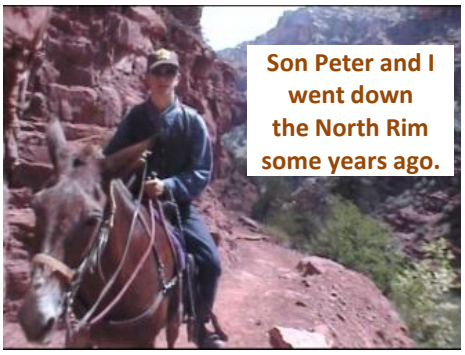
GRAND CANYON YOUNG!

Paul G. Humber, 2017

The Grand Canyon: Monument to an Ancient Earth (Kregel, 2016) fails to prove its case for multiple reasons. The biggest problem I had with it is no substantive justification for uniformity of sediment supposedly for millions of years and then switching to another type. It said on page 204), "Flood geology arguments often have a ring of plausibility to them when they are applied to one layer or one feature in isolation, but there is **no way** to piece together all the individual explanations into a coherent whole" (emphasis added). Well, as a matter of fact, there is, and I give the main parameters of a "coherent whole" in the next several paragraphs.



Son Peter and I went down the North Rim some years ago.

First, the Grand Canyon has different layers such as limestone, shale, and sandstone. The segregation of the layers is not a problem for me but is a huge problem for millions-of-years. I explain how very soon, but first let me expand my view.

In one year, there certainly would be time for the mixing around of things (water, mud, and biomass). Just think of the double low and high tides EACH day. Additionally, volcanic eruptions would play a major role as well as tectonic activity, and earthquakes producing surges and tsunamis. This would not be a quiet settling of sediments. True, sediments do tend to settle by density, and such is also a factor. My dynamic view sees the water in the upper levels as being moderately clear of mud, slop, and sludge, but nearer the bottom there would involve a turmoil of miry muck, slimy slurries, and biomass. As the flood waters arrived at a temporary high tide, there would be abatement, when deposits would be left during the several-hour retreat to the next low tide. Such deposits would be left to settle, dry and even harden until the returning waters ascended even higher for the next high tide. Wouldn't that next high tide wash away any track-marks made during the preceding 6-12 hours? Not always. Cement (thinking broadly, e.g. Cretaceous carbonate rock) can harden in mere hours. Tracks at the famous Paluxy site solidified. 6-12 hours is plenty of time for some sediment to harden, enough to preserve impressions from crawling creatures and even egg-nests partially arranged by dinosaurs in distress. Even a distressed ichthyosaur elsewhere was in the process of birthing a bay ichthyosaur when all were captured in a sedimentary net.

The text says, "The gently formed and exquisitely preserved tracks are extremely difficult to reconcile with flood geology" (p71), but it is not "extremely difficult." Later, the text says (p117), "The short time frame of the flood would be insufficient for the flood deposits to have hardened into rock … had to take place while the sediments were still soft." But this, too, is false. It does not take millions of years for sediments (e.g. Cretaceous carbonate) to harden. Cement hardens in mere hours.

Again, on p141, the book asks, "… why are there intact dinosaur footprints trails in multiple layers of the higher Grand Staircase rocks, since footprints should not have been preserved at any stage of a raging flood? And how could dinosaurs have laid their eggs in nests anywhere on planet Earth months into a global, catastrophic flood with tsunamis sweeping the continents from coast to coast?" It all makes much sense, as referred to above. Dinosaurs, not wanting to be drowned, would certainly climb to higher ground, and also swim. Time came for some female dinosaurs to lay eggs during the stress and trauma of having to escape rising waters. They did just that, and the sediment had sufficiently hardened to hold the eggs more-or-less in place. We have noted even in recent years the absence of large animals from coastal regions where a tsunami

was coming. They have an almost uncanny perception that something is about to happen that is not quite right and leave the area.

Page 166 gives a very misleading diagram of “soft sediments” sagging (due to lack of hardening), but before the cutting of the Grand Canyon, most layers were flat. Many years later, in relation to the breaching lake dammed behind the uplifted plateau, the pancaked layers of the plateau were cut through forming the Grand Canyon.

Of course, the pancake layering would not happen all at once (simultaneously) but sequentially. The rain stopped after 40 days, but the ebb and flow of tidal action of the flood waters continued for that year. There would be all kinds of opportunities for layers to be deposited—some possibly quite different from the layer deposited just 12 hours prior. One layer could have one type of sediment with animals caught up in it. Nautiloids, for example, were together in schools, and many were captured in the lime-mud net in part of what we call the Redwall Limestone. Thus, one layer could have marine fossils; another sediment of a different type with minimal fossils. Again, dinosaurs did not die at the lower levels because they were on the move, running to higher ground. They were not waiting around for trilobites to become encased, but they themselves eventually ran out of high land and became fossils themselves.

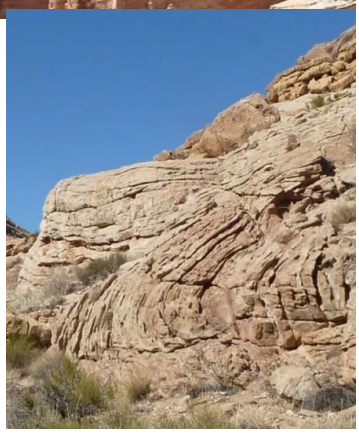
The evolutionary view, by way of contrast, is radically different and makes little sense. In that scenario, you have layers of a single consistency spanning millions of years! Then, very quickly, they give way to completely different types—also spanning millions of years. How could this happen? In one geological-moment you have shale (or whatever) and the next moment you have something very different with little evidence of intermixing or even erosion between. Maybe the next layer, for example is calcium carbonate limestone. You can see the smooth, horizontal layers for miles all over the Grand Canyon. Where in the book did anyone convincingly address this millions-of-years-for-each-uniform-layer problem? On page 65, it says, “The sedimentary layers found in the Grand Canyon can be easily explained by a succession of rising and falling sea levels.” I can sort of give assent to this, and I provided a mechanism (daily tides). What mechanism does the book give for rising and falling sea levels and for uniform layers for millions of years that suddenly switch to a different type of sediment? The global flood explains it, but uniformitarian geology fails. This is a huge and glaring problem for conventionalists; though I’m sure many will just ignore it.

COCONINO

The second big problem I have with the book relates to the Coconino Sandstone. The text says, “The Coconino Sandstone in the Grand Canyon is one of the best examples in the world of wind-deposited sandstone”(pp58-9), but there is huge evidence that it was **not** air-deposited. The Coconino is a huge layer, but some hold to the view that the layer under the Coconino was water deposited and that the layer above was also water deposited. In other words, according to conventional thinking, there were water depositions for millions of years, then came a desert with tons of particles blowing around in the air for millions of years, and, after that, water depositions started up again for millions of years. This does not make sense. Tidal depositions during a flood-year is much more coherent.

Dr. John Whitmore is a professor of geology at Cedarville University. He wrote an article, “The Petrology of the Coconino Sandstone (Permian), Arizona, USA.” Here is a quotation from it, “A close examination of the petrology of the Coconino Sandstone yields data that is hard to reconcile with the standard eolian [air] depositional model. The mineralogy of the formation is quite unexpected. Mica occurs in almost every thin section studied as trace amounts, and is found throughout the formation both laterally and vertically. It is difficult to understand how mica could survive an abrasive eolian climate, particularly when long distance transport is invoked.”

Here is another article he wrote, “Intraformational Parabolic Recumbent Folds in the Coconino Sandstone (Permian) and Two Other Formations in Sedona, Arizona (USA).” Again, he wrote of the Coconino Sandstone, “Recumbent cross-bed sets occur over a wide area (>375 km2 [144 mi2]) at many different locations and horizons in the Sedona area, especially within the Coconino Sandstone. Deformation resulting from slumping dunes (dry or damp) is ruled out because of the nature of the deformation along cross-bed dip, the size and length of the deformation along horizontal bedding planes (sometimes up to 170 m [557 ft] along dip) and the lack of small faults usually concurrent with such slumping known from modern dunes … Parabolic recumbent folds (PRFs) have been produced experimentally, **but only in water-saturated sands** (McKee, Reynolds, and Baker 1962a, 1962b) and have been observed in many modern and ancient subaqueous sandstones.”



Here is a caption for the first image to the right: “A large parabolic → recumbent fold … occurring in the ‘Lizard Head’ in the Coconino Sandstone of Capitol Butte.” Here is second caption for the below image: “We located the fold McKee (1979) interpreted as an eolian slump in the Coconino Sandstone, Wupatki National Monument, Arizona (WNM-1). Field evidence suggests it is a large parabolic recumbent fold. The fold occurs near the top of the Coconino.” →→→→→

He concluded, “We have shown that intraformational parabolic recumbent folds (PRFs) are present in the cross-bedded portions of the Schnebly Hill, Coconino Sandstone, and Toroweap Formations in the area around Sedona, Arizona. These types of structures can only be formed by strong water currents in a subaqueous setting. We base our conclusions on the following lines of evidence: **1)** These kinds of structures have **only been reported** from subaqueous depositional settings (both fluvial and marine). **2)** These kinds of structures have been formed in laboratory settings, but **only subaqueously**. **3)** These kinds of structures have **not** been found in modern eolian settings. **4)** Deformational structures known in modern eolian dunes are quite different in form and scale from those we report. **5)** Our petrographic observations are more consistent with a subaqueous than an eolian environment for the Coconino. …”

Steven E. Farkas wrote in the *Journal of Sedimentary Petrology* about cross-lamination in Wisconsin, “The great majority of cross-lamination observed in the Franconia Formation is trough cross-lamination type. The mean inclination of the cross-laminae falls well within the limits allotted to the angle of repose of a **water deposited sand**” (cf. Steven E. Farkas, “Cross-Lamination Analysis in the Upper Cambrian Franconia Formation of Wisconsin”,

Journal of Sedimentary Petrology, Sept 1960). The same can be concluded from the published measured cross-bed angles in the Coconino Sandstone.

There are many other areas of failure in the book as I read through it. For example, on p11, it says the Grand Canyon makes us aware that "our own existence … represent but a tiny sliver of the Earth's history." This is very sad, for it suggests that in the chronology of things, man is not very important. But man is extremely important. He was made on Day 6, and the Lord Jesus Christ, the Greatest Geologist of all time, taught that Adam and Eve were at "the **beginning**" of creation—not at the **end**. The conventional view is that man came long after the billions of years that preceded his arrival. It is very unwise to inform Geologist Jesus about chronology. He made time and was there at the **beginning**!

Additionally, on p21, the book says that Flood Geology has "no physical support for the interpretation of the Grand Canyon geology." This is false, for every particle in the Coconino Sandstone points to the Global Flood. Four pages later it says that people like me "believe … immortal creatures prevailed on planet Earth before Adam and Eve sinned," but Adam and Eve were not "immortal" prior to their sinning, as proven by the fact that they died. Dying does not harmonize with immortality; however, it does harmonize with what The Liar told Adam and Eve in Gen 3:4.

On p26, the book says, "The ancient Hebrews knew nothing about planet Earth." How is it, then, that the hydrological cycles was known by them long before Bernard Palissy or Pierre Perrault (16th century)? The Hebrews knew about it from Job 36:27-28, "For He draws up the drops of water, they distill rain from the mist, which the clouds pour down, they drip upon man abundantly" (Job 36:27-28). Ps 135:7 says, "He causes the vapors to ascend from the ends of the earth; Who makes lightnings for the rain, Who brings forth the wind from His treasuries."

Untruth continues on p27, where it says that "nowhere does Scripture say that animal death resulted from man's sin," but Rom 8:22 in Scripture says, "For we know that **the whole creation** [not just humans] **groans** and **suffers the pains** of childbirth together until now." The previous two verses read, "For the **creation was subjected to futility**, not willingly, but because of Him who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself also will be set free from its **slavery to corruption** into the freedom of the glory of the children of God."

It also claims that we know where Eden is. Page 28 says that it is "on top of over six miles of sedimentary rock," but this is nonsense! What person in AiG, ICR, CRS, or CMI would claim to know the location of Eden? The Global Flood was so land-altering, that Eden has been lost.

SALT MINES and ICE AGE

On page 196, there was some discussion about salt-mine deposits. It seems that salt beds are found between sediment layers and were deposited by the Flood. These were formed by precipitation of salt from hot volcanic waters when being mixed with the cooler Flood waters. The salts dropped out of solution because the cooled waters could no longer hold them dissolved in solution.

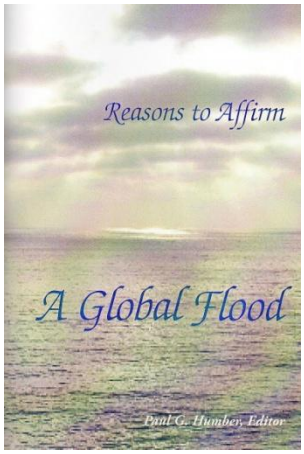
As a result of the year-long Global flood trauma, the oceans became warmer (volcanic activity, etc). This resulted in increased evaporation and water-laden clouds. When the high-humidity clouds moved to the cooler poles, there was massive precipitation in the form of ice and snow; the poles became ice-capped—grew in size. This began the Ice Age. Eventually, the ocean waters cooled with diminished precipitation at the poles.

As the earth moved toward a temperature-balance, glaciers melted in the areas between the poles. Huge lakes formed and eventually spilled over the rims, allowing enormous amounts of water to rush downhill to the sunken ocean. As the rushing water traveled, it cut through massive sediments—and even formed the Grand Canyon, which was cut quickly (not over millions of years).

MAMMALS & DINOSAURS TOGETHER!

Finally, on p136, we read, "This situation—global faunal replacement, in which one group of organisms replaces another—should be extremely puzzling to someone who believes that all this is the result of a single, catastrophic flood in the recent past … The fossils actually found in the Grand Canyon and Grand Staircase tell the story of changing life forms over time and that matches similar changes observed all over the Earth."

But Dr. Carl Werner has found many fossils that do not fit the conventional, geological paradigm. One source is his book, *Evolution: the Grand Experiment: The Quest for an Answer*. In fact, if you go here, http://kgov.com/432-mammal-species-in-dinosaur-layers, you will see "What Museums Aren't Showing You." You can also see these words, "**432 Mammal Species in Dinosaur Layers**." Many people need to be made aware that evolutionism is fraught with many deceptions, such as *archaeoraptor*, supposed DNA junk, Haeckel's embryos, horse-toe gain/loss confusion, Lucy's fraudulent ("human") feet, Nebraska Man, Neanderthal supposedly not human, peppered moths pinned to trees, Piltdown, supposed vestigial organs, etc. Why would evolutionists not readily admit to these 432 mammals in dinosaur layers? Mammals even ate dinosaurs, and dinosaurs ate birds that supposedly they evolved into.



Apparently, Dr. Werner "visited 60 museums but did not see a single complete mammal skeleton from the dinosaur layers displayed at any of these museums." Dr. Donald Burge, curator of vertebrate paleontology at the Prehistoric Museum of Price, Utah said, "We find mammals in almost all of our [dinosaur dig] sites. These were not noticed years ago … We have about 20,000 pounds of bentonite clay that has mammal fossils that we are trying to give away to some researcher. It's not that they are not important. It's just that you only live once and I specialized in something other than mammals. I specialize in reptiles and dinosaurs."

On p207, there is an extremely biased heading—a chapter titled, "SCIENCE VS. FLOOD GEOLOGY." This is very unfair and false, for there are huge amounts of "SCIENCE" in Flood Geology.

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* Paul G. Humber is the Director of CR Ministries (Philadelphia), has three degrees (two from UPenn and one from Westminster Seminary), is the author of *Evolution Exposed*, and served as Editor of three booklets challenging evolution. One of them is *Reasons To Affirm A Global Flood*. He also can be seen on YouTube (cf. "Global Flood Evidence").