

482 A Tale of Two Dates

This week there is great excitement about a dinosaur leg found at Tanis River in North Dakota. To quote from the BBC Science Correspondent Jonathan Amos: “Scientists have presented a stunningly preserved leg of a dinosaur. The limb, complete with skin, is just one of a series of remarkable finds emerging from the Tanis fossil site in the US State of North Dakota. But it's not just their exquisite condition that's turning heads - it's what these ancient specimens purport to represent. The claim is the Tanis creatures were killed and entombed on the actual day a giant asteroid struck Earth. The day 66 million years ago when the reign of the dinosaurs ended and the rise of mammals began ... To have a specimen from the cataclysm itself would be extraordinary. The BBC has spent three years filming at Tanis for a show to be broadcast on 15 April, narrated by Sir David Attenborough”.

We note the caution – “purport” and “claim” – and the assumptions: 66 million years ago; to the very day; an asteroid hit the earth; the dinosaurs’ reign ended; the rise of the mammals began. What puzzles these researchers is the existence of skin on the dinosaur leg, skin which should no longer be there if the 66 million-years-ago date is anywhere near accurate. That skin proves the leg must be far, far younger than the date they are asserting, the date which they simply have to assert so as to fit this specimen into the existing, 100% hypothetical, time-frame in which Darwinian evolutionists operate.

Another article of interest is from the Daily Sun newspaper – “The North Dakota fossil site is a chaotic jumble. The remains of animals and plants seem to have been rolled together into a sediment dump by waves of river water set in train by unimaginable earth tremors”.

Well, well, well, just fancy that! Perhaps, just perhaps, Genesis Chapters 6 – 8 might have something to do with this dinosaur leg! “In the six hundredth year of Noah’s life, in the second month, the seventeenth day of the month, the same day were all the fountains of the great deep broken up, and the windows of heaven were opened. And the rain was upon the earth forty days and forty nights ... And the waters prevailed upon the earth an hundred and fifty days” (Genesis 7.11-12, 17-24 // and 8.1-5, 13-14, KJV). If this calm account of a catastrophic global Flood is merely an exaggerated description of a bad storm, (as the Genesis-rejecters tell us), then why, oh why are we given such accurate figures about the ark (Genesis 6.14-16) and the key Flood dates? Any plain reading of these chapters, by any whose minds are not already made

up, surely convinces us that this Flood happened as described (which scientific enquirers accepted without fuss until the misnamed “Age of Enlightenment” arrived). And if so, herein lies the answer to both that dinosaur leg with skin still on it, as well as to all the other fossils we have.

When relevant in these Reflections we mention the Bible chronologers Arthur Ware and Frank Paine. It is worth including here a lengthy quotation from page 251 of their book “World in Liquidation”, published in 1953: “To the glory of God let it be said that in every instance the Chronology of Holy Scripture (which is reproduced in these pages) precisely agrees with its astronomical requirements, thus affording positive proof of its perfect accuracy. TIME in reference to the course of man’s history on the earth has now at last been perfectly traced and can never again be the subject of dispute or human conjecture. It was God who predetermined the Bible’s Plan of Time – it was God who executed the Plan – it was God who caused it to be recorded in the Scriptures – and finally, it was God who enabled the authors of these pages to reproduce the Plan from the Scriptures for the benefit of all who fear Him. Come, then, and let us behold one of God’s most wonderful works – one which, more than any other, seals the verbal inerrancy of His Word – the Holy Scriptures”.

Quite a claim – but their figures and sums are all shown for anyone to check, and they all fit - to the day. As a result Messrs. Ware and Paine identified the actual date of the start of the Flood, namely Sunday June 15th 2470 BC (World in Liquidation, page 259). Here before us is a single, real, trustworthy date compiled from the scriptural evidence and confirmed by the lunar tables, in contrast to an impossible date plucked from the air by “the scientists” at Tanis River.

We can trust the Bible, including the first eleven chapters of Genesis. The BBC Attenborough programme is to be broadcast on 15th April, Good Friday, an interesting choice of date. A visit to www.creation.com beforehand will assist anyone watching that programme to distinguish fact from well-presented fiction.

Meanwhile, God’s Word remains as “a lamp to our feet and a light for our path” (from Psalm 119.105). May the Lord’s Name be praised!

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(A free 40-page pdf about the two main books by Arthur Ware and Frank Paine can be downloaded from the This Week page of our website)