

GOD, AGES, EVOLUTION, AND SCIENCE

July, 2022

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INTRODUCTION

Up until the beginning of the 19th century, scientists and the Christian church alike generally accepted the viewpoint of a Creator God and an age of thousands of years for the universe and earth. However, in 1830, Charles Lyell, a Scottish geologist, authored *Principles of Geology* that began to erode the prevailing views of the age of the earth, how it was formed, and is notable for being one of the first to use the term "evolution." The book was designed to free the science from Moses by attacking the common belief that unique catastrophes or supernatural events (such as Noah's Flood) were responsible for earth's geology by arguing that the forces of geological change have happened through countless small changes occurring over vast periods of time, such as billions and/or millions of years. Today, this viewpoint is known as "uniformitarianism," or, the present is the key to the past (the same forces acting today also acted the same in the past over vast ages).

Lyell's Principles of Geology has been called the most important scientific book ever written.¹ This was – and still is – a stunning claim in light of the fact that most people are not familiar with Charles Lyell or Principles of Geology. On the other hand, nearly everyone is familiar with the name of Charles Darwin and his association with the theory of evolution. However, Lyell was an influential friend of Charles Darwin which resulted in Darwin reading Lyell's book while sailing on the *H.M.S. Beagle* to the Galapagos Islands. As a result, Darwin became

very inspired by the theories in the book and extended the uniformitarian principle of slow changes over vast ages to biology. When Darwin's revolutionary book, *The Origin of Species by Natural Selection*, was published in 1859, it became the foundation of secular science and evolutionary biology by using natural selection and time as a key explanation for the evolution and variety of all life. However, it also removed God as the divine Creator of the universe, earth and most notably, the origin of humans. Although Darwin gave minimal credit to a Creator as a remote first cause of life in the conclusion of the book, it was quickly forgotten once naturalism and natural selection were widely adopted as being the sculptor of all life on earth along with vast ages of time.

Evolutions cadre of true supporters has diligently struggled to discover and also publish evidence that vast geological ages and biological evolution did occur, even if factual science says otherwise.² After about 190 years of evolutionary theory from Lyell, Darwin and secular science, the evidence for vast ages for the universe and earth along with the idolized progression of modern man from an unknown ape-ish like creature that lived in the distant past is more problematic now as it was during their introduction because of a continuing lack of evidence in the geological record along with recent advancements in cell biology and genetics.

With the previous thoughts in mind, let's continue our discussion and focus on the biblical and secular account of ages and evolution and their relationship to factual scientific reality by first establishing a foundation that is centered on biblical Scripture, and then we will consider the secular evolutionary version of ages and evolution against factual science.

BIBLICAL SCRIPTURE

When beginning in Genesis, no one gets past the first verse of Genesis without facing the test of submission to Scripture. You either accept it or reject it but you don't have the right to alter it (Proverbs 30:6, Jeremiah 26:2, Deuteronomy 4:2). Genesis is not unclear or vague, it is crystal clear so you never get past the first verse without declaring your submission to Scripture, or lack of it. Since the Bible says God created everything that exists in 6 days, believing that affirms you believe the biblical account of creation is the mark of God's authority over the world. If you equivocate on Genesis 1, then what else in the Bible is not accurate? There is no evolution in Genesis 1, 2, or 3 or anywhere else in the Bible. Remember that science is a study of natural laws whereas creation is supernatural. Therefore, creation cannot be explained by any natural scientific method.

It is imperative to start with the perspective that biblical authors took Genesis as *literal history* as did Jesus (Mark 10:6-9, Matthew 19:4-5, and Luke 17:27). So, it is best to let Scripture interpret Scripture when explaining the beginning of the universe, earth, life and origins. Additionally, it must also be remembered that biblical Scripture does not need modern science for proper interpretation (*Sola Scriptura*), or Scripture alone. The Bible was written as God inspired text so that it is accurate and also easy to understand (particularly the Old Testament), even to small children. Consider Deuteronomy 6:7 that is discussing the commandments, statutes, and judgments for the Israelite people and their responsibility to teach them to their children – "you shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, when you walk by the way, when you lie down to sleep, and when you rise up." This verse indicates that Scripture was discernible to parents and children so they could comprehend it, even without modern science.

Not surprisingly, the biblical account of Creation is in direct opposition to secular evolutionary theories as Genesis was inspired by the only Creator and eyewitness to the beginning of the universe, earth and life, and is clearly detailed in Genesis 1:1 thru Genesis 2:4. As a Scriptural review, let's start with II Timothy 3:16 – "All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness" – and use this assurance to expand on the following four considerations:

- 1) Inerrancy
- 2) Architect and Builder
- 3) Ages
- 4) Biblical Origins

INERRANCY

When it comes to deciding between biblical truth and a scientific theory, each person must choose between the evolutionary perspective of secular science or the biblical account of Creation. This 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 expressively contrary to the scientific dogma of evolution. As a result of 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*. Although science has produced numerous beneficial discoveries that have, and continue to be, beneficial to mankind, science also changes with new scientific discoveries and/or developments in technology (Figure 1). This was emphasized in an article titled "Believing in Science" in the July 2002 issue of the

secular science magazine Discover, that stated – "First, a lot of what we swear is scientifically accurate today will be proved wrong within a couple of decades."

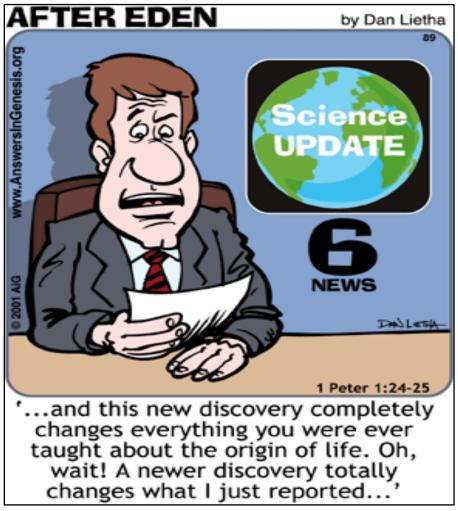


Figure 1. Evolutionary Theory Is Subject To Change

This statement indicates that science is a changing methodology and results in 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 and Darwinian evolution. 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 dilemma that mandates each person must choose one of two options:

- 1) Believe the *entire* Bible as inspired truth
- 2) Accept the theory of godless evolution as proposed by secular science

ARCHITECT AND BUILDER

While God exists eternally (Psalm 90:2), Genesis 1:1 – "In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth" – specifically delineates that this marked the beginning of the universe in time and space. The word created (bara) is used of God's creative activity alone, and the context demands in no uncertain terms that this was a creation of something new (Strong's 1254) without pre-existing material (ex nihilo). All of God's creation is incorporated into this summary statement which includes all 6 consecutive days of creation that are outlined beginning in Genesis 1:2 and continuing through to Genesis 2:2. Interestingly, the word created is the first action that happened in the universe and was repeated for six consecutive days "by the word of his mouth," indicating an instantaneous creative act.

As a point of emphasis, the truth of God creating everything we see from the beginning (*all things were made through Him*) is also repeated in other portions of Scripture, such as the following verse:

"All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made"

John 1:3

From a biblical perspective, the Bible is crystal clear that God alone was the Architect, Builder and Creator of the universe, earth and life without the help of evolution or any other secular scientific viewpoint and/or explanation.

AGES

The uninterrupted creation account in Genesis 1:2 to 2:2 explicitly uses the terms first day, second day, third day, fourth day, fifth day, and sixth day to describe when specific creative acts were performed by God. Even though most people are familiar with the creation account as outlined in these verses, there continues to be a strong persistent disagreement over the definition of the word day being either defined as a literal 24-hour day or long periods of time. From another perspective, did creation take place over six 24-hour solar days as we know them today, or does the Bible allow for long periods of time such as billions and/or millions of years in the creation account. Interestingly, the only place in the Bible the word day is under debate is in the Genesis creation account which is an effort to incorporate the vast ages necessary for evolution into biblical Scripture. As the correct interpretation of the word day is the first step to the solution of determining the age of the universe and earth from a biblical perspective, let's look at the biblical word "day" from a Hebrew linguistic and biblical chronological perspective.

Hebrew Linguistics

As a starting point, let's consider the word *day* from a Hebrew Linguistic perspective since the Old Testament was written in Hebrew and see if the Bible clearly defines day, and if so, are there any consequential implications. 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 uses in the singular, 845 uses in the plural and 5 uses 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&2, Exodus 20:11, and also Jonah 1:17 in describing the three days Jonah was in a great fish, and so on. However, one use of the word day that is often boldly used to illustrate that a day can mean long periods of time is found in 2 Peter 3:8 – "that with the Lord, one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like a day." This verse is best defined as God understands time much differently from man. From man's viewpoint, Christ's coming seems like a long time away (see Psalm 90:4). Even though the context of this verse has nothing to do with creation and the verse does not say "a day is a thousand years," this verse is often used to give a measure of credibility to a day meaning long periods of time. Consider the following clarification:³

Nevertheless, Hebrew grammatical contexts of yom demonstrate that, when used with a 'number' (1, 2, 3, etc.), the pattern is always a normal time period. If 'night' is combined with yom, it always denotes a 24-hour day. If yom is used with either 'morning' or 'evening,' they too refer to a literal day. When 'morning' and 'evening' are used together, with yom, it always signifies a solar day. So, the syntagmatic relationships (relationship between two or more linguistic units) that yom has illustrated clearly that the meaning is to be; considered a normal time period, consisting of one axial rotation of the earth, called a 'day'.

The point of discussing the semantic approach should be rather obvious. God, through the pen of Moses, is being redundant for redundancy's sake. God is going out of His way to tell us that the 'days' of creation were literal solar days. He has used the word yom, and combined this with a 'number,' the word 'night' and the words 'morning' and 'evening.' God has communicated the words of Genesis 1 in a specific manner, so that the

interpreter could not miss the point. God could not have communicated the timing of creation more clearly than He did in Genesis 1.

A serious exegesis by leading contemporary theological expositor Dr. Kenneth Gentry underscores five relevant points with Hebrew grammar as applied to the creation account and the word *day* in Genesis:⁴

- 1) Day is qualified by evening and morning (Genesis 1:5, 8, 13, 19, 23, 31) which specifically limits the time frame
- 2) In the 119 instances of the Hebrew word *yom* standing in conjunction with a numerical adjective (first, second, etc.) in the writings of Moses, it never means anything other than a literal day. Consistency would require that this structure must so function in Genesis 1
- 3) The very same word *day* is used on the fourth day to define a time period that is governed by the sun, which must be a regular synodic 24-hour day (Genesis 1:14)
- 4) Exodus 20:9-11 patterns man's workweek after God's original workweek which suggests the literality of the creation week
- 5) In Exodus 20:11 the plural for the word days of creation is used. In the 845 instances of the plural days in the Old Testament, it never means anything other than literal days

Based on the Hebrew syntagmatic relationships and grammatical contexts of *yom* in Genesis 1, *yom* in the Genesis account of creation means 24-hours. Consider the following 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

"I have not met any Hebrew professors who had the slightest doubt about this unless they were already committed to some alternative by other considerations that do not arise from a straightforward reading of the Hebrew text as it stands" Hugh Williamson, current Regis Professor of Hebrew at Oxford University

"There isn't much in the way of observational evidence in astronomy to conflict with a very young age for the sun and earth; less than 7,000 years"

Evolutionist John Eddy, one of the World's leading Astronomers

Three additional side points of interest are:5

- 1) "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
- 2) A literal reading of Genesis 1:5 through Genesis 2:2 directly from the Hebrew would read as follows (1:5) "One day morning and was evening and was (1:8) second day morning and was evening and was (1:13) third day morning and was evening and was (1:19) fourth day morning and was evening and was (1:23) fifth day morning and was evening and was (1:31) sixth day morning and was evening and was (2:2) the seventh on day God. And finished had He made which work His the seventh day on and He rested." Notice the first day has a cardinal number (one, two, three, etc.) and the others have ordinal numbers (second, third, fourth, etc.). Therefore, a literal translation of creation week would be day one, a second day, a third day, a fourth day, a fifth day, the sixth day, the seventh day
- 3) 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/or millions of years to create the original universe and earth, will it also take billions and/or 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?*⁶

Therefore, in a biblical and Hebrew context in the Genesis account of creation, the word *day* means a literal 24-hour solar day. The resultant consequential implications are:

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

To conclude the aforementioned comments on the meaning of the word *day*, if the text of Genesis 1 and 2 does not mean to teach traditional chronology and

literal 24-hour days, then how are the following questions answered that have been posed by Dr. Jud Davis, Associate Professor of Greek at Bryan College:

- Why do nearly all world-class Hebraists assume that the writer of Genesis intended normal days and the text as history?
- Why did the ancient, medieval, and modern church until about 1800 have few commentators (if any) who believed in an ancient universe?
- Why is there little or no classical Rabbinic support for an ancient universe?
- Why does Jesus take Genesis 1 & 2 as teaching history (Matt 19:4, Mark 10:6)?
- Why does Paul take Genesis as history (Romans 5:12, 1 Corinthians 11:8-9, 15:21-22, 15:45, 1 Timothy 2:12-14)?
- Why do all of the ancient translations and paraphrases, such as the Aramaic Targums, take the words in Genesis 1 at face value and translate them as "days" with no hint that they might mean "ages"?
- Why are there well-qualified Ph.D. scientists who still support physical data as consistent with a young-earth view?

Bible Chronology

Once we have determined the Hebrew definition of the word *day* in the creation account, we can then use Bible Chronology to determine the approximate age of the universe and earth by referring to the chrono-genealogies in Genesis 5 and 11 as each name contains a time stamp. As an example, Seth was born to Adam when he was 130, and Seth had Enosh when he was 105. So, from Adam to Enosh was 235 years. Continuing on:

- If the genealogy list and resultant ages are added from Adam to the birth of Noah's sons, there should be 1,556 years. Shem was the middle child (Genesis 9:24, 10:21), and was born when Noah was 502, resulting in Shem's birth 1,558 years after the creation of Adam
- o Beginning with the dates of Shems descendants in Genesis 11:10 and going to Terah accumulates another 320 years. Using Genesis 11:32 and 12:4, we find that Terah was 130 when Abraham was born
- Adding the aforementioned dates yields a time span of about 2,008 years from Adam until Abraham
- As most biblical and secular scholars agree that Abraham was born around 2,000 BC (which also agrees with the Bible), we know Abraham to Jesus covers about 2,000 years and we are about 2,000 years removed from Jesus (specifically 2022 years)
- So, 2,000 + 2,000 + 2,000 means that the universe and earth are about 6,000 years old,⁷ as in Figure 2
- o The word about is previously used several times, as there are some differences in various manuscripts and the exact time of the Israelite Monarchy and the Egyptian Sojourn are not known. Although the dates may vary by a few

thousand years at the most, the approximate age of the universe and earth is about 6,000 years old with an upper range to possibly 7,000 years old. This is far different than the secular dates of 13.7 billion years for the universe, 4.5 billion years for the earth and a million years for the advent of mankind.

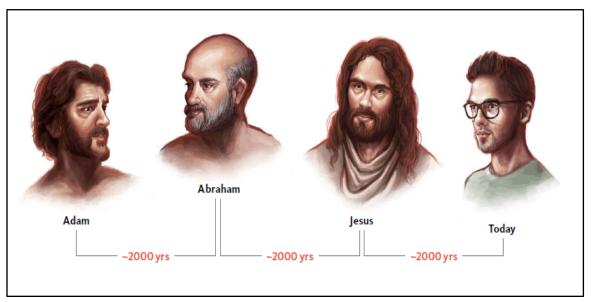


Figure 2. A General Biblical Chronology

BIBLICAL ORIGINS

The explanation for the origin of the universe and all life is found in Genesis 1:1 through Genesis 2:4. Although this biblical account may seem simplistic, particularly when compared to the evolutionary theory of origins, Genesis 1:1 clearly states that God "created the heavens and earth." Genesis 1:2 through Genesis 1:19 then begins a 4-day uninterrupted detailed account of His creation of the universe and earth. Then, Genesis 1:20 through Genesis 1:27 details an uninterrupted 2-day detailed account of his creation of all life on earth, including Adam and Eve on Day 6. Notice there is a lack of "modern scientific" additions, deletions, and/or additional explanations in this narrative. The biblical account of creation in Genesis must either be believed by faith, or rejected in its total accuracy. Period!

SECULAR EVOLUTION

Now, let's consider the *secular scientific viewpoints on evolutionary theory* by considering six areas (not listed in any specific order of importance) that will be comprised of (1) Origin of the Universe, (2) Origin of Life, (3) Dating Methodology, (4) Paleoanthropology, (5) Fossils, and (6) Genetics.

Note: For the balance of this discussion, ages will be expressed in billions, millions and thousands of years as is common practice in secular scientific literature.

ORIGIN OF THE UNIVERSE

Webster's New World Dictionary defines origin as "a coming into existence or use; beginning." Applying this definition to the origin (beginning) of the universe from a secular scientific viewpoint, the definition can be ambiguous when applied to the following common explanation of how the universe began:

"The best-supported theory of our universe's origin centers on an event known as the big bang. A Belgian priest named Georges Lemaitre first suggested the big bang theory in the 1920's, when he theorized the universe began from a single primordial atom. Here's the theory: In the first 10-43 seconds of its existence, the universe was very compact, less than a million billion billionth the size of a single atom. It's thought that at such an incomprehensibly dense, energetic state, the four fundamental forces – gravity, electromagnetism, and the strong and weak nuclear forces – were forged into a single force, but our current theories haven't yet figured out how a single, unified force would work. Then, in an unimaginably small fraction of a second, all that matter and energy expanded outward more or less evenly. That model of breakneck expansion, called inflation, may explain why the universe has such an even temperature and distribution of matter. It's still unclear what exactly powered inflation. As time passed and matter cooled, more diverse kinds of particles began to form, and they eventually condensed into the stars and galaxies of our present universe. Somehow, some excess matter survived – and it's now the stuff that people, planets and galaxies are made of. Physicists are still trying to figure out exactly how matter won out in the early universe"8

Notice the previous National Geographic explanation of the origin of the universe uses the words/phrases – "best-supported theory, theorized, it's thought, haven't yet figured out, may explain, it's still unclear, somehow, and still trying to figure out." This strongly indicates a questionable level of scientific certainty although it is more straightforward than the definition from the American Museum of Natural History that states – "The matter that spread out from the Big Bang developed into everything in the universe, including you. You are made of star stuff." Obviously, there is an immense difference between the biblical and secular evolutionary scientific accounts of the origin of the universe which clearly illustrates the fact that although both require faith to believe, the Genesis account of creation is not – in any way – compatible with evolutionary scientific accounts. Stated from another perspective, the Bible and evolution are irreconcilable and cannot co-exist.

Keeping in mind that the "big bang" is a primary pillar of evolutionary theory, particularly the origin of the universe, let's take a closer look at the secular evolutionary version for the origin of the universe and see if factual science agrees with this theory:

When properly understood, the big bang theory does not attempt to describe what initiated the origin of the universe, it's an effort to explain how the universe *developed* from a tiny, dense state into what is today. ¹⁰ Interestingly, the question of where the tiny, dense state of material came from still remains unexplained as secular science cannot answer this question, so a belief in the big bang theory requires a faith that accepts everything we see came from absolutely nothing. ¹¹ This same conundrum was featured on the cover of the April 2002 issue of the secular magazine Discover (Figure 3) that asked – "where did everything come from?"

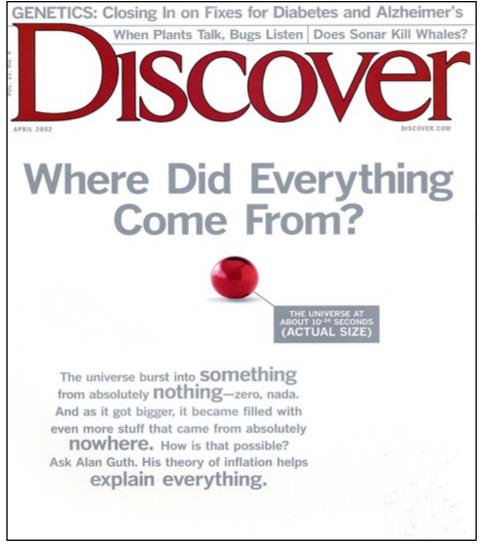


Figure 3. Where Did Everything Come From?

 From a simplistic but crucial viewpoint, the big bang theory violates one of the most basic laws of physics, the 1st Law of Thermodynamics that states – "energy cannot be created or destroyed"¹²

- Current theory assumes two primary characteristics of the universe upon which the big bang model relies. These assumptions are that the universe is homogeneous and isotropic (called the *cosmological principle*) and is defined as follows:¹³
 - Homogeneity is the assumption that matter in the universe is uniformly distributed throughout space and that physical laws are the same everywhere
 - Isotropy is the assumption that the universe has the same properties in every direction

Nevertheless, matter in the universe is very clumpy but cosmologists generally assume that these clumps smooth out as opposed to observations that indicate that the universe is not smooth. Additionally, evidence suggests that not only is the universe not homogeneous it is also not isotropic. So, if the cosmological principle is not true, then one must question whether the big bang is true along with the assumed secular scientific age of the universe.¹⁴

- o In an evolving universe, life should have developed everywhere. Space should be filled with radio signals from intelligent life forms. Where is everybody?¹⁵
- The big bang theory requires the *equal* production of matter and antimatter, yet, only small traces of antimatter are found in space¹⁶

ORIGIN OF LIFE

When Darwin's book *The Origin of Species* was published 163 years ago in 1859, secular science adopted the theory of evolutionary biology without God as its alleged explanation for the origin of all life. However, most people are not aware that not only was Darwin mindful of the biblical account of creation, he made a passing admission of the Creator in the last paragraph in editions two thru six of his book as follows – "there is grandeur in this view of life, with its several powers, having been originally breathed by the Creator into a few forms or into one; and that, whilst this planet has gone cycling on according to the fixed law of gravity, from so simple a beginning endless forms most beautiful and most wonderful have been, and are being evolved."¹⁷

Nevertheless, Darwin knowingly avoided discussing the origin of life in detail as he preferred the possibility that organic compounds (i.e., the first molecules of life) could appear by naturalistic processes from simple inorganic compounds. His only speculations on the subject are known from a private letter he wrote to a close personal friend and colleague, Joseph Hooker in 1871, in which he speaks of a "warm little pond" in which the first molecules of life could have formed as follows – "but if (and oh what a big if) we could conceive in some

warm little pond with all sorts of ammonia and phosphoric salts – light, heat, electricity etcetera present, that a protein compound was chemically formed, ready to undergo still more complex changes.......¹⁸

From a secular scientific perspective, Darwin's initial supposition on the origin of life from his letter to Joseph Hooker still has a striking resemblance to the current secular scientific supposition 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" ¹⁹ This definition is from a renowned college biology textbook and is contingent on the theory that the universe and life just happened. However, the field of chemistry with the benefit of modern scientific advances still raises major objections to this theory along with that still unanswered evolutionary question – "how did life originate from non-life?"

Notice the preceding definitions from a biology textbook and Darwin's letter to Joseph Hooker share a remarkable commonality. Both rely on the theory that life just happened and both rely on water for the emergence of life. From a simplistic viewpoint, the emergence of life in water seems to have a measure of scientific validity. However, the field of chemistry with the benefit of modern advances immediately raises four major objections to this secular theory:

1) Spontaneous Generation

Up to about the sixteenth century, it was believed that life emerged spontaneously from non-living matter and was known as spontaneous generation. Then, spontaneous generation was disproved by Redi (1688), Spallanzani (1780), Virchow (1858) and the renowned Louis Pasteur in 1860 as 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 and clearly states that life could not have spontaneously began in the air, on land or in water. As a result, the irrefutable, highly respected Law of Biogenesis is a boundary between scientific fact and evolutionary theory. Additionally, it is also responsible for the initial collapse of Darwinian evolution and is precisely the reason this boundary (as well as others) are not readily discussed. There is no evidence that anyone has ever been able to bring about life from non-life in nature or the laboratory (excluding supernatural occurrences during the Genesis account of creation).

The late, eminent evolutionist, Dr. Robert Jastrow, founding director of NASA's Goddard Institute for Space Studies, has stated – "either life was created"

on the earth by the will of a being outside the grasp of scientific understanding, or it evolved on our planet spontaneously, through chemical reactions occurring in nonliving matter lying on the surface of the planet." In nature, life comes only from life of its own kind. Period. All scientific evidence confirms this well-established principle of science as there are no known exceptions. In summary, if biogenesis did not occur, atheistic evolution cannot and did not occur.²⁰

2) Pre-Biotic Ocean

Modern evolution often postulates that life began in the early primordial oceans and near deep-sea hydrothermal vents.²¹ Today, it is known that the oceans are the *least* likely place for life to start. As science does not know what the early environment of the earth was like, this fact should end all scientific discussion. However, there are numerous other reasons why life could not have spontaneously evolved in the early oceans (or water for that matter). To expand on this problem, we need to first consider a few definitions:

- Cell: The basic unit of structure and function of all living organisms
- o Polypeptides: A single chain of amino acids
- Amino Acid: The basic building blocks of all polypeptides and proteins
- o Protein: Proteins are composed of amino acids joined by peptide bonds
- o DNA: Deoxyribonucleic Acid. Contains the genetic information found in organisms. Also called "the language of life"
- o RNA: Ribonucleic Acid. Functions in various forms to translate the information contained in DNA into proteins

Now, consider why the primordial oceans were the least likely place for life to start:

- o Polypeptides would have broken down by water in the ocean
- The random development of a DNA molecule would be impossible with or without the presence of oxygen. As oxygen is a strong oxidizer, the presence of oxygen would have destroyed any initial chemical building blocks. If oxygen was not present, then there would have been no protective ozone layer above the earth and ultraviolet radiation would have destroyed the formulation of any DNA or RNA bonds
- Water is a byproduct of the construction of a molecule of DNA. However, this
 process is reversible. In chemistry, a reaction will not naturally proceed in a
 direction that produces a product already in abundance. Because water is
 produced in the construction of a DNA molecule it is impossible for DNA to
 form in water
- o Tar has been a common by-product in all experiments producing simple amino acids (which is a basic building block of a simple cell). Tar is deadly to the proper functioning of DNA and RNA molecules. Therefore, if amino acids

would have spontaneously tried to form, tar would have also been produced and would have destroyed the DNA and RNA molecules

3) Enzymes

Enzymes are proteins that promote chemical reactions in a cell without itself being changed or consumed and are essential to the proper operation of a cell. Enzymes can only form other enzymes. Therefore, there is no known way for life to have spontaneously started. Additionally, enzymes trying to form in the ocean would have perished from "lethal dilution."²²

4) Chirality

For life to evolve, all of the basic building blocks (amino acids of living protoplasm) must be of the "L" or levorotatory form. If even a very small amount of the amino acid molecules are of the "D" or dextrorotatory form, then different proteins are formed that are unsuitable for life's metabolism and are fatal to life. The dilemma is that all of the building blocks of life that are formed by chance are called "racemates." This means there are 50% of the "L" and 50% of the "D" amino acids. This makes amino acids that are formed by chance entirely useless for the evolution of life. Present day science knows absolutely no means by which pure "L" or "D" amino acids can be formed through inorganic random processes (evolutionary processes).²³ 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 here on earth is evidently nonsense of a high order"

Noted Astronomer, Fred Hiatt

"Enzymes can only be formed by other enzymes. Therefore, there is no known way for life to have started spontaneously in the first place. Enzymes trying to form in the ocean would have perished from lethal dilution"

Enzymes, 2nd Edition, 1964

Although evolutionary theory for the origin of life relies on the science of chemistry for the spontaneous generation of life from non-living materials, modern advances in science have proven from multiple assessments that life could not have evolved from spontaneous generation in the early primordial oceans (or anywhere else). Additionally, the basic building blocks of a simple cell – enzymes, proteins, and amino acids – could not have formed by chance and chirality completely disproves the concept of spontaneous generation of just one basic cell.

Now, let's continue with the origin of life as applied to the modern secular evolutionary account of human origins which can be summarized as follows:

"Over 3 billion years ago, the first bacteria-like cell arose spontaneously from non-living matter. Then, through the Darwinian mutation/selection process those bacteria gradually became fish, which later became apes, which later became man. An unknown ape-ish creature that lived about 6 million years ago was the common ancestor of both man and chimpanzee^{24,25} The common ancestor split into two branches, with the chimp lineage staying largely the same. However, during the same time the human lineage was radically transformed into modern man. It is not thought that we evolved from chimpanzees, but rather humans and chimps diverged from an unknown African ape, which is now extinct and which apparently left no bones. This unknown creature is simply referred to as the Last Common Ancestor (LCA) of man and chimp."²⁶

Closely following the preceding definition for the modern secular evolutionary account of human origins from bacteria-like cell to fish to man, a German Professor of Comparative Anatomy and an accomplished artist, Ernst Haeckel, produced a series of convincing illustrations in 1874 that rapidly became known as Haeckel's Biogenetic Law.²⁷ Haeckel's drawing (Figure 3)

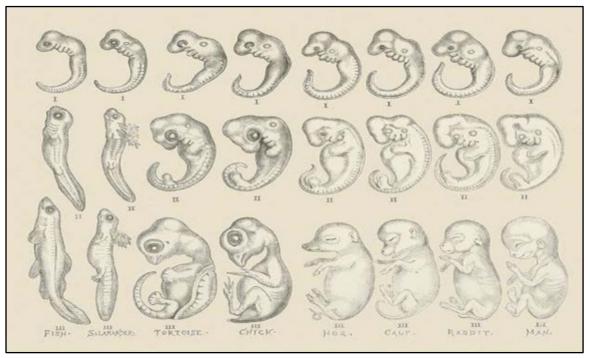


Figure 3. Haeckel's Biogenetic Law

attempted to support the hypothesis of universal common ancestry by using eight vertical columns to represent three developmental stages of three horizontal rows corresponding to different species (fish, salamander, tortoise, chicken, hog, calf, rabbit, and man). During this time period and well into the 1900's, evolutionary science commonly supported the premise that basic-life

forms, which alleged to have existed in many millions of years of evolution, are repeated in humans during the first few months between conception and birth, and was cited as a major proof of evolution for over a century.²⁸ Although this theory was thoroughly discredited by the end of 1915 and declared an outright fraud, it continued to remain popular. However, it has not been totally abandoned and is still used as proof of evolution in some educational textbooks such as the modern educational book, *Evolution*, by Douglas J. Futuyma.

More recently, the evolutionary theory of human origins took on a measure of assumed credibility in 1965 when natural history illustrator Rudolph Zallinger fashioned the most famous icon of human evolution, the "March of Progress" that was a foldout in the Time-Life Nature Library book, Early Man (Figure 4).²⁹ The illustration depicted a series of alleged ancestors that progress from ape-like beings to eventually becoming modern man. Imbedded in the illustration was a fine print caption that cautioned readers the artistic images were based upon "fragmentary fossil evidence." Also contained in the Time-Life Nature Library book was the admission that – "although proto-apes and apes were quadrupedal, all are shown here standing for the purpose of comparison."³⁰

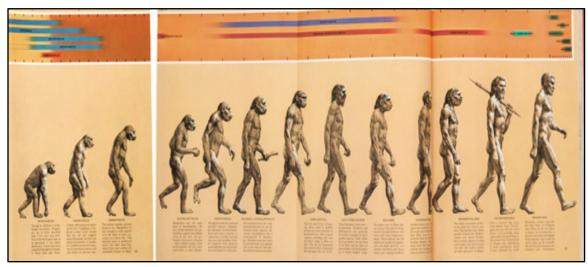


Figure 4. March Of Progress

At the time of the illustration there was a lack of undeniable fossil evidence to show that so-called proto-apes evolved into man. Therefore, the transitional evidence of the *March of Progress* primarily existed in the artists mind. Unfortunately, most people remember the illustration and not the fine print caption resulting in a powerful influence to the general public (remember the phrase "a picture is worth a thousand words?"). Today, a more simplified version of the original March of Progress (Figure 5) is remembered by many people and is found in some publications allegedly validating ape-to-man evolution. As a

result, many people have been initially persuaded that the fossil evidence is so overwhelming that human evolution is a scientific fact. Not surprisingly, most people are unaware that experts in the field have contested every alleged apeman fossil, and the fossil evidence in conjunction with factual science does not provide compelling evidence for human evolution.³¹

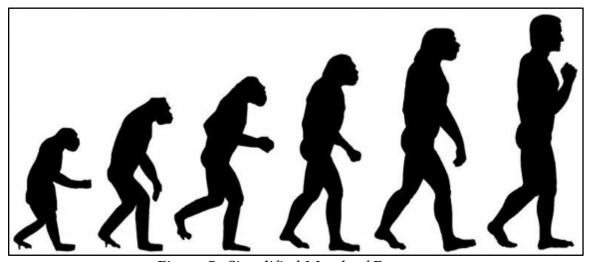


Figure 5. Simplified March of Progress

Although it may seem simplistic to state that the fossil evidence in conjunction with factual science does not provide compelling evidence for human evolution in light of Darwinism and secular scientific dogma, the scientific facts against secular evolution have dramatically changed as a result of recent scientific advancements, particularly dating methodology, fossils and genetics which we will consider next.

DATING METHODOLOGY

From a simplistic perspective, the definition of age is defined as "the length of time that a person or thing has existed." Although this definition can be easily applied to numerous facets of everyday life such as the age of a person, a building or other similar items, it becomes much more difficult to determine the age of the universe, earth or fossils in the earth's rock strata as they are not equipped with a birth certificate or sales receipt. Regrettably, this conundrum has primarily been responsible for a general belief (scientific and mainstream public opinion) that "the universe and earth just look old." This perception is a foundation of a secular scientific viewpoint that the universe, earth and alleged evolutionary fossils are very old which is currently defined as about 13.7 billion years for the universe, about 4.5 billions years for the earth³⁵ and millions of years for purported evolutionary fossils. It is important to remember that secular evolutionary time frames need to be extensive as long periods of time are necessary for slow and

gradual evolution to happen. As a graphic example, look at the second paragraph on page 14.

However, if we consider why the universe, the earth and some fossils in the earth's rock strata allegedly look *very old*, the definition of *very old* can become somewhat uncertain, particularly if we rely on current secular scientific dating methods and/or visual appearances. To illustrate, let's apply the phrase *very old* to an artifact that is typically considered by secular science to be the oldest object



Figure 6. The Acasta Gneiss Rock

on the earth, is also used to date the age of the earth – rocks – and look at two specimens. According to secular science, the oldest surface rock on earth is known as the Acasta Gneiss³⁶ rock (Figure 6) that has been dated by secular geologists as 3.96 to 4.03 billion years old.³⁷ From a visual perspective, this rock looks no different than many rocks on earth's surface yet secular geologists believe that it is the oldest surface rock on earth. Obviously, visual appearances alone can be misleading, particularly when determining the age of rocks.

Now, to expand the perspective of dating rocks, consider the validity of secular dating and apply it to the rock in Figure 7. This is an igneous rock that was formed from the cooling and solidification of magma (lava) at Mount St. Helens during its eruption in 1980. This rock has been radiometric dated by secular geologists as between 340,000 to 2.8 million years old. Even though this rock could also be categorized as very old along with a lack of notable characteristics that would identify this rock as either older or younger than the rock in Figure 6, there is a fundamental problem with the alleged geological date of 340,000 to 2.8 million years. We know that Mount St. Helens erupted in 1980

which indicates the actual age of the rock is about 42 years old. This example indicates that modern secular scientific radiometric dating methods may not be capable of accurately dating the age of this earth that is radiometric dated from rocks.



Figure 7. An Igneous Rock From Mount St. Helens

With the preceding thoughts in mind, consider how dating ages are derived from secular science and if the evidence from factual science actually supports modern dating methodologies. As the dating of the universe, earth and evolutionary fossils from secular scientific methodologies primarily use three different methods, let's evaluate each method and their inherent characteristics.

Universe – 13.7 Billion Years Old

To consider how secular science arrives at an age for the universe of 13.7 billion years, begin by looking at two secular quotes:

"The best available information indicates that the age of the universe is 13.7 billion years old. Hubble has helped to measure the age of the universe using two different methods. The first method involves measuring the speeds and distances of galaxies. Because all of the galaxies in the universe are generally moving apart, we infer that they must all have been much closer together sometime in the past. Knowing the current speeds and distances to galaxies, coupled with the rate at which the universe is accelerating, allows us to calculate how long it took them to reach their current locations. The answer is about 14 billion years. The second method involves measuring the ages of the oldest star

clusters. Globular star clusters orbiting our Milky Way are the oldest objects we have found and a detailed analysis of the stars they contain tells us that they formed about 13 billion years ago. The good agreement between these two very different methods is an encouraging sign that we are honing in on the universe's true age"³⁹

"Until recently, astronomers estimated that the Big Bang occurred between 12 and 14 billion years ago. To put this into perspective, the Solar System is thought to be 4.5 billion years old and humans have existed as a genus for only a few million years. Astronomers estimate the age of the universe in two ways: 1) by looking for the oldest stars; and 2) by measuring the rate of expansion of the universe and extrapolating back to the big bang; just as crime detectives can trace the origin of a bullet from the holes in a wall"40

In summarizing the previous two quotes, notice the use of the words and phrases – "the best available information," "we infer," "about," "we are honing in on the universe's true age," "thought to be," and "astronomers estimate" – that indicate a questionable uncertainty in determining the true age of the universe. If a person is not an astronomer or a physics professor, the previous quotes on determining the age of the universe can sound overly technical and daunting, which they certainly are. However, without going into a technical overload, let's summarize the current secular dating methodology for the age of the universe and look at two inherent problems that questions its validity.

Globular Clusters

Briefly, by comparing observed color-magnitude diagrams of globular clusters (a dense collection of about 50,000 to half a million gravitationally bound stars) with calculated changes over time from models of stellar evolution, astronomers expect the best fit between observations and theoretical models to reveal the ages of globular clusters. However, the ages of globular clusters (and therefore the alleged age of the universe) are dependent on *theoretical models and expectations of stellar evolution that are based on long evolutionary ages*.⁴¹

Big Bang Model

Although the "big bang" is a primary pillar of evolutionary theory, it also presents a problematic aspect of this secular scientific viewpoint. When the current expansion rate of the universe is combined with a *model* of the big bang, cosmologists are alleged to be able to compute an age for the universe. So, the computed age for the universe depends on the particular version of the big bang model that is assumed. Therefore, if the model changes, the age of the universe changes (model dependent). As an example, from the early 1960's until the early 1990's the age of the universe was estimated to be between 16 to 18 billion years old, whereas it is currently about 13.7 billion years old. Not surprisingly, the big

bang model has changed over the years which is reflected in a changing age of the universe that is dependent on *each new discovery* resulting in *uncertainty and a lack of consistency*.⁴²

Earth – 4.5 Billion Years Old

Over the past 400 hundred years, scientists have tried various methods to determine the age of this planet. As an example, age was predicted based on changing sea levels and the salinity of the oceans until these procedures were proven to be unreliable. More recently, secular scientists have turned to rocks which are considered to be the oldest substances on the earth's surface. In the twentieth century, scientists began to use *radiometric dating* as a selective means to date surface rocks on earth (and also the moon). The following secular quote summarizes how this is accomplished:

"Earlier research had shown that isotopes of some radioactive elements decay into other elements at rates that can be easily predicted. By examining the existing elements, scientists can calculate the initial quantity, and thus how long it took for the elements to decay, allowing scientists to determine the age of the rock. The oldest rock found on earth to date is the Acasta Gneisses rock from northwestern Canada (Figure 6) and is dated at about 4 billion years old. To refine this theory, scientists believe that rocks from early history should also be present on the moon. Samples returned from the Apollo and Luna mission's revealed ages between 4.4 and 4.5 billion years old, helping to constrain the age of the earth. By using not only the rocks on earth but also information gathered about the system that surrounds it (universe), scientists have been able to place the age of the earth at 4.54 billion years old."

Note that the basic premise of modern dating techniques for the earth is based on evaluating radioactive decay in rocks found on earth and the moon which would initially appear to be reliable and trustworthy methodologies. Unfortunately, the perception that radiometric dating *proves* that the earth is approximately 4.5 billion years old is not science but rather a belief. These beliefs are based on the secular Humanist Manifestos (naturalism)⁴⁴ and accompanying articles and books.⁴⁵ The three fundamental pillars upon which naturalism depends on are deep time, evolution, and absolute uniformitarianism. Radiometric dating has served as a cornerstone for the deep-time theory being taught as settled science, particularly in school classrooms throughout the Western world. So, is the radiometric system an accurate and scientific methodology for dating the earth and other ancient artifacts? Let's take a closer look at radiometric dating methodologies.

Radiometric Dating

Radiometric dating (also known as radioisotope dating) measures decay rates of specific radioactive elements to not only date the earth (rocks) but also organic materials (derived from past living matter, such as fossils) in the earth's rock strata. The term *radiometric* applies to all methods of age determination based on nuclear decay. The two best known radiometric dating methods are (1) potassium-argon and/or uranium-lead, and (2) radiocarbon. Let's look at how these procedures are accomplished along with known problems that question their accuracy:

radiometric

Radiometric dating is normally limited to dating rocks, volcanic ash, artifacts and flowstones, and is contingent on *four assumptions* as follows:^{48,49}

- 1) Initial concentration of radioactive atoms is accurately known
- 2) Decay rate of radioactive atoms has been constant throughout time
- 3) Parent and daughter atoms cannot enter or leave the sample and there has been no contamination of the sample
- 4) No daughter atoms or decay products were initially present in the sample

Obviously, all dating methods are only as reliable as the assumptions upon which they are based. If any of these assumptions are regularly violated, the reliability of a dating method cannot be trusted. At this point, it is important to mention that along with assumptions is the type of interpretation, particularly if an interpretation is based on a predetermined ideology (such as billions and millions of years). Because the previous four assumptions are not observable, repeatable or testable, they are not provable. As a result, it is not surprising that there is a large body of evidence from peer-reviewed scientific literature that calls all of the aforementioned four assumptions into question.⁵⁰

This is how radiometric dating is used to date the oldest materials on earth – rocks. There are three basic kinds of rocks found on earth:

- 1) Metamorphic (granite; the result of pressure and heat)
- 2) Igneous (lava; the result of molten magma from volcano's)
- 3) Sedimentary (sediments such as sandstone, limestone, shale, mud, etc.)

Rocks that can be dated with radiometric methods are *metamorphic* and *igneous* rocks. Radiometric dating compares the amount of unstable radioactive "parent" elements and their "daughter" elements. Parent elements are unstable radioactive elements that decay into daughter elements over a period of time. As an example, one of the oldest and still popular radiometric dating method is uranium-lead that was developed in 1905 by a New Zealand physicist, Ernst Rutherford, who discovered that the age of a rock could potentially be measured

by means of radioactive decay and thereby theoretically determine the age of the earth. Today, uranium-lead is used with other radiometric dating methods such as potassium-argon, rubidium-strontium, samarium-neodymium, lutetium-hafnium and carbon-14 as well as others, but they all work on the same basic principle of measuring radioactive decay. As a specific example of how radiometric dating works, let's consider the uranium-238 to lead-206 dating system and then we will look at the radiocarbon (14C) dating system.

Uranium-238 (the parent element) spontaneously decays into lead-206 (the daughter element). 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 years⁵¹ as the actual decay rate has obviously not been observed and/or tested for 4.5 billion years. If the uraniumlead method is used to date a metamorphic or igneous rock, a measurement of the amount of the intermediate isotopes that are present in the rock including the amount of uranium-238 and lead-206 are taken. This will purportedly yield the alleged age of the rock from the ratio of the uranium-238 to lead-206 that is found in the rock. The fatal flaws to this supposition are that science cannot confirm that no daughter atoms or decay products were initially present in the sample, the decay rate has been constant over 4.5 billion years, the rock sample has never been contaminated (water, etc.), parent/daughter atoms have not entered/left the sample, and most importantly, the original quantity of radioactive element (uranium 238) being measured cannot be originally known in an alleged 4.5 billion years old rock, it can only be assumed.⁵²

At this point in our discussion, a legitimate question is "how accurate are radiometric-dating methods?" Based on the current measurements of rocks of known ages, radiometric dating methods are extremely inaccurate! Following are some examples:

- The Kaupelehu Flow, Hualalai Volcano, Hawaii, is known to have erupted in 1800-1801. Radiometric-dating ranges from 1.32 to 1.76 million years old
- Lava flows from Mt. Kilauea, Hawaii, are known to have erupted in 1959, yet radiometric-dating gives dates between 1.7 to 15.3 million years old
- Lava flows at Mt. Ngauruhoe, New Zealand, are known to have erupted in 1954, yet radiometric-dating methods have yielded dates up to 3.5 million years old
- o The Mt. Etna volcano in Sicily erupted in 1972. Radiometric-dating of the lava flows have yielded dates between 210,000 to 490,000 years old
- A lava flow 85 years ago at Mt. Lassen, California, radiometric-dated to over 250,000 years old

 Mt. Stromboli in Italy erupted in 1963 yet collected rock samples radiometricdated to 2 million years old

The previous examples give credibility to the perspective that radiometric-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 that fit into the evolutionary paradigm. Therefore, the published date by secular science for the age of the earth is an assumption based on an inaccurate dating methodology. 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

carbon 14 (14C)

Within radiometric-dating methods, carbon-14 is the more recognized dating method and is based on the simple principle of the ratio between carbon-12 (12 C) and carbon-14 (14 C). Although 14 C is not used to date rocks, it is used to date artifacts of a biological origin (bone, cloth, wood, plant fibers, etc.) up to about 60,000 years of age. This is because the half-life of 14 C is 5,730 years, which means that every 5,730 years it has decayed to half its initial amount. After two half-lives, a quarter is left; after three half-lives, only an eight is left; after 10 half-lives, less than a thousandth is left; and so on. If the half-life decay continues so the 14 C is totally exhausted, there should be no detectable 14 C left after about 60,000 years.

Nevertheless, it is more than notable that essentially everything in the fossil record contains readily measurable levels of ¹⁴C and this fact is widely recognized in the ¹⁴C community.⁵⁵This revelation suggests that the entire fossil record is less than 60,000 years old (this also applies to diamonds and coal that are allegedly billions and/or millions of years old, and dinosaur bones that supposedly died over 65 million years ago)!! Not surprisingly, when ancient fossil bones of the homo genus (human) are ¹⁴C dated, they have consistently produced dates that are between thousands to tens of thousands of years old.⁵⁶ From this perspective and within radiometric-dating methods, ¹⁴C is an anomaly as it is typically perceived as yielding very old dates when in actuality it shows how young things are – thousands instead of billions and/or millions of years old!

Here is how ¹⁴C dating works. ¹²C is a stable isotope of carbon and along with the gas nitrogen-14 (¹⁴N), they are both naturally found in our atmosphere. When ¹⁴N is bombarded by the sun's cosmic rays from outer space, the unstable radioactive isotope ¹⁴C is formed. Being a cyclical process, ¹⁴C is continually being formed and decaying back into ¹⁴N. Things that were once living tissue (plants, animals and humans) absorb ¹²C and ¹⁴C atoms while breathing and eating. Once an animal, plant or human dies, they stop absorbing ¹²C and ¹⁴C atoms and the unstable ¹⁴C atoms begin to revert back to ¹⁴N. As a result, the ratio of ¹²C to ¹⁴C atoms will change over time.

Therefore, to use the ¹⁴C method to date a past biological artifact, the amount of ¹²C is *assumed* to remain constant and is compared to any unstable ¹⁴C that is left.⁵⁷ However, the ¹⁴C dating method does have noteworthy limits as it also depends on the same assumptions that hamper radiometric-dating methods. Because these assumptions are not observable, repeatable or testable, they are not provable. To summarize, the assumptions are:

- 1) Initial concentration of radioactive atoms is known
- 2) Decay rate of radioactive atoms has been constant throughout time
- 3) Parent and daughter atoms cannot enter or leave the sample and there has been no contamination of the sample
- 4) No daughter atoms or decay products were initially present in the system

A quick review of the previous four assumptions illustrates that over a period of an alleged 60,000 years, it is impossible to know the initial concentration of radioactive atoms, verify a constant decay rate, assume no contamination such as water leaching (and that is why a global Flood creates a major problem for secular science), and know the original quantity of the stable isotope ¹²C. Even within its limitations, ¹⁴C dating is capable of yielding results that are 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

index Fossils

Up to "The Great Awakening/Enlightenment Thinking" of the 1700's, the dominant geological science was the belief that Noah's global Flood had quickly deposited the fossil bearing rock strata on earth (catastrophism), yet during the eighteenth and nineteenth century, a new belief system was introduced by Sir Charles Lyell and others who supported evolution, infinite ages and the assumption earth's

rock strata had built-up over long periods of time.⁵⁸ Lyell and friends also developed the "Standard Geologic Column" (Figure 9) which is a key element in evolutionary theory and also index fossil dating.

The column was – and still is – assumed to represent an evolutionary history of rocks and fossils that are currently found in the earth's crust. Notice that the left side of Figure 9 contains 3 major Era's (Paleozoic, Mesozoic, and Cenozoic)

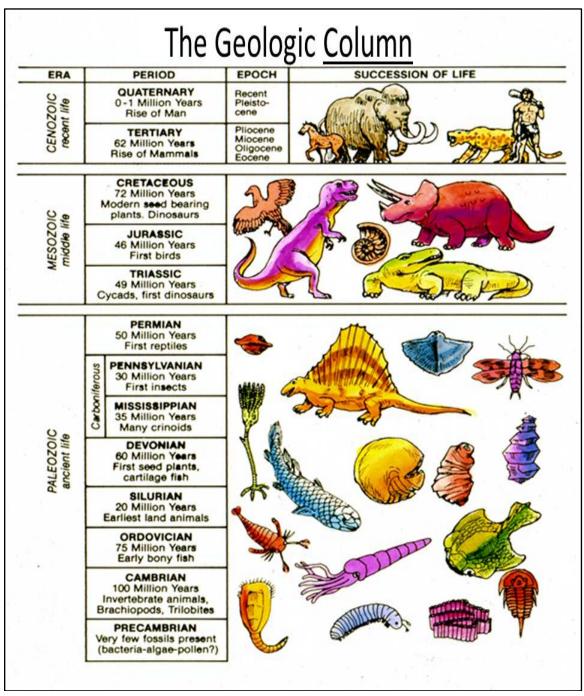


Figure 9. The Standard Geologic Column

that are divided into thirteen Periods (Precambrian up to Quaternary). The basic idea of the geologic column (which can be found in virtually every geology, biology, or evolution-based textbook) is to graphically display three evolutionary viewpoints:

- 1) The oldest rock layers should be at the bottom of the column
- 2) The simplest forms of life should also be at the bottom of the column so that while progressing upward, the life forms should become more complicated until you reach the Quaternary Period and the appearance of mammals and ultimately man
- 3) Depicted life forms are assumed to have evolved over a time frame of at least 100 million years to present

Interestingly, all of the geological ages were developed before the advent of current dating methods and were constructed by combining descriptions of local areas to form a composite record. Therefore, the geologic column was an *assumption* that was based on a premise that the evolution of simple to complex life forms could be graphically displayed in the earth's strata along with the *assumption* that the oldest rocks should be located at the bottom of the strata and the newest rocks at the top of the strata.⁵⁹ The core problem with these assumptions is the complete geologic column – as depicted – does not exist anywhere on earth except in textbooks! Additionally, only several of the thirteen Periods are normally found in any one location, there are numerous locations where Periods are totally absent and there are abundant examples of strata occurring in the wrong evolutionary order (old rocks and fossils on top of recent rocks and fossils). Some examples of these problems are the Lewis Overthrust in the Rocky Mountains, the Appalachian region in the Eastern United States, the Swiss Alpine region, the Scottish Highlands, and the mountains of India.

As fossils are normally found in sedimentary rocks, radioisotope methods such as uranium-lead, potassium-argon and other similar methods do not apply for dating of fossils. However, remember that ¹⁴C is used to date items of biological origin (fossils) but is limited to dating items up to about 60,000 years old. So, the secular solution to this dilemma is best summarized by the following quote:⁶⁰

"Can we date actual fossils? Sometimes. Scientists called geochronologists are experts in dating rocks and fossils, and can often date fossils younger than 50,000 years old using radiocarbon (14C) dating. However, some fossils are just too old for radiocarbon dating. In these cases, we have to rely on the rocks themselves. We date the rocks and by inference,

we can date the fossils" Smithsonian Institute

The previous quote indicates that some fossils are too old for radiocarbon dating so it is necessary to date the rocks, and by *inference*, apply the dates to the fossils. In this case, the system of index fossils is used instead of radiocarbon dating. Index fossils are defined as "the fossil remains of an organism that lived in a particular geologic age, used to identify or date the rock or rock layer in which it is found."61 Here is how the index fossil dating method works. Suppose you are digging in rock strata and find a fossil of a trilobite (extinct marine arthropod, Figure 10). An initial consideration would likely be "how old is this trilobite fossil and/or the rock layers around the fossil?" By looking at Figure 9, notice that trilobites are in the Cambrian Period (lower right/hand side). So, by looking at the time frames in the Period Column, your trilobite fossil and the rock strata that contained the fossil are about 100 million years old. The index fossil dating method uses the alleged long ages of evolution from a secular evolutionary geologic column to determine the age of the fossils, and the age of the surrounding rocks are then determined by the alleged age of index fossils! This simple illustration is a clear example of "circular reasoning" by using the fossil to date the rocks and the rocks to date the fossil! Consider the following quote:

"there is no certain order of the fossils"

Dr. David Raup, Geologist,

University of Chicago and The Field Museum of Natural History



Figure 10. Trilobite Fossil

PALEOANTHROPOLOGY

Before we look at the field of paleoanthropology, consider the following definitions that will be important to this section:

- o Paleo means old
- o Anthropology is the Greek word for the study of man
- o Combining the previous two words, paleoanthropology is the study of human fossils
- o Hominid is used by evolutionists to define "humans and their evolutionary ancestors"
- o Human is used by creationists to refer to those "who are descendants of Adam"
- o Primates (for this discussion) will be considered part-ape and part-human

Although the field of paleoanthropology is an accepted scientific field, a primary difference between paleoanthropology and other scientific fields is a potential lack of absolutes. To define these absolutes, take into account the following three false impressions:

(1) The other sciences (physics, etc.) are founded on fundamental laws such as the Laws of Thermodynamics, the Biogenetic Law and so on. However, secular paleoanthropology is often based on an **opinion** founded on an evolutionary theory that postulates man evolved from primates and/or an unknown source.⁶² As an example, the evolutionist first assumes that humans and other living primates are related. Studies on the other primates are then used to cast light on the alleged evolution of humans. This is graphically displayed in the evolutionary "Tree Of Life" found in most secular biology textbooks that depict a tree with an "Origin of Life" form at the bottom with branches rising upwards with various advanced life forms at the end of the branches (Figure 11). Consider the following quote:

"some people will have heard me say that I often felt that paleoanthropology was more of an art than a science. I think it is now about to be a science, and I sincerely hope that it will be a science, because the minute it becomes a science, we begin the possibility of really understanding what's going on"

Richard Leaky, renowned anthropologist

(2) A false impression is that human fossil material is readily available for review and is thoroughly studied by all who teach and write on the subject.⁶³ Consider the following quote:

"only those in the inner circle get to see the fossils; only those who agree with the particular interpretation of a particular investigator are allowed to see the fossils"

Donald Johnson, discoverer of Lucy

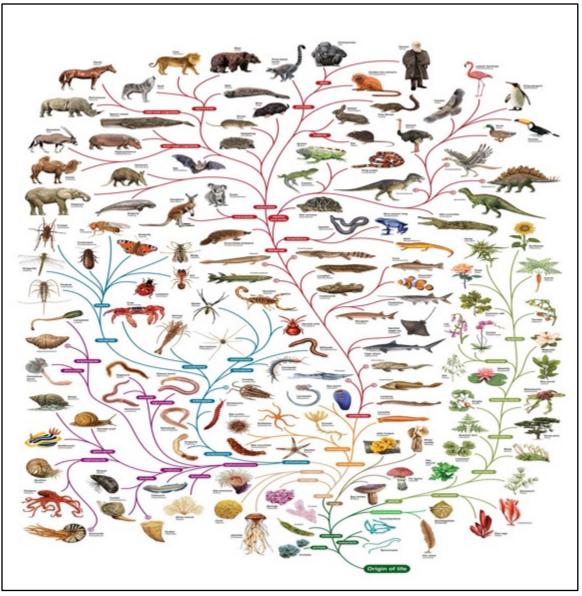


Figure 11. Tree Of Life

(3) A common fallacy is that paleoanthropologists are able to speak with the same authority as other scientists.⁶⁴ This view is not held by the following researcher in the field of paleoanthropology:

"when we move right off the register of objective truth into those fields of presumed biological science, like extrasensory perception or the interpretation of man's fossil history, where to the faithful anything is possible and where the ardent believer is sometimes able to believe several contradictory things at the same time"

Lord Zuckerman, University of Birmingham, England, noted authority on the australopithecine

In addition to the three preceding examples of a lack of absolutes, the field of paleoanthropology has been plagued with numerous blatant frauds such as the following examples of alleged missing links:

o Java-Ape Man

In 1981, Java, Indonesia, Eugene Dubois found a skullcap that he claimed to have transitional features between apes and humans. A year later, he found a thighbone in about the same area that he felt looked human. Dubois claimed the skullcap and thighbone to be the missing link between apes and humans. Today, fluorine analysis indicates that both fossils are the same age and the thighbone is human

o Nebraska Man

Developed from one tooth which was later found to be from an extinct species of a pig

o Piltdown Man

A skull from an old woman stained to look ancient and a jawbone from an orangutan were pieced together to look like the bridge between ape and man. This scam continued for four decades

Lucy

With much fanfare, a partial set of fossilized bones were uncovered in Ethiopia in 1974 and named "Lucy." Lucy was proclaimed able to walk upright and the common ancestor of all later hominids including humans. What was not disclosed was that part of the skeleton was found over two miles away and 200-feet lower than the original find. Today, many paleoanthropologists consider Lucy a variety of extinct ape. Additionally, fossilized *human footprints* have been discovered in Laetoli, Tanzania, and have been dated to the same time period as Lucy (3.6 to 3.7 million years old)⁶⁵

Neanderthal Man

A few related fossil bones were discovered in Germany in 1856 and became known as Neanderthal man. They were the first set of bones to be considered a pre-human hominin⁶⁶ with subsequent artistic depictions made to appear as a very ape-ish, brutish and a hairy cave dwelling hominin that lived prior to modern man (Figure 12). Today, it is known that Neanderthals were people of incredible power and strength but were also plagued with rickets and arthritis in older age. Also, we now know that paleontology, archaeology and modern genetics dramatically confirm that Neanderthal people were in every respect, fully human⁶⁷

Additionally, there was Peking Man, Wadjak Man and Nut Cracker Man.....



Figure 12. Early Evolutionary Depiction Of Neanderthal Man

Now, let's consider why the fossil record clearly invalidates the evolutionary theory of human evolution from an ape-ish like creature. Look closely at Figure 13 that was printed in the July 2001 issue of Time magazine. Starting from the top-left of the Figure, notice that 7 million years ago, gorillas, chimpanzees and modern humans allegedly evolved from the same unknown source (last common ancestor) that remains to be discovered. Then, about 6 million years ago, humans allegedly split from gorillas and chimpanzees. Notice the evolution of gorillas and chimpanzees follows an *unbroken* path to the present while the evolution of modern man from about 4 to 3 million years ago to the present follows numerous *broken/dead end* paths that do not share any continuity (bottom, Figure 13). The obvious question is why? An answer to this question is found in the August 1998 issue of National Geographic magazine. Quoting from the magazine text, an amazing admission sets the parameters for the alleged fossils that represent the hypothetical evolution of mankind:

"because the fossil record is so fragmentary, inference and predictions fill in the gaps"

National Geographic, August 1998

An additional dilemma within the field of paleoanthropology is displayed in Figure 14 from the July 2002 issue of Time magazine. The skull on the left is from the same species and time period as the famous Lucy skeleton fragments (on the right) and both are dated to about 3.6 million to 2.9 million years old. Yet, both skulls are comprised of two materials; a few bone fragments and a clay-like

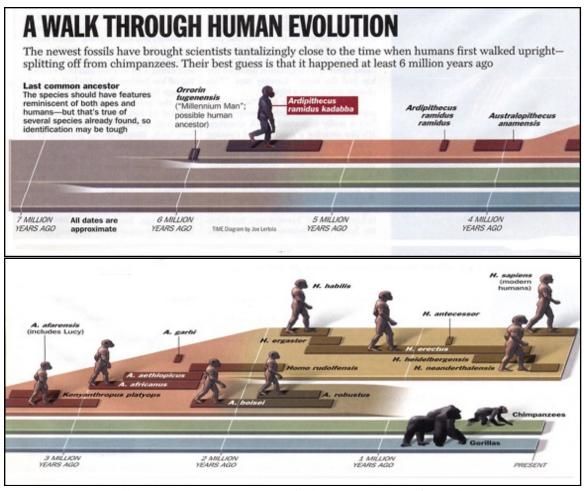


Figure 13: Alleged Representation Of The Evolution Of Modern Humans



Fig 14: How Are Features Determined From So Few Remains?

material that makes up the majority of both skulls. A rational question is – "with so few bone fragments, how is the final shape and features of an ancient skull determined?" Interestingly, some National Geographic magazine readers also asked the same question about the cover on the August 2002 issue that headlined the phrase "The First Pioneer?" (Figure 15). This was the response in the December 2002 issue, Forum Section, of the magazine:

"the issue generated plenty of mail from those who dispute evolution. And the cover made some readers wonder how the artist decided how much facial hair to paint. Hair was the most speculative part of the reconstruction, says art director Christopher Sloan. Artist Mauricio Anton looked at the fossil's closest living analogues – chimps and humans – and used a hair pattern halfway between the two."

National Geographic magazine December, 2002, Forum Section

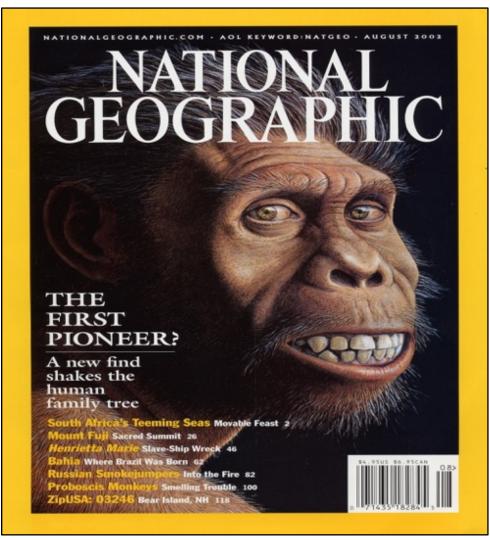


Figure 15: The First Pioneer?

Although the magazine admitted the hair was an artist's conception with evolutionary input, it was not mentioned that soft features (nose, skin, lips, etc.) were also a result of an artist's perception and are typically drawn with an apelike resemblance. Once again, look at Figures 13, 14 and 15 and consider the following quote:⁶⁸

"the human fossil record is so contrary to human evolution as to effectively falsify the idea that humans evolved"

Marvin Lubenow, author Bones of Contention

As Figure 15 can be a typical representation of how humans allegedly evolved from gorillas, chimpanzees or the last common ancestor, it should not be surprising why these types of depictions are often capable of advancing the secular ideology that modern humans are the result of Darwinian evolution. Additionally, a major type of alleged evidence that is used to support the theory of human evolution is a fossil record depiction of a sequence of an ape-ish creature leading to hominids, and hominids leading to modern humans. However, this arrangement can be very artificial and arbitrary for the following reasons:

- Some fossils are selectively excluded if they do not fit into the evolutionary format⁶⁹
- o Some non-human fossils are upgraded to make them appear to be human ancestors^{70,71}
- o Some human fossils are arbitrarily downgraded to make them appear to be evolutionary ancestors when in reality they are true humans. An example of this type of "wand waving" is the renowned fossil KNM-KP 271 that is the lower end of a left upper arm bone found in 1965, Kanapoi, Kenya, by Bryan Patterson of Harvard University. Even though the fossil is in an excellent state of preservation and computer analysis shows it to be indistinguishable from modern humans, it was dated at 4 to 4.5 million years old. The Yet Lucy (our alleged earliest ancestor) is dated at about 3 million years old. So, the problem of conflicting dates was solved by simply reclassifying KNM-KP 271 as a fossil younger than Lucy. This fossil represents a part of the anatomy where it is relatively easy to differentiate between humans and other primates, both living and fossil, yet the time element was wrong so it was necessary to readjust the age of the fossil to fit within the evolutionary model
- Dated fossils that return dates that are either too young or too old to fit the evolutionary model are re-dated (often with other dating methods) until an acceptable date is achieved⁷⁴

The fact that objects are arranged in an ascending or descending sequence does not prove they have a relationship or that any of them evolved from any of the others. As an example, aircraft from WWI, WWII, the Korean war, the Iraq war and the Space Shuttle are all aircraft and capable of flight. Yet, if these aircraft were placed in an ascending order, would this be proof that the bi-plane from WWI evolved into the Space Shuttle? Obviously not! The illustration in Figure 16 implies that the entire *A. afarensis "Lucy"* population (chimp-like animal that evolved into humans) could change into *A africanus*, and that entire population could change into *Homo ergaster*, and that entire population could change into *Homo ergaster*, and that entire population could change into *Homo ergaster*, and that entire population could change into *Homo ergaster*, and that entire population could change into *Homo ergaster*, and that entire population could change into *Homo ergaster*, and that entire population could change into *Homo ergaster*, and that entire population could change into *Homo ergaster*, and that entire population could change into *Homo ergaster*, and that entire population could change into *Homo ergaster*, and that entire population could change into *Homo ergaster*, and that entire population could change into *Homo ergaster*, and that entire population could change into *Homo ergaster*, and that entire population could change into *Homo ergaster*.

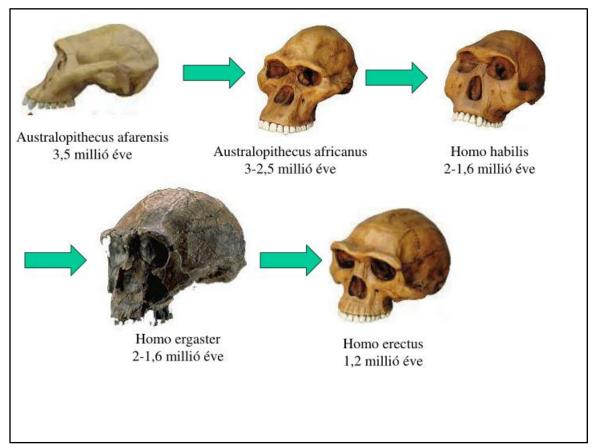


Figure 16. An Alleged Evolutionary Sequence

Evolution is an extremely ordered theory as the less fit must die as the more fit survives. The more fit survives because they are better able to compete for a limited food supply and they reproduce in greater numbers. So, for species A to evolve into species B, species A must precede species B in time. Also, after species A has evolved into species B, species A remnants must soon die. So, it is essential to the evolutionary process that if species B evolved from species A,

that species A and species B cannot coexist for an *extended length of time*. If the unfit survived for long periods of time or indefinitely, they would continue to infect the fit with their less-fit genes. The result would be that the more fit genes would be diluted and compromised by the less-fit genes and evolution would be seriously compromised and/or not take place.⁷⁵ From a factual viewpoint, death is thus as natural to evolution as it is foreign to biblical creation.

To illustrate the point that coexisting species falsifies the theory of human evolution, look at Figure 17 and the species *Homo erectus* (dated about one million years ago). For *Homo habilis* to evolve into *Homo erectus*, *Homo habilis* must precede *Homo erectus* in time. Furthermore, after *Homo habilis* has evolved into *Homo erectus*, *Homo habilis* must be eliminated by death because *Homo erectus* is

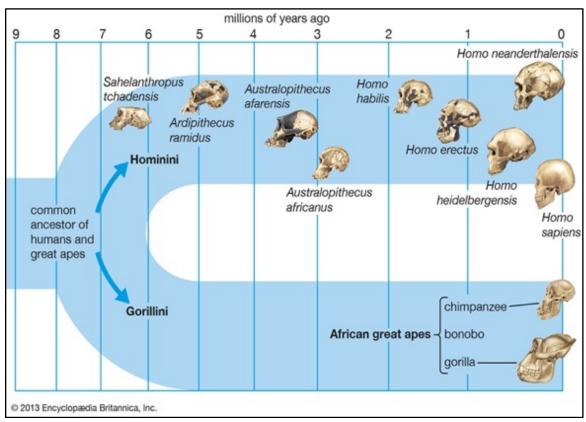


Figure 17. Alleged Evolution Of Man

allegedly the better fit of the two in the competition for limited resources. Yet, according to evolutionary dating, *Homo habilis* and *Homo erectus* existed side by side as contemporaries for over half a million years.⁷⁶ The fossil record allegedly shows that *Homo erectus* lived alongside archaic *Homo sapiens* for the entire 700,000 years of archaic *Homo sapiens* history and that *Homo erectus* lived alongside a more modern form of *Homo sapiens* for two million years (according to evolutionary chronology).⁷⁷ If the date range of all the fossils having *Homo*

erectus morphology were published on a chart, it would be clear that human evolution has not taken place!

Additionally, evolutionary fossil dating charts show that anatomically modern *Homo sapiens*, *Neanderthal*, archaic *Homo sapiens*, and *Homo erectus* all lived as contemporaries over extended periods of time.⁷⁸ Therefore, it is understandable why evolutionary books rarely carry charts that delineate the specifics of fossils and their respective tenures. Charts of bits and pieces of the human fossil record abound in books and magazines, but one will look in vain for an evolutionist work that places all of the relevant human fossil material on a specific time chart according to the morphological description of the individual fossils. To date, the fossil record has been a failure on a grand scale for the alleged evolutionary time line. When older hominid fossils are put side by side to the comparable bones of modern humans, they are virtually identical. This means there are fossils that are indistinguishable from modern humans that extend all the way back to 4.5 million years ago on the evolutionary time scale. Consider the following quotes:

"I do not believe that it is now possible to fit the known hominid fossils into a reliable pattern. I think we are still doing a great deal of guessing"

Mary and Richard Leaky, renowned anthropologists

"In the past century, the discoverer of every new hominid (man and apes) has nominated it as a potential human ancestor"

Renowned paleoanthropologists Lowenstein and Zihlman

For many years, science has been actively searching for the missing link between chimps/apes and modern humans. Some of the common problems faced by paleoanthropologists are the lack of transitional fossils, ancient fossils that have the same appearance as modern humans, and what caused the alleged split between chimps/apes and humans from the last common ancestor. As an example, an interesting article in the November 2002 issue of Discover magazine suggests – "a molecular evolutionist at the University of Georgia theorizes that an unlikely genetic trigger may have separated the chimpanzee and man." The key words in this article are "theorizes" and "may," which are also the same key words that are regularly used by evolutionary theorists. The "Catalogue" published by the British Museum, lists hominid fossils discovered from 1969 to 1976 at about 4,000. Since 1976 to the present, an additional 2,000 hominid fossils have been discovered for a total of over 6,000 hominid fossils which is an immense amount of material. The perplexing dilemma is that modern man supposedly evolved

from chimps/apes yet paleoanthropologists are having difficulty in finding fossils that would clearly demonstrate that fact.

A recent discovery that has reinforced the false chimp/ape-to-man story that has been promoted from the 1970's to the present is a discovery in 2017 of modern human-looking footprints in Trachilos, western Crete, and reported in Proceedings of the Geologists Association.⁷⁹ Lucy (a chimp-like animal that evolved into humans) is thought to have roamed Africa about 3 to 4 million years ago. However, the new secular findings from Crete suggest humans lived at least 5.7 million years ago, significantly predating the earliest australopiths (early human species from which modern humans are believed to have evolved from). This discovery requires the paleo-community to abandon our alleged early ancestors as modern humans were already around long before their time.

Finally, what is the explanation for human fossils that are found in caves? Evolutionists theorize that as humans evolved from a chimp-like animal to modern man and gained intelligence, they sought refuge and lived in caves that readily provided a secure location and protection from the elements and predatory animals. From a creationist viewpoint, human fossils that are found in caves are a result of two perspectives. One, when languages were confused at the Tower of Babel, the population would have spread out and sought new areas to populate. Until living quarters were constructed, caves would have provided a quick means of refuge and safety. Two, as the Ice Age began to spread after the global Flood, humans would have relocated and sought refuge from the advancing ice sheets.

The preceding discussion highlighted the underlying assumptions within the evolutionary field of paleoanthropology and human evolution. Additional information that detail the controversial history of these fossils can be found as follows:

- Bones of Contention
 Marvin L. Lubenow
 Baker Books, 1998 and 2004
- Contested Bones
 Christopher Rupe and Dr. John Stanford
 FMS Publications, 2017 and 2019
- Evolution: The Fossils Still Say No Dr. Duane T. Gish ICR, 1995
- Fossil Forensics
 Dr. Jerry Bergman
 BP Books, 2017

FOSSILS

As an introduction to the science of fossils, the word *Fossil* comes from a Latin word which means "to be dug up," and paleontology is the "study of fossils." Fossils are the remains of past living things and can be an excellent history book of past events and the history of life on this earth. There are four types of fossils:80

- 1) Prints: Impressions that are formed in mud and then harden
- 2) Molds: Hollowed out spaces in rocks that are the same shape of the living object after their remains dissolved
- 3) Casts: Solid forms of past living objects that are formed when the mold fills with sediment
- 4) Body Fossils: Actual parts of a past living thing

FOSSIL FORMATION

There are two explanations regarding the formation of fossils, evolutionary and creationist. From an evolutionary viewpoint, assume an animal dies in the ocean, sinks to the bottom of the ocean and is covered by sediment over *time*. The soft body tissues will dissolve and leave a mold. The mold will ultimately fill up with sediment and minerals that harden over time and forms a cast. Over time, the earth can move and bring the fossil towards the surface. Ultimately, the earth erodes and the fossil is exposed and becomes visible.⁸¹

A creationist looks at the formation of fossils from a significantly different perspective that is primarily based on a worldwide *catastrophic Flood* that *quickly* overwhelms and buries animal and plant life in sedimentary deposits. The fossil mold will ultimately fill up with sediment and minerals that harden over time and forms a cast. Over time, the earth can move and bring the fossil towards the surface. Ultimately, the earth erodes and the fossil is exposed and becomes visible.

Notice the principal difference between these two definitions is *catastrophic Flood and Time*! The creationist definition is based on a catastrophic Flood that quickly buries plant and animal life in sedimentary deposits. This action will eliminate destruction of the plant or animal by scavengers, keep air from enhancing rapid decomposition and preserve the plant or animal until a fossil is formed. This rapid type of catastrophic sedimentation that quickly overwhelms plants and animals should produce large numbers of fossil graveyards of plants and animals, some of which may have been buried together that do not normally co-exist. This is exactly what is found around the world. A clear example of catastrophism (or a global Flood) is the vast fossil graveyards in the sedimentary

crust all around the earth where fossils can be found by the *billions*. As an example:⁸²

- Billions of fish fossils are found in Scotland, New York, California, Wyoming, etc.
- o Dinosaur fossils are common in New Mexico, Alberta, Tanzania, Belgium, etc.
- o Insect fossils are abundant in Colorado, the Baltic Nations, Caribbean Islands, etc.
- o The Mammoth beds of Siberia and Alaska
- Mastodons in Florida and horse beds in France
- Vast coal beds around the world that are fossilized remains of plants

In opposition, the evolutionary definition is based on a process that requires sediment to *slowly* bury a plant or animal. Remember that unless there is catastrophic action, normal sedimentation is a slow process. This results in a dilemma for the evolutionary definition of fossil formation. Fossils cannot be formed by a slow sedimentary process as a dead plant or animal will likely be destroyed by scavengers and/or decompose before being covered by sediment. If slow sedimentation resulted in fossils, one should find millions of bison fossils in the Great Plains of America. Not surprisingly, bison fossils are not found. The evidence of ancient vast global fossil beds in concert with the fact that few if any fossils are being formed today are graphically confirmed by the following quote:

"Comparatively few remains of organisms now inhabiting the earth are being deposited under conditions favorable for their preservation as fossils. It is, nevertheless, remarkable that so vast a number of fossils are imbedded in the rocks"

William J. Miller, Emeritus Professor of Geology, U.C.L.A.

TRANSITIONAL FOSSILS

Evolutionary theory is based on the premise that the beginning of all life forms evolved from some simple pre-life form that accidently and spontaneously generated itself millions of years ago in some theoretical "primordial soup" here on earth. Modern secular philosophies place the location of the origin of life from non-life in such locations as deep-ocean hot vents, hot springs on land and even clay. Yet, from a factual perspective, millions of fossils have been found since Darwin's time and they display a clear picture of what life was like many years ago. As a result, it should not be surprising that the fossil record indisputably demonstrates that all life did not evolve from simple primitive organisms as most animals/creatures suddenly appear fully formed in the fossil record along with a lack of clear transitional fossils that are required for every type of animal as Darwinism requires.⁸³

When trying to determine the development and history of *life on earth,* what actually did happen can only be scientifically resolved by an examination of the historical fossil record as found in the earth's rock strata as supported by the following quotes from two renowned evolutionary scientists:

"creation and evolution, between them, exhaust the possible explanations for the origin of living things. Organisms either appeared on the earth fully developed or they did not. If they did not, they must have developed from preexisting species by some process of modification. If they did appear in a fully developed state, they must indeed have been created by some omnipotent intelligence" Pierre Grasse, French Zoologist, author

"the fossil record affords an opportunity to choose between evolutionary and creationist models for the origin of the earth and its life forms" D.J. Futuyma, renowned evolutionist, biologist, scholar and author

The previous two quotes emphasize the importance of evaluating the fossilized remains of past forms of life entombed in the rocks to determine the origin and historical record of life on earth. The discovery of 250 thousand fossilized species and a total of 250 million catalogued fossils over the past 200 years have yielded a wealth of fossils that can be used for investigative purposes, and should also contain an innumerable number of transitional fossils. 86,87,88 The word transitional is defined as "passing from one condition to another." When this definition is applied to transitional fossils, it can be interpreted as meaning – "a transitional fossil is a term used to describe a fossil that shows a transitional form of two different species. The transitional fossil will show a combination of traits from the species that preceded it and the species that followed it," or – "fossils that remain from species transitioning into other species and display characteristics of two different species." ⁸⁹

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 abundantly present in the fossil record. Therefore, from an evolutionary perspective, the fossil record should display the following characteristics:

- o Slow change of simple forms into more complex forms
- o Gradual appearance of complex forms
- o 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 during the creation

account as delineated in Genesis 1:1-31. The following characteristics should be abundantly found in the fossil record:

- Sudden appearance of complex forms and with complete characteristics for each species
- No evolutionary transitional forms

As millions of fossils have been recovered over the past 200 years, thousands upon thousands of transitional forms should be found in the earth's strata. Yet, when the fossil record is examined, a startling pattern of fossils becomes vividly apparent. There is no evidence of evolution in the fossil record. The massive diversity of plants and animals all appear suddenly with no signs of transitional forms. From the Cambrian rock layers near the bottom of the geologic column (refer to pg. 28) where complex life first appears (known in biology as the Cambrian Explosion⁹⁰), to the uppermost section of the geologic column, we see one of evolution's greatest conundrums. Not only does this initial explosion of life negate evolution, many Cambrian creatures are still here today and look very similar to their alleged 100-million-year-old-plus ancestors. Starfish, brittle stars, and horseshoe crabs are noteworthy examples of sudden appearance in the fossil record, but also a lack of change. The same evolution-negating fossil trend can also be observed at every stratigraphic level of the geologic column.91 Even Darwin was well aware of the lack of transitional fossils in the earth's rock strata but believed future generations would remedy this dilemma. In frustration, Darwin stated:

"why then is not every geological formation and every stratum full of such intermediate links? Geology assuredly does not reveal and such finely graduated organic chain; and this, perhaps, is the most obvious and gravest objection which can be urged against my theory"

Charles Darwin

In order to salvage his arguments for evolution, Darwin was forced to assert that the fossil record was too incomplete and too full of gaps to produce the expected patterns of change that his theory required. As a result, he prophesied that future generations of paleontologists would fill in these gaps by diligent search and then his major thesis "that evolutionary change is gradual and progressive" would be vindicated. The fact is, 163 years of paleontological research after Darwin's book has abundantly clarified that the fossil record has not, and will not, confirm this part of Darwin's theory.

The lack of transitional fossils should not be surprising from a creationist viewpoint, but are fatal to the theory of evolution as the fossil record is actually

one of evolution's major problems. In response to this fact, the renowned late Dr. Stephen J. Gould of Harvard, proposed another evolutionary theory called "Punctuated Equilibrium." This theory postulates that new species suddenly appeared and left no trace of transitional fossils. Yet, from a secular perspective, Dr. Gould who was an evolutionary paleontologist, biologist, historian of science and one of the most influential and widely read authors of popular science of this generation openly admitted:93

"The extreme rarity of transitional forms in the fossil record persists as the trade secret of paleontology. The evolutionary trees that adorn out textbooks have data only at the tips and nodes of their branches; the rest is inference, however reasonable, not the evidence of fossils"

Stephen J. Gould, Evolutionist, Harvard

Over the years, some living and extinct animals have been used as evidence of evolution. A *very few* animals with fully developed features typical of other species, which is what most alleged evolutionary fossil finds are, is not what is required to prove evolution. What is required are thousands of *intermediate* forms that clearly show *gradual* evolution from a simple animal to, for example, a monkey-like primate, to eventually humans. It is becoming increasingly obvious today that not only have these type of fossils not been found, but they will not be found. As an example, there exists no clear "half-fish, half-bird fossils, only animals with some unique structures like flippers on mammals (i.e., whales that evolutionists try to force into a transitional form category). The fact that some evolutionists do not accept the alleged transitional forms as truly transitional shows the critical importance of interpretation.⁹⁴

Although much space could be devoted to the various types of creatures and animals that proliferate the fossil record, let's consider (for the sake of brevity) the species of invertebrates (lacking a backbone) and their respective fossil record. Although invertebrates are not very exciting to the average person, it is noteworthy that of the estimated 1.7 million known species of animals, 95-percent are invertebrates such as single-celled organisms, earthworms, starfish, snails and insects. The resultant fossil record from these creatures allows accurate comparisons of ancient and modern fossils/forms that can be used to evaluate Darwinism and/or the presence or lack of transitional fossils. Remember that if evolution occurred, undisputed evidence would be abundant in the enormous invertebrate fossil record. Yet, we find that is not the case!

Evolutionary theory supposes that life first appeared in the form of a microscopic, single-celled organism. Then, it is theorized that this first form of

life eventually diverged into many single-celled organisms such as bacteria, algae, fungi, amoeba and the *metazoans* (highly complex multi-cellular creatures with specialized organs) that evolved from one or more of these single-celled organisms. How this happened and what intermediates were involved in this process is still viewed as one of the great unsolved mysteries of evolution.⁹⁵

Contrary to evolutionary theory, metazoans abruptly appear fully formed in the fossil record with no intermediate fossils in the fossil record that link single-celled organisms to metazoans to the complex invertebrates that supposedly ascended from them. Not surprisingly, the first abundant fossil record of complex invertebrates appears in rocks of the Cambrian Period so startlingly sudden that (as previously mentioned) this *abruptness* is referred to as the "Cambrian Explosion" in geology. Additionally, nowhere on earth has evidence of intermediates between single-celled organisms and the complex invertebrates been found. Whenever the fossils of the aforementioned creatures are found, right from the start jellyfish are jellyfish, starfish are starfish and sea urchins are sea urchins, and so on. Consider the following two quotes:

"It is considered likely that all the animal phyla became distinct before or during the Cambrian, for they all appear fully formed, without intermediates connecting one form to another"

Douglas Futuyma, Evolutionary Biologist

"It is a mistake to believe that even one fossil or group can be demonstrated to have been ancestral to another"

Gareth Nelson, American Museum of Natural History

Instead of the vast numbers of undoubted transitional forms that should exist, the alleged case for evolution rests on a few highly contested popular examples such as Archaeopteryx (dinosaur to bird), Pakicetus (land animal linked to whales), Perosiren Portelli (land animal to manatees), and Tiktaalik (vertebrtae life from water to land).⁹⁶

Now, let's pause for a moment and consider two examples of alleged transitional fossil forms that illustrates the aggressive desire of the evolutionary community to display some evidence of evolutionary transitional fossils:

Archaeopteryx

Arguably, the "poster child" of the earliest transitional fossils that supposedly links birds to evolving from dinosaurs was initially discovered in Germany in 1861 and has become a favorite example of the quintessential "missing link" of the relevancy of evolutionary transitional fossils. In making this claim, evolutionists

often refer to Archaeopteryx's combination of feathers, wings with claws, toothed jaws and a long, bony tail.⁹⁷ However, in the years since the first discovery, the relevancy of this fossil as a transitional fossil has been fatally undermined as follows:

- o Both dinosaur and bird fossils are commonly found together in the fossil record⁹⁸
- O Thousands of fossilized bird tracks have been found alongside dinosaur foot tracks in many parts of the world⁹⁹
- The Hoatzin bird is currently found in the South American rainforest and shares many of the features of the Archaeopteryx fossil which provides evidence that Archaeopteryx is not a transitional form after all¹⁰⁰
- O Chinese scientists recently discovered another creature with "feathers" named *Xiaotingia zhengi* which evolutionists view as older than *Archaeopteryx* based on their old-age dating assumptions. After comparing both of these creatures with modern birds and dinosaurs, the researchers concluded that neither is directly related to modern birds. In fact, they propose classifying both *Archaeopteryx* and *Xiaotingia zhengi* in the dinosaur group of *Velociraptor*¹⁰¹
- Consider the following quote:

"The theory of linking dinosaurs to birds is a pleasant fantasy that some scientists like because it provides a direct entry into a past, we otherwise can only guess about. But unless more convincing evidence is uncovered, we must reject it and move on to the next better idea"

Larry Martin, Professor, Ornithologist, University of Kansas, Head of Vertebrate Paleontology Division of University's Museum of Natural History

Archaeoraptor

In addition to much contentious debate over the perspective of dinosaurs evolving into birds, the theory has also been exposed to a measure of forgery and fraud along with an overriding desire to prove the transitional philosophy, even when the "proof" is known to be false. In 1998, Archaeoraptor was introduced and sponsored at the National Geographic headquarters in Washington D.C. The society trumpeted the fossil discovery from China as "providing a true missing link in the complex chain that connects dinosaurs to birds." Some prominent paleontologists also used the fossil to support "a long-sought key to a mystery of evolution." The first published documentation of Archaeoraptor was a well-illustrated feature article in the November 1999 issue of National Geographic

magazine (Figure 18) and touted the fossil find as "a missing link between terrestrial dinosaurs and birds that could fly."

However, the fossil soon caused a noteworthy amount of interest and resultant doubt from many observers as it was suspected that the fossil was a

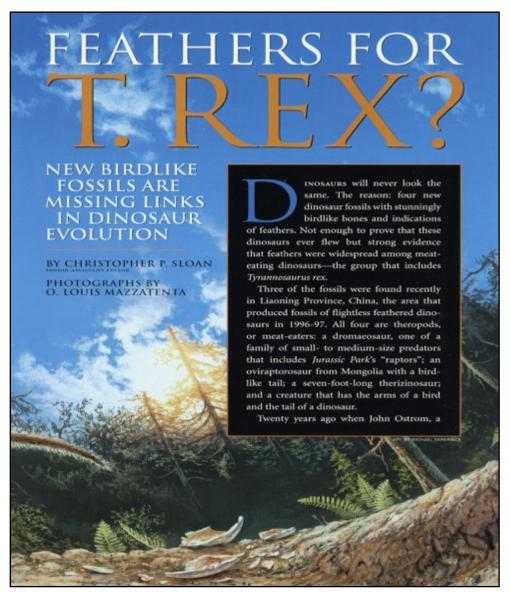


Figure 18. National Geographic Feature Article

composite of more than one fossil that was illegally smuggled out of China. Subsequent investigations that included high-resolution X-ray Tomography evaluations showed that the fossil was a composite of more than *two unmatched pieces, skillfully pasted over* along with a body of a fossilized fish-eating bird, a tail similar to a small winged dromaeosaur, ¹⁰² and foot bones that were exact copies of each other. Additionally, a similar investigation by a National Geographic

scientist that showed the fossil was a fake was submitted to National Geographic prior to the pending article but was ignored by the editorial staff who went ahead and published the article anyway. This embarrassing dilemma not only underscored the desire to support secular Darwinism but also required National Geographic to retract the article in the Forum section in the October 2000 issue.

In summary, the Archaeoraptor fiasco was not only a disaster for secular science and National Geographic magazine, but it also illustrates the conflicts and assumptions that are common in the field of paleontology. As an epilog to this scientific disaster, Storrs L. Olson, Curator of Birds, National Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institution, sent an open letter to the National Geographic Society that contained the following admonition:¹⁰⁴

"The hype about feathered dinosaurs in the exhibit currently on display at the National Geographic Society is even worse, and makes the spurious claim that there is strong evidence that a wide variety of carnivorous dinosaurs had feathers. A model of the undisputed dinosaur Deinonhchus and illustrations of baby tyrannosaurs are shown clad in feathers, all of which is simply imaginary and has no place outside of science fiction.

The idea of feathered dinosaurs and the theropod origin of birds is being actively promulgated by a cadre of zealous scientists acting in concert with certain editors at Nature and National Geographic who themselves have become outspoken and highly biased proselytizers of the faith. Truth and careful scientific weighting of evidence have been among the first causalities in their program, which is now fast becoming one of the grander scientific hoaxes of our age, the paleontological equivalent of cold fusion. If Sloan's article is not the crescendo of this fantasia, it is difficult to imagine to what heights it can next be taken. But it is certain that when the folly has run its course and has been fully exposed, National Geographic will unfortunately play a prominent but unenviable role in the book that summarizes the whole sorry episode"

GENETICS

Although we have previously discussed the scientific importance of Origin of Life, Human Origins, Paleoanthropology and Fossils, Genetics is perhaps one of the best-kept secrets of the 163-year old evolution vs creation debate. When Charles Darwin solidified his philosophies on evolution and put them on paper in 1859, he was totally unaware of the complexity of genetics and the fact that genetics is the most important field of science on Darwin's central question of heredity (where did we come from). Today, we know that species are *defined* by their *heritable characteristics* (traits). Stated from another perspective, there is one field of science that confidently claims that it has the real disproof of human evolution, and that field is genetics. Contrary to popular opinion, genetic

evidence does not support ape-to-man evolution but does strongly disprove it, much to the dismay of secular evolutionary theory.

Genetics is dedicated to the study and manipulation of heredity and variation in living organisms and is generally credited to the work of an Austrian monk, Gregor Mendel in 1865.¹⁰⁷ Yet, his findings were not fully absorbed by the scientific community until about 1900. Then, in 1953, the scientific community – courtesy of scientists James Watson and Francis Crick - realized that DNA was the substance of heredity (carrier of genetic information) yet it took another 50 years before the scientific community would obtain an initial genetic sample from species around the world which answered the DNA makeup of the species. In summary, Darwin and his theory of evolution tried to answer a basic genetic dilemma long before its time (and knowledge) and is a primary reason that Darwin unknowingly and mistakenly believed that a simple cell was just a simplistic blob of protoplasm that was capable of eventually evolving into the various forms of life that we see today. Numerous scientists now agree that the biological information of a basic cell is immensely superior to any existing human information system as underscored by the following statement by Bill Gates of Microsoft:108

"The understanding of life is a great subject. Biological information is the most important information we can discover, because over the next several decades it will revolutionize medicine. Human DNA is like a computer program but far, far more advanced than any software ever created"

Now, let's consider some of the *primary* elements of genetics that are detrimental to Darwinism and secular evolutionary theory.

BIOLOGICAL INFORMATION SYSTEMS

In early 2000, a scientific symposium titled *Biological Information – New Perspectives*, critically examined how genetic information systems might have arisen. The 29 contributing scientists from diverse fields all agreed that biological information systems could *never* have arisen by any trial-and-error methodology. The proceedings from this symposium presents a fundamental dilemma for the Darwinian mutation/selection process and the ape-to-man story in that the functional information that would be required to evolve an ape into a human could not spontaneously arise *in any amount of time*.

DNA

DNA stands for *deoxyribonucleic acid* and is the hereditary material in humans, all living cells and in many viruses. ¹¹⁰ However, DNA does more than specify the

structure and function of living things, it also serves as the primary unit of heredity in organisms of all types. Whenever organisms reproduce, a portion of their DNA is passed along to their offspring. This transmission of all or part of an organism's DNA helps ensure a certain level of *continuity* from one generation to the next while still allowing for *slight changes* that contribute to the *diversity* of life.¹¹¹ In other words, DNA is what keeps elephants – elephants, horses – horses, and chimpanzees from evolving into human beings.

DNA gained a degree of notoriety when it was used in the O.J. Simpson trial in 1995 and has since become a standard form of admissible evidence to distinguish between individuals or identify a specific person in today's courtrooms. DNA has been called many things but the most common is "the language of life" as it carries all of the information necessary for life and is also responsible for the specific characteristics of each living organism. Here are some basic characteristics of DNA:¹¹²

- A DNA fiber is only about two millionths of a millimeter thick so it is barely visible with an electron microscope
- o The crystalline structure of DNA is twisted into a double helix chain (Figure 19) called chromosomes, is about 79-inches long when fully stretched out, is tucked into the nucleus of each cell and contains the instructions or blueprints for making living things from one generation to the next by utilizing just four letters; **A** (Adenine), **T** (Thymine), **G** (Guanine) and **C** (Cytosine)
- A DNA molecule contains about 750,000 typed pages, each containing about 2,000 characters. The amount of information on this tape is so immense that it would stretch from the North Pole to the Equator if it was typed on paper using standard size letters
- Amazingly, it is self-replicating, can make a copy of itself, is capable of correcting errors in the copying process and is the most accurate and comprehensive storage and retrieval system known to modern science
- The information stored in the DNA of all living cells is indispensable for the numerous guided processes involving complex and unique functions
- Microchips are the storage elements of present-day computers. Only a few years ago, chips that could store the text of 4 typed pages were regarded as revolutionary. Today, all the telephone numbers of a large city can be stored on one chip and their speed of operation is so fast that the Bible could be read 200 times in one second. But there is one thing all the chips in the world will never be able to do, namely, to copy life's instructions for an ant and all that it can do

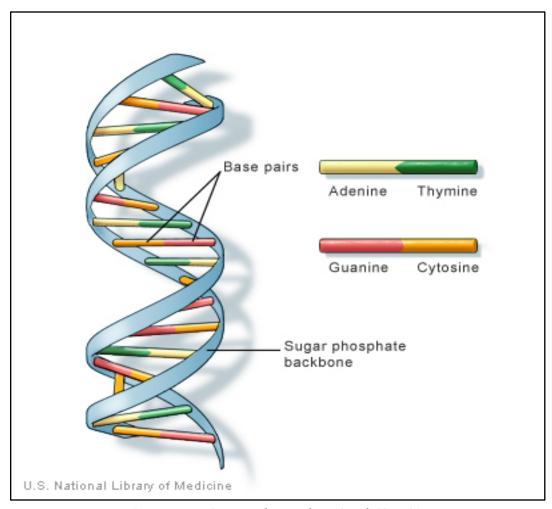


Figure 19. Deoxyribonucleic Acid (DNA)

Human and Chimpanzee DNA

Even with transitional fossil evidence that is clearly absent between chimpanzees and humans, the popular myth of a 98 to 99% DNA identity between humans and chimpanzees has been often used by secular science to demonstrate that humans share a common ancestor with chimpanzees. With these thoughts in mind, consider recent DNA research that clarifies the un-connectable abyss between human and chimpanzee genomes (an organism's complete set of DNA including all of its genes as each genome contains all of the information needed to build and maintain that organism).

In the 1970's, a process known as DNA melting was used to compare denatured mixtures of chimpanzee and human DNA. Although this procedure was elementary and crude by modern standards, it only compared a very small percentage (3%) of the total genome. As a result, the similarities between chimpanzee and human DNA were declared to be 98 to 99% similar which set

the secular scientific standard for DNA similarities between chimpanzees and humans that is still used today.¹¹⁴ Not surprisingly, this alleged DNA standard strengthened the secular scientific theory that humans evolved from chimpanzees which the fossil record has been unable to substantiate. Although DNA technology was initially quite primitive, it basically remained in place until the Human Genome Project (an international effort between 1990-2003 to sequence the entire human genome) developed new technologies to sequence DNA. However, while DNA sequencing technology has rapidly advanced over the past four decades, the challenge of determining an *entire* DNA sequence of an organism and then comparing it to another organism is still a very difficult proposition.

Due to past experiences (Human Genome Project, etc.), scientists had a ready structure to reassemble human DNA. Yet, due to a lack of resources and experience with chimpanzee DNA, the human genome was used as a guide. Obviously, the consequence of this approach along with an evolutionary assumption that humans evolved from chimpanzees yielded DNA sequencing that favored a close similarity between chimpanzees and humans. Nevertheless, recent independent studies of chimpanzee and human DNA sequencing have indicated that chimpanzee DNA is at best, 85% similar to human DNA and not 98-99% as previously thought and/or publicized. In effect, secular evolutionary science has produced a chimpanzee genome that is grounded on a framework of human genomes and then asserted that the genomes of humans and chimpanzees are virtual identical.¹¹⁵

From a scientific perspective, it is now known that for human evolution from chimpanzees to happen, a DNA similarity of 99% is required and any level of similarity of less than 99% is evolutionary impossible. This is why secular evolutionary scientists use 99% (or figures close to 99% – such as 98%). It is important to remember that although 85% and 98 to 99% seem to be close to one another, it is not evidence of human evolution from chimpanzees but rather an indication that a single designer – God – engineered them along similar principles!

MUTATIONS

From the start, the theory of evolution is saddled with a fatal handicap due to genetics. Modern science is now well aware that species are limited to their own species (or kinds from a biblical viewpoint). This means that elephants cannot ultimately become lions, and lions cannot someday become chimpanzees, and chimpanzees cannot become humans. Today, we know the limiting factor is DNA that limits species to their own kind. To circumvent this thorny problem,

evolutionary theory asserts three elements are required for species to evolve to other species:

- 1) Time
- 2) Natural selection
- 3) Mutations

Time, and lots of it, is allegedly required for slow, minute changes. This is a primary reason evolution theorizes the universe is about 13.7 billion years old and the earth is about 4.5 billion years old. Once we have lots of time, we need a tool to advance and improve minute changes within living things. Within the scope of evolution, that tool is natural selection. Natural selection ensures that the fittest survive and eliminates the less fit. However, natural selection cannot create something from nothing, it can only select from what currently exists. This fact is soundly refuted by DNA, genetics and ultimately by Darwin himself:

"I have now considered enough, perhaps more than enough, of the cases, selected with care by a skillful naturalist, to prove that natural selection is incompetent to account for the incipient stages of useful structures; and I have shown, as I hope, that there is no great difficulty on this head"¹¹⁷

The entire idea of natural selection was the belief that it could bring into existence new organs and organisms though insensibly slow and minute steps; the idea of simple to complex. Natural selection was the alternative to creation, the belief that organisms came into existence fully developed by supernatural power. So, if natural selection and time are not capable of creating something from nothing, and we know that species are limited to their own species by DNA, then what is the tool that evolutionary theory uses to change one species into another, specifically chimpanzees to man? That tool is alleged to be mutations (misspellings in the genetic code).

Mutations are technically defined by Webster's as – "a change, as in form; a sudden variation in some inheritable characteristic of an animal or plant," and defined from an evolutionary viewpoint as – "minute changes in DNA that over long periods of time, collectively accumulate with the assistance of natural selection to change one species into another species, or organic evolution."¹¹⁹ For this process to function as a viable tool, mutations must be beneficial to advance the upward course of evolution. However, there are two destructive flaws to this supposition.

First, while beneficial mutations are so rare as to be outside of consideration and some mutations are neutral, the rest are primarily detrimental. Obviously, neutral or detrimental mutations will not be beneficial to the upward progression of evolution. Therefore, the absence of a positive distribution of mutations argues against their possible role in forward evolution. So, how can genetic theorists explain evolutionary progress as being upward and/or beneficial? Here is how it is done:

"everything in the 'near-neutral' category is redefined as being completely neutral, and is thereby dismissed. It is then assumed that the mutations outside of the near neutral category can be entirely eliminated using natural selection. Having eliminated all deleterious mutations in these two ways the theorists are then free to argue that no matter how rare beneficial mutations may be, there should now be enough time and enough selection-power left over to rescue them and to use them as building blocks of evolution" 120

Unfortunately for the evolutionary hypothesis, near-neutral mutations cannot be dismissed, deleterious mutations cannot necessarily all be eliminated by natural selection, and there is not adequate time or selection power that remains to select the extremely rare beneficial mutations.¹²¹

The second flaw posed by the mutation theory is again found in the field of genetics. Geneticists now know the phenome (which is the human body and brain) is comprised of genomes. Genomes are the sum total of all genetic parts, including all chromosomes, genes, and nucleotides. From a simplistic perspective, the human genome is the instruction manual that stipulates life by specifying human cells to be human cells and the human body to be a human body. However, beyond the simple and complex nature of the genome is the fact that an increasing number of mutations within the human genome are leading to a high "genetic load" and a generally degenerating population. As a result, the consensus among human geneticists is that at the present, the human race is genetically degenerating due to "rapid mutation accumulation and relaxed natural selection pressure." This decline is believed to be occurring at the rate of at least 1-2% per generation! Obviously, this is the reverse of evolutionary theory that presumes life is continually advancing upward in a progressive and positive manner.

As the concept of positive mutations is a key element of evolutionary theory, consider three quotes from evolutionists who are intimately familiar with mutations:

"In all of the reading I have done in the life sciences literature, I have never found a mutation that added information, all mutations that have been studied on the molecular level turn out to reduce genetic information and not increase it"

Dr. Lee Spetner, Information Theory

John Hopkins University & Weizman Institute

"Extensive tests have agreed in showing the vast majority of mutations are detrimental to the organism, good ones are so rare that we consider them all bad"

H.J. Mueller, Nobel Prize for his work on mutations

"No matter how numerous they may be, mutations do not produce any kind of evolution"

Eminent French biologist, zoologist and evolutionist, Pierre P. Grasse

Diametrically opposed to the theory that mutations are positive and are capable of changing one species into another is the biblical account of creation as the Bible clearly states that all plant life was created by God on day three, all birds and sea creatures were created on day five, and all land animals and man were created on day six. Additionally, plants, animal life, and man were created fully formed and capable of reproduction from the moment of creation. Genesis also records that the creation was "very good" until Adam and Eve sinned in the Garden of Eden which God then cursed as outlined in the third chapter of Genesis. This curse started a degeneration of the universe and man that the Second Law of Thermodynamics has confirmed (everything is deteriorating) and modern genetics has soundly reaffirmed.

GENETIC CLOCK

In this discussion, we have briefly discussed that because of recent advancements in the scientific field of genetics, we now know that species are defined and limited by their heritable characteristics (traits) from the limiting parameters of DNA. However, DNA also records the *passage of time* and is known as the DNA clock.¹²⁴ To better understand this clock, refer to Figure 19 that illustrates the basic structure of a DNA molecule.

The DNA molecule is in the form of a twisted ladder, each rung of the ladder represents a chemical letter (T, A, C and G) and the different colors of the rungs represent the previously mentioned four chemical DNA letters. The specific arrangement (their order), spatial relationship to other letters along with the total number of rungs of the ladder specifies each creature's unique identity that consists of specific traits and characteristics. In humans, a total of six billion DNA letters – rungs of the ladder – exist in each person. DNA comes in duplicate with

each parent supplying one copy, or three billion DNA letters (rungs of the ladder). Thus, each person has two copies of three billion DNA letters, or a total of six billion DNA letters.¹²⁵

At the time of conception, the copying process is imperfect so errors between the male and female DNA change the color of one of the ladder rungs to a different color. Over time and with the increase in populations, the number of color-changed rungs also increases which acts like a clock that can measure time since the DNA sequence first came to be. ¹²⁶ By comparing the rungs of the DNA ladder in various individuals can assess how long ago this event was. New DNA research indicates that by also comparing the rungs of the DNA ladder among various species is capable of yielding a dramatic result. If species (particularly human-kind) have been in existence for millions of years as evolutionary theory alleges, a large number of the DNA rungs should have a different color. However, the vast majority of these rungs are the same color which indicates that species originated in the last few thousand years. ¹²⁷ In summary:

- To clarify, no other scientific field directly records a species ancestry. Fossils, geography, anatomy and physiology are not inherited. DNA is the actual chemical that is passed on in sperm and egg. Therefore, only the field of genetics acts as a direct record of species ancestry¹²⁸
- o DNA can act like a clock. As the rungs of the DNA ladder change with time, the length of time that a species has been on earth is also recorded by comparing the rungs of the DNA ladder in a particular species
- o If living species have been in existence for millions of years as postulated by Darwinian evolutionary theory, a large number of DNA ladder rungs should be a different color. Contrastingly, the vast majority of the current rungs are the same color
- o If living species have originated within the last 6,000 years, we would see minimal genetic differences, and this is what we see. Therefore, what is observed is the right amount of changes if living species have originated within the last few thousand years
- O A recent applicable discovery from the field of genetics is the Y chromosome. Today, genetics knows that biologically male individuals have one X and one Y chromosome (XY), while those who are biologically female have two X chromosomes (XX). In genealogy, the male lineage can be traced using the Y chromosome because it is only passed down from the father. This technology indicates that the history of civilization spans only 4,500 years back to the Flood, and a total of only 6,000 years if we trace history back to the first man¹³⁰

 The genetic clock and genetics illustrate the truth of the biblical account of creation as found in Genesis and also underscores the lack of scientific evidence for evolution

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

From a simplistic yet imperative viewpoint, does the beginning of the universe, the age of the earth and the origin of life really matter from a biblical perspective? This question is answered from the following truth:

 Although Genesis is not the gospel, it is a historical account of the universe, earth, and the origin of life by the Creator. As Genesis was written by Moses, Jesus validated the accuracy of the creation account in John as follows:

"For if you believed Moses, you would believe Me; for he wrote about Me. But if you do not believe his writings, how will you believe My words?"

John 5:46-47

This verse indicates that Jesus centers His reputation and authority upon the inerrancy of Moses writings. As we have previously discussed, Scripture plainly teaches that God created the universe, earth and life as we know it in six literal 24-hour days. Do you believe Jesus?

o The origin of the universe, earth and mankind along with their respective ages matters as they place the inerrancy of the Bible on trial. If secular science and Darwinism are right, then the Genesis account of creation and biblical genealogies are wrong and/or are dependent on secular scientific

explanations. Therefore, if the Genesis account of creation is wrong, what other portions of the Bible are also wrong? Either all of the Bible is true or God was lying to mankind, and God cannot lie as stated as follows:

"The entirety of Your word is truth" Psalm 119:160

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 as follows:

"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?

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