



Institute for Creation Research

Equipping, Training & Strengthening Believers To Take God At His Word.

Dr. John Baumgardner



Ph.D., Geophysics and Space Physics, UCLA

ICR's passion is to see science return to its rightful God-glorifying position, and see creation recognized as a strength for the body of Christ, by supporting Scripture, answering questions, satisfying doubts and removing objections to the Gospel.

In the 1960s and 1970s, secular earth scientists began to recognize that the mantle, forming the outer 2000 miles of the earth, was not as strong as steel but instead could deform and flow despite being solid, to allow continents to move apart by thousands of miles. At that time John Baumgardner, engaged in debating creation issues on university campuses with Campus Crusade for Christ, recognized this fact was the missing piece of the puzzle that had previously been unknown to Christian geologists seeking to defend the Genesis Flood. This epiphany led John to leave Campus Crusade and to enroll in a Ph.D. program in geophysics to pursue with professional training the issue of the Flood and its affects on geology. Dr. Baumgardner's Ph.D. research involved the development of a 3D supercomputer model of the earth's mantle for investigating catastrophic mantle overturn. Upon completing his Ph.D., he accepted a research staff position at Los Alamos National Laboratory where, in addition to other computer modeling activities, he was able to address the mechanics underlying the Flood catastrophe.

Central to John's research was his awareness that mantle rock weakens dramatically under stress, by factors of a billion or more, with relatively modest changes in stress. Dr. Baumgardner demonstrated by computer modeling that this stress weakening property of mantle rock implies a very real potential for runaway mantle overturn. By the mid-1980s he realized that the strata sequence as it relates to the timing of the separation of the continents logically requires an episode of catastrophic plate tectonics involving the rapid cycling of the pre-Flood ocean floor into the mantle. Dr. Baumgardner has presented his research on catastrophic plate tectonics as the mechanism for the Flood at the five International Conferences on Creationism held in the Pittsburgh area beginning in 1986.

Dr. Baumgardner is currently Professor of Geophysics at ICR and Director of the ICR Scientific Computing Center. He has been a member of the Radioisotopes and the Age of the Earth (RATE) team since its beginning and was the leader of the RATE carbon-14 project. He speaks on a wide spectrum of origins topics.

ICR Papers

- *Catastrophic Plate Tectonics: A Global Flood Model of Earth History*
- *Computer Modeling of the Large-Scale Tectonics Associated with the Genesis Flood*
- *Runaway Subduction as the Driving Mechanism for the Genesis Flood*
- *Patterns of Ocean Circulation over the Continents During Noah's Flood*
- *Distribution of Radioactive Isotopes in the Earth*
- *Measurable ¹⁴C in Fossilized Organic Materials*
- *Catastrophic Plate Tectonics: The Physics Behind the Genesis Flood*
- *¹⁴C Evidence for a Recent Global Flood and a Young Earth*

Degrees

- Ph.D. Geophysics & Space Physics
UCLA 1983
- M.S. Geophysics & Space Physics
UCLA 1981
- M.S. Electrical Engineering
Princeton University 1970
- B.S. Electrical Engineering
Texas Tech University 1968

Employment

- ICR, Professor of Geophysics
- Los Alamos National Laboratory, technical staff
- Rockwell International, technical staff
- Campus Crusade, campus staff
- U. S. Air Force, project officer