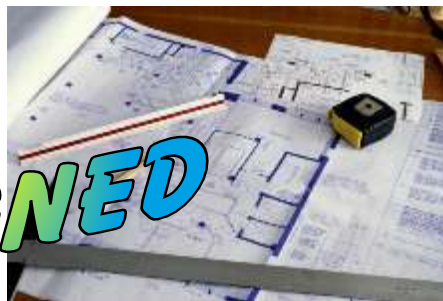


# WELL DESIGNED

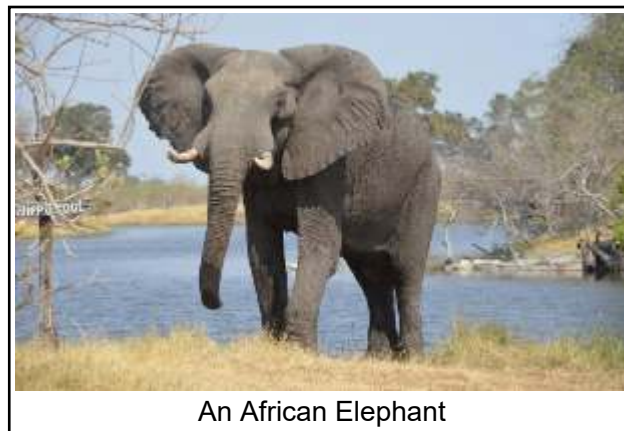


## Elephants

**T**here are two kinds of elephant – African and Asian. Elephants are fascinating animals, and one of their most wonderful features are their trunks – one of the most amazing body parts in the animal kingdom! The trunk, part of the upper lip and nose with two nostrils running through it, is equipped with 40,000 muscles! (the human body only has 700). These muscles enable elephants to use their trunk for breathing, smelling, touching, grasping, and producing sound.

Elephant trunks (right) are very flexible. They can be used to uproot trees and lift up to 350 kg. (770 pounds) in weight. They also use their trunk for drinking by sucking up water and squirting it into their mouths. They can even use them as snorkels, and walk along a river bed completely submerged. Trunks are very sensitive: African elephants have two “fingers” at the end of their trunk, and can even pick up a pin!

A German company, *Festo*, designed a flexible, robotic *Bionic Handling Assistant* based on the design of an elephant’s trunk. It won the 2010 *German Future Prize*.



An African Elephant



The Festo “Bionic Handling Assistant” is modelled on an elephant’s trunk

The bionic copy, (above right) though cleverly designed, is nowhere near as complex as the real thing. Since a trunk has no bones, there are no fossils of elephants with trunks. However, the trunks’ amazing design suggests special creation not gradual evolution. A partly evolved trunk would surely not aid the survival of elephants!

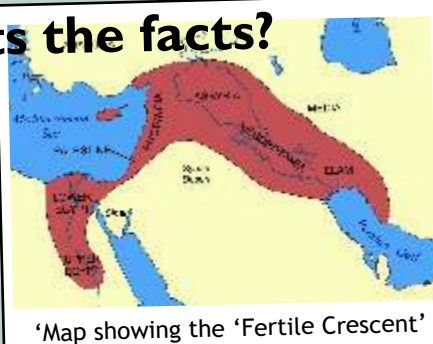


Wikipedia photo by Charles Sharp

## Which ‘history’ best fits the facts?

The evidence that complex human civilisations suddenly emerged less than 10,000 years ago has long puzzled secular archaeologists, but supports the Biblical account of human history. The book of Genesis tells us that people developed agriculture, built cities, made musical instruments and forged metals very soon after creation (Genesis 4). Then a worldwide flood occurred, with only eight human survivors. We wouldn’t expect any evidence of pre-flood technology to survive, but Noah and his family would have taken with them the knowledge they already had. This explains why there is no evidence for the gradual evolution of civilisation. Significantly, the first civilisations arose in the “fertile crescent” (see map above). This is exactly where the Bible says people began to spread across the world after the flood (Genesis 11: 1-9). They would have already had the skills to build cities, and establish civilised societies and industries, without having to learn everything over again. No archaeological discovery has ever contradicted the Bible.

The Bible is not only a reliable record of history; it also tells us a lot about ourselves and our world. It explains how things began, why evil exists, and how God, our Creator, dealt with the problem of human sin through the death and resurrection of His Son, Jesus Christ. “God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.” (The Bible, Romans 5: 8). The Bible promises forgiveness and eternal life to all who believe in Jesus, and accept what He has done for them. The Bible has proved to be trustworthy, and is a message from God to you!



‘Map showing the ‘Fertile Crescent’

## SMILE

What gets bigger the more you take away? A hole.

What has two hands and a face, but no legs? A clock.

What can’t be used until it’s broken? An egg

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The REAL SCIENCE paper!



No. 91

## The MYTH of our ‘PRIMITIVE’ ANCESTORS

The popular view that our early human ancestors were primitive and ignorant is not supported by the scientific and historical evidence.

Most people have been led to believe that we evolved from hairy, ape-like brutes who lived in caves, and that human intelligence and culture evolved slowly over tens of thousands of years. However, the facts reveal a very different story: Humans have always been clever and creative, and ancient people were just as intelligent as us. In fact, some of the things they did were so remarkable that we still don’t understand how they managed to do them. They may not have designed computers or space shuttles, but it seems that some ancient people possessed skills which have since been lost. In this issue we will look at just a few examples of discoveries which refute the evolutionary view of human history.



A typical picture of our supposed primitive ancestors.

## Roman builders used 800 tonne stone blocks!

On the right is a photo of the ruins of a Roman temple at Baalbek, Lebanon built about 2,000 years ago. The pillars are 21 meters (70 feet) high, and are resting on huge stone blocks up to 19 meters (60 feet) long, and weighing up to 800 tonnes each! They were cut to shape in the quarry, moved to the site, and lifted 8 meters (26 feet) high. There is no mortar between them, yet they fit so tightly that a knife blade can’t be pushed between them. We now have powerful cranes that could lift these blocks, but the Romans didn’t. How they moved them, and why they used such massive stones, is a mystery.



This huge stone block, left near the quarry where it was cut, weighs around 1000 tonnes — equal to 3 jumbo-jets!



Wikipedia photo by Guillaume Ploffe

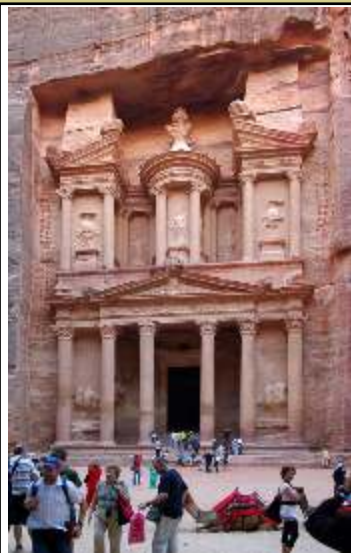


“HEY! STOP WHAT YOU’RE DOING AND WASH IT OFF. WE AREN’T EVOLVED ENOUGH FOR THAT YET!”



## ANCIENT CITY CARVED IN ROCK!

Hidden away among the mountains of Jordan is the ancient city of Petra (right and below). It has temples, theatres, houses and roads, and even had piped water! The amazing thing is that this city was carved out of solid rock 2,600 years ago by a desert tribe! Though now deserted, it was once home to as many as 20,000 people. Even modern construction workers would find it very difficult to carve a city from this solid, red rock. Evolutionists are surprised that people could do this 2,600 years ago because it doesn't fit their theory, but it does fit what the Bible tells us about ancient people.



More than a million tourists now visit Petra every year

Evolutionists are surprised that people could do this 2,600 years ago because it doesn't fit their theory, but it does fit what the Bible tells us about ancient people.



## Easter Island Mystery

1,600 years ago people from Polynesia sailed 2,600 miles across the Pacific Ocean to Easter Island. There they carved and erected almost 1000 stone statues (right). Some of which are 10 metres (32 feet) tall and weigh about 90 tonnes. Some are still lying in the quarry, but most were moved several miles overland and set up. Even modern engineers would find this a challenge, yet those ancient people did it without modern equipment. However, even more amazing, in 2012 excavations revealed that the statues actually have bodies, buried in the ground! <sup>1</sup>

1. livescience.com 25th May 2012.



## PUZZLE OF STONEHENGE



no-one has come up with a convincing answer. Some engineers tried moving a similar stone using a wooden raft. The raft sank! So the builders of Stonehenge possessed skills which 21st century engineers know nothing about!

The famous Stonehenge monument in England was built around 4,500 years ago. These standing stones — weighing up to 100 tonnes each — came from a Welsh quarry 75 miles away, and were somehow transported across the River Severn estuary. How did those ancient builders do this without modern equipment? There have been many theories, but

## THERE ARE NO "PRIMITIVE" PEOPLE!

People in the developed world sometimes view those who live more simply as "primitive". Some even think they are less highly evolved, and "on the way" to becoming civilised. This view is both racist and insulting, since all humans have the same intellectual capacity. According to the Bible account of human history, everyone living on earth today has descended from Noah and his family (Genesis chapter 9) — people with the skill to build a 140-metre (450 foot) long sea-going vessel. Some would have taken their skills with them, which explains why complex civilisations emerged suddenly less than 6,000 years ago. Some people groups became isolated, and lost much of the knowledge possessed by their ancestors. However, a person from the remotest jungle village could, given the opportunity, earn a university degree!



These Namibian villagers are not "primitive"

## Archaeology supports a recent creation of humans

Professor Stuart Burgess writes: "Archaeological evidence of human activity provides overwhelming support for the recent creation of man. According to secular studies, all key technologies, such as the wheel, agriculture, pottery, and domestication of the horse, were developed less than 10,000 years ago... The fact that there is no archaeological evidence of any significant technology more than 10,000 years old is an enormous problem for the theory of evolution. If man had evolved, there would have been very intelligent people around for a period of more than 100,000 years.... To propose that there was a period of at least 100,000 years where very intelligent people did not make any significant inventions is absurd in the extreme." (*The Origin of Man*, Day One Publications, 2004, p. 125).

There is nothing new under the sun. Is there anything of which one can say, "Look! This is something new"? (*The Bible, Ecclesiastes 1: 9-10*).

## BIBLE-BELIEVING SCIENTISTS

### Michael Oard, Atmospheric Scientist



Michael Oard (right) has a Masters of Science degree in Atmospheric Science from the University of Washington, and is now retired after working as a meteorologist and forecaster with the US National Weather Service for 30 years. He has published eight papers or technical monographs in the secular technical literature of the American Meteorological Association and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Association. Since his retirement he has been doing full-time research in creationist earth science. He has published about 200 articles in the creationist technical literature, and authored, co-authored, or edited 14 creationist books for different ages on the Flood, the Ice Age, weather, geology, and National park guides.

He writes: "I became a creationist by observing the complexity of nature around us. I came to realize that everything is tremendously complex at both the micro- and macro-scale level. So, my interest in the creation/evolution issue grew from a curiosity to eventually a passion." Michael says he does not bash evolution.



rapid evaporation of the floodwaters would have provided the perfect conditions to form huge ice sheets, and for the rapid freezing of the hundreds of frozen mammoths which have been discovered in the Arctic.

As is often the case, taking the Biblical record as real history explains many things that puzzle secular scientists.

- Find out more at [michael.oards.net/WhyCreationist.htm](http://michael.oards.net/WhyCreationist.htm) and [creation.com/what-caused-ice-age](http://creation.com/what-caused-ice-age)

## DID ANCIENT HUMANS NAVIGATE THE OCEANS?



The Piri Reis Map (left) discovered in Turkey in 1513, showed the coastline of the Antarctic before it was covered in ice! It must have been copied from older maps, drawn at least 4,000 years ago — over 3000 years before the Antarctic — was "discovered" by people from Europe! This suggests that people were navigating the oceans and discovering new lands more than 4000 years ago.

The discovery of stone tools on islands off the Horn of Africa and in the Mediterranean has convinced some archaeologists that *Homo erectus* people — often wrongly portrayed as ape-like, — used boats to sail the seas. *National Geographic* reported: "Many researchers have hypothesized that the early humans of this time period were not capable of devising boats or navigating across open water. But the new discoveries hint that these human ancestors were capable of much more sophisticated behaviour than their relatively simple stone tools would suggest." Archaeologist Eleni Panagopoulou said: "I think they were mainly motivated by curiosity and the desire for exploration."<sup>1</sup> Just like modern humans, then!

1. *National Geographic* online February 17th 2010.

● Read more fascinating evidence in *Maps of the Ancient Sea Kings*. Downloadable from [www.tinyurl.com/vcccwcv](http://www.tinyurl.com/vcccwcv)

The Olmec civilisation inhabited the lowlands of south-eastern Mexico between 1500 and 400 BC. Evidence that they were very sophisticated comes from the numerous sculptures and figurines they left. These included many massive human heads, carved from very hard basalt boulders. They were somehow transported



This giant carved head (with the comparative size of an adult and child), weighed over 20 tonnes!

over 150 kilometres (93 miles) from the Sierra de los Tuxtlas mountains. The carvings were completed between 1,500 and 900 BC. Many of these stone heads exhibit African features, which strongly suggests that people from Africa had reached the Americas 3,000 years before Christopher

Columbus sailed the Atlantic!<sup>1</sup> Most secular archaeologists reject this possibility, but is this simply because it doesn't fit their evolutionary view of human history and the development of culture?

1. Dr D Chittick, *The Puzzle of Ancient Man*, Creation Compass 1997.