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**February 2016**

It is February and we are experiencing a very mild winter here in South Texas. We at the **San Antonio Bible Based Science Association** hope and pray that you and yours are doing well!

This month’s **Communiqué** contains an article on the underlying reasons why we do what we do. Why is creation science ministry even worthwhile? Why not “just preach Jesus?”

We also have an article giving you insight into a range of creation stories from across the globe and through earth history which show a remarkable testimony to the biblical account being the first creation account and thereby the only one which has any legitimate claim to possibly being the one from the Creator!

As always we will have rundown of all of the creation events in our area. Stay warm and we hope you are doing well.

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**Why not “Just Preach Jesus”?**

We are often asked this question and it is a good one. The gospel of Jesus Christ is the heart of Christianity and it and He should always be our focus! So many ask why delve into such controversial topics as creation science, inerrancy of scripture or literal interpretation? One main reason is that we have now lost a full generation to a society which believes the Bible has been proven to be irrelevant, error filled, not God’s word and disproved by science and archaeology. Due to this widespread belief we are losing the next generation. The time honored method of “just preach Jesus” was sound for hundreds of years, but is being undermined today by this modernist culture of unbelief.

Indeed if you approach the average millennial, school child or product of the last 30 years and you will find that they are openly questioning and skeptical of religion in general. Further, if you tell them that the world may not have been created in 6 days as the Bible tells us, that Noah’s flood may not be true history, that the “Big Fish” story never occurred, nor did the Exodus, but you must believe every word of what the Bible says about Jesus Christ as the Son of God, no logical and thinking individual of this age will believe you, nor should they without divine intervention.

Satan has done an excellent job over the past two hundred years of discrediting scripture and selling our culture on the lie that we are the product of chance and an accident of nature. He has sold us on the lie that science has proven that there is no god and that we are responsible to no one but ourselves and we have been all too happy to go along. One of the most important vehicles he used to sell this lie was to get scientists ”on board” to recognize only naturalistic explanations as science (thereby eliminating God from any consideration) and proclaiming that the Bible is not scientific, but religious myth.

In this day and age we believe that to defeat this grand strategy from the “father of lies” we must be as the scripture tells us “always ready to give a defense for what we believe.”

That is why we do creation science. That is why at least seven creation research organizations now exist which have an international impact, and are actively doing research into creation science. This is why SABBSA was formed; to be an educational servant to the greater San Antonio area in the field of creation science and biblical apologetics. This is why I and so many others have entered the field of creation evangelism, producing and presenting hundreds of creation science presentations, DVD’s and books to groups all over the world each year. This is why we carry thousands of dollars of inventory of creation science materials and make them available at our meetings each month.

This ministry has the potential to be the “**key to effective evangelism”** in America for the next generation. You cannot tell millennials that the first 11 chapters of the Bible are probably mythical and expect them to take the story of Jesus Christ as gospel. It is either all God’s infallible word, or it is not!

But, if it could be such a powerful tool, why is it not readily accepted as such by every denomination and Christian across the world? Why do we get so frustrated at having to seemingly always operate on the fringe of Christian evangelism?

There are many answers to this question. One is that it is new and anything new takes a while to gain acceptance. A second is that the bulk of our arguments and evidences are highly technical, and are being provided to a culture which loves the fruits of science and technology, but which does not bother to try and understand it too often. Third, the church because of its tenuous place in society does not want to be disregarded by society as hopelessly out of step by fully accepting what to society looks like ignorant thinking. Fourth, the pastors of individual churches are slow to jump on board because they have a competing pressure to ensure the continued unity within their congregations, which our message can be seen to threaten. And finally, the message of creation science, that scripture is not counter to science, but fully supportive and in concert with it is totally at odds with what is portrayed in the secular media, taught to our children for 12 years in public schools, taught unceasingly in universities of higher learning and promulgated through printed media, television programs and Hollywood movies.

Thus, it takes a great amount of faith and stamina to push ahead with what we do, but we must. We are only now coming to realize that Christianity has seemingly overnight become the “counter culture” in America. We are aliens now in our own land, but most do not recognize this. Our rebellious push to try and teach people, clergy and churches that what this battle today is about is the authority of God’s word and whether the next generation will honor his word, or disparage it and our society and nation pass from a nation which puts “In God we trust” on our money, to one which God will turn His back on as He has had to do with so many nations including Israel before us.

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**Is the Bible the Original Creation Story in Our World?**

If the Bible is the work of God, and His creation account is the one original and true account, how on Earth would we seek to prove such a thing? We will start by examining creation stories from varied cultures and religions from all over the world and from times past and present. If Genesis is the original creation account, we should find a considerable amount of elements which have been “borrowed” from the Genesis account contained in the creation stories of all of these other cultures. Here are but a few of those stories.

**Buddhism:** According to Buddhist writings and theology, creation occurs repeatedly throughout time. At the beginning of each cycle land forms, in darkness, on the surface of the water. Spiritual beings that populated the universe in the previous cycle are reborn; one of them takes the form of a man and starts the human race. Unhappiness and misery reigns. This is today. Eventually, the universe dissolves; all living creatures return to the soul life, and the cycle repeats. ([www.religioustolerance.org/ev\_denom2.htm](http://www.religioustolerance.org/ev_denom2.htm))

Note the underlined parts of this passage on Buddhist creation beliefs as they look to have elements which are either borrowed from or closely parallel the Genesis account. The order of those similar elements is the same in this Buddhist account as in the Genesis account. It is interesting that both accounts mention forming the earth or land from water as water and creation out of water is a central theme of the biblical creation account.

**Chinese were Monotheistic**

Contrary to common wisdom, the Chinese prior to 500 BC were monotheistic. Polytheism only comes to China with the advent of Taoism and Confucianism around 500 BC. Buddhism would be introduced to Chinese culture around 100 BC giving them the three major belief systems they have today.



The diagram above shows the formation of the Chinese ideographs for their God “Shang Ti” which was formed out of the characters of heavenly and emperor.

Note the **bold** passages of this Chinese writing from 2250 BC- Emperor Sun sacrificed to Shang Ti. “…**in the beginning, there was great chaos, without form and dark. The five elements (planets) had not begun to revolve, nor the sun or moon shine.** Thou, O spiritual Sovereign Shang Ti…**didst divide the grosser part from the purer. Thou madest heaven; Thou madest earth; Thou madest man. All things with reproducing power got their being.”** (“The Discovery of Genesis”, C. H. Kang, p.15)

It should be pointed out that the sacrifices of Emperor Sun were close to those of the Hebrews and included blood sacrifices of unblemished first born sheep for forgiveness of sins. As with the Buddhist account there is a partial restating of Genesis 1:2 when they say **“in the beginning, there was great chaos, without form and dark.”**

The **planets not revolving, nor the sun or moon shining** is correct order because these things did not happen in the Genesis account till Day 4. The correct Genesis order is detailed when they say **“Thou madest heaven; Thou madest earth; Thou madest man.”** Finally this Chinese writing refers to the Genesis concept of every animal reproducing according to its kind when it said **“All things with reproducing power got their being.”**

**Boshongo, Africa**

The Boshongo creation story says, “In the beginning only darkness, water and the great god Bumba. One day, in pain, Bumba vomited up the sun, which dried up some of the water and revealed land. He then vomited up the moon, stars, then animals and finally man.” **(**[**http://dickinsg.intrasun.tcnj.edu/diaspora/beckymyth.html**](http://dickinsg.intrasun.tcnj.edu/diaspora/beckymyth.html)**)**

**In the beginning only darkness, water and …god.** This part of the Boshongo creation account is analogous to Genesis 1:1-2 which interestingly is often the case with creation stories from all over the world. Also, if you get past the “vomiting” you will note that the order of what is created **“sun, dry land, then the moon, then stars, then animals, and then man**” with one partial deviation is analogous to the Genesis order of creation.

**Mayans (Central America)**

We have now changed continents and hemispheres, but we still find biblical parallels. The Mayan account of creation says, “In the beginning were the sea, sky and the Maker. The Maker …created the Earth, mountains, trees and animals, but they could not speak. So he created humans first from the mud of the Earth (perfected with corn). **(www*.wikipedia.org*/wiki/Maya\_mythology)**

Note that the underlined portions are not only parallel to what Genesis says, but in the same exacting order. I find it particularly interesting to find the origin story of the Mayans, who were a hemisphere removed from the creation and thousands of years removed from the biblical account parallel the Bible’s claim that man was formed from the dust of the ground when they say the “mud of the Earth!”

**Hopi Indians of Northern Arizona**

(The stories here were recorded in the 1950s by Oswald White Bear Fredericks and his wife Naomi from the storytelling of older Hopi at the village of Oraibi)

**“In the beginning there was only empty space and the infinite creator, Taiowa. He created the finite nephew called Sotuknang, his agent to establish nine universes and make nine solid worlds. Water was gathered from space and put on these worlds to make the land and the seas**. Then Sotknang was to gather together air from space and put it on these worlds…

Sotuknang created the “Spider Woman” who created all life. She created four couples of people (male and female). Although originally everyone could understand everyone else, Sotuknang gave the four couples four languages. Over time they moved away from each other and their off spring distrusted one another.”

The bold print highlights the similarities to the Bible of in the beginning there was nothing except God. It refers to His creating a nephew which is analogous to the Son of God who does the actual creation of everything which is very analogous to Christian theology of Christ being the actual creator working at the direction of God. Everything is made from water, just as in the biblical account.

The underlined section says that initially everyone could understand everyone else (one language) which is consistent with the Bible. Then it highlights a version of the injection of different languages analogous to the Babel account from Genesis. That is followed by an account of a dispersion of people and their distrusting and not being able to understand one another as in the Bible account.

**Norse story of Origins – Odin and Ymir**

This Viking creation story says that,“In the beginning of time, there was nothing: neither sand, nor sea, nor cool waves. Neither the heaven nor earth existed.

Ymir, early created, but not a god turned to evil and was killed by the young gods.”

This story proceeds with lots of weird stuff about created beings and Gods but from whom? Odin the fourth offspring of Bor became the most powerful god. This story does have its own account the saving a man’s family by building an Ark.

What we see here is creation “ex-nihilo” (meaning “from nothing” which is a consistent theme across hundreds of creation stories), a beginning of time, space and matter. This is all the same as in Genesis 1:1. It proceeds immediately with a discussion of the battle between good and evil which of course is a central theme of not only the biblical creation story, but the whole Bible. And of course this creation story contains their version of the Noah and flood story which mirrors the biblical account.

**The Creation and the Emergence** from the Jicarilla Apaches –

In the beginning there was nothing - no earth, no living beings. There were only darkness, water, and Cyclone, the wind. There were no humans, but only the Hactcin, the Jicarilla supernatural beings. The Hactcin made the earth, the underworld beneath it, and the sky above it. The earth they made as a woman who faces upward, and the sky they made as a man who faces downward. The Hactcin lived in the underworld, where there was no light. There were mountains and plants in the underworld, and each had its own Hactcin. There were as yet no animals or humans, and everything in the underworld existed in a dream-like state and was spiritual and holy.

The most powerful of the Hactcin in the underworld was Black Hactcin. One day Black Hactcin made the first animal with four legs and a tail made of clay. Everything in the upper world is alive - the rocks, the trees, the grass, the plants, the fire, the water. Originally they all spoke the Jicarilla Apache language and spoke to the people. The Hactcin, however, decided that it was boring to have all these things speaking the same, so they gave all these things and all the animals different voices…

The birds and animals were afraid the man would be lonely, and they asked Black Hactcin give him company. Black Hactcin asked them for some lice, which he put on the man's head. The man went to sleep scratching, and he dreamed that there was a woman beside him. When he awoke, she was there. They asked Black Hactcin what they would eat, and he told them that the plants and the cloven-hoofed animals would be their food.

These two, Ancestral Man and Ancestral Woman, had children, and the people multiplied. In those days no one died…Originally they all spoke the Jicarilla Apache language and spoke to the people. The Hactcin, however, decided that it was boring to have all these things speaking the same, so they gave all these things and all the animals different voices.

Eventually the people travelled out clockwise across the land.

(Morris Edward Opler, 1938, Myths and Tales of the Jicarilla Apache Indians: Memoirs of the American Folklore Society Vol. 31, 406 p. (Reprinted by Kraus Reprint Co., New York, 1969). (E99.J5 O6 1938a) )

This story starts with there being almost nothing as most do including the Bible. All that is there is darkness which is consistent with the Bible. Also in the beginning is water, which is consistent with the first matter created according to the Bible. There is godlike spirit referred to as Hactcin which is reminiscent of God being there in the beginning. Man and all animals are made by this god from clay (from the dust) as in the Bible. The original couple and their children were immortal which the Bible says was Adam and Eve’s initial state. They then proliferated which is reminiscent of the biblical directive to “fill the earth.”

This first couple and their children all spoke one language which is consistent with the Bible. But, their godlike Hactcin confuses them and gives them different languages which are very similar to the biblical account. This act initiated a story which tells their version of the dispersion which the Bible account says happened after the confusion of languages at Babel. Thus, this part of the story is almost in lockstep.

**Creation By and From the Self**

This story is from the second and fourth Brahmanas of the Brhad-arayaka Upanishad (Hindu), which was written in India in the 700s or 600s B.C.

“In the beginning there was absolutely nothing, and what existed was covered by death and hunger. He thought, "Let me have a self", and he created the mind. As he moved about in worship, water was generated. Froth formed on the water, and the froth eventually solidified to become earth. He rested on the earth, and from his luminance came fire. After resting, he divided himself in three parts, and one is fire, one is the sun, and one is the air.

Thus in the beginning the world was only his self, his being or essence, which then took the shape of a person. At first he was afraid, but realizing that he was alone and had nothing of which to be afraid, his fear ceased. However, he had no happiness because he was alone, and he longed for another. He grew as large as two persons embracing, and he caused his self to split into two matching parts, like two halves of a split pea, and from them arose husband and wife.

They mated, and from their union arose the human beings of the earth. The female reflected on having mated with someone of whom she was once a part, and she resolved that she should hide so that it would not happen again.

(S. Radhakrishnan, (editor and translator), 1953, The Principal Upanisads: New York, Harper and Brothers Publishers, 958 p. (BL1120.E5 R2) )

This story says that in the beginning there was absolutely nothing. Which is exactly what the Bible infers. But what existed was covered by death and hunger which seems contradictory except these are things which again represent absence. The absence of life, of food of anything. All there is a spiritual being who creates his own mind, his own consciousness and material being. This again is reminiscent of the Bible’s God was all there was before creation and He created everything.

Again we have the first matter created is water and everything is created out of water just as the Bible says. The line, “He rested on the earth, and from his luminance came fire” is reminiscent of God resting on the seventh day after His creations as in the Bible. His luminescence is reminiscent of both allusions in the Bible to God being light and that there was light on Day 1 in the Bible prior to the sun and stars and it is inferred that it is God. Here that is specifically said.

He splits himself into three parts again reminiscent of both the Trinity and the levels of heavens. He then created himself materially becoming the first man (just like God creating us in His image). Like the Bible God creates us to commune with Him. He then “grew himself the size of two persons and split in two” which is amazingly reminiscent of woman being made out of the side of the man. Again woman is made out of man. From here this story agrees with the Bible that all people came from these original two people. The woman even feels she needs to hide herself since she has sinned since she has mated with herself. This is reminiscent of woman and man covering themselves after the original sin in the Bible, but also refers to the Bible’s prohibition against incest after Moses.

**The Golden Chain** (this creation story comes from the Yoruba people of Nigeria, Togo and Benin.)

“Long ago, well before there were any people, all life existed in the sky. Olorun (god) lived in the sky with many orishas (spirits or subdeities). There were both male and female orishas, but Olorun transcended male and female and was the all-powerful Supreme Being. Olorun and the orishas lived around a young baobab tree. Around the baobab tree the orishas found everything they needed for their lives, and in fact they wore beautiful clothes and gold jewelry. Olorun told them that all the vast sky was theirs to explore. All the orishas save one, however, were content to stay near the baobab tree.

      Obatala was the curious orisha who wasn't content to live blissfully by the baobab tree. Like all orishas, he had certain powers, and he wanted to put them to use. As he pondered what to do, he looked far down through the mists below the sky. As he looked and looked, he began to realize that there was a vast empty ocean below the mist. Obatala went to Olorun and asked Olorun to let him make something solid in the waters below.

Touched by Obatala's desire to do something constructive, Olorun agreed to send Obatala to the watery world below.

Finally Obatala let go of the chain and dropped to this new land, which he called "Ife", the place that divides the waters. Soon he began to explore this land, and as he did so he scattered the seeds from his pack, and as he walked the seeds began to grow behind him, so that the land turned green in his wake.

After walking a long time, Obatala grew thirsty and stopped at a small pond. As he bent over the water, he saw his reflection and was pleased. He took some clay from the edge of the pond and began to mold it into the shape he had seen in the reflection. He finished that one and began another, and before long he had made many of these bodies from the dark earth at the pond's side. By then he was even thirstier than before, and he took juice from the newly-grown palm trees and it fermented into palm wine. He drank this, and drank some more, and soon he was intoxicated. He returned to his work of making more forms from the edge of the pond, but now he wasn't careful and made some without eyes or some with misshapen limbs. He thought they all were beautiful, although later he realized that he had erred in drinking the wine and vowed to not do so again.

Before long, Olorun dispatched Chameleon down the golden chain to check on Obatala's progress. Chameleon reported Obatala's disappointment at making figures that had form but no life. Gathering gasses from the space beyond the sky, Olorun sparked the gasses into an explosion that he shaped into a fireball. He sent that fireball to Ife, where it dried the lands that were still wet and began to bake the clay figures that Obatala had made and became people.

(David A. Anderson/Sankofa, 1991, *The Origin of Life on Earth: An African Creation Myth:* Mt. Airy, Maryland, Sights Productions, 31 p. (Folio PZ8.1.A543 Or 1991)  )

This story, as so many do, agrees with the Bible that in the beginning there was one Supreme Being. All life in the beginning was focused around one magical tree which was life giving. This is analogous to the “tree of life” in Eden. In this original existence everyone was happy and it was paradise again analogous to Eden. Then one person rebelled which caused some to leave paradise which again parallels the Bible.

Everything outside of heaven was water which again is consistent with the Bible. The Supreme Being allowed this sub-deity to create s solid world out of the water, reminiscent of the son of God making everything at God’s direction as the Bible says. As in the Bible the waters are divided to reveal or make dry land.

As so often happens this story makes people out of clay (dirt) which he made in his own image as seen in the pond which is analogous to the biblical account of God aiming us in his own image. But later will be sorry he made them as God was when we sinned so greatly prior to the Flood.

**Life from Moon and the Stars** This story comes from the Wakaranga people of what is today Zimbabwe, Africa.

Before there was any life on earth, God made a man and named him Moon. He sent Moon to live on the bottom of the sea, but Moon wanted to live on the land. Despite God's warnings of how hard life would be, Moon went to live on land.

Eventually the lifelessness of the land made Moon so unhappy that he wept. God took pity on Moon and sent him a wife named Morningstar to keep him company for two years. When Morningstar came from heaven to live with Moon, she brought fire with her, for it had not existed on earth before. She built a fire in the middle of Moon's hut and slept on the side opposite him. In the night, however, he crossed over and made love to her. By the next morning, she was swollen, and she gave birth to the grasses and trees and other plants, and soon the world was green with life. The trees grew until they touched the sky, and then the first rain fell from the clouds that they touched. Thus life on the land flourished, and Moon and Mornngstar led a bountiful life in their new paradise.

As Moon's daughters grew up, they became beautiful, and he wanted to sleep with them too. He did so, and they had many children. Thus Moon came to rule over a far-flung kingdom of his descendents. Eveningstar was jealous, however, and she sent a snake to bite her unfaithful husband.

(Ulli Beier, 1966, The Origin of Life and DeathÐAfrican Creation Myths: London, Heinemann Educational Books Ltd., p. 65)

Here we have the loneliness of man as in the Bible and the creator making him a wife as the Bible says. It infers that at first there was no rain even thought there was water. This is analogous to Genesis chapter 2 where it says that in the beginning there was no rain, but that the world was watered by a mist which came from fountains springing into the air from underground.

Trees are central to this first paradise where everything is perfect. The same picture we get from the Bible of Adam and Eve living together in paradise in Eden with the tree of life. These two first people will be the progenitors of all living as the Bible says, but there is a side twist of incest which is nonbiblical. The incest is sin and the wife sends a snake to bite him because of this, very reminiscent to the snake being connected to the first sin in Eden.

**Two Brothers and their Grandmother** This story comes from the Seneca people, who lived in the Iroquois Nation in what is now central and western New York and Pennsylvania.

“Long ago, before this earth existed, humans lived in the sky, and they were ruled by a great chief. This chief's lodge was near a tall tree that had white blossoms and that every year produced corn for the people to eat. When this tree bloomed, there was light, but once its blossoms fell, darkness descended until its next flowering.

      Once this chief's daughter became ill with a disease no one had seen before. Despite her people's best efforts to cure her, she did not get well, and all the people were worried. Someone in the tribe dreamed that she would be cured if the tree was pulled up by its roots. No one in the tribe wanted to do that, so they ignored the dream as an aberration. This person had another dream that the people must dig a trench around the tree and uproot it to save the chief's daughter, but again the dream went ignored. Only after a third such dream did the people begin digging. They dug a trench around the tree, severing the roots as they went. When the last root was cut, the tree disappeared into the ground, into what seemed to be a bottomless hole.

      Many of the people were distraught, and one young man in particular complained about the destruction of the tree. The chief's daughter had been brought to the tree in hopes that she would be cured, and the young man was so angry that he kicked her into the hole. Soon she disappeared from the view of her people as she fell into the apparent abyss…

The two brothers grew up together, but the younger was disagreeable and angry. They decided that the island needed more life, so they made the forests and lakes. One day they divided the island in half, with each to make his own animals. The older brother made human beings, and he breathed life into them. He also made many animals that were fat and slow moving, He made the sycamore tree bear fruit, and he made the rivers flow both ways, with one half going upstream and one half going downstream. The younger brother also made many animals, including a huge mosquito that knocked down trees when it flew, and he made his half of the island rocky and full of ledges and precipices. The younger brother tried to make humans, but he could only make ugly animals, and in his anger he vowed that he would make animals that would eat humans.

The two brothers returned home to their grandmother's lodge, and decided that the next day they would go out to see what each other had done. First they went to the younger brother's half, where the older brother was distressed at the huge mosquito that could kill his people. He grabbed the mosquito and rubbed it between his hands until it was tiny, and it flew away when he blew on it. Then they went to see the older brother's half of the island, where the younger brother was disgusted because life would be too easy for the humans. He took many of his brother's animals and made them smaller and faster so they couldn't be caught, and he made the fruit of the sycamore tiny and unpalatable, and he made all the rivers flow downstream so that humans would have to work to travel.

Soon the two brothers got into a terrible fight about how each had changed the other's half of the island, and in their battle the older brother was killed. The older brother went to his home in the sky, where those who live good lives go to join him, and the younger brother went on to spread evil, and when evil people die they are tormented by him because he could not make a human.”

(Jeremiah Curtin and J.N.B. Hewitt, 1918, Seneca Fiction, Legends, and Myths: Thirty- Second Annual Report of the Bureau of American Ethnology for 1910-1911, p. 37-819.)

This story starts out monotheistic (one god) as most do and as the Bible does. It’s early focus in a tree in heaven which is analogous to the biblical tree of life. This tree of life and a woman are the centerpiece of the story of humans being caste out of paradise much as the biblical account tells it.

When humans are made, life is breathed into them by their creator as in the Bible. The story progresses with two competing brothers reminiscent of Cain and Able even down to the fact that they each had differing abilities which the younger evil brother was jealous of. It tells of the creators of man making life more difficult for them after it being very easy, which is reminiscent of being caste out of Eden and the curse of the ground by God for man’s sin. Eventually the older brother is killed in a fight just as Able was in the Bible. The evil brother was labeled evil and tormented on earth and in death for this which is a clear similarity to Cain.

**The Moon and the Morning Star** This story comes from the Wichita people of southern Oklahoma and eastern Texas.

“In the beginning there were neither sun, nor stars, nor anything else that we know today. For a long time, the only man was Man-never-known-on-Earth. He created everything. When he created the world, he created land and water, but they were not separate, and still everything was dark. Then Man-never-known-on-Earth created a man who was known as Man-with-the-Power-to-Carry-Light and a woman named Bright-Shining-Woman. Everything that they needed, they dreamed of, and it was there when they awoke…

Without knowing why, Man-with-the-Power-to-Carry-Light began a journey to the east, moving slowly through the darkness. He came to a stranger who told him that there would be many villages and many people in the future, and that it would be up to Man-with-the-Power-to-Carry-Light to teach them. As they talked, a voice from the east called to this stranger to shoot a black-and-white deer that would follow a white deer and a black deer out of a stream nearby. Four times the stranger had to tell the impatient voice that he was preparing a bow and arrow to shoot the deer. Finally he emerged from his lodge as the deer jumped out of the water, and he shot the black-and-white deer. This meant that the earth would turn, that the stars would move, and that there would be day and night. The stranger, whose name was Star-that-is-always-moving, went to follow the deer that he had wounded, but Man-with-the-Power-to-Carry-Light stayed by the shore. From where the voice had spoken, he now saw the sun rise for the first time. He returned to his home, but he traveled much faster now that it was light. That night he saw three stars in the sky, with another star nearby, and he concluded that they were the three deer and the man who followed them.

      After there was light, villages and people multiplied, as the stranger had predicted. Man-with-the-Power-to-Carry-Light and Bright-Shining-Woman went from village to village, teaching the people. Man-with-the-Power-to-Carry-Light taught the men about bows and arrows, and he taught them to play the ball game and the shinny game…”

(George A. Dorsey, 1904, *The Mythology of the Wichita:* Washington, Carnegie Institution, p. 351)

In this American Indian myth there is absolutely nothing in the beginning except god, just as in the Bible. It even makes note of that god being in existence long before creation which is very similar to the biblical theology of God having always existed. God in this story creates everything just as he does in the Bible. Water is mixed in all matter at the creation just as in Genesis chapter 1 and everything is dark as the Bible says it was in the beginning. God then makes the first man and then woman (correct biblical order) and provides them with an Eden like environment where all their needs are taken care of.

“Man-with-Power-to-carry-Light” was the instrumental character in the carrying forward of a great multitude of humanity just as in the biblical story of Abraham. His actions also, though, lead to a world where they have to get their own food and are no longer completely provided for which of course sounds like the expulsion from Eden.

**Gaia** Much of this account of the origin of the Earth and its divinities comes from the *Theogony* written by Hesiod, a Greek poet estimated to have lived around 700 BC.

“In the beginning, there was Chaos, the abyss.  Out of it first emerged Gaia, the earth, which is the foundation of all.  Next came Tartaros, the depth in the Earth where condemned dead souls go to their punishment, and Eros…Gaia and Uranus went on to have twelve children,… Prometheus, one of the Titans, made the first humans from clay, and he brought them fire from Mt. Olympos. However, Zeus, as king of the gods and no friend of Prometheus, became disgusted with the behavior of humans.  He and his brother, Poseidon, caused rains to fall and rivers to flood, so that all of the humans would be drowned.  However, Zeus finally saw one blameless couple huddled in a boat, trying to ride out the flood, and eventually he decided that they could survive…

      These two survivors were Deucalion, a son of Prometheus, and Pyrrha, a daughter of Epimetheus and Pandora.  When the little boat bearing Deucalion and Pyrrha came to rest in the muddy and mossy landscape, they decided that they must consult the oracle of the Titan goddess Themis to see what they should do, alone in this strange world…

(Hesiod, *Works and Days* and *Theogony* and *The Shield of Herakles,* translated by Richmond Lattimore. Ann Arbor, University of Michigan Press, 1959.)

This is an important creation myth in a lot of ways. It starts out as many do with there being nothing but “chaos and the abyss” (nothing). It alludes to the creation of the earth as the Bible does, but gives it mystical worth as the progenitor of all. It makes mention of the twelve children which is reminiscent of the twelve sons of Abraham and the twelve tribes of Israel. Prometheus, one of the Titans makes humans out of clay as in the Bible.

The head god, Zeus becomes disgusted with the behavior of humans just as God in the Bible did and sent a flood to wipe them out just as the Bible accounts. However, just as in the Bible this god saw a blameless couple in a boat and allowed them to be saved. When they find dry land they first consult the Oracle, much as Noah built a place to worship and worshiped the God who had saved him and his family. From this couple the world is repopulated just as in the biblical account.

This is an important creation story in that it still resonates with us today in modern society. It is the root of most of the “mother earth” and “mother nature” ideas we have heard of. It gave us the concept of the eternal earth which so resonates through most eastern religions. Still, with all these differences we saw many parallels with the Hebrew biblical accounts.

**An Instruction, a Sin and the Consequence** Many creation stories consisted of at least one of three elements; an order or instruction from the creator to the creations, a sin and a consequence which must be faced. The consequence is often what causes pain, hunger, disease and all the other evils that plaque the earth.

In the Greek myth, when Pandora was brought to Epimetheus she was given a box which Zeus orders her not to open. Not only did Zeus give her the box, but also curiosity, which became her temptation to sin. Overcome by the curiosity of her nature, Pandora took a peek inside the box and all of the troubles of the earth flew out of the box. For her sin the whole human race had to suffer. This was the consequence humans were forced to face for accepting Prometheus' gift of fire.

The African Bushmen were instructed not to build a fire. They disobeyed this command and for that sin their peaceful relationship with animals was destroyed.

The Australian Aborigines believed that the Sun Mother told the animals she had created to live together peacefully. Instead envy crept into their hearts and they began to quarrel. She returned to earth and in order to make them happy gave them the power to change their shape into what they wanted it to be for eternity. The result was an odd assortment of creatures. The Sun Mother decided to create two humans who would be superior to the animals. Because the animals disobeyed the Sun Mother's instruction their superiority was taken away.

All of these are reminiscent of the Bible in Genesis 2:4-3:24 which tells the story of how suffering entered the world. God gave Adam and Eve the Garden of Eden to live in, with the order never to eat from the Tree of Knowledge. They disobeyed him and the price of this sin was banishment from the garden into the outside world with all its troubles.

**Australian Aborigine Creation Myth** There was a time when everything was still. All the spirits of the earth were asleep - or almost all. The great Father of All Spirits was the only one awake. Gently he awoke the Sun Mother. As she opened her eyes a warm ray of light spread out towards the sleeping earth. The Father of All Spirits said to the Sun Mother,

"Mother, I have work for you. Go down to the Earth and awake the sleeping spirits. Give them forms."

The Sun Mother glided down to Earth, which was bare at the time and began to walk in all directions and everywhere she walked plants grew. After returning to the field where she had begun her work the Mother rested, well pleased with herself. The Father of All Spirits came and saw her work, but instructed her to go into the caves and wake the spirits.

This time she ventured into the dark caves on the mountainsides. The bright light that radiated from her awoke the spirits and after she left insects of all kinds flew out of the caves. The Sun Mother sat down and watched the glorious sight of her insects mingling with her flowers. However once again the Father urged her on.

The Mother ventured into a very deep cave, spreading her light around her. Her heat melted the ice and the rivers and streams of the world were created. Then she created fish and small snakes, lizards and frogs. Next she awoke the spirits of the birds and animals and they burst into the sunshine in a glorious array of colors. Seeing this, the Father of All Spirits was pleased with the Sun Mother's work.

She called all her creatures to her and instructed them to enjoy the wealth of the earth and to live peacefully with one another…At first the children lived together peacefully, but eventually envy crept into their hearts. They began to argue. The Sun Mother was forced to come down from her home in the sky to mediate their bickering. She gave each creature the power to change their form to whatever they chose. However she was not pleased with the end result. The rats she had made had changed into bats; there were giant lizards and fish with blue tongues and feet. However the oddest of the new animals was an animal with a bill like a duck, teeth for chewing, a tail like a beavers and the ability to lay egg. It was called the platypus.

The Sun Mother looked down upon the Earth and thought to herself that she must create new creatures, less the Father of All Spirits be angered by what she now saw. She gave birth to two children. The god was the Morning Star and the goddess was the moon. Two children were born to them and these she sent to Earth. They became our ancestors. She made them superior to the animals because they had part of her mind and would never want to change their shape.

(<http://dept.cs.williams.edu/~lindsey/myths/myths.html>)

In the beginning everything is still which is very akin to the Bible’s in the beginning there was nothing. The only thing moving in the aborigine beginning was the monotheistic first god. The order of creation is the same as the Bible with light created then plants, then insects, fish then land animals and man last of all from the dirt! It is of note that one of few the animals specifically named in this creation is the snake. At first all creation (all animals) lives together in peace as the Bible said was true in Eden. But, eventually quarrelling and dissention occurs and this paradise existence is lost just as the garden is lost to man in the Bible. The human ancestors were made somewhat in the goddesses’ image and were made higher therefore than the animals which parallels the biblical account of our being made in God’s image and being made a little higher than the angels.

**Inca Creation Myths** This story is as recorded by Incan priests, from the iconography on Incan pottery and architecture, and the myths and legends which survived amongst the native peoples. According to these accounts, in the most ancient of times the earth was covered in darkness.

Then, out of a lake called Collasuyu (modern Titicaca), the god Con Tiqui Viracocha emerged, bringing some human beings with him. Then Con Tiqui created the sun (Inti), the moon and the stars to light the world. It is from Inti that the Sapa Inca, emperor of Tawantin Suyu, is descended. Out of great rocks Con Tiqui fashioned more human beings, including women who were already pregnant.

Then he sent these people off into every corner of the world. He kept a male and female with him at Cusco, the "navel of the world."

Con, the Creator; was in the form of a man without bones. He filled the earth with good things to supply the needs of the first humans. The people, however, forgot Con's goodness to them and rebelled. So he punished them by stopping the rainfall. The miserable people were forced to work hard, drawing what little water they could find from stinking, drying riverbeds.

(<http://www.crystalinks.com/incacreation.html>)

The earth covered in darkness sounds familiar. A god then emerges from a lake (water). How often does water play a part in these stories? The creation of the sun, moon and stars to light the world could be lifted right out of the Bible. Humans are fashioned out of rocks (dirt). This story includes the dispersion of mankind like the dispersion at Babel, but also keeps first couple back in a special place like the Garden of Eden. The first humans were given everything they needed like Adam and Eve, but like Adam and Eve it is said they rebelled. In turn god punished them with a hard life. The parallels with the Bible in this story are easy to see.

**Inuit Myths About Creation** The traditional account of the Inuit people is that the trickster in the form of Raven created the world. When the waters forced the ground up from the deep Raven stabbed it with his beak and fixed it into place. This first land was just big enough for a single house occupied by a single family: a man, his wife and their son, Raven who had fixed the land. The father had a bladder hanging over his bed. After much pleading by Raven the father allowed the boy to play with it. While playing Raven damaged the bladder and light appeared. The father not wanting to have light always shining took the bladder from the boy before he could damage it further. This struggle is the origin of day and night.

(<http://www.crystalinks.com/inuitcreation.html>)

In this story the initial deity is a Raven who creates the world out of water as so many stories including the Bible say. Land is separated from the waters and a first family is made which parallels the Bible. The struggle with light both appears to call us back to the making of day and night in the Bible as well as the struggle with good and evil.

**Mongolian Creational Myths** There is no singular Mongol account of the creation and the beginning of the world, but from a variety of accounts from Mongol tribes of Central Asia, a general outline can be made. The creation of the world is attributed to a lama named Udan who is sometimes also conflated with God or Buddha Sakyamuni by the tribes influenced by Tibetan Buddhism.

Long ago Father Heaven had two sons, Ulgen Tenger and Erleg Khan, Ulgen became the lord of the upper world and Erleg Khan became the lord of the lower world. At that time the earth was covered with water, there was no land. Ulgen Tenger asked the loon to bring up mud from below the water to create land, he was not able to do so, and he was punished by having his legs broken so he could not walk, and the goldeneye duck was called next to bring up land. The duck created a small piece of land that Ulgen was able to lay on. Erleg Khan seeing that his brother had fallen asleep on the new land, tried to pull the land out from under him, but instead the land stretched out in all directions as he pulled it.

Next, Ulgen Tenger created animals and humans out of mud and he spread them out to dry. He created the dog to keep watch over the bodies of the new humans while he was gone. Erleg Khan, unhappy to see that his brother was creating humans, came to see the new bodies. The dog would not let him come close, at that time the dog could talk but had no fur. It was cold, and snowing, so Erleg Khan tempted him, saying that if the dog allowed him to see the humans' bodies he would give him a beautiful fur coat. The dog agreed, and was given a shiny beautiful coat. Erleg Khan then spat on the bodies so that humans would have diseases and not be immortal. When Ulgen returned he saw that the dog had fur and that the humans had been damaged, so he punished the dog by making his coat smelly, taking away his voice, and by making the dog follow humans in order to get its food.

(<http://www.crystalinks.com/mongoliacreation.html>)

This story also begins with the world having nothing but water. It describes a similar creation of land out of water. Animals and man are created out of mud (dust). It has two competing brothers as in the biblical creation account, one of which does evil deeds as in the Bible. It describes humans losing their once immortal bodies. An animal is lasting physical punished for man’s fall just as the happened to the serpent in the Bible.

**Examples of the Wide Breadth of Sumerian Creation stories -** Sumerians as far back as 4500 years ago would imprint pottery and many other items with stories, contracts, receipts, documents and much more. They would imprint these cuneiform writings on items by constructing cylinder seals which could be rolled across the wet clay of pottery or any other such item of choice imprinting on these times the story or images to be transmitted or retained. On these varied times we found a record of many different creation accounts. Here is one good example of what has been found on clay tablets and pottery.

The Sumerians believed that their ancestors had **created the ground they lived on by separating it from the water**. According to their creation myth, **the world was once watery chaos**. The **mother of Chaos was Tiamat, an immense dragon**. When **the gods appeared to bring order out of Chaos, Tiamat created an army of dragons**. Enlil called the winds to his aid. Tiamat came forward, her mouth wide open. Enlil pushed the winds inside her and she swelled up so that she could not move. Then Enlil split her body open. He laid half of the body flat to form the Earth, with the other half arched over it to form the sky. The gods then beheaded Tiamat's husband and **created mankind from his blood, mixed with clay**. (http://history-world.org/sumerian\_culture.htm)

Note the striking similarities with the biblical account here. Land first appears as it is separated from water just as in the Bible. The world began in watery chaos just as it is stated in Genesis 1:2. “The mother of Chaos … and immense dragon” are clearly consistent with biblical stories of Satan as the dragon (or snake) and his creating an army of dragons (fallen angels). Also, as happens so many times mankind is made from clay (the “dust of the ground”).

One of the oldest seals shows a seated woman reaching for one of two fruits hanging from a tree. A man also reaches for fruit opposite her, and behind her a serpent slithers. This cylinder from ancient Samaria shows every key element from Genesis chapter 3. (Modern Archaeology and Genesis, Acts and Facts, Vol. 45, Number 1, January 2016, page 16)

**Zoroastrian Story of Creation** The [Zoroastrian](http://www.crystalinks.com/z.html) story of creation has Ahura Mazda creating 16 lands, one by one, such that each would be delightful to its people. As he finished each one, Angra Mainyu applied a counter-creation, introducing plague and sin of various kinds (so we have paradises and then lands marred by sin as in the Bible). The dualistic idea of two primordial spirits, called twins by Zoroaster, goes back to an Indo-European prototype.

Zoroastrian tradition envisions three future saviors ( a messiah/savior, of course, being a central theme of both the Old and New Testaments of the Bible), one for the end of each 1,000-year period that comprise the last 3,000 years of the world. All three will be born of maidens, conceived while their mothers bathed in a lake that miraculously preserved the seed of the prophet Zoroaster himself (thus they conceive without relations with a man, but the seed from the creator, which parallels the Bible story). The first will be named Hushedar, the second Hushedarmah, and the third will be Saoshyant, who will lead humanity in the final battle against falsehood (very reminiscent of the Bible’s cataclysmic foretelling of the end times struggles against Satan).

The story of the Saoshyant's conception and early life are described in Denkard 7.10.15ff as follows: Thirty years before the decisive final battle, a maiden named Eredat-fedhri ("Victorious Helper") and whose nickname is "Body-maker" will enter a lake (in Yasht 19.92, this is "Lake Kansava"). Sitting in the water, the girl, who has "not associated with men" will receive "victorious knowledge." Her son, when born, will not know nourishment from his mother, his body will be sun-like, and the "royal glory" of Khwarenah will be with him. Then, for the next 57 years he will subsist on only vegetables (17 years), then only water (30 years) and for then for the final 10 years only on "spiritual food."

The events of the final renovation are described in the Bundahishn (30.1ff): In the final battle with evil, the yazatas Airyaman and Atar will "melt the metal in the hills and mountains, and it will be upon the earth like a river" (Bundahishn 34.18), but the righteous (ashavan) will not be harmed. (This account is very reminiscent of the biblical account of the world being destroyed by fire, but the righteous in God being saved from this peril.)

Eventually, Ahura Mazda will triumph, and his agent Saoshyant will resurrect the dead, whose bodies will be restored to eternal perfection, and whose souls will be cleansed and reunited with God. Time will then end, and truth/righteousness (asha) and immortality will thereafter be everlasting. (This part so closely parallels the Bible as to be unmistakably drawn from the biblical text.)

(http://www.crystalinks.com/zoroastercreation.html)

**The Epic of Gilgamesh and the Enuma Elish** Modernists have posited that the Bible is actually not the original creation story, but that the Epic of Gilgamesh and the Babylonian Enuma Elish predated the Bible and thus it is the Bible which borrowed from them.

The reasoning for their position is that the writings of Moses have been dated to around 1400 to 1200 BC. The Gilgamesh saga and the Enuma Elish have both been dated to around 1800 BC. Since both of these writings contain elements of the Bible’s creation account, it stands to reason, they say, that the Bible borrowed elements of its creation account from them and not vice versa. Thus the Bible is not the original creation account.

Below I have summarized the content of these two ancient writings and how they compare with the biblical account.

**Epic of Gilgamesh** The Gilgamesh Saga is an epic poem from Mesopotamia, and is amongst the earliest surviving works of literature (circa 1800 BC). It parallels the story of Cain and Abel. It also contains nine elements of the story of the Noah’s Ark and the Flood. It is a very long and detailed story which parallels the Bible in many places. (Stephanie Dalley (ed.). *Myths from Mesopotamia: Creation, the Flood, Gilgamesh, and Others*. Oxford University Press)

The **Enuma Elish** is a Babylonian “Creation” Account written inCuneiform script also around 1800 B.C.It was recorded onseven tablets, each of which corresponds to one of the seven days of creation. According to this account, in the beginning the Earth was without form and empty (just as the Bible says). Both the Elish and the Bible suggest that order came out of this formless state. Both records tell of the creation of the moon, stars, plant life, animals, and man in that order.

<https://www.christiancourier.com/articles/667-enuma-elish-a-babylonian-creation-account>

Among the similarities in the Bible and the Enuma Elish accounts have very similar order. I have summarized the order of the creation as told in the Enuma Elish below:

**Biblical Order in the Enuma Elish**

Primeval unorganized matter on first tablet (just as the Genesis account says that all the matter in the universe was created on the first day)

Coming of light (God said, “let there be light” on day 1)

Creation of the firmament (sky and heavens) (Genesis refers to the creation of the firmament using the Hebrew word “raqia” which means expanse or “spread out thinness” on day 2)

Appearance of dry land (On day 3 God “separated the waters together into one place and the dry land appeared”)

Creation of luminaries (On day 4 God “placed” the sun, moon and stars in the sky)

Creation of man on the sixth tablet (just as God created man on the sixth day of creation)

Deity rests (this occurs on the seventh tablet, which is consistent with the biblical account of God resting on the seventh day)

By a pure reckoning of the assigned dates (Elish and Gilgamesh written around 1800 BC, Bible written about 1350 BC) for the writing of these three documents, the modernist claim that the Bible borrowed from the two earlier accounts would seem reasonable. However, there are two “details tests” which linguists and archaeologists use to confirm whether one writing borrowed from another.

The first detail to note is that in a survey of 300 some odd creation accounts from around the world, it is the details of the biblical account which are consistently borrowed and not the details particular to the Gilgamesh saga or the Enuma Elish. This fact could be suggestive of the Bible account having predated these other two writings in some form and they borrowed from it; or it simply could mean that the Bible when written about 1400 BC was far more distributed around the world than the other two. This infers that this detail test shows a better sense of the Bible’s popularity and exposure to other cultures, but not so much attests to it not being borrowed from the other two texts.

The one mitigation to this thought is the fact that the particular details of the Bible are contained in the creation accounts of the Mayans and Delaware Indians, showing that this story was known for centuries before the writing of either the Enuma Elish or Gilgamesh.

The more telling details test is the linguistic analysis of each text. It has been found by linguistic anthropologists that when one text borrows from another and tells a story based on another source; that second text invariably embellishes on the details of the first text. When we examine all three texts we find that that the Epic of Gilgamesh and the Enuma Elish are far more embellished stories than the account in Genesis. This has led many noted scholars to conclude that contrary to the modernist interpretation, the biblical account does indeed predate that of the Enuma Elish or Gilgamesh either by word of mouth or in some other written form which we do not now have. (There is mention in the Bible of writings referred to as the “Annals of Adam” and the “Annals of Seth” which may be the source of much of what Moses and Joshua edited around 1350 BC. We do not know if this is true since the bible does not explicitly state this, nor do we have these ancient writings to evaluate today).

As we will find out later, there are far older writings than any of these three which confirm the biblical account predates not only the Enuma Elish and Gilgamesh, but all other contenders.

Before exploring those ancient writings, let us continue our perusal of creation accounts from across the world. More than a billion people across the world claim the Muslim faith. Below I have summarized what we find in Islam’s holy book the Koran about the creation.

**Islam** The Koran says the universe; this world and all that is in it were created in six days. The Koran talks of Adam and Eve as the first humans created by God. It tells of their eating the forbidden fruit and being expelled from Eden. The Koran even includes the flood and its coming to rest on a mountain (although not Mount Ararat). It is clear from its reading and almost identical details that this account was derived from the biblical account.

Note, like so many of the creation accounts of the 300+ we studied, the Koran uses uniquely biblical details. This book is just another to reflect a variety of recurring themes seen in creaion accounts from around the world. While these recurrent themes are not contained in all of the 300 creation accounts cited, they do recur in most of them. A list of these recurrent themes is recorded below.

**Recurrent Themes**

Beginning – darkness and water

A single God or creator

Biblical order – heavens, land, vegetation, animals, and man

Sacrifice of a God / man

Pain and suffering come into the world

Human race comes from a first man (often made from mud/dirt)

Spiritual beings

Earth is dissolved in the end

**The Worldwide Flood** One of the most striking of these recurrent themes which is repeated in 270 creation accounts from around the world is the recurrence of flood legends.

The details differ in some ways from one story to the other, but again there are recurrent themes which are striking. All tell of a great flood which killed off all life. All tell of a giant boat being built and that man and animals were saved from the flood on this boat. Some details attest to how closely they were to the original in the Bible and that they are tied to the biblical account because since minute details as Noah’s name are repeated or only slightly skewed. For example in the Hawaiian tale the boat builder’s name is “No” and in the Delaware Indian’s account his name is “Nenabush.”

It is instructive to note how close the Assyrian, Babylonian and Persian accounts are to the original biblical text (those in the Middle East closest to the Bible’s origin). Also note these accounts seem to become more skewed and more varied from the original as those cultures are farther from the Middle East. This is exactly the pattern we would expect to see if the Bible was the original source of these accounts and details are lost and embellished upon as these peoples moved farther and farther away from the Middle East and the original source.

**Nippur Tablet c. 2100 BC** These fragments of stone with writing in a language very akin to ancient Hebrew give evidence of the biblical creation account 300 years before either Gilgamesh or Enuma Elish were written. These writings were found in a library excavation in the Babylonian City of Nippur. The text of these fragments tells of a deluge which destroys all life. It says that God commands building a great ship. It also says that the builder’s family and animals are preserved on this ship.

(http://query.nytimes.com/gst/abstract.html?res=F50613FD3A5F13738DDDA90994D0405B838DF1D3)

These tablet fragments excavated in the 1890’s include a broken lines of text saying, “It shall sweep away all men together… before the deluge coming forth … Build a great ship …. It shall be a houseboat carrying what has been saved … [br]ing the beasts of the field, the birds of heaven.” The references here are clear to the worldwide flood event described in the Bible. Further this shows another proof of the biblical account predating the Elish and Gilgamesh. (Cooper, B. 2012, Authenticity of the book of Genesis, Portsmouth, UK. Creation science Movement, pp. 392-393.)

**Recurrent Themes from Creation stories from across the World**

Many of these stories begin in darkness, and the generation of light is part of the creation itself. In many stories, humans and other beings are made from clay, mud or the dust of the ground. Creation from clay has often been cited as evidence of a primitive culture, at least by people from cultures with stories of creation ex nihilo (from nothing). One story from a seemingly primitive culture nonetheless has elements that accord well with modern science. The Jicarilla Apache story, in which a human is made from a variety of mineral and organic materials is consonant with our modern view that the human body physically consists of many chemical sub­stances, and that our intake of "minerals" is critical to our health.

**It was the Original!**

Did we find there is evidence for the Bible’s creation account in the book of Genesis to be the original creation account? What I have shared with you is just 29 of the more than 300 creation stories from around the world (a book I am writing contains more than fifty of these). For lack of space I have left out the incredible “Delaware Indian” creation account which mirrors the Bible in unparalleled detail, as well as the Greek Sibylline Books which not only detail the Babel story but call Babel by name! I left out similar stories from Japan and Korea, both of which show striking biblical threads. A perusal of the 300+ creation accounts worldwide showed what we expected to find. The vast majority of these stories contained threads, and many large portions which either were very reminiscent of the Genesis account or were clearly copied from that account. The clear conclusion to be drawn from everything we have covered so far is that these borrowed elements and themes reflected in creation stories from cultures all over the world and for thousands of years indicate they all came from this original work, the Bible or from people who were handing it down by word of mouth or via other writings communicating the same creation account and the same theological tenants as the Bible!

This evidence is so clear that such noted anthropologists as Ph.D.s Kenneth Kitchen, D. J. Wiseman, Garry Brantley, Charles Pfeiffer have all declared the Bible to be the original source of the creation accounts we see around the world and thus is the original creation account as we expected to find if God wrote the Bible!

Now, if we had not found ample evidence for the Bible’s creation account in hundreds of creation accounts and stories from all over the world it would have put our premise of God’s authorship into serious doubt. The fact that we do find such evidence all across the world fulfills our premise for this evidence, but it only starts to make a circumstantial case for God writing or inspiring others to write the Bible. While we have good evidence for the Biblical account of creation is the first and most widely spread account of the world’s creation, it is still possible from this evidence that is all that it is. The first story of creation and the most widely borrowed from and repeated, but not necessarily the truth of creation nor God’s word.

Skeptics will also point out that since all of these stories concern creation and there are the limited ideas of how “we came to be” that there was bound to be similarities between these tales whether they came from one original story or not. Such a charge could be true, but it is surprising how few take the radically different approaches of an eternal earth or Gaia approach which would seem more logical since that would have been the natural perception of man through the ages. The answer to this one question of whether the Genesis account is the world’s first creation account seems to be yes!

**SABBSA on KSLR**

We have an exciting new evangelical tool that the **San Antonio Bible Based Science Association** is proud to sponsor in 2016. It’s now official. Starting Saturday February 6 we will air a new radio show called “**Believing the Bible!”**

This radio program was the brain child of SABBSA director Terry Read who has garnered this radio spot for us on **Saturday afternoons at 1:45 pm on radio station KSLR 630 AM**. Terry vowed to fund this program himself, but now it has become a family affair as many of our SABBSA board members have also signed up to help fund the production and airing of this program.

We have recorded the first four shows. Below is the schedule of programs for the next month:

February 6 – **Introduction to SABBSA and the need for Creation Science**

February 13 – **What the Darwinists are really afraid of?**

February 20 – **Are there Dinosaurs in the Bible?**

February 27 – **Why is it Important to Believe in the Bible?**

There are several ways you can help with this exciting new endeavor. One and always first is pray for this program, for its content and impact. Second, become a sponsor as many of our board members have done and help us defray the $60+ per week costs of putting this program on the air. Third listen to this show on the air and tell your friends and family members so this can reach as wide an audience as possible. Fourth, help us with scripts. We are hoping that our board and other interested and knowledgeable members will both tell us what they would like to hear in future programs as well as help us by writing future scripts and coming on the air with us to make this truly a group effort.

This program will also be available on podcast.  Go to the KSLR website at KSLR.com and click on "KSLR Podcast" and scroll down until you find us.  This will give you the opportunity to share on Facebook or Tweet.

The first few scripts have been written by Terry Read and edited by Scott Lane. These two individuals will record the first five or so shows to be aired, but we want to use the full capabilities of our membership at SABBSA so we challenge each of you to come up with topics and scripts within our 13 minute program format so that you too can get on the air with us!

Interested parties should email, call or talk to Scott or Terry so that we can spell out the parameters of what we are trying to achieve on the air. Scott Lane can be contacted at 210-861-0454 or email him at [lanes\_1@sbcglobal.net](mailto:lanes_1@sbcglobal.net)

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**“Made in His Image” at FEAST this Year!**

***FEAST has again entrusted us with providing FEAST’s science workshops this year. In the spring we will feature the Institute for Creation Research’s new series “Made in His Image.” This year’s schedule of presentations is shown below. Thanks to Dr. Carl and Cindy Williams who have again agreed to provide the very popular young children’s “hands on” programs which run concurrently with our adult and youth presentations.***

**January 25, 2016 Made in His Image - Episode 1: The Miracle of Birth. We supplemented this presentation with a clip from another ICR video called “The Making of a Baby.” We had an enthusiastic crowd which was awed by the complexity of God’s creation of us!**

**February 22, 2016 Made in His Image - Episode 2: The Marvel of Eyes. We will also supplement this segment with clips from a video by Dr. David Menton on the miracles of God’s created visual system.**

**March 28, 2016 Made in His Image - Episode 3: Uniquely Human Hands. Help! We need someone to cover for the Williams with our young children’s program this night!**

**April 25, 2016 Made in His Image - Episode 4: Beauty in Motion.**

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**Prayer Needs and Praises!**

**Answers in Genesis** and their Ark Encounter project have come under intense political attack and the state of Kentucky has rescinded their rights to tax incentives provided to all tourist attractions such as them. AiG has had to sue the state of Kentucky to try and get back the tax incentives provided to all tourist attractions in Kentucky. Please pray that God will restore these tax incentives to Ark Encounter. Praise God for the fact that AiG has been able to break ground and is in the midst of construction with this ambitious project! The Ark is to open July 7 of this year!

**Frank Mayo**, leader of the Greater Houston Creation Association is experiencing colon problems. Please pray for this dear brother who is focal to our ministry in the Houston area.



**Humor Corner**

**Around Texas**

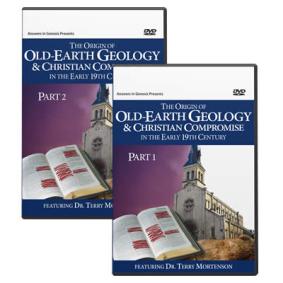
**Houston:**   
The **Greater Houston Creation Association** (**GHCA**) meets the first Thursday of each month. They meet at Houston's First Baptist Church at 7 pm, in Room 143. After the presentation, there will be refreshments, fellowship and creation science materials for all to enjoy. For more information 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.

**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.



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**Last Month at SABBSA**

**The Origin of Old-Earth Geology & Christian Compromise in the 19th Century-Part I (DVD)**

A video featuring **Dr. Terry Mortenson of Answers in Genesis.**This video shows that the church's compromises on biblical authority began before Darwin. This eye-opening talk by historian Terry Mortenson shows that biblical geologists defended biblical history (and exposed the fallacies in an old earth), but the church refused to listen.

We plan to continue this series and watch part two of this series at our May meeting.

**Next SABBSA Meeting:   
Tuesday, February 9, 2016, at 7 pm**

**Coming to SABBSA in February**

**The Authority of the Bible II - Prophecy and Statistics**

Marilyn and Lanny Johnson

**Lanny Johnson with the Alpha Omega Institute** will be our speaker in February. His presentation will focus on the inerrancy of biblical prophecies and authority of the Bible.

A Bible prophecy is not just a prediction about the future – it is a promise about the future. Within the Bible are approximately 2500 prophecies, about 2000 of which already have been fulfilled to the letter—no errors. A look at just a few broad, general examples of fulfilled prophecy and a look at messianic prophecies and the probability of one man fulfilling the major prophecies made concerning the Messiah – showing that coincidence is ruled out by the science of probability. Because the Bible proves to be such a dependable document, we should expect that the remaining 500 prophecies dealing with the “time of the end,” will also be fulfilled to the last letter.

Please join us on February 9th for this informative speaker from a national creation organization presenting on a very provocative topic. We invite you to join us for warm Christian fellowship, good food and Christian apologetic teaching that you will see nowhere else in Bexar County. As always we will meet at the Jim’s Restaurant at the corner of San Pedro and Ramsey.