



MONSTERS, dinosaurs, sea giants and tattoos in a wow of an Evidence News 10/14 with EDitorial COMment from the global team at Creation Research who invite you to join them in a few coming exciting events downunder as well.

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1. NEW VITAL DVDS ADVANCE ORDER (Australia only at present):

PRO HOMOSEXUAL DISCRIMINATION has become so great, that one newspaper recently refused to print a church's advertising of our filmed program: "Do you have the Homosexual gene?" The paper's lawyers advised them to not print because: "We cannot go risking generating antagonism in the local community or offending any anti discrimination body". It seems obvious the media are willing to offend God, Christ, The Church and anyone, except the GAY lobby.

Sodomy and Gomorrah is a great Bible Study on what happened at Sodom. Were the inhabitants destroyed because they were inhospitable, as many Theologians teach, or was it because God judged their homosexuality? Find out along with the latest information about the H Gene and what good news God's Word has for the Homosexual, on this great Bible teaching DVD led by Creation Research Director John Mackay.

COMES WITH Dr John Osgood's "**THE REAL STONE AGE...Babel and Beyond**". History reveals evolution's lies. At the Mueller conference earlier this year we allocated Dr John Osgood a smaller room for an elective on one of his specialty areas: "Where does the Stone Age fit in?" To our surprise (and his) the room was packed and the reports were exciting and the requests were why can't we have this one filmed like the others from the conference? We have just held another conference deliberately to record John's talk.

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2. NEW QUESTION: “Should a Christian wear tattoos?” [Answer](#) by artist Steve Cardno.

3. BIGGEST DINOSAUR EVER FOUND, according to BBC News 17 May 2014. All dinosaur hunters would like to dig up the biggest dinosaur ever found, but a team of palaeontologists from the Museum of Palaeontology Egidio Feruglio in Patagonia seem to be able to claim the record. The team, led by Jose Luis Carballido and Diego Pol, have excavated partial skeletons of seven individuals of a species of Titanosaur – a long necked sauropod. Altogether they found about 150 bones, all in “remarkable condition”. They used circumference and length of the largest femur (thigh bone) to estimate the size of the largest individual dinosaur, and calculated it would have weighed 77 tonnes making it “as heavy as 14 African elephants, and seven tonnes heavier than the previous record holder, *Argentinosaurus*”. The research team explained to BBC news: “Given the size of these bones, which surpass any of the previously known giant animals, the new dinosaur is the largest animal known that walked on Earth. Its length, from its head to the tip of its tail, was 40m (130ft). Standing with its neck up, it was about 20m (65ft) high - equal to a seven-storey building”.

Link: [BBC](#)

ED. COM. If this is the biggest dinosaur ever found, we congratulate the Patagonian palaeontologists. This spectacular find should lead people to ask how could animals get to be so large. There are two answers – a better environment and a longer life. We know from observing some living large reptiles, such as crocodiles, that they have a different growth pattern than mammals. Reptiles grow fairly fast through their juvenile years, but unlike most mammals, they can keep growing throughout their adult life, albeit at a slower rate, provided they live in a uniformly mild climate, have enough food, and are not ill or stressed. Since these were the magnificent conditions present in the original very good world created by God in the beginning, it should not surprise us that animals and plants were also magnificent. We are also told in Genesis that people lived for very long periods prior to Noah’s Flood, so it is therefore reasonable to think that animals could also live for much longer than they do today. This was partly because of the good environment and because all creatures started with “very good” bodies – so no genetic defects at the start of life, plus all creatures started as vegetarian so you didn’t get eaten. The post fall / post flood world lacks most of these. Adding all these together for the reptile family, i.e. a good start, a good environment, growth throughout life and a long life due to no predators, makes possible some very large animals, which in this case were also catastrophically buried in a flood deposit. (Ref. Titanosaurs, *Argentinosaurus*, catastrophism, lifespan).

4. ICHTHYOSAUR MASS GRAVE FOUND, according to reports in ScienceDaily 3 June 2014 and *Geological Society of America Bulletin*, 2014; DOI: 10.1130/B30964.1. Scientists from Germany and Chile have found 46 almost complete Ichthyosaurs buried in Early Cretaceous rocks near the Tyndall Glacier in the Torres del Paine National Park of southern Chile. The fossils are a mix of juveniles and adults, including pregnant females, and are articulated, i.e. their bones are all together in the right places. According to the researchers, “Preservation is excellent and occasionally includes soft tissue and embryos”. They also found ammonites (nautilus type shells), belemnites (extinct squid-like creatures), clams and fishes, as well as numerous plant remains, in the same rock formation. The research team explain the fossil deposit as follows: “The abundance of almost completely articulated Ichthyosaur skeletons in the Tyndall area suggests that some animals fell victim to episodic mass-mortality events caused by turbidity currents traveling downslope through a submarine canyon. They lost orientation, drowned, and were dragged into the deep sea by these turbulent high-energy gravity flows. Their bodies ended up in an oxygen-deficient basin environment where they were immediately embedded by the fine turbidite suspension fallout”.

Link: [ScienceDaily](#)

ED. COM. A “turbulent high energy gravity flow” is a rapid, catastrophic process, and it is good to see scientists admit that in order for excellently preserved fossils to be formed they had to be “immediately embedded” in an environment deficient in oxygen. However the use of the word “episodic” indicates they are still not prepared to believe in one big catastrophe such as Noah’s Flood in addition to the continuing smaller catastrophes we still experience under the ocean. This is not because of lack of evidence, but because even secular scientists realise that mentioning a single world-wide flood makes people think of God’s judgement on sin in Noah’s day. However, the saddest aspect of denying Noah’s flood is that people forget this is also an event of salvation for those who obeyed God, which pre-pictures the salvation available through Jesus Christ. (Ref. catastrophism, sedimentation, marine reptiles)

5. WANT TO BLE\$\$ CREATION RESEARCH?

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6. ROOT DIGGING DINO CLAWS reported in ScienceDaily 6 May 2014, and Scientific American and Bristol University press release, 7 May 2014. Stephan Lautenschlager of Bristol University UK has studied the claws of a group of dinosaurs named Therizinosaurus. These are bipedal dinosaurs belonging to the group known as theropods, whose most famous members are the Tyrannosaurs and Velociraptors. Therizinosaurus were large animals, reaching up to 7 metres (23 ft) tall with huge, sharp claws up to 50 cm (20 in) long. In any other theropods these claws would be considered weapons for killing prey, but the structure of their skulls and shape of their teeth indicates Therizinosaurus were vegetarians. Lautenschlager digitally scanned the claws of 65 theropod species and made detailed computer models to simulate possible functions for different Therizinosaurus species and different claw shapes. He also compared the claws with those of living mammals, where we can observe how they use their claws. He concluded that Therizinosaurus used their claws for digging up roots, grasping and pulling down branches like using a grappling hook, and for piercing plants. Although they were plant eaters, Therizinosaurus are believed to have evolved from meat eaters. Lautenschlager commented: "It's fascinating to see that, with the shift from a carnivorous to a plant-based diet, we find a large variety of claw shapes adapted to different functions. This suggests that dietary adaptations were an important driver during the evolution of theropod dinosaurs and their transition to modern birds".

Links: [Bristol University](#), [ScienceDaily](#), [Scientific American](#)

ED. COM. Finding that big, sharp, strong dinosaur claws can be used for gathering plant food rather than killing prey is no surprise. Genesis chapter 1 tells us all animals were originally created to be vegetarians, and as this new study shows, sharp claws are useful even for a plant eating animal. However, we have it on good authority (a reliable eye witness who was there) that the diet change in theropods was from plant eating to meat eating, and not the other way around. Genesis also tells us that by Noah's day the whole world had become violent, and some animals would have started using the features they already had, such as sharp claws / teeth in defence or to fight and kill other animals. Furthermore, there never was any actual evidence that Therizinosaurus were ever carnivores. This belief was always founded on evolutionary theory that claims they evolved from other theropod dinosaurs – a now obvious blind faith position. (Ref. dinosaurs, diet, behaviour)

7. DINOS NEITHER HOT NOR COLD, according to articles in BBC News and Nature News 12 June 2014, and *Science* vol. 344, p1268, DOI: 10.1126/science.1253143. There has been an ongoing debate over whether dinosaurs were cold blooded, like living reptiles and amphibians, or warm blooded, like mammals and birds. Cold blooded animals are more correctly called ectothermic, meaning they gain heat from the external environment, usually by basking in the sun or on warm rocks. Warm blooded animals are called endotherms, meaning they heat their bodies from within, by burning food to produce heat. Being warm blooded enables animals to keep their body temperature at a constant level, higher than the surrounding environment, and also enables animals to grow at faster rates and maintain a high metabolic rate in order to keep active throughout the day (and sometimes night). Because dinosaurs seemed to have a high growth rate in their early years some scientists have suggested they were warm blooded. However, other scientists have pointed out that maintaining a high body temperature requires much more food, and animals the size of dinosaurs would not be able to get enough food to sustain them. John Grady, a biologist at the University of New Mexico in Albuquerque, has come up with a new theory that may solve this dilemma – 'dinosaurs were somewhere in between', and could be called "mesotherms", i.e. being able to boost their body temperature from within, but not maintaining a steady high temperature all the time. Since there are a few living animals, including tuna fish, some fast swimming sharks, leatherbacked turtles and echidnas (Australian spiny anteaters) that regulate their body temperature this way, this is not a completely far-fetched idea. To test this theory Grady and his colleagues carried out a survey of growth rates and body size in 381 different species, including 21 dinosaurs, using these as an indicator of metabolic rate. Grady explained: "If you double your metabolic rate, you roughly double your growth rate". He then compared the growth rates of dinosaurs with known cold and warm blooded animals, as well as the known in-between ones, and

found that dinosaurs fitted into the “mesothermic” range. The research team suggest being mesothermic enabled dinosaurs to be more active than large reptiles like crocodiles, but without needing as much food as similar sized mammals would need. Robert Eagle, a geochemist at the California Institute of Technology, Pasadena agrees with this idea. He commented: “In a world that was generally hotter than today, it wasn't really necessary to be a full endotherm”.

Links: [BBC](#), [Nature News](#)

ED. COM. Grady's mesotherm theory and Robert Eagle's comment about the environment are probably close to the truth, and provide another reason why dinosaurs have died out. So let's look at these findings in the light of Biblical history. In the beginning the world was created “very good” with a pleasantly warm climate much more uniform than today. Therefore, animals could maintain their body temperature more easily, and in a lush environment with plenty of nutritious plants to eat, very large mesothermic animals, who only needed to fire up the internal furnace on a part time basis, could stay active and get enough to eat. However, after Noah's flood when God warned Noah that winter and summer were coming, the environment rapidly degenerated, extremes of temperature came into the world, and animals that were both large and metabolically active would have a hard time surviving. Also, the sex of sauruses, such as crocodiles in the present, is often determined by the temperature their eggs are incubated at. So a world where winter became an increasing problem by Job's day when the Bible reports ice, then the larger saurian reptiles would have grown up monosexual, and extinction was sure to follow. Note also Robert's Eagle's comment about the world being hotter in the past. What does he think heated it up – obviously not people driving cars and generating electricity. (Ref. thermoregulation, metabolism, physiology)

8. FROM THE ARCHIVES: [Dinosaur Growth](#), [Sauropods](#), [Catastrophic Burial](#), [Fossil Graveyard](#)

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