Creation Answers

Who writes this newsletter?

This newsletter was produced by Wayne Spencer on a Quarterly basis. Its purpose has been to bring creation research within the reach of Christians and provide up-to-date reliable information on creation issues. Wayne Spencer is a creation author and former teacher who has presented papers at the International Conference on Creationism and has published in various creation publications, such as the Creation Research Society Quarterly, Creation magazine, the Journal of Creation, and Origins (from the Biblical Creation Society, UK).

This newsletter is meant to help people plug into creation resources and get informed about creation and evolution. It is provided free of charge on request. Using the free Adobe Acrobat Reader is necessary for viewing the newsletter. There are no restrictions in copying this newsletter or passing it on to others. Send questions about the newsletter to Wayne Spencer at wspencer@creationanswers.net.

More information on Wayne Spencer's education and publications can be found on the creationanswers.net web site. You'll also find many other resources.

http://creationanswers.net Also see the <u>AnswersBlog</u>

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A Personal Note from Wayne Spencer

Greetings,

This will be the last issue of the Creation Answers Newsletter. I want to thank everyone for their interest in it over the years. Though this newsletter will not continue, all the issues will be available on my website. I also want to thank God for His help with every issue.

I am certainly not finished with creation ministry either. I write articles published in multiple creation publications. I also act as a reviewer frequently for at least three of them. To replace this newsletter I would recommend Creation magazine (available from creation.com) or Answers magazine (from answersingenesis.org). There are various other sources of creation information. My research and writing projects take time and resources and it has become difficult to continue both my newsletter and the other writing and research that I do. Thus I decided to end the newsletter. If anyone would like me to speak to their church or other group, please send me an email.

God bless and Merry Christmas

Wayne Spencer, M.S., Physics



My Life and Creation Ministry

Wayne Spencer

Today the young-age creation movement is prospering, in spite of how our society is more secular and sometimes more anti-christian than ever before. This article will tell about my own experience in creation ministry in hopes of encouraging others to get involved in whatever way they can. At the time I became a Christian, in the Fall of 1979, the Institute for Creation Research (ICR) was doing many lectures in universities. Hearing Henry Morris, Duane Gish, and Harold Slusher speak at Kansas State University made a big impression on me as a young Christian. Over the years the lectures on university campuses largely stopped and the academic world took on a kind of deeply ingrained hatred of creationists.

Challenging evolution in education circles or scientific circles has not been a popular effort. There is resistance to youngage creation even in many churches. It is still very controversial today. But there have been promising successes and the proportion of people in the American public who believe young-age creation has not changed very much over the years since 1979. In fact, I think it may have increased slightly. The number of well qualified scientists active in promoting young-age creationism has significantly increased I believe since 1979.

I grew up in a home where my father was an atheist and my mother was a strong Christian. I lived on a farm in Southeast Kansas. Thus I was pulled in both directions and as a young man in my teenage years I considered myself an agnostic. I believed there was no way anyone could know if there was a god. I grew up attending church but it did not mean much to me. I grew up with little sense of self-worth and I had many personal problems. But in High School I developed a big interest in science and math. I started college intending to study engineering. I was an honor student my second year at a community college in

Kansas. But after transferring to Kansas State University I fell into a period of depression and became unable to handle the rigors of college classes for a while. So I left college for a time and went through a lot of counseling. During this difficult time in my life there were two Christian men I had met at K-State that became good friends to me. They were instrumental in me eventually becoming a Christian.

After I became a Christian I was surprised to find myself sometimes speaking to or teaching groups of Christians or leading small group Bible studies. I had been the kind of person that would have avoided anything of this nature prior to becoming a Christian. I recall as a junior in High School, having to go up in front of my English class to do an oral report. I stepped up in front of the class and just froze; I couldn't say a word because I was so anxious. In time, though there were significant failures and difficulties with learning to be a teacher, I eventually became a high school science and math teacher in a Christian School. This was entirely thanks to God's grace.

I became a Christian in September of 1979 at age 20 as I returned to college. I got involved in Inter-Varsity Christian Fellowship at Kansas State University. I was very influenced by the writings of Francis Schaeffer, Josh McDowell, and men from the Institute for Creation Research. I was a double-major for a time in both Physics and Electrical Engineering but I dropped the engineering major and graduated in Physics. It was exciting to me to learn that there was science that substantiated the Bible. I began learning about creation and my interest never stopped. I remember being impressed at the speakers from ICR in that they were able to support most of their arguments by pointing out quotes of evolutionists. This showed that evolution as a theory had serious problems that are not evident from how textbooks present it. Though my interest in the creation vs. evolution question started as a science issue, I became convinced it was much more than that. The controversy is really a

manifestation of a spiritual battle in our society. Biological evolution and the Big Bang theory in astronomy are ideas people try to use to justify unbelief. Though they mislead people, they also represent just what many want to hear. On the other hand, you don't have to be a science expert to realize evolutionary ideas are not believable.

Early Ministry

God has a place, or places, for each Christian to serve Him. But you have to try things to find out what it is. You have to start small and take one step at a time. God prepares us for greater things step-by-step. He can be very patient with our failures but He can also be very insistent that we get back at it again, with His help. involvement in ministry began with writing some handouts at my church, occasionally teaching some youth groups on creation. I was also involved leading small group Bible studies in college and this led to other teaching opportunities. I was in various student leadership roles in Inter-Varsity Christian Fellowship at three different universities in Kansas, including once being a chapter president. I came to feel God wanted me to get involved in creation to put my love for science to work for His purpose. Well before the time of the beginning of the "Personal Computer" era, I used to write letters to people sometimes about spiritual issues and creation issues. I always had a hunger for answers to questions like "Who am I?" and "How do I know this is true?" It also took years for me to work through many personal problems and rethink everything in life from a Biblical worldview.

Changes in Society

There has been many changes in society to values and beliefs in the years since I became a Christian. The 1960's and 70's brought the drug movement and a moral revolution that wrecked many lives. Many people who went through the turmoil of those years are now influential leaders in academia and the corporate world. The younger

generation today looks at many things with a great skepticism, including higher education. There is a logical relationship of ideas. Individuals may not follow the logic of unbelief all the way to the conclusion. But in society, when the foundation of healthy values is given up, the logic is surprisingly telling about how the society decays. If there is no God there is no basis for morality, and no basis for law. Without being made in God's image, what does it mean to be human? Without a historic Fall into sin with a real Adam and Eve in history, what is mankind's fundamental problem? The ideas that begin as a cry to be more morally tolerant eventually make society more oppressive and violent because people forget what it means to be human and what the value of life is. This is what seems to be happening in our society to me. It starts with the presumption that God is not relevant and that we are only smart animals who evolved from primates.

But there has always been plenty of evidence to show the truth of the Bible historically and scientifically. There is even some evidence that seems to suggest various aspects of a Biblical morality. There is plenty of reason that agrees with a Christian worldview. Today there is a greater need than ever for Christians to give intelligent answers to people's problems and questions. Sometimes the modern Christian apologetics movement fails when it comes to how it views science and origins. Thus today there is a need for creation ministries to broaden the scope of the topics they address. There are distinctly different approaches to Christian Apologetics today. Some accept Intelligent Design but not six day creation. I think this confuses many Christians. apologetics may do well on some questions like the historicity of the New Testament and Christ's resurrection but it sometimes fails to interpret Genesis properly. There is much good material available on intelligent design and on how naturalism has influenced biology, but little from some Christian apologists on how naturalism has affected geology. Many Christian apologetics scholars

today also have no idea of the findings from the research from young-age creationist scientists. This makes some approaches to apologetics limited in what it can answer. Even if you can get someone to acknowledge evidence for intelligent design, this alone may not point them to Christianity or the Bible. The right answers are Biblical answers, in addition to being consistent with reason and modern evidence. The young-age creation view is able to use science to imply the truth of the Bible. Believing the Bible is not out of date. But Christians sometimes are. The evidence for the truth of Christianity exists apart from whether Christians know it or not. But the best evidence may be lives changed by faith in Christ.

There is a song from Christian music artist, Stephen Curtis Chapman that I've always thought does a good job of capturing the problems in our society. It has a lot to say about how ideas like evolution (and other wrong ideas) mislead people.

There's a teacher in a school room Somewhere on the edge of town Telling innocent little children what we used to be

They look and listen without a question They see the pictures passed around Making fact out of a theory and they all believe

As the lost lead the way Another heart is led astray

These are the days
When the blind lead the blind
And there's one narrow way out of here

CLICK TO LISTEN

Stephen Curtis Chapman & Geoff Moore, 1990.

Getting Serious About Creation

I would consider 1986 to be when I "got serious" about creation and promoting it. This is when I did a series of discussions and meetings on a college campus. This was while I was studying secondary education at Emporia State University in Kansas. There were several meetings on different topics. I spent many hours in the university library studying evolution topics. Biology textbooks tend to present a dogmatic point of view on They give an impression that evolution. evolutionary science explains everything. But when you read the more technical material from multiple sources in a university library. you find that evolutionary scientists do not always agree and they are not so dogmatic as the textbooks. Both students and faculty came to the on-campus meetings. attenders had various backgrounds, and we discussed creation vs. evolution. (I had experienced something similar at Kansas State University years earlier that were organized by a friend of mine.)

This was very valuable for the experience of engaging people in discussing the issues. I found that discussing the creation/evolution issue has a way of exposing people's spiritual condition and the things they really value. I recall discussing evolution with a couple who were boyfriend and girlfriend. It became evident as I discussed evolution with the guy that the girl did not realize some of the things he believed. She seemed to not entirely agree with him and she seemed more open to what I was saying than he was. It was at the time of these on campus discussions that I began recording on audio cassettes of some of the discussions and the information I was presenting in the meetings. There were individuals that I shared the tapes with who did not make it to the meetings, though they were interested. I continued sharing audio cassettes with people on occasion for years after this. My efforts were not perfect but I believe they helped some people.

cassettes also led to some letter writing as well.

After I left Emporia State University, I had difficulties with student teaching and failed to get a teaching certificate. This is a long story in itself but for a time I gave up on being a teacher. I lived in Wichita for some years and then became a teacher in a Christian School in Wichita, Kansas, known as Sunrise Christian Academy. I taught a variety of science and math classes from sixth grade through high school over a period of four years. It was also during the years I was a teacher in Wichita that I was also very active in the ministry of the Bible-Science Association.



Figure 1 - Sunrise Christian Academy, Wichita, KS

Ministry Opportunities

I became what was called the Vice-Chairman of the Mid-Kansas branch of the Bible-Science Association (a nonprofit organization in Wichita, KS). It happened through an interesting turn of events. I had lived in Wichita just a few years and was somewhat "new on the scene" to the others involved in the Bible Science group. The Chairman of the group was Psychology professor Dr. Paul Ackerman. The man who had been the Vice-Chairman for years was an elderly man named Bob McWethy. I didn't know Bob well. The time came around to elect officers and I was interested in becoming Vice-Chairman. However, I didn't want to offend Bob or pressure him to step down if he didn't want to. So I decided to call Bob McWethy and discuss it with him. Bob was a quiet man but he did a lot of behind the scenes things to get the word out about creation related meetings and events. So I called his phone number one evening and I was shocked that a policeman answered the phone. The policeman told me Bob had died that very day. I then had to tell the others in the Bible-Science group that Bob had died. I was then elected to the position. This was God's timing in how I became Vice-Chairman of the Bible-Science group.

I was very active in creation activities in Wichita. A friend and I started a series of meetings we called the "Tech Talks". His background was biology and mine was physics. We offered a somewhat more technical discussion on various creation topics. The goal was to deal with issues in more depth than the regular Bible-Science creation meetings. There were also other events where I was one of several people who taught in churches in the area, or did workshops at home school conventions.

While In Wichita, I produced a multimedia slide show called Wonders of the Solar System. This program was shown at two summer conferences and on a few other occasions. Many people today don't know what this is but it is where you use a special electronic device to program multiple slide projectors to be timed to music or an audio track. It required a special four track cassette recorder and I used four slide projectors. All four slide projectors would work together. So vou could fade from one slide into the next and display text on top of a picture. This was before there were projectors to easily project a presentation from a computer onto a large screen. Powerpoint used with PC projectors supplanted the older multimedia slide programs like this. It required about an hour to set up the equipment. But it made an exciting program. Sunrise Christian Academy later produced a VHS Video of Wonders of the Solar System that was sold through the Bible Truth radio ministry.



Figure 2 - Wayne with the multimedia slide equipment, approximately 1991.

I organized creation conferences in the summers of 1989, 1990, and 1991 that were called the Bible-Science Family Conferences. Attendance ran in the range of 200 to 300. These events organized people from different churches in Wichita, KS to work together doing the conferences, which included kids programs with hands-on activities related to creation. We also had speakers from the Institute for Creation Research at two of the conferences (Richard Bliss and John Morris). The Wonders of the Solar System multimedia slide program was shown two different summers at these conferences, in two different versions.

These conferences included a sizable children's program that was a big success. One year there was a nonchristian public elementary school principal who was so impressed with what he had heard about the kids program that he helped out with it and took pictures of the kids program. There was a great group of home schooling Moms, as well as Christian school teachers, and other volunteers who helped make it all a success. God brought people together to do it and they were very memorable conferences.

After the conference of 1991, I began to do some writing for publication. There was a conference in the Minneapolis-St. Paul area in 1992 called the Twin-Cities Creation Conference where I did a presentation called "Design and Catastrophism in the Solar System." This was the beginning of me

writing research papers. I decided to return to college and get a Masters degree in Physics in order to have better qualifications for research. I intended to teach physics after getting the Masters degree. From 1992 to 1994 I was a full time student and graduate assistant at Wichita State University, in Wichita, KS.

While I was a graduate student at Wichita State University I did a debate with a college professor. The debate was not at Wichita State University where I was a student, but at Emporia State University, where I had been a student a few years earlier. I am not sure exactly when this was, but approximately 1992 or 1993. professor was a specialist in biology science education. It was done in a large classroom at Emporia State University. I decided to make the topic biological evolution, so I had to deal with researching his specialty. It was a friendly debate and there were perhaps 50 or 60 people present I would guess, made up mostly of college students and a few faculty. During one of the breaks one of the Christian students there told me I was doing a good job. I took some free handouts to give away and all of them disappeared. I think there was a strong interest among the students and there was a healthy discussion of both sides of the issue. I felt that I was able to basically "hold my own" against the professor.

During my time in graduate school, I began my own business, which I called Creation Education Materials. I used it to occasionally sell self-published books on creation that I produced. For some years I produced the books, "Creation Activities for Kids," "Wonders of the Solar System," and later (in 2003) the book "Our Genesis." I sometimes sold these to churches, Christian teachers, and creation organizations. These books were all oriented toward helping people teach about creation. At the time I created "Creation Activities for Kids" there was nothing like it. It provided examples of how to do hands-on activities to teach kids about creation. Much of what was in that book is now on my website. I mostly collected and

organized the material in the book. I was not the person who did all the work with kids. I sold the activity book for a long time and received many positive comments on it.

In the summer of 1995 I went on a mission trip to Russia, sponsored by the Bible Truth radio ministry. This was a ministry of the Church that operated Sunrise Christian Academy, where I had been a teacher. This was in June of 1995. I was in Russia with the Bible Truth group for perhaps two weeks. The Bible Truth group mostly gave out Bibles and other Christian literature printed in Russian in many different cities. I had also made arrangements with a Russian Christian man to be my guide and I stayed for another week and a half to do other ministry and traveling with him. So I was in Russia for a total of about three and a half weeks. My Russian guide's name was Max Pashkov. I also stayed for one week in the apartment where him and his Mother lived. He had a creation ministry of his own in Russia. By that time, there was actually a large thriving creation ministry in Moscow done by Russian Christians. I spoke on creation to two groups



Figure 4 Part of a group of Russians Wayne spoke to in Moscow in 1995. Wayne did a presentation on Mt. St. Helens to the group.

in Moscow and to one group at a scientific college, in the city of Ufa, just East of the Ural Mountains. I traveled East with the Bible Truth group from Moscow to Irkutsk, Siberia, across seven time zones by train. I was also

able to go to St. Petersberg and visited the Hermitage Museum and some of the palaces near St. Petersberg. There were many interesting people I met on this trip. It was a great experience. There was an article I wrote about my Russia trip published in the Bible-Science News magazine in August 1995.

After finishing my Masters degree I did some teaching of college courses as an adjunct part-time faculty but had difficulty finding a full-time job in Wichita, Kansas. I moved to the Dallas area, first to take a teaching job. But I left the teaching position and began a career doing technical support. Working in technical support led to another position in software testing and I have been in software related positions ever since. Today I work for a software company in Dallas as a software manager.

Moving to Texas was difficult because I had many friends and ministry contacts in Wichita. There was no creation ministry I could easily plug into in the Dallas area like the Bible-Science Association. So I decided to start my own website and a creation newsletter that I would send out for free. I had a couple of different websites prior to when I purchased my own domain name, creationanswers.net. I made contact with some home schooling groups and others to get my newsletter started. So my creation ministry shifted to more writing and less speaking. On the other hand, after moving to Texas I became involved as a presenter at the Technical Symposium of the International Conference on Creationism, first in 1994. I also made contacts with various creation organizations and began to publish technical papers in various creation publications. These contacts with creation organizations has occasionally led to opportunities speaking for creation organization meetings in various cities, such as in Houston, Oklahoma City, and Denver.

In the years I have lived in Texas, I have sometimes taught on creation or on Genesis, sometimes at churches I've attended and sometimes for other

organizations. For a time I organized a small group called the DFW Creation Study Group, which met in a public library in Hurst, TX once each month. I once did a presentation for the North Texas Skeptics Society, which is an organization of mostly nonchristians.

Sometimes there have been some very good email exchanges that came out of my ministry activities or my newsletter contacts. In March of 2008 I received a personal email from Dr. William Provine from Cornell University. Dr. Provine was mentioned in the movie with Ben Stein, called Dr. Provine and I had an "Expelled." interesting discussion over email. Another memorable thing was some emails I had for months with a geologist who gave me some very helpful input on an article I wrote for my website. I have sometimes received emails from individuals in various other parts of the world. My "creation answers" website was really born out of years of personal correspondence with people dealing with the questions they had about creation, evolution, and why we should believe the Bible.

I do not want to give the wrong impression about what I have done in ministry. Whatever I have accomplished is not just from my efforts or whatever abilities I have. God uses many things in our lives to prepare us for what He has for us to do. My science background was important, but not enough to be effective serving God in itself. My Master's degree was very helpful for preparing to do research, but not enough in itself. My teaching experience was very valuable also, but again it was not enough without God's help. I have always tried to take an attitude like what the Apostle Paul describes in 2 Corinthians 3:5-6, "Not that we are competent in ourselves to claim anything for ourselves, but our competence comes from God. He has made us competent as ministers of a new covenant...." Someone can have all the right qualifications and still fail to serve God well. So relying on God and living out what the Bible teaches is key to being effective.

How Creation Ministry Benefits People

The creation vs. evolution controversy is a topic connects with people's fundamental beliefs. Thus it can be useful in talking to people to understand their perspective about God, the Bible, and science. It has a way of exposing what someone trusts in. While I was in college at Kansas State University, I had been a Christian for just a few years. I remember having a conversation with my Dad about radioactive dating. My father was an atheist. My Dad brought up the topic of radioactive dating from reading an article in Time magazine. My father was a ninth grade dropout and so he did not have much formal Yet I would say he was an education. intelligent individual. He knew I believed the Bible and that I had become a Christian; he also knew I was a physics major and I knew a lot more about the science of radioactive dating techniques than he would. So he asked me if I would trust radioactive dating techniques. I just told him no, I wouldn't. He told me he thought it was ok. He was trusting in science as an authority and thus went along with the old age evolutionary idea. I knew from a number of other conversations with my Dad that he did not trust the Bible. So he and I were trusting in different things.

Creation ministry mostly benefits Christians and children. Creation ministry has sometimes helped nonchristians to be more open to the Bible's message, though that is relatively unusual. Because of the variety of perspectives people are exposed to today, the need for a clear presentation of a young-age six day creation view is more than ever. It has long been the case that though many Christians believe young-age Biblical creation, they are not aware of all the research that has been done. Creation research has become better over the years in my opinion, and sometimes is more sophisticated and on a more technical level than it used to be. Thus there is a need today for ministries that can bridge the gap between the technical level and the lay level creation information. I have always wanted my newsletter to serve this purpose. There

are other sources that do a fine job of this as well, such as Creation magazine from Creation Ministries International and Answers magazine from Answers in Genesis. creation ministry circles I am more known for my technical papers and research in planetary science. The technical level research is not usually what the average Christian needs, however. (Note that there are some Christians or open minded nonchristians who really DO need very much to get access to technical creation information that can answer their questions.) average Christian needs to know how to understand Genesis and how to relate science to a creation perspective. average Christian may not have an extensive knowledge of science and creation but they should at least know where to get answers to their questions. Thus there is a need for Christians to learn the difference between good sources and not-so-good sources.

When people change their point of view from evolution to young-age creation, it is usually the scientific evidence that convinces them, not the Biblical evidence. The scientific evidence for creation can make a powerful impression when it is understood. It shows people that what the Bible says about creation is objectively true, not just subjectively true. There is a misconception some have about the Bible that it is only true in the sense that it has a personal subjective meaning to the believer but it doesn't really tell us the truth about the world historically or scientifically. Thus, Christians need to be taught about creation well so that they can understand that the Bible is really true to the real world and that truth is not a matter of what we feel. Seeing the Bible as objectively true historically and scientifically supports a strong view of the inerrancy of the Bible. Thus I think creation acts like an anchor to help a Christian hold onto their faith with more confidence amid life's challenges.



Figure 5 Picture of a flower taken on the shore of Lake Baikal, in Eastern Siberia, Russia, June 1995.

My own study of creation I believe has greatly benefitted me in helping me understand God's greatness. God's greatness is displayed in the way the world is made and in the way we are made as human beings. If you believe God spoke things into existence and created in six days as Genesis says this can make a difference in how you perceive God day to day. If you believe God judged the world in a global Flood this is relevant to our view of future things. God will intervene to judge the world in the future because he has a track record of doing this in the past! So He does not just ignore the evil in the world. I would not say it's impossible to have a correct understanding of God if someone believes evolution, but it does create an inconsistency. The issue with God using evolution is not necessarily that it makes God less powerful but that evolution is a process that raises questions about God's character. Why would God use a process evolution. with it's violence and harshness? (See my article "Why God Would Not Use Evolution".) God created the Earth as a perfect environment for us. But after Adam and Eve sinned, He judged mankind in a way that changed the world we live in. It seems being sinful creatures in a fallen world, we are better off facing some adversity in life from an environment that is

no longer perfect. The global Flood also affected the environment. God has intervened for the sake of mankind's spiritual well being because that is more important to him than that we have perfect physical well being.

Thus some benefits of creation ministry relate to the following:

- The existence of God (especially from intelligent design)
- The objective truth of Christianity
- The trustworthiness of the Bible
- The greatness of God

I would like to also add that all four of the above points are very important for teaching children and youth about God. Evolutionary ideas are used by secular textbooks to lead students to think in non-Biblical terms or to introduce doubt about the Bible. I think young children can understand the idea of design in nature as being created by God. Young children should be taught from the early chapters of Genesis also. Young children do not need to know much of evolution. But later as they reach Middle School and High School ages, they will have questions that need to be answered with creation answers that include scientific evidence for creation. Ultimately they choose what they will believe, but they should have exposure to both views on origins, when they are ready for it.

I will conclude with a few more words from the song "The Blind Lead the Blind."

This is a dangerous time
And the truth can be so hard to find
So let His word light your way
And guard every step you take

'Cause these are the days When the blind lead the blind And there's one narrow way out of here

Stephen Curtis Chapman & Geoff Moore, 1990.

The "Made in His Image" Video Set

The Institute for Creation Research has recently produced a video set called "Made in His Image." It is an excellent four disc set that emphasizes intelligent design of the human body and what makes human beings unique. I would highly recommend it and because the individual programs are not long (22 min. each) it could be shown in Sunday School classes. The video set comes with a Viewer Guide booklet with discussion questions. Today there is a big need for things that affirm our unique value as human beings. That is the main takeaway from this series. It is a very encouraging set of programs.

<u>CLICK HERE</u> to go to the ICR website page on this video series.

The Good Dinosaur Movie

Christian parents should be alert to subtle things that tend to lead children away from a Biblical viewpoint. The recent movie, *The Good Dinosaur* explores the idea of what if dinosaurs had not gone extinct? This movie explores the idea from an evolutionary viewpoint. It tends to reverse the roles of

humans and animals. It has dinosaurs as becoming more intelligent than is realistic also. So though it may be an entertaining fiction, parents should discuss it with their kids if they see it. The movie has a dinosaur who has a friend who is a boy named Spot. So it treats humans as dog-like and implies that evolution over millions of years could have led to history turning out this way.

We know there was no way dinosaurs could have become more than the reptiles they were because that was God's design. Genesis 1 says animals reproduce "according to their kind." Thus time could not allow dinosaurs to become a different kind of living thing. Humans were given rule by God, over the Earth and the animals on it. Humans are more than lower animals because we are made in God's image. So we are of more worth than animals. In Luke 12:7, Jesus said "Indeed, the very hairs of your head are all numbered. Don't be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows."

I'd recommend the article below by Lita Cosner, from Creation Ministries International. The Good Dinosaur: A review