Title	Four strong evidences for a young(er) creation
Topic/Field	Earth and environmental sciences /
Target audience	Professionals / General / Family / Youths

Secular beliefs about the age of the earth provide a powerful blockage to faith today. Belief in long ages undermines confidence in the Bible as God's Word. It also undermines the Gospel. It does this by putting eons of death, disease, and suffering before the creation of Adam and Eve. This then brings into question the goodness of God and the reason for Jesus' death and resurrection—that Adam's sin brought death, disease, and suffering, into God's "very good" creation (Genesis 1:31).

I explain how the Bible gives us an age of the Earth of about 6,000 years. And how this was believed until recent times. Indeed, the first attack on the Bible was not biological evolution, but the age of the earth.

I then present four powerful pieces of evidence from science for a young age of the earth, and discuss some of the rescue devices that long-age advocates use to try to refute this evidence:

- 1. Soft tissues and proteins are found in fossils across the spectrum of 'deep time'. These fragile compounds should not be there if the fossils really are millions of years old.
- 2. Carbon-14 is also present in fossils across supposed hundreds of millions of years. All carbon-14 should have decayed away by just 60,000 years or so.
- 3. Rock arches and other geological formations are decaying before our eyes. The observed rates of decay far exceed what the long-age belief requires. Arches National Park in the USA provides a powerful counter to long ages.
- 4. The long-age rate of sediment formation in the rock layers is miniscule. This is way too little to explain fossil formation in those layers. The lack of bioturbation reinforces the reality of this problem for belief in long ages.

These examples are just four of many. They corroborate one another to provide a powerful argument for rapid formation of the rock strata and the fossils they contain. And all this must have happened relatively recently.

What event could explain a rapid and recent formation of the rock strata? Noah's Flood. The Flood is the key to understanding Earth's true history according to the Bible. This true history maintains the goodness of God and the origin of sin, death, and suffering in Adam. Thus Jesus, "the last Adam" (1 Corinthians 15:45) died a physical death on the cross to pay for our sins. He rose from the dead, having paid the price and conquered death. And we look forward to a future when there will be a new heavens and earth where there is no more death. Death, "the last enemy" (1 Corinthians 15:26) will be done away with.

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Curriculum Vitae

Don earned his B.Sc.Agr. (First Class Honours) and his Ph.D. at the University of Sydney. He worked for 20 years as a research horticulturalist with NSW Agriculture. His research

included environmental adaptation of tropical/subtropical fruits such as mango, lychee, and custard apple, floral biology, floral induction, breeding, environmental physiology (especially effects of water deficits), plant taxonomy, and mineral nutrition. His research on floral induction of lychee and mango overturned long-held ideas that had been an impediment to the scientific understanding of these plants, as well as causing economic loss due to inappropriate management.

Don joined *Creation Ministries International*—Australia in 1994 and has spoken around the world on the creation issue, showing the errors in the evolutionary ideas he was taught. He is co-author of *The Creation Answers Book, Answers to the 4 Big Questions,* and *15 Reasons to Take Genesis as History.* Dr Batten has written many articles for *Creation* magazine, the in-depth *Journal of Creation,* and creation.com.

Dr Batten was the Managing Director of CMI-Australia from 2015 to 2022. He is now Senior Scientist and managing editor for *Creation* magazine. He is one of the three directors of CMI-Singapore.