Earth Is Undergoing True Polar Wander, Scientists Say

Deborah Byrd Oct 01, 2012

Note from Pastor Kevin Lea follows this article.

Scientists developed a computer model to identify four possible instances of true polar wander in the past. And, they say, true polar wander is happening now.

Scientists based in Germany and Norway today published new results about a geophysical theory known as true polar wander. That is a drifting of Earth’s solid exterior – an actual change in latitude for some land masses – relative to our planet’s rotation axis. These scientists used hotspots in Earth’s mantle as part of a computer model, which they say is accurate for the past 120 million years, to identify four possible instances of true polar wander in the past. And, they say, true polar wander is happening now. These scientists published their results in the Journal for Geophysical Research today (October 1, 2012).

The scientists – including Pavel V. Doubrovine and Trond H. Torsvik of the University of Oslo, and Bernhard Steinberger of the Helmholtz Center in Potsdam, Germany – established what they believe is a stable reference frame for tracking true polar wander. Based on this reference frame, they say that twice – from 90 to 40 million years ago – the solid Earth traveled back and forth by nearly 9 degrees with respect to our planet’s axis of rotation. What’s more, for the past 40 million years, the Earth’s solid outer layers have been slowly rotating at a rate of 0.2 degrees every million years, according to these scientists.

Diagram showing solid-body rotation of the Earth with respect to a stationary spin axis due to true polar wander. This diagram is greatly exaggerated. According to Doubrovine and his team, Earth’s solid outer layers have been slowly rotating at a rate of 0.2 degrees every million years. Diagram via Wikimedia Commons.

True polar wander is not:

- A geomagnetic reversal, or reversal of Earth’s magnetic field, known to have happened before in Earth history.
- Plate tectonics, which describes the large-scale motions of great land plates on Earth and is thought to be driven by the circulation of Earth’s mantle.
- Precession of the Earth, whereby our world’s axis of rotation slowly moves, tracing out a circle among the stars, causing the identity of our North Star changes over time.

True polar wander is a geophysical theory, a way of thinking about Earth processes that might happen and that these scientists believe do happen. The theory suggests that if an object of sufficient weight on Earth – for example, a supersized volcano or other weighty land mass – formed far from Earth’s equator, the force of Earth’s rotation would gradually pull the object away from the axis around which Earth spins. A supersized volcano far from Earth’s equator would create an imbalance, in other words. As explained at Princeton.edu:

If the volcanoes, land and other masses that exist within the spinning Earth ever became sufficiently imbalance...

To read this article in its entirety, go to: http://earthsky.org/earth/earth-is-undergoing-true-polar-wander-scientists-say

Note from Pastor Kevin Lea: According to the laws of physics, any redistribution of mass on the spinning earth will cause the earth to roll. This is not a new discovery, as anyone who has taken an advanced physics course knows. And every earthquake that is powerful enough to alter the distribution of the earth’s mass will
cause a slight roll. For example, the March 11, 2011 earthquake in Japan caused the northern part of the Island to move several feet to the east, and the associated mass shift caused the pole to shift by about 4 inches (http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2011/03/12/japan-earthquake-axis-shift-climate-change_n_834985.html).

Understanding this physics phenomenon allows one to unravel some of the enigmas of the frozen mammoths of Siberia and Alaska. Dr. Walt Brown’s online book, In the Beginning, Compelling Evidence for Creation and the Flood explains how the massive redistribution of earth’s mass during what he calls the compression event caused the earth to roll 35 to 45 degrees. Before the initiation of the flood, the mammoths were living in more moderate latitudes eating lush vegetation that cannot grow near the Arctic Circle today. At the initiation of the global flood, the mammoths were rapidly buried in “rock ice” instantly freezing and entombing them with food still between their teeth, and in one case, while still standing up. Several weeks later (during the compression event) the earth rolled as a result of its shifting mass, placing these mammoths in frozen storage in the Arctic Circle until discovered thousands of years later. Dr. Brown has dedicated an entire chapter to the frozen mammoths, explaining how all the evidence points to death by cataclysm http://www.creationscience.com/onlinebook/FrozenMammoths.html.

According to the Bible, the earth will experience another major roll in the future (Isaiah 24:19-20), which will coincide with global earthquakes causing mountains and islands to move out of their place (Isaiah 40:3-8, Revelation 6:2-17, 16:18-21).

In February 2012, I gave a presentation at Calvary Chapel of Costa Mesa covering these verses with an explanation of how there will be global earthquakes someday (based on Dr. Brown’s Hydroplate Theory explanation for how the flood of Noah occurred). A DVD of this presentation is available for purchase at Dr. Brown’s website, or can be watched at our church’s YouTube channel (http://www.youtube.com/user/CalvaryChurchPO - click on Earthquakes 2012 update). During this presentation, I demonstrate how the earth rolled using a modified bowling ball spinning on a sheet of ice (The entire explanation is at minutes 22 – 29).

Many scoff at the idea of a global flood even though there is compelling evidence supporting that it occurred. The forces that were at work in the earth during that previous global judgment have left stresses pent up deep in the earth, ready to be unleashed in a future last day’s judgment by fire. The coming judgment is a result of the wickedness of man. The world is heading deeper and deeper into sin and rejection of the God of the Bible, indicating that the last days are rapidly approaching.

I pray that you, dear reader, have come to realize your need to repent of your own sin, and of your rebellion against God, and instead have received the gift of life that comes by having saving/trusting faith in Jesus as your savior. If you have, you need not fret the next big roll coming to the earth.

2 Peter 3:5-9: For this they willfully forget: that by the word of God the heavens were of old, and the earth standing out of water and in the water, by which the world that then existed perished, being flooded with water. But the heavens and the earth which are now preserved by the same word, are reserved for fire until the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men. But, beloved, do not forget this one thing, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance. NKJV