

IS THE BIBLE OR SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN MAGAZINE RIGHT ABOUT ORIGINS?

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INTRODUCTION

While there are numerous subjects that can be discussed, debated and argued, a topic that is often at the forefront of discussions and/or arguments, and has been for hundreds of years, is origins (where did the universe and man come from)? From a simplistic viewpoint, there are only two choices as echoed by Dr. George Wald, a Harvard Nobel Laureate who has stated – “*When it comes to the origin of life on this earth, there are only two possibilities; creation or spontaneous generation (evolution) – there is no third way.*” However, when reading current secular and/or scientific magazines, the new breed of science textbooks, watching the Discovery Channel, History Channel, PBS, or national/local news stations, it quickly becomes obvious that the secular scientific version of origins (evolution and its companion of billions and millions of years of age) are not only emphasized but presented as a factual foundation of secular science while the biblical origins narrative is either ignored, ridiculed or discounted. *Note: The term evolution (secular scientific explanation) and creation (biblical narrative) will be used to refer to origins for the balance of this discussion as both terms encompasses the viewpoint of how did the universe and/or life originate.*

Even though Charles Darwin and secular science has labeled evolution as a theory since its published introduction in 1859, a relevant question in the 21st century is “*Why are current media outlets and academia aggressively marketing*

evolution, and often as a fact instead of its long tenure as a theory?" A foundational answer to that two-part question can be found from two viewpoints. The first viewpoint is the current aggressive early indoctrination of basic evolutionary theory to children. As an example, the 2016 book titled *Grandmothers Fish: a child's first book of Evolution* targets preschoolers and children from the ages of 3 to 6 years old. The book offers a graphic and accessible introduction to the theory of evolution to younger children, and is intended to train children from a very young age against the Word of God. This pro-evolution book is one of many that are being promoted for children (Figure 1).

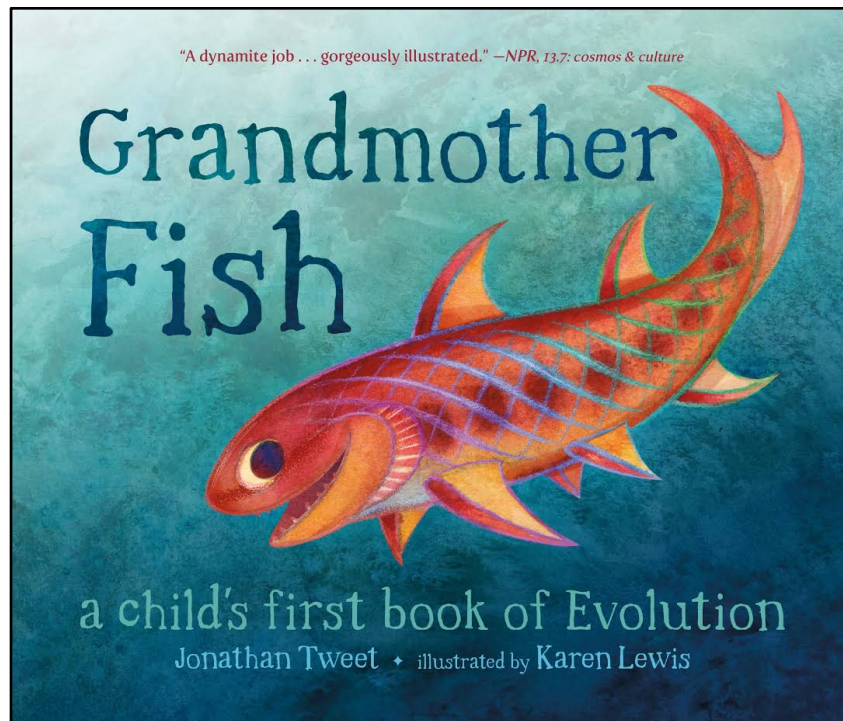


Figure 1. Grandmother Fish

The second viewpoint is found on page 49 in the November 2016 issue of *Scientific American* magazine that asks and then answers a question based on the premise of why evolution is popular to a secular world and academia. The magazine boldly states – *"If new species are created naturally—not supernaturally—what place then, for God?"* Obviously this quote assertively submits the premise that evolution and its companion of natural selection can not only be a godless replacement for the biblical narrative of the beginning of the universe and life, but can also eliminate God as the Creator.

Unfortunately, the choice between the evolutionary perspective of secular science and the biblical account of creation can present a dilemma to a Christian – and their families – who believe the Bible is the inerrant word of God that

presents an account of the universe and man that is significantly contrary to the scientific dogma of evolution. As a result of this dilemma in addition to the aggressive marketing of secular science, some Christians (and a majority of Christian colleges) accept evolution as fact and the first two chapters of Genesis are discounted in favor of the *latest scientific discoveries* (Figure 2).



Figure 2. Evolutionary theory is subject to change

The choice between evolution and biblical scripture presents a thought-provoking quandary. Either the Bible is the inspired word of God and is true from the first verse in Genesis to the last verse in Revelation, or evolution is true as theorized by science. Obviously, God would not give us a book that is partially true (if this were the case, then what parts are true and false, and ultimately, is the resurrection true?), as this would question the deity and omnipotence of God. So, it is clear there is a major problem that mandates each person must choose one of two options:

- Believe the entire Bible as inspired truth
- Accept the theory of evolution as proposed by science

With the previous thoughts in mind, let's first overview the biblical account of creation, followed by the evolutionary narrative as graphically championed in a recent issue of Scientific American magazine, and then look at the scientific evidence that is for or against biblical and evolutionary viewpoints.

BIBLICAL ACCOUNT OF CREATION

The biblical account of creation as found in the first chapter and verse in Genesis is simple and straightforward by clearly stating:

"In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth"
Genesis 1:1

Genesis then goes on to say that God created the universe and man in six days, and then rested on the seventh day. Therefore, as Genesis 1:1 does not try to substantiate the creation account, you must either accept or reject it. Period! If this sounds rather straightforward, that's because the Bible is direct, has not changed since it was originally written thousands of years ago, and presents each reader of scripture with a basic choice of rejection or belief. So, when reading the Bible, particularly the creation narrative, consider three basic concepts:

- The first concept is the inerrancy of the entire Bible as outlined in II Timothy:

"All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work"
II Timothy 3:16

This verse tells us that **ALL** scripture is inspired by God, is suitable for instruction and equipping us in our daily lives, and is inerrant (without error)

- The second concept is the principle of simplicity that is summarized as:

"We ought to take what God says and understand that if God said it, that's probably what He meant, or else He would have said it a different way"

This principle comes from an essential perspective that means God *"said it so we can understand it"*

- The third concept also comes from an essential perspective that is taken directly from Proverbs and is known as the principle of straightforwardness:

"All the utterances of my mouth are in righteousness; there is nothing crooked or perverted in them. They are all straightforward to him who understands, and right to those who find knowledge"
Proverbs 8:8-9

This principle is similar to the first and second principles as it focuses on the straightforward (direct, honest, frank) truth of scripture. Three key examples of the simplicity and straightforwardness of Old and New Testament Scriptures on creation are:

"O Lord, how manifold are Your works! In wisdom You have made them all"
Psalm 104:24

"For by Him all things were created, both in the heavens and on earth, visible and invisible"
Colossians 1:16

"All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made"
John 1:3

These verses, as well as others in scripture use the key word of **all** (defined by Webster's as "*entirely*") that clearly indicates God created everything that we see and don't see, and without him nothing was made that was made! There is absolutely no mention of evolution or any of its theoretical processes in scripture, anywhere! However, as opposed to the clarity of scripture, a subtle argument that dilutes the unequivocal nature of biblical creation is "*although God started the creation process, evolution was used to complete the process over billions and millions of years.*" As a rebuttal to this viewpoint, it is imperative to remember the meaning of three Hebrew words that are used within the creation account in scripture as follows:

- Ex Nihilo:
This word means God created out of nothing. Before the act of creation, nothing existed (except God)
- Bara:
This word is a perfect verb meaning the action of creating – as stated in the biblical text – is finished. So, when this verb is used (i.e., Day 1, etc.), it means that the act of creation during that particular time frame needed no further action – it was started and finished. From another perspective, God did not start the creation procedure and then let evolution finish the process. So, when *Ex Nihilo* and *Bara* are used in the creation account, the clear Hebrew meaning is – God created out of nothing and started and finished the act of creation in six day-periods – which then raises the next obvious question – how long was a creation day
- Day:
The two principal viewpoints regarding the definition of a day are:

- A day means a literal 24-hour day, or.....
- The word day can also mean various periods of time such as millions and billions of years

Obviously, these two viewpoints are diametrically opposed in their length of time as God either created in six 24-hour periods of time or He created over six long periods of time. Therefore, what is the evidence for the correct definition of day? As a starting point, let's look at the word day from a Hebrew perspective (the Old Testament was written in Hebrew) and see if the Bible clearly defines day. The Hebrew word for day in the Genesis account of creation is "*Yom*" and occurs 2,300 times in the Old Testament, with 1,450 in the singular, 845 in the plural, and 5 in the dual form. Its semantic range is limited to five meanings:

1. A period of a year
2. A general or vague concept of time
3. A period of light in a day/night cycle
4. A specific point of time
5. A period of 24 hours

As can be seen by the five preceding meanings, *Yom* can be defined as various periods of time and is used in different contexts throughout the Bible. As an example, the word day is used in Genesis 1 to describe numerical earth rotations, in describing the three days Jonah was in a great fish, and so on. However, one use of the word day that is often used to illustrate that a day can mean long periods of time is found in II Peter as follows:

"One day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like a day"
II Peter 3:8

This verse has nothing to do with creation but everything to do with the perception of time, as God understands time much differently from ours. From our viewpoint, Christ's coming seems like a long time away. From God's viewpoint, it will not be long. Also, the verse does not say, "*a day is a thousand years*," yet his verse is still used to give a measure of credibility to a day meaning long periods of time in the creation narrative.

Nevertheless, *Yom* **always** means 24-hours when **anyone** of the following is present:

- Preceded by a numeric (1, 2, 3, etc)
- Associated with evening and morning
- Associated with night

Not surprisingly, the creation account in Genesis uses all three of these considerations. Therefore, based on the Hebrew rules of grammar, *Yom* in the Genesis account of creation means 24-hours and could not be any clearer. A strong example of the use of *Yom* is found in the Fourth Commandment in both Exodus 20:8-11 and 31:17:

"For in six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested on the seventh day. Therefore, the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and hallowed it."

Exodus 20:11

The word *For* (also having the sense *because*) at the beginning of the expression is a causal explanation showing that the creation week is the very basis of a working week. In these passages, it's explicit that the creation days were the same as those of the human workweek. Therefore, if a biblical day is supposed to mean billions and millions of years, then is the Sabbath day billions and millions of years in length? Consider the following two quotes:

"Probably, so far as I know, there is no professor of Hebrew or Old Testament at any world-class university who does not believe that the writer(s) of Genesis 1-11 intended to convey to their readers that creation took place in a series of 6 days which were the same as the days of 24-hours we now experience, and Noah's flood was understood to be worldwide"

James Barr, past Regis Professor of Hebrew, Oxford University

"Although the Young Universe Creationist position is not widely held within secular academia, the position – that the author of Genesis 1 maintained that the world was created in six literal days – is nearly universally held"

Peter Williams, Warden of Tyndale House, Cambridge University

Two additional side points of interest are:

- *"God called the light Day, and the darkness He called Night"* – Genesis 1:5. This verse begins the cycle of the day. With the creation of light, it is now possible to have a cycle of light and darkness, which God labels day and night. Evening is the transition from light/day to darkness/night. Morning is the transition from darkness/night to light/day. Having an evening and a morning amounts to having one full day. Hence, the following equation is what Genesis 1:5 expresses – Evening + Morning = one day. Consequently, by using a most unusual grammatical construction, Genesis 1 is defining what a day is

- According to 2 Peter 3:10-13 the universe and earth will ultimately melt in fervent heat that ends human history as we know it. However, Revelation 21:1 says that a new heaven and earth will be made as a replacement. If it is believed it took evolution and/or God billions and millions of years to create the original universe and earth, will it also take billions and millions of years to re-create the new heaven and earth or will God create it in an instant by the *word of his mouth* as He did in the Genesis account of creation

Therefore, in a biblical and Hebrew context in the Genesis account of creation, the word day means 24 hours and the resultant consequential implications are:

- **The long periods of time that evolution requires do not fit within the 6-day creation account**
- **There is no room for evolution, anywhere, in the biblical account of creation**

So, if a biblical day in the creation account is 24 hours, then what is the age of the universe and earth? In the previous section, we discussed the biblical word day (*Yom* in Hebrew) and the grammatical Hebrew interpretation that is rendered as a literal calendar day (or 24-hours), not long periods of time such as billions and millions of years. Therefore, if we know the length of a biblical day then we can compute the age of the universe and earth from a biblical perspective. The Bible teaches that the entire universe was created in *six earth-rotation days* (Exodus 20:11). Additionally, the Bible provides age differences between parents and descendants when listing certain genealogies. From these references we know that the time between Adam and Christ was about 4,000 years and Christ was born about 2,000 years ago. As a result, we can conclude that the universe and everything in it is *about* 6,000 to 7,000 years old.

However, there is a common disagreement between the biblical age of the universe/earth and the views of the majority of secular scientists. Modern secular science teaches the universe is about 13.8 billion years old and the earth is about 4.5 billion years old, which ultimately leads to the question of “*Why is there such a large age difference between the Bible and science?*” This question is easily answered from two perspectives:

- The biblical answer is the creation narrative was authored by the only eyewitness to the six-day creation event about 6,000 - 7,000 years ago – God
- The evolutionary answer is long periods of time are necessary for the alleged evolution of the universe and all living things

Because there is a vast difference between the aforementioned answer to the large age difference between the bible and science, an obvious question that

needs to be answered is – “*what perspective does science support?*” Lets answer that question in the last section titled Scientific Evidence for or Against Biblical and Evolutionary Viewpoints.

EVOLUTIONARY NARRATIVE BY SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN

Scientific American magazine (Figure 3) is listed as “*The world’s leading source and authority for science and technology information for science-interested citizens, delivering understandable, credible and provocative content to an audience of more than 5 million people worldwide. Founded in 1845 on the commitment to bring first-hand developments in modern science to our audience.*”



Figure 3. Scientific American magazine

Although the magazine is popular in secular scientific academia, the editors do not mention two important publication guidelines:

- The biblical account of creation (and the global flood) has no credibility
- Biblically sourced material is not printed, regardless of an author's expertise, as only secular authors are used (this is true of all secular scientific publications)

Even though the magazine prints numerous articles on a wide variety of secular scientific interests, evolutionary perspectives are presented with an emphasis on establishing credibility for Darwinian evolution. This fact was graphically demonstrated in the November 2016 issue with a cover header (Figure 3) that reads 5 Scientific Facts (That People Often Get Wrong).



Figure 4. Article introduction

When turning to the article introduction on page 47, the reader is immediately confronted with a large 5 and bold letters that state “5 THINGS WE KNOW TO BE TRUE, A COMPENDIUM OF IRREFUTABLE FACTS FOR THESE FACT-STARVED TIMES (Figure 4).” The article then continues with a

full-page text portion that is highlighted with the following sidebar – *“Evolution Is the Only Reasonable Explanation for the Diversity of Life on Earth.”* The article then begins with the following two paragraphs and continues with alleged scientific evidence for evolution (that we will look at in the next section):

“On January 14, 1844, Charles Darwin wrote a letter to his friend Joseph Hooker, recalling his voyage around the world on the HMS Beagle. After five years at sea and seven years at home thinking about the origin of species, Darwin came to this conclusion: At last gleams of light have come, and I am almost convinced (quite contrary to opinion I started with) that species are not (it is like confessing a murder) immutable (unchangeable).

*Like confessing a murder. Dramatic words. But it doesn’t take a rocket scientist – or an English naturalist – to understand why a theory on the origin of species by means of natural selection would be so controversial. **If new species are created naturally – not supernaturally – what place then, for God?** No wonder that more than a century and a half later people of some religious faiths still find the theory so terribly threatening. But in those intervening years scientists have found so much evidence in support of the theory that it would be truly astonishing if it turned out not to be true-as shocking as if the germ theory of disease fell apart or if astrophysics were forced to abandon the big bang model of the universe. Why? Because of a convergence of evidence from many lines of inquiry.”*

The article then goes on to expand on four claimed scientific proofs of evolution and concludes with the following sentence – *“As the great geneticist and evolutionary theorist Theodosius Dobzhansky famously noted, “Nothing in biology makes sense except in the light of evolution.”* After reading the entire article, the reader should have recognized the following five predictable highlights:

1. The magazine cover states there are 5 scientific facts that people often get wrong. One of those “scientific facts” is evolution
2. Evolution is the only reasonable explanation for diversity of life on earth
3. Evolution is a replacement for God
4. Scientists have found so much evidence in support of the theory that it would be truly astonishing if it turned out not to be true
5. Nothing in biology makes sense except in the light of evolution

Even though the aforementioned five predictable highlights are false from a biblical viewpoint, number four is particularly egregious from the fact that secular science is lacking any evidence for Darwinian evolution. In fact, it can be confidently stated that – *“Evolution violates all of the basic laws of nature and the universe.”* Nevertheless, evolution is presented as factual for two basic reasons:

- A methodology to replace God
- *"The best defense is a good offense"* proverb is deftly applied to this issue

SCIENTIFIC EVIDENCE FOR OR AGAINST BIBLICAL AND EVOLUTIONARY VIEWPOINTS

Because of the emphasis on evolution within our modern society, the phrase that *"evolution violates all of the basic laws of nature and the universe"* may seem somewhat surprising and/or controversial. So, let's look at the scientific evidence for or against biblical and evolutionary viewpoints and see if Scientific American magazine is correct in its assessment of the factual nature of evolution.

Note: Evolution can be defined from two perspectives. Microevolution is change within a species (i.e., evidenced by the number of different dogs, cats, etc.) and is not an arguable point. However, Macroevolution is change between species (i.e., ape to man), which is an arguable point. The term evolution in this discussion refers to Macroevolution.

Prior to considering some fundamental scientific evidences, we need to first consider two important parameters:

- The common definition of a law is *"no known alternatives."* The definition of a scientific law is *"100% correct"*
- According to the July 2002 issue of Discover magazine, scientific *theories* only have a lifespan of about 20 years – *"a lot of what we swear is scientifically accurate today will be proved wrong within a couple of decades."* If secular scientific theories are used to explain evolution, then what theories are you going to use because they are likely to be proven wrong (according to Discover magazine). This is in direct contrast to the Bible that is inerrant and has not changed since it was written

Now, let's look at some scientific evidences as applied to evolution and creation, and begin with several scientific laws and then specifically look at two alleged evidences in the Scientific American article, remembering that evolution is being presented as factual science.

PHYSICS

The 1st and 2nd laws of thermodynamics are the cornerstones of science and have proven to be the fundamental laws of the universe.

The 1st law of thermodynamics is summarized as follows – *"Energy can neither be created nor destroyed."* This law is known as the law of energy conservation and states that energy can be converted from one form to another,

but it cannot be created or destroyed. The current evolutionary explanation for the beginning of the universe is the Big Bang theory that states – *“The universe burst into something from absolutely nothing, zero, nada. And as it got bigger, it became filled with even more stuff that came from absolutely nowhere.”* When the first law of thermodynamics is applied to the evolutionary explanation of the universe, one must ponder the question of the origin of the material that was responsible for the sudden burst of energy, or, the Big Bang. This question formed the headline for the cover of Discover magazine, April 2002, when it asked the question *“Where Did Everything Come From?”* Interestingly, the December 2002 issue of Astronomy magazine stated – *“One reason the Big Bang may be so unpopular is that it is downright weird.”* The following quote is applicable when the first law of thermodynamics is applied to the origin of the universe:

“It is absurd for the evolutionist to complain that it is unthinkable for an unthinkable God to make everything out of nothing, and then pretend that it is more thinkable that nothing should turn itself into anything”

Noted British Astrophysicist Herman Eckelman

The 2nd law of thermodynamics is summarized as follows – *“Everything moves from order to disorder.”* This is known as entropy or the law of energy decay and is readily observable in everything we see around us such as your home, car, and includes the universe (that scientists will admit is slowly winding down). Another way to look at this law is that every system left to its own devices tends to move from order to disorder (degeneration). A classic example of the application of this law is what you see in the mirror each morning. Is your persona improving or does it continually requires more time to make you presentable? In opposition to this law is the theory of evolution that necessitates billions of years of continual violations to this law. Evolution requires that the evolutionary processes be steadily and constantly on an upward road to improvement while the second law of thermodynamics plainly makes the opposite obvious. Consider the following quote as applied to the second law of thermodynamics:

“If your theory is found to be against the second law of thermodynamics I can give you no hope; there is nothing for it but to collapse in deepest humiliation”

Noted British Astronomer Arthur Eddington

When the 1st and 2nd laws of thermodynamics are applied to creation, we find that God is the only one capable of creating energy and matter from nothing (*Bara*), and the universe has been winding down since the sin and fall of Adam

and Eve. Conversely, when the 1st and 2nd laws of thermodynamics are applied to evolution, it is unmistakably obvious that the first law proves the universe could not have created itself, and the second law also proves that the universe is winding down, and as a result, prohibits organic evolution. One last thought regarding the Big Bang. Normally, explosions result in a high degree of disorder. How did the Big Bang result in the complex order that is evident in the universe and life on this planet?

CHEMISTRY

To understand the importance of chemistry and the theory of evolution, it is necessary to briefly revisit the secular scientific premise of the beginning of life:

"Life began when earth was young. The planet was born about 4.6 billion years ago, and its crust began to solidify about 4 billion years ago. A few hundred million years later, by 3.5 billion years ago, earth was already inhabited by a diversity of organisms." Life on earth began in water and evolved there for 3 billion years before spreading onto land.

Modern life, even land-dwelling life, is still tied to water"

Essential Biology, Campbell, Reece, Simon, 2004

The preceding definition is from a renowned textbook and depends on the theory that the universe and life just happened. However, the field of chemistry with the benefit of modern advances immediately raises a major objection to this theory. Up to about the sixteenth century, it was believed that life emerged spontaneously from non-living matter, which was known as spontaneous generation. Then, spontaneous generation was disproved by Redi (1688), Spallanzani (1780), Virchow (1858), and the renowned Louis Pasteur in 1860. These scientists (as well as others) conclusively proved that life only comes from preexisting life, which then continues to perpetuate its own kind. Today, this fact is known as The Law of Biogenesis (or the Biogenetic Law), and clearly states that life could not have spontaneously began in the air, on land, or in water. Consider the following quotes:

"The notion that not only molecules but the operating program of a living cell could be arrived at by chance in a primordial soup (water) here on earth is evidently nonsense of a high order"

Noted Astronomer, Fred Hiatt

"I believe that one day the Darwinian myth will be ranked the greatest deceit in the history of science"

Soren Lovtrup, respected Swedish Biologist and evolutionist

Although evolutionary theory relies on the science of chemistry for the spontaneous generation of life from non-living materials, modern advances in science have proven that life could not have evolved from spontaneous generation in the early primordial oceans (or anywhere else). These facts leave just one solution for the beginning of life – creation – that clarifies how life originally started. That clarification is found in the first chapter of Genesis.

With the preceding overview of three basic laws scientific laws that completely disprove evolution, let's look at two alleged proofs for evolution as stated in the Scientific American article and see if they are validated by science.

DATING TECHNIQUES

Quoting from the magazine – *“The consistency of dating techniques also gives us confidence that the theory is true. Uranium-lead, rubidium-strontium and potassium-argon dating, for example, are all reasonably consistent in their determination of the age of the rocks and fossils. The ages are given in estimates, but the margins of error are in the range of 1%. It is not as if one scientist finds that a fossil hominid (human) is 1.2 million years old while another one finds it is 10,000 years old.”*

The common dating methods that are used to determine the age of the universe, earth, man and other assorted objects of interest (such as fossils and rocks) are Carbon 14 and Radiometric Dating (or Radioisotope Dating). Even though the magazine article praises the accuracy, consistency and confidence of dating techniques, let's briefly look at the two most common dating methods, as the same issues trouble both.

Carbon 14

Carbon 14 is probably the more recognized of the two popular dating methods and is based on the simple principle of the ratio between carbon 12 (C-12) and carbon 14 (C-14). Here is how it works. Carbon 12 is a stable form of carbon and along with the gas nitrogen 14 (N-14), they are both naturally found in our atmosphere. When N-14 is bombarded by cosmic rays from outer space, the radioactive isotope C-14 is formed. Being a cyclical process, C-14 is continually being formed and decaying back into N-14. Living things (plants, animals, and man) absorb C-12 and C-14 atoms while breathing and eating. However, once an animal, plant, or human dies, they stop absorbing C-12 and C-14 atoms, and the unstable C-14 atoms begin to revert back to N-14. As a result, the ratio of C-12 to C-14 atoms will change over time. Therefore, to use the carbon 14 method to date a past living plant, animal, or human, the amount of C-12 is *assumed* to remain constant and is compared to the amount of the unstable C-14 that is left. However, the C-14 dating method does have its limits:

- In the 1940's, Dr. William Libby was credited with the discovery of the carbon 14 dating method. At the time, he acknowledged there was at least a 23% error rate. Today, it is known that the error rate can exceed 50%
- Carbon 14 depends on four assumptions. Because these assumptions are not observable, repeatable or testable, they are not provable. As a result, they are assumptions, and are:
 - (1) The decay rate of C-14 has been constant
 - (2) There has been no contamination of the C-12 or C-14
 - (3) The original quantity of C-12 is assumed to be known
 - (4) There has never been a global-restructuring catastrophic flood

A quick review of the previous four assumptions should clearly illustrate that over a period of alleged billions and millions of years, it is impossible to verify a constant decay rate, assume no contamination (water leaching, etc.), and know the original quantity of the stable isotope C-12. Additionally, there is clear evidence of a worldwide catastrophic flood as 75% of the earth's crust is sedimentary! Even within its limitations, C-14 dating can often yield results that are at best, misleading. Consider the following quote:

"No matter how useful it is, the radiocarbon method is still not capable of yielding accurate and reliable results. There are gross discrepancies, the chronology is uneven and relative, and the accepted dates are selected dates"

Anthropological Journal of Canada, "Radiocarbon, Ages in Error"

Radioisotope

Radioisotope (or radiometric) methodology is also commonly used for dating purposes and it depends on the same four assumptions as carbon 14.

Radioisotope dating is normally limited to dating rocks. There are three basic kinds of rocks found on earth:

- Metamorphic (granite; the result of pressure and heat)
- Igneous (lava; the result of molten magma)
- Sedimentary (sediments such as sandstone, limestone, shale, etc)

Rocks that are dated with radioisotope methods are metamorphic and igneous rocks. The radioisotope dating technique compares the amount of unstable radioactive "Parent" elements and their "Daughter" elements. Daughter elements are elements that unstable radioactive elements (parent elements) decay into over a period of time. As an example, a popular radioisotope dating method is uranium-lead as uranium-238 spontaneously decays into lead-206. The rate that uranium-238 decays into lead-206 through its intermediate steps are known

as its half-life. The half-life for uranium-238 decay into lead-206 is *thought* to be 4.5 billion years. There are also other radioisotope dating methods such as potassium-argon, rubidium-strontium, and lead-lead, but they all operate on the same basic principle.

If the uranium-lead method is used to date a metamorphic or igneous rock (assumed to be the oldest materials on earth), a measurement of the amount of the intermediate isotopes that are present in the rock, including the amount of uranium-238 and lead-206 is taken. This will yield the alleged age of the rock from the ratio of the uranium-238 to lead-206 that is found in the rock. A legitimate question is *"How accurate are radioisotope dating methods?"* Based on the current measurements of rocks of known ages, radioisotope-dating methods are extremely inaccurate! The following are a few examples:

- The Kaupelehu Flow, Hualalai Volcano, Hawaii, is known to have erupted in 1800-1801. Radioisotope dating ranges from 140 million years to 2.96 billion years
- Lava flows from Mt. Kilauea, Hawaii, are less than 200 years old, yet radioisotope dating gives dates of around 21 million years
- Lava flows at Mt. Ngauruhoe, New Zealand, are less than 50 years old, yet radioisotope dating methods have yielded dates between 100 million years and 3,908 million years old
- Mt. Saint Helens, Washington, erupted in May 1980. Radioisotope dating of the lava flows yielded dates between 350,000 and 2.4 million years old

The previous examples give credibility to the impression that radioisotope dating does not work on rocks of known ages, but is assumed to work on rocks of unknown ages. In many cases, it is a fact that published dates are in reality, selected dates by secular science. Consider the following quote:

"Dating methods may be further summarized by the simple statement that there are really no reliable long-time radiological clocks, and even the short-time radiocarbon clock is in serious need of repair"

Dr. Melvin Cook, Physical Chemistry, Yale

FOSSIL RECORD

Quoting from the magazine – *"Not only are the dates consistent, but the fossils also show intermediate stages – something antievolutionists still insist don't exist. And geologic strata consistently reveal the same sequence of fossils. Trilobites and mammals are separated by many millions of years, so finding a fossil horse in the same geologic stratum as a dinosaur – would prove problematic for the theory of evolution, but that has*

never happened." Now, apart from the magazine, let's take a closer look at the fossil record.

When trying to determine the development of life on earth (either from an evolutionary or a creationist perspective), a reasonable approach would be to look at the historical record of life by an examination of fossilized remains of past forms of life found in the earth's rock strata. Today, the discovery of 250 thousand fossilized species and a total of 250 million catalogued fossils over the past 150 years have yielded a wealth of fossils that can be used for investigative purposes.

Because the aforementioned number of fossils has been recovered, an innumerable number of transitional fossils should also be recovered from the earth's rock strata. From an evolutionary viewpoint, if species are evolving upward and changing into higher forms of species, then fossils that display the characteristics of two species (or the in-between transitional form) should be present in the fossil record. Therefore, the fossil record should display the following characteristics from an evolutionary viewpoint:

- Gradual appearance of complex forms
- Slow change of simple forms into more complex forms
- Transitional life forms linking lower to more complex forms of life

From a creationist viewpoint, transitional fossils should not be found in the fossil record as God created the various species fully formed from the moment of creation as outlined in Genesis. Therefore, the fossil record should display the following characteristics from a creationist viewpoint:

- Sudden appearance of complex forms and with complete characteristics
- No transitional forms

When the fossil record is examined, there is a sudden appearance of most complex life forms in the Cambrian Period (100 million years ago) and is referred to in geology as the "*Cambrian Explosion*." Additionally, there is a complete lack of transitional fossils in the fossil record! These two revelations should not be surprising from a creationist viewpoint, but are fatal to the theory of evolution. In response to this fact, the late renowned evolutionary paleontologist and biologist Stephen J. Gould of Harvard proposed another theory called "*Punctuated Equilibrium*" that postulates new species suddenly appeared from cosmic bursts that left no trace of transitional fossils. Consider the following:

"The complete lack of fossil intermediates in the geological record is the most obvious and gravest objection which can be urged against my theory"
Charles Darwin

"The absence of fossil evidence for intermediary stages between major transitions has been a persistent and nagging problem for gradualist accounts of evolution, and is the trade secret of paleontology"
Stephen J. Gould, Evolutionist, Harvard

AGE OF THE UNIVERSE/EARTH

Have you ever wondered why secular science generally attaches long periods of time to the age of the universe, earth and man when considering history? As an example, and as previously mentioned, the current ages assigned by secular science are:

- The universe is about 13.8 billion years old (current belief)
- The earth is about 4.5 billion years old
- Man (homo sapiens) evolved about one million years ago.

The primary reason for long periods of time being closely associated with the past is based on the premise that time (and lots of it) are required for secular evolution – *"if there is enough time, anything can happen and/or be explained."* Within this framework of ideology, a common question is *"where did the aforementioned time frames come from?"* The simplistic and credible answer is assumptions, radiometric dating, and a scientific community that is willing to embrace long periods of time. The long periods of time assigned by secular science for the beginning of the universe, the subsequent evolution of the earth, and mankind can be summarized as follows:

- The age of the universe is an assumption that is largely based on the big bang theory
- The age of the earth is also theorized and comes from a meteorite rock named *"Allende"* (a-yen-day) that was found in Iceland, was dated by radiometric methods (lead-lead method), and yielded an age of 4.5 billion years
- Anthropologists currently think man appeared on the scene about 1 million years ago. This age is determined by radiometric and index fossil dating methods

However, does science support and/or validate long periods of time for the universe and earth? As the answer is an explicit no, let's look at a few of the many technical scientific reasons that denote a young universe and earth that is

supported by scripture, and then finish with a recent scientific discovery that long-age scientists would rather forget:

Note: Some may argue that conditions were different in the past than they are today so processes may not have been constant. However, the cornerstone of modern science is “uniformitarianism” that is based on the premise that what is happening today happened in the past (“the present is the key to the past”).

- **Diamonds and Coal**

- Diamonds are estimated to be between 1-3.3 billion years old
- Coal is estimated to be between 250-350 million years old
- Both have never been tested for carbon 14 (C-14) – until recently
- All C-14 should be gone within 50,000 to 60,000 yrs.
- All samples had “readily detectable” amounts of C-14
- This denotes ages in the thousands of years

- **Earth’s Magnetic Field**

- First measured in 1835
- Energy stored in the earth’s magnetic field has steadily decreased by a factor of 2.7 over the past 1,000 yrs
- At that rate, the current magnetic field could not be over 10,000 yrs. old

- **Helium**

- All naturally occurring families of radioactive elements generate helium as they decay
- If such decay took place over billions of years, there should be much helium in the atmosphere
- As there is currently a very small amount (1/2,000th), the “Helium Clock” insists the earth cannot be more than 10,000 to 15,000 yrs. old

- **Moon recession**

- Our moon is slowly receding from the earth at a rate of 2 inches per year
- 4.5 billion years ago, the moon would have been 380,000 miles closer to the earth
- This would have created a significant detrimental gravity/tide problem

- **Shrinking sun**

- The sun’s diameter decreases by about 4/100% per century, or 2-feet per hour
- 250,000 yrs. ago, the sun would have been double its present size and too hot for life on earth

- **Comets**
 - Comets are dirty snowballs that revolve around the sun in highly elliptical orbits
 - They contain dust, ice, ammonia, methane, and carbon dioxide
 - Halley's and Hale-Bopp comets are examples
 - They lose much mass every time they pass near the sun
 - Comets could not have been orbiting the sun for billions of years (since the solar system formed)
- **Oceans are not salty enough**
 - Each year, the world's rivers and underground streams add millions of tons of salt to the sea, and only a fraction of this goes back onto the land
 - Using the most favorable possible assumptions for long periods of time, the absolute maximum age of the oceans is only a tiny fraction of their assumed billions of years age
- **Multi-layer fossils**
 - Polystrate fossils penetrate more than one geologic stratum. As an example, at The Joggins, Nova Scotia, many erect fossil trees are scattered throughout 2,500-feet of geologic strata, penetrating 20 geologic horizons
 - These trees had to be buried faster than it took them to decay
 - This implies that the entire formation was deposited in a few years at most. Yet evolutionary theory claims that the top strata were deposited millions of years after the bottom strata
- **Moon**
 - The prevailing scientific belief is that the moon is about 4.5 billion years old and has been geologically dead for the last 3 billion years
 - Ever since telescopes have been available, geologic activity has been observed on the moon. This is referred to as Transient Lunar Phenomena (TLP)
 - The number of TLP observations became so overwhelming, that mainline publications began to dismiss them
 - TLP observations point to the youthfulness of the moon
- **Helium in rocks**
 - A study published in the Geophysical Research Letters shows that helium produced by radioactive decay in deep, hot rocks has not had time to escape
 - Though the rocks are supposed to be billions of years old, their helium retention indicates an age far less than millions of years old

- **Jupiter and Neptune**
 - Jupiter and Neptune are commonly referred to as the Jovian gas giants and science postulates that they shine only by reflected light (which would indicate they are extremely old)
 - However, both planets radiate more power than they receive. As an example, Jupiter radiates twice as much energy as it receives
 - This indicates these planets are young (thousands of years old), as they have not had time to cool down since their formation
- **Artifacts**
 - Coal beds are often dated around 250 million years old
 - Numerous artifacts have been found in coal beds (gold chain, iron pot, bronze bell, etc.)
 - If coal is 250-350 million years old, how could these artifacts have been imbedded in coal
- **Stars**
 - Of all the stars, blue stars are the most luminous and massive type of star
 - Stars are classified by their temperature and brightness. Blue stars are the hottest and brightest because they give off the most energy
 - Blue stars present the biggest challenge to an “old universe theory”
 - It is known that blue stars cannot shine very long and are estimated to only last about a few million years
 - However, blue stars are found throughout the arms of virtually all spiral galaxies that are postulated to be billions of years old

Lastly, even though the preceding scientific evidences do not support an old universe and earth but point towards a young universe and earth, let's consider a recent evidence for a young earth (as opposed to an old earth) that has shocked the secular paleontological community:

- **Dinosaur fossils**
 - According to evolutionists, dinosaurs supposedly died out about 65 million years ago
 - In 1990, a T-Rex skeleton was unearthed in South Dakota by Dr. Mary Schweitzer, Montana State University. The skeleton (named Sue) was 90% complete, and is currently on display in the Field Museum of Natural History in Chicago
 - Of interest, some portions deep inside the long bone of the leg had not completely fossilized
 - Fresh traces of blood protein *hemoglobin* (red blood cells) were found in the leg bone (Figure 5), which questions the age of an alleged 65 million year old fossil

- Although the hemoglobin discovery was disregarded, the following section on Dr. Schweitzer's 2005 discovery shocked the secular scientific world and made "front page" news around the world
- In 2005, Dr. Schweitzer again found another T-Rex skeleton. As the leg bone (femur) was being lifted up by helicopter for transport to a laboratory for inspection, it split open
- Soft fibrous elastic tissue, fresh blood cells, and complete blood vessels were found. When stretched, the elastic tissue returned to its original shape (Figure 6)
- Obviously, soft fibrous tissue and fresh blood cells cannot last for long periods of time, particularly 65 million years, or even millions of years.
- From an age perspective, if all land animals died in the global Noachic flood of 4,500 years ago, then animal fossils with fresh tissue/hemoglobin are less than 4,500 years old

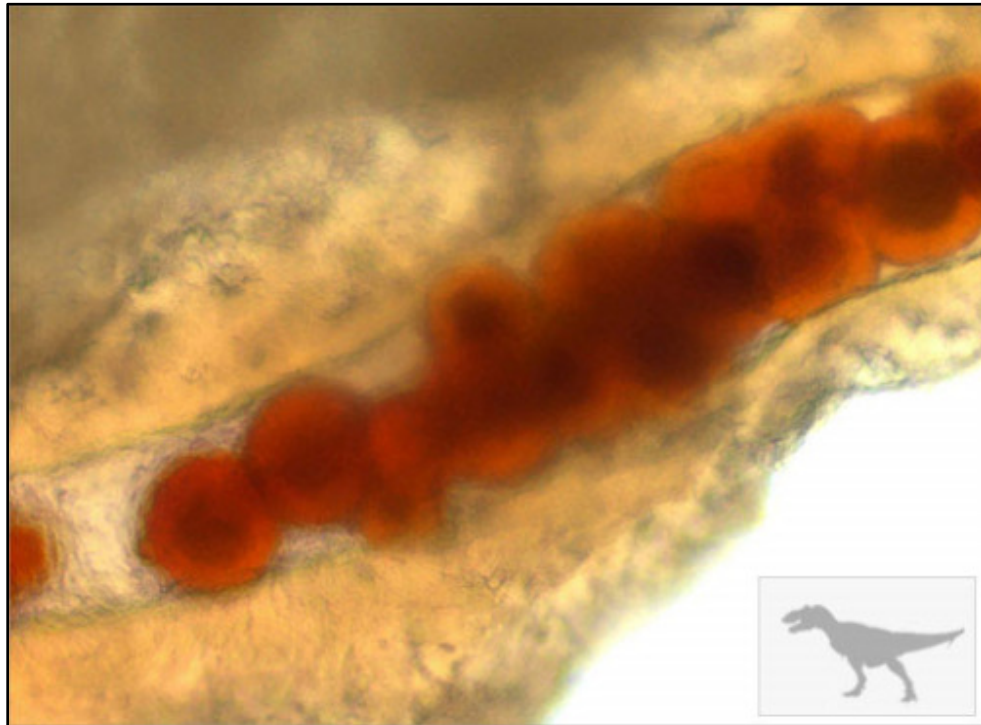


Figure 5. Fresh blood cells

- This discovery (as well as many others) stretches the long-age paradigm beyond belief and questions the idea that the evolutionary timetable concerning dinosaurs can be true
- At the 2005 annual meeting of the prestigious American Association for the Advancement of Science, Dr. Schweitzer showed two photographs

and stated – “One of these cells is 65 million years old and one is about 9 months old. Can anyone tell me which is which?” Her inferred answer was no

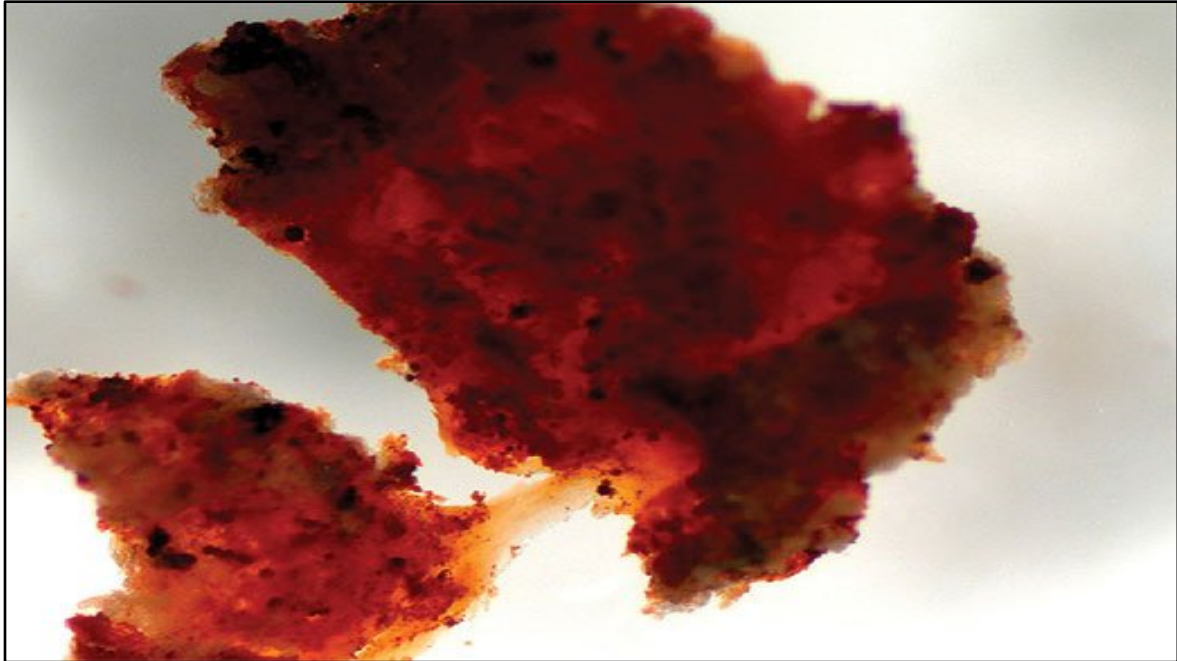


Figure 6. Fresh stretchable tissue

- This is not the first time un-fossilized dinosaur bone has been found with accompanying fresh muscle/red blood cells still intact (Alaska, Natural History Museum in London, Green River Formation U.S.A., Sweden, etc.)
- Additional information can be found at:
www.answersingenesis.org/docs2005/0325Dino_tissue.asp?

With the preceding brief overview of scientific facts, it should be obvious that science clearly supports a far younger universe and earth as delineated in biblical scripture than is alleged by old-universe/earth supporters and Scientific Magazine.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, do you believe the creation account as delineated in Genesis 1:1, or do you place a higher priority on the evolving theories of secular science that routinely change with each new-heralded discovery? Unfortunately, many people either reject Genesis or find Genesis hard to believe even though they may claim to believe in the authority and inerrancy of the Bible. This dilemma is best explained as outlined in Romans:

“For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of people who suppress the truth by their unrighteousness, because what can be known about God is plain to them, because God has made it plain to them. For since the creation of the world his invisible attributes-his eternal power and divine nature have been clearly seen, because they are understood through what has been made. So people are without excuse. For although they knew God, they did not glorify him as God or give him thanks, but they became futile in their thoughts and their senseless hearts were darkened. Although they claimed to be wise, they became fools.”

Romans 1:18-23

However, the real question is “What is the best explanation for your purpose in life?” If creation is true (and the evidence from science and Scripture indicate that it is), then each person should be concerned with their future destiny and specifically, where you will spend eternity. The Bible clearly says – “All have sinned and come short of the Glory of God” – Romans 3:23, and those without a personal acceptance of God will spend eternity in a lake of fire (Revelation 20:15).

Nevertheless, God has provided an alternate choice, and that choice is a free gift that only needs to be accepted by you:

“For God so loved the world, that He gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life”

John 3:16

“For whosoever shall call upon the name of the LORD shall be saved”

Romans 10:13

This is God’s message to you, so have you accepted his free gift of eternal life?

ADDITIONAL SOURCES

- Google – **Atheist Professor Destroys Evolution**
This is a 7.35-minute story of Dr. Richard Lumdsen, Professor of Parasitology and Cell Biology at Tulane University and Dean of Graduate School of Biological Sciences who is asked by a student to justify evolution and cannot do so, resulting in a conversion to biblical creation
- Google – **Another Evolutionary Biologist Rejects the Bogus theory Of Evolution**
This is a 7:18 minute of Dr. Dean Kenyon, Emeritus Professor of Biology at San Francisco State University recounting the steps that led to his growing doubts and final rejection of evolutionary theory. Dr. Kenyon, a leading chemical evolutionist in the world, is also the co-author of the popular

evolutionary-based book Chemical Predestination that attempted to explain how life started from a natural process of chemicals

- Google – **Evolution Vs. God Movie**

This is a 38:27 minute movie by Ray Comfort who interviews college students and PhD heads of college science departments. In the interviews, the students and professors cannot validate evolution and are often speechless. This short movie is a must watch

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