

INTRODUCTION TO THIS ISSUE

Rather than call this an editorial, I think it more descriptive to call it an introduction. In the past I've used the editorial to describe and summarize the contents of that particular issue, and I have not always used this to present a personal view. Not that I am short of opinions, mind you. So let's summarize the contents and make our announcements.

New Videos

The Biblical Astronomer is releasing two video tapes (American VHS only). One has never before been released and the other has been signed over to the Biblical Astronomer. The two tapes are called *The Creation of the Universe* and *Dr. Arthur Sharron Interviews Dr. Gerardus Bouw On Thinking Psych-economically*. Here is a brief description of each.

The Creation of the Universe is a tape made at the Twin-Cities Creationism Conference in 1992. At the conference Dr. Bouw presented a paper entitled "A Creationist Scenario for the Creation of the Universe." The printed version of that paper was published in the *Biblical Astronomer* in 1997, issue no. 79, p. 10. On the tape Dr. Bouw presents a possible scenario for the events of the creation week, a scenario which can account for the observed properties of the universe under a minimum of assumptions. For example, in Dr. Bouw's model the craters of the planets and moons are due to the conditions of creation and do not need to postulate any problematic "cloud" of asteroids spanning the entire solar system, a "cloud" for which no direct evidence persists to this day.

The "Thinking Psych-economically" tape was made by Dr. Arthur Sharron, a Jewish Christian and an economist who has a cable television program in the Los Angeles area. The tape contains two programs, the first entitled "The Scientific Inerrancy of Scripture" and the second entitled "Geocentricity and the Decline of Biblical Authority." This June, 1996 video was shot in a studio with a professional camera crew.

The videos are \$20 each, postpaid, or if ordering both at once to the same address, the cost is \$30 postpaid. Lord willing, we will release additional video tapes over the coming months.

Levitating and Moving Large Stones

This issue also finds the publication of a paper entitled "Levitation and Moving Large Stones by Ambient Electromagnetic Fields Prevalent After Noah's Flood." This paper, by Cleveland State University Professor Emeritus, James N. Hanson, was written more than 20 years ago and was submitted and rejected by several Creationist technical journals. Although rather technical, we've chosen to publish it here, at this time. (Readers from issue no. 86 will recall that the trade-off for "late" issues would be articles of greater depth and quality.)

Some readers will skip over the math, and there is nothing wrong with that. Indeed, most technical articles can be read by laymen if they ignore the equations, for a good technical writer will usually explain in plain English what the equations mean. I provide a brief summary here.

In the paper Professor Hanson assumes that after the flood, thunder and lightning persisted in great intensity until the earth was totally dried. It is well observed that the magnetic field of the earth was also much stronger then than it is presently. These two things, huge thunderbolts and a strong terrestrial magnetic field could be harnessed to move huge stones such as those used in making the pyramids or, possibly, the stones used to build the Tower of Babel. Prof. Hanson explains how those powers could be harnessed, and shows via the equations that, given his assumptions of the conditions after flood, the thing is possible.

Copernicanism and Darwinism

In this article popularist Marshall Hall debunks the claim that the geocentric debate is completely separate from the creationist debate. This claim is often made by creationists who wish to distance themselves from the "foolishness" of the geocentrists. Mr. Hall shows that without heliocentrism (the Copernican Revolution), there would be no "theory" of evolution.

The Formation of the Moon

The article entitled "The Formation of the Moon" shows that astronomers still have no viable theory for the creation of the moon. The article critiques a NASA press release from March 16, 1999. In that

press release NASA claimed that they had "new evidence" that the moon was torn from the earth by a passing asteroid the size of the planet Mars. On the other hand, as the article points out, the evidence just as well supports the creationist scenario presented by Dr. Bouw in the video tape and article mentioned above.

Finally there is a letter to the editor concerning the star of Bethlehem paper which appeared in the Fall 1998 issue and the Panorama column. The latter looks at evidence that the traditional date for the supernova which created the Crab Nebula is wrong. It also looks at forensic evidence in the death of Tycho Brahe, the geocentrist astronomer who employed Kepler and charged him with publishing his geocentric model. Lastly we look at an alleged refinement of the Hubble constant on which the expanding universe model (big bang theory) is based. The news is not all that good for the evolutionary astronomers.