

ICR ON THE CUTTING “EDGE”

NEW EQUIPPING COURSE OFFERED!

“But sanctify the Lord God in all your hearts: and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear” (1 Peter 3:15).

This has been one of ICR’s many cornerstone verses over the last three decades as we have endeavored to equip Christians of all ages to stand firm in their faith with the Creator’s message. From the academic disciplines of education and research to the popular “Back to Genesis” seminars and “Good Science” workshops, ICR strives to demonstrate that “true” science is in complete harmony with God’s Holy Word.

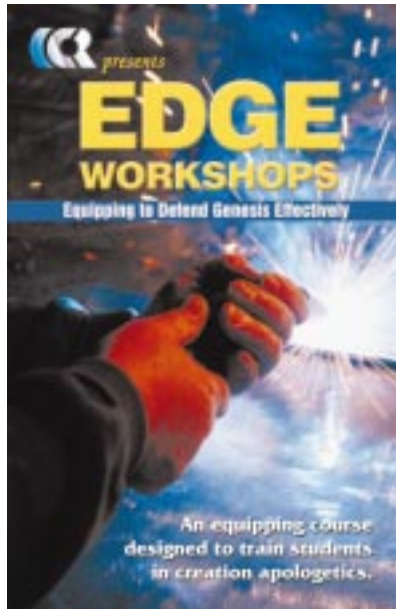
As we look back to the latter part of the twentieth century, we are thankful for the great things God has done through ICR. But there has been no respite from the ruthless onslaught of evolutionary humanism as

it continues to darken society like an ominous cloud, blocking the light to unbelievers and shaking the foundation

of many Christians. Therefore, we must not grow stagnant. We must faithfully continue to fight the good fight as long as God sustains and blesses this ministry. And we must continue to seek the Lord, looking for new and more effective ways of equipping Christians to defend the faith.

To this end, our long-time friend and seminar speaker, Mike Riddle, has worked with ICR to prepare an exciting new “hands-on” creation-equip-

ping course designed to train students in creation apologetics. We are calling these courses “EDGE” Workshops, an




acronym standing for “Equipping to Defend Genesis Effectively.” This concept was borne out of the Biblical mandate to “go and make disciples” and the growing need to better equip Christians who lack confidence to challenge the flawed claims of evolution in the classroom and other secular settings.

EDGE Workshops are beneficial for anyone desiring to strengthen his faith in the arena of Creation apologetics, but they are particularly suited for high school and college students who want to hone their skills to respectfully challenge the claims of evolution and present scientific evidences that support the Genesis account of Creation.

Each workshop consists of 14 hours of comprehensive instruction over two days and is designed for groups of 50–100 students. The course format encompasses a structure of short interactive lectures, small-group application activities, and a debriefing time to bring ideas to closure. To complement this hands-on workshop, all students will receive a 128-page “Equipping Manual.”

The success of EDGE Workshops hinges on Christian leaders willing to serve as small group facilitators overseeing five to six students during the breakout sessions. Ideally, we hope to see youth pastors, teachers, concerned parents, and other Christian leaders coming alongside young adults and encouraging them to stand firm as they are trained and equipped with Creation apologetics.

ICR is offering this “equipping” seminar to churches, youth groups, home school groups, and communities desiring to see young people equipped for victorious Christian ministry and life. Can we be of service to your’s? Will you prayerfully consider co-laboring with ICR as we launch this new equipping ministry? Please call our Seminar Department at 619-448-0900 for more information. 

DR. GISH DEBATES FREE THINKERS OF VENTURA COUNTY

On Monday evening, September 11, Dr. Duane Gish participated in the debate, “Should Creation Be Taught Alongside Evolution in Public Schools?” held in Camarillo, California. The debate was sponsored by the Free Thinkers of Ventura County and was arranged because Dr. Charles Weis, Superintendent of the Ventura County Public Schools, had taken the position that teaching creation science in public schools had been forbidden by the U.S. Supreme Court. This opinion was opposed by Ron Matthews, one of the members of the Ventura County Board of Education, who asked Dr. Gish to defend the creationist position. Dr. Michael Shermer was asked to defend the evolutionist side. Shermer has a Ph.D. in the History of Science and Technology and is an adjunct assistant professor of history of science at Occidental College and California State University, Los Angeles. He is publisher and editor-in-chief of *Skeptic*, the publication of The Skeptics Society, most members of which are atheists or agnostics.

Dr. Weis was given ten minutes to explain his view of teaching creation science in public schools and Shermer

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and Gish were each given 30 minutes to present their arguments to be followed by five-minute rebuttals.

Shermer began by declaring creation must not be taught in public school science classes but only in social science classes. He asserted that creation science has undergone many changes in attempts to get it into public schools, the latest emphasis being the necessity of a designer. He then asked, but who is “she,” to laughter by the skeptics in the audiences. Shermer’s presentation was filled with scorn and ridicule against those who embraced a theistic belief. He claimed creationists aren’t doing science, using a “God of the gaps” when questions cannot be answered. He insisted that creationists and Christians start with what they believe to be true and then try to find evidence to confirm their faith. He asked which religion do creationists want in public schools—Christianity, Muslim, Hinduism, Buddhism, etc.

Gish began by stating it was surprising and tragic that the question of teaching creation science alongside evolution in public schools was a subject for debate. He declared that in our pluralistic democratic society under a constitution that supposedly guarantees academic and religious freedoms, *of course* both views of origins should be taught in our tax-supported public schools. He charged that it was bad science, bad education, and a promotion of a non-theistic humanistic religion to teach evolution theory as dogma, protected against charges of contradictions and fallacies, and zealously protected against the scientific evidence for creation. He quoted a dictionary definition of religion as a set of beliefs concerning the cause, nature, and purpose of the universe, and then pointed out that this is precisely what

both evolutionary theory and creation attempt to do. Thus, evolution theory is a religion. In documenting this fact, Gish quoted from a newspaper article by Michael Ruse, published this year (*National Post*, May 13). This leading philosopher of science had testified in the Arkansas equal time court case that evolutionary biology was science and creation was religion, but now is convinced that “Evolution is promulgated as an ideology, a secular religion—a full-fledged alternative to Christianity.”

Gish then described the overwhelming scientific evidence for creation based on the fossil record, the laws of thermodynamics, the origin of life, the laws of probability, and the evidence for design and purpose seen everywhere in the natural world. He declared that constitutional law, good science, good education, academic and religious freedoms require that the scientific evidence for both views of origins be taught.

In his rebuttal, Shermer claimed that Gish had not presented any evidence for creation but only claimed that “intelligent design” did it. He charged that creationists should just publish in science journals.

In his rebuttal Gish insisted that scientific evidence on origins be taught free of reference to any religion. Therefore, the non-theistic humanistic religion that now dominates public schools in the U.S., the teaching of which violates the separation of church and state, should be removed from public schools. Gish pointed out that he had presented undoubted evidence for creation while Shermer had presented no evidence whatever for evolution, but had merely criticized the creationists and anyone who dared to assume the existence of a Creator, a supernatural, intelligent agent. 🌟



68 TOUR YELLOWSTONE AND TETONS

Sixty-eight intrepid explorers participated in the September 8–16, 2000, ICR Tour of Yellowstone and the Tetons. John Morris, Steve Austin, Larry Vardiman, Frank Sherwin, Tom Manning, David Nutting, and Rolland Kuhr led the group in a week-long adventure to the oldest National Park in the world, one of the most beautiful mountain ranges in North America, and two of the most interesting fossil graveyards in the western U.S.

This year's tour was one of the most strenuous yet, with a 1,800-foot climb up Specimen Ridge, a 2,500-foot climb up Mount Washburn, and a two-mile hike around Jenny Lake (all optional). We studied the catastrophic events associated with the formation of the 30-mile diameter caldera in the center of Yellowstone National Park, the catastrophic events which formed Yellowstone Falls and Gorge, and the evidence for a glacier several thousand feet thick which covered Yellowstone Lake and all the mountains in Yellowstone. We spent an entire day in and around the geysers near Old Faithful which erupted three times during our stay. As the Tour traveled south of the Yellowstone area, we viewed fish and palm fossils at Fossil Butte National Monument and dinosaur fossils at Dinosaur National Monument. It was clear from the scenery on the Tour that major geologic upheavals accompanied the events of the Genesis Flood.

As usual, our congenial group enjoyed daily devotionals and singing together. The outdoor Sunday morning message given at Madison Junction by Forest Estelle, of New Tribes Mission, was a highlight of the trip. This location with the Firehole River flowing gently through a meadow between limestone cliffs and buffalo and elk grazing nearby is magnificent. Worshipping in such a beautiful site is uplifting.

Aspen trees were turning yellow in many places along the route and mountain maple had already taken on its red hues of fall. The colorful leaves contrasted beautifully with the blue skies of Wyoming and Utah. We saw buffalo, elk, deer, mountain goats, salmon, eagles, a few moose, and a bear. In less than a week after our visit, Yellowstone was covered with a foot of snow from the first winter storm. The Lord is good!



Meeting Highlights

Simi Valley, California

Dr. Duane Gish spoke on the Biblical and scientific evidence for creation at the morning service of the Blessed Hope Chapel Sunday, September 10. Rich Cromwick had arranged this service. The intense interest in this subject was evidenced by the attendance, which overflowed the auditorium into a second room.

Cedar Rapids, Iowa

A delightful “Case for Creation” seminar, chaired by Mr. Wes Kephart, was held at the New Covenant Bible Church on September 22 and 23. ICR’s President John Morris was joined by Adjunct Professor Dr. Paul Ackerman to present the scientific case for creation and the implications of evolution/creation in society.

Dr. Ackerman, professor of psychology at Wichita State University and long-time creation advocate, was a primary player in last year’s decision by the Kansas State Board of Education to remove the “religion” of evolution from the public school science classroom, leaving the teaching of good science intact as well as the evidence for and against evolution. His recent book published by ICR, *The Kansas Tornado*, documents this story.

An additional plus adorned the seminar as Dr. Ackerman related his personal testimony, how as an atheistic psychology professor he turned to the Creator/Savior in time of personal tragedy. 📺



Radio Log

“Jonathan Park and the Adventure on the Aucilla River” debuts this holiday season. The latest in the adventure series for kids places Jonathan, Jessie, and the Eagle’s Nest Gang hot on the trail of an

artifacts thief! This episode features an underwater archaeology dig based on a real site in Florida. Families can plan on plenty of great creation information while learning the importance of always being available to be used by God—even when it’s uncomfortable. Call your local station to see if they’re airing the newest Jonathan Park adventure. For a preview, call 619-448-8198 or visit our Jonathan Park website at www.icradventures.org

This month on “Science, Scripture, & Salvation”:

Weekend of:	Title/Topic:
Nov. 4	“Science or Folly?”
Nov. 11	“Order & Design”
Nov. 18	“Authenticity of the Bible”
Nov. 25	“Pilgrims & the Creator”

We hear all the time that evolution is science, and creation is religion. It’s on TV, in magazines and newspapers, and even in science textbooks. But is evolution synonymous with science? Is creation based only on a religious view? Tune in!

Today, even in secular circles, we hear about design and order in the world around us. There are many who attempt to credit this design to natural processes and evolution—or to Mother Nature. Is this credible? Listen to find out!

Many people look at the Bible as a religious book or a great piece of literature that can easily be set aside. Most don’t know that the Bible claims to be so much more. But are these claims supported by history and archaeology? Tune in and learn the truth!

To Christians, Thanksgiving is a time of special remembrance and gratitude for a rugged band of people called pilgrims. How did their belief in Almighty God cause them to cross a treacherous expanse of ocean in order to forge a new life in a yet unsettled land? 📺

Back to Genesis

The very first “Back to Genesis” conference was held in Hartford, Connecticut, in 1987, and evidently it made an impression, for when ICR returned to Bloomfield, Connecticut, on September 29 and 30, numerous people in attendance testified that the 1987 seminar had greatly impacted their lives and ministry.

Adjunct Professor of Apologetics Doug Phillips joined ICR’s John Morris for the weekend. Doug’s dynamic, exhortational messages complemented the exciting answers to scientific questions presented by Dr. Morris. Together they presented a full Creation worldview, all based on the authority and accuracy of God’s Word. The “War of the Worldviews” was outlined, as was a winning battle strategy.

ICR appreciates the hard work of committee chairman Russ Stone. We anticipate another long-lasting “ripple effect” from the weekend’s activities. 🦋

SIERRA VISTA, ARIZONA DEBATE AND SEMINAR

ICR’s Dr. Donald DeYoung and Frank Sherwin engaged in an origins debate on the evening of September 22 with two evolutionary humanists from Arizona. Taking the side of evolutionism were Dr. Geoffrey A. Clark of the anthropology department at Arizona State University and Mr. Derrick Neill, author and public grade school teacher.

Each person had 30 minutes to present their case with Dr. DeYoung leading off and Dr. Clark finishing. A revealing hour-long question/answer session followed with questions from the audience directed to specific speakers. A question regarding the metamorphosis of caterpillar-to-butterfly and tadpole-to-frog was asked that supposedly supports evolutionism. But such striking *in-species change* has

nothing to do with one kind of animal becoming something else. One audience member wanted to know about the Darwin fish-with-legs seen on cars and t-shirts. Sherwin replied that the Darwin Fish is a graphic symbol of intolerance directed toward people of faith.

The next day the First Baptist Church of Sierra Vista sponsored a day-long creation science seminar with Dr. DeYoung and Sherwin giving alternate presentations. Both men gave solid Biblical and scientific evidences for a recent creation according to Genesis. Both the Friday evening and Saturday events were made possible through the untiring efforts of Mrs. Katie Salwei of Sierra Vista and her volunteers.

On Sunday Pastor Patrick Lazovich officiated at a beautiful outdoor service in Veterans Memorial Park with Sherwin speaking on creation evangelism. 🦋

NEW CHRISTMAS BOOKLET AVAILABLE

When They Saw the Star is the title of a new Christmas gift booklet just published by ICR.



Authored by Dr. Henry Morris, the booklet examines in fascinating detail the familiar story of the wise men and the star of Bethlehem—not only the spiritual message, but also the evidences of the actual historical truth of the great event. The booklet should prove an appropriate insert in Christmas cards to friends and family members. This booklet sells for \$0.25 each.

ICR’s Christmas gift booklets from previous years are still available.

Gifts of God

His Son’s Name

Only Begotten Son

The Virgin Birth

When God Became Man

These are all reasonably priced at \$0.10 each. All six can be purchased for \$0.10 each in bulk orders of 100 or more. 🦋

STEWARDSHIP & TRUST SERVICES

ABOUNDING WITH THANKSGIVING

As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk ye in Him: Rooted and built up in Him, and stablished in the faith, as ye have been taught, abounding therein with thanksgiving. Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ (Colossians 2:6–8).

“Abounding therein with thanksgiving”—the evidence of one being rooted and built up in their Savior; the evidence of being established in the faith. At this time of national Thanksgiving here in the US, let us husbands and dads lead our families into a deeper understanding of the One to whom we are to give thanks and the heart from which He accepts thanks—lest we be those “. . . spoiled through philosophy . . . after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ.” In that regard, consider the following passage, also from Colossians:

*If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God. Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth. For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God. When Christ, who is our life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with Him in glory. Mortify therefore your members which are upon the earth; fornication, uncleanness, inordinate affection, evil concupiscence, and covetousness, which is idolatry: For which things' sake the wrath of God cometh on the children of disobedience: In the which ye also walked some time, when ye lived in them. But now ye also put off all these; anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy communication out of your mouth. Lie not one to another, seeing that ye have put off the old man with his deeds; And have put on the new man, which is renewed in knowledge after the image of Him that created him: Where there is neither Greek nor Jew, circumcision nor uncircumcision, Barbarian, Scythian, bond nor free: but Christ is all, and in all. Put on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering; Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye. And above all those things put on charity, which is the bond of perfectness. And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are called in one body; **and be ye thankful.** Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord. And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by Him (Colossians 3:1–17).*