

THE ORIGIN OF LIFE:

CREATION, EVOLUTION, NATURAL SELECTION

Topic: The Origin of Life: Creation, Evolution, Natural Selection

Discuss and Summarize the Secular Worldview:

Sample Summary: Life evolved on earth as a tree of life. Evolution occurs randomly through mutations and natural selection. Man evolved 2 million years ago with modern humans evolving from early hominid predecessors between 200,000 and 300,000 years ago.

Discuss and Summarize the Christian Worldview:

Sample Summary: God created everything in the six days of Creation Week. God created all life as an orchard, with each creature reproducing after their own kind (family level). DNA is the language of life which requires an intelligent creator, our God.

Why This is Important:

The question of how we got here is fundamental to our identify and purpose, who we are and what we do in this world.

Scripture Says:

Genesis 1-3, Job 42:2-6, Psalm 19:1-3, Psalm 111:10, Psalm 139:13-16, Proverbs 1:7, Isaiah 55:8-9, Matthew 12:30, Romans 1:20, 1 Corinthians 2:14, Colossians 1:15-17, 1 Timothy 6:13

Worth Considering:

- Creationists and Evolutionists share the same evidence found throughout our world, but the interpretation or framework differs.
- Evolution means “change.” Evolutionists and Creationists agree that change occurs in plant and animal populations when certain traits give one species an advantage over others, this may shift a population in a certain direction.
- Natural selection is the loss of genetic information and complexity from what already exists. Evolution requires the gain of genetic information. That is not a natural process. Only God is capable of doing so.
- Natural selection is observable in populations in nature, often due to changing environmental factors. Traits that are not useful for

- survival may become less and less common in a population, potentially becoming lost from that population’s gene pool.
- Mutations cause changes, but are detrimental changes with damaging effects on genes. Mutations do not generate any new information and can not spur molecules to man evolution.
- Evolution does not have a genetic mechanism to add new information or change one creature into another. Because there are changes observed in populations, it’s alluded that molecules to man evolution is possible, given enough time.
- Creationists agree with many Darwinian observations, but disagree on how to explain what occurred in the unobserved past.
- “Junk DNA” has been junked as proof of evolution. It has purpose.
- Antibiotic resistant strains of bacteria emerge, not because of evolution occurring, but because the more common bacteria strains have died off due to application of the antibiotic drug. The antibiotic resistant bacteria strains were always present, just not as abundant. They have now become the dominant strain.
- Rapid speciation would likely occur after the Flood For example, the Canidae (Dog) Family includes wolves, domestic dogs, coyotes, and foxes, Speciation continues to this day.
- Haeckel’s embryo drawings (1874) were used to prove evolution, but were faked and disproved by science over 100 years ago. Yet, they are still found in some of today’s scientific textbooks.
- “Missing links” between kinds of animals are still missing.
- Life comes from life, intelligence comes from intelligence, information comes from information.
- The Miller-Urey experiments tried to simulate the primordial soup theory. They could make amino acids, but not life from non-life.
- These findings were purported to prove evolution, 1) The Peppered Moth and Darwin’s Finches showed natural selection at work, 2) Neanderthal Man was fully human, 3) Nebraska Man was a pig tooth, 4) Piltown Man was an ape jaw glued to a human skull, 6) Archaeopteryx was a bird and Lucy was an ape, not missing links.
- Their best examples of evolution are finches that are still finches, fish that are still fish, and bacteria that are still bacteria.

Questions to Consider:

- If evolution is true, humans are ordinary animals. Should this impact expectations on human behavior and our purpose in life?
- Do you see evolution as a scientific discipline or rejection of God?
- Has today’s discussion made you reconsider any of your views?