

GEOLOGIC TIMESCALE



Designed by Dr. Terry Mortenson

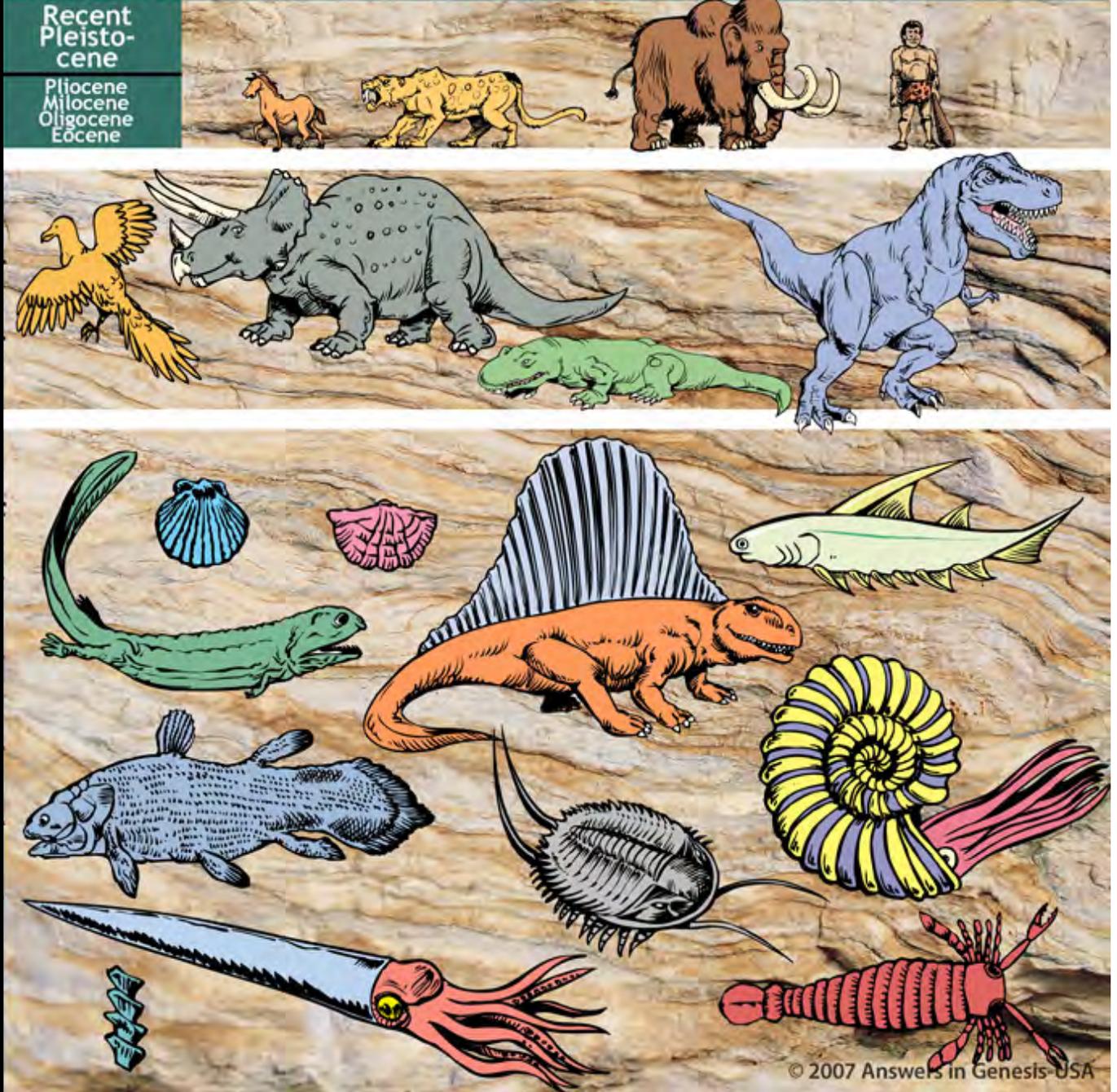
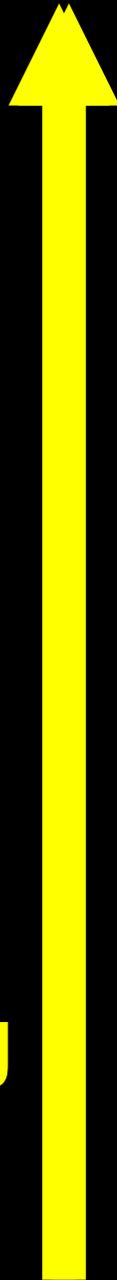
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GEOLOGIC TIMESCALE

ERA PERIOD EPOCH SUCCESSION OF LIFE

1.9—3.8
Billion
Years



According
to
Evolution

2 Corinthians 10:4-5

4. for the weapons of **our warfare** are not of the flesh, but divinely powerful for the destruction of fortresses.

5. We are destroying **speculations** and **every lofty thing raised up against the knowledge of God**, and we are taking **every thought** captive to the obedience of Christ,



Colossians 2:8

See to it that no one takes you captive through **philosophy** and **empty deception**, according to the **tradition of men**, according to the elementary principles of the world, rather than according to Christ.



Operation Science

vs

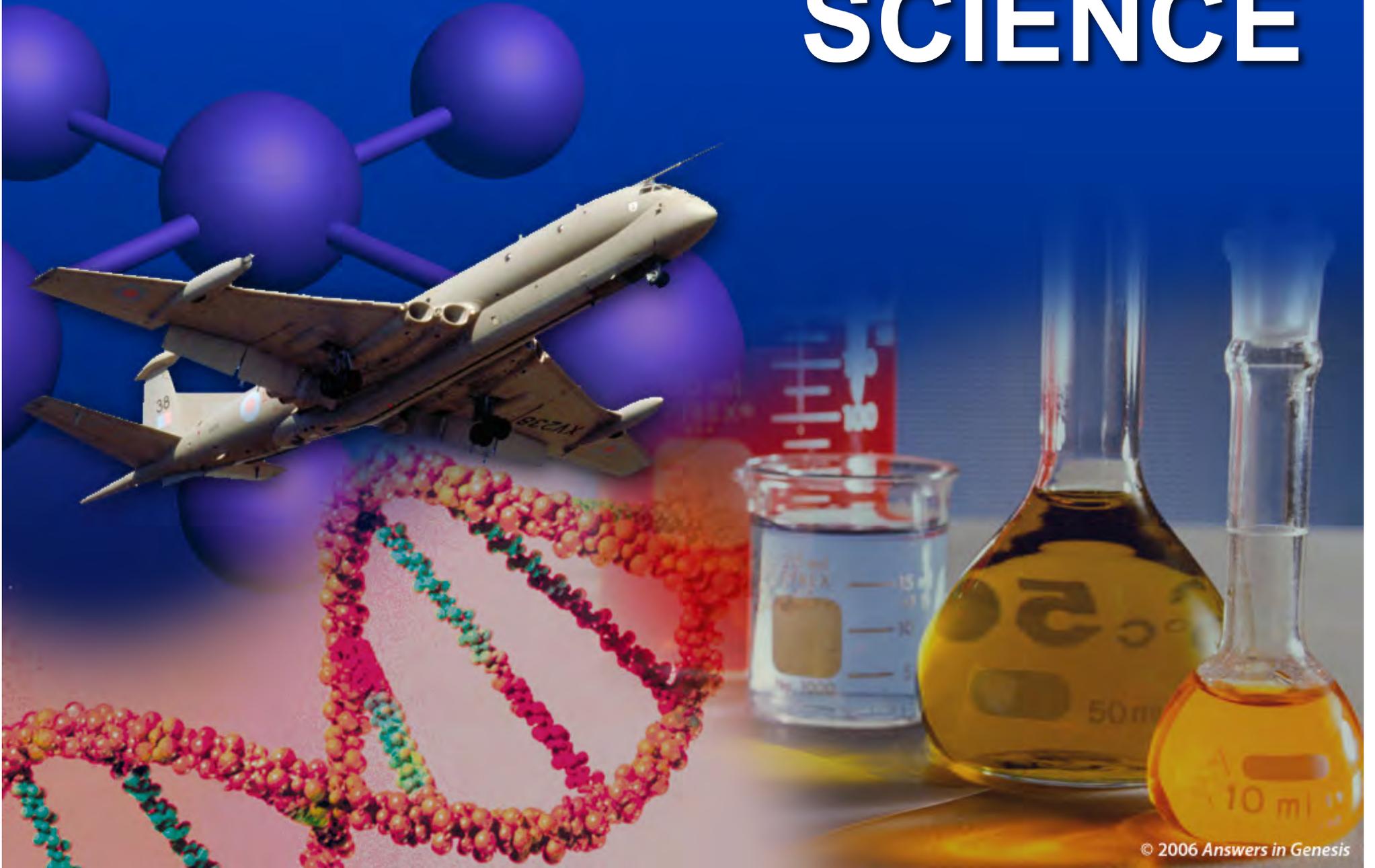
Origin Science

OPERATION SCIENCE

“Scientific Method”

The use of **observable, repeatable experiments** in a **controlled environment** to discover patterns of **recurring behavior** in the **present** physical universe.

EXPERIMENTAL SCIENCE



ORIGIN SCIENCE

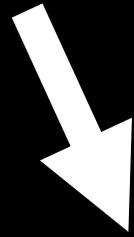
“Legal-Historical Method”

The use of reliable, **eyewitness testimony** (if available) and **circumstantial evidence** to determine the cause(s) of some **past, unobservable, singular event.**

HISTORICAL SCIENCE



**Car Mechanic
(Operation Scientist)**



**Car Manufacturer
(Origin Scientist)**



1770-1830

**New Theories of
Earth History**

**Comte de Buffon
(1707-1788)**

Naturalist

***Epochs of Nature*
(1778)**



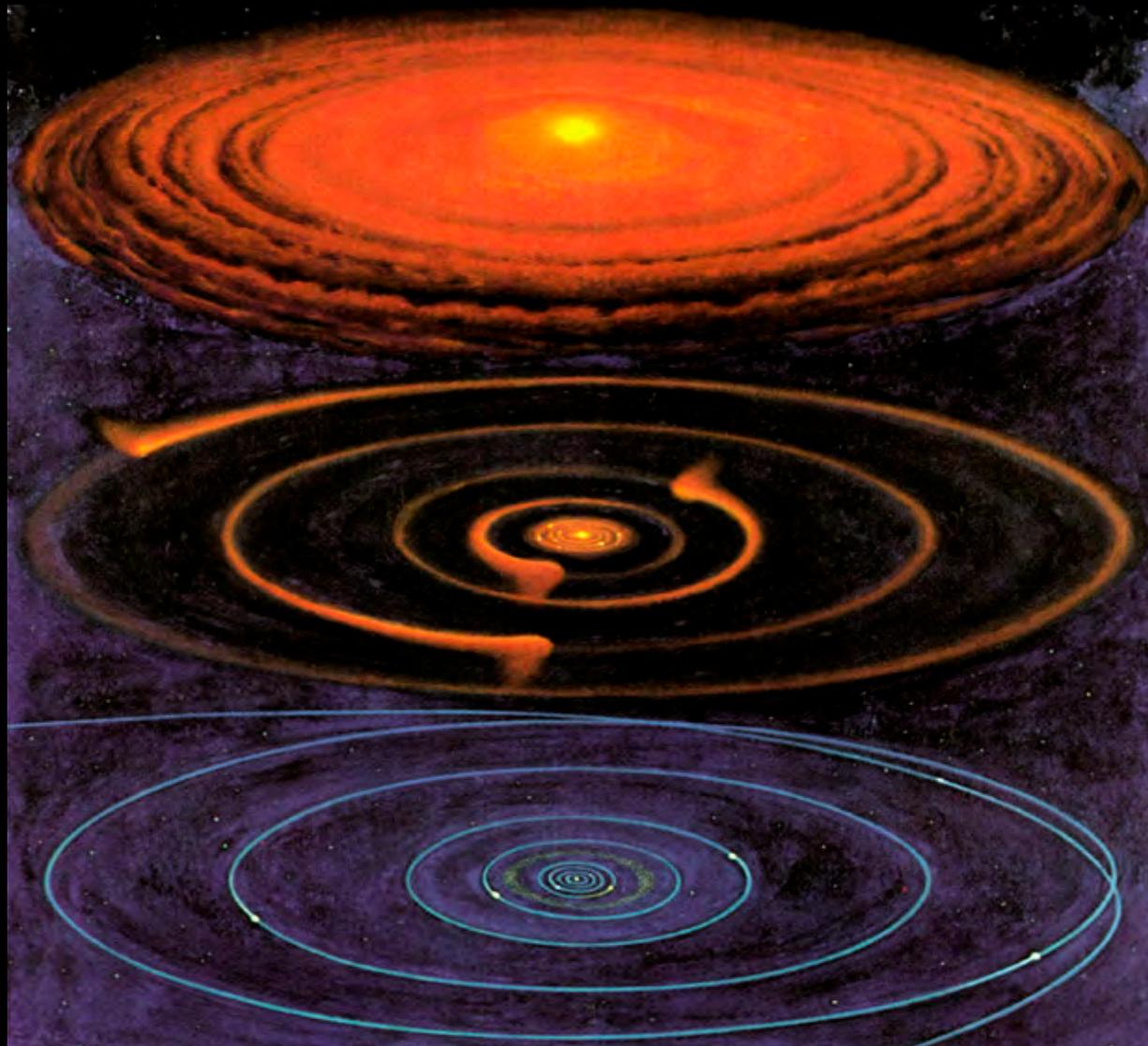


**Pierre Laplace
(1749-1827)**

Astronomer

***Exposition of the
System of the
Universe (1796)***

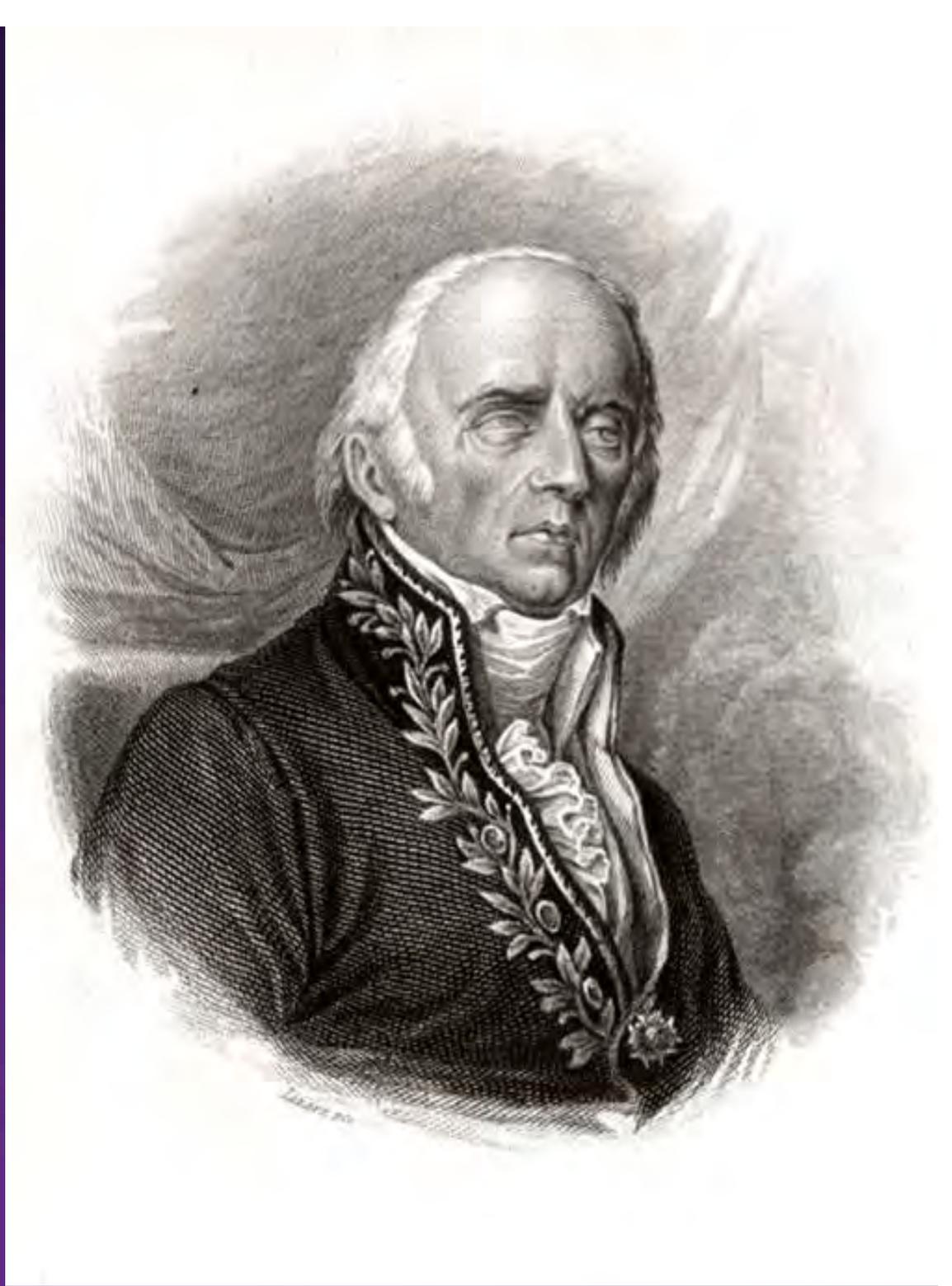
Nebular Hypothesis



**Jean Lamarck
(1744-1829)**

Naturalist

***Philosophy of
Zoology (1809)***





**Abraham Werner
(1749-1817)**

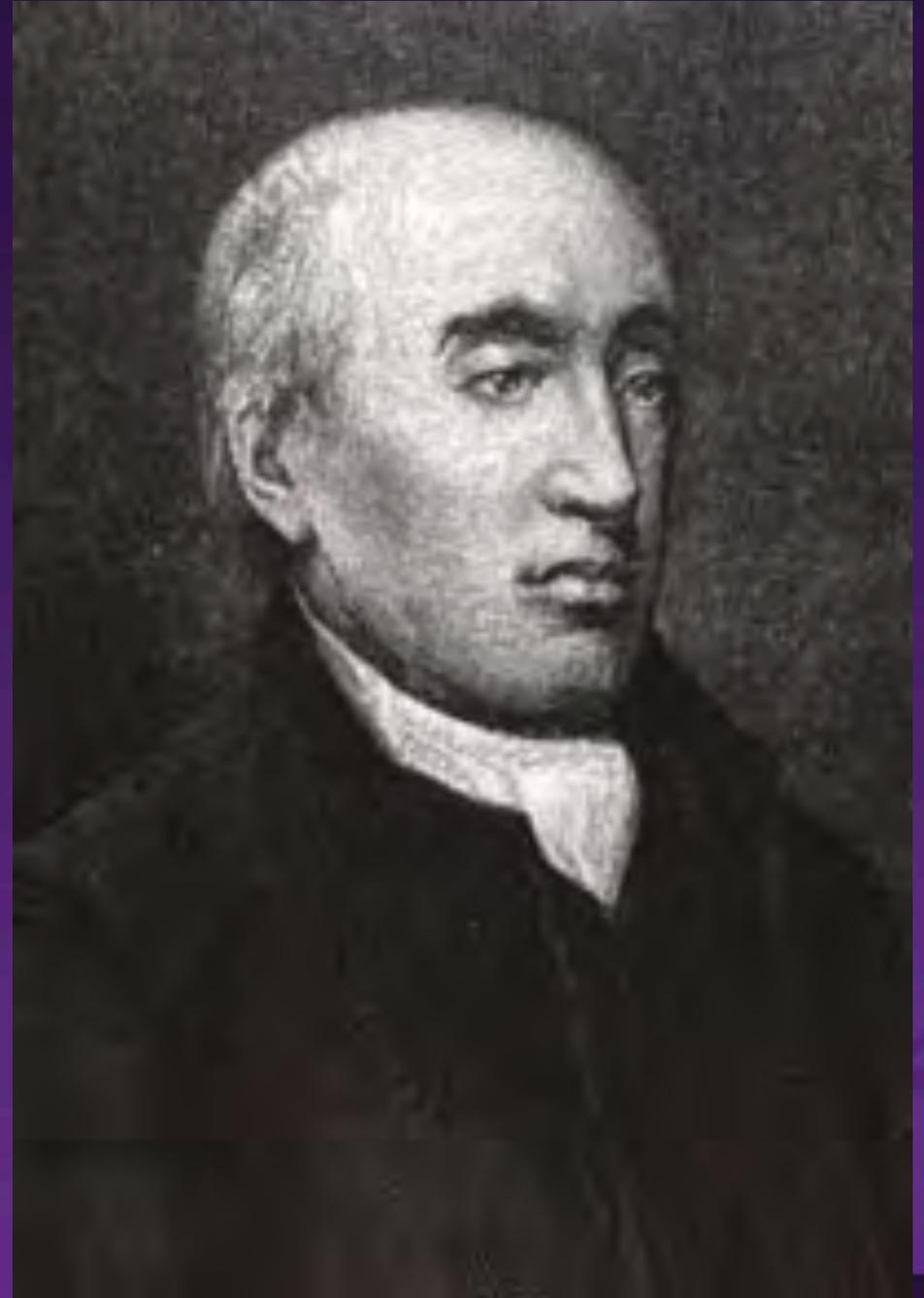
**Mineralogy
Professor**

***Short
Classification &
Description of the
Various Rocks
(1786)***

**James Hutton
(1726-1797)**

**Doctor,
Agriculturalist,
Geologist**

***Theory of the
Earth (1788, 1795)***





Georges Cuvier
(1769-1832)

**Comparative
Anatomist,
Paleontologist**

***Theory of the
Earth (1812)***

**William Smith
(1769-1839)**

**Drainage Engineer,
Surveyor,
Geologist**



“Father of English Stratigraphy”



**Charles Lyell
(1797-1875)**

**Lawyer,
Geologist**

***Principles of
Geology (3 vol.,
1830-33)***

Old-Earth Theories (1778-1833)

Buffon: Cooling earth, 75,000 yrs.

Laplace: Nebular hypothesis, long ages

Lamarck: Biological evol., long ages

Werner: Receding ocean, 1 mill. yrs.

Hutton: Uniformitarian, no beginning

Cuvier: Catastrophist, long ages

Smith: Fossils date rocks, long ages

Lyell: Uniformitarian, long ages

Early 19th Century Views of Earth History

Catastrophist view (e.g., Cuvier, Smith)



Uniformitarian view (e.g., Hutton, Lyell)



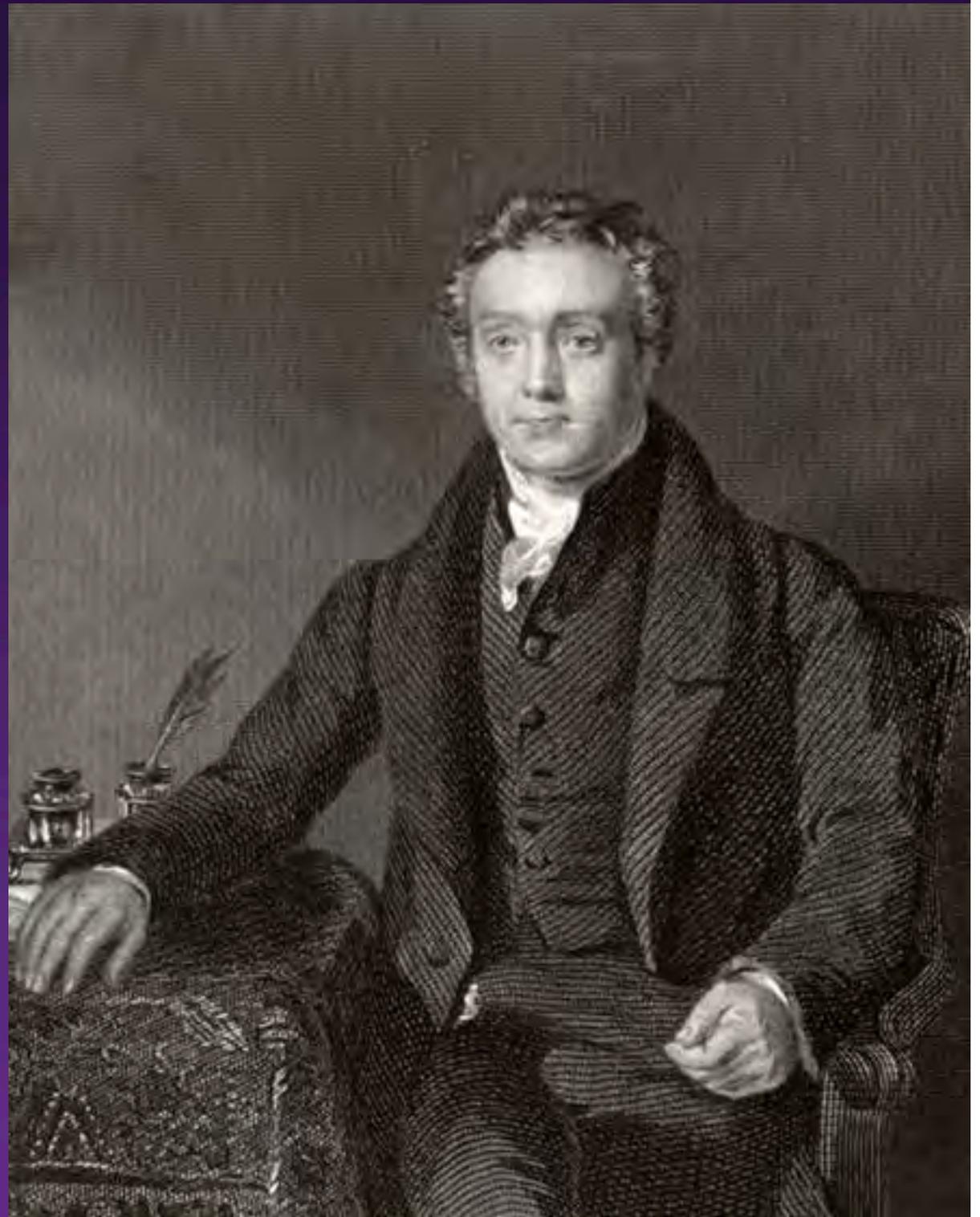
Biblical/Traditional view (Scriptural geologists)



**Thomas
Chalmers
(1780-1847)**

**Presbyterian
Minister &
Naturalist**

Gap Theory

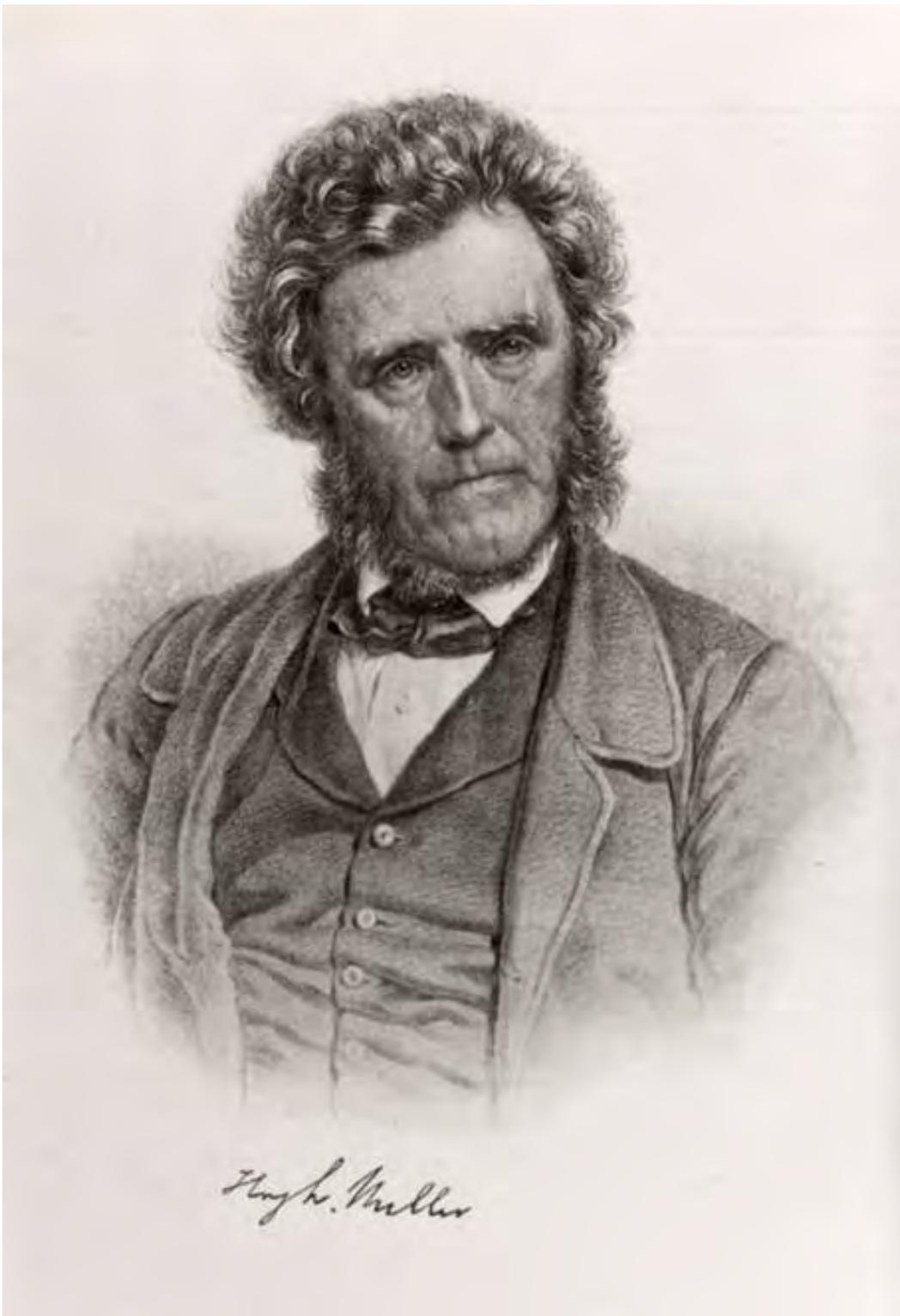


(1773-1854)

Anglican Theologian

Day-Age Theory





**Hugh Miller
(1802-1856)**

Geologist

Gap theory

**then Day-age
theory**



**William Buckland
(1784-1856)**



**Adam Sedgwick
(1785-1873)**

Global, geologically limited Flood

A portrait of John Fleming, an elderly man with white hair and a beard, wearing glasses and a dark coat. The portrait is on the left side of the slide, and the right side has a purple background with faint circular patterns.

John Fleming

(1785-1857)

Presbyterian Minister &
Zoologist

Tranquil flood

**John Pye Smith
(1774-1851)**

**Congregational
Theologian**

**Local Creation &
Local Flood**



Liberal Theologians

**Genesis 1–11
is mythology.**

Early 1800s: Compromises with Old-Earth Geology

1810s Gap theory (Chalmers)

1820s Day-age theory (Faber)

Tranquil flood theory (Fleming)

1830s Local Flood theory (Pye Smith)

Genesis is myth (liberals)

Early 1800s: Faithfulness to Scripture

**1820-50 Young-earth creationism
("Scriptural geologists")**

The Real Nature of the Debate:

**Philosophical
and Religious**



Deism



Atheism



Christianity

Old-Earth Theology

Buffon: deist or vague theist

Laplace: open atheist

Lamarck: deist or atheist

Werner: deist or atheist

Hutton: deist or atheist

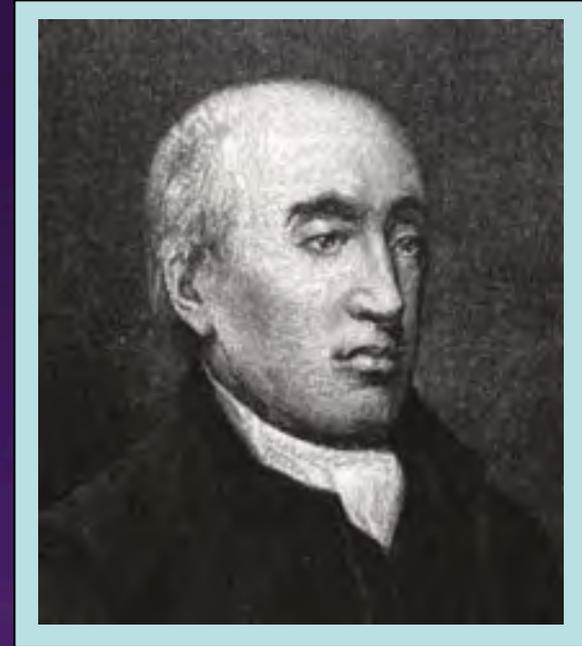
Cuvier: deist or vague theist

Smith: deist or vague theist

Lyell: deist or unitarian

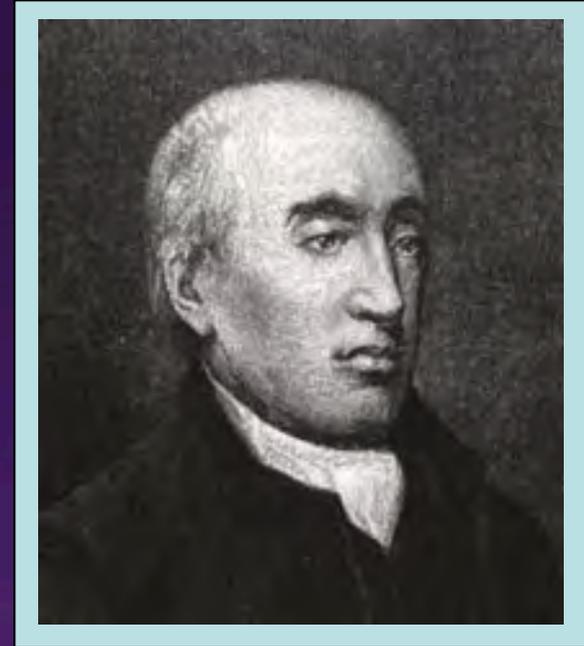
“The past history of our globe must be explained by what can be seen to be happening **now**.

... No powers are to be employed that are not **natural** to the globe, no action to be admitted except those of which we know the principle.”



James Hutton, quoted in Arthur Holmes, *Principles of Physical Geology* (UK: Thomas Nelson & Sons Ltd., 1965), pp. 43–44.

“But, surely, general deluges form **no part** of the theory of the earth; for, the purpose of this earth is evidently to maintain vegetable and animal life, and not to destroy them.”



James Hutton, *Theory of the Earth* (Edinburgh: William Creech, 1795), 1:273.

The PRESENT is *NOT*
the key to the PAST.

PAST?



PAST
WORLD



PRESENT
WORLD



100% Infallible Account of the All-knowing *Eyewitness* Creator!



PAST and PRESENT!



**PAST
WORLD**



**PRESENT
WORLD**



REVELATION is the key to the PAST and the PRESENT!

Early 19th Century Views of Earth History

Catastrophist view (e.g., Cuvier, Smith)

SB — C — C — C — C — P

Present is the Key to the Past

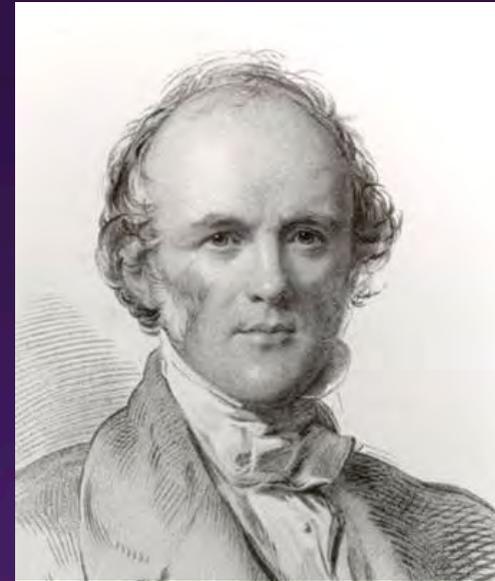
Uniformitarian view (e.g., Hutton, Lyell)

SB? ————— P
(millions of years)

Biblical/Traditional view (Scriptural geologists)

Past is the Key to the Present

“I have always been strongly impressed with the weight of an observation of an excellent writer and skillful geologist who said that 'for the sake of revelation as well as of science—of truth in every form—the physical part of Geological inquiry ought to be conducted **as if the Scriptures were not in existence**'.”



Charles Lyell, quoted in M.J.S. Rudwick, “Charles Lyell Speaks in the Lecture Theatre,” *Brit. J. Hist. Sci.*, IX:2:32 (July 1976), p. 150.

Uniformitarian Naturalism

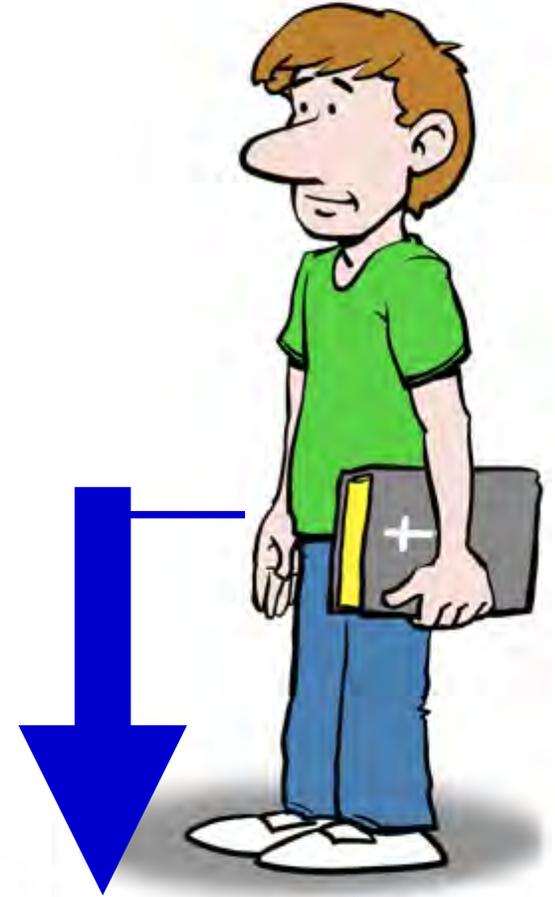
1. Nature or matter is all that exists.
2. Everything can, and indeed must, be explained by **time** plus **chance** plus the **laws of nature** working on matter.
3. Processes of geological change have always been operating in the past at **the same rate, frequency and power** as today.

**Old-earth
geologist**

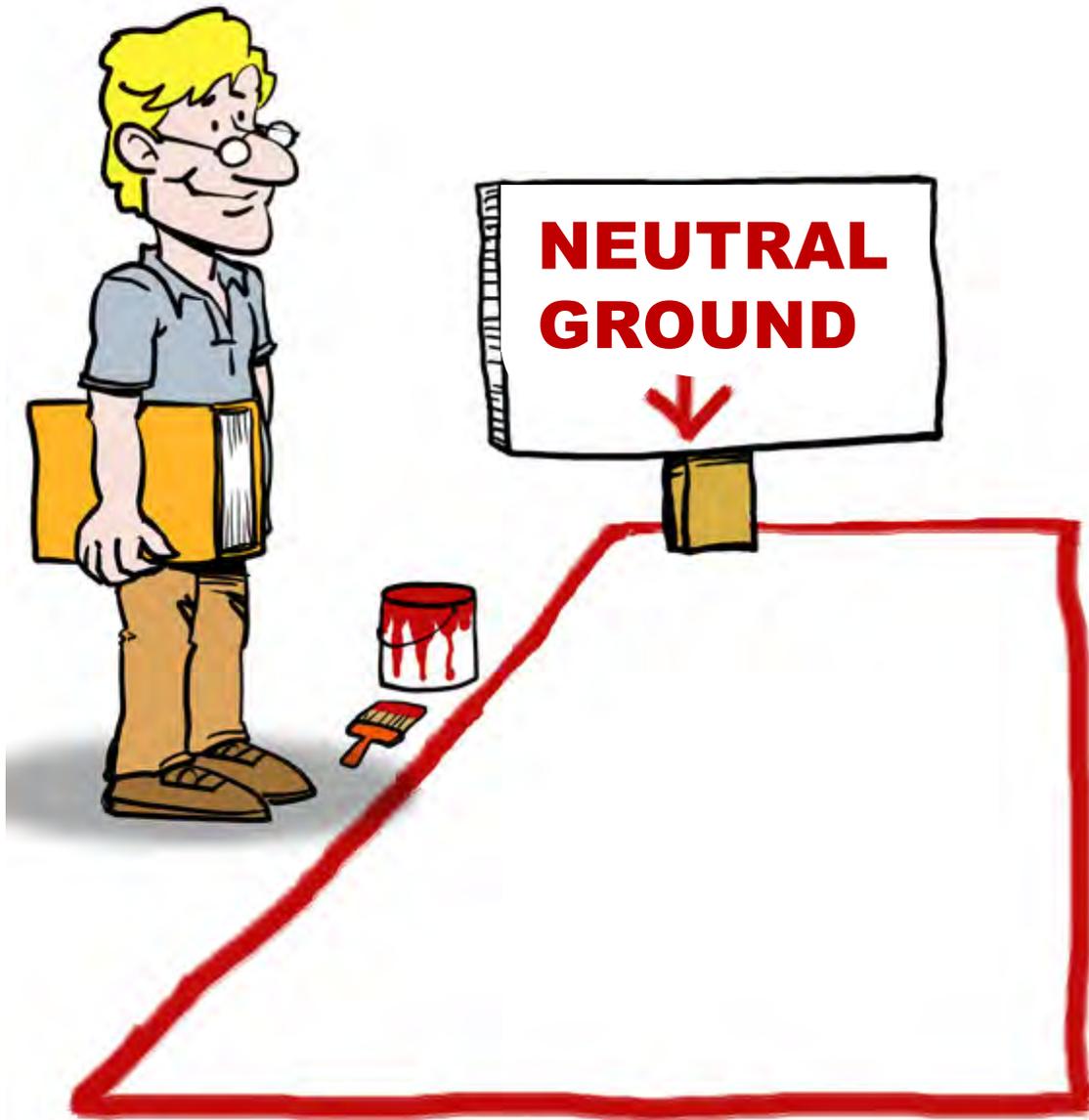


**Naturalistic
Assumptions**

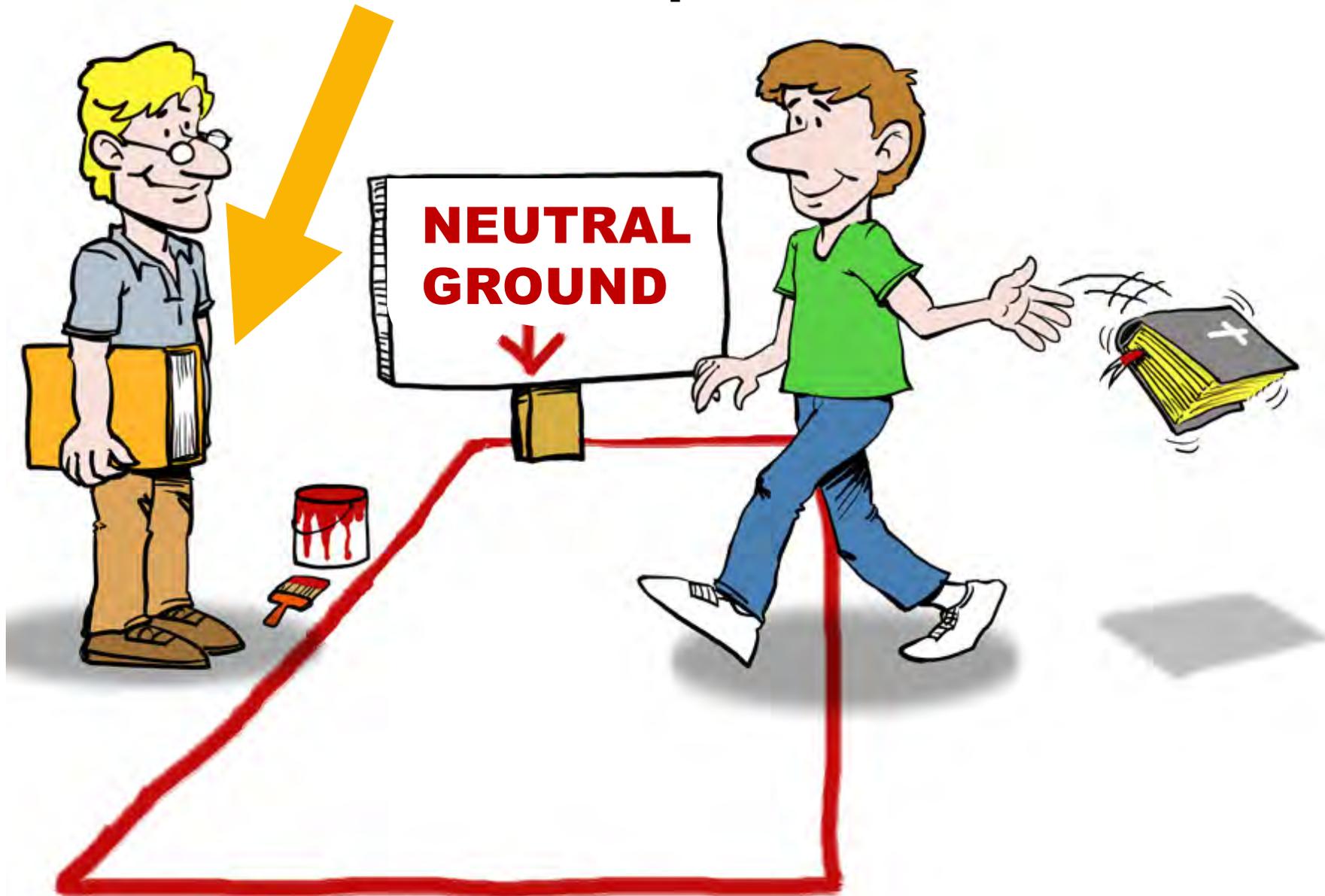
Christian



**Biblical
Assumptions**



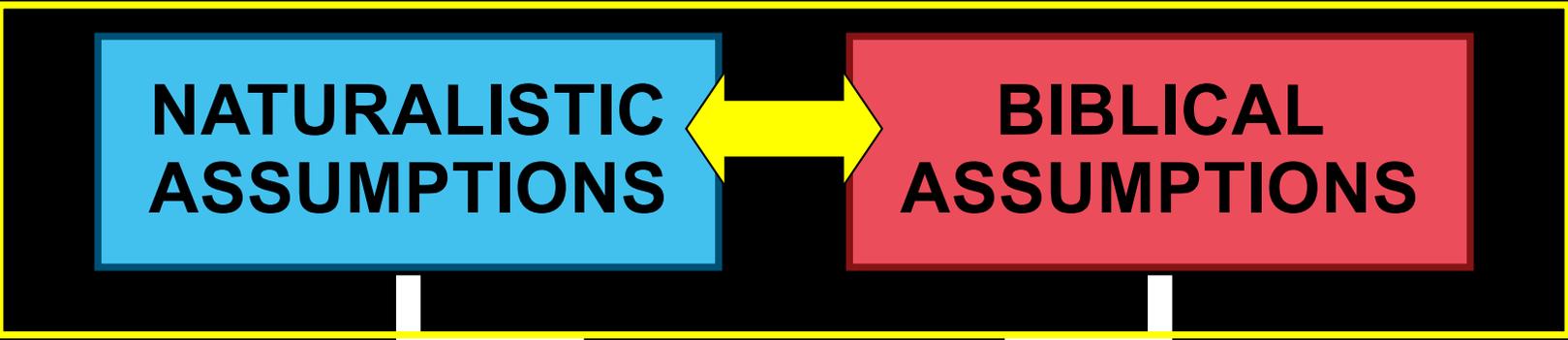
But he's still using his naturalistic assumptions!



Operation Science

vs

Origin Science



It's a battle of worldviews.



1 Timothy 6:20-21

O Timothy, guard what has been entrusted to you, avoiding worldly and empty chatter, and the opposing arguments of what is **falsely called knowledge**, which some have professed and thus gone astray from the faith.



“Can any man
tell me **when the
beginning was?**
Years ago we
thought the
beginning of
this world was
when Adam
came upon it;”

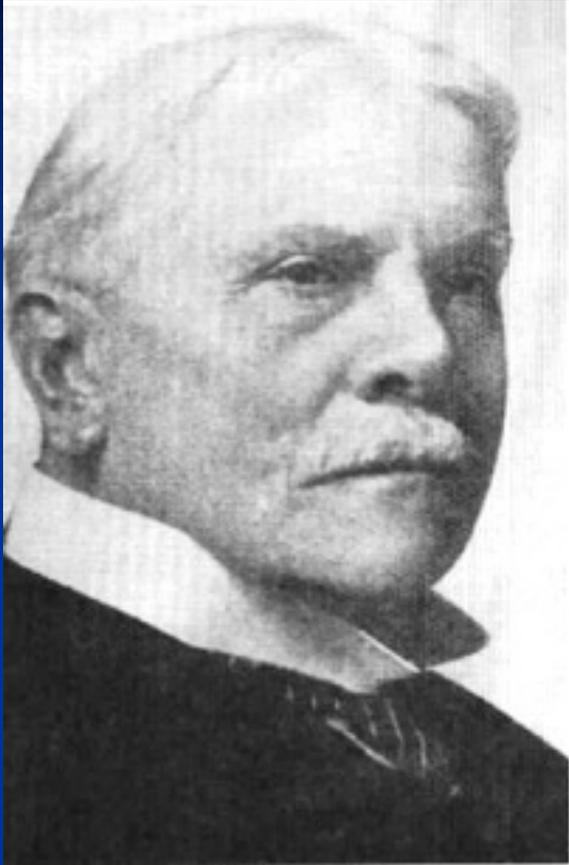


C.H. Spurgeon, “Election” (1855), *The New Park Street Pulpit* (Pasadena, TX: Pilgrim Publ. 1990), vol. 1, p. 318.

“but we have discovered that thousands of years before that God was preparing chaotic matter to make it a fit abode for man, putting races of creatures upon it, who might die and leave behind the marks of his handiwork and marvelous skill, before he tried his hand on man.”



C.H. Spurgeon, “Election” (1855), *The New Park Street Pulpit* (Pasadena, TX: Pilgrim Publ. 1990), vol. 1, p. 318.



**C.I. Scofield
(1843-1921)**

Scofield Reference Bible (1909)

Gap Theory

“The first creative act refers to the dateless past, and gives scope for all the geologic ages.”

**R. A. Torrey, ed.,
The Fundamentals
(12 vol., 1910)**

**Old-earth
views**



**Reuben Archer Torrey
(1856-1928)**

Princeton Seminary

Charles Hodge (1779- 1878)

Old-Earth



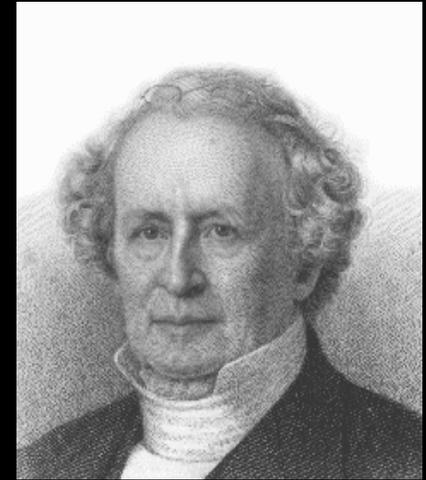
A.A. Hodge (1823-1886)

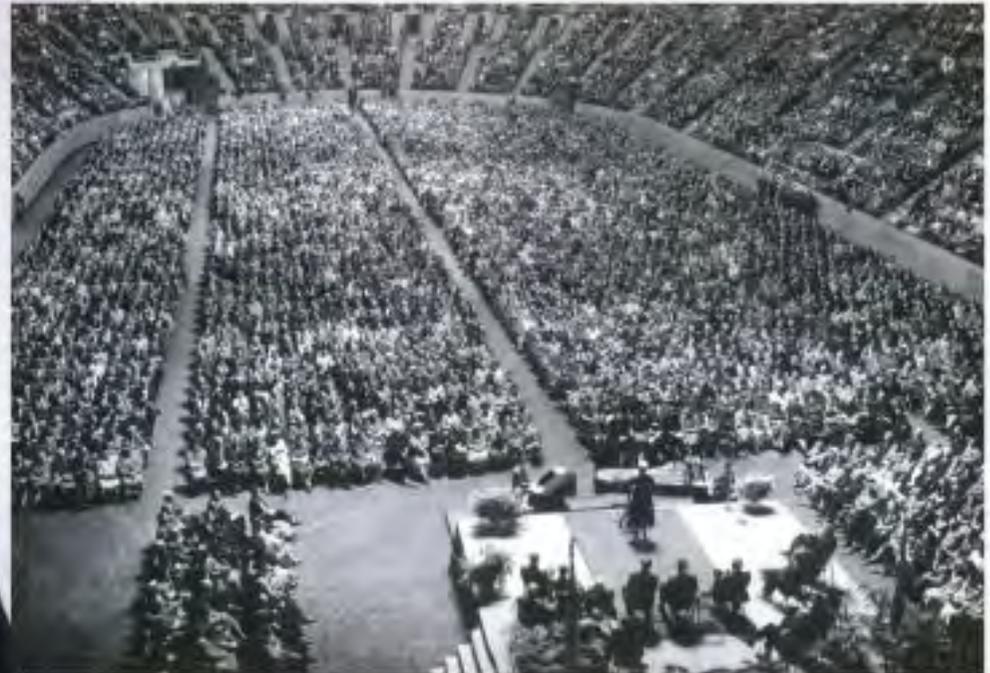
Theistic Evolution??



B.B. Warfield (1851-1921)

Theistic Evolution?

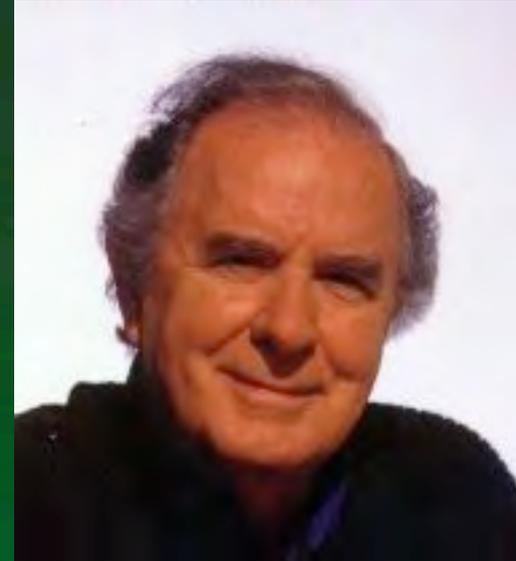




Charles Templeton

1915-2001

"I believe that there is no supreme being with human attributes -- no God in the biblical sense -- but that life is the result of timeless evolutionary forces, having reached its present transient state over millions of years."



Charles Templeton, *Farewell to God* (Toronto: McClelland & Stewart, 1996), p. 232.

Princeton Seminary

Charles Hodge (1779- 1878)

Old-Earth



A.A. Hodge (1823-1886)

Theistic Evolution??



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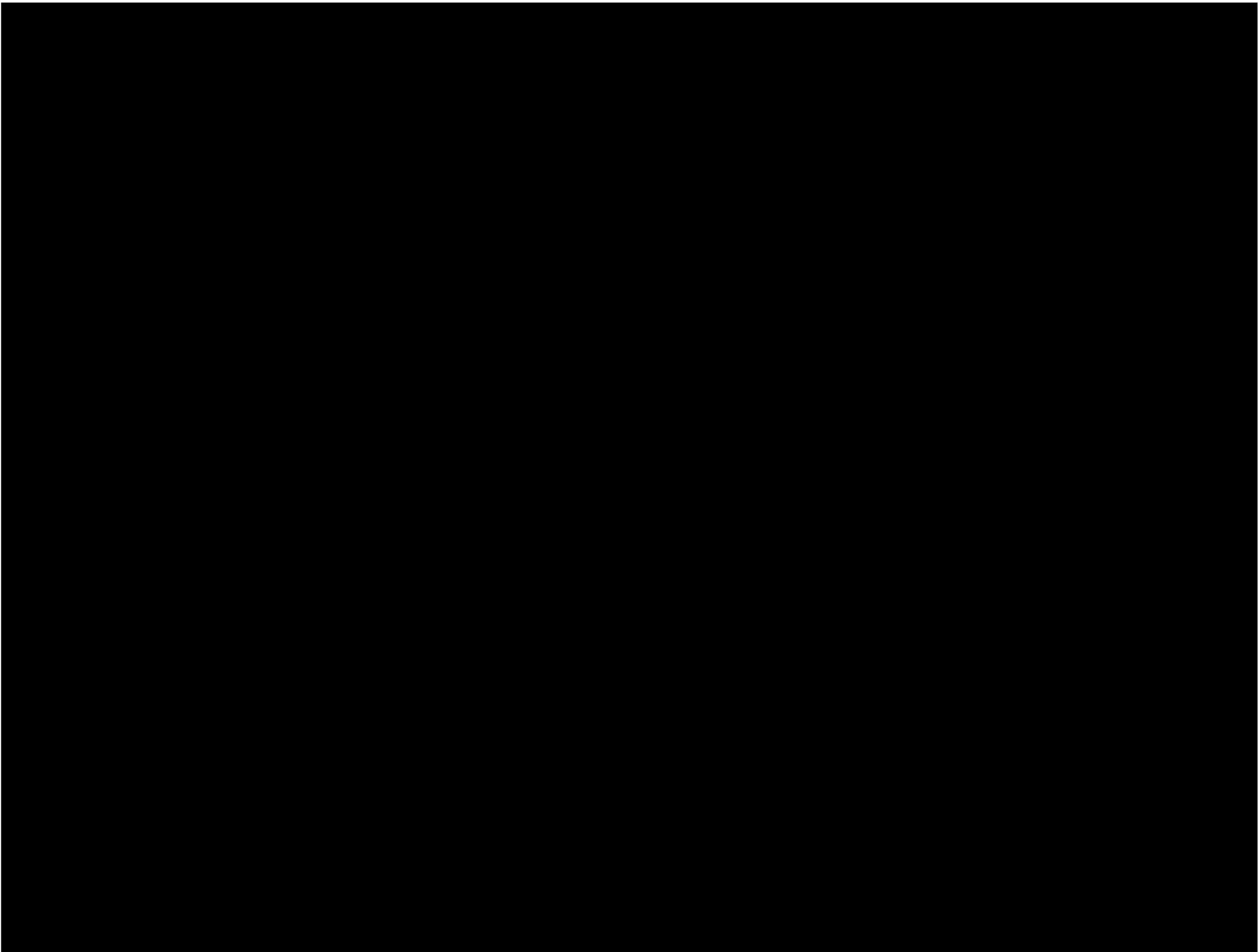


Charles Templeton (at P.S. 1940s)

Apostate

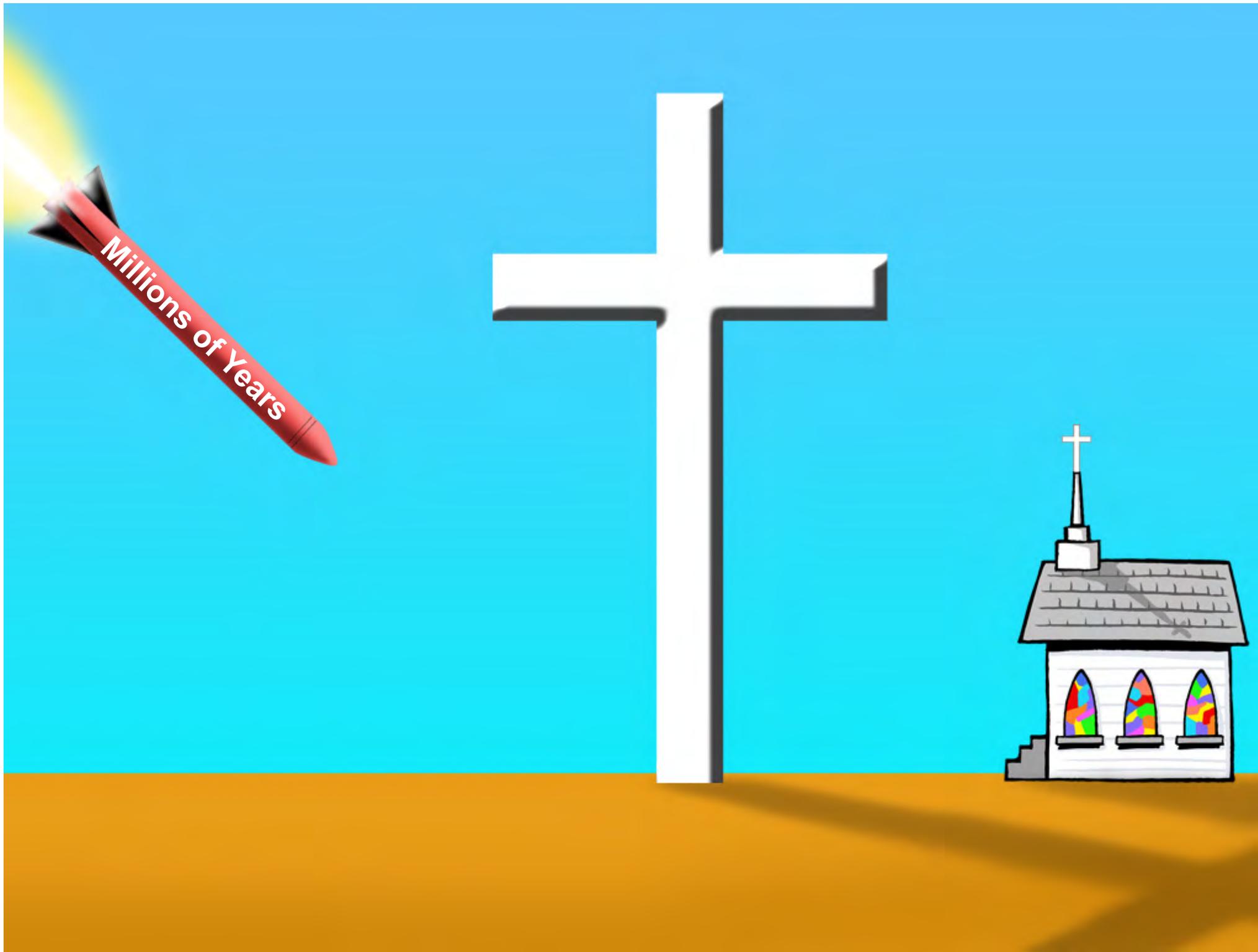
“The days of creation may also pose difficulties for a strict historical account. Contemporary scientists almost unanimously discount the possibility of creation in one week, and we cannot summarily discount the **evidence** of the earth sciences.”

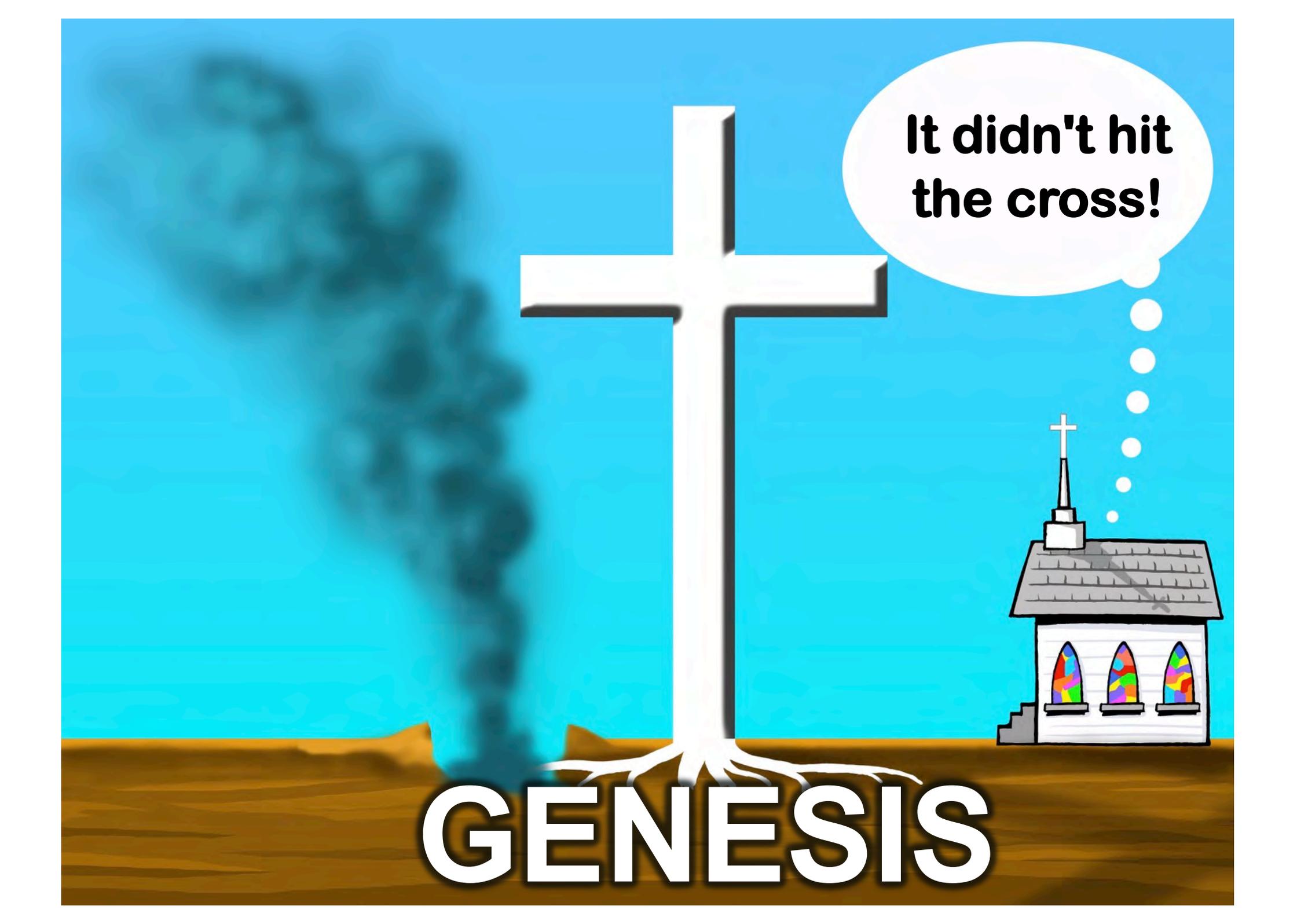
Bruce K. Waltke, *Genesis* (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2001), p. 77.



**Come to Jesus!
Come to the cross
to be saved!**

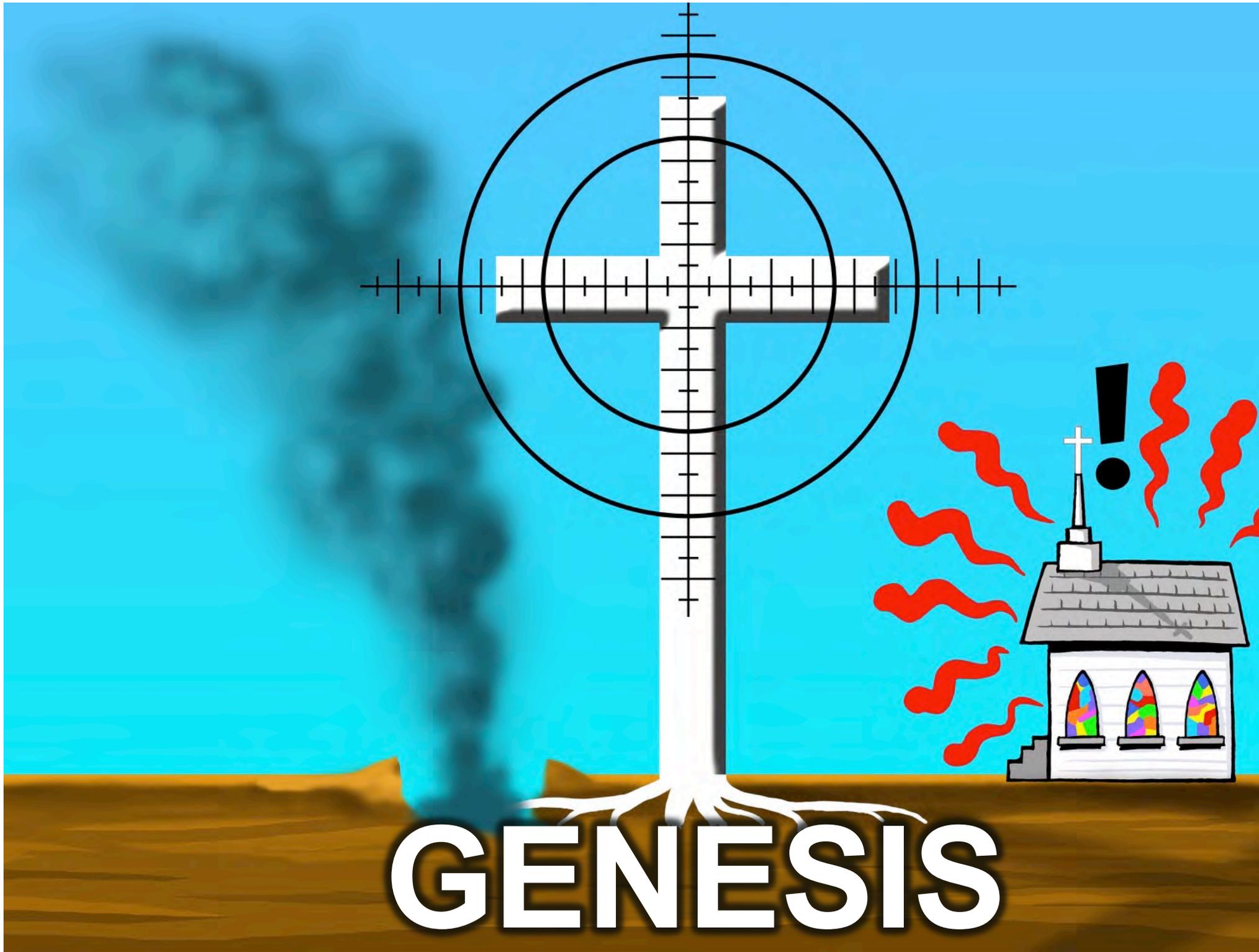






**It didn't hit
the cross!**

GENESIS



GENESIS



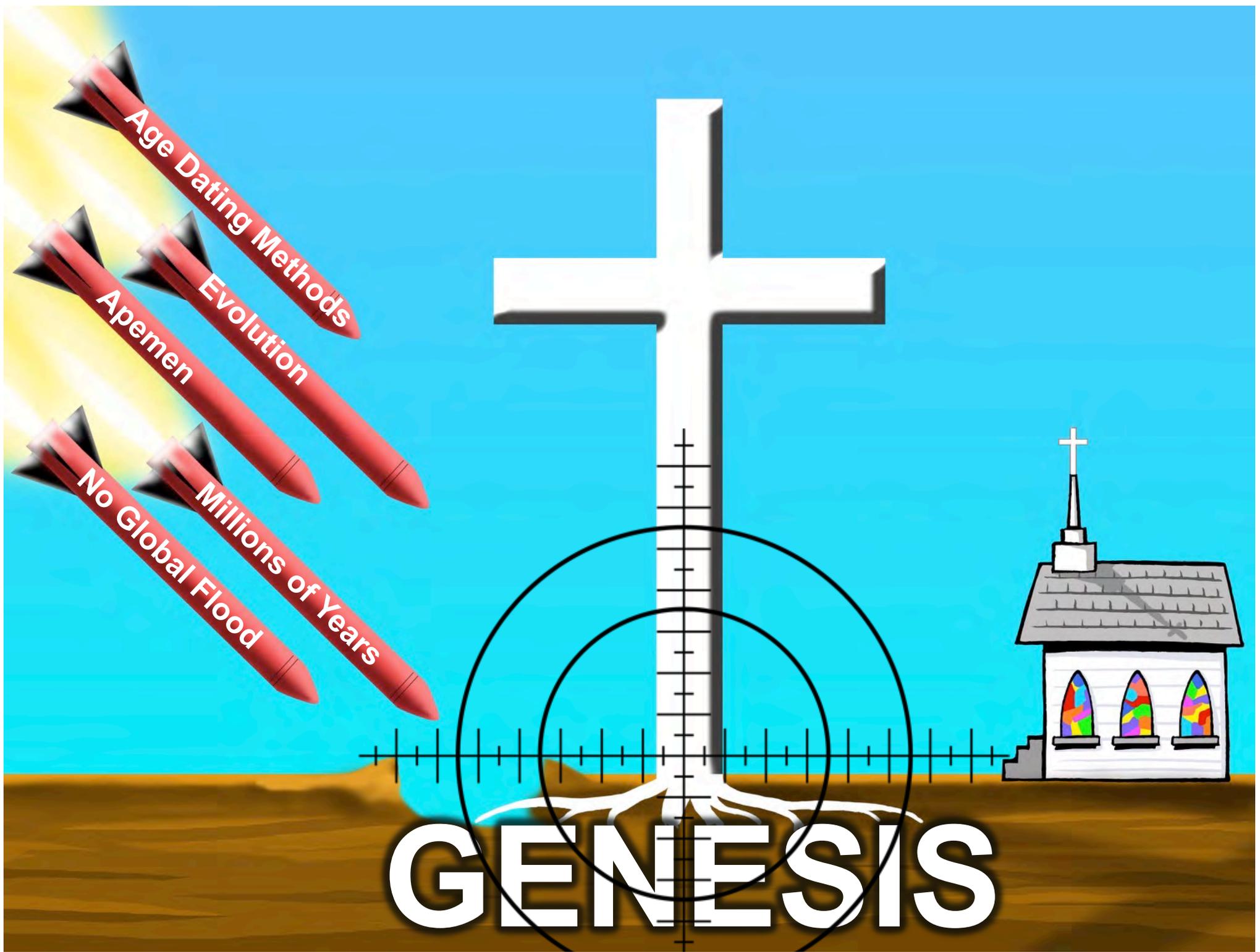
**It's just a
'side issue'!**

GENESIS

Psalm 11:3

**If the foundations are
destroyed, what can the
righteous do?**





Age Dating Methods

Evolution

Apemen

Millions of Years

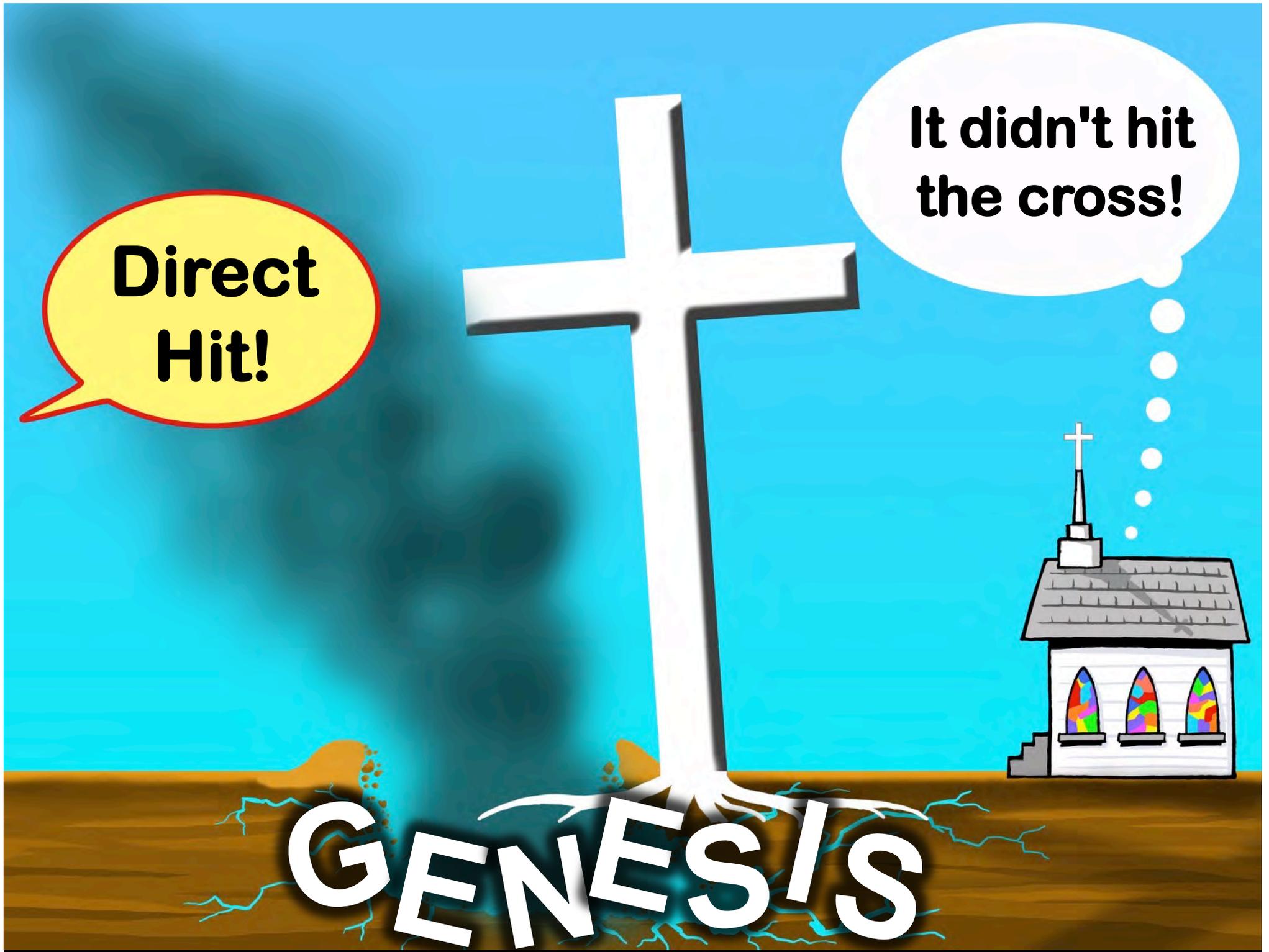
No Global Flood

GENESIS

**Direct
Hit!**

**It didn't hit
the cross!**

GENESIS



Has God said?



You will not die.



UNBELIEF

GENESIS





Evolution

Age

Dating

Methods

Apemen

Millions

of

years

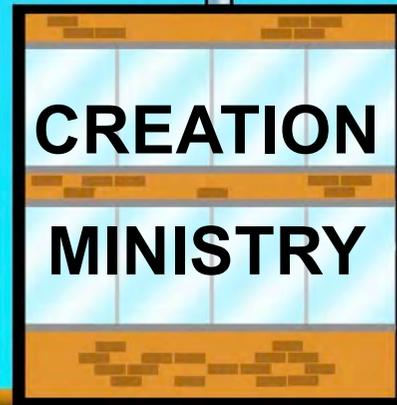
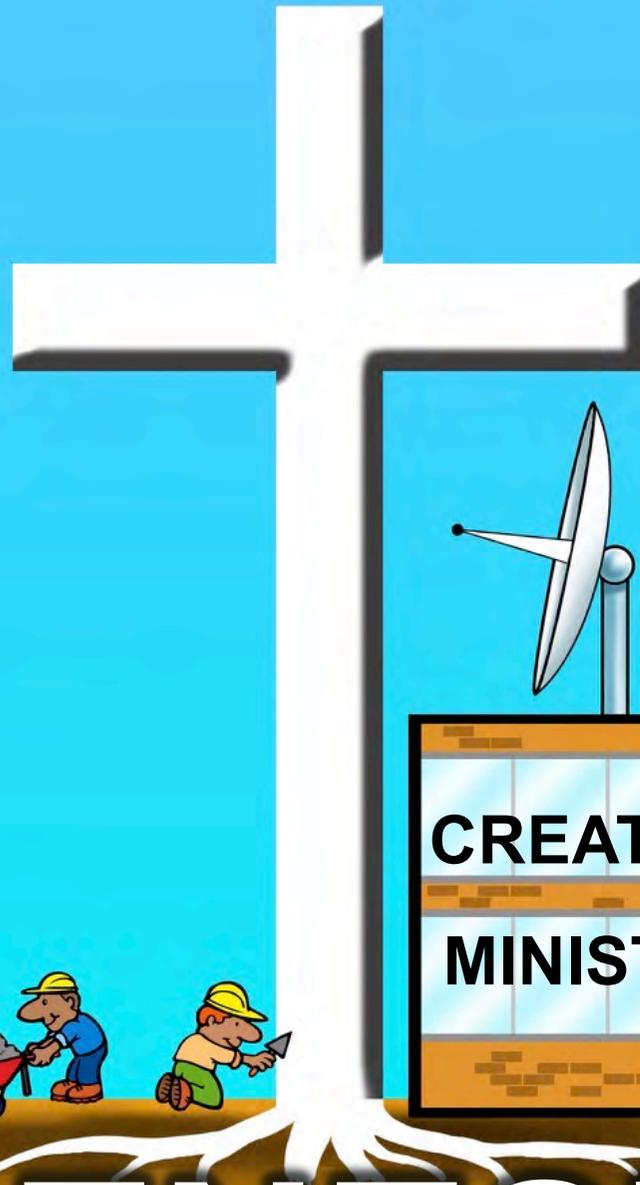
No

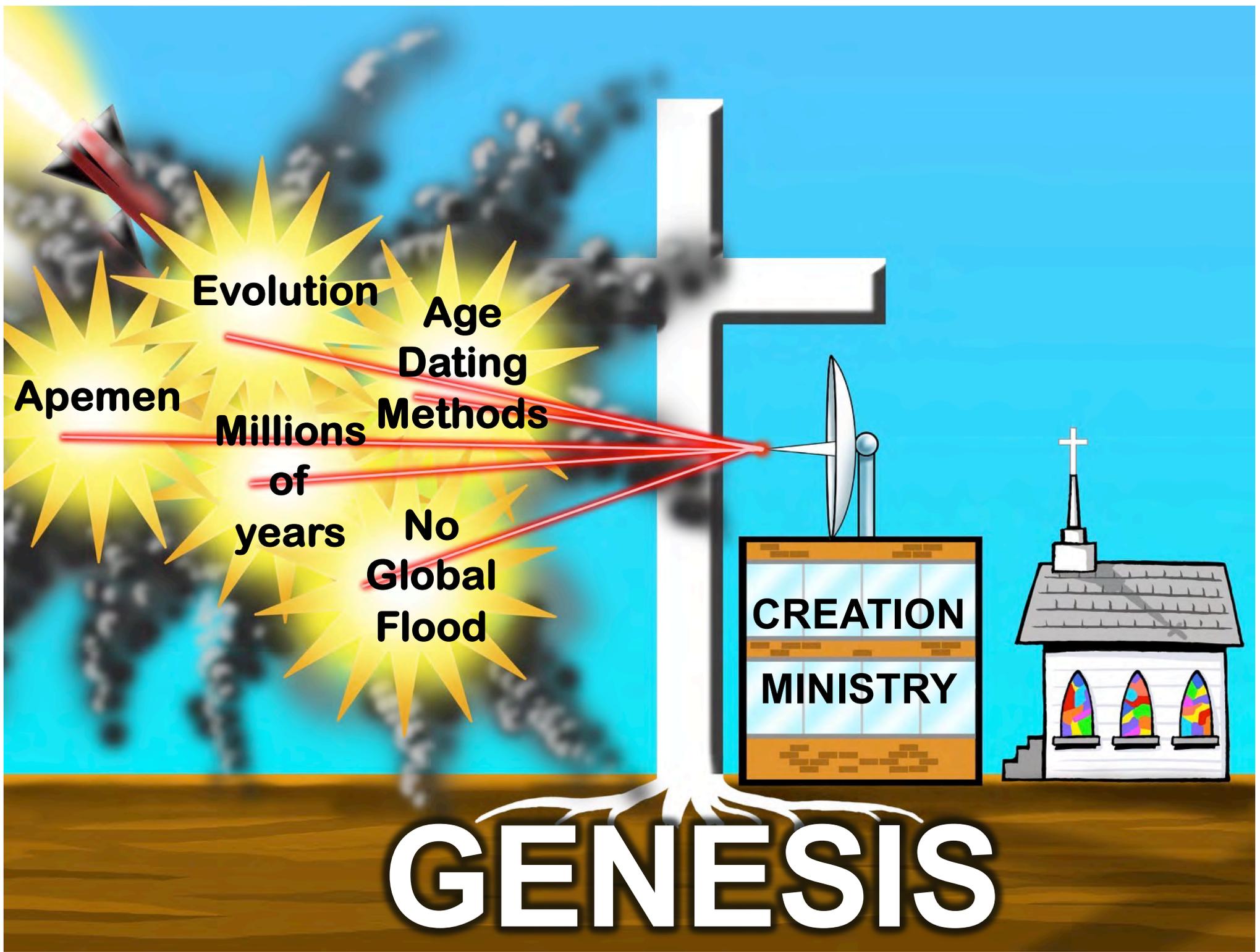
Global

Flood

ESIS

GENESIS





Evolution

Age

Dating

Methods

Millions

of

years

No

Global

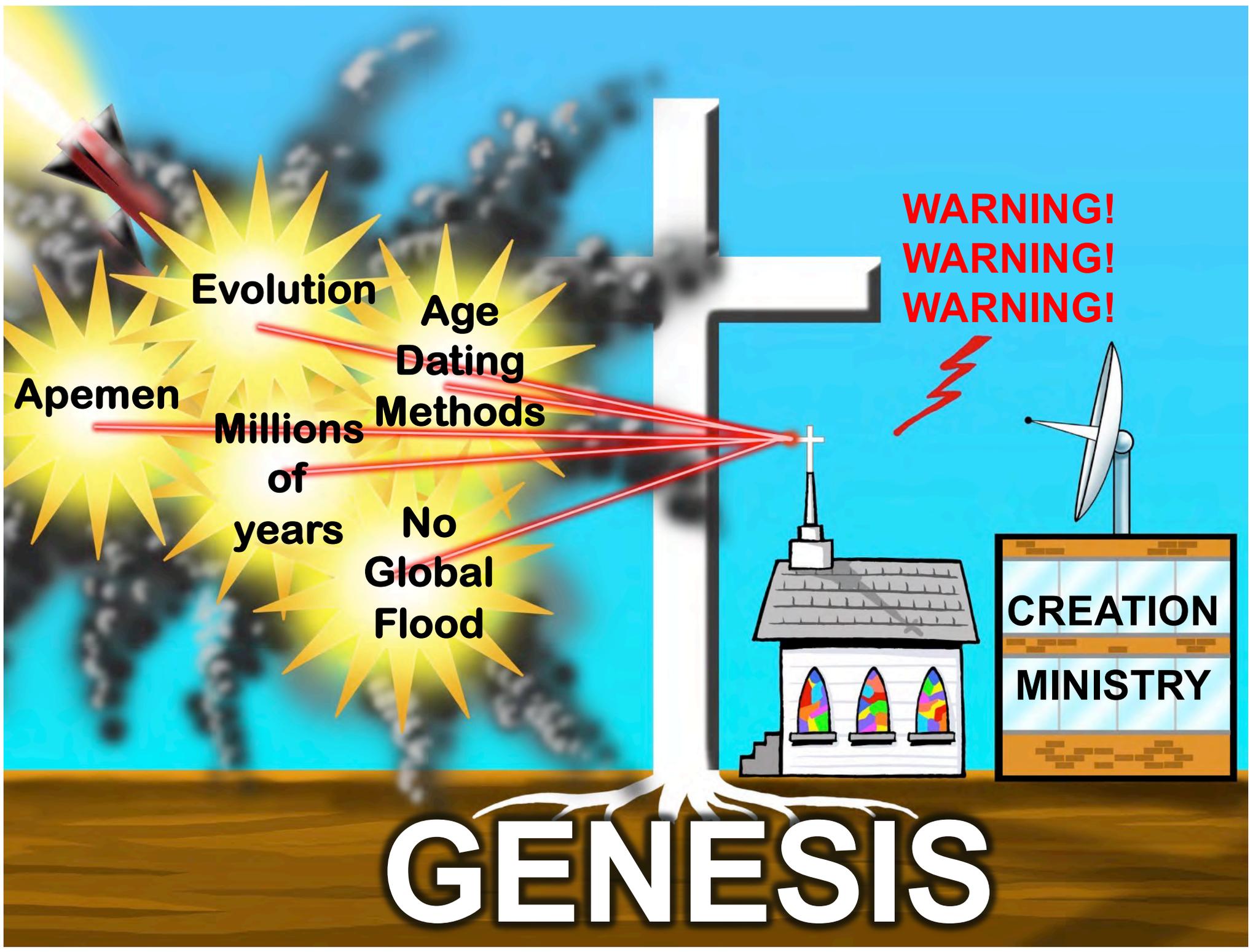
Flood

Apemen

CREATION

MINISTRY

GENESIS



**WARNING!
WARNING!
WARNING!**

Evolution

Age

Dating

Methods

Millions

of

years

No

Global

Flood

Apemen

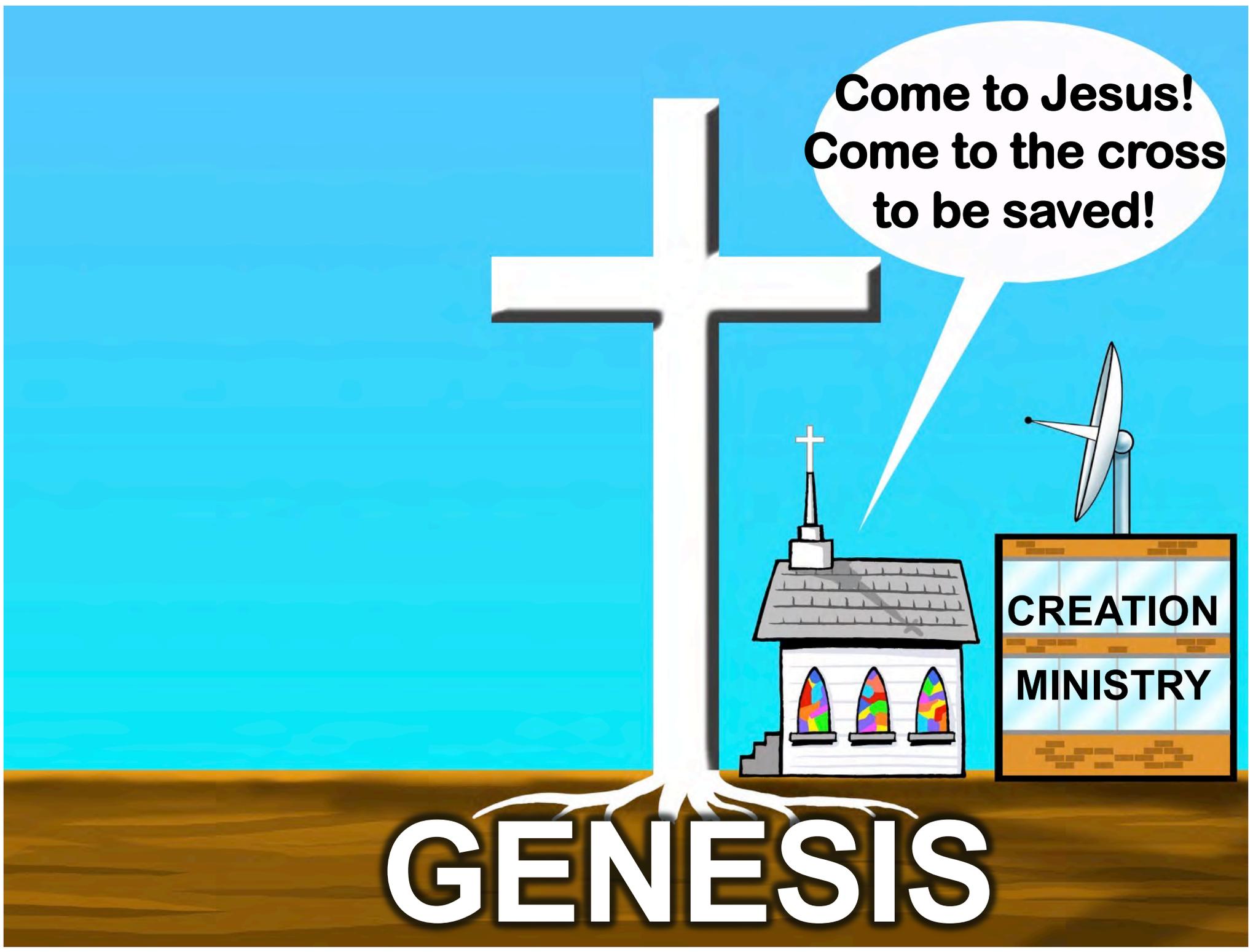
GENESIS

**CREATION
MINISTRY**

**Come to Jesus!
Come to the cross
to be saved!**



GENESIS



2 Corinthians 10:4-5

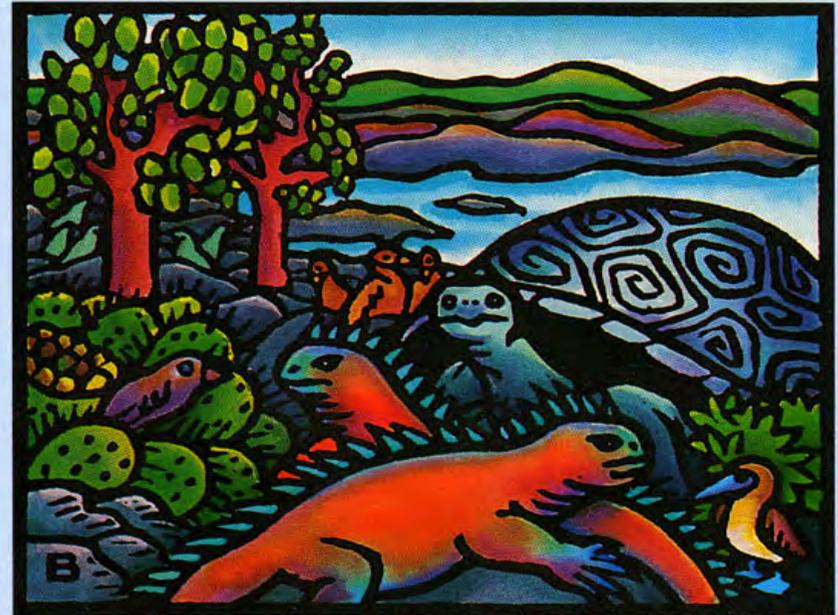
4. For the weapons of **our warfare** are not of the flesh, but divinely powerful for the destruction of fortresses.

5. We are destroying **speculations** and **every lofty thing raised up against the knowledge of God**, and we are taking **every thought** captive to the obedience of Christ.



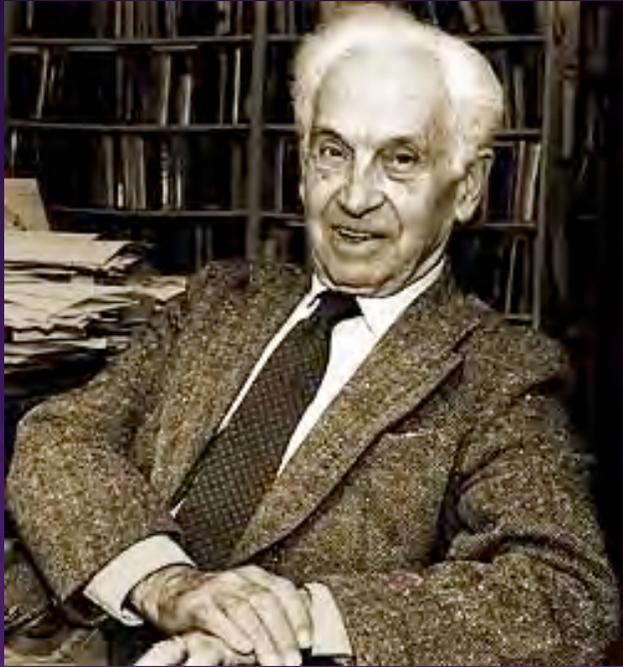
“Today it is perhaps the Darwinian view of nature more than any other that is responsible for the agnostic and skeptical outlook of the twentieth century.”

MICHAEL DENTON
EVOLUTION:
A THEORY IN CRISIS



NEW DEVELOPMENTS IN
SCIENCE ARE CHALLENGING
ORTHODOX DARWINISM

Michael Denton, *Evolution: A Theory in Crisis*
(London: Burnett Books, 1985), p. 358.



“The [Darwinian] revolution began when it became obvious that the earth was very ancient rather than having been created only 6000 years ago.

This finding was the snowball that started the whole avalanche.”

Ernst Mayr, “The Nature of the Darwinian Revolution,” *Science*, vol. 176 (2 June 1972), 988.

Psalm 40:4

How blessed is the man who has made the LORD his trust, and has not turned to the proud, nor to those who lapse into falsehood.

Proverbs 29:25

The fear of man brings a snare, but he who trusts in the LORD will be safe.





CORRUPTION



CREATION

CATASTROPHE



CONFUSION?



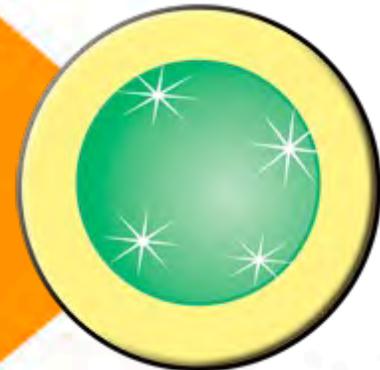
**THE SEVEN C's
OF HISTORY**

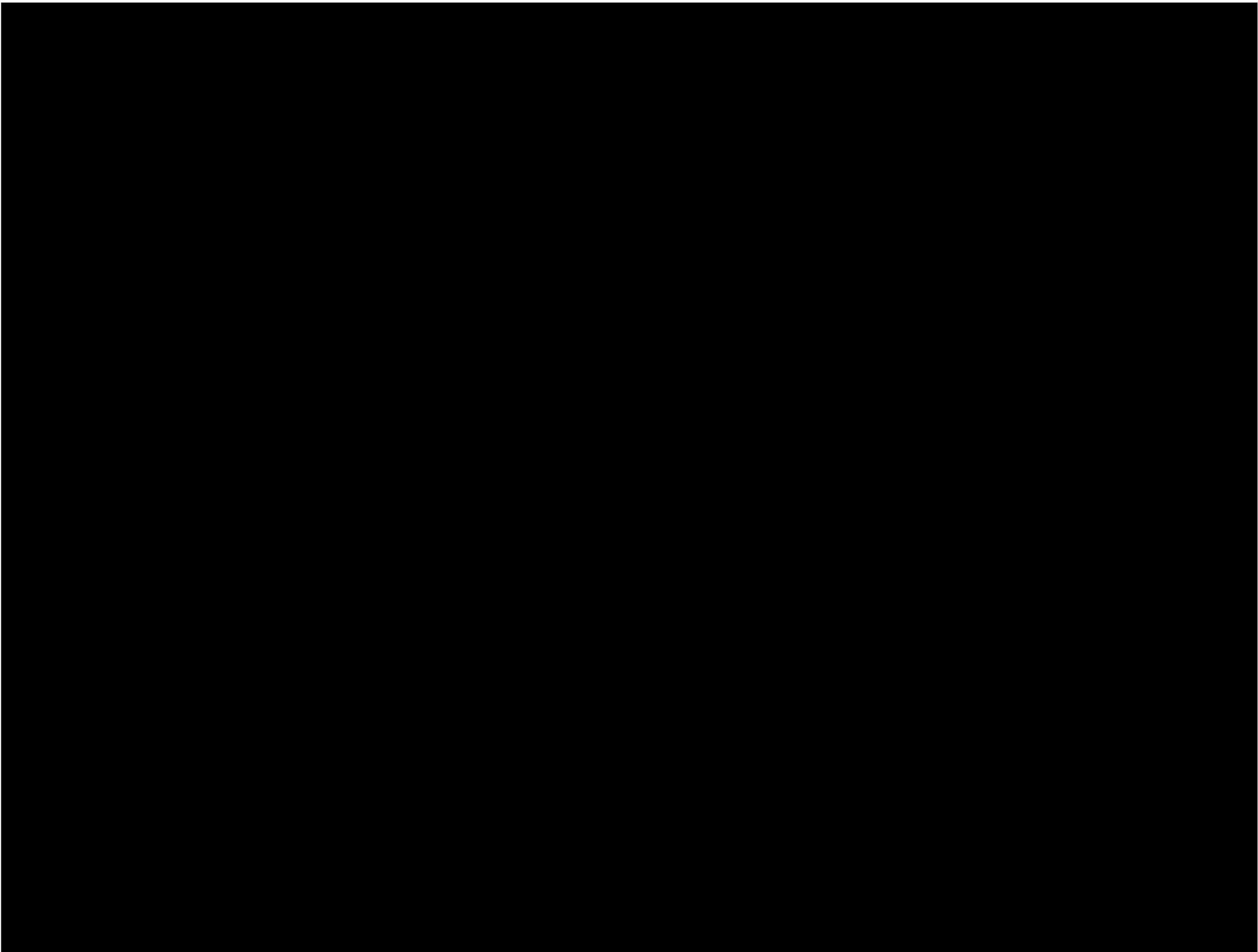
CONSUMMATION

CHRIST



CROSS





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