# Creation Research



# **UK Newsletter**

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no flights home. My ministry has been completely cancelled. My family has come down with Coronavirus and is currently in isolation. International Director, Australian John Mackay, is stuck on a desert island with no toilet paper. But through it all, the Lord is faithful, and many blessings continue to come through despite the difficulties. Enjoy the latest edition of the Creation Research UK newsletter, which includes many updates and points for prayer in how the current virus outbreak has affected us. Although times are uncertain and potentially dangerous, death is not a new concept to us. One of the biggest reasons the virus scares people

We live in strange times folks. I am currently, at the time of writing, stranded in the USA with

is simply that it makes us remember that we are all extremely vulnerable, and statistics show that 100% of people will die at some point. This should spur us as Christians to use the current situation as a witnessing tool, to show people the reality of the true giver of life – the Creator, Sustainer and Saviour Jesus Christ!

## **CORONAVIRUS UPDATE**

The last update we sent out was an overview of the situation, and how the ministry is being affected.

Below is a recap and further update to what is happening.

# Ministry Situation Recap

The current ministry for the first half of 2020, which included an extensive trip through the USA, Canada, Australia and New Zealand; TV and Radio shows, field trips, and school visits has all been cancelled. I (Joseph) have been in the USA since mid-January, and have already performed ministry and research during the months prior to this.

# Family Situation Update

After it was discovered that my family had come down with C-19, we reached out for prayers and support. I wish to personally thank everyone who has reached out in the last few days with prayers and offers of support, in this particularly difficult time for everyone. The family are slowly beginning to recover, although others have now come down with it as well. Mum Zoe has taken the biggest hit due to her asthma and breathing problems along with the effects of the virus. Please pray that they continue to recover as the days go on.



### Praise For Flight Blessings

The last update ended with plans to take UK team Sandra, Caleb and Sarah-Ann to the airport in the hope that their re-scheduled flights were still flying, and praying for the small chance that Sarah-Ann could re-schedule her flights to leave with the others. Praise the Lord with us for the relief with which we can report that they are all safely back in the UK, having rearranged all flights to the 16th March.

## Joseph's Situation and Looking Forward

As it currently stands, there are no affordable flights back to the UK. Canada has shut its borders to everyone other than Canadian and US citizens and flying is being severely discouraged. As a result, although flights to the UK are not yet banned, they do cost over \$3600 (£3100), in order to make the flights worthwhile for the airlines. Because of this, Creation Research has collectively decided that it is not viable to take that route at this time. There is a small possibility that I can come



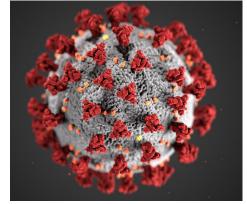
home via Singapore, using the flights already booked to Australia, or I can book flights via other countries, but the chances are slim at the moment to leave in the next couple of weeks. I will be staying with good friends and part of the CR team here in the USA, Carroll and Linda Carman. I am safe for the time being, and will continue to pursue limited ministry opportunities, such as live broadcasts, tv shows, etc. as well as research opportunities. I will also be catching up with all the various writing projects we started, including four new 'The Rocks Cry Out' books, a creation devotional book, a biology research book, and the next QnA book as well. Pray that the time can still be used productively, and the Lord continues His protection and providence for our ministry.

## SEEING THE FACTS THROUGH THE FICTION

Amongst all the media hype from the current Coronavirus pandemic, many people are not sure what to believe any more. What is fact, what is fiction? What can be believed? Below are some comments from Creation Research's medical biology expert and previous lecturer for Canberra University, Dr Diane Eager.

## Covid-19

- The Coronavirus belongs to a large family of viruses, seven of which are known to inhabit humans. These seven include the well-known SARS and MERS viruses, which have caused outbreaks and epidemics in the past.
- Many of these viruses, and others like it are known to inhabit animals, which is where it is believed the current outbreak came from. Many animals, however, do not show any signs of illness.



- The virus currently causing the pandemic is not called coronavirus, nor Covid-19. These are some of the names given to the disease that the virus produces.
- The current pandemic of flu-like infection called Covid-19, C-19, CV, or Coronavirus, is caused by a virus named SARS-CoV-2. It possibly can be carried without causing illness. Research is still going on about this.
- For most people the disease consists of fever, sore throat and cough. These people usually recover. For some it also goes down into the chest and causes pneumonia. These people are seriously ill.

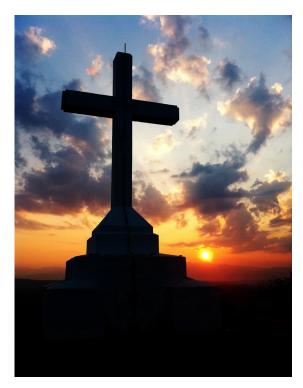
So, how should Christians respond, and what is a biblical outlook to this? Joseph Hubbard, Creation Research UK Director, makes a few comments.

### Christianity & Covid-19

Death is not a new concept to humans, so why are we so scared of it? The Bible gives us the answer in 1 Corinthians 15:26. Here it states that death is an enemy, and the last to be destroyed when Jesus comes back. Death is not natural, it is a result of sin, and is a terrifying concept.

However, as Christians, we have an exception. Paul says in Philippians 1:21 'For me to live is Christ, to die is gain.' And again in 1 Corinthians 15:55-57, Paul rejoices with the words, 'O death, where is your sting? O grave, where is your victory? ..... But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our LORD Jesus Christ!'

Death should not cause us to fear. That is not to say that we 'tempt' God by putting ourselves at great unnecessary risk, but the truth is that death is a much better situation for us than our current bodies.



Therefore, we should take the opportunity presented to us, and spread the gospel. The major panic currently gripping the world is simply because death is a genuinely terrifying thing. Let's use the fact that people are actually thinking about death, their vulnerability, and their problems to give them the Good News of the Great Physician: Jesus Christ, who can heal them from a much greater problem that Coronavirus – their sin.

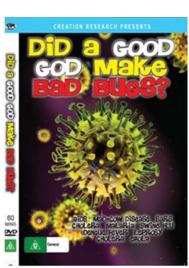
One final point: Did Jesus create the Coronavirus? John 1:3 gives us the answer: 'All things were made though Him (the Word that is God who is Jesus), and without Him nothing was made that was made.' Yes, Jesus did create coronavirus – but not for this purpose. Six thousand years of the curse, humans, animals, plants and viruses all going downhill have lead to the destruction, disease and pestilence we see today, the blame of which is squarely on our shoulders, as 'All have sinned' and 'The wages of sin is death' (Romans 3:23 & 6:23). For more explanation as to where these 'bad bugs' come from, see links below.

#### Covid-19 Links & Resources

Listen to a very good and thorough sermon on the Coronavirus and Biblical implications by Pastor Justin Dillehey from Creation Research's home church in the USA – Grace Baptist Church Hartsville <u>CLICK HERE</u>.

Are Viruses Evolving? See reports by Diane Eager on <u>INFLUENZA</u> and <u>EBOLA</u> viruses, as well as a report on virus evolution from Joseph Hubbard <u>HERE</u>.

Did a Good God Make Bad Bugs? Find out from this very revealing and informative presentation from John Mackay, available from our UK shop <u>HERE</u>.



### UPDATE FROM INTERNATIONAL DIRECTOR JOHN MACKAY

'In everything give thanks for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you' (and me) the Apostle Paul tells us (1 Thessalonians 5:18). Sure hard to do when many of us can't get even the basics from many supermarkets, and all our ministry planning just went down the tubes. But remember "we need to have the mind of Christ in us" (Philippians 2:5), so use that special creativity our Maker and Christ makes available to us, to think of what else you and I can use this suddenly available time for, free from church, preaching, travelling, and even the office. At our Aussie HQ where all schools have been cancelled, no groups to Jurassic Ark

Museum etc, we are rescheduling to catch up on museum needs, research and fossil projects, as well as upgrading the vegetable garden at Jurassic Ark ... and doing much praying.

So can I encourage you to seek those in need around you and bless them as you pray for Joseph, his sick family, the UK and International ministry, as well as your local Christian ministries who are suffering likewise. Praying for you as you pray and support us.

Yours in Christ's service, The Creation Guy John Mackay







## PRAISE FOR GOOD USA RESEARCH

Joseph Hubbard spent six weeks with Joe Taylor of Mt. Blanco Fossil Museum, Crosbyton, Texas. The purpose was to gain training and experience in fossil preparation, as well as work with some of the research that Joe T had conducted over the past 30 years.





Research was extremely valuable, with time spent on two mastodon skeletons, Peruvian skulls, and dinosaur trackways. The research skills obtained will be transferred over to the UK in the next couple of years and will include the casting and moulding of various dinosaur trackways in the UK, as well as many fossil reconstructions and restoration projects.

# MASTODON CASE STUDY



One of the most spectacular projects worked on was a Four-Tusked Mastodon from Florida. The first striking thing about the skeleton was the colour. It was bright blue in many places, particularly the teeth, and a

mixture of brown to grey to black in other places. As the Mastodon began to be sorted out, a strange mystery revealed itself.

First, the dirt matrix around the skeleton was full of shells. Shells and a mastodon together? Certainly, an unusual occurrence! Then the bones themselves began to reveal even more. It turned out that there were at least 4, possibly 5 mastodon individuals on the pile of bones brought back. There were also mammoth bones in the pile as well, including mammoth teeth. While this may not seem significant, it's important to realise that mammoths and mastodons



were not supposed to live together, and thousands of years were supposed to be between them. Yet here they were buried and fossilised together, in a mass mortality fossil graveyard.

The other bones also fit with the idea of a sudden mass death site, buried very quickly. These bones included horse, giant turtle, tortoise, deer, rhino and crocodile. All of these animals live in different habitats and ecosystems, so what are they doing buried here? The answer is simple, whenever you have animals of different habitats mixed and buried together in the same place, a catastrophic flooding event has occurred! There are disagreements among creation researchers as to whether this deposit was formed in the flood of Noah's day, or whether this was a smaller-scale catastrophe caused by the after-effects of an ice-melt post flood, but the point remains the same. The evolutionary assumptions of slow deposition and fossilisation over millions of years simply does not hold up in the real world!







### USA MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

Despite the Coronavirus Pandemic culling most of our ministry, we had the opportunity to speak in a few venues before being forced to cancel. Joseph spoke at the Mt. Blanco Fossil Museum on its opening day for the new revised museum, which included the new exhibits such as the Blue Mastodon that they had worked on. He also spoke at Amazing Grace Community Church in Lafayette, and Grace Baptist Church in Hartsville. You can listen to the message he gave to Grace Baptist Church on the 'Chronology of Creation' <u>HERE</u>.

While Joseph is stuck in the USA, he will be seeking occasional ministry, including live video streams. Pray for opportunities in the future, as we still have several TV sessions lined up that will take place if he is still in the States at the time.

### LOOKING FORWARD INTO THE FUTURE

Despite a large financial, ministry and time loss from the current coronavirus troubles, we are still trusting that the Lord will bring us through this. We will be looking forward for a good time of research and work catch up at this time, we will not let it go to waste. We need your support now more than ever, both financially and in prayer. See the prayer points below, and if you would like to support Creation Research UK, see details.

### PRAYER POINTS

#### To Ask the Lord:

- For wisdom in knowing how to move forward in the current situation regarding ministry, flights, and timing to return.
- For health, recovery and safety of all Creation Research workers around the globe, as well as their families.
- For wisdom and opportunities for ministry, research and work going forward in these strange and troubled times.
- Pray for the leaders of the world, particularly for the prime minister of the UK. No matter what you think of them all and their policies, they have been placed there by God, and need wisdom that can only come from Him in these times.
- For finances and sustenance for the ministry at this time.

### To Thank the Lord.

- For safely bringing CR UK team, Sandra, Caleb and Sarah-Ann home amid flight cancellations.
- For good research opportunities and work done while down in Texas. This experience will greatly benefit the UK for many years to come.
- For current safety for Joseph Hubbard in Tennessee, and the incredible hospitality of the Carman family during these times.

Note: Creation Research has had a change of offices and contact.

Please see below:

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Support Creation Research UK

Support Joseph personally

Support Joseph Hubbard personally through Stewardship, who have set up a support fund for his ministry. The value of your gifts may be increased by the use of Gift Aid (worth 25% if you are a UK taxpayer).