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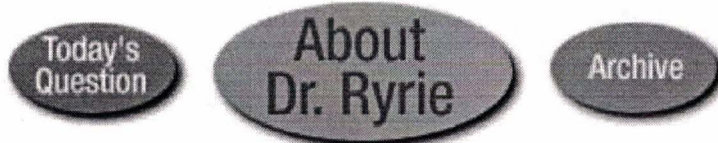


Friday, January 9, 1998

**Subject:** Did dinosaurs really exist?

**Dear Dr. Ryrie:** I have been very confused for a long time about dinosaurs, man, and God. We are told and I believe that God created man and all of the animals. Where exactly did the dinosaurs come in? I recently discussed this with some of my coworkers, and the "Gap Theory" was mentioned. I have never read anything on it, and I was wondering if you could explain it to me and give me your thoughts. --Broc L.

**Dear Broc:** The Gap idea teaches that there was a gap between verses 1 and 2 of Genesis 1, and that during that indeterminate but long period of time all the events of the geological ages happened, including the existence and destruction of dinosaurs. G. H. Pember in his book *Earth's Earliest Ages* taught this. Personally, I do not hold to the Gap theory but believe dinosaurs were created along with other animals, fish, and birds on the fifth and sixth days of creation and that two of them went into Noah's ark and came out after the flood only to become extinct because of the drastic changes in the earth's climate after the flood. Not all within the species of dinosaurs were large creatures, so Noah could easily have taken two smaller samples onto his ark.



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