

## GOD'S 3 BOOKS

NUMBER 116

APRIL, 2017

God has prepared 3 books for us which are true and are perfectly compatible.

One is the Old Testament, which is a history of the civilized world from the beginning until about 391 B.C. It focuses on the Jewish race and the preparation for Jesus to come.

One is the New Testament which gives a history of the events between 0 A.D. and about 90 A.D., focusing on the life of Christ and the start of the church. It also provides some prophecy

The third book is the Universe in which we live. As God created this, he "wrote" it just like a book. It is purely of a science book, whereas the other two are primarily books of religion. Whereas the other two make some scientific statement which help demonstrate their inspiration, we understand that God did not intend them to be science books.

Whereas the third book is not about religion, it is perfectly compatible with the other books of God. This is not to say that some scientists interpretations of God's third book are compatible with the other books, just the facts.

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## ARE YOU HUNGRY?

*Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.* (Matt. 5:6 NIV)

We understand the concept of physical hunger. We experience hunger every day and we look for food and drink to satisfy our bodies. Normally we eat several times a day or at least once a day anyway. Unless we are medically restricted or on a fast we will not delay eating until next week or next month. It all

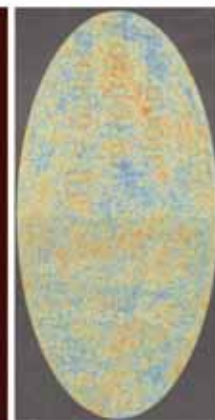
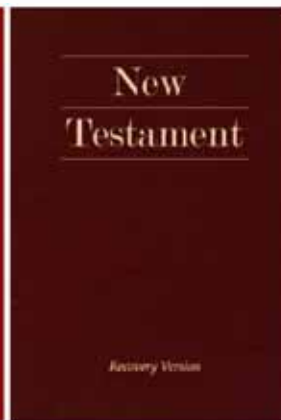
goes back to hunger, our bodies routinely let us know when we are hungry.

But does your soul let you

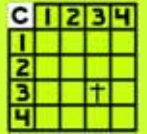
know when it needs to be filled with Spiritual food? Are you listening for guidance? Often we are not even aware of what we don't know or what we don't have. God's righteousness is not something you will find accidentally. Intentional study of Scripture is needed daily because it is best absorbed in small servings.

*"All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work."* (2 Tim. 3:16, 17 NIV)

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## GOD'S 3 BOOKS, P. 2

As an example we are being constantly bombarded with casual statements like the **light from that galaxy has been coming towards us for a billion years** and we seem oblivious to it.

Either we need to accept that it has been coming towards us for a billion years, or show why it hasn't. God sent the light no matter how long it has been coming.

The **14.7 billion years** light has been presumably coming towards us is based on the Cosmic Distance Ladder sequence of different kinds of measurements, based one upon the next. There are probably a hundred presumptions made upon this. The main presumption is the constancy of light in a vacuum. We are working to prove this is commonly held understanding wrong. We could use help in analyzing this if this is of interest to you.

The **Grand Canyon** is identified as being 70 million years old based upon present erosion rates. We have identified that the water to cut the canyon had to flow uphill 4400 feet to cut the canyon. Clearly that is not the case. (See Christian Array issue #55, thearray.org)

The reason for these examples is to show a tendency for scientists to interpret science to show as old a date for the start as they can. This fits nicely with the presumed long time it takes to have evolution create things.

Alternately, Christians are typically happy to accept the shortest date of 6-10,000 years in the literal translation of Genesis 1, with the interpretation that the days were 24 earth hours long. As the understanding of the length of the creations days is an interpretation of the book of scriptures, it might be well to look at God's science book to see what it says.

On the time light has been travelling towards us for presumably 14.7 billion years, we may get it reduced to considerably less than 14.7 billion years, but we are unlikely to get it to the

range of 6-10,000 years.

The Grand Canyon could have been formed in a relatively short period of uplift, so it is not a problem.

There is another observation we can make which is harder to deal with.

In the sedimentary layers, human artifacts have only been found in the Holocene or top layer. This layer would equate to the 6-10,000 years of the history of mankind. The problem is that the Holocene layer is never found to be more than 10% of the total depth of the sedimentary layers. (See graphic on page 3)

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## ARE YOU HUNGRY?, P. 2

Sometimes we simply acquire a taste for milk. We grow dependent on those who so eloquently provide spiritual milk. *"Anyone who lives on milk, being still an infant, is not acquainted with the teaching about righteousness."* (Heb. 5:13 NIV) We grow mature by training ourselves to put God's message into practice.

*"But solid food is for the mature, who by constant use have trained themselves to distinguish good from evil."* (Heb. 5:14) Will you commit to a specific time and find a special place to read your Bible every day? Will you take advantage of our many Bible classes scheduled to assist your growth? God is waiting to bless you as you mature in faith and righteousness.

Elizabeth Brown

## GOD'S 3 BOOKS, P. 3

We have 2 basic choices here:

1. All the other layers are older than 6-10,000 years, so the days of creation were longer figurative periods.
2. All the layers were caused during the last 6-10,000 years by a catastrophic event such as a worldwide flood.

The problem with the flood scenario is that:

1. It is a single event and should lay down a single layer, or a couple at the most,
2. Human artifacts should be in all the layers, in at least some locations, and
3. The other artifacts should be uniformly distributed in the layers if they were all formed at once somehow. As a practical matter, there are distinctly different species in different layers.

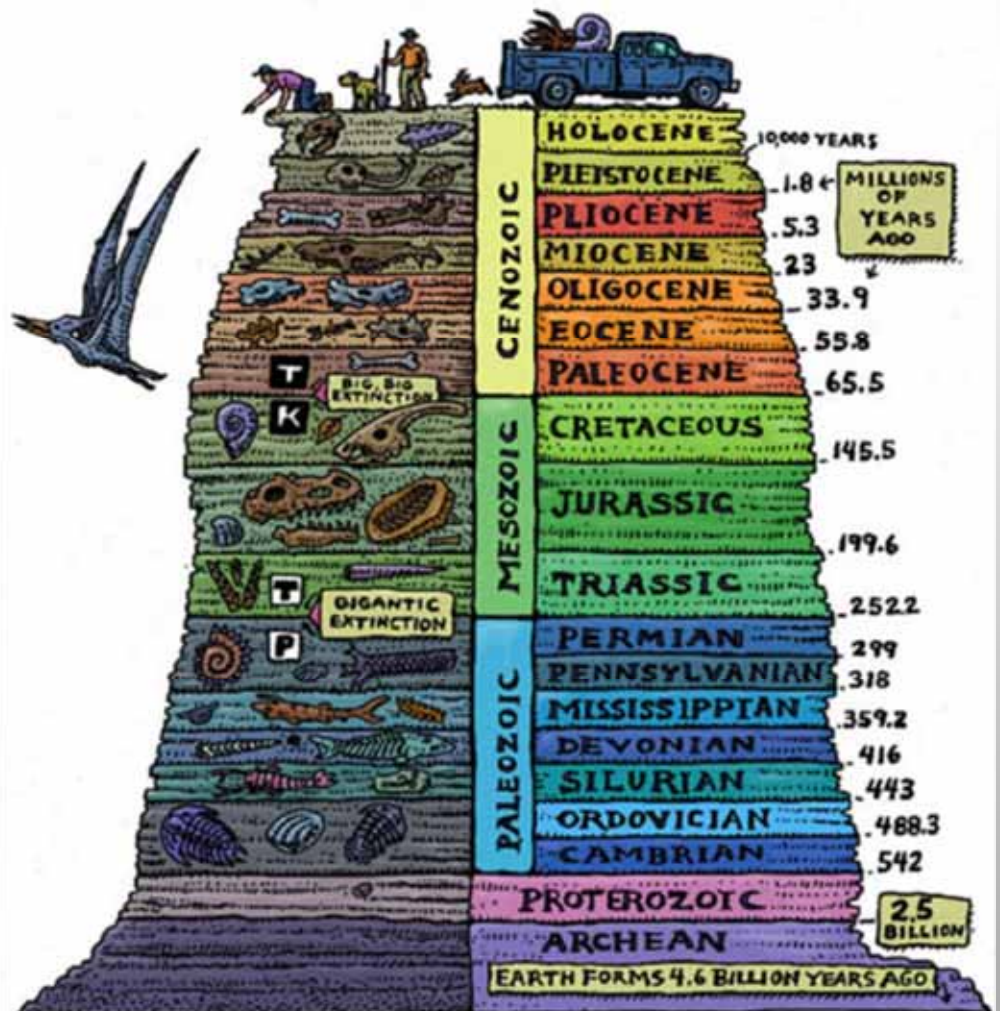
It is hard to imagine any way that you would interpret the geology of the earth to not indicate periods well longer than the existence of mankind, other than good intentions. Unfortunately, we are not in the good intentions business. We are in God's truth business.

God has written 3 books; the Old Testament, the New Testament, and the Universe. Each of them tell us information about God. They are all com-

patible and perfectly correct.

We need to listen to what all of them are telling us. We don't need to believe the interpretations some scientists are telling us. It does mean that at least some of us need to be equipped to respond to scientist's misinterpretations of science just like we need to be ready to respond to misinterpretations of God's Other two books.

Benton F. Baugh, Ph.D., P.E.





## WHEN TO CRITICIZE YOUR PREACHER

When not to criticize your preacher is right before he is going to speak. At that point his head will be swirling with what he must say and needs to be in a positive frame of mind. Similarly, it is not a good time to try to convince him to do some other project.

Preachers usually make themselves available at the end of the service and are in a much better position to listen to what you want to say. They are always a phone call away.

Better than that, a positive comment or a positive suggestion is more likely to achieve your aims than a criticism.



Meeting at Tom Wilson Elementary  
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For more information, contact:  
[info@nfbcoc.org](mailto:info@nfbcoc.org)

## PREACHING SPECIALISTS

Congregations sometimes need fill-in preachers and speakers with special subjects which are difficult for the local minister to become proficient in. Following are a list of speakers with topics which may be of interest to you. Each of the speakers are known to us and reliably present the Word.

If any of the topics are interesting to you, contact information is provided. Some speakers may require expenses and/or stipends.

- **CHRISTIAN COLLEGE IMPACT ON CHURCH FAITHFULNESS**
- **CHRISTIAN COLLEGE IMPACT ON MARRIAGE**

Kent Allen, Oklahoma Christian University  
405-315-3008

- **CROSSING THE LINE IN ADDICTION**
- **GOD IS SCIENTIFIC**
- **WHAT ATHEIST ARE GOING TO TELL YOUR CHILDREN, WITH ANSWERS**
- **WHAT YOU HAVE TO BELIEVE TO BE AN ATHEIST**

Benton F. Baugh, Ph.D., P.E.  
Memorial church of Christ Houston, TX  
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## STEVEN WRIGHT HUMOR

If you're not familiar with the work of Steven Wright, he's the famous erudite (comic) scientist who once said:

"I woke up one morning, and all of my stuff had been stolen and replaced by exact duplicates."

He sees things differently than most of us.

Here are some of his gems:

- 1 - I'd kill for a Nobel Peace Prize.
- 2 - Borrow money from pessimists -- they don't expect it back.
- 3 - Half the people you know are below average.
- 4 - 99% of lawyers give the rest a bad name.
- 6 - A conscience is what hurts when all your other parts feel so good.
- 7 - A clear conscience is usually the sign of a bad memory.
- 8 - If you want the rainbow, you have got to put up with the rain.
- 9 - All those who believe in psycho kinesis, raise my hand.
- 10 - The early bird may get the worm, but the second mouse gets the cheese.
- 11 - I almost had a psychic girlfriend,..... But she left me before we met.
- 12 - OK, so what's the speed of dark?
- 13 - How do you tell when you're out of invisible ink?
- 14 - If everything seems to be going well, you have obviously overlooked something.
- 15 - Depression is merely anger without enthusiasm.
- 16 - When everything is coming your way, you're in the wrong lane.
- 17 - Ambition is a poor excuse for not having enough sense to be lazy.
- 18 - Hard work pays off in the future; laziness pays off now.
- 19 - I intend to live forever... So far, so good.



- 21 - Eagles may soar, but weasels don't get sucked into jet engines.
- 22 - What happens if you get scared half to death twice?
- 23 - My mechanic told me, "I couldn't repair your brakes, so I made your horn louder."
- 24 - Why do psychics have to ask you for your name.
- 25 - If at first you don't succeed, destroy all evidence that you tried.

26 - A conclusion is the place where you got tired of thinking.  
27 - Experience is something you don't get until just after you need it.

28 - The hardness of the butter is proportional to the softness of the bread.

29 - To steal ideas from one person is plagiarism; to steal from many is research.

- 30 - The problem with the gene pool is that there is no lifeguard.
- 31 - The sooner you fall behind, the more time you'll have to catch up.
- 32 - The colder the x-ray table, the more of your body is required to be on it.
- 33 - Everyone has a photographic memory; some just don't have film.
- 34 - If at first you don't succeed, skydiving is not for you.  
And the all-time favorite -
- 35 - If your car could travel at the speed of light, would your headlights work?

**Kirk Eason of South Africa Bible College reported that the Shawnee Church of Christ in Frisco, TX is using the attendance folder system found on the [ocgthinktank.org](http://ocgthinktank.org) website**

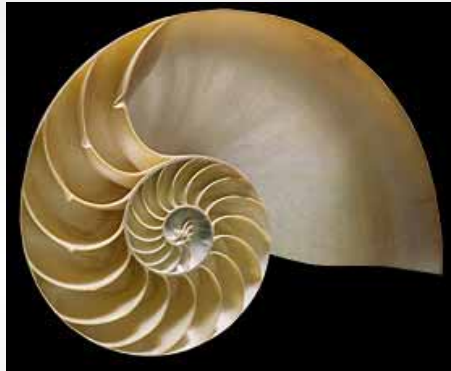
## IMPOSSIBLE FOR EVOLUTION: CHAMBERED NAUTILUS

“The curious-looking **chambered nautilus**, also known simply as the nautilus, is considered by many to be a living fossil.”



“Like the coelacanth, it has remained unchanged for over 400 million years. During prehistoric times, there were about 10,000 different species of nautilus, but only a small handful are known to survive today.”

“Like most cephalopods, it can use jet propulsion to attain speeds of over two knots. A small tube near the animal's tentacles, known as a siphon, expels water under pressure. This propels the nautilus in the opposite direction at high speeds.”



“The shell of the nautilus is comprised of many individual chambers. Each chamber is individually sealed and contains an amount of gas. This provides the animal with buoyancy. The nautilus can regulate its density by injecting or removing fluid into these chambers through a system of tubes. This strong shell also provides protection for the animal's soft body. The nautilus has many more tentacles than its close cousins.”

“These tentacles are used to catch shrimp, fish and small crustaceans, which the animal crushes with its powerful beak. Nautiluses are active predators, but since their siphon system uses very little energy while swimming, they only need to eat about once a month. Their eyesight is very poor because their eyes contains no lenses. Instead, there is only a tiny hole to allow light into the eye. This system operates much like a pinhole camera. The nautilus is thought to rely mainly on its sense of smell when searching for food or looking for a mate.”

“Nautiluses are found throughout the Pacific and Indian oceans, where they spend their daylight

hours at depths of about 1,800 feet (550 meters). At night they migrate to shallower waters to feed among the coral reefs. The shell of the nautilus cannot withstand the pressure of depths greater than 2,600 feet (800 meters).”

Previous quotations came from Wikipedia.

Whereas there are several unique features of the Chambered Nautilus, the impossible we will discuss is highlighted in red. You might well think that a creature like this with a heavy shell would simply sink to the bottom.

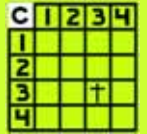
Although this creature is never out of the water in the air, it forms chambers and fills them with gas to have its own flotation chambers. Then to dive to 550 meters during the day, it floods some of the chambers with sea water to achieve negative buoyancy and sinks. It would then dump water out of the tanks to establish a neutral buoyancy to stay at that depth. And this is

happening at a subsea pressure of 1800 ft. \* .465 p.s.i. / ft. = 837 p.s.i. This is a higher pressure than most of us relate well to. Your car tires have about 30 p.s.i. in them. At somewhere between 100 and 200 p.s.i., they will explode.

At night it will pump some more of the water out of its shell to give it positive buoyancy and rise to shallow waters to feed. When arriving back at shallow waters they add water to achieve neutral buoyancy again.

All the Nautilus has to figure out how to do or to do by accident is to build multiple chambers which will withstand 837 p.s.i. ocean pressure, fill them with gas in a water environment, pump fluid into and out of the chambers at a 837 p.s.i. differential, and know how to control the amount of water in it to achieve neutral, positive, and negative buoyancy.

Generally, this is what a submarine has to do, and it takes sophisticated designs for submarines. The Chambered Nautilus is a sophisticated design also, and God is the designers.



## OCCG THINK TANK CHURCH LEADERS WORKSHOPS

Members of the OCCG Think Tank would be pleased to come to your area and present our Church Leaders Workshop with some of the information we have been studying and developing.

Real and practical suggestions will be made on how to better engage your members in accomplishing our part of the Great Commission in our time.

Workshops are formatted as:

Area Wide Workshops meeting at the location of a host congregation,  
or Individual congregational workshops.

If you would like to host a workshop for your area or would like one scheduled for your congregation, go to the [occgthinktank.org](http://occgthinktank.org) website, contact us tab, and send your information.

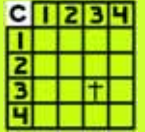
The **OCCG Think Tank** is studying how to promote methods which will return the churches of Christ to a growth mode while maintaining a firm scriptural basis. We solicit everyone's ideas on how to do this, but even more than this we need your assistance in making this a reality.

It is clear that having some ideas is different than translating the ideas to a beneficial form and communicating these ideas to the our congregations.

Whereas we would encourage all to dedicate your service time to your local congregation, if you have extra service time and energies, we need your help. There are many ways to help including:

Working on Webpage design  
Microsoft Access programming  
Phone app for ready access to Bible teachings  
Develop Bible teachings into a standardized format  
Develop standardized information regarding denominations

If helping in these areas is interesting to you, contact [bbaugh@thearray.org](mailto:bbaugh@thearray.org)



## THE CATALYST INITIATIVE

GOAL: Help the kingdom grow by encouraging those without a neighborhood congregation to start one.

PREMISE: The difficulty of doing personal evangelism is proportionate to the distance you are from your congregation.

If you live far enough from your established congregation that it makes it difficult to do personal evangelism and would like to consider starting a new local autonomous scriptural congregation, let us know.

We have experienced volunteers available to assist you in starting your new congregation or to discuss the possibility.

FOR MORE INFORMATION SEE: [www.thecatalystinitiative.org](http://www.thecatalystinitiative.org)

Led By:

Philip Bailey, 713-304-0011, [pbailey@thecatalystinitiative.org](mailto:pbailey@thecatalystinitiative.org)  
Benton F. Baugh, 713-419-8683, [bbaugh@thecatalystinitiative.org](mailto:bbaugh@thecatalystinitiative.org)

### THE CATALYST INITIATIVE

**Is seeking members who are an employee of or knows someone with a relationship with connections to retirement centers.**

**If you do or know someone who does, contact:**

Philip Bailey, 713-304-0011,  
[pbailey@thecatalystinitiative.org](mailto:pbailey@thecatalystinitiative.org)

or

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Stephenville, Texas



# THE CHRISTIAN ARRAY

AN E-MAGAZINE DEDICATED TO SUSTAINED SCRIPTURAL CHURCH GROWTH IN OUR GENERATION

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## EEM (EASTERN EUROPEAN MISSIONS)

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**Jerry Heiderich: Director**  
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Clinic 979-578-9091, Cell 214-862-8964

[jerry@gulfcoastchristiancounseling.com](mailto:jerry@gulfcoastchristiancounseling.com)



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## AREA WIDE ACTIVITIES

- Each Wed.** Northeast Houston Preacher's Meeting, Darien Loop CofC, 7014 Darien St., Houston, 11:00—1:00, Contact Cecil Herndon, [aj10@ridemetro.com](mailto:aj10@ridemetro.com) for more details
- 2nd Tues.** Northwest Houston Preacher's Luncheon, 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Ranchero King Buffet, 5900 N. Frwy., Houston, confirm with Dale Foster at [dalefost@gmail.com](mailto:dalefost@gmail.com) for info.
- 8/2018** Greater Houston Area Campaign for Christ

### The Christian Array E-Magazine

This e-magazine is sent to members of the church on a monthly basis as an attempt to promote scriptural teachings, area wide activities and church growth. If you do not want to receive this e-magazine, send an e-mail to [bbaugh@thearray.org](mailto:bbaugh@thearray.org) and it will be stopped.

**All past copies of the newsletter can be found on the website "thearray.org".**

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## E-MAIL ADDRESSES

A goal of this newsletter is to develop a mailing list of as many members of the church as possible and to communicate church related information to as many members as possible. In that light, we would appreciate it if you would:

1. forward the church member e-mail addresses which you have,
2. send the directory of the congregation you attend or any other directories which you might have, and
3. give us an idea of how to collect church member e-mail addresses.

The Christian Array is dedicated to support the sustained scriptural growth of the churches of Christ. It is published by BCE Publications, a 501(c)(3) organization with Benton F. Baugh, Ph.D., P.E. as editor BCE is solely responsible for the content. Any announcements, requests for publication, or comments should be e-mailed to [bbaugh@thearray.org](mailto:bbaugh@thearray.org).