

Editorial

PAUL GARNER

This edition of *e-Origins* has a geology theme. Its particular focus is on the power of the young-age creationist model to explain some major features of the Earth's rock record.

Our first article has a self-explanatory title: 'Dinosaur soft tissues still provide compelling evidence of young age'. Ever since the discovery of soft tissues in dinosaur fossils, scientists working within the conventional model have been puzzling about how to explain the preservation of such organic materials for tens of millions of years. Dr Ken Coulson's article argues that the models proposed so far are inadequate. He concludes, 'The most parsimonious explanation for the presence of still stretchy, white-to-transparent, pliable tissues is that they are not millions and millions of years old.' We hope that this review of the current state-of-the-art will provide a basis for further discussion and research.

Sophie Southerden is a student of the geosciences with an interest in orogenic (mountain-building) processes, and this is the subject of her contribution to this issue. 'The origin of mountains: a creationist perspective' describes the model known as catastrophic plate tectonics, and how it explains the nature and timing of mountain uplift better than the conventional geological model. The dynamic forces that thickened and shortened the crust to produce mountain belts are hard to envisage, but the creationist model is able to explain an impressive array of relevant data.

Last in this issue is my own article, 'Flood geology explains Grand Canyon folds', in which I summarise recent research by Dr Andrew Snelling on the timing of the origin of the step-like folds in the sedimentary strata of the uplifted Colorado Plateau. Dr Snelling's research suggests that the time that elapsed between the deposition of the strata and their folding must have been short, because examination of the rocks under the microscope indicates that they were soft and uncemented at the time of folding. This is consistent with the creationist model, but highly unexpected if 450 million years had elapsed between deposition and folding, as in the conventional model.

We hope you enjoy reading these articles. In future, we have decided not to wait to 'fill an issue' before publishing, but instead to publish individual articles as

they become available. Hopefully this will speed up the publication process for our authors, as well as providing articles for our readers in a more timely fashion. If you would like to write for *e-Origins*, and have an idea that fits within our editorial remit, please contact us to talk about it.

AUTHOR BIOGRAPHY

Paul Garner is a full-time Researcher and Lecturer for Biblical Creation Trust. He has an MSc in Geoscience from University College London, where he specialised in palaeobiology. He is a Fellow of the Geological Society of London and a member of several other scientific societies. Between 2007 and 2011 he was part of a team undertaking a major field and laboratory investigation of the Coconino Sandstone of northern and central Arizona, funded by the Institute for Creation Research. He wrote and featured in the documentary, *Set in Stone: Evidence for Earth's Catastrophic Past* (Truth in Science, 2012). He is the author of two books, *The New Creationism: Building Scientific Theories on a Biblical Foundation* (Evangelical Press, 2009) and *Fossils and the Flood: Exploring Lost Worlds with Science and Scripture* (New Creation, 2021). He is co-host of the fortnightly podcast, *Let's Talk Creation*, with Dr Todd Wood.

