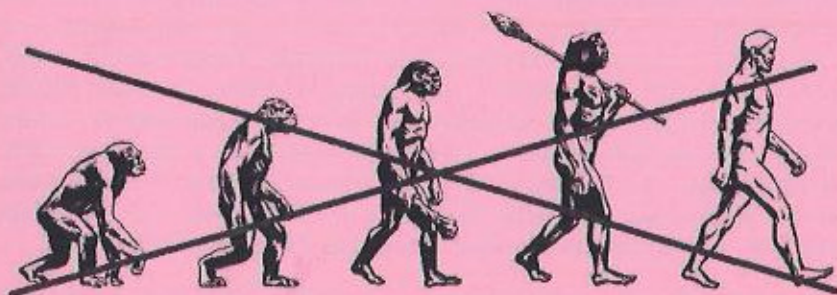


EVOLUTION:



It Goes Against Common Sense and It Goes against Scripture

Many people have abandoned the Bible because they are sure that "science" has long ago proved that it is wrong. Many others try to have it both ways, believing that God created the world by means of evolution. If we apply a little common sense and the Word of God in order to shed some light on things, we will find that evolution is a poor explanation of our origins, and that it is in direct conflict with what the Bible teaches. First, some Common Sense:

1. Things Break Down

It doesn't take a degree in scientific studies to be able to look around and see that decay, rust, and a general breakdown of order is what happens when things are left by themselves. There is a fancy term for this: it's called the 2nd Law of Thermodynamics. You don't need to remember the term; just remember that it isn't reasonable to assume that the amazing complexity and order of life all around us just happened by itself, beginning in some ancient sea of lifeless "primordial soup." Things never get more and more complex and orderly with the passage of time unless they are given order by already living things. What we observe around us and plain old common sense both tell us that things break down when they are left to themselves. But evolution says that, over a vast time period, complexity and order in our world has been building up.

Some people say that life could have begun and evolved on earth because of the added ingredient of the sun's energy. The trouble is, when you add raw energy to lifeless matter, all that happens is that it breaks down faster.

2. Life Only Comes from Life

Did you know that until the late 1800s most scientists believed that flies could come from dung heaps, bees from dead calves and mice from old rags? Sounds silly, doesn't it? But think about it: if you didn't know any better and you saw maggots seemingly "appear" from rancid meat, wouldn't you reach the same conclusion? Certain people finally conducted experiments that showed that life only and always comes from things that are already alive. Life simply can't arise spontaneously from dead matter. The technical term for this is the Law of Biogenesis. This is an established scientific law, and yet the theory of evolution contradicts it. Evolutionists say that life came from dead chemicals.

It sounds plausible when the story is told of simple life forms arising from a complex mixture of chemicals in the primal oceans. But there is no such thing as a "simple life form." The simplest one-celled creature is amazingly complex, so much so that scientists are still trying to understand how it can do what it does. To imagine that such complexity just "happened" is foolish.

Take a Swiss watch apart and put it in a box. Shake the box for 5 billion -- no, let's say 5 TRILLION years. Will it ever come together as a complete watch that tells accurate time? Common sense says "NO." But that would be child's play, compared to the spontaneous production of even the most "simple" life forms, much less a human being!

3. A Half-formed Eye is Useless

Even if it could happen that a living thing could come from something dead, what should make us believe that higher life forms could come about by means of a series of mutations? Evolution claims that life forms gradually changed over vast stretches of time. Changes that helped the animal were retained, while bad changes were dropped by means of "natural selection." The trouble is, mutations that we observe going on in our world today are rare and almost always harmful to the animal.

Try to imagine how an eye could have evolved. Some worm had a light-sensitive spot that helped him survive, perhaps? How did all of the amazing, intricate features of a fully developed eye come about, when an eye that $\frac{3}{4}$ developed can't see any better than one that is $\frac{1}{4}$ developed? What good is a reproductive organ that is partially evolved? How could a stubby mutation on a fish (which might be the beginning of a leg) possibly enable it to survive better? Common sense says that partially "evolved" limbs and organs would not help survival, but would rather hinder it.

4. "Missing Links" are Just That - Missing!

Ask most school-age children how they know that evolution is true, and they are bound to say "fossils." Modern "science" points to the fossil record and says "Look -- we have uniform layers of old rocks with simple life forms, then newer rocks with more complex life forms, and so on all the way up to our modern age." Unfortunately for the theory of evolution, there is no place in the world where such a uniform record exists. The layers that are spoken of are assembled from many different locations around the world. If you imagine all the strata (layers) as a stack of encyclopedias on end, you will be startled to find that in any one place in the world you will find maybe one volume's worth, or even just a few pages. Often the layers are out of order, with complex fossils found below the simpler ones.

Even more damaging to the theory of evolution is the fact that there are far more gaps in the development of life than links. We do not have a complete set of encyclopedias at all! If life evolved gradually over millions of years, then you would expect to find fossils that show gradual changes from one species to another. Millions of fossils have been studied from all over the world, and these links are simply absent. The evidence for evolution is not there. The very existence of so many fossils points much more clearly to creation than it does to evolution. After all, what happens to animals when they die? They are eaten or they rot. It takes a very special set of circumstances for a dead animal to fossilize; the plant or animal has to be sealed off from the elements very quickly in order to preserve it. There just shouldn't be that many fossils if evolution is true -- and yet we find that there are billions of them all over the world. If the book of Genesis is the real truth, we have a blueprint for just the right series of events to produce the fossil record that we have. Genesis tells of a worldwide flood. If this really happened, then you would expect to find billions of dead things, buried in sedimentary layers, laid down suddenly by water, all over the world. That is in fact what we find.

5. There are only about 5,000 Years of Written History

If evolution is true, then people who were alive a hundred thousand years ago would have had virtually the same physical and intellectual capacity that we have today. Logically, there should have been writing and civilization then. Archeology should be able to record a very gradual rise of civilization over a period of more than a hundred thousand years. What in fact is the case? We find that civilization seems to have sprung up suddenly in a number of different locations in the world between 3 and 4 thousand BC. This lines up quite well with the Biblical record of creation, the flood, the repopulation of the earth, and the scattering of various peoples after the incident at the tower of Babel (cf. Genesis 11).

Common sense tells us that evolution can't be true, but we have a more compelling reason to reject it. God's Word is a higher authority than our opinions and our reasoning powers. Here are three reasons from the Bible why creation and evolution can't BOTH be true:

1. "God...Cannot Lie." – Titus 1:2

If our God is really almighty and true, then it follows that what He has given to us as His word is true. God's Word says:

For in six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and hallowed it. -- Exodus 20:11

Many people would say, "But maybe that just means that God created the world during six epochs (long periods of time, perhaps millions of years)." No, they are not epochs, but natural days as we know them. See Genesis chapter 1, verses 5, 8, 13, 19, 23, and 31. Again and again the account tells us "the evening and the morning were the (first, second, etc.) day." The days are repeatedly defined as natural "evening and morning" periods of time. Look at Gen. 1:14:

Then God said, "Let there be lights in the firmament of the heavens to divide the day from the night; and let them be for signs and seasons, and for days and years;" -- Genesis 1:14

Obviously, "days" must mean natural days in Genesis chapter one. Otherwise, what would the meaning of "signs," "seasons," and "years" be?

Look at Genesis 1, verses 11, 12, 24, and 25. The common phrase in each is this: "after its kind." That means that God created each "kind" of plant or animal to reproduce according to the same "kind." By repeating this phrase God emphasized that evolution would not take place!

Some people may be of the opinion that the creation account in Genesis is really not very important, as long as they trust in Jesus as their Savior. However, if the creation story really isn't true after all, then Jesus' trustworthiness is suspect. Jesus was speaking about the entire Old Testament when He said "The Scripture cannot be broken" (John 10:35). If evolution is true, then Jesus was either ignorant or a liar. Jesus taught that the Genesis account was historical when he referred to Adam and Eve, and also to Noah and the great flood:

"He who made them at the beginning 'made them male and female,' and said, 'For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.' - Matt. 19:4-5

"In the days before the flood, they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, and did not know until the flood came. -- Matt. 24:38-39

There are many other references to the Genesis account of creation and the flood in the New Testament. Here are just a few of them:

Now Jesus Himself began His ministry at about thirty years of age, being (as was supposed) the son of Joseph, the son of Heli, the son of Matthat, [Jesus' human genealogy is given] ...the son of Enos, the son of Seth, the son of Adam, the son of God. -- Luke 3:23, 38

As through one man sin entered the world, and death through sin, and thus death spread to all men, because all sinned. . . Nevertheless death reigned from Adam to Moses. . . But the free gift is not like the offense. For if by the one man's offense many died, much more the grace of God and the gift by the grace of the one Man, Jesus Christ, abounded to many. -- Rom 5:12-15

For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ all shall be made alive. -- 1 Cor. 15:22

By faith Noah, being divinely warned of things not yet seen, moved with a godly fear, prepared an ark for the saving of his household. -- Hebrews 11:7

Jesus and the New Testament writers believed and taught that the creation/flood story was historical, not some sort of myth. If we are to take our Savior seriously, and believe that He is the teacher of all truth, shall we set aside what He taught about the historical account of Genesis, and accept instead what modern, godless "science" says is true? If He was wrong (or lying) about that, then how can we be sure about anything that He said? How can we be sure that He died for our sins? Thank God that He was not wrong or lying; thank God that the Genesis account is true and historical!

2. Adam Didn't Fall "Upwards"

According to the Bible, God made all things in a state of perfection; He pronounced His finished creation "very good." When Adam and Eve sinned against God, they introduced sin into the world. Since that time, things have not been getting better and better (as evolution proposes), but worse and worse.

God's plan to help this problem of sin was to send the Savior to conquer sin and death on the cross. That's what the Gospel is all about: Jesus died in our place on the cross, to pay for our sins. Because of our Savior, eternal life is ours! But think for a minute: If in fact God created us by means of evolution, then there was no "fall" into sin at all. That would mean that God created us sinful, and that would mean that Jesus' coming to earth would be meaningless. Why would God sacrifice His

only Son to save us from the way He created us in the first place? But Jesus coming into the world is NOT meaningless! He came to save us from our own sin, which we inherited from our common ancestor, Adam. Without the historical account of Genesis the meaning of the cross, and in fact our whole Christian faith, is undermined.

3. "Good and Upright is the Lord" - Ps. 25:8

Any Christian would agree that God is good. The creation account is consistent with that idea. After all, God made the creation "very good," that is, perfect, according to Genesis. Sin, death, and misery came afterward, by means of Satan and the fall of our first parents. But if evolution is true, then God did not create everything "good." Evolution is supposed to work by means of "survival of the fittest." That means that the strong kill and conquer the weak, and in that way the species as a whole becomes stronger. Can a good, gracious, perfect God be charged with this bloodthirsty, violent means of "creation"? It simply does not fit. The truth of the matter is that God IS good, but evolution would make Him out to be a monster.

CONCLUSION

When we discuss these matters, we are not talking about "religion vs. science." In reality, we are talking about "religion vs. religion." The religion of evolution does not start out with observed scientific fact. It rather begins with the assumption that there is no God, or at least that He did not create our world in a supernatural way. Since evolutionists begin with the assumption of a godless creation, all their research and data are forced to fit this preconceived idea.

In order to follow this religion of evolution, a lot of faith is necessary. After all, what takes more faith - to believe that an all-powerful being created the universe, or that everything we see came from a pinpoint of super-heated hydrogen that exploded with a "big bang"? When the Bible-believing Christian cannot explain something about the origin of the world, he leaves it to God. He says, "With God, all things are possible." When the evolutionist cannot explain something about origins, he leaves it to his twin gods, called "Time" and "Chance." He says, "Given enough Time, anything can happen by Chance." Let us not worship the twin gods of the evolutionist! Let us worship the true God of the Bible; let us cling in childlike faith to His true Word!

"Every house is built by someone, but He who built all things is God."

Hebrews 3:4

Pastor Bruce Naumann
Messiah Lutheran Church, Eau Claire, WI
www.eauclairemessiah.com ~ brucenaumann@gmail.com

WHICH ONE ARE YOU GOING TO TRUST?



OR



It is
REWRITTEN
and
REWRITTEN
and
REWRITTEN
and
Rewritten
and...

**"IT IS
WRITTEN"**
MATT. 4:4

*The entirety of Your word is truth, And every one of
Your righteous judgments endures forever.*

Psalm 119:160

*"Heaven and earth will pass away,
but My words will by no means pass away."*

Mark 13:31

Top graphic by Dan Lietha, and used by permission of Answers in Genesis.
For a wealth of valuable information, see www.answersingenesis.org