Book Review - The Answers Book Chapter 17 – How Did Animals Get to Australia?



Review by Greg Neyman

First Published 11 June 2003 Answers In Creation Website www.answersincreation.org/abc17.htm

A great question! This is one of the weaker chapters of the book, which fails to answer the question that it poses. They admit this weakness in the very first sentence (and the last paragraph), although this admission is veiled. The authors appeal to the readers emotions, in again re-iterating the claim that God covered the entire globe with the flood. This has nothing to do with the subject, and could have easily been left out. However, the authors needed this emotional appeal to focus their readers on their main Flood argument, because there is nothing in this chapter upon which to focus.

Even if kangaroos hopped their way all the way to the coast, and then swam across...there should be kangaroo populations all along this migratory route. There should also be Koala populations as well. Where are they? Enough said!

Clues From Modern Times (Page 212)

The authors mention the re-population of many species on the island of Krakatao. This proves nothing. For instance, the field mouse is not native to Australia, but it is there, brought on ships. Many islands were contaminated by the many animals that were brought over on trade ships. This island is no different, as the animals listed probably had a little "help" from man in getting back on the island (of course, the young-earth authors omit this fine point...why cloud the issue with the truth!)

Did the Kangaroo Hop all the Way to Australia (Page 213)

I agree with the authors...if the model is true, then the animals had centuries to migrate...thus they did not have to start hopping right when they got off the ark. However, this reiterates my earlier point...there would be kangaroo populations all along this migratory route...there are NONE. The authors do mention that there are no fossils enroute to Australia. However, the kangaroo is a sturdy animal, and would easily have survived in some areas...thus we should have living pockets of kangaroos, not just fossils.

Unique Organisms (Page 214)

The authors try to explain away what is mentioned in my preceding paragraph. Since they present no solid evidence, no rebuttal is necessary.

The Koala (Page 215)

Nothing important. Only contains a weak argument that needs no rebuttal...it's weakness speaks for itself.