



EVOLVED  
or

Created?

A few advocates of the theory of evolution will admit to a certain uneasiness about their beliefs. And who can blame them, for the marvels man continues to discover in every branch of science display many more evidences of the truth of the Bible than of any other system or science of origins.

To believe that there is a Supreme Being, an Almighty God, is in itself not so difficult. However, accepting this fundamental truth leads to many other certainties. If there is a self-existing God, and if the Bible is His divine Word, then man must be immortal. That means man's soul continues somewhere after death. And if that is so, the righteous judgments of God regarding good and evil apply to us. This in turn sheds light on the origin of guilt feelings we experience when we do certain things.

On the other hand, accepting evolutionary theory allows us to ignore everything known as religion, redemption, or moral absolutes and leaves us free to do whatever we please with no moral or

spiritual consequences.

Following that course raises some major problems. We feel uneasy—for if we are wrong, then we most certainly are also doomed. And the bases and evidences on which evolutionary theory rests are far from solid. Evolutionists disagree widely among themselves, and their theories are constantly changing. Last year's conclusions are discarded this year in favor of a newly advanced supposition, and next year will see this year's theory replaced by still another idea.

The Genesis account of Creation cannot be proven by empirical evidence, nor can the theories of evolutionists. Yet the Bible account answers the questions of our existence far better than any other theory of origins ever has.

Consider the question of life itself. Even in its most simple form, the single cell organism is so complex it astounds our minds. Within this simple, single-cell organism exist a number of precisely interrelated substances and systems—any of which, if removed, would end life for

the organism. It includes transportation systems, communication centers, and factories that produce energy and transmit characteristics of inheritance. In a short time this cell will reproduce, dividing itself into two parts, both of which have all the properties and capabilities of the original. Both the original and the new cell will continue to grow, function, and reproduce.

Is it probable that an explosion in an automobile parts store would produce a running automobile engine? Even if millions of explosions occurred in millions of stores, how probable would it be? Is it any more likely that all the properties and substances needful for life should come together in a hostile environment and begin functioning as a living cell?

Far more marvelous than cellular life is a human being: billions of cells of a multitude of varieties, many of them more complex than that one-celled organism; a heart that may pump 83,000,000 gallons of blood in a lifetime; thousands of miles of arteries, veins, and capillaries to distribute

that blood; a brain and nervous system that can record a countless number of events and experiences, then recall them, analyze them, use them to make a decision, and then cause the body to carry out that decision.

What convincing explanation can the evolutionist give for the part of man that is not substance but spirit? From where did man receive his self-awareness; his sense of purpose; the search for satisfaction, beauty, and peace; the feelings of love and tenderness; the capability of self-sacrifice? From where did man, whether cultured or primitive, receive the urge to look to and worship some all-great, all-capable power? In what other species do we find any trace of such a spirit? These things we find within us concur with what the Bible says of us: "God created man in his own image," and "man became a living soul" (Genesis 1:27; 2:7).

As we reflect on the animal and insect world, we cannot but be amazed at the variety, the intricacy, and the complexity found there. Consider the common

housefly with its compound eyes that have up to four thousand lenses. Ponder the strange little anableps fish with its divided eyes, the upper part of which can see above the water and the lower parts under the water. Think of the firefly or glowworm that produces light without heat. Explain how the electric eel produces up to two hundred or more volts of electricity, enough to stun a man or even a horse.

Deep in the dark ocean lives the lantern fish, which creates its own light. Many millipedes and centipedes — small, worm-like creatures — have more than a hundred pairs of legs. It would seem that so many feet should make for speed, but not so; swiftness has been given to the legless serpent.

One kind of crab can taste with its legs, grow new limbs and eyes, and lift up to forty times its own weight. The common spider builds a web that has more than double the tensile strength of iron. The offspring of many insects and some animals never learn anything from

their parents. Yet some instinct guides their growth, development, and way of living. And none of these marvels can be described as irregularities. These creatures live normal, self-sustaining lives, operating in a perfect plan and order. No wisdom on earth can rationally explain how such perfect, diverse creatures could have evolved.

The vast reaches of space also leave us with a feeling of awe. No matter how great and incalculable the distance of the farthest stars, they hold precise positions in their spinning galaxies. The earth, this tiny speck in the cosmos, orbits at just the right distance from its sun and has just the necessary layers of atmosphere to make it hospitable to plant and animal life. Everything we know of the universe indicates a master plan, a perfect order and design. The cosmos points to God as the Creator and Sustainer of all things. Truly, as the psalmist wrote over three thousand years ago, "The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament showeth his handywork" (Psalm 19:1).

Those who impartially study evolutionary theories find them not only debatable and ambiguous, but also founded on often unproven premises. The theory of evolution contends basically that life began in a very simple form by "spontaneous generation" and evolved into the complex forms we see today. This supposedly came about by adaptation to environment, mutations that produced superior lines, and "natural selection" or "survival of the fittest."

It is true that many species have adaptive capabilities that have led to small changes for the better within those species. But that is as far as it goes. Man has yet to find a single case where one specific kind of animal has changed, either slowly or rapidly, and evolved into another form. Rabbits and moths may change in color for self-protection; insects may develop a resistance to pesticides; but they are still rabbits, moths, and insects, and their offspring will be too.

Furthermore, scientists have proven that the great majority of mutations are



harmful or neutral. Since most mutations are actually degenerative, they prove to be a very dubious base for the theory of "natural selection."

Evolutionists have yet to explain why a greater complexity of function would make an organism more fit for its environment. The very simplest forms of life still exist today, admirably suited for their environment. Many complex animals have become or are becoming extinct.

The fossil record contains fossils of nearly all of the major kinds of animals. Those fossils are of animals that were just as developed and complex as any known today. Many had complicated respiratory, digestive, and nervous systems.

Now if evolution were a fact, the ancestral remains of simpler forms of these animals should be found in lower layers of rock, but such is not the case. Precambrian rocks are almost devoid of fossils or other evidences of life. Charles Darwin admitted that this fossil record was a strong argument against his theory of evolution. He hoped that further searching would reveal

the ancestors of these early, fully developed animals. Over a hundred years of intensive search have not brought them to light. The "missing link" we sometimes hear about is actually a stupendous, unbridged gap in evolutionary theory.

The fossil record substantiates the Bible account of a short time of creation resulting in a complete and mature world. The same Master Mind who placed galaxies, stars, and planets into perfect orbits could also create a complete world with mature humans, animals, and vegetation. Our first parents, Adam and Eve, must have been of a mature physique. The wood in the first tree trunks must have had ring markings. The stalactites and stalagmites in the caves may have been there from the day they were created.

Besides, visitors in public caverns have observed new stalagmites beginning to form on man-made additions in caves. Stalactites several inches long have grown on the bottoms of bridges in decades. These considerations throw a large shadow of doubt on the theory that these

formations take millions of years to form.

Scientists use chemicals and carbons to determine the age of fossils and other objects. But these tests are of their own formula and design, using calculations based upon theories. The carbon 14 test was once widely heralded as an accurate method to determine the age of artifacts and fossils. However, carbon 14 tests have been known to give dates of millions or billions of years to objects known to be of recent origin.

Evolutionists today should admit that their theories are in disarray. Their assumptions are based on guesses, and their conclusions are conflicting. Disputes continue on nearly every point of evolutionary theory. No evolutionist has adequately answered the question, "From where came the first substance, the first energy?"

Could it be that evolutionary theory is the result not so much of a desire to know the truth about the universe, but rather of an attempt to escape the need to fear and obey a just and holy God? By proving to

himself that he is merely a higher or more civilized animal, and that he will die as such, man can deny any real guilt for his actions. He can persuade himself there is no need to prepare for the final judgment and the eternity that follows.

Certainly, there are unanswerable mysteries concerning the existence of a living and all-powerful God. But that is no ground on which to deny His existence, especially since Creation points so clearly to Him.

Let's consider the endless variety and order of our world and be honest with ourselves. Even if there were no Bible, there is in nature and within our own hearts an overwhelming and compelling evidence of an ever present, all knowing, and almighty Creator.

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