

First Printing: May 2003
Book Printing: December 2004

Copyright © 2003 by Tom Vail. All rights reserved. No part of this book may be sold or reproduced in any manner whatsoever without written permission of the publisher except in the case of brief quotations in articles and reviews. For information write to: Master Books, P.O. Box 726, Green Forest, AR 72638

Printed in China

Cover and interior design by Bruce Spatzick and Tom Vail

Please visit our web site for other great titles:
www.masterbooks.net

ISBN 15: 978-0-49501-373-6
ISBN 10: 0-49501-373-2

Library of Congress Catalog Number: 2002016471

All photography by Charly Heavensrich
unless otherwise noted

Cover Photo: "Missing Egg in Marble Caves"
by Charly Heavensrich

All illustrations by Brian Miller

All contributions have been peer-reviewed to ensure a
scientific and biblical perspective.

All Scripture is from the New American Standard Bible.

Back cover image (cave) — Marble Caves
(Courtesy of Brian Miller Barrett)

TABLE OF CONTENTS

A Different View	6
The Rocks	30
The Fossils	48
The Water	56
The Plants and Animals	68
The Bedrock	86
Tom's Story	96
Contributors' Biographies	100
References	103
About the Author and Photographer	104

INTRODUCTION

The Grand Canyon of the Colorado is recognized as one of the greatest wonders of the natural world, breathtaking in its incredible splendor as seen from the rim, and at river level.

It is not just an icon of beauty, however. It is a solemn witness to the mighty power of God, who is not only the omnipotent Creator of all things, but also the avenging Defender of His own holiness.

For the beautiful rock strata of the Canyon, with their evidences

of deposition under widespread waters, speak of His world-convulsing judgment at the time of the great Flood. Similarly, the mile-deep Canyon itself, which could never have been carved out by the waters of the present river, tells of a time when a great dammed-up lake full of water from the Flood suddenly broke and a mighty hydraulic monster roared down toward the sea, digging deeply into the path it had chosen along the way.

There it stands today, reminding us of a time in the long ago when "...the wickedness of man was great in the earth," and God said: "Behold, I am about to destroy them with the earth...I, even I am bringing the flood of water upon the earth..." (Genesis 6:5,13,17).

Therefore, as people gaze in silent wonder at its unique magnificence, they should remember the words of the psalmist, "Be still, and know that I am God: I will be exalted among the heathen, I will be exalted in the earth." (Ps. 46:10).

HENRY MORRIS,

CO-AUTHOR OF *THE GREAT FLOOD*



The solemn witness of Grand Canyon (David Toward)

As the great post-Flood continents and mountains began to rise from the waters of a global deluge (Gen. 8:1-5), a huge chasm was formed that is now the Grand Canyon of Arizona. Inland waters, rushing down to newly deepened ocean basins, rapidly excavated the 5,000-foot deep layers of mud, silt, and sand that had been deposited during the year of the Flood. As God describes this in Psalm 104:8, "The mountains rose, the valleys [ocean basins] sunk down to the place which You established for them." And thus, "At Your rebuke they [the waters] fled... they hurried away" (v. 7).

By this means, God brought into full view the billions of plants and animals that had been preserved through rapid burial during the Flood. These creatures did not die before Adam and Eve sinned, for "...through our man's sin entered

into the world, and death through sin... for the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of Him who subjected it..." (Rom. 5:12; 8:20).

The Grand Canyon, like every other major geographic feature of this planet, provides an eloquent, though silent, witness to the amazing fact that "...the world at that time was destroyed,



(Above) Paint Homburg, from the Emmerence River, Trail in Marble Canyon

(Left) Tepesta Rapid (David Jones)

being flooded with water." (2 Pet. 3:6). May these spectacular visual aids bring us to the feet of our Lord Jesus Christ, who made the world (John 1:3 "All things came into being through Him, and apart from Him nothing came into being that has come into being") and died in our place that we might live with Him forever – John 3:16. "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life."

JOHN WHITCOMB,

CO-AUTHOR OF *THE GREAT FLOOD*





GRAND CANYON

A DIFFERENT VIEW

The Grand Canyon is an awesome display of God's creation. Carved through limestone, sandstone, shale, schist, and granite, this great chasm stretches 277 miles through the Colorado Plateau. It descends over a mile into the earth and extends as much as 18 miles in width. The Canyon holds within its walls mountains that are taller than anything east of the Mississippi River. Grand Canyon National Park encompasses both Marble Canyon and Grand Canyon.

The Grand Canyon is also a place to find and explore the wonders of His creation. When viewed from a biblical perspective, the Canyon has "God" written all over it, from the splendor and grandeur of the Canyon walls, to the intelligent design of the Creator displayed in the creatures that inhabit this magical place.

Not only is the Canyon a testimony to creation, but it also presents evidence of God's judgment of the world, as told in the book of Genesis. It was a judgment by water of a world broken by the sin of man known as "the Fall." (See the Genesis account of the Days of Creation, the Fall, and the Flood on pages 10-11.) The Canyon gives us a glimpse of the effects of a catastrophic global flood, as well as an appreciation for the scale of the biblical Flood of Noah's day.

And yet, at the same time, we see God's handwork in the beauty and majesty



(Left) The tranquil falls of Elves Chasm

(Bottom Left) Desert bighorn sheep, common visitors to the Canyon's depths

(Below) Chuckwallons can reach 16 inches in length



of the earth that we live in today.

Visitors to the Grand Canyon generally find it to be awe inspiring, but at the same time, too overwhelming to be fully understood on its own, for the Canyon can't tell us about itself. As humans, we tend to ask two questions as we view this vast, mysterious



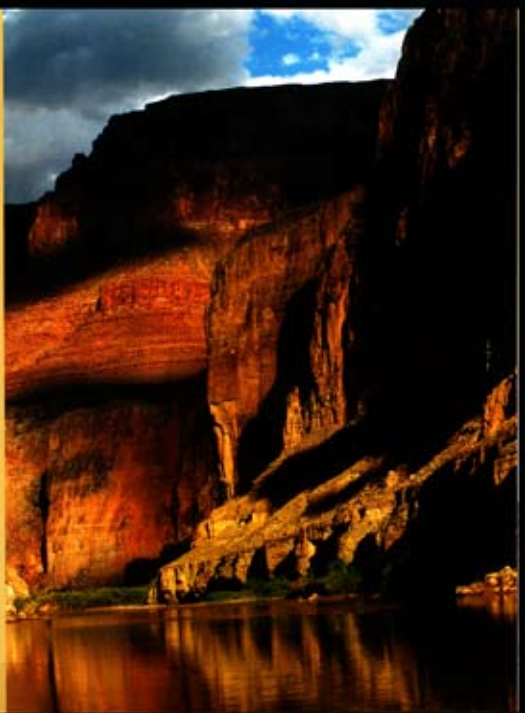
hole in the ground: how and why. With the help of some of the top creation scientists and theologians from around the world, we hope to at least scratch the surface of these questions and provide you with some resources to "dig deeper" if you wish.

If we visit the Canyon, or read the prevailing interpretive literature about it, we will find that the views presented are predominantly based on evolutionary theories. For the Canyon, this means that the rock layers were laid down a particle at a time over literally hundreds of millions of years and that the Canyon was later carved slowly by the Colorado River. These theories tend to deny God's involvement and often His very existence.

As you read this book, you will see that we look at the Canyon from a biblical worldview. With that in mind, there is one basic premise, or framework, used as a starting point. That premise is: the Bible, in its original form, is the inerrant Word of God.

Therefore, there are three truths that should be clarified. First, in Genesis a "day" is a day, which means a literal 24-hour period of time (technically a "solar day" which is approximately 24 hours). Genesis 1:5 says "... And there was evening and there was morning, one day." Second, there was no death before sin. The first death came as a result of initial sin

Martin Canyon





Whether gazing at the huge chasm in the earth from the rim, or navigating the waters of the Colorado River below, visitors to the Grand Canyon see a perspective that words can't describe. In fact, perspective is the backdrop for this wonderful story from nature. Visit this marvelous site yourself, through the pages of photographs and essays in this book, and think about your own perspective. It's a trip you'll be glad you took.



MB
Minden
Books

A Division of Simon and Schuster
www.simonandschuster.com

Travel • Science • Nature • Religion
Art • Life • General

\$16.99 US
ISBN 13: 978-0-89011-173-6
ISBN 10: 0-89011-173-2



9 780890 151376

ISBN