

DINOSAURS AND FAITH: FRIENDS OR FOES?

Aaron Beard
Trussville
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INTRODUCTION

A. Dinosaurs! From our childhood up all of us have likely been fascinated by these mysterious creatures:

1. But if you're like me, you have likely looked at dinosaurs with somewhat of a skeptical eye! This is due to the way the science community, television, and books have presented dinosaurs
2. We hear theories about them, that sadly are presented as facts, & see the way they are portrayed and we know it can't be true – If what's said is true, it means the Bible is a lie and God does not exist! Sounds extreme, right? But this is the logical conclusion of what is presented!
3. In fact, I was so turned off by how dinosaurs were portrayed, when I was in high school I rejected the notion that they ever existed. I figured they were just another misrepresentation or even a blatant lie coming out of a science community that refuses to acknowledge God!

B. When we think of the world of science, especially today's scientists, we often think about how their theories contradict our faith. This is frustrating, especially for one in school! (smarter than teachers)

1. One of the great things about dinosaurs is the more they discover about dinosaurs the more it confirms the Bible and its creation account and the more it destroys evolution!
2. But Satan uses dinosaurs to destroy the faith of Christians and turn their hearts away from God... especially young Christians as they go through high school and college. His lies abound!
3. In fact, by the admission of their own scientists, the discoveries made about dinosaurs has dealt a death blow to evolutionists. Sadly, they along with those who write text books and put together movies and documentaries, have decided to just ignore this evidence!

I. DINOSAURS: WHAT WERE THEY AND DID THEY EXIST?

A. We know for a fact that dinosaurs were real creatures that did exist:

1. Unless a person has personally seen the fossils, it may be easy to doubt that dinosaurs existed, but once you've seen their fossilized remains they are undeniable!
 - a. Fossils are the preserved traces of animals, plants, and other organisms from the past
 - b. An animal becoming fossilized is actually a fairly rare thing – Most bones and remains are left out in the open & destroyed by animals, insects, bacteria, and the elements
 - c. Fossils can come in the form of fossilized bones, hollowed out areas where their remains decay and leave a space shaped like them, & preserved in things amber or ice
2. The discovery and research of dinosaur fossils has been a relatively recent endeavor:
 - a. The first discovery of dinosaurs, in modern times, occurred in 1822 when Dr. Gideon Mantell discovered giant fossilized teeth. He discovered they were like an iguana's teeth but 20 times larger. He named the creature, "Iguanodon" (Iguana-like teeth)
 - b. In 1842 Richard Owen, a British scientist who studied fossils, coined the term dinosaurs for these great but extinct reptiles → Dinosaur simply means, "Fearfully Great Lizard"
 - c. Throughout the world, dinosaur remains have been discovered, ranging from just a tooth to an entire skeleton → There is absolutely no doubt that dinosaurs did exist!
3. It takes the right circumstances being met for an animal to become the kind of fossil we dig up:
 - a. Sometimes an animal will get buried rather quickly. Oxygen, which causes its decay it cut off. But still, most of the soft tissue will decay leaving the bones which last longer
 - b. Water, containing some minerals, seep into the bones and harden as they begin to decay. Eventually the minerals totally replace the bone leaving a very hard fossil behind

c. Evolutionists want to tell you that this takes millions of years to happen, but that is simply not true... But they won't teach you that in science books! (Give example)

4. All over the world people have discovered large piles of dinosaur fossils buried together:
 - a. They're called dinosaur graveyards – These are where a large number of different dinosaur fossils have been discovered in one single place. They died and were buried quickly!
 - b. Some explanations offered by scientists & paleontologists for these dinosaur graveyards:

- 1) "After A Seasonal Flood: This scene of 145 million years ago is based on clues found in the rock face behind you. Carcasses brought downstream by the fast moving, muddy water were washed onto a sandbar. Some were buried completely by tons of sand – their bones preserved in a nearly perfect state" (Sign at Dinosaur National Monument, Utah/Colorado border – Apologetics Press: Dinosaurs Unleashed)
- 2) "Coelophysis... lived during the Late Triassic Period, about 210 million years ago, at a time when northern New Mexico was an arid, lowland environment. Periodic monsoonal rains interrupted the dry conditions, producing flash floods that swept across the land. One of these flash floods may have drowned an entire herd of *Coelophysis*, causing the great concentration of bones that is found at Ghost Ranch."
(http://www.dinosaur-world.com/tyrannosaurs/coelophisys_bauri.htm)
- 3) "The fossil bones were strewn throughout an ancient flood deposit in Chile's Atacama desert, suggested that they were animals or corpses caught up in a flood perhaps 110 million years ago at the beginning of the Cretaceous period." (quoted from Robert Sanders, Dinosaurs Unleashed, Apologetics Press, page 78)
- 4) "The (Sahara) desert we know today would not have existed in Jobaria's day - the animal would have populated an area covered by open forests and broad rivers... It looks as though the dinosaurs may have been caught in an ancient flash flood and buried quickly." (<http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/science/nature/516012.stm>)
- 5) "Hypsilophodons have only been found on the Isle of Wight. Palaeontologist Dr Dave Martill of Portsmouth University feels that as many as 5,000 Hypsilophodon specimens exist on the Island, all of which drowned when trapped in a tremendous flash flood." (<http://www.bbc.co.uk/dna/h2g2/A664616>)

c. It's amazing how you can have a little flood here that wipes out a large group of dinosaurs, a little flood there, and another there. Floods all over the world around the same period of time... and yet they insist on using terms like, "regional, local, & flashflood"

d. We open God's word & know exactly why such mass graveyards exist (**Gen 7:11-12, 17-22**)

5. Since we know that dinosaurs did exist, one might ask the question, "Where did they come from?"
 - a. Evolutionists claim dinosaurs are the product of evolution, that they slowly evolved over 165 million years from a small micro-organism, & died out over 65 million years ago
 - b. The Bible says God, in His infinite wisdom & power, created them! (**Gen 1:20-31; Ex 20:11**)
 - c. When we look at the enormous size of some dinosaurs, the complexity of their bodies, and the variances between them, how can anyone say they exist by chance & evolution?
 - d. Consider: We believe God created dinosaurs and we believe we were created by God. Evolutionists believe dinosaurs as well as ourselves came from a rock! (**Jer. 2:27**)

B. What were dinosaurs really like?

1. People typically think of all dinosaurs as being these enormous destructive angry creatures:
 - a. It is true that some dinosaurs were huge (the Argentinosaurus is believed to have been over 120 feet long and have weighed over 100 tons), but it is equally true that some dinosaurs were very small (the Compsognathus was 3 feet long & weighed 6 pounds)
 - b. The largest dinosaurs are not the biggest creatures we know of. The largest blue whale ever found was 110 feet long and weighed 194 tons . That's 190,000 pounds more!

- c. While we see great power in dinosaurs, and it would be scary to meet a hungry one in a cold dark alley, God did give man domain over ALL the beasts! **(Gen 1:27-28)**
- 2. Some of the most famous dinosaurs today are the great carnivorous dinosaurs:
 - a. Tyrannosaurus Rex – “Tyrant Lizard King” → 40 feet long & weighed 6.5 tons. Views of the T-Rex has changed over the years. Like in Jurassic park it was seen as a destructive and hungry monster that could outrun a jeep. Now scientists think it would top out at 18 mph and likely was more of a scavenger, eating animals already dead
 - b. Giganotosaurus – “Giant Southern Lizard” → Biggest meat eater! It’s skull was over 6 feet long. Was 43 feet long & weighed 8 tons. Ironically, its brain was banana sized!
 - c. Spinosaurus – “Spine Lizard” → Was 48-50 feet long & weighed 4-6 tons. Had long spines on its back to which a skin sail was probably attached. Had a crocodile shaped head
 - d. Troodon – “Wounding Tooth” → 6 feet long, 3 feet high at hips, & weighed 130 pounds. Had large serrated teeth. Likely the smartest of all dinosaurs and was a night hunter.
- 3. Another category of dinosaurs are those which were herbivores:
 - a. Brachiosaurus – “Arm Lizard” → Was 80 feet long, 40 feet tall, & weighed over 40 tons. If it was shrunk to human size its brain would be 10k times smaller than a human brain
 - b. Argentinosaurus – Was 120 feet long and 29 feet just to the top of its back, and it weighed in at over 100 tons! It’s thought to have been a gentle creature
 - c. Triceratops – “Three horned Face” → Its head was at 10 feet across. It grew to be about the size of a dump truck. It weighed 7 tons and was 9.5 feet tall. It had a large brain
 - d. Ankylosaurus – “Fused Lizard” → He was 30 feet long and weighed 4 tons (hippo). It had a heavy body and was armored with spikes on its back. Its underside was vulnerable
- 4. While not specifically dinosaurs, there were great flying reptiles which are called Pterosaurs:
 - a. Pterodactyl – Had a wingspan up to 40 feet. Like other pterosaurs, the pterodactyl did not have feathers but a skin membrane as a wing. It somewhat resembled a large bat
 - b. Quetzalcoatlus – Had a wingspan of 48 feet. Was about the size of a small airplane!
- 5. While not specifically dinosaurs, there were also great reptiles which roamed the waters:
 - a. Elasmosaurus – Was about 46 feet long. 26 feet of its length was in its neck. It had a small head filled with sharp teeth. Looks like descriptions of “sea monsters” doesn’t it?
 - b. Kronosaurus – Was 30 feet long. It’s head was about a third of its body length. It had powerful jaws & sharp teeth. Possibly the most fearsome predator of the waters!
 - c. Ichthyosaurus – A general category for several types. They looked like fish or dolphins but were actually reptiles. Could be a few feet long to 70 feet long. Had large eyes.

C. The Bible actually describes animals that fit the fossils of dinosaurs we have since discovered:

- 1. If you followed the concept set forth by evolutionists, you would not expect to find dinosaurs in the Bible because, in their thinking, dinosaurs lived millions of years before man:
 - a. You won’t find the term “dinosaur” in the Bible because the term didn’t exist until the 19th Century → What you do find is descriptions of animals that fit a dinosaur’s profile!
 - b. Since God created all animals in the fifth and six days of creation, it shouldn’t surprise us to read of animals that are consistent with dinosaur fossils existing alongside man!
- 2. In the book of Job we read about a creature that is called “The Behemoth” **(Job 40:15-24)**
 - a. God describes this animal, as well as the Leviathan, right alongside creatures that we know really existed then! Goats, wild donkeys, horses, wild oxen, and ostriches, though some are strange in their own right, were real creatures... So is this Behemoth!

- b. Some of the older versions, and some like the Hungarian Bible, translate Behemoth as “hippopotamus” or “elephant,” but neither of these animals fit this description
 - c. Hippos and elephants certainly eat grass like an ox, they have big bellies, and their thighs are quite large as well – But a SUMO wrestler also shares some of these qualities!
 - d. Neither an elephant nor a hippo has a tail like a cedar, which were in Bible times known for their great height and strength, but a dinosaur certainly does! **(Show pictures)**
 - e. What creature fits this better than a dinosaur? Powerful belly muscles, tail like a cedar, bones of bronze, limbs like iron, the chief of God's works? Maybe a Brachiosaurus?
3. Also, God speaks to Job about a creature called “The Leviathan” **(Job 41:1-33; Psalm 104:25-26)**
- a. Some people read this description and think it's a crocodile or a whale. Both of these a great creatures, but neither of these creatures truly fit the description in this chapter
 - b. Clubs, spears, & swords do no good against him (vs. 7, 26); you can't lay your hands on him and if you did you'd never do it again (vs. 8); strong legs and a powerful frame (vs. 12); skin or skeleton you can't remove (vs. 13); terrifying teeth (vs. 14); back is like rows of shields sealed together (vs. 15); neck is full of strength (vs. 22); tremendous in size (vs. 25); when he moves the water boils with commotion (vs. 31-32); sneeze flash forth light, eyes full of light, flaming torches go out of his mouth, smoke comes out of his nose (vs. 18-20) → Is every detail meant to be taken literally? I don't know
 - c. Whatever creature this is, it is a great sea creature that was very powerful and would have caused tremendous fear in. It fits the description of dinosaurs that lived in the water
4. These are the main ones, but the Bible also speaks of dragons. At times it's metaphorical, at times it's not, but the creature had to have existed for the Bible to use it so often in the ways it does:
- a. Throughout time there have been many stories about dragons & images of them have appeared throughout history → Certainly the stories have been exaggerated and some, if not many sightings were imagined, but can we dismiss all of them?
 - b. The term dinosaur wasn't coined until the 19th Century. What did people call them before that? If you go by the descriptions, its apparent that people called them dragons!
 - c. In 2003 a skull was found in South Dakota & it was named Dracorex (Dragon King) – The museum which has it has this description with is: “A new type of dinosaur” that is “66-million-years-old... looks like a dragon... Its spiky horns, bumps and long muzzle looked more like a dragon” (<http://www.apologeticspress.org/articles/3476>)
 - d. The description of Leviathan in Job 41 is strikingly similar to dragon descriptions isn't it?
 - e. Consider some scriptures: **(Neh 2:13; Psa 74:13; Psa 148:7; Is 27:1; Jer 51:34; Ezek 29:3)**

II. DINOSAURS, EVOLUTION, AND FAITH:

A. One of the greatest questions concerning dinosaurs, evolution, and faith is, “Did dinosaurs and humans exist at the same time or were they separated by millions of years?”

1. Evolutionary scientists have said, without hesitancy, that if proven that humans & dinosaurs co-existed, evolution would be destroyed! (<http://www.bible.ca/tracks/dino-human-coexistence-implications.htm>)
 - a. Richard Dawkins of Oxford, in speaking of alleged human bones in the Carboniferous coal deposits, said, “If authenticated as human, these bones **would blow the theory of evolution out of the water.**” (Free Inquiry, V.21, No.4, 10/11/2001). He also said, “...there are certain things about the fossil record that any evolutionist should expect to be true. We should be very surprised, for example, to find fossil humans appearing in the record before mammals are supposed to have evolved! If a single, well verified

- mammal skull were to turn up in 500 million year old rocks, our whole modern theory of evolution **would be utterly destroyed.**" (Blind Watchmaker, 1986, p.225)
- b. Nova TV Special: God, Darwin, & The Dinosaurs: "...Dinosaur footprints, side by side with humans. **Finding them would counter evidence that humans evolved long after the dinosaurs became extinct** and back up...[the] claim that all species, including man, were created at one time."
 - c. Steven M. Stanley, John Hopkins University, says, "There is an infinite variety of ways in which, since 1859, **the general concept of evolution might have been demolished.** Consider the fossil record--a little known resource in Darwin's day. The unequivocal discovery of a fossil population of horses in Precambrian rocks **would disprove evolution.** More generally, any topsy-turvy sequence of fossils would force us to rethink our theory, yet not a single one has come to light."
2. The Bible says dinosaurs and humans existed together (**Gen 1:20-31; Exodus 20:11; Job 40:15**)
 - a. According to the creation account, dinosaurs would have been created on the same day that God made man. This would make dinosaurs and men contemporaries in time.
 - b. It is clear Job lived alongside dinosaurs and that he would have seen these creatures, or known people who had. Remember how God talked about them right with animals we know are real. God's statements stood on Job having known about them!
 - c. If evolution is true, evidence would point to dinosaurs and humans having never lived at the same time. If the Bible is true, evidence would point to them existing together
 3. Many discoveries have unequivocally pointed to humans having existed alongside dinosaurs:
 - a. There are "living fossils" – Plants and animals that have been discovered alive over the recent years which were once thought to have died out millions of years ago or have shown absolutely no change over the millions of years of their supposed existence
 - b. The Taylor Trail → A set of human footprints alongside and crossing over a set of dinosaur footprints in the Paluxy River Bed in Glen Rose, Texas. They're in the same bed plane
 - c. The Natural Bridges Monument Petroglyph → A 500 to 1500 year old carving on a rock wall by some Indians in southeast Utah. Only 45 miles from there, bones of an Apatosaurus, which fits the drawing well, were dug up.
 - d. Ica Burial Stones → Found in Peru in the early 1930's. They are thought to date back to AD 500 to AD 1500. They picture not only dinosaurs, but humans with them. Some show Sauropods with spikes on their back – This is a feature that wasn't known from the fossils until 1992, which help proves to skeptics that they are genuine!
 - e. The Doheny Expedition → In 1924, Samuel Hubbard, a well respected scientist, with other scientists discovered dinosaur footprints along with rock carvings of wild goats, elephants, and a dinosaur. It was standing on its hind legs balancing with its tail
 - f. Waldemar Julsrud Discovery → In 1945 he found hundreds of ancient dinosaur sculptures made with very specific details. Since then, many more have been unearthed!
 4. What about the lack of human fossils with dinosaur fossils? Doesn't this pose a problem?
 - a. If the number of living humans today is much smaller than the number of animals, what about during the days of Abraham & Job? There should be far less human remains!
 - b. It's rare for fossils to form in the first place and it's extremely rare to find a human fossil.
 - c. No one doubts humans lived alongside the Japanese Sea Lion (extinct in 1950's). Why? There are pictures and drawings of them and people who saw them have told of it!
 5. Another piece of evidence concerning dinosaurs and humans have lived alongside one another is

the abundance of dragon drawings, sightings, descriptions, and tales:

- a. To some this may sound like chasing UFO's due to the way dragons are typically thought of. There are dragon tales that are over exaggerated and obvious fake. But not all dragon tales are like "Puff The Magic Dragon" – And where did they all come from?
 - b. Think about it – When people see amazing creatures today or interact with powerful animals they go home and tell stories about it. Over time the stories do get warped and exaggerated, but some elements of truth remain. Wouldn't the same have happened with dinosaurs? But the term dinosaur didn't exist until the mid 1800's.
 - c. Alexander the Great, Beowulf, Herodotus, Asian kings, Indian warriors, St. George who "slew the dragon," sailors of many nations & centuries, and more are remembered for their exploits with extraordinary creatures – Are all totally fictitious?
 - d. "In AD 1450, Englishmen reported seeing two huge reptiles fighting on the banks of the river Stour. Around AD 1405 in Bures, United Kingdom, townsmen told of seeing "a dragon, vast in body, with a crested head, teeth like a saw, and a tail, extending to an enormous length." (Dinosaurs Unleashed, Apologetics Press, page 73).
 - e. The city of Nerluc in France was renamed in honor of the killing of a "dragon" there. This animal was bigger than an ox and had long, sharp, pointed horns on its head
 - f. "A well-known, old science book, the *Historia Animalium*, claims that "dragons" were not extinct in the 1500's. But the animals were said to be extremely rare and relatively small by then." (<http://www.christiananswers.net/dinosaurs/j-dragon3.html>)
6. But some people raise the objection that humans could not have existed alongside these massive, always hungry, and powerfully destructive creatures: **(Gen 1:27-28)**
- a. This objection is first raised due to a misunderstanding about dinosaurs – They aren't the biggest creatures ever (blue whale is bigger). Not all of them were huge, not all of them were angry meat eating predators, and most of their brains were quite small!
 - b. God designed & created man & animals so man would be able to have dominion over the animals. This doesn't mean the animals won't get the best of us at times, especially when we do dumb things around them, but we rule over them not them over us!
 - c. Consider what humans have done with elephants and hippos which are the size of many dinosaurs. What about what's done with killer whales, the oceans fiercest predator?
7. Here's my question: With all of this evidence out there, why isn't it being talked about in science text books, by collegiate professors, and portrayed in movies?

B. Does what we've discovered about dinosaurs support the evolution or the Bible account of creation?

1. When did dinosaurs begin to exist? How long ago were they still alive? Evolution and the Bible give two totally different answers, but fossil finds & other discoveries only support one of them!
 - a. By the Bible account dinosaurs were created some 6,000 years ago and existed from that point until they became extinct (when that time came is somewhat unknown)
 - b. Evolutionists teach that dinosaurs existed over 60 million years ago. They also teach that dinosaurs evolved (ultimately from a rock!) hundreds of millions of years ago
2. In 2005 scientists discovered a Tyrannosaurus Rex fossil they believe to be 70 million years old which still contained some soft tissues! This was huge as it is the first discovery of this kind!
 - a. It contained blood vessels, cells, and protein matrix that the body generates to form bones – This is soft tissue that could not have lasted for anything close 70 million years!

- b. Mary Schweitzer said, "Finding these tissues in dinosaurs changes the way we think about fossilization, because our theories of how fossils are preserved don't allow for this [soft-tissue preservation] " (http://news.nationalgeographic.com/news/2005/03/0324_050324_trexsofttissue.html)
 - c. Instead of accepting the obvious, the evolutionary scientists are trying to figure out a way to explain how such tissue could last 70 million years! Schweitzer said, "It was exactly like looking at a slice of modern bone. But, of course, I couldn't believe it. I said to the lab technician: "The bones, after all, are 65 million years old. How could blood cells survive that long?" (http://www.answersingenesis.org/docs2005/0325Dino_tissue.asp)
 - d. This wasn't a one time occurrence! MSNBC science editor Alan Boyle reported on July 24, 2007: "Today, paleontologists are still stunned—not only to find material that looks like dinosaur cartilage, blood vessels, blood cells and bone cells, but to **see the stuff in so many different specimens**" (<http://www.apologeticspress.org/articles/3518>)
 - e. Instead of questioning their theories and preconceived prejudices, they question away the evidence. Isn't this just what the Pharisees did to Jesus? (**John 9:14-34**)
3. The geologic column and the presence of dinosaurs in it supports the Bible's account of creation and contradicts evolutionary theories:
 - a. If you were to cut out a wedge of the earth, like a pie, you would notice that there are several layers to it... This is the geological column and it contains evidences of life
 - b. If evolution is correct it would reason that starting at the very bottom you would find the simplest of life forms and that they'd grow progressively more complex the higher up you look. It would also make sense that you would find many creatures in the "in between" stages of evolution in it. Since they believe each column represents millions of years you would also not find an organism situated in multiple layers
 - c. There are absolutely no fossils that are in the process of evolving – No half this & half that!
 - d. In this fossil record you will find what's called "The Cambrian Explosion" – This is where complex life forms suddenly appeared, with no evolution, in many different forms
 - e. Worldwide, fossils have been found that overlap several layers of the geologic column
 → Trees are the common form of "polystrate" fossils but there have also fish and dinosaurs polystrate fossils discovered – These layers must have been formed quickly
 - f. The evolutionist method of dating these layers and rocks needs to be seriously questioned! In 1936, a metal hammer with a wooden handle was dug out of Cretaceous limestone (dated by evolutionists at 135 million years old) in the area near London, Texas. The hammer's broken handle is 6¾ inches long, and the hammer itself is made of very strong metal. When the surface oxidation was removed, the metal was still shiny." (www.apologeticspress.org/articles/2071)
 4. As evolutionists have looked to dinosaurs to provide the "missing links" they expect to find, they have been let down and even embarrassed by their discoveries!
 - a. Since Darwin put forth his concept of evolution there has been a frenzy over the search for these missing links. This has resulted in some who have wanted the fame or the evidence for what they already believe creating fraudulent fossils
 - b. Archaeopteryx → Supposedly a transition from dinosaur to bird looks convincing at first:
 - 1) First, there is serious doubt raised by many scientists (not just creationists) as to whether or not this is a fraud. There's strong evidence to suggest it's a fake!
 - 2) If it is genuine it's simply a bird! It's only got two legs like a bird, it's got feathers like a bird, and even according to evolutionists it lived alongside other birds!

- 3) It does have claws on its wings and teeth in its mouth, so do other known birds.
This doesn't suggest evolution, but that they have a common designer!
- c. The Archaeoraptor Liaoningensis discovered in China – National Geographic ran the story and it took off like wildfire. Then it was discovered that it was a fake... A bird which someone took and attached a dinosaur tail to – They later had to retract their article!
5. Since the theory of evolution began, there have also been discoveries of "living dinosaurs"
- A living dinosaur refers to an animal whose fossils remains have been found in rocks and in layers of the earth which are thought to be millions of years old, but are alive today
 - Finding "living dinosaurs" crushes evolution – The theory says these creatures went extinct a long time ago or that they evolved over time – Yet the living animals perfectly fits their fossil record... No change whatsoever over the supposed 60-300 million years!
 - Coelacanth – Supposedly appeared 410 million years ago and died out 65 million years ago with the rest of the dinosaurs. These are supposed to be the missing link between fish and land reptiles because their fins resembled little legs. But in 1938 one was caught off the shore of Madagascar and since then hundreds more have been caught. They still had their fins, they still looked the same, & they were still fish!
 - There are many more – These deal a death blow to evolution & evolutionists are stumped. But we understand God created all animals according to their kind! **(Gen 1:21-25)**
 - Niles Eldridge says, "In the context of Dawin's own founding conceptions, and certainly from the perspective of the modern synthesis, living fossils are something of an enigma, if not an embarrassment ." Peter ward terms living fossils, "Evolutionary curiosities, more embarrassments to the theory of evolution than anything else." (Creation Matters, Volume 3 Number 2, March/April 1998, page 2)
 - How many more will be discovered? The oceans are deep! The rainforests are huge! And many huge swamps are unexplored... Only God knows what's still out there!

D. If dinosaurs were real, and coexisted with humans, what happened to all of the dinosaurs?

- The biggest theory we see propagated in school textbooks, documentaries, and movies is that something like a great meteorite hitting the earth brought about their extinction:
 - They say a huge six mile wide meteorite crashed into the earth millions of years ago blowing tons of dust up into the air. As the dust was carried around the world the sun's rays were blocked. Due to this, most of the plants died & the ice age happened
 - Three problems: How did all the other reptiles alive today make it? While meteorites do occasionally hit here, why hasn't this type of thing happened in their 65 million years? Why is there no real evidence such a catastrophic event even took place?
 - Seriously, you say a huge meteorite hits the earth wiping out all dinosaurs but somehow allows the exact conditions and organisms to remain for humans to evolve? RIGHT!
- Some people believe they would have been wiped out in the flood:
 - Certainly when the flood occurred, all living things that were not on the ark were killed. As we have noticed before, this flood explains the existence of dinosaur graveyards
 - Noah would have taken dinosaurs onto the ark, so we know they did live on after the flood. As previously noted, people many years after the flood saw & wrote of them!
 - Some think taking dinosaurs on the ark would have been an impossible feat – But consider:
 - The ark's volume was 1,500,000 cubic feet! It was big enough to hold over 520 modern box cars! It's layout was much bigger than a football field!

- 2) The big dinosaurs were big, but the little dinosaurs were little! That's simple!
- 3) There's nothing to make us think Noah had to take adults onto the ark. Why take a 100 ton Argentinosaurus when you can take a baby? Plus, if Noah took a baby it'd have more years of reproductive ability ahead of it than an adult
3. It's been suggested that they died after the flood due to changes in the earth's atmosphere:
 - a. Some think before the flood there was a canopy of water above the atmosphere & a layer of subterranean water under the crust of the earth **(Gen 1:6-8; Ps 24:1)**
 - b. It is believed that this would have created a "green house" effect all over the world, resulting in perfect conditions for plants and animals to flourish in. In support of this, fossilized palm trees have been discovered in Alaska and Antarctica **(Gen 2:5-6)**
 - c. When the flood occurred, all of this changed **(Gen 7:11)** – Before the flood men lived over 900 years, but after that it dwindled down to 100 years or so. Things changed! As things changed, some believe these changes resulted in the extinction of dinosaurs
 - d. As the land was no longer hospitable to creatures of their size or of nature they started dying off; however, this would have taken many years to complete in a full sense.
4. Another concept is that they died out for the same reasons that animals die out today:
 - a. Why don't people ever discuss why other animals go extinct? It doesn't fit their agenda!
 - b. Why aren't there bears roaming Trussville? If they were here our presence & building up of the city would drive them off. If not, as soon as someone heard of a bear there would be pick-up trucks driven by rednecks with shotguns ready to take him out!
 - c. It's very likely that dinosaurs have become extinct over time because they were killed because their habitat was taken over or being hunted to extinction **(Gen. 10:8-12)**
 - d. Remember the dragon tales? People made sport of hunting down and killing these great beasts and there were no PETA groups or government agencies to protect them!
 - e. Following this theory, one finds credence to the ideas that some dinosaurs (though not likely the biggest ones) may still exist today. Dinosaur like animals were actively reported in the 1700's and 1800's. Some have even been reported more recently!

CONCLUSION: Instead of letting Satan take dinosaurs and use them to cause doubt in the faith of Christians and keep others from accepting God's word as truth, let's use dinosaurs to fulfill the purpose of glorifying God who created them right alongside man!