

9. Scientific observations and studies of the strata of the earth can reveal little or nothing about the prehistoric past. Or, as Emmett Williams and George Mulfinger state it, "Whatever happened before man was created cannot be subjected to scientific investigation."²⁵

10. A recognition of any large amounts of time by a Christian is automatically a compromise with evolutionary doctrine, because evolutionary theories require large amounts of time. The easiest way to combat evolution is to try to show that long periods of time never existed.²⁶

11. Both the gap and day-age theories of creation are inherently evolutionary.

12. All forms of radiometric dating are invalid, being based on assumptions which never can be proven.²⁷

13. The matter of the age of the earth already has been settled by a fully literal interpretation of the Scripture. Therefore there can be no valid evidence for great age.

14. It is not proper for Christians to propagate or publish evidences for great age, even though they might at the same time clearly reject evolutionary theory in the statements they make.²⁸

15. Christians should continue to believe the views of the 17th and 18th century theologians until sufficient evidence is produced to show those views to be wrong.²⁹

In addition to definite beliefs of the young-earth school of thought, we will here point out some of the methods of reasoning or techniques of study which are prevalent among authors who embrace this doctrine. We are not looking upon these methods as divisive schemes used for persuading the public, but merely noting that their use is a prominent characteristic of the modern young-earth movement. It is probable that most of those authors who employ these methods are unaware of their misleading nature.

1. The practice of dealing mainly with surface features of earth structure, rather than with entire stratigraphic columns. The difficulties of this have been discussed in Chapter 4. Therefore, we will pause here only to give an illustration of the use of this technique of study.

Near the town of Glen Rose, Texas, are a number of fossilized dinosaur footprints, along with large man-like footprints. These impressions are in beds of rock along the Paluxy River. A number of fundamentalists who hold the young-earth view have taken an interest in the footprints and have made some studies of them. Dealing with this subject is a film entitled "Footprints in Stone," which is now well known in the United States and Canada.³⁰ However, a very real difficulty with the entire series of studies represented in this