

Respecting God’s Word, God’s World, and People in God’s Image

Geology research motivated by the Genesis record

(we are looking for others to join us)



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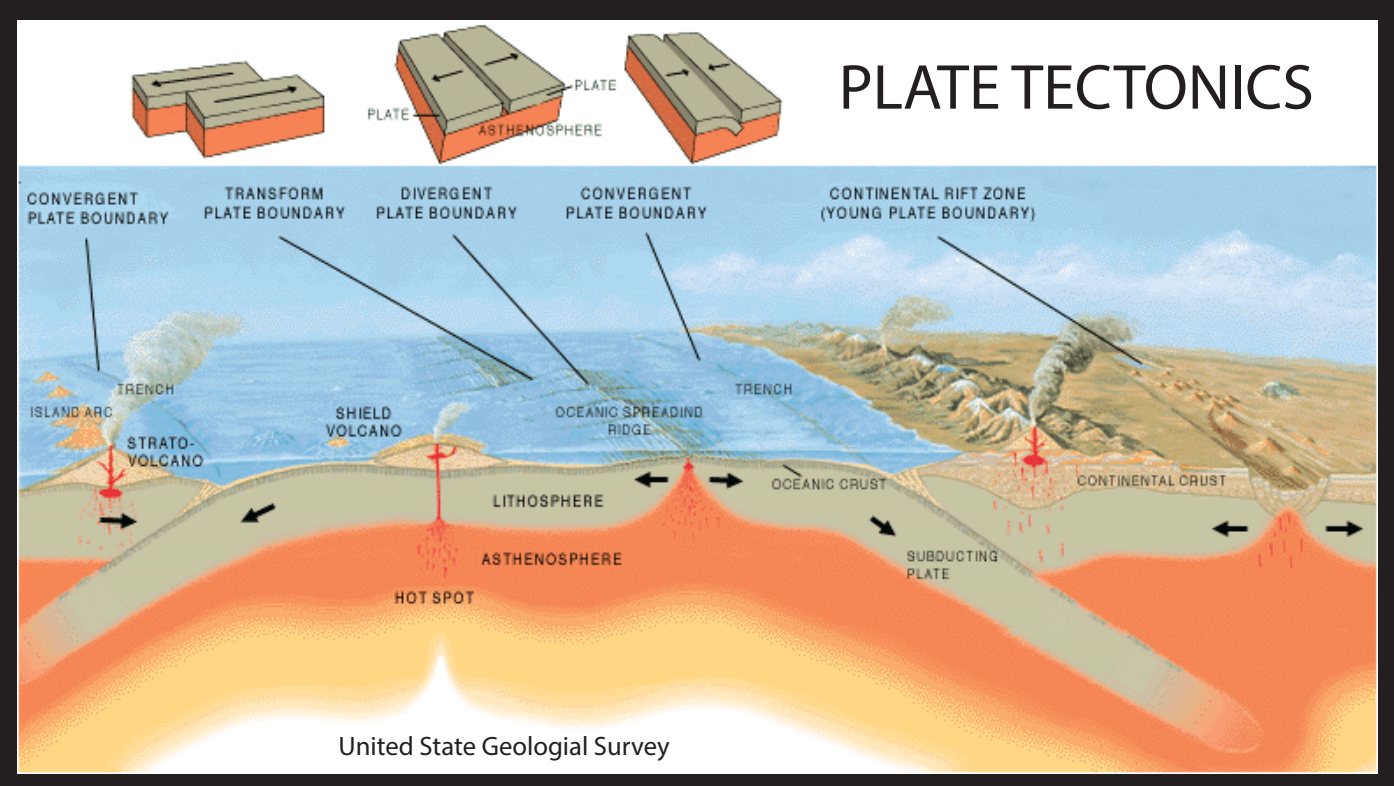
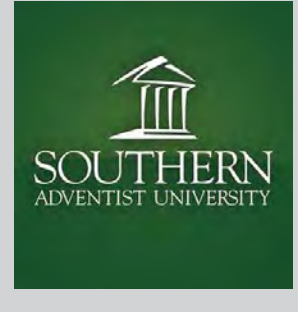
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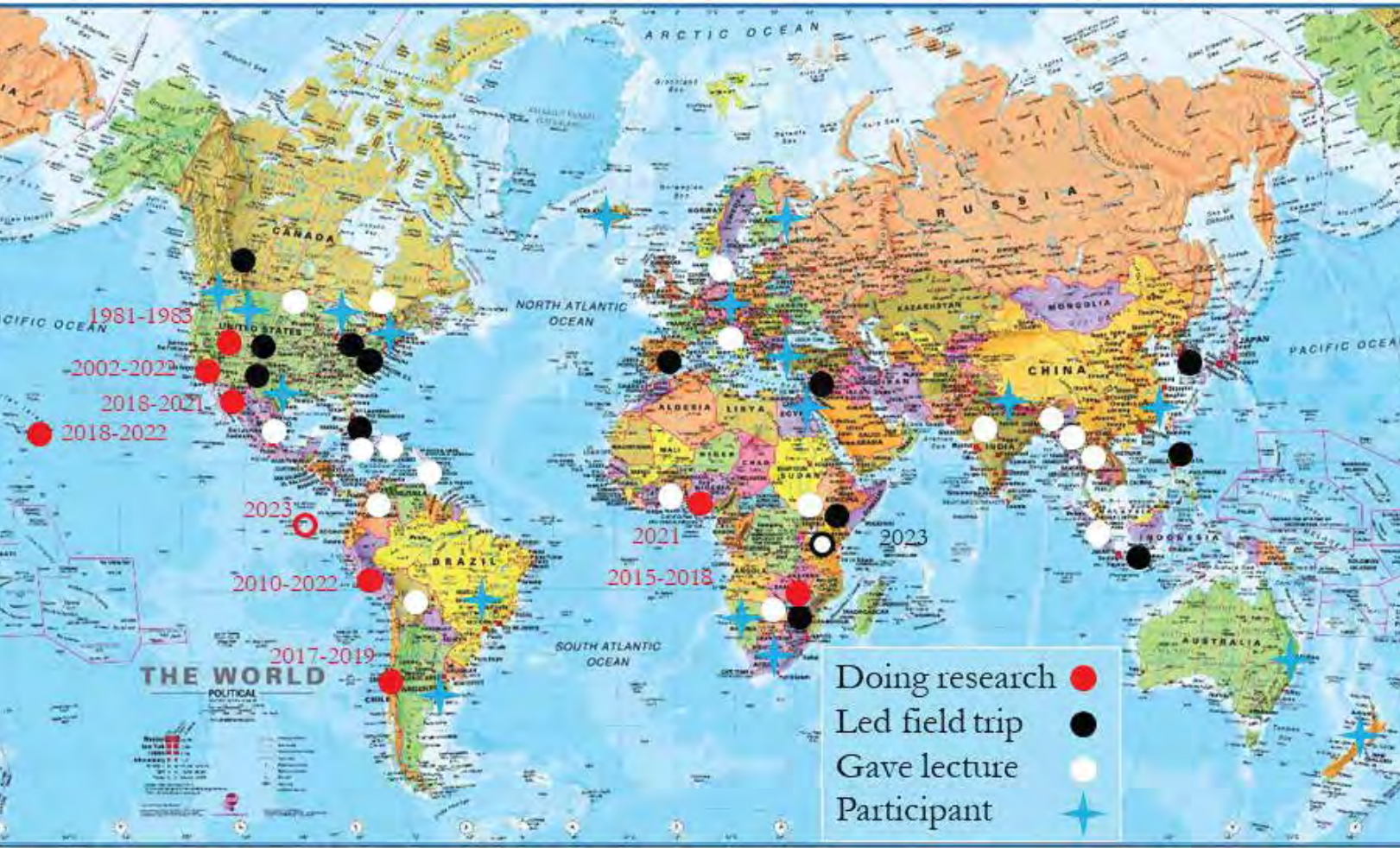
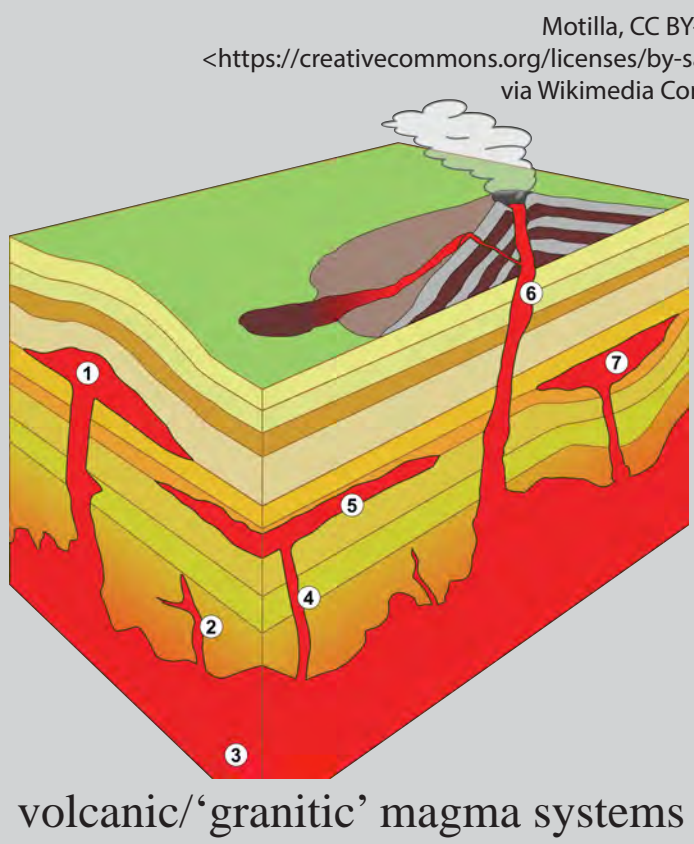


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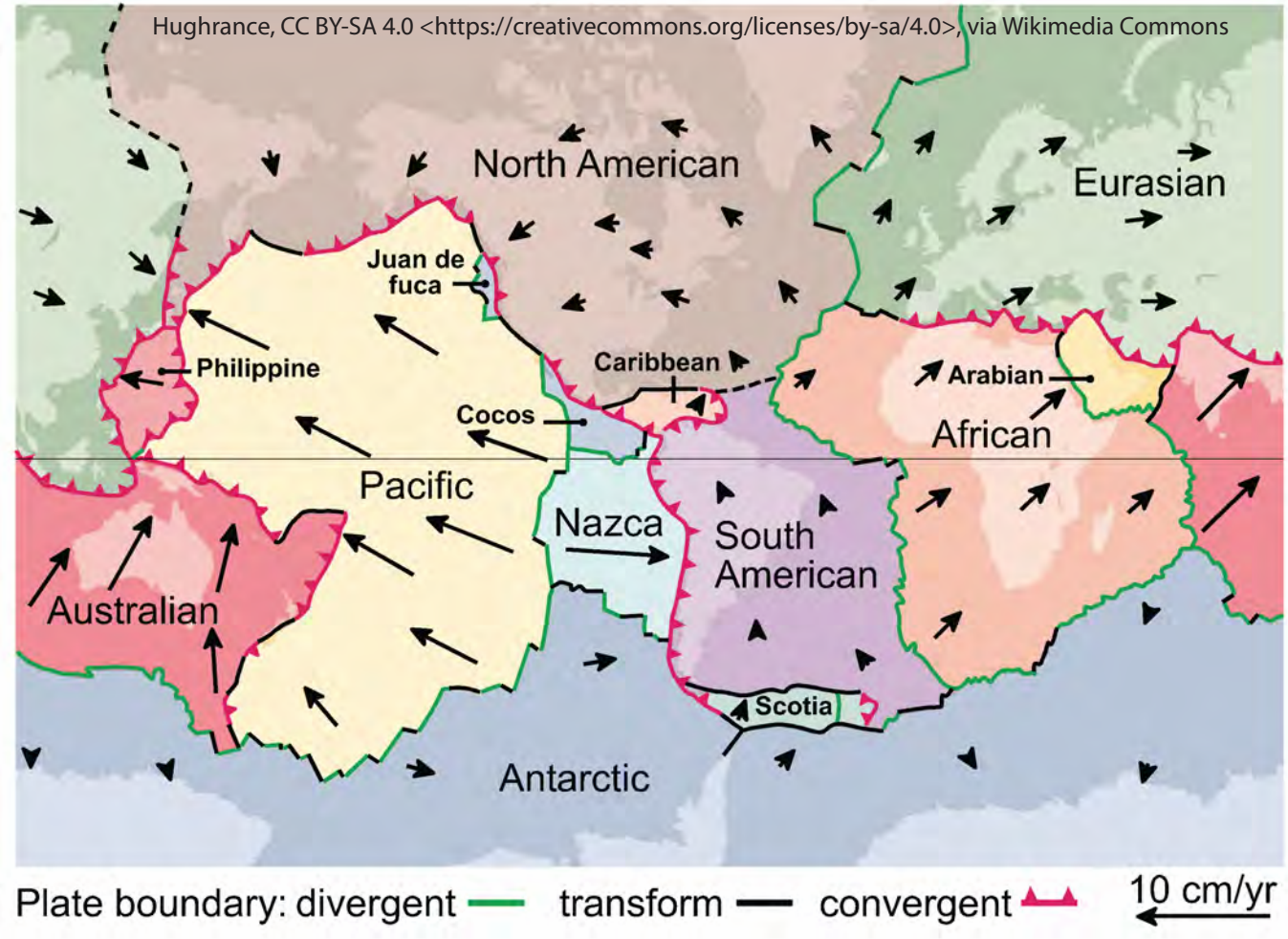


1. LARGE-SCALE RESEARCH

- The Genesis record suggests doing science research universal in space and time, so our geology research is studying:
- o plate tectonics **horizontally** as the basic cause for much of what happens worldwide geologically
 - o the geologic column **vertically** which organizes the flow of events related to the sedimentary/paleontology record
 - o radiometric dating as the primary chronometer for **time**
- We are interested in:
- o geological rates that vary over earth history, e.g., plate tectonic movement and magmatic processes that form granitic rocks and volcanoes, experience flare-ups and lulls, and induce heat flow
 - o the **effects of water** on geological rates, using stable isotopes to help determine fluid sources
- We are using:
- o modern **fieldwork and mapping** techniques to visualize horizontal/vertical and time relationships
 - o **geochemistry** to understand geologic processes, especially radiogenic isotope ratios that reflect plate tectonic and magmatic processes and sources, as well as age
 - o **large data analysis** to study how worldwide processes interrelate
- Thanks to the Seventh-day Adventist church's generous funding, we aim to do good science by:
- o trying to provide **positive alternatives**, more than just opposing current models;
 - o doing the **research** to see if the new ideas work, so as not to make unwarranted claims;
 - o drawing on the worldwide network of **SDA tertiary institutions**, ideally suited to study worldwide geology



Geology localities -- researched, led field trip to, lectured on, or visited; open circles are future



Research on plate tectonic regimes: mantle plume, spreading center, transform fault, subduction zone

3. APPROACH

Scripture

First -- Trust God and the Bible when it says:
He created all in six days and rested the seventh;
He gave the Sabbath rest to us as a blessing.

Agreeing with Darwin: a good God didn't design evil.
As with those in Revelation, we ask about evil,
"How long, O Lord" -- we expect a short
past since it started and future until it's over.

Nature

Second -- Learn of God through nature.

We find a good and powerful Creator Designer;
that science fits within a Christian worldview; and
that many fathers of science were Christians.
However, our research on plate tectonics,
the geologic column, and age dating
does not easily fit in a short time frame. So we ...

Harmony

Third -- Study the two books looking for harmony.

In the process, we say with Job,
though he slay me, yet will I trust him,
but I will defend my ways before him.
When God asks the hard questions,
I acknowledge He can do all things, and
that I speak of what I do not understand.

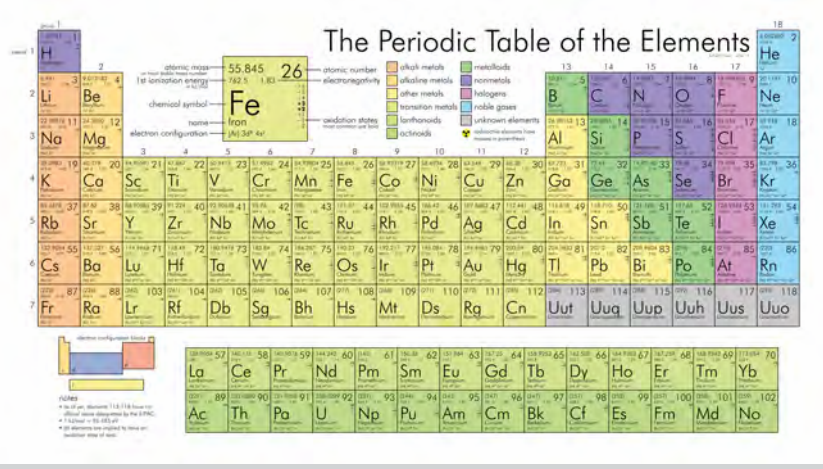
People

Fourth -- Treat people well.

Our desire is to draw people to Christ,
not by telling them how wrong they are,
but by showing them a light so lovely,
they want with all their hearts to know its source.



hyenas & wildebeest, Serengeti - 2019



2012c, Public domain, via Wikimedia Commons



Job Confessing His Presumption to God
Who Answers from the Whirlwind
William Blake, Public Domain, via Wikimedia Commons



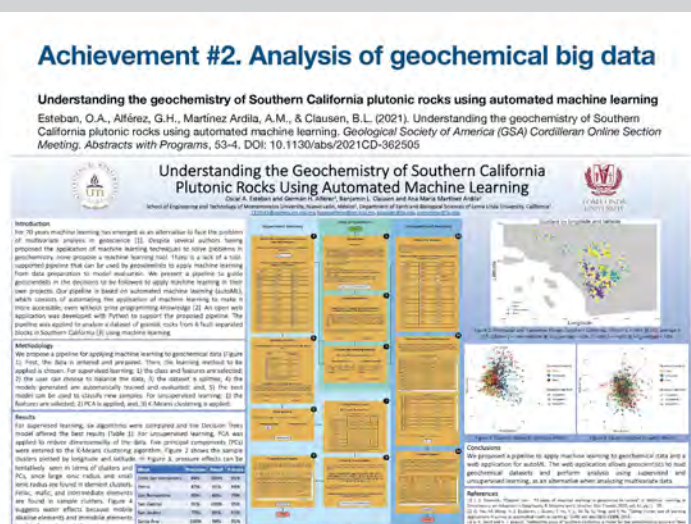
research group, Chile - 2017

2. RESULTS

for example ...



nuclear reaction affecting ¹⁴C
Q = changing decay rate
Indiana Univ / Clausen



granitic big data studied by machine learning
Q = magmatic & plate tectonic rates
Southern California / Alferez

3-week 2018 tour group with 100p guide
Q = complete vertical geologic column
Amazon-Andes-Pacific, Peru / Clausen



SUMMARY

- > Reporting in research journals useful to the science community
- > Showing that believers in a Creator can be well-respected scientists
- > Mentoring the next generation of church leaders
- > Educating the church with positive ways to understand Genesis
- > Encouraging study of the creation, as pointing to its Creator

FOR MORE DETAILS SEE --- bclausen.net/GCposter



Providing a better picture of God
good = trustworthy in the face of evil
powerful = beyond human explanation
Pointing to something more
a wider search than just science (evidence/reason)
freedom, curiosity, learning ... not static
Recognizing human limitations
Caring
with a safe/welcoming/graceful community
making the world a better place ... science in service
Offering purpose & meaning
we're here for a reason ... not by chance
evil is not natural ... the world is broken, needs fixing
a happy ending

4. MESSAGE