

Richard Bube<sup>3</sup> emphasizes that scientific models are descriptive and not prescriptive. In describing nature by means of mathematical models, Einstein said, “Everything should be made as simple as possible, but not simpler.” Models can predict new results that may later be confirmed by observation or experiment. However, models are like maps of cities, helpful, but not actually the cities themselves.

It should be remarked that mathematical models, for example, Dirac’s relativistic theory of the electron, could not bring electrons into being. In fact, no scientific theory whatsoever can bring anything into being. This is obvious, since the notion of existence is not in the subject matter of the physical description of nature, namely, science. The ontological question of existence is solely the purview of metaphysics and theology. In science, one must first postulate a particular metaphysics in order to carry on the scientific enterprise.

In order to obtain a complete description and understanding of the whole of reality and to include a true description of what a human being is and what the totality of the human experience is, one must integrate science with a particular theology. However, which theology or religion should we use? As done in science, one must choose the theology that has the highest explanatory power—namely, by applying the principle of parsimony, Occam’s razor.

The inscription “Know Thyself” was carved on the stone entrance to the Temple of Apollo at Delphi, Greece. Scholars, philosophers, and civilizations have debated this question for a long time. A theist follows the ancient Greek injunction by basing it on the knowledge of God—namely, who God is and what his commandments are. However, a Christian must know not only God and his commandments, but also who Christ is and what he accomplished on the cross. Accordingly, science alone can give an accurate physical description of humans; however, science, together with the Christian faith, gives the complete and the true picture of what human beings are.

## Notes

<sup>1</sup>Charles B. Thaxton, Walter L. Bradley, and Roger L. Olsen, *The Mystery of Life’s Origin: Reassessing Current Theories* (New York: Philosophical Library, 1984).

<sup>2</sup>Charles B. Thaxton et al., *The Mystery of Life’s Origin: The Continuing Controversy* (Seattle, WA: Discovery Institute Press, 2020).

<sup>3</sup>Richard H. Bube, *The Human Quest: A New Look at Science and the Christian Faith* (Waco, TX: Word Books, 1971), 65.

Moorad Alexanian

ASA Member

Department of Physics and Physical Oceanography  
University of North Carolina Wilmington  
alexanian@uncw.edu

## Evidence for Genesis Historicity

Regarding Carol Hill’s article, “Original Sin with Respect to Science, Origins, Historicity of Genesis, and Traditional Church Views” (*PSCF* 73, no. 3 [2021]: 131–44), Genesis contains numerous clues that underscore the validity of the Genesis account as a fairly accurate narrative of the beginnings of the Semitic peoples, and that help pinpoint the time and place where Adam and his family resided. Genesis 2:10–14 focuses on southern Mesopotamia where the covenant family lived until the flood. The oldest city in that region dated by archaeologists to 4800 BC is Eridu.

Archibald Sayce (1845–1933) was a famous British Assyriologist and linguist, who held a chair as Professor of Assyriology at the University of Oxford from 1891 to 1919. He spent countless hours in the British Museum transcribing ancient texts from the Near East. In his *Lectures on the Origin and Growth of Religion* (1880), he stated: “Babylonian tradition places the Garden of Eden near Eridu.”

At the ASA Annual Meeting in Colorado in 2017, I presented a talk on commonalities between the Genesis 5 patriarchs and the Sumerian King List (SKL). In that talk, evidence was presented to show that the last three names recorded in Sumerian in the pre-flood portion of the SKL, ending with Ziusudra, most probably were also the last three pre-flood patriarchs—Methuselah, Lamech, and Noah. Even the seventh patriarch, Enoch, who “walked with God” in Genesis 5:24, has been linked with the seventh king, Enmeduranki, who according to legend was taken by the gods and taught “divine mysteries.”

The pre-flood part of the Sumerian King List also begins at Eridu, modern Abu Shahrein in Iraq. These are some of the names on the list recorded in the Sumerian language: Enmenluanna, Enmengalanna, Ensipadzidana, and Enmenduranna. The En- prefix designates kingship in both Akkadian and Sumerian.

# Letters

Note that Adam's two grandsons have the same designation indicating they were kings—Enoch for whom the city was named, and Enosh. Finding the city where Enosh might have reigned requires a bit of sleuthing.

When Cain committed a foul deed and got the boot from Eridu—where Adam lived after he too was booted from the Garden—Cain needed a place that contained a small population of Ubaidans where he could find a wife and build a city. Ubaid pottery remains also were found at the lowest level at Eridu. The “land of Nod” has not been found, but the city of Enoch still exists today as modern Warka located less than 60 miles north of Eridu as you go along the Purrettum/Eridu canal, linking the two cities.

The SKL relates that after the first two kings reigned at Eridu, “Eridu was smitten with weapons,” and kingship then rested in the victorious city, Badtabira. If true, this could indicate a departure for the remainder of Adam's children beginning with Enosh who could begin his reign in the neighboring city of Erech (Sumerian Uruk) that became part of Nimrod's kingdom in Genesis 10:10.

This appears in the epic tale, Enmerkar and the Lord of Aratta: “My sister, let Aratta (biblical Ararat) fashion gold and silver skillfully on my behalf for Unug” (the people of the city of Enoch). Enmerkar further describes this city as a twin city (Unug Kulaba) which would put Enoch and Erech (Sumerian Unug and Uruk) side by side which would explain similarities in the names of Cain's and Seth's immediate descendants.

One can question the validity of the king list and the validity of Genesis, but they are mutually supportive even down to the last king listed before the “flood swept thereover,” Ziusudra listed in W-B 62. And the Sumerian legend of Ziusudra tells the story of the flood.

Dick Fischer  
ASA Member



## HELP US KEEP THE CONVERSATION GOING

Send your tax deductible donation to:

American Scientific Affiliation  
218 Boston St, Ste 208  
Topsfield MA 01983-2210

Or donate online at [www.asa3.org](http://www.asa3.org)

**UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE® (All Periodicals Publications Except Requester Publications)**

**Statement of Ownership, Management, and Circulation**

1. Publication Title: Perspectives on Science and Christian Faith  
 2. Publication Number: 0028-1740  
 3. Filing Date: 09/21/2021  
 4. Issue Frequency: Quarterly  
 5. Number of Issues Published Annually: 4  
 6. Annual Subscription Price: \$50.00  
 7. Complete Mailing Address of Known Office of Publication (Not printer) (Street, city, county, state, and ZIP+4®): 218 Boston St, Ste 208, Topsfield MA 01983  
 Contact Person: Lyn Berg  
 Telephone (include area code): (978) 887-8833  
 8. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not printer): Same as above.  
 9. Full Names and Complete Mailing Addresses of Publisher, Editor, and Managing Editor (Do not leave blank):  
 Publisher (Name and complete mailing address): American Scientific Affiliation, 218 Boston St, Ste 208, Topsfield MA 01983  
 Editor (Name and complete mailing address): James Peterson, Roanoke College, 221 College Ln, Salem VA 24153  
 Managing Editor (Name and complete mailing address): Lyn Berg, 218 Boston St, Ste 208, Topsfield MA 01983  
 10. Owner (Do not leave blank. If the publication is owned by a corporation, give the name and address of the corporation immediately followed by the names and addresses of all stockholders owning or holding 1 percent or more of the total amount of stock. If not owned by a corporation, give the names and addresses of the individual owners. If owned by a partnership or other unincorporated firm, give its name and address as well as those of each individual owner. If the publication is published by a nonprofit organization, give its name and address.)  
 Full Name: The American Scientific Affiliation  
 Complete Mailing Address: 218 Boston St, Ste 208, Topsfield MA 01983  
 11. Known Bondholders, Mortgagees, and Other Security Holders Owning or Holding 1 Percent or More of Total Amount of Bonds, Mortgages, or Other Securities. If none, check box  None  
 Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Complete Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 12. Tax Status (For completion by nonprofit organizations authorized to mail at nonprofit rates) (Check one)  
 The purpose, function, and nonprofit status of this organization and the exempt status for federal income tax purposes:  
 Has Not Changed During Preceding 12 Months  
 Has Changed During Preceding 12 Months (Publisher must submit explanation of change with this statement)  
 PS Form 3526, July 2014 (Page 1 of 4 (see instructions page 4)) PSN: 7530-01-000-9931 PRIVACY NOTICE: See our privacy policy on [www.usps.com](http://www.usps.com).  
 13. Publication Title: Perspectives on Science and Christian Faith  
 14. Issue Date for Circulation Data Below: 09/01/2021  
 15. Extent and Nature of Circulation  

|  |  | Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months | No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date |
|--|--|--|---|
| <b>a. Total Number of Copies (Net press run)</b>                                       |  |  |   |
| b. Paid Circulation (By Mail and Outside the Mail)                                     | (1) Mailed Outside-County Paid Subscriptions Stated on PS Form 3541 (include paid distribution above nominal rate, advertiser's proof copies, and exchange copies) | 933  | 928   |
|  | (2) Mailed In-County Paid Subscriptions Stated on PS Form 3541 (include paid distribution above nominal rate, advertiser's proof copies, and exchange copies)      | 0  | 0   |
|  | (3) Paid Distribution Outside the Mails Including Sales Through Dealers and Carriers, Street Vendors, Counter Sales, and Other Paid Distribution Outside USPS®     | 155  | 158   |
|  | (4) Paid Distribution by Other Classes of Mail Through the USPS (e.g., First-Class Mail®)  | 4  | 1   |
| <b>c. Total Paid Distribution (Sum of 15b (1), (2), (3), and (4))</b>                  |  | 1092   | 1087  |
| d. Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (By Mail and Outside the Mail)                    | (1) Free or Nominal Rate Outside-County Copies Included on PS Form 3541  | 42   | 44  |
|  | (2) Free or Nominal Rate In-County Copies Included on PS Form 3541   | 0  | 0   |
|  | (3) Free or Nominal Rate Copies Mailed at Other Classes Through the USPS (e.g., First-Class Mail)  | 0  | 0   |
|  | (4) Free or Nominal Rate Distribution Outside the Mail (Carriers or other means)   | 19   | 18  |
| <b>e. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Sum of 15d (1), (2), (3) and (4))</b>   |  | 61   | 62  |
| <b>f. Total Distribution (Sum of 15c and 15e)</b>                                      |  | 1153   | 1149  |
| <b>g. Copies not Distributed (See Instructions to Publishers #4 (page #3))</b>         |  | 57   | 46  |
| <b>h. Total (Sum of 15f and g)</b>   |  | 1210   | 1195  |
| <b>i. Percent Paid (15c divided by 15f times 100)</b>                                  |  | 94.71  | 94.60   |
| <b>o. Electronic Copy Circulation</b>  |  |  |   |
| <b>a. Paid Electronic Copies</b>   |  | 234  | 243   |
| <b>b. Total Paid Print Copies (Line 15c) + Paid Electronic Copies (Line 16a)</b>       |  | 1326   | 243   |
| <b>c. Total Print Distribution (Line 15f) + Paid Electronic Copies (Line 16a)</b>      |  | 1387   | 1392  |
| <b>d. Percent Paid (Both Print &amp; Electronic Copies) (16b divided by 16c x 100)</b> |  | 95.60  | 95.55   |

 I certify that 90% of all my distributed copies (electronic and print) are paid above a nominal price.  
 7. Publication of Statement of Ownership  
 If the publication is a general publication, publication of this statement is required. Will be printed in the 12/1/20 issue of this publication.  Publication not required.  
 8. Signature and Title of Editor, Publisher, Business Manager, or Owner: Vicki Best, Director of Operations and Development  
 Date: 09/21/2021