity that affect all physical objects: the strong nuclear force, the weak nuclear force, and the electro-magnetic force. The strong nuclear force holds protons and neutrons together in the nuclei of atoms. Protons are positively charged and would otherwise repel each other. The range of naturally-occurring stable chemical elements and isotopes depend on the relative sizes of these forces. The weak force is believed to affect the properties of stars and their luminosity, and of course life is dependent on our nearest star, the Sun. Even small changes in the values of these constants would adversely affect the physical and chemical world. This was recognized by leading astronomer Martin Rees, writing in the 1980s:

If we modify the value of one of the fundamental constants, something invariably goes wrong, leading to a universe that is inhospitable to life as we know it [...] The conditions in our universe really do seem to be uniquely suitable for life forms like ourselves, and perhaps for any form of organic chemistry.²

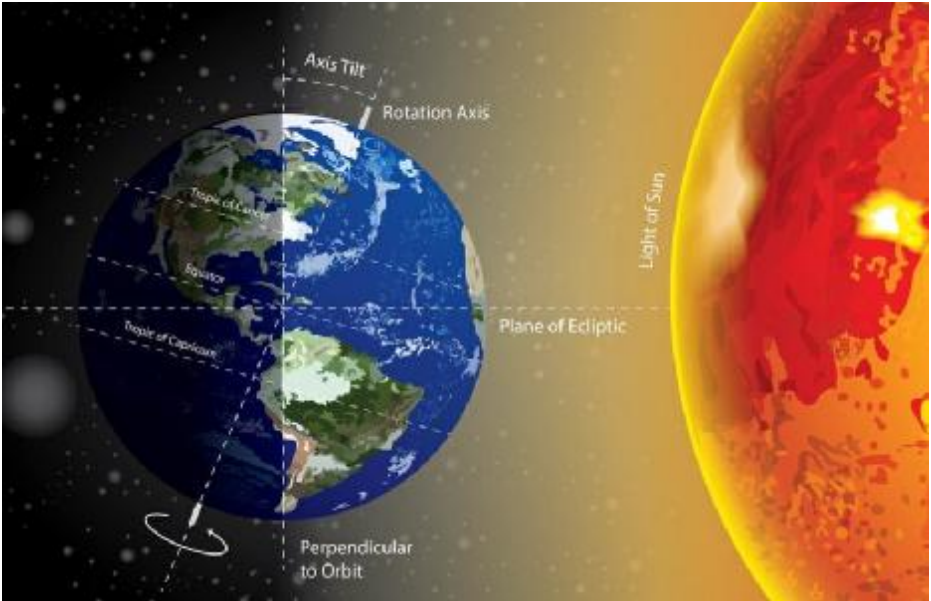
Orbit, Rotation and Seasons

According to the Copernican model, the Earth orbits the Sun once every 365.3 days. The fact that this is not exactly divisible by 7 has the consequence that each year one's birthday comes one day later in the week than the previous year! Except for the leap years, that are employed to adjust for the fractional day differences. The length of the year allows time for the growth and harvesting of crops over the seasons in most parts of the globe. The orbital times of other planets are very different, for example Mars is 687 earth days and Venus only 225. Our days, divided into 24 hours, provide in most places for sufficient warming during the day, but prevent excessive cooling by night. How could our daily pattern of work and rest be fitted into a much shorter or longer period of light and darkness? Many aspects of our physiology are responsive to approximately 24-hour cycles known as circadian rhythms, and such cycles have also been studied in plants and animals ('chronobiology'). Recent studies have shown they include phenomena at the cellular and organ level, as well as the whole organism. Many plants and animals also show annual rhythms in e.g. life cycles, mating behaviour, migration and growth patterns. Garner and Allard (1920) discovered that the flowering times of many species were related to day length — some 'short-day plants' flower in spring or autumn, while 'long-day plants' mainly flower in summer. Artificial regulation of light and temperature now makes it possible for growers to vary flowering seasons to extend the market availability.³ Along with the benefits of air transportation, most flowers are now available worldwide all year round.

² J. Gribbon and M. Rees, *Cosmic Coincidences* (New York : Bantam Books, 1989), 269. [Quoted in Gonzalez & Richards, *The Privileged Planet*, Regnery Publishing Inc., (2004) pp.206-7]

³ www.encyclopedia.com/plants-and-animals/botany/botany-general/photoperiodism

The tilt of the Earth's axis results in the seasons



The cycle of seasons in the northern and southern hemispheres is not the consequence of changing the Earth's distance from the Sun but on the varying angle at which the radiation strikes the atmosphere. This is due to the fact that the axis of rotation is inclined at 23.5° to the perpendicular of the plane of the Earth's orbit. During the northern summer, the northern hemisphere is inclined towards the Sun and light, infra-red and ultra-violet radiation enter the atmosphere more vertically (so the Sun appears higher in the sky). As the path of the rays travelling through the atmosphere is shorter in summer, less energy is absorbed by it and more radiation reaches the Earth's surface. The reverse happens in winter and in the southern hemisphere.

The rotation of the Earth also contributes to the Coriolis effect, which is the deflection of an object due to an inertial force resulting from its movement within a rotating reference frame. Relative motion is induced in large masses of water and air as the Earth turns, resulting in wind and ocean currents. The tilt of the axis benefits life on earth through the consequent circulation of air and

water, as this helps to maintain more even temperatures in the regions nearer the poles. In the UK we experience these benefits from the Gulf Stream and the Jet Stream.

These considerations of the significance of the Earth's axial tilt were examined by Alfred Russel Wallace, who concluded:

It appears almost certain, therefore, that some intermediate position of the axis would be the most favourable; and that which actually exists seems to combine the advantage of change of seasons with good climatical conditions over the largest possible area. ⁴

Distance from the Sun

The position of the Earth's orbit in relation to the Sun maintains an average distance of about 150 million km, or 93 million miles. As for the other planets, its shape is elliptical rather than perfectly circular. This distance is perfectly suited to maintain suitable temperatures on Earth to allow life to exist in some form in almost all habitats, and for most of the water to be in the liquid state. ⁵ The rates of metabolic processes are affected by temperature, operating optimally in mammals within a narrow range around 37°C. Most enzymes and other proteins denature and cease to function at around 45–60 °C. Even single-celled organisms cease functioning at –20 °C (hence the setting of freezers to preserve food), though it has been reported that some 'extremophile' bacteria have been discovered surviving in hot springs and can even survive several hours at 120 °C. ⁶

Reference to the table on the next page allows comparison of the physical conditions of the other seven major planets of the solar system in relation to their distance from the Sun. A key factor is, of course, surface temperature, but others include atmosphere, density, gravity, light intensity, and chemical composition.

⁴ Wallace, A.R., *Man's Place in the Universe*, Chapman and Hall (1904), Reprint by The Echo Library (2012), p.121.

⁵ The special physical and chemical properties of water also illustrate the precise features required of this fluid, essential for life.

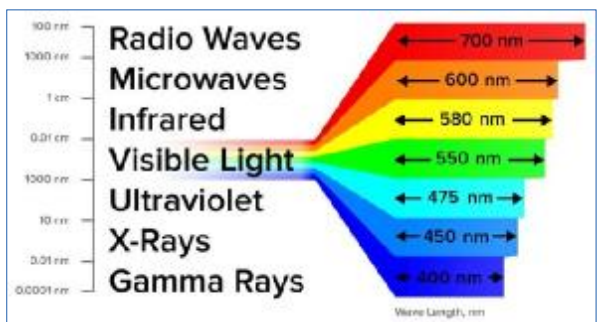
⁶ www.newscientist.com/article/dn4058-hot-bug-extends-temperature-limit-for-life/

This table shows some data related to the planets of the solar system.⁷

	Mercury	Venus	Earth	Mars	Jupiter	Saturn	Uranus	Neptune
Distance from Sun, millions of km (mean)	57.9	108.2	149.6	227.9	778	1427	2870	4497
Orbital period	88.0d	224.7d	365.3d	687.0d	11.9y	29.5y	84.0y	164.8y
Rotation period	58.6d	243.2d	23h56m	24h37m	9h55m	10h13m	17h14m	16h7m
Axial inclination °	2	178	23.4	24.0	3.0	26.4	98	28.8
Mass, Earth = 1	0.055	0.815	1	0.11	317.9	95.2	14.6	17.2
Volume, Earth = 1	0.056	0.815	1	0.15	1319	744	67	57
Density, Water = 1	5.44	5.25	5.52	3.94	1.33	0.71	1.27	1.77
Surface Temp °C	+427	+480	+22	-23	-150	-180	-214	-220
Diameter km	4878	12,104	12,756	6794	143,884	120,536	51,118	50,538

It is clear from the data above that the position of the Earth in the solar system gives an ideal range of temperatures for life, but this location also provides light at a suitable intensity for photosynthesis in green plants on which the whole carbon cycle depends and from which energy for life flows through the food chains.

To sustain life, the Sun is required to emit those parts of the visible spectrum that are absorbed by chlorophyll, i.e. those near the red and blue ends. Our Sun is a very special star in



Electromagnetic spectrum

respect of the spectral characteristics of the radiation it produces. Michael Denton writes:

⁷ Data from Moore, P., *Atlas of the Universe*, Philip’s (1994), p.33.

That the radiation from the sun (and from many main sequence stars) should be concentrated into a miniscule band of the electromagnetic spectrum which provides precisely the radiation required to maintain life on earth is a very remarkable coincidence described as “staggering” by Ian Campbell in *Energy and the Atmosphere*.⁸ Note that the compaction of solar radiation into the visible and near infrared is determined by a completely different set of physical laws to those that dictate which wavelengths are suitable for photobiology.

Our amazement grows further when we note that not only is the radiant energy in this tiny region the *only radiation of utility to life* but that radiant energy in most other regions of the spectrum is *either lethal or profoundly damaging*. Electromagnetic radiation from gamma rays through X rays to ultraviolet rays is all harmful to life. Similarly, radiation in the far infrared and microwave regions is also damaging to life. Just about the only region of the electromagnetic spectrum which is harmless to life apart from the visible and the near infrared is the region of very long wavelength radiation – the radio waves. So the sun not only puts out all its radiant energy in the tiny band of utility to life but virtually *none, in those regions of the spectrum which are harmful to life*.⁹

Denton points out, among many other facts, that the light from the Sun is uniquely suited for high-resolution vision, both in its energy levels and absorbance characteristics, but also that:

...the actual length of the waves in the visual region of the spectrum is perfectly fit for the high-resolution camera-type eye of the precise design and dimension as that found in all higher vertebrate species, including man.¹⁰

He explains why infrared, radio, UV, X ray, and gamma rays are all much less suitable for biological vision than visible light, and concludes: “Despite the progress made by astronomers over the past thirty years to construct telescopes which utilize the various short-wavelength regions of the spectrum, to date their resolving power is still far less than conventional light telescopes.”¹¹

⁸ Campbell, I.M., *Energy and the Atmosphere*, London: Wiley (1977), p. 6

⁹ Denton, M.J., *Nature’s Destiny – How the Laws of Biology Reveal Purpose in the Universe*. The Free Press (1998), pp. 53-54. [Italics in original text.]

¹⁰ *Ibid.*, p. 62.

¹¹ *Ibid.*, p. 68.

The Atmosphere

All the planets, and even some moons, have an atmosphere but none is at all similar to that of Earth. The atmosphere of Mercury is extremely thin, not very different from the vacuum of space, and composed mainly of helium. The largest planets — Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus and Neptune — have deep atmospheres, mainly consisting of hydrogen, with inner layers in liquid or solid form. The smaller, rocky planets, Venus and Mars, have thinner atmospheres, mainly consisting of carbon dioxide; that of Mars has a pressure only about 1% of that on Earth. Only Earth's atmosphere has the layered structure that allows enough light energy to enter and be trapped for warmth, but also shields us from too much harmful radiation. Its composition is about 78% nitrogen, 21% oxygen, 1% argon and other 'noble gases,' 0.04% carbon dioxide, and variable amounts of water vapour.

The composition, proportions and overall pressure of the air are crucial factors for life. Air pressure falls with altitude above sea level, hence extra oxygen supplies may be needed by mountaineers. Divers breathing pressurized ('hyperbaric') air underwater are prone to danger of 'the bends' caused by nitrogen under greater pressure dissolving in the blood, and later being released as bubbles into blood vessels when the diver surfaces and breathes air under normal pressure. Helium may be mixed with the air to reduce this risk. However, breathing air with extra oxygen can also be toxic or even fatal. Oxygen in the air supplies the needs of aerobic respiration in plants and animals but also for microorganisms involved in decay and recycling nutrients in soil and water.

Breathing in most land animals involves using muscular activity to draw air over the gas exchange surfaces. The efficiency of this process depends on the air having very low viscosity and density to overcome 'airway resistance.' With air pressure raised to several times normal, this resistance to breathing would be prohibitive to normal activities.

Oxygen in the air is in a suitable proportion to support controlled combustion of carbon-based fuels and wood. It also contributes to life in providing the ozone layer in the upper atmosphere (stratosphere)

which absorbs much of the damaging UV radiation, so helping to protect living organisms from its mutagenic effects.

Carbon dioxide is both the waste product of respiration but also the carbon source for photosynthesis, both to produce the organic compounds on which animal life depends for food, and also to replace oxygen in the air which is derived from water. Carbon dioxide is a relatively innocuous soluble gas at normal temperatures which can be readily excreted from the body via respiration. It dissolves in water to produce carbonic acid (H_2CO_3), which then ionizes to form hydrogen ions (H^+) and the base bicarbonate (HCO_3^-). Denton describes the vital importance of this fact, saying:

Now the fact that the gas CO_2 reacts reversibly with water to produce the base bicarbonate has physiological consequences of very great significance because it provides the organism with a wonderfully elegant means of protecting or buffering itself against fluctuation in the level of acidity of the body.¹²

After explaining this further, citing ‘many authors,’ he concludes:

*Thus the problem of excretion of the end product of carbon metabolism and the problem of acid-base balance are both elegantly solved in the properties of the same remarkable compound — carbon dioxide. It is a solution of breathtaking elegance and parsimony based on another set of mutual adaptation to life’s constituents.*¹³

Nor should we take atmospheric nitrogen (N_2) for granted! Nitrogen is the fourth most abundant element in our body, after oxygen, carbon and hydrogen. It is an essential component of amino-acids (hence of proteins), nucleic acids and the energy transfer molecule adenosine triphosphate (ATP). To make nitrogen naturally available for intake into plants, a sequence of bacterial action (‘nitrogen fixation’) is normally required, resulting in making soluble nitrate (NO_3^-) ions which thereby enter the Nitrogen Cycle. Such bacteria are found in the root nodules of pea and bean family plants. Nitrogen is found in ammonia, nitric acid, nitrate fertilizers, explosives, antibiotics, cyanides and drugs such as caffeine and morphine. Liquid nitrogen is a commonly used

¹² *Ibid.*, p. 132

¹³ *Ibid.*, p. 133. [Italics in original text].

‘cryogenic’ for cooling to very cold temperatures in various medical, technical or research fields.

Finally there are the ‘noble gases’ forming Group 0 of the Periodic Table. These include Helium, Neon, Argon and Krypton, and can be extracted by liquefaction and fractional distillation of air. Their inert unreactive nature makes them valuable in a range of applications including balloons, light bulbs and lasers.

Our atmosphere is uniquely suited to life itself, but also supplies materials for enhancing technology and human life. In addition, we have the water cycle providing clouds, rain and rivers, which provide a water supply directly for many people, and for crops, but also via underground sources through wells. Rivers also allow for the removal and recycling of waste water and provision of power through mills, dams and hydro-electric turbines. The atmosphere provides the medium for flight for birds, bats and insects, and for the circulation of seeds and spores. We make use of layers of the upper atmosphere (the ionosphere) to reflect radio waves. And of course there are aircraft and artificial satellites for communications, navigation, the global positioning system (GPS), weather and geodetic satellites.

The Moon

The Earth is the only planet in the Solar System to have a single moon. Mars has two, but neither Mercury nor Venus has a moon.

The Moon is our natural satellite and the brightest object in the sky, being some 384,000 km distant. Its orbital

period is 27.3 days, but because both Earth and Moon are moving round the Sun, the interval between one New Moon and the next is 29.5 days. Because the Moon’s axial rotation is equal to its orbital period, we see the same face of the Moon all the time. This is thought to be due to a bulge in the Moon that is subjected to attraction by the Earth’s gravity.



Stages of a solar eclipse

The Moon's light is entirely reflected from the Sun, which explains why, during a lunar eclipse, the shadow of the Earth can be seen crossing its face. This makes it very easy to see the cratered surface of the Moon, which has no atmosphere. During the phases of the Moon, we see the part of the Moon lit by the Sun. At a full Moon, the Sun is on the opposite side of the Earth, though unless all three are in an exact line ('syzygy'¹⁴) there will not be a lunar eclipse. However, if it happens that the Moon lies in a line exactly between the Sun and the viewer on Earth, a total solar eclipse will be observed. The apparent diameters of the Moon and the Sun in the sky are very similar; this amazing 'coincidence' occurs because although the Sun's diameter is about 400 times that of the Moon, it is also about 400 times more distant. The phenomenon of a solar eclipse could therefore not occur on any other planet but Earth.

The connection between ocean tides and the Moon's phases has long been recognized. St Bede (725) made observations in *De temporum ratione* linking semidiurnal tides with lunar months, differing tidal heights, the earlier tides to the North, and the effects of the wind. Newton brought in the effect of gravity on the water via solar and lunar attractions. In fact, the rotation of the Earth and the local depth of the sea and shape of the coastline can all play their parts in affecting tidal behaviour.¹⁵

Down to Earth

The oceans on our planet cover about 71% of its surface and contain about 98% of all the water on the face of the Earth. Seawater, containing about 3.5% salt, together with other minerals, results from the washout of rivers and interchange with the atmosphere and cloud formation. The oceans vary in depth from the littoral regions of the coast, which yield supplies of sand and gravel, down to the abyssal regions and cold and dark deep sea trenches. Light penetrates down to a maximum of c 300m, below which plants cannot grow. The oceans are constantly in motion in currents, tides

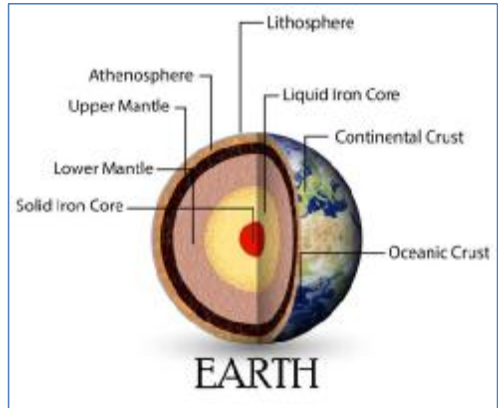
¹⁴ Derived from Greek, meaning 'yoked together'.

(A useful word to know for crosswords or Scrabble!)

¹⁵ Further information on the Moon may be found in: Whitcomb, J.C and DeYoung, D.B., *The Moon – Its Creation, Form and Significance*, BMH Books (1978).

and waves, and provide the environment for marine fauna such as fish and plankton.

The crust of the Earth extends up to 40km thick under the continents but may be only 5km thick under the sea. The temperature and pressure increase with depth. Clues of the nature of the inner parts of the Earth come



from volcanic activity and earthquake studies ('seismology'), with indirect evidence from meteorites. Magnetic field studies have also contributed to theories of continental drift and plate tectonics. The magnetic field of the Earth is thought to arise from electric currents in the molten iron outer core. One important effect, part from providing navigational guidance to many animals and our compasses, is to deflect potentially harmful cosmic rays from 'solar wind' from entering the atmosphere.

The wealth of materials and the control of fire have led through centuries of technological progress to the agricultural and industrial revolutions, and the deployment of new energy sources, from wood to coal to oil, gas, petroleum and uranium. The discovery and extraction of minerals from ores in the Earth's crust has contributed greatly to scientific progress on this unique planet.

■ This is a new and much-expanded version of the article under the same title published in *Daylight* #29, Autumn/Winter 1999, and as a *Spotlight* article #3.

For further reading on the uniqueness of Earth, *The Privileged Planet* [for reference please see Daylight 69, p.5, footnote 1].

For a deeper dive into the mathematical wonders of the cosmos:

Barrow, J.D., *The Constants of Nature*, Vintage (2003)

Barrow, J., & Tipler, F.J., *The Anthropic Cosmological Principle*, Oxford U.P. (1986)

Stewart, I., *Nature's Numbers*, Weidenfeld & Nicolson (1995).

Catholic Doctrine and Human Origins

The Most Rev. M. Sheehan D.D.¹

Theistic Evolutionists and the Origin of the Human Body

Theistic evolutionists who hold that the first man was evolved or developed as to his body from some ape-like creature rely chiefly on the arguments which we give below, and to which we add their opponents' replies:

(1) "In man there are several rudimentary, or useless, organs or parts. Their presence can be explained only on the supposition that they have been inherited from lower animals in which they served a useful purpose."

REPLY: "We may not know the use of an organ, but that does not prove that it has no use. Not so many years ago scientists held that the glands known as thymus, thyroid, suprarenal, and pineal, were useless.² It is therefore reasonable to conclude that, as research proceeds, the list of 'rudimentary' organs may disappear from text-books of physiology. Another possibility must also be noted, viz., that an organ useless to man in present conditions may be shown to have been useful to him in the remote past. Such a discovery however would not point to evolution but merely to an earlier stage of the human species."³

(2) "Man closely resembles the ape in the formation of the skeleton, organs, and nervous system. Apes existed prior to man. Therefore man is descended from an ape-like animal."

REPLY: (a) "In spite of the resemblances, which no one questions, the differences are enormous: the ape has a foot which grasps like a hand; its legs are flattened and without calf; it has neither chin nor forehead as these terms are understood by anatomists; its teeth are not arranged in close rows like

¹ From: *Apologetics and Catholic Doctrine*, Part II (2nd Edn 1941), M.H. Gill & Son, pp 51-59. This section of the book is preceded by relevant teachings of Scripture and the Catholic Church. Footnotes below appear in the original text, unless suffixed with 'Ed.' [Ed.]

² The thymus gland (situated in the thorax) is a store-house and factory for the white blood-corpuscles so necessary in the war with microbes; the removal of the thyroid gland (in the throat) causes a marked coarseness of the physiognomy, slowness of thought and movement, and several other physical defects; the suprarenal glands (above the kidneys) brace up the heart and blood-vessels, and preserve the tone of the whole muscular system; the pineal gland (in the brain—so-called because like a fir-cone) appears to influence mental activity and bodily development. It has been observed, with a touch of humour, that there is nothing rudimentary in the "rudimentary" organs except our knowledge of them.

[Modern science has enhanced rather than invalidated the value of these organs – Ed.]

³ See Fr. Wasmann, S.J., *The Problem of Evolution*, p, 66.

human teeth; its head is so fitted to its body that, if the animal were forced to stand erect, it would be looking upwards, not forwards; the average weight of its brain compared with that of its body is as 1 to 70, while for man the ratio is 1 to 35. (Theistic evolutionists admit that over and above these and several other physical differences, the ape, like the rest of the brute creation, stands on the vastly lower plane of irrationality. Though it can signify its wants and feelings, and obey simple directions, it has no language, no power of speech; it cannot use signs expressing general or abstract ideas).— (b) Resemblance, though it may *suggest* descent, does not *prove* it.

(3) “We admit,” evolutionists say, “that the gap between man and the ape is so wide as to exclude the possibility of man’s descent from any living species of the ape-tribe. But this does not prevent us from adopting the theory that, from lemur-like animals, the remote ancestors of the apes, there were several offshoots; that one of these offshoots developed into different branches of the human race, only one of which branches has survived; and that the other offshoots developed into animals lower than man but higher than the ape. That this theory is not devoid of evidence is clear from the fossils which have been discovered in Java, and in the neighbourhoods of Pekin, Heidelberg, and Piltdown (Sussex). The Java fossil belonged to a creature with a brain about 50 per cent. above that of a higher ape, and not quite 50 per cent below that of the average man; he was therefore probably irrational. The other fossils are human, but their owners had marked ape-like characteristics (*e.g.*, in teeth, jaw, or brow-ridges). Since all these fossils belong to the same period (about 500,000 years ago), it is not suggested that the Java-man, as the creature is called, was the ancestor of the others. Nor, for other reasons, do we claim that anyone of those fossils was an ancestor of ours. Still less do we claim that we can trace our descent through the much later fossils of the ape-like Neanderthal men whose race perished off the earth only 20,000 years ago, and was succeeded, after no great interval, by an entirely human and vastly superior race, the Crô-Magnon men, skilful workers and artists, of better physique than ourselves, and possibly also of better brain-power. All that we claim is that, since men with ape-like characteristics existed on the earth in remote ages, the probability that, on the physical side, we have been evolved from a lower animal has been established.”

REPLY: (a) Evolutionists have abandoned the idea that man is descended from the great apes, and now hold the theory of his descent and theirs from a remote ancestor, the lemur. ⁴ But they have not succeeded in discovering any

⁴ Described as a “dog-faced, tree-living, half-monkey, found in Madagascar and S. Africa.”

satisfactory evidence. They admit that their quest has been fruitless: “the ancestry of man has so far proved irrecoverable . . . If anything, we know rather less than we thought we did, say, thirty years ago.”⁵

(2) The Neanderthal fossils⁶ may be regarded as proving the existence of men, possessing some ape-like characteristics, who lived in a remote age, dating back from about 20,000 years ago. Numerous specimens have been found in different European countries and in Palestine. They show that the Neanderthal man had pronounced brow-ridges, like those of the gorilla, that his skull was low and ape-like, and that he could hardly have walked erect;⁷ but they show also that he was a skilled worker, that he understood the use of fire, that he buried his dead ceremonially, and had a larger brain than ours.⁸ The other fossils, both as to their date and their significance, are of inferior value as evidence,⁹ because they are too few and fragmentary, but they may be taken as confirming our general conclusion from those of Neanderthal. That conclusion, however, by no means requires us to admit the probability of evolution. We see no reason why the ape-like features which we ourselves undoubtedly possess may not have been more pronounced in some section of our remote predecessors, adapting them to the particular conditions in which they lived.

The Alternative to Evolution.

Evolutionists say: “Admitting that we have not succeeded as yet in explaining away the differences between man and the ape, we maintain

⁵ Haslett, *Unsolved problems of Science*, pp. 148, 149

⁶ So-called because the first was found in the Neanderthal cave in Germany (the valley of the Düssel). [From a biblical perspective, Neanderthals were humans derived from Adam via Noah, and therefore more recent. This dating is speculative and based on questionable assumptions Ed.]

⁷ Yet his canine teeth were less ape-like than ours: Cf. Wells, Huxley and Wells, *Evolution—Fact and Theory*, p. 133.

⁸ But it is said that the higher centres of the brain were not so well developed. Hence the inference (possibly not correct) that he was less intelligent than we.

⁹ *The dating of the fossils.* —The Java, Pekin, Heidelberg, and Piltdown fossils “are mostly found in gravels that may have been disturbed and re-deposited, and so are exceptionally hard to date” : Wells, Huxley, and Wells, *op. cit.*, p. 133. The guesses range from a quarter of a million to a million years ago. *Description*—Java: part of a skull-roof, a thigh-bone, two molar teeth; Pekin: two well preserved skull-roofs and three teeth; Heidelberg: a lower jaw and teeth; Piltdown: an incomplete skull and a lower jaw, supplemented by other remains discovered later some two miles distant. *Interpretation.*— All show a blending of ape-like and human characteristics, and, with the exception of the Java fossil, are supposed to indicate either average, or somewhat under-average, intelligence. The Java fossil, if human, is that of an idiot.—See J.W.N. Sullivan, *Science, a new Outline*, pp. 242 f. ; A. W. Haslett, *op. cit.*, pp. 147 f. ; Wells, Huxley, and Wells, *op. cit.*, pp. 129 f.

that the similarities cannot be accounted for *physically* except on the hypothesis of evolution. We must hold that hypothesis, because there is no rival in the field.” — Their opponents can reply: “The *assumption* of evolutionists that the origin of man can, and must, be traced to *physical* causes may have to be rejected as quite unsound. Scientists may in course of time come definitely to the conclusion that no physical cause can be assigned for the origin of man, and that it is a mystery as inscrutable as the origin of matter or the origin of life. But it is, perhaps, not altogether fanciful to conceive that, while recognizing the mystery of man’s origin, they may ultimately succeed in demonstrating that the precise formation of man’s body—his brain and nervous system, the organs of sense and all the organs, together with the mechanism of bone and muscle—is not merely in exact harmony with his requirements as a rational animal, but is the *only* possible formation it could have received to make it fit in with the laws of nature.¹⁰ Thus, there would be a scientific reason for stating that God made man as he is, as a necessary consequence of the laws which He Himself had imposed on the world.”¹¹

This reply enables us to meet a similar difficulty, viz., that God showed, as it were, a want of originality as a designer by making the body of the first man like that of the lower animals. But as musical compositions, though independently written, will show a resemblance because of their conformity with the same laws of harmony, so too man and the lower animals must be somewhat alike because of their adaptation to the same system of physical and chemical laws.

It is worth observing that the evolutionists whose words are paraphrased above speak of evolution as an *hypothesis*. That is the designation which the scrupulous investigator employs. It is only those afflicted with an anti-religious animus who represent it as a scientifically established truth.

¹⁰ If it be ever given to us to understand the whole scheme of creation, we may find that all the diversified forms of animate and inanimate matter, and all the laws that govern them, fit together, minister to one another, and constitute a unity as perfect and harmonious as the deductions of mathematical science.—See Mivart, *On Truth*, p. 528.

¹¹ And the transition to the correct doctrine that “God made the world for man’s use and benefit” would be easy. Recently, some non-Catholic evolutionists have shown a tendency towards this doctrine: See, e.g., J. Arthur Thomson, *Biology for Everyman*, Vol. 2, p. 1289, where he says that it looks as if the world had been prepared for man’s coming.

The Attitude of the Church on the Evolution of the Human Body

(1) The teaching of the Church on the origin of the human body has been given above.¹² Following her ordinary practice, she takes the words of Holy Scripture (*Gen. i and ii*) in their obvious sense, until the necessity arises of seeking a different interpretation. In the case before us, the necessity would arise, only if it were proved on strict historical evidence that Adam was born of lower animals—which is surely a ludicrous supposition, since there could be no historical evidence without contemporary human witnesses.¹³ But though the proof is inconceivable, the *theory* of the evolutionary origin of his body does not, in itself, involve an absolute impossibility, and, so far, has not been publicly and explicitly condemned by the Church.

(2) The Church teaches that God built up the body of Eve from a portion of matter which He took from the body of Adam. So far, no interpretation of this teaching has been offered which would allow us to ascribe the origin of her body to evolution. And if evolution must be excluded in her case, it must be excluded also in the case of Adam.¹⁴

(3) The Church does not interfere with the investigations of Catholic biologists, who, as loyal sons of hers, are always ready to accept her guidance and decisions. She allows them to conjecture, observe and experiment as they please. Since all truth is from God, she welcomes

¹² ‘The Church, through the Biblical Commission, requires us to believe in the “special creation” of Adam, *i.e.*, she requires us to believe that Adam came into being through no merely natural process but through some special intervention on the part of God. God, as we have seen, created the soul of Adam, as He creates every human soul, immediately out of nothing (direct creation), but in forming the body of Adam He made use of material already existing (indirect creation). Again, the Church, through the Biblical Commission, requires us to believe that God by a special act formed the body of Eve from the body of Adam.’ [Sheehan, *ibid.* pp 47-48]

¹³ We need not delay over the fantastic idea that God might at some time or other give a private revelation affirming the evolutionary origin of the body of Adam. He gives private revelations to encourage devotion, but devotion would not be encouraged by anything He might tell us about the kind of matter He was pleased to use in the formation of the first human body. (On Private Revelations, see *Apologetics and Catholic Doctrine*, Part I, Chapter on Faith, p. 212).

¹⁴ Rev. E. C. Messenger, Ph.D. (Louvain), in his work, *Evolution and Theology*, suggests that Eve’s body may have been produced by some natural process. He says that, in the animal world, life may originate from life without sexual generation. But his argument, though worked out with ingenuity, leaves us in complete darkness. Biologists know nothing of the origin of any highly developed mammal in the way he supposes.

every truth they may incidentally discover, even in pursuit of a theory which like that of the evolution of the human body may be a mere will-o'-the-wisp. She blesses their work, and imposes no restriction on them except the restriction imposed by physical science itself, *viz.*, that they are not to confound guesses and probabilities with absolute demonstration.

The Unity of Origin of the Human Species

THE TEACHING OF THE CHURCH. —The Church teaches that the present human species ¹⁵ is descended from Adam and Eve.¹⁶ Such, indeed, is the obvious sense of Sacred Scripture: before the creation of Adam, “there was not a man to till the earth” ¹⁷; Eve is “the mother of all the living” ¹⁸; and St. Paul says that “God, who made the world ... hath made of one, all mankind, to dwell upon the whole face of the earth.” ¹⁹ Moreover, the doctrines of Original Sin and the Redemption require us to believe that we are all sprung from Adam: we sinned in Adam, because he was our parent; and, because we inherited his sin, we had need of Redemption.

WHAT SCIENTISTS SAY.—(1) Scientists have not proved the multiple origin of the existing human species. The vague conjectures in which a few of them indulge need not be considered. (2) The fact that men all over the world, even the least civilized, have the gift of speech and the power to grasp intellectual and moral truths, tends to show that we are all members of the same family, and is, therefore, fully consistent with the doctrine revealed to us that we are descended from a single pair of ancestors. This argument, which is confirmed

¹⁵ (1) A *species* is a group which has something in common with other groups, but is distinguished from them by something which it alone can possess. Mankind is a species. Man is defined as a rational animal. The word “animal” tells us what he has in common with other living creatures; the word “rational” tells us what is exclusively his.

(2) From the definition of species, it is clear that no species shades off into another: *e.g.* there cannot be such things as “three-quarters-brute, one-quarter-man,” “half-brute, half-man,” “one-quarter-brute, three-quarters-man,” if a creature is a brute, it is not a man; if it is a man, it is not a brute.

(3) Numerous species of lower animals mentioned by zoologists are not true species, because they merge into one another. How many true species there are, fulfilling the requirement stated above, we cannot say. The question has not yet been fully studied, but we can take it as certain that the number is comparatively small.

¹⁶ Bibl. Commission, June 30, 1909.

¹⁷ *Gen.* ii. 5 .

¹⁸ *Ibid.* iii. 20

¹⁹ *Acts* xvii. 24, 26.

by world-wide similarities in ancient traditions and folklore, is not affected by differences of race and language. Though men of science know nothing as yet as to how the different races originated, they suggest that a species, possibly through the stimulus of a change of food and climate, may suddenly produce certain definite varieties, differing considerably from one another, yet true to the common type. Difference in language is due chiefly to geographical separation. As the study of philology advances, the kinship between the languages of all men is being gradually established.

The Antiquity of the Human Species.—The age of the human species is a question on which the Church has never given any decision, and may be left to the investigation of scientists. It is now generally admitted that the Bible teaches nothing definite on the matter.²⁰ The years from Adam to Christ fall into two periods, *viz.* (1) from Adam to Moses, and (2) from Moses to Christ. The latter period, as we know from secular as well as sacred sources, can be fixed as 1,500 years in round numbers. The length of the earlier period however remains uncertain. Formerly it was computed as (approximately) 2,500 years, which added to 1,500 would give a total of 4000 B.C., but the computation is open to question. It correctly assumed a period of about 200 years to have elapsed from the death of Joseph, son of Jacob, to the appointment of Moses as leader of the Hebrew race, but was probably astray in allowing no more than 2,300 years for the patriarchs from Adam to Joseph. The Bible (*Gen.* v, xi, and later chapters) appears to give a complete genealogy of the patriarchs with the age of each at the birth of his son; the next in the line: thus, Adam at the age of 130 years begets Seth; Seth at the age of 235 years Enos; and so on down to Joseph, son of Jacob. By adding these figures together, a total of 2,300 (approximately) was obtained, but the calculation was based on two questionable assumptions, *viz.* (1) that the ages of the patriarchs are correctly given in existing texts of the Bible, (2) that the line of patriarchs is complete, so that there are no gaps in the list. As to the latter point: although, for instance, Adam seems to be definitely described as the father of Seth, it is possible that he may have been, not the father of Seth, but the father of one from whom Seth after a long lapse of time derived his origin. This possibility is suggested by what we read in other parts of the Old Testament: a man described in one passage as the son of another is referred to later on as merely a remote descendant. This method of description is found in the New Testament also: Our Lord is spoken of as the Son of David, although David preceded Him by a thousand years.

²⁰ It was probably not the Divine Will to transmit to us any exact information on a matter that has no bearing on faith or morals.

It may, perhaps, be worth noting that the Church has never condemned the opinion, which was proposed centuries ago, that a race of men lived on the earth, but became extinct, before the creation of Adam.

EDITOR'S COMMENTS

As with many other extracts we have published from earlier works, our intention for the reader is to confirm the consistent position of Catholic doctrine on the foundational truths of Creation and Man, for example those listed by the Pontifical Biblical Commission in 1909. Elsewhere in his book of 1922 (revised 1941), Archbishop Sheehan discusses in some detail the scientific arguments put forward by evolutionists and clarifies their weaknesses and implications. At this time of writing, even Piltdown man, discovered in 1912, had not yet been discredited, let alone the questionable links of other claimed 'ape-man' fossils. Radiometric dating in the early 1950s contributed to the evidence for disproving Piltdown's alleged age of 500,000 years. Neanderthals are now claimed [on the Natural History Museum website] to have been "humans like us, but they were a distinct species" that diverged from *Homo sapiens* more than 500,000 years ago and disappeared 40,000 years ago.²¹

The final statement in the article above was presumably intended to allow for any evidence of prehistoric 'human' fossils to be attributable to some pre-Adamic people who did not commit original sin, but must have died anyway! This theory obviously contradicts Scripture and Tradition, and seems to be incompatible with Pope Pius XII's later ruling in his encyclical *Humani Generis* (1950) #37:

Christians cannot lend their support to a theory which involves the existence, after Adam's time, of some earthly race of men, truly so called, who were not descended ultimately from him, or else supposes that Adam was the name given to some group of our primordial ancestors.

Elsewhere, Sheehan makes this comment (p.45) about biologists:

Their difficulties are increased by the vagueness that surrounds the term "species" which they are constantly using. Thus, though they are trying to discover "the origin of species," they have no clear answer to the question, "what is a species?"

This still appears to be problematic for the experts at the NHM who it seems consider 'humans' to include more than one species!

²¹ <https://www.nhm.ac.uk/discover/who-were-the-neanderthals.html>

Failed Predictions for Climate Change

Anthony Nevard [based on Steve Milloy's article]

The environmental movement has burgeoned over the past 60 years and, in my opinion, it cannot be denied that many legitimate and justified concerns have been raised and, to some extent, addressed. These include air and water pollution, rain forest destruction, over-intensive farming methods, indiscriminate use of fertilisers and pesticides, excessive plastic waste and the need for conservation and recycling of materials. However, the focus on 'global warming' or 'climate change' has triggered many predictions to be made that have not stood 'the test of time'. This article demonstrates eleven forecasts made for the year 2020 that were allegedly based on known science but have now been shown to be false.

The article below is based on data presented on **Steve Milloy's** website which includes graphic evidence of all the claims and rebuttals made, and from which I derived the text I have quoted, with source references.

My request for publishing was unfortunately not acknowledged but since the website invites one to share it on 'social media' I have presumed that copyright permission is not needed. I recommend viewing the original article which appears here:

www.junkscience.com/wrong-again-2020s-failed-climate-doomsaying/

Eleven Failed Climate Predictions

(1) 1987: NASA scientist predicts world 3°C warmer by 2020.

"Hansen expects an average global temperature increase of between one half and one degree Celsius by the end of the '90s. 'And within 15 to 20 years of this, the earth will be warmer than it has been in the past 100,000 years.'

If this proves true, by the year 2000 we will experience an average temperature increase of around three degrees, with even greater extremes."¹

Reality: Average temperature only **0.44°C** higher (2020)²

Based on analysis of atmospheric data from instruments on fifteen NOAA satellites since 1979. As at July 2021, the average increase over the 1987 value is just **0.20°C**.

¹ 'Long, long, long-range forecast warm,' *Star-Phoenix*, Oct 2 1987, p.13.
<https://www.newspapers.com/image/511198426>

² 'Global Warming – Latest Global Temps,' Roy Spencer, PhD.
<https://www.drroyspencer.com/latest-global-temperatures/>

(2) 1978: CO2 levels to double from 1978 to 2020.

“We learn that if present trends continue, with economics the only limit on the exploitation of fossil fuels, the CO2 concentration will have doubled by 2020. Forty to 80 years after fuel burning peaks — that will come mid-century — the CO2 concentration will be five to 10 times its present level.”³

Reality: CO2 **only ~23%** increased from 1978 to 2020.

Carbon dioxide concentration at Mauna Loa Observatory (Dec 15 2020) – graph shows annual fluctuations from 412-417 ppm.⁴

(3) 2009: China to cut emissions 40-45% below 2005 level by 2020: India to cut 20-25%.

“China says it will, by 2020, reduce gases by 40-45 percent below ‘business as usual,’ that is, judged against 2005 figures for energy used versus economic output. India offers a 20 to 25 percent slowdown in emissions growth.”⁵

Reality: China 2020 emissions **~85% HIGHER** than 2005; India **~150% HIGHER**.

Graph shows ‘Historical annual CO₂ emissions for the top six countries and confederations (1970-2018)’⁶

(4) 2008: Snow on Kilimanjaro to vanish by 2020.

“The ice cap of Kilimanjaro one of the most famous landmarks of Africa, will have melted within 20 years because of global warming.

At least one third of the icefield on the Tanzanian mountain has disappeared in the last 12 years. Since it was mapped in 1912, 82 percent has been lost.

‘At this rate, all of the ice will be gone between 2010 and 2020,’ said Lonnie Thompson, a geologist at Ohio State University. ‘And that is probably a conservative estimate.’” David Derbyshire, *Daily Telegraph*⁷

³ Tim Padmore, ‘Scenario for Disaster’, *The Vancouver Sun*, Mar 13, 1978, p.6
<https://www.newspapers.com/image/493259514>

⁴ https://keelingcurve.ucsd.edu/wp-content/plugins/sio-bluemoon/graphs/mio_one_year.png

⁵ Hasley & Olsen, ‘Climate drama climax looks elusive’, *The Springfield News-Leader*, Dec 6 2009, p. 39.

<https://www.newspapers.com/image/209179262>

⁶

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_countries_by_carbon_dioxide_emissions#/media/File:World_fossil_carbon_dioxide_emissions_six_top_countries_and_confederations.png

⁷ *The Vancouver Sun*, Feb 20, 2001, p.4

<http://www.newspapers.com/image/496405276>

Reality: Yup. Snow is still there

Report by Jane Flanagan for *The Times* (Feb 17, 2020) entitled: Staying power of Kilimanjaro snow defies Al Gore’s gloomy forecast.

“Climbers have been wading through snowdrifts on its upper reaches this month, confounding prophesies most notably featured in *An Inconvenient Truth*, the 2006 documentary on climate change written and fronted by Al Gore, the former US vice-president.

‘The snow has certainly got my clients talking’ Methley Swai, owner of the Just-Kilimanjaro trekking company, said. ‘Many people have made Kilimanjaro a bucket list priority because of the Al Gore deadline but when they get here they are pleasantly surprised to find lots of snow.’ ”⁸

(5) 1986: EPA predicts 2 feet of sea level rise for Florida by 2020.

A report ‘The greenhouse effect and rising Florida seas’ in the Miami Herald, Sep 21, 1986:

“Jim Titus is in charge of Environmental Protection Agency studies of how high and when sea levels will rise. Predictions made a few years ago estimated that seas would rise anywhere from two to 12 feet by 2100, and possibly up to 20 feet after that. Titus says studies now indicate:

- A possible two-foot rise by 2020.
- A three-to-six foot rise by 2100.
- Up to 12 feet from 2150 to 2200.”⁹

The article also refers to *subsidence* of the land in Florida which would account for a *local* receding of the shore line.

“Bob Dean, the director of Beaches and Shores for the Department of Natural Resources, says the worldwide sea-level rise has been one-third of a foot over the last century. ‘The East coast [of Florida] is subsiding at twice the rate of the world — one foot in the last century.’ ”¹⁰

Reality: Sea level rise + subsidence in South Florida since 1986 has been **less than 4 inches**

A graph by the US *National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration* [NOAA] illustrates ‘Relative Sea Level Trend’ at Virginia Key, Florida. Data has been

⁸ <https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/staying-power-of-kilimanjaro-snow-defies-al-gores-gloomy-forecast-8x8l7s0v3>

⁹ <https://www.newspapers.com/image/631429042>

¹⁰ *Ibid.*

taken since 1931 and shows a trend of +2.97mm per year, equivalent to just **0.97 feet in 100 years.**¹¹

(6) 2000: By 2020 snow will be so unfamiliar, people won't know how to deal with it.

A report by Charles Onians on *The Independent* website (20 Mar 2000) entitled: 'Snowfalls are now just a thing of the past' states:

"According to Dr David Viner, a senior research scientist at the climatic research unit (CRU) of the University of East Anglia, within a few years winter snowfall will become 'a very rare and exciting event.'

David Parker, at the Hadley Centre for Climate Prediction and Research in Berkshire, says ultimately, British children could only have virtual experience of snow. Via the internet, they might wonder at polar scenes — or eventually 'feel' virtual cold.

Heavy snow will return occasionally, say Dr Viner, but when it does we will be unprepared. 'We're really going to get caught out. Snow will probably cause chaos in 20 years time,' he said."¹²

Reality: It still snows in the UK and Scotland.

An article from the *Scottish News* (6 Jan 2021) reported on recent 'heavy snowfall (10cm)' and the deployment of 119 snow ploughs and gritters to deal with it. Many of the vehicles have been given punning names, such as Penelope Gritstop, Sir Andy Flurry, Sir Salter Scott, Gritter Thunberg and Darth Spreader!¹³

The Guardian website (30 Dec 2020) included the following:

The Met Office's chief meteorologist, Paul Gundersen, said: "An Atlantic frontal system looks likely to bring a mixture of rain, sleet and snow."

Clare Nasir, a Met Office forecaster, said: "2021 starts how 2020 ended, on a very cold note with the risk of wintry showers and widespread frosts."¹⁴

It has certainly been our experience in the London area of England that we have had milder winters over the past few decades and none at all comparable with the worst winter of 1946/7, with seven weeks of snow conditions from

¹¹ https://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/sltrends/sltrends_station.shtml?id=8723214

¹²

<https://web.archive.org/web/20150912124604/http://www.independent.co.../environment/snowfalls-are-now-just-a-thing-of-the-past-724017.html>

¹³ <https://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/scottish-news/best-scottish-gritter-names-2020-23115985>

¹⁴ <https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2020/dec/30/uk-weather-snow-and-ice-to-bring-2020-to-wintery-end-for-many>

mid-January, and the ‘Big Freeze’ of 1962/3, featuring the coldest spell of the century in central England. To be fair, anyone predicting that a few inches of snow could bring chaotic conditions to this country is likely to be correct! So these forecasts are not too wide of the mark. In any case, less severe winters would be expected to accompany warmer average temperatures, and climate realists recognise that there is good evidence for this.

(7) 2000: Global warming will ruin Pacific Island Nations economies by 2020.

An Australian paper *The Age* reported (Oct 27, 2000, p.11):

“Global warming could cause a massive economic decline across at least 13 tiny Pacific nations in the next 20 years, a new Greenpeace report forecasts. [...]

Because most Pacific island nations rely heavily on tourism and fishing, degradation of the [coral] reefs would have a direct economic impact on them, it says.

The study shows that the most vulnerable Pacific nations are Tuvalu and Kiribati, the host of this year’s Pacific Islands Forum, followed by Cook Islands, Palau, Tonga and French Polynesia.”¹⁵

Reality: As of 2019, Tuvalu, for example, was enjoying an unprecedented 6-year economic **growth spurt**.

The Ministry of Finance of the Government of Tuvalu reported in: *Follow-up of the Implementation of the Istanbul Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries* :

“Revenue collected from fisheries access increased from approximately AUD10 million in 2012 to AUD13.6 million in 2014 to the current situation in which annual revenue is more than AUD30 million. The 2019 budget reports that Tuvalu has enjoyed an unprecedented six consecutive years of economic growth ‘on the back of increasing revenues from fishing licenses and back-to-back infrastructure projects that were funded and administered by development partners.’ ”

Unfortunately I was not able to track down this report online but was able to look at Lessons Learned - the UN preliminary report on the IPoA for the LDCs for the decade 2011-2020. This states that:

“Tuvalu has been the first LDC to attain 100 per cent universal access to electricity in 2017, closely followed by Kiribati (98.6 per cent) ...” [p.17]

¹⁵ <https://www.newspapers.com/image/123562016>

The country also improved its aviation infrastructure [p.82]. There was no mention of any ‘massive economic decline’ that Greenpeace expected.¹⁶

(8) 2004: Pentagon says climate change-caused resources shortages to cause global war by 2020.

According to a report in *The Guardian* entitled: ‘Now the Pentagon tells Bush: climate change will destroy us’ (22 Feb 2004)¹⁷ :

“A secret report, suppressed by US defence chiefs and obtained by The Observer, warns that major European cities will be sunk beneath rising seas as Britain is plunged into a ‘Siberian’ climate by 2020. Nuclear conflict, mega-droughts, famine and widespread rioting will erupt across the world.

The document predicts that abrupt climate change could bring the planet to the edge of anarchy as countries develop a nuclear threat to defend and secure dwindling food, water and energy supplies. The threat to global stability vastly eclipses that of terrorism, say the few experts privy to its contents.[...]

Climate change ‘should be elevated beyond a scientific debate to a US national security concern’, say the authors, Peter Schwartz, CIA consultant and former head of planning at Royal Dutch/Shell Group, and Doug Randall of the California-based Global business Network.

An imminent scenario of catastrophic climate change is ‘plausible and would challenge United States national security in ways that should be considered immediately,’ they conclude. As early as next year widespread flooding by a rise in sea levels will create major upheaval for millions. [...]

Already, according to Randall and Schwartz, the planet is carrying a higher population than it can sustain. By 2020 ‘catastrophic’ shortages of water and energy supply will become increasingly harder to overcome, plunging the planet into war.”

Reality: ‘Nations largely at peace. Planet only at war with coronavirus.’

The alarmist rhetoric of this report is surely not reflected in our current geopolitical situation. Without getting too deeply into this realm of affairs, we are not seeing these catastrophes being played out. We don’t see a ‘Siberian’ climate in Britain. No rising seas or sinking cities. No nuclear conflicts, droughts or famines. Health issues such as heart conditions, diabetes and obesity due rather more from an excess than a deficiency of food. Economic hardships exacerbated by inept and disproportionate governmental responses to an exaggerated viral ‘pandemic.’ Nothing to do with ‘climate change.’

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https://www.un.org/ohrlls/sites/www.un.org.ohrlls/files/preliminary_report_lessons_learned_ipo_a_implementation.pdf

¹⁷ <http://www.junkscience.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/Now-the-Pentagon-tells-Bush-climate-change-will-destroy-us-Environment-The-Guardian-pdf>

(9) 2013: Arctic summers may be ice-free by 2020

The Lancaster [Ohio] Eagle-Gazette reported (Apr 13, 2013; p.6A) :

“A new study in the *Geophysical Research Letters*, led by James Overland of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, used three methods of projecting ice cover and predicts summers with no ice much sooner [than 2050].

‘All three suggest nearly sea-ice-free summers in the Arctic before the middle of this century’ said study co-author Muyin Wang of NOAA’s Joint Institute for the Study of Atmosphere and Ocean. The estimates produce ranges for an ice-free Arctic from 2020 to after 2040. [...] Simply extending summertime ice melting trends into the future in a straight line predicts an ice-free Arctic by 2020, the study shows. [...] Geopolitical jousting over navigation and mining rights have already started, amid concern about landslides.”¹⁸

Reality: The prediction was 3.9 million square kilometres **wrong** at the annual minimum in September 2020.

Data from the *National Snow and Ice Data Centre* provide animated images for polar ice cover at different months and years. In March 2020, the cover was 14.8 million sq km. For the South Pole, the seasons are reversed: In March 2020 the figure was 4.0 million sq km, in September 2020 18.8 million sq km. Of course, this does not include the ice also covering the Antarctic land mass.¹⁹

(10) 2009: Glaciers gone from Glacier National Park by 2020.

According to a report from Los Angeles Times (Mar 8, 2009, p.52):

Daniel Fagre, a U.S. Geological Survey ecologist, warns that glaciers may be melting at an even faster rate than previously predicted, according to the *National Geographic*. [...] Fagre’s current research reveals that temperatures in Glacier National Park have risen higher than predicted in 1992. The Montana glaciers are now expected to be gone by 2020.²⁰

Reality: What are gone are the **signs** claiming Glacier National Park glaciers would be gone by 2020.

¹⁸ <https://www.newspapers.com/image/127873541>

¹⁹ https://nsidc.org/data/seaice_index/archives/image_select

²⁰ <http://www.newspapers.com/image/193935612>

Apparently the signs now read ‘gone by 2030’! Photos are accessible on the website www.wattsupwiththat.com ²¹ Dr Roger Roots points out that glacier melting is seasonal and comparison of photos may be misleading unless their dates are stated and comparable. There is good evidence that glaciers have been melting faster since the mid 20th century in regions like Alaska, Iceland, the Alps and the Himalayas. Other factors over the years include a reduction of snowfall and an increase in the extent of the melt periods.

(11) 1995: Most U.S. coast beaches gone by 2020.

Report from the *New York Times* (Sep 18, 1995) ‘Scientists Say Earth’s Warming Could Set Off Wide Disruptions’:

“At the most likely rate of rise, some experts say, most of the beaches on the East Coast of the United States would be gone in 25 years. They are already disappearing at an average rate of 2 to 3 feet a year.” ²²

Reality: So many East Coast beaches available, a travel magazine listed the **30** best ones.

Tripelle, June 21 2020 says:

“There are plenty of best beach towns East Coast for you to visit if you are considering an East Coast beach vacation or two. You may want to begin your planning by looking at a map of East Coast beaches and then determining which part of the East Coast you want to visit the most.” ²³

The illustrations and accompanying text show many “beautiful and unspoiled” beaches with no suggestion at all of any issues with rising sea levels or the loss of 50 to 75 feet of beach over the past 25 years! The prospect of being totally flooded out in the near future does not seem to bother the super-rich residents of Golden Beach, Miami, such as Bill Gates, Paul Newman and Eric Clapton.

For talks from scientists on climate realism from the 14th International Conference on Climate Change, go to:

<https://climateconference.heartland.org> or
<https://www.youtube.com/user/HeartlandTube>

[Don’t miss Lord Christopher Monckton and Naomi Seibt!]

²¹ <http://www.wattsupwiththat.com/2019/06/07/glacier-national-park-quietly-removes-its-gone-by-2020-signs/>

²² <https://www.nytimes.com/1995/09/18/opinion/global-warming-heats-up.html>

²³ <https://www.tripelle.com/?s=east+coast>

The Ages of the Patriarchs

From *Thoughts on Religion and Philosophy*¹

Blaise Pascal

After the deluge and the creation, as it was not the intention of the Almighty to manifest Himself again by such extraordinary events as the destruction of a world, or the creation of a new one, he originated a chosen nation, with a design to continue it till the times of the Messiah, Who would form a people by His Spirit.

God, intending to show that He could form a holy people of invisible sanctity, and conduct them to eternal glory, bestowed temporal blessings, as He intended to dispense spiritual blessings, that men might judge, by what He performed with visible objects, of His power over invisible things. He saved His chosen people from the deluge, in the person of Noah; He caused them to spring from Abraham, He redeemed them from their enemies, and gave them rest in the promised land. The design of God was not simply to save from the deluge, and to raise from the stock of Abraham a whole people, in order to bring them into a fruitful land; but as nature is an image of grace, so these visible miracles were images of those invisible ones which He intended to perform. [...]

The Jews are evidently a people formed on purpose to serve as witnesses to the Messiah. They preserve and revere their sacred books, but understand them not. And all this has been predicted; for it is said, that the judgments of God are intrusted to them, but as a sealed book.

As long as the prophets existed to maintain the law, the people neglected it. But, by a remarkable interposition of providence, when the succession of prophets was closed, a zealous attachment to the law sprung up among the people.

When the creation of the world began to be a distant event, God provided a

¹ **Blaise Pascal** (1623-1662) – French mathematician, physicist and philosopher. He is said to have derived independently, at aged 16, Euclid's 32 theorems of geometry. Invented a digital calculator; with Fermat, worked out the principles of probability theory; invented the syringe and hydraulic press, based on 'Pascal's principle of the transmission of pressure through a confined fluid; worked on the barometer and measuring atmospheric pressure.

His *Pensées* ['Thoughts'] were written around 1658, and this extract comes from a translation by Isaac Taylor published by Simpkin, Marshall, Hamilton, Adams & Co. (1894), from the chapter *The Jews, considered in relation to Christianity* (pp. 91, 99, 100).

[Capitalisation of divine pronouns not in original text. Punctuation and paragraphing in original.]

contemporary historian, and constituted a whole nation the guardians of his writings, that the history of this great event might be the most authentic in the world, and that all men might be informed of what it was so important for them to know, but which they could not know, by any other method.

Moses was unquestionably a man of superior abilities. If, then he had intended to deceive, he would have formed a plan by which he would have been likely to escape detection; but on the contrary, he has written in such a manner, that if he had dealt in fables, any Jew whatever might have detected the imposture.

Why, for example, did he make the lives of the ante-diluvians so long, and the generations so few? He might have concealed his errors, by introducing into his chronology a multitude of generations; for this it is, and not the number of years, which renders history doubtful and obscure.

Truth is altered merely by passing through a number of hands. But Moses puts two of the most memorable events that can be thought of, the Creation and the Deluge, so close together, that they seem almost to touch, owing to the small number of generations between each. For at the time when he wrote, the memory of them must have been quite fresh in the minds of all his countrymen.

Shem, who had seen Lamech, the contemporary of Adam, saw Abraham: and Abraham was seen by Jacob, who saw those who lived in the time of Moses. The Deluge and the Creation, therefore, really happened. This will be conclusive with those who understand the nature of the argument.

The longevity of the Patriarchs, instead of occasioning the loss of the memory of past events, was the means of preserving it. For, the reason that men nowadays are not well acquainted with the history of their ancestors is, that they have scarcely ever lived with any of them, and that the latter are generally dead before their descendants have attained to years of maturity. But when human life was protracted to such a length, children lived a long time with their parents, and had ample opportunities for conversing with them. And on what could they converse, excepting the story of their ancestors, since all history would be comprised in this, and the arts and sciences, which take up so much of our time, had then no existence? We may easily conceive why persons in those early ages would take particular care of their genealogies.

The more I examine the Jews, the more marks of truth I find; particularly, that they are without prophets, and without a king, and that being our enemies, they are such admirable witnesses of the truth of the prophecies in which their blindness and its consequences are foretold. It is in this depository I find a religion truly divine in its authority, its duration, its perpetuity, its morality, its administration, and its effects.

COMMENTS ON *Pensées* FROM THE EDITOR

In a lengthy introductory essay to Pascal's Thoughts by Isaac Taylor, we read of the mathematical problems related to the curved shape known as the cycloid which, despite the physical suffering he was enduring in his later years, Pascal solved in a week. Taylor remarks:

From this to the differential and integral calculus there was only a step, and there is good reason for believing that had Pascal been able to devote more time to his scientific inquiries, he would have deprived Leibnitz and Newton of the glory of their inventions [...] Pascal furnished an incontestable proof that it was possible for the same person to be a consummate mathematician and a humble believer.²

It would not require great intelligence and learning, even in the 17th century, to realize that no-one in recent times had lived to be hundreds of years of age. Yet Pascal seems to have accepted *on faith* that the ages of the patriarchs were valid, and offered a rational explanation and justification for so doing. Though this has not been specifically defined as Catholic dogma, it is consistent with doctrines relating to the inerrancy of Holy Scripture. We shall look later at some modern arguments in support of the literal sense of these passages. But firstly here is a reminder of the ages stated in Genesis of the ten pre-Flood and ten post-Flood patriarchs. [Note: Henoah was translated from the earth.]

	Patriarch	Age	Bible Ref.
1	Adam	930	Gen. 5:5
2	Seth	912	Gen. 5:8
3	Henos	905	Gen.5:11
4	Cainan	910	Gen. 5:14
5	Malaleel	895	Gen. 5:17
6	Jared	962	Gen. 5:20
7	Henoah	365 (tr.)	Gen. 5:24
8	Mathusala	969	Gen. 5:27
9	Lamech	777	Gen. 5:31
10	Noe	950	Gen. 9:29

	Patriarch	Age	Bible Ref.
11	Sem	600	10-11
12	Arphaxad	338	Gen.11:12-13
13	Sale	433	Gen.11:14-15
14	Heber	464	Gen.11:16-17
15	Phaleg	239	Gen.11:18-19
16	Reu	239	Gen.11:20-21
17	Sarug	230	Gen.11:22-23
18	Nachor	148	Gen.11:24-25
19	Thare	205	Gen.11:32
20	Abram	175	Gen.25:7

² Ibid., p. lxxvi.

The Gospel according to St Matthew [1:1-16] begins with the genealogy of Christ from Abraham, while that of St Luke [3:23-38] takes the succession back to Adam (“who was of God”). The *Catholic Commentary on Holy Scripture* points out that: “Matthew is content with showing his Jewish readers that Jesus is a true son of Abraham; Luke traces His origin back to Adam, intent on presenting Jesus as the universal Saviour.”³ The sequence of names from Adam to Noe is identical in Genesis and Luke, but in Genesis the phrase “and begot sons and daughters” appears frequently; at each step the age of the father is given when the named son is ‘begot,’ how long the father lived after that birth, and the total age the father lived.

There is a very clear decline in ages of ‘begetting’ as well as longevity in those born after the Flood. According to the text, Noe was 500 when he begot Sem, but Sem was only 100 when he begot Arphaxad, who was only 35 when he begot Sale (Gen. 11:10-11). This trend continues to the extent that we read that Abraham, who lived to 175: “died in a good old age, having lived a long time, and being full of days: and was gathered to his people.” (Gen. 25:7-8).

The prevailing evolutionary world-view since the 19th century has of course led scholars to question the credibility of the ‘literal’ veracity of these texts and conjecture how they might be reinterpreted. The section by Fr Sutcliffe of the *Catholic Commentary* (1953) on Genesis indicates the main problems at issue:

The remoteness of this origin [of the human race] has become known only in modern times. In earlier ages when there was no reason to suppose the antiquity of the human race to exceed that apparently assigned in the Bible and nothing was known of the remote stone age, it appeared possible and credible that a tradition deriving from our first parents should have survived through the two thousand years which were thought to separate them from Abraham. Such faithful transmission seemed the more probable in that early men were credited with lives extending over hundreds of years. According to the MT⁴ Adam died in the year of creation 930, when Mathusala was already 56 years old, and therefore of an age to be a reliable witness to the details of stories which would have fallen many times from the lips of Adam. When Mathusala came to die in the year of the world 1656, Noe was 600 years old; and Noe survived the birth of Abraham by 60 years and died only 15 years before Abraham’s departure from Harran for Canaan. Three lives, therefore, covered the whole of this period of proto-history, and there was no difficulty in accepting the faithful transmission of the scanty records preserved in the Bible. Now, however, the discovery of human bones and artefacts in strata the age of

³ Orchard, B., Sutcliffe E., Fuller R., Russell R., (Eds), *A Catholic Commentary on Holy Scripture*, Nelson (1953), p.945.

⁴ Masoretic text – the Hebrew text of the Jewish Bible.

which can be determined with more or less accuracy has completely altered this simple presentment of human history. We do not yet know how long mankind has inhabited this globe, but it is now certain that this period is to be reckoned not in thousands but in tens of thousands, if not in hundreds of thousands of years. Now it passes belief that detailed stories should have survived by mere human tradition through such immensely long periods of time. God could, of course, have provided miraculously for their preservation though countless generations or he could have revealed them to Moses. But the indications are against such a supposition.⁵

At the time the extract above was written, Piltdown Man was still being accepted as hard evidence of ancient Man. In the 1930s, H.G. Wells asserted in *The Science of Life* that “Like Piltdown man and the Java Ape Man, *Sinanthropus* dates back several hundred thousand years...”⁶ Fr Sutcliffe claimed it is ‘certain’ that the Genesis record must be rejected on the basis of palaeontology, geology and dating methods, and doubtless his fellow Jesuit Teilhard de Chardin would have agreed. However, we would assert that despite variations between Hebrew and Septuagint texts and the possibility of omissions in the genealogies, acknowledged and discussed by Church Fathers such as St Augustine, there is no justification for dismissing the great ages of the Patriarchs. On the other hand, there is no obligation to accept Archbishop Ussher’s 1654 calculation of the Creation taking place in 4004 BC.

For a recent (2007) in-depth study that harmonises traditional Catholic theology of origins with scientific facts, we may turn to Fr Victor Warkulwiz. He stresses that the pre-Flood world was very different from ours, and we cannot judge their human development simply from modern science. He refers to St Augustine’s work *The City of God* in which he argues “from the evidence of holy Scriptures that fewer than 6000 years have passed since man’s first origin.”⁷ Regarding the longevity of the Patriarchs, Fr Warkulwiz adds:

Antediluvian people lived much longer lives than we do. Man had lost the gift of immortality, but he still held the gift of a long life. It wasn’t until after the Flood that the human life span decreased to what it is today. The antediluvians’ longevity was probably the result of two major factors: diet and genetic conditions. First, a wide variety of fruits, vegetables, cereals, seeds and herbs were available to the antediluvians, and although they no longer had access to the tree of life, there may have been other food available that contributed to longevity. The Great Flood destroyed forever many species of plants. Perhaps some that helped provide for longevity were among those destroyed; or, if they survived, were soon lost. Second, much genetic information was lost during the great Flood with the destruction of

⁵ *Op. cit.*, p. 179 [by Fr Sutcliffe].

⁶ Wells H.G., Huxley J., Wells G.P., *The Science of Life*, Cassell (1931), p. 252

⁷ *The City of God*, Book 12, Chapter 11.

nearly the whole human species. Some of that information may have played an important role in longevity. Additionally, favorable environmental conditions may also have contributed to longevity.⁸

In *The City of God*, Book XV, St Augustine explores many questions relating to Genesis. Adam and Eve had other children, and Cain was not necessarily the first-born. In the beginning there had to be marriage between brothers and sisters, though this practice was probably soon ended to widen relationships and promote social harmony. In very early times there would have been lower ‘genetic load’ owing to the limited accumulation of harmful mutations that later made ‘inbreeding’ more likely to result in harmful effects on offspring. Although Man had lost the gift of immortality, he could still have a long life. This could have resulted from his genetic conditions, a varied plant-based diet, and a more favourable environment, with a moderate climate.

For many years there has been speculation by some creationists respecting a Water Vapour Canopy existing over the Earth prior to the Flood, constituting “the waters above the firmament” (Gen. 1:7) that could have provided very beneficial conditions for plant and animal life, as well as the source of rain at the Deluge when “the flood gates of heaven were opened” (Gen. 7:11). Space precludes further details here, but good resources are referenced below.⁹

It is patently unsatisfactory to try to reconcile the quoted ages of the patriarchs with an evolutionary origin of ‘early man’ dating back hundreds of thousands of years, just by assuming big omissions in the records. One serious problem is population growth. The estimated world population is now [2021] nearly 8 billion, about double that of 1970, and up from 1 billion in 1800, with about 1% growth per year. Starting from eight people (Noe’s family), this would have required only **27** population doublings to reach over 1 billion. Assuming the Flood to have occurred in 2345 BC [Bowden, p. 224], the average doubling period from then up to 1800 AD would be about **153 years**. If eight humans had ‘evolved’ just 100,000 years ago, the average doubling period from then till now would be **3703 years!** Even allowing for higher rates of disease, wars and famines for most of history, this is an absurd concept. The Biblical time scale, including the patriarchal ages, fits the figures far better.¹⁰

⁸ Warkulwiz, Rev. V.P., *The Doctrines of Genesis 1-11*, iUniverse Inc. (2007), pp. 352-353.

⁹ See: Whitcomb J., and Morris, H., *The Genesis Flood*, Baker Book House (1961);

Dillow, J. *The Waters Above*, Moody Press (1981);

Bowden, M., *True Science Agrees with the Bible*, Sovereign Publications (1998), pp 70-83;

Warkulwiz [op. cit.] pp. 354-361.

¹⁰ See: Famularo, S., *Where have all the people gone?* Creation 31(2):18-19, March 2009, www.creation.com/human-population-growth

The Incorruptibles

It may not be certain to observers the moment the soul leaves the body at death, as apparent cessation of heart or brain activity has sometimes been reversible. Though the onset of bodily decay will normally follow death, there exist today rare cases of the incorrupt remains of people who died even centuries ago and who lived holy lives. Many of these are Catholic saints and ‘blesseds’, though it seems unpredictable as to which saints God chooses to confer this phenomenon. One of the earliest examples recorded was St Cecilia, martyred in Rome around 177 AD. When exhumed in 1599, her remains were discovered intact, and Stefano Maderno created the famous marble sculpture of her lying in the same position as she was found at her death.

Perhaps the best known example is St Bernadette, who died in 1879 and was exhumed incorrupt in 1909. She lies in a gold and glass reliquary in Nevers, France. Another is St Pio of Pietrelcina, Italy, who died in 1968. His famous stigmata replicating the five wounds of Christ, which he had carried since 1918, reputedly healed over before his death, and he seems to be incorrupt. Such phenomena can strengthen our faith in Resurrection.



St Bernadette [public domain]

The best book on this subject is *The Incorruptibles*, by Joan Carroll Cruz, TAN Books (1977). She gives accounts of 102 examples. On the web, the link below provides a list of 153 incorruptible saints:

<https://www.roman-catholic-saints.com/incorruptible-saints.html>

Incorruptibility does not automatically confer sainthood on a person, and in some cases it has not been ‘permanent’. However, the condition has no adequate natural explanation, and would appear to be a gift of Divine Love to us to aid our faith and devotion. These bodies have often been accompanied by an ‘odour of sanctity.’ They are not simply bodies ‘mummified’ by treatments after death.

The webpage <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Incorruptibility> also lists 15 incorrupt saints of the Eastern Orthodox Church.

Reclaim God's Rainbow!

I will set **my bow** in the clouds, and it shall be a **sign of a covenant** between **me**, and between the earth.

And when **I** shall cover the sky with clouds, **my bow** shall appear in the clouds;
And **I** will remember **my covenant** with you, and with every living soul that beareth flesh; and **there shall no more be waters of a flood to destroy all flesh.**



And the bow shall be in the clouds, and I shall see it,
and shall remember the everlasting covenant that was made
between God and every living soul of all flesh that is upon the earth.

**And God said to Noe: This shall be a sign of the covenant which
I have established between me and all flesh upon the earth.**

Gen. 9: 13-17

And, behold, there was a throne set in heaven, and upon the throne one sitting.
And there was a **rainbow** round about the throne, in sight like unto an emerald.

Apoc. 4: 2,3

[*Double Rainbow over the Otago Peninsula,* www.stockphotosecrets.com]

£3.00