

DESPERATELY BURYING FOOTPRINTS

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70-90% of professing Christian young people abandon the faith within six months of starting university.

CREATION

VS

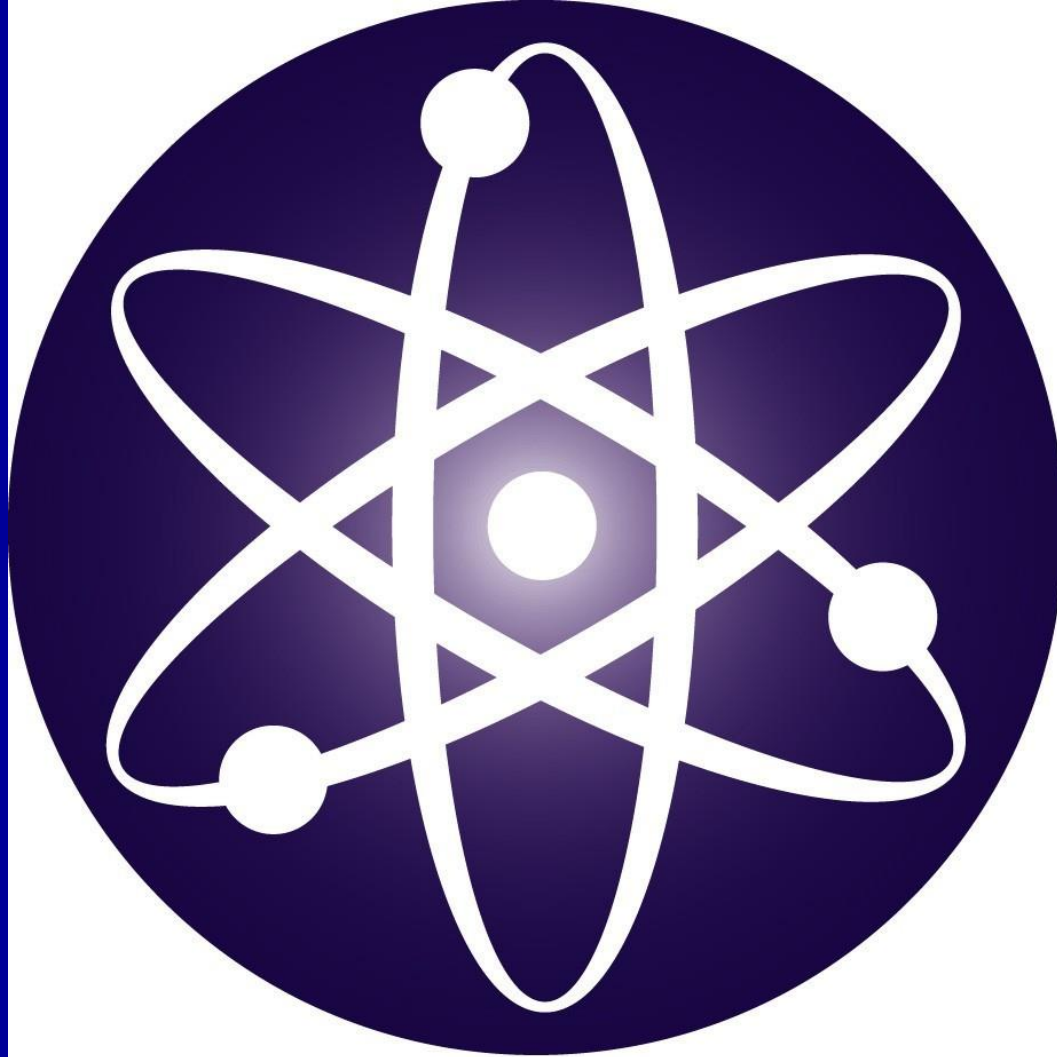
EVOLUTION



“It is absolutely safe to say that, if you meet somebody who claims not to believe in evolution, that person is ignorant, stupid, or insane (or wicked, but I’d rather not consider that).”

(Richard Dawkins,
book review, *New York Times*, April 9, 1989.)





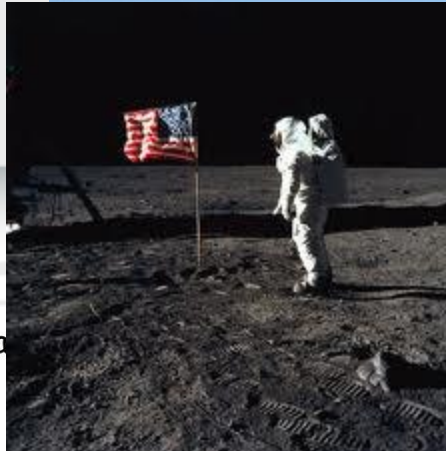
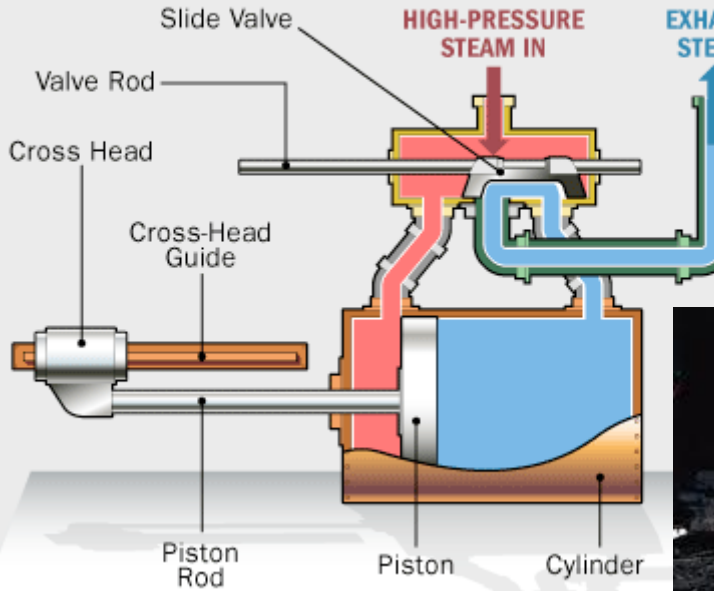
Science

OBSERVATION

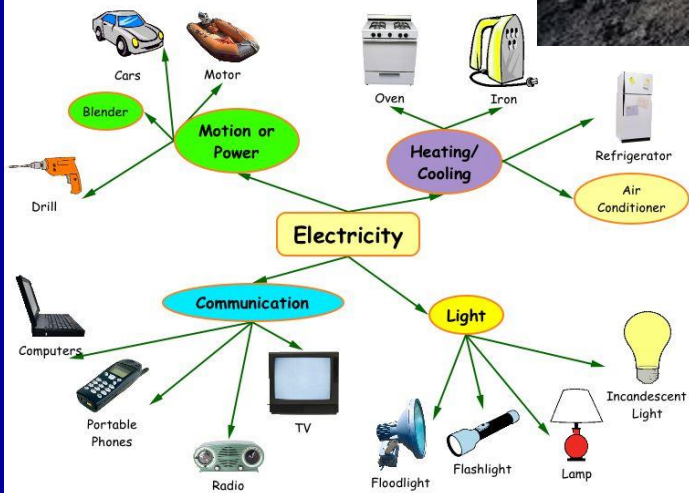


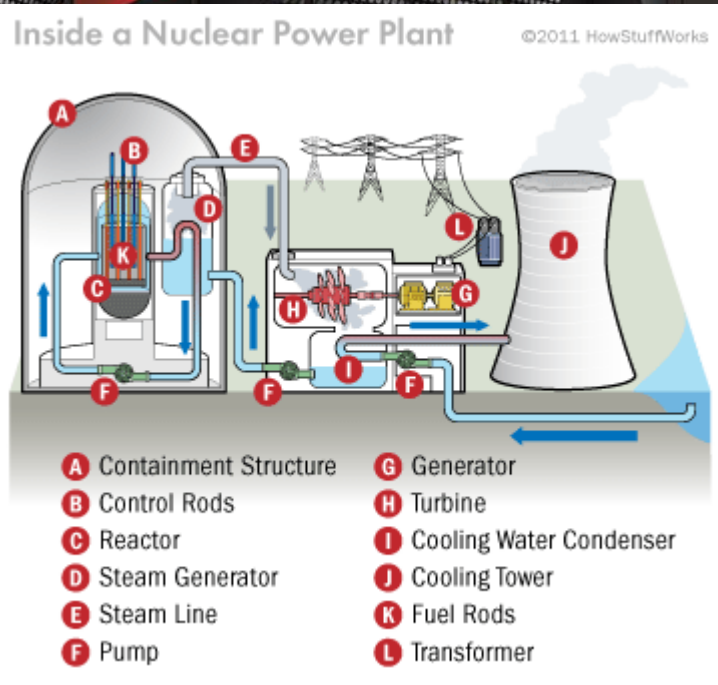
How Steam Engines Work

LD ©2008 HowStuff



Uses Of Electricity In Our Daily Lives





- | | |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| A Containment Structure | G Generator |
| B Control Rods | H Turbine |
| C Reactor | I Cooling Water Condenser |
| D Steam Generator | J Cooling Tower |
| E Steam Line | K Fuel Rods |
| F Pump | L Transformer |

*THERE WOULD BE
NO SCIENCE
WITHOUT
CHRISTIANITY.*

- *The Bible tells us that God is the Creator of the universe.*
- *Christianity has a linear view of history.*
- *Christianity recognizes the value of all honest work, including scientific inquiry.*

- **ISAAC NEWTON**, discovered the law of universal gravitation, invented calculus
- **JOHANNES KEPLER**, discovered the laws of planetary motion
- **ROBERT BOYLE**, founder of modern chemistry, discovered Boyle's Gas Law
- **ANTOINE VAN LEEUWENHOEK**, maker of microscopes, discoverer of bacteria
- **MICHAEL FARADAY**, researcher in electricity; showed that all forms of electricity were the same; invented the concept of the field; developed the laws of electrolysis.

- **JAMES JOULE**, discovered the mechanical equivalence of heat and work; formulated Joule's Law. "After the knowledge of, and obedience to, the will of God, the next aim must be to know something of His attributes of wisdom, power and goodness as evidenced by His handiwork. It is evident that an acquaintance with natural laws means no less than an acquaintanceship with the mind of God therein expressed."
- **JAMES CLERK MAXWELL**, father of modern physics, postulated the theory of electromagnetic waves, basis for both the theory of relativity and quantum theory: "Teach us to study the works of Thy hands that we may subdue the earth to our use and strengthen our reason for Thy service."

THE REAL BATTLE:
CHRISTIANITY vs. SCIENTIFIC NATURALISM

THE LAETOLI FOOTPRINTS

3.6 MILLION YEARS OLD

Footprints in the

Ashes of Time

By MARY D. LEAKEY

IT HAPPENED some 3,600,000 years ago, at the onset of a rainy season. The East African landscape stretched then, much as it does now, in a series of savannas punctuated by wind-sculptured acacia trees. To the east the volcano now called Sadiman heaved restlessly, spewing ash over the flat expanse known as Laetoli.

The creatures that inhabited the region, and they were plentiful, showed no panic. They continued to drift on their random errands. Several times Sadiman blanketed the plain with a thin layer of ash. Tentative showers, precursors of the heavy seasonal rains, moistened the ash. Each layer hardened, preserving in remarkable detail the footprints left by the ancient fauna. The Laetoli Beds, as geologists designate the oldest deposits at Laetoli, captured a frozen moment of time from the remote past—a pageant unique in prehistory.

Our serious survey of the beds, which lie in northern Tanzania 30 miles by road south of Olduvai Gorge (map, page 450), began in 1975 and gained intensity last summer after the discovery of some startling footprints. This article must stand as a preliminary report; further findings will almost certainly modify early interpretations.

Still, what we have discovered to date at Laetoli will cause yet another upheaval in the study of human origins. For in the gray, petrified ash of the beds—among the spoor of the extinct predecessors of today's elephants, hyenas, hares—we have found hominid footprints that are remarkably similar to those of modern man. Prints that, in my opinion, could only have been left by an ancestor of man. Prints that were laid

down an incredible 3,600,000 years ago!

My late husband, Dr. Louis S. B. Leakey, and I had first explored the Laetoli Beds in 1935. In that year we were searching for fossils in Olduvai Gorge when Masai tribesmen told us of the rich remains at Laetoli, which in their language refers to the red lily that grows there in profusion. When heavy rains ended the Olduvai excavation season, we made the difficult, two-day journey south.

We did find fossils, but they were much more fragmented than those of Olduvai. At that time, accurate dating was impossible. So we left the site. A German expedition combed the beds in 1938-39, and we ourselves returned twice with indifferent results. But I could not help feeling that, somehow, the mystique of Laetoli had eluded us.

Then, in 1974, two things occurred. I was drawn back once more to these ancient volcanic deposits, and one of my African associates, Mwongela Mwoka, found a hominid tooth. Analysis of the lava that overlies the beds assigned the tooth an age of at least 2,400,000 years. Since this is older than anything at Olduvai, I decided to concentrate my efforts at Laetoli. In 1975, with National Geographic Society support and the cooperation of the Tanzanian Government and its director of antiquities, A. A. Mturi, I mounted an intensive campaign.

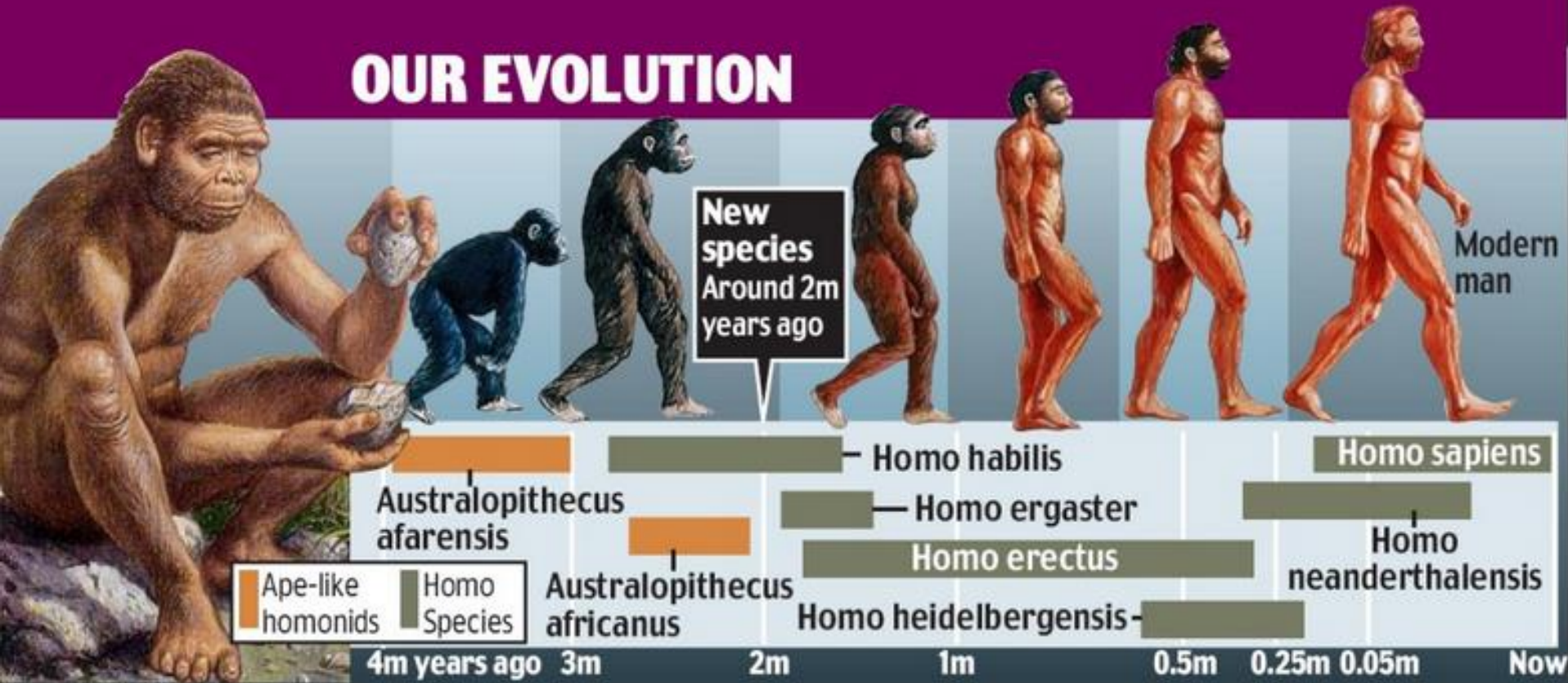
For almost two field seasons we diligently collected hominid and other fossils. Then, as is so often the case in pivotal discoveries, luck intervened. One evening Dr. Andrew Hill of the National Museums of Kenya and several colleagues were larking about on the beds, pelting each other with dry elephant dung. As Andrew ducked low to avoid one



“LUCY” (*Australopithecus afarensis*, 1974)



OUR EVOLUTION



Tracking down the missing links

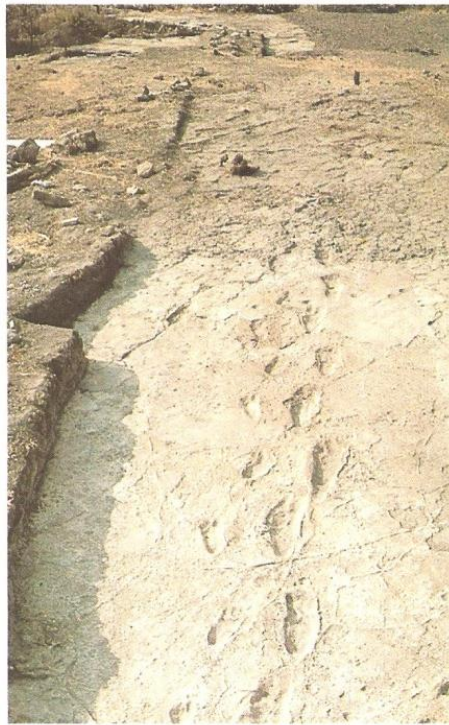
By Pat Ohlendorf

The Afar Triangle is not one of Ethiopia's most inviting spots. Trees are infrequent and scrubby. Water is scarce. Temperatures rise to a scorching 35 to 40 C daily. Yet, to anthropologists, this remote desert is a paradise, because literally crunching underfoot are keys that are unlocking the mysteries of the earliest period of human evolution. It was here in 1974 at a site called Hadar that American anthropologist Donald Johanson spotted "Lucy," a startlingly complete ancient skeleton that has left anthropologists reeling. For Lucy and similar older fossils found since then have recast the question of what is human.

Since Darwin's time anthropologists have assumed that bipedalism—walking on two legs—and a big brain developed in tandem. Yet the 1.3-m skeleton carefully scraped out of the Afar soil proved that Lucy had walked on two legs, but her brain had been no larger than that of a present-day chimpanzee. Even more astonishing, however, was the creature's profound age. South African fossils (*Australopithecus africanus*) found in the '20s and '30s had suggested a small-brained bipedal ape—they were approximately 900,000 years. Lucy, however, turned out to be an astounding 3.5 million years old.

Johanson's team has since uncovered hundreds of hominid—human-like—fossils at Hadar from 2.9 million to 3.5 million years old. Although none of the fossils is as complete as Lucy, they all confirm the combination of bipedalism and a small brain. And last season, when Berkeley anthropologists Tim White and Desmond Clark were surveying a new site across the Awash River from Hadar, the skull and leg-bone fragments they stumbled upon clocked in, through recent laboratory tests, at no less than four million years. Explains White: "This latest find decouples—even further back in time than Lucy did—the idea that bipedalism, tool use and the large brain all came in together."

The story does not end here. More than 1,600 km south of Hadar lies a site called Laetoli in Tanzania. There, a



The Laetoli fossil footprints: an eerie and unique find

team headed by anthropologist Mary Leakey has discovered not only fossils similar to those at Afar and of the same age range but also an eerie find as unique in its own way as Lucy: fossilized footprints of three hominids apparently out for a walk. A volcanic eruption of fine-grained particles, followed by a gentle rain, followed by another eruption caught an ephemeral moment—of 3.5 million years ago—and turned it to stone.

After six years of careful study of the Hadar and Laetoli fossils—comparing teeth and piecing together tiny skull fragments—Johanson and White concluded that the collections represented one species and christened the creatures *Australopithecus afarensis*. The genus name, *Australopithecus*, places them, with the fossils from South Africa, in that grey area between ape and human. The species name, *afarensis*, honors Lucy's final resting place, Afar.

More important than the name, however, is the relationship of *afarensis* to

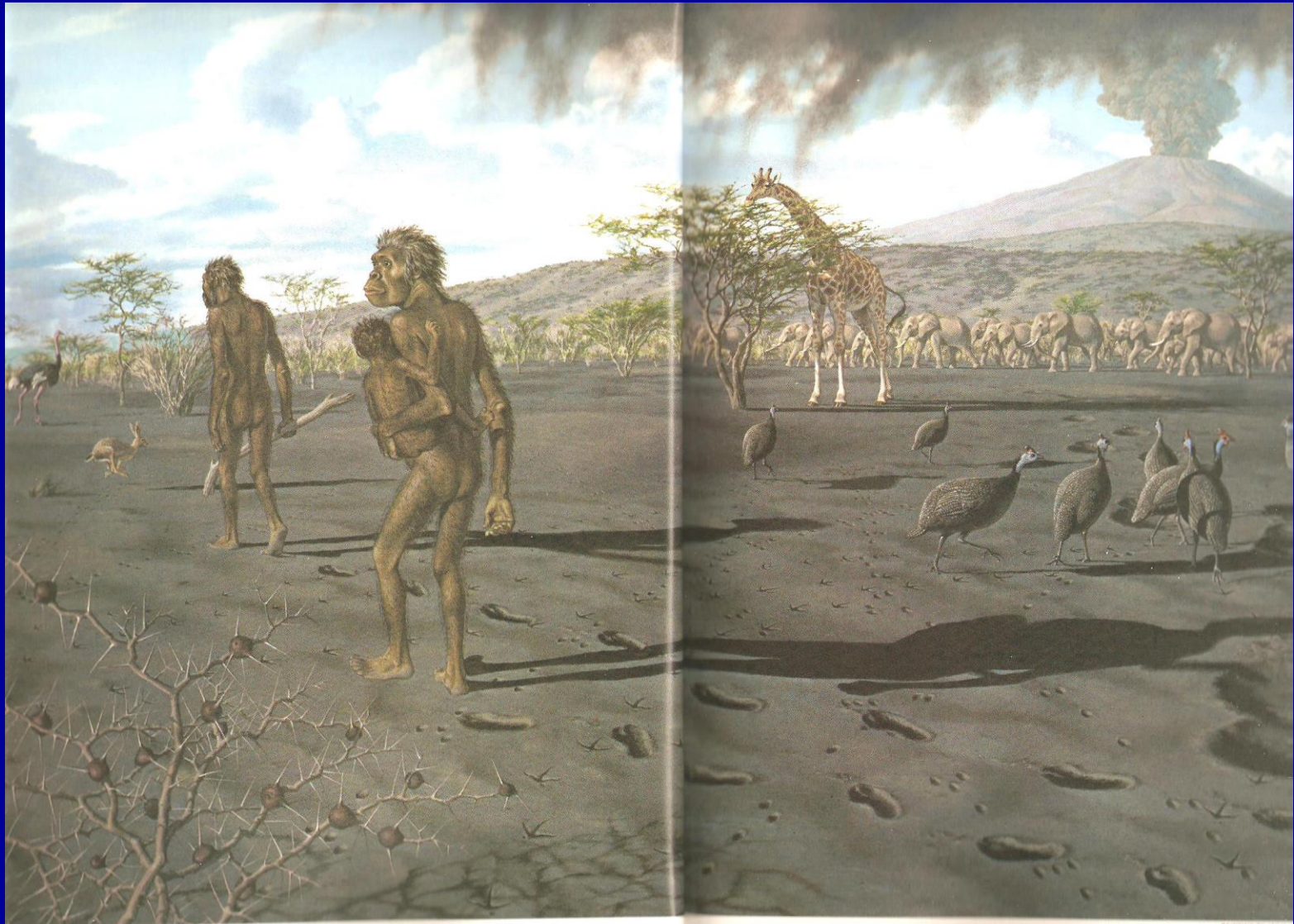
the other half-dozen hominid species that have turned up so far in Africa. Johanson and White placed *afarensis*, the oldest, at the base of the family tree, as the common ancestor of two successful lines: the Australopithecines, which thrived for at least two million years before dying out, and Homo, or humans.

Yet most anthropologists have no doubts that, whatever *afarensis* was, it was *not* human. When Lucy strode the banks of the Awash River, those things that set human beings so obviously apart from other primates—technology and language—were still to come. The oldest fossils of an erect creature with a brain large enough to be called human are those of *Homo habilis*, which were discovered by the late Louis Leakey at Olduvai Gorge, Tanzania, in 1962. The controversy that raged over designating a new human species at the incredible age of 1.75 million years did not abate until a decade later. In 1972 Louis and Mary Leakey's son, Richard, found a magnificent *habilis* skull near Lake Turkana in Kenya that proved to be about two million years old. If Johanson and White are correct in believing that *afarensis* is the oldest ancestor of humans so far

discovered, then filling in what Johanson has called the "black hole" between Lucy and *Homo habilis* will require finding the increasing use of fire and tools and skulls that enlarge over the one-million-year gap.

Already, one anthropologist is suggesting that hominids may have used fire as early as three million to four million years ago. Desmond Clark, who with White is coleader of the Middle Awash team, speculates that several cone-shaped, burnt-clay deposits he found last year may be the remains of smouldering tree stumps that the early hominids may have used as fire reservoirs or even carried around. Says Clark: "What we now have to find are burnt bones or artifacts in clear association with the burnt clay." If Clark's speculation pans out, the assumption that a species' brain size is correlated with intelligence would probably have to be abandoned. Other anthropologists, however, are skeptical. Observes White: "Trees have probably been

Mr. and Mrs. Australopithecus Making the Laetoli Footprints (Artist's Conception)



...without fear and hominids travel

giraffes, hares, and ostriches. In the tropical heat the tracks deepened the sand

PAINTING BY JAY H.

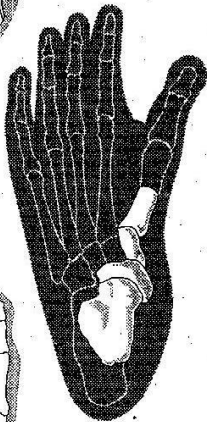
Tiny Foot Bones May Show A Giant Leap for Mankind

Four bones from a South African hominid that may be 3.5 million years old have been used to reconstruct the foot of this human ancestor, center. Feet not to scale.

Chimpanzee
climbing, grasping



Hominid
walking,
climbing,
grasping



Human
walking



Sources: "Ape Man," Rod Caird (Macmillan); Dr. Ronald J. Clarke and Dr. Phillip V. Tobias/Science

The New York Times

By JOHN NOBLE WILFORD

Footprints preserved in volcanic ash show that human ancestors in Africa were walking upright as early as 3.7 million years ago, making their behavior one of their first and most distinctive departures from all other primates. But was walking the only way these protohumans got about? Were they still climbing trees, in the manner of chimpanzees, for safe sleeping and gathering fruits and nuts?

These questions have long puzzled and divided anthropologists studying crucial evolutionary changes in the early hominids, or human forerunners, after their divergence from the apes. Now the discovery of four foot bones in South Africa has produced the best fossil evidence yet for the ancestors of modern man going around, and may yield compelling answers or simply rekindle the flames of old debates.

The four little bones, rather than settling the debate, have already caused more fur to fly among the small group of contending experts who study human origins.

In a discovery paleontologists describe as the most important in southern African hominid exploration in recent decades, the four bones formed the instep and the beginning of the great toe of a hominid that may have lived as much as 3.5 million years ago, presumably a member of the australopithecine genus. This is the oldest set of connective foot bones of any hominid and the earliest evidence, by more than half a million years, for the existence of such ancestors south of tropical Africa.

But of greatest importance to the

Tiny Bones May Show Giant Leap for Mankind

Continued From Page A1

history of human evolution, analysis of the bones, dubbed "Little Foot," has revealed that this hominid combined humanlike and apelike foot characteristics. The weight-bearing heel and the springy arch of the foot were unquestionably adapted for upright walking much like modern humans, said paleontologists who examined the fossils, while the great toe was set at a wide angle to the other toes and was highly flexible, presumably capable of grasping and climbing. In particular, the shape of the joint forming the ball of the foot indicated that the big toe could rotate inward like the opposable human thumb, useful in tree climbing.

In a report of their research being published in today's issue of the journal Science, Dr. Ronald J. Clarke and Dr. Phillip V. Tobias, paleontologists at the University of Witwatersrand in Johannesburg, said the foot fossils were "the best available evidence that the earliest South African australopithecine, while bipedal, was equipped to include arboreal or climbing activities in its locomotor repertoire."

Bipedal means the ability to walk upright on two legs.

The scientists said that Little Foot strongly suggested that this early ancestor was not exclusively bipedal, as are modern humans, but must have been at home both on the ground and in the trees. "The exact proportion of its activities spent on the ground and in the trees is at present indeterminate," they said.

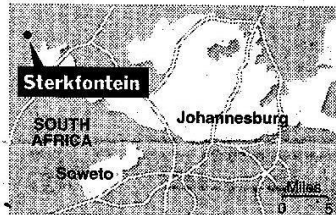
The bones were discovered in 1980 but their significance was not recognized until last year. They were found in the deepest part of sediments in the Sterkfontein cave, which is near Johannesburg and has been the site of numerous early hu-

man."

Dr. Clarke and Dr. Tobias acknowledged that their findings support the conclusions of Dr. Stern and Dr. Susman that hominids of this period represented an "intermediate degree of adaptation" in locomotion.

Predictably, Dr. Susman in an interview praised the report as a "conceptually and theoretically very compelling paper." If the South African fossils are indeed of the africanus species, not afarensis, the findings show, he said, that it is probably "the blueprint for all hominids" that transitional species were part arboreal quadrupeds and part ground bipeds. "Fully committed bipeds," he said, probably did not emerge until Homo erectus about 1.5 million years ago.

A leading proponent of completely



The New York Times

Bones were found in the Sterkfontein cave, near Johannesburg.

Continued on Page A6, Column 5

Bones prove creationists are correct

Re The AP-Reuter article, *Fossilized foot bones said to be missing link* (July 29) about South African scientists allegedly finding a missing link between man and ape with the discovery of four 3½-million-year-old fossilized foot bones.

Not only have these scientists not found a missing link between man and ape, they have, in fact, succeeded in disproving the theory of human evolution.

In 1977, a team of scientists working at Laetoli, Tanzania, discovered a set of fossilized footprints virtually identical to modern human footprints, but dated as being 3.5 million years old.

In order to avoid the obvious implication that modern humans lived contemporaneously with their alleged ancestors, the Australopithecines, scientists were forced to maintain the dubious idea that the Australopithecines had feet virtually identical to those of modern humans.

However, the South African scientists described in your article have shown that the Australopithecines had opposable big toes.

They could not have made the Laetoli footprints.

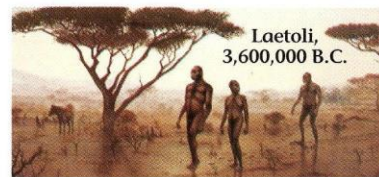
Therefore, these footprints prove that modern man existed contemporaneously with the now extinct Australopithecines, and could not have evolved from them.

It seems that the Creationists are correct, after all.

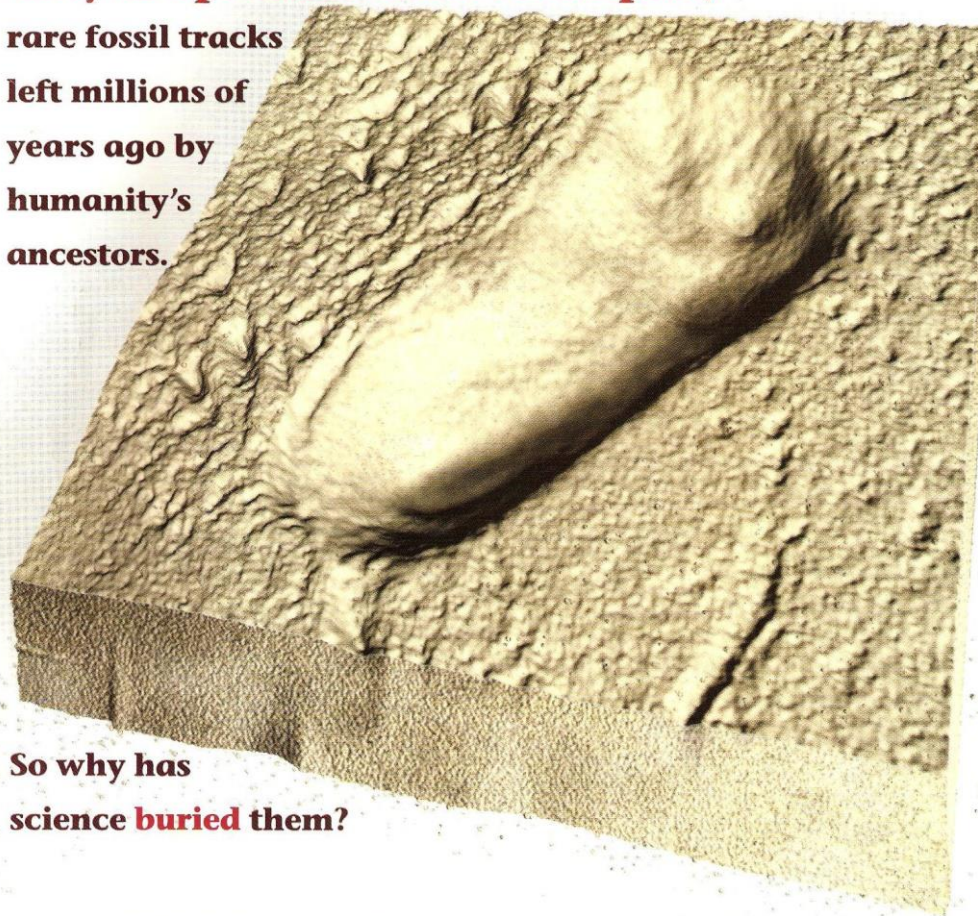
JOHN TORIS
North York

SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN

SEPTEMBER 1998 \$4.95



**They are precious clues to the past,
rare fossil tracks
left millions of
years ago by
humanity's
ancestors.**



**So why has
science buried them?**

A Last Look at Laetoli

- **Heinrich Helmholtz** discovered the 1st Law of Thermodynamics in 1847 – which proves there is a God
- **Rudolf Clausius** discovered the 2nd Law of Thermodynamics in 1850 – which proves that the Big Bang and chemical evolution are impossible.
- **Louis Pasteur** discovered the Law of Biogenesis in 1864, which proves that atheistic evolution is impossible.

The heavens declare the glory of God;
And the firmament shows His handiwork.

² Day unto day utters speech,
And night unto night reveals knowledge.

³ *There is* no speech nor language
Where their voice is not heard.

⁴ Their line has gone out through all the earth,
And their words to the end of the world.

The heavens declare the glory of God;
And the firmament shows His handiwork.

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⁴ Their line has gone out through all the earth,
And their words to the end of the world.

⁷ The law of the LORD *is* perfect, converting the soul;
The testimony of the LORD *is* sure, making wise the
simple;

⁸ The statutes of the LORD *are* right, rejoicing the
heart;

The commandment of the LORD *is* pure, enlightening
the eyes

O Timothy! Guard what was committed to your trust, avoiding the profane *and* idle babblings and contradictions of what is falsely called science—by professing it some have strayed concerning the faith.

(1 Timothy 6:20-21a)

THE END