

Creation Special
Tucson Bible Church

Lesson #2

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Dean Bible Ministries

www.deanbible.org

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Age of the Earth

Is it a Young Earth After All?



Two Foundational Introductory Matters

- 1. The matter of authority: Who's the boss?**
 - Reason**
 - Experience**
 - Combination**
 - Intuition**
- 2. Interpretation: How do we really know what God meant?**

The Basis of Knowledge

	SYSTEM	STARTING POINT	METHOD
Autonomous Systems of Perception	RATIONALISM	Innate ideas Faith in human ability	Independent use of logic and reason
	EMPIRICISM	Sense perceptions External experience; Scientific method; Faith in human ability	Independent use of logic and reason
	MYSTICISM	Inner, private experience; Intuition Faith in human ability	Independent, nonlogical, nonrational, nonverifiable
Divine Viewpoint	REVELATION	Objective revelation of God	Dependent use of logic and reason

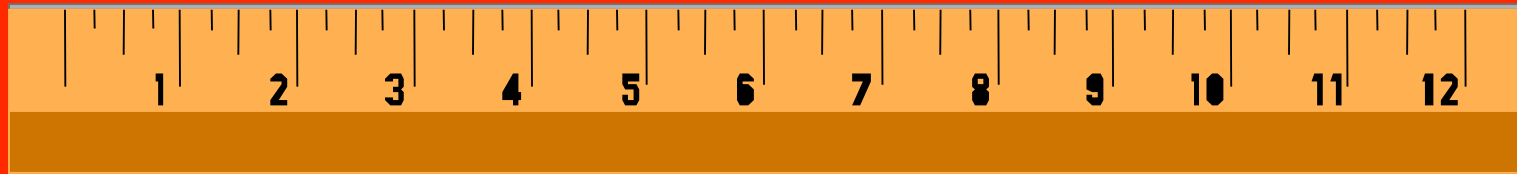
An open book with a red tassel bookmark is shown in the background. The text is overlaid on the top half of the image.

Do we evaluate experience by the Bible?

Or,

do we evaluate the Bible by our experience?

Golden Rule of Interpretation



When the plain sense of Scripture makes common sense, seek no other sense; therefore, take every word at its primary, ordinary, usual, literal meaning unless the facts of the immediate context indicate clearly otherwise.

“It is apparent that the most straightforward understanding of Genesis, **without regard to the hermeneutical considerations suggested by science**, is that God created the heavens and the earth in six solar days, that man was created on the sixth day, and that death and chaos entered the world after the fall of Adam and Eve, and that all fossils were the result of the catastrophic deluge that spared only Noah’s family and the animals therewith.”

–PPT Pun, *Journal of the American Scientific Affiliation*

Accommodationist Views

- **The Old Earth Gap View**
- **The Day-Age View**
- **Progressive Creationism**
- **The Framework Hypothesis**

Definitions of Evolution

TIME + CHANCE = ORDER, INTELLIGENCE, COMPLEXITY

OR

NOTHING + NO ONE = EVERYTHING

Seven Assumptions of Evolution

- 1. The first assumption is that non-living things gave rise to living material, i.e., spontaneous generation occurred.**
- 2. The second assumption is that spontaneous generation occurred only once.**
- 3. The third assumption is that viruses, bacteria, plants and animals are all related.**
- 4. The fourth assumption is that protozoa (single-celled life forms) gave rise to metazoa (multiple-celled life forms).**

Seven Assumptions of Evolution

- 5. The fifth assumption is that various invertebrate phyla are interrelated.**
- 6. The sixth assumption is that the invertebrates gave rise to the vertebrates.**
- 7. The seventh assumption is that within the vertebrates the fish gave rise to amphibia, the amphibia to reptiles and the reptiles to birds and mammals.**

If all the universe was crammed with electron particles, the maximum number of particles would be 10^{130} (10 followed by 130 zeroes).

If each particle could perform one hundred billion, billion events, 10^{120} , each second, then allow for 10^{20} seconds of cosmic history (3,000 billion years 10x the currently accepted age of the universe) we have 10^{170} events possible.

That is 10 followed by 170 zeroes.

Now to get a series of as few as 1,500 events to take place in the right sequence and under the right circumstances the mathematical probability is one in 10^{450} .

The Big Bang

The Big Bang is the belief that the universe and all it contains is the result of matter so dense that the matter was invisible, suddenly exploding in a super explosion that eventually resulted in the present orderly composition of the universe.

“The universe began as a particle that was infinitely dense and occupied no space.”

–Robert Augros and George Stanciu, *The New Story of Science*.

What the Bible Says

- From Abraham to now 4,000 yrs. (6,000)
- From flood to Abraham 300 yrs. (2,000)
- From creation to flood 1,656 yrs.
- Length of creation 6 days
- Age of Earth 6,000 to 10,000 yrs.

Time Line of the Patriarchs

2166 BC

Abram born

1876 BC

Jacob enters Egypt

430

480

**Temple
Dedication**

966 BC

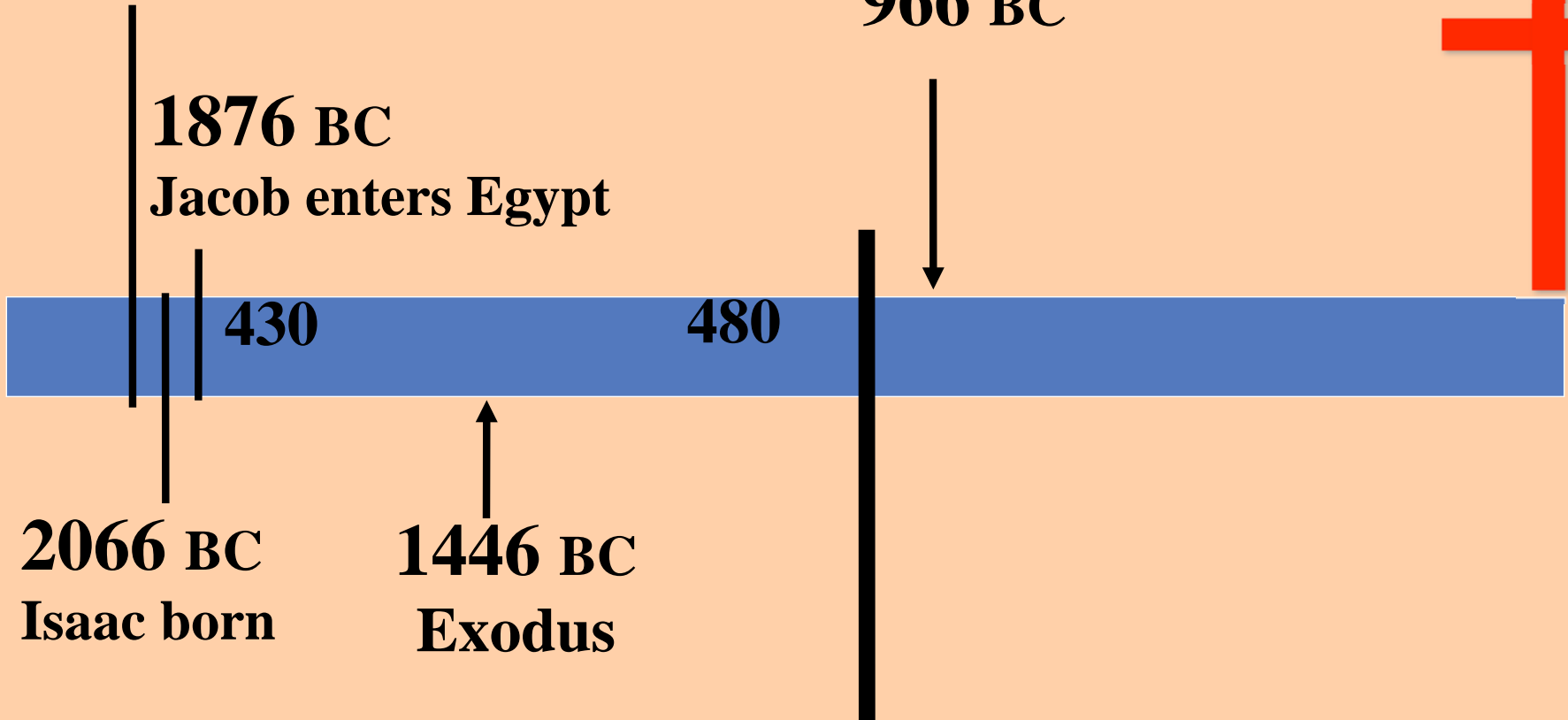
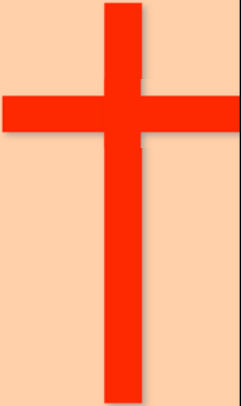
2066 BC

Isaac born

1446 BC

Exodus

1000 BC



Open Genealogy

Matthew 1:1, “The record of the genealogy of Jesus the Messiah, the son of David, the son of Abraham:

Matthew 1:2, “Abraham was the father of Isaac, Isaac the father of Jacob, and Jacob the father of Judah and his brothers.

Matthew 1:3, “Judah was the father of Perez and Zerah by Tamar, Perez was the father of Hezron, and Hezron the father of Ram.

Matthew 1:4, “Ram was the father of Amminadab, Amminadab the father of Nahshon, and Nahshon the father of Salmon.

Matthew 1:5, “Salmon was the father of Boaz by Rahab, Boaz was the father of Obed by Ruth, and Obed the father of Jesse.”

Closed Geneology

Genesis 5:6, “Seth lived **one hundred and five years**, and became the father of Enosh.

Genesis 5:7, “Then Seth lived eight hundred and seven years after he became the father of Enosh, and he had other sons and daughters.

Genesis 5:8, “So all the days of Seth were nine hundred and twelve years, and he died.

Genesis 5:9, “**Enosh lived ninety years**, and became the father of Kenan.

Genesis 5:10, “Then Enosh lived eight hundred and fifteen years after he became the father of Kenan, and he had other sons and daughters.”

The Logical Fallacy of “Affirming the Consequent”

- If “p” then “q”
- “q” is true
- Therefore “p” is true

- If “there are gaps in Genesis genealogies” then “there might be gaps in other genealogies”
- “There are gaps” is true
- Therefore “there must be gaps in the Genesis genealogies” is true

Is There a Gap in Genesis 11?

Genesis 11:12, “**Arpachshad** lived thirty-five years, and became **the father of Shelah**;

Genesis 11:13, “and Arpachshad lived four hundred and three years after he became the father of Shelah, and he had other sons and daughters.

Genesis 11:14, “**Shelah** lived thirty years, and **became the father of Eber**;”

Luke 3:35, “the son of Serug, the son of Reu, the son of Peleg, the son of Heber, the son of **Shelah**,

Luke 3:36, “the son of **Cainan**, the son of **Arphaxad**, the son of Shem, the son of Noah, the son of Lamech,

Luke 3:37, “the son of Methuselah, the son of Enoch, the son of Jared, the son of Mahalaleel, the son of **Cainan**,”

Scribal Error in Luke 3:36

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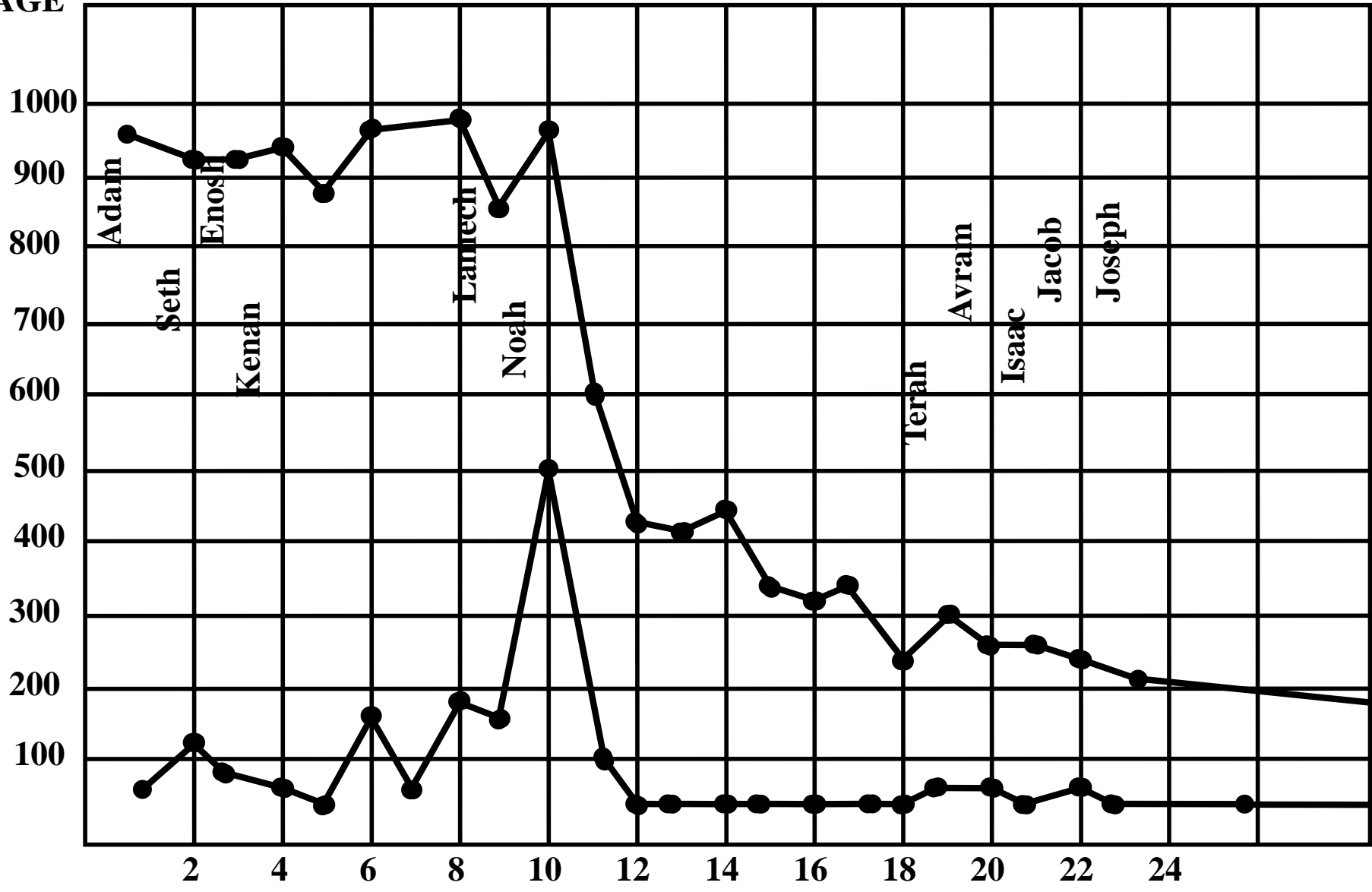
Scribal Error in Luke 3:36–37

“The son of Serug, the son of Reu, the son of Peleg,
the son of Eber, the son of Shelah, **the son of Cainan**,
the son of Arphaxad, the son of Shem, the son of
Noah, the son of Lamech,
the son of Methuselah, the son of Enoch, the son of
Jared, the son of Mahalalel, the **son of Cainan**,
the son of Enosh, the son of Seth, the son of Adam,
the son of God.”

Patriarch	Hebrew Text	LXX	Josephus
Shem	2	2	12
Arphaxad	35	135	135
Cainan	...	130	...
Shelah	30	130	130
Eber	34	134	134
Peleg	30	130	130
Rue	32	132	130
Serug	30	130	132
Nahor	29	79	120
Terah	70	70	70
<i>Total (Flood to Terah's firstborn)⁴</i>	<i>292</i>	<i>1072</i>	<i>993</i>

Name	birth year	age at b.	years until death	age at death	year of death
Adam	1	130	800	930	930
Seth	130	105	807	912	1042
Enosh	235	90	815	905	1140
Cainan	325	70	840	910	1235
Mahalalel	395	65	830	895	1290
Jared	460	162	800	962	1422
Enoch	622	65	300	365	taken in 987
Methuselah	687	187	782	969	1656
Lamech	874	182	595	777	1651
Noah	1056	500			c. 2006

AGE



Georges Cuvier (1768–1832)



Discourse on the Revolutions of the Surface of the Globe (1812)

Cuvier believed that over the course of long, untold ages of Earth history, many catastrophic floods of regional or nearly global extent had destroyed and buried creatures in sediments. All but one of these catastrophes occurred before the creation of man.

Charles Lyell (1797–1875)



Principles of Geology

Introduces *uniformitarianism*

“all natural processes continue over time at the same rate”

“Knowing this first, that there shall come in the last days scoffers, walking after their own lusts, and saying, ‘Where is the promise of his coming? for since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of the creation.’ ”

2 Peter 3:3–4

UNIFORMITY – “All things continue”

“For this they willingly are ignorant of, that by the word of God the heavens were of old, and the earth standing out of the water and in the water: whereby the world that then was, being overflowed with water, perished.”

2 Peter 3:5–6

Geological Uniformity

- **Present processes have continued for billions of years**
- **Radioisotope dating**

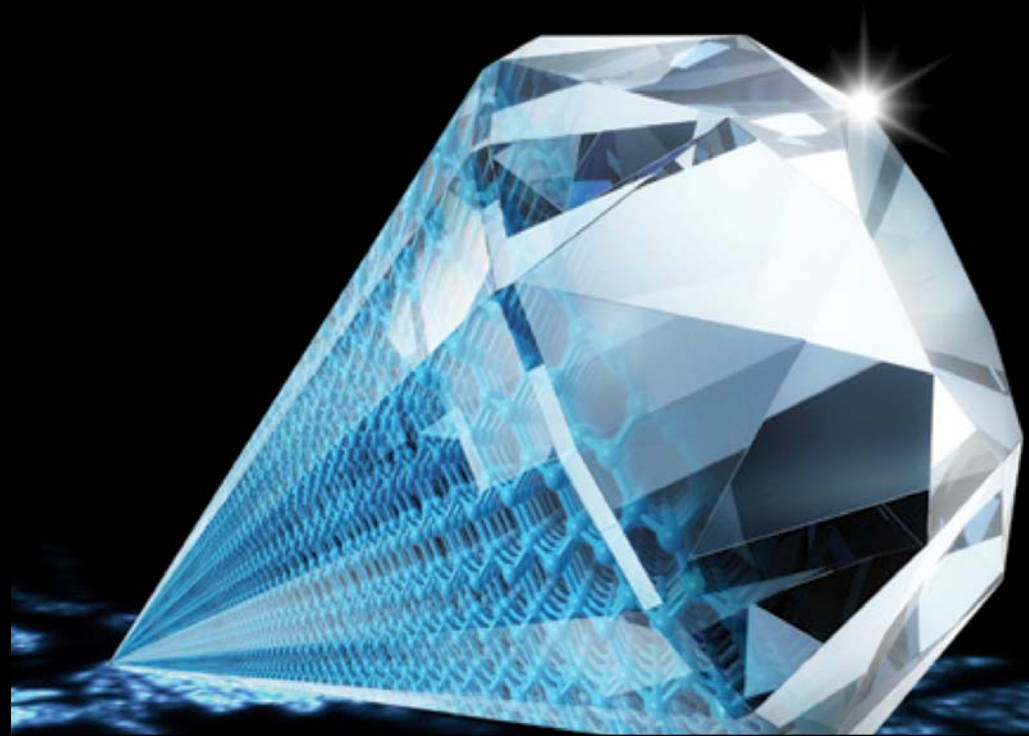
Just how do you date a rock?

How do You Date a Rock?

1. We can observe the present condition of a rock or processes in a system.
2. We can measure the current rate of that process operating within the system.
3. We can make certain assumptions about the past history of the rock or system. This is called building a model.
4. We extrapolate, based on present processes, the length of time a system was in operation.

Diamonds which were supposed to have been 1–2 billion years old, were submitted for radiocarbon analyses did contain detectable, significant levels of carbon-14, equivalent to an age of around 55,000 years.

This does not mean the C-14 age is correct only that the presence of C-14 is not consistent with an old earth model.



The Recession of the Moon

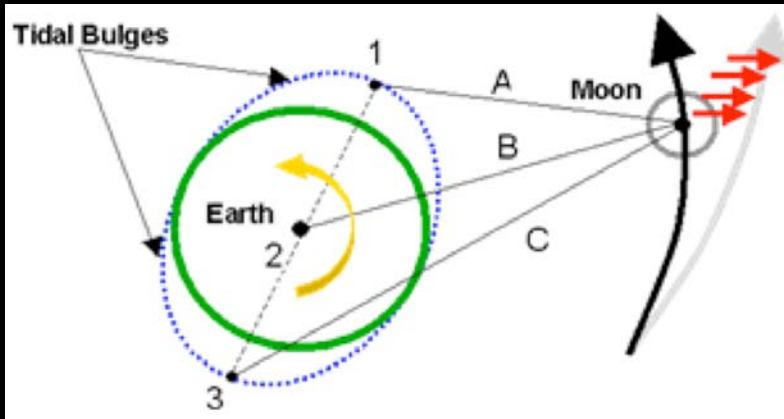


Figure 1 shows what the past (theoretical) recession rate would have looked like. Being much closer in a more-distant past, the moon would have caused larger tidal bulges, creating a greater “pulling” force (point 1, line A), increasing the angular momentum; thus the moon receded at a much greater speed (as shown by the red arrows).

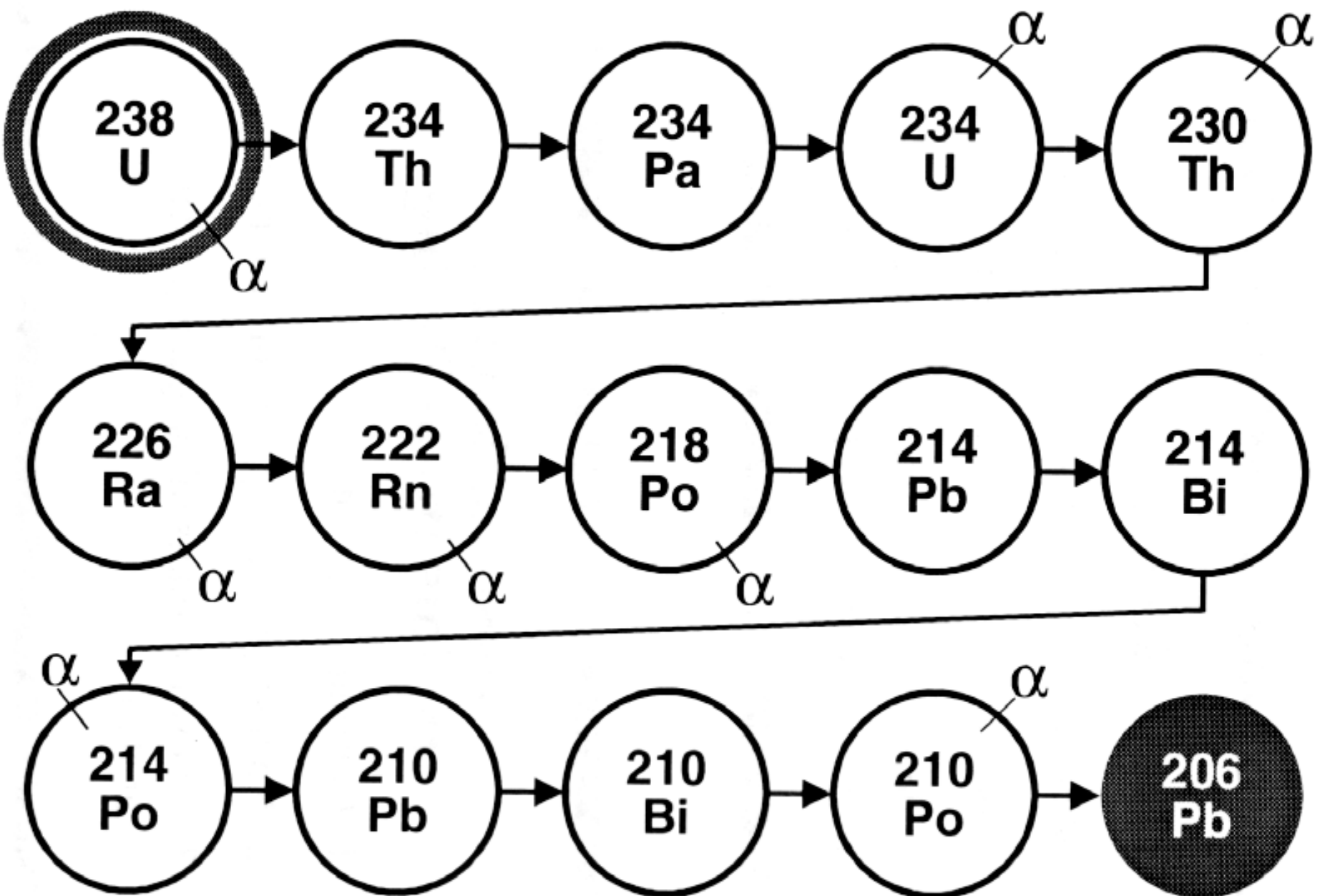
Young earth: The moon's orbit has shifted 800–900 feet

Old earth: Less than 1.5 billion years ago the moon would have been touching the earth





Dr. Robert T. Bakker, curator of paleontology at the Houston Museum of Natural Science, with the dinosaur fossil Leonardo, which lays on a Houston warehouse floor. It is being prepared for a future exhibit at the museum. The animal was a Brachylophosaurus, a duckbilled dinosaur. It is covered in 90 percent soft tissue, including skin, muscle, nail material and a beak. (Photo by David Portnoy/Getty Images for Discovery Communications LLC)



U²³⁸ Decay Series

ASSUMPTION ONE:

The rate of decay must have always been the same.

ASSUMPTION TWO:

The rock initially contained none of the daughter element.

ASSUMPTION THREE:

The rock specimen has never, ever been contaminated.

“Tree ring dating” A.D. 1065

Indian oral history indicates around 900 years ago.

Potassium–Argon: 210,000 to 230,000 years ago.



Mt. Rangitoto New Zealand

C-14 on destroyed trees: 300 years ago

Potassium–Argon: 485,000 years ago





Vulcan's Throne Grand Canyon

**Potassium–Argon: 10,000
years old**

**Age based on the mineral
olivine, 117 million years**

Rocks of
Known Age



Radioisotope
Dating
Doesn't Work

Rocks of
Unknown Age



Radioisotope
Dating
Assumed to Work

Assumption FOUR: The earth is at least old enough for the present amount of radiogenic lead in a specimen to have been produced by present rates of uranium decay.