

Hednesford Pentecostal Church

Evolution or Creation

Unless otherwise stated all Bible references are taken from “*The Holy Bible, New King James Version*”, (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.

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1. INTRODUCTION

In our world we familiar with a law that appears to affect everything we see, namely everything in the physical world has a beginning and everything has an end. Even stars are known to be winding down, burning up all their fuel and will one day come to a spectacular end.

The issue of where do we come from has always caused people to think. Current today there are two major philosophies which seek to answer this, Creation and Evolution. Both of these require faith to believe, and both are aspects of differing religions.

Heb 11:3. By faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that the things which are seen were not made of things which are visible.

Creation proposes that there is a divine, eternal and all powerful being responsible for designing and producing an ordered world.

Evolution proposes that chance is responsible for the manufacture of all things, and this is followed by the process of *natural selection* which produced higher form of life.

Even though neither of these can be proven from scientific study, only evolution is proclaimed on television and within the schools as being proven fact. But what does scientific study actually say? Is there irrefutable and conclusive evidence to support evolution?

When we ask questions about our beginnings we have to ask:

- What is the origin of matter?
- What is the origin of energy?
- What is the origin of time?
- What is the origin of life?
- What is the origin of information?

The purpose of this study is to look at some of the scientific evidence and the reliability of the evolutionary claims made.

1.1. CONSEQUENCES

This is far more than just an interesting philosophical debate, there are important consequences.

If life is the result of a chemical reaction, if human life is something that has evolved from apes, then I am not accountable to a creator. If however I have been designed and made by God, then I belong to Him and am accountable to Him.

Scientists are trying to prove that man has evolved a little higher than the apes, whilst the Bible declares that God made man a little lower than the angels¹.

If man evolved from apes, then Adam and Eve would be fictional characters, and there would be no such thing as original sin. Mankind would not be living in a fallen state, but rather would be in an elevated state of having evolved above other creatures. If the first Adam was a myth, then the second Adam (Jesus) could not deliver mankind from sin.²

¹ Psa 8:5 For You have made him a little lower than the angels, And You have crowned him with glory and honour.

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

2. THE BIG BANG

The theory of evolution says that the beginning of the universe was a big explosion. The nothing that was there, suddenly exploded and hurled everything into being. This explosion brought into being space, matter, time and energy.

The problem with this supposition is that it breaks the law of physics. How can nothing explode? How can there be a reaction, or effect without an action or cause?

Secondly there is no astronomical evidence of a big bang. The Hubble Telescope enables scientists to view the universe without having to stare through the layers of our own atmosphere. The evolutionary suppositions that had been postulated for decades, suddenly were found to be without scientific evidence. What everyone had confidently declared was there, wasn't.

The Big Bang theory says that everything is still moving apart, expanding the universe. We now know that although things are moving, it is not as a result of a big explosion. Some things are moving away from us, as measured by red-shift. A lot of things are moving along with us. And the nearest galaxy to ours is actually moving towards us.

The dispersal of matter within the universe is not uniform but is lumpy. The background radiation, the reflection of the big bang, measured from the edges of the universe would equally be lumpy. However scientists were dismayed when the Hubble Telescope measured that the background radiation is actually smooth.

3. GENETIC INFORMATION

3.1. SIMPLE LIFE FORMS?

Darwin's theory of natural selection, or the survival of the fittest, proposed that life forms have evolved to form higher more complex species. This has been taken to the conclusion that all life has evolved from the first simple life forms that began from a chemical reaction in some sort of primeval soup.

There are scientific problems to this. Firstly scientists cannot even postulate how the first life forms began. When we were ignorant of the make up of single cell creatures, scientists thought that these were very simple creatures, just a string of chemicals given a kick start, perhaps by a bolt of lightning. Attempts at recreating such a happening has left scientists baffled.

One of the many problems is like the chicken and the egg. Proteins cannot be produced without DNA, but DNA cannot be produced with proteins.

It is now understood that even the simplest cells have 2,000 to 3,000 component parts. They may be single cell creatures, but they are not simple. They are full of encoded information contained within their DNA. Where does this information come from?

3.2. NEW GENETIC INFORMATION

Natural selection provides no new genetic information, so how can species with new genetic information evolve. Humans have 46 chromosomes, 23 from each parent. All the differences in

1 Cor 15:45-47 And so it is written, "The first man Adam became a living being." The last Adam became a life-giving spirit. {46} However, the spiritual is not first, but the natural, and afterward the spiritual. {47} The first man was of the earth, made of dust; the second Man is the Lord from heaven.

our make up comes from variations in these 46 chromosomes. But it is like shuffling a pack of cards, no matter how long you do it for you will not produce the 18 of Hearts.

Scientists have therefore proposed that new DNA has happened because of mutation. We do know that mutation takes place in nature, chromosomes are copied incorrectly, but these are known to be deformative, causing disabilities or sickness. No mutation has resulted in a new species with the advantages that natural selection requires for it to survive.

It has been argued that genetic changes have taken place slowly over millions of years, so that species transform gradually. So jaw-less eels became fish, fish became amphibians, amphibians became reptiles, reptiles became birds or mammals. Some of these mammals crawled back in the sea and became dolphins and whales.

There has been no evidence to support any of these changes ever found in the fossil record. No intermediates have been discovered.

Also the mechanism of natural selection is a conserving mechanism. How would a transitional creature with say half developed wings survive? The underdeveloped mechanism would be a hindrance such that predators would soon finish the creature off. How could the first mammals feed their young if they only had half developed mammary glands?

Every week chance produces a few lottery winners and millions of losers. Not only is there no evidence in the fossil record of the winning intermediates, but there is no evidence of the millions of losers.

3.3. INFORMATION

DNA is an extremely efficient way to encode information. It has been estimated that DNA is 45 million, million times more efficient than the electronic micro chip at storing information, and that all the information in the world could be stored with one quarter and a pin head.

If you said that to the manufacturer of microchips that he didn't need a big, highly mechanised and technically advanced factory to make such devices. If he waited long enough, microchips would have been produced by chance. And not only would they have been formed, they would be pre-programmed! Would he believe you?

Scientists are currently scanning the heavens with computerised radio receivers. They are looking for sequences of non-random radio transmissions. If they find such transmissions it will prove, they say, that there is extra-terrestrial life, since encoded information must be produced by intelligent life form. Chance can only produce random sequences.

And yet the DNA sequences within even the simplest cells are far more complex than radio transmissions, by evolutionists say that this does not prove the presence of an intelligent encoder.

4. HOW OLD?

4.1. MOON DUST

For evolution to take place, scientists have speculated that the universe must be 4.5 billion years old. By contrast counting the ages of the various generations with the Genesis account would suggest that man is probably about 6,000 years old. So is the earth very young or very old?

Each year cosmic dust adds to the mass of the planet. Fine debris is drawn to the planet by gravity, and scientists have measured the rate at which this dust is added. When the first landing

on the moon was planned, the landing craft was fitted with big pads on the feet and spikes under the pads in order to land on the thick blanket of dust. Calculations using the amount of moon dust per year times billions of years had predicted that the dust would be feet thick.

Upon landing the spikes were broken off, as the dust was only inches thick.

4.2. OCEAN DEPOSITS

The land mass is constantly being eroded with debris being deposited as sediments on the ocean floor. The total sediment input into the oceans has been calculated as being 27.5 billion tons per year. As a result the ocean floor is blanketed by a layer of sediment. Oceanographers assumed an age of the oceans in the order of 1 billion years³, and calculated that the depth of the sediment blanket would be very large. Deep sea drilling and seismic surveys have shown that the average depth is about 700 metres. This is only sufficient debris for 30 million years deposition.

Further more it has been calculated that at the current rate of erosion all the continental land mass would be totally eroded away in the next 14 million years.

Of course the 30 million years worth of deposits is larger than the 10 000 years or less that Creationists would age the oceans. But the Bible records the effect of two colossal global events, Noah's Flood⁴ and the dividing of the continents⁵.

5. BIOCHEMISTRY

Life forms such as bacteria were once considered "simple". But now with the growth in understanding in bio-molecules has shown that the haemoglobin and hormones within these simple life forms are as complex as those in apes or men. These forms of life therefore cannot be said to be primitive or ancestral.

Evidence for the long assumed chain⁶ of evolutionary development should be visible in the bio-molecules. The bio-molecules in fish, for instance, should be more similar to the creatures they evolved from and the creatures they involved into, than creatures which are a number of steps away in the evolutionary chain. When scientists have studied the relationships between species they were surprised by the results. The differences between the various creatures were all of the same magnitude, no ancestry links were visible. Dr Michael Denton, a biochemist who is also a non-Christian, says:

Molecules, like fossils, have failed to provide the elusive intermediates so long sought by the evolutionary biology.

6. LAWS OF PHYSICS

The first law of Thermodynamics tells us that both matter and energy cannot be created or destroyed, they only change state. This means that there is nothing in the universe that is capable of creating the universe. The only two possible conclusions to this are:

³ The age assumed by evolutionary uniformitarian geologists.

⁴ Genesis chapters 6 to 8

⁵ Genesis 10:25

⁶ For example jaw-less eels became fish, fish became amphibians, amphibians became reptiles, reptiles became birds or mammals.

- The universe is infinitely old or
- Something outside the universe is responsible for its creation

The second law of thermodynamics tells us that systems run down, energy becomes less available. If the universe was infinitely old, all the energy would now be unavailable and it would all be run down, dark and cold. It isn't so we can conclude that something outside the universe is responsible for its creation.

7. CONCLUSIONS

A great law of physics displayed throughout the universe is that of causality. If there is an effect, there must be a cause, and the effect cannot be greater than the cause. Therefore the first cause of:

Space	is	infinity
Time	is	eternal
Genetic information	is	omniscient
Cosmic energy	is	omnipotent
Human personality	is	divine personality
Fairness / conscience	is	righteousness

1 Tim 1:17. Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, to God who alone is wise, be honour and glory forever and ever. Amen.