

I've Always Loved A Good Mystery.

My favorite authors, Agatha Christie and Dorothy Sayers, kept me enthralled for years as I tried to beat their very best detectives at solving “the mystery”. These authors never cheated, never threw in a “curve ball” at the end of the book. They gave everything needed for the reader to solve the crime before or at the same time as their detectives.

I'm a "pattern-finder". Always have been. Always will be. I look for connecting links between events and the paths that spread out because of these events. Like tracking the wind. You may not see it, but you can see what it moves and determine the direction from which it may have come.

Any event begins somewhere. A murder doesn't just happen. A mystery novel doesn't write itself. A phone call doesn't occur without originating from somewhere, and “answers” don't happen unless someone picks up the phone. In other words, mysteries come before their solutions; and I believe these mysteries are meant to be solved by "tracking things back" to their origins. Those of us who enjoy mysteries revel in the process, just as scientists delight in the mystery of how this universe began.

I started looking at the book Genesis because I thought it was highly unscientific to dismiss a book that that I hadn't read. If I didn't look at all the evidence, how could I understand the problem? I was of the belief that if a scientist, (say, a paleontologist) found something (like an old bone) and it didn't fit into the current theory of whatever was being researched, a scientist wouldn't just

throw it away, i.e., wouldn't dismiss something that wasn't understood. He or she would re- think the current state of affairs. (OK, so some WOULD throw it away, but that's another problem.) It was and is my belief that a scientist should be searching for "the truth".

After 35 years of research, every question I've asked about the book of Genesis has led me on a path of discovery. Every question has led to a particular solution, and every solution has led to a new question. I have had to study anthropology, zoology, biology, microbiology, languages, including ancient Hebrew and Egyptian hieroglyphics, history...well, the list goes on and on.

How, then, is it possible for someone to "know" The Solution to a mystery without ever having understood the enormity of The Problem?

How is one to know The Answer to The Problem without ever having understood the complexity of The Question? And besides, if there IS someone out there who knows "who done it" without ever having read The Book, then what fun is that?