

THE COLDWATER CONTENDER

"...ye should earnestly contend for the faith..." (Jude 3)

FEBRUARY 23, 2014

Coldwater church of Christ

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ELDERS

Richard Price
Kevin Smith
Bill Vincent

DEACONS

Bob Austin
Johnny Downs
Josh Fulcher

PREACHER

Luke Puckett

SUNDAY SERVICE

Bible Class: 9:30
AM Worship: 10:15
PM Worship: 1:00

WEDNESDAY

Bible Class: 7:00pm

LADIES CLASS

Tuesdays at 10:00am



A Message To Our Visitors

It is our privilege to have you visiting with us today. Please know that you are our honored guest. Please let us get to know you, and fill out an attendance card so we can have record of you being here. Please return to be with us again at your earliest opportunity. If you have questions or would like to study the Bible with us please let us know. Thanks again for visiting with us, and may God continue to bless you according to His divine purpose.



THOSE TO SERVE

Announcements:

Josh Fulcher

Lead Singing:

Josh Price

Opening Prayer:

Bob Austin

Scripture Reading:

Kevin Smith

Lord's Table

Mitchell Smith
Kevin Smith
Johnny Downs
Ray Stembridge

Closing Prayer:

Richard Price

Greeters (East)

Richard & Tonya

Greeters (West)

Kay & Linda

LESSONS

AM: Dinosaurs 1
By: Luke Puckett
Scripture reading:
Genesis 1:24-31

PM: The Church
By: Luke Puckett
Scripture reading:
Acts 11:19-26

Marco Polo's Dragons: By Kyle Butt, M.A.

Marco Polo lived during the 13th and 14th centuries A.D. He was originally from Venice, but he, his father, and his uncle travelled extensively to the Far East. His book, *The Travels of Marco Polo*, document much of his exploration into the regions of China, Persia, Tibet, and Burma (Polo, 1961, preface). Polo spent much of his book detailing the interesting customs of different ethnic groups he encountered. He also focused on the different animals and plants associated with these tribes.

In chapter 49, Polo related items of interest found in a province named Karajan. He reported that large quantities of gold were found in the rivers. He further noted that the citizens used cowrie shells as currency. He then described some of the animals associated with the area. He wrote:

Here are found snakes and huge serpents, ten paces in length and ten spans in girth [that is, 50 feet long and 100 inches in girth]. At the fore part, near the head, they have two short legs, each with three claws, as well as eyes larger than a loaf and very glaring. The jaws are wide enough to swallow a man, the teeth are large and sharp, and their whole appearance is so formidable that neither man, nor any kind of animal can approach them without terror. Others are of smaller size, being eight, six, or five paces long (1961, pp. 158-159).

continued his chapter by explaining how the local citizens of the area hunted and killed the creatures. He noted that the creatures were nocturnal (assisted by “eyes larger than a loaf”), dwelling in “caverns” during the day to avoid the heat. After the creatures killed their prey, Polo wrote that they would find a water source such as a lake, spring, or river. The serpents’ massive bodies left “deep impressions” in their paths “as if a heavy beam had been drawn along the sands” (p. 159). The creatures followed these same rutted paths regularly. Since their route was predictable, the natives buried large “wooden stakes tipped with sharp iron spikes, which they cover with sand” (p. 159). Polo reported that these spikes so severely wounded the creatures that they died quickly.

The 21st-century reader cannot help but be captivated by several items of interest in Polo’s account. First, his account of these creatures sounds remarkably like many dragon legends that circulated in the Far East. Yet Polo relates his information without any embellished mythologizing. His description is exactly what a person would expect from a traveler who had seen such a creature, and who had discussed its habits with the natives. In short, Polo matter-of-factly described an actual creature living during his time that modern people would certainly call a dragon.

The idea that Polo actually saw a huge serpent, with two legs near the front of its body, that matches a description of a dragon perfectly, does not sit well with many modern scholars. In fact, in the Signet Classics edition of Polo’s writings, an editor’s note in the text says that these creatures were crocodiles. Immediately following the description of the two front legs, an asterisk in the text takes the reader to another editor’s note that states: “Strangely, Polo seems not to have noted the other two legs possessed by all fully equipped crocodiles” (p. 159). Supposedly, according to the editor, Polo described the length and bulk of the creature, noted the front legs and mentioned exactly how many claws were on them, described the face and teeth in remarkable detail, but simply forgot to mention the two back legs! Furthermore, crocodiles have five claws on their front legs, not three.

There are several reasons why many modern minds want to reject the idea that only a few hundred years ago, humans interacted with reptiles that match descriptions of dragons. One of the most powerful reasons is the fact that many of these “dragon” descriptions perfectly match the anatomy of well-known dinosaurs that scientists claim died out millions of years ago. Eric Lyons has done a masterful job of connecting dinosaurs to dragons, using many of the evolutionists own admissions (Lyons, 2007). Furthermore, Polo’s description of these reptiles matches ancient artifacts in collections, such as the Julsrud collection, that unmistakably contain well-known dinosaur representations (see Butt, 2008).

If God made all land-living animals on day six of Creation, along with the first human pair, then we would expect to find ancient stories and art that connect humans and dinosaurs living at the same time. There is no need to explain away descriptions, like Polo’s, of creatures that sound like dragons and dinosaurs. If evolution is true, however, there is no reasonable explanation for the dragon legends that span the globe and the centuries. All ancient depictions and descriptions must be altered, distorted, or reworded to avoid the idea that humans and dragons/dinosaur-like reptiles coexisted. When the facts are taken at face value, an honest observer is forced to conclude that humans lived on the Earth with huge reptiles that are now extinct. The ancients often called them dragons. We call them dinosaurs.

REFERENCES

- Butt, Kyle (2008), “Physical Evidence for the Coexistence of Dinosaurs and Humans: Part 2,” *Reason & Revelation*, [On-line], URL: <http://www.apologeticspress.org/articles/3661>.
- Lyons, Eric Lyons (2007), “Historical Support for the Coexistence of Dinosaurs and Humans: Parts 1 & 2,” *Reason & Revelation*, [On-line], URL: <http://www.apologeticspress.org/articles/3449> and <http://www.apologeticspress.org/articles/3476>.
- Polo, Marco (1961), *The Travels of Marco Polo* (New York: Signet Classics).
- Courtesy of <http://www.apologeticspress.org/APContent.aspx?category=9&article=2562&topic=59>

Birthdays & Anniversaries

⇒ Rita Price (26th)

Announcements

- ⇒ **Reading plan:** (1st, 2nd, and 3rd John)
 - ⇒ **Team 4** meets today
 - ⇒ **Gospel meeting** with Chris Clevenger—March 9-12
 - ⇒ Muscle and a Shovel has been added to the library
 - ⇒ Twelve Extraordinary Women added to the library in memory of Sue Ann Lax
 - ⇒ **Bible bowl** plans made with Green Plain congregation for May 3rd . Ages are Kindergarten through 12th grade. If interested please see Luke Puckett or Wesley Tucker. Topic will be miracles and parables of Christ.
 - ⇒ **Area events:** Please see bulletin board for more info. Several meetings, singing classes and Bible schools are coming up in our area.
 - ⇒ New personal invitation handouts are available . Please make sure to take some and handout or leave with a tip, and invite someone to our service!
 - ⇒ Congratulations to Larry Lamb on being a new grandfather!
 - ⇒ **Pantry item** for this week is: Toilet paper
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Prayer/Sick List

- ⇒ Ruby Arnett (Heritage Manor nursing home in Mayfield Room 307)
- ⇒ Debbie Smith (Kevin's sister-in-law-cancer)
- ⇒ Greg Black (Kathy Black's son)
- ⇒ Loretta Haley (cancer)
- ⇒ David Edwards (Josh Fulcher's uncle-cancer)
- ⇒ Jana Ward (cancer)
- ⇒ Todd Walker
- ⇒ Trudy Smith
- ⇒ Hazel Brandon
- ⇒ Mae Downs
- ⇒ Norma & Hyland Darnell
- ⇒ J.D. Lamb (Fern Terrace)
- ⇒ Wanda Riley (Josh Fulcher's Aunt)
- ⇒ Delbert Newsome
- ⇒ Marilyn Dvorak (friend of Bob and Susanna, has esophagus cancer)
- ⇒ Dorothy McNeely (Richard Adams' sister, has cancer)
- ⇒ Derek Adams (Richard Adams' grandson, has leukemia)
- ⇒ Jim Pool (member at Green Plain)
- ⇒ Mallory Harrison Berry (friend of Stembridges, has brain cancer)
- ⇒ Continue to remember all those who have lost loved ones this year

WHAT MUST I DO TO BE SAVED?

Hear the Word
(Rom 10:17)

Believe the Word
(John 8:24)

Repent
(Luke 13:3)

Confess Christ
(Rom 10:10)
(Acts 8:37)

Be Baptized
(Acts 2:38)
(Acts 22:16)

Remain Faithful
(Rev 2:10)
(Acts 8:12-24)

Heaven can be your home if you obey God!
(Heb 5:8-9)

Please visit our website at www.coldwaterchurchofchrist.org. You will find bulletins, sermon outlines, and other helpful links and material.



DINOSAURS (part 1)

1. How long ago do evolutionists say that dinosaurs lived?

- In history museums how long ago were the Triassic, Jurassic, and Cretaceous periods? _____
- In kids books about dinosaurs how long ago does it say they lived? _____
- In a middle school science book Evolution-Change Over Time how many of the 100 pages are about dinosaurs? _____
- Why are dinosaurs so important to evolution? _____
- If humans and dinosaurs lived together, what would this do to evolution? _____

Notes: _____

2. Proof of humans and dinosaurs together.

- What is a petroglyph, and how does this relate to proof? _____
- Name some drawings that are on the wall at Natural Bridge National Monuments in Blanding, Utah. _____
- What do you think the one drawing below the man is of? _____
- What do some evolutionists say it is? _____
- When did we start to use the word dinosaur? _____
- Bones of which dinosaur have been found in Blanding, Utah? _____
- When was the Ta Prohm temple in Cambodia built? _____
- What animal is below the pig? _____
- What animal do experts say it to be? _____
- If these drawing are of dinosaurs, then how did the ancient people draw them if they had never seen them before? _____
- What does Dr. Hubbard say of the drawing of a dinosaur found on a canyon? _____

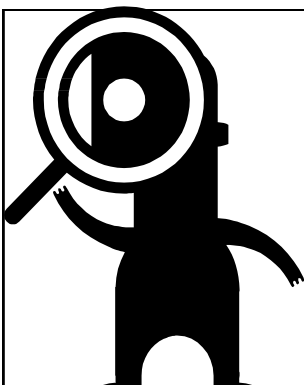
Notes: _____

3. Dinosaurs and tissues found at digs.

- What does Science magazine say about soft tissue found on the hind limb of a tyrannosaurus rex? _____
- Can tissue be that flexible if it is really 70 million years old? _____

Notes: _____

If dinosaurs where drawn by humans to the point that they had to have seen them alive, then the only conclusion we can draw is that humans and dinosaurs lived together at the same time!



Bible question: What did the people of Judah call the bronze serpent in the temple, and what did it mean?

Last week's answer: Col 4:16

Those answering: Kay Robertson, Linda Jones, Helen Tidwell, Peggy Newsome, Clemmie Black, Bob & Susanna Austin, Rachel Adams