

July 2004

CAN WE PROVE THE BIBLE?

By Joe Spears

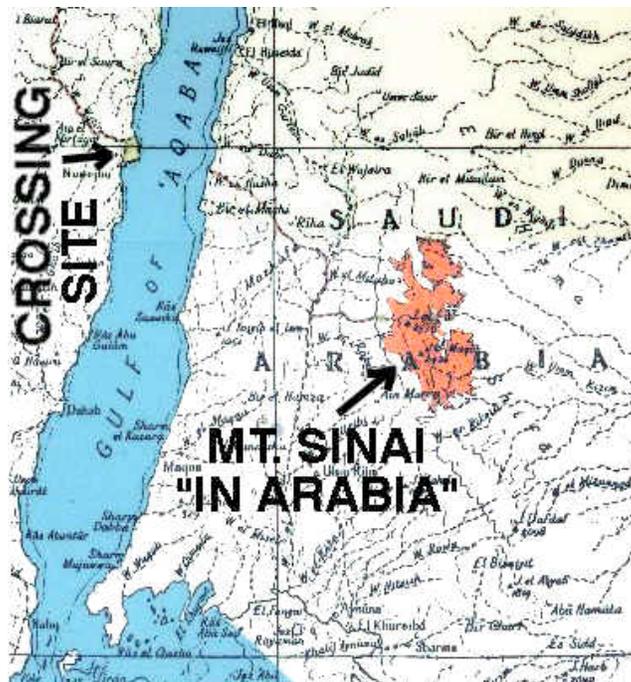
Is there any real evidence of Biblical events? For example, some might mention the Shroud of Turin and the evidence for it. But others would counter this by pointing to the carbon dating results, which were supposed to show that the Shroud was too young to have been the burial shroud of Christ. Nevertheless, there are those who question those dating results. One is Professor Garza-Valdes, who created a brand new science after the carbon dating of the Shroud. (It's called archaeomicrobiology.)

Garza-Valdes found that the dating of a jade object, by carbon-dating blood on it, was skewed by the presence of a coating formed on the jade by bacteria. Of course, this bacterial coating contained organic material, which, of course, contains carbon, and being of a younger age than the original object, threw the date off. Garza-Valdes believes this same type of bacterial coating could account for an erroneously young dating of the Shroud. A coating of this type could cause an old piece of linen to be dated much younger than it really is. He has written a book about this, entitled *The DNA of God*.

Another example of a Biblical reference which men have tried to prove is the so-called Mountain of God. This mountain, referred to as Horeb or as Mt. Sinai in the Bible—Mt. Sinai is in the Horeb mountain range—is the place where God spoke with Moses in the burning bush and Moses received his commission to deliver the children of Israel out of the slavery of Egypt. This is the mountain on which God gave Moses the Ten Commandments. Briefly, the story is that at God's command Moses went up onto the mountain, leaving Israel below, and while Moses was gone, the Israelites built a golden calf to worship.

Smoke and lightning and fire are associated with this mountain:

Exodus 19:17-18. And Moses brought forth the people out of the camp to meet with God; and they stood at the nether part of the mount. And mount Sinai was altogether on a smoke, because the LORD descended upon it in fire: and the smoke thereof ascended as the smoke of a furnace, and the whole mount quaked greatly.



Location of Jebel el Lawz, the proposed Mt. Sinai of the Bible, in Saudi Arabia and the proposed site of crossing of the Red Sea.

Yet the Mt. Sinai of the Bible may not be the mountain on modern maps. Another mountain, Jebel el Lawz in Saudi Arabia, has been explored by Ron Wyatt in 1984, and Larry Williams and Bob Cornuke also explored the same area several years later. All seem convinced that Jebel el Lawz is the Mt. Sinai of Exodus.

Near Jebel el Lawz has been found an ancient altar with pictures of cows on it. This seemed strange, according to Wyatt, Williams, and Cornuke, for cows are not common to this region. Some have suggested that this might be the altar to the Golden Calf mentioned in the Bible (Exodus 32).

Jebel el Lawz has a row of stones surrounding it which fit the description of the marker stones placed around Mt. Sinai in the Bible (Exodus 19:23). (Incidentally, the locals call this mountain Moses' Mountain.)



Egyptian-style petroglyph of cow or bull on the altar at Jebel el Lawz, not found anywhere else in Saudi Arabia. From the Wyatt Museum.

And on the mountain itself is a most amazing thing. The top of Jebel el Lawz is not the same color as its base. The top of the mountain looks scorched. Cornuke described a rock from the mountain as having a melted, dark exterior, and a light interior.

You can see pictures of this mountain on the Web. One place is
<http://www.wyattarchaeology.com/sinai.htm>

But there are others. Just do a Web search on Sinai and include the names of researchers/explorers Ron Wyatt, Larry Williams, or Bob Cornuke.

Other evidence in support of Jebel el Lawz as the Mt. Sinai of Exodus is that Mt. Sinai is stated to be in Arabia according to Galatians 4. Scholars say that at the time Paul wrote his letter to the Galatians Arabia would not have included what we refer to today as the Sinai Peninsula. Another point they make is that the children of Israel are described as having left Egypt, but at the time they left, the region of today's Sinai Peninsula was controlled by Egypt.

The Bible describes Mt. Sinai as being at the back of a desert (Exodus 3:1). Wyatt, Williams, and Cornuke point out that Jebel el Lawz is at the edge of a desert.

Leaving the vicinity of the Red Sea and trying to follow the route of the children of Israel, Williams and Cornuke came to some springs where the water was bitter. This they compare with the Biblical description of the bitter water in Exodus 15:22-23.

Exodus 15:27 tells of Israel passing through an area where there were springs and palm trees; Williams and Cornuke say they passed through a group of springs and a grove of palm trees. The Bible says Israel camped there; the explorers say they found caves at the site, where a worker told them that cave writings said that Moses and the Hebrews had come through the area.

What do we see here? If we can believe these men, we see corroboration of the Bible, we are seeing more evidence for the accounts of Exodus.

The interesting thing is that Williams and Cornuke departed from conventional wisdom to search for the mountain of God by exploring a different region than the area of modern Mt. Sinai. They based their directions on the account given in the Bible. They appear to have succeeded.



Bob Cornuke, President of Bible Archaeology Search and Exploration Institute

(You can read more about the expedition of Williams and Cornuke in the book *The Gold of Exodus* by Howard Blum.)

CHIMPANZEE DNA RESULTS UNDERCUT COMMON EVOLUTIONARY CLAIM

Many readers will probably have heard that the chimpanzee genome (complete set of DNA, repository for genetic information) is very similar to ours. Numbers as high as "99.5% the same" have been bandied about. However, a recent article indicates that although there is a lot of similarity, there are some crucial differences (of course).

A recent article in *Science News* (June 12, 2004 Vol. 165, p. 382) opens with the statement that "Genetic differences between chimpanzees and people are more complicated than scientists had previously suspected..." Previously, some rather crude methods had been used to try to determine the amount of matching DNA. This is where the percent similarity numbers came from. As we had suspected, when the details were looked at, the situation was more complex. A group of researchers in Tokyo compared actual genes between the two species. Although they reported only a 1.44% difference in actual sequence, they found 47 differences in specific genes out of 231 genes studied, for a difference in 20% of the genes studied. As reported, "[p]reliminary evidence indicates that these modifications frequently alter the types and activities of proteins manufactured by genes." In other words, although the 20% of the genes studied seemed similar, in actual fact the proteins made by carrying out the instructions inherent in the DNA were different in both type and activity. So much for being "99.5% the same".

It should be a cautionary tale to evolutionists, who like to spin "just so" stories on limited data, to try to bolster their argument, and especially to bash creationists. Even the reported 20% of the genes that were actually differ-

ent were “spun” to be caused by insertions and deletions. This is not known, but the result of evolutionary assumptions. A common Designer for the genes is at least as good an explanation for the data. In this author’s humble opinion, those who bashed creationists by using the “99.5% similarity” argument have egg all over their faces. When it looks like the argument is going against us, we should remember to adopt a “wait and see” attitude. Eventually, the Bible will be proved correct! ☞

Michael Kinnaird, PhD

- Seven Biblical truths that declare the Bible and evolution to be incompatible
- Scientific Laws
- The fossil record and textbooks
- Why it matters what we believe.

Thursday, August 12, 7:30 P.M., Providence Baptist Church, 6339 Glenwood Ave., Raleigh.

The Origin of Humans. New video by Mike Riddle of Institute for Creation Research. Examine the so-called naturalistic evolutionary evidences and refutations of man’s origin. The following will be covered:

- Four famous mistakes
- Neanderthals
- Lucy and the australopithecines
- A case study on mutation rates

COMING EVENTS

Thursday, July 8, 7:30 P.M., Providence Baptist Church, 6339 Glenwood Ave., Raleigh.

Does It Matter What We Believe? Video by Mike Riddle of Institute for Creation Research. The following will be discussed relative to TASC’s mission:

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