

(375 million years ago) North America collided with Europe and Africa, thus forming Pangaea once again. In the middle Triassic (about 200 million years ago), Pangaea once again began to break up. By the end of the Jurassic (135 million years ago), South America split from Africa, and the South Atlantic Ocean was born. At the close of the Cretaceous (65 million years ago), Madagascar split from Africa, the Tethys Sea (between Africa and Eurasia) closed to form the Mediterranean. During the Tertiary and Quaternary (the past 65 million years), India has collided with Asia, Australia has separated from Antarctica, and half of the present-day ocean floor has been created.

All of this movement of land masses must have had some serious effects upon the geographic distribution of animals and plants, especially during those periods when continents were widely isolated from each other, and separated by the most formidable barriers.

3. A Creationist interpretation of the Data

"It takes very little discernment to observe that certain animals are found only on certain continents or parts of continents. Our problem is to explain the things we observe. How could this condition have come about?

"There are several possibilities to consider. First of all there is the solution proposed by the evolutionist; where barriers existed, the species developed new forms. A second but unlikely possibility is that God might have created each of the different plants and animals as they are found in their present location. A third explanation, the best in view of our present knowledge of facts, is that God created only the large ancestral groups. From these, over long periods of time and in different places, there have developed the great variety of individual plants and animals we find today."

-- Cora A. Reno, *Evolution Fact or Theory* (Chicago: Moody Press, 1953), p. 59.

"The flora and fauna of oceanic islands, therefore, seem to indicate that the new species and genera, and possibly two sub-families, have arisen by evolution."

-- Douglas Dewar, *Difficulties of the Evolutionary Theory* (London: Edward Arnold & Co. Ltd., 1931), p. 23.

"Apparently extensive changes in the distribution of plant and animal forms have occurred, but such changes have been limited (although not prevented) by barriers. Unfortunately some writers have stated that the concept of creation necessarily means that all forms of life are now in the location where they were originally created. No such restrictions can be read into the Bible account. The story of the flood (whether one believes it to be local or universal) suggests a re-dispersal of animals from a refugium (as the ark could be designated).