

Science and the Bible E-Zine

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"Truth: That which is in accord with fact and reality."

This is written so that you may believe the bible because of science rather than in spite of science.

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1) What's Happening at Science and the Bible?

By Max B. Frederick, AnOldScientist

This Month's article is the inevitable culmination of a fifteen thousand hour research project by an old scientist in his retirement. That work is presented in the book, *Eyewitness to the Origins, Scientific Evidence of the Supernatural Authorship of the Bible*. In that work, the author of this article compares all the major biblical creation accounts, or accounts of the origins, as a scientist might refer to them, to each other, and prepares an interleaved comprehensive chronology of all the biblical origin accounts combined. There are about three dozen such major biblical accounts, not just the one or two that most theologians recognize up front in the bible. Each of these major accounts present factual details of the origins. Combining all of them reveals the order of events that led up to the universe and life as we see it today. The bottom line is, the details found in all the biblical origin accounts can be interleaved in chronological order by internal clues. There are on the order of one hundred such details. These details, and the resulting combined chronology, are all in accord with reality as verified by modern science. No other ancient writing has this feature.

The problem is, these factual details and order of events were impossible to have been known without supernatural intervention at the stage of advancement of technology that was available at the time of the writing of the ancient scriptures.

Oh, one more problem. The one popular account found up front is revealed to have been modified by the addition of a second chronology that is not in accord with the rest of the biblical accounts, nor is it in accord with reality as discovered by the processes of modern science. This modification has blinded theologians to the truth for centuries. The question is, Was this intentionally done to effect a double blind test to reveal the fact that there is one set of ancient scriptures that is of supernatural origin? Could it be that a double blind test was set up thousands of years ago to determine which religion today is based on supernatural scriptures and which is not?

2) Why Would Moses Do Such a Thing?

By Max B. Frederick, AnOldScientist

There are three prevalent theories of interpretation of the book of Genesis.

Theory 1: Moses wrote it all from scratch, under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit.

Theory 2: Moses did not write any of it. It was all written many years later by theologians putting oral tradition to paper. At least five different writers wrote under the pen name of Moses.

Theory 3: Moses assembled the book of Genesis from existing written and oral records, under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit.

This article is an inquiry into the third theory.

First, there is plenty of evidence that Moses had help of some kind. Questions as to whether you credit it all to inspiration of the Holy Spirit, or to later theologians, or to some to prior written records, are not settled by the internal literary evidence.

That internal literary evidence includes irregular breaks in the style of writing and breaks in the vocabulary used, that correspond with the breaks in the topics covered, etc. Such evidence that one single person, Moses, did not personally write the books of the bible that are attributed to him has long been the delight of doubters of the first theory.

To find the answer as to which theory fits best, we must go beyond the literary evidence to the physical evidence of the specific facts that are recorded in the Mosaic writings, their internal consistency, and their external accord with reality.

Secular scholars of the so called "higher criticism" school seem to prefer theory two. This favored theory explains these breaks in literary style in a way that satisfies the doubters of the supernatural nature of the bible. It assumes that the supposedly early existing parts of the Old Testament were not in written form until much later than supposed, until after the Babylonian captivity. It eliminates their problem that stuff was included earlier than it could have been known in their evolutionary theory of progress of development of the Hebrew religion. For example, they argue that the

concept of a single, universal, God did not evolve until the Hebrews were captured and transported hundreds of miles from home, to where their God had not existed before.

Such a later writing as assumed by theory two would explain how the stuff got into the bible that could not have been known at the time of the early supposed time of writing as dictated by theory one. Theory two would eliminate the need for the assumption that there is anything supernatural about the bible. Where supernatural intervention is required by both theories one and three.

However, there are fatal problems with theory two, the one theory that eliminates the supernatural.

First, the assumption that nothing could have been written down before humans discovered it, is shattered by the later, very recent discovery, that much of the facts and chronology disclosed in the nearly three dozen biblical accounts of the origins were not discovered by modern science until much later, long after the relatively recent publication of the King James Translation of the bible only some four hundred years ago. Using the logic that nothing was written down before it was part of the humanly evolved knowledge base dictates that the ancient scriptures of the bible could not have been written before modern science discovered that same information. And much of that information was discovered after the translation and publication of the King James Version, some four hundred years ago. That logic dictates the ancient written scriptures could not have existed before they were translated into the King James Version. But, that earlier existence is not doubted by any serious scholar. The point is, those ancient scriptures contain an overwhelming quantity of facts concerning the origins that are in accord with reality. And those facts were recorded in the ancient scriptures which existed thousands of years before the facts recorded therein were discovered by mankind in the supposedly evolutionary progress of knowledge.

Second, an earlier assumption that writing did not exist at the time the earlier parts of the Old Testament were originally claimed to have been written has been shattered by archaeological evidence. Written Egyptian records existed long before the four hundred years the Hebrews were a part of their civilization, long before the time of Moses.

Third, the breaks in the literary style are more naturally the result of compilation of previously existing accounts by an editor (Moses) than, as theory two dictates, to be the result of later efforts of imposter ghost writers.

This brings us to theory three: Moses assembled the book of Genesis from existing written and oral records, with the help of Holy inspiration.

Examples of such editing are substantiated when the source of the earlier existing information, the actual source account itself, is available to us today. Such is the case of the account recorded in the first two verses of the bible. Those first two verses are a condensed version of an earlier existing account of the origins found in the book of Job. Every detail of fact found in those first two verses is found in the more ancient account. Plus, the earlier account contains many more details than the edited version.

Most of the details in both the earlier account and the edited account have also been verified by recent discoveries made by modern science. Those additional details found in the earlier account give us the bonus of shedding light on the proper interpretation of the first two verses of the bible.

This proper interpretation of those first two verses has been woefully overlooked by the traditional interpretation of the chronology. That proper interpretation is now clearly obvious. With this recognition of recorded facts, it becomes clear that these first two verses are not a part of the original intended chronology set fourth in the first chapter of the bible, but were originally intended to be an introduction to the chronology that starts with verse three. Verse three is the beginning verse of another, separate account of the origins that was edited from another, different, previously existing, account available to Moses at the time of the compilation.

This edited version of this second biblical account of the origins continues until the beginning of the third such edited original account starts in verse four of the second chapter of Genesis, where theologians have long pointed out the glaring change of style and vocabulary. Additional evidence of this break indicating a transition between different original source accounts is discovered when comparing all the biblical origin accounts and compiling a comprehensive chronology from all of them combined. At that break, the chronology starts over again, beginning at an earlier point in the history of development of the planet earth, long before any such thing as rain, or humans existed, as indicated in verse five of the second chapter of Genesis.

Back to the original question—Why would Moses do such a thing?

Having in our possession the original account from which the first two verses of the bible were edited leads us to the inescapable conclusion that the first two verses are the entirety of the edited version of that first ancient account.

The purpose of the edited version of that first account up front in the bible is obvious. It is to serve as an introduction to both the entire bible, and to the series of multiple edited origin accounts immediately following.

It is the edited version of the second origin account included in the bible that presents the dilemma. Apparently Moses did something to it in the editing process and the question is why?

That second account, running from verse three of the first chapter to verse three of the second chapter, is an origin account that includes two obviously different, even conflicting, chronologies. One is superimposed over the other.

The first chronology presents an order of events that is apparently original. It contains two passes through the order of events. The first pass outlines highlights of one aspect of the food chain, the second outlines highlights of another, culminating in the presentation of the food chain to humans.

The second, overlying chronology is a straight through single pass of six days of work, ending with a seventh day of rest.

Apparently, the second chronology is a framework superimposed over the first in the

editing process. In that editing process, the original chronology was not destroyed. It still exists intact. The second order of events was simply added, overlying the first.

But why would Moses do any such thing as modify a previously existing account of creation by putting into it a framework of six days of labor and a seventh day of rest?

When you put it that way, the answer appears to be simple—to illustrate the fourth of the Ten Commandments, the one that says work six days and rest on the seventh.

But is it that simple?

First, lets review the historical context.

The Mosaic accounts have a unique historical context.

At the time of Moses, the Hebrew people were a band of slaves, newly escaped from the most advanced civilization in the ancient world. For four hundred years the Hebrew people had lived in Egypt. They had becomes slaves.

But their leader, Moses had been raised in the household of the most educated of them all, the leader of the nation of Egypt.

So, the book of Genesis, the history of the Hebrew people, was written down by an extremely well educated leader of a nation of wanderers. Quite a contrast.

In the book of Genesis, Moses assembled the history of a band of slaves for that same group of people that were then nomads wondering in the desert and wasteland of the Middle East. Their ancestors, before their time in Egypt, had been wondering shepherds. Their heritage and the history of their ancestors were recorded in terms of nomadic shepherds language written down by a very educated man. Quite likely this recording of their heritage and history was carefully collected from numerous accounts that had been memorized or possibly recorded in some written form by the people who actually lived the experiences or by their descendants.

While the Mosaic books of Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, and Deuteronomy were of the lifetime of Moses, the Mosaic book of Genesis is an account of the times before Moses was alive. Moses was not an eye witness to the events of Genesis.

The history in the book of Genesis had to be collected from external sources.

Most likely many written records existed during those four hundred years of living in an advanced civilization. It is not beyond reason to believe that these various accounts were written down much earlier and handed down to Moses as written accounts.

In this historical context, the changes of style and vocabulary from section to section seem to suggest a careful compilation of various different sources by Moses.

In review, the Book of Genesis opens with multiple different back-to-back accounts of the origins, of creation and the development of existence as we see it today. It is not clear exactly how many accounts were combined in the sequence, but it is clear

from the style and vocabulary changes—obvious in the original language—that there were at least two main ones, and more likely, at least five altogether. One is “*The Seven-Day Account*” edited by Moses to illustrate the fourth commandment. Another is “*The One-Day Account*.” Probably the first two verses of the book of Genesis is an abbreviated introductory account. The Old Scientist has labeled that first account as, “*Introduction to Creation II*.” It is most likely edited from the Job 38 account that The Old Scientist has labeled, “*Introduction to Creation I*.” Possibly *The Ecology of Paradise* account is from yet another separate narration.

But, the nagging question remains, why would Moses do such a thing as modify one of those previously existing account of creation by putting into it a framework of six days of labor and a seventh day of rest?

This calls for a little speculation, an exercise of the process of multiple working hypotheses.

Hypothesis 1: The Chronology in the original account that was being edited by Moses was wrong and had to be corrected. This explanation would assume the superimposed chronology would be found to be in accord with reality, and the original chronology would be found to not be in accord with reality.

However, the opposite has been found:

- a.) There are nearly three dozen major accounts of creation recorded in the bible. None of the other biblical accounts of the origins are in accord with the superimposed chronology. None of the others say anything about a six, or seven, day schedule.
- b.) The original chronology was left intact and is in accord with the chronology found in the comprehensive combination of all of the other creation accounts found in the bible.
- c.) The original chronology, not the superimposed one, is in accord with reality, not only as recorded in the rest of the bible, but also as more recently, and independently discovered by scientists, some even hostile to theology, using the processes of modern science.
- d.) The second chronology is simply overlaid over the original chronology and does not replace it.

Obviously, the original chronology was not in need of correcting.

Hypothesis 2: It was only for the purpose of illustrating the fourth of the Ten Commandments.

Considerations:

The book of Genesis was written contemporaneously with the giving of the ten commandments. The Ten Commandments were given at Mount Sinai in Arabia where the Hebrews were camped for a while shortly after their escape from Egypt. It was about that time and place that the book of Genesis was assembled by Moses, and the writing of the next three books of the bible were at least started.

In two biblical presentations of the fourth of the ten commandments, the ones recorded closer to the time of the assembling of the book of Genesis, the six day schedule of creation is actually invoked as an illustration and memory aid. Later in the life of Moses, some time after the compilation of the book of Genesis, the illustrating point was changed to the captivity and escape from Egypt.) (Ex 20:2-17, Ex 31:15-17, Deut 5:6-21.)

The fourth of the Ten Commandments is very emphatic, being it carried with it a death sentence for disobedience. (Ex 31:15.)

Life functions of living creatures are governed by several cycles. There is the annual (365 day) cycle that coincides with the earth rotating around the sun. The monthly (28 day) cycle coincides with the moon rotating around the earth. The circadian (daily) cycle coincides with the rotation of the earth to keep everyone in synchronization. Modern science has noted a marked seven day cycle in the physical functions of the human body such as blood pressure. But for that weekly cycle of work and rest, there is no naturally occurring heavenly cycle.

I do not know if the seven day cycle of work and rest was discovered or practiced before this commandment was issued, but it is as real as the other three cycles. All the other cycles are illustrated in the heavenly bodies, but the fourth is not. There was a need for an illustration for the Hebrews to identify with the fourth commandment to rest every seventh day.

The argument can be made for Hypothesis two in that there was a need to be filled, and this superimposed framework chronology did succeed in filling that need.

Hypothesis 3: The influence that inspired Moses to do such a thing also had another purpose, the blinding of society until such a time as this, the setting up of a three thousand year double blind test to reveal the true supernatural nature of the ancient Hebrew scripture and reveal which of today's religions is based on supernatural knowledge of reality, and which are the result of creative imagination.

- until such a time as this when the ancient scriptures have fallen into disrespect,
- until such a time as this when all religions are considered to be equal, assumed to be all man-made, and nothing but a collection of fables and myths,
- until such a time as this when respect for modern science has replaced respect for the ancient scripture of the Christian religion,
- until such a time as this when a false religion seeking world domination has arisen.

An overlying framework chronology was superimposed on a single biblical account of the origins and has had the dramatic effect of blinding mankind to the reality of all the other biblical origin accounts—until now.

Now it has become obvious that the origin of the heavens and the earth did not follow a six day schedule. Once this became obvious, the reality of the totality of the biblical accounts of the origins made sense. The more details that fall into place, as they are discovered by modern science, the more sense the ancient record makes.

Now, since its conversion from faith in religion to faith in science, mankind has

independently, unwittingly, discovered the original chronology to be the true chronology. That discovery has been unhindered by bias toward any belief in what the bible said. In fact, the discoverers were completely biased against belief in anything the bible had to say on the subject for two reasons. The old religious beliefs were fraught with human interpretations which had little or no credibility, and the new discoverers had an underlying desire to be free of any responsibility to any higher authority or power.

Now that we are at a time when ancient scriptures have fallen into disrespect, and all religions are considered to be equal and fictitious, there is a need for humankind to realize that the supernatural nature of the ancient scriptures is physical evidence of the existence of one true supernatural God.

Lets review:

- 1—Reality about the origins was recorded in the ancient scriptures of the bible.
- 2—People have been blinded to what was actually recorded in ancient scripture by this superimposition of a six-day framework over the most popular biblical account of the origins.
- 3—Western culture has turned from God and trusts in science as the source of validity.
- 4—Science has furnished independent verification of the facts in the ancient scriptures that are concerning the origins and that are related to science.

We are at a time when all of these have been accomplished. and the prevailing religion in the Western world today is Humanism, where humankind, not God, is the top of the chain of command.

But now we are being faced with another problem. Western culture is turning back to religion. But not to a religion based on the only truly supernatural ancient scriptures.

Western culture is turning to an alternative religion that is claiming its ancient writings are more in accord with science than the ancient Hebrew scriptures are assumed to be.

It is time to reveal the answers of this double blind test that has been running for thousands of years, the double blind test set up when Moses superimposed a six-day framework over that ancient account of the origins.

The Islam (Muslim) religion is the fastest growing religion in the western world. Much of that growth is by persuasion of people using the claim that Islam is the one true religion because it is the religion that is in accord with reality as discovered by modern science.

The problem with the Islam science claim is the contortions they must go through to get their Qur'an to say what modern science has discovered, or to make what modern science has discovered to agree with the Qur'an.

Their Qur'an contains nothing approaching the magnitude of what the bible has. All the Qur'an has is isolated bits and pieces that can be force fitted into science. The Hebrew scriptures have a correct chronology of events containing on the order of one

hundred details all in the exact order as they have been discovered to have occurred.

Additional Details for those readers who doubt the above conclusions:

As an example, a typical claim to consistency between the Islam holy writings and science is the discovery by modern science that there are seven layers of the earth beneath our feet confirming the scientific validity of the statement in the Islam's holy writings that if a man commits a certain sin he will sink down through seven earths.

<http://www.understandingislam.com/index.php?news=13>

The problem is, seven layers is only one illustration of the physical earth. There are many various illustrations with various numbers of layers and only one of many illustrations generalizes it into seven major layers.

<http://www.missionislam.com/science/earthsevenlayers.html>

See also Seven heavens: <http://www.faithfreedom.org/Articles/sina40712.htm>

The claims of a strong tie between reality as presented by modern science and the holy writings of the Islam religion is one of their strong selling points to new recruits. It can no longer be said that no one is converted to a religion by arguments from science—even if those arguments are contrived and false.

“The relation between Qur'an and science is strongly affirmed in Islamic thought. Almost all sources, classical and modern, agree that the Qur'an encourages the acquisition of science and scientific knowledge.” From: Ahmad Dallal, Science and the Qur'an, Encyclopedia of the Qur'an, http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Qur'an_and_science

“The Qur'an is to Muslims the infallible word of God that they assert has been perfectly preserved on a tablet in heaven. They believe these words were given to Muhammad their prophet by the angel Gabriel. See Qur'an 10:15, 37; 56:77-79; 69:44-48; 85:21-22. It is unchangeable, inerrant, and many Muslims believe in the implementation of Islamic shariah law because of their view that it is God's unchangeable word.” <http://www.bibleandscience.com/science/quran.htm>

“Qur'an and Science is a topic becoming ever more important as Muslims try to not only present the Qur'an as not conflicting with modern science, but make the much stronger claim that the Qur'an is predicting modern scientific discoveries. This is used by many Muslims as a major proof for the divine origin of the Qur'an.”

<http://www.answering-islam.org/Quran/Science/>

But the great determiner is the blinding of humankind so that it would become obvious which religious writings were the product of human intellect, and which were of a supernatural source. As a result, the religious writings of the Islam religion are thus revealed to be in fact, simply the product of the creativity of the human mind.

It has long been the practice of map makers to include an obvious error so that anyone who copied the original map, claiming it was their own original work, could not deny it was plagiarism. This is exactly what Hypothesis three says has happened in the bible. Moses edited in a six day framework, for the purpose of illustrating the fourth of the Ten Commandments, but also for the purpose of blinding humankind to the many biblical accounts of the origins containing the correct chronology.

This blinding was necessary for a double blind test for the purpose of exposing which

ancient scripture is truly supernatural and which is simply the product of the creativity of mankind.

And the intellectual creativity of mankind is exactly what happened at the origin of the Qur'an. The author of the Qur'an, being human, not divine, made the erroneous assumption that the six-day schedule put forth in the double blind test, was in fact the actual schedule of the origin events. This failure to pass the double blind test resulted in that six-day schedule being incorporated into the Qur'an. The Qur'an makes no mention of the true biblical chronology containing on the order of a hundred points of detail, that is actually recorded in the ancient Hebrew scriptures. Thus, the Qur'an does not pass the double blind test. If the Qur'an were truly supernaturally inspired, then the true chronology, not the six-day schedule would be revealed. It is the ancient Hebrew Scriptures, not the Qur'an, that passes the double blind test.

The University of Southern California Center for Muslim-Jewish Engagement presents the text of the Qur'an in three different translations.

<http://www.usc.edu/schools/college/crcc/engagement/resources/texts/muslim/quran/qmtintro.html>

Translations of the Qur'an, Surah 7: 007.054

YUSUFALI: Your Guardian-Lord is Allah, Who created the heavens and the earth in six days, and is firmly established on the throne (of authority): He draweth the night as a veil o'er the day, each seeking the other in rapid succession: He created the sun, the moon, and the stars, (all) governed by laws under His command. Is it not His to create and to govern? Blessed be Allah, the Cherisher and Sustainer of the worlds!

PICKTHAL: Lo! your Lord is Allah Who created the heavens and the earth in six Days, then mounted He the Throne. He covereth the night with the day, which is in haste to follow it, and hath made the sun and the moon and the stars subservient by His command. His verily is all creation and commandment. Blessed be Allah, the Lord of the Worlds!

SHAKIR: Surely your Lord is Allah, Who created the heavens and the earth in six periods of time, and He is firm in power; He throws the veil of night over the day, which it pursues incessantly; and (He created) the sun and the moon and the stars, made subservient by His command; surely His is the creation and the command; blessed is Allah, the Lord of the worlds.

<http://www.usc.edu/schools/college/crcc/engagement/resources/texts/muslim/quran/007.qmt.html>

Note that Shakir translates the word "days" into "periods of time" to make it fit into one of the current popular attempts to rationalize the six day schedule with reality.

However, as we learn from the Bible, that is not the schedule of creation at all.

Therefore, the Bible has far surpassed the Qur'on in predicting the discoveries of modern science. The Qur'on is not supernaturally inspired and infallible as believed by Islam. In this instance it is copied from the part of the bible that was put there to blind theologians for a season for the purpose of exposing the ancient scriptures of the bible to be the true inspired word of God, and the Qur'on to be the fabrication of mankind.

Yes, knowledge and understanding of the physical universe, especially in the details is God's favorite subject. We should no longer fear science. We should no longer shy away from the search for the truth of reality concerning physical existence. The credibility of the actual details presented in the bible (in its original language) is the

basis of our faith in the supernatural teachings of the bible. No longer should we fear the search for truth. “Ye shall know the truth and the truth shall set you free.”

This supernatural pre-knowledge of future scientific discoveries of facts demonstrated in the ancient Hebrew scriptures, facts that at that the time could have been known only by an eyewitness to the origins, is valid evidence of the existence of a supernatural source for this pre-knowledge, evidence of the existence of a one true God.

If you have any other suggestions as to why Moses would do such a thing as modify a previously existing account of creation by putting into it a framework of six days of labor and a seventh day of rest, email me at simpletruth@anoldscientist.com.

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