



M Grace Messenger

GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH

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GBC HOMEPAGES

<http://www.gbcmadison-al.com>
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"Preaching the free grace of God which brings a change of lifestyles, masters and destinies."

DEAN OLIVE, Pastor

— October 2018 Issue —

"You have dealt well with your servant, O LORD, according to your word."
Psalm 119:65



NURSERY SCHEDULE

October

07 Troy and Jessica Moseley
14 Lori Hewlett and K. Scarborough
21 Amber Solon and Vicki Johnson
28 Susan Gay and Melanie Myatt

November

04 Troy and Jessica Moseley
11 Amber Solan and Jan Fursdon
18 Linda Olive and Susan Gay
25 Melanie Myatt and Vicki Johnson

CHURCH CLEANING

October - Lovassys

November - Moseleys

LAWN CARE

October - Troy Moseley

Thank you to all our 2018 lawn care volunteers

BIBLICAL SCIENCE

INSTITUTE

CONFERENCE

Dr. Jason Lisle - October 19-21

Friday 7:00 PM – Ultimate Proof of Creation

Saturday 9:00 AM – Science Confirms the Bible

10:15 AM – Astronomy Reveals Creation

Sunday 9:30 AM – Understanding Genesis

11:00 AM – Dinosaurs and the Bible

5:00 PM – Creation Evangelism

A resource table with books by Dr. Lisle will be available before and after each session.

For more info see

<https://biblicalscienceinstitute.com/>



*In the beginning...
God created the
heavens and the earth*

Genesis 1:1

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

NORMAL SUNDAY SERVICES

Morning Worship	9:30 AM
Sunday School	11:00 AM
Evening Worship	5:00 PM

WEDNESDAY EVENING

Bible Study and Prayer Meeting
7:00 PM

FIRST SUNDAY SERVICES

Morning Worship	9:30 AM
Meal at the Church	11:00 AM
Afternoon Service	12:30 PM

*No Sunday School
or Evening Service*



The Ice Age

by Dr. Jason Lisle

Was there an ice age? In most public schools, students are taught that there have been at least five major ice ages in Earth's multi-billion-year history. The last one is claimed to have started

2.58 million years ago, and then retreated about 10,000 years ago. Obviously, this timescale is incompatible with biblical history. Nonetheless, there is scientific evidence for one ice age that occurred within the biblical timescale. The real ice age occurred shortly after the global flood and lasted a few hundred years.

What is an ice age? Many people have the misconception that an ice age is simply a cold Earth – that the Earth's global temperatures were below what they are today. But merely turning down Earth's temperature does not result in an ice age; it merely results in a cold Earth. To have an ice age, we need *ice*: glaciers. Today, about ten percent of the Earth's land is covered by glaciers. During the ice age, about *thirty* percent of Earth's land was covered by glaciers. So, the Earth was not a frozen snowball during the ice age. Sections of the Earth were tropical at the time. The ice age simply reflects a time when the Earth had more ice, covering about three times as much of the land as we have today.

There is compelling evidence for an ice age. *Glacial striations* are scratches that occur on certain rocky outcrops and indicate glacial motion. These striations were caused by rocks and pebbles embedded in the underside of a glacier as it moved over the outcrop. Glacial striations occur in parts of the world that today are not covered by glaciers. So we know that glaciers were much more extensive in the past.

When glaciers melt, they deposit the rocks and other debris that were frozen within. This is called a glacial till. The material found within a glacial till can be traced to its uphill source since glaciers slide downhill over time. Of course, rapidly moving water can also deposit rocks and pebbles. But deposits left by water are well-sorted; larger, heavier rocks will fall out of suspension in water before smaller, lighter ones. However, the rocks deposited by a glacier are unsorted.

From glacial striations and glacial tills, we can know approximately where the glaciers were during the peak of the ice age. At that time, glaciers covered most of Canada, down through the central United States, including New York, and Washington State. In Europe,

glaciers covered Germany, Ireland, Scandinavia, and western Russia.

But what caused the ice age? What ended it? Interestingly, secular scientists do not have a self-consistent answer to those questions. Many people have the impression that a reduction in Earth's global temperature would naturally result in an ice age. But it won't. During the ice age, the glaciers were three times more extensive than they are today. But lowering Earth's temperature will not do this. A cold Earth would have cold oceans, which do not evaporate efficiently, and cold air cannot hold much moisture. This would tend to result in less snowfall, and therefore fewer glaciers. And of course, an increase in Earth's temperature will not result in an ice age either, because it will tend to result in the melting of glaciers that already exist.

Most secular scientists invoke the Milankovitch theory to explain the ice age. This theory involves the gradual changes in the shape of Earth's orbit around the sun in conjunction with the precession of Earth's rotation axis. This supposedly results in various parts of the Earth receiving either more or less sunlight, thereby affecting the temperature. However, it does not adequately resolve the aforementioned difficulty – that a reduction in temperature does not result in more ice. Moreover, the Milankovitch theory is internally inconsistent since it relies on two contradictory dates for a given core sample.

The problem remains. What physical mechanism could result in the Earth having glaciers three times more extensive than today? First, we require increased snowfall so the glaciers can build up over time. Second, we require mild seasons: relatively cool summers are needed so that the ice doesn't melt as much, and relatively warm winters are needed since warm air holds more moisture than cold air, thereby allowing more snowfall. Warm oceans and cooler continents would be ideal for the formation of glaciers. Warm ocean water evaporates readily, and when the moist air moves over cooler land, the temperature drops resulting in snowfall, since cooler air cannot retain much moisture. But what would cause these conditions?

The global flood described in Genesis 6-8 would naturally result in the conditions necessary to cause an ice age, as demonstrated by creation scientist Michael Oard. During the flood, "the fountains of the great deep burst open" (Genesis 7:11). This may refer to underwater volcanoes, perhaps nearly all the volcanoes on Earth erupting simultaneously. In any

case, the flood was associated with violent tectonic activity. Most creation scientists believe that the continents were connected before the flood into a single landmass which split apart during the Genesis flood. The enormous energy from this geological activity would warm the ocean waters substantially.

Second, the volcanic activity would eject aerosols into the Earth's atmosphere. This would continue to some extent even after the waters from the flood retreated and the land appeared. These aerosols reflect some sunlight back into space. Since less sunlight reaches the continents, they would be cooler than normal. Even today when a major volcano erupts, it results in a temporary reduction in Earth's temperature. Warm oceans and cool continents are the ideal conditions for the formation of glaciers. The warm ocean water would evaporate, and the moist air would move over the cool land masses. As the air cools, it cannot maintain its moisture, and snow would fall onto the land.

In the centuries that followed the global flood, the ice sheets built up over time. The warm oceans along with the aerosols in the atmosphere would have resulted in mild seasons: relatively cool summers and warm winters. Since much of the Earth's water would be locked up in glaciers, the oceans would have been over 300 feet lower than they are today. This would result in natural land bridges (and ice bridges) between land masses that today are separated by water. This is an important consideration because the descendants of the animals aboard Noah's ark were dispersing to the various parts of the world. People sometimes ask how the animals got from one continent to another, without realizing that the lower ocean levels would result in natural land and ice bridges.

Although the exact timescale is difficult to estimate, most creation scientists believe that the ice age built up for a few centuries after the global flood, and then receded over the next few centuries as geological



activity waned. This is significant because it means that certain biblical persons would have lived during the ice age. These include Abraham and Job.

Our best estimate places the global flood around the year 2348 B.C. From the information provided in the genealogies in Genesis chapter 11, we know that Abraham was born at least 292 years after the global flood, and hence around the year 2056 B.C. He lived to an age of 175 years (Genesis 25:7). So, Abraham lived at around the time creation scientists estimate to be near the peak of the ice age. Consequently, the climate in the area would have been somewhat different from what it is today.

We see an example of this in the account of the separation of Lot's family from Abraham's as recorded in Genesis 13. Recall, Lot chose to live in the valley of the Jordon near Sodom, and eventually in Sodom, because it was lush and well-watered everywhere (Genesis 13:10-11). Today, this region is a desert. But during the ice age, the cooler temperatures and mild seasons would have made it the lush land the Bible describes.

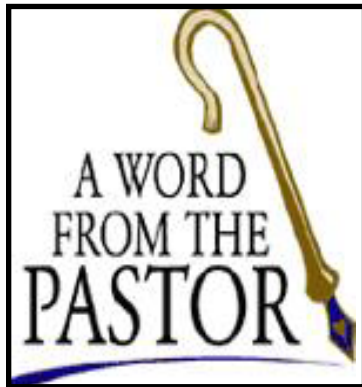
Although we do not know the precise date when Job lived, most scholars believe that he lived around the same time as Abraham, roughly 2000 B.C. Job's lifespan of more than 140 and possibly more than 200 years is consistent with the lifespan of human beings at that time. And Job's wealth is described in terms of livestock rather than silver or gold, which is consistent with the time of Abraham.

The text of Job contains some hints that Job indeed lived during the ice age. The book of Job has more references to ice than any other book of the Bible (Job 6:16, 37:10, 38:29). The book of Job also has five references to snow – more than any other book of the Bible (Job 6:16, 9:30, 24:29, 37:6, 38:22). This suggests that Job was very familiar with ice and snow. Job lived in the land of Uz, which we believe to be south of Israel, in the northwest part of Arabia. This area is quite warm today and snow is uncommon. But during the ice age, things would have been different.

We have good evidence from science and from the text of Scripture that an ice age occurred shortly after the global flood and as a direct consequence of it. With so much of Earth's water trapped in glaciers, the ocean levels would have been at least 300 feet lower than today, resulting in land bridges and ice bridges between the continents. This was no accident. It was by the providence of God and helped the animals migrate to the various continents.

[footnotes in article at

<https://biblicalscienceinstitute.com/origins/the-ice-age/>]



God Created the Heavens and the Earth

The world and all that is in it was created by God. The universe did not originate on its own. It didn't evolve out of a primeval bog. God created it. He spoke, and things that were not, came into existence.

God is the subject of the first verse in the Bible. "In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth" (Gen 1:1). Thirty-one times the proper name God appears in Genesis one. And the first verb in the Bible that goes with this proper noun states what God did. He created the heavens and the earth.

The divine name, God, is a translation of the Hebrew word, *Elohim*. The root meaning of this word is "power, strength, glory" (John Davis). The One who bears this name displays these attributes. False gods are not worthy of the name, yet they share it.

Elohim is a plural word. The *im* ending in Hebrew makes it plural. The word can be translated with the lower case *g* and an *s* on the end – *gods*. It is translated 253 times this way in the ESV. It refers to false gods, to the gods of the Egyptians or some other people.

Because this word is plural does not mean it should be translated as a plural in Genesis 1:1. An indication that it shouldn't be plural in Genesis 1:1 is because the verb *create*, which should grammatically agree with it, is singular. In other words, we have a plural noun joined to a singular verb. This indicates that though the noun is plural, it signifies a singular being.

Why use the plural then? The plural is used in order to emphasize the *fullness* of the majesty, power, and glory of the One who bears this name. Some see resident in the use of the plural word the doctrine of the Trinity, one God in three persons.

Creating is the manifestation of the infinite power, superlative glory, and supreme majesty of the one true God. "For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes, His eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly seen, being understood through what has been made, so that they are without excuse" (Rom 1:20 NAS).

Wilhelmus a'Brackel, a Dutch theologian of many years ago, said that the creation of the world by One called *Elohim* came to pass in this way:

- 1) It came about by the exercise of *omnipotent power*. God, merely by a singular verbal command of his omnipotent will, which occurred without the least exertion on his part, brought all that is into being! "Let there be light, and there was light," etc. "Hast

thou not known? Hast thou not heard, that the everlasting God, the LORD, the Creator of the ends of the earth, fainteth not, neither is weary?" (Isa. 40:28).

- 2) It came about by virtue of His *absolute sovereignty*. By his power, God was able to create the world, and by his absolute sovereignty He could have also refrained from doing so. He also could have created several worlds. But He only made this one world because it pleased him to do so, and he brought it forth at the precise moment according to His volitional decree.
- 3) It came about by the result of His *infinite wisdom*. This wisdom can neither be searched out anywhere in the entire universe, nor can it be found by examining the orderliness, motion, and interrelatedness of secondary causes; nor can it be traced even in a simple flower—although all of these reveal a glimmer of it. Here one must end with the exclamation, "In wisdom hast Thou made them all" (Ps 104:24). This wisdom is wonderfully manifested in the orderly fashion in which everything that has been created continues from the beginning.

The God revealed in Genesis, and throughout the rest of the Bible, is a great and glorious God! What splendid power and greatness God displayed by his creation. God is to be praised as Creator. That is what the Psalmist did (see Ps 104). When we behold the beauty and the intricate design of the universe, we ought to lift up our voices in praise to the One who created it.

We cannot overestimate the importance of Genesis 1:1. Hear the venerable Henry Morris describe what this verse does. It refutes *atheism*, because the universe was created by *God*. It refutes *pantheism*, for God is *transcendent* to that which He created. It refutes *polytheism*, for *one* God created all things. It refutes *materialism*, for matter had a beginning. It refutes *dualism*, because God was *alone* when He created. It refutes *humanism*, because God, *not man*, is the ultimate reality. It refutes *evolutionism*, because God *created* all things.

The universe had a beginning. It was created by the eternal God. Genesis 1:1 informs us that this sovereign, all-powerful God, created it *ex nihilo*, from nothing. Let us exclaim with the Psalmist who said, "My help cometh from the LORD, which made heaven and earth (121:2 KJV). Let us trust this all-powerful, absolutely sovereign, and infinitely wise God. We are dependent upon him for our very existence for he is our Creator, so let us trust him as our Lord and Redeemer.