

# The Age of the Earth



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- Present → Christ 2,000 years
- Christ → Abraham 2,000 years
- Abraham → Adam ?

# Genesis 5, 11

Adam	130
Seth	105
Enosh	90
Kenan	70
Mahalalel	65
Jared	162
Enoch	65
Methuselah	187
Lamech	182
Noah	500
Shem	100
Arpachshad	35
Shelah	30
Eber	34
Peleg	30
Reu	32
Serug	30
Nahor	29
<u>Terah</u>	<u>70</u>
Abram	

# The Age of the Earth

- Present → Christ 2,000 years
  - Christ → Abraham 2,000 years
  - Abraham → Adam 2,000 years
- 6,000 years**

Allowing wiggle room: **6,000–12,000 years**

# Polystrate fossils

A photograph of a rock outcrop showing a vertical fossilized tree trunk (polystrate) with roots extending into the surrounding rock layers. A geological hammer is placed next to the fossil for scale.

Polystrate fossil  
(tree with roots)  
From the Joggins  
Formation,  
Cumberland Basin,  
Nova Scotia.

# Polystrate fossils

“There is no doubt that this type of fossil was formed relatively quickly; otherwise it would have decomposed while waiting for strata to slowly accumulate around it” (Scott Huse, The Collapse of Evolution).



# Circular reasoning in the geologic column



Didier Descouens

# Circular reasoning in the geologic column

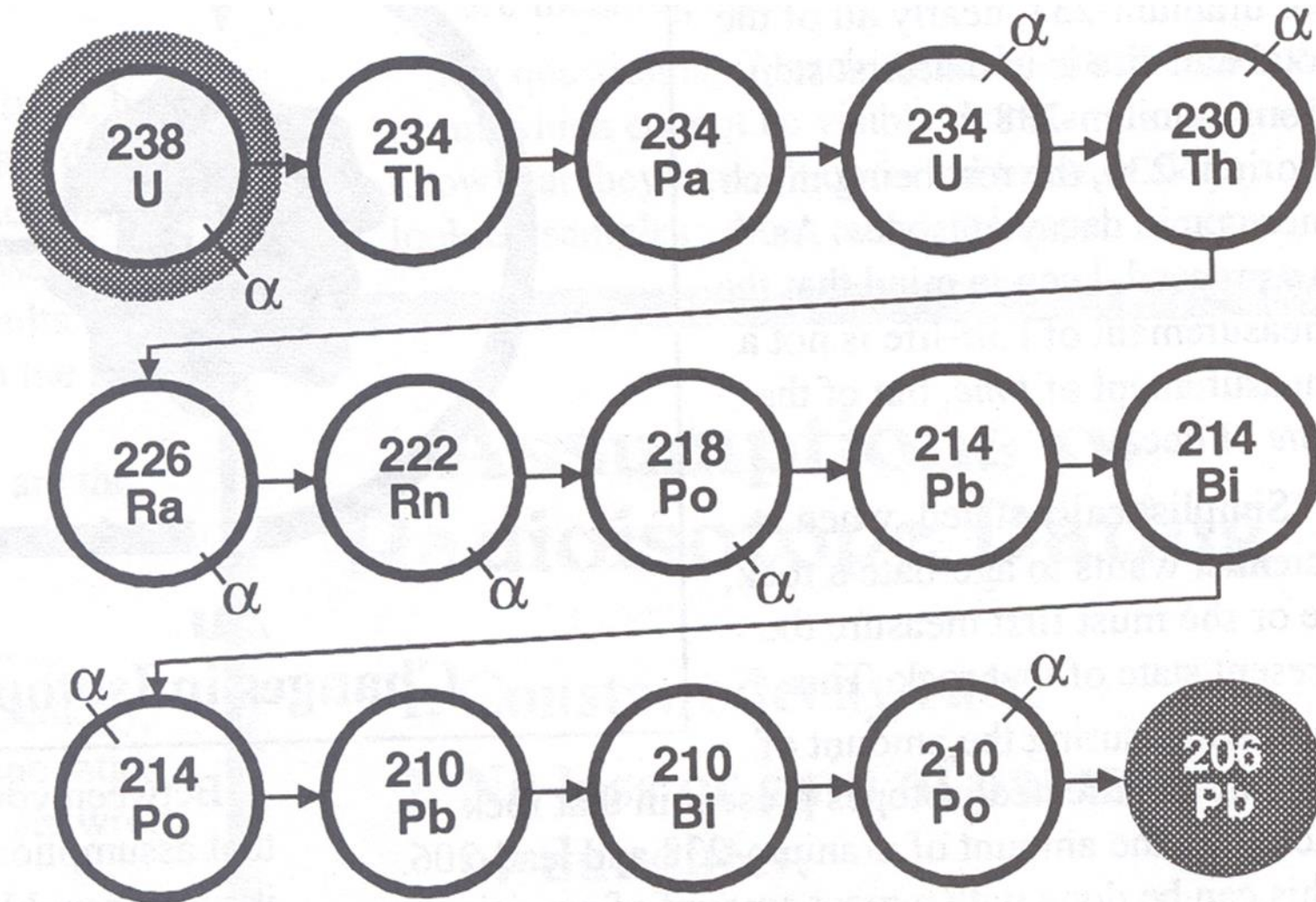
- Niles Eldredge: “Paleontologists cannot operate this way. There is no way simply to look at a fossil and say how old it is unless you know the age of the rocks it comes from...And this poses something of a problem: if we date the rocks by their fossils, how can we then turn around and talk about patterns of evolutionary change through time in the fossil record?” (Time Frames, 1985).



# Circular reasoning in the geologic column

- Thomas S. Kemp: “A circular argument arises: Interpret the fossil record in the terms of a particular theory of evolution, inspect the interpretation, and note that it confirms the theory. Well, it would, wouldn't it?” (“A Fresh Look at the Fossil Record,” New Scientist, 1985).

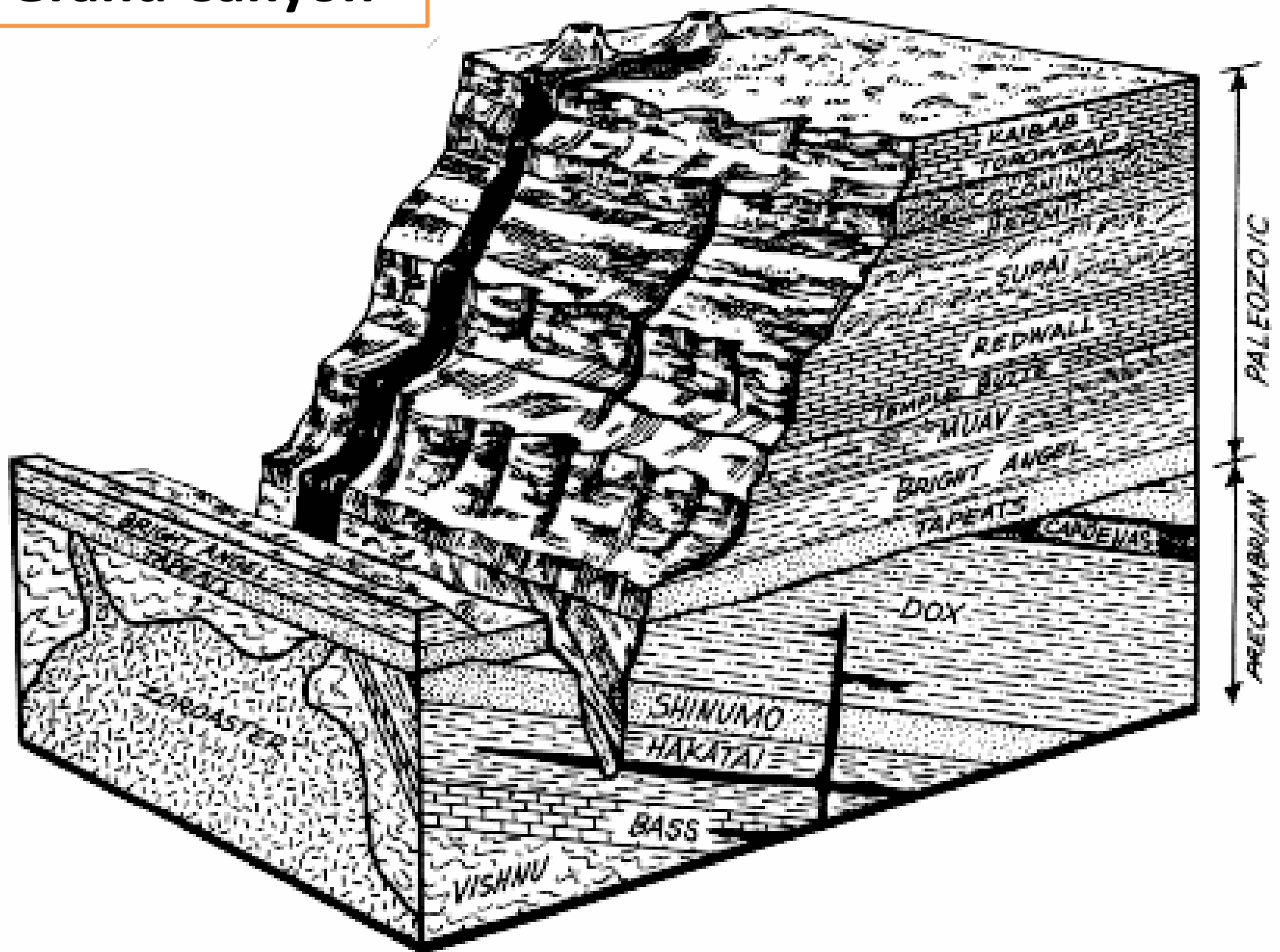
# Faulty Dating Methods



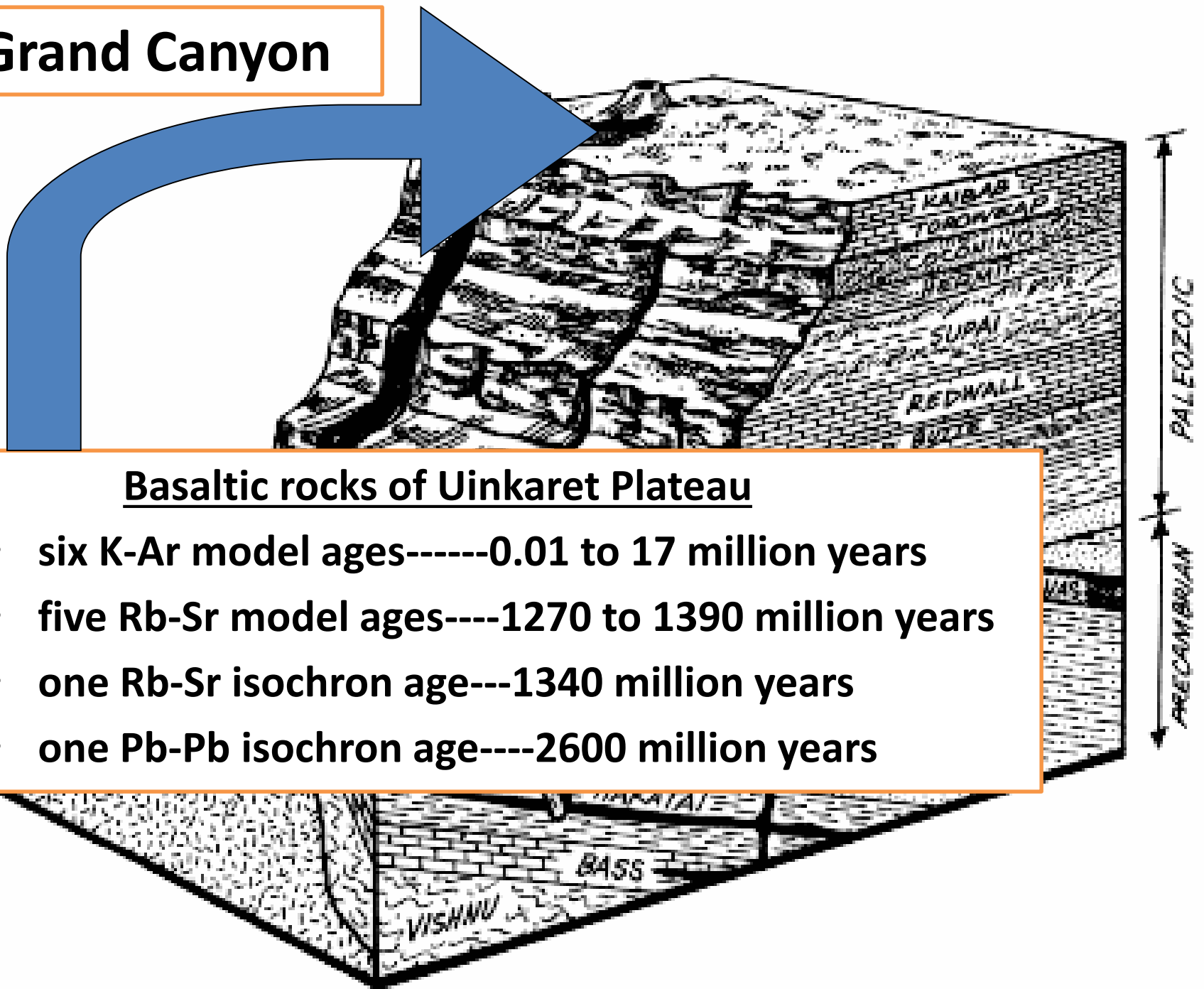
# Faulty Dating Methods

- Based on assumptions:
  - The rate of decay has always been the **same** over time.
  - There have been no elements **added** to the rock over time.
  - There have been no elements **lost** from the rock over time.
  - The amount of daughter elements at the beginning of the process are **known**.

# Grand Canyon



# Grand Canyon



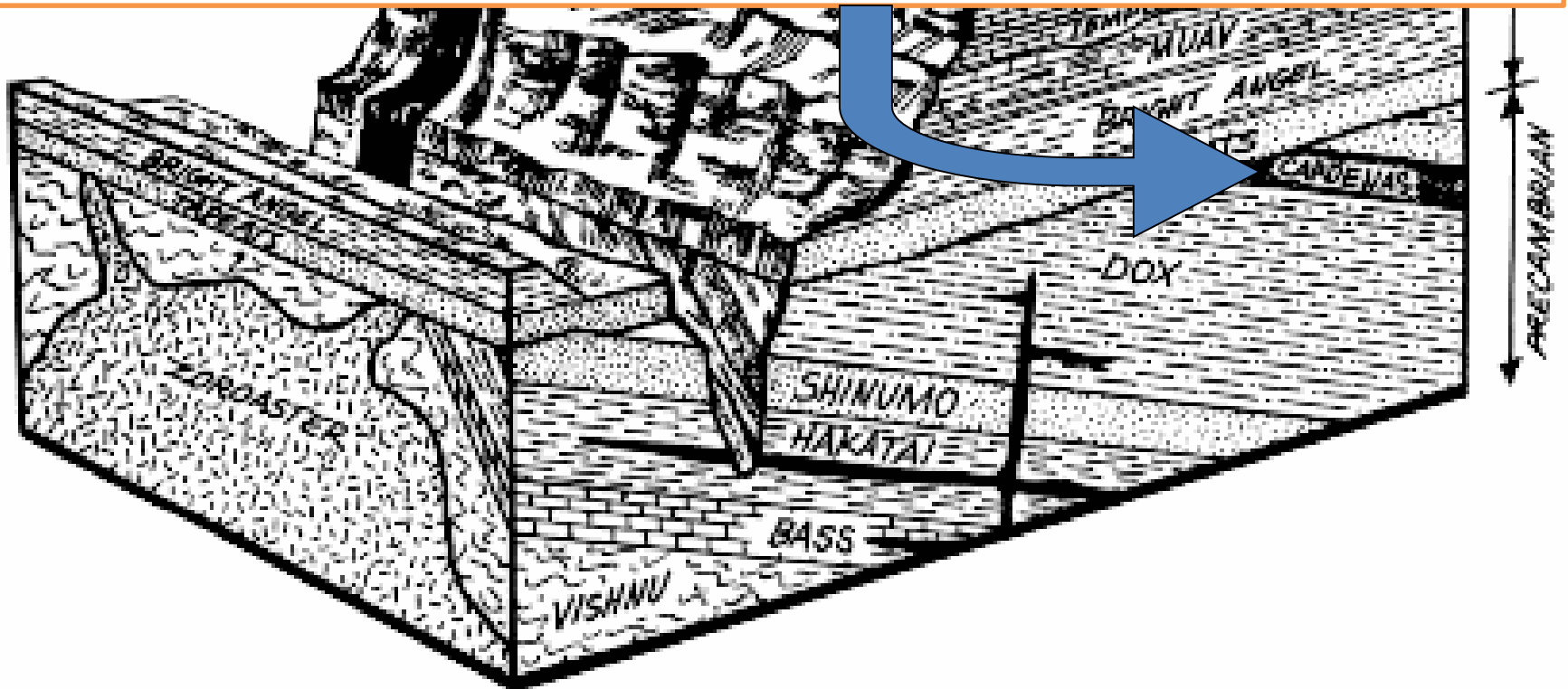
## Basaltic rocks of Uinkaret Plateau

- six K-Ar model ages-----0.01 to 17 million years
- five Rb-Sr model ages----1270 to 1390 million years
- one Rb-Sr isochron age---1340 million years
- one Pb-Pb isochron age----2600 million years

# Grand Canyon

## Cardenas Basalt (Precambrian)

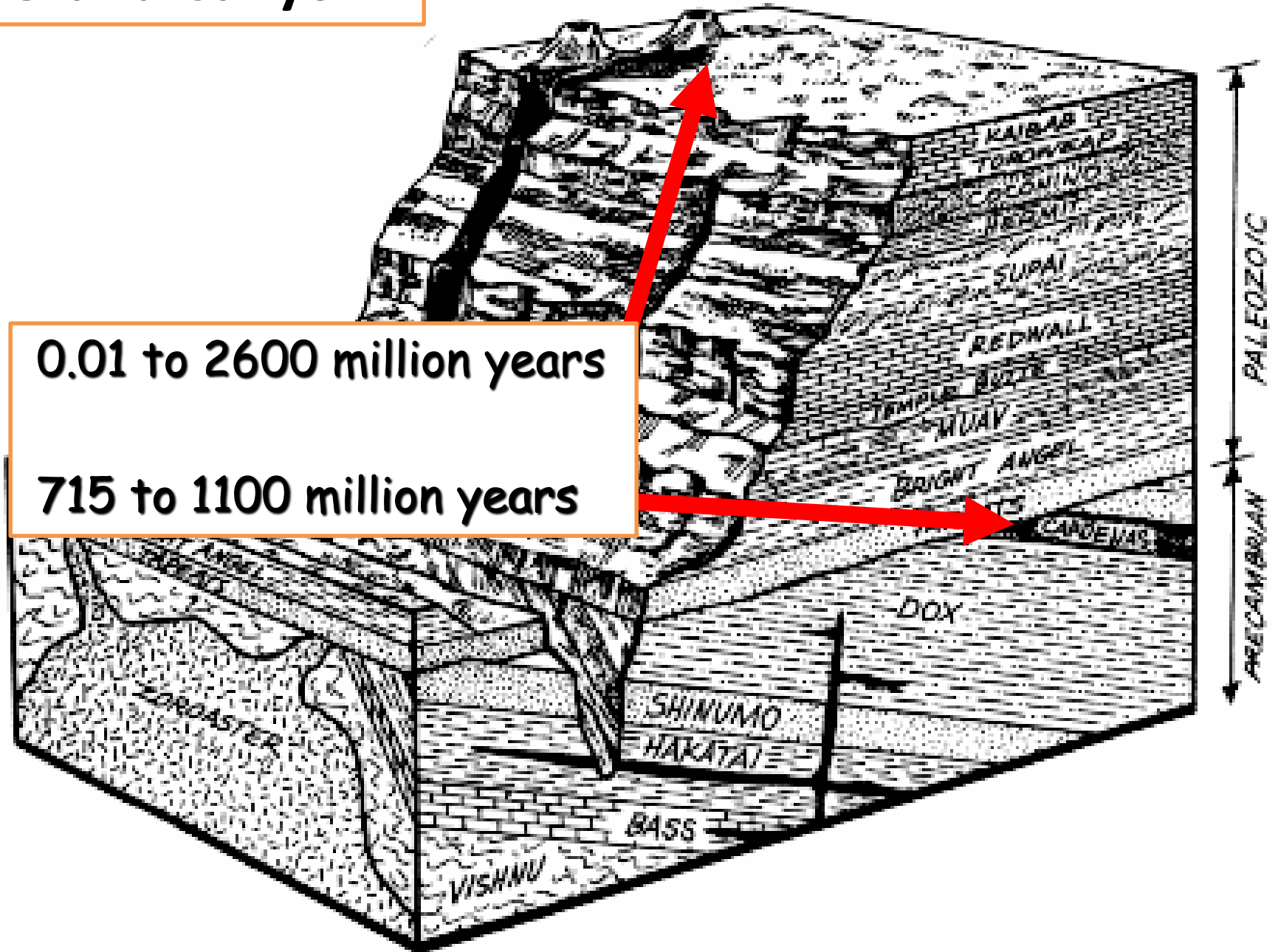
- five K-Ar model ages-----791 to 853 million years
- six Rb-Sr model ages-----980 to 1100 million years
- one K-Ar isochron age-----715 million years
- one Rb-Sr isochron age----1070 million years



# Grand Canyon

0.01 to 2600 million years

715 to 1100 million years



# Faulty Dating Methods

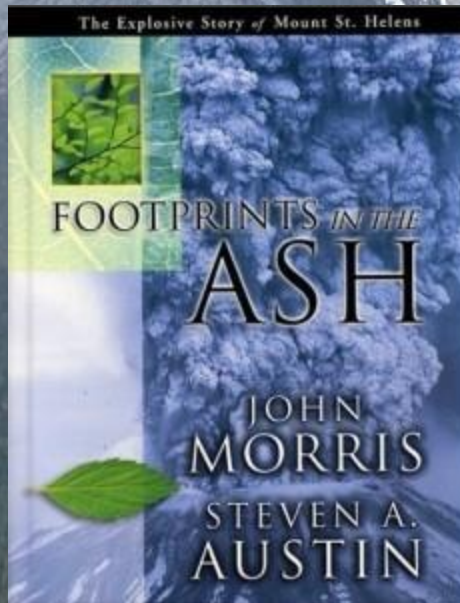
Known eruption	Place	Radioisotope Dating
900 years ago	Sunset Crater	210,000 – 230,000
200 years ago	Kaupulehu Flow	140 million – 2.96 billion
34 years ago	Mount St. Helens	350,000 – 2.4 million



# Faulty Dating Methods

Actual Date of Death	Specimen	Carbon-14 Date of Death
Still alive!	Mollusk	3,000 years ago
Freshly killed	Seals	1,300 years ago
?	Musk ox (scalp)	24,000 years ago
?	Musk ox (hind limb)	7,200 years ago
Still alive!	Trees	10,000 years ago

# Mount St. Helens and “catastrophism.”



Spirit Lake →



**Before eruption**



# After eruption



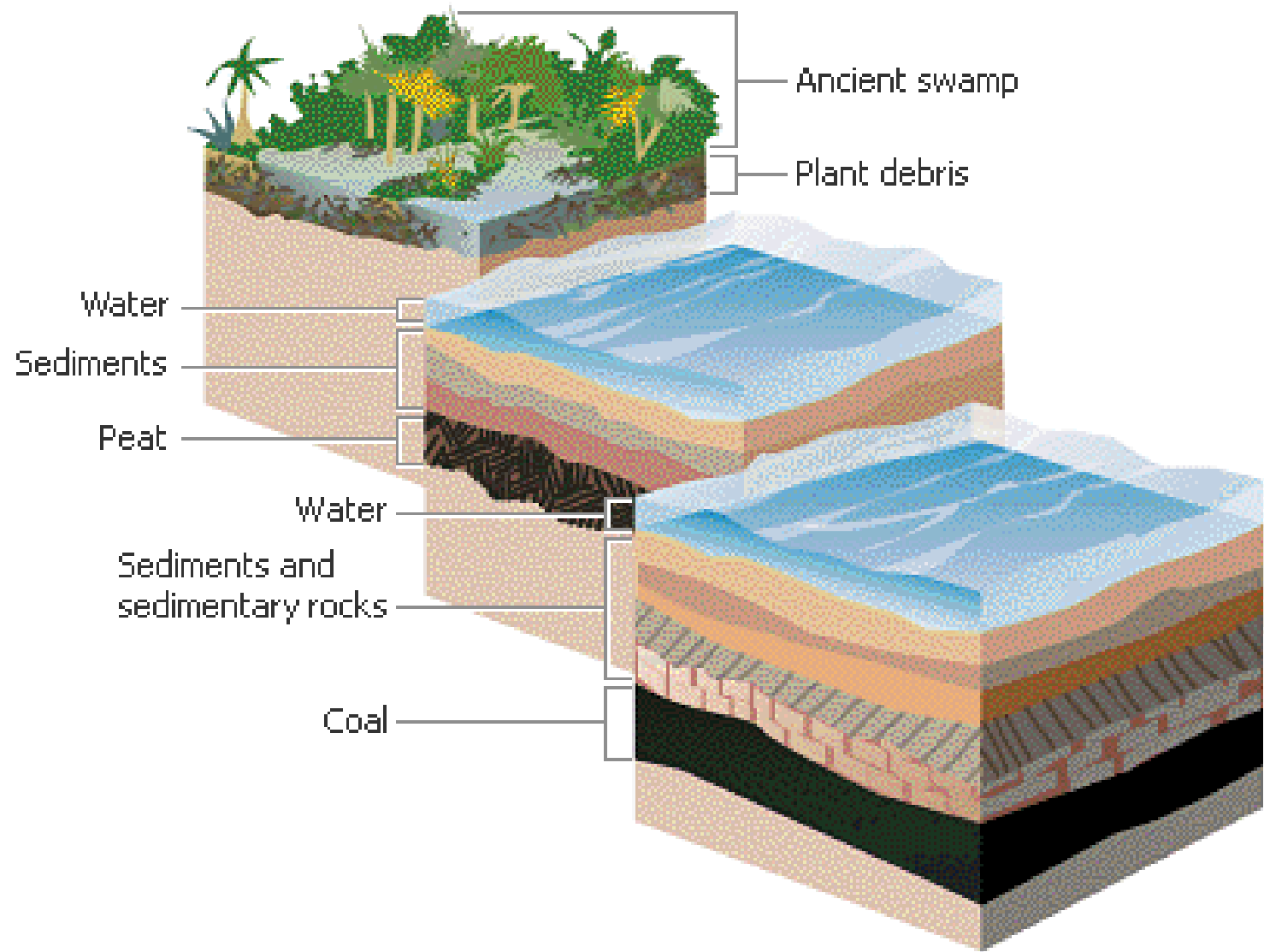


USGS Photo by Lyn Topinka, July 16, 1987



- “Creationists suggest that during Noah’s flood, log mats like this may have yielded a deposit of broken plant debris called peat, the precursor to coal” (Morris & Austin, 2003, p. 83).







- “Creationists have speculated that coal may have been formed as a result of Noah’s flood, during which massive amounts of vegetation were scraped from the continents...



- During the Flood year, abundant volcanic action produced clays which mixed in with peat. Subsequent deep burial by oceanic muds would have applied the pressure and heat needed to alter them rapidly into coal. A cycle of such decay, decomposition, and metamorphism produced the multiple layers of coal that we see in the geologic record. Unfortunately, no such floating mat existed for creationists to study—until Mount St. Helens erupted, that is. We have been studying it ever since” (Morris & Austin, 2003, p. 86).
- By the way, “Another eruption of Mount St. Helens might some day bury this peat under a hot layer of lava or volcanic ash. If it did, all of the requirements for rapid coalification would be present” (Morris & Austin, 2003, p. 88).

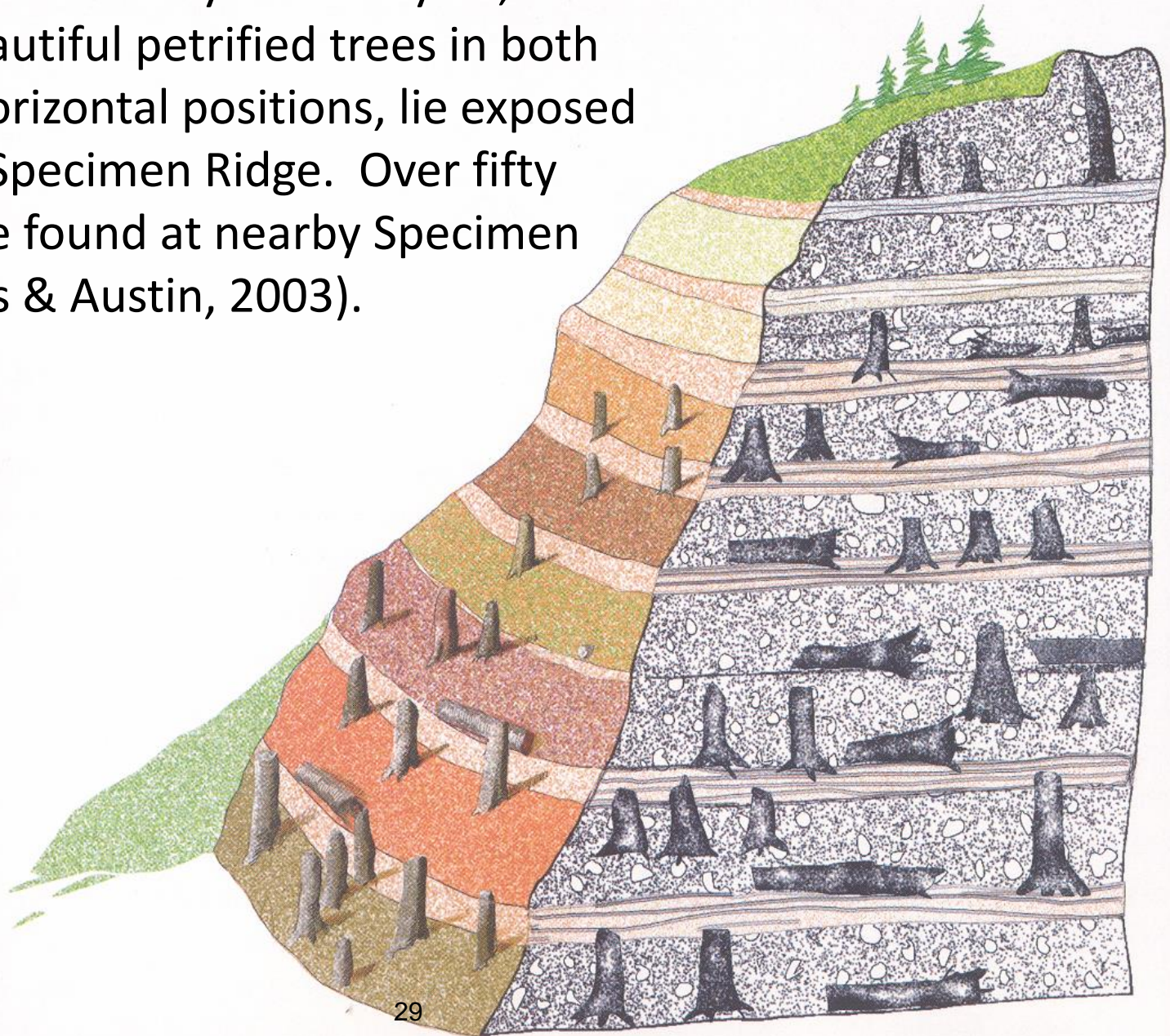
- “This weight [of the flood waters on the earth] of several million pounds per square foot would form coal from the plants in the sediment below the water.” He goes on to say that “these pressures could bring about the formation of petroleum and natural gas in a matter of days instead of years” (Fox, 2000).



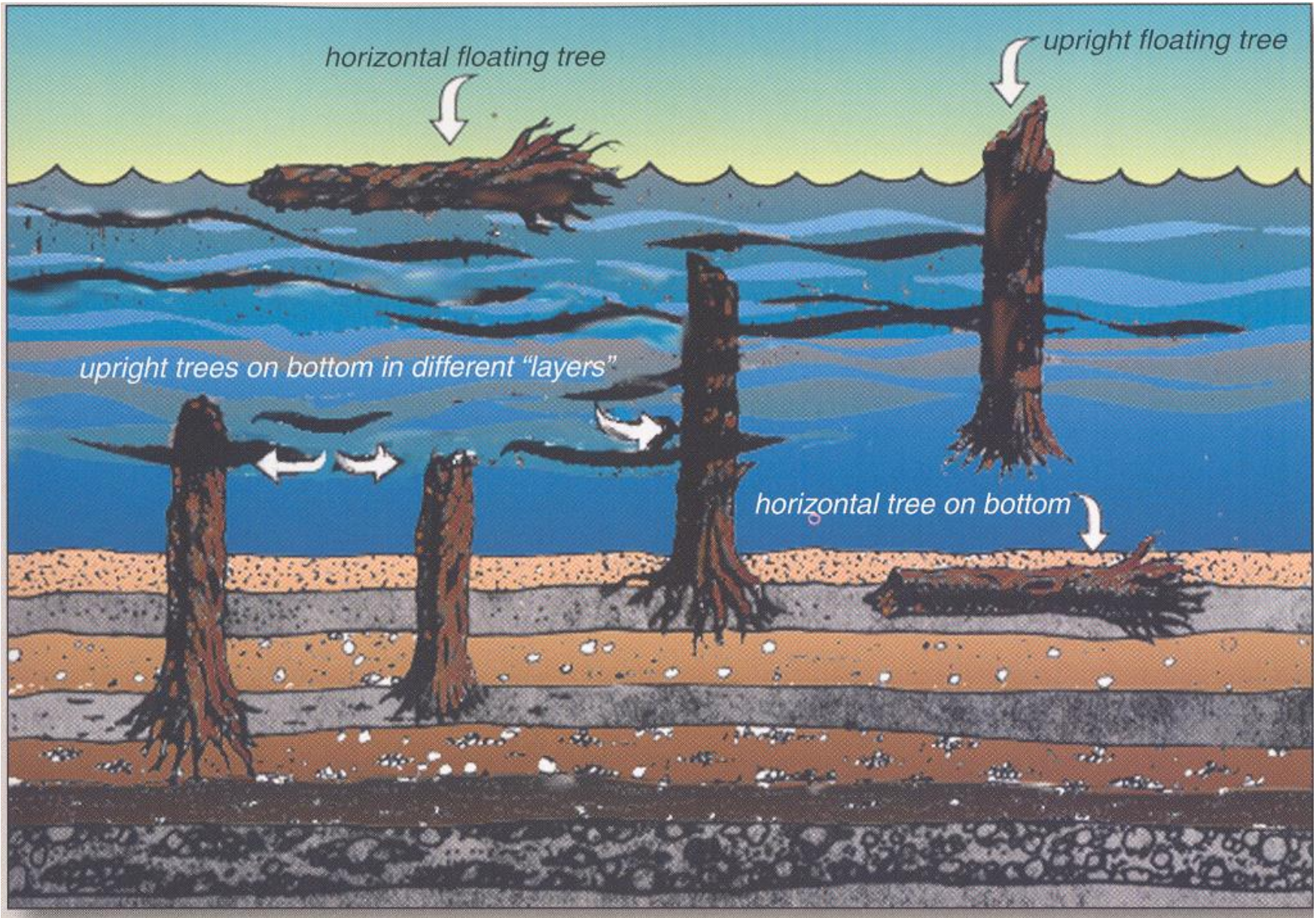
# Yellowstone Petrified Forest



- “Here, a series of twenty-seven layers, each containing beautiful petrified trees in both upright and horizontal positions, lie exposed by erosion at Specimen Ridge. Over fifty such layers are found at nearby Specimen Creek” (Morris & Austin, 2003).



# Spirit Lake after Mount St. Helens (1980-2000)

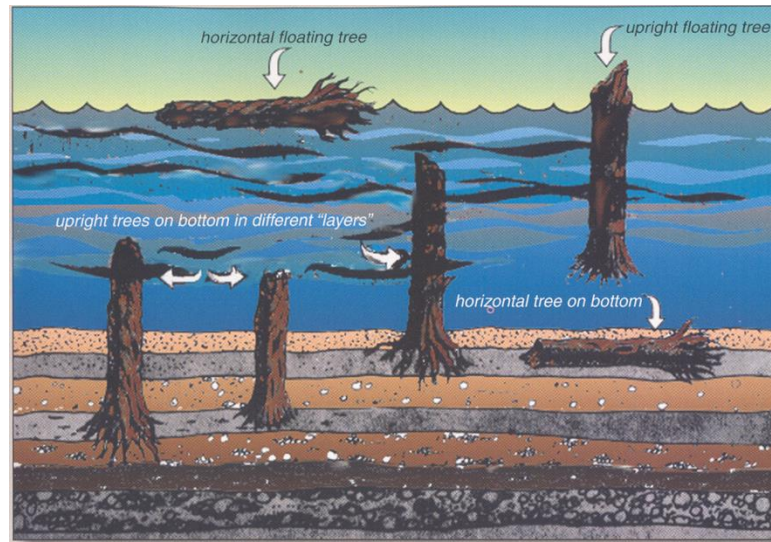


# Spirit Lake after Mount St. Helens (1980-2000)



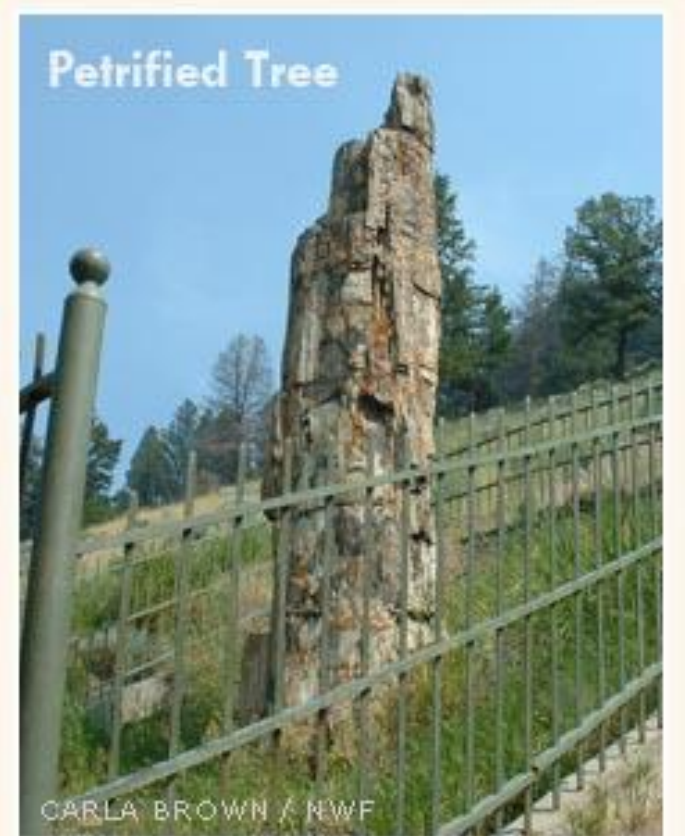
Consider if Spirit Lake were completely drained, and then geologists found these trees in this condition.

The scene “might be interpreted as a series of successive standing forests, each with a dominant species of tree and each buried by separate volcanic events many years apart. It might even be concluded that the entire series took over tens of thousands of years to develop; but it would be incorrect (Morris & Austin, 2003, p. 99).

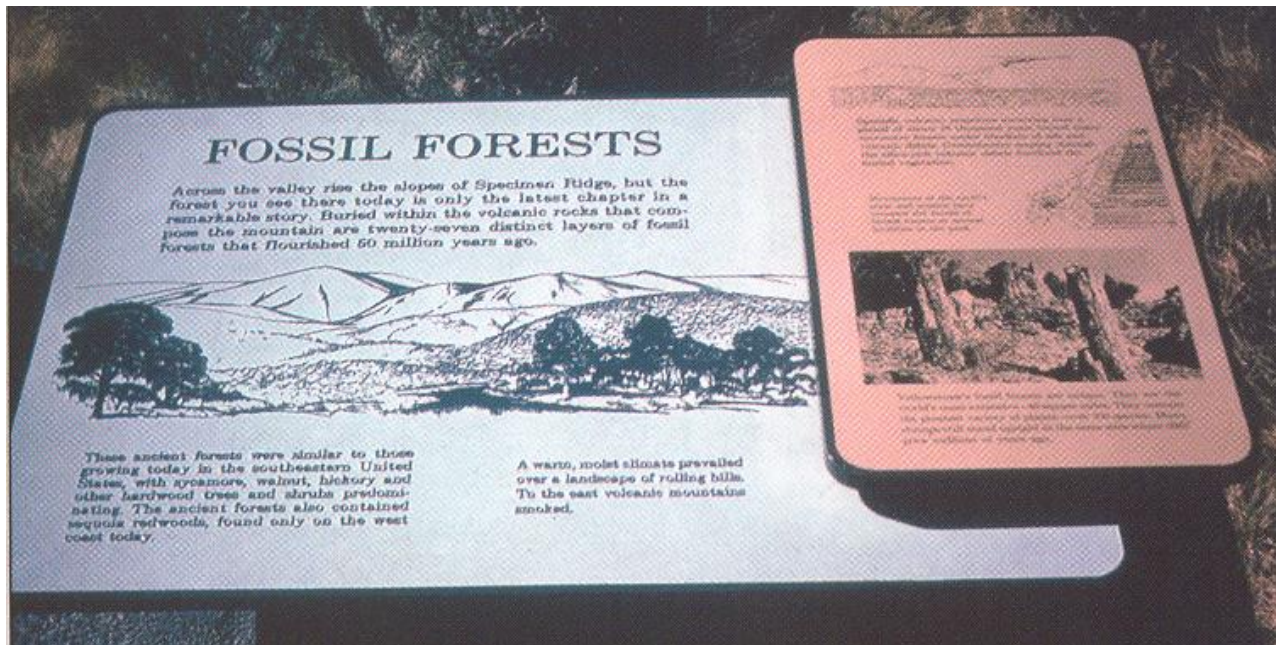




“There is ample evidence that petrification need not take very long. Hot water rich in dissolved minerals like silica, as found in some springs at Yellowstone, has petrified a block of wood in only a year”  
(Sarfati, answersingenesis.org).



“Visitors to the Yellowstone petrified ‘forest’ in years past were greeted by an interpretive marker explaining a multi-thousand year scenario. When confronted with the evidence from Mount St. Helens, the interpreters removed the sign at Specimen Ridge and changed the sign at another upright petrified tree stump location to indicate that the trunk had been relocated by moving muds similar to those at Mount St. Helens. It seems that one of the standard proofs that the Bible could not be trusted was itself in error, and the Bible still stands!” (Morris & Austin, 2003, p. 103).



1. **“Quickly Formed Stratification:** Glowing ‘rivers’ of volcanic ash moved at speeds up to 100 miles per hour. Thin layered strata were deposited. These resemble strata which might be supposed to require many thousands, even millions of years, to form.



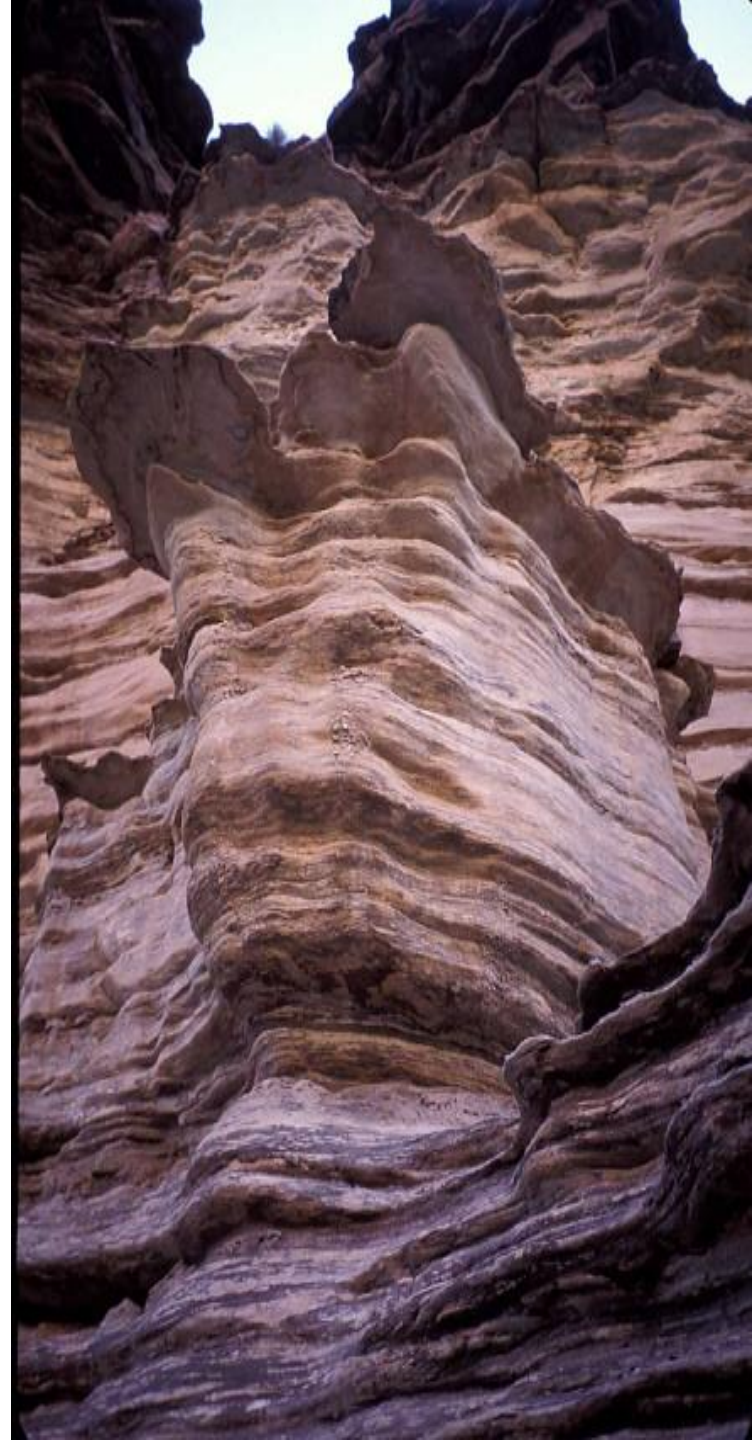


← Mudflow deposit,  
March 19, 1982

← Pyroclastic flow  
deposit, late evening  
June 12, 1980

← Air fall tephra,  
afternoon  
May 18, 1980

- “The Tapeats Sandstone in the Grand Canyon, similar in many respects to deposits at Mount St. Helens, has traditionally been interpreted as taking long ages to accumulate on the floor of a calm ocean...The Tapeats is now understood to be the result of a series of dynamic underwater currents...
- ...Conventional geologists believe that it formed some 550 million years ago. Flood geologists, on the other hand, suspect that the Tapeats was one of the early deposits of Noah’s flood...Catastrophic deposits covering a large region are common in the geologic record. Biblical catastrophism would predict exactly that!” (Morris & Austin, 2003).



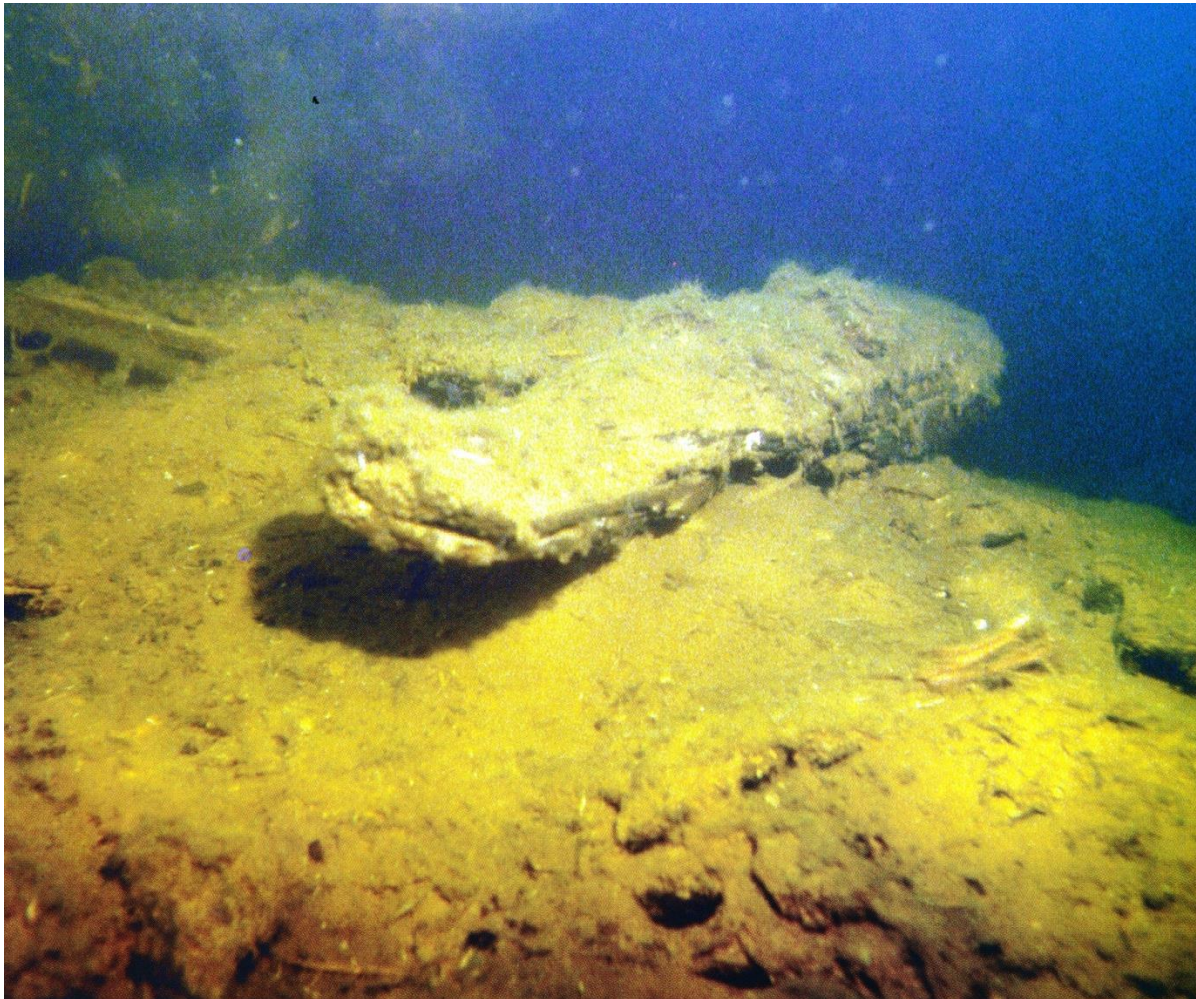
2. **Rapidly Eroded Canyons:** Canyons were eroded through solid rock. A new system of canyons forms the upper drainage basin of the North Fork of the Toutle River. It might seem that slow erosion formed these during countless thousands of years.



3. **Upright Deposited Logs in Spirit Lake:** Tens of thousands of logs, eroded from slopes around Spirit Lake, have been 'replanted' in standing position on the bottom of the lake. These might seem to be a succession of forests grown during many thousands of years.



4. **Rapidly Formed Peat Layer in Spirit Lake:** Sheets of conifer bark have accumulated in the lake as layered, coarse, textured peat. The deposit has significant similarity to the composition and texture of coal. Coal is usually assumed to be a slowly formed swamp deposit.





5. **Quick Recovery of Ecosystem in Blast Zone:** Living things survived in the most severely devastated areas and are flourishing in the adverse conditions. The extraordinary response of living things to catastrophe has caused textbooks on ecosystem recovery to be rewritten” (2003).



# Dinosaur Fossils with Original Tissue

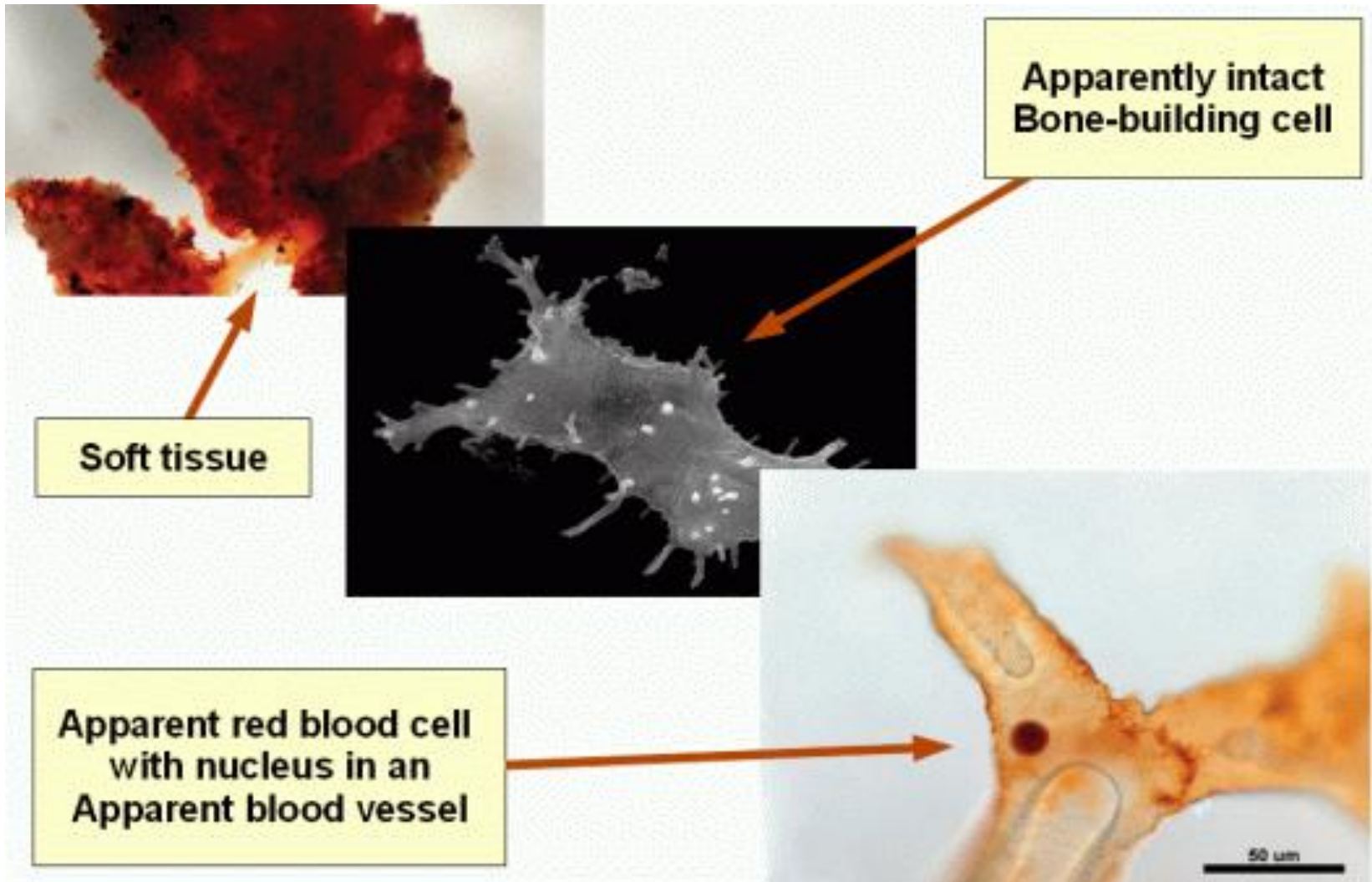


Mary Schweitzer

Image courtesy of Kelly Gorham, Montana State University

<http://www.earthmagazine.org/article/soft-tissue-preserved-80-million-year-old-dino-fossil>

# Dinosaur Fossils with Original Tissue



# Conclusion

- There is no need to try to reinterpret Genesis 1-2.
  - Day-Age Theory
  - Gap Theory
- There is no reason to believe science has disproved the Bible.