

the same way, and thus at similar, slow rates. (p. 51-52)

2. A high percentage of the sedimentary rock layers of the earth contain a large proportion of well-worn fragments which show evidence of having been modified by the action of moving water over long periods of time. This includes huge quantities of extensively worn pebbles composed of earlier sandstone, and fragments of hard igneous rock which, after having been eroded from their parent rock, have been ground smooth by many years of river action. These fragments have then accumulated downstream from the source, and have formed layered deposits (often with strata of fine sandstone and shale in between). (p. 52-53)

3. The amount of sedimentary rocks and other sediments which have accumulated on the surface of the earth during the past 5,000 or 6,000 years almost nowhere exceeds 200 feet of thickness. This is but a minute fraction of the total thickness of fossiliferous sedimentary strata--which in some places exceeds six miles in thickness. The layers of even these thickest deposits are composed mainly of familiar types of sediments, which originate by slow processes of erosion supplemented by organic growth. Thus the processes of sediment formation upon the earth are much too slow to have accumulated anything like the total existing deposit in the short time that man has been upon the earth. And, since the climates on the earth between Adam and the Flood were not greatly different from those existing since, sediment production rates were surely not greatly different from the rates since the Flood. (We might add, if the climates of the earth were more tranquil between Adam and the Flood than now, as many believe, very few feet of sediments could have been produced upon the earth during one or two thousands of years.)

Added to the fact of the existence of such thick deposits of sediments over a large percent of the globe, is the fact that "neither the works nor the remains of man have been found any deeper in the earth than in the upper part of that superficial deposit called alluvium." (This is true even in the Near East, which is usually regarded as the area where man first lived.) Thus, since the works and remains of man are found only in the upper fraction-of-one-percent of the sedimentary strata, Hitchcock offers this as further evidence that the great majority of sediments were laid down long before God placed man upon the earth. (p. 54-55)

4. The arrangement of the groups of extinct fossils in the series of sedimentary layers, in many places gives testimony to long lapses of time. Hitchcock states that, at the time of his lectures, some 30,000 fossil species of animals and plants had been identified, and that only those from the uppermost rocks "correspond to those now living on the globe." Furthermore, paleontologists had by that time identified five--and in some places more--zones of earlier life, showing that "entire races have passed away, and (were) succeeded by recent ones; so that the globe has actually changed all its inhabitants half a dozen times. Yet each of the successive groups occupied it long enough to leave immense quantities of their remains...." (p. 55-56) In another lecture he states that these extinct fossil