

survived for many days adrift in the floodwaters. Some of these were pregnant females, and held their eggs inside themselves until a suitable time for laying. During quieter spells, these dinosaurs crawled onto any available land and laid their eggs in nests quickly dug out of the ground. This process may well have happened a number of times as fresh sediment was laid down, with other dinosaurs coming onto the land to lay their eggs and leave footprints in higher sedimentary layers. In fact the evidence from footprints, and so many *unhatched* dinosaur eggs in different layers, and from multi-shelled eggs, some containing partly grown embryos, provides good evidence for this process.

Bearing this in mind, I do not see the problems that Garner *et al.* raise as being insurmountable. But by placing the Flood/post-Flood boundary much lower down the stratigraphic column only creates a lot more difficult problems to solve. I would respectfully urge those who struggle to come to terms with evidence from dinosaur footprints and eggs to reconsider their views in light of the evidence from living reptiles.

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The landing place

I have enjoyed reading Bill Crouse's *The landing place* in *TJ* 15(3). One ancient reference that wasn't mentioned is that written by the Christian chronographer Julius Africanus (AD 160–240). Africanus had completed a 5 volume history of the world in AD 221.¹

The following is an excerpt from chapter IV of Africanus' chronography, which survived in fragmented portions because of the work of George Syncellus, who died about AD 814.

'And when the water abated, the ark settled on the mountains of Ararat, which we know to be in Parthia [that is, in Armenia]; but some say that they are at Celaenae of Phrygia [for there was a hill Ararat in Phrygia, from which the Marsyas issued, and the ark was declared to have rested there by the Sibylline oracles] and I have seen both places. And the flood prevailed for a year ...'

I came across this reference when writing my booklet on ancient non-Christian sources referring to Jesus.

Could either of these locations (Parthia and Phrygia) possibly be located near Cudi Dag?

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References

- English translations of his extant fragments can be found in *The Ante-Nicene Fathers: Translations of the Writing of the Fathers down to AD 325, Vol. VI*; Roberts, A. and Donaldson, J. (Eds), W.B. Eerdmans, Grand Rapids MI, 1978–1979. Notes in parentheses are sup-

plied by A. Cleveland Coxe as featured in the English book.

Wisdom teeth

I read, with a great deal of interest, your article on wisdom teeth.¹ Since I am a retired dentist I wanted to comment on this article in a couple of respects.

I graduated from Dental School in 1973. I was taught that it was unnecessary to remove wisdom teeth unless there was a specific health reason to do so; i.e. there had to be an impaction, pericoronitis, etc.

However, it has been very common for orthodontists to insist on their removal for reasons of providing more room for re-alignment of the teeth, reducing forces that would push teeth forward, etc. As your article pointed out, these ideas have been somewhat discounted today.

One idea that wasn't really explored is the genetic selection problem. Our Western ideals of beauty tend toward the heart shaped face, at least in women. This will tend to select for people with smaller mandibles and therefore less space for the 3rd molars. I have had the opportunity to work with Eastern European and African individuals and they generally have more of a square face with (usually) more room for the third molars.

I would like to say that (at least in my practice) keeping the third molars was very useful for a number of reasons. Many parents often don't do much to take care of their children's teeth, and as a result, permanent six year molars are often lost at an early age.

In some cases, (with the help of an excellent oral surgeon) we were able to transplant the third molars into the space where the six year molars had been lost. This negated the need for more expensive treatments such as bridgework. (Just an example of one reason to keep those 'unnecessary' teeth.)

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