

The Creation Part I

March 2007

What's Wrong With Evolution

- It rejects God and it rejects revelation
- It denies the fall of man and the fact of sin
- It cannot bridge the gap from nothing to something
- It cannot bridge the gap from something to life
- It cannot bridge the gap from life to humanity
- It says man was primitive and is getting better all the time

The Family That Walks On All Fours



Evolution and Jesus

“Christianity has fought, still fights, and will continue to fight science to the desperate end over evolution, because evolution destroys utterly and finally the very reason Jesus’ earthly life was supposedly made necessary. Destroy Adam and Eve and the original sin, and in the rubble you will find the sorry remains of the Son of God. If Jesus was not the redeemer who died for our sins, and this is what evolution means, then Christianity is nothing.”

G. Richard Bozarth, The Meaning of Evolution, *American Atheist*, 20 September, 1979, p. 30.

Evolution and Faith

“We take the side of science *in spite* of the patent absurdity of some of its constructs, *in spite* of its failure to fulfill many of its extravagant promises of health and life, *in spite* of the tolerance of the scientific community for unsubstantiated just-so stories, because we have a prior commitment, a commitment to materialism. It is not that the methods and institutions of science somehow compel us to accept a material explanation of the phenomenal world, but, on the contrary, that we are forced by our *a priori* adherence to material causes to create an apparatus of investigation and a set of concepts that produce material explanations, no matter how counter-intuitive, no matter how mystifying to the uninitiated. Moreover, that materialism is an absolute, for we cannot allow a Divine Foot in the door.”

Richard Lewontin, Billions and billions of demons, *The New York Review*, January 9, 1997, p. 31.

Evolution and Fossils

“Biologists would dearly like to know how modern apes, modern humans and the various ancestral hominids have evolved from a common ancestor. Unfortunately, the fossil record is somewhat incomplete as far as the hominids are concerned, and it is all but blank for the apes. The best we can hope for is that more fossils will be found over the next few years which will fill the present gaps in the evidence.” The author goes on to say: “David Pilbeam [a well-known expert in human evolution] comments wryly, “If you brought in a smart scientist from another discipline and showed him the meagre evidence we've got he'd surely say, ‘forget it: there isn't enough to go on’.”

Richard E. Leakey, *The Making of Mankind*, Michael Joseph Limited, London, 1981, p. 43

The Days of Creation

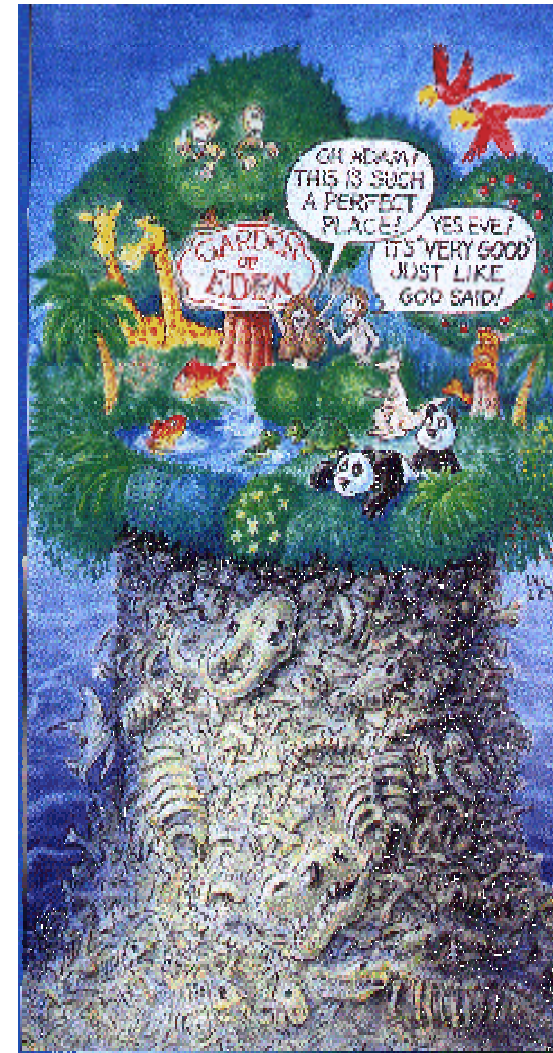
- The creative days are marked off with the words, “and there was evening, and there was morning”
- This makes it clear that God was referring to literal 24-hour days

Creation Days and Death

The idea of millions of years came from the belief that the fossil record was built up over a long time. As soon as people allow for millions of years, they allow for the fossil record to be millions of years old. This creates an insurmountable problem regarding the Gospel. The fossil record consists of the death of billions of creatures. In fact, it is a record of death, disease, suffering, cruelty, and brutality. It is a very ugly record.

The Bible is adamant though, that death, disease, and suffering came into the world as a result of sin. God instituted death and bloodshed because of sin so man could be redeemed. As soon as Christians allow for death, suffering and disease before sin, then the whole foundations of the message of the Cross and the Atonement have been destroyed. The doctrine of original sin, then, is totally undermined.

If there were death, disease and suffering before Adam rebelled — then what did sin do to the world? What does Paul mean in Romans 8 when he says the whole of creation groans in pain because of the Curse? How can all things be restored in the future to no more death and suffering, unless the beginning was also free of death and suffering? The whole message of the Gospel falls apart if one allows millions of years for the creation of the world.



Ten Commandments of Creation

- Let there be light (v.3)
- Let there be an expanse (v.6)
- Let the water be gathered (v.9)
- Let dry ground appear (v.9)
- Let the land produce vegetation (v.11)
- Let there be lights in the sky (v.14)
- Let the water teem with living creatures (v.20)
- Let birds fly above the earth (v.20)
- Let the land produce living creatures (v.24)
- Let us make man in our image (v.26)

Days 1 and 2 of Creation

- The first day of creation
 - Light and darkness
 - Illustrative of God's moral distinctives
- The second day of creation
 - “So God made”--no longer creating, just working with what's there
 - Dividing the waters
 - The waters above--atmospheric moisture
 - The waters below--seas, underground water
 - The “sky” is the first heaven--the terrestrial heaven
 - “And it was so”--things always work out like God says they will
 - God's word will not return to Him void
 - Jesus was risen “just as He said” (Mt 28:6)
 - God is He who works out everything in conformity with the purpose of His will (Eph 1:11)

Days 3 and 4 of Creation

- The third day of creation
 - Land separated from sea
 - Plant life created
- The fourth day of creation
 - Sun and moon set in place to mark seasons, days and years
 - “He also made the stars”
 - Mentioned in such a way as to suggest that God took little effort to do this
 - The same God Who numbers and names the stars (Ps 147:4) also heals the brokenhearted (Ps 147:3) so great is His understanding and power (Ps 147:5)
 - “It was good”--God creates after His own nature

Days 5 of Creation

- The fifth day of creation
 - Birds and aquatic life created (*bara* in v.21)
 - God blessed them
 - The first blessing in the Bible
 - Fruitfulness in view with this blessing (cf. Is 45:18)
 - Each living creature created according to its “kind” (“kind”=phylum; cf. phylum, class, order, family, genus, species)

Day 6 of Creation

- The sixth day of creation
 - Animals and man created (*bara*, v.27)
 - Note the emphasis given to the creation of man versus the creation of the rest of the universe
 - Man is where God's focus lies
 - Not with the environment
 - Not with the animals

The Creation of Man

- Man created in God's image (cf. Gen 9:6; Ja 3:9)
 - Man is a trinity: body, soul & spirit (1Th 5:23)
 - Man is a personality--a self-aware free moral agent
- God uses four methods to create
 - Direct creation (viz., Adam)
 - Indirect creation (viz., Eve)
 - Natural generation (be fruitful and multiply)
 - Virgin birth (combination of 1&3)
- Man given dominion over the earth (v.26,28)
 - The saints will judge the world and the angels (1Co 6:2-3)
 - The saints will rule with Jesus (2Ti 2:12)

Why A Physical Universe?

- Creation reveals God's existence and His glory
- Creation illustrates God's wisdom and spiritual truths
- Creation provides the "pictures" that are missing from the Bible
- The eternal spiritual truths are the ultimate reality; creation is merely a shadow of them.

Current Events

The Bible and the Environment

- God gave man dominion over the earth (Genesis 1:26,28)
- God told man to care for the place he lived (Genesis 2:15)
- God cares about the needs of animals (Proverbs 12:10)
- God does not promote waste (John 6:12)

Current Events

The Bible and Overpopulation

- God told man to be fruitful, increase in number, and fill the earth (Genesis 1:28; 9:1)
- God seeks godly offspring from marriage (Malachi 2:15)
- God did not create the earth to be empty, but formed it to be inhabited (Isaiah 45:18)