

Patterns of Intelligence

CHAPTER 37

WHAT WAS THIS EARTH LIKE PRIOR TO ADAM AND EVE?

So what about the dating of very old species? Where there really animals on this planet many millions of years ago or does the flood (and the leeching of radioactive material from cells), and other factors, explain all of this dating?

Perhaps some animals did live on this planet many millions of years ago. Our planet itself (or at least the materials this planet was made from) are probably billions of years old.

However, even if there were animals on this earth millions of years ago, this in no way challenges LDS doctrine.

For example, the planet given to Christ to organize may have had many millions of fossils on it of both plants and animals **before** it was given to Christ. In fact, there may have been living species and living plants as well as fossilized animals and plants at the time this earth was turned over to Christ.

As another possibility, ask yourself this question: "How long were Adam and Eve in the garden?"

No one knows how long they lived in the Garden of Eden before they fell. It is possible they were in the Garden of Eden for millions of years. Why is this not possible?

There is no indication in the scriptures, that the earth itself, prior to when Adam and Eve became permanent residents, did not experience the death of plants (and possibly animals) **before** Adam and Eve were put into the garden.

In other words, what if this planet had animal life and plant life on it long prior to when Adam and Eve were placed on this planet?

Actually, It was **required** that when Adam and Eve were put on this planet permanently that there were already many **plant species** which did live, or had lived, on this planet.

Some of these species may have already been extinct, having fulfilled their usefulness or for some other reason.

Why would it be **required** that there were plants (but not necessarily animals) on this planet long before Adam and Eve were put on this earth permanently?

Suppose you took a bare planet that had just been created and had never had any life on it. In other words, it was just a giant rock with no life on it.

Would you want to live on this planet?? No, there would be nothing to eat!! Nor could Adam and Eve have had anything to eat in this scenario. Nor would there have been any oxygen for them to breathe.

Think about the moon. Could Adam and Eve have been dropped off on the moon, and left to themselves? Obviously not!! They would not survive for more than a few minutes.

If I was in charge of a bare planet, with no life on it, would I first put dinosaurs on it? No, they would have nothing to eat!! Could you put dinosaurs on the moon? No.

Would I put rabbits on this planet first? No, they would have nothing to eat. Could you put rabbits on the moon? No.

Would I put plants on this planet first? No, even plants could not exist without soil, water and carbon dioxide. Could you plant a rose on the moon? Probably not.

But soil could not exist without bacteria.

Where did oxygen come from? It certainly didn't come from millions of bottles of oxygen.

And so on.

The point is that you cannot just create a bare planet and put humans or plants on it. The planet must first have water, carbon dioxide and many other things. Then microscopic bacteria could be put on it, and then slowly over a great deal of time, more and more advanced plants could be put on the planet.

When a new species is put on this planet the food source of this animal must already be on the planet. Thus, a slow and deliberate progression of plants and eventually animals must be put on this planet, one by one, in order for humans to have water, oxygen, plants and possibly animals to eat.

This is a big planet so it would take a very, very long time to very gradually introduce life on this planet. Life would start simple and slowly get more and more complex. But this did not happen by evolution, it happened because people put them here.

There are no seeds floating around in space.

All of this must have happened **before** humans were put on this planet permanently.

These would not be necessary for temporary visits of humans, but for **permanent residents** on this planet a great deal of work must be done before the permanent residents can be left to themselves on the planet.

My point is that our planet earth had to exist long, long before Adam and Eve were put on this planet as independent and permanent residents!!!

The details of how many plants and animals (if any) were on this planet before Adam and Eve were put here permanently is not know, but trust me, it was a huge number (especially of plants) because the planet had to have a lot of oxygen.

Life had to begin "very, very small" (even if you are a creation scientist) and gradually larger and larger species (which feed on the smaller species which had already been put here), and more complex species, could be put on this earth.

Ultimately Adam and Eve could be left here by themselves.

Could human beings "evolve" from lower species on the moon, even though the moon has lots of water? Obviously not.

All life as we know it has DNA, or at least RNA. And DNA and RNA can only be designed and created by intelligent beings because of permutation issues.

Likewise, the condition of this earth (prior to it being turned over to Christ) is not known.

In summary, the process as we know it was this:

- #1) The earth existed (we do not know what was on it in terms of fossils or oxygen, etc. or its history),
- #2) The existing earth was turned over to Christ and others to "fine-tune,"
- #3) Eventually Adam and Eve were put on this earth permanently.

For item #1 let us look at a quote from True to the Faith:

"From scripture revealed through the Prophet Joseph Smith, we know that in the work of the Creation, the Lord organized elements that had **already existed** (see Abraham 3:24). He did not create the world "out of nothing," as some people believe."
True to the Faith, page 45

For item #2, consider this scripture:

[On the pre-existent world] there stood one among them that was like unto God [this is Christ], and he said unto **those who were with him** ["him" is Christ and his team included Abraham and others]: We will go down, for there is space there, and we will take of **these materials**, and we will make an earth whereon these may dwell.
Abraham 3:24

We know this group included Abraham from comments in the Book of Abraham. We are not told who else was on the team of Christ or how large the "team" was.

I mention all of this to indicate that much needed to be done long, long before Adam and Eve were put and left on this planet permanently (item #3 above).

Note that Christ and his team were given "these materials" in order to create an earth!!

Were "these materials" actually a planet which already had the bones of dinosaurs and millions of other species, both plant and animal species?

We don't know.

We also don't know if there were any living and/or extinct animals when Adam and Eve were put here permanently, but we absolutely know that living plants were here before they were put here because they had to breathe oxygen!!

During this long, long process of creation, as discussed above, many of the plants (and possibly animals) would have died, thus there could have been many fossils on this planet before Adam and Eve were left here permanently or even before Christ was given this planet.

My point is that the existence of fossils on this planet (which are dated to be many millions of years old) do not in any way challenge LDS doctrine, even if the dating methods were accurate (which they are not).

Heavenly Father is in charge of everything to do with this earth:

1 The words of God, which he spake unto Moses at a time when Moses was caught up into an exceedingly high mountain,

2 And he saw God face to face, and he talked with him, and the glory of God was upon Moses; therefore Moses could endure his presence.

3 And God spake unto Moses, saying: Behold, I am the Lord God Almighty, and Endless is my name; for I am without beginning of days or end of years; and is not this endless?

4 And, behold, **thou art my son**; wherefore look, and I will show thee the workmanship of mine hands; but not all, for my works are without end, and also my words, for they never cease.

5 Wherefore, no man can behold all my works, except he behold all my glory; and no man can behold all my glory, and afterwards remain in the flesh on the earth.

Moses 1:1-5

There is nothing which is TRUE which conflicts with the revealed scriptures of the prophets even though many scriptures have still not been revealed.