

It all started a long time ago. No I wasn't present at the Creation, although I've often wondered what the Garden of Eden looked like. No, my path started late in 1966 A.D. when my parents brought me into this world by the Grace of God on November 18. By the time I had entered kindergarten, I was asking the normal question. "Where did I come from?" My parents gave me a very simplistic answer that I came from my mother and father. "Where did you come from?" ...and on and on... When they grew tired of my persistent questioning of my heritage, they explained that In the beginning, God created the Heavens and the Earth.

"Okay, so who is God?" Needless to say I've been asking questions all my life, hence my love for science and discovery.

While a young child in grade school I remember hearing about the 6 days of creation in Sunday School. Another fond memory was visiting the Doctors office and my mother reading "The Greatest Story Every Told" (an entertaining version of the Book of Genesis with many pictures). At that time I accepted that God created the Earth in 6 days a long time ago (the age of the earth was never really discussed at that point in my life).

Not until Jr. High Science class was my perception even challenged. But challenged it was because I actually enjoyed science class. Carl Sagan's "Cosmos" series was presented to us and I was enamored. Oh the wonderment of all those stars, worlds, universes. Also explored was my first challenge, EVOLUTION. It was then that I was first told that it took millions of years for us to evolve from the Big Bang.

But, but, but... what about creation? If we evolved who was the first man? You know, the man named Adam from the Bible? The teacher we had in Jr. High Science class didn't believe in Creation, so needless to say the conversation was not encouraged. Even though I had doubts about Creation, I really enjoyed "Cosmos" because it was very entertaining and the thought of traveling to other worlds danced through my head.

My next step was my sophomore year in high school. High School Biology class introduced me to even further studies in evolution. I remember that during one class period one of my classmates took a stand in that he didn't believe what we were being taught. He stated that at his church and they were teaching a 6 Day creation. Though the class ridiculed him because he didn't believe what was being taught in class, it puzzled me to what he was talking about. Out of fear of being ridiculed myself I didn't approach him. "I was a Christian too, but I wasn't taught dogmatically a Literal 6 Day Creation."

6 Days? Are you Serious? How could this be? Obviously they wouldn't be teaching us a lie in school. Would they? Certainly not. I questioned my minister at the time, and I was encouraged to search my heart. Well, my heart didn't tell me much, and by this time I had heard more about "science" from science class than I had heard in church. After much thought and struggle about what was really true, I finally came to the conclusion that God used evolution to bring about his creation. In other words, I believed in theistic evolution. This still left some holes in my now accepted theory, like when did the first man come into play? If God created the first man from the dust, how did we actually evolve? But I ignored these tough questions, because they troubled me, and I didn't like the feeling of not being able to find a viable answer.

My senior year in high school I took Advanced Biology. We didn't specifically study evolution in Advanced Biology, but rather the study of current time biology and naming conventions of all creatures. By this time my view of theistic evolution was just being strengthened because I could see there was definitely "science" behind Biology. Other area of science, Physics and Chemistry, didn't support or deny evolution, but I enjoyed these classes as well.

Once I entered college I took Chemistry I & II and Engineering Physics I & II. Again the study of these areas science didn't specifically support or deny evolution. During my college days I very rarely attended church, I was too busy enjoying my college days. I did attend my church when I went home for breaks, but again, the topic of Creation never really came up.

My brother and I spent the summer of 1988 in Crete, NE where we stayed with Uncle John's family. One day my aunt and I got on the topic of Creation. I shared with her that I believed that God used evolution to bring about his creation. She lovingly shared that she didn't believe that at all and in fact believed in a literal 6 Day Creation. I challenged her out of my ignorance to prove it to me. I wasn't against 6 Day Creation, but I certainly hadn't been taught that ever, nor did I believe it at that time. I enjoyed science and I really wanted to see the proof.

She told me it was in the Bible. I didn't believe her, as the Bible is NOT a science book... at least I didn't believe it talked about science. She asked me to read Genesis 1 out loud. When I did she stopped me and asked me to explain how trees and plants could grow for a year without sunlight, much less thousands of years? I had no answer except to respond that apparently the Bible had mixed up the days. She then shared that she believed the Bible was the inerrant Word of God, in other words, the Bible was TRUE and didn't contradict itself even though some people would like to say it contains errors.

My Aunt Lynn had just planted the seeds that would lead me down a path to explore the Truth about Creation and the enjoyment of reading God's Holy Word. Praise God. I asked her where to start, as the information within Genesis 1 was limited and I still wanted more proof. She told me about some books, but I didn't enjoy reading at that point in my life so I chose not to pursue it at that time. I was still too busy having fun in college and who had time to read, much less something that wasn't required for class. But the desire to learn more about Creation didn't stop... the seed was planted in solid ground.

I lived in Omaha the summers of 1993 and 1994 with my brother. While there I attended church at Christ Community Church with my brother and we enjoyed singing in the choir together. That was the first church I went to that actually taught straight from the Bible, no matter whether it would offend some or not. It was there that I was really challenged to actually BELIEVE the Word of God.

June 1995, I moved up to Omaha after college and continued attending Christ Community Church. A little over a year later I met the girl I'd eventually marry on July 18, 1998. Shortly after we married we moved into the church, and took on the position of on-sight caretakers. What a wonderful opportunity to grow in a great setting. I had shared with many that I wanted to learn more about Creation, and finally the day came when a friend handed me some Kent Hovind tapes on Creation, Dinosaurs, the Flood and much more. I started to watch these and I quickly

fell in love with the message Kent was sharing. His quick wit and abundance of scientific knowledge and theories based upon God's Word and the interpretation of the evidence gave me exactly what I needed. My PROOF. It was the science behind the creation that gave me the NEVER LET GO attitude towards a Literal 6 Day Creation I have now.

Since 1999, I've purchased Dr. Kent Hovind's Creation Seminar series, led a Bible study on Creation using those tapes, and now I've been given the task by our youth pastor to organize a Creation Seminar in Oakley.

The Oakley Christian Church is thrilled to invite Dr. G. Thomas Sharp with Creation Truth Foundation, Inc. to share his knowledge on Creation and why the theory of evolution is just a theory that is quickly falling apart. This Creation Seminar will be on March 16 – 19, 2008 at the Oakley High School Auditorium. It is my prayer that many would be strengthened in their study on Creation. It is also my prayer that many people who believe in any form of evolution (theistic or secular) may have a change of heart just as I did. God is GREAT and His Greatness shall be displayed to all nations. ☺