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# Merry Christmas! Please remember during this holiday season that “Jesus is the Reason for the Season.” Both the holiday rush and the efforts of our society will try to make us forget that salient truth.

# We have a bevy of short articles for your perusal both directly and indirectly affecting the creation controversy. Most of them are follow ups to articles which we have run before, but now which have new relevant information. We start with the strange case for evolutionists of a human species showing up 300,000 years (by their dating) before they were supposed to be there and DNA from this find which shouldn’t be there according to the laws of physics! Happy reading and may you and yours have a Blessed Christmas season!

# Baffling 400,000-Year-Old Clue to Human Origins

An artist's interpretation of the hominins that lived near the Sima de los Huesos cave in Spain.

Javier Trueba, Madrid Scientific Films[**Share**](http://mobile.nytimes.com/2013/12/05/science/at-400000-years-oldest-human-dna-yet-found-raises-new-mysteries.html?smid=fb-share#modal-sharetools)

###### Excerpts from an article by CARL ZIMMER, New York Times

###### December 4, 2013

Scientists have found the oldest DNA evidence yet of humans’ biological history. But instead of neatly clarifying human evolution, the finding is adding new mysteries.

In a paper in the journal Nature, scientists reported Wednesday that they had retrieved ancient human DNA from a fossil dating back about 400,000 years, shattering the previous record of 100,000 years.

The fossil, a thigh bone found in Spain, had previously seemed to many experts to belong to a forerunner of Neanderthals. But its DNA tells a very different story. It most closely resembles DNA from an enigmatic lineage of humans known as Denisovans. Until now, Denisovans were known only from DNA retrieved from 80,000-year-old remains in Siberia, 4,000 miles east of where the new DNA was found.

The mismatch between the anatomical and genetic evidence surprised the scientists, who are now rethinking human evolution over the past few hundred thousand years. It is possible, for example, that there are many extinct human populations that scientists have yet to discover. They might have interbred, swapping DNA. Scientists hope that further studies of extremely ancient human DNA will clarify the mystery…

[The skeleton of a hominin recovered from Sima de los Huesos.](http://mobile.nytimes.com/images/100000002584811/2013/12/05/science/at-400000-years-oldest-human-dna-yet-found-raises-new-mysteries.html?from=science)

[Javier Trueba, Madrid Scientific Films](http://mobile.nytimes.com/images/100000002584811/2013/12/05/science/at-400000-years-oldest-human-dna-yet-found-raises-new-mysteries.html?from=science)

Digging in caves in Spain since the 1970s, Spanish scientists have brought out a wealth of fossils from one cave dating back hundreds of thousands of years. “The place is very special,” said Dr. Arsuaga, who has found 28 nearly complete skeletons of humans during three decades of excavations.

Based on the anatomy of the fossils, Dr. Arsuaga has argued that they belonged to ancestors of Neanderthals, which lived in western Asia and Europe from about 200,000 to 30,000 years ago.

When Dr. Meyer and his colleagues drilled into the femur, they found ancient human DNA inside, just as they had hoped.

“Our expectation was that it would be a very early Neanderthal,” Dr. Meyer said.

But the DNA did not match that of Neanderthals. Dr. Meyer then compared it to the DNA of the Denisovans, the ancient human lineage that he and his colleagues had discovered in Siberia in 2010. He was shocked to find that it was similar…

“Everybody had a hard time believing it at first,” Dr. Meyer said. “So we generated more and more data to nail it down.” The extra research confirmed that the DNA belonged on the Denisovan branch of the human family tree.

The new finding is hard to reconcile with the picture of human evolution that has been emerging based on fossils and ancient DNA. Denisovans were believed to be limited to East Asia, and they were not thought to look so Neanderthal-like…

Beth Shapiro, an expert on ancient DNA at the University of California, Santa Cruz, favors an even more radical possibility: that the humans of Sima de los Huesos belong to yet another branch of humans. They might have been a species called Homo erectus, which originated about 1.8 million years ago and became extinct within the last few hundred thousand years.

“The more we learn from the DNA extracted from these fossils, the more complicated the story becomes,” Dr. Shapiro said.

… “It’s extremely hard to make sense of,” Dr. Meyer said. “We still are a bit lost here.”

**Editor’s Note: This find only makes you scratch your head if you are devoted to the theory of evolution. From a creationist perspective, we have found the remains of ancient humans not unlike ourselves, but not showing the thousands (not hundreds of thousands) of years of extra mutations we carry. As discussed many times in this newsletter the dating of 400,000 years is flawed due to the unreliability of the methods used. That assertion is underscored by the fact that after 400,000 years there should be no DNA fragments whatsoever to “piece together.” That is a fact of science very conveniently left out of this article. The evolutionists scream “foul” and it “cannot be” when we note the dozens of dinosaur bones with intact DNA which point to a recent dating and call it contamination. But, when they find DNA which they want to believe in, they conveniently forget the same scientific argument. You cannot have it both ways.**

# Do Chimps Have Human Rights? This Lawsuit Says Yes

Using arguments taken from antislavery efforts, a new lawsuit seeks to give chimpanzees the basic right to freedom

Excerpts from an article by [Bryan Walsh](http://science.time.com/author/bryanrwalsh/) in Time Magazine

Seyllou / AFP / Getty Images

The lawsuit could fundamentally change how captive chimpanzees are treated

As scientists have studied the chimpanzee, they’ve found more and more similarities between humans and their closest living relatives (not true – see editor’s note at bottom). But when it comes to the courts, chimps and humans couldn’t be more different. Chimpanzees, like other animals, are not considered persons before the law. Instead, they are considered closer to property, a thing that can be bought and sold, albeit with some oversight by the government — too rarely exercised — in the form of animal-welfare regulations.

Now a lawsuit filed on Dec. 2 in New York State seeks to fundamentally overthrow that distinction. The **Nonhuman Rights Group**, led by the animal-rights lawyer Steven Wise, filed papers with the state supreme court in Fulton County in New York State on Monday, asking that the courts recognize a captive chimpanzee called Tommy as a legal person with a limited right to liberty. The lawsuit seeks to remove Tommy from his owners in Gloversville, Fla., and place him in a sanctuary. The group says it plans to file additional lawsuits later this week on behalf of a chimp kept in a private home in Niagara Falls, and two other chimps owned by a research center and currently being used in experiments at Stony Brook University in New York State.

What’s potentially revolutionary about the lawsuit is that it seeks to extend the concept of habeas corpus to a chimpanzee. Habeas corpus allows someone being held captive to seek relief by having a judge force his captors to explain why he is being held. It’s frequently used in cases alleging unlawful imprisonment of humans, including those of detainees in Guantánamo. The lawsuit makes reference to a famous 1772 English case that dealt with an American slave named James Somerset, who had escaped from his owner in London, been recaptured and was set to be returned from slavery:

With help from a group of abolitionist attorneys, Somerset’s godparents filed a writ of *habeas corpus* on Somerset’s behalf in order to challenge Somerset’s classification as a legal thing, and the case went before the Chief Justice of the Court of King’s Bench, Lord Mansfield. In what became one of the most important trials in Anglo-American history, Lord Mansfield ruled that Somerset was not a piece of property, but instead a legal person, and he set him free…(The Nonhuman Rights Group now wants the court to see chimps as enslaved people and rule they have human rights).

There have been attempts in the past to extend so-called human rights to nonhuman primates. In 2008, for example, the Spanish parliament approved a resolution supporting the Great Ape Project, which argues that three essential human rights — life, liberty and freedom from physical and psychological torture — should be extended to our closest relatives (i.e. apes). But the Nonhuman Rights Project lawsuit would seem to go further, and could potentially open the door for more lawsuits of the sort. That’s assuming, of course, that the courts even decide to hear the petition, although even a denial of a habeas corpus case gets an automatic appeal in New York State. The group’s press release announcing the lawsuit makes the enormous scope of its aims clear:

‘Our goal is, very simply, to breach the legal wall that separates all humans from all nonhuman animals. Once this wall is breached, the first nonhuman animals on earth will gain legal “personhood” and finally get their day in court — a day they so clearly deserve.’ Say the Nonhuman Rights Group.

Chimpanzees and their advocates have had a good year so far, with the National Institutes of Health deciding to retire most of the lab chimps owned by the government, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service proposing to add captive chimpanzees to the endangered species list, which would severely curtail research on the primates. But what is set to unfold in a New York courtroom in the days ahead could fundamentally change how chimpanzees are treated in the U.S. — and force us to reconsider what we think of as “human rights.”
Read more: [New York Lawsuit Argues Chimpanzees Have Human Rights | TIME.com](http://science.time.com/2013/12/02/chimps-human-rights-lawsuit/#ixzz2melONZ6R) <http://science.time.com/2013/12/02/chimps-human-rights-lawsuit/#ixzz2melONZ6R>

**Editor’s Note: We ran an article with a similar, but different lawsuit before. But, this article underscores the devotion to evolution by these “nonhuman rights” groups. It also contains the terrible misinformation now taken as gospel by our society. As previous articles by Dr. Tomlin with ICR have shown, our DNA shows that we are in no way related to Chimpanzees. But, the political bandwagon to treat them as our relatives due to very flawed research has taken off! To get them released, this new suit seeks remedies used for slaves which again cast them in a human role (which they might be akin to only if we believe they are our biological ancestors as evolutionists must). This lawsuit, the misinformation being bandied about our culture and these politically correct moves to ban research on chimps all attest to our culture’s wholesale devotion to evolution as truth in spite of data to the contrary. God must, at times, look down on us and wonder if He actually did create intelligent life.**

Study suggests life began with clay, echoing Bible creation story

Published November 06, 2013

FoxNews.com

A new study suggests clay may have been the birthplace of life on Earth.

Don’t let this article’s title deceive you as did at first for me. Run by FoxNews.com in November, 2013 it is a story devoted to evolution and not creation evidence. In this article it notes that Cornell University researchers have found that clay may have been the first breeding ground for complex biochemicals that make life possible. It does not say that we were made from clay or the dust of the ground as the Bible would support, but says that clay might be the right growth medium for biochemicals to magically piece themselves together into life.

This is a centuries old search for the way in which life could have been spontaneously generated on this planet without divine intervention and it holds up no better than the thousands of failed attempts before it. All this article does is shroud itself in a thinly veiled remark giving a nod toward the scriptures hoping to again get the “fuzzy headed” Bible thumpers to acknowledge them as right, when their position is entirely wrong and following it would invalidate scripture.

# Gullible Green sailors trapped in the Arctic

Should they sue Sierra Club Canada for predicting an ice-free Arctic in 2013? The picture below shows a boat of global warming believers who got themselves trapped in ice believing that global warming had shrunk the arctic ice pack forever. Not true as they found out the hard way! For more go to <http://www.cfact.org/2013/09/19/gullible-green-sailors-trapped-in-the-arctic/>

**Arctic ice cap grows 29% in one year**

Thomas Lifson, American Thinker

December 2, 2013

Global warming hysterics at the BBC warned us in 2007 that by summer 2013, the Arctic would be ice-free. As with so many other doomsday predictions by warmists, the results turn out to be quite the opposite. The UK Daily Mail reports:

A chilly Arctic summer has left 533,000 more square miles of ocean covered with ice than at the same time last year - an increase of 29 per cent. (snip) 

...days before the annual autumn re-freeze is due to begin, an unbroken ice sheet more than half the size of Europe already stretches from the Canadian islands to Russia's northern shores.

The Northwest Passage from the Atlantic to the Pacific has remained blocked by pack-ice all year. More than 20 yachts that had planned to sail it have been left ice-bound and a cruise ship attempting the route was forced to turn back.

Some eminent scientists now believe the world is heading for a period of cooling that will not end until the middle of this century - a process that would expose computer forecasts of imminent catastrophic warming as dangerously misleading.

In the United States, President Obama still plans to bypass Congress, which like the American people is highly skeptical of the discredited-by-events predictions, and use administrative regulations and executive orders to impose drastic and expensive carbon restrictions on the American economy. These will cost jobs and lower the standard of living particularly for lower income Americans, who can least afford the higher electricity, food, gasoline, and other prices that inevitably will result.

**Editors Note: We often publicize global warming data such as this since this scenario of ignoring data for political purposes is much akin to what goes on in the evolution controversy.**

# Is the breakfast illegal, too?

# Atheists sue school over teacher's devotionals

Bob Kellogg (OneNewsNow.com) Tuesday, December 03, 2013

**The American Humanist Association is suing a public school teacher in Missouri because she prayed for an injured student, allegedly violating the Establishment Clause.**

Gwen Pope is also accused of reading from the Bible at a voluntary prayer meeting for students, which the AHA also insists is unconstitutional.

Pope

Matt Staver of Liberty Counsel points out that the prayer meeting was voluntary and took place before the start of the school day. "It wasn't something that was mandatory as part of a class," Staver notes.

The atheist group sent a warning letter in May to Fayette High School, claiming Pope does not have the legal right to hold devotionals. The letter also claimed the school violated the Establishment Clause by announcing the devotional over the school intercom.

The warning letter reads in part: "Non-participating students can see and hear the teacher praying with students as they walk by her classroom, which is close to the school entrance."

"The school has endorsed the religious message of the prayers by permitting a teacher to deliver them to students at school," AHS alleges in the letter. The letter also noted that that "Mrs. Pope leads the students in prayer and often serves them breakfast."

Staver says this incident unmasks the true nature of such groups. "These organizations have no idea of objectivity," says the Liberty Counsel founder, adding that such groups have an agenda, which is anti-Christian."For the American Humanists to come back and shout that this is an establishment of religion is absolutely unconscionable," Staver tells OneNewsNow.

AHS is also suing because, at the meeting, Pope was helping organize a project to feed the hungry and because a former youth pastor, her husband, attended the meetings.

- See more at: <http://onenewsnow.com//legal-courts/2013/12/03/is-the-breakfast-illegal-too-atheists-sue-school-over-teachers-devotionals#sthash.CcdC5iUa.dpuf>

**Editor’s Note: Unfortunately, the Christmas season brings about each year what I call the “Christmas Wars.” Some stores will vow not to use the word Christmas, townships will be sued over their nativity display in the town square, choral concerts will be altered to delete Christmas Carols with Christian content. “Jesus is the Reason for the Season”, but we can see Satan hard at work! That’s why it is so vital for us to strive to keep Christ in the forefront of our lives during this season.**

**ISON Fizzles**

The supposed comet of the century, ISON, was torn apart on its rear approach rounding the sun. Only a bare remnant remains, so the predictions of a spectacular event or even a portend of another **Christmas Star** to mark the return of Christ came of naught as we predicted.

**Science Workshops at FEAST in 2013 - 2014**

We will take a two month break for the holidays with the **FEAST Science Workshops.** They will begin again in January on the 4th Monday of each month at 6:30 pm at the **Family Educational Alliance for South Texas**. Below is the schedule of multimedia presentations we will present for the home school community this school year.

Each one of these titles represents a multimedia presentation with embedded films and pictures to enhance each presentation. We will offer a companion young children's program to go along with the youth and adult's program described.

September, 2013 - **Biology and Missing Links: Lucy Unveiled** (We had a great crowd on hand for our first workshop!)
October, 2013 - **His Wisdom in Our Cells** (Another great crowd on hand.)
January, 2014 - **Biology in a Created World**
February, 2014 - **God, Man and Dinosaurs**
March, 2014 - **What If God Wrote the Bible?**
April, 2014 - **Audience's Choice of Creation presentation**

Synopses of each of these presentations are available on our resources page.

**SABBSA and R.O.C.K. Fellowship and Co-op**

R.O.C.K. Fellowship and Co-op., the home school organization in the Floresville area asked us to give three weeks of creation presentations and do question and answer sessions for their creation science classes in Wilson County starting on November 11, 18 and 25. We thank God and R.O.C.K. for this opportunity to affect young lives and spread the message of God’s creative purpose in our world! The presentations went well and we were well received by this fine Christian group and look forward to associating with them in the future.



**Humor Corner**

**Around Texas**

**Houston:**
The **Greater Houston Creation Association** (**GHCA**) meets the first Thursday of each month. They meet at Houston's First Baptist Church at 7 pm, in Room 258. After the presentation, there will be refreshments, fellowship and creation science materials for all to enjoy. For more information go to [www.ghcaonline.com](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?llr=bztaencab&et=1103662222545&s=545&e=001xF-6WOYzM5Yyre44Ea_qUjH5EOT_fFIGjrfpfa5h-rD53IlUVbz3Vc0Dp47_VEwW3iQQ6F1b6K0EtKc_vUxYKpzN_8V2upXFbsOScvUeD92nJdUTjDIFeg==).

**Glen Rose:**
Dr. Carl Baugh gives a “***Director’s Lecture Series***” on the first Saturday of each month at the Creation Evidences Museum just outside Glen Rose, TX. The new and improved museum is also a great and beneficial way to spend any day. Presentations are at 11 am and 2 pm. For more information go to [www.creationevidence.org](http://www.creationevidence.org)

**Dallas-Ft Worth:**
The Metroplex Institute of Origin Science (MIOS) meets at the Dr. Pepper Starcenter, 12700 N. Stemmons Fwy, Farmers Branch, TX, usually at 7:30 pm of the first Tuesday of each month. See our special article about this month’s meeting at the top of the previous page.

**Lubbock Area (Crosbyton):**
All year: Consider a visit to the Mt. Blanco Fossil Museum, directed by Joe Taylor. The Museum is definitely worth the visit if you live near or are traveling through the Panhandle near Lubbock. If you call ahead and time permitting, Joe has been known to give personal tours, especially to groups. For more information, visit [http://www.mtblanco.com/](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?llr=bztaencab&et=1103662222545&s=545&e=001xF-6WOYzM5bqqt6T1G_CwJWJosrOSIhLAagtnP0Z504J-gEROEBe22S3gq720x6ofjFVqK-AfJcsjrsuQyRtoepYiAQVVUFC-cF56fLwwBJ0SQ-44KlLmw==).

**Greater San Antonio area:**

Listen to **Answers with Ken Ham** online at the address below. (No nearby station for this broadcast). <http://www.answersingenesis.org/media/audio/answers-daily>

To hear program from the **Institute for Creation Research**, listen online at this address. <http://www.icr.org/radio/>

Also, tune in KHCB FM 88.5 (San Marcos) or KKER FM 88.7 (Kerrville) for **Back to Genesis** at 8:57 AM Mon-Fri, then **Science, Scripture and Salvation** at 1:30 AM, 8:00 AM and 4:30 PM on Saturdays.

**Last Month at SABBSA**

**Bruce Malone with Logos Research Associates** presented **"The Red Record"** revealing God's creation account in Delaware Indian culture. Bruce has a **B.S. in Chemical Engineering.**  He is an author, speaker, teacher, founder and director of [Search For the Truth](http://searchforthetruth.net) and a Logos Research Ambassador.

In his presentation Bruce revealed to us the “Wallam Olum” (The Red Record) of the “Lenni Lenape” (original people) which many believe are the oldest Indian records of their creation account and history of the Indian crossing of Asia and the Bering land bridge into North America.

This record describes the journey by ancient Indians after Babel journeying through Siberia, across the Bering Land Strait, through Alaska and the Pacific Northwest, and spreading eastward through North America. Such details place the origins of the document to more than 4000 years ago, making this record concurrent with the oldest books in the Bible, such as Genesis and Job.

The Red Record begins by describing the “Great Spirit” creating everything from a swirling chaos of water. Land was separated from the waters, and distinctly different kinds of creatures were formed next. Last to be created was a man… followed by a woman. People lived in harmony with each other and were created immortal, meant to live forever. Evil and turmoil entered this world only after a snake brought corruption into creation. Things deteriorated until a great flood came as the Red Record says “flooding and flooding; filling and filling; smashing and smashing; drowning and drowning.” Then the ancestor to all the Delaware people, Nenabush, built a vessel to bring their people through the great flood. After this begins, the record tells of the trek through great fields of ice to North America.

It is an amazing story which shows a remarkable resemblance to the Genesis account verifying that these Indians had access to this first creation account more than 4000 years ago. We thank Bruce Malone for bringing us this awesome, faith affirming account.

We also found Mr. Malone’s books and videos to be of high quality, we therefore recommend them to you and will carry them on our book tables in the future.

**Next regular meeting:** **Tuesday, December 10, 2013, at 7 pm**

**Coming to SABBSA in December
Flight - The Genius of Birds**

****“Avian flight requires a cause that’s able to visualize a distant endpoint and bring together everything necessary to achieve that endpoint. Only intelligence is capable of that kind of causal process.”

Paul Nelson, Philosopher of Biology

**FLIGHT: The Genius of Birds** marks the launch of Illustra Media’s new documentary series The Design of Life. Each episode explores a different realm of the animal kingdom and the remarkable biological systems that make life on Earth possible.

Filmed in North America, England, Peru, Greenland, and Antarctica, FLIGHT probes the mysteries and mechanisms of a bird’s anatomy, instinct, and embryology to reveal stunning provisions essential for life in the skies.

You’ll marvel at a hummingbird’s unique skeletal, muscular and metabolic systems—all vital to its spectacular aerial acrobatics… The endurance and navigational abilities of an Arctic tern as it travels from pole to pole during the longest migration on the planet… The instinctive strategies that enable a flock of 300,000 European starlings to evade predators at break-neck speeds… The elaborate network of a million component parts that make a feather an aerodynamic masterpiece. And much more.

The poet William Blake wrote that to see an eagle in the air is to observe “a portion of genius.” In FLIGHT the ingenuity of a bird’s behavior and biology showcase unmistakable evidence for design, purpose, and plan. They are displays of genius best explained by intelligence and mind. They are the unmistakable marks of our Creator!

Please join us on December 10 for this exciting program, good food and warm Christian fellowship! As always, we meet at the Jim’s Restaurant at the corner of San Pedro and Ramsey at 7 pm.