

Chapter 36: Dinosaur Bones and God

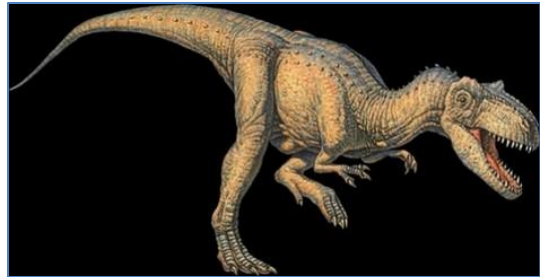
Life Application Verses:

Genesis 1:1: In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth; **Psalm 90:2:** Before the mountains were born, Or You gave birth to the earth and the world, Even from everlasting to everlasting, You are God; (v10): As for the days of our life, they contain seventy years, Or if due to strength, eighty years, Yet their pride is *but* labor and sorrow; For soon it is gone and we fly away; **2 Corinthians 4: 18:** While we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen; for the things which are seen are temporal, but the things which are not seen are eternal.

The lead title article on the October 2014, *National Geographic*¹, was: Mister Big: MOVE OVER T.REX!. The subtitle was: The Quest For The Biggest, Baddest Predator On Earth.

Within this article, a graphic was provided which indicated that this new creature, Spinosaurus, was some 200 million years old. There are estimates that the world, universe, and dinosaurs, are older than just the 200 million years in which this 'new' specimen lived. Where did these creatures come from? I admit, that sometimes thinking about this I have questions about the timeline of dinosaurs. I can't even imagine 200 million years because I arrived at my present age so fast that I feel like a fossil myself.

However, these bones and fossils do exist, yet they are extinct! Unless you believe in Jurassic Park (remember the movie?). So, just exactly what does the topic of this chapter have to do with Christianity? Time and what we do with it...



Have you ever heard the phrase, "Stop wasting time!" What does that mean? And just what is time? When I am sitting in the chair of my dentist, time is SLOW! When I am on vacation and enjoying being away from work, time is FAST! When God created the heavens and the earth in Genesis 1: 1, time didn't begin then. Through Christ Jesus, God has told us how long He and Christ have existed in Revelation 1: 8: "I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, "who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty." That's a timeline that cannot be measured by quantum physics, new



¹ National Geographic. (2014, October). Mister Big: Move over T.Rex: The quest for the biggest, baddest predator on Earth. *National Geographic*, October, 2014, p. 100-121.

math, or any ‘time-tool’ we can conjure up to measure—even using carbon dating! So, what is time and in particular, what is time to us? If you think about it, let’s assume in the Mind of God, which is beyond our greatest ability to contemplate, that He created the dinosaurs. When? I don’t know, and that is okay with me. I Trust God more than I trust carbon dating to ‘prove’ that these fossils are millions or billions or trillions or cotillions of years old. You see, God and dinosaur bones are not our creation, yet we are responsible for the time God gives us. In the Life Application verses, it is noted that, “You gave birth to the earth and the world, Even from everlasting to everlasting, You are God; As for the days of our life, they contain seventy years, Or if due to strength, eighty years, Yet their pride is *but* labor and sorrow; For soon it is gone and we fly away.” If this doesn’t give us perspective on how we are to use the time God grants us, nothing ever will!

If we consider the enormity of thousands or millions or billions of years, we shall ‘fly away’ before we realize what we have done with our lives. There are many practical examples, but—and I have talked about this numerous times—what do we do with our time in service to others? This service includes being a servant to our wives or husbands; a help to those in need; and, a model for our children as we live our lives for Christ day-in-and-day-out! When we stop and think about Eternity, we might have seventy or eighty years to prepare for that Eternity. Some people wait until the last possible moment and accept Christ just before they enter Eternity. Remember the thief that cried out to Jesus at the crucifixion? “Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom” (Luke 23: 42). Or some people receive Christ at an early age and live for God through Christ for 80 years! It’s not about the amount of time, per se, but what we do with it that matters. When we think about the eons long ago that God created the heavens or the earth or dinosaurs, we are not even a blip on the radar in Eternity—here on Earth—but we surely are on the radar once we accept Christ because our blip on the radar has now become a straight line. Stated this way: a straight line = eternity; no end to a straight line.

While we are here, what Earthly Good can we do? What Earthly Good should we do? And what purpose does it serve to consider Dinosaur Bones and God? It’s very simple, if you stop and think about it: Dinosaur Bones and God can be a catalyst to get you to thinking about Eternal things. Why? We haven’t gotten there yet, have we? Nope. But you need to consider

something profound: what if we use our time to simply be a Christian of ‘saved, satisfied, and so-so.’ IN other words, what if we are Born Again and our time on Earth is used in doing what we need to do to get by? What Eternal benefits do we gain? I think we gain Eternal Life in Christ, but I also think what we do in this life has direct Eternal Consequences in Heaven. Let’s take a look at the table below and consider the Words of God as our basis of correlating our Earthly Good to Heavenly Minded Eternal Things:

What God, through the Salvation of Christ Jesus, Says to Us about Eternity...	For your consideration (and mine)...
<p><u>Matthew 6: 19-21:</u> “Don’t store up treasures here on earth, where moths eat them and rust destroys them, and where thieves break in and steal. Store your treasures in heaven, where moths and rust cannot destroy, and thieves do not break in and steal. Wherever your treasure is, there the desires of your heart will also be.”</p>	<p>You live to be 95 years old. You have worked for 75 years, saved enormous amounts of money, and you have given a small percentage of your money to help others. Your tithes were less than the 10% the Bible directs us to give; you were a member of your local church for 80 years and never missed a day of church or small group Bible Study, but you did all of this as a perfunctory outcome of what appeared to be Seeking the Face of God. You are Saved, that is certain; however, your work subsequent to that was doing for God in Christ what was necessary, not extraordinary. Your house is full of paintings, you drive the best car, your golf membership and clubs are swank, and you travel to regions of the world to impress others of your global walk-about! What does Matthew 6: 19-21 say about storing up treasures on earth? Dinosaur Bones and God would remind each of us that God’s Words tell us not to store up what we will not keep, but to store our treasures in Heaven, because that is where our heart will be—Heavenly Minded, Earthly Good!</p>
<p><u>Psalms 90:2:</u> Before the mountains were born, Or You gave birth to the earth and the world, Even from everlasting to everlasting, You are God; (v10): As for the days of our life, they contain seventy years, Or if due to strength, eighty years, Yet their pride is <i>but</i> labor and sorrow; For soon it is gone and we fly away;</p>	<p>Look around. What things remain? Our houses need constant maintenance, our grass needs cutting, a lack of rain causes the grass to turn brown, rivers dry up, we buy and sell, we grow up and old, and ALL of these “things which are seen are temporal, but the things which are not seen are eternal.” Dinosaurs were temporal, whether they were here yesterday, 4,000 years ago, or 2-million-billion years ago—they are GONE! We will be GONE one day, and that is a sobering thought. What is a hundred years in this life compared to a million years with God? Brothers and Sisters in Christ, there is no comparison. Eternity has no end, and as we Live in Eternity, in the Presence of Almighty God, with Christ Jesus seated at the Right Hand of the Father, those dinosaur bones are just that—bones, fossils! They arrived, they were, and they are no more! But when we receive Christ as our Hope and Trust in Him as Savior, dinosaur bones become extinct! Literally, figuratively, and Eternally! I ask you again...which is MOST important: what we do for ourselves or what we do for ourselves in the Work of our Lord and Savior? Jesus Wins Out Every Time! Just Give Me Jesus and the Promise of Eternal Life!</p>

<p>Genesis 1:1: In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.</p>	<p>When God made the Heavens and the Earth, which one us can access the YouTube video of that undertaking? Huh? Search for that event, why don't ya? Where were the Dinosaurs in all of this? I don't know, and I am not going to lose any sleep over it because of a simple premise: God Says to us: I Am That I Am calls to us to receive Christ! And I say, Just Give Me Jesus and the Promise of Eternal Life! Forever and Ever, Amen! I'll visit the museum where the T-Rex bones are housed, but THEY ARE BONES...</p>
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I often wonder what God was doing in creating the dinosaurs. Their bones don't hide His creation; in fact, it amplifies His Handy Work. I surely didn't or couldn't or even think of doing such a thing as creating such a creature. I have enough trouble creating and holding onto my Study in the Word to live and Be Faithful In All Things! Look at the illustration here and tell me something: who among us could have thought of power to create such a thing? Look at the scale of the dinosaur compared to the man? Yet, God gave man the power of free will, the ability to reason, the flexible thumb, opportunity to receive His Greatest Gift in Christ, and so much more. Yet, we squander these God-given gifts like we had all the time in the world to dilly-dally around as if we had all the time in the world! Oh contraire, because dinosaur bones are precisely contrary to our expectations that we will live forever. The Life Application Verses validate our longevity (more apropos, the lack of it) and it is not Eternal in this life, but God provides for the antithesis to the temporal: Salvation and Eternal Life. Thus, when you consider dinosaur bones and God, we should be reminded that Heavenly Minded, Earthly Good can be translated into Dinosaur Bones and God. Get it? Take a look at the stuff below from *The Smithsonian: The National Museum of Natural History*:²



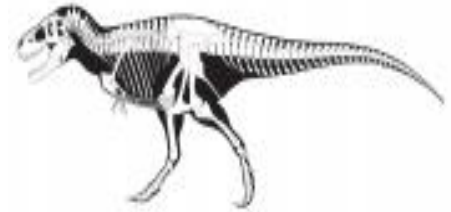
THE REX ROOM

Location: First Floor Special Exhibits Gallery (Off the Rotunda in Mammals Hall)
 April 15, 2014-October 22, 2014

Thanks to a 50-year loan from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, a spectacular real T. Rex specimen will arrive at the Museum on April 15, 2014. This T. Rex will be one of the stars of our new National Fossil Hall which opens in 2019. Before it can go in the new exhibit, the Nation's T. Rex needs special care over the next five years. Come visit the Rex Room to see us studying, conserving, photographing, and 3D scanning its bones – and dozens of other fossils being prepared for the new exhibition. Visitors can look inside to see what our team is working on today!

² <http://www.mnh.si.edu/exhibits/>

I am in favor of studying History, including the bones of T. Rex. I am also glad that today we don't meet Mr. T. Rex as we round the corner of a building, as we might not be much more than lunch. Even so, within the auspices of God's Hand of Creation, these bones do exist. They are proof that these creatures did exist. When? God is the ONLY authority on the subject, as we cannot prove the time that they actually existed. We carbon date, estimate, look at the surroundings in terms of strata, other fossils, and so forth, but folks—God is the Author and Finisher of this group of creatures, and I am as happy as a Mocking Bird to leave it alone and let God remain the First Writer of the History of Dinosaurs. Some years ago, my wife and I visited my daughter, who was living at that time in Oklahoma City. We toured the Oklahoma City bombing site, other landmarks, and a most notable museum which had a T. Rex exhibit. It was simply—mind-blowing! Those bones were mostly intact, and when I visually looked at Mr. T. Rex, I was just amazed at the sheer size of the creature as the bones gave proof that this creature existed. When, I ask again? That is within the absolute purview of God. But, here's the rub...



It matters not when they existed, because they are ALL bones now! And so will we be one day, as “unto dust we return.” That is, our bones. Our Soul is from God, that is, our Spirit. So, when we think of dinosaur bones and God, we are like the dinosaurs in that we shall become extinct in our own personal lives in due course. Once that occurs, we humasurs will be transformed into our Eternal bodies—for Heaven or for Hell. I choose Jesus Christ, and I look for the Hope of Salvation to change me from ‘dinosaur bones’ into an Eternal Body that never dies, hurts, cries, or despairs, as I and so many others do at times in this life. Dinosaur bones are temporal and of this world and they are fossils; God is Eternal and not of this world and He will never be fossilized. Which is MOST valuable to you and me? Here is what I would like to bring to full-circle in the message of this chapter of the book: always be Heavenly Minded as you and I consider the Grace, Mercy, and Love of God in Christ Jesus; as an outcome of that mindset, be always Earthly Good, living your lives as extraordinary Christians so that every person who is in need of Salvation in Christ Jesus will not someday become a pile of extinct bones! To die and

leave this world without Christ Jesus is a terrible thing, as God has warned us of so many times in The Word. There are horrible references to the Lake of Fire, Wailing and Gnashing of Teeth, separation...these are unspeakable events for a person who leaves this world without Christ. I didn't make this stuff up, Brothers and Sisters, these are the warnings from God and from Christ himself! Leaving this world without Christ is to become Eternally Extinct! While this may have the tinge of humor, it is anything but!

I hope that if God finds favor in these words He will use them to reach out to Saved and Lost alike, as I am not the author, but simply the typist for what God has brought to me to say to you. I want no fame in this, because fame is like dinosaur bones...it fades away and is remembered no more (except in museums or in History books). God's Words are Eternal. They are the Life Lessons to live Heavenly Minded, Earthly Good, while there is yet time to do so. Dinosaur bones can teach us that this Earthly life is about preparing to be with our God and with our Savior, because we are all on the fast-track to extinction in these Earthly bodies. That's the temporal news-flash; on the other side of that flash, is the Good News of Jesus Christ, and that is not a fast-track because it is Eternal. Dinosaur Bones and God: they both have a story to tell, but I Hope and Pray that you will Hear and Heed the Eternal side of this story.

A Question of Curiosity:

When you stop and seriously consider the brevity of life as we know it, will you (and I) make excuses for not doing everything we can under Heaven to reach out to our family to bring them to the Cross of Jesus? Is there ANYTHING more important than the assurance that our wives, husbands, children, fathers, mothers, brothers, sisters, grandchildren, cousins—and other lost Souls—come to a Saving Knowledge of Jesus Christ? And you say...

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Q: Why do museums have old dinosaur bones? A: Because they can't afford new ones!³

What does the Bible say about dinosaurs? Read Job 40: 15-24 (provided here): "Look at Behemoth, which I made along with you and which feeds on grass like an ox. What strength it has in its loins, what power in the muscles of its belly! Its tail sways like a cedar; the sinews of its thighs are close-knit. Its bones are tubes of bronze, its limbs like rods of iron. It ranks first among the works of God, yet its Maker can approach it with his sword. The hills bring it their

³ <http://dinosaurs.about.com/od/dinosaursinpopculture/a/dinosaurjokes.htm>

produce, and all the wild animals play nearby. Under the lotus plants it lies, hidden among the reeds in the marsh. The lotuses conceal it in their shadow; the poplars by the stream surround it. A raging river does not alarm it; it is secure, though the Jordan should surge against its mouth. Can anyone capture it by the eyes, or trap it and pierce its nose?"

Scientists are complaining that the new Dinosaur movie shows dinosaurs with lemurs, who didn't evolve for another million years. They're afraid the movie will give kids a mistaken impression. What about the fact that the dinosaurs are singing and dancing?

~ Jay Leno, The Tonight Show ~

The Bible, God's very special book (or collection of books, really), claims that each writer was supernaturally inspired to write exactly what the Creator of all things wanted him to write down for us so that we can know where we (and dinosaurs) came from, why we are here, and what our future will be. The first book in the Bible—Genesis—teaches us many things about how the universe and life came into existence. Genesis tells us that God created everything—the Earth, stars, sun, moon, plants, animals, and the first two people...The Bible tells us that God created all of the land animals on the sixth day of creation. As dinosaurs were land animals, they must have been made on this day, alongside Adam and Eve, who were also created on Day Six ([Genesis 1:24–31](#)). If God designed and created dinosaurs, they would have been fully functional, designed to do what they were created for, and would have been 100% dinosaur. This fits exactly with the evidence from the fossil record.⁴

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My Prayer For You:

God of All Creatures and Creation: I've tried to be Faithful to Your Word in this writing. I offer these words to You so that as You would use them, Lord, allow them to reach my Brothers and Sisters in Christ to cause us to think on You and to Follow our Savior more intently. Remind us that these lives we have been given are not permanent fixtures in this world; these lives are in preparation for our Eternal Life to come, and that while here, we must be about the business of winning Souls for the Kingdom of God in Christ Jesus. It is my humble and fervent Prayer that someone, somewhere will read these words and fall on their knees to call upon the Name of Christ Jesus to be Saved. There is no greater need in our lives than to be Saved in Christ, as when our days have passed, we will stand before the Throne of Grace, Mercy, and Love—with our names Written Down in the Book of Life. What more important thing is there for us than to ensure we have The Assurance of Salvation? I can think of no other event in our lives than to be Saved in Christ Jesus, and my Prayer is that these words will make a difference in the life of even one person. For as Jesus has said, "What does it profit a man to gain the whole world and lose his own Soul?" Use these words to remind us that time is not our friend, but a guide to help us realize that one day, we will ALL stand before You to give an account of what we have done while we were here. Without Jesus to cleanse us from the sins we have committed in Forgiveness of the Cross, we are but dust and without hope. It is in the Name of the Holy Son of God that I offer this Prayer, Amen.

⁴ <https://answersingenesis.org/dinosaurs/dinosaurs-and-the-bible/>

Who but God could have designed such creatures, regardless of when they lived? One undeniable fact: we have fossils of these creatures, thus they existed. When, where, and how tall and what they weighed is food-for-speculation is it not???

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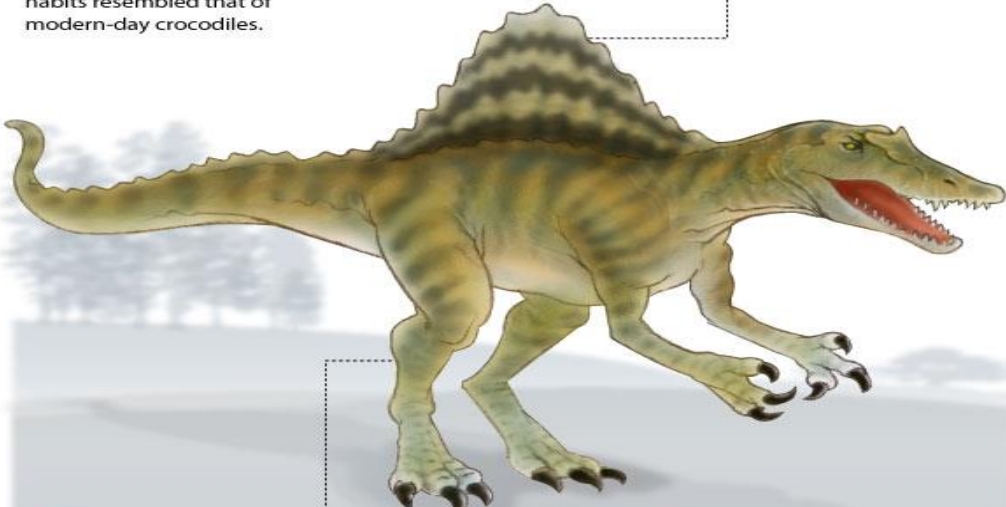
SPINOSAURUS


Spinosaurus lived during the middle of the Cretaceous Period about 112 million to 97 million years ago.


Spinosaurus means "spine lizard"

Length: 41 to 59 feet (12.6 to 18 meters)
Weight: 7 to 23 tons (6,350 to 20,870 kilograms)
Diet: Survived primarily on fish; scientists believe its eating habits resembled that of modern-day crocodiles.


 It had very long spines growing on its back to form what is referred to as a "sail." The distinctive spines were about 5.4 feet (1.65 m) long and were likely to have been connected by skin.



 It may have been able to run 12 to 15 mph (19 to 24 kph).

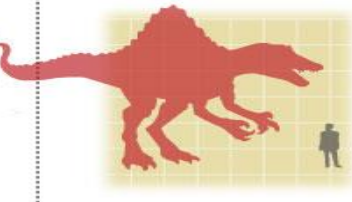
 Spinosaurus outweighed Giganotosaurus by half a ton and T. rex by about a ton.

SIGNIFICANT FINDS



The first Spinosaurus partial skeleton was unearthed in 1912 by Richard Markgraf in the Bahariya Formation of western Egypt.

SIZE COMPARISON



PERIOD Triassic Jurassic Cretaceous Age of Mammals

Millions of years ago 250 200 145 65 Present

SOURCE: LIVESCIENCE RESEARCH R. TORO / © LiveScience.com

Source: <http://www.livescience.com/24120-spinosaurus.html>