### 2008 Fall Newsletter

## **Detroit Bible Students**

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"The heavens declare the glory of God and the firmament showeth His handiwork." Psalm 19:1

# The God of All Nature

When the greens of summer turn to the reds, yellows and golds of autumn, we become suddenly aware of the beauties all around us. Fall color tours get enthusiastic patronage as people flock to the country to take in the glorious fall display. But how many think of the creator behind all the beauty they are seeing, or marvel at the wisdom that lies behind the design for the rhythms of the seasons?

Everything in nature bears the fingerprint of an intelligent creator, but many would have us believe that it all came about by random chance—as a sort of cosmic accident occurring in some primordial slime. Exponents of

Darwin's evolution have declared this theory a scientific fact. But by its own rules, science requires empirical proof—that is, observation—and it requires the ability to replicate the conditions. The existence of God is denied by the supporters of the evolution theory because he cannot be seen. However, they unknowingly condemn their own position by the same criteria. After over 140 years of efforts to prove the theory of evolution, not one shred of empirical proof exists to support their claims. In fact, not a single fossil has been found demonstrating an evolving form, and every effort to artificially create a new species has resulted in a sterile hybrid which cannot reproduce itself.

Does artificial selection prove "natural selection?" On the contrary, in spite of the intense pressure generated by artificial selection, studies of sera, hemoglobin, blood proteins, and inter-fertility of the subjects prove that the strains remain within the same specific definition—that is, an animal stops changing when the genetic limit of its species is reached.

But, why has there been so great a desire to prove that life evolved without a creator? The answer lies in the confusion caused by the conflicting creeds of the world's religions. The various creation stories in eastern religions and primitive cultures are fantastic. Even Christian sects have made the Bible account of creation look like fantasy. Let us examine one of the main problems.

#### **Epochs not 24-hour Days**

Science speculates vast eons of time for the age of the earth and universe. The Bible, it is claimed, says that it was created in seven twenty-four-hour days. How can this be correct? In fact, it is not!

The word "day" is used both literally and symbolically in the Scriptures. The literal usages we need not look at, but the symbolic are pertinent here.

The Bible speaks of the "day of temptation in the wilderness." (Psalm 95:8) We know from other accounts that this "day" refers to the 40 years Israel wandered in the wilderness after their exodus from Egypt. The Apostle Peter tells us (2 Peter 3:8) "a day with the Lord is as a thousand years." A day is also used to represent a year of time. (Numbers 14: 34; Ezekiel 4: 6)

In Daniel 8, after being given a vision that includes a period of 2300 days, Daniel is told by Gabriel (Daniel 8: 26), "...and the vision of the *evening and the morning* which was told is true." This expression is equally symbolic with reference to the creative *days*. The use of these is only to place a parameter on the time represented.

When viewed as long eras of time, it is clear that the Bible agrees with science that creation took many

millennia and the creation and multiplication of the species as found in the fossil record is readily explained.

It should be noted, however, that the seven epochs of creation outlined in Genesis, merely refer to the *preparation of the earth* for man. The very first statement of the Bible is, "In the *beginning* God created the heaven and the earth." When that "beginning" was we are not told. We are simply informed that God created them at some time in the past—perhaps billions of years ago. The account of Genesis only deals with our planet and its populating. Therefore, when fossils are dated according to the rocks in which they are found, they achieve fantastic ages. The age of the earth far exceeds any living thing on it

#### The Challenge of Reason

Stunning new discoveries, mainly in the fields of astronomy, biochemistry and paleontology have led many scientists to admit the existence of an intelligence behind it all. Albert Einstein was so impressed by the superior intelligence exhibited in nature that he called it: "an intelligence of such superiority that, compared with it, all the systematic thinking and acting of human beings is an utterly insignificant reflection."

How reasonable is it to assume that even a single cell could come into existence by chance? Michael J. Behe, in his book, *Darwin's Black Box: the Biochemical Challenge to Evolution*, states that life is a molecular phenomenon. The knowledge science has gained about the biochemical structure and functioning of cells since the 1950's—information not known to Darwin and his colleagues—has placed enormous challenges before evolutionists. It was once thought that the basis of life was fairly simple. That has been proven far from the truth.

Experimental work with the smallest known genome [the complete set of chromosomes necessary for reproduction], indicates that life requires at least 250-350 gene products. Biophysicist Hubert Yockey has calculated the probability of forming a single gene product as approaching infinity—10 with 75 zeroes following it. If we assume that the universe is about 15 billion years old, less than one trillionth of the time has passed that would be

needed to make even one of the 250 gene products necessary for minimal life. Independent life requires 1,500 gene products. Not only must all the elements be in place, but they must all come together at just the precise moment in time or nothing would happen.

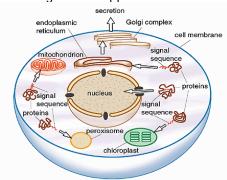


Diagram of a Simple Cell

Cellular make up and functioning has been shown to be every bit as complex as any technical product such as television, the computer, etc. No one would assert that these things would exist without the skill of an intelligent inventor. The probability that life arose by evolution has been compared to a 747 being produced by a tornado passing through a scrap yard. This might actually be more probable than biological evolution!

The Bible account of creation was written thousands—perhaps as much as 4,000—years ago. The fossil record on which science bases its understanding of the history of life on earth is of much more recent date. If the Bible were a mere book of mythology, as some seem to believe, how did ancient man have such accurate information regarding the order of the appearance of life—things that pre-dated him.

#### Is Evolution Science?

Scientific fact is only verifiable by the "scientific method," which is defined as "the systematic pursuit of knowledge ...through observation and experiment, and the formulation and testing of hypotheses." Though one hundred forty years of intensive research has been done in an effort to verify evolution, not one positive proof has been achieved. In fact, the more scientists try to establish evolution, the more they tend to prove the Biblical account. For example studies done by evolutionists Dorst, Akashi and Gilbert, ("Absence of Polymorphism at the ZFY Locus on the Human Y Chromosome") and Hammer ("A Recent Common Ancestry for Human Y Chromosomes") have shown that all males came from the same individual ancestor. A study of mitochondrial DNA likewise showed that all contemporary humans are the descendant of one woman—the Bible names her Eve. Likewise, all men have a common male ancestor—Adam.

#### The Fingerprint of God

The theory of evolution and Christianity are incompatible. The Psalmist said (Psalm 14:1), "The fool hath said in his heart, there is no God..." When we look at the world around us and observe the miracles of the natural world, the mark of an Intelligent Designer is clearly Let us, therefore, look up and praise the wonderful Creator who made it all. "O give thanks unto the LORD; for his is good: because his mercy endureth for ever." Psalm 118:1

God's character is illustrated in nature. His love is shown in the provision of variety and beauty of plant and animal life. His wisdom is shown by the self-sustaining systems of nature that keep the soil fertile, the air oxygenated and the waters pure and available.

His power will soon be shown when, through his Son, he restores all things to the way He originally made them; when He restores Eden and puts an end to the present reign of sickness and death; when the curse (Genesis 3:17-19) is lifted from the earth; when he calls the dead back from their tombs and brings them up the Highway of Holiness to perfect human life as Adam had it before he sinned; and when death shall be no more.

"...the desert shall rejoice and blossom as the rose. ...and the ransomed of the Lord shall return, and come to Zion with songs and everlasting joy upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away." Isaiah 35:1-1

