

Regent University

Creationism or Evolutionism:

Prove or Disprove?

A Report

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INTRODUCTION

Going about life day to day, the origin of the world as we know it is seldom a prioritized importance. However, as we begin to delve into the past and inquire into our history as human life forms, we realize there are endless questions as to how we came to be and definitive answers are scarce, yet plentiful. Provable data and tangible evidence are scarce; however, *answers* are readily available in the form of popular opinion, scientific theory, and religious belief. Since creationism and evolutionism are the polar opposites of a broad spectrum covering the debate of the world's origin and that of its inhabitants, is it possible to prove or disprove creation or evolution?

Evolutionists attack creationism strongly, suggesting that the idea of an eternal world is preposterous and inconsistent with everything scientific that has been found about life. Evolutionists find it difficult to believe that circumstances occur because of a sort of divine intervention, and their idea of natural selection counters the very fundamental aspect of creationism, which holds that life was designed by God and is driven by purpose.

Creationists, on the other hand, argue that evolution is no more scientifically sound than creation and charged that statements by evolutionists tend to be contradictory and hypocritical in nature and basis. Creationism bases the origin of the earth and heavens on the Genesis account of creation wherein God formed everything in existence, ending with man whom He intended to rule over all other creatures.

CHAPTER I
BACKGROUND AND EVIDENCE OF
CREATIONISM AND EVOLUTIONISM

Creation and evolution theories have created a widely debated issue regarding the origins of life, and has even manifested as a struggle over what is taught in the schools pertaining to the beginnings of the universe. Creationists have fought for decades to have creation at least mentioned as an alternative theory, rather than teaching evolution as fact.¹

Details of Creation

Creationism is defined as “a doctrine or theory holding that matter, the various forms of life, and the world were created by God out of nothing and usually in the way described in Genesis.”² The Genesis account of creation is told simply by the following passages:

*In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. So God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.*³

By the account of Genesis, God created all things within the scope of His design and with the intention of His purpose. Man was created in His image.

¹ Deloria, 8-12.

² Merriam-Webster <<http://webster.com/dictionary/creation+>>.

³ Holy Bible, Genesis 1:1, 27

Supporting Beliefs

In 1902, George McReady Price wrote Outlines of Modern Christianity and Modern Science which suggested that rather than genetic mutations that resulted from physical environmental changes carries through thousands of generations and millions of years, most of the geological changes noted were caused by the Great Flood of Noah just a few thousand years ago. The creation theory of origin is not regarded by the majority of educators as worthy of teaching because it cannot be manipulated and tested by applying the scientific method, nor can it be tested and repeated in laboratory studies. Ironically, however, the same is true for the theory of evolution.

Refuting Beliefs

Evolutionists habitually make attempts at discrediting components of the theory of creation for the sake of assuming that it strengthens the argument for evolution. However, each theory has unproven aspects and for very good reason, which will be addressed later. In his book, *Evolution, Creationism, and Other Modern Myths*, Vine Deloria, Jr. makes the statement, "Science has replaced religion as the authoritative source of our knowledge regarding the world."⁴ Deloria hints to the idea that we have become accustomed to following suggested fact with blind obedience simply because it has been labeled as scientific documentation.

Throughout the last few decades, several school districts and states have fought to include creationism in textbook curriculum, such as Kansas, Louisiana, and Arkansas.^{5 6}

⁴ Deloria, 24.

⁵ Nelkin, 17-22.

⁶ Boston, Rob. 2006. "*Designed for Controversy: the Religious Right's New Creationism.*" Humanist 66, no. 1: 35-36. Academic Search Premier, EBSCOhost (accessed October 16, 2006).

Before the vote was won in the Kansas Board of Education to include creation in the teachings, evolution had been taught as the accepted theory on origin and the only viable scientific explanation of our ancestry. The reason behind this is that it is our constitutional right and responsibility to maintain a separation of church and state. Education happens to be included under 'state' and creation happens to be included under 'church.'

Details of Evolution

Evolution is the historical development of a biological group (as a race or species); a theory that the various types of animals and plants have their origin in other preexisting types and that the distinguishable differences are due to modifications in successive generations. Evolutionists believe, like creationists, that life was formed from non living things. However, evolution makes no mention of an intelligent being, or God, designing life forms.

Supporting Beliefs

The theory of evolution holds that we have evolved or mutated over long periods of time in an apparent attempt to survive by physical adaptation, thus creating the many different species we see today. Fossil data that has been collected throughout history by paleontologists suggests that this theory is fact, as the carbon 14 present dates the artifacts millions of years ago.⁷ At age 49, Charles Darwin, a prosperous man made rich by a family fortune obtained during the Industrial Revolution, began to organize his ideas on natural history in preparation of making them known to the scientific community. Darwin believed that living things came into existence not by God's creation but by natural processes and

⁷ Montagu, Ashley. *Science and Creationism*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1984.

survived by natural selection, or ‘survival of the fittest’ depending on how well they adapted to the changing environment. Darwin’s theories had no inclusion of divine influence – organisms either adapted or died.⁸

Refuting Beliefs

Richard Milton, author of *The Facts of Life: Shattering the Myths of Darwinism* states that the theory of natural selection which is used retrospectively to explain every outcome has no predictive qualities and actually explains nothing. Despite evolutionists’ argument that creation is not scientific because it is neither testable or repeatable, we have yet to see scientists evolve an ape into a human in any laboratory study. One requirement of the scientific method is that concepts/doctrines should have some type of predictive power. As Milton charged, evolution is only able to be applied “after the fact to work data into a predetermined storyline.”⁹

MacBeth, a lawyer accustomed to dealing with formal rules of evidence, began reading evolutionary texts when a severe heart condition restricted him from practicing law. He eventually conceded that evolutionary thinking was “filled with unwarranted assumptions and conclusions.” His book, *Darwin Retried*, describes evolution as “very confused efforts to force the interpretation of fossil evidence into a predetermined mold.”¹⁰ Non living chemicals have yet to produce a living cell by natural processes, which is what evolutionists ‘have faith’ that happened millions of years ago.

⁸ Browne, 4-42, 325-344.

⁹ Deloria, 68-69.

¹⁰ Deloria, 67-68.

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

Creationism states that God created the heaven and the earth in six literal days by the account of Genesis 1 in the Holy Bible. Evolution describes a series of changes (evolutions) which eventually mutated into living cells, thus creating different life forms over millions of years. Darwin, one of the most noted theorists supporting evolution, did not believe in divine influence; his belief was that natural selection determined which organisms adapted and which organisms perished into extinction. If evolution were true and the species evolved in an attempt to survive, why do we not all have wings to fly? Why do we not all have fangs, or great strength? If we have all evolved and we exist today *because* we are the fittest, how are weak animals and defenseless humans still alive today?

Without being able to reproduce the effects of evolution, how can we determine that it is true? How can we give merit to what seems to be nothing more than imagination? Given the complexity of the earth, air, water... life... how can we ignore and refute that there is a higher power at work in the universe? As perfect as life is in its form and function, the conclusion must be that God *has* created the heavens and the earth and all life forms which inhabit the land, skies, and the waters. Evolution and natural selection could not possibly have birthed a molecular structure so complex and so perfect! In the absence of God's power and grace, our bodies would in no way be anatomically correct to fit together in the way they do to accommodate conception, child birth, and breastfeeding.

Without a plan and design and an ultimate purpose, the structure of life as we know it could not have formed as evolutionists believe- from nonliving matter. However, let us imagine that it did. Let us imagine that the evolutionary theories are indeed fact – that we are the product of mutations and environmental influence. Let's imagine that we were ultimately derived from non-living matter. In this case, where exactly did the non-living matter originate?

The fact remains that we will never be able to prove or disprove evolution because (1) it is not a viable or reliable theory given the complexity and perfection of life forms, and (2) it requires belief and imagination. As long as there is belief that the theory is true, and there are individuals who wish to prove it as such, there will be evidence presented to at least mildly do so. In the same sense, there will be no means of disproving its doctrines simply due to the fact that its believers have *faith* that the theory of evolution is true. The cycle continues that believers will believe until otherwise is proven.

We will never be able to prove or disprove creation until the day of judgment because (1) it requires faith and personal experience with God, and (2) God will not allow for scientific proof of His existence because it would render faith useless and the meaning of life would be stripped from His creation. Creation is charged by evolutionists as being a religion with no scientific basis. However, evolution is nothing more than atheistic materialism.¹¹

Evolutionist argument can be regarded as paradoxical and deceitful in that individuals who hold true to its doctrines accuse creationists of presenting theory that cannot be tested or proven. However, evolution fits the same mold, which portrays hypocrisy.

¹¹ Sarfati, 33.

25 Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You clean the outside of the cup and dish, but inside they are full of greed and self-indulgence. *26* Blind Pharisee! First clean the inside of the cup and dish, and then the outside also will be clean.

27 Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You are like whitewashed tombs, which look beautiful on the outside but on the inside are full of dead men's bones and everything unclean. *28* In the same way, on the outside you appear to people as righteous but on the inside you are full of hypocrisy and wickedness.¹²

¹² Holy Bible, Matthew 23:25-28.

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