

Preface

I was raised in Chicago by Christian parents and grandparents who instilled in me a profound respect for the Bible. They sent me to parochial schools, from kindergarten through high school, where I was taught that God is the Creator of all things. It was at the University of Illinois where I first came into contact with teachers who contradicted what I had been taught concerning the origin of life. My first encounter with the teaching of evolution was 50 years ago in an anthropology course. I was surprised to find that not a single student in the classroom came to my defense when I offered up Intelligent Design as an alternative explanation for the origin of life.

Fortunately, I was enrolled in the College of Engineering where required electives such as anthropology were few and far between. Oddly enough, it was in a thermodynamics course where I found what I considered to be the first scientific evidence that contradicted what the anthropology instructor taught. The text for the course, *Thermodynamics*¹, was written by Dr. Gordon J. Van Wylen, Chairman of the Mechanical Engineering Department at the University of Michigan. Chapter 7 of his book is entitled “Entropy.” It deals with the second law of thermodynamics that basically says that nothing moves to a higher state of complexity on its own. Expressed in thermodynamic terms, entropy always increases. Inasmuch as evolution teaches that, over time, life achieved higher and higher levels of complexity on its own, it appeared to me that the teaching of evolution violated the second law of thermodynamics. My suspicion was reinforced by the closing paragraph of the chapter in which Dr. Van Wylen wrote:

A final point to be made is that the second law of thermodynamics and the principle of increase in entropy have great philosophical implications. The question that arises is how did the universe get into the state of reduced entropy in the first place, since all natural processes known to us tend to increase entropy? . . . On the other end of the scale the question that arises is what is the future of the universe? . . . The author has found that the second law tends to increase his conviction that there is a Creator who has the answer for the future destiny of man and the universe.

Soon after graduating from the University of Illinois, I earned a Master of Science degree in Aeronautical and Astronautical Engineering from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Much of my professional experience has been in the field of orbital mechanics and numerical flow modeling. While at M.I.T. I studied under Dr. Richard Battin, the country's leading authority on astronautical guidance. As part of a team at North American Aviation's Space and Information Systems Division in California, I helped compute orbital trajectories for Project Apollo, the NASA program that resulted in placing the world's first man on the moon. Later, at Conductron in Missouri, I was assigned the responsibility of writing a computer program that simulated the on-board computer of the Gemini spacecraft. I believe God placed me in the latter position to introduce me to an important element of this book: namely, an orbit that passes through the North and South Poles of the earth. In 1975 I co-founded a highly successful company in Michigan that specializes in the modeling of fluid flow and heat transfer using computer simulation. I retired from the company in

2001. All of the above experiences were instrumental in equipping me for the writing of this book.

The seed that later grew to become *Noah's Flood: Birth of the Ice Age* was planted on my twenty-seventh birthday by my sister Ruthanne who gave me a copy of the book entitled *The Flood*² by Dr. Alfred M. Rehwinkel. In it, Dr. Rehwinkel described the 1900 discovery of the Berezovka Mammoth whose remains were found encapsulated in the frozen tundra of northern Siberia, near the Arctic Circle. The remains were carefully removed and transported to the Zoological Museum in St. Petersburg, Russia, where they were used to construct the full-scale, glass-encased model shown in Figure 1.



Figure 1. A model of the Berezovka Mammoth at the Zoological Museum in St. Petersburg, Russia.

The story of the Berezovka Mammoth fascinated me because, although the animal died over four thousand years ago, its flesh appeared grocery store fresh when it was first found. I wondered how an animal the size of an elephant could have been frozen so rapidly that the flowering buttercups, tender sedges, and grasses it had been eating prior to its sudden death were found preserved and readily identifiable in its teeth and stomach. Also, before animals die they generally lie down on their side. Oddly, the Berezovka Mammoth was found upright as shown. Its pelvis was fractured and its right front leg broken. The mammoth's erect penis indicates it had suffocated. All in all, the findings suggest that one moment the animal was peacefully grazing in an open field of spring-like flowers when suddenly very cold ice towered above it, crushing its bones and cutting off its air supply. The Berezovka Mammoth apparently suffocated in a crushing sea of super cold ice.

After reading Dr. Rehwinkel's book, I hoped to someday understand what led to the death of the Berezovka Mammoth and thousands of others like it. In his book, Dr. Rehwinkel suggests the event was somehow linked to the worldwide Flood at the time of Noah as described in the first book of the Bible³:

In the six hundredth year of Noah's life, on the seventeenth day of the second month—on that day all the springs of the great deep burst forth, and the floodgates of the heavens were opened (Genesis 7:11).

Over the years, I have embarked on a quest, asking the question, "Can the events of the Flood as recorded by Moses in the book of Genesis be reconciled with the laws of physics

and the physical evidence that the Berezovka Mammoth left behind?” Forty years later, I now believe the answer to the question is yes. My research has led me into unexpected and uncharted territory, arriving at a conclusion that I hope you find as interesting and exciting as I have found it to be.

Incidentally, I have written this book from the perspective that all the words of Jesus (as recorded in the Bible) are true. Furthermore, I believe the writings of Moses (as found in the books of Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, and Deuteronomy) are also true because Jesus attested to them when he said:

If you believed Moses, you would believe me, for he wrote about me. But since you do not believe what he wrote, how are you going to believe what I say? (John 5:46-47).