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Discovery

Scripture & Science

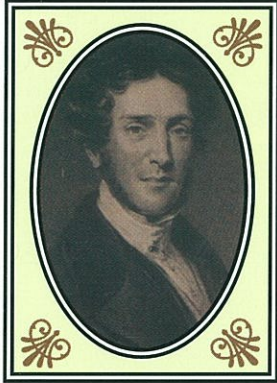


Discovering Dinosaurs!

Bert Thompson

The first discovery of dinosaurs in recent times occurred in the spring of 1822.

Gideon Mantell, a country doctor from Great Britain with a life-long passion for collecting fossils, set off by horse and buggy to treat a patient in the English countryside. His wife Mary Ann went along to keep him company. While Dr. Mantell tended to his patient, Mrs. Mantell took a stroll and came across a pile of stones alongside the road. Among those stones, she saw what appeared to be some large fossilized teeth. She scooped them up and took them back to



Gideon Mantell

show to her husband who was amazed, never having seen such huge teeth before. He went to the nearby rock quarry from which the stones had been cut and found more teeth similar to those found by his wife. Although he showed the teeth to several scientists, none agreed with him that they were from some kind of previously unknown



creature. However, he was stubbornly sure that they were. In 1825, he finally named the long-dead owner of the teeth *Iguanodon* ("iguana-tooth") since the teeth were like those of an iguana, but much larger.

Several years later, more teeth like these were discovered in a different quarry. Now,

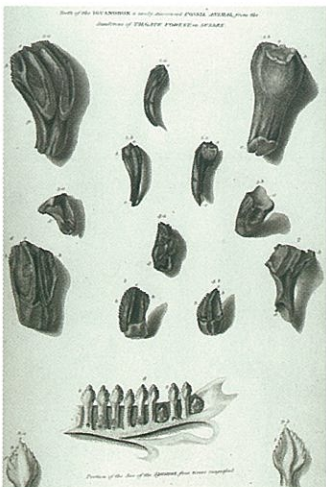
no one doubted that *Iguanodon* once existed. Meanwhile, huge bones of another creature—named *Megalosaurus*—had been dug up farther away in Oxfordshire. By 1842, enough of these fossils had been discovered to convince the leading British anatomist, Richard Owen, that a whole tribe of huge, lizard-like reptiles had lived in the past. Based on his studies, Dr. Owen (who worked at the British Museum of Natural History in London) named them

"dinosaurs" (from the Greek words *deinos* and *sauros*, translated by him as "fearfully great lizards")—known to us today as "terribly great lizards."

The question no longer was, "Did the dinosaurs exist?" The question was, "When did the dinosaurs exist?" And therein lies the controversy, even today. Evolutionists believe that dinosaurs evolved more than 165 million years ago, and became extinct approximately 65 million years ago. Those of us who accept the Bible as God's Word and have looked at the evidence know better, of course, because we understand that God created everything in six days (read Exodus 20:11 and Exodus 31:17). Dinosaurs did not "evolve." Rather, they were created by God and lived on the Earth at the same time as man. Imagine how wonderful it would have been to live back then, and to see a 100-ton dinosaur. Imagine, too, how powerful and how awesome God must be—if He has the power to create something as majestic as dinosaurs! Then, remember that this powerful, awesome God loves **you!**



Sketch of Iguanodon fossils found in the late 1800s



These Iguanodon teeth found by Dr. Mantell and his wife started a hunt for dinosaur fossils.

Huge fossilized dinosaur bones rest in the rocks of the Dinosaur National Monument on the border of Colorado and Utah.



The man in this picture looks small compared to the huge rock cliff that contains thousands of jumbled dinosaur bones.

DINOSAUR GRAVEYARDS AND THE FLOOD

ERIC LYONS

One of the greatest mysteries concerning the dinosaurs is the number of huge dinosaur graveyards found in different parts of the world. Dinosaur fossils have been discovered as far north as the Arctic, as far south as Antarctica, and almost everywhere in between. In fact, dinosaur fossils have been found on all seven continents. Nearly 100 years ago, a dinosaur graveyard was found in Tanzania, Africa. Literally tons of fossils and rocks were mined and sent to Berlin, Germany for display. At Dinosaur National Monument on the Colorado/Utah border, more than 300 dinosaurs of many different kinds have been excavated. Another site in Utah has produced 10,000 dinosaur bones that were extracted from the rock. The burial of such large numbers of dinosaurs in various locations all over the world demands an adequate explanation.

Because most scholars believe the fossilization of bones often requires large quantities of water, many scientists believe that local flash floods caused large herds of dinosaurs to drown. Others believe that some of the graveyards resulted from animals attempting to cross flooded rivers. No doubt, such localized disasters have occurred throughout the world, just as they still occur today from time to time. But the problem with these theories is that while they may explain the death of some

dinosaurs in some places, they don't adequately explain the existence of dinosaur graveyards throughout the whole world.

The law of cause and effect states that every material effect must have an adequate cause that comes before the effect. Your dad's car was not crushed because a locust landed on it, and your sister did not suffer a broken ankle because she stepped on an ant. These are not adequate causes. (The car may have been crushed because a semi ran into it, but not because a bug hit it!) Likewise, the huge dinosaur graveyards are an effect of some type of adequate cause. What was that "cause"?

The fossilized bones of dinosaurs found in graveyards throughout the world are best explained by the worldwide flood of Noah's day (see Genesis 6-8), not by localized floods interspersed throughout history. During that year-long global flood, thousands of dinosaurs drowned and their bones were buried very quickly in muddy deposits. This would account for the chaotic jumble of dinosaur bones found in fossil beds in various parts of the world—from Alberta, Canada to Tanzania, Africa. Although the flood did not destroy all of the dinosaurs (some would have been on Noah's ark), it is the best explanation as to why many of these giant reptiles rapidly were overwhelmed, buried, and fossilized.

REALM OF

KYLE BUTT

Learning about dinosaurs provides many of us with hours of enjoyment. We see them in movies, on television, and in books or magazines. These “terribly great lizards” amaze us with their massive size, huge teeth, horned faces, and spiked tails. But even more amazing than the dinosaurs is a God that could design and create such marvelous creatures. Every movie you see, television show you watch, or book you read about dinosaurs took intelligent people many hours to produce. But God spoke the dinosaurs into existence on a single day. Learning about these fascinating creatures shows us how powerful God really is.

TRICERATOPS

With three horns poking out of its face, it is not difficult to discover how this dinosaur was named. It is a member of a group of dinosaurs known as the Ceratopsians, which means “ones with a horn.” *Triceratops* means “three-horned face.” As a herbivore (plant-eater), *Triceratops* (weighing about 10,000 pounds) probably traveled in herds, feeding on ground vegetation like grass. The two long horns on the animal’s brow might have been used to pull tree limbs closer to the beast’s mouth so that it could eat the foliage. And if any predator wanted to try and make a meal out of a *Triceratops*, he first would have to deal with the long

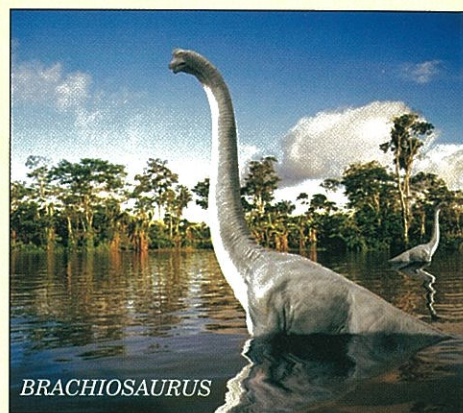
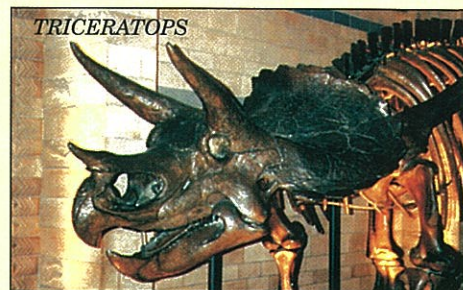
horns—backed by 5 tons of raging reptile.

BRACHIOSAURUS

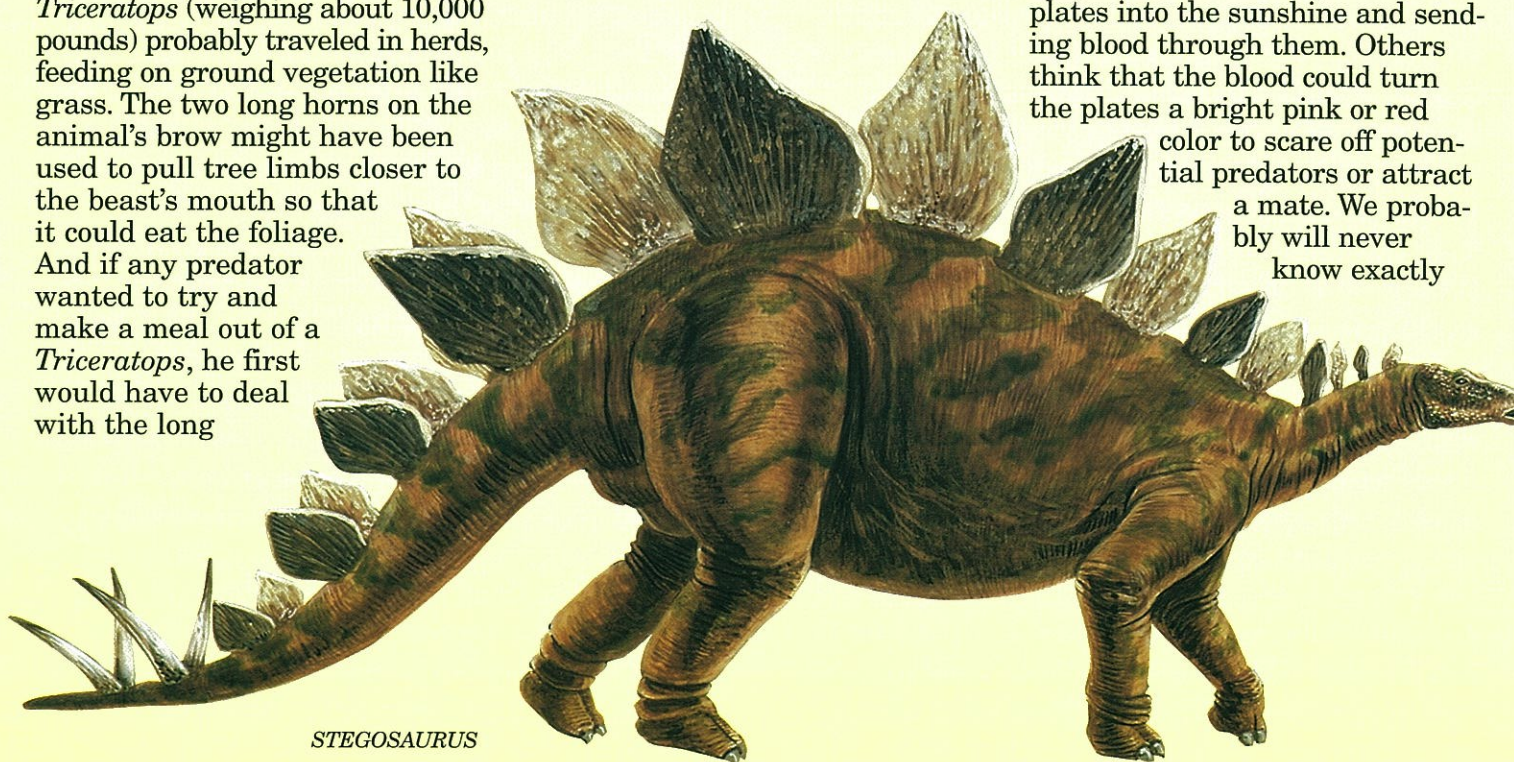
As one of the largest animals ever to walk the face of the Earth, the *Brachiosaurus* could pretty well do whatever it wanted. Weighing in at over 40 tons, this giant could grow to be 82 feet long and 40 feet high (about the height of a three-story building). Due to its colossal size, an adult brachiosaurus probably had no natural enemies. These animals most likely journeyed in herds and must have been a sight to behold.

STEGOSAURUS

The large plates on the *Stegosaurus*’ back made the reptile very easy to recognize. However, finding out what those plates were used for is not such an easy task. The plates were made of a very thin bone filled with many holes that contained blood ves-



sels. These thin bones probably could not have been used for protection. So what did they do? Some people think that the plates allowed the dinosaur to warm its body temperature by putting the plates into the sunshine and sending blood through them. Others think that the blood could turn the plates a bright pink or red color to scare off potential predators or attract a mate. We probably will never know exactly



REPTILES

what the plates did, but we can be pretty sure about one thing—the spikes on the *Stegosaurus*' tail weren't just for looks. Any meat-eater who wanted a "stegosandwich" might end up with a severe stab wound!

COMPSOGNATHUS

Even though many of the reptiles were monstrous, this little guy was about the size of a small dog. He weighed only about 6 pounds and grew to be only about 3 feet long from head to tail. His name means "elegant jaw." The small jaw was filled with many little sharp teeth that probably were used to eat small animals like other small lizards or rodents (yes, there would have been rodents around then, just like there are now, because dinosaurs like *Compsognathus* were made on day six of creation—the same day as rodents).

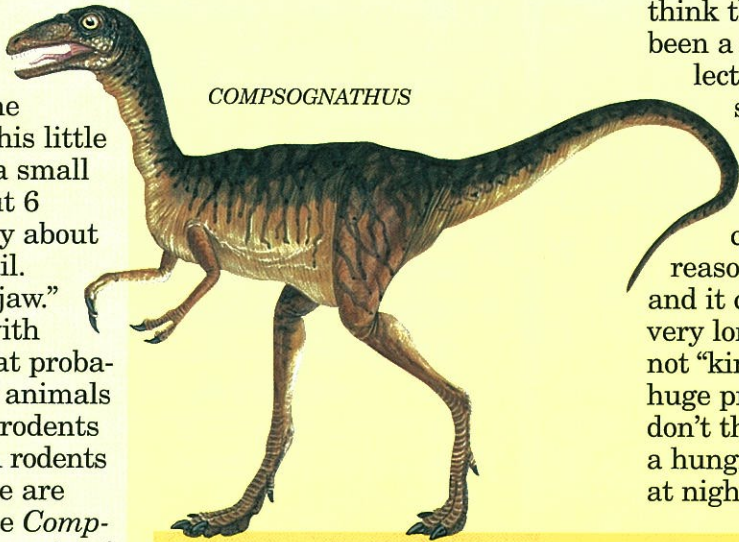
TYRANNOSAURUS REX

Of course, no list of dinosaurs would be complete without mentioning the *T. Rex*. Its name means "king tyrant lizard," and what a tyrant it probably was. Weighing as much as an elephant and standing about two stories high, this 40-foot-long beast could have terrorized any neighborhood. About 60 huge, 7-inch teeth filled

its vicious mouth. These serrated "steak-knife" teeth curved inward so that huge chunks of meat could be pulled from its prey. Some scientists estimate that the *T. Rex* could chomp a piece of

meat weighing 500 pounds in a single bite.

On the other hand, some people are not quite convinced that *T. Rex* was much of a threat after all. In fact, some people seem to think that this lizard might have been a scavenger or "garbage collector," like a vulture or opossum. Several reasons exist for such a view. For one, *T. Rex*'s little front arms were not big enough to capture anything. Another reason is that its body was huge and it could not have run fast for very long. However, whether or not "king tyrant lizard" was a huge predator or a scavenger, I don't think I would want to meet a hungry one in a dark field late at night, would you?

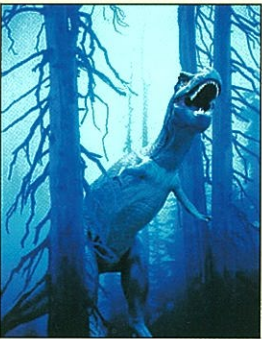


COMPSOGNATHUS

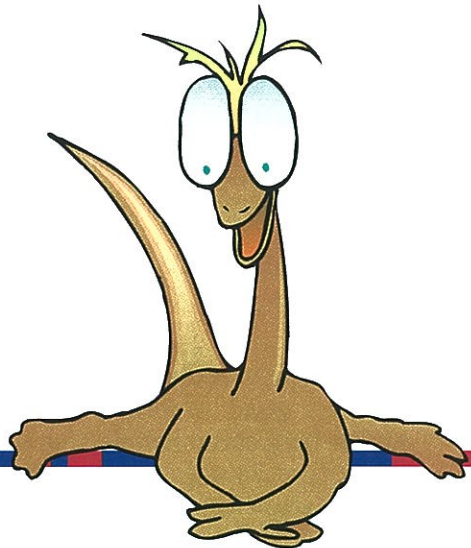
GUIDE TO DINOSAUR NAMES

You will find some of the following dinosaur names in this month's issue of *Discovery*. We have given a suggestion on how to say the names and what the names mean.

<i>Apatosaurus</i>	A-PAT-OH-SAW-RUS	deceptive lizard
<i>Brachiosaurus</i>	BRAK-EE-OH-SAW-RUS	arm lizard
<i>Compsognathus</i>	KOMP-SOG-NA-THUS	elegant jaw
<i>Deinonychus</i>	DIE-NON-EE-KUS	terrible claw
<i>Diplodocus</i>	DI-PLOD-OH-KUS	double beamed
<i>Iguanodon</i>	I-GWA-NO-DON	iguana tooth
<i>Megalosaurus</i>	MEG-A-LOW-SAW-RUS	great lizard
<i>Podokesaurus</i>	PO-DOH-KEE-SAW-RUS	swift-footed lizard
<i>Spinosaurus</i>	SPY-NO-SAW-RUS	thorn lizard
<i>Stegosaurus</i>	STEG-OH-SAW-RUS	plated lizard
<i>Struthiomimus</i>	STROOTH-EE-OH-MIME-US	ostrich mime
<i>Styracosaurus</i>	STY-RAK-OH-SAW-RUS	spiked (frill) lizard
<i>Triceratops horridus</i>	TRY-SERRA-TOPS, HOR-I-DUS	three-horned face
<i>Tyrannosaurus rex</i>	TIE-RAN-OH-SAW-RUS, REKS	king tyrant lizard



These huge *T-rex* teeth could have inflicted some serious injury to potential prey.



SOLVE, FIND, AND CIRCLE

Instructions: Use the clues below to find a word with the same number of letters as the number of blanks beside the clues. Then find and circle the answers in the Word Search puzzle.

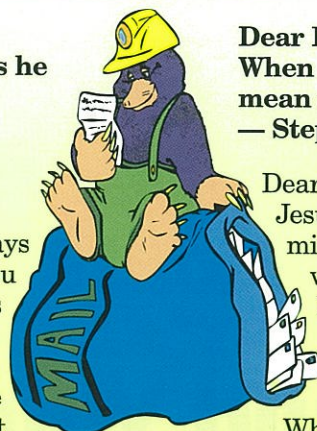
1. Name given to the dinosaur that Dr. Mantell and his wife discovered _ _ _ _ _
2. The last name of the man who invented the word "dinosaur" _ _ _ _ _
3. Every effect must have this _ _ _ _ _
4. Many times, fossilization requires large quantities of this _ _ _ _ _
5. Due to its huge size, the *Brachiosaurus* probably had none of these _ _ _ _ _
6. *Stegosaurus* probably did not use the plates on its back for this _ _ _ _ _
7. *Compsognathus* could have eaten these little furry animals _ _ _ _ _
8. Scientists have found wall paintings and pictographs of these reptiles _ _ _ _ _
9. This worldwide catastrophe could have been the cause of fossil graveyards _ _ _ _ _
10. Everything on this Earth was made in this many days _ _ _

H	P	S	R	U	A	S	O	N	I	D	J
H	C	B	L	P	V	A	T	A	A	H	D
I	T	A	O	J	S	L	D	A	Z	U	O
T	D	N	O	D	O	N	A	U	G	I	S
P	R	O	T	E	C	T	I	O	N	E	M
G	V	O	O	P	P	O	A	Y	I	S	V
K	H	P	D	L	R	W	R	M	U	U	Q
V	E	O	O	E	F	E	E	P	N	A	I
F	Y	S	T	L	N	N	O	D	X	C	U
O	A	A	L	V	E	T	K	I	F	Z	Y
L	W	N	V	X	E	E	S	Z	G	S	R



Dear Digger Doug,
Where did the devil come from? Has he
always existed, like God?
— Rachel Gerber, age 8,
Lower Salem, OH.

Dear Rachel,
Unlike God, the devil has not always
existed. He had a beginning just like you
and me and everything else that exists
other than God. The Bible says that
Jesus created all things “that are in
heaven and that are on earth, visible
and invisible” (Colossians 1:16). But,
that does not mean that He created the devil
as an evil being. Rather, God created him good and
he chose to become evil. The Bible seems to indicate
that Satan was one of the angels who lived in
Heaven, but he (along with other angels) became evil
when they rebelled against God (read 2 Peter 2:4
and Jude 6). Since the Bible also refers to the devil
as “the ruler of demons” (Matthew 12:24), and
speaks of “the devil and his angels” (Matthew
25:41), it is likely that the devil is the leader of a
group of rebellious angels who were expelled from
heaven to eventually spend eternity in hell.

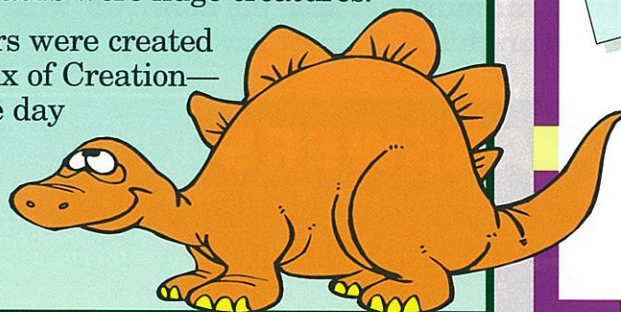


Dear Digger Doug,
When Jesus says to love our enemies, does that
mean to love the devil?
— Stephanie Match, age 9, Seattle, WA.

Dear Stephanie,
Jesus did say in Matthew 5:44, “Love your ene-
mies, bless those who curse you, do good to those
who hate you, and pray for those who spiteful-
ly use you and persecute you.” He also said
just a few verses before this one “not to resist
an evil person” (5:39). However, the devil is
not any ordinary “person,” but rather a spirit.
When the Bible talks about how we are to treat
the devil, it uses words just the opposite of those
above. It says that we **are** to “resist the devil” so that
he will leave us alone (James 4:7; 1 Peter 5:9). It says
to “not make room for the devil” in our lives
(Ephesians 4:27, NRSV). And we are told to “stand”
firm **against** the devil’s evil tricks (Ephesians 6:11).
In Matthew 5, Jesus was talking about other human
beings, not spirit beings like the devil. And so, God
expects us to do good to all **people**, even our ene-
mies (which is not easy to do, yet it’s something we
have to do), but Jesus was not talking about the
devil.

TRUE OR FALSE

1. T F Dr. Gideon Mantell proved to the world
that dinosaurs never existed.
2. T F Dinosaurs lived millions of years before
man ever existed.
3. T F The flood during Noah’s day could easily
have caused many of the dinosaur
graveyards that have been found.
4. T F Noah carried dinosaurs on the ark
with him.
5. T F Every effect must have an adequate
cause that comes before it.
6. T F The name *Triceratops* means “three-
horned foot.”
7. T F All dinosaurs were huge creatures.
8. T F Dinosaurs were created
on day six of Creation—
the same day
as man.



Hey Kids,

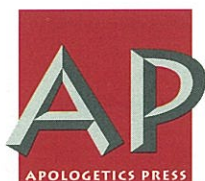


If you have an interesting question,
or an original poem or picture about
the Bible or creation, send it to
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ones, and put them in **Discovery**.
Mail your artwork in a big enough
envelope so you don’t have to fold it.
And remember to include your name,
address, and age (please don’t write
these on your pictures). Most of all,
do a good job, and have fun!

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Montgomery, AL 36117

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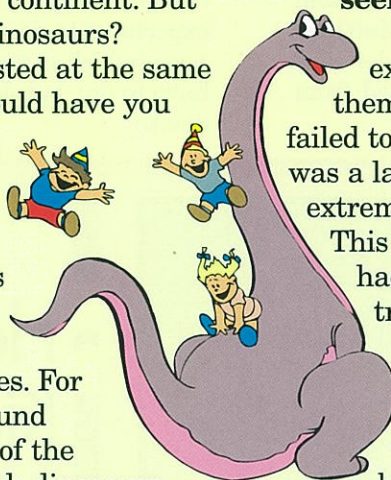
Editor: Kyle Butt, M.A.
Associate Editor: Eric Lyons, M.Min.

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

How Would You Like a *Spinosaurus* in Your Garden?

BRAD HARRUB

Did giant dinosaurs really walk the Earth? Definitely! Scientists have discovered fossilized bones on every single continent. But guess who shared the Earth with dinosaurs? Humans! That's right. Humans existed at the same time as dinosaurs. Evolutionists would have you believe that dinosaurs were extinct long before man came along, but the truth is that God created both during the six days of Creation. While fossils don't tell us if humans and dinosaurs existed peacefully together, they do demonstrate that they lived in some of the same places. For instance, a scientist in Kentucky found human footprints in the sandstone of the Upper Carboniferous period in which dinosaurs also existed. In the 1930s, Dr. Javier Cabrera of Peru found over 1100 Inca ceremonial burial stones that showed detailed pictures of dinosaurs like *Triceratops*, *Stegosaurus*, and *Ankylosaurus*. In 1924, an archaeologist by the name of Samuel Hubbard led a team of explorers to Arizona to study pictograph rock carvings made by Indians. These scientists described one of the pictographs as a **dinosaur**. Dr. Hubbard wrote: "The fact that the animal is upright and balanced on its tail would seem to indicate that the prehistoric artist must have seen it alive." **But according to evolutionists, dinosaurs were extinct long before man arrived on this**



planet. Therefore, how could any human have known what to draw if he (or she) never had seen a dinosaur?

If humans were around when dinosaurs existed, then why doesn't the Bible mention them? Well maybe it does, and we just have failed to see it. Job 40 describes the "behemoth" that was a large grass eater with great muscles and extremely strong bones like brass and iron bars. This creature was not afraid of anything, and had a tail so large it was compared to a cedar tree. Then why doesn't the Bible call this behemoth a dinosaur? The word "dinosaur" did not enter the English language until 1842. The King James Version of the Bible was published in 1611 (that's 231 years before the word dinosaur even came into existence). But is a description of an animal that closely resembles a dinosaur provided within the book of Job? Yes!

We know dinosaurs were created during the six days of creation (see Exodus 20:11). Therefore, if these creatures were present in the days of Job, then that means they were here after the Great Flood, because the book of Job was written **after** the Flood. Therefore, we know that dinosaurs were on the ark, since God commanded Noah to take every beast after its kind, and every creeping thing that creeps upon the Earth. Oh, what an exciting time that must have been!

ANSWERS

ACTIVITY PAGES MAY BE COPIED FOR MULTIPLE STUDENT USE

Solve, Find, and Circle: 1-Iguanodon; 2-Owen; 3-cause; 4-water; 5-enemies; 6-protection; 7-todents; 8-dinosaurs; 9-Flood; 10-six. • **True or False:** 1-F; 2-F; 3-T; 4-T; 5-T; 6-F; 7-F; 8-T

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