

*Faith
and Science*

*by
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Cover Image

While the bee samples nectar from the Passion flower with its proboscis, its back rubs against the anther; pollen transfers to its back. The green anther connects, by filament, to the central stalk.

Flying to another plant, the bee will transfer pollen to the dark-coloured stigma at the end of the purple-coloured style, thence, through the style to the ovary, here looking like a green olive, where fertilisation takes place.

Anther and filament - the 'male' part - are together referred to as the stamen. Stigma, style and ovary - the 'female' part - are together called the pistil.

Preface to Joanna Faith

Faith is not afraid of truth, for there is nothing that, ever, contradicts Him who is the Truth.

The apostle tells us, Hebrews 11:3, that 'through faith, we understand . . . ' Without faith, we shall understand nothing. We shall be lost in a welter of data, confounded by our own suppositions, distracted by a multitude of theories, and helpless in an existence that is, utterly, incomprehensible.

I am the way - saith Jesus Christ - the Truth and the Life. No man cometh to the Father, but by me. Without Him who was from the beginning, the Word from the beginning, we shall abide in darkness.

Nigel Johnstone

Worcestershire, march 2014.

Faith and Science

Science in the Workplace

I was converted during my teens whilst at school in Glasgow. Prior to conversion, although brought up as a 'son of the manse' and privileged to attend a very good school through the generosity of a benefactor, I was becoming rebellious. An habitual shoplifter, liar and blasphemer, I deliberately failed my Chemistry exam, refusing to do any more than write my name at the top of the page, and I had to repeat a year. But then, converted through hearing the word of God, I forsook stealing, lying and blaspheming, began to study properly at school, then did farm work during the summer holiday to pay back what I had stolen. But I had much to learn and much to experience of Jesus Christ.

Leaving school with six Scottish Highers in 1970, I then moved to Buckinghamshire in order to be instructed in the gospel of Jesus Christ. There, I managed to find employment for eight years with Ranks Hovis McDougall at the Lord Rank Research Centre which funded my day release to obtain a Higher National Certificate in Chemistry. I once, very briefly, met Lord Rank in a corridor, some time before his decease. Starting in the Biochemistry Department, assisting with projects on starch gelatinisation, I later moved to the Analytical Department and specialised in Amino Acid Analysis, Infra Red Spectroscopy, Gas Chromatographic Analysis and in Pesticide Residue Analysis -

analysing organochlorine residues down to parts per billion levels.

Organochlorine residues were an issue at the time; oat flour being used in baby food and the residues requiring to be analysed for regulatory purposes. In attempting to perfect the technique used - sophisticated organic extraction followed by analysis using electron capture detection linked to Gas Chromatographic separation - I involved the Flour Milling and Baking Research Association and the Laboratory of the Government Chemist in collaborative tests.

In 1979, funded by another food company in further day release, I became a Licentiate of the Royal Society of Chemistry, and after being briefly trained in Zurich, Munich and Milan by a subsidiary of Hoffmann La Roche, I was employed by them to visit hospitals and scientific establishments in England, representing them as a Product Specialist in Spectrophotometry, Amino Acid Analysis and Gas Chromatography. I visited such places as the Centre for Applied Microbiological Research in Wiltshire, more commonly known as Porton Down, the Atomic Energy Research Establishment in Harwell and the Medical Research Centre in Middlesex.

For another eight years, during the eighties and nineties, I also worked in both the Production and Process Development Departments of a company licensed by the Atomic Energy Authority. Trained to use a variety of radioisotopes, I purified materials with High Pressure Liquid Chromatography for use in medical research, principally components of DNA containing radioactive isotopes attached for imaging purposes. I was also regularly responsible for a Strontium Plant which yielded a short lived radioisotope used in cancer treatment and cancer research.

There was, of course, a degree of risk involved in using hazardous materials. As a young technician I managed, through lack of understanding the way anti-bumping granules work, to

blow up a flask of solvent in a fume cupboard and lost my eyelashes and parts of my shirt when the flames shot out from the enclosure. The company paid for a new shirt. Thankfully, my eyesight was only temporarily affected and the burns on my face soon healed. I also managed to stab myself in the hand with broken glass tubing - a common laboratory accident when putting tubing into rubber bungs - and I still have the scars of the stitches.

Later, voluntarily attached to an Emergency Squad which responded to Radiation and Contamination incidents, I had to take the decision to run through a cloud of smoke issuing from a building housing a radioactive facility with a particularly nasty isotope. Thankfully, the fire had not reached the facility and the smoke did me no harm. Our team was successful and the town was not required to evacuate.

At other times in my working life, I have done other things, working in the Retail Trade, the Motor Trade and in the Security business. Semi-retired at the age of 60 in 2011, I have now written a dozen doctrinal books and one thousand verses of scriptural verse. I am the sole Director of Belmont Publications.

Faith and Science Transcript

Lecture at Upton Memorial Hall, Upton on Severn, monday 17th march 2014. Slight alterations are made to convey extempore speech into grammatical writing. Square brackets indicate additions, alterations and references. The original lecture video is on YouTube. See 'Faith and Science', Belmont Publications.

Welcome to this lecture which is entitled, Faith and Science. We are in Upton memorial hall in the village of Upton on Severn. Last week, or so, there were gatherings in the locality under the heading, 'Science and Faith' and, having initially purposed to attend these gatherings, I had brief correspondence with the organisers. But once I looked at the structure of the

arrangements and once I looked at who would be speaking at the meetings, I withdrew my support, one of my main reasons for doing so being the actual title of the gatherings, 'Science and faith'.

I don't think that works. I don't think it's appropriate. I don't think it's logical. And that's why this lecture is titled, 'Faith and Science'.

The apostle tells us that he that cometh unto God must believe that he is and that he is the rewarder of them that diligently seek him. [Hebrews 11:6.] He that cometh unto God *must* believe that he is, before he cometh. And even before he *purposes* to come, he must believe that God is. And he must believe that God is the rewarder of them that diligently seek him. If a man wishes to know God and to come unto God, this is not some immediate, impetuous decision of a moment and will be over in a moment as one act of a lifetime. No, this is a matter of diligence. This is a matter of a man who diligently determines to *seek* God, to *find* God, to *know* God.

And in order to do so, he *must* believe that God *is*; logically, sensibly. In the very nature of God, he is not known through the creation. I'll repeat that. In the very nature of God, he is not known through the creation. Nor can he be. It is true he has *expressed* himself in creation, in the very things he has made; the very things that can be seen and appreciated and experienced and felt and heard. These things are an *expression* of God but this is not God himself. Nor can he personally be known through it. It is not possible - to know the Creator through, or by means of, the creation. The Creator created the creation but he, himself, is not that creation. If a man would know God then he wishes to know the *Uncreated*. And that is not possible, *through* that which *is* created; in very logic; in very sense and reason. It is not so nor can it be so.

God is everlasting. In the very nature of God he *is* everlasting. He

is not in time or of time. In his very nature he has no beginning and no ending. He is the eternal, the everlasting, in his very nature. In the very nature of God, there is one God. There *cannot* be another god. It is not possible. It is not logical. It is unreasonable to think so. Any man who thinks there is a plurality of gods and all men may have their own god, is an unreasonable man, living in unreality and in the absence of all logic and sense. In the very nature of God there is *one* God. And in his very nature he has no beginning, no ending. He is the eternal, the everlasting; the Uncreated. He is the One who made all things. This is absolute logic. This is sense. This is reason.

Therefore it is of faith that we begin. We cannot begin with science and end up with faith. It is not possible. He that cometh to God *must* believe that he is. He that cometh to God must rely on God's revelation of himself. It is not possible for a man or many men pursuing, via the creation - through it, by it, with it - to attain to the knowledge of God. It is not possible. In the very nature of humanity; in the very nature of creation; in the very nature of God: it cannot be so. In order to seek and find God, it is necessary that God reveal himself.

And this we see in the very beginning. In the beginning, God created the heavens [sic - see Young's Literal Version of the Hebrew; Genesis 1:1] and the earth. And the Spirit of God moved. And God said Deity created. Deity moved. And Deity spoke. And to the created man, Adam, God spoke: 'Of every tree of the garden, thou mayest freely eat. Of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil - thou dost not eat of that. Freely, he gave the man all the blessing of his own provision, and warned him, 'There is *that* that thou dost not eat of.' *That* is not the way to live. Eat *that* and thou shalt die.

But in so speaking, God revealed *himself*. By communicating, by speaking, by saying *anything* God revealed his existence and his presence to the man he had created. And in the speech which he spoke is all that the man needed. God gave him *everything*. In his

creation was everything [provided] that the man needed; and in God's speech was all the instruction man needed. Everything was given freely, generously, liberally, abundantly - everything. Revelation was given, in communication; in an abundance.

And it is so, now, this very day, that revelation - in an abundance - is given, for our instruction, for our edification; for every purpose - for our exhortation, for our knowledge. Everything is given:

Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy, Joshua, Judges, Ruth, Samuel, Kings, Chronicles, Ezra, Nehemiah, Esther, Job, Psalms, Proverbs, Song of Solomon, Ecclesiastes, Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, Daniel, Hosea, Joel, Amos, Obadiah, Jonah, Micah, Nahum, Habakkuk, Zephaniah, Haggai, Zechariah, Malachi.

Matthew, Mark, Luke, John, Acts, Romans, Corinthians, Galatians, Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians, Thessalonians, Timothy, Titus, [Philemon], Hebrews, James, Peter, John, Jude and Revelation.

An *abundance* ! Everything necessary. Everything has been given.

No, God is not known in the creation - in and of itself. It is not possible. And therefore God is not known through science - that is, the knowledge of that creation; the examination of the creation. God is not known that way. For God is a Spirit.

Jesus said the words, '*Pneuma ho Theos*'. 'Spirit, the God.'
God is a Spirit. [John 4:24.] And they that worship him *must* worship him in spirit and in truth. And those who come unto him *must* do so in an attitude of worship. No man who presumes to inspect the Almighty or to examine the Almighty or to put the Almighty under scrutiny can expect to find him. He that cometh unto God must believe that he is and that he is the rewarder of them that diligently *seek* him. And seek him in a way of spiritual

worship.

In his very nature, God is spirit.
And he is approached . . . in spirit.
And he is known - in a spirit of worship.
'In spirit and in truth.'

In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth.
But what of man ?
What did man do ?
Well, we know what man has done.
We know what man has become.

And there was a judgment on man. The whole world came under judgment. In the days of Noah, a catastrophic Flood upon the earth was necessary to remove that which was there - that to which mankind had descended; and not only mankind. There was that which was not of man and which was such that the whole scenario must be brought to an end - in judgment.

In the days of Noah was it so. Forty days and forty nights it rained on the earth. [Genesis 7:4.] It had never rained before. [Genesis 2:5,6.] Prior to that, a mist came up from the ground and watered the face of the earth. There had been no rain. Peter the apostle tells us, of that age, that the earth stood out of the water and in the water. [II Peter 3:5.] My own personal understanding of this matter is that there was what might be termed a 'water canopy'. I think it highly likely that there was a canopy of water vapour encircling the earth which was protective; protective, for example, with regard to cosmic radiation; protective, with regard to climate. The climate would have been, I suppose and understand, humid; temperate; moderate; highly conducive to life and to fruitful life; highly conducive to longevity. And we see longevity in that age.

But there were changes brought about because of judgment. God spared not the old world, says Peter the apostle [II Peter 2:5.],

the apostle of Jesus Christ, who was with Christ for three years - the apostle Peter who was a fisherman. He fished in the Sea of Galilee, but he went down from Galilee to Jerusalem in the days of John the Baptist and Peter repented and was with John the Baptist, instructed by him, following his ministry, in a baptism of repentance, first, in preparation. Thereafter, came Jesus, and Peter followed Jesus, personally, thereafter returning to the Sea of Galilee and to fishing whereupon Jesus travelled northwards in his ministry and called Peter again, not personally, but this time to minister - to minister to others. And for three years, Peter was with Jesus, even to his death. He was present in the very last stages of Jesus' trial prior to execution.

Peter saw Jesus Christ after Jesus rose from the dead. Peter was with him again and Peter was one of the foremost apostles in the early days of the church after the resurrection and ascension of the Lord Jesus Christ. And Peter the apostle wrote two epistles which are in scripture and he instructs us. He says that God spared not the old world but judged it. God brought down judgment upon that ancient world - that world in which there was that which could not continue. And a Flood came upon the entire globe to the tops of the mountains.

The whole earth was covered, I believe and I understand, from the collapse of the protective water canopy surrounding the earth. This was that which gave the water for the Flood. And it also removed the protective canopy, is my understanding of the situation. Peter also tells us of those angels [II Peter 2:4; I Peter 3:19,20; Jude 6] which had left their first estate, that is, their proper created position. They had left that estate and that was the reason for what was there upon the earth that must be removed from the earth. These angels were reserved to judgment. They were removed from their position and reserved unto judgment.

My understanding is that the removal of these angelic powers - the relinquishing of certain aspects of creation, and the removal

of those powers in control of those aspects - meant that certain features of creation were sacrificed in judgment. God 'spared not'. For God is righteous, and God will relinquish in order to judge righteously.

God is righteous in his very nature. Righteousness is an attribute of Divine nature. For God is right. For God is God. And what God is - is right. It must be so. It is so. For God is. Whom he is and what he is - is right. This is where right comes from. In his very nature God is everlasting, without beginning, without end. In his very nature, who he is and what he is - is right. Anything other, is not right. Anything that is not in alignment with and in agreement with his being, his life, his purpose, his person - anything other; is not right. But God is right. And God will judge righteously.

And God did judge righteously, hence the removal of certain powers and certain authorities of spirit - created spirits in authoritative layers responsible for the consistency of creation; for its holding together.

I very much doubt, personally, that radioactivity - in its very nature, the radioactive decay, the decay of matter spontaneously - I very much doubt that was a feature of original creation, myself. And I cannot accept that radioactivity can be a basis for measuring time. I think it highly likely - in my mind, I am virtually certain - that the removal of these angels, these authorities in creation, had this effect, of a certain imbalance with regard to matter. If that is so - if it was a sudden thing in the days of Noah when judgment fell upon the earth, globally, with water and, it is my understanding, almost certainly, with regard to a certain imbalance in matter (this was a sudden thing in time, which would have had an immense effect at the time and then a continuing effect to this very day) - how is it possible to use *that* as a means of calculating time and calculating the age of the things that we see ? It is not possible.

Nor is it possible to use the atmosphere for there have been changes in the atmosphere, before the Flood, during the Flood, after the Flood. It is not possible to use a gas in the atmosphere to judge of time.

There have been attempts to judge time using the red shift of spectra associated with stars. This has been brought into doubt recently. Anomalies have been found that are just unavoidable. Anomalies, massive anomalies, that throw doubt upon the whole system anyway. But, to my mind, insisting that the red shift is due to objects fleeing away from us is mere supposition. I think it *far* more likely that the retardation of the lower energy of light in the red area of the spectrum would be due to retardation as light travels through vast distances of the medium of space; space, evidently, being not absolutely empty but there being, almost certainly, a construct of some kind. You may call it the Higgs Field, you may call it bosons, you may call it String Theory, you may call it what you will. Evidently space has something there - a field - some kind of structure which it is impossible to determine by any means but several theories suppose it to be there and it is quite logical to expect it to be there. If it is there, then light travelling through it is going to be affected in some way. And we see a shift towards the red.

I would say it is far more likely that the red shift is due to movement through a medium of retardation than it is due to objects fleeing away rapidly. And it makes far more sense.

The writer to the Hebrews tells us [Hebrews 11:3] that things that are seen are not made of things which do not appear. This was written two thousand years ago. We didn't need all the equipment. We didn't need all the particle accelerators. We didn't need all the trillions of dollars spent examining matter to find out that, actually, when you get down to it, there's nothing really there - it's energy.

We were told this two thousand years ago - by means of

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revelation - by the apostle. We were told this; things that are made are made of things that do not appear. Evidently, it is so. And all that's been done with the trillions of dollars and millions of man hours is to affirm what we were told two thousand years ago. Think of all the hospitals we could have had. Think of the benefit there could have been to humanity by spending that money more wisely.

And where are we ?

Where are we, with the intricacies of science and the massive amount of data that has been amassed ?

Where are we ?

Where is humanity ?

Are we any the better ?

What good have computers actually done us - socially, humanly, psychologically, emotionally ?

We could well have done without it all.

Yes, he that cometh unto God must *believe* that he is. The apostle tells us, Without faith [Hebrews 11:6] it is impossible to please God. Without faith, attempting through the created nature, this humanity that God created - using *this* to try and please God. But he created it. Trying to assert oneself and *earn* anything from God. Or find out knowledge with which to impress God. And, oh, men do so.

I have observed during my lifetime many men trying to impress God with their own puny knowledge.

Do you honestly think he's impressed ?

But this is what pleases God - to believe; to trust him.

To hear his word and give weight to his word.

And give credence to him, himself.

To trust him and to believe on him.

And to seek him diligently - in the belief that he will notice. That he will appreciate. And that he will reward.

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And what's the reward ?

God said to Abraham, I am thy shield and thy exceeding great reward.

The reward of finding God
is to find God.

The reward of diligently seeking God is to know him. . . .

Is to find him. . . .

To find whom he truly is

To find whom he is

What he is

To understand his being

To appreciate his nature

And to . . . know . . . his Person.

This is done by faith.

This done believing in God.

And believing in the one whom God has sent, even his own Son -
Jesus Christ.

Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved.

The Trees from the Ground

*This is the first section of the book, 'Knowledge and Life', Belmont
Publications.*

If we do not believe the word of God about the visible, natural creation around us, we can hardly expect to make any progress in understanding. If we disbelieve his word about what can be seen, how shall we ever believe God about what cannot be seen ? If a man so count God a liar about the visible, he shall simply be lost among the very trees that come out of the ground. He shall, then, never perceive anything that is spiritual.

Chemistry

During my teens as a schoolboy in Glasgow, I made it clear to my Chemistry teacher that I did not accept his teaching on the origins of matter, though I did pay attention to the technical subject itself and, later, in 1979, I became a Licentiate of the Royal Institute of Chemistry.

Biology

When the Biology teacher covered evolution in the curriculum he dutifully asked if any disagreed and two of us dutifully raised our hands in opposition.

I did, however, merely out of academic interest, read Darwin's *Origin of Species*, at least until it became pointless reading any further. Which was chapter two, for there the man, in my view at the time, aged seventeen, destroys his own credibility.

Instead, as a teenager, in about 1969, I read the whole of that excellent and highly scientific treatise, *The Genesis Flood*, by Henry M Morris and John C Whitcomb and found myself completely satisfied with their very balanced and sensible technical explanations. I thoroughly recommend it.

Relativity

And I have read all of both of the Einstein books on relativity; the *Special Theory* and the *General Theory*; for I found nothing particularly offensive in them. He assumes that nothing can travel faster than light. He does not prove it; for it cannot be proved. That is because it is not, absolutely, true.

Faith can see - what man can not - the hosts of the Lord who minister in ways that are beyond human comprehension; instantly. Nor need I to vex myself with how it is done. To other beings is it given to minister these matters so that I might

preoccupy myself with that which is spiritual. For time is short and life is uncertain.

The Construct of Space

I have never accepted the reasons generally given for what is called the “red shift”, that is the fact that light coming from distant galaxies shows a retardation of the red end of the spectrum - the lower energy end of the electromagnetic spectrum - that is greater than that at the opposite end, the more energetic, ultra violet end.

As far as I am concerned, space almost certainly has some kind of construct, albeit that no matter is resident in “empty” space. This would agree with Einstein’s theory that space is distorted by matter. If space be distorted then there is something present to be distorted. It would not only agree with the idea of a Higgs field being present but would also agree with current String theory.

Thus if there is something in space, then it is quite logical to suppose that light travelling from distant galaxies will be somewhat retarded during travel. Thence the red, low energy light will be more affected than the higher energy, ultra violet counterpart.

This shift is not, in my view, due to motion. It is more logical to suppose that it is due to retardation.

As an aside, if the Geometry which enables the Einsteinian theory of General Relativity - Riemannian Geometry - is followed logically, it leads to a Euclidean view of space and leads to the furthest star being only fifteen light years away from earth; see Morris and Whitcomb.

I see no reason to be confounded into unbelief because of the convolutions of faithless men. Let reason prevail over madness.

Let logic and wisdom be one's guide.

Molecular Biochemistry

In about 1992, when I was employed in project work which involved DNA and the use of radioisotopes for pharmaceutical and research purposes, I attended a series of lectures on Molecular Biochemistry. I queried the lecturer on his assumptions regarding the origin of living cells and I pointed out to him that any living cell requires the presence of both messenger RNA and DNA for life to be possible. He appeared to have no answer to that, which does not surprise me for it is - utterly - conclusive.

All life on this planet is organic and requires living cells in order for life to exist, to reproduce and to grow. Each and every cell in every living thing on this earth contains the most complex molecules found anywhere on earth. And they are found nowhere else, for most do not survive outside the cell in nature. Except, I notice, DNA, which is remarkably robust.

For any living cell to exist demands the instantaneous conjugation and cooperation of a myriad of highly complex three dimensional protein structures; demands the operation of hundreds of molecules in an array commonly called the Krebs Cycle; demands the choreography, on a truly immense scale, of multitude upon multitude of the most complex molecules in the most intricate of reactions; just to stay alive.

All this and more is necessary to regulate temperature, to regulate pH, to regulate sugars, to regulate ADP and ATP - the means of energy being supplied to the cell - to regulate reproduction, to regulate repair of DNA and a host of other requirements; just to stay alive.

The origin of a cell; the origin of any cell; the origin of all cells must be the design and the accomplishment, instantaneously, of

a Being of Immense Intelligence, of unimaginable Power of breathtaking Creative Ability and of truly stupendous Creative Imagination.

For any man to speak of chemicals - which are not and cannot be found outside of the cell - gathering themselves together and
. I'm sorry, I can't continue with this, I have better things to do.
The rest is just silly.

All I will say is this. Those who have such a philosophy, as I care not even to mention, teach that all that awaits an individual man is the empty darkness of annihilation and they teach that all that awaits mankind is the cold darkness of asteroid destruction and a failing Sun. In short, they have no hope. Only destruction.

Which is appropriate, in my view. For that is what awaits those who do not repent of such deliberate and wilful ungodliness. What awaits the unrepentant is an everlasting destruction, without respite and without cessation.

They will have that for which they seem to yearn so much. And they will have it in abundance.

Ancient Manuscripts and the Flood

Having looked into the existence of ancient manuscripts, I have found that of those which contain decipherable and understood content such that the documents, themselves, can be identified as to the time of their origin, there are three of note.

Linear B, the earliest known form of Greek, the Mycenaean variety, is dated about 1500 BC. The Mature Harappan from the Indus valley is, I understand, dated 2000-2500 BC. And the Sumerian, cuneiform, clay tablets are dated, again, 2000-2500 BC.

I can find no other written records more ancient which can be

deciphered and which can be identified from their content such that they can, sensibly, be assigned a date. Other artefacts exist but they cannot be properly dated with reference to their contents either because the content is pictorial or because the writing is not decipherable. I do not accept radioisotope dating as a valid means of documentation, see later.

Morris and Whitcomb treat of radioisotope dating in their book, *The Genesis Flood*, and discuss the inherent unreliability of it, the fact that different isotopes yield different results and, far more importantly, explain that since we can have no idea of the original abundances at the time of Creation, then we cannot - ever - arrive at logical results. Extrapolation back to zero is not a logical procedure.

Thus there exists no proven, written record, anywhere on earth, before about 2500 BC. The only evidence we have as to history before 2500 BC is Genesis. There is no other evidence.

This only real evidence - Genesis - informs us that there was a catastrophic global flood in about 2500 BC, and this agrees with the above findings regarding written records. Genesis was written by Moses who, because of his position, had complete access to all the Hebrew records extant in his lifetime. He had access to all that came down from Abraham and Isaac and Jacob. And we know that Abraham was contemporary with Noah and lived in the same region. These men, it is clear from the written record, were intelligent men, passionate about history and conscientious about truth.

My own calculations indicate the flood in the days of Noah being within a year or so of 2454 BC, but I would not wish to assert that in any way. I calculated it when I was in my twenties and do not, at all, wish to be categorical about it. But I have recalculated it recently and I still arrive at the same date.

I am well aware that some of the massive redwood trees in

North America show ring structures older than that but I, personally, accept that such trees could have survived prolonged submersion, even in salt water. In any case, ring counting is nowhere near as simple as it sounds, nor is the interpretation of the actual rings an easy matter.

The fact is that any other opinions are sheer conjecture since they are not based on real evidence, but on theories which just do not stand up in their own right, even when considered in isolation from the real evidence.

Paleontology

I neither need, nor wish, to add to what Morris and Whitcomb express about this subject, except to indicate that there is only the merest hint in Genesis as to what we now have seen in excavations. What we see is that which is grotesque. What we see is mass extinction, suddenly.

Moses informs us in Genesis of *nephilim*. The Hebrew word indicates a distorted form of life which falls to the ground. And the context has something to tell us about that. Other than that, we know that what God saw on earth caused him such grief that he repented that he had made man. And he washed the earth clean.

To dwell on this, is both grievous and unedifying.

Radioisotopic Abundance

I would be surprised if radioactive decay was original to the creation. The very word “decay” and the nature of radiation lead me to suspect that it was not, in the beginning, a part of that which was “very good”. But as an Analytical Chemist, once a Licentiate of the Royal Society, specialising in chromatographic analysis of components down to parts per billion, I am aware of the complexities of spectroscopic analysis; aware of the very

unreliable methods of rock analysis; aware of the fact that sedimentary rock was definitely laid down in the aftermath of the Great Flood; aware of the fact that rock originates from that which may be molten; and aware of the fact that isotopic abundance is a mixed matter of creation, sedimentation and, only then, radioactive decay.

To build not merely a natural scientific theory, but a whole philosophy on such a spurious, unreliable technique and a wholly unsupportable prejudice is sheer madness and the essence of blind bigotry. It is also plain stupid when the Real Evidence has been graciously given to us.

The Construct of Matter

The apostle Peter tells us that things which are made, in creation, are made from things which do not appear. And it seems to me that trillions of dollars and millenia of man hours have been utterly wasted, investigating quarks of all flavours, bosons of many forces and leptons of all charges in particle accelerators which all has proved little more than the truth of Peter's statement, whose words cost nothing on earth at all, for they were given by gracious revelation from above.

As I would expect, men have discovered that there is, after all, no material substance there. Matter is a form of energy, in fact. Which is what the apostle told us, two thousand years ago.

How many hospitals we could have had, rather than all the - in my view always obsolete - research equipment. What wealth would have been available to - permanently - end the cultivation of abused drugs in certain countries, by diversion of effort or by enforcement of international law. But no, man has to strive after that which will puff up his haughty mind and elevate his own bloated opinion of himself. And the world deteriorates in every way as he does so.

I have read - and it does not surprise me - that those involved in the Manhattan Project to develop the first fission bomb were not quite sure, right up to the point of ignition, that the explosion would not cause a chain reaction throughout the whole atmosphere of the entire planet. But they still went ahead. Afterwards, the over-intense Oppenheimer is recorded as saying, I am become the destroyer of worlds. Well, no, sir, but you did try.

Technology

A switch is either on or off. We then attach the numbers 1 and 0 to the situation, making binary code. Then we change the base from 2 to 16 and we have hexadecimal code. Then we use logic gates. Then we use simple, three-letter machine code. Then we lay a higher level language, like Cobol, on to the machine code. Then we add graphics. Then we add long wires to connect the thing to other things. Then we lay a transoceanic cable to connect the national things to international things.

Then we publish the glorious gospel of the blessed God around the world.

These things are called computers and they can, also, be used for other purposes.

The Word of God

I felt it necessary, before discussing the content of Genesis, to put those matters in perspective which, to my mind, have been blown, ludicrously, out of all proportion and I have, now, done so. If we cannot sensibly appreciate the trees which come out of the ground; if we make nonsense out of these plain, material, created items, then we shall not get anywhere near the spirituality of the two trees which really matter.

But many, it seems to me, are lost in the trees of the garden that

come out of the ground. I have only one word to say to them. Repent. Have another mind about the creation. Receive a changed mentality, by receiving sensible words. Harken to the voice of Wisdom, Proverbs 8:

From everlasting was I poured, from when all did begin,
or ever earth was. When there were, no depths to be within -
then was I brought forth, when no founts with water did abound;
before the mountains were set down, before the hills were
found.

Song 16:18. "Songs of the Witnesses". Belmont Publications.

My personal experience is that the word of God, from the scriptures, is that which, in the Spirit, fills my heart and mind in a unique way. Not only so, but it is beyond astounding to me to find in my studies the way in which all the scriptures, written across two millenia by many writers, are as one, single book.

This is the book that, from my youth, has been my spiritual meditation.

I find that, within it, the finest details cohere together in wonderful ways that convey spiritual truth in a manner that can only be Divine.

I think that my own books show this, particularly "Redemption and Restoration", "The Everlasting Testament", and The Kaphar section of "The Burden of Sins".

And yet more, I would add, for in my later years, at the age of threescore and some, I become enriched beyond riches, filled with a fulness that is beyond all I ever dreamt of, and find that all else on this earth fades in comparison to the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord through the scriptures which were inspired by God, the Spirit. To God be the glory. Amen.

Mysteries of Creation

Some additional thoughts during the spring equinox, 2014.

A sensitive contemplation of what the Creator has made leads, I believe, to an appreciation of one particular facet of that which is made - that the creation expresses mysteries. My own finding in my own lifetime is that the creative expression of mystery is fascinating and the contemplation of these mysteries, in faith, is deeply rewarding.

Much is learned from just receiving what is there to be appreciated.

Light

God said, 'Let light be' and light is, Genesis 1:1. This is Robert Young's literal translation of the original Hebrew of the Textus Receptus, being the Masoretic Text of antiquity.

Let it be, and it is.

Attempt to monitor it, try to measure it, force something upon it in order to examine it, and it will elude one's grasp. Do *anything* in order to assert humanity over it, and it will not comply. It will go through two slits and express itself in a pattern, but only if is left alone. Interfere - and it will become something other than it truly is. It cannot be trapped for scientific scrutiny.

But let it be; and it is. As saith Moses in the scripture. For light is. And light is a mystery.

Light is invisible. But light illumines. The moon shines, reflecting the light of the sun. But one cannot perceive the light from the sun - against the blackness of the heaven beyond - until the light is reflected. For the light, itself, is invisible. Be in its path, however, and then, the light illumines.

Light will display its colours when it passes through, for example, a cut crystal with interior facets. The 'rainbow' is displayed in seven colours. But of itself, unhindered, light is invisible. The seven colours, when light is in its natural state, merge into - invisibility. It bears within it all that is required to illuminate. It, itself, will reflect all that is there to be seen. It will shine forth, and display all that is within its scope, using only itself to do so.

Let light be; and it is.

Ho Theos phos estin, says John the apostle, I John 1:5.

God is Light.

And in him, is no darkness at all.

And like the created light, any attempt of humanity to assert itself; any effort of humanity to put under scrutiny; any works applied in order to exalt humanity in its pursuit of its own purpose; and He will elude one's grasp. For God is Light. Verily he is a God that hideth himself, O God of Israel, the Saviour, Isaiah 45:15. The proud he knoweth afar off, Psalm 138:6, but the LORD hath respect unto the lowly.

Let light be. And it is. And in its being, it will illumine.

For that is what light does - it illumines.

God is Light. In his very *nature*, God is Light.

The Greek word for righteousness is *dikaios*. *Di* - two; *kaios* - burning. The man sent of God, John 1:6 - John the Baptist - was a burning and a shining lamp, *luchnos*, John 5:35. The burning of *kaios* is expressed twelve times; five times, the number of pilgrimage, in terms of illumination and cleansing; seven times in terms of combustive destruction, for God is a consuming fire, Hebrews 12:29.

God is the Father of lights, with whom there is not variation nor

of turning shadow, Hebrews 1:17, from the Englishman's Greek NT literal translation, 1877, of the Stephens Text of 1550.

God is the generator and producer of lights. With him there is no variation. The light is uniform, everywhere, from all angles, illuminating thoroughly and utterly. There is no part in darkness. Nor is there a turning shadow as when the created sun moves in the sky and a shadow is cast which moves with time in its turning. No, the light of the uncreated God is uniform, everywhere, throughout, casting no shadow; leaving no area without total illumination.

And the light which is God will illuminate a man.
And that light will expose.
Utterly.

To some, that light shall be an exposing, cleansing and purifying light.

Unto you that fear my name, Malachi 4:2, shall the sun of righteousness arise with healing in his beams. *Kanaph* is wings or skirts; beams is an understandable rendering, but the original meaning should be borne in mind.

Once the messenger of preparation is come, Malachi 3:1, who is John the Baptist, Mark 1:2, and all like unto him, then the LORD of hosts shall send the Lord, who is the messenger of the covenant, Malachi 3:1, again. Many say they delight in him, the Christ, but once he is come, who shall abide the day of his coming? And who shall stand when he appeareth?

Refuse his coming, yield not to his purifying and he shall be a consuming fire. For the Life is the Light, John 1:4. The Life burns. Righteousness is his very nature. The burning and shining shall light up all that is contrary to and in opposition to, his life; his very being. And if it does not submit to purification - it shall be burnt up in everlasting destruction. For God is. And God is righteous in his very nature.

God is Light.

In creation, light - always - comes from burning. Ignition, of some kind, is essential to produce light.

The burning is the source of the light.

The Life is the Light.

For he is like a refiner's fire, and he shall sit as a refiner and purifier of silver: and he shall purify the sons of Levi, and purge them as gold and silver, that they may offer unto the LORD an offering in righteousness.

As the furnace burns, as bellows force oxygen into the blaze till the metal is red hot and even beyond, to white heat, and the metal flows like water and the impurities rise to the surface of the molten, fiery liquor - so shall the LORD sit, impassive, as the fires of affliction and the roastings of persecution and the long trials of providence purify his sons; the sons of priestliness. He shall not spare; he shall not move; he shall watch, only.

Again, and again; and yet, again, shall the metal be thrust into the furnace, till seven times; it will melt; it will be heated till it almost boils. There is no other way. And they that endure such purifying shall come forth as gold like glass. The light goes right through them; nought hinders; there is no contradiction; nothing is left but purity. Revelation 21:21.

These - and no other - shall offer an offering in righteousness. These shall enter into the revelation of the righteousness of God. These shall believe in the demonstration of righteousness at Skull Place. To these shall be reckoned righteousness, even the only righteousness that exists - the righteousness of God. Amen.

For God is Light.

And therein, lies wondrous mystery.

Amen.

The Firmament

In the firmament above, I see, by day, the sun and, by night, the moon. Every so often, one goes behind the other and is eclipsed. At that time it becomes very noticeable that these two bodies are exactly - absolutely exactly - of the same size and shape as one another, apparently, in their perceived aspect in the firmament. For just a few seconds, one covers the other as they move.

The sun, by day, high above the horizon, is of a size and shape that is not in the slightest threatening or disturbing; rather comforting. I am told it is at an unimaginable distance from earth. I have seen images of fearful flames rising from its surface in such a way that indicates vast and powerful fields of some kind that shape the flames and pull them back in arcs to the sun's fiery surface. I am told that streams of particles shoot out from all directions and betimes these interfere with our electronics on earth.

Though of immensity beyond my comprehension; though imbued with heat from an atomic inferno, as we suppose; though roiling with electrical and magnetic disturbance of gigantic proportions, yet this body, to my sight and apprehension, is a comfort in the firmament. It warms; it gives light - and thence, in photosynthesis, life. And its size above me is not overpowering. Were it much larger, it would be daunting; larger still and it would be overbearing; larger than that, it would be a terror and I would dread its rising. I would hide from it by day and I would be a creature of the night.

Reliable to the second are these lights in the heavens. They give constancy; they regulate day and night, seasons, months and years.

For a man such as I, are these immense bodies a comfort, an identical size and shape, and a timepiece by which to organise my activity upon the earth. And I believe that He who provided

them is expressed by them; constant, benevolent, lifegiving, overseeing, regulating, commanding, providing.

Nobody has yet been able to understand what keeps the sun, the moon and the earth together in their relationship. The word 'gravity' does not actually convey any information whatsoever. Less information, still, is expressed in the odd coupling of the two words, gravity and waves. Mr Einstein tells me, in his second book, General Relativity, that there is no such thing, really, as gravity, for it is space itself that responds to mass and the distortion of space that draws one object to another.

If it is a force of any kind, then it must be instantaneous. Else would the objects gradually drift apart, I think. If a wave, that would mean a 'wave' travelling instantly, faster than the speed of light. Why should distinct objects stay together ? Why do my feet stay upon the ground ?

I know it is ordained to be so, but how it works - remains a mystery.

Cellular Structure

Such is the height of trees that it would be impossible to pump water, using conventional pumps to such a height. It is physically impossible, I mean physically and also I mean the laws of physics, to do so. Nor does capillary action explain the process; I understand the stresses to be far too great. It would appear that water flows from the roots deep underground, through trunk branch and twig, to the leaf where the water vapour exits from the stomata, by means of passing through each cell on the journey. It is an orchestrated matter.

My own body consists of a vast number of cells of different types: neurons, connective tissue, red blood cells, lymphocytes and the many specialised cells of organs such as liver, kidney and so forth; an immense array of specialisation. The orchestration of

these individual cells is beyond comprehension, as is the exceedingly complex biochemical and chemical organisation within each, single cell. And how, just how, can all this possibly be continuing, without my giving it one, single thought as I sit here and concentrate on serving my Lord by pressing my fingers on the keys of a keyboard ?

It is an utter mystery.

Thought and Mind

Then how, also, can a pound or few of white matter in my skull have anything whatsoever to do with my consciousness ? Men may observe imaging phenomena in the brain and carry out various experiments involving glucose but nobody has a single clue exactly how - or even vaguely how -conscious thought can possibly be generated in the mind by cellular structure. Nor, I believe, is it, exactly, for to me there is no possible doubt that there is an immaterial mind.

The interface between the exterior creation, the senses which perceive it and the consciousness that is aware of the perception is an utter mystery. The immaterial being that exists - 'I' - has a conscious existence and a preceptive awareness, via senses and through mental process, of that which is substantial and material. And therein lies sheer mystery, beyond comprehension and beyond investigation.

Amen.

Nigel Johnstone

Worcestershire, march 2014.